



*Royal United Services Institute  
of  
South Australia Inc*

A Constituent Body of the  
Royal United Services Institute of Australia Inc

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*Promoting National Security and Defence*

RUSI-SA

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## NEWSLETTER

### RUSI-SA CYBERLINKS

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### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Declining membership is a problem for the RUSI nationally with a drop of 13% in the past two years. The discussion papers prepared by the various divisions on strategies to recruit new members from different sectors, which I referred to in the last newsletter, are now being progressively circulated to all divisions for comment as a lead up to the National AGM to be held in Hobart in September.

At the local level, Fay Leditschke, Chairperson Membership Committee, has been diligently working on our membership records and following up on recently lapsed members, with some results. The Council believes that the early evening 'Current Issues Briefings' are our best avenue for attracting a wider audience and hopefully membership. The problem has been to get suitable high profile speakers – the lead up to the election and the change of government meant many possible speakers were not available. Timing could also be a factor as we had to cancel the CIB on 22 April due to lack of numbers. We have now secured Senator the Hon Nick Minchin, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and Shadow Minister for Defence, as the guest speaker for a CIB on 11 June – so please spread the word and support this activity.

On the social side, our Patron, His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce AC CSC RANR, has accepted our invitation to be the guest speaker at our Dining in Night. Those who read the Vice Regal notice in the daily "Advertiser" will appreciate how busy he is and as noted in the last newsletter we have, at his request, rescheduled the dinner to August (now 29 Aug) and brought forward the Carvery to 29 June. Again if we are to continue these events we need your support – so

### COUNCIL MEMBERS 2008

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put the dates in your diary, round up some friends and colleagues and come along.

In the Feb/Mar Newsletter, I referred to my letter to the Minister for Defence dated 10 January 2008. Well, we recently received his reply, copy of which follows.

**David Stoba**

.  
MINISTER FOR DEFENCE  
THE HON JOEL FITZGIBBON MP  
9 APR 2008

Dear Colonel Stoba

Thank you for your letter of 10 January 2008 concerning the future of Keswick Barracks. The delay in responding is regretted.

Reviewing Australian Defence Force locations is necessary to ensure that the Australian Defence Force is able to meet out future Defence needs. The Australian Government is conducting a range of comprehensive reviews of Defence, including options for Defence bases, to ensure that our Defence locations and capabilities reflect clear strategic guidance and provide genuine value for money.

No decisions have yet been made regarding possible changes to any Defence bases around Australia. Please be assured that I will advise you if any decisions are made which may affect Keswick Barracks.

Thanks for your interest in this matter.

JOEL FITZGIBBON

Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600

Tel: (02) 6277 7800 Fax: (02)62734118

**Luncheon Speaker**

**Monday 2 June 2008**

**Colonel Neil Greet  
Department of Defence, Canberra**

**Topic: Long Term Benefits of Failed  
and Failing States**

**Luncheon Speaker**

**Monday 7 July 2008**

**Simon Berry**

**“Return of the Unknown Soldier”**

**MONTHLY LUNCHEONS**

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 reported to the RUSI-SA Office by midday of the Friday before the lunch. Subsequent cancellations will attract a fee of \$20. The caterers must be notified of the number attending by then and that number must be paid for.***

The dress code for the luncheon is neat casual, taking into consideration weather conditions. We assemble in Building 34A, Keswick Barracks, Keswick, at approximately 11.30 am 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 \$20. 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 12.55 pm, as the guest speaker will be introduced at 1.00 pm. 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 2.00 pm.

## CURRENT ISSUES BRIEFING

**Wednesday 11 June 2008**  
**5.30 pm Keswick Officers' Mess**

**Senator the Honourable Nick Minchin**  
**Leader of the Opposition in the Senate**  
**Shadow Minister for Defence**

**Topic: TBC**

See newsletter insert for full details

## LUNCHEON ADDRESS

The luncheon address on Monday 7 April 2008 was delivered by **Rear Admiral James Goldrick AM CSC RAN, Commander Border Protection**. His topic was *Recent Developments in Border Protection Command*.



