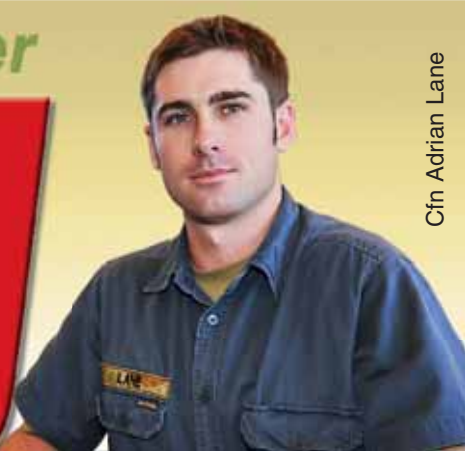




The Soldiers' Newspaper

Army



Cfn Adrian Lane

Edition 1264

August 4, 2011

BATTLE OF THE BAY

Aussie and US troops take over Shoalwater



Liftout inside

Into action: Sig Kieran Fitzgerald, 139 Sig Sqn, looks out from the top of a Bushmaster while attached to 8/9RAR for its advance through the Shoalwater Bay Training Area during Exercise Talisman Sabre 2011.

Photo by Cpl Janine Fabre



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DRUG BUST**
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NEW CDF**
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**PACIFIC AID
WRAPS UP
CENTREPIECE**



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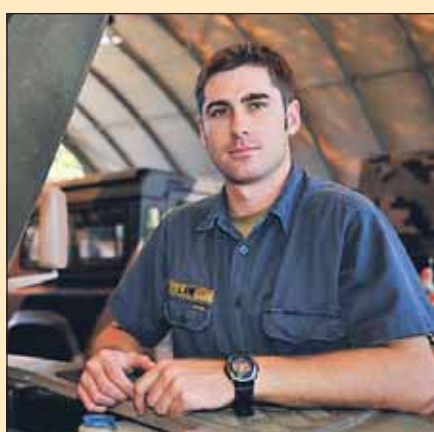


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Face of Army



Fixed up: Vehicle Mechanic Cfn Adrian Lane, 10FSB, looks over a vehicle in need of repair on Op Anode.
Photo by Cpl Zenith King



New system: Shadow mission commander Sgt Nicholas Reid supervises air vehicle operator LBdr Anthony Dunphy and payload operator Bdr Aaron Hong on 20 STA Regt's Portable Institutional Mission System for the Shadow 200 UAS at Gallipoli Barracks.

Photo by Cpl Melanie Schinkel

Shadow sim arrives

By Cpl Melanie Schinkel

SIMULATION training for the Shadow 200 Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) will be Brisbane-based 20 STA Regt's priority for the rest of 2011 as its first simulator for the system has arrived at Gallipoli Barracks.

The Portable Institutional Mission System (PIMS) is the first major piece of hardware to be delivered under Joint Project 129 Phase Two. DMO and specialist personnel from the US have already started the six-week certification process.

Army will acquire another PIMS, six fixed institutional mission simulators and four embedded trainers in preparation for the arrival of two Shadow 200 UAS (Shadow) systems, which will be delivered later this year.

Once the PIMS certification process is complete, it will be officially handed over to 20 STA Regt to start its simulation training program.

CO Lt-Col Nathan Loynes said all three simulator variants had the same functionality and were driven by the same simulation software.

"The simulators replicate a full Ground Control Station (GCS) including environmental conditions and the flight operations and flying characteristics of the Shadow," Lt-Col Loynes said.

"They will test the soldiers' emergency procedures by putting them under pressure to teach them how to deal with problems that could potentially arise during live flying operations.

"The benefit of the PIMS in particular is that it's portable – we can pack it up and move it to wherever we need to conduct operations."

Between eight-month deployments to Afghanistan to support Scan Eagle UAV operations and up to six months in Arizona undergoing Shadow training, the past year has been hectic for 20 STA Regt personnel.

Lt-Col Loynes began sending his soldiers to conduct Shadow training with the US Unmanned Aerial Systems Battalion at Fort Huachuca in October last year.

"The course is broken into four phases. Phase one introduces the soldiers to airspace deconfliction,

the theory of flight and ground school components. Phase two focuses on Shadow equipment-specific training and phase three teaches them how to operate the UAS from the GCS," Lt-Col Loynes said.

"In the final phase they transition to simulation training before moving into the live flying component. At the end of the course the soldiers have learnt the ground school theory equivalent to that of a private pilot's licence."

Shadow mission commander Sgt Nicholas Reid completed the training in May and spent about 100 hours in the simulator and 10 hours flying a real Shadow air vehicle.

"It was a well-run, detailed and interesting course designed to teach from scratch how to operate Shadow equipment," Sgt Reid said.

"Many of us already had UAV backgrounds, which was advantageous because there was no preliminary course."

Shadow operator Bdr Aaron Hong said the highlight of the course was the flight line phase.

"I didn't have a UAV back-

ground so the course was brilliant for me – impressive too because the ground school is run by pilots who have 20-odd years of experience," Bdr Hong said.

Once the PIMS is certified, 20 STA Regt's soldiers will conduct further simulation training in preparation for five weeks of live flying.

The qualified operators will also conduct operational serials as part of mission specific training to convert their learned skills to the Full Rate Production 6 variant of the Shadow system.

"We will start our MST in the Woomeera Training Area in October. Everyone is pretty keen because it will be our first time using our own Shadow kit," Sgt Reid said.

Lt-Col Loynes said the first Shadow Group was set to deploy to Afghanistan later this year and that a Scan Eagle-to-Shadow transition phase would occur early next year.

"Once Shadow is up and running we will withdraw Scan Eagle from Afghanistan, however, it will continue to support exercises in Australia for at least the next 12 months," Lt-Col Loynes said.

Taliban attacks in Tarin Kot fail

THE commander of Australian troops in the MEAO, Maj-Gen Angus Campbell, condemned major Taliban attacks in Tarin Kot on July 28.

The attacks were aimed at Uruzgan Provincial Governor Omar Shirzad, his deputy Khodai Rahim Khan and a local security chief, but failed thanks to the quick response of the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF).

Just after midday, the compounds of the Provincial Governor and a local security chief were attacked by several suicide bombers on foot and in vehicles, followed by insurgents using small arms and rocket-propelled grenades.

In a separate attack on Matiullah Khan's compound, two suicide bombers activated their devices as US troops entered the compound.

The US soldiers suffered relatively minor injuries and were treated at the Role 2 military hospital at Multinational Base Tarin Kot.

Several civilians and two Afghan National Police officers were killed and about six Afghan security force personnel were wounded in the attacks. No Australian personnel were killed or wounded.

Maj-Gen Campbell said the insurgents continued to demonstrate their intention to kill the citizens of Uruzgan as part of their campaign to undermine security and stability.

"Hard-line elements of the insurgency continue to pursue their campaign through violence and attempted targeted killings," he said.

"Yesterday they paid a heavy price for their ambitions, with all insurgents killed while failing to achieve their mission.

"Sadly, while casualty estimates



Suicide bombings: No Australians were killed or wounded in the attacks, which occurred in the provincial capital Tarin Kot, not far from the major ISF base.

Photo by Sgt Andrew Hetherington

are still not yet confirmed, it is reported that a number of children may be among those killed and injured. One of the locals killed was a prominent journalist and our condolences go to all the families in Tarin Kot that have been affected by the insurgents' attacks."

ANSF personnel protected the Provincial Governor and Deputy

Governor while responding to the insurgent attacks. They shot and killed one of the suicide bombers while a second suicide bomber activated his device without causing further casualties.

Response to the incident was effectively coordinated by an Afghan National Army officer at the Operations Coordination Centre.

Crackdown on drugs

AUSTRALIAN special forces have supported a specialist counter-narcotics unit within the Afghan National Security Force to dismantle a major insurgent drug network in Afghanistan.

The joint Afghan-Australian operation on July 19 targeted and destroyed what is the largest narcotics cache the combined force has found this year.

It was the second major drug operation within a week involving the combined Afghan-Australian force.

Members of the Afghan National Interdiction Unit with SOTG support conducted the mission into Baghran district, Helmand.

The operation helped sever the link between the insurgency and the illicit narcotics trade.

Despite continuous contact with insurgents, the combined force seized six tonnes of precursor chemicals, 6kg of pure heroin, 12kg of morphine, more than 400kg of opium and hash, two opium presses and a large quantity of drug-manufacturing materials.

It is estimated nearly 250kg of heroin was being processed when the combined force commenced operations.

CO SOTG said the mission would have a profound effect on the insurgency in Helmand and surrounding provinces, including Uruzgan.

He said insurgents used illegal drugs to finance attempts to undermine the reconstruction of Afghanistan.

"Finding and destroying a cache of this size will impact heavily on the insurgency as they strive to muster fighters

and funds for the remainder of the fighting season," CO SOTG said.

"We have removed a key source of funding and supply into Uruzgan, curtailing plans and their ability to conduct attacks on ISAF and local forces."

He said the counter-narcotics missions had "extremely positive" flow-on effects.

"We are pushing insurgents out of heavily populated areas, instilling greater confidence in the local people and improving the security, development and governance in southern Afghanistan."

The mission also yielded 27 rocket propelled grenade boosters, several weapons and a large quantity of ammunition.

The July 19 operation followed an earlier operation on July 10 that seized a tonne of opium, several kilograms of heroin and more than two tonnes of chemicals used to make illegal drugs.

More than 20 weapons including pistols, rifles, machine guns and ammunition were seized in the operation.

SOTG commenced combined operations with the NIU in May.

This combined effort has resulted in thousands of kilograms of drugs destroyed – or confiscated as evidence – and several individuals detained to face prosecution.

During Afghan NIU operations, SOTG primarily provides cordon security, logistic assistance, medical assets and other specialist capabilities.



Chemical spill: Thousands of litres of chemicals (above) used in the manufacture of heroin and morphine were destroyed in Helmand province by Afghan members of the National Interdiction Unit with support from Australian Special Forces during a counter-narcotics operation along with (inset) bags of drugs that were set alight in the street afterwards.

Caught out: weapons and drugs seized (left) by Special Forces and their Afghan partners in Daykundi province.

2014 security transition is on track: Minister

By Spr Nick Wiseman

THE planned transition to Afghan-led security responsibility in Uruzgan province is on track for 2014, according to Defence Minister Stephen Smith.

In an update to Parliament on July 7, Mr Smith acknowledged the service and sacrifice of our soldiers in Afghanistan, including the five killed in recent months.

"The terrible loss of our soldiers always sees a focus on Australia's mission in Afghanistan," he said.

He said Australia's commitment would not diminish, although its role would evolve.

"The recent gains, so hard fought for, cannot be put at risk," he said.

"The process of transition is a reality and Australia is confident we are on track for the transition of security responsibility to Afghan security forces in Uruzgan by the end of 2014."

The transition to Afghan-led security in other parts of the country has been under way since July and will progress across the country as conditions allow. "Transition will not be an even process, it will be district by district, province by province," Mr Smith said.



Inroads: Commitment in Afghanistan will continue until security transition in 2014 .
Photo by AB Jo Dilorenzo

"Australia stands ready to assist Uruzgan in this process. We will remain closely engaged with our partners involved in the first tranche of transitioning provinces and districts – to learn from them and inform our own transition of lead security responsibility for Uruzgan."

Mr Smith said Australian forces would be in a position to move from their partnering of Afghan National Army tactical operations to broader assistance, such as logistics and service support, in the first quarter of next year.

As a result of discussions with US counterparts and officials, he did not expect the draw-

down of 32,000 US troops sent to Afghanistan during last year's surge to have any "serious or adverse implications for Australian troops in Uruzgan province".

Special Forces operations are continuing to improve security in the province by removing key insurgent leaders and improving the capabilities of the Afghan Provincial Response Company.

Mr Smith said during its recent eight-month deployment, MTF 2 patrolled further and supported more ANA elements than any previous Australian Task Force.

For the Minister's full statement, go to www.minister.defence.gov.au

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On the go: CDF Gen David Hurley checks his busy schedule in his office at Russell in Canberra.
Photo by Sgt Andrew Hetherington

CDF speaks on the job ahead: 'It's a life and death position'

NEW CDF Gen David Hurley's vision for the future of the ADF is steeped in his triservice experience and revolves around interoperability.

"I've had probably more joint experience than a number of previous CDFs and I didn't come from the service chief route," Gen Hurley said.

"I can see where we have disconnects in capability or pressures on joint enablers such as intelligence and logistics.

"So when I look at what this might mean for the future of the ADF, we need to improve our joint training and our joint logistics, and my focus will be to improve the ADF's overall joint warfare capability."

Gen Hurley said apart from maintaining a sustainable work force, which he said was the heart of what the ADF had to achieve in the next five years, his main focus would be on ADF operations and capabilities.

"We have to meet our operational objectives such as the transition in Afghanistan and setting the scene for continuing engagement with the Afghan Government," he said.

"We'll be dealing with the introduction of new amphibious Landing Helicopter Dock ships by finishing the work already carried out by Army and Navy to enable the capability to be put into place.

"With the Joint Strike Fighter, although we won't see the first aircraft in Australia until I finish my term, it will have fundamental impacts on how we think about future air combat and air control and how we will knit those concepts together in a joint environment."

Gen Hurley said he was surprised to be made CDF, as there were a lot of contenders for the position.

"I'm delighted, pleased, proud and a bit overawed to have been selected," Gen Hurley said.

"Not that I was unaware of what the position was as I had seen it from

After a month in the job, CDF Gen David Hurley takes time out to talk to **Sgt Andrew Hetherington** about his vision for the future and his road to the top.

the outside, but to be now in the middle of it, I'm sorting out in my mind how I want to deal with the issues which might come up."

In his first month, Gen Hurley has been working out how to organise his staff and how he will operate as the CDF.

"I want people to get used to my style of decision making, how I do things, like how I want information presented and the timeliness I'd like things to come in," he said.

"I don't see myself as being the senior military bureaucrat in Defence, I'm also the Commander of the ADF and I'm working through my program to get out and visit the ADF on exercises, in barracks and on bases to get a good sense of what's going on."

Reaching the ultimate leadership role of CDF was a progressive process for Gen Hurley.

Between 2001 and mid-2011 he was Director-General Land Development, Head of Capability Systems, Land Commander, Chief Joint Operations Command and VCDF.

"I've always sought out command appointments in my career, as I thought they were the cutting edge, critical and great jobs," he said.

"So it's great to be in another command appointment but I'm mighty aware of the weight and responsibility which comes with it.

"It's a life and death position."

One of his past command experiences had him lead 1RAR in 1993 on its first operational deployment since Vietnam.

He said the deployment gave him an appreciation of operational environments and shaped his decision

making during his higher command roles.

"Deploying to Somalia leading 1RAR gave me a better understanding of what goes on in the field and on deployments," he said.

"Now when I see things happen on operations I can appreciate the decisions of the deployed commanding officers and I also know the world's not perfect and know things can happen.

"I might not be in Afghanistan or have had the complete Afghanistan experience, but I can certainly put myself in the commander's boots and be more amenable to getting the right solution needed for those on the ground."

Gen Hurley has a number of messages for ADF personnel.

"I'm very proud of what the ADF represents, what it does and we should be proud of this," Gen Hurley said.

"Most importantly we need to protect our reputation and keep the base of goodwill the Australian community has for us and we need to cherish, maintain and build on it."

He has another message for ADF personnel who have come home from operations and could be suffering.

"My point to all of them is there's no prejudice or discrimination against anyone who comes forward, who says they are suffering and need help," he said.

"My strongest plea to them is if they are suffering, don't sit there and do it hard by yourself; go and get help.

"We need everyone in the organisation, families need their people and we need them to be in good health."

CDF ON CULTURAL REFORM

What is ADF culture?

GEN Hurley said ADF cultural issues loomed large and the organisation was working hard to address them.

"When I get questioned about what I am going to do about the ADF's culture, I first look at what the ADF culture is," Gen Hurley said. He said ADF culture was what allowed personnel to be successful on operations when they set foot in an operational area.

"It lets us put thousands of people into the field to help in natural disasters overnight like we did earlier this year, and people who weren't called out knocked on the door and asked if they could help," Gen Hurley said. "This is the part of the ADF culture I like."

He said another positive aspect of ADF culture could be found in locations where personnel lived and worked. "If you go to a town or city which has an ADF base, you will find personnel training the local sport-

ing teams or leading a scout or girl guide group," Gen Hurley said.

Cultural reviews

"But there are some areas where we don't perform against our values as consistently as we should and some of this has been identified by what occurred at ADFA and we will address this.

The reviews we are going through I think will be very positive for us and I think they will assist us to set up a different way of looking at ourselves as an organisation from a cultural perspective."

Gen Hurley said as a result of the reviews the ADF would create a new cultural perspective consisting of four pillars.

"We'll be an operationally focussed culture but characterised as a just culture, an inclusive culture, a reporting culture and a learning culture," he said. "I think as these reviews produce their reports we will establish a plan built around these four pillars."

BIOGRAPHY OF A LEADER

GEN David Hurley was born in Wollongong, NSW in 1953. He graduated from RMC Duntroon in December 1975 into the Royal Australian Infantry Corps. He is married to Linda and has three children.

Military career

- Gen Hurley served in the RAR and early in his career as the exchange officer with the 1st Battalion Irish Guards (British Army). Upon his return to Australia Gen Hurley served with 5/7RAR.
- In 1989 Gen Hurley was posted as the Mechanised Infantry Adviser, Australian Army Project Team Malaysia. As a lieutenant colonel he assumed command of 1RAR, which he led during Operation Solace (Somalia) in 1993.
- Following his command appointment, Gen Hurley attended the US Army War College, returning to a posting as Military Secretary to the Chief of Army.
- He was promoted to brigadier in January 1999 and assumed command of 1 Bde in Darwin, overseeing the brigade's transition

to a higher degree of operational readiness and its support to Australian-led operations in East Timor.

- From 2001-2003 Gen Hurley served as the Director General Land Development, Head Capability Systems and Land Commander Australia.
- At the end of 2003, he was promoted to lieutenant general in the role of Chief of Capability Development Group and in October 2007 was appointed Chief of Joint Operations Command.
- Gen Hurley was appointed to the position of VCDF in July 2008. He was promoted to general and assumed his current appointment as CDF on July 4, 2011.
- In 2010 Gen Hurley became a Companion of the Order of Australia for eminent service to the ADF. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his service in Somalia.
- He holds the academic qualifications of Bachelor of Arts and Graduate Diploma in Defence Studies.

