



The Brisbane Line



A publication of the
Royal United Service Institute Queensland Inc.
Promoting Australia's National Security & Defence
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to the August issue of the RUSI Qld newsletter 'The Brisbane Line'. The year has really passed quickly and our Annual General Meeting will be held following the lecture on 17 September. As such, this will be my final communication to you as President vide the Brisbane Line.

Our last lecture by Rear Admiral Ken Doolan AO RAN (Retd), National President of the RSL, provided a good strategic assessment of the global environment and Australia's National Interests. It was a great backdrop to our participation in the Defence White Paper Public Consultation conducted on 31 July 2014. I led an introductory meeting following the July lecture to tease out Defence White Paper Issues which was well attended by interested members.

The Public Consultation on 31 July was attended by about 25 and was a good 90 minute session led by Rear Admiral James Goldrick RAN (Retd) and two of his expert panel colleagues. I expect a number of attendees will lodge submissions.

Irrespective of the outcome, the participation of RUSI in hosting the Public Consultations around the country is a feather in our cap nationally.

Our August lecture is by Air Vice Marshal Kym Osley AM CSC who will address us on "The F35: A Game Changer for Defence". The September lecture will be delivered by Major Greg McMahon on the subject of "Regaining the Strategic Edge: the contribution of the Battlespace model". The October lecture will be delivered by Group Captain Glen Braz, Director Growler Transition Office on the subject of 'EM Spectrum Operations to support Joint Effects'. If you are able to get to RUSI Hall for these then I encourage you to do so. The lectures are the Institute's key deliverable and we strive to make the program both educational and interesting to our members and the wider audience.

On 2 August 2014, the Institute co-hosted with The University of Queensland (Centre for Australian Military and Veteran Health) a seminar on the impacts of mental health on our national security capability. The seminar was well attended, with about 170 participants. The keynote address by The Hon Stuart Robert MP, Assistant Minister for Defence, certainly set the scene. The speakers during the day were outstanding and the focus shone on this important Defence People Capability Issue reflected well on our Institute. The Hon Teresa Gambaro MP, Member for Brisbane and the Chair of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Defence, Foreign Affairs and Trade, also attended the morning session. My congratulations to the RUSI team - Vice Presidents Peter Mapp and John Forrest, ably supported by a number of committee members and RUSI volunteers, for putting this seminar together. I can also advise that the seminar will leave RUSI Queensland in a great financial position for FY 2014/15. I must acknowledge our sponsor, RSL Care, without whom the seminar would not have occurred.

A reminder that annual subscriptions were due on 1 July 2014, so if you have not yet remitted your payment please do so as soon as possible.

I continue to encourage members to introduce new candidates and, of course, make the most of your membership of your Institute. Remember that membership of the Institute is open to anyone with an interest in Defence and Security matters – previous military service is not necessary.

We offer distribution of *The Brisbane Line* in either electronic or hardcopy form, with hardcopy being the default. If you wish to receive 'The Brisbane Line' by email, then please let the Secretary know. Elsewise, it will continue to appear in your post or letter box as usual.

As I said at the opening, after three years my Presidency of RUSI Queensland is drawing to a close. I have enjoyed the contribution that we have made to promotion of an interest in Defence and National Security Matters. Equally, I have enjoyed the camaraderie of members and am proud of the improvements that our committee has made to our Institute. We remain strong in membership and financial terms, and are well positioned to continue development in coming years. I look forward to seeing you at our Annual General Meeting following the lecture on 17 September 2014

Andrew Kilgour AM
President

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President

Secretary's Notes **SECRETARY'S NOTES**

The RUSIQ office hours are Tuesday and Wednesday of each week from 0930 to 1500. The building and the Library will be open and staffed by our committee members or volunteer staff during

these times. Messages may be left anytime on the phone numbers or the email address.

Ian may be contacted anytime by his mobile phone 0418878205 or email willoughby@qld.chariot.net.au.

