



**Royal United Services
Institute
of
South Australia Inc**

Building 160 Keswick Barracks,
Keswick SA 5035
Tel/Fax: 61 (8) 8305 6378
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RUSI-SA

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NEWSLETTER

Promoting National Security and Defence

RUSI-SA CYBERLINKS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The first of our early evening events, which we have called *Current Issues Briefings*, was held on Thursday 12 May 2005. I am pleased to report that the event was a success, with the Public Schools Club proving to be a pleasant and comfortable venue. About 80 people attended, representing a wide range of interests, backgrounds and associations. Duncan Lewis gave a very interesting presentation on counter-terrorism policy and

operations in Australia, leaving us with much to think about. Unfortunately, due to some sensitivity regarding the content, the transcript of his presentation cannot be published in the newsletter.

We are now planning the next *Current Issues Briefing*, probably to be held in August or September this year. The intention is to continue the national security theme, focusing on terrorism and counter-terrorism activities. Details of the speaker and venue arrangements will be advised in the next newsletter.

At the last Council Meeting, it was determined that we cannot continue to support the current range of activities and amenities without an increase in membership fees. Based on a forecast deficit, and the fact that the fees have not been increased since FY2000/2001, the Council agreed that they should be raised by 10 percent to \$33.00 per annum. Given the higher costs of everything involved in the administration and working of an organisation like RUSI of SA, it does represent a modest increase, but should allow us to continue operations from next year with a balanced budget.

Continuing with the bad news, I must also advise that we have had to postpone the Dining in Night planned for 24 June. A clash of functions at the Keswick Barracks Officers' Mess, and the unavailability of our Patron, has made it necessary to postpone the dinner until later in the year. Full details of the rescheduled event will be advised in future newsletters.

The following, having been nominated for membership, have been duly elected in accordance with the constitution:

CMDR P R Crosby RNZN Ret
MR K D Thomson
Mr A W Crompton
Mr G W R Gurry.

MONTHLY LUNCHEONS

Luncheon Speakers

Monday 6 June 2005

**Dr Andrew O'Neil, Lecturer, School of
Political and International Studies,
Flinders University**

Monday 4 July 2005

**The Opposition's Position on Current
National Security & Defence Issues
N.B. Awaiting confirmation from the
Office of the Leader of the Opposition**

CAR PARKING – MONTHLY LUNCHEON

Members are advised that the parking of cars is now NO longer permitted on the Parade Ground. Please use existing designated parking areas.

All members are invited to attend our luncheons. Indeed you are encouraged to invite partners, friends and colleagues to join us and, if they like what they see, to nominate them for membership. Please book in advance. If you are unsure whether or not your name is on the booking list, please check!

Cancellations must be into the RUSI Office by midday of the Friday before the lunch. Subsequent cancellations will attract a fee of \$18.00.

The dress code for the luncheon is neat casual, taking into consideration weather conditions.

We assemble in Building 34A, Keswick Barracks, Keswick, at approximately 11.30am for drinks and good fellowship. Members are asked to be seated by 12 noon when our President welcomes members and guests, and lunch is served.

The cost of the buffet is \$18.00. We also conduct a raffle to help cover expenses. Our Caterer has agreed to provide vegetarian meals and sweets for diabetics, but these must be ordered before midday on the Thursday before the lunch.

For those who do not have time to enjoy lunch, but wish to hear the lecture, chairs are provided around the perimeter of the hall. Please be seated before 12.55pm, as the guest speaker will be introduced at 1.00pm. The address is of about 30 to 35 minutes duration with 15 minutes for questions, after which coffee or tea is available.

We aim to complete the program by 2.00pm.

SOCIAL CALENDAR 2005

Sunday 21 August – Carvery Lunch

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Dining-in- Night must be postponed until later this year. The date will be advised as soon as possible. We regret any inconvenience.

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**Views expressed in this Newsletter are not
necessarily those of the RUSI - SA inc**

LUNCHEON ADDRESS

Monday 7 April 2005

**Major General Michael Hindmarsh AM, CSC
Commander Special Operations Command
Australia**

I will talk today about the ADF's contribution to the Global War on Terrorism. As Commander of Special Operations I have a leading role within Defence in coordinating the ADF's efforts with the other key commonwealth agencies, because the winning of this war clearly will lie in a multi-dimensional cooperative effort. As our Prime Minister has said '*The war on terror is a different kind of war. It is a war against loose networks, neither dependent on nation-state sponsors, nor responsive to conventional deterrents.*' Thus an unconventional war requires an unconventional approach.

