

# ARMOUR

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President: COLONEL John Haynes OAM . Editor George Baczocha

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*The article below while not strictly armour related has been included as I feel that it high-lights a serious problem with defence planning and one that could lead us into a situation that could easily spiral out of control. Having been a refugee once due to a country's rosy defence assessments, I have no wish to repeat the experience. I only hope that those responsible for defence take note of the article below and act accordingly. - Editor*

## In an Imperfect World, Adequate Defence is Crucial

Jim Molan

The most common - and important - question voters ask in relation to any defence budget is, how much is enough?

But the Government has failed to even ask that question in reducing the current defence budget to historically low levels at a time of rising risk and uncertainty, instead just promising to have a new white paper.

White papers do not defend us in the real world. The reduction in defence spending was taken selfishly with full knowledge that the strategic risk to 22 million Australians had been significantly increased. There are some things that should be above political survival, but of course they are not.

The need for a defence budget is based primarily on an estimate of the need, adjusted by the investment available. The need is often referred to as the strategic environment, and sometimes as the threat.

If you believe that there is absolutely no need for any money to be spent on defence and that security can be achieved without armed forces, then I respect your view, but we do not share a common starting point for discussion.

If you believe that the world is not yet perfect, that there is even a small chance that one day Australia may have to use force in pursuit of its interests if not its survival, and that the future is always unpredictable, then you will think that we need armed forces, and we have a basis for considering how much is enough.



### Inside this Issue

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# Coming Events



3 April 2014	Committee Meeting	B11, Victoria Barracks, 1130hrs
5 June 2014	Committee Meeting	B11, Victoria Barracks, 1130hrs

All members are welcome to attend these meetings. We usually adjourn to the Officers' Mess for a luncheon snack.

Your Association now has facilities for any member to attend committee meetings by telephone. The offer to attend in person remains of course. Anyone wishing to attend in person should advise in advance to enable entry to the Barracks to be arranged.

Would any member who wishes to attend by phone please provide their telephone number and we will call them just before the meeting commences. Meetings start at 1130 hrs on the first Thursday of every second month starting in February at 1130hrs



Our recent request for members to catch up with their subscriptions was 6 months late as the date for renewals is 1 July each year. Those who caught up with a one year subsection will receive another reminder soon after 1 July 2014. We apologise for the late advice this time.

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Guardian Funerals, an Australian owned company with an Australia wide network, have agreed to provide a funeral discount of \$500 for RAACA NSW members.

This is the result of a long negotiation with the Company. The offer is provided due to our Armed Service connections.

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Important changes to the availability of Legacy benefits.

The dependants of deceased veterans without Qualifying Service may now apply for Legacy benefits.

Ex Service organisations should do what they can to spread the word of this as many widows would be out of touch due to the previous policy which only provided benefits to the dependants of veterans with Qualifying Service.

Also if veterans with Qualifying Service are unable to look after their families due to War Service injurious then Legacy benefits may be made available to them.

John Haynes, President

*(Continued from page 1)*

Assessing how much is enough was prosecuted by competent people in Defence in preparation for the 2009 Defence White Paper. They derived a force structure tested in a number of scenarios and derived from the best knowledge of the demands the strategic environment could place on Australia in the future.

They came up with "Force 2030", known for having 12 submarines, up to 100 joint strike fighters, three air warfare destroyers, two amphibious ships, new armoured vehicles, etcetera. The Government accepted that and wrote it into the white paper.

Force 2030 was not thought up by the uninitiated, but by the best civilian/military tactical and strategic brains available. Of course, some commentators objected, especially those with a barrow to push, such as a submarine-only force. There was judgement involved, but the judgement was tested in the process. There was guidance from government on how much money was available. The promises made by then Prime Minister Kevin Rudd in the election confirmed the funds allocated by the Howard government would stay, and PM Rudd promised voters that the percentage increase above inflation promised by Howard to overcome decades of neglect would also be maintained. Promises, indeed!

The "threat" in 2009 was always the changing power relativities in our part of the world caused by the rise of China. What that means to the ADF is that since the end of the Vietnam war, Australia could risk under investing in its own military knowing that the US was a superior power during the Cold War and a dominant power after it.

That is no longer the case. It is not definite that military conflict will result from this natural competition, but history will tell us that conflict is the historical norm when a rising power challenges the status quo.

Force 2030 gave Australia an adequate military for doing things that needed to be done, and a solid base from which to expand if things went bad. It was not inordinately expensive compared to either what other nations are spending or to the cost of wars, especially failed ones.

Predictions that the nation cannot afford Force 2030 have been shown to be the rubbish they always were by a recent ASPI study.

So what are the consequences? They are much worse than the government is saying. There was a line that the "operations" of the ADF will not be impacted. That refers to the operations overseas in Afghanistan, East Timor and the Solomons.

The most important part of the ADF, that part that prepares for the worst case of a serious conflict in our region, has been severely damaged. In fact, the ADF is in terminal decline at current flatline (at best) investment predictions.

Our defence expenditure has been reduced to 1938 levels of 1.5 per cent of GDP and looking at the budget papers, it is likely to go down to 1.4 per cent of GDP next year as costs rise dramatically.

The forecast put out by the Government in the Defence Capability Plan last week are sheer fantasy. They cannot be achieved on current budget predictions. They cannot be achieved by the spending mechanisms in place, even if a government suddenly found the money. They will not save money in the long run. Rather, everything will cost more and greater waste is likely in the future.

The only thing different about how this government is treating the ADF is the magnitude of this dash-for-cash. Since the first defence white paper in 1976, your ADF has not been able to meet the implied or stated military strategy in any white paper, which must represent gross strategic failure by any measure.

The Howard government tried to make up for the \$200 billion shortfall in materiel that had been promised by successive white papers and not delivered, but those gains will now be lost.

I have always been disconcerted as US dignitaries visited Australia and volubly and diplomatically praised our defence commitments in general or in specific wars, when I knew that their real feelings were vastly different.

The US needs its allies and it needs them to be strong, yet almost every US ally is prepared to fight to the last US soldier. This has led us over the years to define the adequacy of our general defence spending or our specific troop commitments to be: "Let's do just enough so that the US does not publicly criticise us."

Well, the US is now publicly criticising us. It has done so through visiting US admirals, through think tanks and lobbyists, and now officially to our senior officials.