The question that I am here to answer is the simple one – what is Border Protection Command? It is an inter-agency organisation, established in March 2005 as one of the Government's responses to the 2004 task force on offshore maritime security. Originally called the Joint Offshore Protection Command, in October 2006 it was redesignated the Border Protection Command.

It is led by Customs and Defence, but includes permanent staff from the Australian Fisheries Management Authority and the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service. Its mission is to coordinate and control whole of government efforts to protect Australia's national interests against security threats in the offshore maritime domain.

Let me draw your attention to key words in that description. First, our remit is offshore –

fundamentally Australia's maritime zones to seaward of the territorial sea baseline. But we have obvious interests outside our maritime zones and a requirement to coordinate our efforts with the security of ports and infrastructure and other onshore elements, including, for example, state and territory police authorities. Secondly, in terms of security threats, our remit is for non-state based threats.

There are other key words. **C**oordinate and control are two. Customs and Defence provide surveillance and response assets for BPC to control, while we also work to ensure that operational responses are effectively coordinated between all the agencies with responsibilities for the maritime domain. I should note that my responsibilities do not include search and rescue. Some countries have gone down the path of combining the civil maritime security effort with that of search and rescue. Australia has not. But we have an excellent and seamless relationship with the Australian Maritime Safety Authority. This works two ways – BPC frequently not only reports sightings and incidents to AMSA but also assigns assets at AMSA's request to participate in search and rescue, while BPC, subject to AMSA priorities, makes use of the Dornier aircraft around the coast to supplement our aerial surveillance.

And here I need to make a reminder about the nature of the Australian condition. It is best summed up by Geoffrey Blainey's phrase 'The Tyranny of Distance'. Australia has unique problems and may thus require some unique solutions to its maritime security. There is also, however, the 'Tyranny of Proximity' in the Torres Strait. The northern Australian islands in the Strait are only a few thousand metres from the mainland of Papua New Guinea. Things can and do happen very fast in that part of the world.

Government has determined that there are eight basic categories of Maritime Security Threats. The illegal exploitation of natural resources, as manifested in illegal fishing, has been one of our main areas of concern in recent years and much effort has been devoted to dealing with that problem. But we **need watch** and be prepared to either deal with or support the responsible agency across a range of other threats – illegal activity in protected areas, prohibited imports and exports, bio-security and marine pollution, piracy – in its general sense of armed robbery at sea – maritime terrorism and, another key priority of Government, the prevention of unauthorised maritime arrivals. Developing our maritime capacity to meet the threat of terrorism was one of the key reasons for the establishment of the Command and we are looking to achieve progressive improvement here.

Customs and Defence are the lead agencies in the Command and, as such, I operate under a joint

directive from the Chief Executive Officer of Customs and the Chief of Defence Force. I have both civil and military elements working for me – in Customs, I have both an operations organisation, which is based on the National Surveillance Centre in Canberra, and a capability management and development function. On the military side, I am Commander Joint Task Force 639, which is Defence's standing contribution to civil maritime surveillance and response in the form of Operation RESOLUTE. My military deputy and tactical commander for the Defence assets is the Commander Northern Command in Darwin.

But Border Protection Command is not self-tasking. In a sense, Customs and Defence are my providers, while *all* the agencies with responsibilities for maritime security are my clients in relation to their requirement for surveillance and response. Government coordinates an inter-agency approach to maritime security policy through the Strategic Maritime Management Committee (or SMMC), chaired by the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. This reports to the National Security Committee of Cabinet through the Secretaries Committee for National Security. I chair the Joint Agencies Maritime Advisory Group (or JAMAG) and this is very much the engine room of both policy development and coordination of requirements for surveillance and response.

In turn, JAMAG has a number of permanent working groups. They are doing good work. Let me draw attention to one in particular – the Planning Advisory Working Group. This is the mechanism by which the various agencies conduct a risk assessment process to determine the priorities for surveillance and response in Australia's maritime zones. This is done through each agency concerned allocating a risk score for each month to each of the various areas and sub-areas into which our maritime zones have been divided. This is done three months ahead, revised every month and can be amended depending upon circumstances at any time. Fundamentally, and logically, the priority of effort is allocated to the areas of highest risk.

