



**Royal United Services Institute  
of Victoria Inc.**

**Promoting National Security and Defence**

A Constituent Body of the Royal United Services Institute of Australia

PATRON: The Governor of Victoria,  
John Landy AC MBE

**Defence Plaza**  
9th Floor  
661 Bourke Street  
Melbourne, Victoria, 3000

Telephone: (03) 9282-7498  
9282 7392

Fax: (03) 9282-3362

Email:  
rusi.vic@defence.gov.au

ABN 46 648 764 477

**Editor:** Martin Holme

**RUSI-VIC NEWS**

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**Dates for your Diary**

29<sup>th</sup> May - Speaker Luncheon:

The Blamey Oration - Air Marshall A. Houston AO AFC

26<sup>th</sup> June - Speaker Luncheon - Mr Hugh White

31<sup>st</sup> July - Speaker Luncheon

13<sup>th</sup> August - Council Meeting

28<sup>th</sup> August - Speaker Luncheon

12<sup>th</sup> September - Annual Dinner

Officers Mess, Victoria Barracks

25<sup>th</sup> September - Speaker Luncheon and AGM

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

***Speaker Luncheons***

***\*\* Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2003 \*\****

**THE 2003 BLAMEY ORATION**

To be delivered by

**AIR MARSHAL ANGUS HOUSTON AO AFC**

**Chief of Air Force**

At

**The Naval & Military Club**

**27 Little Collins Street, Melbourne**

**12 noon to 1-45pm**

**See enclosed flyer for further details.**

**An RSVP is required.**

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**\*\* Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2003 \*\*****Mr Hugh White****Director - The Australian Strategic Policy Institute**

The topic for the Luncheon address will be :-

**IRAQ – A Review**

Hugh White, a former Deputy Secretary for Strategy and Intelligence in The Department of Defence, is the Founding Director of ASPI, an independent non-partisan centre established by the Australian Government to provide fresh ideas about Australia's strategic and defence policy choices.

He has worked in strategic policy and related fields for two decades, serving as an intelligence analyst with the Office of National Assessments, as a journalist with the *Sydney Morning Herald*, as a senior adviser on the staffs of Defence Minister, Kim Beazley and Prime Minister Bob Hawke.

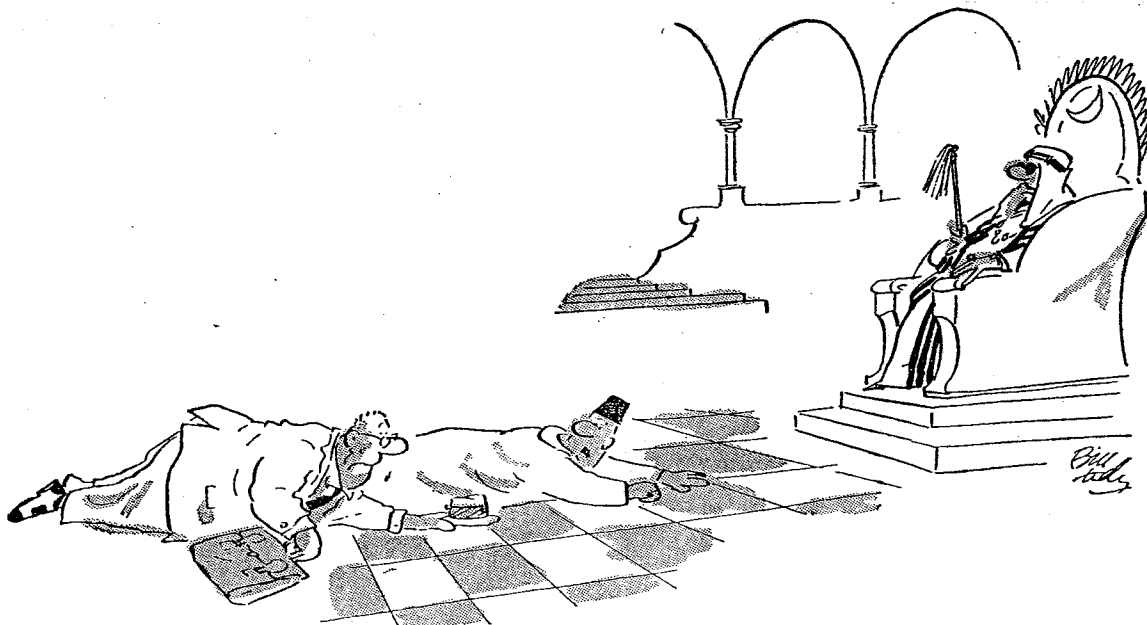
Hugh White is a much respected commentator on strategic matters who featured prominently in the media during the recent Gulf War. His talk will be of great interest to members.

