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### Peacekeeper MAGAZI

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Australian Peacekeepers Magazine attempts to provide insight into the experiences of peacekeepers, Defence members and war veterans and the issues that confront them together with encouraging informed debate regarding issues dealing with but not limited to Commonwealth compensation, pensions, superannuation occupational health and safety that affect peacekeepers and their families. We welcome input from members and would love to feature personal experiences in each issue. Please email the editor with any stories you would like to see printed. The views expressed in the articles are those of the particular author and not those of the Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans' Association (APPVA). The APPVA will not be legally responsible in contract, tort or otherwise for any statement made in the articles in this publication.





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Soldiers from the 7th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, tackle the obstacle course during the Battalion Section Competition at the conclusion of Exercise Boars Run.

The final day of the 7th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment's Section Competition saw soldiers from across the battalion compete in an obstacle course and stretcher carry



at RAAF Edinburgh on 25 September, 2015.

#### From the President's Desk

Welcome to all our members and readers, recently the APPVA conducted its Annual Conference on 18 September 2015 in Geelong Victoria. The conference agenda was focused around the current issues that the APPVA were hoping that certain key speakers would be able to provide us with some much needed responses. The conference was opened by Senator David Feeney who discussed the issues of Homeless veterans, present on the day of the conference where MAJGEN Craig Orme AM CSC the Deputy President of the Repatriation Commission who provided members of the APPVA and visiting dignitaries with a roundup of DVA activities including the Peacekeeping Memorial and the new Mental Health Initiatives he was accompanied by the Deputy Commissioner of Victoria Mr John Geary. The other dignitaries that were present was Senator Wish Wilson from the Greens Party who provided an update of veterans issues supported by the Greens, the other Senator who was and who is a keen supporter of the APPVA is Senator Jacqui Lambie who continues to underline the achievements and currently identified issues within the veterans community. Other guess speakers included the Chair of the Alliance Defence Service Organisation (ADSO) Mr David Jamison AM who updated us on ADSO activities also present on the day was the Victorian State President of the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia Mr. Bob Elworthy AM who provided us with a general update of VVAA activities. We also had MAJGEN David McLachlan AO (Ret'd) the Victorian State Branch President of the RSL who also provided us with a general update and proposed future activities of the RSL in Victoria. The day's activity concluded with conference dinner that was attended by all who were present at the conference in the Geelong RSL. I would like to thank both the President Geelong RSL and State President

of the Victorian RSL for providing the APPVA the use of the facilities and look forward to hopefully utilising those facilities again sometime in the not too distant future. As the National President of the APPVA I would like to take this opportunity to inform our members that the APPVA is no longer a partner of the ADSO, the rationale behind our non-support of the ADSO is the executives felt that we needed to draw our focus back on our current issues for the betterment of our membership base and constituents. I would like to convey my thanks to the ADSO for their support initially when putting collective submissions forward to the senate in particular Mr David Jamieson and Alf Jaugietis. For those members and readers who aren't aware there are changes happening within the DVA, you will probably find that they are conducting business in a different way, this is not to say that you don't have an entitlement it just means if you fit the criteria and your condition whether it be an injury, disease that has coverage under that particular legislation than it will be taken care of by the DVA. The problems the APPVA are encountering with clients at present is the time taken to process and be provided with the resources necessary to move ahead and lead some kind of quality of life with their families. I strongly encourage our members and readers to seek the services of trained practitioners within the association who are able to provide you and your family with services that have no cost attached so you are able to maintain the quality of life you have been accustom to prior to these service related injuries/ diseases. I would like to conclude my report by thanking all the National and State executives, Compensation and Welfare Officers/ Advocates for their ongoing support in ensuring that no veterans who seek our unique service are being provided adequately, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and happy New Year.



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#### **Supporting the Fight**

Australian soldiers have a wealth of knowledge and experience that the Iraq troops are tapping into to boost their skills and confidence in the fight against Daesh,



Australian Army trainer Captain Anthony Davis (left) shows an Iraqi Army soldier where to aim his weapon during urban warfare training at the Taji Military Complex, Iraq. Australian and New Zealand forces are assisting the Iraqi Army Non-Commissioned Officer Academy to enhance the ability of Iraqi soldiers to combat Daesh.

Heat and dust don't usually slow down the training of Iraqi soldiers in Taji, but their inquisitive nature can leave Australian trainers fielding a host of questions during a lesson.

Capt Anthony Davis, a trainer with Task Group Taji said the Iraqis often had a lot of questions about different situations.

Task Group Taji has deployed to Iraq to support an international effort to train and build the capacity of the regular Iraqi Security Forces (ISF).

The mission is critical to the next phase of the ISF's operations to counter Daesh in Iraq and will help Iraq take responsibility for its own security. "They ask 'what if there's a sniper? What about IEDs? What if Daesh runs away?" he said.

"That shows they are keen to learn and seek extra knowledge from us." Information also flows both ways, with Capt Davis learning about the lives of Iraqi soldiers.

"We'll be teaching lessons on IEDs to the soldiers and some

will tell us how they have encountered IEDs in combat and have disabled them before," he said. "We've had soldiers show us gunshot wounds from previous engagements with Daesh, or they'll talk about having been in a fire-fight with Daesh.

"We're also hearing about bombings and how it affects their families and townships."

Capt Davis is instructing on a course to train squad leaders who bring experience from different units in the Iraqi Army.

"A lot are really keen on urban tactics," he said.

"That's where most of the fighting against Daesh will likely occur and where they could have the most losses." Capt Davis said the Iraqis also enjoyed seeing Australians demonstrate a technique before teaching it. "They gain a lot of confidence when we demonstrate the drills," he said. "They enjoy it when we practice alongside of them. They're really excited to be getting trained by Australians and they appreciate us being here with our level of knowledge and

tactics." Capt Davis said it was rewarding watching Iraqis want to learn and get better.

"We can see a huge difference in their development each week," he said. "They end up a sharp outfit at the end of it."

Capt Davis said learning some words in Arabic was an effective way to build rapport.

"Every day they teach us new words so we can learn the lingo to help us instruct," he said.

"They like to see you learning the language and understand their culture." After a day of training, Capt Davis saves one final test for the trainees. "I always do push-ups with them when I can," he said.

"You'll always get different guys saying they're the strongest, so it's good to have a bit of fun."

#### Saving lives in Iraq

Capt Bradley Richardson

A small medical team in Iraq consisting of Australian and New Zealand soldiers has been sharing primary health care techniques with 12 Iraqi medics. A member of Task Group Taji's combined training team, Australian medic Cpl Jason Stafford, said this was the first medical course focused on training the Iraqi Army health practitioners since the group had arrived at Taji. "These medics are supporting the soldiers out fighting against Daesh and we want to make sure they know the best techniques to potentially save someone's life," he said.

"We have taught them primary health care including the identification and treatment of common illnesses, plastering, suturing, trauma management, and combat first aid like needle decompression, chest injuries and bandaging."

Iraqi Army medic Sergeant Major Majid Hadi Hadad inspects the eye of his patient during a practical exercise as part of a medical course run with Australian and New Zealand trainers at the Taji Military Complex, Iraq.

Iraqi Army medic Sgt-Maj Majid Hadi Hadad said he would take his training and teach other medics so they could provide care to their soldiers. "The course has increased my experience and provided me opportunities to learn how to use specific medical techniques and tools," he said.

"I have learnt many things, the most important is how to talk to a patient and treat him at the same time." Cpl Stafford said the Australian and New Zealand training would add to the Iraqi medics' skill base in the coming struggle against Daesh. "They arrived with a high level of training already so we have used this opportunity to share differences in our techniques and training," he said.

"Ultimately, they will walk away from the course with new ways to perform medical treatment and they will choose what works best for them." As a small child, Iraqi Army Cpl Muhsin Jawad Khadum watched his father, a doctor, provide healthcare that inspired him to become a medic. "During the course, I have learnt how to recognise medical symptoms more accurately and provide increased care, especially when moving an injured patient," he said.

"This course has not only been a good refresh of my skills, it has enhanced my experience. I have used the training to get more hands-on practice. The detail provided in the lessons and experience of the instructors has been invaluable." Iraqi Security Forces continue to be trained by Task Group Taji personnel from Australia and New Zealand at the Taji Military Complex in Iraq as part of the broader international Building Partner Capacity mission.

This training includes weapon handling, building clearances and obstacle breaching techniques, and the laws of armed conflict. The Iraqis are also trained in the tactics, techniques and procedures needed at squad through to company-level operations.

#### Iraqi troops graduate from squad leader training

Cpl Max Bree

There was singing, raised hands and shouting of the NCO's creed as about 200 Iraqi soldiers graduated from a squad leader course at the Taji Military Complex on September 20.

After nearly eight weeks training, the Iraqis came away with additional skills in urban operations, marksmanship and navigation thanks to instructors from the combined Australian and New Zealand Task Grou Taji.

"The course helped them progress as soldiers and junior leaders," said Australian Army trainer Capt Matthew Daniell.

"They are now ready to move back into the Iraqi Army and pass on the skills they've been taught.

"They've been through some quite complex and arduous training, especially for those who've never attempted something like this before."

The Iraqis progress through the course was monitored and the best soldiers receive awards on graduation day.



Above: A Task Group Taji Australian Army trainer demonstrates the correct standing position to a regular Iraqi Army soldier with an M16A2 assault rifle during marksmanship training at the Taji Military Complex in Iraq.

Below: Australian Army trainer Sergeant Gus O'Neill shakes hands with an Iraqi Army officer before receiving a gift thanking him for instructing on a Non-Commissioned Officer Academy course at the Taji Military Complex.

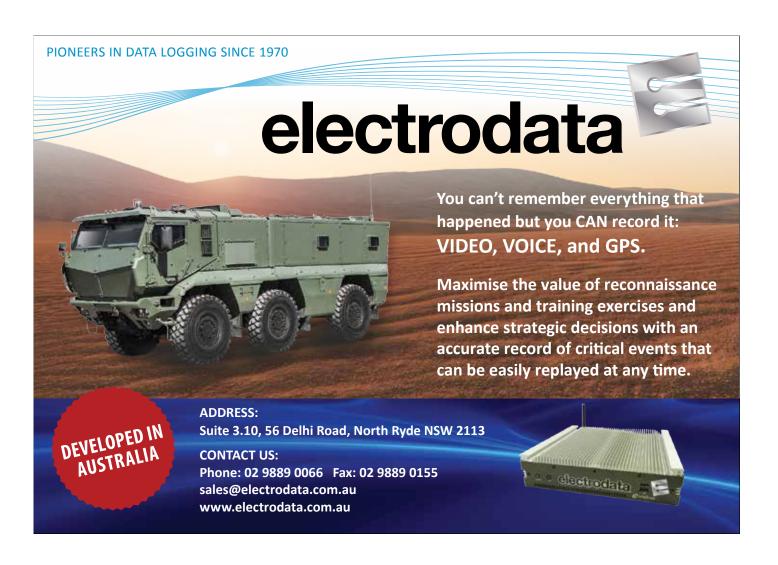


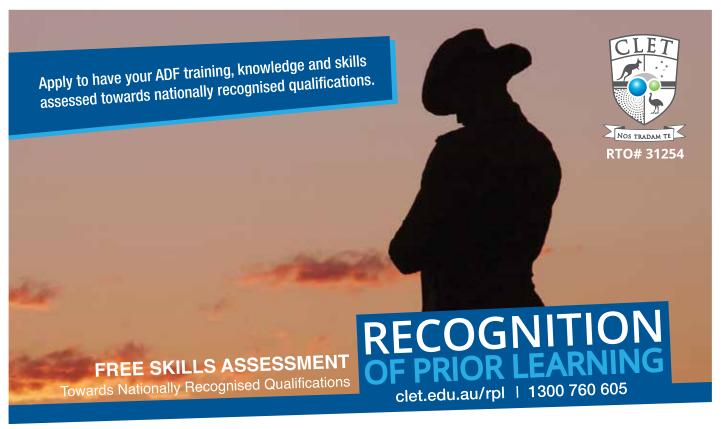


When you're off the grid and trouble strikes, it's good to know that Emergency Services are within reach.























**SECURITY** 



"For shooting, all their scores were recorded and for navigation they undertook theory and practical tests to get a final result," Capt Daniell said.

"We came out with the top 10 soldiers who've performed exceptionally."

One of the top 10 was Sgt Ayad Omran who said the Task Group Taji trainers delivered effective training.

"I'd like to do more training and gain more experience from the coalition forces," he said. "That would enhance the Iraqui Army's ability and give us the same standard as other armies around the world."

Sgt Omran said their new knowledge could also help information flow through the chain of command.

"The course helps form a new era of relations between the officer and the NCOs," he said.

"We are so glad to receive all this support and information that was at the international level. This will help the Iraqi Army to defeat terrorism."

Another soldier to finish in the top 10 was Iraqi Army Pte Karar Muhawish. "I am very optimistic to have graduated today as a squad leader," he said.

"I received useful information and skills from the Australian forces and I will pass this to my fellow soldiers and we will benefit from it on the battlefield."

Task group Taji is set to support future courses at the NCO Academy, along with training Iraqi Army units as part of the Building Partner Capacity missing.

#### In the Spotlight

**CPL Max Bree** 

Bathurst girl and long-time rev-head Lt Sarah Patterson could miss the action on Mt Panorama for the first time this year due to an opportunity for an inside view of Iraq. The officer has deployed to Iraq as a radiographer to take X-rays and ultrasounds at the Taji Military Complex near Baghdad, where Australian and coalition soldiers help train the Iraqi Army, however, the sound of a powerful car is not far from her mind. "I'm a Holden supporter, is there anything else?" she said.

"I'm a fan of the Holden Racing Team and the Red Bull team." Though she won't make it to the mountain, Lt Patterson may have a chance to see the V8s flying down Conrod Straight. "I've requested the four days of V8s to be shown on TV here," she said. "So I'm willing to get up at 3am to watch the races." Lt Patterson works in Iraq treating Australian and coalition soldiers along with some civilians at the military complex. "My position is important because it saves people from having to fly somewhere else just for an X-ray," she said. "There are quite a few people with small issues that we can quickly assess with imaging to confirm their diagnosis here. "That saves a lot of money compared to flying them out." During her deployment Lt Patterson has conducted more than 60 X-rays and 40 ultrasounds but only recently acquired the latter skill.



Australian Army radiographer Lieutenant Sarah Patterson adjusts the x-ray tube while setting up the x-ray machine in the medical facility at Taji Military Complex, Iraq.

"Ultrasound is a post-graduate qualification for radiographers," she said. "I completed long-term schooling through Defence and managed to pick-up a deployment after I got back to the unit." Lt Patterson said her parents were proud to see her on her first deployment. "They're really supportive and really happy for me," she said. "My brother is a reservist so he's pretty jealous." The hospital is staffed by Australians and New Zealanders who don't mind some goodnatured banter between friends. "I'm someone who likes to take the mickey generally," she said. "We like to pick on each other's accents – one of the Kiwi girls in the resuscitation bay and I are always onto each other. "I've made friendships and also met people that I never would have back in Australia."

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# 15 Years of Women, Peace and Security

This year [2015] marks the 15th anniversary of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (WPS), which provides an opportunity to reflect on its progress. The realisation of the WPS agenda at the international level remains vital today, given the 'increased violence, mass displacement and humanitarian catastrophes' that have occurred recently, including the abduction of 276 schoolgirls from Chibok, Nigeria by Boko Haram; the continued trafficking and sexual exploitation of women and girls by Islamic State; the trafficking of women and girls for manual labour; and sexual exploitation in the wake of the Nepalese Earthquake in April.

Recognising that conflict affects women differently to men, UNSCR 1325 urges international actors to factor the gendered differences inherent in conflict when developing peacebuilding solutions and to increase women's participation in the peacebuilding process. A global review of its implementation is being conducted this year and—most importantly—of where UNSCR 1325 can take us in the future.

There's been considerable global progress on the WPS agenda since the adoption of UNSCR 1325 in 2000. Since 2013, more than half of all peace agreements signed included references to women, peace and security. The continuing commitment of the UN is demonstrated by the passing of resolutions 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2106, and 2122 which focus on women and violence and the spirit of 1325. Most recently, the UN General Assembly approved by consensus a new resolution to commemorate 19 June as the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict.

However, progress lags in other areas, particularly in increasing women's participation during the negotiation of peace processes. There's also concern in the international community that UNSCR 1325 is used as a tool to manage conflict, rather than as an impetus to prevent it. The implementation of UNSCR 1325 can be strengthened by shifting the focus from conflict management to conflict prevention. Additionally, increasing women's participation in negotiating peace processes will increase the compatibility of solutions with the needs of women, as well as delivering agreements that are more effective in the long term. Strategies to advance the WPS Agenda must continue to focus on the provision of gender-sensitive protection and humanitarian assistance to allow for the differential manner in which conflict affects women.

UN Women have been promoting the WPS agenda by supporting women's peace coalitions with the aim of increasing women's participation in peace processes; working with peacekeepers to detect, report and hold accountable conflict-related sexual violence; and by ensuring that justice and security institutions are available for women and girls suffering from violence and discrimination.



For example, UN Women's engagement in Afghanistan has assisted in the development of a National Action Plan for 1325 (released in July 2015) and led to changes in the legal framework to promote gender equality and combat violence against women and girls. In the Asia–Pacific region, UN Women's engagement in Timor-Leste has led to the introduction of quotas for political representation, constitutional recognition of women's rights, and new legislation to target the reduction of domestic violence.

