



*Royal United Services Institute  
of  
South Australia Inc*

Royal United Services Institute of Australia Inc

*Promoting National Security and Defence*

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RUSI-SA

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## NEWSLETTER

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### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The good news is that Brigadier Tim Hanna and Colonel Chris Burns have both agreed to join the RUSI-SA Council and have been appointed to fill two of the current vacancies. Both bring considerable experience and knowledge to the Council and are warmly welcomed.

The long awaited break in the season has arrived and may have been a contributing factor to the lack of numbers which led to the cancellation of the BBQ planned for Sunday 17 May. This was discussed at the Council Meeting on Monday 18 May and it was felt that perhaps in the future we should concentrate on the more popular Dining-in-Night, Winter Carvery and Christmas Sundowner.

The long awaited Defence White Paper has now been released and, as expected, it is very heavily equipment – oriented. Colonel Neville Bergin has kindly agreed to prepare a review of the key aspects of the White Paper, which he will present at the luncheon on 1 June.

Whilst on the subject of luncheons, I thank all the attendees that took the time to complete the survey forms prepared by Council Member Judy Berry. Judy summarised the comments and a report was tabled at the last Council Meeting. As a result, the table layout will be somewhat modified to hopefully suit all tastes – so come along on 1 June and see for yourself.

Members will be aware of the expansion activities at RAAF Base Edinburgh and the maritime precinct "Techport Australia" at Osborne. Once the weather warms up and work progresses the Council plans to organise visits to these sites - details will be announced in the Newsletters.

**COL David Stoba**

**MONTHLY LUNCHEONS**

**Monday 1 June 2009**

**Speaker:** Colonel Neville Bergin,  
Vice President,  
Royal United Services Institute of  
South Australia.

**Topic:** The Defence White Paper 2009.

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**Monday 3 August 2009**

**Speaker:** Dr Susan Neuhaus,  
Colonel RAAMC and Clinical Associate  
Professor of Surgery, Breast, Endocrine and  
Surgical Oncology Unit, Royal Adelaide  
Hospital (TBC).

**Topic:** TBC.

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**Monday 7 September 2009**

**Speaker:** Dr John Bruni,  
Director, Strategic Advice and Geopolitical  
Estimates (SAGE) International.

**Topic:** The Future of US Policy in the  
Arabian Gulf.

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 and hear, 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 usually 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.

**SOCIAL CALENDAR 2009**

**Friday 26 June** - Dining In Night at the Naval, Military & Air Force Club.

**Sunday 16 August** – Winter Carvery, Flagstaff Hill Golf Club *(Please note the change of date)*

**Sunday 22 November** – The Sundowner

It is regretted that the Barbeque had to be cancelled due to the lack of bookings required to make the function financially viable.

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## ABSTRACT

*Modern Operations place great demands on the skills and expertise of our military personnel. Some legal demands may be unclear or open to interpretation. Practical judgment and personal moral integrity is an important part of officer training. This article suggests that training for officer cadets integrates a component on duty and virtue. Although this would have a philosophical basis it would be part of a practical approach to any applied ethics training.*

The term “Western Military Forces” in this instance encompasses Australia, Great Britain, the United States of America and Canada. The generic term “soldier” is used for soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines.

Both combat and peace keeping operations have become increasingly complex since the end of WWII. Combat has moved from the more traditional forms, such as army against army, into what is now recognised as the asymmetric battlefield. Briefly this is a term used to describe an attempt by a conventionally weaker force to shape the conditions of combat so that the morally scrupulous stronger force cannot advance without violating the laws of war. The Western Military Forces, including Australia, although having superior weaponry and operational and strategic strength, face enemies who will resort to using children as soldiers, civilians as human shields and suicide bombers, amongst other means. For example, service on the battlefield is very different from a situation in which the task is to keep the peace between two warring parties.

Modern situations, such as the examples above, often place the modern military leader under a great deal of ethical stress. Yet the expectation of the general public, even in these changed and demanding circumstances, is that soldiers will use restraint and perform to the highest ethical standards. Not only do increased developments in media technology ensure that situations both good and bad appear in one’s living room, there is also an increased awareness of human rights within civilian society. In humanitarian terms, the Western Military Forces are tasked to serve the common good even though there is acknowledgement that there are political,

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

## DUTY AND VIRTUE IN MILITARY ETHICS

**Dr Gillian Griffin**

Dr Griffin has recently been awarded a PhD from Flinders University for her study of the role of Duty and Virtue in Military Ethics. Her research was conducted in the United States of America, Canada, Great Britain and Australia. This short article is a brief summary of her thesis. Gillian, who is a member of the RUSI, is presently engaged in writing a book on Military Ethics.

security and economic ends of any mission. The ultimate end, however, is to 'bring about peace', even if the means to do this may be necessarily violent.

