



Royal United Services Institute
New South Wales

Newsletter

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Introduction

Welcome to the fourth issue of the electronic newsletter of the Royal United Services Institute of NSW (RUSI NSW), the aim of which is to provide members, stakeholders, and other interested parties up to date news of our latest activities and events as well as selective information on defence issues.

There is no charge to receive the newsletter and recipients are not required to be a member of the RUSI of NSW. Invite your colleagues to receive this newsletter electronically - send them to the newsletters page on the RUSI NSW website: <http://www.rusinsw.org.au/Newsletters> where they can register their email contact details.

Latest News and Events

Australia commences combat operations in Iraq

Two RAAF F/A-18F Super Hornet aircraft completed their first armed combat mission over Iraq, assisting coalition operations against Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) when they conducted an Air Interdiction and Close Air Support mission over northern Iraq overnight AEDT (5-6 October 2014). The Australian Air Task Group's KC-30A multi-role tanker transport supported the Super Hornets while the E-7A Wedgetail Airborne Early Warning and Control aircraft also flew over Iraq. The Australian Air Task Group is operating as part of an Iraqi Government-approved and US-led international coalition assembled to disrupt and degrade ISIL. Australian Special Forces await Iraqi government approval to commence advice and assist operations in Iraq. Australia's efforts are in response to a request for assistance by the Iraqi Government in combating ISIL terrorists



Institute News

- ❖ The Institute's AGM was held 30th September, for Council 2014-15 the following members were voted to the following positions:

President	Brigadier David Leece
Immediate Past President	Group Captain Doug Roser
Vice President 1	Colonel John Hutcheson
Vice President 2	Major General Paul Irving
Secretary	Mr Bryn Evans
Treasurer	Vacant
Councillor 1	Mr Jim Braid
Councillor 2	Lieutenant Colonel Ken Broadhead

Councillor 3	Lieutenant Colonel Peter Court
Councillor 4	Commodore Michael Flynn
Councillor 5	Mr John Rudd
Councillor 6	Miss Dominique Spoelder
Councillor 7	Colonel Kim Turner
Councillor 8	Vacant
Councillor 9	Vacant

- ❖ The monthly Council Meeting was held at the Institute's Offices in the Defence Plaza Sydney on Monday 13th October. It was well attended by Councillors both long-term and new and considered a wide range of items including:

1. *The Institute still requires a Treasurer as well as an understudy to assist with the Journal – any interested volunteers please contact the Theodora Fox, the Office Manager office@rusinsw.org.au*
2. Negotiations regarding the Institute's occupancy of the 20th Floor space in the Defence Plaza Building are now in abeyance as the issue is being processed by the National Office direct with the Department of Defence.
3. The frequency of the Council Meetings has been changed to bi-monthly.
4. A special session of the Council is being planned to consider strategies to maintain the Institute's membership, which is declining.

- ❖ The Annual Meeting of the National Council of the Royal United Services Institute of Australia was held in Canberra 24-26 September and attended by our President, via phone hook-up.



- ❖ With the commemoration of the centenary World War 1 now underway, a number of events, including some organised by our Institute, have occurred while others are planned. The Institute has been well represented at these events, including in Papua New Guinea.

- ❖ The Institute is finalising submissions to the consultations processes established for the Defence White Paper and the First Principles Review. [Read more>](#)

- ❖ Major General Gordon Maitland, one of the Institute's most distinguished and widely respected members launched his book *Honours and Awards of the Australian Army* published by Playbill. A copy was donated to the Institute's library and copies can be purchased from the [Playbill website click here](#).



- ❖ New Members A special welcome is extended to the following new members: Capt Andrew Brayshaw; Mr Ian Mitchell; Mr Gordon George Reeds OAM; LtCol John Michael Sanders; Mr Paul Connell; Pte 4, Tristan (Stan) Head ADM; LtCol Premchandra M V Vattoli (Ret'd); Corp Kenneth M Breen

- ❖ Deceased Members It is with a deep sense of sadness that the passing of the following members is recorded: Capt Frances Beverly Robinson; Mr Frank E Morgan Mt Robert John Rowlands; Capt Colin Marc Wise; Paul Laurence Mallard.

Upcoming RUSI NSW Events



Tuesday 18 November 2014 – Lunchtime Lecture at 1.00pm at the SMSA Theatre (Level 1) 280 Pitt Street – the speaker will be Mr Peter Hartcher, Political and International Editor, the Sydney Morning Herald, and his subject will be “The 2014 Sir Herman Black Lecture: 2014 - the Year in Review”. The lunchtime lectures are open to anyone interested.