On International Women's Day in 2012, the Australian Government committed to the domestic implementation of UNSCR 1325 by launching a six-year National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (NAP). Policies and practices related to UNSCR 1325 are documented in biennial Progress Reports, the first of which was released last year. Further, the introduction of Civil Society Report Cards reviewing progress on the NAP increases government accountability and encourages ongoing discussion and dialogue between government agencies, NGOs and civil society organisations. The UN Secretary-General recognised Australia's Report Card system as an example of how to implement WPS policies while encouraging ongoing discussion and community engagement. Internationally, Australia has promoted the



Australian Army Corporal Jessica Kelly mans the MAG58 General Purpose Machine Gun at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan.

WPS Agenda during its term on the UN Security Council and at the Global Summit on Ending Sexual Violence in Conflict.

The Australian National Committee for UN Women plays an active role in the development of the Civil Society Report Card, which aims to increase government accountability for the implementation of 1325 goals. In her opening address to the 2014 Annual Civil Society Dialogue on Women, Peace and Security, Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women Senator Michaelia Cash emphasised the importance of a strong relationship between government and the civil society sector in advancing the WPS agenda. In October 2015, the National Committee will continue to collaborate with The Australian Council for International Development (ACFID), Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) and the Australian National University (ANU) Gender Institute to facilitate the Dialogue for a third time.

The 15th anniversary of UNSCR 1325 provides an opportunity for review and reflection. At the domestic level, continuing to foster the participatory relationship between Australian government agencies, NGOs and civil society organisations is key to creating an open environment where discussion, engagement, consultation and accountability contribute towards furthering the WPS agenda. Existing programs—such as education and training in the gender space, the Annual Civil Society Dialogue, and the Civil Society Report Card—will all continue to contribute towards making progress on Australia's NAP. We look forward with hope that the continued international action on UNSCR 1325 will see great gains made in ensuring the

security of the world's women and that the role of women as peacemakers will continue to be recognised.

Retrieved from the Australian Strategic Policy Institute [ASPI] "The Strategist", "UN Security Council Resolution 1325: the first 15 years", Grace Hill and Deb Mak, 13 August 2015. Link: http://www.aspistrategist.org.au/unsecurity-council-resolution-1325-the-first-15-years/

Editor: In terms of Australia's involvement of females serving on Operations, particularly on Peacekeeping Operations [PKO], the first armed females to deploy on Operations was OPERATION HABITAT in Northern Iraq, whilst conducting Humanitarian Intervention Operations, from 16 May to 30 June 1991, which was the Australian Defence Force [ADF], contribution to the NATO OP PROVIDE COMFORT, of which the Australian Contingent [ASC] was under Tactical Command and Control of the British Forces Commander OP HAVEN [BFCH]. They were mainly female Army Medical personnel, who were issued with helmets, flak jackets and M-16 (30-round magazines). These women were trained to operate the MAG 58 [L7] General Purpose Machine Gun (GPMG – a belt fed Platoon level fire support weapon) and were actively rostered as the Ready Reaction Force (RRF) and other self-protection duties of the Australian main base at Gir-i-Pit. Further selfprotection was also required whilst Medical Support Teams deployed around the Northern Iraq Area of Operations.

In the Maritime arena, the first females to be deployed as Ship's Crew to a war zone (Warlike Operations), was in 2 August 1990 to 9 June 1991 for what is technically known as the Second Gulf War. Five females were deployed with



Phase III Maritime Warfare Officer Sub Lieutenant McKay assists a member of the F-FDTL with their navigation skills. HMAS Huon made a visit to Dili, East Timor, to support Falantil Day celebrations and to continue to strengthen the relationship between the Royal Australian Navy and the Timor-Leste <u>Defence Force</u>.

the HMA Ship's Company during OP DESERT SHIELD, OP DESERT STORM and the multitude of OP DAMASK tours by numerous HMA Ships, which included large numbers of female crew.

The first armed females in the RAAF to deploy on Operations (Operational or Warlike Service), was to the Force Communications Unit [FCU] to the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], in April 1992 through to 19 November 1993. A number of WRAAF personnel were required to be trained in the F-88 Steyr (their personal weapon); and in mid-1993 the F-89 Minimi (5.56mm belt-fed Machine Gun – Section level fire Support weapon). As with their Army predecessors in Northern Iraq, they were also equipped with Kevlar Helmets, Flak Jackets and 150-rounds front-line ammunition.

These ADF women were the pioneers of how ADF Operations were conducted from that time onward, particularly in East Timor, from 20 September 1999 to 22 November 2012, became a major deployment commitment for the ADF, particularly the significant contribution of female troops (RAN, Army and RAAF), during this period to the conflict. Other significant female troop contributions were the Iraq War 2003 to the present, along with Afghanistan 2001 to the present.

Since the early 1990's, our servicewomen have rendered significant and distinguished service on Operations in some of the most dangerous countries in the world. They have

been armed and in cases responded to the threats and have proven that they are in many cases highly capable of their required responsibilities.

The service, courage and sacrifice of other Australian Women who mainly served as Nurses in World War One, World War Two, Korea, Malaysia and South Viet Nam is also recognised. However, the integration of ADF females in combat roles did not arise until the mid to late 1980's, which was a significant change of dynamics to the ADF at that time. Those females were also pioneers into what is now normal in today's ADF, when Regular Army Infantry Brigades were all male, crews to HMA Ships were all male; and other roles in the RAAF were in a long time male dominated mustering, particularly aircrew.

Australia has been a pioneer in deploying females to War, PKO and other Operations as effective troops since 1990 to the present day. 2015 is the 15th Anniversary of the UN's recognition of the capabilities of females in Military Forces around the world, instigated the encouragement of the Troop Contributing Nations to have females serving on a range of PKO, and in Australia's case this has been the norm since the historical ground-breaking deployments in the early 1990's.

Female Officers in the ADF have also been vital contributors toward Command functions in a range of PKO, particularly MINURSO [Western Sahara], FCU UNTAC and ASC UNAMIR II (OP TAMAR – Rwanda). The first ever

Medals of Gallantry [MG] awarded since it's inception was awarded to four ADF members, which included a Female Army Captain – Carol Vaughan-Evans who commanded a Casualty Clearing Post [CCP] at what has become known as the "Kibeho Massacre" in 1995.

Other female Officers such as Major General Simone Wilkie, AM, was first deployed as the Adjutant to the FCU UNTAC in 1993, was awarded the US Bronze Star for her service with the Multinational Force in Iraq and later the Australian Commendation for Distinguished Service for her service as the Deputy Commander of JTF633 [OP SLIPPER], in Afghanistan.

Such service has come at a cost to female lives. Army Officer Major Susan Felsche (RAAMC) was killed when the aircraft she was a passenger, crashed in the UN PKO in Western Sahara (MINURSO) on 21st of June 1993; and the Sea King Helicopter crash on 2 April 2005 claimed the lives of SGT Wendy Jones (RAAF); and FLTLT Lynne Rowbottom (RAAF), among seven other ADF males, whilst flying to Nias Island, Indonesia, during OP SUMATRA ASSIST II, to render Humanitarian and Medical Aid to the affected population, after an Earthquake shattered the tiny island.

Unfortunately, three ADF women have lost their lives in the noble service of International Peace, Security and Stability. LEST WE FORGET their sacrifice, so that others may live a better life.

Women hold a special place in the ADF. They have equal skill sets to that of their male counterparts and have proven themselves in a range of difficult Operations. The APPVA salutes the service, courage and sacrifice of our female veterans and female ADF members.

#### Introducing Women's Veterans Network Australia (WVNA)

As a result of the RSL-funded Women Veterans Symposium held in Brisbane on Friday 24 July 2015, the WVNA - Women Veterans Network Australia was established

as a community Facebook page. This step reflected the desire expressed by women at the symposium to connect with other women veterans and share relevant information.

WVNA is all about: "Connecting all women of Defence past and present with resources, support & information to live an empowered & fulfilling life."

We encourage people to please LIKE & SHARE the WVNA – Women Veterans Network Australia page https://www.facebook.com/womensveteransassn as a resource for general information and posts of interest to women veterans.

WVNA has established a network of Closed Facebook pages as an efficient means for women veterans to join and make connections via social media. Women Veterans Network (WVN) groups intend to work closely with all relevant Ex-Service Organisations to help women integrate and access the services that are available.

Currently WVN groups have been activated in the following locations: Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney South



Corporal Samantha Bartlett, Aircraft Technician from No. 1 Squadron, performs maintenance on the F/A-18F Super Hornet during Bersama Shield 2011.

Coast NSW, Wagga Wagga, Albury Wodonga, Brisbane, Toowoomba, Gold Coast & Northern Rivers, Sunshine Coast, Mackay, Townsville, Cairns, Darwin, Alice Springs, Western Australia, South Australia, Tasmania.

To find the relevant group on Facebook; enter "Women Veterans Network" followed by the "Region" eg Women Veterans Network Townsville https://www.facebook.com/groups/960306884032742/

Anyone on Facebook can find the group and see who's in it. Only members can see posts. Please encourage women veterans within your organisation to Follow our page and Join a group to share information and connect with others. We are more than happy to discuss requests to create new groups if an area is not yet represented.

WVN groups are inclusive of all ranks who served in the Navy, Army or Air Force who have served either in a full time or Reserve capacity, regardless of whether they have been deployed or not. All women veterans are welcome to join and connect with others who live in the area to support each other.

These Closed groups provide a forum for women veterans to focus on sharing LOCAL INFORMATION that might not be relevant for a national Facebook page. They are encouraged to discuss issues, ask questions, share information and make suggestions for activities where they









It is estimated that over 68,000 women served in World Wars 1 and 2. Thousands have also served in various Operations including Malaysia, South Viet Nam, The Second Gulf War 91; Cambodia 1992-1993; Somalia 1992-1995; Rwanda 1994-1995; Iraq [1991 & 2003 to the present]; Afghanistan [2003 to the present]; East Timor; and the many Peacekeeping Operations since the early 1990s to the present day. It is estimated that almost 9,000 women serve in today's ADF.

The QLD Poppy Appeal is being dedicated to honouring the service, courage and sacrifice of our current and ex-serving ADF Women. Visit the site: poppy appeal.com.au for further information or make an online donation." *Picture source Andrea Josephs* 





can physically meet up on occasion and enjoy a social connection with other women veterans.

This new social media network is an immediate step in response to the symposium to help move forward the conversation around women veteran issues. With almost 500 members joining the network within the last month and over 80 members on both the Brisbane and Townsville pages this is a great opportunity for ESOs and relevant organisations to share information on activities and services applicable to women veterans.

WVN group coordinators are supported via a WVNA Region Coord page where they can share ideas and information. WVN Coordinators aim to become active within their local veteran communities to facilitate the flow of information about veteran services to women.

Some of the WVN groups have organised successful meetups in the last few weeks to help make local connections. These ladies have already assisted other women veterans with everything from a social group that understands what they are talking about to emergency accommodation and medical assistance. Sometimes it has been simply pointing them in the direction of the relevant service or it could be physically assisting someone after establishing contact.

Women have unique transition challenges because of their role in the military and society. They experience deployment and reintegration differently than men. The cost of military and combat service is unique to each woman. They are strong and resilient, but because of the magnitude of the challenges faced, they may well need additional support during post-military readjustment periods.

Women have served throughout all the major conflicts with little or no recognition and a 21st Century woman veteran deserves a support network committed to focusing on their specific health and wellbeing needs to ease transition, isolation and assist with readjustment problems.

WVNA hopes that DVA and ESOs can work together with local WVN Coordinators to establish peer support networks for women veterans to ease transition, isolation and assist with readjustment challenges. We welcome any assistance and advice from ESOs and request to be included as an addressee in any relevant activities or meetings.

We are hopeful that the APPVA is willing to endorse WVN at all levels with a specific view to promoting the organisation as a leader in the active support of women veteran programs. We appreciate any information or assistance to access any funding opportunities that may be available to us as community groups supporting veterans. Of course, we would also be delighted to accept any financial or inkind assistance that your organisation is willing to provide in support of women veterans.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss the WVNA further. We appreciate your assistance in helping women veterans connect and network throughout Australia.

#### Editors Note

The APPVA supports the Women's Veteran Network of Australia and looks forward to working with them in a collaborative approach to improve the key issues of current and ex-serving ADF female members."

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### Women Much More Likely to Develop PTSD

MIAMI — Women have a significantly greater risk of developing post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) than men, regardless of the severity of the traumatic event, according to results from a new prospective study.

"Cross-sectional data have shown that women are at least twice as likely as men to suffer from stress-induced disorders, one of which is PTSD," lead researcher Vasiliki Michopoulos, PhD, from Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, told Medscape Medical News.

"Now, we are seeing in a prospective manner that women are considerably more at risk than men, and this is giving us an opportunity to collect additional data to assess what factors, in addition to gender, might contribute to their vulnerability," Dr Michopoulos said.

The study was presented here at the Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA) Conference 2015.

#### Significant Effect

The investigators enrolled 103 women who presented to a level-1 trauma centre within hours of experiencing an event that met DSM criterion A for PTSD.

Women who had a history of psychosis or suicidal risk, who had attempted suicide in the past 3 months, or who were intoxicated with or without altered mental status were excluded.

The women were assessed in the emergency department and again at 1 and 3 months after the traumatic event, using the PTSD Symptom Scale.

At both time points, women were at increased odds of developing a diagnosis of PTSD compared with men.

At 1 month, they were almost 10 times more likely to be diagnosed with PTSD (odds ratio [OR], 9.49, 95% confidence interval [CI], 3.59 - 25.04; P < .001).

Three months following trauma exposure, their risk had lessened. However, they were still almost five times more likely to have a diagnosis of PTSD compared with men (OR, 4.98; 95% CI, 1.68 - 14.72; P = .004).

Additionally, PTSD symptoms were significantly greater in women than in men at both time points after the traumatic event (for both, P < .001).

"This effect of female gender remained significant when controlling for trauma severity and interpersonal trauma exposure, with a P-value less than 0.001," Dr Michopoulos said.

#### In Search of a Biomarker

The researchers are looking at biological and genetic markers that might predict a woman's risk for PTSD.

"The end goal is if we can find a biomarker that says you are more at risk, then we can siphon you off and get you the resources and treatment you need, because we know that early intervention following trauma is effective," Dr Michopoulos said.

"If we do modified prolonged exposure therapy bedside in a trauma centre, we know from the work pioneered by Dr Barbara Rothbaum, who is one of the authors of our study, that people who receive that treatment bedside have attenuated risk for developing PTSD," she said.

The researchers are also trying to discover the mechanism for the sex difference in PTSD risk.

"I am interested in neuroendocrine markers. We know that estradiol is critical for the consolidation and extension of fear memories. Work from our group has shown that women with low estradiol are less able to extinguish fear. One of our hypotheses is that, at the time of trauma, women who have high levels of estradiol would actually be less at risk than women with low estradiol levels. So if a woman is near ovulation, that is probably going to be protective," Dr Michopoulos said.

#### **Need for Rapid Treatment**

Commenting on the findings for Medscape Medical News, Mark H. Pollack, MD, Grainger professor and chairman, Department of Psychiatry, Rush University Medical Centre, Chicago, Illinois, and ADAA president, described the study as "very interesting" and demonstrates "that women are at markedly increased risk of developing PTSD after trauma exposure."

"This suggests first that women who have suffered trauma should be assessed carefully and over time to monitor whether they develop PTSD so that treatment can be initiated as rapidly as possible," Dr Pollack, who was not part of the study, said.

"It also opens up avenues of research to learn about what other factors may confer vulnerability to the development of PTSD, including potentially hormonal or other sex-related factors," he said.

Dr Michopoulos and Dr Pollack report no relevant financial relationships.

Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA) Conference 2015. Abstract 174.

Presented April 10, 2015.

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Send comments and news tips to news@medscape.net.

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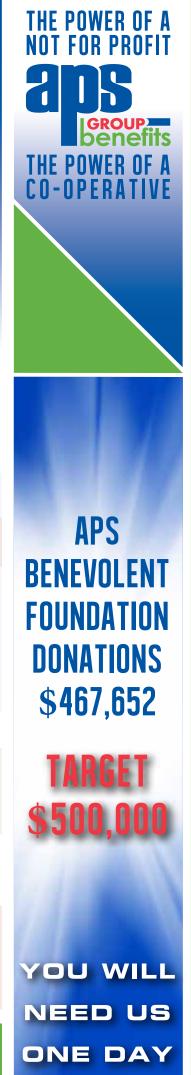
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#### **Key to Our Success**

#### We go behind the scenes with personnel supporting our troops on Operation Aslan in South Sudan.

A small team of dedicated personnel are providing critical support to Operation Aslan – the ADF's contribution to the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS). The Australian National Support Element includes Flt-Lt Karl Woodward, WO2 Stuart Clancy and Cpl Cynthia McShane. They are deployed for six months and provide critical logistics, personnel administration and force protection support to the others deployed on the operation.

Flt-Lt Woodward said the group had a total of five previous deployments to the Middle East and Timor-Leste between them. "This previous experience has greatly assisted us during our time on Operation Aslan," he said.

"During the past three months we have been responsible for a wide range of tasks spanning across South Sudan and Uganda.

"Our main focus includes providing administrative and logistic support to the other ADF personnel, engaging with the local community, liaising with UNMISS and coordinating support from the Government Republic of South Sudan.

"Maintaining administrative and logistical support in South Sudan does come with its own unique challenges, for example the country has no EFTPOS or credit card facilities and large amounts of the local currency is counterfeit," Flt-Lt Woodward said. One of Cpl McShane's responsibilities is handling the mail from Australia. "In three months, 63 cartons – equating to 1043kg – of mail have been delivered, which has to be processed and then distributed

to personnel spread between two states in South Sudan," she said.