Those responsible for training in the military forces are aware that moral integrity is as important as expertise and technical skills. The aim is to train young cadet officers who have chosen to serve in the military not only in the necessary leadership and technical skills to achieve the mission to which they have been assigned with minimum loss of life, but to act within military law and with moral integrity. To carry out their work ethically and legally, soldiers are trained and disciplined to the highest possible level, synonymous with military service. All members of the military services acknowledge and accept duty as being the most important aspect of military service. Soldiers are expected to obey and be obeyed. This is necessarily so, and without this sense of duty to obey, the military simply could not function. Cadet Officers are taught this in the very beginning, before they begin their career. They are also taught that orders must be legal and fall within the Rules of Engagement, that is, what is and what is not acceptable and allowable. However, despite the concern of the military forces with the personal ethical behaviour of its members, the main thrust of the military role in the world generally remains a concern, with means and ends and legality taking precedence over morality in complex and dangerous situations.

Duty should be enough, one might think, in any profession, but duties can conflict and the 'perfect' duty may not be recognised. Many war crimes have been committed under the plea, 'I was only doing my duty'. This weakness in duty indicates that there is either another moral theory that can provide ethical guidelines for every situation and circumstance, or there may be no one moral theory that will provide the answer of what to do in every situation. The military have tried to fill this perceived moral gap, by drawing up lists of values, often drawing upon the ancient military virtues of honour and chivalry.

The weaknesses of a duty only ethic have become obvious. These values are the moral goods held by military leaders as being essential to the 'moral dimension' of their profession.

They are lists of ideals or organisational attributes, some of which are moral and some non-moral. Those that have a moral meaning, such as loyalty, courage and honesty, are moral imperatives. They are not a choice. A soldier is not expected to choose whether to be courageous or not. Values are a requirement of duty and are expected to be obeyed. However, values, again as with rules, are not a perfect solution to ensuring the ethical behaviour of the professional soldier. For example there have been many cases where loyalty, an important 'military value', has been misplaced and cover-ups have occurred. Values are not intended to motivate good behaviour and will always be open to a bias of meaning. Loyalty in the context of the military may be interpreted in many different ways.

Rules and military values are not always going to provide the answers, because ultimately character is what counts. There have been suggestions in various articles that there should be some form of training in military virtues. The problem with this is that virtues can simply supplant lists of values and that virtue theory may be presented as a panacea for all 'moral ills'. Virtue theory will not fulfil this role. There is often a misunderstanding by teachers of the role which virtue plays in decision-making. In fact, except for radical virtue theorists, very few moral philosophers would agree that one ethical theory could perform all the tasks of making an ethical decision. The reason for this is that ethical theories, by their very nature of trying to stand alone, can become reductionist, relativistic and emotive.

The strength of virtue is that the teaching of virtue theory helps one to understand where one's true duty might lie, and gives substance to, and an understanding of, what military values actually stand for. Importantly, virtues are directed towards an end and virtue can be understood more clearly when the true end of the mission, which is ultimately to bring about peace and stability, is seen to be the ultimate goal.

If the goal of ethical education is achieving good behaviours, it should insist on awakening moral sensibility, helping new officers to make sound moral judgments, inducing moral motivation and encouraging moral virtues. Possibly, some people would argue that ethical education is only

about developing moral reasoning skills. This is not enough. What does it matter if students know how to reason well in ethics if they are not motivated to act ethically? Therefore, in my view, ethical education requires not only the development of intellectual skills but also the development of attitudes for good behaviour.

The character of the individual is going to play a major role in making any kind of ethical decision but, unlike rules and lists of values, the acquisition of virtues is not a question of knowledge, but a result of personally deliberated and free actions. Virtue theory, presented in an integrated fashion to other theories of moral reasoning, helps to give strong support to rules, to the traditional military values and, moreover, gives guidance when rules are not enough.