Members please note that the Notice of the AGM to be held after the lecture on 17 September 2018 is attached at the back of the Newsletter together with a financial report summary. Annual subs for the 2014-15 financial year were due on the 1st July 2014. If you have not paid to date, please do so as soon as possible. Unfinancial members may not vote at the AGM and will not receive future issues of the Brisbane Line after this edition.

All members are requested to advise us of their Email address if they actively use one. This will help us to advise them of our activities throughout the year and save on the amount of postage and telephone calls. The Brisbane Line editions will only be sent to the Emails of those members who have nominated to receive it by this method. All other members will receive their edition through the post or on a Lecture day.

From the Editor

We apologise for any inconvenience to our readers, because we have had a most exciting period for RUSI, but it has been plagued by an inordinate amount of illness and mishaps for some of our key persons – I am one of them. We will try to catch up with any important information for our readers in coming issues.

Without our stalwart Secretary, Ian Willoughby, and our dauntless seminar convenor, Peter Mapp, not to mention others who just kept soldiering on, major events would have been in bad shape. Those who remained at the battle front, however, have ensured that RUSI has had an outstandingly good year.

One unexpected blow over the last little while, was our librarian, Dal Anderson, whose “holiday” in hospital was a major event.

Over the year, some of our “wounded and temporarily disabled” have included the invincible Judith Munday, without whom RUSI would just not be the same, likewise Keith Victorsen and Andrew Kilgour. My brother, is not a member of RUSI but took me out of action

for two weeks while he was in hospital with serious pneumonia.

Also a problem for me, was my large concrete water tank at my farm, Crooked Brooke. The tank ran dry at a most inconvenient time. I’m buying water, now. Gunga Din, where are you? Let this be a lesson to all who throw away water willy-nilly. Australia is not Rangipur, where it rains every day.

*Mary Ross
Editor*

LECTURES

Guests are most welcome

As usual, the cost of the lecture will be \$10 per head. A light lunch will be available from midday, with the lecture between 1pm and 2pm. Attendees are asked to be seated by 12:45pm. Please advise your attendance by either email on (rusiq@optusnet.com.au) or by contacting Ian Willoughby on 07 3233 4420 or 0418878205.

Programme

Wed 17Sep14: Lecture: MAJ Greg McMahon
Topic: “Retaining the Strategic Edge – A Contribution to the Warspace Model”

Wed 15Oct14: Lecture: GPCAPT Glen Braz – Director Growler Transition Office.
Topic: “EM Spectrum Operations to Support Joint Effects”

Tuesday 28 Oct 14: RUSIQ Tour of ABC Studio, South Bank

Friday 28 Nov 14: RUSIQ President’s Annual Christmas Lunch – Women’s College UQ

LECTURE REPORTS



Group Captain Graeme Peel AM, CSC, MBBS, DAvMed, FAFOEM, FAFPHM is a physician who specialises in occupational, environmental, public health and aerospace medicine. He has particular interests in illness and injury prevention and health promotion. He served full-time in the Air Force from 1974-2000, primarily in aviation medicine roles in Australia, Malaysia, the United Kingdom and the USA. During this period he also investigated twelve aircraft accidents and deployed on humanitarian relief and peace monitoring duties.

Graeme was a senior executive with Qantas from 2000-2008, where he firstly developed and then managed the Group's OHS and occupational medicine programs. He continued his military service in the Air Force Specialist Reserve, deploying to Sri Lanka following the 2004 tsunami

International Humanitarian Response to Disasters – An Australian Focus

The Australian government has a long tradition of providing aid to our neighbours following regional natural and man-made disasters. The contemporary term for this action is humanitarian assistance and disaster response (HADR).

Historically, where the need for personnel and equipment has been identified, the Australian Defence Force (ADF) has been the agency of choice. This has been due to the capabilities we possess, such as transport, logistics, airfield management, reconnaissance, communications, health support and security, all of which are prepared and rapidly deployable.