**Vale** – We record with regret the passing of Mr A.G. Barker MBE; LTCOL Dr F.R. Betheras; Mr D.V.G. Tregaskis; MAJ I. Howard-Smith EM.

**New Members** – At the May Council Meeting the following new candidate will be proposed for membership:-

LTCOL Terry Beaton - Eltham

Mr David Hopper, Consul-General for The United States of America, has accepted an invitation to become an Honorary Member of the Institute.



*"Come on Mr. Fulsome, your appointment's for four o'clock!"*

## From the President – Air Commodore Mike Rawlinson

Remarkably, the war on Iraq has been successfully prosecuted and concluded between regular issues of the RUSI-VIC Newsletter. As we expected the ADF contingent has acquitted itself very well and most will soon be home. Full marks to the Australian Government, the ADF and the Service personnel involved.

Putting things into perspective, overwhelming force and technology including information systems, crushed what rustic Iraqi opposition was offered. The Iraqi Air Force very sensibly decided to stay on the ground. The primary and first rationale for the war was to disarm Iraq of its Weapons of Mass Destruction, which it had maintained in defiance of the UN. Significant numbers of WMD or materials for their construction have not yet been found, suggesting that it is possible pre-emption may have been based upon specious intelligence supported by Iraqi posturing and defiance.

It was inevitable that the 'coalition of the willing' would prevail. Saddam is gone. However, 'winning the peace' in Iraq, if this means instituting some form of democratic government friendly to the US, is by no means an assured outcome. This is a much harder task and requires inspired leadership from the US Government and General Garner heading the reconstruction.

A suitable opportunity for terrorist action by Islamic extremists against Western countries has been passed-by, but it is unlikely to be foregone. The war against terror continues, and we must maintain our vigilance.

Many questions now remain to be resolved concerning the relative power, status and legitimacy of the US and the UN; in fact the very basis of world order. Some commentators have suggested that the war in Iraq may be the start of a 'Pax Americana', or of US imperialism and control of the Middle East. It is worth pondering if among the real choices

available, whether these possible outcomes are necessarily undesirable?

Australia's participation in the War in Iraq was only for a limited time and involved what have been described as 'niche' forces. Nevertheless it was our first operational involvement with 'network-centric' operations in alliance with the US. These operations were highly effective, but very expensive. Together, with our East Timor experience, and the ongoing commitment to the war on terror, the war in Iraq highlights Australia's need to increase expenditure on defence and national security above the 1.9 per cent of GDP planned in the 2000 Defence White Paper. Changes have been forecast in the Minister's *Update on National Security* earlier this year, and we should soon see the financial impact of these in the May Budget.

'Global Security in the New Millennium' is the theme of the Triennial RUSI-AUST International Seminar which will be held in Canberra on Thursday/Friday, 9/10 October. The seminar will provide a forum for the presentation of views from international and national leaders on the challenges facing global security. The line up of speakers is most impressive, headed by General Richard B. Myers the Chairman of the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff. As with its predecessors, the seminar promises to be a most outstanding and prestigious event. If you are able to attend, you should seriously consider it. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

The wars in Afghanistan and Iraq have awakened public interest in defence and national security, and rekindled an interest that has not been pursued by some former ADF members. Now is a good time for us to approach these people 'the coalition of the interested' and recruit them as members of RUSI-VIC. It's the personal approach that works – and I reiterate my call to existing members to actively seek and nominate new members.