On the job: Capt Adam Gyte, 1 Avn Regt, shows CDF Gen David Hurley some features of the TopOwl helmet-mounted sight during Talisman Sabre 2011.
Photo by Cpl Raymond Vance





New beginning: A memorandum of understanding signed by Maj-Gen John Caligari (inset) between five staff divisions responsible for delivering the soldier combat system will enhance the timely provision of new equipment such as the Tiered Body Armour System as worn on trial by troops from 1 Bde last year (above).

Photos by Capt Lachlan Simond and LAC Bill Solomon

Understanding soldiers' needs

AN important milestone was reached in the Army's Diggerworks organisation with the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between five staff divisions primarily responsible for delivering the soldier combat system.

Diggerworks is focused on improving equipment in the soldier combat system such as body armour and load-carriage systems.

The MOU is critical to the functioning of Diggerworks and outlines the roles and responsibilities of each organisation involved.

It also gives authority to Diggerworks for managing the integration and configuration of what is worn, carried, used and consumed by the combat soldier.

Director Diggerworks Col Jason Blain said there was a need to get things moving quickly.

"Recent operational experience has highlighted the need for a more rapid approach to the development, integration and delivery of dismounted soldier combat systems," he said.

The simple concept of operation for the new organisation is to develop the best combat clothing and equipment.

The key to success is identifying and integrating the next most

DIGGERWORKS

Diggerworks is a virtual organisation supervised by Head Modernisation and Strategic Planning Division Maj-Gen John Caligari. It is directed by Col Jason Blain who said Diggerworks facilitated the collaboration of the other divisions involved in soldier combat systems, involving Land Systems Division of DMO, Human Performance and Protection Division of DSTO, Electronic Systems Division of DMO, and the Capability Systems Division of the Capability Development Group. In order to rapidly identify and develop solutions for the soldier combat system, Diggerworks is staffed by a wide range of specialists, including combat soldiers, project managers, systems and design engineers, technical advisors and Defence scientists. You can contact Diggerworks by email on diggerworks@defence.gov.au

important improvements to the soldier system and issuing successive upgrades to the "readying" brigade in the Force Generation Cycle.

This means every 12 months as a different combat brigade moves towards the "ready" phase of the Force Generation Cycle, it is issued with the next upgrades

and improvements of clothing and equipment.

And so the process continues on an annual basis over a 36-month cycle – one manoeuvre brigade a year.

A recent example of Diggerworks efforts was the development and delivery of the new Tiered Body Armour System (TBAS) and soldier combat ensemble for members of MTF 3 and SOTG. TBAS has been designed to provide a greater balance between agility and ballistic and blast protection.

The ensemble has received high praise from the soldiers of MTF 3 and Diggerworks continues to refine and develop the new body armour and load carriage system for follow on rotations.

MTF 4 will receive the latest adaptation of the system before it starts its mission rehearsal exercise.

Col Blain said a key aspect for Diggerworks to be successful was engaging with soldiers and commanders.

"Understanding what combat soldiers need is best achieved by directly engaging with them," Col Blain said.

"Diggerworks will conduct regular activities and visits to find out what can be done to enhance our most important combat capability; the soldier."

Digger injured in APC accident at Talisman Sabre 11

A SOLDIER participating in Exercise Talisman Sabre 2011 (TS11) was admitted to a Brisbane hospital after being seriously injured in an APC vehicle accident in the Shoalwater Bay Training Area on July 22.

TS11 spokesman Brig Bob Brown said the APC was carrying nine ADF personnel when it veered down an embankment and landed on its turret while travelling cross-country at night.

"Emergency medical assets were notified immediately and, after initial medical care, eight of those injured have been treated and released back to their units. One ADF member has been transferred to Brisbane hospital for further specialist care," Brig Brown said.

"The nature of their injuries are various but consistent with a rollover accident. Medical advice is that all soldiers will make a complete recovery and their families have been notified."

Brig Brown emphasised that safety was the ADF's highest priority during the exercise.

"The ADF has gone to great lengths in setting up this exercise to ensure that it is conducted as safely as possible.

"However, the requirement for this exercise to be realistic means that there are a number of activities that involve some risk."

At time of print, a full and thorough investigation of the accident was under way.

Activist damages Tiger

AN ANTI-war activist broke through secure fencing into Rockhampton airport and caused minor damage to a Tiger helicopter using a gardening tool during Exercise Talisman Sabre 11 (TS11) on July 21.

Bryan Law, 57, breached airport security to get onto the tarmac and was arrested and charged over the damage to 1 Avn Regt's helicopter.

Queensland Police charged Mr Law with trespassing, breaching bail and possessing items such as a garden mattock, bolt cutters and camera, which police suspected were used in the offences.

An initial inspection identified a split in the aircraft's skin below the pilot's window. A full investigation and damage assessment is underway.

TS11 spokesman Brig Bob Brown said the actions of the protester and his alleged accomplice were "radical, dangerous and illegal".



Grounded: A Tiger was damaged by a protestor during TS11.

"The safety of our personnel is obviously our highest priority and this aircraft will be fully assessed before it returns to full operations," he said.

"Defence respects the rights of protesters to voice their opinions. However, damage to property or individuals is an unlawful activity and actions of this nature are taken extremely seriously."

– Cpl Melanie Schinkel



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Better pay conditions for reserves

By Flt-Lt Julia Ravell

WEARY reservists returning from deployment, exercise or operational service can be granted paid reserve days to recuperate under a new conditions-of-service provision in the Pay and Conditions Manual (PACMAN).

The provision can also be applied to reservists performing duties at a location away from their place of residence over a weekend, public holiday or rostered day off in certain circumstances.

Previously, there was no allowance in reserve days made for the time needed to recuperate from a deployment or for when it wasn't practical to return home between duty days.

Cadet, Reserve and Employer Support Division's reserve policy staff officer, Sqn-Ldr Barry Robinson, said the provision to pay reservists for days spent recuperating or when it was impractical for them to return home from their place of duty was a "welcome measure" for the ADF to meet its duty of care towards reserve members.

"In the past, reservists who came back from intense deployments had to return to their civil workplaces and only have time to recuperate at their own expense," Sqn-Ldr Robinson said.

"Fatigued workers can be a risk to workplace health and safety and this provision will look after our duty towards reservists and help avoid workplace accidents that could occur when a reservist goes back to their civilian job after working long and difficult hours for Defence.

"If the member has to perform Defence duties during the days immediately before or after a weekend or similar break, and it isn't practical for them to return home, they may be entitled to be paid for the full time spent away from home."

The new provision for reservists was approved on July 6.

Activity supervisors and COs will hold the delegation to decide when a reservist can be granted benefits under the new provisions.



Back from ops: Reservists returning from operational deployments can receive paid reserve days for recuperation.

Nominations open for scholarship

SOLDIERS at the rank of corporal and below who exhibit high standards of soldierly qualities are encouraged to nominate for the 2012 CA's I'm an Australian Soldier scholarship.

Those chosen to receive the scholarship will travel overseas next April for study tours and commemorative activities at significant Australian battlefield sites.

Soldiers can nominate through the chain of command, or be nominated by their units as recognition of noteworthy performance.

The selection criteria is based on a soldier's achievements in the I'm an Australian Soldier core behaviours of close combat, leadership, physical toughness, mental toughness, learning and self development, courage, initiative, teamwork and compassion.

Nominations close September 30. On receipt of a nomination form, unit COs should compile a supplementary report and forward all documentation, whether the nomination is supported or not, to ahq.scholarship@defence.gov.au

Nomination forms and supplementary report templates can be downloaded from www.army.gov.au/CA_scholarships.asp

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I have personally recommended Astute Investments to friends and family; I strongly recommend that you take the time to speak with Phil. (Paul B, QLD)

I would recommend Phil and Astute Investments to anyone looking at getting into the investment market or anyone who wishes to expand their portfolio. (Mick B, Perth)

I do not make recommendations lightly; however, I have recommended Astute Investments to several close friends to date and will continue to do so. (Mick F-S, QLD)

We would recommend that anyone interested in their financial future should contact Astute! (Nick S, Syd)

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BRIEFS

Correction

LAST edition's coverage of Sgt Todd Langley's funeral service (A tenacious leader, **Army**, Edition 1263, July 21) stated five 2 Cdo Regt soldiers had been killed in Afghanistan. In fact, 2 Cdo Regt recognises nine members killed as part of Operation Slipper, including one member killed during a mission rehearsal exercise immediately before a deployment to Afghanistan. While five members of 2 Cdo Regt have been killed on operations in Afghanistan, members killed while serving with 4RAR (Cdo), before 2 Cdo Regt was raised in its place, remain part of the same unit history and are recognised on the unit memorial stone.

WWI museum

AUSTRALIA will help fund a World War I museum in Belgium that houses artefacts from a battlefield where more than 11,000 diggers died. Memorial Museum

Passchendaele 1917, in Zonnebeke, is being expanded to recognise the nations that took part in the critical eight-week battle. The Australian Army suffered about 38,000 casualties, including 11,000 killed in action or died of wounds, during the battle of Passchendaele. The Australian Government will provide the museum with \$270,000 in funding.

ASLAV sims

THALES Australia has been awarded a \$25m contract to deliver nine more ASLAV training simulators. The Crew Procedural Trainer simulator provides troops who operate the ASLAV with realistic training across a range of environments, without the need to incur the full costs of ASLAV operations. The simulators will be assembled at the company's facility in Rydalmere, NSW, before being delivered to Army units throughout 2013. The nine additional simulators will take the total number ordered by Defence to 18.

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Footy fever on Facebook



WHAT DO THE VALUES MEAN?

THE Army Facebook page ran a competition asking followers to describe what the Army values meant to them.

Mr Archer judged the entries on the night and selected Queensland high school student Jordy Lawrence's entry as the winner:

Courage is the little lion inside all of us; the lion that comes out roaring when we are scared or afraid of something. He pushes us to do things we never thought we could and be things we never thought we could be. He makes us stronger and braver. Courage is the peo-

ple who will do anything they can to help others.

Initiative is the little bird on your shoulder; the quiet one that pipes in ideas when you haven't thought of them yourself. She makes you see as an individual, things you may not have seen when working in a group.

Teamwork means family and friendship. The connection you have to be able to work with a group of other people during situations and the bond that is there once you are finished. Nothing can take away that bond. To me, together they mean a strong individual or group.



Stronghold: PTI Sgt Shane Duncan (above) takes on players from the Lindisfarne Football Club in an arm wrestle during a football training session he took in Hobart.

Having a chat: Glenn Archer (inset) is joined by Capt Rodney Davis, Maj Melissa Campbell and Maj Danielle Glatz, for an Army Facebook discussion to promote the Army Challenge Award 2011.

Photo by Spr Nick Wiseman

By Spr Nick Wiseman

ARMY HQ was alive with football fever on July 20 as discussions kicked off on the Army Facebook page with retired AFL footballer Glenn Archer about this year's Army Challenge Award (ACA).

The award, which started in May and finishes next month, rewards grass roots footy teams with prizes for displaying the Army's core values of courage, initiative and teamwork, which are essential to a team's success on and off the field.

Mr Archer, the official ACA ambassador, was joined by Army AFL representatives Maj Danielle Glatz and Capt Rodney Davis to help with the chat session.

Capt Davis said Facebook was a great medium for attracting young people to the Army and learning about what the Army had on offer.

"We gave out a lot of great information," Capt Davis said.

"It was great to see the enthusiasm among Facebook fans for sport in the military.

"Having Glenn Archer there certainly added credibility and made it more attractive for potential candidates."

The online discussion went for 90 minutes with more than 25 participants throwing questions at the trio about the sporting challenge, sport in the military and Army values, with many keen to join the Army.

Live Facebook chats provide a great opportunity for Army Facebook fans to interact directly with serving members who they can relate to.

The Australian Army Facebook page hosts a number of live Facebook chats. For more information go to www.facebook.com/TheAustralianArmy

Challenge yourself

By Spr Nick Wiseman

ARMY PTIs have run a local Hobart football team through a gruelling PT session as a reward for being part of this year's AFL Army Challenge Award (ACA).

The 2011 ACA aims to inspire and encourage local and state Aussie Rules football clubs from across Australia both on and off the field in the core Army values of courage, initiative and teamwork.

ACA official ambassador and former North Melbourne AFL player Glenn Archer said it didn't matter how big or small a team was.

"There is a chance for teams from all areas, both city and regional, to win great prizes," Mr Archer said.

"The focus is on grass-roots footy for 2011, and that is about rewarding and recognising the support that communities across Australia give to local footy teams."

The Army Challenge Club Award is running for four quarters, with each quarter made up of a four-week season with a new online game to play.

Club members, players, friends, and supporters who register can play these online games to help their club win a share in prizes valued at more than \$45,000.

The Army Challenge Player Award will reward players selected by their club administrator who demonstrate examples of the Army's values of courage, initiative and teamwork.

Mr Archer said those who wanted to be great footballers needed to live and play by these values.

"Teamwork is massive in footy," he said. "With more than 40 players in a club, you need to work well as a team."

Go to www.defencejobs.gov.au/armyaward for more information.



DATE: Saturday 3 September 2011

TIME: 6.30pm for 7.30pm start

WHERE: Plaza Ballroom Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre

The Ball is open to all current staff, cadets, parents and families of 2 Wing, past staff and cadets of the AAFC, AIRTC and ATC, RSL Sub-Branches Members, RAAF Associations Members and anyone who supports the AAFC.

Ticket prices:

- Adults (20 years and over) \$105 (includes \$5 booking fee)
- Cadets and other guests of cadet age (13 to 19 years) \$75 (includes \$5 booking fee)
- No guests under 13 years of age
- Special rates have been negotiated for hotel rooms

Please visit <http://conferences.ozacomm.com.au/2011/aaf11/index.html> to purchase your tickets.

A range of 2 Wing 70th Anniversary Memorabilia is being designed and a catalogue and order details will be available shortly.

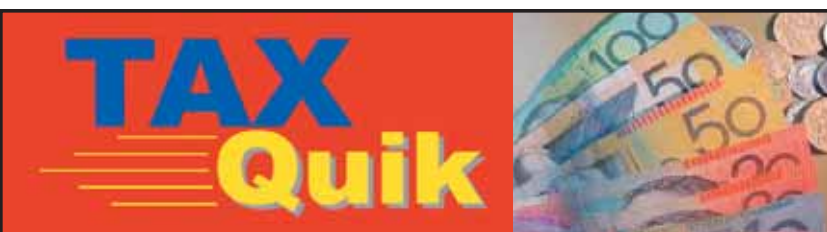
A table-themed competition has been organised for the night. Please use the contact details below to find out more information.

For further information, please contact:

WOFF(AAFC) Mark Merrell
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\$25m boost for rehab



Cause for celebration: Pte Daniel Gillies and Maj-Gen Jeff Sengelman cut the cake at the opening of the new Trainee Rehabilitation Wing (above) and Pte Gillies works off the cake in the new gym (right).

Photos by Matt Kaarma



By Cfn Max Bree

SOLDIERS injured during training will benefit from new Combined Arms Training Centre (CATC) trainee rehab facilities opened at Holsworthy Barracks on June 28.

The new Trainee Rehabilitation Wing (TRW) provides injured trainees with a \$25m state-of-the-art facility for medical care and rehabilitation.

Then acting Commander Forcomd, Maj-Gen Jeff Sengelman, opened the new buildings.

Maj-Gen Sengelman praised those who had worked on the project and said TRW's focus should now be on a soldier's recovery and return to training.

The facilities, adjacent to 1HSB, include lines for up to 80 trainees, a large common area, 40-man rehab gym and a 21-person physio room.

Pte Elliot Cody, TRW, was impressed with the new gym and the trainee common room boasting four "massive" plasma TVs.

"It's a bit like Club Med," Pte Cody said. "Having a state-of-the-art facility gives you the best shot at recovery and the gym has all the best equipment to bring you up to speed."

OC TRW Maj Richard Loveridge was more than happy

with the new facilities housing injured trainees closer to specialists and physio therapists.

"It's the bee's knees," he said. "It allows us to train in an area that is set up and suitable for rehabilitation, rather than transporting people from Moorebank to Holsworthy."

"It places them in a specialist environment that allows concerted effort in their rehab to return them to training in a faster, more suitable time frame."

As part of their rehab, soldiers at TRW do three PT sessions a day and have dedicated physiotherapists, doctors and PTIs.

Soldiers injured during IETs often have reservations about coming to TRW, but Pte Cody said it was well suited to getting soldiers back into training.

"The physios are up-to-date on all the new stuff," he said. "The staff here are really good too; there's discipline but they treat you like an adult."

IET rehab began when CATC Rehabilitation Wing was raised in June 2003 with a strength of 15 to provide intense rehab for soldiers injured during IETs.

That facility morphed into the 32-person Trg Comd – Army Rehabilitation Wing in 2004.

After a review in 2007, the capacity to accommodate trainees has now increased to 80 people.



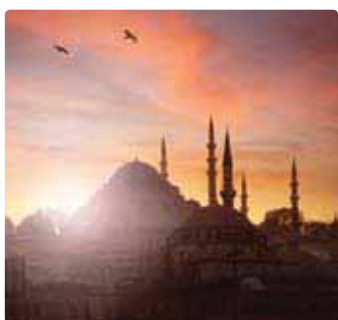
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Five down, two to go

FORMER 3RAR soldiers Darren Wise and Shane Pophfer made it to the top of Alaska's treacherous Mt Denali – but only just.

Appalling and unseasonal conditions in central Alaska hampered their efforts but a last-minute weather window allowed them to reach the summit.

"We didn't think we were going to get there, which made the final ascent all the more thrilling," Mr Wise said.

They unfurled a Legacy banner atop the mountain, having used the climb to raise funds for Sydney Legacy.

Although Mt Denali, at 6194m, is significantly lower than Mt Everest (8848m), it is considered by many a more difficult climb.

It is an unsupported climb, which means the climbers had to carry all their equipment and food on the ascent.

"We had 25kg in our backpacks and another 30kg on sleds.