In this context, the presentation provided an overview of Australian and concurrent international responses to a quarter century of peacetime disasters and, in particular, a personal perspective of two relief missions. It also included a synopsis of the progress made towards providing our neighbours with self-sufficiency, and ourselves with optimal capability. It's focus is on the immediate health activities undertaken within the response spectrum, as to address all the components of HADR, or even the range of related tasks, would take substantially more than the time available.

When I commenced service with the ADF I was trained to provide clinical and aeromedical services, including aeromedical evacuation (AME). ADF doctrine at that time did not incorporate the requirement to conduct HADR and, accordingly, no relevant training or resources were made available. Nonetheless, many such missions were undertaken as a matter of course, with the assumption being that the projected capabilities would be up to the task. Needless to say many tough lessons were learned. Unfortunately many of those learnings were not passed on to successive generations.

In December 1991 Cyclone Val struck the islands of Western and American Samoa. Communications were lost and on the presumption of need, the Australian Government despatched a health reconnaissance team to determine assistance requirements. The team comprised a small RAAF health element with a medical officer, medical assistant and environmental health officer, an Army Iroquois aircraft and crew, communications personnel and media representatives. Deliberate and immediate planning activities were limited.

After landing at first light on a barely serviceable airfield in Apia, the next several days were spent liaising with local authorities and undertaking assessments of all communities. Emergency AMEs were combined with food drops and urgent water infrastructure repairs. However the key achievement of the mission was the completion and communication of a detailed needs assessment to support the provision of appropriate follow-on aid by Australian and international agencies, both government and non-government.

While all that should have been done was done, not everything ran smoothly. Coordination with the national government to determine its direction was challenging. Liaison with the United Nations' (UN) World Health Organization (WHO) and non-government organisations (NGOs) delivering aid also proved time-consuming, as the team was the repository of the only credible information needed for their operations. Delicate negotiations with the government were required to ensure the effective prioritisation of rotary wing tasks. Local media also took the opportunity to target government failings through highlighting the need for the team to support isolated villages, resulting in disharmony and necessitating diplomatic discussions.

The tsunami in northern Papua New Guinea in 1998 resulted in a more substantial, principally Australian, response in the form of a surgical unit. This was sent with the prior knowledge that local health services were minimal and in the event proved valuable. However major logistics challenges were experienced which in hindsight could have been better managed, and the usual consequences of tsunamis and associated needs were not well-understood, which impacted on planning.

The subsequent 2004 Boxing Day tsunami was an equally predictable event in light of the geological instability of the region, although its extent was unprecedented in recent times. A multi-level international response was activated and Australia's contribution to Banda Aceh, which initially comprised health assessment, medical and surgical support and water, sanitation and logistics services, has been well-documented and publicised. The teams involved in this area comprised both military and civilian members.

Additional teams were deployed to the Maldives for primary care, and Sri Lanka for health needs assessment, and both were of mixed military/civilian composition. On arrival in Colombo the latter team worked with the Australian High Commission and, in particular, local staff of the Australian Agency for International Development (AUSAID), to effect liaison with the Sri Lankan government and the WHO. AUSAID had the knowledge, skills and experience to enhance the team's effectiveness.

This was probably the first time that such coordination had been in line with developing Australian national policy, which will shortly be addressed.

The team undertook a rapid needs assessment of all affected communities from Colombo to Batticaloa, comprising around half the coastline and the majority of the severely damaged villages. Even areas under Tamil Tiger control were accessed. Its actions were coordinated with its WHO counterparts and the WHO checklist was utilised for the assessment. The information gained was transmitted to the central government coordinating committee, led by the Ministry of Health and the WHO, and in turn to government and NGO response agencies to facilitate effective targeting of critical needs. These were vaccinations, vector control, secure water and waste disposal. The value of this approach was evidenced by the absence of disease outbreaks. As for Samoa, the need for information was insatiable.

