

ADF educational materials on Australian peacekeeping

All Interested members veterans:

I am writing to introduce myself, and to explain a project that we are doing for the ADF about Australian Peacekeeping. We hope that you might be willing and able to be involved in this.

We are educational writers who are creating a program called Defence 2020 for the ADF.

Defence 2020 began in 2004 as a set of educational resources, and was revived last year, to continue into 2009 and 2010.

It is a program of educational resources about the ADF, but focusing on the broad concept of 'citizenship'.

We are producing print, video and electronic material about aspects of the ADF past and present, under the broad issue of: Is the ADF a responsible citizen'? This helps us get into school classrooms by being a recognisable area of the curriculum.

Last year we focused on developing a website www.defence2020.info, and a set of print resources in our magazine called Studies of Society and Environment. You can see these on the defence2020 website. The magazine presents classroom-ready units and is sent free of charge three times a year to every secondary school in Australia.

This year we are focusing in our three units on Australian peacekeeping. The first edition will be an overview of Australian Peacekeeping operations since 1947. The second unit will provide the students with 'voices from peacekeepers', short pieces from a number of peacekeepers about the various missions that Australia has been involved in. The third unit will focus on 'Commemorating Peacekeeping', and will be based on the scheduled dedication of the National Peacekeeping memorial in September. We have made contact through our ADF project manager, GPCAPT Ken Given, with Tim Ford and the ADF liaison on the committee, COL Alison Creagh, and they have expressed their willingness to co-operate with us in this.

So, a long introduction to explain who we are and what we are doing!

We will be interviewing some serving ADF personnel about their peacekeeping experiences for the second unit (to be published about June), but hope that you may be able to help us with ex-servicemen and women people whom we could also interview for some of the older peacekeeping missions.

We would be able to talk to people on the phone, and the interviews would normally not take more than 10-15 minutes. We are not seeking exhaustive historical interviews, it's really more a case of short pieces that will help students understand the variety of

missions, the variety of tasks that people were involved in, the impacts that the missions had on the people involved (both the locals and the ADF members), and the way in which they reflect good international citizenship.

As I said, this email is really only to introduce ourselves to you, and to perhaps make a first contact that we can develop a bit further in about a month's time.

I hope this is all clear. Please do not hesitate to contact me or GPCAPT Given ken.given@defence.gov.au or given.family@optusnet.com.au if you have any questions.

I hope that you will be able to be involved and to help us with this request.

Yours Sincerely

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