We can look at Border Protection Command's tasks as falling into three functional areas: Awareness, Prevention and Detection, Response and Recovery.

We maintain awareness of activities in the offshore maritime domain with the intent of identifying security threats, assessing their likelihood and estimating their potential consequences. We cannot do that without creating a condition in which we have the best possible idea of just what is going on around us. One of the key mechanisms by which we propose to do this and on which considerable development work has already been undertaken is the Australian Maritime Identification System, or AMIS.

Creation of this system was one of the key recommendations of the 2004 task force. Its basic intent is to bring together all the data available to government in relation to shipping and vessel movement in a way that not only presents an effective picture of what is going on, but also allows effective threat assessment. AMIS is not in itself a sensor system, but will utilise both Defence sensor and surveillance systems, civil government sensor and surveillance systems, including the vessel tracking systems which are becoming increasingly standard. What it will also do is allow analysts to access other information – ship identity, cargo, crew, history, ownership, characteristics and so on. It will be very much more than tracks on a map.

AMIS will operate a graduated information system for vessels coming to Australia – with the basic intent of being able to identify all vessels within our Exclusive Economic Zone other than day recreational craft. This is an ambitious goal, but it is one that we believe is a worthwhile target.

We also believe that a fully operational AMIS will provide an important value adder to our surveillance efforts because it will guide our planning and also, with the proper two way feeds to units at sea and in the air, allow them to target their tactical efforts much more effectively. A proof of concept was developed in 2007 and full implementation is now under way, with the first stage intended for operation by the end of this year.

Prevention is our second function. Perhaps the most important contribution that Border Protection Command can make in its own right is the maintenance of a surveillance and response regime which is so effective that it constitutes a deterrent in itself. This is certainly one of our aims with our current campaign to eradicate illegal fishing.

But, in many ways, Border Protection Command can deal only with symptoms and not underlying causes. This is why we support whole of government efforts to prevent or disrupt security threats before they manifest themselves in our maritime zones. There has been, for example, a great deal of extremely hard and effective work done by a number of Australian government agencies in concert with the Indonesian Government to support the resolution of Indonesia's own significant illegal fishing problems and to educate Indonesian fishermen as to the nature of the Australian maritime zones and the consequences of breaching Australian law. This sort of cooperation holds potential to reduce the pressures on Australia's domains and thus the pressures on our assets.

Our most obvious areas of activity in Border Protection Command are of detection, response and recovery. Let me talk about the assets that are available to me. First, in terms of surveillance, in addition to various Defence systems, we have access to commercial satellite imagery. For example, we have arrangements by which we access French satellite data to provide a regular picture of activity in Heard and MacDonal Islands.

I currently have some 11 fixed and 2 rotary wing aircraft under the Coastwatch program. These are commercially provided aircraft and we have, under the name of Project SENTINEL, transitioned from a mixed fleet of fixed wing aircraft to one of ten DASH 8 long range surveillance aircraft. The new fixed wing contract started at the beginning of this month. Our new rotary wing contract, with one new and one modernised helicopter for the Torres Strait, began on the First of July last year. In addition, we have recently introduced a third helicopter as a rapid response unit in the Northern Territory

As Commander JTF 639, I am allocated P3 ORION support, while Border Protection Command also makes use of the five AMSA Dornier aircraft coming into service around the coast. In addition, I make use of patrols by the Army's Regional Force Surveillance Units in Northern Australia.

In terms of response assets, there is a similar mix of civil and military. I have the major call on the services of the eight 38 metre BAY Class Customs patrol boats, together with the northern response vessel, the 98 metre trimaran TRITON. In southern waters, but also deployed on occasion to support the response effort in the north, is the chartered OCEANIC VIKING – currently monitoring whaling operations in the Southern Ocean.