After INTERFET and UNTAET in East Timor in 1999 and 2000, Operations Bali Assist and Bali Assist II in 2002 and 2005 respectively, and of course the Boxing Day tsunami, health facilities in northern Australia were recognised as essential to success in regional missions. Accordingly, Royal Darwin Hospital capabilities were enhanced. Of greater significance, the National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre (NCCTRC) was established in Darwin as a centre of excellence. The NCCTRC develops and delivers training programs in disaster management such as the Major Incident Medical Management and Support and Australian Medical Assistance Team courses, as well as a range of clinical trauma management courses. It is now the much-needed repository of knowledge gained from hard-won experience. A unique feature is its fostering of a civilian disaster response capability in collaboration with all State and Territory health departments.

At the strategic level, Emergency Management Australia (EMA) developed from its 1970's predecessor, the National Disasters Organisation. EMA focussed on domestic disaster response until the Bali bombings demonstrated the need for central coordination of international activities, and its effectiveness was tested during the Boxing Day tsunami.

The earthquake and floods in Pakistan in 2005 and 2010 again resulted in Australian responses which were primarily military-based but also incorporated civilian health care providers as the NCCTRC gained impetus. Pakistan Assist II in the Punjab comprised 180 personnel delivering primary health care and ancillary services.

In 2009 the ADF finally came to grips with its long-standing responsibilities for HADR through Australian Defence Doctrine Publication 3.8 – Peace Operations. This document recognises that the most suitable organisations to undertake humanitarian assistance are the UN agencies and NGOs. Both are prolific and well-resourced, with the former including the WHO, United Nations High Commission for Refugees, World Food Program, United Nations Development Program, United Nations Children’s Fund and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, amongst others. The last of these through its specific mission Inter-Agency Standing Committee is now the key point of contact for all groups responding to a disaster.

The UN and the international community have, for all intents and purposes, now perfected the principles and execution of HADR in all areas from health to infrastructure.

A long-standing issue which impacts on the effectiveness of HADR, and which has been identified by doctrine, is the potential for conflict between civilian and military organisations. The humanitarian principles of neutrality and impartiality are closely guarded and the military, even if represented by health care providers, is often viewed with suspicion.

It is the view of the UN that the use of the military for HADR is the option of last resort. However this has fewer implications for Australia than for most nations, in light of our international stance and the use of AUSAID, now fully integrated with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, as our shopfront to minimise tensions.

In a significant positive development, in 2010 the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) established an Expert’s Working Group in Military Medicine. The ten core nations were joined by their eight collaborating nations, including Australia. The first task for this group was to strengthen regional cooperation in medical support for HADR. Information on

capabilities was shared and common standard operating procedures were adopted. In 2012, Australia sponsored a health needs assessment training course for the group through the auspices of the NCCTRC. The outcome, reinforced by a field exercise in Brunei in 2013, has been the capacity for self-sufficiency in the individual and collective ASEAN nations.

The success of military-based responses in most ASEAN countries is largely due to the regard in which their forces are held, and their close community engagement. Often the military provides the bulk of health and support services.

The Japan earthquake and tsunami and the Christchurch earthquake in 2011 are further examples of Australian military-based responses, with logistics support as the foci. Largely due to the achievements of the NCCTRC, health support for the Philippines after Typhoon Haiyan was for the first time not a military but a civilian medical mission, albeit, once again, facilitated by military logistics.

Thus the wheel has turned and the ADF is no longer the prime player in Australian health responses to international disasters. This does not mean that we are out of the game, rather our participation is now more targeted to where it can do the most good. Irrespective of the provider, the outcome for the recipients of assistance has never been more beneficial.

GPCAPT Graeme Peel
16 April 2014

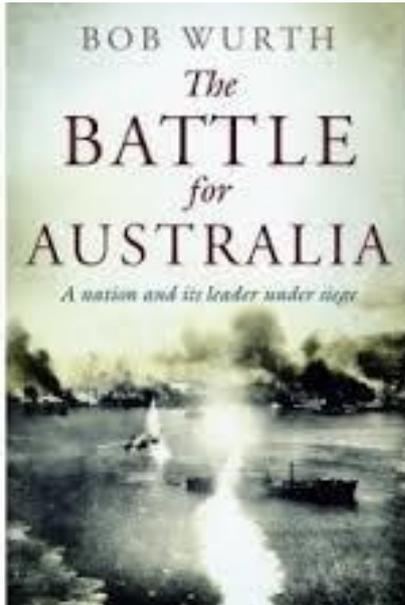


Some books take a little while to read. Apparently, Jane’s Fighting Ships, 1973-74 Edited by Capt. John Moore RN, 669 pages, lent out on 4 March 1974, was returned to the RUSI library on Wednesday 13 August 2014.

