



Royal United Services Institute of Victoria Inc.

for Defence Studies

A Constituent Body of the Royal United Services Institute of Australia

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RUSI-VIC NEWS

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Dates for your Diary

28th March - Speaker Luncheon
18th April - Speaker Luncheon
8th May - Council Meeting

*** All functions and activities are subject to the present security restrictions.***

Speaker Luncheon

** Thursday 28th March, 2002**

RADM Peter Briggs AO, CSC RAN (Retd)

will speak on

"Submarines and the Defence of Australia in the 21st Century"

** Thursday 18th April, 2002**

PLEASE NOTE: the new 'actual' start time for the Speaker Luncheon is 12pm for lunch, followed by the Speaker at 12.30pm.

LOCATION: Auditorium (Ground Floor), Defence Plaza, 661 Bourke Street
TIMING: Lunch at 12pm Address commences at 12.30pm
COST: \$7.00

Members are encouraged to bring along guests, who may then consider joining the RUSI. They will be warmly welcomed by our President, Air Commodore Mike Rawlinson.

It is better by far to speak with a person, than speak to a person.

J.D. Boatwood

New Members

Following the Council Meeting of 6th March, 2002, we have pleasure in welcoming the following new members:

| | | | | |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| BARTLETT-BRAGG | CONSUL ANGUS | BLACK ROCK | A. HOOLEY | S. GUILFOYLE |
| TAYLOR | MR MALCOLM H. | KOORYONG | A. HOOLEY | S. GUILFOYLE |
| CARTER | MR GRAHAM | COLAC | H. RHODES | E. STEVENS |
| SLEE | MAJOR KEITH B | HIGHTON | D. MACROBBIE | I. BARNES |
| BROWN | MR SIMON | MARIBYRNONG | E. STEVENS | B. RICHARDSON |
| JERRAM | MR JOHN | SPRINGVALE STH | E. STEVENS | D. ELLSON |
| STEBBINS | SQNLDR DON | RAAF WILLIAMS | E. STEVENS | N. WRGHT |
| CHRISTOPHERSON | BRIG GEOFFREY AM | GLEN IRIS | M RAWLINSON | E. STEVENS |
| RELF | MR REG | CHELTENHAM EAST | MAJGEN T. CAPE | E. STEVENS |

Member News

Bill Woolmore's book "The Bushveldt Carbineers" was launched by Bruce Ruxton at the Caulfield RSL in February, and he has kindly given us a copy for the Library.

MAJ Ian Rainford tells us that a history of the 3rd Australian Division has been printed and will be formally launched in Queen's Hall, Parliament House, Melbourne on Tuesday 23rd April at 11am. An invitation has been extended to Prime Minister John Howard to officiate at the ceremony. His father and grandfather both served in the Division.

Vale

Major George L. Horsfall MBE of Box Hill South passed away on 10th December, 2001 in Melbourne. At the funeral service on 14/12/01, eulogies were delivered by two of his old friends, both RUSI members, namely LTCOL Ben O'Dowd and BRIG Keith Colwill CBE. He joined the RUSI in 1990. He was born in 1921 and joined Powerhouse (Lord Somers Camp) which had a big influence on him, when he joined the 14th Light Battalion of Prahran, 8th Powerhouse group. He served in WWII with 2/17th Battalion, 9th Infantry in Papua, Morotai, Borneo, and Labuan. Post-war he worked for the Govt Aircraft Factory, joined the CMF 6th Infantry Battalion in 1949, the regular army from 1950 to 1974. From 1953-54 he was with 3RAR in Korea, Adjutant of the 15th National Service training unit at Puckapunyal; HQ 8th Command; posted to Tasmania 1962-64, then 8th HQ to December 1974. He received the Military Division MBE for services to the army, and was married with 1 daughter.

Mr. Terry Kelly of KEL Aerospace Ashburton and National President of AIDN, passed away after an illness, in December. He joined the RUSI in 2001, and AIDN members have attended our Luncheons when the subject was of interest to them.

Member Profile Forms

Please do take the time to fill in this form and send it in. The information is confidential and is a member history, and these forms are now being sent out with the membership prospectus.

New Base Commanders

CAPT Clint Thomas RAN is the new Commanding Officer of HMAS Cerberus, and in the area of Training Services Facility. CDRE Colin Jones has been appointed Commanding Officer of HMAS Stirling in WA.