Mao once wrote that the strength of the guerrilla or the insurgent was his ability to move indistinguishably amongst the population like a fish does in the sea. Of course the sea that he spoke of is now a global one. The guerrilla, the terrorist, the criminal of the globalized and increasingly interconnected world now has little to constrain him from swimming freely internationally. And policing this vast terrorist and criminal habitat is difficult, particularly when the array of nations who would provide the policing have differing capabilities and divergent views on what should be done to counter the threat. Moreover, the insurgents in many

respects have strategic advantage; they have few of the constraints that we have to deal with. Hate, fanaticism and greed provide a common and international currency, which fuels their global proliferation and allows them to circumvent cultural, religious, ideological, ethnic and physical barriers. We on the other hand have to play within a set of rules and adhere to the accepted values of a civilised and law abiding world. And herein lies the challenge for us; how to defeat insidious and free ranging transnational threats in the face of these inherent constraints? How to overcome divergent national priorities and views and pull together collectively for the regional and global good? How to fight back without losing our own civilised identity?

The fundamental difference between terrorist groups of the 70's and terrorist groups of today is the way they are now linking together to form, what I would call a global franchise of terrorism. 'Each regional group uses its own culturally specific model but predominantly links towards a global Islamist insurgency or campaign. This worldwide pattern of Islamist militancy appears to function through regional 'theatres of operation', where terrorist organisations from neighbouring countries cooperate and support each other. There is strong evidence to suggest that Islamist groups within theatres conform to al Qa'eda ideology and strategy, and share a common operational and tactical style. But there is no clear evidence that al Qa'eda directs the *jihad* in each theatre. Indeed, the global terrorist threat appears to have several complex networks, not one hierarchical organisation.

Terrorist operations develop through systems of sponsorship and patronage. Al Qa'eda provides finance, targeting data and expertise, while local groups gather and share intelligence. An example of this cooperation can be seen in JI's plot to bomb targets in Singapore. This plot was foiled through targeting data discovered in Afghanistan.

Al Qa'eda is not a global *jihad* headquarters. Within theatres of operations, local actors, issues and grievances exist. Many of these issues and grievances have little connection to the global terrorist campaign, and in fact, may pre-date it by decades or centuries. For example, there have been Moro separatists in the Philippines for several hundred years. But now, through the "franchising phenomenon", a new class of theatre-level actors has emerged. These actors do have links to a global campaign and often act as allies or affiliates of al Qa'eda - in general, al Qa'eda does not deal with local insurgents directly, but through regional proxies.

Clearly there is strength and synergy in a cooperative and collaborative approach in fighting these terrorist groups. But just as we gain strength through building a web of cooperation so do the terrorist organisations gain strength through linking to a global terrorist effort – indeed one could argue that the only truly globalized organisation in the world is terrorism.

Our region has to that it does not allow separate terrorist organisations to gain strength through developing links with each other. It must prevent local issues linking to the global insurgent system and must deal with local insurgents in isolation. However to be successful, this strategy does not demand the pacification of every insurgent in the region. It only demands that the links between regional terrorist organisations and to global groups be disrupted and severed. The region should collectively aim to marginalize groups like Abu Sayyaf and the Moro National Liberation Front that link into global terrorism, and deal with them from a regional and national, but collaborative perspective. *In a practical sense this campaign of de-linking this global threat can be achieved by the close cooperation and collaboration from agencies within a nation's government and from like agencies between governments.*

No country possesses all the capabilities and the personnel to be able to conduct the full spectrum of operations that are necessary to meet all these challenge and nations must cooperate if headway is to be made.

With this understanding of the terrorist threat let me turn to how the ADF is reducing the threat of terrorism in the region and contributing to the ability of regional neighbours to provide this military capacity to deal with this insurgency.

The ADF's Role

The ADF's role in reducing terrorism in our region has been small but significant. The ADF has focused on developing the skills of regional neighbours to deal with the terrorist threat within their own borders but is also prepared to support their efforts when requested. We have concentrated on developing the technical capabilities and tactical techniques through various multilateral and bilateral exercises and exchanges.