You can’t rush some things.



LECTURE



Bob Wurth

Bob Wurth is an author of five non-fiction books. His latest was *The Battle for Australia, a nation and its leader under siege*, published by Pan Macmillan. The book highlights Australia in early 1942 as a weak nation militarily and one unprepared to meet the Japanese southward thrust. It portrays Australia's Prime Minister John Curtin as a leader almost consumed by stress and depression.

In 2014 *The Battle for Australia* won first prize for non-fiction in the National Literary Awards of the Fellowship of Australian Writers. The book contains a foreword by the then Governor General of Australia, Her Excellency Quentin Bryce and was launched in November 2013 at the John Curtin Prime Ministerial Library, Curtin University, Perth, by the Governor of Western Australia, His Excellency Malcolm McCusker.

Other political and military histories by Bob Wurth include *Saving Australia*, (Lothian Books), which was a runner up in the Walkley Awards, and *1942, Australia's greatest peril* (Pan Macmillan).

Bob Wurth has been a Visiting Scholar to the John Curtin Prime Ministerial Library, Perth, and a Fellow of the Australian Museum for Democracy, Canberra. He was a foreign correspondent for the ABC in Asia in the 'eighties, then ABC general manager for Asia and later ABC general manager for Queensland.

He lives with wife Jenny on Queensland's Sunshine Coast and is writing his sixth book.



Bob Wurth does not work from notes when he lectures, so his presentation is not easily reproduced here.

The lecture touched on some of the more political and controversial political aspects of Australia's defensive position at the time.

For those who are interested in the defence of Australia, especially from the point of the degree to which we may or may not have needed to defend the country during the Second World War, his spontaneous and interesting talk is worth following up.

You can do this by reading his book.

The RUSI library has a copy of *The Battle for Australia* and members are welcome to borrow.



Two Views on Energy

Nuclear energy, ATOMIC energy; **Nuclear fission**, splitting of a heavy nucleus into (usually two) parts with resulting release of large amounts of energy;

Oxford Illustrated Dictionary

Potential energy, Managing many is the same as managing a few. It is a question of division.

Fighting with many is the same as fighting with a few; it is a matter of marshalling men with gongs, identifying them with flags.

With a combination of indirect and direct, an army can hold off the enemy undefeated.

With an understanding of weakness and strength, an army can strike like a millstone aimed at an egg.

In warfare, engage directly, secure victory indirectly.

The warrior skilled in indirect warfare is infinite as Heaven and Earth, inexhaustible as river and sea, he ends and begins again like sun and moon, dies and is born again like the four seasons.

There are but five notes and yet their permutations are more than can ever be heard.

There are but five colours and yet their permutations are more than can ever be tasted.

In the dynamics of war, there are but these two – indirect and direct – and yet their permutations are inexhaustible. They give rise to each other in a never-ending inexhaustible circle.

A rushing torrent carries boulders on its flood; such is the energy of its momentum.

A swooping falcon breaks the back of its prey, such is the precision of its timing.

The skillful warrior's energy is devastating; his timing taut.

His energy is like a drawn crossbow, his timing like the release of a trigger.

In the tumult of battle, the struggle may seem pell-mell, but there is no disorder; in the confusion of the melee, the battle array may seem topsy-turvy, but defeat is out of the question.

Disorder is founded on order, fear on courage, weakness on strength.

Orderly disorder is based on careful division; courageous fear, on potential energy; strong weakness, on troop dispositions.

The warrior skilled at stirring the enemy provides a visible form, and the enemy is sure to come. He proffers the bait, and the enemy is sure to take it. He causes the enemy to make a move and awaits him with full force.

