



# A DIFFERENT TYPE OF PEACEKEEPER? AUSTRALIA'S ROLE IN MULTINATIONAL PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, 1992-2009

## INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS:

### You are invited to participate

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You are invited to participate in a research project (Project) entitled 'A different type of peacekeeper? Australia's role in multinational peacekeeping operations, 1992-2009'.

This Project is being conducted by Dr Corinne Manning from the Faculty of Arts, Education and Human Development at Victoria University.

### Project explanation

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Since 1947 Australians have been involved in multinational peacekeeping operations, the majority of these under the auspices of the United Nations (UN). Many Australian people consider peacekeeping to be an obligation that is critical to the nation's security and worldwide reputation as a 'good' international citizen. In recent times, leading Australian military personnel involved in peacekeeping missions have claimed that Australians have unique characteristics which render them suitable to this activity. This Project will be the first to actively test these claims through recording the experiences and opinions of those most intimately associated with some of Australia's largest peacekeeping operations in Somalia, Timor-Leste and the Solomon Islands.

The specific aims of the Project are to:

- research government and public responses to Australian peacekeeping
- investigate the role and experiences of military, police and government personnel in some of Australia's largest peacekeeping missions
- examine mission objectives, preparation and training received by peacekeepers before deployment
- explore Australian peacekeepers' working and social relationships with others in the field
- analyse Australians' perceptions of their role and identity as peacekeepers in the context of claims that they have unique qualities
- where possible, record local responses to Australian peacekeeping and so trace the history of the Australia's interaction with culturally diverse international communities

### What will you be asked to do?

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I would like to record an interview with you. I will ask you questions on some of the issues listed below; those chosen will depend on your relationship to Australian peacekeeping. It is very unlikely that you will be asked about all the issues:

- selection, training and preparation
- deployment and experiences in the field
- rest and relaxation while in the field
- repatriation and remembrance
- working relationships
- social contact
- benefits of peacekeeping to local communities
- challenges and disadvantages of peacekeeping
- cultural difference
- race relations

### What will you gain from participating?

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By participating in an interview, you will have the opportunity to make an important contribution to research into the history of Australian peacekeeping and will ensure that a wide range of opinions and experiences are recorded. Your participation will make an important contribution to a better understanding of this history in both national and international contexts. You will receive a copy of your interview for your own records. A copy of the Project publications will be lodged or made available with key cultural institutions in Australia and overseas.

### **How will the information you give be used?**

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Your story and perhaps some of your words will be used for research purposes and possibly in publications produced from this Project. Depending on the form of the publication your story, images and perhaps your words will appear in print or a part of the digital interview will be used. Potential publications include:

- a book
- a multimedia CD/DVD
- academic articles published in scholarly journals
- papers presented to academic conferences
- newspapers and popular media
- exhibitions
- a radio documentary likely to be broadcast by ABC radio.

### **What are the potential risks of participating in this Project?**

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I will respect your wish for anonymity, unless you indicate otherwise, and will not disclose your name in publications without your consent. Given the aims of the Project, your information will not be treated as confidential. Your participation in the interview is entirely voluntary and you may withdraw from participation until the data collection phase of the Project is completed on 31 March 2010. Third parties mentioned in interviews will not be named in publications unless the information shared by the interviewee is publicly available or with the written consent of the named third party.

If any of my questions are too personal or begin to upset you please ask me to change the subject. If you are distressed or find the interview too tiring I will stop the interview and will continue only if you wish to do so. The contact details of professional counselling services are available at the end of this document.

If you choose to discuss your observation of or participation in illegal activities these may be published. If these pose a serious and imminent risk to an individual's life, health, safety or welfare I will disclose information to the Australian Defence Human Research Ethics Committee and the Defence Legal System.

### **How will this Project be conducted?**

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I would like to interview you for no more than two hours and to digitally record the interview. If you would prefer me only to take notes then I will do so. During the study, I will secure interview materials in a locked filing cabinet in my office at the Footscray Park Campus, Victoria University, and/or on a password protected computer. If you request a pseudonym, anonymity will be protected by your real identity being stored separately from materials bearing a pseudonym. When the Project ends on 31 December 2010, materials will be lodged with the Office for Research at Victoria University where they will remain for five years and will then be transferred to the Victoria University Archives where they will be subject to statutory regulations regarding the retention and disposal of records. With your consent, copies will also be lodged with the Australian War Memorial and National Archives.

## Who is conducting the study?

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The research is being conducted by Dr Corinne Manning who can be contacted by phone on (61 3) 9919 4751 or 0488 427 166; or via email: [corinne.manning@vu.edu.au](mailto:corinne.manning@vu.edu.au)

Any queries about your participation in this Project may be directed to the Principal Researcher listed above. If you have any queries or complaints about the way you have been treated, you may contact the Secretary, Victoria University Human Research Ethics Committee, Victoria University, PO Box 14428, Melbourne, VIC, 8001 phone (61 3) 9919 4781.

Alternatively, as a member of the Australian Defence Force, you can also contact the Australian Defence Human Research Ethics Committee at the following address: Executive Secretary, Australian Defence Human Research Ethics Committee, CP2-7-130, Department of Defence, Canberra, ACT, 2600 phone (61 2) 6266 3837, fax, (61 2) 6266 3933 or email: [ADHREC@defence.gov.au](mailto:ADHREC@defence.gov.au)

## Counselling Services

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### AUSTRALIA

#### All-hours Support Line

ADF Mental Health Strategy All-hours Support Line (ASL). The ASL is a confidential telephone triage support service for ADF members and their families that is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. CALL 1800 628 036 (Outside Australia +61 2 9425 3878)

#### Lifeline

Lifeline offers 24-hour telephone counselling service, by calling 13 11 14 for the cost of local call. In addition, there are 42 Lifeline Centres across Australia, which can assist with face-to-face counselling services.

#### Veterans' Affairs Network (VAN)

Phone 1300 55 1918 to call the nearest VAN office. General inquiries number - 133 254 (which connects callers to the nearest DVA office switchboard). 1800 555 254 connects non-metropolitan callers to the nearest DVA office. 1300 13 1945 connects callers to any DVA office by using voice prompts.

#### Department of Veterans' Affairs

General inquiries 133 254 (which connects callers to their nearest DVA state office)

#### Veterans and Veterans' Families Counselling Service

Call the Veterans' Line - 1800 011 046 from anywhere in Australia

### Victoria University

Dr Harriet Speed - Registered Psychologist  
CALL (03) 9919 5412 or email: [Harriet.Speed@vu.edu.au](mailto:Harriet.Speed@vu.edu.au)

### TIMOR-LESTE

#### National Hospital Dili

CALL 331-1000 or 331-1008

### SOLOMON ISLANDS

#### National Referral Hospital, Honiara

CALL 677-23600