The successful ascent of Mt Denali ticks off the fifth peak in their seven summits challenge – they have already reached the tops of Mt Kilimanjaro (Africa), Mt Kosciuszko (Australia), Mt Aconcagua (South America) and Mt Elbrus (Europe).

Having started the challenge in 2008, they hope to complete their final ascents of Antarctica's Mt Vinson and Nepal's Mt Everest in the next three years.

But that is not the end of their journey. The seven summits is the first step in their self-created "5P challenge" which involves not only the seven summits (peaks), but adds a double crossing of the English Channel (pond), a kayak across the Bass Strait (paddle), a trek to the South Pole (pole) and the Tour de France cycle race (pedal).

The pair will continue to raise funds for Legacy throughout their endeavours. To donate, go to www.everydayhero.com.au/legacy

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Ordnance removed in Darwin

By LCpl Mark Doran

DARWIN Harbour is a little safer after sailors and soldiers recovered and destroyed a collection of 60-year-old unexploded ordnance in an operation coordinated by the Northern Territory's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Control Centre.

Teams of Navy clearance divers from Perth, Sydney and Cairns did three underwater recoveries between July 2010 and May 2011 with support from Army LCM8s and Defence Maritime Service vessels.

Commercial divers conducting a survey of Darwin Harbour for a proposed gas pipeline found the suspected unexploded ordnance and the ADF recovered 65 high-explosive projectiles and 404 fuses of World War II vintage.

Maj David Eason, JLU-North, said

the diving conditions were difficult because of the wide tidal variations in Darwin, which could be up to 7m.

"Diving operations were limited to a four-day window in each month and the challenge was coordinating when the divers were available with favourable conditions," Maj Eason said.

"The dives conducted in February were even more challenging as Tropical Cyclone Carlos disrupted the activity and visibility was restricted by the wet-season runoff."

The risk assessment from the Navy clearance divers showed their biggest threat for the operation was from the local salt-water crocodiles, so a sentry was posted with a rifle.

ADF personnel disposed of all recovered unexploded ordnance by explosive demolition at the Kangaroo Flats Training Area.



Safety first: Some of the ordnance recovered from Darwin Harbour (above) and (inset) a soldier prepares the detonation cord to explode ordnance.



Waste not want not: Between 1000-2000kg of waste is generated by a typical battalion on deployment each day. Technology could soon be turning waste into electricity.

Photo by Cpl Michael Wood

What a load of energy

DSTO and Melbourne-based HRL Technology are working on a concept to turn a range of solid wastes or rubbish into electricity.

The two organisations have developed the "waste-to-energy" concept using technology capable of processing up to 5000kg of solid waste a day.

Defence Science and Personnel Minister Warren Snowdon said a typical ADF battalion of 500 soldiers generated about 1000-2000kg of waste a day on deployment.

"The aim of the waste to energy system is to recover the embodied energy of the rubbish and generate power for the base, reducing the need for diesel," Mr Snowdon said.

One of the biggest fuel usages in a deployed environment, excluding air operations, is power generation for headquarters, field hospitals, and humanitarian relief sites.

Research by the joint team over two-and-a-half years found the most effective way to generate power was to use hot gases from waste combustion in a grate furnace, which heated compressed air for expansion through a turbine.

Mr Snowdon said the system could potentially generate 200kW of power – enough to power 240 homes and 3000lt of hot water.

"This would equate to a fuel saving of up to 1300lt of diesel per day – not only could that benefit the environment but it's also a sub-

stantial potential cost saving," Mr Snowdon said.

The technology is also relatively small and deployable and requires little or no water.

The system could be used at military bases between deployments to generate power and reduce the ADF's greenhouse gas emissions by diverting waste from landfill.

Mr Snowdon said the system would also be suitable for use in disaster relief situations, where many electrical assets could be destroyed and a lot of combustible waste would be available.

The next stage involves constructing a prototype to demonstrate the concept, which should be completed within two years.

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Service with a smile: Cpl Anthony Stirzaker, left, and Cfn Jason Homan check under the bonnet of an old truck as part of their support of the Outback Car Trek.

Driving ambition to help

By Cfn Max Bree

ARMY technical know-how and some ambitious logistics have aided the smooth running of a charity car race through the outback from June 5-11.

Three mechanics from 9FSB joined a "sweep" recovery team supporting a field of pre-1971 cars in the Outback Car Trek.

The trek races through the bush from Dubbo to Uluru, raising money for the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS).

Cpl Anthony Stirzaker, Cfn Codie Rex and Cfn Jason Homman made up 9FSB's contribution and arrived at the start line thinking that they may have over packed.

"It was immediately apparent something was wrong; out of the 16 support and sweep vehicles we were the only ones towing a trailer."

Travelling through some of the least populated parts of NSW, Queensland and SA, Cpl Stirzaker's team were kept busy with broken axles, busted radiators and cracked differential housings.

"Our job was to stick at the rear of the field and repair any broken vehicles, very similar to our current jobs," Cpl Stirzaker said.

Over six days, Outback Car Trek contestants drove 3800km and raised more than \$1.4m for the RFDS. Car trek organiser Bill Patrick said he was impressed with the 9FSB mechanics.

"Everything was absolutely top shelf," Mr Patrick said. "They were invaluable; they had an excellent demeanour and good skills."

"Without them we would have had to abandon vehicles until they could be towed to the nearest town, sometimes 500-600km away."

After crossing countless creeks and sailing down sand dunes, the 9FSB crew finished the trek with plenty of handshakes and pats on the back from the rest of the sweep team.

"There were also a few 'I can't believe that bloody trailer made it'," Cpl Stirzaker said.

9FSB will support the event next year with a larger presence and heavy equipment.

Challenge for body and mind

By Cpl Melanie Schinkel

MOUNTAIN bike rider Sgt Peter McLeod, ASEME, is determined to win a podium position at the next Legacy Eight-Hour Challenge in September after placing fifth in the event last year.

Raising \$21,000 for Legacy last year, the Legacy challenge this year will introduce a duathlon event and be held in South Bandiana, Victoria.

"Last year I was more focused on finishing the race than competing in it. I'm challenging myself this year to take a higher place - I'll start training about eight weeks out from the race date," Sgt McLeod said.

"My training leading up to the race will involve a high-intensity program designed to enhance my riding power and sustain my heart rate. The program will build in intensity and peak two weeks before the race."

The Legacy Eight-Hour Challenge Coordinator, PTI Cpl Cobi Head, School of Health, said he wanted this year's event to be "the most successful yet".

"Relay teams of two to four members will run, ride or walk to complete as many laps as possible in eight hours," Cpl Head said.

"The duathlon event will involve participants alternating between running and riding and the individual category will require competitors to cover up to 50km in eight hours."

"We need all the support we can get from Defence personnel. Once registered, participants are required to seek out their own sponsorships and donations, but all monies raised will be donated to Legacy."

Sgt McLeod said he had a couple of tricks up his sleeve to give him a leading edge in the competition.

"I will pre-prepare my race food and water portions and position them on the bike so I can access them easily without stopping. I will also use a timer to remind me each hour to eat 70g of solid and liquid carbohydrates."

"Competing in an endurance event like this requires you to overcome the challenges it presents - like boredom."



Learning from experience: Sgt Peter McLeod, ASEME, competes in the 2010 eight-hour challenge in South Bandiana, Victoria.

"My lead-up training should enable me to finish the event in good shape."

"For me, the reward is not in the result but in the ride itself."

The Eight-Hour Challenge is open to all Defence personnel. If you would like to compete or sponsor a team or individual, contact Cpl Head on (02) 6055 2539 or cobi.head@defence.gov.au

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'We can always do better'



Message is clear: US Army Lt-Gen David Huntoon addresses staff cadets at RMC during a recent visit to Australia.
Photo by Grace Costa

By Graham McBean

THE superintendent of the US Military Academy, West Point, Lieutenant General David Huntoon, had a simple message when he visited Australian in June – we can always do better.

The 58th Superintendent of West Point said his visit from June 14-17 had “lots of different missions” but was primarily a chance to observe officer training in Australia.

Lt-Gen Huntoon said West Point always looked for innovative ways to bring the latest lessons from campaigns into the classroom.

He said the common language and values-based leadership shared by the US and Australian armies and the shared experiences on the same battlefields offered a unique opportunity.

“Collaborations and partnerships are important to us at West Point and we look to benchmarks around the world for professionalism and competence and innovation and adaptive thinking,” Lt-Gen Huntoon said.

“When I think about all those qualities I think immediately of Australia. I think of Duntroon, the Australian Defence Force Academy and the Command and Staff College.”

Lt-Gen Huntoon said keeping in front of the game was never more important than now, on the 21st century battlefield.

The ability to adapt to an ever-changing threat in a complex environment requiring critical thinking skills is key to the success of today's missions. But Lt-Gen Huntoon was equally convinced these skills could be taught.

He pointed to the recent Sandhurst Military Stakes Competition at West Point, where almost 50 teams from around the world competed in a day-long military-skills competition, “including an outstanding team from Duntroon”.

Lt-Gen Huntoon spent the early hours of the competition observing several of the teams negotiate the first obstacle, where squads of nine personnel were required to cross a timber A-frame using a rope while carrying sandbags.

Just to make it interesting, the squads, less the leader, were all blindfolded.

“What I saw was an astonishing number of permutations by which the mission was accomplished – there were as many different means to that end as there were squads,” he said.

“That kind of approach to critical thinking will get the mission done in the face of a complex problem on today's battlefield.”

Lt-Gen Huntoon said one lesson he would take away from his visit was the Australian emphasis on communications, and that West Point would examine the Australian experience.

“You place a great emphasis on communication skills, whether it is a young officer crafting the most clear, concise and cogent operations orders or his or her capacity to speak in front of the media.

“So this idea that leaders are story tellers is very important to us, and we are going to take a look at the way we teach communications skills to our junior leaders based on the Duntroon model.”

Finally, Lt-Gen Huntoon said his trip was “an opportunity to reaffirm our heartfelt professional appreciation and pride in the selfless service and sacrifice of the Australian Army in our civil-military campaign in Afghanistan”.

“We could not be more proud of this historic alliance, underwritten by uncommon valour in common purpose.”

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Victorian medical vets reunite for corps birthday

By Spr Nick Wiseman

MORE than 80 veterans gathered to celebrate the RAAMC 108th birthday at a lunch hosted by the Victorian RAAMC Association at Waverly RSL Club on July 2.

With operational experience spanning from Korea to current operations, the veterans had plenty to talk about and there was never a dull moment.

Victorian Association President Kevan Andrews said the corps birthday was the most important event on the social calendar.

“At the corps birthday we all get together for one big party,” Mr Andrews said.

“This year was by far the best birthday yet.”

The lunch was attended by several guest speakers, including Keith Payne VC, who spoke of the night he earned his medal during the Vietnam War, and Allan ‘Kanga’ Moore, who praised the work of medics in the field and spoke of his evacuation down the Owen Stanley ranges during World War II to a field hospital.

“They really know how to hold an audience captive and delivered outstanding stories of soldiering in Vietnam and Kokoda,” Mr Andrews said.



Experience: WWII veteran Allan Moore addresses Victorian RAAMC veterans at a corps birthday luncheon in Waverly.

“There are no barriers at these events. The older veterans become invigorated and look 10 years younger as they talk to the newer veterans about their experiences, both good and bad.”

The Victorian branch of the RAAMC Association is two years

old with a membership of more than 120 members, including current and former serving soldiers.

If you would like to become involved with the association, call 0425 785 598, email raamcvc@hotmail.com or go to www.raamc.org.au

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BRIEFS

Dust of Uruzgan

SONGWRITER Fred Smith has released his new album, *Dust of Uruzgan*, after spending 18 months as a Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade officer posted to Uruzgan province, Afghanistan, from July 2009. The album is a collection of 12 story-songs from the Afghanistan operation, some written from Mr Smith's point of view and others from deployed soldiers' observations. Mr Smith developed a reputation for building bands from deployed troops to put on entertaining concerts at Multinational Base Tarin Kot during his time in Afghanistan. CDs can be purchased through Mr Smith's website, www.fredsmith.com.au

Charity ball

THE Australian Defence Charity Ball will be held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre on September 10 to raise funds for Legacy. The triservice event will feature entertainment from Darryl Braithwaite and band, Gretel Killeen and the RAN band, as well as a range of activities including displays from Air Force MWD puppies and Navy divers. For more information, visit www.defencecharityball.com.au

Ypres tattoo

The RSL Blue Lake Highland Pipe Band has been invited to play at the Ypres Tattoo, Flanders, Belgium in September next year. The band will play at the wreath-laying Menin Gate *Last Post* Ceremony and the New Zealand memorial. Those wishing to help support the event can purchase wreaths, to be laid by the Australian ambassador to Belgium and band members on behalf of the public to remember those who fought on the Western Front. Contact Barry Ward on 0458 255 666 or jaybee03@bigpond.com



Mobility: The Bushmaster has proven particularly effective protecting troops from IED blasts in Afghanistan.

Protected mobility milestone

AUSTRALIA'S venerable workhorse – the Bushmaster – reached a production milestone on July 20 as the 800th vehicle rolled off its Bendigo production line.

The Bushmaster quickly established its reputation for mobility and protection after the initial vehicles were deployed to Afghanistan on its introduction to the Army inventory.

Since then, the Bushmaster has proven its worth protecting against IEDs, with export orders shipped to the UK and the Netherlands for use in Afghanistan.

Defence Minister Stephen Smith and Defence Materiel Minister Jason Clare were in Bendigo to thank the Thales workforce as the 800th vehicle rolled into service.

Mr Smith said the Bushmaster saved Australian lives.

"I've been to Afghanistan on a number of occasions, I've spoken to our diggers who have used the Bushmaster, been inside the Bushmaster both before and after the Bushmaster has been taken out by a roadside bomb," Mr Smith said.

"And while we've had a range of our soldiers wounded and injured in explosions which have impacted on Bushmasters, we haven't lost one Australian soldier. So it's a great credit to the company."

In May, the Government announced the purchase of an additional 101 Bushmaster vehicles to support ADF operations in Afghanistan.

The vehicles, together with associated support, are being purchased at a total cost of \$133m. This includes the fitting of MEAO protection kits and protected weapons stations.

It also includes funding to evaluate a range of enhancements to the vehicle to increase the level of protection it provides to ADF personnel.

If these enhancements are viable, they may be applied to the 101 vehicles scheduled for delivery in the next 18 months.

The Bushmaster is produced in seven military variants – troop, command, mortar, assault pioneer, direct fire weapon, ambulance and air defence.

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An eye for history

By Cpl Zenith King

THE extensive task of recording and documenting the lives of soldiers deployed on Operation Anode is being undertaken by a two-man team from the Australian Army History Unit.

Oral historian Maj David Bucholtz and heritage specialist Maj Henry Fijolek are in Solomon Islands to undertake the mammoth task.

"I'm here to collect the stories of the soldiers and officers who are serving as part of Op Anode to complement the official records," Maj Bucholtz said.

"We are collecting it because people are often too busy to collect it for themselves.

"It's really important to collect them in the field while it's fresh in their minds, because as soon as they hop on the plane home their world changes and their perceptions change."

About 30 per cent of the current rotation will be interviewed and chosen based on their appointment, on recommendations and sometimes at random.

"We spend as much time as possible having informal chats, trying to get a sense of the place and how we will form our questions.

"We then get the nominal role and interview all the people in key command positions. Then we look at who might have an interesting story."

Manager of the Army Museum



Eyes on the ground: Maj David Bucholtz, Australian Army History Unit, interviews a soldier deployed to Solomon Islands on Operation Anode.
Photo by Cpl Zenith King

of Western Australia and heritage specialist Maj Henry Fijolek is primarily responsible for the collection of artefacts and noting the equipment used.

"A lot of what I do is image based," he said.

"I take photographs so that we can record what it is like for the soldiers on deployment here.

"There is a vast range of objects we have to capture through images – items we can't take back like kit and equipment – but also things

like what soldiers wear while patrolling."

Maj Fijolek said if they didn't do it now, in years to come it would be lost. "You have to capture soldiers in the field because the equipment either gets left there or partially goes back so you don't get an accurate picture," he said.

"There are so many diggers, for example, who served in Vietnam who will go to a museum and argue as to whether they wore an ammo pouch on the left or right side.

"Also by looking at an image you can often identify what year they went on deployment because the kit is constantly changing.

"Even the smallest thing will mean something to someone.

"It might be something you disregard today but when someone sees it in 10 years' time they think 'geez I wish I kept that'."

The team hopes to come back for each rotation to Solomon Islands to document changes in the deployment.

Minister talks with troops in Solomons

DEFENCE Minister Stephen Smith met with national leaders and Australian soldiers during his first trip to Solomon Islands on July 13.

During his visit, Mr Smith, who was accompanied by Defence Parliamentary Secretary David Feeney and CA Lt-Gen David Morrison, met with Solomon Islands Prime Minister Danny Philip.

"We discussed the continuing process towards greater security responsibility for Solomon Islands authorities and Australia's future cooperation with Solomon Islands," Mr Smith said.

"I reinforced Australia's commitment to the security and prosperity of Solomon Islands."

Mr Smith also travelled to Guadalcanal, where he spent time talking with personnel deployed on Operation Anode.

"I met members of the Combined Task Force, the Australian Federal Police and Participating Police Force, including some of the 80 Australian soldiers currently serving on Op Anode," he said.

"The Combined Task Force has progressively drawn down to its current size of around 160 personnel from a peak of around 1800 in 2003, consistent with the improved security situation in Solomon Islands."

Mr Smith had an opportunity to visit and lay wreaths at the HMAS Canberra memorial and the US memorial.

"We laid a wreath to honour of the crew of HMAS Canberra I, which on August 9, 1942, was struck by the opening shots of the Battle of Savo Island and was damaged beyond repair," he said.

"The cruiser was evacuated and sunk in Ironbottom Sound by two American destroyers."

During his visit Mr Smith also met with Solomon Islands Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Relations Peter Shanel Agovaka, Minister for Police and National Security Clay Forau and Leader of the Opposition Derek Sikua.

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Courses to build on skills

Engineers learn ropes

By AB Jo Dilenzo

FOUR engineers from the Afghan National Army (ANA) have started a series of trade courses that are being overseen by Australian Army engineers at the Trade Training School in Uruzgan province.