Military ethics is about duty, but it is also about character as well, and the two must be presented, together with an understanding of military values. There needs to be acknowledgement of the history and principles which are the foundation of duty and military values, and the role which virtue theory plays in our lives in decision making. An integrated approach to ethics, rather than a fragmented one where various ethical theories are set out on a shelf to pick and choose from, should be part of a foundational course on ethics. Above all military ethics is an applied and practical, professional ethic and should be approached as such.

## **CURRENT ISSUES BRIEFING**

**25 March 2009**

### **CHALLENGES OF ISLAMIC MILITANCY**

**Major General Vikram Madan  
VSM and Bar (Retd) ex Indian Army and  
a member of the RUSI-SA.**

Following is an edited version of the presentation that was given by MAJGEN Vikram Madan.

Islamic Militancy is probably the deadliest virus of our times. It has seriously affected many countries, societies and individuals and much death and destruction have been witnessed over the past three decades. Unfortunately, this menace will not go away in a hurry. Each glimmer of hope is quickly wiped out by another strike by a suicide bomber or some terrorist group somewhere in the world.

I will attempt to give you an overview of Islamic Militancy and the challenges we face, as I see them, covering the subject with following themes;-

1. Rise in Radicalism, Militancy and Terrorism
2. Jihad
3. Al Qaeda and Taliban
4. Mumbai Carnage and its Repercussions
5. Recent Gaza War and its Impact on Islamic Militancy
6. Way Forward
7. Threat to Australia: An Outside View

## **RISE IN RADICALISM, MILITANCY AND TERRORISM**

Over the last 30 years or so the troubled relations between radical Islam and the West have been continuously deteriorating and they certainly took a nose dive after 9/11; the US, with its allies, launched a war on terror, not with great contemplation and strategic planning, but more for revenge and immediate retribution. This war was seen as a war on Islam by many in the Muslim world - an unfortunate development.

Within Islam there are serious contradictions emerging. Many scholars, including Islamic scholars want to know what has gone wrong with Islam. Up to the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries, Islam excelled in almost all fields of human endeavour be it science, philosophy, jurisprudence, governance and top of all this was an outstanding architectural contribution. Why did it stand still for the next 500 years when the West was developing? No one has the answer. We are now witnessing the worst form of Islamic fundamentalism and radicalisation by more and more moderates in the Islamic societies. Are we witnessing a clash of civilizations? Why this backward march in time? Fortunately for us the percentage of radical Muslims within about three billion Muslims in

the world is still very small, not more than 5% and therefore there is hope. Islamisation, radicalisation, militancy and terrorism are all separate entities and phenomena but the dividing lines are blurring by the day and one is leading to another with a deadly end product.

To my mind, 1979 and 1989 are two momentous years in the rise of Islamic militancy. In 1979, the Soviets came into Afghanistan, the Shah of Iran was deposed and a hardcore fundamentalist, Ayatollah Khomeini, rose from the masses in Islamic revolution in Iran. Bhutto was hanged by General Zia-ul-Haq who gave in to the radicals and virtually turned Pakistan into a fundamentalist Islamic society that it has not been able to come out from; Israel signed a peace treaty with Egypt and the Muslim brotherhood felt ashamed and let down by Anwar Sadat and the Grand Mosque of Mecca was seized by radical Wahhabis. The decade of the 80s saw both the US and Pakistan get into an unholy and deadly alliance to raise, train and support thousands of Muslim Jihadis and Mujahedeens from all over the world and launch them to oust the Soviets from Afghanistan. I call it a short-term gain for such a horrific long-term pain for the whole world.

On average, each year for four years, 65 000 tonnes of arms and ammunition were pumped into the hands of militants by the CIA through the ISI of Pakistan including 300 stinger missiles. Al Qaeda was raised and nurtured by the CIA and the Inter Services Intelligence Agency of Pakistan (ISI). Training camps mushroomed all over Pakistan and in the border regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan.

In 1989, the Soviets withdrew. The Americans patted their back for a job well done and the Soviets abandoned the region without any desire or inclination towards rebuilding a war ravaged Afghanistan or finding meaningful engagement and vocation for thousands of militants. Iraq attacked Kuwait, a most stupid act that brought in American troops to Saudi Arabia and made matters worse, because, for the majority of Saudis, the arrival of Americans on their soil was seen as an act defiling the holy land of Mecca and Medina.