Mike Rawlinson

**Challenge – Each Member signs up a New Member during May/June**

## Library News

### From MAJGEN Mike O'Brien CSC – Chairman Library Committee

The Library Committee (and more particularly its busy workers) has made progress in several areas. In summary, they are:

- A collection policy has been agreed, concentrating on books relevant to defence issues.
- Books that are clearly outside this collection policy have been set aside for disposal. Some have been offered and sold to members at our Speaker Meetings.
- We have two qualified librarians working part-time on re-cataloging the collection to the same standard as the Defence libraries use. They have now processed several hundred books. We encourage all our members to view the steady but significant progress we have made.
- The first group of our rare books that needed repair have been returned from the binders. This group includes Murray's *Records of Australian Contingents to the War in South Africa 1899-1902*, Bufton's *Tasmanians in the Transvaal War* and Monash's *Australian Victories in France*. Other books will follow. Members are encouraged to view the results of this work in the Secretary's office.
- A brochure on the library has been prepared and will soon be distributed widely so that we will become better known.
- Work has commenced on the choice of a computer-based cataloguing system that may allow Internet access to our holdings.
- Some work on assembling the historical archives of the RUSI of Vic has commenced. This work has shown worrying gaps in our holdings of our printed material.
- For example, we hold only one volume (Volume III - 1894) of the *Journal of the USI of Vic*. Our holdings of Newsletters are complete from 1948 to 1960 but otherwise patchy or non-existent. We have very few transcripts of lectures. Can anyone help fill these gaps!
- An initial survey of our collection has been made. It is fair to say that we have many good books on subjects up to and including World War Two. However, our holdings on conflicts after that are not good. For instance, we do not have copies of Australian (or for that matter New Zealand) Official Histories of the Korean War or the Malayan, Borneo or Vietnam campaigns, let alone many of the other books that have been published on these topics. These major gaps will need to be filled by donation or purchase. Please tell us if you can offer any help in this area. We will make some more detailed reports later on this subject.
- We have had a good number of books donated to us by publishers as review copies. We seek several volunteer reviewers and ask that they pass the copies back to the library after their review is written!

Please consider whether you can donate any relevant books to our library to help build a good collection into a very significant collection! As well as the topics mentioned above, we would welcome Navy, Army or Air Force Lists (particularly from the 1950s or earlier), Australian unit and regimental histories from any period. You might also like to consider helping fund specific purchases or repairs to some of our rare titles.



A.S.C. CORPORAL (at Soldiers' dance). "Will you have a drink, Sir?"  
 MAJOR. "Thanks very much, Corporal, but I think I've had enough."  
 CORPORAL. "Don't say that, Sir. One more drink won't make you any worse than you are already!"

## From the Secretary - Martin Holme

**(Note: Letters to the Editor are encouraged -assuming, of course, they are respectful!  
An interesting and good example of the genre, from Warren Perry, is printed in this issue.  
I look forward to more such contributions. Ed.)**

During the period of the Gulf War, security at Defence Establishments was tightened and here at Defence Plaza we were placed on a category three status. Amongst other things this required that all visitors to the building, not holding Defence Passes, had to be personally escorted from the front door to the office, on the 9<sup>th</sup> floor, and back again. This caused some minor inconvenience and we thank members for their understanding and patience.

Demonstrators picketed the building on several occasions, causing temporary closure, but these activities have now ceased and we have reverted to the normal security state. Apart from describing your Secretary as "toffy nosed", little damage was done!

The aftermath of the presence of several police horses required pedestrians to be more than usually alert!

The March and April Luncheons were of outstanding quality, maintaining the consistently high calibre of our speakers. We have obtained a copy of the address given by Dr Michael Evans, Head of the Army's Land Warfare Studies Centre - Duntroon. (See page 9) It was a challenging and thought provoking talk and deserves a wider audience. It was a pity that the combination of Easter and Anzac Day resulted in a relatively small attendance.

The Blamey Oration, to be given by Air Marshal Angus Houston, Chief of Air Force, on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup>

May, 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 luncheons.

Mr Hugh White, Director - Australian Strategic Policy Institute, who speaks at the luncheon on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> June, is a very polished performer. You will no doubt have seen him frequently on television and read his articles during the recent Gulf War.