As CJTF 639, I am allocated a number of patrol boats and other RAN minor war vessels for my operational control. In addition, I can generally call on the services of a major fleet unit and have other Defence assets at agreed notices to move for specific contingencies. One of the greatest advantages of the Border Protection Command model is this ability to call on additional assets, particularly from Defence, and to return them when their task is completed. During the temporary operational withdrawal of the ARMIDALE class last year, for example, not only were the deployments of the Customs vessels adjusted to ensure that all threats were covered, but Navy quickly provided additional units, such as another coastal mine hunter, as substitutes.

The point to note is, although the ships do move and quite fast at that, the distances are such that the aerial

support is generally vital in directing the patrol boats onto the illegal fishing vessels.

This brings me to an important point. I mentioned earlier that Australia has some unique challenges. In determining the appropriate technology, it is always important to understand the primary target set. Systems, particularly ones originally developed for military requirements, which are extremely effective against large metal targets which may themselves be radiating, may not be so good against small wooden craft – nor, even if they achieve detection, in giving the type of information that is wanted. How many people are onboard? Are there any animals – is the contact a quarantine risk – and so on.

And, while my focus has so far been on our northern waters, there is very much a southern dimension. I have already mentioned our cooperation with France. But we have our own frequent and significant presence in the form of the patrol vessel OCEANIC VIKING. This ship has not only been a key factor in preventing illegal intrusions into our own Exclusive Economic Zone around Heard and MacDonal Islands, she has also made an important contribution to the work of the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources and the efforts to prevent unregulated and unsustainable fishing in the region.

If flexibility has been an underlying theme so far, this is no accident. From the patrols which we conduct to protect the oil and gas infrastructure in the north west to the prevention of people smuggling, there is the need to be able to respond quickly to meet short notice threats.

Let me close by talking about the future. The eight threats to maritime security will continue to require unremitting effort to contain. Within Border Protection we are working to develop our future operating concepts in order to understand not only how those threats are likely to develop, but how our civil maritime security capabilities should evolve to meet them in the most effective way. The key to success in this endeavour will be in creating a framework that matches technologies to task and makes the most of both military and civil assets – avoiding duplication but also ensuring that a degree of flexibility is 'built in'. To that end, we are working to improve our understanding of emergent technologies, such as remote sensors and UAVs, and where they can best fit with a surveillance and response matrix. We have already been involved in UAV trials, such as that of the Mariner Demonstrator on the North West Shelf in concert with Defence, and are planning to trial a mid-range UAV before the end of this year. But I should emphasise that we are not ourselves an experimental or development organisation and our

approach must be one which seeks to maximise effect and minimise risk.

Above all, Border Protection Command is about providing a service – surveillance and response to protect Australia’s maritime domains – and providing that service every day of the year.

## LUNCHEON ADDRESS

The luncheon address on Monday 5 May 2008 was delivered by **Mr Hieu Van Le, Lieutenant Governor of SA and Chairman of SAMEAC**



Today I will speak to you in my dual role as Lieutenant Governor of South Australia and Chairman of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission.

I see today as an opportunity for me to share with you something of my personal story and my vision in my Vice Regal role. I will also take the opportunity to tell you something of the work of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission and why it is so important for the future of our state and our nation. In matters relating to defence and national security I am a layman but I will nevertheless share some of my thoughts with you. More importantly, I will be keen to listen to your views as experts in a field in which I have a very real interest.

To begin, I will tell you something of the final stages of my journey to Australia – a journey that would change my life. My journey involved leaving war-torn Viet Nam in a hurry in 1977, in a flimsy, leaky wooden fishing boat crammed with 41 fellow refugees, including my new wife, Lan. After a month in open sea, I found myself anchored off the Southern Tip of Timor, listening to ABC radio for the weather forecast, and waiting. We had been warned about the Timor Sea. The crossing would take us four or five days, we thought. We waited for good weather.