The 90s saw the rise of the Taliban with huge unconditional support from the Pakistan

Government, its strong military organisation and the dubious ISI. Soon this monster would shake the world by implementing the most satanic version of Shariat laws, as interpreted by the ruling Mullahs. We have seen images of their barbaric treatment of women. Pakistan not only got their willing warriors to fight their proxy war with India in Kashmir but also encouraged and supported the Taliban to take over Afghanistan from battling tribal warlords. Pakistan has always nurtured a grandiose plan to have a pliable government in Afghanistan to provide it with a strategic advantage over India. The Taliban won, with Pakistan fully involved, and ruled for the next five years with impunity, until 9/11 shook us all and the civilised world was sickened by images of Taliban atrocities.

NATO, led by the US and supported by the Northern Alliance, launched its offensive and finally managed to oust the Taliban, but again blundered by abandoning the region. NATO compounded the foreign policy fiasco by appointing Musharaff and his unstable Pakistan as key elements of the war on terror and launched the wrong war at the wrong place in Iraq. I read Musharaff's biography a few months ago and what a bundle of lies! But I must grant the devil his dues. He managed to fool the Americans for seven long years and got billions of dollars worth of aid for his double games.

## **JIHAD**

To understand Islamic militancy more comprehensively, let us look at Jihad, the Mujahedeen, the new breed of terrorists and this awesome culture of suicide bombers. Jihad, as we understand it, is a Holy war of Muslims against a perceived injustice to their religion. Throughout Islamic history, scholars and jurists have argued over the exact definition of Jihad – a word derived from the Arabic root Jhd – meaning strive, struggle, endeavour or effort. The Prophet Mohammed himself talked about two JIHADS: Internal strife or struggle to be a better human being and the struggle against JULM, an Arabic word meaning Injustice – Tyranny. If the first is peace, the second is more aggressive in connotation, virtually meaning fight or war. Mohammed rated the internal struggle as the higher JIHAD than the second.

After the formation of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt in 1928, a new meaning of Holy War against “non-believers” emerged and the pendulum swung from the internal struggle to be a better human being to a more militant interpretation as war against non-believers. Unfortunately this interpretation is not out of context. There is debate, not without merit, between the concept of Jihad or Holy war of Muslims and the Just War of the West. Even the Iraq war with over 300 000 innocent civilian casualties is justified as a Just War. In violation of the sacred American constitution and established Geneva conventions, Guantanamo Bay and Abu Ghraib are justified as part of the Just War. The recent Gaza war is a Just War from the American point of view.

Mujahedeen are the holy warriors, Jihad warriors, warriors of God. The word has existed throughout Islamic history but got huge prominence during the war against the Soviets and thereafter.

If the good old terrorist believed in the dictum “kill one and frighten a thousand” the new terrorist believes in mass destruction and casualties for instant impact and glory and, unfortunately, the media helps. Each splinter group wants a bigger bang to announce that they have arrived. The Internet can give home grown recipes for bombs from dual use materials. It can help establish networking and alliances and gives access to motivational and propaganda material without detection. All one has to do is use Internet cafes.

### **Martyrdom and Culture of Suicide Bombers**

Martyrdom is an ultimate demonstration of Jihad. It has been made more spectacular in our times by the press and electronic media. It has given instant stardom amongst other Jihadis – a huge motivational factor - very valuable to shame the borderline Muslims “that I have given my young life for your cause, the larger Muslim cause”. The interpretation of the religious tenets by the fundamentalists promises a direct ticket to “Jannat-Heaven Jahan Hooren hain, Heere hain Dariya hain”. Meaning “there are heaps of goodies in heaven for you to grab. There are virgins just waiting for you to sleep with, bags of diamonds for you to have and rivers full of the elixir for life”.

Martyrdom for the cause is understood but “human bombs” is a recent phenomenon. We know about “Kamikaze,” Japanese pilots who flew into allied ships, but ‘suicide bombers’ on a large scale, to my understanding, were first demonstrated by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in Sri Lanka, to assassinate political leaders and cause panic. (The Indian Prime Minister, Rajeev Gandhi, was assassinated by a female human bomb.) Islamic Jihadis have now used it to great effect for the past 20 years or so. According to a Rand Corporation report, up to 2007, there were 900 suicide bombings in 31 countries by 30 different organisations. Suicide bombings are four times more lethal than Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs).

### **AL QAEDA AND TALIBAN**

There are hundreds of Islamic fundamentalist organizations, but Al Qaeda and Taliban are really the core. One is deadlier than the other. If Al Qaeda’s philosophy is global Jihad by terror, with the US and the West as primary targets, Taliban is much more fundamentalist and militant and is interested in regaining control of Afghanistan and the border region by sustained insurgency.