COL Peter Hutchinson, an RUSI member, has been transferred to Canberra, and the new Commanding Officer at Puckapunyal is COL Peter Singh, formerly of Holsworthy Barracks in NSW.

Proposed Ship Visit

Graeme Furlonger of Vic Barracks advises that an RAN ship is due at Geelong some time in April. If you wish to visit this ship in a group no less than 6 and no more than 15, please call Elizabeth at the office on 9282 7498 and she will liaise with Graeme.

President's Message – March 2002

Welcome to RUSI-VIC 2002 – let us hope for a less interesting year than 2001. We have already started our program of luncheon addresses and held a very pleasant Sunday luncheon Barbecue at the Victoria Barracks Officers' Mess. Your Council will continue our program of top level speakers with a balance between Navy, Army, Airforce and Defence with appropriate emphasis on history, current operations and future developments.

The campaign against terrorism in Afghanistan appears to almost have run its course in terms of overt action. The use of overwhelming aerospace power by the United States has been commendably restrained. This has minimised civilian casualties and the related danger of alienating the Muslim world. While the Taliban regime that harboured the terrorists has been toppled and the Al Qaeda terrorist network has been disrupted and damaged, the extent of this damage and the continued existence of Osama bin Laden has not been established. As foreshadowed by President Bush, the pursuit of the terrorists is likely to be protracted and extend over many years.

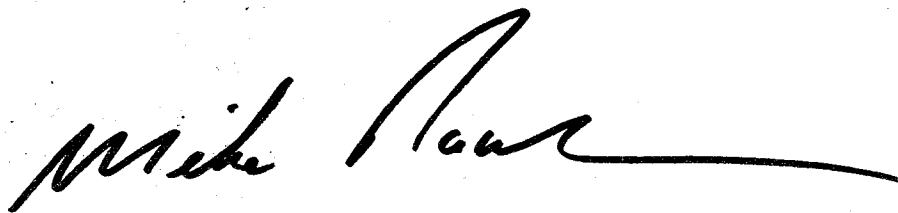
We shall soon see whether the continuing campaign against terrorism will involve direct U.S. action against rogue States, particularly Iraq, or progressive reliance upon covert action, and greater international diplomatic and police co-operation.

To some extent increasing tension in the Middle East has eclipsed the CNN 'War in Afghanistan'. A peaceful solution to the Israel -Palestinian impasse is the more important issue, as this conflict has a greater propensity to polarise mainline States in their support of the belligerents and thereby risk escalation.

ADF participation in support of the U.S. in Afghanistan, while minuscule in comparison with the total U.S. effort, involves the deployment of some 1500 ADF personnel. Together with the cost of our military commitment to Timor and PNG, and naval interception of vessels carrying illegal immigrants, these operations represent a significant cost that was not included in the defence budget. In paying for these unbudgeted operations, the Government has a range of options; the extremes being either augmenting the defence budget from other sources, or absorbing the costs within the budget. The latter option is usually achieved by deferring purchases of new defence capital items. The security risk involved in any such deferral can only be justified by a more benign strategic assessment together with greater reliance upon the U.S. alliance.

While 'September 11' highlighted the dangers of terrorism and may have 'changed the world forever' in popular perception, our regional strategic situation, on which the White Paper is based, is relatively unchanged. This includes the arc of instability through the Archipelago and the South-West Pacific, and uncertainty regarding the future direction of China. As well as there being no obvious strategic changes to the White Paper assessment, it appears that the cost of a number of replacement systems have been underestimated in the White Paper. This means that the White Paper increases themselves, were insufficient, thereby creating a dilemma for Government at budget time.

You may have noticed from the cover of the Newsletter that we are now RUSI-VIC Inc. Our Incorporation is effective from 8 February 2002. Incorporation will be soon be accompanied with a revised Constitution, consisting of Rules and Bylaws. You have already approved the new Rules. These will be complemented by new Bylaws, which have yet to be developed by Council. Council will also be looking at minor changes to our badge, to suitably reflect our current name and status.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Raw". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

"From
Our Washington Correspondent"

U.S. Builds An Asian Tiger Club in Singapore

(from Margaret Novack)
July 18, 2001.