FIt-Lt Woodward said the National Support Element also provided an important link between the UN logistic system and the ADF personnel located in Bor, 200km north of Juba. "The wet season significantly impacts the roads, which often become impassable so the ADF personnel located in Bor often rely on our support," he said. "Even though Bor is only a few hours' drive north of Juba during the dry season, during the wet season the UN cargo system can take between 48 hours to 28 days to be delivered."

FIt-Lt Woodward said the other National Support Elements in South Sudan faced similar challenges and maintaining a close working relationship allowed each country to operate efficiently. "We also maintain strong working relationships with the Dutch, Canadian and Norwegian National Support Elements," he said. "We meet regularly to discuss better ways to transit our food supply to Bor, identify areas in Juba to purchase goods and services, and overcome the challenges faced by cultural differences in South Sudan." WO2 Clancy said the personnel deployed on Operation Aslan were made up of Air Force, Army and Navy members who possessed diverse skills, knowledge and experience.

"An essential ongoing task for us is to maintain and enhance the skills of the personnel deployed on the operation through continuation training and force protection in areas such as first aid, vehicle recovery, weapons handling, communications and threat action drills," he said.





## HMASMelbourneintercepts 427kg heroin haul

HMAS Melbourne's crew has seized 427 kilograms of heroin hidden in a fishing dhow carrying the illegal drugs across the Indian Ocean.

The intercept occurred during Melbourne's first patrol of her current Operation MANITOU deployment to the Middle East region assigned to the multinational Combined Maritime Forces.

Illegal narcotics are a common source of funding for terrorist organisations and HMAS Melbourne's Commanding Officer, Commander Bill Waters, said the drugs had an estimated Australian street value of at least AUD\$126 million.

"In 2015, Australian ships have seized nearly two tonnes of heroin while deployed to Middle Eastern waters," he said.

"This latest intercept shows our continuing vigilance is essential in the fight against terrorism.

"The entire crew has worked tirelessly for a result of which we are extremely proud."

The crew of HMAS Melbourne observed the dhow operating suspiciously and a boarding party via seaboat to conduct a routine boarding.

Interviews with the dhow's crew raised suspicion that it was involved in some form of illegal activity.

A subsequent search of the vessel, uncovered the heroin.

HMAS Melbourne personnel sling 427kg of heroin onboard their ship for disposal after a successful search of a dhow in the Indian Ocean.

The drugs were transferred from the dhow to Melbourne where they were analysed and destroyed.

Vice Admiral David Johnston, Chief of Joint Operations, welcomed Melbourne's effort in the Middle East.

"Melbourne is on her eighth deployment to the Middle East Region and is the 61st rotation of a Royal Australian Navy vessel in the region since the first Gulf War in 1990," he said.

"The ship was highly successful on the previous deployment which culminated in narcotics interceptions valued at about \$1.2 billion over the course of the mission that concluded in February last year.

"Our ongoing efforts in the maritime environment to intercept the trafficking of drugs are key to disrupting the business model of terrorist organisations who use narcotics to fund their illegal activities."

Royal Australian Navy ships assigned to the Combined Maritime Forces for maritime security operations do so under Operation MANITOU, the operational name for Australia's contribution to maritime security in the Middle East Region





Commander 205th Corps Advisory Team (205 CAT) Colonel Mitchell Kent delivers a speech to Australian Defence Force and United States of America military personnel during a medal ceremony at Train Advice Assist Command - South headquarters, Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan.

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#### Stars Awarded for Service

Australian Army members of the 205th Corps Advisory Team (205 CAT) have been recognised by the United States for their meritorious service in a combat zone as the role of the ADF in the Advisory Team draws to a close after five years.

The United States Bronze Star Medal has been awarded to seven senior advisors in the 205 CAT, together with one Meritorious Service Medal and nine Army Commendation Medals.

The Australian-led 205 CAT provided advice, training and assistance to the Afghan National Army's 205th Corps personnel based at Camp Hero in Kandahar province, Afghanistan.

Commander of the U.S. led Train, Advise, and Assist Command – South (TAAC-S), Brigadier General Paul Bontrager said the medal presentation was an important acknowledgement for a job well done.

"The Australians provide input in a manner that frankly, I don't think any other nation can do," he said.

"They have frankness, candour, and an ability to operate at the correct level and put the needs of others ahead of their own.

"It is a significant thing that the Australians bring to the fore."

Commander of the seventh and final 205 CAT rotation, Colonel Mitchell Kent said the Australian advisors were honoured to receive the awards.

"It's been a pleasure to work with the Train, Advise and Assist Command – South," he said.

"We've appreciated the freedom of action as well as the cooperation and support from the leadership team.

"This is a significant honour they have chosen to bestow upon us, and I thank them for their friendship and camaraderie."

Under Australian guidance, the Afghan National Army 205th Corps has grown to a divisional sized formation with four manoeuvre brigades and approximately 19,000 troops.

The corps is responsible for the southern provinces of Kandahar, Uruzgan, Daykundi and Zabul, comprising of 42 Districts covering an area of 98,800 square km and a population of approximately 12.51 million.

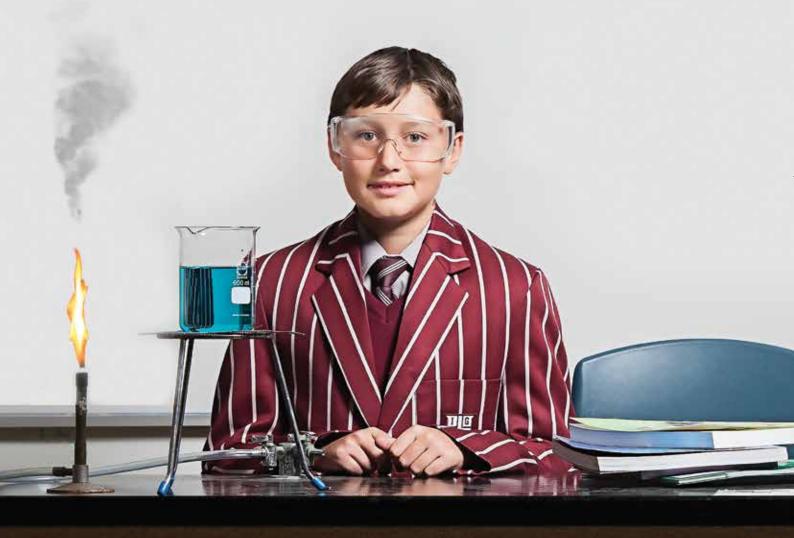
In its five-year history, the 205 CAT grew to approximately 20 Australian advisors and a Force Protection Element of around 60 Australian personnel, joined by a smaller contingent of U.S. and Bulgarian advisors and interpreters.

On October 1st, 2015, the 205 CAT ended its mission in Southern Afghanistan after seven successful rotations since April 2010.

Commander 205th Corps Advisory Team (205 CAT) Colonel Mitchell Kent is awarded the Bronze Star Medal by Commander of the U.S. led Train, Advise, and Assist Command – South (TAAC-S) Brigadier General Paul Bontrager during a medal ceremony at TAAC-S headquarters, Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan.



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# RSL donates musical instruments to ADF troops in the Middle East

The RSLAustralian Forces Overseas Fund (AFOF) donated more than \$9000 worth of instruments and equipment for lovers of music deployed to the Middle East Region.

Guitars, cymbals, microphones and a new mixer were just some of the items flown from Australia to the main support base and delivered to ecstatic musicians on October 1st.

Lieutenant Colonel Ian Robinson, the Commanding Officer for Forces Entertainment, is closely involved with the RSL AFOF system.

He said he happily helped prepare the packages and assisted with the purchase of the welfare items for deployed personnel.

"When I visited the base last year I found a group of guys with basic instruments and band equipment," he said.

"They asked if they could get some more, and I was given a list which I took to the RSL who were happy to help.

Lieutenant Colonel Robinson said music is a powerful tool for the sustainment of moral among deployed troops.

"The entertainment I deliver with Australian musicians and comedians is well received and is part of a force enabler through morale and welfare," he said.

"However, Forces Entertainment Tours only occur periodically.

"The donated equipment allows those soldiers, sailors and airmen who have an interest in music to unwind and briefly escape the hardships of their deployment by playing with good equipment in a dedicated band rehearsal room.

"It's even allowed the troops to form their own bands and play gigs for Australian, British, New Zealand and US troops."

Brigadier Nagy Sorial, Deputy Commander Joint Task Force 633, said the impact of the musical equipment for the people on the base was significant.

"Not only does it allow for bands to be formed, we also have some very talented individuals who come through here on a regular basis," he said.

"For the guys who already know how to play music it allows them to provide entertainment for their mates and for others it is an opportunity to learn an instrument, which is a great way to use their down-time and gives them a break from their day-to-day work.

"The donation is a magnificent display of generosity from the RSL AFOF and adds to the more than \$400,000 worth of equipment that has been donated over the last few years by the organisation and their supporters."

The RSL AFOF provides care packages to Australian Defence Force and Australian Federal Police Personnel serving overseas.

The AFOF relies on volunteers including 39th Personnel Support Battalion, Directorate of Personnel Support Amenities, Department of Veterans' Affairs, NSW RSL State Branch, Malabar RSL Sub-Branch, RSL National Headquarters and the many friends of AFOF who assist in the preparation of packages.

If you would like to support the RSL AFOF phone: (02) 6280 4079.



For more information visit: <a href="http://rsl.org">http://rsl.org</a>. <a href="http://rsl.org">a u / O u r - S e r v i c e s / S u p p o r t i n g - A D F - Personnel/AFOF</a>

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#### The Raising of the 3rd Task Force

#### by LTCOL Glenn Walhert

Certainly Townsville will never regret [the establishment of Lavarack Barracks] because it will bring ... a substantial community of people. For the most part, they will be young, lively and vigorous people with their families, and they will undoubtedly add to the diversity and richness of the community life of Townsville.

#### Prime Minister Harold Holt at the opening of Lavarack Barracks, 29 July 1966

Prime Minister Harold Holt opened the Army's new, purposebuilt Lavarack Barracks on 29 July 1966 (pictured). The construction of the barracks and the nearby High Range training area was a direct result of Army's restructuring and level of operational commitment.

In 1965, 3 RAR, then serving with the 28th Commonwealth Brigade in Malaysia, was redeployed to Borneo, and a battalion group, based on 1 RAR, was committed to support the Republic of South Vietnam. This latter commitment was increased the following year to a task force of two battalions with support units. By the end of 1965 the Army was restructuring and fully committed at home and abroad. The reorganisation of the regular Army was based on an infantry division of three brigade-level formations designated as task forces. These task forces comprised the 1st Task Force in Holsworthy, NSW; the 6th Task Force, based in Brisbane; and the 3rd Task Force, which was to be located in purpose-built accommodation at Lavarack Barracks, Townsville.

In November 1964, Prime Minister Robert Menzies announced to Parliament the expansion of the Australian Army and the raising of a new task force in Townsville, Queensland. On the same day as the Prime Minister's announcement, an Army reconnaissance party was exploring various sites on the outskirts of Townsville as possible locations for the new barracks, eventually settling on 'the area around Mount Stuart and its environs'.

As there was no recent precedent for the siting of a large army barracks and training area, the reconnaissance party eventually 'guessed' at an area of around 20,000 acres (8100 hectares or 81 square kilometres). This was to include areas for barracks, married quarters and a close training area. Mount Stuart was also quite close to the city of Townsville, fitting the Army's preference 'for the base to be reasonably close to Townsville so Army personnel and their families could have access to the same amenities as their civilian counterparts.'

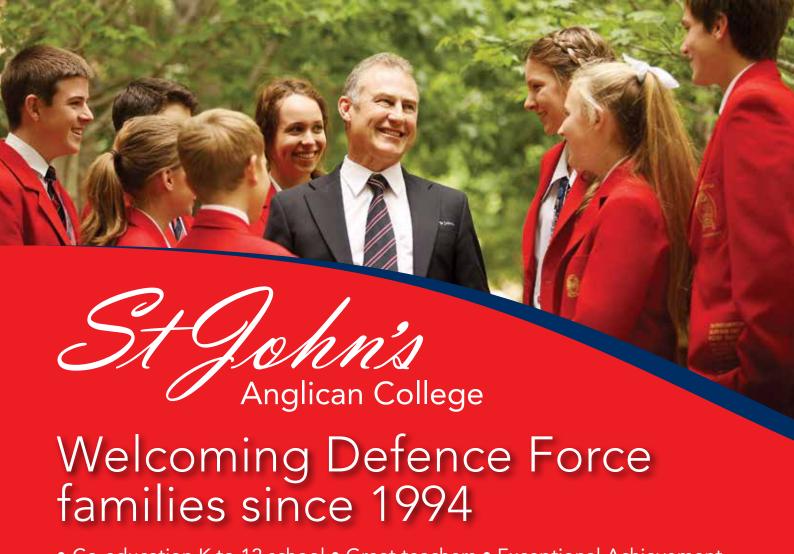
Planning commenced in the New Year with an ambitious timetable given the government's requirement for the base to be operational by mid-1966 and capable of housing a task force of nearly five-thousand personnel. The design phase was reduced by using existing plans and designs from the recently completed army barracks in Port



Moresby. Unfortunately for the Army, problems arose almost immediately with the acquisition of the land, the process of gaining local council development approvals and complications with infrastructure design. At the same time state and local governments bickered over their financial contributions, the construction workers went on strike and a local community group formed to object to what they regarded as the 'Army's exploitation of Townsville'. Council and community concerns 'bogged down negotiations', while the Army blamed 'the remoteness of Townsville and the consequential rustic outlook of some, plus their deep suspicion of Central Government' as the major cause of the delays. The Army appeared reluctant to accept that it may have to shoulder a portion of the blame.

The barracks were originally intended for occupation in late 1966; however, the first major unit, 6 RAR, was not accommodated in Townsville until late 1967 due to the delay in building married quarters. The Housing Commission, which would eventually manage the quarters, objected to the Army's 'scales and standards', which it asserted were 'generally larger, of better quality and more elaborate' than the usual Housing Commission homes.

By 1969, less than half the required married quarters had been completed. Not surprisingly, the cost of the project was rising steadily. Originally approved at a total cost of \$14 million, by late 1965 the sum had ballooned



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to \$26 million and continued to rise. In an attempt to control costs, return the project to its original schedule and better manage the key stakeholders, the position of Commander North Queensland Area was established and an experienced senior Army civil engineer, Brigadier Edgar Logan, was appointed to the post in November 1967. Logan's responsibilities included overseeing the construction of Lavarack Barracks and commanding all the Army units in the Townsville area, including the field force units which would eventually comprise the 3rd Task Force. Over the next 18 months relations with the local community and Council improved and construction of the task force's buildings and support infrastructure slowly caught up with the schedule, enabling the formal creation of Headquarters 3rd Task Force in July 1969. Future commanders were posted to the dual-hatted position of Commander North Queensland Area and Commander 3rd Task Force until the separation of the two posts in 1973.

While the military blamed Townsville Council for the delays and difficulties in developing Lavarack Barracks, it is clear that the Army and the Commonwealth were primarily liable for the majority of the problems that arose. The Army had been given an impossibly tight deadline to construct the barracks and a budget that was poorly scoped and inadequate.

In its haste, it had neglected community consultation, adopted a dogmatic approach to negotiations with the three tiers of government, and was prepared to rapidly resort to the *Compulsory Land Acquisition Act*. Crucially, the local media was poorly managed, resulting in an increasing level of public concern. While much of this concern evaporated as the 3rd Task Force moved in and the benefits to the local community became evident, it left many residents with a lasting negative impression of the Army.

One member of the Townsville Progress Association in the late 1960s, blamed Army for its 'irascible and wrong-

headed approach' to dealing with the local authorities. He observed that 'if they had consulted widely, thoroughly and early, and actually listened occasionally, many of the objections to the development would not have arisen.'

Interestingly, the decision to house a task force in Townsville was political and ran contrary to initial advice from the Army, which argued for the base to be situated on the Mornington peninsula in Victoria. In his speech at the opening, the Prime Minister explained that Townsville had been chosen for the new Army base as a result of a government imperative to drive investment and development in North Queensland. While Townsville was not the Army's first choice, it soon turned necessity into a virtue.

Within days of the government's decision, the Army had highlighted the advantages of Townsville, including its diverse terrain and climate which closely resembled likely deployment areas in

South-East Asia and the South West Pacific. Townsville and the High Range training area were expected to enable the Army to meet its 'strategic defence position [and respond] to events in Vietnam and Malaysia'.

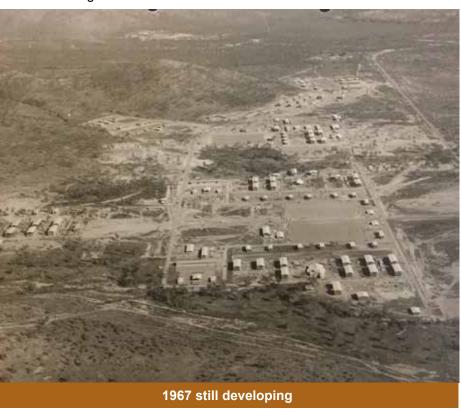
The Army recommended that the new barracks be named Elizabeth Barracks, just as a number of military barracks had been named Victoria Barracks at the turn of the last century. Prime Minister Holt however, wanted a name that was more appropriate to the region. Consequently a short list of possible names was submitted to the Prime Minister which included Chauvel, Coral Sea, Anzac and Lavarack. Holt chose Lavarack to honour Lieutenant General Sir John Dudley Lavarack, a veteran of both the first and second AIF and later the first Australian-born Governor of Queensland.

The large stone monolith at the entrance to the barracks was the brainchild of Major General Tim Cape, then General Officer Commanding Northern Command and the senior officer responsible for the development of the barracks. Cape considered some of the early designs for the entrance too modern and artistic; he wanted an impressive entrance that blended well with the environment. Eventually he decided on a large piece of local granite which he described as reflective of the sheer granite cliffs of Mount Stuart, which formed a dominating and natural backdrop to the barracks.