*(Continued on page 13)*

## Technical Notes & News

### US to replace M113s – we upgrade ‘em

**Tom Muir**

**A formal request for proposals for the US Army’s Armoured Multi-Purpose Vehicle (AMPV) has been delayed again, the service said last week. While no reason was given for the delay, an Army official ascribed the schedule slip to difficulties associated with managing long-term programs amid the budget uncertainty the service currently faces.**

The AMPV is intended to be the Army’s replacement for nearly 3,000 of its Vietnam era M113 infantry carriers. Each vehicle has an average unit manufacturing cost target of \$US1.8 million. At that rate, the total AMPV price tag could exceed \$US5 billion.

**M113 Armoured Personnel Carriers** have provided the Australian Defence Force with a protected mobility capability since the Vietnam War.

The **Land 106 M113 APC** upgrade included an electrically powered turret, day/night weapon sights, a new engine, steering controls, drive train, electrical and fuel systems as well as a newly designed internal layout to accommodate safe stowage. Some 431 **M113AS4 vehicles** in seven variants, applique armour and ILS, have been delivered and project closure has commenced. Approved project expenditure was \$885 million of which \$791 million has been spent to date. Upgrade contractor was **Tenix, later BAE Systems Australia**.



*- Inside Defense/DMO.*

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### Rheinmetall to supply tracked armoured vehicles to Indonesian Army

Rheinmetall Group has received a contract from the Indonesian Ministry of Defence (MoD) for supply of tracked armoured vehicles, logistical support and ammunition to the national army.

Under the €216m contract, the company will deliver a total of 103 overhauled and modernised Leopard 2 main battle tanks (MBTs), along with 42 upgraded Marder 1A3 infantry fighting vehicles (IFVs), and 11 various armoured recovery and engineering vehicles.

Additional supplies include associated documentation, training equipment, logistical support, as well as initial rounds of practice and service ammunition.

The contract reflects Indonesia's requirement to modernise its ability to respond to potential threats to its territorial integrity.



*(Continued on page 5)*

In addition, the country also needs equipment that corresponds to the military standards of its partner nations, so as to participate in UN peacekeeping and peace enforcement missions.

The contract was originally signed in December 2012, and comes into full force after the successful completion of all legal formalities, making Indonesia the 18th Leopard 2 MBT user nation, according to the company.

**"The contract reflects Indonesia's requirement to modernise its ability to respond to potential threats to its territorial integrity."**

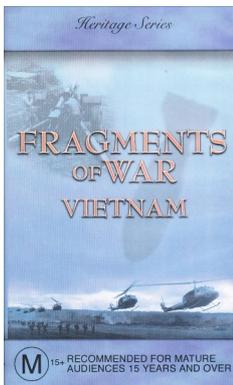
Indonesia initially planned Leopard 2 tanks purchase from the Netherlands, but failed to finalise the contract due to strong opposition from the Dutch legislators, in the wake of the country's rampant human rights violations across the archipelago, especially in Papua New Guinea.

Manufactured by Krauss-Maffei Wegmann (KMW), the Leopard 2 is a successor to the Leopard 1 MBT, and is designed to engage moving targets while moving over rough terrain. Equipped with digital fire control systems with laser rangefinders, a fully stabilised main gun and coaxial machine gun, and advanced night vision and sighting equipment, various Leopard 2 variants are currently operational with the armed forces of Germany and other European and non-European nations.



*Image: Leopard 2A5 main battle tank of the German Army.  
Photo: courtesy of Bundeswehr-Fotos.*

Deliveries under the contract are scheduled to take place progressively during 2014-2016



## Fragments of War—VIETNAM

Members will recall that we had copies of the Tape of this video, which is narrated by Jack Thompson, for sale some years ago. We still have one or two of those tapes left at \$25 each.

Now we have had the Tape converted to DVD for sale at \$10 with postage free.

It is an excellent résumé of the War.

Please contact the office for your copy

## Stop the imposters

A submission has been made to amend the Defence Act to impose Penalty for the improper use of service decorations .

Penalties proposed are up to 30 penalty points, 6 months imprisonment or both



03 - 06 February, 2014

FIVE, Farnborough, UK

## Israeli Defence Force tests “Namer” Armoured Personnel Carrier



*Image: An Israeli Namer armoured personnel carrier undergoing testing in US. Photo: courtesy of 1st Lt Tyler N Ginter.*

"It is almost identical to the Merkava IV tank, except that they removed the 20t turret. What is left is a strong tool, more stable and faster than ever."

The Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) soldiers from Golani Infantry Brigade tested Namer armoured personnel carrier (APC), developed in the country, during ongoing military drills in Golan Heights.

Conducted last week, the exercise validated the vehicle's advanced technology, which will provide assistance in carrying out quick and secure operations in difficult and dangerous terrain. Private Stav Globus, who tested the weapon systems of the vehicle, said that the heavy machine gun mounted on top of Namer's roof can

be controlled from inside, allowing the sniper to engage targets at various ranges.

Infantry Training School Namer Section head major Yitav Mazur claimed Namer was the 'newest and most advanced armoured combat vehicle for infantry in the IDF and in the world'.

"It is almost identical to the Merkava IV tank, except that they removed the 20t turret," Mazur added. "What is left is a strong tool, more stable and faster than ever."

Designed by Israel Military Industries (IMI) and manufactured by IDF Ordnance, the Namer APC is an armoured infantry fighting vehicle (AIFV) developed to provide enhanced crew protection against explosives, machine guns and anti-tank missile attacks.

Derived from the Merkava Mk.4 main battle tank chassis, the Namer is capable of carrying crew of two and ten infantrymen, and features a Trophy active defence system (ADS) and an internal air-conditioning unit to continue operations in areas soiled by non-conventional weapons.

Armaments include either an M2 Browning machine gun or an Mk19 grenade launcher mounted on a Samson remote-controlled weapon station (RCWS), as well as a 7.62mm machine gun and 60mm mortar.

The IDF is also planning to develop command armoured recovery, and technical support vehicles, as well as ambulances and IFV variants of the Namer, which first entered operational service with selected units in early 2008.

Army-TECHNOLOGY.COM 31 August 2012

## Iraq seeks to acquire 30 Stryker vehicles from the US

The Iraqi Ministry of Defence (MoD) is planning to procure 30 General Dynamics-built [Stryker](#) infantry combat vehicles (ICVs) from the US Army, Program Executive Office Ground Combat Systems public affairs spokeswoman Ashley Givens has revealed.

