



Royal United Services Institute of Victoria Inc.

Promoting National Security and Defence

A Constituent Body of the Royal United Services Institute of Australia

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Dates for your Diary

9 March – Council Meeting – **Victoria Barracks**

31 March – Lunchtime Speaker – **Defence Plaza**

9 April – **RUSI VIC Seminar** – **Simpson Barracks**

28 April – Lunchtime Speaker – **Defence Plaza**

26 May – **Blamey Oration** – **Naval & Military Club**
(MAJGEN John Hartley, RUSI National President)

RUSI VIC CYBERLINKS

RUSI of Australia (inc Victoria) <http://www.defence.gov.au>

Department of Defence

<http://defence.gov.au>

Rusi for Defence Studies Whitehall <http://www.rusi.org>

Australian Strategic Policy Institute <http://www.aspi.org.au>

Australia Defence Association

<http://www.ada.asn.au>

Lunchtime Speaker Meeting

**** Thursday, 31st March, 2005 ****

Dr Damien Kingsbury

Senior Lecturer – International Development Studies

Deakin University

“Indonesia under SBY: reform, obligation and opposition”

Dr Kingsbury is a widely respected and much sought after media commentator on S.E. Asian political affairs, specialising in matters Indonesian. He is the author of several books on the region. We are assured of a fascinating and penetrating account of the Indonesia evolving under President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, otherwise known as SBY.

Venue: Defence Plaza Time : 1130hrs (Tea/Coffee); Address : 1200hrs

Admission : Members - \$3.00 Non-Members - \$5.00.

Lunch may be purchased from the adjacent “Armoury Bistro” afterwards.

Please advise the Office on 9282 7498 or 9282 7392 if you and/or any guests intend to be present.

**** Saturday 9th April, 2005 ****

RUSI Victoria 2005 Seminar

“Terrorism : Threat & Response”

Venue : Simpson Barracks, Watsonia

1300 hours – 1700 hours

(Further details on Page 5)

**** Thursday 28th April, 2005****

The Air Warfare Destroyer Project

The RAN has a requirement for three Air Warfare Destroyers. A decision is soon to be announced regarding competing ship designs, ship builders and shipyards and the State in which the major construction will be completed.

A speaker of note, will be advised shortly.

Venue – Defence Plaza, 661 Bourke Street

Vale – We record with deep regret the passing of;

Life Member BRIG L.D. King OBE ED – Doncaster East; Maj G. Sadlier – Prahran

We also record with deep regret the passing of former long-time Member - LTCOL G.B. (Gruff) Courtney MBE MC, and that of Mrs Sue Selliseth, wife of CAPT Ian Selliseth, formerly President of the now disbanded Colac Branch.

New Members – We welcome the following New Members:-

**LTCOL I.D. George - Camberwell
LTCOL N.G. Grimes – Malvern East
MAJGEN P.F. Haddad AO – Williamstown
Mr A.J. Robb AO MP -Brighton**

From the President – Air Commodore Mike Rawlinson

We have already commenced our lecture series for the year with an excellent address in February on Munitions Manufacturing by Darryl Page of Australian Defence Industries Ltd. Our balanced program of high quality presenters will continue through the year addressing issues relevant to Australia's defence and national security. In April we have scheduled a Saturday afternoon seminar at Simpson Barracks on the topic 'Terrorism: Threat & Response'. We have not had a speaker on terrorism in our regular lecture series and I commend the seminar to you.

Already 2005 has been a year of significant events, including some which have involved new or extended commitments for the ADF. We have been numbed by the shock of the Boxing Day Tsunami, particularly the extent of the devastation in Indonesia's troubled Aceh province. The prompt and generous response of the Australian Government has been popularly supported, and the ADF's effectiveness in being able help on the ground in the provision of water, food and shelter in a professional and caring way has been a source of pride to all Australians.

The Government has increased and prolonged our commitment to Iraq, following the outstanding turn-out in the Iraqi election. Aside from any domestic political ramifications, the extra commitment of 450 troops drawn from our mechanised brigade in Darwin should be a sustainable response that will meaningfully contribute to the UN endorsed recovery operation. It should also forge positive links with the Japanese contingent of Army engineers they will be supporting.

The Chief of the Defence Force, General Peter Cosgrove has announced that he will step down mid-year. General Cosgrove has been the highest profile senior military chief in many years and his watch as CDF has probably been the most eventful. Unfortunately he will not be able to exclusively talk to RUSI VIC before he leaves, but will be addressing the Naval and Military Club in April. If there are places for non-Club members to attend

this function, we will alert you to the opportunity.

Air Marshal Angus Houston is tipped as General Cosgrove's successor.