Finally, in July 1969, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Task Force was opened for business in its new barracks, three years after the Prime Minister actually opened the barracks. It had been a hard slog but the '3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade' was back in business after more than a twenty-year absence.

This article is an extract from a forthcoming book titled 'Anzac Cove to Afghanistan: The History of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade', which is planned for release in Townsville later this year.

Reprinted with the permission from LTCOL GLenn Wahlert



#### **Protecting Australia's north-west**

#### Mission success on inaugural Exercise Northern Shield

The Ready Combat Team from 6RAR moves forward to secure an area of interest at RAAF Learmonth during an Exercise Northern Shield scenario.

THE inaugural Exercise Northern Shield has wrapped up in Exmouth, Western Australia, with about 1000 troops and almost a million pounds of cargo crossing the continent.

Northern Shield was held from September 19-24 and was the first major military activity to be held in the remote northwest region, practising the ADF's ability to deploy a large joint force across significant distances quickly. Troops, vehicles and aircraft converged on Exmouth from as far as Amberley, Brisbane, Sydney, Darwin, Tindal and Canberra.

Commander Deployable Joint Force Headquarters (DJFHQ) Maj-Gen Stuart Smith said the exercise was the most effective way to validate the ADF's ability to rapidly project forces.

"We need to be able to deploy to any location across the continent whenever the need arises," he said.

"Here we have reinforced that we can project forces quickly and maintain the ability to protect our natural resources and population centres in the event of any threat or natural disaster." Exmouth Shire President Cr Turk Shales said the local population had welcomed the Defence in the region.

"We have loved every second of it," he said. "The whole town is talking about the ADF, the kids are loving the forces

being here and the relationships and activities have been incredible. "The community engagement by the forces has been second to none. We fully understand that it is an exercise in warfare and an exercise in protecting what is ours, our country and we welcome that protection."

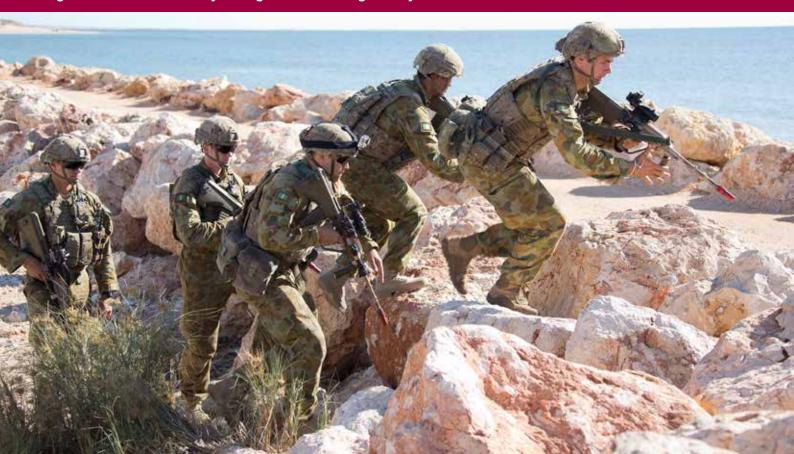
Northern Shield involved a wide range of capabilities and equipment from different areas of Defence, working together in a joint task force, led by DJFHQ, to defeat a simulated enemy threat.

During the exercise the Regional Force Surveillance Units activated reconnaissance teams to provide long-range observation, a 2 Cdo Regt company conducted a parachute insertion and night raid against a hostile force, while an Army Ready Combat Team provided population protection with aviation support from Super Hornets, Hawk 127 jets and ARH Tigers. Air Force C-17 Globemasters, C-130J Hercules and KC-30 Multi Role Tanker Transport aircraft provided the strategic lift for the troops, while E-7 Wedgetail and AP-3C Orion aircraft provided intelligence and surveillance capability from above.

Maj-Gen Smith said it was impressive to see our sailors, soldiers, airmen and airwomen performing at the highest level in such a cohesive, collegiate way.

"The fact the ADF has also been able to concurrently conduct the Sea Series amphibious exercises on the east coast makes the achievements of Northern Shield even

The Ready Combat Team from 6th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment conduct a raid on Exmouth Marina against a simulated enemy during the culminating activity on Exercise Northern Shield 2015.



more significant," he said.

"North-west Australia is a Defence priority and I am confident that we have the right processes, capabilities and people to respond effectively to any contingencies in the region."

### Joint effort boosts training

Capt Jesse Platz

Brisbane-based soldiers from the Ready Combat Team, Air Force personnel and Western Australian Police in Exmouth have worked together to successfully defeat a simulated security threat during Exercise Northern Shield. In the scenario, a RAAF King Air role-played a suspect aircraft attempting to transport illegal weapons, explosives and drugs into Australia, with the intent of reinforcing enemy operating within Exmouth.

After landing at RAAF Learmonth, the Ready Combat Team (RCT) from 6RAR, military working dogs and local Exmouth police inspected the aircraft, secured a perimeter and arrested the persons of interest. OC B Coy, 6RAR, Maj Jan Koudelka said his team was ready to respond once intelligence came through.

"We received information from a reliable source that there was a suspected supply run coming into Australia from overseas," Maj Koudelka said. "At the time of receiving that information, we immediately began planning and integrated with other agencies, including the Exmouth police, to ensure every single element and capability was aware of their role for the scenario."

With the simulated threat still apparent in the Exmouth area, significant military air support in the form of fixed and rotary-wing aircraft assisted with providing aerial coverage and surveillance for the ground troops. ARH Tiger pilot Lt James Allison said his role in the exercise scenario was to provide an overwatch air capability in support of ground operations. "We conducted two missions daily over the Exmouth area to provide surveillance support," Lt Allison said. "If we saw any suspicious vehicles or persons of interest, we'd report that back to the RCT on the ground, enabling them to conduct further investigations and provide protection to the area." The entire scenario, from when the King Air was intercepted to the RCT securing the perimeter, demonstrated the cooperation and interoperability of Defence assets in conjunction with external agencies.

#### **Keeping watch in Exmouth**

The streets of Exmouth, Western Australia, were in good hands when the Brisbane-based Ready Combat Team (RCT) kept a 24-hour watch during Exercise Northern Shield. The soldiers from 6RAR provided a significant local presence by patrolling urban and rural areas, searching for role player enemy combatants and vehicles of interest.

Section Commander Cpl Kyle Johnson said the exercise provided a unique surrounding for the 6RAR troops who



Above and below: The Ready Combat Team from 6th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment conduct a raid on Exmouth Marina against a simulated enemy during the culminating activity on Exercise Northern Shield 2015.

didn't normally get to patrol within a township. "This was really new for the guys, it gave them a different environment to operate in," Cpl Johnson said. "Generally we conduct patrols in the field environment. Patrolling in an actual town and interacting with the locals has been motivating. I think they've really liked having us around." The RCT conducted foot and mounted patrols by day and night using Bushmasters. Their presence around the small Exmouth community was well received.

Mark de Wet, who was travelling in the area, said it was exciting to see so much activity around the place and to interact with the soldiers. "I think it's fantastic to have the ADF around, we've certainly noticed them," Mr de Wet said. "The lads were very friendly and were happy to talk with me about their gear and weapons. Friendly bunch." Part of the exercise involved community engagement — gaining local confidence in Defence's ability to deploy into remote areas very quickly. "If we had a real security threat, I would feel very confident knowing that our forces have the ability to protect us," Mr de Wet said.

Printed with the permission from the DVA *Photos by Cpl Janine Fabre* 

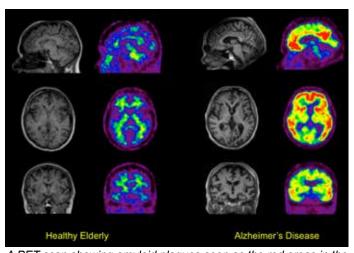


#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

#### EFFECTS OF TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY AND POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER ON ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE IN AUSTRALIAN WAR VETERANS

Volunteers aged 60 or older are required to take part in a research project investigating if past traumatic brain injury (TBI) increases formation of brain 'plaques and tangles' that may eventually lead to Alzheimer's disease in Australian war veterans.

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) can be classified as mild, moderate or severe and symptoms range from feeling a little dazed, to losing consciousness, and/or forgetting parts of the event. Often labelled the "signature wound" of modern day warfare, TBI has been diagnosed in over 175 000 US military service personnel since 2000. Alzheimer's disease (AD) is the most common cause of dementia in the older population, and will eventually affect one in four Australians. Within fifty years it is expected to cost more than any other health condition.



A PET scan showing amyloid plaques seen as the red areas in the image on the right compared to a normal scan on the left. These scans are now available in the USA and Europe to assist doctors make a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease but are only available in Australia for research

Studies following US war veterans from WWII and the Korean War have reported that veterans with a history of head injury are 2-4 times more at risk of AD than the average person. Given the high incidence of comorbid Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) with head injury, separate research has been carried out to investigate the association between PTSD and risk of AD. Findings indicate a nearly twofold increased risk of dementia associated with PTSD in military cohorts however, mechanisms surrounding the contributions of TBI with PTSD in increasing risk of Alzheimer's disease are largely unknown.

Research suggesting that head injury may accelerate or result in the development of Alzheimer's disease, is inconclusive and there is currently no consensus as to the mechanisms involved in this relationship. What experts do agree upon is that more research is needed.

Australia has been a world leader in the development of new

brain imaging scans that use a technique called positron emission tomography (PET). The recent development of these state of the art scanners now gives scientists the ability to peer into the brain of living individuals in search of abnormal clumps of proteins named amyloid plaques and tau tangles. These proteins are thought to be the root cause of Alzheimer's disease and dementias.

The recent advances in brain scanning will allow researchers to gain a better understanding of the long-term neurological effects of head injury, resulting in the enhancement of available and emerging treatments. It is anticipated that results from the current study will provide invaluable data to the search for effective dementia prevention and treatment.

A team of researchers from the Austin Health Department of Molecular Imaging, the Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health, the University of Melbourne and Monash University has received funding from the US Department of Defense and the Sir Edward "Weary" Dunlop Foundation to investigate if TBI results in the amyloid plaques and tau tangles that significantly increase the risk of later life dementia.

The team has been recruiting veterans aged over 60 to participate in the study, and is nearly half-way to meeting their target of 150 volunteers. This research still requires 40 veterans with or without a history of PTSD, who have suffered a head injury whilst serving within the military. The team are also seeking 40 veterans without PTSD or head injury to act as controls to compare the head injury group to. Volunteers will be interviewed to collect information about their military service, medical history and measure their memory performance. Those who are suitable for the full study will then have three PET scans, one to measure the plaques, one to measure the tangles and one to measure brain cell activity in all parts of the brain, and an MRI scan. A blood sample will also be taken in order to investigate if genes play a role in the risk for dementia after TBI.

If you would like to take part in this research, or if you would like to find out more, please contact Ms. Tia Cummins by email tia.cummins@florey.edu.au or phone 03 9496 5748. Alternatively, please log on to www.brainpet.org.



The PET Camera, and study coordinator Tia Cummins, with Vietnam veteran and study participant, David Hay

# **Because It Is Right Thing To Do**

In opinion piece by respected columnist and former ADF officer, Major Ross Eastgate, OAM, (Retired), raised a subject that has been on the forefront of the APPVA's political agenda for a number of years.

Recognition of peacekeepers has always been less than adequate in this country over successive governments. Under the Labor Governments of Rudd/Gillard/Rudd, the application for an Australian Peacekeeping Medal was rejected through the Defence Honour and Awards Appeals Tribunal.

In July 2011, advice was received that the Government had accepted the following Tribunal recommendations into peacekeeping recognition:

- Recommendation 1: No change be made in the present practice of an award of the ASM or AASM being the appropriate form of recognition for participation by ADF personnel in peacekeeping operations.
- Recommendation 2: The Australian Government should not establish a new medal for general or specific recognition of peacekeeping service, to be awarded to ADF personnel who have taken part, or in the future take part, in peacekeeping operations.
- Recommendation 3: No action be taken by the Australian Government to recognise the award of the 1988 Nobel Peace Prize to UN peacekeepers.

However, despite the assertion the Government of the day had accepted these recommendations, less than 12 months later in May 2012, the Gillard Government announced the Operational Service Medal which has now replaced the AASM and ASM, clearly rejecting Recommendation 1.

In more recent times, the Australian Government used this nation's proud peacekeeping history to underpin the campaign for a seat on the UN Security Council. It is hard to comprehend that the courage, commitment and sacrifice of our peacekeepers was used as part of a political campaign while denying recognition to the very people who participated in the operations.

The position of the APPVA has always remained strongly focused on ensuring peacekeepers are appropriately recognized for service and the disparity between warlike and non-warlike service is balanced in all aspects including compensation and entitlements.

As this nation heads towards the 70th Anniversary of Australia's contribution to international peacekeeping, there are several points to remember:

- Recognition for the fallen peacekeepers at the Australian War Memorial took over a decade and was unsupported by both major political parties;
- The Australian community and politicians fail to comprehend the contribution and sacrifice of Australia's enduring mission;
- A number of operations remain under Review including for one peacekeeping veteran who has struggled for

over 15 years to have his case considered with the matter stalled within Defence for nearly a decade;

- The previous Veteran Affairs Minister didn't attend any peacekeeping events during his tenure and failed on several occasions to even acknowledge such events; and
- Time is marching on and the peacekeeping community is losing members to illness and suicide.

In the lead-up to the 70th Anniversary of Australia's enduring mission and the 2016 Federal election – these and other issues are squarely on the political agenda of the APPVA.

Across the world Australian Defence, police and civilians remain on peacekeeping, peace monitoring and humanitarian operations – some at high-risk from belligerent groups such as ISIS.

It would be considered that there are many reasons why Australia should not have a Peacekeeping Medal – all are bureaucratic and Canberra centric in nature.

There is one key reason why Australia should have a Peacekeeping Medal – because after nearly seven decades of an enduring mission across UN, humanitarian operations, peacekeeping, peace enforcement and monitoring – it is absolutely the right thing to do.

Allan Thomas National President APPVA

Ross Eastgate: Dutch take step Aussies denied

Opinion piece: Townsville Bulletin 20 Oct 15

In 1988 the Norwegian Nobel Committee recognised the contribution and sacrifice of all UN peacekeepers who had served since 1945, including many Australians, awarding them the Nobel Peace Prize.

After 27 years lobbying, pleading and cajoling by veterans' organisations, former Dutch UN peacekeepers have been awarded a distinctive, individual insignia by their government recognising that award.

Holland now joins Scandinavian countries who have given formal recognition to their UN peacekeepers eligible for the award.

The Dutch medallion bears the UN insignia and a relief of Alfred Nobel, and is authorised for wear in uniform or on civilian dress.

Ger Pastoor had an inauspicious start to his military career.

In order to avoid his compulsory national service in the 1960s he ran away to sea, travelling as far as Australia then being arrested by the military police on his return to Holland.

Once in uniform he thrived, graduating from the Dutch military academy in 1967 before qualifying for the coveted commando green beret.

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His first UN peacekeeping experience was with UNTSO in the Middle East in 1977-78, on the Golan Heights and in the Sinai.

In March 1978 he was one of about 20 UNTSO military observers hastily sent to Lebanon to establish a HQ for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, which is still exists 37 years later.

Pastoor returned to UNIFIL in 1985 commanding a Dutch infantry company of regular troops and conscripts.

He later was a senior regional UN observer in Bosnia-Herzegovina before retiring near Arnhem.

In retirement he has become a respected international adviser on bee keeping, an avid Nordic walker, an almost annual participant in the gruelling four-day, 200km Arnhem to Nijmegen march alongside commando mates he has known since 1967 and a proud grandfather.

Like all good commanders he has kept touch with the troops he led, monitoring their welfare, ensuring they hold regular reunions.

They gathered last week to receive their Nobel prize insignia, a typically bittersweet occasion.

Sweet, because after 27 years they were finally being recognised by their own government, with the insignia presented by one of Pastoor's former subordinate lieutenants, now the Royal Nederlands Army commander.

Bitter because 11 of their number were no longer with them, two officers killed in Mali in 2000, two lost to PTSD through

suicide and the others simply victims of time.

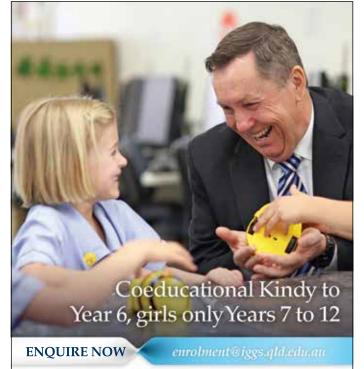
That roll call would be similar to any equivalent Australian military unit three decades on. Except Dutch veterans have finally received due recognition while Australians have not.

Australian UN veterans and their organisations have made repeated representations for some similar, small distinction for those who served with the UN prior to 1988 but successive Australian governments have so far flatly rejected all proposals.

It's not too much to ask after 27 years but in the coldhearted way Australian governments advised by even colder hearted bureaucrats deal with veterans, they will likely wait in vain for similar recognition.







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# UN-missable: Chief of Joint Operations visits the Australian Contingent in South Sudan

It is not often an Australian Contingent in South Sudan hosts a visit by a senior member of the Australian Defence Force. During his first time to the region, Chief Joint Operations (CJOPS), Vice-Admiral David Johnston, completed a successful visit to ADF members deployed with the United Nations in South Sudan (UNMISS) in late October.

The five day visit to South Sudan gave CJOPS the opportunity to see first hand the high standard of work ADF personnel are undertaking in South Sudan in support of UNMISS.