In an e-mailed response, Givens was quoted by Bloomberg Business Week as saying that the US Army has been assembling cost and schedule information for a formal proposal, which will be submitted to Congress for approval following acceptance by the Iraqi Government.



*(Continued on page 7)*

(Continued from page 6)

"The deal covers delivery of 30 Stryker vehicles integrated with sensors, test equipment and communications gear."

Valued at an estimated \$25m, the deal covers delivery of 30 Stryker vehicles integrated with sensors, test equipment and communications gear for efficient detection of nuclear fallout or chemical and biological agents.

An unidentified US embassy official told the news agency that the deal forms part of a potential \$7bn foreign military sale (FMS) package for Baghdad, which was agreed by the US Government in the last decade.

In an e-mailed statement, General Dynamics spokeswoman Marie Remboulis said the company was fully aware of the pending Stryker deal, while Iraqi embassy spokesman Raifet Ahmad did not respond to a request for comment on the issue.

The Iraqi Government had previously requested a sale of 400 Stryker ICVs and eight heavy recovery vehicles for use by the country's police in December 2008.

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## G-Wagon receives Oz weapons suite

**Around 200 Australian Army G-Wagon 6x6 Surveillance Reconnaissance Vehicles (SRV) are to receive a weapon mount suite from W&E Platt in a contract valued at more than AUD\$2.5 million.**



This follows extensive design work and engineering evaluations, including live fire trials of advanced prototype weapon mounts designed specifically for the G-Wagon 6x6 SRV platform.

The contract will see two weapon mounts fitted to each vehicle and also includes a spare parts package and technical documentation. The bespoke weapon mount suite comprises a front rail mount installed on the upper dash structure for the vehicle commander and a rear rail mount fixed to the rear stowage compartment. The

latter enables the rear gunner to engage targets left, right and to the rear of the vehicle.

Each weapon mount can accept a Minimi 5.56mm light support weapon or a MAG-58 7.62mm general purpose machine gun. Units earmarked to receive the seven-tonne gross vehicle mass G-Wagon 6x6 SRV include the Army's three Regional Force Surveillance Units: the Pilbara Regiment, NORFORCE and the 51<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Far North Queensland Regiment.



First deliveries of the Platt weapon mounts are scheduled to commence in October this year and continue through the first half of 2014.

ADM's Defence Week Premium Edition – Issue No. 269 Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2013

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# Aussie Tankers Train with USMC Counterparts

Tom Muir

**A contingent of 80 men from 1 Armd Regt has returned from the month-long first phase of a reciprocal exchange program with their US Marine Corps equivalents. Exercise Gold Eagle was designed to enhance the cooperation between 1 Armd Regt and 1st Tank Bn, USMC, by focusing on combined arms training, developments in technology and integration of capabilities.**

Contingent Commander and OC B Sqn, 1 Armd Regt, Maj **Tim Tiller**, said familiarisation with an amphibious capability was invaluable. “Not only can the USMC’s amphibious capability operate in a variety of sea states but it also has the capacity to contribute to a far broader scale of operations than we’re likely to see in the Australian context,” Maj Tiller said.

“The opportunity to deploy on a training exercise alongside USMC elements with similar requirements and challenges was unique and instructive, yet not totally unfamiliar. Working first-hand with our USMC counterparts had a number of interesting facets, the most prominent being that regardless of the unit or country, tank soldiering was just that.”

In California, the contingent spent five days at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Centre (MCAGCC), five days at Camp Pendleton, and 21 days back at MCAGCC. They conducted mounted operations in an urban environment and breaching operations culminating in a combat team live fire breach.

Maj Tiller said the next phase was crucial as the Australian Army no longer retained the capability to conduct an in-stride breach. This will be conducted from September 1-29, with USMC’s A Coy, 1st Tank Bn deploying to Darwin to partner with B Sqn, 1 Armd Regt.

“The objectives of this component of the exercise are to build on the relationship developed during the US experience,” Maj Tiller said. “It will also expose the USMC tankers to Australian training methods and systems and provide them with an opportunity to operate beside their Australian counterparts in terrain not available to them in US training areas.”

Amphibious capability: this year Talisman Sabre will see further practice and progression of defence’s emerging amphibious capability. The exercise will be the third block of training for the 2nd Battalion, the RAR’s amphibious Ready Element Landing Force. In a recent issue of Defence Weekly Premium edition we noted comments by Allison Casey, writing in the Australian Army Journal, to the effect that while 2 RAR had been designated to take the initial lead in developing amphibious capability. In turn, these skills are to be spread throughout and beyond 3 Brigade, within which 2 RAR sits. Here, she said, Army’s interoperability within itself, as well as the other services, was going to be crucial.

In response to Army Chief LTGEN Morrison’s then comments that ‘we’re going to learn that as we go’ she saw an opportunity for the Army to learn from experts given that US Marines Corps personnel—specialists in conducting amphibious operations—were now deployed in Northern Australia. It would appear that amphibious operations were always going to be an important aspect of ADF training with their USMC counterparts - both in Gold Eagle and Talisman Sabre.

*ADM’s Defence Week Premium Edition –ISSUE No. 264 – Thursday 1<sup>ST</sup> August 2013*



# Message Board

TV change to digital.

There is a Household Assistance Package available to eligible people eg a high definition set-top box fitted free and other support

Ring 1800201013 for details

## Passed on by the 'Info Post'.

Subject: Gold Card Specialist Fees

Date: Thu, 3 Oct 2013 07:49:34 +0800

Hi Guys,

In recent times there has been some reports of Specialists not accepting the Gold Card, in the past the TPI Federation has had an input into addressing this issue by providing information to DVA and Government. We need accurate details when this occurs to enable us to compile a submission to DVA/Government. If you are made aware of this could you please provide the following, the doctors name, the date it occurred, the town/city and the specialist area IE: vascular, orthopaedic etc and pass this information to me. This is an important matter and the sooner it is dealt with the better. Could you please send this on to as many veterans as possible.

Cheers and thanks

Blue Ryan

**From:** Adam hurley [mailto:[adam@vietnamandcambodia.com](mailto:adam@vietnamandcambodia.com)]

Hi George, Adam Hurley here. Hope this email finds you well.

I responded to your message on the 2 Cav FaceBook Page regarding the publication Armour.

I'll keep it short but I was with RAAC during the 90's with 2 Cav, 2/14 and 12/16. After which I moved to Asia where I now live in Saigon with my family.