In the past year the ADF conducted numerous exercises and exchanges in the region focusing on defeating terrorism.

In example, in October it participated in a multinational exercise in Tokyo Bay, Japan. *Team Samurai* was a Proliferation Security Initiative that

focused on developing technical capabilities and tactical techniques to interdict shipping which may be suspected of carrying weapons of mass destruction. Here the Royal Australian Navy and elements of Special Operations Command worked with the Japanese Coast Guard and Maritime Protection Agency, the United States Navy and elements of the French Navy. The exercise was deemed very successful from the observing 20 nations and considered to be a step forward in hindering the proliferation of WMD's.

And also in October the Incident Response Regiment conducted a joint chemical, biological and radiological response exercises with the Singaporean Armed Forces in Singapore. Exercise *Black Orchid*, demonstrated Australia's ability to deploy internationally to assist regional neighbours when requested and also provided a good opportunity to exchange procedures and techniques for dealing with terrorism.

Also Exercise *Wyvern Sun 04* in Thailand was another successful activity where a Special Air Service Regiment Tactical Assault Group deployed for a three week period to exercise alongside the Royal Thai Military Forces to resolve a complex hostage rescue scenario. The value of this exercise is clearly evident with the understanding we now have of the Thai military response capability and mechanisms. With this knowledge, the Australian government is now in a position to be able to offer targeted assistance at an appropriate level should it be requested.

In June 2004, Australia hosted the first Regional Special Forces Counter Terrorism Conference. This conference brought together senior Special Forces and counter-terrorism experts from Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Papua New Guinea, New Zealand, China, India, Vietnam, Cambodia, Japan, Brunei, Thailand and the United States. It provided the opportunity for senior officials from throughout the region to establish links and share information about national counter-terrorism response mechanisms and the capabilities of Special Forces counter-terrorism units.

So what have these activities and cooperation forums achieved? The ADF has assisted our regional neighbours develop technical capabilities and tactical techniques for countering the threat of terrorism. This includes equipment and training exchanges as well as inter-country exercises to test the response mechanisms of national Governments to a terrorist incident.

Here it would be remiss of me not to note the significant contribution that other nations have made to our capabilities through these regional

cooperation programs. Further more, these activities have also brought significant knowledge back to Australia. We have discovered new ways of dealing with some complex tactical and operational issues, a greater understanding of terrorist groups, and a greater understanding of our regional partner's efforts to combat terrorism.

Responding To Terrorism

Over the last few years there have been significant enhancements to the Defence counter-terrorism capability.

The ADF has raised a second Tactical Assault Group, TAG East, in Sydney to complement the existing Tactical Assault Group based in Perth. TAG East is fully manned and operational, giving the ADF the capability to respond to two major terrorist incidents in Australia simultaneously.

The Incident Response Regiment met its first development milestone to respond to chemical, biological and radiological incidents in January 2004 and has recently proved itself operationally in Iraq.

Special Operations Command (SOCOMD) has been raised in Sydney, with Special Operations Headquarters now fully manned and operational. SOCOMD combines the expanded ADF Special Forces capabilities, streamlines command, control and coordination of ADF Special Operations Forces, and provides for better linkages for Defence into the whole-of-Government counter-terrorism response.

We are continuing to work with industry and in particular major companies within the aviation and the petrochemical sectors. I know that Defence has gained significantly from the experience of working closely with industry; we have been exposed to a variety of planning considerations by training in complex and hazardous industrial environments.

The ADF, together with intelligence organisations, police forces and other agencies, provide layered security framework as the most effective response to today's threats. Finally, let me mention the importance of national character. To my mind the war on terrorism is not primarily a test of military technology or of the delivery of social services and security. It's a test of character. For without strength of national character all other initiatives will be defeated in detail by an enemy who is not hamstrung by morals, rules and time lines. We need to match our adversaries' conviction and clarity of purpose and show that we are more dedicated to protecting civilised life than terrorists are to taking it. In this regard Defence remains firmly committed.