Official visits took place with the Senior Representative of the Secretary General and Head of the UNMISS H.E. Ellen Margrethe Løj and other key leaders of the mission.

The visit also provided an opportunity for CJOPS to gain a greater understanding of the varied roles of the UN specialist forces deployed supporting the Mission including medical, riverine force protection and construction engineering operations.

Earlier this year upon request of UNMISS, the Bangladesh military deployed a Riverine Unit to provide force protection to UN and other humanitarian aid barges using the White

Nile. Over the past seven months the Australian contingent developed a strong relationship with the unit through active involvement in supporting the unit's initial deployment and recent operations. The growing relationship between the contingents provided the opportunity for CJOPS to visit the only naval unit deployed in South Sudan.

A highlight of the trip was a visit to the Japanese Horizontal Military Engineering Contingent where the ADF has embedded two liaison officers since 2011 in support of the Japanese operation in UNMISS and wider development programs in South Sudan.

CJOPS visited the Japanese unit and was briefed on current operations and support provided by LTCOL Tony Watson and MAJ John Howlett. He was also introduced to three traditional Japanese cultural activities including demonstrations of the Taiko (Drum Show), the Hyottoko Dance (by the men) and Yamaga Dance (by the women).

CJOPS delegation included COL John Carey of Headquarters Joint Operations Command, GPCAPT Kevin Murray - Military Advisor to the Australian Permanent Mission in the UN New York and CJOPS Aide De Camp LEUT Sarah McDonagh.

Vice Admiral David Johnston (Chief Joint Operations) inspects one of the Bangladesh Force Marine Unit's boats used for force protection of UNMISS Barges.





Vice Admiral David Johnston (Chief Joint Operations) receives a brief on the Japanese Horizontal Engineering Contingent's Plant equipment by Colonel Hiroji Yamashita (Commander of the Unit) and his one of the plant equipment operators.



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### **Battle Scars**

# The secret to restoring this old war horse was to let its marks and bruises tell the story of its time in service.

#### **Sergeant Dave Morely**

RARE Land Rover used by the Army on active service in South Vietnam has been lovingly restored by an avionics technical assessor at Nowra's HMAS Albatross.

Ian Williams says the short-wheel-base vehicle, Army registration number 112-464, was one of only 61 Census 6005M Landies built for the Army.

"Census 6005M vehicles had the doors, tailgate and canopy removed at Randwick Barracks in Sydney and a workshop data plate affixed, indicating that the journey plus a factory test drive was a total of 25km," he says.

"The vehicle was then driven to Garden Island and loaded on to HMAS Sydney III, the Vung Tau Ferry, to go to Vietnam.

"After 112-464 had served its time in Vietnam, it was returned to Australia around 1970, had its doors, tailgate and canopy refitted, and was sold out of service, having several successive owners after Army life."

lan took poof 112-464 in 2010.

"Although I wasn't a Land Rover enthusiast, the provenance of such a vehicle couldn't be overlooked. There are less than a half dozen Census 6005M vehicles left, and this is because the humidity, salt air and tropical climate took its toll on Landies in Vietnam," he says.

The restoration took just over two years.

"I wanted it to look like it was in the period 1965-69, when the war was at its busiest and there was no time for luxurious repairs – just keep it going regardless. I was able to get it to look original after studying many Australian War Memorial photographs and getting help from other military vehicle enthusiasts.

"The vehicle retains its battle scars in many areas. The axles are pitted from moisture and there are several bullet holes in the tray. It appears that the vehicle was involved in an ambush, although to date I haven't been able to obtain any proof of this."

lan has retained the '42' TAC plate 12-464 sported in Vietnam, along with the 'Red Rat' on the left-hand TAC plate holder.

lan planned the restoration in detail, listing all the tasks as he saw them and setting a deadline.

"One thing with projects I have learnt is if you don't have a plan you conveniently

forget what you have to do," he says.

He discovered the rear cross-member was more rust than steel, and the gearbox cross member was also badly rusted.

"I could have easily cut the one off that was fitted but chose to repair the items in situ.

The summer of 2010-11 was very humid and downright hot, but perseverance and lying upside down meant I had done all the rust repairs in two months," he says.

"This enabled me to keep the chassis straight and maintain as much original metal as I could."

He says the fun bit of every restoration is the people you meet.

"I like to restore more than drive them, and I love to see so many kids, families and vets who line the streets on parades who smile when the 'army truck' drives by. I like to display for events like Long Tan Day and Anzac Day as well."

The Land Rover has a 24km outing about every three months to keep it running.





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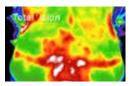


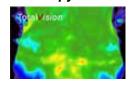
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# Achieving a 180° Shift to Global Peace at the same time as Supporting the Military

As the CEO of a global organization that is focused on helping achieve a sustainable global peace. I am often asked "Why do you support Defense organizations when you're all about peace?" My answer is: "For Serenidad Consulting® to be truly holistic in its approach to global peace, it must factor in supporting non-antagonistic 'friendly' Defense organizations, for they too work each day to prevent antagonistic and aggressive states from committing "bad" actions". The Australian Defence Organization supports the USA and other allied nations in a united effort to counter terrorism, prevent ongoing inhumanities and also prevent hostile actions that seek to disempower those good nations (like Australia, the USA, the UK and so on) that are focused on positive and supportive relationships. As their police counterparts work to keep the peace, military members work to restore peace where conflict has been. Both missions working for the same outcome.

In our supporting these kinds of organizations to be better at how they manage risk, treat their people, and develop capabilities that support a peaceful end, we believe this works as an adjunct to our prevention—based activities which, quite understandably, have a much longer lead time and require both changes in legislative and policy frameworks, and behavioral shifts through all layers of 'communities' i.e. communities that exist within societal, business and government structures.

Peace cannot be seen as a Bandaid for "bad" choices. Peace must be a personal choice, every day and by every person on earth. That is why I advocate through my books and Serenidad Consulting®, that peace achieved in 'layers' is the most likely way for sustainable global-level peace to be achieved. When each person achieves inner peace, then they have no desire or inclination to advocate for or instigate an antagonistic or destructive act. When each person lets go of the need for power and control over others, then the positive energy that flows from letting go is felt universally and strategically through all dimensions. Peace - it's a simple, and powerful choice, yet what it boils down to is each human having the courage to really want to live it.

If we redirected the funds we currently spend on conflict, to the following, we would see large and sustained benefits realized by societies around the world:

- More focused, empowering and lateral thinkingoriented education, for all ages groups, that enables the student to be inspired to contribute positively to society, and educated holistically rather than according to a predetermined set of 'rules' or 'categories';
- Dedicated, non-revocable funding for environment sustainability and regeneration programs;
- A rework/refresh of constitutional and legislative frameworks that currently deliver ambiguity, legal conflicts of interest, and result in ineffective risk management;
- The planting of at least one new sapling for every new child born; and
- Family and Community-based resilience and selfsufficiency training and education.



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# Veterans' Affairs' failures exposed in Australian Public Service Commission Capability Review

Date: December 8, 2014

By Noel Towell, Reporter for The Canberra Times.

Veterans' Affairs Department secretary Simon Lewis: DVA is "not keeping up with contemporary practice."

Australia's military veterans are getting sub-standard health and welfare services by a Veterans' Affairs Department that is financially unsustainable, disjointed and slow.

A Capability Review by the Australian Public Service Commission has found Veterans' Affairs has big problems with its culture, leadership and equipment, affecting the health and welfare of its clients, veterans and their families.

A week after department staff voted for strike action over pay and conditions, the review team found the department needed a "major transformational leap forward" if it was to keep pace with its changing workload, as older veterans died off and a younger "client base" with different needs emerged.

The commission was critical of the department running 18 call centres around the country and operating more than 200 different IT systems, most of which could not communicate with each other.

Many of the department's public servants were found to be working in isolation from their colleagues in a structure of "small cells" that not only created corruption risks but stopped bosses properly managing their workforce.

The decision-making process at Veterans' Affairs was a confusing mess of committees with duplicated membership and overlapping agendas that the review team believed was doing more harm than good.

"The current governance arrangements equally tend to work against the conduct of vital strategic conversations within DVA," the report authors wrote.

"Across the governance framework more generally, it is unclear where strategic discourse is being conducted."

Do you know more? Send confidential tips to ps@ canberratimes.com.au

The review praised the dedication of DVA bureaucrats to their mission of looking after veterans, but found the department's public servants struggling with a shambolic and out-dated computer system.

"There are some 200 individual ICT systems operating in the department with a dated desktop," the review team found.

"Typically a client-facing employee or assessor may need to open three or four separate applications, none of which 'talk to the other', in order to deal with a single client request or claim."

An official trying to check on an individual case would have to ask colleagues to use separate and additional systems just to check if a veteran had been given a transport booking for a medical appointment or to find if they were entitled to new glasses or dental treatment.

"In the absence of a single client number or reference point, it is impossible for staff to see the full range of services that may be given to, or purchased for, an individual at any one point in time," the reviewers wrote.

"This is somewhat ironic given the commitment of individual staff to their clients."

The department's culture came in for criticism too, with the reviewers finding it sapped the will of workers to do a good job for their clients.

"A siloed and rules-bound culture means that opportunities for improvement are lost, agility is forsaken, risks are exaggerated in the absence of a broader perspective, and motivation to support veterans and their families can be hard to sustain," the commission's team wrote.

Responding to the review, the department's secretary, Simon Lewis, acknowledged the need for improvement.

"There are a number of key areas where DVA is not keeping up with contemporary practice and improvement is needed," Mr Lewis wrote.

"In particular, the findings from the report identify that DVA must take a fresh look at the foundation of its business, its operating model and by extension, its delivery model.

"We need to address these first in order to support our key strength, our staff."

Retrieved: http://www.canberratimes.com.au/national/public-service/veterans-affairs-failures-exposed-in-australian-public-service-commission-capability-review-20141207-122el5.html on 26 October 2015.

Editor: For those interested in the content of the Public Service Commission's Capability Review Report, visit the site: http://www.apsc.gov.au/publications-and-media/current-publications/capability-review-dva





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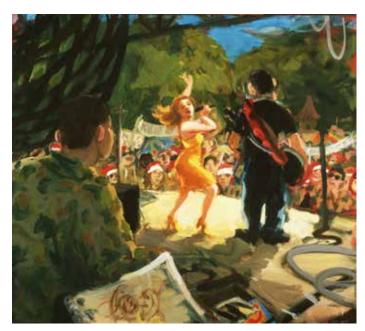
# Some songs and two cans of beer in Dili



Tour of duty t-shirt purchased in East Timor in 1999. (REL32376)

On 21 December 1999 the *Tour of duty* concert was performed in East Timor at Dili stadium. Conceived by Doc Neeson, front man of The Angels, it featured John Farnham, Kylie Minogue, Doc Neeson, Gina Jeffries, James Blundell, The Living End, the Dili Allstars, and the RMC band, and was hosted by comedy duo Roy Slaven and H.G. Nelson. The performers sang before an audience of 4,000, comprising mostly Australian service personnel but including representatives from other INTERFET nations and some Dili locals.

The concert was intended to show appreciation to the troops in East Timor, stationed as they were away from their family at Christmas. It was broadcast nationally on Australian TV, excepting a (typically) raucous rendition of the Angels' hit "Am I ever gonna see your face again?"



Wendy Sharpe, Christmas Tour of duty concert, Dili 1999, 2000. (ART91179) Official war artist Sharpe sketched her painting of Kylie Minogue's performance while backstage: a rendition of her first draft can be seen in the foreground.

John Farnham performed some of his major hits, while Kylie Minogue performed Christmas songs and covers. Doc Neeson sang some Angels hits, his energetic performance remarkable given the injuries he had sustained in a car accident just a few weeks earlier.

All the artists joined to sing "I still call Australia home", finishing with "You're the voice" (and encoring with "It's a long way to the top" and "Take a long line").



Tour of duty comperes Roy and H.G. (P03248.064)

A much smaller concert had taken place the previous day from the backs of trucks in front of the Ave Maria Cathedral at Suai. The cathedral had achieved notoriety a few months earlier following the massacre of civilians by pro-Indonesia militiamen two days after the announcement of results from the independence referendum.

After the main concert, James Blundell and the RMC band remained in Dili to perform "unplugged" concerts in the 1 Joint Amenities Unit (JAU) INTERFET canteen at the Rest and Convalescing Centre. Blundell even assisted with serving drinks during his breaks, and as a sign of appreciation the canteen was named "Blundell's Bar". He dedicated it to his grandfather, Captain Peter Blundell of the 2/25th Battalion, who served in the Second World War. Blundell's Bar remained open until the centre's closure on 29 March 2000.



This sign adorned the newly named Blundell's Bar in East Timor, December 1999. (REL28407.002)



This "Toucan Express" sign was donated to the canteen by Carlton United Breweries. (REL28407.002)

The Toucan Express, also run by 1 JAU, was located at the centre of the Obrigado precinct and was the main canteen in Dili. Opened on 20 October 1999, it was named by competition winner Lieutenant Commander Peter Luck, based on the daily rationing of "two cans" of beer per person and the fact that the premises had previously been occupied by the Dili printing press.

In 2000 the Dili Surf Life Saving Club (DSLSC) was established by the initial members of the Australian National Command Element (ASNCE-EM) East Timor as an affiliate of Surf Life Saving Australia. The founding members each made a financial contribution, half of which was reimbursed when they left East Timor, and this provided the initial capital to commence trading.



This wooden boat oar was presented from Kiama Surf Life Saving Club to the Dili Surf Life Saving Club. (REL37810)

The DSLSC provided social and recreational activities for ASNCE-EM members and guests. By the end of 2000 the club's bar was open on Wednesday and Saturday nights and a few hours on Sunday afternoon. It held movie and hot dog nights, beach days, and Australia Day celebrations.



An official beer mug from the Dili Surf Life Saving Club features the club logo: a muscled cartoon shark with an "ASNCE" tattoo. (REL33217)

### UNTAC - United Nations Trasitional Authority in Cambodia

Between 1975 and 1991 Cambodia dwelt in darkness. Those years – contained in which were the onslaught of the Khmer Rouge and Pol Pot, the change of the country's name to Kampuchea, and the executions of people simply because they wore glasses or were doctors – were times of genocide. Towards the end of the 1980s a civil war raged across the country, with involvement from the Vietnamese, before an uneasy ceasefire was finally called. By then, almost three million people had died and hundreds of thousands had fled the country.



Bones and scraps of clothing protrude from a pit in the fields of Choeung Ek, 15 kilometres south-east of Phnom Penh. In 1993 some 9,000 bodies were exhumed from 86 separate graves at the site. As one of the thousands of recorded mass graves across Cambodia, Choeung Ek is comparatively small, with others housing up to 50,000 bodies. P03258.253

It was not until the early 1990s that Cambodia began to see a gleam of hope. The United Nations brokered a deal known as the Paris Agreement between the warring factions, in which Cambodian sovereignty was vested in a Supreme National Council made up of members from the different factions.

The first team sent to Cambodia by the United Nations was the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC), to which Australia provided mine clearance teams, signallers, and support staff, with a total of 65 personnel. From October 1991 to March 1992 UNAMIC attempted to provide a neutral environment for the eventual deployment of UNTAC. The latter's military task force leader was Lieutenant General J.M. Sanderson – the first Australian leader of a United Nations mission – and much of the behind-the-scenes effort to put together the agreements was helmed by Australia's then Foreign Minister Gareth Evans.

UNTAC had an almighty task ahead of it, but it had the manpower to succeed. Some 15,900 military personnel,



Lieutenant General John Sanderson's disruptive-pattern camouflage shirt. REL23029.001

3,400 police, 2,000 civilians, and 450 UN volunteers from 45 countries were involved. UNTAC's broad brief included supervising the ceasefire; disarming the various factions while keeping their weapons cantoned; overseeing the withdrawal of foreign forces; providing a suitable environment for free and fair elections; continuing the demining program; supervising the return of refugees from camps in Thailand; and providing an environment where the cultural elements of Cambodian life could be rebuilt. Re-establishing the human rights of Cambodians was an important element of this brief, as was overseeing the civilian police force.



The cantonment of weapons from various factions filled several warehouses. Some 55,000 troops handed in their guns. P01744.101



Cambodian trainees prepare mine-detecting equipment prior to a training session at the Mine Clearance Training Unit (MCTU) just outside Battambang. Some 2,300 Cambodians were trained by the MCTU in locating, marking, and destroying minefields. P03258.204



An Australian Civil Police UNTAC pocket fob badge. Australian police worked with Cambodian police to engender humanitarian practices. REL26213

Australia provided 600 defence force personnel as well as ten civil police to the UNTAC mission. A force communications unit was the most important element of Australia's involvement, and was provided for the entire operation. The Movement Control Group was another important contribution, combining the skills of 30 army, air force, and navy personnel to control the movement and deployment of the vast forces throughout the country. This group operated during the initial phase of the operation.

The country was still simmering: scores of unrecorded minefields tied up agricultural land and took people's limbs and lives. Political killings and intimidation occurred in almost every province in the lead-up to the elections, particularly in the north, and the Khmer Rouge refused to recognise the United Nations mission.

UNTAC remained patient. Despite the intractability of the Khmer Rouge and its withdrawal from the election process, elections went ahead from 23 to 28 May 1993, with voter turnout at almost 90 per cent.



Two members of Delta Company, 2nd/4th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, peer into the night while on guard duty near the UNTAC barracks at Battambang. With the 1993 elections under way, they were especially vigilant for Khmer Rouge incursions.

P01744.047



Refugee family groups returning from Thai camps disembark outside Phnom Penh. The Repatriation Component of UNTAC was responsible for the return and resettlement of 370,000 Cambodian refugees from April 1992 to March 1993, with only one fatality recorded. P03258.108

In addition to the official UN forces many non-government agencies joined the humanitarian effort in Cambodia, providing care, aid, advice, and training.