Summary – Singapore, better known for its electronics industry and financial services than its defence posture, is steadily modernizing its armed forces with the help of the United States to secure expanding economic interests in the Asia-Pacific region. As part of Washington's efforts to contain China through new military allies, Singapore will transition from a small, inert power to one of the principal military players in the Asia Pacific.

Analysis – Singapore, a city-state of 3.2 million people that likes to think of itself as the Switzerland of Asia, has outlined plans to acquire dozens of new attack helicopters, fighter aircraft, warships and other long-range land, sea and air capabilities. These new tools will help round out a steady military buildup begun in the mid-1990s to help Singapore actively ensure regional stability.

Singapore is the Asian region's third-largest financial centre, after Japan and Hong Kong. It has carved itself out a small but lucrative niche in the semiconductor manufacturing industry, producing 8 percent of the world market in 1999. Singapore is also known for its stable political environment and strong legal system. Moreover, unlike Switzerland, it has the vast opportunities of an emerging Asia on its doorstep.

But the modernizing of Singapore's armed forces is transforming it into a key link in the security chain that the United States is building around China. Within the decade, Singapore will evolve from a relatively neutral participant to a major regional player – a development reminiscent of its days as a British military fortress during World War II. Washington will not look solely to Singapore to keep Beijing in military isolation, but the tiny nation will once again play a vital role in regional security affairs.

Like Israel, Singapore lacks strategic depth and is outnumbered by potentially hostile neighbours. Its defence strategy, therefore, is two-fold: Build an offensive-minded security force that can strike at potential enemies before they harm Singapore, and seek the support and protection of the United States.

Singapore, which spends \$4 billion per year on defence, is well positioned to acquire the weapons and technologies it needs. The arsenal it is building will allow it to destroy enemies on the ground, pre-emptively seize strategic territory, prevent rising piracy and intervene quickly and effectively in Indonesia, Malaysia and other likely trouble spots in the contested South China Sea.

On July 10, Singapore announced that it is seeking bids for up to two dozen cutting-edge fighter jets, at an estimated value of \$2 billion, to replace its ageing fleet of A-5 Skyhawks. The deal would be signed in 2004, and Singapore is looking closely at Boeing's F-15 Eagle and Lockheed Martin's F-16 Fighting Falcon, according to Bloomberg.com. The U.S. Department of Defence this month also made Singapore eligible for an additional 12 Boeing-built AH-64 Apache attack helicopters and related components at an estimated cost of \$617 million. Singapore currently has eight of the tank-busting choppers.

In April, Singapore commissioned the RSS *Persistence* and the RSS *Endeavor*, the last of four amphibious attack vessels being built to replace Singapore's old Country-class Landing Ship Tanks and Victory class corvettes. The new amphibious ships, which can displace 6,000 tons and command a range of 5,000 nautical miles, are outfitted with state-of-the-art communications and other automated tools that allow Singapore to operate effectively alongside the United States and other advanced militaries.

On land, the first indigenously designed All Terrain Tracked Carrier (ATTC) was delivered to Singapore's army in May. The ATTC "can transport troops and equipment over soft muddy ground and difficult terrain impassable to other vehicles," making it useful in a number of combat support and service missions, Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Tony Tan Keng Yam said March 8.

In tandem with its weapons purchases, Singapore is unfolding a "total defence" strategy that includes alliances with like-minded nations. So far this year, Singapore has conducted an anti-submarine warfare exercise with India, dispatched soldiers to participate in the United Nations peacekeeping mission in East Timor, sent airmen to Canada for an air warfare exercise and hosted a 16-nation mine-countermeasures exercise – the largest in its history.

Perhaps most significantly, Singapore this year also allowed a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier, the USS Kitty Hawk, to make a port call for the first time. The navy has increasingly used Singapore as a repair base for its smaller, Pacific-based ships since it was kicked out of its Subic Bay base in the Philippines in the early 1990s. Navy officials have been pressing for permission to build a dry dock in Singapore to repair aircraft carriers.

Japan is also slowly taking on a greater security role at Washington's urging. Navy officials tell STRATFOR that Washington has its sights set on other potential allies – for instance, raising the prospect of a return to Subic Bay and seeking ties to other players, such as Thailand and Indonesia.