**INDONESIA – AUSTRALIAN
RELATIONSHIP: LIKELY FUTURE
DIRECTIONS
His Excellency Imron Cotan
The Indonesia Ambassador to Australia**

This is an exciting moment to talk about the relationship between the two neighbouring countries for now are, I believe, witnessing the highest ever peak in the relationship adorned lately by the State visit by President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono to Australia. The visit was historical for at least two reasons, firstly, it was the first visit to Australia by a directly and democratically elected President of Indonesia and, secondly, the visit witnessed the signing of a Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership covering, inter alia, Australia's commitment to honour the territorial integrity of Indonesia whilst expressing its determination to jointly work with us on issues of common concern which I intend to touch upon at a later stage. One thing is sure: the visit has uplifted our relationship to a new level and put the East Timor debacle in 1999 well and truly out of sight. I don't think there are many people, Australians in particular, who would argue against this.

It is interesting to note that the recent improvements in Indonesia- Australia bilateral ties have basically been achieved by default or dictated by divine intervention through natural disasters or man-made tragedies.

We still remember the Tampa incident in 2001 that had rapidly developed into an intricate issue that had the potential to seriously damage the already volatile relationship at that time. Fortunately, the governments of both countries tried their best to transform what was a potentially damaging issue into a unifying one which brought together not only Australia and Indonesia, but also all countries in the region to combat human trafficking in the region. The joint initiative by Indonesia and Australia to organise ministerial conferences to combat human trafficking involving other countries and international organisations in 2002 and 2003 in Bali led to close co-operation among the countries of origin, transit, and the final destination, to stamp out people smuggling that, in turn, has, it would appear, stopped the flow of illegal migrants to Australia.

The Bali bombings in October 2002 that claimed 202 innocent lives – 88 of them Australian – have further paved the way for Indonesia and Australia to enhance their relations. The police forces of the two countries worked very closely and co-operatively in hunting down the perpetrators of this heinous crime, leading to their arrest and prosecution. Some

received capital punishments.

This tragic incident presented Indonesia and Australia, once again, with an opportunity to beef up regional co-operation to combat terrorism by organising a series of regional conferences and meetings that led, inter alia, to the establishment of the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Co-operation (JCLEC), a centre designed to improve the skills of the region's law enforcement officers in combating terrorism.

The Boxing Day Tsunami that claimed 200,000 Indonesian lives and inflicted horrendous damage in Aceh and North Sumatra has presented yet another opportunity for Indonesia and Australia to become closer. Indonesia grieved with Australia when it lost nine Service people in the Sea King helicopter crash on Nias last month. We bow our heads in their honour, and are deeply humbled by the sacrifice they made while helping Indonesians. We must ensure that their sacrifice will not be in vain.

Close Relationships

As close neighbours, the future relations between our two countries should be guided by acceptable roadmaps to minimise conflicts and misunderstandings emanating from differences, and to capitalise on shared objectives of providing security and prosperity for the region. As I have previously said, the visit of President Yudhoyono to Australia has significantly solidified the relationship between Indonesia and Australia. Having been present at all the President's formal engagements, I must testify to being overwhelmed by the strong determination of our leaders to lift up the already closer relationship to the highest level. For the short to medium term, we can be confident of stable and productive relations due to the excellent rapport between our Heads of Government and of members of their cabinets. This very positive period is an opportunity to set what we want to do together for our long term benefit. Strategically, we know in Indonesia of no productive option other than co-operating and building closer relations for our common security and prosperity.

The Comprehensive Partnership signed by President Yudhoyono and Prime Minister Howard was aimed at strengthening relations between governments, peoples and businesses, and covering co-operation in the fields of economics, technical matters, security, and enhanced people-to-people interaction. In the security field, transnational crime, including money laundering, drug trafficking and terrorism, continued to receive priority. Indonesia and Australia will continue to forge close partnerships between the

police forces, immigration and custom officials as well as the security and intelligence agencies.

On the people-to-people links – the lynchpin of our bilateral relationship – President Yudhoyono and Prime Minister Howard expressed their determination to encourage and strengthen the links in both directions. Education was acknowledged as central to people-to-people relations. They want to see more Indonesian students studying in Australia and vice versa – we warmly welcome Australia's offer of 600 post-graduate scholarships. To contribute to this noble endeavour, President Yudhoyono decided to increase Indonesia's scholarship intake from Australia from three to fifty per annum – a decision I had the honour of contributing to.