By the end of October 1993 UNTAC's mission was considered complete, and forces were withdrawn on 15 November. There was still plenty to do, and much of Cambodia remained dangerous, but the genocide was over, and many in UNTAC felt a sense of achievement. That effort was recognised in 2014 when the country's

Force Communications Unit was awarded a Meritorious Unit Citation. Participating Australians were awarded the Australian Active Service Medal with a "Cambodia" clasp, and UNAMIC and UNTAC medals were awarded by the UN. For the Australians it had been a hard, dangerous job with a good deal of responsibility, but ultimately worth while.

Chris Goddard, Australian War Memorial



An aerial view of the wet season Cambodian countryside between Phnom Penh and Battambang. UNTAC had difficulties moving round during the wet season, and placed a high priority on conducting the elections during the dry season AWMP03258.182



# **APMP receives Major Grant**

By Paul Copeland

The 14th of September marked the 68th Anniversary of Australian Defence Force Peacekeeping Operations, which has been a non-stop operational tempo since the 14th of September 1947, when Australia deployed the world's first Peacekeepers into he field at Batavia under the auspices of the UN Commission in Indonesia [UNCI]. Since then, it is estimated that well over 90,000 Australian Military, Police and Civilian Peacekeepers have deployed to over 68 Operations to 72 different countries. This is a significant military history milestone.

In Canberra, a Commemoration was held at the site of the National Peacekeeping Memorial, which was hosted by the Australian Peacekeeping Memorial Project Committee. Major General Ian Gordon, AO (Retired) was the Master of Ceremonies. The Government was represented by Stuart Robert, MP; The Opposition Spokesman for Defence and Veterans' Affairs Mr David Feeney, MP; and Independent Senator Jacqui Lambie. The Chief of the Defence Force Air Chief Marshal Mark Binskin, AC, attended as did many other ADF Senior Officers. Also in attendance were Senior Officers from the Australian Federal Police and other veteran military, police and civilian Peacekeepers.

Air Commodore Tracey Smart, a Rwanda veteran, spoke eloquently of her service in the UN Medical Support Force to Rwanda.

The event was well attended and the Committee hopes to see an increase for 2016 and aiming for the significant milestone of 2017 [70 years of ADF Peacekeeping], to be a major Commemorative activity. Further news of the 2015 Canberra Commemoration is located at the link: http://www.peacekeepingmemorial.org.au/news/news68thAnniversary-of-Australian-Peacekeeping.php

Editor: All readers are encouraged to help raise the remaining \$1M AUD. To do this, please donate to the Peacekeeping Memorial Project by visiting the link: http://www.peacekeepingmemorial.org.au/donations.php

This is OUR Memorial - please help us build it by 14 September 2017 to mark the 70th Anniversary of ADF Peacekeeping Operations.





Top: The Australian Federation Guard, with a member of the Australian Federal Police form as the catafalque party, with Major General Tim Ford, AO (Retired) Chair of the Australian Peacekeeping Memorial Project Committee.

Above: The makeshift catafalque on the site of the National Peacekeeping Memorial, representing all Military Peacekeeping Operations, including Police.





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# **Sharing Resuscitation Techniques**

#### By Captain Bradley Richardson

Trauma care is vital when saving the lives of injured lraqi soldiers which is why Australian health practitioners deployed to Iraq recently shared trauma bay care techniques with Iraqi Army medics at Taji.

The visit provided the Australian nurses and medics an opportunity to help the Iraqi medics establish a functional trauma bay and refine their procedures when they deal with a casualty.

Australian Army nurse Captain Ros Glass said this was the second opportunity they have had to exchange medical care techniques with Iraqi Army health practitioners.

"We like our resuscitation bays to flow smoothly for patient treatment, and this visit provided us with an opportunity to improve some issues with the layout of the Iraqi resuscitation room," Captain Glass said.

"The Iraqi's had quite a large medical stock and we helped them identify the right quantity and appropriate use for it all.

"Our first priority was to stock the bay with equipment and medical supplies including bandages, medications and oxygen to provide the best care possible."

The Australian team helped the Iraqi's remove surplus equipment and furniture from the bay in order to create a more usable space.

"We focused on refining work areas for each primary resuscitation role within bay," she said.

"This is important to make sure each work area had the appropriate supplies and equipment immediately available when a patient comes into the bay for treatment."

The day visit finished with a practical scenario to demonstrate the ease of the new layout.

"Each Australian nurse or medic paired up with an Iraqi nurse or medic to run through everyone's role and responsibility during a causality scenario," Captain Glass said.

"The Iraqi's really appreciated the assistance and they understood the benefits of the layout."

Iraqi Army medic, Warrant Officer Hussien Yaqaoub said the advice will help them treat combat casualties who have bleeding, fractures, burns and other combat traumas.

"Today has helped us increase our skills and abilities as medics," Warrant Officer Yaqaoub said.

"It's very important when we have an emergency situation to provide the right care in a timely manner to the wounded.

"We have developed a great relationship with the Australian and New Zealanders and appreciate all their advice and support."

Previous medical training has covered primary health care including the identification and treatment of common

illnesses, plastering, suturing, trauma management, and combat specific first aid such as needle decompression, chest injuries and bandaging.

Iraqi Security Forces continue to be trained in infantry skills including marksmanship, building clearances and obstacle breaching techniques; as well as training in the Tactics, Techniques and Procedures (TTPs) for squad through to company-level operations to use in their fight against Daesh.



Above: Australian Army nurse Captain Roselyn Glass (right) discusses pharmaceutical supplies with an <u>Iraqi Army medic</u> at the Taji Military Complex, Iraq.



# UN Australian Peacekeepers in Mozambique

Little known, hugely successful and greatly appreciated!

Australian Federal Police, Australian Electoral Commission, Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade and Royal Australian Engineers (RAE)

Opération des Nations Unies au Mozambique (ONUMOZ) [French name of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique], Australian Defence Force OPERATION CORACLE

Mar 1993- Mar 2002 By Don Hughes

One of the most successful, yet little known, Peacekeeping and Humanitarian Support Operations for the United Nations was conducted by Australia in Mozambique. The country had endured 15 Years of a nasty, destructive and violent conflict, which ceased in 1992.

Mozambique is now a rapidly developing 21st Century African nation with a growing potential related to its booming resource (minerals & gas) and tourism industries. This is in direct comparison to 23 years ago when the country was in a deep quagmire of despair and destruction: a country struggling to survive, let alone prosper!

Australia's first assistance to this 'country in distress' was with two contingents (16 in each) of highly qualified Australian Federal Police (AFP) deployed during the initial stages of the Peacekeeping Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ). Their Mission was to render critical Policing and Legal support during the demobilisation, stabilisation, and most importantly, the election phase of the peacekeeping process.

The AFP contingents deployed in the periods (Mar-Sep 93 & Sep 93- Dec 94) in two person teams and also individually. Their roles included: Regional or Provincial Commanders, Operation Officers or as Front Line Patrol Officers. This was difficult and exacting work. An officer was also deployed to the ONUMOZ Headquarters as an Investigations Officer.

Four Officers from the Australian Electoral Commission coupled with 8 Officers from the Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade also deployed to help supervise the elections on the 27th & 28th of October 1994. They were not uniformed but were very much Peacekeepers and assisted greatly towards the successful transition of Mozambique from conflict to peace.

At that time ONUMOZ, although successful in many areas, was experiencing a devastatingly risky landmine problem, which was restricting the way forward for the whole Country. A solution was needed quickly!

The UN "put out the call" for the best humanitarian landmine clearers around the globe to rectify the problem! Australian Sappers of the RAE were amongst a select group of countries asked to "kick start" the mine clearance

programme in Mozambique. The Australian Sappers had earned themselves a solid reputation for mine clearance & improvised explosive device (IED) detection in a number of conflicts since Vietnam, Borneo & Malaysia. In particular, the RAE had been intimately involved in Pakistan (UN Mine Clearance Training Team [UNMCTT] -Peshawar)¹, Cambodia (Cambodian Mine Action Centre [CMAC] October 1993 through to July 1997) and Afghanistan

Captain Peter Clay (now Brigadier Peter Clay CSC) was appointed the Commander of the 1st Australian Service Contingent (1ASC) to Operation Coracle on 8 August 1994. His team consisted of WO2 Des O' Hanlon, Sgt Gerard "Speedy" Gonzales and Cpl John Kliese. The team was established at Maxixe in the central Mozambique Tete Province. They conducted basic de-miner training for the de-mobilized soldiers who would ultimately form the vanguard of the demining effort and thereby spearhead the recovery from the horrible devastation of 15 years of civil war in Mozambique.

Promoted during his tour of duty in Mozambique, Major Peter Clay worked out of Maputo, the Mozambique Capital, for the latter part of his deployment. During this time he assisted in the establishment of the United Nations Accelerated Deming Program (UNADP), a mine clearance capability that would become world's best practice over the next decade.

From December 1994 a two-person team of Australian Sappers (Don Hughes & Wayne Hay) replaced the first contingent to undertake the roles of Operations Officer and Operations Warrant Officer under the command of ONUMOZ. At the cessation of the ONUMOZ mandate in February 1995 the conduct of demining operations was transferred to the auspices of the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the appointments of OP CORACLE personnel assumed the roles of Chief Instructor and Training Warrant Officer for the UNDP.

The transition period from a Peacekeeping Operation to a humanitarian program in early 1995 was a significant challenge to the demining team. Many new systems, contractors and suppliers had to be found, re-established or created.

This two-person rotation continued until Mar 2002 when a total of 31 RAE Sappers had contributed to the continuous deployment to the Demining effort in Mozambique. Often in remote and difficult logistical and operational environments, the Sappers of OP CORACLE had to lead their teams with both vision and compassion. They had to maximise scant resources to achieve difficult objectives, and they had to face the constant threat of death or disfigurement by the devastating effects of deviously placed landmines.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> UNMCTT Peshawar was under control of the UN Coordination Office in Afghanistan (UNCOA)



Mozambique United Nations Demining Operations Operation Coracle: Melbourne History Seminar Conducted On 27 July 2015. Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital United Nations Memorial Plaque

Standing Left –Right John Roberts, Carl Chirgwin, Don Hughes, Assoc Prof Bob Breen PhD (Australian War Memorial), Dave Sinai CSC, Ioanna Kopasaki (German Air Force Psychology Cadet), Alan Smeaton (LHQ Welfare)

Seated: Left –Right Mrs Michelle Hughes (Spouse), Ms Miesje de Vogel (Senior AWM Researcher Mozambique)

A Mozambique Demining Seminar was held in late July 2015 at the Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital in Melbourne in conjunction with the Australian War Memorial (AWM) and the RAE Association of Victoria. The aim of the seminar was to commence recording the official history of Demining Operations in Mozambique by the AWM.

Associate Professor Bob Breen PhD and the Senior Mozambique Researcher Miesje de Vogel interviewed many of the OP CORACLE participants during the Seminar. They also had the opportunity to visit the Post Traumatic Stress Facility (Ward 17) at the Repatriation Hospital in Heidelberg.

If you feel you may have something to offer the Official History of Mozambique please contact the Senior Researcher, Miesje de Vogel at: miesje.devogel@awm.gov.au. Further contributions are always sought.

Note: A Coracle is a two person round shaped boat made of wicker covered by animal skin used in Wales & western England.



# Mozambique declared landmine free, healing war wounds

The Sydney Morning Herald.

Date September 18, 2015

Manuel Mucari

Maputo: Mozambique declared itself free of landmines on Thursday, ending two decades of work to rid the country of a legacy of war that killed or maimed thousands of people, many of them civilians.

The effort to rid the Southern African nation of landmines was spearheaded by the HALO Trust, a British charity that has cleared mines in several countries.

I am happy that nobody else will end up like me. I am happy because people can carry on their lives without fearing the menace of the landmines

Landmine victim Jose Chiango

HALO said it had cleared more than 171,000 landmines from 1,100 minefields in Mozambique since 1993 and had finally destroyed the last known mine.

"I have honour to declare Mozambique as a country free of the threat of landmines," Foreign Affairs Minister Oldemiro Baloi said at a ceremony in the capital Maputo.

Mozambique was at war almost continuously for decades, first in a war of independence against its Portuguese colonial rulers.



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Mozambique has declared itself free of landmines ... Collingwood footballer Harry O'Brien teaches a group of Mozambique boys about Australian Rules football in 2008. Photo: Celeste Mac'Arthur

Following the Portuguese pull-out in 1975, the ruling Frelimo government battled Renamo rebels in a conflict that was in part a Cold War proxy. It ended with a peace agreement in 1992.

"I am happy that nobody else will end up like me. I am happy because people can carry on their lives without fearing the menace of the landmines," said 29-year-old Jose Chiango, whose right-leg was amputated from the knee down after he trod on a mine in an eastern rural district.

He now hobbles around on crutches, guarding cars in Maputo.

"It is wonderful to learn that the country is finally free of landmines," he said.

The exact human toll caused by landmines in the country will never be known. But a major report in 1994 by Human Rights Watch said landmines claimed between 10,000 to 15,000 victims.

HRW estimated 8000 amputees had received medical treatment and thousands more people had been killed or did not seek medical treatment.

All sides had used the devices, HRW said, often directly against civilians and in an indiscrimate fashion. And the mines continued to kill or maim even after the guns fell silent.

In a traditionally poor country, eliminating the mine menace will also help spur development in an economy that has seen growth rates of 8 per cent, propelled by huge coal and gas deposits being tapped by foreign investors.

HALO said the mine clearance has helped Mozambique develop its infrastructure, access vital commodities, increase tourism and attract international investment. Communities can now cultivate crops and graze livestock safely, HALO said.

Street vendor Aldina Mondlane, 48, agreed.

"No more people will live side by side with a hidden and deadly enemy. I think that is important because it clears the land for us to use in agriculture," she said.

"When the war ended, in my village, a lot of people were killed and maimed, not with bullets, but the landmines."

Ridding the world of landmines, which remain buried in the ground long after a conflict ends, has for decades been a goal of campaigners. The 1997 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded jointly to Jody Williams and the International Campaign to Ban Landmines

The 1999 Ottawa Convention prohibits the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel landmines. While backed by most countries, the treaty has not been endorsed by the United States, Russia, China and India.

The HALO Trust works in five other African countries and hopes that by the end of 2017, the break-away enclave of Somaliland will be the next place on the continent declared landmine free.



HALO said it had cleared more than 171,000 landmines from 1100 minefields in Mozambique.

Photo: Penny Bradfield PEB

# **Misters in The Ranks**

# Two former ADF members describe their experiences on deployment - this time our of uniform.

As head of a team that boasts "If you got it, we bought it", contract manager Gareth Ward is responsible for ensuring Australian troops in the Middle East are fed, accommodated and comfortable on their deployments.

His team of seven, including RAAF airmen and women, along with another APS member, manages contractors and equipment at bases around the Middle East.

"We just do our job for the people deployed here and contractors provide that support so personnel won't be worried about something being wrong with the meals or accommodation," Gareth says.

"It's all about the troops first, and their job. So the contract support provides them confidence."

Gareth is on a six-month rotation as an EL1 at Australia's main Middle East base.

"I saw it as an opportunity to do some more service, plus I enjoy the camaraderie and the team I work with," he says.

This trip is one of many for Gareth, who first deployed as a young Army second lieutenant to Malaysia with 8RAR in 1973.

After transferring to the Reserves in 1995, Gareth deployed to Iraq 13 years later. This was followed by deployments to Solomon Islands in 2010 and to Timor-Leste with the APS in 2012.

"I love the mateship that comes with being over here. It's extremely good and it brings back a lot of memories," he says.

"It's also great to serve with young people and be well received, but you'll only be well received if you put your heart and soul into your job."

On ANZAC Day, Gareth wore the medals of his father, who served in New Guinea with No. 30 Squadron, which flew Beaufighters during World War II.

"He didn't talk much about it but I don't think a lot of the World War II veterans did," Gareth says, noting the significance of wearing his father's medals while on operational deployment on Anzac Day.

Gareth is also President of the Richmond RSL Sub-Branch in Melbourne and is hoping to attract more young veterans to the organisation.

"I know the RSL has a stigma of being an old man's club but it's just communication that's the real issue. We want younger vets to help us understand what they need and what we can do better," he says.

Gareth still serves as a major in the Reserves, working in 1st Division's Civil/Military cooperation planning section.





Australian Public Service employee Kevin Smith examines a document while working in his office at Camp Baird in the Middle East. Kevin is the Deputy Service Delivery Manager for maintenance and infrastructure.

When dealing with contractors at a military base far from Australia it's good to have someone who 'speaks civilian' fluently.

That's why there's a mister in the ranks at the main ADF base in the Middle East.

If something's broken at Camp Baird it's up to Kevin Smith, the deputy service delivery manager for maintenance and infrastructure, to get it fixed.

"I work with Serco to do the maintenance, repairs and take care of any defects," he says.

"I also manage Serco performance to ensure they provide the required works in accordance with the contract.

"That's everything from general everyday defects, like broken taps and showers, to major repairs on buildings."

Kevin, an APS6 normally based at Leeuwin Barracks in Perth, arrived at Australia's main Middle East base in early April for a six-month deployment.

"I like getting out of the office, working with contractors and getting to meet different people around the camp," he says.

"A couple of people have said they're pretty happy with the

job, particularly when the water has been turned back on. A lot of people come up and have a chat while problems are being sorted and it's good to have that interaction."

Kevin must also balance expectations against what can be achieved in a timeframe.

"Liaison between the military and contractors would be the trickiest part," he says.