Al Qaeda was raised in the mid 80s as a platform for Jihadi groups from across the world to launch out against the Soviets. It was created by Osama bin Laden’s mentor Abdullah Azzam with tacit support from the CIA and the ISI of Pakistan. Osama Bin Laden rose to infamous stature and today is the most wanted man in the world. Many of us may think he is dead, but he is very much alive and is still the boss of Al Qaeda. He has been a sick man for the past few years with his kidneys failing and he is on frequent dialysis but his followers still worship him. Strategic and operational control is more with his number two Aiman al Zawahiri. Egyptian dominance of the organization is gradually increasing. If the US claims 70% of its leadership and cadres have been neutralised it is really of no comfort because it has tremendous regenerating capacity. Al Qaeda is there and ticking and still has global reach and tremendous financial clout. Hundreds of Islamic militant groups the world over owe allegiance to Al Qaeda and continue to seek financial, training and material help. In return they carry out acts of terrorism in their own country or against Western targets. If the acts are

spectacular, these groups have the Amir's i.e. Sheikh Osama Bin Laden's, blessings and the name of Al Qaeda is allowed to be used. CIA bosses a few months ago reported a huge recruitment by Al Qaeda of Westerner looking operatives to facilitate movement on the international scene.

Taliban, on the other hand, has the far deadlier agenda of not only taking over the whole of Afghanistan, but Pakistan as well and implementing its own satanic version of Sharia law. 80 % of its financial revenue comes from the illicit poppy and drug trade and the 20% balance comes from Saudi Arabia, other Arab countries and the Gulf region. It shelters and tolerates Al Qaeda's presence in its domain but its philosophies and ultimate agendas are vastly different. Taliban has two complimenting factions, Afghanistan based under Mullah Mohammed Omar and Pakistan based under Baitullah Mehsud, There are other leaders emerging on both sides of the border but they are all part of the same evil axis. The new face of Faizullah gained prominence recently in the Swat valley of Pakistan. Its recruiting base comprises students from religious schools called Madrassas, funded by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and patronised by successive Pakistan leaders. The dynamics are too complex to cover now but both Al Qaeda and Taliban have to be systematically weakened and finally neutralized. The financial tap has to be closed if the war on terror is to be won.

## **MUMBAI CARNAGE**

Details of the attack and the actions of security forces have been adequately covered already by the media. What is of concern would be to know if there was a serious intelligence failure? Was the response of security forces, especially the elite NSG commandos, prompt and effective? What were the response options against Pakistan discussed and implemented? Finally, has the incident had serious repercussions on the dynamics of the sub continent?

Intelligence failure, yes, definitely. The attack was launched by a Pakistan based terrorist group Lashker-e-toiba (LeT), a group banned by the US but fully patronised by the ISI and trained, armed, equipped, funded, guided and protected by the ISI to be used against India, not only in

Kashmir but to carry out acts of terrorism throughout the country. The same group attacked the Indian Parliament in 2001. Initially, Pakistan denied that any group involved was based in Pakistan. In the face of indisputable evidence it accepted, tongue in cheek, that the LeT were involved. Three activists from a front organization of LeT, Jamaat-ul-Dawa, were arrested by Indian Police in one of the Northern states in February 2008. During interrogation, they revealed a plot and showed a map of the sites that they were asked to reconnoitre for a possible strike.

This information was duly passed to the Mumbai police and the Anti Terrorist Squad (ATS). As time passed the information got buried. In any case the Indian Police, like most police forces the world over, is definitely not the most honest and efficient force. It has serious morale issues coming out of politicisation, insufficient numbers, grave yard shifts, poor weaponry, equipment and training. The patrol boats don't even have modern radars. In any case, 30 to 40,000 boats of all sizes go out to the sea each day in Mumbai and it is impossible to keep surveillance of all these vessels without very sophisticated equipment. Moreover the ATS in Mumbai were busy basking in the glory of a major breakthrough in arresting Hindu militants responsible for serial blasts and going over the moon for apprehending a serving LTCOL of the Indian Army. So cocky was the ATS chief that when the terrorists struck he didn't even bother to put on his bullet-proof vest, which was to hand. Was he thinking that he was invincible? He got shot and was killed. This was a high profile casualty.