By way of advance warning - I advise that the Annual Dinner will be held on Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> September, in the Officers Mess, Victoria Barracks.

Previous mention of the Gulf War allows me, as a former British infantry soldier, to offer the following:-

The eve of battle is a time for commanders to rally their troops. Some do it more memorably than others. ( Henry V - Agincourt).

I have recently been given a copy of what Lt Col Tim Collins, Commanding Officer, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion The Royal Irish Regiment, said to his men on the day before they crossed from northern Kuwait into Iraq, at the start of the recent Gulf War.

I believe that members will find inspiration in his address, which now follows:-

### **"We go to Liberate" - a Colonel's Address**

Lieutenant Colonel Tim Collins' address to The Royal Irish Regiment  
On the Eve of The Gulf War

We go to liberate, not to conquer. We will not fly our flags in their country. We are entering Iraq to free a people and the only flag which will be flown in that ancient land is their own. Show respect for them.

There are some who are alive at this moment who will not be alive shortly. Those who do not wish to go on that journey, we will not send. As for the others, I expect you to rock their world. Wipe them out if that

is what they choose. But if you are ferocious in battle, remember to be magnanimous in victory.

Iraq is steeped in history. It is the site of the Garden of Eden, of the Great Flood and the birthplace of Abraham. Tread lightly there. You will see things that no man could pay to see and you will have to go a long way to find a more decent, generous and upright people than the Iraqis. You will be

embarrassed by their hospitality even though they have nothing. Don't treat them as refugees, for they are in their own country. Their children will be poor. In years to come they will know that the light of liberation in their lives was brought by you.

If there are casualties of war, then remember that when they woke up and got dressed in the morning, they did not plan to die this way. Allow them dignity in death. Bury them properly and mark their graves.

It is my foremost intention to bring every single one of you out alive, but there may be people among us who will not see the end of this campaign. We will put them in their sleeping bags and send them back. There will be no time for sorrow.

The enemy should be in no doubt that we are his nemesis and that we are bringing about his rightful destruction. There are many regional commanders who have stains on their souls and they are stoking the fires of hell for Saddam. He and his forces will be

destroyed by this coalition for what they have done. As they die they will know their deeds have brought them to this place. Show them no pity.

It is a big step to take another human life. It is not to be done lightly. I know of men who have taken life needlessly in other conflicts. I can assure you that they live with the mark of Cain upon them. If someone surrenders to you then remember they have that right in international law and ensure that one day they go home to their family.

The ones who wish to fight, well – we aim to please.

If you harm the regiment or its history by over enthusiasm in killing or in cowardice, know that it is your family who will suffer. You will be shunned unless your conduct is of the highest, for your deeds will follow you down through history.

We will bring shame on neither our uniform or our nation.

## Book Reviews

### **MAD HARRY : Australia's Most Decorated Soldier *Harry Murray VC DSO and Bar DCM C de G***

By George Franki & Clyde Slatyer  
Published by Kangaroo Press, 2003: Price \$29-95

Harry Murray was justifiably a legendary Australian of the First World War. The authors of this book were prompted by the death of the last Gallipoli veteran to write the first biography of this deservedly much decorated veteran of Anzac and France. They have done a very worthwhile job. Murray was socially reclusive after the war, and one can understand why when the full horror of his experiences is recounted throughout the book. His bravery is nothing short of astonishing. We are indeed fortunate that Murray did choose to write after the war. His articles for the RSL's *Reveille* magazine are reproduced here and they make interesting reading. Murray, like so many

other key figures in the Great War, corresponded with the official historian, Dr Charles Bean, and those exchanges are a valuable addition to this book.

Their book is well researched and clearly written. Though sometimes let down by maps that are far from perfect, the story is told clearly. It is worth reading for its account of the battle of Bullecourt alone. Please take it out from our Library!