Finally we took to the sea again, the lonely sea and the sky and a fragile boat and little more than a compass and star to steer her by. After over a month in the open sea, this was the last leg of our arduous journey in search of freedom. I had the job of navigator, a skill I learnt from a Navy Officer of the Republic of Vietnam during our short stay in a refugees camp in Malaysia. On the third day of the crossing, there was some sudden excitement on the deck. Someone had seen birds, someone had said they were seagulls. These seagulls were like angels, for they meant land! I grabbed the binoculars and stared to the horizon, and there they focused on a most brilliant line of silver. I can’t describe the moment, the feeling. I turned to my wife Lan and said quietly, “We are alive, look at that silver line over there, that is where our life and our future is”. This silver sliver of hope took form as we crept closer through the dawn light. It became an early morning mist across Darwin Harbour. My personal navigation to Australia had been a combination of dark circumstance, accident, fear, despair, but most of all, of hope! I arrived on this silver shore with nothing but my invisible suitcase of heritage and dreams! We chugged clumsily into the harbour, and saw coming towards us a small boat with its outboard motor showing all the speed and agility that our boat lacked. There were a couple of blokes in it, just dressed in singlets and shorts, fishing rods sticking in the air. As they came past us they waved and one of them called out "G'day mate . . . Welcome to Australia" and then just sped on past to get on with the fishing they had set out to do.

What greeted us was a generosity of spirit. Over the last 30 years, I’ve learnt something about this new culture – about the language – that deep down “G’day mate” meant something about a society that fundamentally believed in helping, in shared responsibility, that if we were not actually all in the same boat, we are all in the same harbour. Some of us zoom along, some of us chug chug in, but we are our brother’s keeper. Everyone’s migrant journey is unique. However, there are many similarities too: The fear of the unknown, of stepping out of a familiar, albeit dangerous or unhappy, environment into one that, in most cases, is completely foreign and bewildering. The vacuum of not knowing what the future holds, for you, your children, your grandchildren ... not even knowing if you will live long enough to have them! Then there’s the hope...the thing that keeps us all going...the innate human optimism that it will all work out...that somehow you’ll get through it and that all will be well. The immense relief when, after a long, hazardous journey, you reach your destination - planned or not - and ... joy ... people at the other end are warm and friendly and generous and kind-hearted. You may not understand a word they’re saying, nor they you, but the smiles and the body language and

the sheer cheerfulness of the greeting lifts your spirits and gives you renewed hope that all will be well...that you have made the right choice.

Then comes the weeks ... months ... years ... of finding your feet, of settling in to a new life in a new place, learning new customs and laws, a new language and new ways of doing things. If you are lucky, you will meet people who, through that sheer generosity of spirit, help you and support and mentor you and your family ... purely voluntarily. The nationality of my childhood was war, destruction, dispossession and chaos. The nationality of my childhood was Vietnamese. But for the past 30 years, my homeland is in the voice of reason and fair-go, kept in articles of good faith, in something called Magna Carta and Common Law, an abstraction called 'The Enlightenment', and, in the words of Edward Gibbon Wakefield, the author in the 1930s of the South Australian settlement plan, who said "Here will be a paradise of dissent". And so I navigated a boat that was part of a much broader social and historical phenomenon, as the arrival of tens of thousands of refugees from Vietnam coincided with a national change of government policy from White Australia to multiculturalism in the mid-seventies.

Since my arrival on these shores I have had the good fortune of being able to fully participate in all aspects of South Australia's social, economic and civic life and this is due in no small part to our progressive multicultural policies. My Vice-Regal appointment as someone of Asian descent also sends a message to the rest of the world that South Australia takes its relationship with its Asian neighbours seriously and is open for business. It tells the world that South Australia is living up to its name as a forefront in social progression and advancement and that South Australia is a place where everyone will be made to feel welcome and given a fair go.

My vision in my Vice-Regal role is threefold:

- To meet and continue with the traditional responsibilities of the Lieutenant Governor;
- To use my background and position as Chairman of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission to promote multiculturalism, community harmony and social justice;
- And thirdly, to promote South Australia to the rest of the world as a place to do business and to build upon our economic engagement with Asian economies.