Indian National Security Guard (NSG) commandos are like SAS troops, very professional, committed and highly motivated to take on high-risk missions. Unfortunately, ministers and VIPs, who don't have any threat to their lives, are misusing this force of 7400. In India it is a status symbol to have these Black Cat Commandos around to show how important one is. As a result, about 40% of the force is employed on VIP duties. Against all advice to distribute the force in major cities for a quick response, it is concentrated in Delhi and is the reason why it was effective only twelve hours later; it was a crucial and costly delay. State



Commando forces were there but many personnel are required to make them effective.

India discussed and deliberated upon all possible options, including the military option of striking the known terrorist camps in Pakistan by air, land and sea routes. India also discussed the nuclear dimension. Consultations were undertaken with the US and other Western friends. In the end India showed restraint, maturity and diplomatic finesse, which was appreciated by all. This proxy war of Pakistan on India has been the main impediment in normalising relations but the Mumbai attacks have seriously altered the dynamics of the region and mutual mistrust is so deep that peace in the sub continent is unlikely in the near future.

### **THE GAZA WAR**

As a young officer in the Indian army, I was fascinated by the professionalism and commitment of the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF). I studied, and later wrote articles, on the brilliant conduct of the 1967 and 1973 wars. To us, offensive action was the 5th Principle. In the IDF it is the first, which to young officers like me at that time, appealed so much. This one principle has dominated Israeli prosecution of wars throughout.

Let us talk about the Gaza war tonight, not in the context of details, but the end result, and the possible impact it has had on Islamic Militancy on the larger canvas and the changed equation in the Middle East. As Barack Obama said, if the house where his daughters slept was frequently pounded by rockets he would definitely do something about it. Yes, something needed to be done but the way it was done has not destroyed Hamas or contributed to any solution. On the contrary, Israeli's image, except in the US, has had the biggest battering of its 61 years of existence. Banning the international press from Gaza compounded the negative publicity. Images of women and children killed, a body of a 15 months old girl lying by the roadside for eight days and Israeli soldiers nonchalantly walking past, hasn't helped.

### **THE WAY FORWARD**

Over the past two months since Obama was elected, I have started seeing a tiny light at the

end of the tunnel, which got brighter last week when I read about the Taliban agreeing somewhat to join in the peace process. Obama's declared policy of engagement with the Muslim world is so timely. A policy of Engagement, not Isolation, Inclusion and not Exclusion, is the way forward. For the past five years, in every forum and anywhere that I have been invited to speak, I have said that insurgency wars are seldom won purely by military means. Military means must bring insurgency to a manageable level and control violence. Once weakened, insurgents will come to the negotiating table. The Afghanistan war is unwinnable. You can bring in 100,000 troops and stay there for 20 years, but you will not win this war. There has to be a grand strategy in place, notwithstanding the serious financial troubles the world faces. A controlled troop surge, in my view, is essential to control the violence, weaken the Taliban and gain suitable strength for negotiations.

On the other hand Pakistan has to be disciplined with a whip, its Army told to hold back under all circumstances and its ISI thoroughly cleaned up. We all understand this is no easy job, but it has to be done and I believe can be done, depending what we promise that country as a bargaining chip.

### **THREAT TO AUSTRALIA: AN OUTSIDE VIEW**

In my concluding remarks I will highlight the threat to Australia. Many here would recall the explicit threat by Osama Bin Laden over Al Zazeera in the aftermath of the Bali Bombing. It is to the credit of the Australian Federal Police, ASIO, the Preventive Security Machine of the State Police and of course US support that Australia hasn't suffered a direct major strike. With the active support of the Indonesian Government, its police and our security agencies, activities of JI have been largely controlled here. But this should not make us complacent. We have about 300,000 Muslim Diaspora here and, to my understanding, scores of latent militant cells do exist. The Bali bombers have been executed and we cannot rule out the resonance of the firing squad here. The successful Victorian trial of Benbrika and party was a feather in the Security Agency's cap but could it be the tip of the iceberg? The American Vice President, Joe Biden, this month

highlighted the Al Qaeda threat to Australia. Sooner or later, Australia will contribute more troops to Afghanistan and that could well generate anti-Australia sentiment amongst Jihadis. Let us all hope that the good work of our security agencies continues and we can sleep peacefully in this most beautiful and amazing country.