For the past 12 years or so I have been tour guiding and currently run my own small business doing walking tours and motorbike tour around Saigon ([www.saigonunseen.com](http://www.saigonunseen.com)). I'm also a keen photographer ([www.vietnamandcambodia.com](http://www.vietnamandcambodia.com)) and have tripped around most of Vietnam and Cambodia.

If you guys are looking for articles / images from the region, I would be more than happy to discuss idea's or I can throw some out there.

Look forward to hearing from you soon and hopefully we can work something out!

Regards,

**Adam Hurley**

Phone: +84 (0)90 831 7084

[www.saigonunseen.com](http://www.saigonunseen.com)



From: Charles Chant [mailto:[cchant8@bigpond.com](mailto:cchant8@bigpond.com)]  
Subject: Armour Issue No 469

Greetings John  
Trust this note finds You we'll and looking forward to a Christmas break.

Regarding the Oct issue of Armour, I cannot help but comment on the article on the Battle of Coral and Balmoral only to say I understand that you're short of submissions to the Armour but surely allowing the publication of what appears to be purely an Infantry account of the Battle with scant reference to supporting arms " really John not a good choice of articles for The only Australian Armour Magazine that I know of. John D Keldie would turn in his grave.

It was commendable of the Committee to present a large framed photo of our RAAC Generals to the Mess etc ,unfortunately there is a glaring mistake in Gen Coates' photograph. Coates' Christian names are : Henry John Coates. NOT John H Coates as you have put on the photograph.

Coates did not like Henry and preferred John,however I believe his correct name should be displayed for future generations ,research ,references etc.

Leave it with you

*Editor: Mia Culpa - we need an article of the Vietnam era which did not repeat previous stories in Armour and that was the only one I could find in time. We are always on the hunt for suitable articles so all help would be welcome.*

From: Lee Townsend <[leetownsend3917@yahoo.com.au](mailto:leetownsend3917@yahoo.com.au)> wrote: JUST FOUND THIS IN AN OLD TOOLBOX

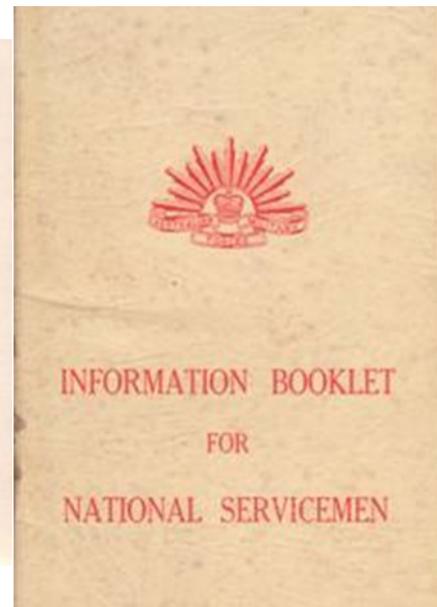
**PAY AND ALLOWANCES — NATIONAL SERVICEMEN**  
**DAILY RATES OF PAY (as at 1 Jan, 1967)**

Rank	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6	Group 7
Private	4.82	5.09	5.32	5.54	5.74	5.99	6.20
L/corporal	5.17	5.38	5.61	5.83	6.04	6.28	6.50
Corporal	5.56	5.83	6.07	6.28	6.49	6.73	6.94
Sergeant	6.10	6.42	6.65	6.87	7.08	7.32	7.54

Should you be selected for officer training, and successfully complete the course, you are commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and receive a rate of pay of (\$7.67) a day.

In addition to the above rates:

- each member receives a clothing maintenance allowance of 28c a day.
- a married member receives a marriage allowance of \$1.72 a day.



Baltic Defence College, Tartu, Estonia  
Armoured Vehicles Northern Europe 2014 takes place in Estonia in April. Of this year



# US to take part in tank biathlon in Russia in 2014

A US crew will take part in so-called tank biathlon competitions in Russia along with Italian and German crews in 2014, Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu told journalists in summing up outcomes of his negotiations in Washington.

"We have invited our American partners to take part in a tank biathlon competition on Russian territory. US Defense Secretary [Chuck] Hagel has accepted our invitation," Shoigu said.

It is presumed so far that the German, Italian and US crews will be participating in the competition on their own tanks.

"In the future, we will do all we can so that foreign armies purchase our tanks," Shoigu said.

He also expressed the hope that tank biathlon may become a paramilitary sport.

"I really hope that tank biathlon will become a new sport," he said.

Russia hosted the first tank biathlon competition in the Moscow region on August 12-17, 2013. Taking part were crews from Russia, Armenia, Belarus and Kazakhstan. The crews competed in driving, firing, and crossing obstacles, such as a ford, road blocks, a treadway bridge, speed sections and overtake sections.

Each tank will be required to cover about 20 kilometers at a high speed and fire all its weapons at selected targets simulating tanks and low-flying helicopters at ranges of 900 to 2,200 meters.

The final round of the competition will include an additional element: the participants will have to fire in motion with the tank's turret turned at right angles to the axis of movement, which is considered one of the most difficult and spectacular elements. Just as in traditional biathlon, the track includes a 500-meter penalty loop that the participants will have to follow if they miss the target.



Photo: RIA Novosti

*Voice of Russia, Interfax*



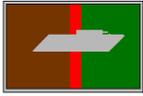
Old soldiers... Who let him out????



B SQN 2 Cav Regt M113 vehicle swim at Georges River 1988



For those who did not receive the latest Ironsides, some stocks are held in the Office, so please give a call and a copy will be sent post free.



## 7 Jul 1949 Birthday of 1st Armoured Regiment



### Formation Post WWII

1st Armoured Regiment was formed on July 7th 1949 when the then 1st Armoured Car Squadron, which had served as part of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force (BCOF) in Japan returned to Australia and was re-designated the 1st Armoured Regiment, located at Puckapunyal, Victoria.

Formal affiliation with the Royal Tank Regiment (RTR) was recognised two years later. As part of this affiliation the unit adopted the RTR's regimental colours, which date back to the First World War. The colours Brown, Red and Green were first used by the then Tank Corps at the battle of Cambrai, on the 20th November 1917. From these colours came the motto, "From mud, through blood, to the green fields beyond". These same colours were used by the Australian Tank Corps prior to the Second World War.