Most countries highly regard the Vice Regal role and my appointment has been given wide coverage in the Asian media. I intend to use this role in a way that will promote and enhance our relationship with Asian countries as we have much to offer in terms of business and trade, technology, tourism, education,

mining and our knowledge about climate change. We can do this by building on the rich cultural and linguistic resources that are part and parcel of our multicultural society. As you may be aware, almost 600,000 South Australians – 40 percent of our population – were either born overseas or have one or both parents born overseas. About half of these – around three hundred thousand or 20 percent of all South Australians – were either born in a non-English speaking background country or have one or both parents born in a non-English speaking background country. More than 170,000 speak a language other than English at home. And these figures take no account of the third generation. So just as we are rich in mineral resources we are also rich in cultural and linguistic resources and we can use these to build bridges from the local to the global.

The Governor-General of Australia, His Excellency Major General Michael Jeffery, has noted that Australia's destiny is profoundly interconnected with the nations of Asia. In this context, he has emphasised that knowledge of Asian languages and societies is crucial to Australia's capacity to play an effective security role in the region. Studying the humanities, social sciences, languages, fine arts, literature, security relationships and philosophy of Asia is critically important to Australia's future and will help to determine the kind of country in which Australians will be living 25 years from now. An interesting observation that while all Asian Ambassadors to Australia speak very fluent English, there is very few of our Ambassadors in important Asian neighbour are fluent in the language of the host nation.

It is vital that we nurture the languages already spoken in our community for the benefit of both current and future generations so that we can become the outward looking, cosmopolitan society we need to be to effectively communicate and engage other nations and entities in the global environment. I would also like to propose that we all carry with us invisible suitcases of culture that have shaped our world view and help us to communicate and make sense of the present. This can have a positive impact on the way we relate to others both at home and abroad – culturally diverse defence services staff with relevant language skills can help build the security of our nation. We are reminded often that Australia is a multicultural society, and that South Australia has been a leader in the adoption of multiculturalism as a policy with which to build a cohesive and harmonious society.

The arrival of the Vietnamese "boat people" in Australia following the fall of Saigon in 1975 was a watershed event for both the Vietnamese refugees and Australia, and it proved as much for other Asian peoples and cultures in Australia. It coincided with radical changes in Australian politics and foreign relations, and with unprecedented changes in Australian social and immigration policy. "White

Australia” was ‘out’, and immigration was opened to Asian peoples who had been excluded since federation in 1901. Multiculturalism was ‘in’ as a policy that was meant to make Australian society complete by including everyone in national life, with a common language, English, respect for the rule of law, democracy, acceptance and equal participation in civic life – all national values at the core of multiculturalism. In 1975, Australia was facing its first litmus test of all these changes. Australian culture was changing, notions of identity had begun to be discussed in earnest, and the Vietnamese arrivals in 1975, and the other Asian migrants who followed, were entering this new culture diffidently, conscious that they had put much physical distance between themselves and their cultural homelands. Their arrival presented Australia with a challenge; how to engage with them, what to expect of them, and what to expect from them. They were officially welcomed by the State, but the populace was wary of a new unknown. At the same time, the many hundreds of thousands of European migrants who settled in Australia between 1947 and the early 1970s felt free to share their proud cultural heritages, which they had maintained and nurtured tenaciously. These early migrants also asserted themselves as proud Australians who had lived and worked as citizens, and who had made tremendous economic, social and cultural contributions. The nation’s response to these rapid changes was through the recognition that Australian society will be more complete by including everyone in national life.

The nation crossed over from an era defined by a monochromatic, insular view of the world to an enthusiastic recognition and embrace – indeed, a celebration of diversity – and we called it multiculturalism. The process began with Gough Whitlam in 1972, and accelerated under Malcolm Fraser’s government from 1975 onwards. At the same time, South Australia was in the “Dunstan decade,” a period that reshaped this State as an inclusive and harmonious haven of multiculturalism. Since then we have made one great stride after another. Australian society has become richer – in every sense of the word – inclusive, vibrant, and full of new energy and enterprise. South Australia is currently home to people from 200 different countries with more than 200 different languages. In 2006-2007, more than 10,000 permanent residents arrived to settle in South Australia. Of those 10,000 settlers, 7,000 were skilled or business migrants; 1,500 were family migrants and 1,500 were humanitarian migrants. Less than 15 percent of new migrants to South Australia are from a refugee background. More than half of them are under 18. China and India are consistently the top source of non-English speaking skilled and business migrants and international students. Next are Malaysia, Korea and the Philippines among skilled and family

migrants, plus Vietnamese and Thai among the family migrants. The ethnic communities are an important part of our State’s multicultural landscape, and through their community organisations, our migrants and refugees are making a valuable contribution to our economic development, our identity and our future.