This is the first time the ANA engineers have been assigned to undertake the full suite of courses offered by the Trade Training School. They will be trained in carpentry, plumbing, advanced carpentry, concreting and tiling.

Recently deployed from 3CER, LCpl Jason Corradi is a mentor within the Trade Training School and is responsible for the training of the ANA engineers.

"Previously ANA personnel would attach to a course to learn a specific set of skills over a short period," he said.

"Having the ANA engineer soldiers on the series of courses will allow them to have the necessary skills to maintain their own compounds and patrol bases as ISAF begin to hand over bases to the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF)."

Currently the courses are being conducted with non-military students, mainly local youth.

The Provincial Reconstruction Team is considering creating an ANA-specific course, which will focus on patrol base maintenance, working with septic tanks, plumbing and water supply. It is an option that will further enhance ANSF capability and set them up for independent success.

The Trade Training School model is unique in Afghanistan and has been run by Australian Forces since it was established in 2006.



Learning the trade: LCpl Jason Corradi observes an ANA engineer as he saws into his wood project during a practical lesson on basic carpentry.
Photo by AB Jo Dilenzo

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Rocket hit on base

MULTINATIONAL Base Tarin Kot was the target of rocket attacks just after midnight on July 19.

Deputy Commander Combined Team-Uruzgan Col David Smith said three rockets were launched from about 6.5km west of the base.

"One of the three rockets struck and exploded on the roof of an armoured accommodation container but it failed to penetrate the hardened building," Col Smith said.

No Australian soldiers were wounded in the attack with the only casualty being a foreign soldier treated by medics for concussion.

The other two rockets fired in the attack also failed to cause damage, with one rocket landing outside the perimeter of the base and another in a car park.

The rockets were identified by the counter rocket, artillery and mortar (C-RAM) 'sense and warn' system at the base.

"C-RAM proved effective in providing personnel with an early warning of the incoming threat, giving those outside suitable time to take cover," Col Smith said.

Afghan National Security Forces and their ISAF partners continue to actively patrol for those who fired the rockets.



On the mark: The C-RAM provided an early warning of the attack.
Photo by Sgt Andrew Hetherington

Improving admin in the MEAO

WO1 MATTHEW Smith was one of two staff officers in JTF 633 HQ to receive a Commander's silver commendation for his efforts in improving administrative processes and increasing reporting times.

WO1 Smith and Sqn-Ldr Brett Nansen were recognised for streamlining administrative functions and personnel reporting requirements, which have halved reporting times across the theatre.

WO1 Smith's technical knowledge and devotion to his work has been directly focused toward ongoing improvement of in-theatre administrative policy, significantly improving HR data quality on PMKeyS and the level of personnel administration on operations.

These efforts have assisted administrators across theatre in performing their duties and enhancing operational capability.

WO1 Smith is due to finish his deployment this month. He was employed in the Joint Operations Room and implemented these reforms during a time of high operational tempo in the MEAO.



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Time's right to speak out



Meeting of minds: Journalists from Uruzgan province and public affairs representatives from Combined Team-Uruzgan conduct a media shura at Multinational Base Tarin Kot.

Photo by AB Jo Diloranzo

By Maj Lachlan Simond

IMPROVED security throughout Uruzgan province has led to a significant increase in local journalists reporting from the province.

The dramatic change to the number of media representatives in Uruzgan is considered to be a positive sign of the progress that has been made in the region.

US Col Bob Akam, Commander Combined Team-Uruzgan, stressed the importance of media operating in a free society and the need to tell the people the truth about what was happening.

"There are many brave reporters in the world who are in prison today because they told the truth and they were persecuted for it," Col Akam said.

"But they held the sacred trust of the people they represented and the truth of the story in their heart."

When Australian forces first deployed to Uruzgan in 2006 to provide a reconstruction mission, there was little to no local media presence in Tarin Kot, or in the larger area of Uruzgan province.

In the five years since, the situation has changed dramatically. The media picture in Uruzgan in 2011 includes 10 media representatives working for both Afghan and international media organisations reporting on events in the province.

The presence of journalists and their engagement with local officials and ISAF personnel is considered to be a good indicator of the advances in security, governance and development in the province.

To ensure the Combined Team Uruzgan mission properly engaged local representatives, journalists were invited to the first Uruzgan media shura at the Provincial Reconstruction Team House at Multinational Base Tarin Kot recently.

The shura created an opportunity for the commander to discuss issues and understand how to improve the delivery of information, as well as answering media questions.

Many of the journalists are Uruzgan locals who have been inspired to seek a professional role in the media since the Taliban's removal from power, in order to be a voice for the people.

"Before these reporters, there was no one in Uruzgan to tell Kabul about our province, to tell them about our city, our culture," Ahamadsha Jawa, a local radio journalist, said.

"Now, there are requests for pictures and stories from Uruzgan from the media of the world."

The local media representatives said they were keen to repeat the experience and all agreed it should be the first of many shuras.

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HELPING OUT

SAPPERS HAVE SAY



Spr Brian Pemberton (above and right)

"I wish there was more we could do – when you compare our lifestyles to theirs there is a huge difference. I would be more than happy to come back again to keep working in these countries." On his return to Australia, Spr Pemberton is looking forward to spending time with his wife Kim and children Loren and Kiel.

Photo by LS Helen Frank



Spr Ben McGowan

"I enjoyed working with the other countries but it was tough seeing the conditions some communities have to live in. It makes you realise how lucky we are to live in a country like Australia." On his return, Spr McGowan is looking forward to seeing his girlfriend again and going fishing on the Georges River.

Photo by LS Helen Frank



Spr Michael May

"I love doing the work – it's what we're here to do and I can see that it makes a huge difference. I'm enjoying working with the other countries – I haven't worked with any of them in the past and it's interesting to see how they operate." On his return to Australia, Spr May is looking forward to sleeping in a bed that doesn't rock and seeing his family.

Photo by Kristopher Radder



Photo by Kristopher Radder

Spr Jonathan Buttery

"It's been a really good experience, particularly working with the Tongan Defence Force. I worked with them in 2009 in Australia and it was great to see them again. Being on the ship has really opened my eyes and I'm very pleased I joined the Army. I definitely made the right decision!" Spr Buttery is looking forward taking some time off in Hawaii when the mission finishes and catching up with his girlfriend.

Photo by Kristopher Radder



Spr Richard Pepper

"They are hard days but it has all been worth it. The kids at the schools make it all worthwhile – they are so grateful for all the work we do, and it is great fun interacting with them." On his return to Australia, Spr Pepper is looking forward to seeing all the changes in his new son, born two days before he set sail.

Photo by LS Helen Frank



Australian engineers, vets and medical staff joined Pacific Partnership 2011 to provide aid to Tonga, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, East Timor and Micronesia.

PROVIDING aid and improving relations are the top priorities of any Pacific Partnership mission and Pacific Partnership 2011 was no different.

PP11 delivered medical, dental, veterinary, engineering and community service civic action projects to Tonga, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, East Timor and the Federated States of Micronesia in an effort to improve the quality of life for residents.

Over a four-month period, the medical team treated more than 38,000 patients, while the team of veterinarians treated more than 800 animals. Almost 60 engineering projects were also completed.

In mid-July, a team of 36 ADF personnel completed the mission as part of PP11, an annual multi-lateral Humanitarian Civic Assistance program.

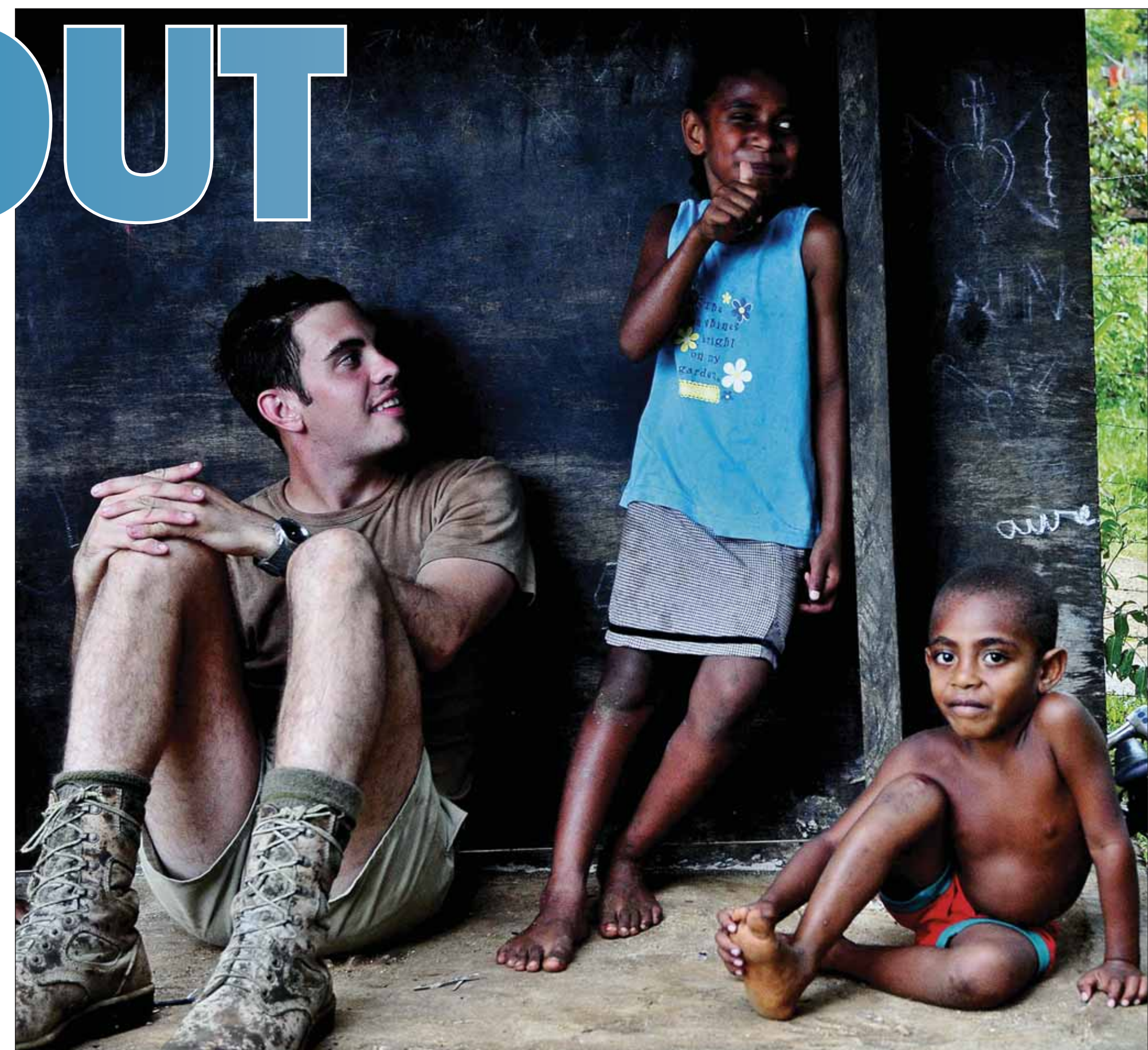
The ADF team joined with members of the Canadian, French, Indonesian, Japanese, Malaysian, New Zealand, Singaporean, Spanish and US militaries along with non-government organisations and host nations.

The Pacific Partnership campaign evolved from the international disaster response for countries devastated during the 2004 Asian tsunami. It helps to strengthen relationships between participating countries, improve humanitarian assistance and disaster relief capacity, and improve security cooperation and interoperability among partner and host nations.

The Chief of Joint Operations, Lt-Gen Ash Power, said the importance of the mission could not be underestimated.

"This is an example of one of the many ways we will work better in the future and it is important we understand how host and partner nation militaries, as well as non-government agencies, coordinate activities together," Lt-Gen Power said.

In the past five years, Pacific Partnership has provided medical, dental, educational and preventive medicine services to more than 241,000 people and completed more than 150 engineering projects in 15 countries throughout the Asia-Pacific.



Time out: Spr Jonathan Buttery sits with local children at St Joseph School in Vanuatu during an engineering assistance project for Pacific Partnership 2011.

Photo by Kristopher Radder



Lesson learned: Australian Veterinarian Capt John Lee helps Canadian dentist Capt Peter Walker work on his first four-legged patient.

Photo by LS Helen Frank



Air lift: A Black Hawk lifts pallets of medical supplies from the deck of USS Cleveland for transport to Zumalai in East Timor.

Photo by Cpl Melina Mancuso



Patient care: Cpl John Bevan, 1HSB, gathers information from a patient at the local hospital in Luganville, Vanuatu, during Pacific Partnership.

Photo by LS Helen Frank



‘We’ve got a small child, so having the shops across the road is excellent and it’s helped me a lot.’

MICHELLE TURNER
DEFENCE SPOUSE AND MOTHER

If you’ve got kids then you’ll know that sometimes getting to the shops is both essential and impossible, so for new parents Captain Ed Turner and wife Michelle, living right across the road from a shopping centre is ideal.

‘We have a small child,’ Michelle said of her daughter Isabelle (one).

‘So having the shops across the road is excellent and it’s helped me a lot. When I run out of nappies or whatever I can just pop across the road and the shops are right there.’

Their home is also ideally located to Michelle’s family, which was also crucial to the young couple with a new family.

‘We’re just starting off with our family,’ Michelle explained. ‘Having Isabelle, I just wanted to have help around me, and living here, we’re close to my family.’

Ed and Michelle have been in their DHA apartment in Rhodes for three years. They looked at the apartment initially due to its proximity to family and also to Ed’s previous posting.

Replacement cost not considered

DURING the posting cycle of 2010-11 the removalist somehow lost and damaged some of my household furniture.

I completed the necessary loss and damage forms online, including what was lost or damaged and the value of the items.

The representative from Toll then came to my house to evaluate the damaged items and produced a less-than-adequate compensation assessment.

The explanation was that if your furniture is, say, five years old, you will only get a percentage of the replacement value due to depreciation.

Now that seems all well in theory. However, when the removalist loses furniture, why should I have to foot the bill to replace my perfectly good furniture?

Toll assured me this is Defence policy.

Why does Defence let these removalists get away with their poor workmanship?

They need to be held accountable.

Cpl Anthony Zappone
School of Military Engineering
Moorebank, NSW

Alan McClelland, Director of Relocations and Housing, responds:

CPL Zappone has raised two important issues associated with removals.

The first is the level of compensation provided if items of furniture and effects are lost or damaged.

The advice provided to him by Toll Transitions is correct. Current Defence policy and contract arrangements provide a "like-for-like" replacement cover.

The warranty system will repair, replace or compensate for losses and damage. If it is reasonable and eco-



Loss and damage: Should removalists who lose or break furniture pay only what it would be worth if sold or cover the full cost of replacement?

Photo by Cpl Aaron Curran

nomical, an item will be repaired. If this is not practicable it will be replaced with a similar item, having regard to the age, style and condition of the item. If this is not reasonable or practicable, compensation will be paid also having regard to the age, style and condition of the item.

When a member submits a notice of loss or damage claim, an assessment of damage is completed and an agreed outcome letter is sent by Toll Transitions to the member.

If the solution offered is not agreed, the member may lodge an appeal with the Regional Removals Appeal Committee.

The regional Defence Relocation and Housing Manager (DRHM) is the local Defence point of contact for this process. Contact details for regional DRHMs are contained in the Your

Defence Relocations Guide that was provided in the relocation packs forwarded to members. It is also available on the Toll Transitions website.

If Cpl Zappone is dissatisfied with the compensation being offered, he should contact his local DRHM to discuss options available to him. He may wish to seek a re-assessment and, if necessary, appeal to the Regional Removal Appeals Committee.

The second issue raised by Cpl Zappone relates to ensuring that removal services are delivered to the required standard.

Defence relocates more than 22,000 members a year and most removals go well. However, there are instances where the performance of a service provider is unsatisfactory.

Defence is working closely with

Toll Transitions to ensure it improves supervision in this area.

For example, the new contract with Toll Transitions requires it to have staff oversee the majority of moves where the volume of furniture and household effects exceeds 15 cubic metres. At this visit, Toll Transitions staff will ensure contracted services, such as correct packing, are being provided to the required standard.

DRHMs are employed by the Department of Defence to assist members and their families and to liaise with Toll Transitions and DHA in each region.

During the removal process they are available to assist members and their families when contractors do not respond adequately to concerns raised with them.

Time to lift pay raise percentages

A NEW Workplace Remuneration Arrangement (WRA) for the ADF is due in November this year.

With the current financial situation facing Australians, I propose the minimum pay increase for all ADF personnel be no less than 4.8 per cent a year for three years minimum, up to a maximum of five years.

Some supporting statistics for this proposal are:

- This is comparable to the Victorian and Queensland Police pay increases for the same period.
- Federal Members of Parliament have agreed to a 3 per cent pay rise in 2009 for three years, but that was after receiving a five-year period of 4.5 per cent annual increase.
- Seaport employees from across Australia are demanding no less than 6 per cent annual pay increases for the next three years.

Looking at Defence's two previous WRAs, we received a 3.1 per cent annual increase for the past two years, and 4.2 per cent increase for the previous three years.

This equates to an 18.8 per cent total increase over a period which saw huge increases in home loan interest rates, record inflation and a CPI which rose by approximately 23.5 per cent (2005-2010).

Our pay rise fell below what the cost of living increases equalled, so any increase to our pay was negated with the CPI increase.

In May this year, you may have noticed DHA and compulsory RA contributions increased.

This roughly equated to a 5.7 per cent increase in your rent in a 12-month period.

This is more than double the last pay increase of 2.7 per cent from November 2010 to November 2011.

I encourage as many Defence personnel as possible to provide their feedback on the Excel spreadsheet on the Pay and Conditions webpage at <http://intranet.defence.gov.au/pac/> and help us all get the best WRA we can.

Capt Jay Ellul
DMO, RAAF Base Williams
Laverton, Victoria

Faith focus is too narrow

I NOTE with interest that the new *Faith Under Fire* DVD course (*Fighting for Faith*, **Army**, July 21, page 29) is now on offer.

I understand it is available for people of all faiths and places the Christian faith "under fire" in order to answer those big questions.