## KNOW YOUR COUNCILLORS

**COL Chris Burns CSC, FAIM, AAICD, psc**



Chris Burns has recently been appointed to the Council of the RUSI of SA. He was born in Sydney in 1958 and enlisted in the Australian Army as an apprentice electrician in 1975. On completion of his trade training, he attended the Officer Cadet School, Portsea, graduating in December 1979.

On graduation, he was assigned to the Royal Australian Armoured Corps. Throughout his career he served in a number of armoured units including: the 1<sup>st</sup> Armoured Regiment, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry Regiment, 3<sup>rd</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> South Australian Mounted Rifles and 2<sup>nd</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Regiment (Queensland Mounted Infantry). He also served as an instructor at the First Recruit Training Battalion and the Royal Military College, Duntroon.

In 1988-89 he was seconded to the United Nations as a military observer in the Middle East. During this secondment he saw service on the Golan Heights in Syria, in Iran for the establishment of the ceasefire between Iran and Iraq, and in the Gaza Strip during the first 'Palestinian Uprising' or 'Intifada'. As a member of the United Nations Peacekeeping Forces he was a recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1988.

He attended the Australian Army Command and Staff College in 1993. In 1996, he was posted as the Australian Army exchange officer at Headquarters U.S. Army Pacific in Hawaii. For his service with the US Army as a Plans Officer and the Executive Officer for Operations he was awarded the US Meritorious Service Medal.

He returned to Australia as the Director, Bilateral Engagement Management in the International Policy Division of the Australian Defence Headquarters. In January 1999 he assumed command of 2<sup>nd</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Regiment (Queensland Mounted Infantry), an armoured reconnaissance unit based in Brisbane. He was awarded a Land Commander's commendation for his service as the Commanding Officer, particularly in the planning for and preparation of forces for operations in East Timor. In 2001, he was posted as the Senior Military Officer in Land Operations Division of the Defence Science and Technology Organisation in Adelaide, South Australia.

Chris was promoted to Colonel and appointed as the Director of Operations for the Australian Army in January 2002. In that appointment he was responsible for the strategic level planning for, and management of, preparedness and operations involving Australian Army forces. This included significant operations in East Timor, Afghanistan, Iraq and the Solomon Islands. For his role in the planning and conduct of operations in Iraq he was awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross (CSC).

He was appointed as the Australian Defence Attaché accredited to the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2004. He concluded that appointment in June 2007 and was awarded the Philippine Legion of Honour for acts of commendable merit benefiting the Republic of the Philippines, the highest award that can be given to a foreign citizen by the Government of the Philippines.

Since returning to Australia, Chris has concluded his fulltime service in the Australian Army. He established his own consultancy company, which he ran successfully until he was invited to join Defence South Australia as the Director – Land

in July 2008. Chris is married to Linda and they have two sons: Luke is 25 and Mark 14. He is interested in all sports, especially golf and Australian Rules football.

### RESERVE FORCES DAY- A FAMILY DAY THIS YEAR

This year is the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the commencement of WWII, in which so many of our Navy, Army and Air Force Reservists served.

To celebrate this important milestone it has been decided that, in keeping with the objective of Reserve Forces Day to raise the profile of the Navy, Army and Air Force Reserve Forces, to recognise former and serving Reservists and to thank their partners and employers for their support, a Family Day will be held at Keswick Barracks, Keswick on Sunday 5 July 2009.

This is the first time that families have been specifically targeted and recognised on Reserve Forces Day (in the past they have always been welcome to attend) and it is hoped that many serving Reservists will use this as an opportunity to bring their families along to be involved in the Day and to be specially thanked for their support of our Reservists.

The function will be located at the Army Museum compound near the entrance to Keswick Barracks and will run from 12 noon to 3.00pm. Barbequed sausages and hamburgers will be provided FREE to all those who attend and FREE admission will be given to everyone to visit the highly acclaimed Army Museum. Bar facilities and refreshments will be available at the 48 Bty 105 Club nearby and at the 43 Cadet Unit tent to be located within the compound.

Unit Association displays will be erected around the compound and it is expected that Service bands will play during the afternoon. Other items of interest are also being planned.

Please support our Reservists, past and present, by attending Reserve Forces Day 2009.

### RSL

A commemoration service to recognize the contribution of Aboriginal service-people will be held at the State War Memorial at 10am on Friday 29 May 2009. It is open to everyone.

The RSL State Conference will be held on Saturday 4 July 2009 and the RSL National Conference will be held in Adelaide in September.