The Comprehensive Partnership also encourages the strongest possible links between the Indonesian and Australian Parliaments. Closer interactions between parliamentarians are fundamental to stable long-term relations – something particularly important during sharp shifts in public opinion. Presently, plans are under way for a visit by members of the Indonesian Parliament to the Australian Parliament. And, better still, Australia's Parliament has also invited a parliamentarian from Indonesia to take part soon in a meeting during which young and promising world leaders will gather to chart the global future.

Military Relationships

In the area of military relations, I am also optimistic that post President Yudhoyono's visit to Australia we will see more co-operation between the two institutions. The close co-operation between the two forces has in fact already taken place. We witnessed that when the tsunami struck Indonesia: Australian military personnel joined hands with their counterparts, the TNI, in providing humanitarian assistance to the people of Aceh and again in Nias after the earthquake struck that island with devastating results.

Just a month ago, the Indonesian Air Force conducted a combined maritime exercise with the RAAF in the Timor Sea. This joint exercise, "Albatross Ausindo" was the first combined defence military exercise conducted between our two countries since 1999.

The Indonesian Navy will also participate in a regional defence exercise, "Exercise Kakadu" in Northern Australian waters in August. The Indonesian and Australian navies will also conduct a joint naval exercise later this year involving patrol boats from both countries.

There are three underlying reasons why Indonesia has never been and will never be a threat to Australia. Firstly, Indonesia is now a democratic country where its Parliament needs to endorse any actions taken by the President on matters related to waging wars and signing peace agreements with other countries as crystal clearly stipulated in Article 11 of our constitution. Secondly, Indonesia does not harbour any territorial ambitions. Thirdly, even if it had, Indonesia absolutely has no military capability to send expeditions to fulfil such ambitions.

Trade and Investment

During the Indonesia/Australia Business Conference in Bali, 17-19 April 2005, the Ministers of Trade from our two countries agreed to develop a comprehensive economic framework that aims to boost significantly two-way trade in goods and services – a possible precursor to a bilateral free-trade agreement. The meeting was also a great opportunity for businessmen from both countries to meet and to explore further ways of co-operation. The total value of trade between our two countries last year hit the all time record high of US\$5 billion – a 12% increase on 2003.

With Indonesia rapidly maturing as a democracy, and with a new leader bent on creating economic growth and reform and, particularly, in removing obstacles to trade and investment, we are confident that Australian companies will soon look north again.

The Regional Front

Concerning future Australia-Indonesia relations on the regional front, Indonesia has always supported the full integration of Australia into the region for obvious reasons. Geography dictates that Indonesia and Australia should work together to confront common threats and to develop a stable, peaceful and prosperous region. We firmly believe that there will be no political stability and economic prosperity in the region should Indonesia and Australia fail to work together. This firm conviction has led Indonesia to support the full integration of Australia into the regional networks.

Let me explain why. The ten countries of ASEAN have a combined population of around 550 million and a total GDP at around US\$682 billion that is growing in real terms at roughly 6% per annum. ASEAN is a major market for Australian exporters, accounting for 11% of Australia's total exports, as well as an important destination for ASEAN tourists and students. In 2003-2004 the value of Australia's

total imports of good and services from ASEAN countries reached nearly A\$26 billion, and Australia's exports of goods and services to ASEAN countries totalled slightly over A\$17 billion.

We believe that Australia should be part of the budding regional framework for co-operation in East Asia. We have thrown Indonesia's full weight behind Australia's participation in the inaugural East Asian Summit in Malaysia later this year because we are confident that Australia has the capacity and will to strengthen its contribution to regional security and prosperity.

In Conclusion

I wish to conclude by underlining the need for Indonesia and Australia to continuously maintain dialogue and close consultation to avoid misunderstandings and misconceptions. Harmonising policies affecting the national interests of our two neighbouring countries will just do that. For the future of our young generations we cannot afford to fail.

FORTHCOMING VISITS

WHERE: Tenix Defence Electronic Systems Division, Second Ave. Technology Park, Mawson Lakes.

WHEN: Friday 10 June 2005, 1000-1200.

WHY: To receive an overview of both land systems vehicle developments and electronic systems developments.