Though small, Singapore will play a sizeable part in the U.S. strategy. Boasting an increasingly modern and highly capable fighting force, working to better integrate its forces with those of the United States, Australia and other regional militaries, and located at one of the world's most strategic chokepoints – both economically and militarily – it will emerge later this decade as a frontline outpost in the escalating military confrontation between the United States and China.

This article from RUSI-QLD September, 2001 Bulletin, with thanks.

Maritime Museums proposed closure

We have been asked by the two groups, to let members know that rumours of the closure of Osborne House Museum at Geelong, and Polly Woodside Museum, are not true. Written information on the above properties is in the mail, and has not arrived in time to be included in this Newsletter. Perhaps in the next.

Vale

RUSI-Australia has advised us that Group Captain P. Ray Smith RAAF Rtd has recently passed away. He served as President of RUSI-QLD Inc. for 17 years from 1973 to 1990, and as National President from 1984 to 1987. Besides his service during WWII, he had a distinguished career in State and Local Government in Queensland, and was a Barrister-at-Law of longstanding. Condolences were passed to Mrs. Judith Smith and her family.

4/19th Prince of Wales Light Horse Band

Now the only armoured corps unit with a regimental band, the 4/19th is boosting its numbers and expanding its repertoire, and is available to provide quartets for light dinner music and dance music. LTCOL Mike Annett, C.O. of 4/19th can vouch for their budding expertise. Call the Regiment on 9450 7895.

I think that knowing what you cannot do, is more important than knowing what you can do.

Lucille Ball

The Kitty Hawk's March 22 visit to Changi Naval Base is telling. Though Singapore's strategy pays homage first to national survival, it also dovetails with U.S. efforts to contain China. The Kitty Hawk's visit came immediately before an American spy plane was downed in the South China Sea, leading to a standoff between Washington and Beijing. Chinese leaders almost certainly viewed the port visit as heralding yet another U.S. naval "base" in the region, this time with direct access to the South China Sea. But Singapore does indeed appear to be becoming a de facto U.S. base.

Singapore is not Washington's only potential ally in its quest to contain China. Australia already has taken its place in the anti-China security chain; Adelaide earlier this month called on the U.S. Navy to help fix technical problems with its Collins-class submarine development program.

Regular publications received:

Australian Defence Force Journal *Sea Talk* *Australian Army Journal* *Army Magazine*
RDFWA 'Camaraderie' *Naval Historical Review* *Air Force, Army & Navy News* *Defender*
296 Advance Mess Newsletter *RUSI Vancouver Island Newsletter* *Australian Defence Magazine*
RUSI Interstate Newsletters *Naval & Military Club Pipeclay Newsletter*

Recommended reading from Allen & Unwin

"Mission Accomplished" by Bob Breen – a fascinating account of the participation of the Australian Defence Forces in the INTERFET peacekeeping operation in East Timor. Including over 150 photographs, this is an inspirational story of one of the most successful interventions by the international community to protect human rights and the outcomes of a democratic process, since the establishment of the United Nations.

Bicentenary Matthew Flinders Exhibition at State Library

RUSI members are invited to join members of the Naval Historical Society on Saturday 16th March at 2pm, to view this exhibition, before it leaves for South Australia. Please call Elizabeth on 9282 7498 or after hours 9521 9760.

From the Secretary

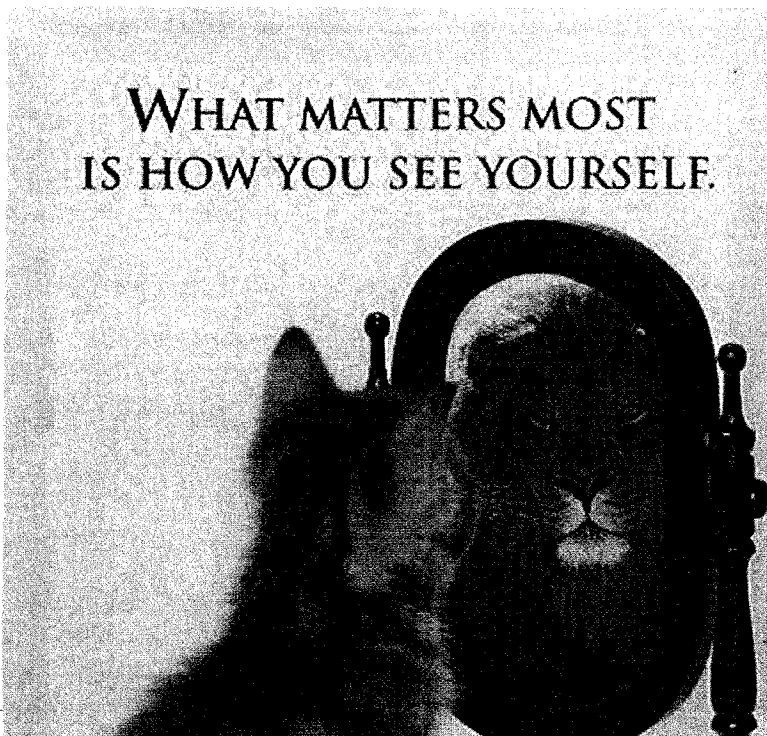
Thank you to Joan Risely, Elizabeth Skitt, Alan Hooley, Marj Minns and Neville Wright for helping to mail out this RUSI News. I would like to hear from anyone else who would like to help in the office, or give assistance in setting up the Atrium for the monthly lunches and tidying up afterwards.