Tuesday 2 December 2014 - RUSI NSW Christmas Lunch at Victoria Barracks. The cost is estimated between \$65.00 to \$85.00 per person. More details to follow. Contact our office to book your place - (02) 9393 2325



Tuesday 27 January 2015 – Lunchtime Lecture at 1.00pm at the Sydney Mechanics School of Arts Mitchell Theatre, 280 Pitt Street – the speakers will be Commodore Michael Flynn and Colonel John Hutchison, MC, of the Royal United Services Institute, New South Wales, and the subject will be “The 1989 Tiananmen Square Massacre as we observed it” The lunchtime lectures are open to anyone interested.

May 2015 - The Institute’s next Dialogue will be held in Sydney in May of next year. Venues are currently under consideration and planning for the event will soon commence for the proposed topic: “Indonesia – Australia’s most important regional strategic relationship”.



Upcoming Events by other Organisations



21 November 2014 - British Heraldry of The Great War – A presentation will be held at 6.30 pm at the SMSA Theatre (Level 1) 280 Pitt Street - the speaker will be David Vines, White Somerset Herald, College of Arms, London and entry is by gold coin. Refreshments will be available prior to the lecture (doors will open at 6pm) and a raffle will be held. For bookings and inquiries please contact the Hon. Secretary, Stephen Szabo by telephone call or text message on 0431 701 055 or by e-mail on secretary@heraldryaustralia.org RSVP required by Wednesday 19 November 2014

18 February 2015 – The Borella Ride – In 1915, Albert Borella simply started walking from Tennant Creek to Darwin to enlist in the Australian Army. Commissioned on the battlefield, he was recognized for his exploits with a Mention in Despatches, then the Military Medal, and finally the Victoria Cross. He survived the war. The Borella Ride will re-enact his journey in February next year and will include his grandson. More information can be obtained from the website <http://www.theborellaride.com.au>



Recent Past Events

Friday 22nd August 2014 – the 126th Anniversary Luncheon was held at the Masonic Club. It was a most enjoyable lunch and a typical pleasurable Institute social event.



Tuesday 26 August 2014 – Lunchtime Lecture at 1.00pm at the SMSA Theatre (Level 1) 280 Pitt Street – the speaker was Professor Alan Dupont, Director Institute for International Security and Development, University of NSW and his subject was “The White Paper - Challenges Facing Defence”. Another most informative presentation.

Saturday 30 August 2014 – The Street Parade held to commemorate the formation of the 1st Light Horse in Macquarie Street Parramatta and then afterwards at the Lancer Barracks Parramatta was a huge success.

9–14 September 2014 – A New Guinea Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force Centenary Battlefield Tour was undertaken by a number of the Institute’s members and provided great background to the recent Seminar of the ANMEF.



Tuesday, 30 September 2014 – The Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force (ANMEF) Centenary Seminar held at the SMSA Theatre was well attended and was a



resounding success thanks to the sterling efforts of the Institutes presentation team under the guidance of Lt Col Ken Broadhead. The panel of five naval and military historians outlined the background to war in 1914, naval operations in the Pacific in 1914, the raising and training of the ANMEF and its subsequent operations in New Guinea, and the aftermath. A record will be published in due course details of which will be provided by the Institute.

Representation at Events The Institute was represented at the following recent events:

1. A Memorial Service held in Rabaul on 10 September 2014 for those lost in the sinking of the SS *Montevideo Maru* on 1 July 1942.
2. A Dawn Service held in Rabaul on 11 September 2014 commemorating the centenary of the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force’s capture of German New Guinea; and at the ‘gunfire breakfast’ which followed.
3. The Australian Service to Commemorate the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force’s Capture of German New Guinea and the First Casualties of World War I held at Bitapaka War Cemetery, Kokopo, East New Britain, Papua New Guinea on 11 September 2014.



4. The launch by Lieutenant General David Morrison, Chief of the Army, of the book *Honours and Awards of the Australian Army* [written by Major General Gordon Maitland and published by Playbill, Sydney] at Parliament House Sydney on 17 September 2014.



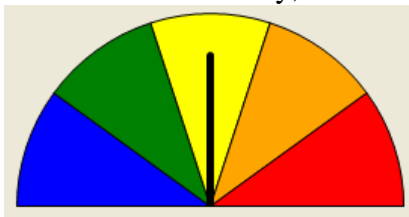
General Defence News

Defence Operations

First RAAF F-35A Flight. The first of Australia's much anticipated RAAF F-35A Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) successfully took flight from Fort Worth, Texas on Monday 29 September. It was a maiden flight for the Australian F-35A, lasting approximately two hours. Chief of Air Force, Air Marshal Geoff Brown, AO, said that the occasion of the first flight is an important symbolic step towards Australia's new air combat capability. "The F-35A will provide the RAAF with a transformational 5th capability and significant benefits for the Australian aerospace industry," Air Marshal Brown said. The first two of 72 F-35A Lightning II JSF aircraft for Australia were rolled out of the Lockheed Martin's production facility in Fort Worth, Texas on 24 July 2014. The F-35As will replace the RAAF's current fleet of ageing F/A-18A/B Hornets. Following initial acceptance, the first aircraft will undertake flight test and airworthiness program leading to acceptance and ferry of aircraft to Luke Air Force Base (AFB), Arizona in 2015 to support the commencement of Australian pilot training. The first F-35A aircraft will enter service in Australia in 2018 with the first operational squadron established by 2020.