Although a regiment in name, it was not until 1952 that equipment and troopers became available to allow for the raising of HQ Squadron and Regimental Headquarters in addition to a tank squadron. 1952 also saw the ageing Churchill tanks replaced with the Centurion Tank. In September 1952 another tank squadron was raised, designated Nucleus Squadron, and based in Holsworthy, New South Wales. It was intended at the time to be the nucleus of the 2nd Armoured Regiment.

Our current patron was a troop leader in this squadron.

### Pre Vietnam

In 1953 Lieutenant General Sir Horace Robertson presented the Regiment with the Paratus Cup. This cup is competed for annually and is awarded to the best tank troop. It was also during this year that the Regiment was authorised to wear its own badge bearing the motto 'Paratus' in place of the General Service Badge.

In 1954 the Regiment received the Ferret MK 1 Scout Car which enabled Reconnaissance Troop to be raised. During the following year the Regiment received the Saracen Armoured Personnel Carrier. At this time it was decided not to raise the 2nd Armoured Regiment and Nucleus Squadron returned to the Regiment as C Squadron.

Approval was given for the Regiment to carry a Guidon and on 6 February 1956, the then Governor General, Field Marshal Sir William Slim, KG, GCB, GCMG, GCVO, GBE, DSO, MC presented the Guidon at a Regimental Parade held at Puckapunyal. Also in 1956 the Regiment was equipped with the Centurion Armoured Recovery vehicle. Until this time the Churchill Recovery vehicle had been retained.

On September 14th 1959, the Regiment officially occupied Kapyong Barracks at Puckapunyal, Victoria. With the expansion of the Royal Australian Armoured Corps in 1960, A Squadron of the Regiment was disbanded and the majority of the personnel involved formed regular squadrons of the 4th/19th Prince of Wales's Light Horse and the 2nd/14th Queensland Mounted Infantry (This organisation was necessary in order to provide reconnaissance and anti-tank elements for Plan Ambrose...Australia's SEATO contingency force). These squadrons subsequently became part of the 1st Cavalry Regiment, which was redesignated the 2nd Cavalry Regiment and which in turn provided the nucleus for the 3rd Cavalry Regiment.

1964/65 saw the Regiment providing most of the men for 1 Troop, A Squadron, 4th/19th Prince of Wales Light Horse. This Troop was equipped with the new M113A1 Armoured Personnel Carrier and in May 1965 was deployed on active service to South Vietnam.

### Vietnam

The Vietnam conflict together with the requirement to train National Servicemen, seriously depleted the Regiment of its experienced officers and senior NCOs. When warned, on 17 October 1967, to provide a tank squadron for active service in South Vietnam, the Regiment was far from being in a satisfactory state of operational readiness. This was a major development as, from the mid 1950s, the Regiment found itself having to justify its existence to Government policy makers and Army Headquarters, who questioned the need for tanks, especially in jungle operations. C Squadron was selected to deploy and was fully operational in theatre by Sep 68.

*(Continued on page 14)*

(Continued from page 3)

Providing for our own defence in terms of real world capability - ships, planes and tanks, not paper policy – is the most basic expression of our sovereignty.

If we do not, we hand the major decisions on our security over to our allies whose interests will not always correspond to ours. Providing adequately for our own defence does not mean that we oppose the legitimate rise of China, which should be managed (not opposed or contained) from a position of strength, not from weakness where we hope that we will be treated well.

**For once, let's have a Government that says, "There is no greater responsibility for a National Government than the defence of its people and their interests," and means it.**

*Jim Molan AO DSC, a retired major general with the Australian Army, is a commentator on security and military issues in the Australian print and electronic media, writes regularly for a number of journals, and is a director of a number of companies.*

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## 18 Oct 1939 Australian Cruiser Tank Production Process Commences for AIF Armoured Division

The CGS, General Squires, requested the Master-General of the Ordnance to produce a light cruiser tank to the pilot model stage. The program continued till 26 Aug 1943 when a proposal for disposal of the small number of prototype tanks and components at varying stages of manufacture was announced. The tank was called the Sentinel.

Australian tank Production Chronology Ref No 136 p270-273

“ The final intention was to manufacture a total of 775 tanks (at a rate of 15 per week) of three marks:

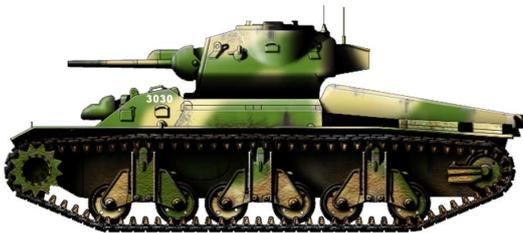
- AC1 with a 2-pounder gun
- AC3 with 25-pounder gun
- AC4 with 17-pounder high velocity weapon

Production of the AC1 began in June 1942 and continued for approximately one year. By the end of the first half of 1943, due to the arrival of overseas shipments, the relatively-slow rate of AC tank production and further availability of US tanks, it was decided to cancel further production of the Australian cruiser tank. A total of 65 AC1 tanks and one AC3 were delivered from Australian Production. Although extensively tested and used for trials, none of these vehicles ever equipped Australian Armoured Units Ref No 55 p 66

**AC1 Sentinel**



Category: Cruiser Tank



**AC4 Sentinel**



Category: Cruiser Tank



Note that the AC2 with two Cadillac engines and US imported components was rejected because of the unavailability of components.

**References:**Ref No 136; Ref No 55 p66  
RAAC Homepage Defence Intranet  
<http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb>

*(Continued from page 12)*

Elements of the Regiment would spend the next four years in Vietnam with each Sqn doing a one-year tour and C Sqn doing a second tour before being withdrawn and returned to Australia. The Vietnam War proved once again that tanks could operate in tropical terrain and provided essential close support to infantry, especially in close combat such as bunker fighting. Tanks were withdrawn from Vietnam in September 1971 as part of the withdrawal of the Australian Task Force.

*Editor's Comment:*

*Tanks were controversially withdrawn from Vietnam in September 1971 at the start of the withdrawal of the Australian Task Force". The point about the withdrawal is that infantry were left without tank support while still conducting operations; in one encounter they lost 5KIA and 22 WIA in a bunker system . Advised by LTCOL B. Cameron MC, (Rtd) 8 Mar 11*

**Noteworthy engagements in which tanks formed a combined arms team were:**

- a. 25-30 May 1968 - FSBs Coral and Balmoral
- b. 21-22 August 1968 - Long Dien
- c. 16 February 1969 - Hat Dich
- d. 6 June 1969 - Binh Ba
- e. 17-18 February 1970 - Long Hai
- f. 6-7 Jun 1971 Long Khanh. Long Khanh was the location of Operation Overlord, one of 1ATF's largest, the success of which was largely due to the combat power and shock action brought to bear by the tanks.