M.P.J. O'Brien

### **GALLIPOLI : The Turkish Story**

By Kevin Fewster, Vecihi Basarin & Hatice Basarin  
Published by Allen & Unwin, 2003: Price \$29-95

There are few good accounts of those who have fought against Australians. Throughout the official histories you can find some use of enemy diaries, but, to the best of my knowledge, there are no books that attempt to do what Liddell Hart's *The Other Side of the Hill* does for Australians. Perhaps parts of C.E.W. Bean's *Gallipoli Mission* come close, but there is no equivalent for the Second World War. I would

be glad to know if this assertion is wrong. And yet the enemy view of a conflict can be particularly illuminating for all students of military history.

Here is the Gallipoli campaign seen from the Turkish side of the trenches, and from all perspectives it is both worthwhile and long overdue. It is a

development of an earlier book by the same authors in the early 1980s.

As the authors point out, it has taken many years for the respect that soldiers felt in 1915 for 'Johnny Turk' to be equalled by a general Australian (and RSL) respect for their nation. The participation of Turks in Anzac Day marches is a case in point, despite Turkish participation in the Korean War. The book could, of course, been richer had it been written before the death of the last Turkish participants: Fewster and his collaborators (who are both of Turkish extraction) have had to rely on the written sources. Nevertheless, they have produced an excellent account that could alter some of the views that may be generally held about that campaign. At the very least, it gives a welcome sociological view of the war and a cultural viewpoint that is missing from almost all Australian accounts. This aspect is becoming

increasingly important: after all, in 2001 some 53 000 Australians traced their origins to Turkey!

Fewster points out early in the book that Australia Gallipoli casualties were 27 700 of whom 8700 were killed. The toll for New Zealand was 7571 wounded and 2701 killed, Britain and India 119 696 wounded and over 28 000 killed. All these grim numbers pale into insignificance when you realise that the equivalent casualties for Ottoman troops were 250 000 and 86 000.

May I thank Allen & Unwin for the review copy which is in our Library: I strongly recommend that you read it.

M.P.J. O'Brien

## **THE COCOS ISLANDS MUTINY**

By Noel Crusz

Published by Fremantle Arts Centre Press, 2001

A well written well researched history of what is probably (in Australia) a little known series of events in World War Two. In brief, some soldiers of the Ceylon Garrison Artillery providing part of the garrison on the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, mutinied, attempted to arrest their commanding officer and to surrender to the Japanese. The mutiny did not succeed and other troops such as the Ceylon Light Infantry, remained loyal. As a consequence seven soldiers were arrested and ultimately three of them were hung.

This book provides an excellent overview of the situation in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) at the time when the threat of a Japanese invasion was very real. The success of the Japanese forces and the propaganda from Japan calling for other Asian people to aid in defeating Europeans (mainly British) and drive Europeans from Asia found a receptive ear with some.

Mutiny would be a nightmare to and for any commanding officer of a military organisation and an event to be dreaded. How this mutiny was dealt with makes sad and sombre reading. My one difference with the author of this excellent book would be the assertion therein that matters would have been better handled had the C.O. at the time been a Ceylonese rather than a British Officer. To me the young British Officer in command did what had to be done, regrettable and all as it may have been.

I strongly recommend this book to the general reader and especially to those interested in the lesser known events and theatres of World War Two. Those interested in the exercise of command in remote yet important places would also find this book of more than usual interest. It is to be hoped author Noel Crusz writes more on W.W.II in and near Ceylon/Sri Lanka.

Bruce Turner  
Library Adviser

## Letters to the Editor

Sir,

### Major General Sir John Charles Hoad (1856-1911) Discovery of Unpublished Mss in RUSI Records

With reference to your Issue dated March-April 2003 on the above subject, I was delighted to hear that an unpublished report by General Hoad on his experience in the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-5, as an Official Observer on the Japanese side, is held in the Library. I hope it will be possible to publish this Report in due course suitably edited with a Preface. In short, I hope that the officer who does this job will remember that "a heap of bricks is not a house".

Major General Hoad was Australia's second Chief of Staff and after his death on sick leave on 6<sup>th</sup> October 1911, *The Age* of Melbourne dated 19<sup>th</sup> January 1912, said of General Hoad, in an Editorial, that "he rendered eminent and meritorious service to Australia". To put it more bluntly General Hoad was killed on duty in peacetime. He died exhausted by overwork and insufficient recreational leave. At the time of his death he was trying, with the help of a grossly inadequate and not in all instances adequately trained Staff, to accomplish two major tasks of considerable urgency. These were the introduction of a new Staff system, known as the Australian General Staff and a new training system for the Defence Force, known as the Universal Training Scheme which came into operation at the CMF level on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1912.