BOOKINGS: Please phone the Secretary on 8305 6378 to register your interest by Monday 6 June 2005.

WHERE: National Air Support (Coast Watch operator), National Drive, Adelaide Airport. National Dve is off Sir Hubert Wilkins Rd which is off Frank Collopy Crt accessed from James Schofield Dve.

WHEN: Tuesday 12 July 2005, 1000-1200

WHY: Members will be given an overview of the state of the art unmanned aircraft as well as an introduction to the operation of their 15 purpose modified surveillance aircraft.

BOOKINGS: Please phone or email the Secretary quickly to avoid disappointment.

BEING CLEAR ABOUT NUCLEAR

By Mr C C Brooks
VP RUSI-SA

Shortly after WWII the USA published the Smyth Report to allow "a substantial group of engineers and scientific men who can understand such things and who can explain the potentialities of atomic bombs to their fellow citizens" to do so.

In the Report many blind alleys followed (and identified) in the race to produce atomic bombs were clearly described: plutonium production design and operation, for example.

The USSR, naturally, bought copies of this unclassified and freely available document, and saved millions of dollars and years of time! And a most unfortunate sequel followed, viz., the world-wide imposition of ludicrous levels of secrecy about anything deemed relevant to anything nuclear. While, in actual fact, the earliest nuclear reactors that we know of on earth went critical almost 2,000 million years ago at Oklo in Gabon – they produced significant quantities of energy for up to a million years. Thus, in that sense, nuclear power production is a natural process.

How common is uranium? We now know that it is not the rarity as believed in 1949 when the Chifley Government gave tax-free rewards for the finding of uranium, and also in 1952 when the Menzies Government exempted mining and milling profits from income tax. In less than ten years some 400 discoveries were made!

In 1967 an export policy was designed to conserve resources for our future needs and to further encourage exploration.

Over the past 50 years four generations of civilian power generating plants have been designed and built; nuclear power is now cheaper than coal-fired power in many parts of the world, and is much cleaner. And there is no longer a nexus between nuclear power and nuclear weaponry.

However, due to a failure to educate its politicians and senior public servants in detailed specifics, Australia has forfeited its leadership in the supply of fuel and its hard-won power station technology. With luck and knowledge Australia will get back on track within ten to twenty years and join the 31 nations currently producing nuclear power.

LIBRARY NON FICTION

SILENT VOICES

By Robert Kearney

This the story of South Australia's 10th Battalion AIF during World War I from its beginnings at Morphettville in 1914, its operations in Egypt, Gallipoli, France and Belgium, and how it established an enviable reputation as a courageous and outstanding unit.

THEO'S WAR

By John Wilkinson

Drawing on diaries, notes and photographs as well having visited Singapore, John Wilkinson tells a story of men from the 8th Division AIF on the infamous railway.

Donated by Max Venables

THIS WAR NEVER ENDS

By Michael McKernan

First published in 2001, this is an examination of what it was like to wait and worry on the home front during World War II.

THE TYRANNY OF DISSONANCE

By Michael Evans

Important influences that that have shaped modern Australian defence policy are examined in this study: Dr Evans argues that Australia's political culture and war fighting practice are distinguished by utilitarian pragmatism.

A Land Warfare Studies Centre, Canberra, publication, February 2005.

DOES THE LAW REALLY MATTER?

By Rebecca Lewis

The increased destructiveness, the ability to use precision technology and the transparency of modern war in the media has led to an increased involvement of law in the matters of war. This paper is the product of ongoing debate concerning the relationship between air power and the law.

Published by the Air Power Development Centre Canberra 2005.

THE SILENT 7th

By Mark Johnston

The 7th Australian Infantry Division fought in some of the most famous Australian battles of World War II: Tobruk, Milne Bay, the Kokoda Track, Buna and Balikpapan, to name a few. However, from the time of its first campaign in Syria, it gained the nickname, "The Silent Seventh" because of a perception amongst its members that it received less publicity

than it deserved.

Like Mark Johnson's previous book concerning the 9th Australian Division, this is a very evocative portrait of an outstanding Division. And again over 200 photographs from official and private collections are at the heart of very significant history.

BOOK DONATIONS

The Institute wishes to express its thanks to the following members for generous book donations:

David Dowd

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