I would suggest that if people really want to watch "faith under fire", they seek out the documentary *The Root of All Evil?* by Professor Richard Dawkins (an internationally renowned sceptic).

For a more personal experience, I would recommend the documentary *Jesus Camp*, distributed by Magnolia Pictures.

Everyone is free to make their own mind up in an all-inclusive, understanding and modern ADF. I simply wish all views to be equally represented.

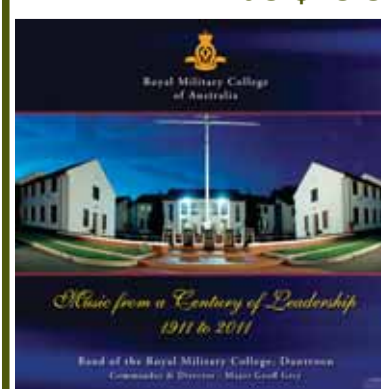
Capt Adam Turley
JLU-N
RAAF Base Darwin



Onward Christian soldiers: Does the recently released *Faith Under Fire* DVD focus too narrowly on the Christian faith?

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Ready for anything

AIRCREWS from the Timor-Leste Aviation Group (TLAG) have been working closely with deployed Australian and New Zealand troops to maintain qualification currency and keep up their skill levels.

A recent aeromedical evacuation activity conducted with International Stabilisation Force (ISF) soldiers from Anzac Coy put aircrews and infantry troops through their paces.

The activity was conducted near

Maliana, 190km from Dili as the Black Hawk flies.

The exercise was an opportunity for the Anzac Coy soldiers to practise radio procedures, first aid and marking helicopter landing points, while pilots chalked up the necessary flying experience to maintain certification and aircrews practised their drills.

TLAG rotation 15 has been drawn from 5 Avn Regt and supports the ISF by transporting troops and supplies throughout East Timor.



Air ops: Troops from Anzac Coy practise air mobile insertion while Timor-Leste Aviation Group (TLAG) pilots maintain their currency with flying hours and a Black Hawk inserts a patrol (inset) into the hills near Maliana.

Photos by Cpl Melina Mancuso

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Adaptive campaigning affects all Defence personnel – HQ Forcomd

By Maj Andrew Dixon

THE adaptive campaigning concept can seem too obscure to be important to soldiers on the ground, but it directly impacts personnel at every level of an operational deployment.

HQ Forcomd has been actively promoting the adaptive campaigning message in an effort to help troops better understand what it means and how it relates to each corps, unit and individual.

Vanguard Issue 4, September 2009, explained that adaptive campaigning “provides a conceptual and philosophical framework and force modernisation guidance to the Army”.

In layman’s terms, by taking a conceptual and philosophical approach, the Army is gathering information about the enemy to come up with possible courses of action or suggest a preferred action to prepare for future actions.

Force modernisation guidance is provided to the Army so that we have the latest information available to perform the task.

Force modernisation guidance is like the TV show *Pimp My Ride*. On the show, participants have their old vehicles transformed into spectacular machines with the latest technology available. To be able to achieve the result, the mechanics who work on the vehicle research the social interests of the participant and the latest equipment before deciding their design for the car.

In a basic sense, adaptive campaigning generates ideas and an investigative structure to provide up-to-date guidance to the Army.

The Vanguard issue identified that “Army needs adaptive campaigning to ensure we are ready for the demands of operating in a future complex security environment and provides a common language and model for planners to analyse



Adapt and overcome: The principles of adaptive campaigning affect all personnel involved in an operation.

Photo by Cpl Christopher Dickson

future challenges”.

Adaptive campaigning comprises five mutually reinforcing and interdependent lines of operation:

- Joint land combat
- Population protection
- Information actions
- Population support
- Indigenous capacity building

Each represent a philosophical conceptual framework for the conduct of operations and are present in all conflicts. The weighting between them is determined by the changing conditions of each conflict.

Future editions will explain the lines of operation in more detail and how Army units and personnel are affected by operating within each one.

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Waterworks: A 35 Water Tpt Sqn Lighter, Amphibious Resupply, Cargo Mark 5 vessel barges through the surf at Rainbow Beach in Queensland while (inset) LCM8 crews practise beaching drills during Ex Green Anchor.

Water experts hit the surf

THE marine specialists of 35 Water Tpt Sqn took to the surf near Rainbow Beach in Queensland in May to exercise their core trade skills before the high training tempo of the second half of the year.

The training was broken into two concurrent activities – Exercise Surfing Penguin using the Lighter, Amphibious Resupply, Cargo Mark 5 (LARC5) and Exercise Green Anchor using the LCM8 and Zodiac small boats. The squadron headquarters deployed as the overall coordinator for the two exercises.

Both exercises were developed to test the unique and critical distribution support that 35 Water Tpt Sqn provides to enable the ADF to conduct amphibious operations.

Riding the waves

Ex Surfing Penguin was originally conducted to develop skills required for Army LARC5 watercraft to support resupply in Antarctica, in particular the requirement for LARC5s to operate in heavy sea conditions.

The capability has been continued and used to train marine specialists in operating across a surf beach in various conditions – a crucial enabler in amphibious operations.

The LARC5 is the ADF's only amphibious transport vehicle and fills a critical capability niche. Capable of operating in Sea State 5 conditions (2.4m-5m wave height) and transporting up to four tonnes of cargo or 15 fully loaded and equipped soldiers, the LARC5 is able to also quickly transition once ashore and transport cargo up to 50km inland, a capability demonstrated during relief operations in Somoa in 2005.

SSM WO2 Trevor Stanford said many of the 42 marine specialists who participated in Ex Surfing Penguin had only recently completed the basic qualification course.

"It's a great chance for them to see how the LARC5 is used in amphibious operations and develop an important skill set," he said.

"For the marine specialists, it's been graduated training to build the skill sets and confidence to operate across a surf beach that began with theory lessons, demonstrations, and then practical exercise.

"The operators of the craft have learnt to operate in the surf, judge the

sets of waves entering the beach to time their exit from the surf and the correct angles to approach the beach."

When conditions were not suitable for working in the surf, LARC5 crews reviewed their skill sets and conducted drills for towing stranded vessels, employing sea anchors, and fine-tuning man-overboard scenarios.

Under the direction of marine supervisors, crews also conducted riv-

"The operators have learnt to operate in the surf and judge the waves to time their exit from the surf ..."

– WO2 Trevor Stanford, 35 Water Tpt Sqn

erine reconnaissance in the Tin Can Bay area.

The squadron was supported by several other units, including ALTC Maritime Wing, 2HSB and the Army Dive Wing.

The long cog

Ex Green Anchor was conducted to refresh and to build on the marine skill

sets of the 35 Water Tpt Sqn LCM8 crews.

Four LCM8s departed Townsville for a five-day cog (sail) to Rainbow Beach, a longer journey than many crew members had previously experienced, according to vessel master LCpl Mark Halpin.

"The distance of the cog is excellent practice for both navigation and crew management, particularly fatigue management," he said.

Corporal and lance corporal vessel masters operate offshore in an independent role and are responsible for ensuring the navigation, safety and leadership for the other four members of their crew.

On arrival at Rainbow Beach, the LCM8 crews of 70/71 Tp operated throughout the area to refresh drills, including towing, man overboard and fire aboard, before testing the tactical concepts developed in the 35 Water Tpt standard operating procedures finalised last year.

The crews rehearsed tactical anchorage and movement, riverine reconnaissance with zodiacs, and night fighting equipment familiarisation.

They also practised some of the most critical amphibious operations skills, including beaching and retracting operations, notional stern-door marriage for future interaction with Navy vessels and techniques for the recovery of a vessel that has been broached – pushed sideways on to the beach.

In total, the crews of 70/71 Tp lived aboard their vessels for more than 30 days and demonstrated the staying power of the LCM8s in a deployed location.

OC Maj Grant Shottenkirk said the skills prepared crews for major exercises, such as the recent Ex Talisman Sabre, as well as future operational deployments.

"The LCM8s and LARC5s give vital flexibility to the amphibious commander by giving options for manoeuvring forces around the battlespace fluidly, in both directions between sea and land environments and over beaches," he said.

"The squadron contains the ADF's only small, independent watercraft and true amphibious cargo.

"With more than 17,000 islands in the Australian area of operations and 85,000km of navigable waterways, it's a crucial component to Australia's overseas response options."

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If you have an interesting training activity, new course or learning event you would like to see feature in the training section of **Army**, send details to the editor by emailing armynews@defence-news.gov.au or, for more information, call (02)6266 7609.

Stories can either be submitted or researched and written from scratch in-house. If providing photos, please ensure they are high resolution and include caption information on where the photo was taken, the first and last names, ranks and units of all the people in the photo.

Respect for the fallen

The 95th anniversary of the Battle of Fromelles was celebrated with the dedication of another 14 headstones. **Rukshan Abeyaratne** reports on the moving ceremony.

On a cloudy July evening in the north of France, a poignant and moving ceremony was held to dedicate 14 headstones at the Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Military Cemetery.

Marking the 95th anniversary of the Battle of Fromelles, relatives of young soldiers who died in World War I were able to witness the results of the Australian Unrecovered War Casualties team's work.

Family members, dignitaries and Fromelles residents gathered on July 19 as a mark of respect for the young men from Australia who travelled half way around the world to serve their country and its allies.

The ceremony honoured a commitment and fulfilled a pledge that these young men would never be forgotten.

Among the 50 relatives of the soldiers who made their way to Fromelles was John Sheridan whose grandfather Pte Thomas Sheridan was remembered.

"I was determined to come here and pay my respects," Mr Sheridan said.

"My grandfather was an instructing officer who wanted to enlist at an early age."

For Tpr Russell Woodward, 2 Cav Regt, it was an inspiration to see the monument at VC Corner, dedicated to his great uncle, Sgt Simon Fraser, who carried wounded comrades in the face of enemy fire at Fromelles in 1916.

"It truly was amazing to see how they suffered all these losses, to be here as an Australian Army member is truly inspiring," Tpr Woodward said.

He recently returned from deployment to Afghanistan and made his way to Fromelles to witness the ceremony.

Defence Science and Personnel Minister Warren Snowdon paid his respects to the 14 WWI soldiers at a headstone dedication ceremony.



Solemn moment: A bugler plays *The Last Post* in Fromelles.

Photo by Alastair Miller

"This is another significant milestone in honouring the men who fought on the Western Front," Mr Snowdon said.

"These men died during the bloodiest 24 hours in Australia's military history and almost a century on, we can finally give them, and their families, the dignity of a known grave."

Due to the continued work of the Unrecovered War Casualties team and the United Kingdom's Ministry of Defence, 110 soldiers have been identified from the Fromelles Military Cemetery. Two soldiers have been identified as serving with the British Forces and 38 soldiers remain "known unto God".

The project to recover, identify, reinter and commemorate 250 soldiers discovered in France in 2009 will continue for the next three years and relatives of soldiers who died in the battle are encouraged to contact Army in efforts to identify the remaining 140 men.

To register your details go to http://www.army.gov.au/fromelles/Family_Research.asp



Honouring the diggers: Children from Cobbers School Fromelles join the ceremony (above) as Defence Science and Personnel Minister Warren Snowdon and senior Australian representative to NATO and the EU Maj-Gen Brian Dawson pay their respects during *The Last Post* (inset). Photos by Alastair Miller



DIGGERS REMEMBERED

The 14 soldiers remembered on July 19, 2011:

- ▶ 3327 Pte George William Hungerford, 53rd Battalion
- ▶ 4811 Pte Percy Geason, 55th Battalion
- ▶ 1390 Pte Herbert James Haslam, 29th Battalion
- ▶ 4744 Pte Albert Clive Bromley, 53rd Battalion
- ▶ Capt Thomas Francis Sheridan, 29th Battalion
- ▶ 4420 LCpl William Andrew Craigie, 54th Battalion

- ▶ 1590 Cpl Charles William Murray, 30th Battalion
- ▶ 3310 Cpl Frederick Fletcher, 55th Battalion
- ▶ 325 Pte Maurice Leslie Reid, 32nd Battalion
- ▶ 4299 Pte Arthur Russell, 54th Battalion
- ▶ 1168 Cpl David Frederick Livingston, 29th Battalion
- ▶ 2056 Pte Matthew Hepple, 30th Battalion
- ▶ 743 Pte Daniel Bernard Ryan, 30th Battalion
- ▶ 311 Pte Leslie Gordon Walsh, 31st Battalion



Cpl David Frederick Livingston



Pte Maurice Leslie Reid
Photo courtesy of AWM

Photo by POA Mez Merrill



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Information Sessions:

Fri 5 Aug 2011: **Lavarack Barracks - 1 RAR UTF**
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Mon 15 Aug 2011: **RAAF Edinburgh - Monash Centre**
Time: 1000 - 1130h

Tue 23 Aug 2011: **Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta - 16 RWAR Theatre**
Time: 1000 - 1130h and 2000 - 2130h

Thu 25 Aug 2011: **Robertson Barracks - Rowell Centre**
Time: 1000 - 1130h

Wed 31 Aug 2011: **Holsworthy Barracks - Maxwell Club Theatre**
Time: 1000 - 1130h

Thu 1 Sep 2011: **Gallipoli Barracks - Seacombe Centre**
Time: 1000 - 1130h

Applications for the January 2012 intake close on **23 September 2011**.

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You can also visit the following websites for more information:

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<http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/sites/DOCM>

<http://intranet.defence.gov.au/rmc>

www.duntroonfamily.org.au



Defence teams raise money for charity with 96km trek

Challenge accepted

A TEAM of five JTF 633 members based at Al Minhad Air Base in the United Arab Emirates has raised more \$5000 for the Kokoda Challenge Youth Program by each running 96km in 18 hours and 20 minutes.

The team, consisting of Cpl Beau Hill, 2HSB, Flt-Lt Stu Munro, Air Support Command, LAC Matthew Lamberth, Combat Support Unit RAAF Base Laverton, Cpl Bronwyn Maclean, 9FSB, and led by Maj Wayne Bullock, HQ 1 Div Health Branch, finished 18th out of 300 entrants.

The organisers of the challenge were so enthused by the concept of a Defence team participating while deployed in the Middle East that they allocated the team the race number 39, in honour of the 39th Militia, which famously fought to repel the Japanese on the Kokoda Trail in World War II.

According to Maj Bullock, who had completed the event twice before, running on treadmills cre-

While Australian teams took to the mountains of south Queensland to walk and run the distance of the Kokoda Trail for charity, one team put in the hard yards from the Middle East, **Leut Alistair Tomlinson** reports.

ated a number of unique challenges for the team.

"Running outdoors is a lot more pleasant, as you can take advantage of such elements as the wind and evening temperatures to keep cool and the interesting scenery and other competitors to keep you motivated," he said.

"However, being in a desert where current daily temperatures are in the high 40s, running outdoors was not an option."

Safety was also an important consideration, as a small stumble on the treadmill could have resulted in a serious injury.

"We were very grateful for the

support of our fellow JTF 633 members, especially medical staff who were present during the run and carefully monitored our health and wellbeing, and catering staff who met the team's dietary needs," Maj Bullock said.

Asked if he would be running next year, Maj Bullock replied, "one thing is certain - I am never running that far on a treadmill again".

All money raised by the JTF 633 team was donated to the Kokoda Challenge Youth Program, which supports disadvantaged children from Australia and Papua New Guinea.



Long road ahead: From left, Lt-Col Mal Wells, Col Chris Mills, Maj John Anderson and WO2 Joanne Cook set off at the start of the Kokoda Challenge in Queensland.

Blisters for charity

By LCpl Mark Doran

RAIN, mud, blisters and fatigue were just some of the difficulties faced during the Kokoda Challenge on July 16-17.

Teams from Army HQ, 6RAR, 20 STA Regt, 41 Bty and the Warrant Officer and NCO Academy at Canungra took part in the 96km trek in wet conditions on the Gold Coast.

Army HQ team leader Col Christopher Mills said the challenge was a terrific experience for his team and the support crew.

"We encountered conditions significantly tougher than initially expected, as the wet weather quickly turned the track into mud," Col Mills said.

"We were exhausted at the end of the challenge, but we had a feeling of achievement having crossed the line.

"I would encourage Army personnel to be involved in the next Kokoda Challenge if they want a challenge and a unique team bonding experience."

It took the Army HQ team members

26 hours to complete the course and they raised about \$2600 for the Kokoda Challenge Youth Program in the process.

Maj Andrew Donaldson and Maj Tim Conn made up the Army HQ support crew, manning the checkpoints with food, water and support.

WO2 Joanne Cook said it was going downhill which caused most wear and tear on their knees and feet.

"I was very proud to have completed the walk and glad I did it with such a great team," WO2 Cook said.

"We all supported each other during the challenge. The terrain was difficult and slippery from the rain so we had to focus for the whole distance - you couldn't just switch-off.

"The support crew were very helpful and couldn't do enough for us when we arrived at the checkpoints."

Donations can still be made on the Kokoda Challenge website at www.kokodachallenge.com.



Stepping up: JTF 633 Kokoda Challenge team members (from left) Cpl Beau Hill, Flt-Lt Stu Munro (sitting), Maj Wayne Bullock, LAC Matthew Lamberth and Cpl Bronwyn Maclean prepare to spend 96km on a treadmill at Al Minhad Air Base in the UAE.

Photo by PO Damian Pawlenko

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Get up to date

RESERVISTS have been reminded to update their personal details and submit outstanding attendance diaries for processing before October 1, in preparation for major changes to reservist pay processing.

From October 1, reservists will move from monthly to fortnightly pay cycles, use PMKeyS IDs instead of service numbers and receive new-look payslips at their home addresses.

The changes form part of the transition from the current reserve

payroll system, CENRESPAYII, to PeopleSoft Global Payroll.

The PMKeyS Technical Refresh Project team is halfway through user acceptance testing for Phase 1 of the project, an activity involving more than 100 pay administrators. The project is also gearing up for the October 1 go-live date and the continuation of Phase 2 work, which will introduce online payslips and the ability to record attendances online from April 2012.

During September, eight hours

of face-to-face end-user training will be provided for up to 170 Army pay transactors from across Australia. This training will help familiarise reserve pay transactors with the new system and be supplemented with online training modules, delivered via CAMPUS.