The community organisations also play an important role in keeping ethnic traditions alive and sharing them with all South Australians. Ethnic communities are now an integral part of South Australian life. In January, for example, we had about 2000 representatives of about 80 organisations from 40 ethnic communities participating in the Australia Day Parade. These were people who were asserting and demonstrating their commitment to Australia while showcasing their continuing pride in their cultural heritage. It is worthwhile to note that a few years back, the annual Australia Day Parade would attract around 300 participants. Each year there is an Anzac Day Eve Youth Vigil at several war memorials in and around Adelaide. And each year young representatives from ethnic communities proudly participate in the proceedings to acknowledge all those who gave their lives in the service of their country. There is no doubt about the loyalty of migrants to the country they now call home.

And this leads to some of my observations about national security. Multiculturalism is one of the important strategies for achieving national security. In Australia migrants and their families call Australia home because they are accepted as Australians and play a key role in building and shaping our way of life and our institutions. They feel they do belong to Australia. If migrants were treated as visitors or outsiders or as being less than full equals then it would be understandable if they did not call Australia home and they did not form an allegiance with this nation-state. On this matter let me refer to the thoughts of Professor Tariq Ramadan from Oxford University who is an adviser to the British Government, Scotland Yard, and, on occasion, the Australian Government. Professor Ramadan has talked about the importance of integration for national security. In the case of the London bombers he explored the notion of integration:

*“When we are talking about integration, we mainly mean social integration, cultural integration, intellectual integration. Social integration meaning you have jobs and you are in the society. Cultural integration, you are westernised or you know the surrounding culture, and intellectual integration, you have been educated. So there is something which is a sense of going through the whole dimension of what integration is in our mind at the social level. 95% of the people who were involved in the suicide bombings in the UK and in the States [met] these conditions.*

*Westernised they were, culturally integrated. Intellectually some of them had PhDs, very well educated, no problem about education. They were not marginalised people. And then at the same time socially integrated, they had jobs.*

*So what was missing? Born and raised in some European countries or in Britain. You listen to the video of Mohammad Sidique Khan, [one of the London underground suicide bombers], and you understand what the problem is. He's telling his own fellow citizens, 'You are killing our brothers there, we are going to kill you here.' It's an us-versus-them rhetoric. He doesn't feel that he belongs to the country, 'this is not my country'. So he got all the parameters of what we call integration except one, which is the psychological integration, to feel at home.'*

Multiculturalism aims to go beyond “social integration, cultural integration and intellectual integration” to make everyone feel at home. What, however, is involved in feeling at home? To what do people give their allegiance? When we talk of national security it is implied that the nation state is the focus of loyalty. The role of the nation state was established in 1648 with the signing of the Treaty of Westphalia which stipulated that the citizens of respective nations should be subjected primarily to the laws of their own governments. Historians have identified the introduction of printing, railways and the telegraph as being the factors that enabled states to bring their populations under a single system. Equally, however, international relations experts today are highlighting the fact that just as modern technology helped facilitate the rise of nation states, so it is now breaking them down again. Modern technology is giving rise to the global era in which many international decisions are determined by international businesses and financial dealings or by leaders of interest groups or religious groups. Increasingly, people around the world are identifying themselves by their shared circumstances, grievances, interests, beliefs or value systems rather than by the nation state in which they were born or in which they now live. Many analysts are forecasting the continued decline in the role of the nation state, especially in world affairs.

