



**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

11 May – Council Meeting – **Defence Plaza**
26 May – **Blamey Oration** – **Naval & Military Club**
(MAJGEN John Hartley, RUSI National President)
30 June – Luncheon Speaker – **Defence Plaza**
28 July – Luncheon Speaker – **Victoria Barracks**
3 August – Council Meeting – **Defence Plaza**
25 August – Luncheon Speaker – **Victoria Barracks**
29 September – AGM and Speaker – **Defence Plaza**
6 October – Annual Dinner – **Naval & Military Club**

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>

Speaker Luncheon

**** Thursday, 26th May, 2005 ****

The 2005 Blamey Oration

To be delivered by

Major General John Hartley AO (Retd)

National President, The Royal United Services Institute of Australia

at

The Naval and Military Club

27 Little Collins Street, Melbourne

12 noon to 1-45pm

See enclosed flyer for further details.

An RSVP is required.

**** Thursday 30th June 2005 ****

Lunchtime Speaker

Dr Mark Thompson

**Director Budget and Management Program
Australian Strategic Policy Institute**

“The Defence Budget 2005”

Venue : Defence Plaza, 661 Bourke Street

Further details nearer the time

Vale – *We record with deep regret the passing of;*

**LT P.L. Bellew;
MAJ Sir Rupert Clarke Bt AM MBE
FLGOFF C.N. Dodgson
Councillor Emeritus LTCOL D.L. Macleod**

New Members – *We welcome the following New Members:-*

**Mr Darren Christopher – Hawthorn
CDR David Cunningham RAN – Vic Barracks
MAJ Stretch Jarvis – Forest Hill
Mr Philip Eddy Rachmat – South Yarra
LT James Sutherland – Southbank**

From the Library – Major General Mike O'Brien

‘The finest and noblest book of men in war.’ Ernest Hemingway

Among the more valuable books in the RUSIV Library is a copy of Frederick Manning's *Her Privates We*. It is a relatively common edition without a dust jacket, but what sets it apart is the former owner, General Sir John Monash.

Manning was born in Sydney, Australia, in 1882. Prevented by asthma from attending the usual educational institutions, he was taught largely at home, and at the age of sixteen was sent to England to live with a family friend, Arthur Galton, a rural clergyman who knew Ezra Pound, Max Beerbohm and Richard Aldington. Soon Manning was writing narrative poems, essays and

stories in the genteel style of the period, and was also reviewing for the *Spectator*. In 1914 he joined the army, and as a soldier in the ranks ultimately fought in the terrible battles on the Somme. In 1929 he published, privately and anonymously, *The Middle Parts of Fortune*, his novel about military life. Because its language was thought too obscene for general circulation an expurgated edition, titled *Her Privates We*, was issued in 1930. Later, Manning wrote journalism and travelled in search of better health. He died in London in 1935 and it was only in 1943 that his name appeared on the title page of his book.

We have not yet found any other books in our collection that belonged to Monash, but we are still looking!

From the President – Air Commodore Mike Rawlinson

This is a year of war related anniversaries – the 90th Anniversary of ANZAC landing at Gallipoli, the 60th Anniversaries of VE and VP(J) days and the 30th Anniversary of the fall of Saigon. Without being overtly alarmist one could conclude that significant wars are cyclic occurrences and that times are ominous.

We have all been saddened by the deaths of the nine ADF members in the Sea King helicopter crash during the humanitarian relief mission to the earthquake devastated Indonesian island of Nias. Contrary to press hyperbole, there were no Australian heroes in this accident, just ADF professionals performing their job in what proved to be dangerous circumstances.

Personally, I may have become hardened by the loss of many of my friends in aircraft accidents. In my opinion the media reaction, or over-reaction, to ADF casualties however incurred, is shaping as a factor which increases our vulnerability to asymmetrical action. While we must honour the fallen, disproportionate displays of public mourning indicate that as a society our will may be influenced by even a small number of casualties.

The Chief of Air Force, Air Marshal Angus Houston has been selected as the next Chief of the Defence Force and will takeover in July. He will be the first Air Force incumbent since the office of CDF was created, and only the third RAAF Air Chief Marshal, following Sir Frederick Scherger and Sir Neville McNamara. On behalf of Council and Members, I have forwarded our congratulations.

In April we received an excellent presentation on the Air Warfare Destroyer Project by Commodore Denis Mole. The planned acquisition of three larger surface combatants will fill a gap in the Fleet order of battle that has existed since the retirement of the Charles F. Adams Class

Guided Missile Destroyers: HMAS Perth, HMAS Hobart and HMAS Brisbane, the latter remaining in service until 2001. An important new role for the ships will be to provide a command centre for the network-enabled conduct of joint expeditionary forces.