Frequently asked questions have been developed in conjunction with representatives from the three services and are now available at <http://intranet.defence.gov.au/ciogweb/sites/PTRP/> or email cio.pmkeys@defence.gov.au for more details.



Save the date: Reservists' personal details and attendance diaries must be up to date by October 1, when pay processing changes come into effect.

► Your unit



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Short leave rules change

AN AUDIT of the Short Absence from Duty (SAFD) provision has highlighted significant differences between how it was being used and how it was meant to be used.

The SAFD provision exists so that commanders may flexibly provide their teams rest and recovery after long or unusual duty, and an ability to attend to urgent personal matters when service requirements prevent members dealing with these matters in their own time.

The audit recommended the policy be strengthened by providing clear guidance on accessing and approving SAFD.

The following limits now apply:

- **Up to three days** – may be approved by a supervisor in the member's direct chain of command not below WO2;
 - **Up to five days** – may be approved by a supervisor in the member's direct chain of command not below major;
 - **Up to 20 days** – may be approved by a supervisor in the member's direct chain of command not below a brigadier.
- Short absence from duty:
- Is not a form of recreation leave, nor should it be granted in lieu of an appropriate form of leave;
 - Is for short, informal periods of time off duty;
 - Does not accrue for particular service and cannot be kept for later use;
 - Is for situations where leave may not be available or appropriate;
 - Is to be taken at the earliest opportunity that service requirements permit after the activity or event for which it is granted;
 - Is not to be used in any way which is inconsistent with the purpose of the provision.

For more information on the SAFD provision, go to the *ADF Pay and Conditions Manual* Chapter 5, Part 9, Division 1, available online at <http://intranet.defence.gov.au/pac/>



Rest and recover: Short leave allows commanders to give their troops time to rest after long or arduous duty, including major training exercises.

Photo by Cpl Janine Fab...

Parental leave pay available

ADF parents are able to access the Government's Paid Parental Leave (PPL) Scheme, which provides up to 18 weeks of parental leave pay at the national minimum wage without affecting Defence-specific benefits.

The scheme is available to eligible working parents who are the primary carers of children born or adopted from January 1 this year.

Despite its title, the scheme does not provide leave, but provides a payment to complement other types of leave – paid or unpaid – including maternity, adoption, parental, annual and long service leave.

It is separate from Defence's parental and maternity leave provisions. Receipt of PPL does not affect access to any of the Defence provisions.

The eligible parent must be absent from work on paid or unpaid leave or on a break in training for reservists to receive the pay. It must be taken in one continuous period from the date of birth or adoption of the child.

If the parent returns to duty before the end of the 18 weeks, their pay will stop.

Personnel wishing to claim PPL scheme payments must do so via the Family Assistance Office. Information about eligibility can be found at www.familyassist.gov.au

Before lodging claims through the FAO, personnel should discuss leave intentions with their supervisors.

More information is provided in Defgram 468/2011.



Baby bonus: The new Paid Parental Leave Scheme is available to ADF parents on top of generous parental leave benefits provided to Defence members.
Photo by PO Damian Pawlenko

More time to have a say on reforming reserve service

SURVEY responses for the biggest reform of reserve service in 60 years have been extended to August 19.

More than 23,000 surveys from the Reserve Reform Stream (RRS) were mailed to permanent and reserve tri-service personnel to shape the development of a new employment model for reservists.

It makes the data one of the most important and comprehensive bodies of work undertaken to inform reserve reform.

RRS Director Jerome Reid said the current SRP driven reserve reform agenda had provided multiple channels to empower ADF personnel to shape their own future.

"All good change is informed by evidence and reform should be guided by those who will most feel the impacts of this change," Mr Reid said.

The data generated by the survey will be used by the RRS to develop a Predictive Behaviour Model (PBM).

The PBM is a sophisticated decision-support tool that enables complex and difficult decisions to be made by considering solid evidence with regard to Defence capability requirements, costs, benefits and member impact.

The PBM will allow Defence to understand attitudes and preferences

with regard to a number of issues affecting service in the ADF.

The behaviour model will also help determine what employment offer works best for Defence and its reservists, in delivering optimised capability into the future.

The RRS team will analyse current and historical facts to make predictions about the future of reserve service and what it needs to look like to be competitive in a tight human resource market.

Ultimately, the reform seeks to provide a range of innovative and contemporary employment options that better match the changing work-life needs of the current and future reserve workforce.

This will allow Defence to attract and retain personnel to secure capability.

The human engagement balanced with capability needs will underpin the entire span of the RRS project.

"We have some of the best people in the world and my experience has taught me that empowering Defence force members is critical to achieving success," Mr Reid said.

More information on the RRS is available at www.defence.gov.au/srp/reserve



Changing uniform: The civilianisation of some military positions may be an opportunity for some soldiers to join the APS.

Civvy switch

ONE hundred and eighty of the Army's non-deployable military positions have been identified for civilianisation in this financial year.

Civilianising these support positions will help Army continue to rebalance its workforce, freeing up military personnel for increases in combat and combat-related roles.

This will allow us to employ our people in the jobs they signed up for, and to meet our obligations under the Strategic Reform Program.

More than 170 military positions were identified for civilianisation in the last financial year, and most have already been filled or have APS recruitment action under way.



REFORM UPDATE
By DCA Maj-Gen Paul Symon

By June 30, 2013, a total of 457 of Army's non-deployable military positions will be civilianised.

To help fill the new APS positions, suitable Army members may be eligible to transfer to the Defence APS under Section 72 of the Public Service Act. Section 72 transfers also contribute to Army's associated military workforce reductions.

Members interested in being considered for a Section 72 transfer should refer to Chief of Army Directive 7/2011 to understand the process and the expected eligibility requirements.

For more information go to the DGPers-A website and click on the workforce reform tab at <http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/sites/dwsa/>

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In the hot seat: Tpr Sam Woods (above), 10LHR, gears up aboard a 6x6 for a capability demonstration during Ex Boss Lift in Solomon Islands.

Photo by Cpl Zenith King

Heavy metal: Cfn Andrew Molnar shows Defence Technical Scholarship recipient Kathryn Dreghorn through an Abrams tank during a visit to the Army Logistic Training Centre in Bandiana North.

Photo by LAC David Cotton



Getting wired: Cpl Kerry Hall takes inventory of communication supplies at Camp Phoenix, East Timor.

Photo by Cpl Melina Mancuso



True colours: Personnel show their support at Multinational Base Tarin Kot in the lead up to the final State of Origin rugby league match.

Photo by AB Jo Dilozenzo

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DIKKO

By Bob Dikkenberg



Battling child abuse

The Grey Man

Author: John Curtis

Publisher: Pan McMillian Australia

Reviewer: John Wellfare

RRP: \$34.99

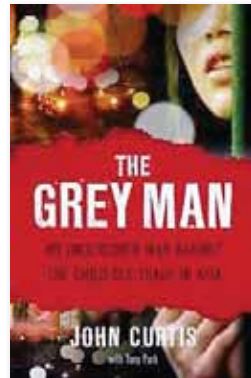
WHILE many charities supply food and shelter to children in need, The Grey Man uses former military and police personnel to pluck them from dangerous situations and help them return home or to a trusted refuge.

Lifting the veil of secrecy on this shadowy organisation, its founder, John Curtis (a pseudonym), has written a book about how it started, some of its most successful operations, most frustrating failures and where he sees it headed.

Curtis starts by describing his second child-rescue operation in Thailand, which he conducted entirely on his own, with no charity, funds or police cover to support him.

A former reservist from 1 Cdo Regt, Curtis' military experience shines through in this detailed description, as he breaks down the barriers to extraction one step at a time, with a plan in place for every phase of the operation while trying to avoid a head-on confrontation.

After this thrilling introduction, Curtis takes readers back to his childhood in Wollongong and through his time in 1 Cdo Regt, up to the point he decides to head off to Thailand and start rescuing children.



It's a major change of pace from the heart-stopping action of the first chapter, but Curtis moves through it quickly, giving readers an insight into his motivations without getting bogged down in self-exploration.

The rest of the book focuses on the missions, from the early days of Curtis on his own, through to the heavily-organised missions of recent times with local police assistance and funding from Australian donors.

The Grey Man is a thrilling read made all the more exciting because it's true. Curtis' writing style is relaxed, engaging and descriptive, and even the most shallow reader will want to get involved in this very practical charity.

If I have one criticism, it's that with the exception of the operation described in the introduction, I found myself wanting more detail about the planning and conduct of each rescue. Obviously many details were omitted to protect the individuals and the methodology that will save young lives in the future, so it's hardly a fair criticism to make.

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HEALTH

Feed your fitness regime



Weighing it up: Dietician Tiffany Peddle gives Defence News staff member LAC Bill Solomou, of the 'Join Bill Campaign', some advice about dairy products.

Photo by Spr Nick Wiseman

A balanced diet is important to support a fitness regime. Dietician **Tiffany Peddle** provides some advice for personnel, especially those taking part in the 'Join Bill Campaign'.

WE ALL know we need to eat less and move more. However, sometimes this concept seems hard to implement in our busy lives.

Achieving successful long-term weight loss requires a decreased energy intake and an increase in energy expenditure.

Here are some practical ideas for making small changes you can incorporate into your daily routine to help you lose weight:

■ **Plan ahead for meals and snacks.**

Good nutrition does not happen by chance. You need to be organised to avoid snacking on inappropriate choices and making random meal choices. For example, on a Sunday afternoon plan meals for the week ahead. Write a shopping list and buy everything you need so that you have lunches and snacks ready to take to work and dinner planned each evening.

■ **Regular meals each day.** Make sure you have three main meals and two or three snacks each day. Do not skip meals, especially breakfast, as this may cause an energy slump in the afternoon and/or encourage over-eating later in the day.

■ **Ensure you have a balance of the five food groups.** Ensure you are not missing out on any vital nutrients such as calcium, iron, fibre and vitamins. Refer to the *Australian Guide to Healthy Eating* for recommended daily servings. The five food groups are: breads, cereals and grains; vegetables; fruit; dairy foods (or alternatives); meat, fish, chicken, eggs (or alternatives).

■ **Be mindful of your portions at meals and snacks.** Refer to the *Australian Guide to Healthy Eating* for what is a serve size. A good rule of thumb for your dinner is: half a plate of vegetables/salad; a quarter plate of lean protein such as red meat, chicken, fish, seafood, eggs or alternatives; a quarter plate of carbohydrate foods such as rice, pasta, noodles or potato. Avoid going for second helpings at dinner time. Instead, immediately put any leftovers into plastic containers and place in the

HEALTHY TIPS

Here are some tips to help you make informed decisions:

SNACK IDEAS

- 4 crispbread with lite-cream cheese or tuna with tomato
- 1 x fruit (fresh, canned or dried)
- 30g unsalted nuts (small handful)
- 200g tub low-fat/diet yoghurt
- 1 slice fruit toast with lite cream cheese
- 1 malt drink made with skim milk
- 2 oatmeal or 2 fruit-slice biscuits

EATING OUT OR AT THE MESS

- Avoid deep fried foods such as chips, dim sims, spring rolls, schnitzels
- Avoid sweet baked goods such as muffins, slices, cakes
- Choose grain bread or wraps and fill with lots of salad, vegetables and some lean meat/fish/chicken
- Skip the creamy sauces and dressings
- Add lots of vegetables or salad to your meal (not chips)
- Reduce your portion size

fridge ready for lunch the next day. Listen to your hunger/satiety cues and eat only until you are just satisfied, not bloated.

■ **Limit the 'extras' food group to two-three times a week.** Refer to the *Australian Guide to Healthy Eating* for recommended daily servings. 'Extras' include alcohol, chocolate, ice cream, cake and soft drinks. Think about what treats you really love and plan to eat them when you will enjoy them. For example, two glasses of wine at a social occasion, or two scoops of ice cream on the weekend.

Tiffany Peddle is an accredited practising dietitian (APD) with the Department of Defence. To find an APD in your area, visit www.daa.asn.au. More dietary information is available at <http://swagit.gov.au/> or www.healthyactive.gov.au/internet/healthyactive/publishing.nsf/Content/recommended-daily-servings/

Bill blogs on ... eating habits

WHEN I first started on the journey to better health, it was always my intention to seek dietary/nutritional advice. This month I have done just that.

Tiffany Peddle, a contracted and accredited practising dietitian with Defence, was more than happy to evaluate my eating habits.

The good news is that over the last month or so, the quality and quantity of food I was eating met with her approval.

My portion sizes were fine and I no longer ate high-risk foods, like fast food.

In fact, to my surprise I was overdoing the fruit component of my daily intake – I was eating up to five pieces a day.

The recommended amount of fruit is two pieces a day. My sugar intake was too high as a result.

Another evaluation was that my dairy



intake (and therefore calcium intake) was too low.

Tiffany's advice to me was invaluable.

For all those ADF personnel following the 'Join Bill Campaign', she has kindly prepared generic nutritional advice, outlined in the 'Healthy tips' information box above. I encourage all members to have a read and also follow the links provided by her.

If you have any nutritional questions or concerns, feel free to email me. I will endeavour to have a dietitian answer them.

Thank you Tiffany and all members for your support.

EDITOR'S NOTE: If you have questions for the health and fitness experts within Defence, messages of support for Bill or want to share updates from your fitness campaign, email Bill at vasilis.solomou@defencenews.gov.au

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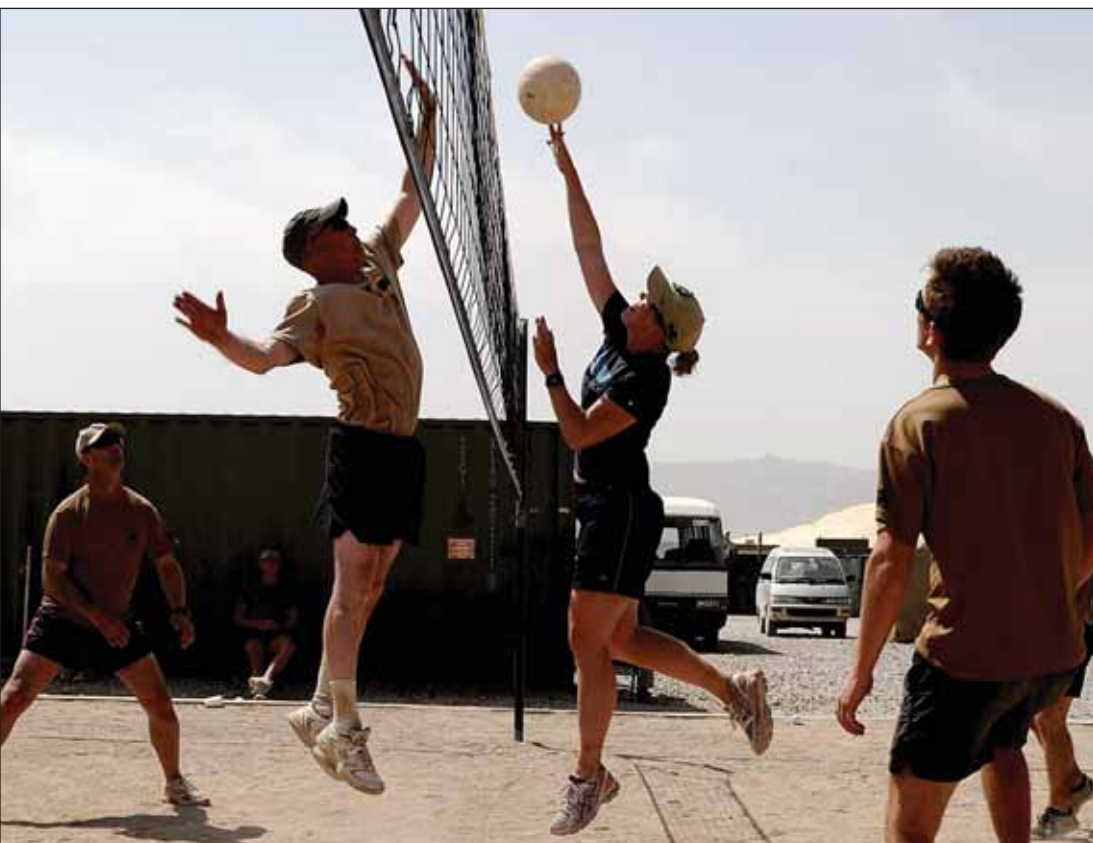
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On a high: Capt Briana Sterling playing for 'Can't Touch Us' tries to get the upperhand against Commander Combined Team-Urzugan Col Jim Creighton during the inter-camp volleyball competition at Multinational Base Tarin Kot.

Photo by AB Jo Dilozenzo

Volleyball a hit in Afghanistan

By AB Jo Dilozenzo and Maj Lachlan Simond

INTERNATIONAL volleyball hit Multinational Base Tarin Kot on June 10 as 12 teams drawn from the nations at the base including Afghanistan, Australia and the US, took part in an inter-camp competition.

In the heat and dust of Urugzan, with temperatures hovering around 40 degrees, organisers, including Capt Julie Williams, lost track of the number of pallets of water and sports drink consumed.

"It was a great opportunity for coalition forces, Afghan National Security Forces, local nationals and base contractors to interact socially in a friendly, yet competitive environment," Capt Williams said.

Perhaps it was the heat, or per-

NATIONAL COMPETITION COMING SOON

The Australian Defence Volleyball Association (ADVA) national tournament is being held from November 11-21 at RAAF Base Amberley, Queensland. The tournament will feature a beach competition, indoor interservice competition and indoor state/territory competition. Players will be selected for the ADVA national

indoor and beach teams for the 2012 tour to New Zealand, to be conducted in May at RNZAF Base Ohakea. ADVA representatives are keen to hear from members of any age and skill level who would like to get involved in the sport. For further information contact Capt Nathan Cooper at nathan.cooper2@defence.gov.au

haps it was the altitude, but in the end, local teams dominated the rankings – with "Afghan Pamir", "Afghan Brothers" and the Afghan National Police taking out the top three spots.

The US Team from the 4/70 Armoured Regt, 'Team Thunderbolt' finished fourth, with the Aussie team 'The Old, The Bold and The Ugly' with the inclusion of US Col Jim

Creighton, finishing fifth. Other Aussie teams included 'Can't Touch Us' and 'Club Med' but none came near the local teams.

"The Afghans have a real passion for volleyball and their success shows how passionate and skilful they are when it comes to sport," Capt Williams said.