The skilful warrior exploits the potential energy; he does not hold his men responsible.

He deploys his men to their bet but relies on the potential energy.

Relying on the energy, he sends his men into battle like a man rolling logs or boulders, by their nature, on level ground logs and boulders stay still, on steep ground they move; square, they halt, round, they roll.

Skilfully deployed soldiers are like round boulders rolling down a mighty mountainside.

These are all matters of potential energy.

*General Sun Tzu
The Art of War*



Donations to the RUSI Library

RUSI librarian, Dal Anderson, was much missed by the Committee at the time this issue was compiled.

Dal had an unscheduled and serious trip to Greenslopes Hospital. We are pleased to report that he is out now, and hopefully on the mend. We hear he is keen to continue on as our hard working and highly respected librarian.

We plan to bring the library report up to date in the next issue.

Wanted

Person with bookbinding skills to assist with care and repair of library treasures. Please phone Dal: (07) 3233 4616.

Gunga Din

“You may talk o’ gin and beer
 When you’re quartered safe out ‘ere,
 An’ you’re sent to penny fights and Aldershot it;
 But when it comes to water,
 An’ you do your work on water,
 An’ you’ll lick the bloomin’ boots of ‘in that’s
 got it.

Now in Injia’s sunny clime,
 Where I used to spend my time
 A-servin’ of ‘er Majesty the Queen,
 Of all them black faced crew
 The finest man I knew
 Was our regimental bhisti, Gunga Din!
 He was ‘Din! Din! Din!
 ‘You limp in’ lump o’ brick dust, Gunga Din!
 ‘Hi! Slippy *hitherao!*
 ‘Water, get it! *Panee lao,*
 ‘You squidgy-nosed old idol, Gunga Din.’

...
 We shouted ‘Harry By!’
 Till our throats were bricky dry,
 Then we whopped ‘im ‘cause ‘e couldn’t serve us
 all.

 It was ‘Din! Din! Din!
 ‘You ‘eathen, where the mischief ‘ave you been?
 ‘You put some *juldee* in it
 ‘Or I’ll *marrow* you this minute
 ‘If you don’t fill up my helmet, Gunga Din!’”

...
 With ‘is mussick on his back
 He would skip with our attack,
 An’ watch us till the bugles made ‘retire,’
 An’ for all ‘is dirty ‘ide,
 ‘E was white, clear white inside
 When ‘e went to tend the wounded under fire!
 It was Din! Din! Din!
 With the bullets kickin’ dust spots on the green.
 When the cartridges ran out,
 You could hear the front ranks shout,
 ‘Hi! Ammunition mules an’ Gunga Din!’

...
 I shan’t forgit the night
 When I dropped be’ind the fight
 With a bullet where my belt-plate should ‘a’been.
 I was chockin’ mad with thirst,
 An’ the man who spied me first
 Was our good old grinnin’, gruntin’ Gunga Din.
 ‘E lifted up my ‘ead,

An’ ‘e plugged me where I bled,
 An’ ‘e guv me ‘arf a ping o-water green.
 It was crawlin’ an it stunk,
 But of all the drinks I’ve drunk,
 I’m gratefulest to one from Gunga Din.
 It was ‘Din! Din! Din!
 ‘‘Ere’s a beggar with a bullet through ‘is spleen;
 ‘‘E’s chawin’ up the ground,
 ‘An’ ‘e’s kickin’ all around:
 ‘For Gawd’s sake git the water, Gunga Din!’

‘‘E carried me away
 To where a dooli lay,
 An’ a bullet come an’ drilled the beggar clean.
 ‘E put me safe inside,
 An just before ‘e died,
 ‘I ‘ope you like your drink,’ sez Gunga Din.
 So I’ll meet ‘im later on
 At the place where ‘e is gone –
 Where it’s always double drill and no canteen.
 ‘E’ll be squattin’ on the coals
 Givin’ drink to poor damned souls,
 An’ I’ll get a swig in hell from Gunga Din!
 Yes, Din! Din! Din!
 You Lazarushian-leather Gunga Din!
 Though I’ve belted you and flayed you,
 By the livin’ Gawd that made you,
 You’re a better man than I am, Gunga Din!”