The choice of ship and the site of major construction should be announced in June. Contenders are the Arleigh-Burke (DDG-51) from the United States, Sachsen (F124) from Germany and Alvaro De Bazan (F-100) from Spain, to be built at either Williamstown Dockyard or at Osbourne in Adelaide. The AWD Program involves 1600 net new jobs and 10 years of construction and is hotly contested between the State governments of Victoria and South Australia.

Our seminar 'Terrorism – Threat and Response' at Simpson Barracks was a great success with well over a hundred in attendance. My thanks go to the convenor, Councillor, Lieutenant Colonel Mark Richards, for providing a most worthwhile Saturday afternoon. It was heartening to be joined at the seminar by a significant number of serving Army Reserve Officers who actively participated in the proceedings.

Since our last newsletter there has been a flare-up of tensions in the region: between China and Taiwan and China and Japan, together with further instability in our nearest neighbour Papua New Guinea. The on-paper requirement to simultaneously deploy and sustain a brigade and a battalion group, in different theatres looks closer to becoming a non-discretionary reality. Reflecting on our well-stretched defence force, and its ongoing re-equipment programs, I believe that we need to strengthen our Reserves and appropriately increase defence expenditure.

From The Secretary - Martin Holme

I would like to endorse our President's remarks and add my own congratulations to Councillor Mark Richards for the outstanding success of the Seminar at Simpson Barracks. The occasion demonstrated, very succinctly, the role that RUSI can play in living up to its motto" of promoting national security and defence matters and bringing these issues before a wide and interested audience.

The formal presentations were of a high standard as was the quality of the discussion that ensued. A short article about the Seminar appears later.

I would also like to comment on the excellent lunchtime address given by Dr Damien Kingsbury at the end of March. His forthright and informed talk was indeed an eye opener and those who attended were privileged to have heard such a frank and fascinating talk on Indonesia and its current challenges.

The Blamey Oration, to be given by Major General John Hartley AO, National President of The Royal United Services Institute of Australia, on Thursday, 26th May, at the Naval and Military Club, becomes our next Speakers Luncheon. We anticipate a large turn out. I urge you to read the enclosed Flyer and return the completed attendance slip to this office, as soon as you can. You will not be able to just turn up as per our normal lunchtime occasions.

This Newsletter contains an article about the Field Marshal and a short biography of General Hartley.

We are frequently asked for some amplification regarding "The Chatham House Rule" when it is invoked at our Meetings. An explanation of the convention appears in this issue.

It is likely, not for the first time, that RUSI Victoria is on the move – not far and probably for the better. The current plan is to move the Library and our offices to the ground floor of this building, to the space behind the glass wall which was the old recruiting area, on the right as you walk down the entrance corridor.

It is early days as far as planning goes, but the Library will be much more accessible and the time consuming complications of escorting visitors to the 9th floor obviated.

We are advised that a move in July is planned – but there's many a slip twixt cup and lip! Watch this space.

Two notable and long serving RUSI stalwarts have died recently and both are worthy of special recognition. Obituaries of Admiral Mike Hudson AC RAN and Mrs Ursula Davidson OAM appear in this issue of the Newsletter.

Admiral Mike Hudson AC RAN

Admiral Hudson died in Sydney on Sunday, 27 February 2005. He had a long and active association with the RUSI of Australia in both New South Wales and the ACT. He joined the USI of the ACT in February 1972, soon after its foundation year (1971) and remained an active member for most of the next three decades. He served on the National Council of the RUSI of Australia as CDF's Vice Presidential nominee when he held the appointment of Assistant Chief of the Defence Force (Policy) in 1983 and 1984.

During his long term as Chief of Naval Staff, Admiral Hudson continued to give strong support to the Institute. After his retirement from the RAN, he became Chairman of the Board of Management of the Journal of the Royal United Services Institute, a position he held for for almost 7 years (1997 to 2004).

He was also the National President of the Naval Association of Australia for many years.

The Chatham House Rule

The term "Chatham House Rule" is frequently used when issues concerning Strategy, Intelligence or sensitive policy are being canvassed or discussed in a public forum by people of note, particularly officials, who have a specific knowledge in these areas. They can speak more openly and freely if the Chatham House Rule applies at the meeting. For this reason, members attending RUSI meetings are likely to receive more frank and accurate information than is generally available.

We are often asked what the term actually means and so it was thought timely to make some explanatory comments.