"It's not a bad interaction, but it can be challenging when the customer or contractor is persistent in their interpretation of what is urgent. So far I have always managed to come to an amicable agreement."

Before joining the APS, Kevin served in the Navy as a marine technician for more than 20 years, deploying multiple times to places including Timor-Leste and South East Asia.

He first worked for the former Defence Materiel Organisation then joined the Defence Support and Reform Group (now known as the Estate and Infrastructure Group) and is happy to work with military personnel, as he's done for "about 35 years".

"Working with the military people here is the same as working with military people anywhere.

They've got a job to do and they're very professional at it. I find it very easy to work with the dedicated people here," he says.

Before Kevin left, his APS workmates were curious about what his deployment would involve.

"They were interested to find out where I was going and what I would be doing. And I imagine they'll be interested to know what I did when I'm back," he says.

Kevin believes APS members who have served in the ADF could be suited to deploying as a civilian "because they're aware of what they're putting their hand up for".

APS members on deployments don't carry weapons but they are required to do some leadup training, including first aid.

"The basic life and routines we have here are the same as the military members. Being a civilian, there may be a little bit more flexibility with timings etcetera, but we still do what everyone else does," he says.

The Middle East is Kevin's first land-based deployment.

"It's something different. I wanted the experience and to help out where I can," he says.

"I'm 55 and my wife and I just built a new house so she had to move in by herself. I don't think she's going to let me go away again very quickly."

Printed with the approval from http://www.defence.gov.au/defencemagazine/

#### **Minutes**

#### NATIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Geelong RSL 50 Barwon Heads Road, Belmont VIC Saturday 19th September 2015, 0900hrs.

- 1. Meeting Opened: 0930h. Mick Quinn Vice President read the Ode.
- Present: Check off financial members. Members present:

Allan Thomas JP (National President), Michael Quinn (National Vice President), Kevin Ryan JP (National Secretary), Rhonda Copeland (National Treasurer), Paul Copeland OAM JP (National Advisor), Rod Thompson (National Entitlements Officer), Chris Dawson (QLD Branch President), Terry New (QLD Branch Vice President, Graeme Barnett (TAS Branch Vice President), Fiona Quinn (VIC Branch Treasurer), Lorraine Dawson (QLD Branch Secretary), Mark Horner (VIC Branch Vice President), Sandra Vidler (NSW Branch Pensions Officer), Pauline Maczkowiack (NSW Branch Pensions Officer), Mark Moles (VIC Branch Secretary), Glenn Firth (WA Coord), Bruce Relph (NSW Branch President), Liz Hill (NSW Branch Pensions Officer), John McNeill (VIC Branch Pensions Officer), David Buckland.

3. Apologies:

Mike Romalis (TAS Branch President), Peter Vidler (NSW Branch Treasurer), Jim Copeland, Kym Maczkowiack, Wayne McInnes, Rob Woods, Andrea Josephs, Andrew Hanns, Gordon Traill, Elaine Gallgher, Matt Burke, Don Hughes.

#### **Previous AGM Minutes 11 Oct 2014**

- 4. AGM Minutes of 11 Oct 2014 presented.
- 5. Outstanding matters to AGM 11 Oct 2014 2015.

One outstanding matter regarding the amendment to the Constitution from last QGM. Allan Thomas advised Kevin Ryan to contact Paul Copeland for amendment in National Copy.

Corrections / Amendments to AGM Minutes 11 Oct 2014.

Motion: Allan Thomas motioned that the Minutes of the AGM 11 Oct 2014 have been read and discussed.

**Moved: Terry New** 

Seconded: Sandra Vidler CARRIED.

7. National President's Annual Report.

Allan thanked all the work done over the past 12 months conducted by the National Executive, in particular for the organising of the Conference this year, from the setup and booking of the RSL by Rhonda Copeland, the administration work conducted by Kevin Ryan. Thanks also to Mick Quinn as the Vice President representing Allan when required. Thanks also to Rod Thompson for his work as Entitlements Officer and his liaison work with DVA, particularly with legislation, training of advocates. Thanks also to Paul Copeland for his work in the background as

National Advisor, his work on the DUNT review and the SRDP review.

Allan also made mention of the work undergone by the States and thanked all members of the National Committee.

Motion: That the National President's Report be accepted.

Moved: Bruce Relph Seconded: Graeme Barnett CARRIED.

8. Annual In and Out Correspondence Registers. (Tabled).

Motion: That the Annual Correspondence be accepted.

Moved: Rod Thompson

Seconded: Mark Moles CARRIED.

 National Treasurer's Annual Financial Report for FY14 / 15.

Motion: That the National Treasurer's Report be accepted.

**Moved: Graeme Barnett** 

Seconded: Pauline Maczkowiack CARRIED.

 Audited Accounts for FY14 / 15 was not completed in time due to Auditor not being available to complete prior to AGM.

This is to be carried over to a EGM.

Motion: That the Treasurers Report be accepted subject to the Auditor's Report.

**Moved: Graeme Barnett** 

Seconded: Pauline Maczkowiack CARRIED.

#### **Outstanding Matters:**

APPVA National Constitution Amendments as highlighted and brought to concern by Consumer Affairs Victoria.

There have been amendments made to the current Constitution. A meeting will be held with CAV, Allan Thomas and Mick Quinn on completion.

Michael Quinn will arrange a meeting with John Stevens – CAV, to discuss along with other issues that need to be raised for VIC Branch.

Motion: That Michael Quinn arrange a meeting with CAV to complete Constitution ratification in a meeting with Allan Thomas and Michael Quinn during the month of October.

**Moved: Rod Thompson** 

Seconded: Michael Quinn CARRIED.

#### **Special Business:**

BEST provided \$47,000 to National Branch in Round 13

(a total of 3 years). This money needs to be sent back to BEST. So far BEST has not responded. A letter is to be written explaining the return and then approval be given to reissue the money for other projects that the funding can be used for. Allan Thomas will speak with DVA (BEST) shortly after this AGM to get approval.

#### **General Business:**

#### Item 001/15

Special Rate Disability Pension (SRDP) Review

- Michael Quinn / Rod Thompson
- At the moment the system is not working offsetting is a major problem
- Change to legislation needs to be made to change letter of offer for TPI embossing.
- The problem found is that DVA is not complying with its own legislation.
- Michael will be attending a review shortly after the AGM in Melbourne and will send out an information sheet on points discussed with regard to the changes required for the SRDP.

No Motion required – Discussion point only.

#### Item 002/15

Review of Advocacy Training

- Allan Thomas / Michael Quinn

Originally brought up at a recent ESORT Meeting that Advocacy Training needs to be restructured (as a result of the Rolf Report).

Training requires to be modernised.

Points of discussion will include:

- · What is required for training as advocates to TIP
- A Paper to be presented on the setup, allocation of costings for training, and who will be the Advocates
- A 3 Tier system with our best Advocates at the second level
- The First Level will be Strategic management
- Second Level will be Policy managers setting of training standards.
- Third Level will be the Regions. Currently there are six regions 6 currently, to be reconfigured and renamed to bring consistency across all states.
- Training will require the ESO of the Advocate undergoing training to deem them competent / not yet competent to be a Practitioner.
- Overall, the ESO is responsible to ensure that the Practitioner is appropriately trained and verified through the VITA Endorsements.

No Motion required – Discussion point only.

#### Item 003/15

Veterans' Legislative Amendments (2015 Budget Measures) 2015 Bill

- Allan Thomas

There are potential cost saving measures implemented by DVA and the APPVA is concerned with the Health policy.

Changes will need to be implemented at the Political level.

No Motion required – Discussion point only.

#### Item 004/14

APPVA Key Issues to be addressed in 2015 / 2016

- Allan Thomas / Michael Quinn

Key Issues (in no particular order) of the APPVA for 2015 / 2015 period are:

- National Treatment Monitoring Committee Reinstated
- Communication of Health Policy
- Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act
- Operational Working Party
- Safety Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988
  - · Treatment Paths
  - · Gold Cards
  - · Time Taken to Process Claims
- Introduction to the Detrimental Legislation without consultation with ESO
- Peacekeepers Mental Health Study
- Department of Veterans' Affairs Plan
- · National Peacekeepers Memorial Canberra

A delegation of APPVA Members, namely Allan Thomas, Michael Quinn, Paul Copeland and Rod Thompson present in Canberra to Parliamentary members in Oct / Nov prior to next sitting of Parliament to discuss the above points.

Motion: That the APPVA adopt these key issues (as listed above) for 2015 / 2016 period.

Moved: Fiona Quinn

Seconded: Lorraine Dawson CARRIED.

#### Item 005/14

Nomination of Mr. David Vinen as National Research Officer

- Paul Copeland

Paul spoke re: David's work to the Association in assisting Paul with submissions put forward. David has made intelligent observations and is paperwork submissions are outstanding.

David was originally nominated in Out 2013, but the subsequent paperwork nominating him has been lost. However, David has be doing the research work since then.

Motion: That David Vinen be appointed as the National Research Officer for the APPVA with the position back dated to Oct 2013.

Moved: Allan Thomas Seconded: Bruce Relph CARRIED.

#### Item 006/15

Resignation of Patron MAJGEN Pearn and nomination of MAJGEN Ian Gordon as Incumbent PATRON.

- Allan Thomas

MAJGEN Pearn contacted Allan to advise of his resignation due to the ongoing changes in demographics with the work being conducted in this new military environment.

MAJGEN Ian Gordon has been contacted and is willing to



APPVA National Executive and participants of the National AGM on Saturday 19 September 2015.

accept nomination as the incoming APPVA Patron.

A letter needs to be sent to MAJGEN Pearn to thank him for his work as the Patron.

QLD Branch to invite MAJGEN Pearn to the next QGM to present him with a thankyou.

Motion: That MAJGEN Gordon be accepted as the incumbent APPVA Patron.

Moved: Paul Copeland

Seconded: Terry New CARRIED.

#### Item 007/15

The VVFA using our name (Peacekeepers and Peacemakers) mainly in QLD.

Mick Quinn

The VVFA are amalgamating with the VVA in QLD. This situation being a difficult problem, may very well die off shortly due to the VVFA amalgamation and pending closure.

Originally APPVA was going to take the VVFA to court, but were advised not to due to the cost involved (probable \$10K).

No need to pursue this.

No Motion required – Discussion point only.

#### 008/15

The APPVA Elections were conducted. Returning Officer Graeme Barnett had received all Ballot papers and subsequently no new nominations for positions were received.

Therefore, positions for National Executive are:

Allan Thomas – National President Michael Quinn – National Vice President Kevin Ryan – National Secretary Rhonda Copeland – National Treasurer Rod Thompson – National Entitlements Officer

Motion: That the National Executive positions be accepted and all Ballot papers destroyed.

**Moved: Allan Thomas** 

Seconded: Rod Thompson CARRIED.

As per the National Constitution – National Committee Members elected are:

Andrea Josephs – National Merchandising Officer Rob Woods – National Police Liaison Officer David Vinen – National Research Officer

Mick Phelan – National Web Manager

Kevin Ryan – National Membership Officer (as part of National Secretary's role)

Motion: The National Merchandising Officer position be filled by Andrea Josephs

Moved: Allan Thomas

Seconded: Rod Thompson CARRIED.

#### 009/15

A succession plan be made in that secondary positions to National Appointments be made.

E.G. A State President can take over for Allan, if in the event of illness or time out. Same for National Secretary, National Treasurer, etc.

To be discussed at the next QGM Nov 2015.

#### **New Business**

Allan Thomas – has requested Paul Copeland to stand down from his position as National Advisor position due to ill health and to take time off for personal issues.

- Paul has accepted the break. And has taken over as the Editor as an Interim measure)

Rod Thompson – advised any Advocate / Pension Officers have any clients with issues with MLCOA to advise Rod.



The Opposition Spokesman for Defence and Veterans' Affairs, David Feeney, MP, presents to the Conference participants"

Glenn Firth (WA Coord) – advised that he has found a new member who is willing to take on Pension / Welfare / Advocacy training and become an APPVA Practitioner.

#### **Presentations:**

Presentation of Presidents Award to Elaine Gallagher for her outstanding work in setting up of the Oscar Mike Program for Veterans health.

#### Next AGM:

- Advocacy Training Seminar / Workshop 13 Oct 2016
- National Conference 14 Oct 2016
- AGM- 15 Oct 2016

Closure. There being no further business, The National President closed the AGM at 1200hrs.

A. Thomas, JP, National President September 2015 K.J. Ryan, JP, National Secretary September 2015

### Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans' Association

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE SYNOPSIS

Friday 18th Sep 2015 commencing 9.00 am to 4.30 pm Venue Geelong RSL 50 Barwon Heads Road, Belmont VIC 3216

#### Mr. Allan Thomas JP APPVA National President

Welcome Ode, Introduction and Overview of Conference

#### **Senator David Feeney**

- · Official Opening of the Conference
- · Homeless Veterans

### MR. Craig Orme – Representing DC DVA VIC Mr. John Geary & Representing the Senator for Vets Affairs

- · Roundup of DVA Activities including:
  - Peacekeeping Memorial
  - Mental Health Initiatives
  - Restructure of DVA Services Interstate

### Defence Force Welfare Association – National President Mr. David Jamison AM (Retd)

· Update on ADSO Activities

#### Senator Jacqui Lambie

 Update of Achievements & Currently Identified Issues within the Veteran Community

#### Senator Whish Wilson

Update of Veterans Issues supported by the Greens

### Mr. Jim Porteous rep John Morton - DG-Mental Health, Psych & Rehab

Rehabilitation & Retraining options within the ADF

### President RSL - VIC MAJGEN David McLachlan AO (Retired)

General Update & Proposed Future Activities of the RSL

#### Vietnam Veterans Assn Australia Mr. Bob Elworthy AM

· General Update of VVAA Activities

#### Overall APPVA Key Initiatives for 2015 / 2016

National Treatment Monitoring Committee - Reinstated

Communication of Health Policy

Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act

Policy

Operational Working Party

Safety Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988

- · Treatment Paths
- Gold Cards
- · Time Taken to Process Claims

Introduction to the Detrimental Legislation without consultation with ESO

Peacekeepers Mental Health Study

· Department of Veterans' Affairs Plan

National Peacekeepers Memorial Canberra

# Remembrance Service Friday 23rd October 2015



APPVA Member and Geelong RSL Sub-Branch President Andrew Hanns gives the Ode to the Fallen"

# NSW / ACT APPVA MAGAZINE REPORT

Before we start on our submission on behalf of the NSW /ACT President and Committee would like to wish all members of APPVA and distinguished guests and speakers that have been involved with APPVA this year and also to our veteran community. WE would like to wish you all a very and safe Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We have had a very busy year this year especially these last couple of months, we have recruited a lady who has been very heavily involved with welfare in the Alstonville, Ballina, and surrounding areas since Noah was a baby and Liz Hill we welcome you to our ranks. Since Liz has joined the ranks between Liz, Pauline, Allan and help from Pauline's husband Kym they have set a new office in Alstonville and is running quite well and efficient WELL DONE ALL.

The Welfare Outreach Centre is opened daily from 0900 to 1200 and it is situated at 1/76 Main Street Alstonville 2477 and the contact number for the centre is 0266283096. There is an official opening on the 13 December 2015 at 1300 with light refreshments. It would be good to see members at our new office.

At present there are three Practitioners and one Welfare

/Administration and it is recommended that bookings for appointments a necessity as the Practitioner are presently very busy.

(Please place a photo in between every second paragraph please)

We have also another member who has been busy over the past twelve months plus, writing a book 100 Years of ANZAC Tradition, and Kerry Roche has done a great job on the book what I have been told. There is a launch of the book on Remembrance Day 11 November 2015 at the Casino RSL Club and would be very appreciative if some of our members would be present on the day.

The RRP for the book is \$35.50 + postage but she is giving an offer to members of APPVA of \$32.00 plus \$8.00 postage until the 31 December 2015

Our President has undertaken a welfare course and is now qualified to assist with the veteran's in the Sydney area, congratulations Bruce.

Trevor is still going well and receiving good reports from the Casino area with claims from the veterans' in the area and he is maintaining a good repour with the sub branch at the Casino RSM.

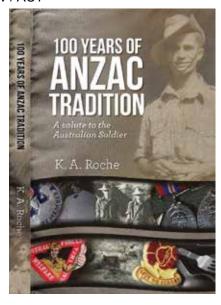
Sandra and Peter Vidler have now settled in quite well at Old Bar and have now started receiving clients to submit DVA claims we have met up with the two WOFF from RAAF Williamtown and are helping out as much as we can.

Sandra and myself attended the Mid North Coast Pension & Welfare Seminar in October and met up with some old faces and members of APPVA attended the meeting as well.

I would like to mention that Richard Kelloway presented the new way we are going to travel in relation to TIP training and Sandra and I would like to thank Richard for his presentation it was very helpful.

This is the cover to Kerry's Book.

Thank You Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year Peter Vidler Secretary/ Treasuer APPVA NSW / ACT



#### **Out of Reach Centre**

The new Welfare Outreach Centre is opened daily from 0900 to 1200 and it is situated at 1/76 Main Street Alstonville 2477 and the contact number for the centre is 0266283096.

There is an official opening on the 13 December 2015 at 1300 with light refreshments. It would be good to see members at our new office, if you wish to attend the event please ring Liz Hill before the 09 December 2015 on 0414281325.