**Post Vietnam**

1972/73 saw B Squadron redesignated the Medium Tank Trials Unit, carrying out extensive user and technical trials on the US M60A1 and German Leopard 1 A2 to evaluate the replacement for the ageing Centurion. 1972/73 was also a traumatic time for the Regiment in that the abolition of National Service depleted the Regiment's strength to the point where training was severely restricted until reinforced during 1974.

1977 saw the introduction of the Leopard 1 A3 (redesignated as the AS1) into the Armoured Regiment. This inclusion gave the Regiment a then state of the art Medium Battle Tank.

On the 21st April 1981, His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales, Prince Charles presented the unit with its first Regimental Standard.

In 1995 the Regiment conducted its move to Darwin to the current location, Chauvel Lines, Robertson Barracks, Palmerston, Northern Territory. On the 13th July 2002, the Regiment was presented with its current Standard by the then Governor General Dr Peter Hollingworth, AO. This Standard is displayed in the Regimental Headquarters building today. In November 2003, the appointment of Honorary Colonel was taken up by Major General Roger Powell, AM.

**Introduction Into Service of the Abrahms M1A1 AIM-SA**

On the 10 March 2004, the government announced that Australia would purchase 59 US M1A1 Main Battle Tanks (MBT) to replace the fleet of ageing Leopards, thus launching the next chapter in the life of the 1st Armoured Regiment.

On the 4 July 2007, at 1920h the first M1A1 AIM-SA was driven onto the wharf at Darwin. 42 M1A1 tanks and 2 M88 recovery vehicles were delivered to the Regiment over the next 2 days.

**Reference:**

<http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/Sites/1ARMD/>

<http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/Sites/1ARMD/comweb.asp?page=158238>



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**3 May 2013**

### **Soldier On welcomes new funding for mental health**

The Government has announced, as part of the Defence White Paper, that it will allocate \$25.3 million to provide extra mental health services to those who have served in contemporary operations.

Soldier On, a charity established to support Australia's wounded Defence personnel, welcomes the extra funding. CEO, John Bale, said PTSD and other psychological wounds were important to address, particularly as more servicemen and women return home.

"This increased support will be vital as we wind down our operations overseas," Mr Bale said. "The transition from serving in a combat zone to life at home can be difficult and it's vital we set up support structures before we finish our withdrawal. "This funding is a great first step to address PTSD and other similar conditions with our Defence forces, and shows these problems won't disappear when the conflict stops."

Mr Bale said the move emphasised the importance of supporting servicemen and women and that Soldier On would continue to work with Defence to serve as a way the community could show their support.

"This is the time where it's most important for the community to get behind their troops and support those effected by their time serving in conflict," Mr Bale said. "Defence will continue to do a good job supporting our wounded, and we will work, with the help and support of our community, to enhance that and show these men and women that they are not alone.

"We want to show those who served in contemporary operations that the Australian community thank them for what they have done and will have their thanks no matter what."

*Media contact: Dion Pretorius | 0418 281 777 | [dion.pretorius@soldieron.org.au](mailto:dion.pretorius@soldieron.org.au)*

**HEARTY WELCOME TO THESE NEW MEMBERS  
SINCE OUR LAST ISSUE**

**Alexander (Bill) Kmon (2 Cav Regiment)  
James Dummett (2, 3/4 & 4 Cav Regiments)  
Ray Warry (7/21 Aust Horse)**

**Lest we Forget**  
**We regret to advise the passing of the following members**

Austin, Kevin "Bunny" 2/6 AR  
 WO1 Modystack, Neville  
 Major Booth, (Jack)  
 Longton, J.H  
 McMurray-Jones, Robert  
 Cpl Rowland, Norman  
 Mackay, Gordon  
 Maj Murphy, Peter  
 Reid, G  
 Brand, S  
 Lisle, W.E  
 Dick, James  
 Capt McQueen, Ken  
 Lewis, MT

Moynhem, F  
 Gilbert, Max  
 LtCol Irwin MBE OAM ED  
 Mayes, R.G  
 Baird, D.G  
 Cox, David  
 Hughes, Robert  
 Hunt, K  
 Callow, John  
 Johnstone, P.L  
 Leslie, E.C  
 Stumer, Lester  
 Parker, J



The quest for a National Memorial to our predecessor troopers is on track!

The sculpture of the first of the four mounted troopers 150% life size in bronze is nearing completion as can be seen in the Photo of the nearly completed Clay which is copied to the foundry this month.

We Expect the Sculptor to start on the second Mounted trooper late in March. Work on the Memorial in ANZAC Parade has been funded for the first Phase.



## Vale

**From:** NEVILLE <[nsmodystack@bigpond.com](mailto:nsmodystack@bigpond.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 1 October 2013 6:49 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Lee From Mick EILOLA 3 Cav website

Hello Lee,

Just a short e-mail to let you know Neville died at 1.00 p.m. this afternoon. I took him in to the Atherton Hospital yesterday, in the early hours of the morning. Leah and I were both with him at the time. He was not in any pain so that was a blessing.

Once again, thanks for all your help and advice.

Susan

## Vale

**From:** John Howells [mailto:[john.howells@lancers.org.au](mailto:john.howells@lancers.org.au)]

Dear Fellow Lancers and Friends,

It is with great sadness that I advise the passing of Major John (Jack) Booth RFD ED.

Jack's wife Cynthia called, Jack passed away at Macquarie University Hospital in October 2013. He had not been home since being admitted to Westmead with renal failure in May. The funeral was held on the 29 October at the Catholic Crematorium Rookwood Cemetery.

Jack was a stalwart supporter of the Regiment and Association, having served when the Regiment was equipped with Centurions and M113s from the 1950s 'till 1970s; later he served with the RCSC at Ingleburn. His service included a battlefield familiarisation tour of Vietnam. I specifically remember him as the OC of my Driving and Servicing course in 1975, then as the Admin Officer when I was at RCSC in 1982/83. When he retired, Jack did not miss a Regimental Dinner.