12/16HRL hold on for win

B SQN 12/16HRL kept its unbeaten record intact, taking out the open weight class amateur tug of war competition in the annual Aberdeen Highland Games on July 2.

B Sqn enters the event each year as part of its recruiting program and, this year, was invited to warm up in the professional circuit which, according to Cpl Tom Biviano, prepared the team well for the win.

"We arrived on a typical cold Scottish morning," Cpl Biviano said.

"After competing in four pro-circuit heats the score was zero and the toll on the body evident.

"We entered the main event exhausted but with a steady resolve to score a win."

After a gruelling set of heats, B Sqn won in a straight-set victory 2-0 against team Winnebago.



Winning team: From left, Cpl Shane Dawes, Capt Trevor Boyd, Cpl John Evans, Cpl Tom Biviano, Tpr Christian Greenhalgh defend their title at the Aberdeen Highland Games.

Photo by Roger Skinner

"The win didn't come easily, as Winnebago put in a valiant effort, but the guys really put in and held on," Cpl Biviano said.

"We first claimed victory in 2006 and have managed to hold on to the title since."

Held each year on the first Saturday in July, the Aberdeen Highland Games have become Aberdeen's most spectacular event, drawing hundreds of people to the township every year to enjoy the festivities.

3CSSB retains Pogue

By LCpl Mark Doran

THREE breakaway tries in the last minutes of the game time allowed 3CSSB to retain the Pogue Cup in a rugby match against 10FSB on June 14 at Hugh St Rugby Club.

Spectators of the two Townsville battalions watched as 10FSB scored the first try of the match early in the first quarter, only for 3CSSB to capitalise shortly afterwards.

Both teams failed to capitalise on a lot of opportunities during the second quarter and no further tries were scored in the first half.

3CSSB scored a breakaway try in the third quarter, which left the score at 10-5 for the start of the final quarter.

Two tries in quick succession by 10FSB put the pressure on 3CSSB, which bounced back with three tries in

the last 10 minutes to secure the game with a final score of 30-15.

Cpl Kevin Moran, 3CSSB rugby coach, said the match was an eye-opener for both teams as they were trying to adapt to playing union rather than league.

"There were some notable performances from Lt Josh Eyre, Cfn Scott Francis, who was one of the mainstays, and team skipper Sgt Troy Perry.

"10FSB had a good team, but they were predominantly league players, and league is a start-stop game, whereas in union, as long as the ball is alive, the game is being played. This was an advantage which worked in our favour.

"At the end of the day, it is nice to get out there and have some inter-unit competition as they are a bit rare at the moment because of the high tempo we have with operations and training commitments."



Fight for ball: Cfn Aaron Selkrig, 3CSSB, places the ball during a scrum in the Pogue Cup.

Photo courtesy Northern Services Courier

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Jumping to play

By Michael Brooke

THE brains-trust of the Wallabies and the ACT Brumbies is helping the Australian Services Rugby Union team (ASRU) to tackle the giants of rugby in the inaugural International Defence Rugby Competition.

The ASRU men's team will begin its campaign in the IDRC against Tonga at Canberra's Viking Park on October 1, before tackling the Chinese People's Liberation Army at the same venue on October 9.

Coach Capt Damien Cahill said his team was fit and ready to play.

"We'll be extremely well prepared and with our best players on the field, barring injury and deployments. I am confident we will do well," he said.

The ASRU kicked off its preparation with a professional boot camp at Randwick Barracks from July 20-21, where the team worked on its game plan.

ASRU has selected an initial training squad of 60. More than 30 attended the training camp where they benefited from sessions with injured Wallaby Drew Mitchell, Brumbies skipper Steve Hoiles and other former internationals.

Mitchell mentored the wingers and fullbacks in the art of coordinating attack and defence options, while Hoiles tutored the forwards in defensive line-outs.

The Brumbies skipper, who has played 12 games for the Wallabies, said the ASRU forwards had improved immensely over the past year.

"They've really come of age in recent times and I'm confident they will do really well in the IDRC," Hoiles said.

2011 INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE RUGBY COMPETITION

The forwards were also mentored in the art of scrummaging by Marco Caputo and Mark Giacheri, who shared his vast experience about defending the maul.

The ASRU backs also received skills training from former Waratahs and Wallaby David Knox.

The ASRU players said it was great to have the support of the Wallabies and Australian Super 14 teams such as the Waratahs and the Brumbies, as well as NSW clubs such as the Randwick Rugby team.

Sgt Dean King, 1RAR, praised the training and advice provided by the current and former internationals during the boot camp.

"The skill sessions were really important, but I also think the team was able to gel here, which will help us in our opening round-robin matches against Tonga and China," he said.

The ASRU boot camp also featured base-line testing for fitness and strength, with the players impressing the coaching staff with their stamina and endurance during a challenging beep test and a weights session.

Capt Cahill said the players had been on a strength and conditioning training program since March to prepare the squad for the first selection trial match to be played at Portsea Oval on August 17, between the 'possibles' vs 'probables.'



Sky's the limit: Sgt Dean King, 1RAR, jumps for the ball during line-out training at the ASRU boot camp at Randwick Barracks on July 20.

Photo by Michael Brooke

One for the rugby fans

How to watch the Rugby World Cup 2011

Author: Spiro Zavos

Publisher: Penguin, 2011

Reviewer: Sharon Palmer

RRP: \$24.95

IT'S hard to believe there could be anyone else out there who loves the game of rugby as much, or knows as much about the sport, as Spiro Zavos.

Just in time for the world cup, rugby writer Zavos has written an "everything you need to know" guide to this year's world cup in New Zealand.

How to Watch the Rugby World Cup 2011 covers everything from the bidding process to tips on how to pick the winning team, everything you ever wanted to know about the draw (including the politics) but were too afraid to ask, the history of the tournament, facts and figures on past world cups and a rather amusing segment on "how to talk rugby in NZ". The latter includes tips on the meaning of terms such as "real dag", "how's your father" and "bugger".

Twenty nations divided into four pools will battle it out in September and October in New Zealand to claim a stake at the World Cup. The first game of the tournament on September 9 will feature New Zealand at Eden Park Stadium in Auckland – they will face Tonga. The final will be played at that venue six weeks later on October 23. By that time, 48 matches will have been played, including four quarter-finals, two semi-finals, a third-place final and the final.

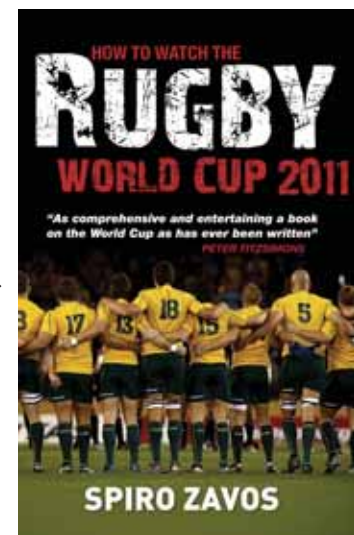
Australia will play in Pool C and face Italy in its first game on September 11, Ireland on September 17, the USA on September 23, Russia on October 1 and, if there's a rugby god, New Zealand in the final on October 23.

As for the Wallabies chances, Zavos has devoted a chapter on "the Wallabies and Pool C" and gives an educated guesstimate on the results of all matches in the pool ... his final "fearless" prediction – Ireland beaten quarter finalists; Australia finalists.

Obviously, this prediction was made before Australia lost to Samoa a couple of weeks ago.

Zavos also talks about the irony of Australia possibly winning under the guidance of New Zealand Robbie Deans and devotes chapters to the other three pools.

How to Watch the Rugby World Cup 2011 is a must for avid rugby fans and room should be left in suitcases for the trip to New Zealand or next to the remote.



ABOUT THE COMPETITION

THE International Defence Rugby Competition will be played from October 1-22 in Canberra, Sydney and Auckland in conjunction with the mainstream World Cup. It will be the pinnacle of the season for the Australian Services Rugby Union, which has about 60 players training and undergoing testing under head coach Capt Damien Cahill. ASRU's first game will be played at Viking Park in Canberra on October 1

against Tonga. In the lead-up to the IDRC, ASRU will play three games – against Victoria at Kapooka (Wagga) on September 10 at 3pm; Australian Universities Rugby Union in Melbourne (venue to be announced) on September 17 at 3pm; and Sydney at Victoria Barracks on September 24 at 3pm. The squad will then be trimmed to 27 shortly before the international competition.

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Full stretch: Australian representative WO2 Michael Patman, 51FNQR, in action at the Touch World Cup in Edinburgh, Scotland. Photo by Glen Eaton

Golden touch for Aussies

By Cpl Zenith King

A MAMMOTH effort at the Federation of International Touch World Cup left the opposition stunned after Australia won five of the seven divisions on offer.

Eight defence members travelled to Edinburgh, Scotland, to compete in the Touch World Cup from June 20-26. Australia won the men's, women's and mixed open as well as the men's 30s and 35s, narrowly losing to New Zealand in both the senior mixed (7-6) and men's 40s (5-4).

Three Army members were among the ADF representatives – WO2 Michael Patman, 51FNQR, and Maj Philip Corkeron, 7CSSB, played in the men's 35s division which went through the tournament unbeaten, while WO1 Greg Taylor, HQ Forcomd, was one of 95 referees selected from around the world.

WO2 Patman said representing Australia at the highest level in his sport and performing to such a high standard to beat South Africa 11-6 in the final were the highlights of his career.

"Lining up before the final for the national anthem, in the green and gold ready to win the World Cup, was a fantastic feeling," he said.

"I was third-highest try scorer for our team, with nine tries for the tournament. So to go through unbeaten and be crowned world champions is a great honour and the Everest of my sporting career."

After 20 years of touch and eight years playing at national level, WO2 Patman said he did not feel nervous competing at the World Cup.

"We had four weekend training sessions in Sydney as a team and I completed a 10-week program for fitness and agility," he said.

"Our training and the confidence in the team made me anxious not to make mistakes, but it was more exciting than anything."

"The competition was strong and although there were some easy games, all matches had the intensity of a test match in that the other country was playing with pride and a never-give-up attitude."

WO1 Taylor said he was excited to be selected and felt honoured to represent Australia in a sport he loved.

"Travelling to Scotland and being part of such a fantastic event was truly exciting," he said.

"The tremendous camaraderie and sportsmanship from everyone involved enhanced the atmosphere and made it an experience to remember."

"To cap off what was already an amazing experience I was named as one of the three referees to referee the men's 40s grand final."

While some may think refereeing at such an elite level could be intimidating, WO1 Taylor said he didn't feel stressed even in such a close final because everyone was well behaved.

"You do your best to try and eliminate your errors and attempt to provide an explanation on the run to the players. But you don't have time to stress over any calls and just hope you have made the right decision in the moment."

WO1 Taylor said he was selected for the World Cup after his performance at national level over the past four years.

"I have been involved in touch for many years, initially as a fairly ordinary player," he said.

"I thought I wasn't getting a fair go from the referees so I ran a mile or two in their shoes and began refereeing seriously from 2004."

"Since then I have been fortunate enough to represent Australia on two previous occasions at the 2005 All Nations in Christchurch, New Zealand, and the 2007 World Cup in Stellenbosch, South Africa."

Soccer ball breaks barriers

INTERNATIONAL Stabilisation Force soldiers deployed to East Timor as part of Operation Astute took time out to visit the markets in Dili and meet locals in the community.

Local children challenged the soldiers, such as Pte Joshua Wale (pictured), to a friendly game of soccer and quickly showed up the Australians with some fast moves and fancy footwork.

ISF members who live and work in East Timor describe the interaction with community members as a highlight of their deployment.

"I always feel very welcome whenever I'm in the community, the people are friendly and always say hello," Lt Lyndsay Nelson said.

"The children in particular are always excited when they see us. It's a good feeling to know they like us."



Photo by Cpl Melina Maneuso

SPORT SHORTS

Up there for charity

The ADFA Rams Australian Football Club's Call to Arms team will play a triple header against HMAS Harman and Queanbeyan on August 6 to raise money for cancer research. The event will begin with the ADFA women's team, the Ewes, playing Queanbeyan on ADFA Oval at 10am. Later in the day ADFA's

men's divisions 3 and 4 teams will play HMAS Harman. The Rams are hoping to raise \$500 to support the Call to Arms charity.

City to surfs

THE City-to-Surf competitions for 2011 are drawing near, starting with Sydney's City2Surf on August 14 from the CBD through to Bondi Beach.

The Perth event will be on August 28 and starts at St Georges Terrace and finishes at the City Beach Oval. Perth has a full and half marathon on offer and shorter distances while the Sydney events if 14km for everyone. For more information, visit the Sydney site at www.city2surf.com.au and the Perth site at www.citytosurf.activ.asn.au

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Sport

August 4, 2011

WORLD AT FEET

Defence rugby
championships
draw close

Page 34



World champion: WO2 Michael Patman, 51FNQR, shows off the gold medal he won as part of the men's 35s division of the Touch World Cup.
Photo by Stewart McLean, Cairns Post



GOLDEN TOUCH

P35

Three Army personnel were part of a seven-team Australian contingent to compete at the World Touch Cup in Scotland from June 20-26.

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Army

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On the road

P2



Fighting food

P7

SPECIAL LIFTOUT

On the supply line Managing the moves

CPL MELANIE SCHINKEL

THE truckies of 9FSB's 26 Tpt Sqn have worked tirelessly to ensure Australian and US personnel remain well equipped while in the Shoalwater Bay Training Area.

The squadron's largest convoy during the exercise involved more than 40 trucks, tankers, trailers and emergency response vehicles moving from Camp Rocky to Shoalwater Bay on July 20.

Forklifts, portaloos, engineering stores and aviation and diesel pumps were among the items delivered during a 12-hour period to help 7 Bde and a number of other Australian and US units in the exercise area.

Truck drivers Pte Michael Herbert, 26 Tpt Sqn, and Pte Justin Champness, 9FSB, agreed there were challenges when conducting such a large move of heavy vehicles.

"We need to be mindful of the road capacity and other road users around us. Macks are massive and could cause a lot of damage if involved in an accident," Pte Herbert said.

"Before I leave for a trip I make sure my load is tied down



ROLLING ON: OC 85 Tpt Tp Capt Nick Schoch organises one of many convoy runs between Rockhampton and Shoalwater Bay.

PHOTO BY CPL JANINE FABRE

and secured. It's also important to check for air leaks in the brakes. Essentially, we check everything on the vehicle before we leave just to make sure it's all tip top and ready to go," Pte Champness said.

The OC of the squadron's 85 Tpt Tp, Capt Nick Schoch, said "speed and spacing" of the trucks were particularly important during the move.

"A number of vehicles are

released at a time to try and ease the burden on civilian traffic. The last thing we want is traffic stuck behind a 30km line of Mack trucks," Capt Schoch said.

"Once on the road, speed and spacing among the vehicles is controlled to provide opportunities for civilian traffic to overtake when safe."

He said immense planning took

place weeks before the trucks even hit the road.

"The initial planning for this move started before the exercise and it involved a lot of shuffling around of loads to make sure they would all fit on the platforms.

"Ex Talisman Sabre has given the troops the opportunity to further develop their planning skills in a constantly changing environment."

LCPL MARK DORAN

THE MAMMOTH task of moving thousands of Australian and US troops, vehicles and military assets around Shoalwater Bay Training Area was accomplished by a dedicated team from the Combined Movements Coordination Centre (CMCC).

During the exercise, CMCC coordinated all movements in the area of operation.

Members of the US forces worked side by side with Australian movers at the CMCC, who as the host nation, were able to provide them with support including road freight with 26 Tpt Sqn, road movement by coach and were able to engage with agencies such as AQIS and Australian Customs Service on their behalf.

Military assets were used as much as possible for the movement of all force elements to Rockhampton and the training area, though HQ 1 Joint Mov Gp's Strategic Lift Coordination Centre was responsible for coordinating the movement of most of 1 Armd Regt's Abrams, which was done by civilian contractors.

OC Maj Meagan Olding said one of the benefits for CMCC was they were already a formed sub-unit, whereas the US movers came from a lot of different locations to conduct their movement support.

"The lead-up planning and conferences with HQ 1 Joint Mov Gp and CMCC were quite thorough and set us up for success during the exercise," Maj Olding said.

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Everyone is in good spirits and I am impressed with how the exercise is going.

– CDF GEN DAVID HURLEY

**TALISMAN
SABRE 2011**

Chief checks in

CPL MELANIE SCHINKEL

IT WAS an early start for CDF Gen David Hurley on July 22 as he embarked on the US Navy's USS Germantown before visiting Australian troops throughout the exercise area of operations.

Gen Hurley embarked on the USS Germantown with the Chief of Joint Operations, Lt-Gen Ash Power, for a meet and greet with US Navy commanders and ship's company before heading to Camp Growl in the Shoalwater Bay Training Area.

At Camp Growl, CDF and CJOPS were joined by 1 Bde Commander Brig Gus McLachlan and 7 Bde Commander Brig Paul McLachlan.

The contingent visited a number of units at the camp, including the opposition force, made up of troops from 1 Bde.

"I'm here to have a look at how the exercise is progressing and get some feedback before I find out towards the end of the exercise how well it went," Gen Hurley said.

"Our people are doing extremely well. Everyone is in good spirits and I am impressed with how the exercise is going.

"Ex Talisman Sabre is a complex



IN THE COCKPIT: CDF Gen David Hurley checks out the cockpit of a Tiger helicopter during his visit to troops at the Shoalwater Bay Training Area. Photo by Cpl Raymond Vance

exercise. I think it has been well run and there have been some very challenging activities for our Army, Navy and Air Force people."

Together the contingent enjoyed a lunch, prepared by 9CSSB's cooks, with ADF members at Camp Growl before paying 8/9RAR a visit out in the field.

The CDF was particularly intrigued with 8/9RAR's demonstration of the new Torch Battle Management System (BMS) – a data and voice system that provides automatic updates of the battle picture being delivered under Land 75, Land 125 and Joint Project 2072.

"The technology that has been

used during the exercise is very complex – there is a lot of high-level capability in this foundation war-fighting exercise," Gen Hurley said.

Brig McLachlan said it was the first major exercise for which 7 Bde had used the Torch BMS in the field.

"The BMS is a complete game changer," he said.