The Chatham House Rule is a guideline to the handling of sensitive material that may be included in lectures and presentations given in various forums.

The Rule itself originated with the Royal Institute of International Affairs, which is located at Chatham House in London. The Rule, which was formulated as the Chatham House Rule of Confidentiality in 1927, states:

When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use

the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant may be revealed.

The Rule itself is not legally binding in any way, and indeed the only sanction that exists for a breach lies with the organisation sponsoring the lecture (members or others may be excluded from future meetings), or the lecturer (who may refuse in future to speak to the organisation.)

Comment:

At RUSI of Vic Lectures, the Chatham House Rule normally applies and for particularly sensitive presentations the audience will be reminded of their obligations under the Rule, by the Chairman.

At seminars, the Rule may apply throughout the seminar or may be invoked for individual speakers as appropriate.

During presentations when speakers are effectively making a public announcement, it will be stated that the Chatham House Rule does not apply.

Recent Gifts to RUSI Victoria

Mr Don Thomas has presented us with a set of 50 copies of *Mars & Minerva* – The Journal of The Special Air Service Regiment, covering the last 25 years. They make fascinating reading and are a valuable addition to our Library.

We thank Don Thomas for his generous gift.

Terrorism: Threat & Response

The 2005 Seminar – Topical and Successful!

At Simpson Barracks Watsonia on 9th May, members and guests were treated to an insider's view of the complex threat posed by modern terrorism, and what our national and state authorities are doing about it. An impressive crowd of over 100 people turned out, with Institute members being matched by interested ADF personnel, regular and reserve, as well as several former and serving police officers. Many enquiries regarding new membership were recorded.

Attendees heard Dr Pete Lentini, Convenor of Monash University's Global Terrorism Research Unit, set the scene with an engaging précis of terrorist motivations and his impressively detailed knowledge of terrorist actions and personalities.

The Commanders of the ADF's Special Operations Command, Major General Mike

Hindmarsh and of Victoria Police's State Counter Terrorism Group, Mr Dennis Henry, outlined the arrangement to meet these challenges at the Commonwealth and State levels respectively.

Seminar Convenor, Lieutenant Colonel Mark Richards, expressed great satisfaction at the Seminar's success, observing that "the issue of terrorism and what to do about it is of interest to a broad cross section of the Institute's membership. Moreover, it is a pressing professional priority for those involved in national security."

The highly topical subject matter and the uniformly high calibre of the speakers involved showed our Institute to be of great relevance to an important source of future membership.

Mrs Ursula Davidson OAM

The members of the RUSI of NSW and indeed a much wider congregation throughout RUSI Australia are in mourning. The RUSI of NSW has lost its longest serving and very faithful servant, Mrs Ursula Davidson OAM, who died on 24 February.

Ursula commenced as Executive Officer with RUSI of NSW in 1942, (succeeding her sister who had looked after its magnificent library since 1930.

During her 63 years of dedicated service, Ursula not only efficiently managed the library, but administered the membership records and over the years came to know virtually every member. It was also Ursula's great delight to oversee the

publication of the RUSI of NSW journal "United Service".

The organisation of the enjoyable annual dinners, held in recent years at State Parliament House in Macquarie Street was another task that Ursula performed with joy and dedication.

Loyal to the last, despite her age and illness, Ursula continued to come daily to the office until about three weeks before her death.

Knowing she had only days to live, Ursula chatted on in her usual delightful way. She deserves eternal gratitude for her selfless and dedicated service from RUSI's broad fraternity of members.

Field Marshal Sir Thomas Blamey GBE KCB CMG DSO ED

Born in Wagga Wagga, *Field Marshal Sir Thomas Blamey* started his working life as a pupil-school teacher at the age of 15, but always yearned to be a soldier. His early efforts to enlist were unsuccessful but, with the persistence for which he was to become notorious, he entered the Permanent Military Force of Australia as a Lieutenant in the Administrative and Instructional Staff in 1906. Six years later he was a student at the Staff College in Quetta.

At the outbreak of the first World War in 1914, he was a Captain but, before that war ended, he held the rank of Brigadier-General, as Chief-of-Staff to General John Monash, Commander of the Australian Corps in Europe.

Between the two World Wars he became Deputy Chief of the General Staff. Then, in 1925, at the invitation of the Victorian Government and with strong support of the Chief of the General Staff, he left the Permanent Army to become Chief Commissioner of the Victoria Police, an appointment he held until he was virtually obliged to resign in 1936.