Sincerely,  
**John Howells**  
Honorary Secretary  
Royal New South Wales Lancers' Association



Jack Booth (Left) as we will remember him, with Mick Lewins, John Haynes, Brian Brakenreg and John Arnott – Regimental Dinner 2011

## Vale

Our Dear Friend Robyn Branagan, comforted by her husband Peter and Family, passed away 4 Dec 2013 at the Eastern Epworth Hospital , Box Hill, Victoria.

Our feelings are expressed by LTCOL S.Cree CO/CI SOARMD:

"It is with deep sorrow that I confirm the passing of Mrs Robyn Branagan. Robyn was a friend of the Corps and a loving wife to our great friend Peter. I am sure you join me with offering heartfelt condolences to Peter and his family."

Robyn's Funeral was held at the Garrison Chapel, PUCKAPUNYAL Monday 9 December 2013

:  
John Baines     Tim Branagan

## Vale

From: **Whitburn, William CAPT** <[william.whitburn@defence.gov.au](mailto:william.whitburn@defence.gov.au)>

Vicki,

Particularly sad news with the loss of a 12/16 HRL legend. He will always be remembered and never be forgotten. May he rest in peace. Condolences to his family at this tragic time. Please pass on my heartfelt condolences.

Thanks for keeping me advised of those past members that I in my time as RSM of the unit got to know well and have since passed away. It is very much appreciated.

I can also say that when I fully retire in 2015 (Yes fully retire) that I will look forward to attending one of the Lancer Dinners, if invited.

Warm regards,

*Bill Whitburn*

W.J. WHITBURN OAM  
CAPT  
QUARTERMASTER, 4th REGT RAA

### Got a Story to Share?

Do you have a story to share with your fellow troopers. We are always on the look out for new writers and new material for our newsletter.

At the moment we are looking for:

- personal experiences with your life in an armoured corps unit.
- Stories and photos from our recent overseas operations in Timor, Iraqa and Afghanistan
- Technical articles on vehicles and equipment used .

Everyone who has served in the Army has at least one story that would be of interest to RAACA Members, so get in touch with us and get it into print for posterity. We can provide help and advice if you are not confident of your writing ability. Email [raacansw@defence.gov.au](mailto:raacansw@defence.gov.au) or ring on 02 8335 5209

## Vale

Capt Norman Rowland, 2/6 Aust Armd Regt

“Dad served with 2/6th Armoured Regiment (B Squadron) in New Guinea, and was involved in all the major actions of this Regiment, including Buna and Sanananda (see attached press article). Over the last 12 years I have been taking him to the annual regimental reunions which he has enjoyed very much, and just several months ago, one of his great mates Ray Lynn (MM) also passed away at the age of 98. Dad and Ray were in the only three tanks involved in the battle at Sanananda.”

Reference Dr Stuart J. Rowland 2011

Extract from local paper details unknown



CPL Norman Rowland, son of Mr. and Mrs. I. Rowland, Tamworth, who recently came under the notice of war correspondents in New Guinea. When Japanese were stealthily approaching a tank in the Buna fighting, Cpl. Rowlands, sitting within it, waited patiently until he had them nicely lined up, then, bringing the tank's guns into action, killed a dozen of them.

Other parties were dealt with as affectively, but not as spectacularly. Heavy fire was poured on one pillbox believed to be the Japanese command post.

When the attack grew too hot about 10 of the enemy ran out and took shelter under a light structure, topped with palm leaves.

Another tank hurled shells at the shelter, which burned and then exploded. Apparently thinking that a tank which had been motionless for some time awaiting orders was disabled 15 Japanese crept through the grass toward it. Corporal N. J. Rowland, of Tamworth, the gunner, waited until they were well within his sights, and then fired two 37mm shells. He told me later he “reckoned that the first landed among the Nips, getting three or four and the other did the same. The rest ran for cover.

The Japanese are using a new and costly technique to avoid being trapped in their pillboxes by tank and infantry assaults. When the attack becomes too hot they run from the threatened box to another, firing on the infantry as they go. The tanks caught many of them in the open and the commander of one estimated that his gunners shot between 20 to 30 during a short advance.

## Vale

Kevin "Bunny" Austin, a veteran of the 2nd/6th Aust Armd Regt passed away last Thursday 10 October. A service was held at St Patrick's Catholic Church Royston Parade ASQUITH NSW on Wednesday 16 October.

MAJ John Baines



From Chris Osborn (via 2 Cav Regt Reunion Facebook page)

Now here be a story, I have heard, but I could be wrong and would appreciate the further info, but.

During an ROBC at Pucka, a crew, cannot totally blame the young Subby in training, forgot to remove the bore sighting attachment before pulling the trigger.

CO or SI on the mound was heard to suggest that "his careers ##? @#\$. as I said, I could be wrong!



Sir John Monash  
Jerilderie and Melbourne  
Hamel France



The Sphinx  
above Anzac Cove  
Gallipoli, Turkey



Matron Grace Margaret Wilson  
Brisbane and Melbourne  
Abbeville France

## GREAT GALLIPOLI NATION BUILDERS

The following all served in the Gallipoli Theatre of War and survived World War One, seared by Gallipoli and their WW1 experiences, in the aftermath, over achieving and contributing much to the fabric of the nation.