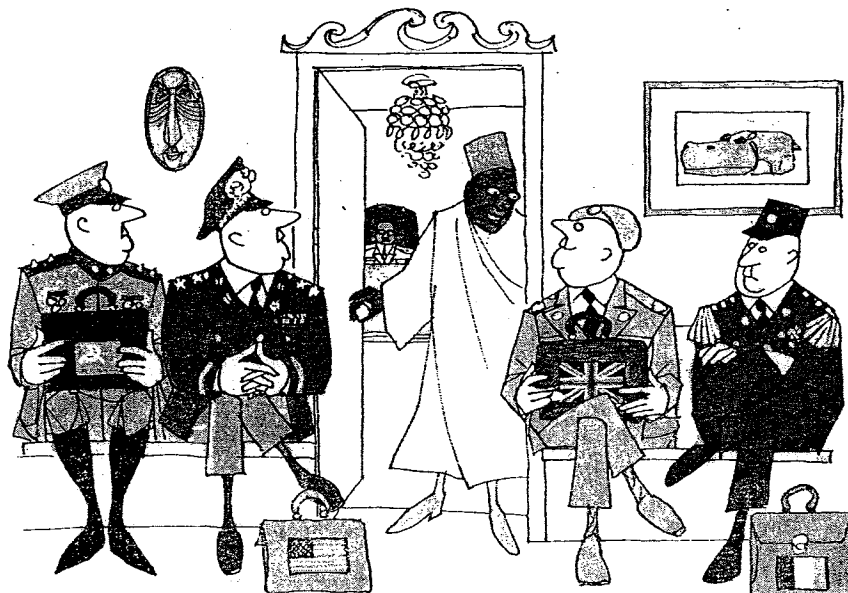
But enough has been said here to illustrate the meritorious record of Major General Hoad as a soldier who has largely been neglected by historians. Even in the recent centenary celebrations of the Australian Army he did not receive, as far as I know, even the equivalent of a Mention in Despatches.

In the *Journal of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria* dated August 1959 (pp 141-204) an article by me on 'The Military Life of General Hoad' was published. Since that date, as far as I know, nothing more elaborate has been published biographically on General Hoad.

It was my privilege to spend many hours on discussions about General Hoad and some of his colleagues with Major General Sir Julius Bruce, who some of us can still remember as Chief of the General Staff from 1931 to 1935. He knew them all, of course, personally and he had been trained as a practising lawyer before he became an officer in the Permanent Military Forces. General Bruce was a specialist but when it came to giving an objective estimate of General Hoad, he told me that Hoad was a good staff officer and that he had personally learnt much from him.

Finally, I was surprised to read in the report published on the discovery of this Hoad manuscript, a quotation from an outside source. It was asserted that General Hoad, who had served his country faithfully and well and under poor conditions of pay, inadequate staffs and grossly inadequate opportunities for much needed recreational leave, was both "dull" and "mediocre". Extant records do not confirm these assertions.

### Major Warren Perry MBE ED Litt. D



*"Which of you is the British gentleman? His Excellency has decided to purchase his bombs from you. He feels great concern about your balance of payments."*



## **Towards an Australian Way of Warfare: Culture, Politics and Strategy, 1901-2001**

This was the title of the address given by Dr Michael Evans, Head of the Land Warfare Studies Centre – Duntroon, at our Monthly Luncheon on 29<sup>th</sup> April.

It was a fascinating, well researched and reasoned exposition of Australia's evolving Defence strategies since Federation – where we are today and the way forward from here. It is not possible in a short space to give adequate justice to the arguments expounded. Suffice to say it was a remarkable presentation and deserving of a wide audience, especially those of us interested in "Promoting National Security and Defence".

To whet your appetite, here is Dr Evans' **Introduction and Conclusion**. The meat, of course, is in the middle!