Office Hours

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Monday | 10am to 4pm | Elizabeth Stevens |
| Tuesday | 9am to 3pm | Marj Minns & Neville Wright |
| Wednesday | 10am to 4pm | Elizabeth Stevens |
| Thursday | 10am to 4pm | Elizabeth Stevens |
| Friday | 9am to 3pm | Marj Minns & Neville Wright |

Please note that as a result of all staff and volunteers being in the office to mail out the Newsletter, and attend the Speaker Luncheon on the 4th Thursday, there may not be anyone in the office the next day, so perhaps you could telephone to confirm that the Office is open, before coming in. Could you please **not** come into the office prior to a Luncheon, as all thought and energy goes towards this function. We are happy to see you here after 2pm. Thanks.

WHAT MATTERS MOST
IS HOW YOU SEE YOURSELF.



Elizabeth

JAPANESE RAID DARWIN TWICE

Japanese Push Into Burma: South To Java

Special Sun Service and Australian Associated Press
LONDON, Thursday. — The Japanese are pushing their forces west into Burma, threatening Rangoon, and south from Palembang, threatening Java.

Latest reports from Rangoon say that the Battle for Burma has begun in earnest. The invaders, in spite of severe losses, have obtained a foothold on the west bank of the Bilin River. Fighting continues with undiminished ferocity.

It is stated authoritatively in London that there is no reason to think that our forces in Burma are not holding their positions. British and Indian troops are fighting side by side.

The Chinese forces, who are stated to have invaded Thailand from the South Shan States, are reported to be still progressing in the direction of Chiengmai.

In Sumatra the Japanese are driving from Palembang to Oosthaven, the port of Telok Betong (on the southernmost coast of Sumatra), which will bring them to within 150 miles of Batavia and give them command of Sunda Strait, between Java and Sumatra.

The Japanese are now bringing forces from Thaion into the battle," says last night's Rangoon communiqué.

The new Burma front is described heavily in the direction of the rail-line as a series of strong-points rather than a continuous line, enabling the defenders to draw the invaders into the open, where they cannot use infiltration tactics. Also British artillery can be used more effectively.



GUNS LIKE THESE were in action against the Japs yesterday. Australian-made anti-aircraft gun at Darwin.

93 Bombers Used With Fighters: Four Shot Down

SYDNEY, Thursday. — In the first enemy attack on Australian territory powerful forces of Japanese aircraft today launched two heavy raids on Darwin.

The Prime Minister (Mr. Curtin) announced tonight that the raids caused considerable damage to property, but reports so far to hand do not give precise details of this damage, nor is there accurate information as to loss of life.

Earlier reports, however, indicated that there had been casualties in the first raid.

The first raid was launched at 10.5 a.m. Darwin time (10.35 a.m. Eastern Australian time). It lasted about 40 minutes.

The attackers comprised a force of 72 twin-engined bombers, which came in in waves. They were protected by a screen of fighters.

The second attack was made early in the afternoon by 21 twin-engined bombers. No information has been received to show how long this raid lasted, or whether the attackers had fighter support.

The bombers and their escorts encountered

RED ARMY Birthday With Victories

LONDON, Thursday. — Russia will announce next Monday—the 23rd anniversary of the foundation of the "Red

and it is known for certain that the