RUSI VIC has two new Vice-Patrons, Air Vice-Marshal Chris Spence, who has taken over as Commander Joint Logistics from Major General Peter Haddad, and Brigadier Steven Aird, the new Commander of the 4th Brigade. On your behalf I have wished them successful tours in their new appointments.

Despite the urgent and pressing needs of the 'war on terror', and taking appropriate action to avoid 'failed States' in Papua New Guinea and the South West Pacific, we must not forget Australia's future 'high-end' defence needs inherent in the 'arc of instability' to our North. The problems of North Korea, China-Taiwan and instability in the Philippines and Indonesia are still there; the media just has not highlighted them.

RUSI's aphorism 'Promoting National Security and Defence' befits our broad view regarding the safeguarding of Australia and its interests. National Security as differentiated from defence, has assumed a greater importance in everyone's thinking since 'Twin Towers' or 'September 11', and the subsequent 'war on terror'. Primary actors in the 'war on terror' are the Federal Police, State Police and Intelligence Agencies, with main line diplomacy and defence falling in behind.

While most people agree in principle, on the importance of 'national security', even at the strategic level there appears to be a lack of agreement as to the precise meaning of the term. There are many different definitions of 'security' in use, and several different official definitions of national security.

Is 'defence' a sub-set of 'national security' or are they separate and complementary? While I have always assumed the sub-set definition, in the RUSI of WA newsletter of February this year, Norman Ashworth addresses this issue and suggests that it would be clearer if they were thought of as complementary.

In the immediate past semantics regarding 'security' have been employed by political groups arguing for a reduction in defence funding. The leftist 'Secure Australia Project' (SAP) of the 1990s used a very broad definition of security that included income security and protection from domestic violence as well as defence. Under the broad 'security' umbrella, the SAP proposed that the existing resource allocation of the components be re-prioritised, inevitably resulting in a redistribution of part of the defence vote to social welfare and other areas.

While this particular re-allocation is most unlikely to occur under the current government, the definition of security and national security needs to be unambiguous. The lack of a clear, well-

understood definition has the potential to unintentionally alter the balance in resource allocation between urgent and short-term requirements on the one hand and expensive, long-term, high-end capability on the other.

The definition of National Security is being thoroughly investigated by the RUSI National Office in the context of our National Strategic Plan. We may be able to make a worthwhile contribution here as rational decision making in government requires a single well-understood definition.

From The Secretary - Martin Holme

As our President has outlined, the year has commenced well. I commend to you our second Lunctime Speaker Meeting, on 24 March, when Dr Damien Kingsbury, whose in-depth understanding and knowledge of Indonesian affairs, will provide us with up-to-date insight into how this important neighbour to our North, is faring under its new President. It is worth noting that SBY will be visiting Australia at about that time, the first Presidential visit since 2001 and before that, 1975.

The 28 April Meeting will address the all important issues regarding competing design, ship builders and shipyards and whether Victoria or South Australia win the contest in the bidding war over which State will host the major construction site. It should be an intriguing presentation, with an excellent speaker who is in the thick of the project soon to confirm his availability. Further details nearer the time.

On page 5 you will find some information concerning our 2005 Seminar at Simpson

Barracks, Watsonia, on Saturday, 9 April – Terrorism: Threat & Response. This promises to be a most timely and informative occasion and I encourage you to register your interest in attending. Three speakers of note are participating. Further, more detailed information will be promulgated shortly.

On the back page you will see a flyer concerning "A Touch of Scotland", featuring the Pipes and Drums of the 5th/6th Battalion The Royal Victoria Regiment, the highlight of an obviously splendid day at the RACV Country Club, Healesville, on Sunday, 3 April. Bookings should be made as per the flyer and not through this office.

Finally, please note in your diary that on Thursday, 26 May, we will be hosting the 2005 Blamey Oration, which will be delivered by Major General John Hartley AO, RUSI Australia National President. Further details will be mailed out nearer the time.

RUSI Victoria – 2005 Seminar – Saturday, 9th April, 2005

“Terrorism: Threat & Response”

This year's RUSI Victoria Seminar will focus on the national security scourge of our time: Terrorism. This is particularly topical in Victoria as planning proceeds to ensure that next year's Commonwealth Games may be enjoyed free from intimidation.

The Seminar will bring together experts in the study of contemporary terrorism, particularly as it impacts Australia and her interests, and those at the frontline in its prevention.

Speakers will include senior representatives from:

- Monash University's respected Global Terrorism Research Unit
- Australian Defence Force Special Operations Command
- Victoria Police Counter Terrorism Coordination Unit

The Seminar will be conducted at the Army's Simpson Barracks, Watsonia, commencing at 1330 hours and concluding at 1700 hours.