Raised Alert Level at Defence Bases. On 12 September 2014, based on advice from the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation, the Prime Minister raised the National Terrorism Public Alert Level to HIGH. This means that the risk of a terrorist attack on Australia is likely; but there is no known imminent threat. As a precaution, and consistent with the change to the National Terrorism Public Alert Level, Defence has decided to raise the alert level at all our bases and establishments. The measures implemented will vary from base to base with the main impact likely to be delays when entering a base.



Defence Exercises

Exercise Lumbas 2014. The Royal Australian Navy and Philippine Navy military exercise, Lumbas 2014, has drawn to a close, after two weeks of intensive training. Armidale Class Patrol Boat, HMAS *Larrakia*, travelled to Davao, in the Philippines for the annual exercise, which focused on maritime security



and interdiction operations. Activities focused on joint civil, military and maritime law enforcement operations. This included boarding party scenarios, communications exercises, personnel exchanges and replenishments at sea.

Exercise Bersama Lima 2014.



Australia will join with Five Power Defence Arrangements (FPDA) partners over the next fortnight to defend against a fictitious security threat in and around the South China Sea. Exercise Bersama Lima 2014 will see Defence Force elements from Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, Singapore and the United Kingdom confront a simulated conventional threat on land and at sea from 7 to 22 October. The Royal Australian Navy's Anzac Class Frigate HMAS *Stuart* will play a key role in the exercise, with the ship's embarked S-70B-2 Seahawk helicopter involved in hunting submarines as well as

other maritime activities. ADF members will also be active on land with a Platoon from Rifle Company Butterworth also taking part.

Two Royal Australian Air Force AP-3C Orion maritime patrol aircraft and a KA350 King Air light transport aircraft will participate in the exercise from Royal Malaysian Air Force Base Butterworth in Malaysia. Bersama Lima is one of the most significant exercises within the FPDA series of activities. It has been developed from the lessons learnt during Exercise Bersama Shield held in Malaysia and Singapore earlier this year, and Exercise Suman Warrior held on New Zealand's North Island last month. The FPDA is the longest-standing multilateral arrangement in South East Asia and has maintained relevance in the contemporary security environment.

Exercise KOWARI 14.

Defence cooperation between Australia, China and the United States will be highlighted during Exercise Kowara 14 in the Northern Territory which will conclude on 25 October 2014. The Minister for Defence Senator David Johnston said the inaugural environmental survival training exercise between the three countries will be based out of Larrakeyah Barracks, Darwin, with field training and survival tests in remote inland and coastal areas. "Exercise KOWARI 14 will provide participants with an understanding of the basic principles, procedures, techniques and equipment that can enhance survival prospects in the harsh Australian environment," he said. "The exercise demonstrates the willingness of Australia, China and the United States to work together in practical ways." Ten soldiers from the Australian Army, 10 from China's People's Liberation Army, five from the United States Army and five from the United States Marine Corps will take part, with a further 100 military personnel providing support in roles including liaison and logistics. The Australian Army's 2nd Division will lead Exercise KOWARI, with the North West Mobile Force (NORFORCE) responsible for the conduct of the survival training phase.



Defence Industry

Sustainment Contract let for LHD's



The contract key contract for supporting Australia's new Landing Helicopter Dock ships (LHDs) has been awarded to BAE Systems Australia Defence Pty Ltd. Chief Executive Officer of the Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO), Mr Warren King, announced the contract to support the two LHDs over the next four years. "BAE Systems will provide a continuity of knowledge and experience as they maintain the LHDs during this vital transition period from the acquisition project to full operational service with Navy," Mr King said. He said BAE

Systems are best placed to ensure that sustainment requirements of engineering maintenance and supply support for the LHDs are met in an efficient, effective and economical manner. The LHD Transition In-Service Support Contract has a budget of approximately \$220 million over four years. The majority of the work is expected to take place in Sydney where the LHDs will be home ported, resulting in the creation of over 40 new jobs.