### **Introduction:**

"Since the 1960s, there has been considerable interest in the idea that Australia possesses a distinct way of warfare. Debate on the subject has embraced study of the Anzac-Digger legend to more recent, high-level institutional analysis of warfighting issues within the Australian Defence Force (ADF). A major weakness in this debate has, however been a tendency to divorce discussion of a way of warfare from the wider context of Australia's political and strategic cultures.

The purpose of this paper is therefore to broaden the parameters of the Australian way of warfare debate. My objective is to try to demonstrate how culture, politics and strategy have combined over the past century to influence Australia's approach to warfare. To this end, five themes are developed. First, in order to provide historical context, I discuss briefly the idea of distinctive ways in warfare. Second, I argue that a way of warfare cannot be understood, even less defined, unless it is examined in relationship to the key concepts of political culture and strategic culture. Third, I analyse the components of Australia's political and strategic cultures to provide the intellectual background to the idea of a national way of warfare. Fourth, the various approaches used to conceptualise an Australia way of warfare – ranging from the Anzac/Digger legend to more recent operational and strategic level initiatives within the ADF – are discussed. I assess the extent to which these various approaches conform to ideas drawn from Australia's political and strategic cultures. Fifth, perspectives are applied from the three areas of political culture and the way of warfare debate to highlight contemporary problems that Australia appears to face in developing a relevant warfighting posture for the early 21<sup>st</sup> century."

### **Conclusion:**

"The American strategist, Admiral Henry E. Eccles once wrote that '*the ultimate source of strategy lies in the values of the people of a nation*'. Investigation of the path towards a modern Australian way of warfare reflects the truth of these words. An approach to warfare must be developed as an operational sub-set of a nation's beliefs and values as expressed through its political and strategic cultures.

A future Australian way of warfare is, therefore, likely to be based on Australia's longstanding Western philosophical and cultural traditions. Our political system has a Benthamite tradition; our foreign policy is Cartesian; our diplomacy remains Westphalian; and our defence policy is essentially Hobbesian. It is precisely because we are so firmly trapped between Western history and Eastern geography that Australia has to focus energetically on understanding the international system. As the leading political scientist, Hugh Collins, has perceptively observed, Australia is ultimately 'a country without a region' – a nation that historically relies for its security and prosperity on a favourable balance of world order.

Australia needs then a multi-faceted security outlook – one that is simultaneously globally attuned, regionally focused and alliance orientated. To achieve such a complex balance requires vision allied to a clear understanding of who we are, where we have been, and where we might be going. In this respect, the study of warfighting practice, of political culture and of strategic culture are not abstract tasks divorced from questions of identity and policy. Rather, such study represents a positive intellectual exercise; one that helps us to understand how the shape of the future is conditioned by the way in which the past impinges on the realities of the present. In this sense, self-knowledge can become the greatest form of strategic wisdom."

If you are interested in obtaining a full copy of this important Address, please contact me in the Office on (03) 9282 7498 and I will make sure that one is sent to you.

**Reminder :**

Victorian Reserve Forces Day March takes place on Sunday, 6th July 2003, under the patronage of Mr John Landy AC MBE, Governor of Victoria.

For more information telephone Reserve Forces Day Information Centre – (03) 9284 6651.

**RUSI Australia - International Seminar - 9/10 October 2003**

RUSI AUSTRALIA's Triennial International Seminar is to be held at the National Convention Centre, Canberra, ACT, on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> and Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2003.

The theme for the Seminar is "Global Security in the New Millenium". Acceptances to present papers have been received from:

- General Richard B. Myers, Chairman United States Joint Chiefs of Staff,
- General Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Indonesian Minister for Security and Political Affairs,
- M.Jean-Marie Guehenno, United Nations Under Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations,
- General Peter Cosgrove, Chief of the Defence Force.

Responses are awaited from Mr Ric Smith, Secretary, Department of Defence and from General Xiong Guangkai, Deputy Chairman, Chinese Peoples Liberation Army. The British High Comissioner, Sir Alistair Goodlad is seeking an appropriate speaker from London.

Further information can be obtained from Martin Holme, - (03) 9282 7498.