### LIBRARY

The following books, papers and magazines have been added to the library recently. Malcolm Orchard provided the reviews.

#### Non-fiction

*"Hell's Heroes"* by Roger Maynard.

*Hell's Heroes* is the story of the prisoner of war camp that never was – so dubbed by one old soldier because the atrocities that occurred there went largely unreported at the time. But while the Burma-Thailand railway, the Bataan death march and events at Changi became synonymous with Japanese brutality, the experiences of those imprisoned in camps like the notorious 4-B provided a measure of horror to match some of the world's most notorious war crimes. This is the forgotten story of the worst P.O.W. camp in Japan.

*"On Paths of Ash"* by Robert Holman.

*On Paths of Ash* is an extraordinary Australian WWII story. Robert and Jack Holman were working-class brothers who enlisted to fight for their country and found themselves in three of the most horrific experiences of the war. Caught up in the fall of Singapore, they were interned at Changi POW camp, from where they became prison labourers on the infamous Burma railway. From there they went as slaves to the coalmines of Japan, close enough to Nagasaki to see the mushroom cloud when the atomic bomb was dropped.

Both brothers survived because of brotherly mateship – when one was down, the other came to his aid. Both brothers lived to tell the tale, but it was Bob Holman who had the foresight to write about his story before he died. In doing so, he proved himself to be an accomplished and colourful writer, with an eye for mesmerising detail. This is his memoir, creating the picture of a sensitive boy who grew up to go to war and live through some of the most terrible experiences it had to offer. His memoir has been expertly edited by Peter Thomson, who provides an invaluable historical context for Bob's story.

Three books were donated by Hazel Kruger:-

*“Journey of Remembrance”* by Julie Reece

Visit to the Western Front by Mount Barker High School students in 2001.

*“The Buccaneers (WWII)”* by Bryan Cooper  
About motor torpedo boats in WWII.

*“Gona's Gone”* by Peter Brune  
In New Guinea during WWII.

### **Military Papers**

*“The Future Relevance of Smaller Air Forces”*  
by Dr Sanu Kainikara

Paper No. 29, Air Power Development Centre.

Air power has always been a resource intensive capability and is therefore expensive to maintain and operate at the desired level of competency. Furthermore, with improvements in air power capability, brought about by innovations in cutting edge technology, the costs of maintaining effective air forces have increased exponentially. Simultaneously, political compulsions in democratic nations across the world demand a more equitable distribution of national wealth in which defence is only one of many competing priorities that all seem equally urgent, especially in times of comparative peace. Under these circumstances, air forces have the unenviable task of having to field adequate capabilities from within a finite allocation of resources.

*“The Ghost in the Machine”*  
by LTCOL Rupert Hoskin

Study Paper 316, Land Warfare Studies Centre.

This study paper utilises scientific research from military and civilian fields regarding human factors. Building on this research, the author draws conclusions about how to utilise human factors more effectively in military planning, and recommends several specific activities that should be incorporated into the Military Appreciation Process to this end. If adopted, these recommendations would enable the Army to address human factors holistically in its planning process by including such factors in doctrinal publications, MAP training courses and in staff college teaching methodologies. These changes will imbue future commanders and their staffs with the necessary understanding to effect change to the way that the Army conducts the MAP on operations. The same approach also has wider applicability the Joint MAP (JMAP) used at operational and higher headquarters, and the similar planning processes employed by Australian allies.

### **Fiction**

*“The Whole Truth”* by David Baldacci  
*“A Time To Die”* by Wilbur Smith  
*“Plague Ship”* by Clive Cussler  
*“Amazing Grace”*, *“The House of Hope Street”*  
and *“Irresistible Forces”* by Daniel Steel  
*“A Passion So Deadly”* by Hilary Bonner

Air Commodore Lyal Klaffer donated the above seven books.

### **Magazines**

*Australian Warship*, Issue No. 45 (2008)  
*Asia-Pacific Defence Reporter*, Vol 35 No 2 (2009)  
*Jane's Navy International*, Vol 114 No 1 (Jan/Feb 2009)  
*Jane's International Defence Revue*, Vol 42 (Feb 2009)  
*The Navy (Naval League of Australia)*, Vol 71 No 1 (Jan Mar 2009)  
*Australian Defence Magazine*, Vol 17 No 3 (Mar 2009)  
*Defence 2009* (Defence Technology International) Vol 3 No 1 (Jan 2009)