# **Changing of APPVA National Patrons**

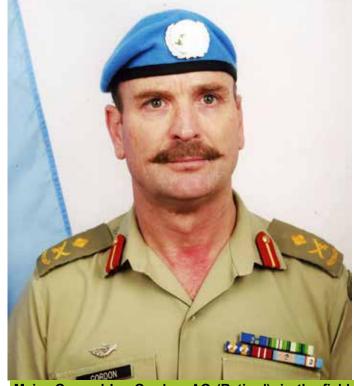
With effect from 19 September 2015, the retirement of Major General (Professor) John Pearn AO, KSJ, RFD (Retired), who was the APPVA National Patron since 1997, was reluctantly accepted by the APPVA National Committee of Management (NATCOM) and the nomination of the new incumbent APPVA National Patron of Major General Ian Gordon AO (Retired) was warmly accepted by NATCOM.

Major General Pearn joined the APPVA in 1997. Due to John's distinguished service to the ADF and also being a Peacekeeper, he was offered the position as the APPA (APPVA) National Patron, of which he graciously accepted. John served as the APPVA National Patron for 18 years and was awarded the APPVA Life Member Award in 2012.

General Pearn at the time of joining the APPVA was The Honorary Colonel for the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps (RAAMC) for both Queensland and Australia. He was then appointed as the Surgeon General of the ADF.

General Pearn was appointed into the Army as a Captain on 15th February 1965 as a Medical Officer with the RAAMC. John served in numerous appointments, notably in the United Kingdom for over 2 ½ years, which included a posting as the Regimental Medical Officer (RMO) of the 4th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, of which he became paratrooper qualified.

John also served as The RMO in Papua & New Guinea (PNG) in 1966 and 1968 to the 2nd Battalion Pacific Islands Regiment (2PIR); along with serving as a Consultant Physician in South Viet Nam in 1970.



Major General Ian Gordon, AO (Retired), in the field with UN Military Observers, The UN Truce Supervision Organisation, The Middle East.



Major General (Professor) John Pearn AO, KSJ, RFD (Retired), APPVA Patron from 1997 to 2015.

John's Peacekeeping Service was as a Consultant Physician and Intensivist (Colonel), to The Australian Medical Support Force (MSF), UNAMIR II, United Nations Peacekeeping Force, Rwanda. (December 1994-February 1995).

The APPVA is proud to have such an esteemed and eminent Officer as the National Patron. In John's civilian life, he is a renowned Eminent Professor at the University of Queensland, a well-known Brisbane paediatrician, and a much-loved mentor to several generations of Brisbane doctors. But the scope of his contributions extends far outside the wards of the Royal Children's Hospital and halls of the Medical School at Herston. The generous nature and quiet determination of this gentleman medico have taken him from research in the Arctic to the aftermath of a tsunami.

General Pearn continues to serve as the Patron to the PNG Rifles Association, as well as:

**2005-current** appointed The Honorary Colonel, The Queensland University Regiment. [Walcott Street, St. Lucia, Brisbane]. By Hand of the Chief of Army, Lieutenant General Peter Leahy. Re-appointed 2009.

**1996-current** Member, Australian Defence Human Research Ethics Committee; based at Joint Health Command, Campbell Park Offices, (CP2-7-124), Department of Defence, Canberra, ACT, 2600. (1998 -2000 Chair of ADREC, as Surgeon General); appointed by hand and warrant of the Minister for Defence.

John's gentle nature and enthusiasm for the rights of Peacekeepers will be missed, however we know that John will continue to enthusiastically promote the service, courage and sacrifice of Peacekeepers since 1947.

The incumbent and newly appointed Patron to the APPVA is Major General Ian Gordon, AO (Retired). General Gordon had a distinguished career in the Australian Regular Army.

## Introducing the New APPVA National Patron.

Major General Ian Gordon, AO graduated from the Royal Military College, Duntroon in 1973 and was allocated to the Royal Australian Corps of Signals. He undertook a range of

regimental and technical staff appointments and attended the Royal Military College of Science at Shrivenham, UK. He completed the Army Command and Staff College course at Queenscliff in 1985.

In 1990 Major General Gordon was posted to command the 1st Signals Regiment in Brisbane. In 1991 he commanded the first Australian Contingent with the UN Mission for a referendum in Western Sahara, MINURSO. For his service as CO 1 SIG REGT and command of the first contingent for MINURSO he was awarded the Member of the Order of Australia (AM), (Military Division).

Major General Gordon was Director of the Royal Australian Corps of Signals from 1993 until 1995 and in 1996 he attended the Australian College of Defence and Strategic Studies. In 1998 he was appointed as Commandant of the Army Command and Staff College. In January 2000, Major General Gordon assumed the appointment of Director General Personnel - Army.

In September 2001, Major General Gordon was promoted to his current rank and posted to East Timor as the Deputy Commander, United Nations Transitional Authority in East Timor (UNTAET), Peace Keeping Force. He

served in this appointment until September 2002, after which he returned to Australia to take up the appointment as Commander, Training Command - Army. He assumed the appointment of Deputy Chief of the Army in May 2004. He was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO – Mil Div), on the 26th January 2006 for his distinguished service to the Australian Defence Force in senior command and staff appointments.

In December 2006, Major General Gordon was seconded to the United Nations to serve as the Chief of Staff and Head of Mission of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO), in Jerusalem, and was replaced

Major General Ian Gordon as the Chief of Staff to the UN Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO).



in December 2008. Ian retired from the Regular Army in 2009, culminating in 39 years of service. Ian is the Patron of the Australian Palestine Advocacy Network (APAN) and a Board Member of MS Australia. Ian is also involved with the Royal Australian Signals Association in the Australian Capital Territory.

Major General Gordon is married to Ula and they have three children. His hobbies include scuba diving; touch rugby, restoring cars, reading and bushwalking.

Editor: The APPVA is most grateful to have such an eminent and distinguished Officer as Ian in the role of our new National Patron. We look forward to many years of working closely on a range of Peacekeeper and veteran matters.

# APPVA opens its new Townsville Offices

THE Australian Peacekeeper and Peacemaker Veteran's Association (APPVA) opened new offices on Ross River Road last month.

The APPVA Townsville Pensions and Welfare Office was officially opened by the organisation's national president Alan Thomas at a small ceremony attended by representatives of sister Ex-Service Organisations.

The new offices are at the rear of Zac's House at 715 Ross River Road, Kirwan.

Queensland State Branch president Chris 'Smokey' Dawson said as APPVA was a younger ESO, they had invited other ESOs along to let them know about the services offered by the APPVA.

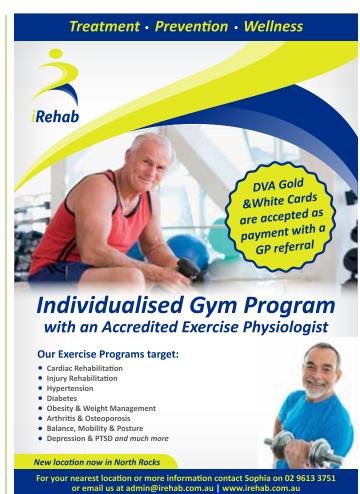
"We're not in competition, we're here to support all veterans, current ex-Service members and their families, which we all support," he said.

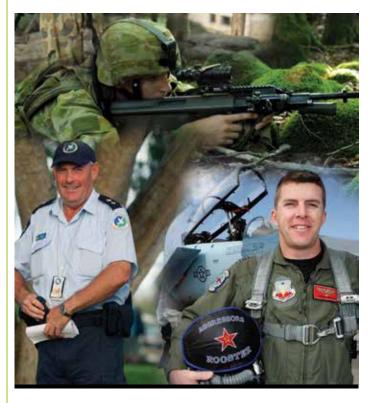
Mr Thomas also used the occasion to present life membership of the association to Lofty Evans.

Source: The Norther Courier, ADF News for North Queensland, 3 September 2015.



Alan Thomas (left) presents Lofty Evans with his Life Membership while Chris Dawson looks on.







www.peacekeepers.asn.au

# The Fight Against the IED

Cpl Mark Doran

To promote strategic cooperation in the field of counter improvised explosive devices (CIED), the inaugural International CIED Leaders' Forum was hosted in Canberra by INTERPOL, the ADF and the AFP from September 2-4.

The forum was attended by close to 300 senior government, law enforcement and military representatives from more than 70 countries and organisations, including the United Nations, NATO, African Union and International Bomb Data Centre.

The aim of the forum was to support the creation of a global alliance that unites and focuses efforts to combat the IED threat.

Four key pillars of work underpin those efforts – component controls, capacity building, public awareness and information sharing.

The key areas for information exchange are IED technologies, precursor materials and the individuals and groups who construct and use IED weapons.

The exchange will carefully balance the need to share principle with the need to know.

VCDF VADM Ray Griggs said the forum increased awareness of common goals and enhanced the ability of military and law enforcement agencies to disrupt and neutralise IED networks.

"There is little doubt we need a collaborative global response to the IED threat, and this forum has provided a launching pad for future cooperation and information sharing," VADM Griggs said.

"The solution does not rest solely with the military.

"From here the ADF will continue to work with the AFP and our international partners towards establishing a global CIED alliance and broader consensus on how to address this threat."

VADM Griggs said the ADF had been touched in a tragic way by the scourge of IEDs over a number of years during its operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"It was a real issue for us and a number of years ago we set up the CIED Task Force which still exists today and has been doing some world-leading work in association with the AFP and INTERPOL," he said.

"It was a natural alignment for the three groups to host the forum, which was crucial in the continuation of the fight against IEDs.

"Information sharing was a big theme and that's because information sharing is important for us being able to adapt and react to the threat as it changes and evolves, which it does on a regular basis. "I'm pleased we now have the global alliance and look forward to the work to be conducted over the next year or so."

The global alliance to counter IEDs will encourage participating countries to adopt a whole-of-government approach to focus law enforcement, military and diplomatic channels towards an international response aimed at reducing the IED threat to save lives.

INTERPOL Secretary General Jürgen Stock said the world police body stood ready to play its part in moving the alliance forward.

"The discussions underlined that dealing with the threat of IEDs is a complex issue, which cannot be addressed by any single agency or country alone," Secretary General Stock said.

"IEDs are a number one killer as they pose a danger not only to Defence Force members on the battlefield, but also civilians, as we have seen this year with more than 10,000 casualties from IEDs around the globe.

"We all agree more needs to be done to address this threat and the forum has provided a valuable and constructive way forward, particularly through its support for the creation of the global alliance to counter IEDs."

Secretary General Stock said the global alliance would focus on law enforcement, military and diplomatic channels to form an international response to reduce the IED threat and save lives.

"INTERPOL will provide its full support to the alliance and our common goal to make the world a safer place," he said.

"We have a mechanism already in place in Lyon and in Singapore to facilitate information sharing and the exchange of best practice for capacity building and training activities, which will be INTERPOL's main role in this important international initiative."

Assistant Commissioner AFP Julian Slater said all members of the forum were aware of the international threat of IEDs.

"We have been working for many years in collaboration with our partners to do what we can to mitigate that threat,"

Assistant Commissioner Slater said.

"The forum is the first step in a new initiative that's going to provide us with a platform to bring us together even more comprehensively than has been the case in the past.

"Information is the key in limiting the impact of IEDs across the globe.

"This sharing can be done with appropriate protocols in place to balance the integrity of investigations with the need to inform our partners.

"A global knowledge bank of IED information can only assist all of us in dealing with these lethal explosives."

# AUSTRALIAN PEACEKEEPER & PEACEMAKER VETERANS'ASSOCIATION

#### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Patron: Major General Ian Gordon AO (Retired)



(INCORPORATED IN VICTORIA) ABN 59 558 194 094 APPVA

PO Box 480, Boronia Vic 3155

Phone: 0419 544 342

Email: secretary@peacekeepers.asn.au Website: www.peacekeepers.asn.au

Contact Details					
Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Dr (Rank)	Address				
Last Name	City				
Given Name(s)	State Post Code				
Date of Birth//	Country				
Name of Parent/Partner/Child(Complete only for Affiliate Membership)	Email				
Phone					
Service Details	Missions (Attach separate sheet if necessary)				
Service (Navy, Army, Air Force, AFP etc)	Operation name				
Service Regt Number	Dates deployed to				
Current / Former Rank	Operation name Country				
Post Nominal	Date deployed to				
I apply for either Full, Associate or Affiliate Membership to the Australian Peacekeeper and Peacemaker Veterans' Association (APPVA). I agree to abide by its Constitution, rules and regulations. By signing the document, I authorise the APPVA to verify my stated Service or that of my partner or parent / child. I understand my details as supplied on this form, will be kept on record by the National Executive and my respective State or Territory Branch.					
Signed	Dated				
Olgrica					
Membership Payment Options (due 1st of July annual	ly) \$25 Renewal \$35 New				
Membership Payment Options (due 1st of July annual Credit Card	480, Boronia Vic 3155				
Membership Payment Options (due 1st of July annual Credit Card Send application with completed details to: APPVA PO Box	(renewal) ☐ \$35 (new) ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard				
Membership Payment Options (due 1st of July annual Credit Card Send application with completed details to: APPVA PO Box Please charge my credit card for the amount of: □ \$25  Credit Card No//	(renewal) ☐ \$35 (new) ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard				
Membership Payment Options (due 1st of July annual Credit Card Send application with completed details to: APPVA PO Box Please charge my credit card for the amount of: □ \$25  Credit Card No//	480, Boronia Vic 3155  (renewal)				

#### Membership Type - Please select criteria

#### ☐ Full Member

Open to any member or ex member of the Australian or New Zealand Armed Forces, Police Forces, Government Organisations or Defence Civilians who have Served on Warlike Operations; Peacekeeping or Peacemaking Operations; or Non-Warlike Service. In addition, Peacetime serving and ex Serving members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF). Full voting rights

#### ☐ Associate Member

Open to members of other National Armed Forces or Police Forces who have served in War, Peacekeeping or Peacemaking Operations. Persons who have served with Non-Government Organisations. No voting rights.

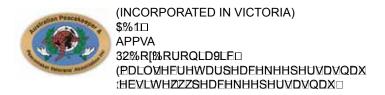
#### □ Affiliate Member

Open to all persons who have not been discharged for reasons of discipline, War Widows / Widowers, Defence Widows / Widowers, Partner(s), Parents and Children of an APPVA Veteran. No voting rights.

Persons applying for membership as a member or ex-member of an Armed Force, Police Force or, as a Defence Civilian meeting the above criteria for Full or Associate Membership, are required to complete the Service Details above. Persons applying for Affiliate Membership as a Parent, Partner or Child of a current APPVA member are required to complete the "Parent / Partner / Child" section in the Contact Details area above, to confirm the membership of the APPVA Member.

#### **AUSTRALIAN PEACEKEEPER &** PEACEMAKER VETERANS'ASSOCIATION

#### MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM



MERCHANDISE	QUANTITY	OPTIONS - Please Circle	COST	SUB TOTAL
Navy Blue Polo Shirt		S M L XL 2XL 3XL 4XL 5XL MENS/WOMENS	\$30	
Pink Polo Shirt		WOMENS size 10-16		
Short Sleeved Chambray Shirt		Size: M XL 2XL 3XL 4XL 5XL MENS	\$45	
Short Sleeved Chambray Shirt		Size: 10 12 14 16 WOMENS	\$45	
APPVA Cap Navy Blue		One Size	\$20	
APPVA Cap Pink		One Size	\$20	
APPVA Stickers			\$6	
Book - COMBAT MEDIC			\$29	
Book - SOLDIERS' Tales			\$19	
Book - Aussie SOLDIER			\$29	
Please note - GST, postage and handling included			TOTAL	

CREDIT CARD 6HQGRUGHUIRUPZLWKERPSOHWHGGHWDLOVWR0HUFKDQGLVH\$339\$32R[RURQLD9LF□							
3OHDVHEKDUJHPEUHGLWEDUGIRUWKHDPRQWRI⊞		□ Visa	□ Mastercard				
Credit Card No//		Expiry Date	/				
Name	Signature						
CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER - 6HQGRUGHULQPDLO	OZLWKEKHTHRUF	RQHRUGHUS	DDEOHWR\$339\$32R	I[RURQLD9LF			
DIRECT CREDIT - Internet Transfer							
For Def Credit account holders:							

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For All other Financial Institutions:

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#### **DELIVERY DETAILS**

Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Dr (Rank) Address **Ⅲ** 

Given Name(s) State □ Post Code □

Email□ Country □

Mobile□

Last Name □

The Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans' Association (APPVA) will accept returned products / merchandise where: 7KHSURGXFWLVIDXOWRUQRWWIRUWKHSXUSRVH7KHSURGXFWGRHVQRWPDWFKWKHMDPSOHRUGHVFULSWLRQ

3URRIRISXUEKDVH\$339\$PHUEKDQGLVHUHEHLSWPXVWEHSURYLGHGLQRUGHUWR

2EWDLQDUHIXQGLISDLGEEUHGLWEDUGWKHEUHGLWEDUGZLOOBHEUHGLWHGRWKHUZLVHDEKHTXHZLOOEHSURYLGHGRU5HLWVXHDOLNHDUWLFOI IMPORTANT NOTES:

City III

7KH\$B39\$ZLOOWDNHWKHXWPRVWEDUHLQSDFNDJLQJKRZHYHUZHZLOOQRWDFFHSWDQUHVSRQVLELOLWIRUJRRGVGDPDJHGLQWUDQVLW 7KH\$B39\$ZLOOQRWDFFHSWUHWXUQVZKHUHWKHSURGXFWRUPHUFKDQGLVHLVRUGHUHGVSHFLFDOOIRUDQLQGLYLGXDOHJDRQWDJHEORWKLQJHV

SHDFHNHHSHUVDVQDXIWHPUHWXUQVZLOOEHDWWKHGI\$WBBBWWURKIBQWKMH2IFHUSURYLGHGWKHDERYHEULWHULRQLVPHWLQWKHUVWLQVWDQFI

FKRRVHEDUHIXOODV\$339\$EDQQRWDFFHSWUHWXUQVGXHWREKDQJHRIPLQG