Places will be limited so booking is essential. To register an interest, please call the office on 9282 7498. Comprehensive details concerning all aspects of the Seminar will be available soon.

Recent Presentations to RUSI Victoria

Councillor Emeritus Commander Hugh Jarrett RAN has presented us with a superb framed photograph of Admiral Lord Nelson's Flagship – HMS Victory, to commemorate the 200th Anniversary, in June this year, of the Battle of Trafalgar.

Commander Jarrett has also presented to the library an excellent book by Andrew Roberts, *Napoleon and Wellington*. It is a fascinating account of the constantly changing relationship between these two historical giants and a compelling study in pride, rivalry, propaganda, nostalgia and posthumous revenge.

We thank Commander Jarrett for these generous gifts to the Institute.



“There was an Englishman, an Irishman and a Scotsman ...”

Precision – The Coming of Age of Air Power

(Reprinted from the January issue of Pathfinder the Air Power Development Centre Bulletin)

Strike capabilities of air power took a hard knock during the Vietnam War, when the 'high-tech juggernaut' that was the US Air Force could not avoid humiliation by a low-tech opponent. During this war, a number of technology-led innovations dramatically increased the effectiveness of aerial strikes, none more prominently than the so-called 'smart bomb'. Although portrayed as some sort of a 'magic weapon', and the answer to all problems of accuracy in air attacks, there was really nothing very complicated about them.

As early as mid-1945 American scientists were working on a number of guided-bomb projects. In fact, other than for laser and navigational satellites, every other means that would eventually be used to guide weapons was already being trialed. Radio-steered bombs were successfully used in Burma and subsequently in Korea, both times to destroy bridges that were vital to enemy operations. However, with the nuclear standoff that developed immediately after the Korean War, the need for precision to be measured in dozens of feet was pushed to the background.

Although laser-guidance was stunningly effective in the Vietnam War, the necessary budgetary approval to progress further was not forthcoming. The Paveway series of bombs, of which the American forces dropped 28 000 in Vietnam, cost only US \$8000 a-piece but were as effective as 25 unguided bombs of equivalent weight. The most famous success of Paveways was the destruction of the Thanh Hoa bridge, which carried the only railroad and principal highway across the Song Ma River south of Hanoi. After 871 sorties had already flown against the bridge, with 11 aircraft lost but no tangible damage done, on 13 May 1972, 14 fighters carrying 2000 and 3000-pound Paveways attached and destroyed it completely.

The overall success rate of the Paveways was very close to a one bomb-one kill ratio, and also permitted attacks on

targets that were off-limits for fear of collateral damage and repercussions. For the first time, precision capability nullified what had from the earliest days of the concept of strategic bombing been its most profound limitation: the public opinion backlash of unintended civilian casualties. Even then the revolutionary implications of precision guidance were lost in the realignment of political forces and the review of defence and foreign policies that saw the curtailment of the development of advanced conventional weapons systems.

During the 1970s and 80s, 80-90 per cent of budgets were spent on developing higher quality aircraft and only the remainder used for weapons research. The potential of advanced weapons was readily apparent to only a few people who appreciated that precision guidance meant that an aircraft would have to make fewer passes over heavily defended targets, and also that weapon release could be accomplished from greater distances and altitudes, keeping the aircraft out of harms way. In the early 1980s it was calculated that 100 fighters carrying precision weapons could destroy as many as 800 tanks per day, more than ten times the number that could be achieved by a force of 2500 World War II bombers. Fortunately, several new developments reinvigorated research into precision weapons.

The foremost impetus was Soviet numerical superiority in the European theatre that seemed to assure a 'nuclear escalation' if there was a conflict, since NATO forces would be forced to use tactical nuclear weapons to stop the Soviet advance, and hence risk provoking nuclear retaliation. The NATO doctrine that emerged incorporated conventional tactical air strikes into Army doctrine as never before. The F-117 stealth fighter was the result of this rethinking and, in the words of RAND analyst Benjamin Lambeth, in retrospect it proved to be 'one of the most pivotal contributions of the

1980s to the revolution in lethality and effectiveness of American air power'.

Two other technological developments underscored the connection between precision strike and accurate intelligence for targeting. One was the introduction of the Low Altitude Navigation and Targeting Infra-Red by Night (LANTIRN) external pods that gave fighter aircraft the capacity to autonomously carry out precision attacks at night. The other was the testing of an ambitious concept to locate real-time targets in the battlefield, the prototype of which system was named JSTARS. Throughout the 1980s these two projects were strapped for resources so that on the eve of the 1991 Gulf War there were only two prototype JSTARS and a handful of LANTIRN pods in the USAF inventory.