Purchase of 2 Additional C-17A Aircraft



The Australian Government has begun the process of purchasing two additional C-17A Globemaster strategic airlift aircraft. In announcing the decision, Minister for Defence Senator David Johnston said should the Government elect to exercise this option the two extra Globemasters would significantly enhance the Royal Australian Air Force's capacity for operational tasks, disaster relief and humanitarian assistance in our region and around the world. Senator Johnston said the current fleet of six C-17As was based at RAAF Base Amberley in Queensland, and an

additional two would integrate seamlessly into the fleet. The Government has requested pricing and availability data for two further aircraft through the United States Foreign Military Sales (FMS) program. Decisions on these aircraft are being informed by the force structure review currently under way within Defence as part of the White Paper process.

Contract Awarded for Anti-ship Missile Decoys

Design of the next generation of anti-ship missile decoys is set to commence following the signing of two contracts between Defence and BAE Systems Australia Pty Ltd. Defence Materiel Organisation Chief Executive Officer Warren King said the contracts represented continued investment in the jointly developed Australian—United States Nulka capability. Valued at approximately \$80 million in total, the contracts will see Nulka decoys delivered to the Royal Australian Navy and the United States Navy until early 2017, as part of the latest follow-on Nulka production order and the engineering design of the next generation of Nulka launch system. The Nulka decoy system is a ship-launched rocket-propelled active decoy system designed to lure anti-ship missiles away from their intended target.

It provides warships with a highly effective all-weather defence against anti-ship missiles, bringing together hovering rocket, autonomous system and electronic technologies. By 2019 the Nulka system will be fitted to 166 ships worldwide, including US, Canadian and Australian naval vessels.



International

The Minister for Defence to visit to The People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea and Japan The Minister for Defence, Senator David Johnston, will undertake an official visit to China, the Republic of Korea and Japan from 12 to 17 October 2014. "This is a significant visit to three of Australia's most important defence and security partners," Senator Johnston said. "I look forward to meeting with my counterparts in China, the Republic of Korea and Japan to discuss bilateral defence relations and cooperation, and to working with each of them to enhance regional and indeed global security. Along with the United States, Australia is pleased to have trilateral cooperative initiatives with each of these nations."



More than half of U.S. Air Force and Navy forces will be based in the Asia Pacific by 2020. In a recent update the USNI included a report from part of an address by the Deputy Secretary of Defense Bob Work to the Council of Foreign Relations in Washington DC "We may not have as many forces as we would like, but 60 percent of the forces will be in the Asia Pacific region," Work said. "At the same time, [Pacific Command] is regaining Army units that were rotating through Afghanistan, and they're returning with all of their equipment now, such as attack aviation assets like Apaches [attack helicopters]in Korea." In addition to numbers, Work said the U.S. military will base some its newest capabilities in the Pacific. "The F-35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) is going to go first to the Pacific. By 2018, the very stealthy and highly capable Zumwalt destroyer [DDG-1000] will be based in the Pacific, we hope," Work said. "We're putting more Aegis ballistic missile defense ships in Japan, and we've put a second TPY-2 missile defense radar in Japan... which closes an important gap in our sensor net." Work has been given the responsibility to oversee the Pacific rebalance. As part of that role, he recently returned from an extensive tour of the region. "The purpose of my trip was to observe firsthand what was going on to the adjustments we were making to our presence out there and to discuss the strategic environment with our allies, specifically the Republic of Korea and Japan," he said. Source: USNI News [Read more >](#)



Congratulations to SQNLDR Marija Jovanovich who is the first Australian in 25 years and our second ever female to graduate from the USAF Test Pilot School. SQNLDR Jovanovich graduated with a Master of Science Degree in Flight Test Engineering and joins nearly 3000 alumni including more than 60 astronauts.

Source: Air Force 9th Oct 2014 issue. - [Read More](#)> page 7



About the RUSI of NSW

Founded as the United Service Institution of New South Wales in 1888, the Royal United Services Institute of New South Wales today is one of seven self-governing constituent bodies of the Royal United Services Institute of Australia.



The aim of the Institute is to promote informed debate on, and to improve public awareness and understanding of, defence and national security. To this end, the Institute:

- contributes to the national debate on defence and security policy;
- publishes a highly-respected professional journal;
- arranges regular lectures and occasional seminars on military history, defence and security issues;
- organises visits to defence and security establishments;
- operates a public library, specialising in defence and security literature dating from the early 19th century to the current day; and
- conducts social and networking functions for members.

The Institute's rooms and the Ursula Davidson military history Library are on Level 20, Defence Plaza, 270 Pitt Street, Sydney – very close to Town Hall and Museum railway stations. Tea/coffee and biscuits are available without charge and members and visitors are encouraged to use the facilities for reading or research, or just as a base when visiting the city of Sydney. However, prior to visiting for the first time please contact the Office Manager to arrange access to the Office. For additional information please visit our website at www.rusinsw.org.au or call the Office at (02) 93932325.