"From the enhanced control it gives the commander in the manoeuvre battle to the real-time logistical status of every unit on the system, it will revolutionise how we fight and how we sustain our force."

Troops from 1 Avn Regt also gave a detailed tour of their flightline, featuring eight deployed Tigers.

Winning the Hearts & Minds

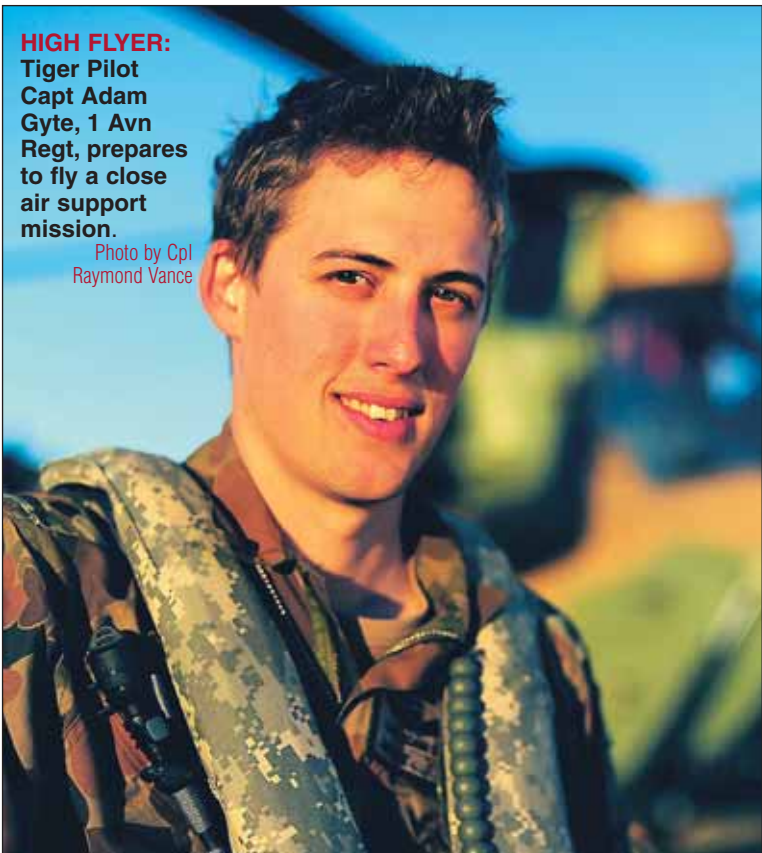


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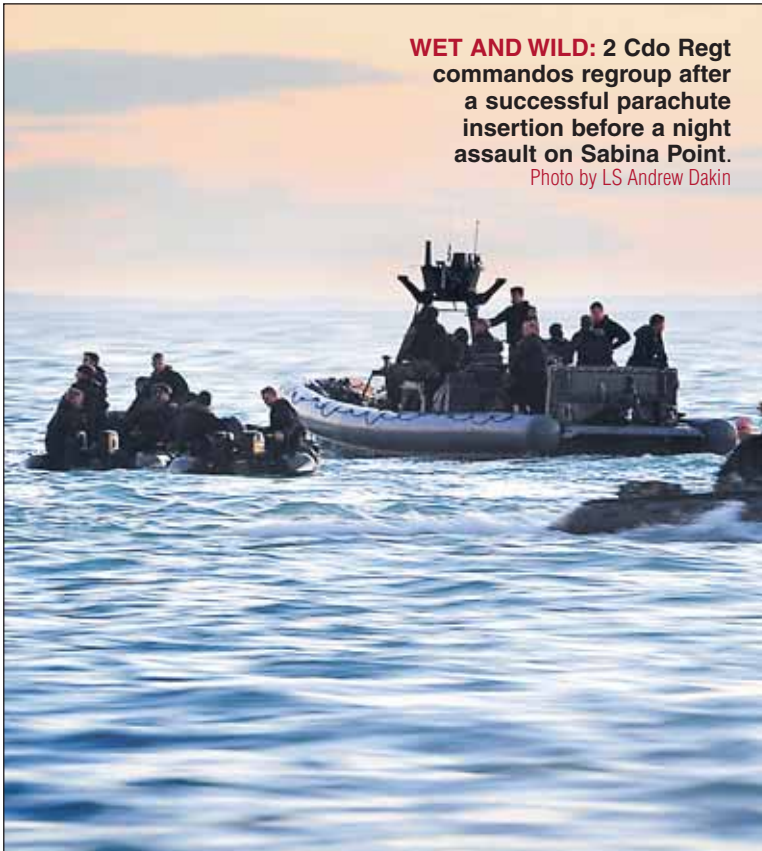
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TAKING SHOALWATER



HIGH FLYER: Tiger Pilot Capt Adam Gyte, 1 Avn Regt, prepares to fly a close air support mission.
Photo by Cpl Raymond Vance



WET AND WILD: 2 Cdo Regt commandos regroup after a successful parachute insertion before a night assault on Sabina Point.
Photo by LS Andrew Dakin



FIRE FOR EFFECT: US Marine Joint Terminal Attack Controllers coordinate close air support with Tiger helicopters.
Photo by Cpl Janine Fabre



HEAVY METAL: Bushmasters patrol the roads of the Shoalwater Bay Training Area.
Photo by Cpl Janine Fabre

Taking over the air

CPL MELANIE SCHINKEL
FROM sunrise to sunset, 1 Avn Regt's Tiger pilots have been flying up to six hours a day during to provide 7 Bde ground callsigns with reconnaissance and fire support.
During the exercise the Tigers have flown the highest number of hours in one day since introduced into ADF service.
CO Battle Group Cavalier Lt-Col S, 6 Avn Regt, said the battle group was a task-organised aviation force that incorporated squadrons of Tigers and Black Hawks.
"Battle Group Cavalier's role is to provide combat aviation support to 7 Bde in order to support its certification as a war-fighting formation," Lt-Col S said.
"As part of the battle group, the Tigers provide close support to the manoeuvre battle group commanders. We are working towards delivering a fully integrated aviation capability to the commander of 7 Bde to allow him to employ a combined-arms effect against enemy forces."
Tiger pilot Capt Adam Gyte spent five years in the Army learning how to fly the aircraft.
He said the Tiger was one of the most capable aircraft in the ADF and that it was "the perfect platform to support soldiers on the ground".
"On this exercise we have tested both the weapons and sighting systems. Primarily, we have provided reconnaissance and offensive support to ground callsigns," Capt Gyte said.
"The ability to communicate with real ground callsigns, as opposed to simulated or fictitious entities, has been invaluable and extremely challenging. The scenario has evolved constantly – it really has been a great learning experience for 1 Avn Regt.
"Additionally, the exercise has enabled us to prove to the wider Army the Tiger's capability and educate ground soldiers on the offensive support it can provide."

As the Shoalwater Bay Training Area came into the crosshairs of a heavily armed joint invasion force, **Cpl Melanie Schinkel** and **LCpl Mark Doran** were on hand to cover the action.

The eyes and ears

LCPL MARK DORAN
RECON specialists from Australia and the US Army joined forces to infiltrate deep into enemy territory.
Forty-four personnel from Norforce, the Pilbara Regt and 51FNQR, Australia's Regional Force Surveillance Units (RFSU), integrated with members of the 1/158th Long Range Surveillance Unit (LRSU) for insertion into the Shoalwater Bay Training Area.
Lt Jeff Ellis, Pilbara Regt Troop Commander, said the exercise was a great opportunity for the RFSUs to work in an integrated environment with the wider Army and share ideas and equipment with the LRSU.
"We attached some of the LRSU to our mounted patrols and sent some of our soldiers to be attached to the dismounted patrols, which took part in air insertions and extractions," Lt Ellis said.
"The main mission for us was to observe the movement of forces through identified corridors



EYES ON: Pltlnn Brendan Venables and Cpl Nathan Napier from Norforce meet exercise umpire US Marine 2Lt John Biggs on their way into the Shoalwater Bay Training Area.
Photo by LCpl Mark Doran



BOMBS AWAY: US Marine Cpl Jesse Williams delivers a fire mission as marines advance into the area of operations.
Photo by Cpl Janine Fabre

Breaking the beachhead

CPL MELANIE SCHINKEL
FRESHWATER Beach was invaded by 350 US marines from the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (31 MEU) in an amphibious assault at Shoalwater Bay on July 19.
About 15 US Armoured Amphibious Vehicles (AAV) and three LCAC hovercraft transported the marines from USS Germantown while two Australian Army LCM-8s stood by to transport support elements to shore.
Armed with 50-calibre machineguns and automatic grenade launchers, the AAVs sped towards Freshwater Beach as the vehicle masters kept watch for the opposition force.
The marines conducted the forced entry from sea primarily to exercise their ship-to-shore capability while working with Australian allies.
Marine Pte Dominic Hanson was the first to secure his position on the beach.
"When you're in the back of an AAV you're in complete darkness until the vehicle masters drop the ramps, then you're blinded by light as you run out to take up your security position," Pte Hanson said.
"Firstly, I'm looking for the opposition and then I'm looking for suitable cover or concealment. If the enemy is there waiting, you need to be hidden. If the enemy engages us, the procedure is to suppress their fire and get their offence down as quickly as possible."
After the landing the marines began their push to secure the beach and clear a portion of the Shoalwater Bay Training Area.
Opposition force member Lt Joe Shane, from the US Army's B Coy, 2nd 23rd Infantry, said he heard but didn't see the marines land.
"They sounded pretty mean but I think we'll be able to hold them for a bit – it's not going to be easy," Lt Shane said.
"When we got here there wasn't a whole lot established. We had to dig in our fighting positions for the ambushes and set up a lot of obstacles. Every time we hear something over the radio everyone is up on standby and ready to go.
"Our advantage is our terrain and the element of surprise. They will come across obstacles as soon as they get up off the beach. We'll keep them alert and on their toes."
Australian exercise spokesman Brig Bob Brown said US forces didn't often get the opportunity to conduct amphibious exercises and Australia provided ideal training areas.
"The marines are renowned for their ability to get their forces across to the beach and the process they go through to get all their stores and weapons ashore is impressive," he said.
"With our new amphibious ships coming online in 2013, we will be integrating with the marines to learn how they operate. These ships will give the Australian Army a similar capability to the marines and will be used for humanitarian aid and war fighting purposes."
Five days after the amphibious assault, the marines joined forces with 7 Bde at Sam Hill for a force-on-force battle against the opposition force to capture an airfield.



WATCH AND SHOOT: Pte Chris Nye, 8/9RAR, watches out for the enemy during the battle for Shoalwater Bay.
Photo by Cpl Janine Fabre

Medics share skills

Prevention a cure for ex health issues

LCPL MARK DORAN

US AND Australian medical staff joined forces to provide medical support at DSG Camp Rocky during the exercise.

Medical staff from 3HSB provided garrison support at the Rockhampton Army Base while 1HSP and 2HSP personnel provided exercise support at the Shoalwater Bay Training Area.

DSG Camp Rocky RAP OIC Maj Ursula Alexander-Smith, 6HSC, said the exercise had been a great opportunity for unit personnel to diversify their medical knowledge and learn what the greater Army does.

“Our main role is to operate an RAP or primary health care unit and working with the US medics has bolstered our nursing capability and assisted our medics,” Maj Alexander-Smith said.

“I found the US medics to be very good at patient assessment and they know their scope of practice, though we found our protocols and training were different from the US teams so the integration experience provided us with some very interesting discussions.

“Our medics have been taught a different set of rules but the outcome is still the same.

“Ex Talisman Sabre provided



TEAM EFFORT: Medics US Marine Corps Sergeant Brian Murry and 3HSB's Pte Jess Sims check blood pressure for Sgt Harry Lawrence, 1 Armd Regt, at the Camp Rocky RAP in Rockhampton.

PHOTO BY LCPL MARK DORAN

the 3HSB medical team, especially the medics, an opportunity to practise their skills in the field and gave us more ideas of how we could improve garrison support.”

Sick-parade timings were increased at DSG Camp Rocky to allow patients to receive treatment in the afternoons and evenings as the tempo of the exercise increased.

Pte Jess Sims is a reservist with 3HSB and an enrolled nurse study-

ing as a paramedic at the University of Adelaide.

Pte Sims said the US medics had more hands-on experience because of their number of overseas deployments.

“I am finding the Australians to be more clinically minded by comparison, whereas the US medics have more combat-type experience as well as the clinical,” Pte Sim said.

“I have been running the RAP and seeing the injuries and conditions of patients, working alongside the doctors and nurses, meeting a range of different personnel and learning new skills from the US medics as well as teaching lessons on snakebite treatment and assisting with AME familiarisation.”

LCPL MARK DORAN

PREVENTATIVE medicine throughout the exercise has been the responsibility of 2HSB's Environmental Health Section (EHS).

One of the main tasks for the EHS before the exercise even started was to conduct Exercise Top Hat, which was a health risk survey of the Shoalwater Bay Training Area.

Tasks for the team of nine included testing water samples for bacteria and trapping mosquitos to identify them and any diseases they may have carried.

Cpl Andrew Chappell, 2HSB, said the most important jobs the EHS did on Ex Talisman Sabre was testing the water and vector control, which could include mosquito fogging and larvae siting to prevent people from being infected by mosquito-borne diseases.

“We also conduct kitchen, OHS and operation hygiene inspections and compiled a health brief which is given to all troops before they enter the exercise area,” Cpl Chappell said.

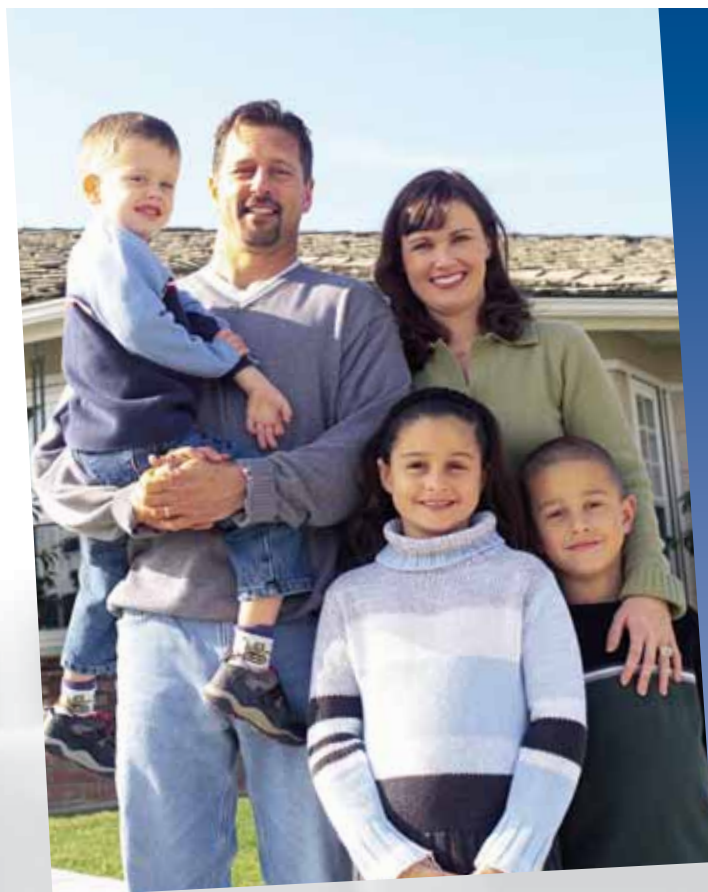
“It is an exciting time for the unit, as next year all environmental health assets in Australia will be moved to Brisbane to become the 1st Preventative Health Company.”

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It has given our newer soldiers the experience of doing their job at a much larger scale than they are used to ...

— WO2 GLENN CHANT, 10FSB

TALISMAN
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Protecting the training

LCPL MARK DORAN

ANALYSIS of real-world threats and risks during the exercise was just part of the job for the Force Protection Coordination Centre (FPCC).

The FPCC role was to coordinate force protection between the ADF and US forces with organisations including the Queensland Police Service, the Australian Federal Police and other external agencies.

The combined Australian/US organisation spent 16 months planning the force protection architecture for the exercise and had a team of 10 personnel with four watch keepers from the Australian Army and Navy, the US Marine Corps and the US Navy.

FPCC Deputy Director Flt-Lt Darren Shorter said Rockhampton was the forward reporting mechanism, which kept the Combined Exercise Control Group in Hawaii and Shoalwater Bay Training Area informed of threats and changes to the security environment so commanders could make force protection decisions.

"Its all about sharing information and working together — at the end of the day our role is to protect," Flt-Lt Shorter said.

The FPCC works closely with ADFIS, the Domestic Policing Unit, RAAF security police securing the airfields, and the RAN's port liaison teams, which coordinated ship visits.

Flt-Lt Shorter said potential threats included terrorism, criminal organisations and issue motivated groups.

LCPL MARK DORAN

LOGISTICS have come a long way since Napoleon's day and the 10FSB ration store at DSG Camp Rocky shows that an army still marches on its stomach, but the supply chain is now digital.

During the peak of the exercise, almost 9000 troops from Australia and the US required daily rations in Rockhampton and the Shoalwater Bay Training Area.

Five local suppliers were awarded the main supply contracts for the exercise and delivered meat, fruit and vegetables, bread, dairy products, groceries and ice for the troops.

WO2 Glenn Chant, 10FSB's WO Control Officer at DSG Camp Rocky, said they had a detachment of six drivers from 9FSB in their team of 14.

Their vehicles included three refrigerated trucks and three Hinos to deliver all the fresh rations for the field kitchens at Shoalwater Bay Training Area six times a week.

"Ex Talisman Sabre has given our newer soldiers the experience of doing their job in the field at



PASS PARCELS: From left, Pte Daniel Hartman, Pte Ryan Hasler, Cpl Jason Balchin, Pte Jordan Andersen and Pte Bradley Twyford unpack a grocery delivery at Camp Rocky. PHOTO BY LCPL MARK DORAN

a much larger scale than they are used to and they now appreciate what it is like to feed a few thousand people at once," he said.

"One request we sorted for

the US troops was to have kosher meals available for their Jewish personnel.

"This was a minor hurdle, as these meals couldn't be prepared

in our kitchens and had to come from Brisbane.

"We also have Australian Muslim soldiers who have Halal dietary requirements."

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