This raises important questions for national security and defence. Current security issues are primarily the responsibility of nation states around the world. The authority of the nation state, however, is based on the loyalty of the subjects of the state. This authority will disappear if residents no longer identify with the state – they may live there, go to school there, work there, socialise with others there, pay taxes there, buy goods and services there – but do they identify first and foremost with this nation state? What would happen if there was a change in the political or economic

system in the nation state? Would all residents remain loyal to the nation state or would some transfer their allegiance to another entity which was more in line with their value system or personal interests? Multiculturalism charts a middle path and avoids creating a dilemma for citizens. Multiculturalism is founded on the principles of diversity, tolerance, acceptance and understanding. When Europeans first settled in South Australia it was described as a “paradise of dissent” where people of all faiths and backgrounds would be welcomed and accepted. Within every South Australian – indigenous, descendant of early European settlers, migrant and refugee – there is a precious repository of culture, language and history, and a legacy of customs and traditions. This knowledge and experience shapes how we interact with each other as individuals and as collectives. We have amongst us the wisdom, experience and outlook of a great many peoples and cultures; the experience of the whole world has come to South Australia. All these things combine to draw from each one of us the best that we have to offer to build the great mosaic of South Australia and to make the best contribution we possibly can to our community. People are our greatest asset, and with such diversity, just imagine the possibilities!

But of course none of this just happens, and one of the ways multiculturalism is given its voice here is through the SA Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission – SAMEAC – of which I have the honour of being its Chairman. SAMEAC works to increase awareness and understanding of ethnic diversity, as well as its challenges and opportunities. We advise and assist the State Government and public authorities on matters relating to the advancement of multiculturalism, the needs of ethnic communities and their people. The accelerated global movement of people, ideas and belief systems is the defining reality of our times and it is both naïve and dangerous to assume that any society can or should quarantine itself by returning to an imaginary past characterised by cultural uniformity. History shows us that the denial of diversity can lead to ideas of superiority and to so-called “clashes of civilisations”. Multiculturalism, on the other hand, creates social and global harmony — our own example is proof of that — and is the best hope for the future. We, in South Australia, can justly claim that we have a head start.

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## MEMBER UPDATE

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A bottle of wine will be given to any member who successfully recruits a new paid-up member prior to June 30 2008.

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

## SOCIAL CALENDAR 2008

Sunday 29 June - Winter Carvery

Friday 22 August - Dining In Night

Sunday 23 November - Sundowner

**Please note the change of date for the Winter Carvery**, to accommodate the availability of our Patron to attend the Dining In Night on 22 August. More details will be publicised closer to the time of each function.

## Know your Councillors

### Michael Gorroick



After graduating from Hull University in England in 1959 with an Honours Degree in Physics and Pure Mathematics, science degree, Michael was recruited to join the Weapons Research Establishment (WRE), at Salisbury to study optical phenomena associated with Black Knight missile bodies as they re-entered the earth's atmosphere at very high speeds. In 1966, his work was re-directed to evaluation of the ability of military aircrew to identify ground targets using televisual and unaided visual techniques. By 1969, the emphasis of his work was on the acquisition of operational data from ADF field training exercises to validate studies and simulations of military operations. Data gathering became the basis for analysis of operational capabilities, particularly Australia's ground based air defence systems, for Army and Air Force. Michael attained a Postgraduate Diploma in Military Operational Analysis at the British Army's Royal Military College of Science at Shrivenham in England in 1982, after completing a study of the operational effectiveness of air attacks on naval shipping for the RAAF. From 1988 to when he retired from the DSTO in 2001, Michael headed a

Group responsible for identification of information flows in military HQs and which later concentrated on the evaluation and improvement of the organisational structures of military enterprises.

**Personal !**

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## LIBRARY

As you know, we have an extensive library, with books dating back to the early 19th Century on military expeditions and various subjects and more books are being added all the time. Members are always welcome to avail themselves of the library's facilities.

Come in during normal library hours (10 am to 4 pm Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays) to peruse the extensive range of books, magazines and Service newspapers that are on display, and relax with a cup of tea or coffee.