In 1938, helped by the fact that he had transferred to the Citizen Military Force when he left the Permanent Army, the Australian Government chose him to become Chairman of the Manpower Committee and Controller-General of Recruiting in the Department of Defence, where his able mind "comprehended the largest military and politico-military problems with singular clarity".

Soon after the outbreak of the Second World War, in 1939, he was appointed to command the 6th Australian Division. Later he was to command the Australian Corps in the Middle East and the Anzac Corps in Greece, before becoming Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Middle East (Allied) Command. Early in 1942, he was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Australian Military Forces and Commander of the Allied Land Forces in the South-West Pacific Area, appointments he held

throughout the South-West Pacific campaign. He was promoted to the rank of Field Marshal in 1950.

On the occasion of the presentation of his Field Marshal's baton by the then Governor-General, Sir William McKell, Blamey offered this inspirational message from his death bed, at the Heidelberg Repatriation General Hospital:

"Australia's sons must be ready to accept whatever responsibilities fall on them, and draw strength for their discharge from the traditions of their predecessors. I can no longer lead them, but I commend to you those familiar Army words 'carry on', which combine both exhortation and encouragement."

The Members of the Field Marshal Sir Thomas Blamey Memorial Fund, together with the Royal United Services Institutes throughout Australia, are honoured to perpetuate the memory of this great and most senior Australian soldier and citizen, who was ultimately awarded the Field Marshal's baton which he had carried in his knapsack for so many years.

Memorials to the late Field marshal include:

- A bronze statue near the Shrine of Remembrance, at which a memorial service is held each year on the anniversary of his death.
- The "Sir Thomas Blamey Square" situated between the main buildings of the Department of Defence in Canberra.
- A commemorative plaque in the new building at Victoria Barracks, Melbourne, the site of Blamey's Headquarters in 1939/1940, which is recognised as the birth place of the second AIF.

Sir Thomas had a long association with RUSI Victoria and was Vice President from January 1932 until December 1938.

**Major General John C. Hartley, AO, awc (US), jssc, psc, BA
National President, The Royal United Services Institute of Australia**

The 2005 Blamey Orator - RUSI Victoria

John Hartley retired from the Australian Regular Army in 2000 after nearly 40 years of service. A graduate of Australia's Royal Military College, he had extensive combat experience as a young Infantry officer with two tours in South Vietnam during which he was wounded three times, twice mentioned in dispatches, awarded two US Army Commendation Medals and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.

After a year's hospitalisation, he served in a number of staff and training appointments, including the inaugural appointment to the Intelligence Centre Pacific in Hawaii from 1977 to 1980. On promotion to lieutenant colonel, he served as a member of the Directing Staff at the Army's Command and Staff College and as the senior operations staff officer on the headquarters of the First Division.

In 1984, he was promoted to colonel and commanded the Army Apprentices' School and the Albury Wodonga Military Area. He then attended the 1988 course of the United States Army War College.

On his return to Australia, he was promoted to brigadier and served as the Military Secretary before promotion to major general and appointment as the General Officer Commanding Training Command.

In addition to this posting, General Hartley has served as the Director of the Defence Intelligence Organisation, Deputy Chief of the Army and Land Commander Australia. In this last appointment, he commanded

Army's 38,000 combat force and supervised the preparation of forces deployed to East Timor. Major General Hartley retired at the age of 57 in early 2000.

In addition to the US Army War College, he is a graduate of the University of Queensland, the Army's Command and Staff College and the Joint Services' Staff College.

He was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 1987 and an Officer of the same order in 1992. He has been awarded the US Army Commendation Medal three times, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry and is the only Australian to be a Knight Commander of the German Order of Merit.

Since his retirement, General Hartley has worked as an adviser to the National Crime Authority. He has attended a company directors' course and is a Senior Fellow of the Company Directors' Association of Australia. He is the non-executive chairman of a small company, patron and member of a number of military related organizations, National President of the Royal United Service Institute of Australia, National President of the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam Association, Honorary Colonel of the Australian Intelligence Corps and Chairman of the Battle for Australia Committee. He writes articles on defence related issues for several newspapers and the Asia Pacific Defence Reporter and is a commentator on strategic and defence issues for a number of media outlets.

Air Power In Urban Operations

(Reprinted from the April 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

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.

A Tale (True!)

There is, in India, a statue erected to the memory of a distinguished and gallant Major General. Superbly depicted in ceremonial dress and outlining some of his achievements, the inscription records his unfortunate demise - "Accidentally shot by his batman".

The epitaph at the base of the statue reads as follows: "Well done, good and faithful servant".

One of our Councillors Emeritus has seen the statue and verifies the accuracy of the story.