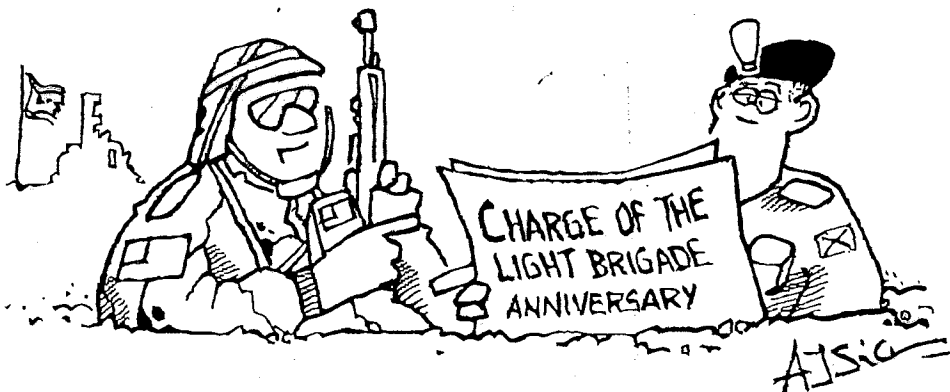
The First Gulf War demonstrated vividly and graphically the new meaning that technology gave to the concept of precision. The image of a precision-guided weapon plunging down the airshaft of a government building in Baghdad, impacting precisely in the crosshairs of an infra-red targeting system, became emblematic of air power. Precision guidance made it possible to destroy 41 of the 54 road and rail bridges between Baghdad and Kuwait in just 450 sorties and brought about the almost complete destruction of the Iraqi military (at the start of the conflict, numerically the world's fourth largest).

Precision attack in the Gulf War changed the perceptions and reality of air strikes. It made air power the weapon of choice not only to prepare the battlefield for the

ground advance, but to destroy more than 50 per cent of the enemy's equipment. Although the victory for air power in this campaign was unprecedented, thereby exorcising the ghosts of Vietnam, it also made the task of air power even harder by creating an incredibly high expectation of perfection in its strike capabilities.

There was also the worry in air force circles that the abnormally low casualty rate would once again put air power into unsavoury situations with higher than deliverable expectations. This worry seemed to be coming true in the peculiar air war that was fought over Serbia in 1999. Although, in the end, the effect required – the capitulation of Milosevic – was achieved with minimal civilian casualties, the use of air power in this campaign was less than optimum. From a purely precision attack perspective, however, the campaign once again proved the new capabilities brought on by a new generation of guided weapons. The Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) had a 30-foot accuracy, had a steering system that was launch-and-leave and could be fed target coordinates up to moments before release, and had all-weather day and night capability.

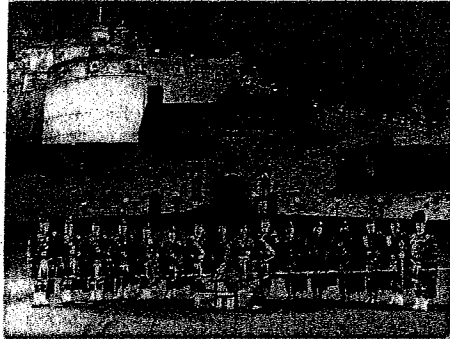
The combination of such precise weaponry with real-time targeting capability provides air power with the ability now to conduct a new kind of warfare in which it can locate engage and destroy enemy ground forces across the entire spectrum of operations. Tactical application of such awesome power has also kept pace with capabilities and thereby increased the efficacy of air power.



'Call that a military blunder? Why, back in the States . . .'



**RVR
PIPES AND DRUMS
ASSOCIATION INC.**



"A Touch of Scotland"

**Pipes and Drums Luncheon
At the**

RACV Country Club, Yarra Glen Road, Healesville

Sunday 3 April 2005

5/6 Bn Royal Victoria Regiment and

*The Country Club are hosting a gathering of friends and supporters
of the Pipes & Drums of the Royal Victoria Regiment.*

*Proceeds of the day will be used towards the ongoing upgrading and
replacement of equipment and uniform embellishments.*

***"Come and enjoy the entertainment and a sumptuous meal in the
delightful surrounds of the RACV Country Club!"***

COST \$45.00 per person Start 12.00PM

Refreshments available from the bar at reasonable Club prices.

Dress: Smart Casual

RSVP 18th March 2005

For Bookings please contact Ben Tosetto from
The Royal Victoria Regiment Pipes and Drums Association,
on (03) 9690 6800 (BH)

The Honorary Treasurer,
Royal Victoria Regiment Pipes and Drums Association Inc.
C/- AMS-- PO Box 233-- South Melbourne-- VIC 3205

Name: _____

Organisation: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone No.: _____

No of Persons: _____ Cheque Enclosed: \$ _____