Rudyard Kipling

ANZAC DAY 25 April 2014, Rabaul Cenotaph

ANZAC DAY ADDRESS by Steve Saunders, President, Rabaul Historical Society

Today is ANZAC day 2014. A year which marks the 100 anniversary of the start of one of the most bloody wars the world has known. Here we stand in Rabaul, at the ANZAC cenotaph, next to the old German treasury vault. Over-looked by the Japanese Memorial, and within walking distance of other memorials to civilians and soldiers of several nations who died in WWII; (the Chinese memorial at the Old golf course and the Monte Video Maru memorial by the shore). Thousands of Tolai’s did not survive WWII, used as carriers on the mainland and bombed and starved in the bush, where they had been pushed by the invading military.

How did Rabaul get embroiled in the major conflicts of the 20th century? Until the last quarter of the 19th century Germany saw itself as having missed out on an Empire,

because it had not been a country, but a loose group of Principalities, until united by Von Bismarck. On 3rd November 1884 four gunboats hoisted the German flag here at Matupit. So at the outbreak of hostilities in 1914, Rabaul was one of the main coaling stations for the ships of the German East Asiatic Squadron.

The Pacific chain of German wireless stations, which included Bitapaka, (one of the most advanced and powerful in the World), in conjunction with this naval squadron, threatened the British Empire's commerce, and the Europe bound troop and cargo ships from Australia and New Zealand. As far as the British Empire was concerned the German colonies in Australia's sphere of influence had to be neutralised. Just near here on 11th August 1914, the first small blow was struck when three Australian Destroyers entered Simpson Harbour looking for the German fleet. They were not here, but shore parties destroyed the telephone exchange (near the Travel Lodge) before leaving. There was at that time no fighting ..

But on 11th September 1914 the full Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force arrived in the waters off Rabaul. They landed men on the jetty at Kabakaul, which had been built by the Germans to offload materials for the building of the radio station at Bitapaka. Fierce fighting took place on the Bitapaka road and by nightfall the radio station had been taken. Six Australians died in the fight, and a few days later the entire 35 man crew of the submarine AE1 was lost.

These were the first Australians to die in the First World War. Six months before Gallipoli. Thirty New Guinean police, working for the Germans were killed, and one German Officer. New Guinea passed into Australian control, and had a quiet war, except for the ambush and capture of the MV Matunga in 1917. The First World War finished in 1918, but many in Germany felt there was unfinished business. About 20 years elapsed before those feeling spilled over into another all-consuming conflict.

In the mean-time Japan had become a true imperial power... Just near here is the memorial to 2nd/22nd Battalion and the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles. The 2nd/22nd made up the bulk of Lark Force a garrison of 1400 men. Sent here to protect Rabaul from the Japanese. They were sent here when the war still seemed far away. They had no jungle training, there were no plans to evacuate them if necessary and there were no plans to reinforce them. Very few if any had previous experience of fighting.

On 23rd January 1942, 4,000 experienced and ruthless Japanese troops landed, spearheading a garrison force of another 10,000. Lark Force was outnumbered by a hundred to one. Sharp, fierce fighting took place. One of the bloodiest battles of the New Guinea campaign, a truly heroic defence... but a battle seemingly forgotten by most Australians today.

After 9 hours of fighting the order "Every man for himself" was given.

Only 400 of the garrison were ever to see Australia again. Many were murdered after surrendering, or died as Prisoners of War. Many simply disappeared in 'their own little hells' of the swamps and jungles of New Britain.

We remember these few Australians who fought against such overwhelming odds in a heroic attempt to keep the enemy from a place Australia had been given a responsibility to protect.

Other groups of Allies should be commemorated.

Others who died fighting; over 400 allied aircraft were shot down over Rabaul or flying to and from here. American, Australian and New Zealand aircrews died in their hundreds.

Another group were - those who could no longer fight and had placed themselves at the mercy of the Japanese.

50% of captured aircrew and Coast Watchers were executed. Many more died of medical neglect.

10,000 Indians were brought to Rabaul as slave labour. 6,000 were to die here. Hindu, Sikh and Muslim are in lonely unmarked graves around the province.

640 British POWs were brought here from Singapore. 97% died, most massacred in one incident. As with most of the prisoners the Japanese had removed all identification, so their names will never be known.

In January 1943 - 1504 members of the Chinese National Army who had been captured by the Japanese in China were brought to Rabaul as forced labour. 50% were to die here. 30 were boys under the age of 13, they had been scouts and telegraph runners - only 5 of these children were alive when the war ended.

We must remember the civilians. Thousands of Tolai's, did not survive, the Chinese civilian population suffered extremes, and the civilians of Rabaul, who went down on the Monte Video Maru.

At Rabaul many thousands of individuals died fighting and those who had placed themselves at the mercy of the Japanese, were shown none.

All those people, whatever their religion or nationality, were deprived of their dignity and often in death even robbed of their identity.

May the victims find peace. **Lest we forget**
(Published with his kind permission)



Royal United Service Institute Queensland Inc.

Promoting Australia's National Security & Defence

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of the Royal United Service Institute Queensland Incorporated. It is to be held at the RUSIQ Hall, Victoria Barracks, Petrie Terrace, Brisbane at 1430 hours (2.30 pm) Wednesday, 17th September 2014 following the monthly lecture.

Business

1. Introduction and Apologies.
2. Confirmation of Minutes of AGM on 18th September 2013.
3. Receive and adopt the President's Report.
4. Receive and adopt the Financial Statement for 2013/2014.
5. Election of the Management Committee for 2014/2015.
6. Other Business.

Ian Willoughby

Hon. Secretary

Notes on Business

1. *Management Committee Report.* The report will be presented by the President.
2. *Financial Statement.* The full financial statement will be available on the 27th August 2014 with a copy displayed on the notice board. A summary of the Financial Statement is attached. Any members wishing to receive a copy of the full statement should contact the Secretary who will forward a copy, preferably by email. The Financial Report will be presented to the meeting by the Treasurer for approval. A copy will be passed to the Office of Fair Trading.
3. *Election of Management Committee.* All office bearers/members of the Committee stand down at the meeting and newly nominated office bearers will be elected. Retiring members may be re-nominated. Nominations in writing, signed by a proposer and seconder, who must be financial members of the Institute, and accepted by the nominee, who must also be a financial member, must be lodged with the Secretary by close of business on Wednesday 27th August 2014. Nomination forms are available from the Secretary on request. The list of the nominations will be posted on the notice board by close of business 27 Aug 2014.

The Royal United Service Institute (Qld.) Inc.

The Honorary Treasurer's Summary of 2013/2014

Financial Statement To Our Members

As will be reported to this year's Annual General Meeting, the Institute made an operating profit of \$3,586, compared to a profit of \$6,629, in 2013, due mainly to a reduction of lecture income and a loss on the National Seminar.

Despite a reduction in the surplus, this is a satisfactory result and has come about by the continuing efforts made by your Management Committee, to curtail costs. Nevertheless, there has been a reduction in subscription income of around \$850 and this is disappointing.

Our magazine "The Brisbane Line" has cost us slightly more while expenses relating to postage and insurance are down.

We have still been able to adequately fulfil RUSIQ's objectives during this year, in particular, provide an interesting lecture series and maintaining the all-important library.

The Balance Sheet is healthy with current assets up from nearly \$24,700 last year, to over \$29,250 currently, excluding the sponsorship of the PTDS Seminar.

I take the opportunity to thank my fellow Management Committee members and in particular, the President Andy and the Honorary Secretary Ian, for their efforts in achieving this financial surplus.

Yours sincerely,

Barry J. Dinneen F.C.A., F.T.I., JP(Qual)
Honorary Treasurer

8th August, 2014.