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Hon. Hubert Lawrence Anthony<br>(Federal Minister, Postmaster General)                       | Sir Hudson Fysh<br>(Co-Founder of Qantas)  | Sir Keith Murdoch<br>(Gallipoli Letter carrier, later newspaper giant)               |
| Dr. C E W Charles Bean<br>(Historian, Founding Chair AWM)                                    | Sir John Gellibrand<br>(Victorian Police Commissioner, Federal MP)                     | Private Henry W Murray VC<br>(Most decorated WW 1 soldier, CO in WW 2)               |
| Brigadier Arthur Blackburn VC<br>(Co founder RSL SA and State MP, Conciliation Commissioner) | Cardinal Norman Gilroy<br>(Bishop Port Pirie / Archbishop Sydney)                      | Major General Sir Charles Rosenthal<br>(NSW State MP, Head of Architect's Institute) |
| Field Marshal Sir Thomas Blamey<br>(Vic Police Head, WW 2 leader, ex Wagga)                  | Sir Thomas William Glasgow<br>(Defence Minister, HC to Canada)                         | Sir Granville Ryrie<br>(State and Federal MP later High Commissioner to UK)          |
| William Kinsey Bolton<br>(RSL Leader, Senator)   | Hon. Neville Howse VC<br>(Vital GP Doctor, Federal Minister, Defence / Health)         | Legatee General Sir Stan Savage<br>(Creator and founder of Legacy)                   |
| Captain Albert Borella VC<br>(Dundas activist, Albury's best)                                | Ion Idriess<br>(Author of over fifty books, eg Flynn of the Inland)                    | Sir Ross Macpherson Smith<br>(Pioneer aviator including first flight UK - Darwin)    |
| Prime Minister S M Bruce<br>(Not only PM, UK Agent General in WW 2)                          | Captain Albert Jacka VC<br>(Soldier of renown, later Mayor of St Kilda)                | Charles Ulm<br>(Pioneer Aviator with Kingsford Smith)                                |
| Lord Richard Casey<br>(Last Governor of Bengal, Minister later GG)                           | Sir George Jones<br>(Chief of the RAAF WW2)  | General Sir Cyril Brudenell White<br>(later CGS and Chair Public Service Board)      |
| General Sir Harry Chauvel<br>(Led Light Horse Ber Sheba, later Inspector General)            | Sir Charles Kingsford Smith<br>(Pioneer Aviator, Air Commodore RAAF)                   | Matron Grace Margaret Wilson<br>(Lemnos and Matron-in-Chief WW2)                     |
| Sir Albert Coates<br>(Outstanding General Surgeon in WW 2)                                   | Brigadier General Sir Raymond Leane<br>(SA Police Chief Commissioner, Academy Founder) |  |
| Brigadier General Harold Pompey Elliott<br>(Undervalued, later Senator)                      | General Sir John Monash<br>(Under promoted, SEC Victoria / Shrine founder*)            |  |
| Chaplain (Father) Major John Fahey<br>(Co-Founder WA RSL)                                    | Lt General Leslie Morshead<br>(Led first Nazi defeat at Tobruk in WW 2)                |  |

\*The John Monash letter in the Great Depression to the New Guard declining to lead a coup d'etat, stated that and I quote "The best hope for Australia is the ballot box and good education". This arguably rates as one of the best dictums ever laid down in the history of Australia's democracy. General Sir John Monash was the one person every AIF veteran of WW 1 would have supported, if asked to do so and he knew that. Also arguably John Monash had been slighted in the decade since he returned from the Western Front but he declined to step up and pursue a tyrannical course, he backed the democracy of Australia, warts and all. So did all on this forever incomplete list.

Poster prepared by 2Lt Tim Fischer AC RL, net proceeds to the Australian Army Museum, Wodonga Victoria, Melbourne Shrine and also the General Sir John Monash Foundation for provision of scholarships.

© Tim Fischer 2012

**We are extremely grateful for the following individuals and associations for their donations to the National Boer War Memorial project between November 2013 to February 2014**

J. Haynes	Mrs Donna Brooker	Mrs Elaine Young	Mrs Phyllis Heydon
18th Bn Mem Rifle Club	Kevin Collins	Army Assoc of Victoria	Susan Marguart
Revesby Heights RSL Sub Br	David Hogan	Dorothy Vincent	Vietnam Veterans Family Medallion
Graham Wilson	Anita Mackiewicz	Mervyn Mills	Scone RSL Sub Br
Kathleen Payne	JC Morrison	Rotary Club of Rochdale City	Carole Robson
Neil Austin	M Cavendish	Ruary Bucknall	Keith White
Cecil Hope	Alan Bewley	Gunnedah RSL	Edmund Keogh
Paul Hanlon	Dianne Decker	Lloyd Birdsall	Penelope Horn
Joan Barrows	John Condon	Kevin Avard	NA Connell
Tim Hallam	George Borrowman	D George	P Brand
John Burlison	Sandra Lee	Joe Camilleri	Harold Langford
Callala Beach RSL Sub Br	Doyalson-Wyee RSL Sub Br	George & Cate Clark	Alice Little
Shirley Wicks	Avalon RSL Sub Br	Hilda Bartley	Raymond Mercer
Concord District RSL Sub Br	CP Breust	James Mason	John Hardie
John Bell	Valda Lambert	Wyong Family History Group	Colin Terry
Robert Crick	William Swinbourne	George Purves	Arthur Allen
Marie Stubbs	Bernard Dunn	H M Silver	Phillip Cameron
Margaret O'Neile	Brian Cook	Makea Sadaraka	Rod Wells
Eric Hutchinson	H Sinclair	Bermagui RSL Sub Br	MG Mills
Graham Wilson	Ian Jones	Marjorie Morgan	Clint Johnson
Simon Swifte	Lynne Drive	Castle Hill & District RSL Sub Br	Mortdale RSL Sub Br
Merrylands RSL Sub Br	Sue Boyce	Norman Wittingslow	Bexley RSL Sub Br
Deniliquin Genealogy Soc	JW Merrett	JS Calvert	Watsonia RSL Sub Br
Miranda RSL Sub Br	Leeton RSL Sub BR	Combined Services Sub Br	Graeme Palmer
Mittagong RSL Sub Br	David & Marilyn Jones	LH & J McEvoy	Botany RSL Sub Br
Tony White	Grenfell RSL	Isabel Andrews	Charles Cornell
RG Hill	Ian Matheson	Richard Crotty	Joan Hooper
DJ (Doug) Roser	John Reddington	JS Calvert	Dawn Lotty
Dr JB Roche	Patricia Watson	A Efimov	James Looney
Les Roberts	SP Bailey	Mrs Roberta McDonald	Douglas Errington
Bill McKeich	Edward Tamsett	Phillip Lee	Mr G.M. Brodie
Guy Griffiths	Audrey Robinson	Donneybrook RSL	Patricia Gardner
Barry Mionnet	B. Hales	R Crofty	L Browning
L Bennett	D Sahl	L Buck	S Wallace
P & R Lee	R. Crofty	L. Browning	Chris Ellison
City of Swan	Brian Cook	Gosford Public School	C & B Cornell
Mavis Hamilton	Warren Mann	Phillip Thompson	Frank Moore
Shirley Teague	Raymond Mercer	Margaret O'Neile	Mrs Lesley Walsh
RSL Esperance WA	John Reddington	Lyrico Sexty	Mal Stephens
Angus Hordern	DJ Morgan	Mrs Oriena Charleston	



# RAAC Corporation

*In unitate est fortitudo (In unity there is strength)*



The RAAC Corporation (the Corporation) was formally established through the ratification of the Constitution at the SOA on 6 October 2012, The Corporation was registered on 14 March 2012 with ASIC.

It is a Tier 1 public company, limited by guarantee, formed for a charitable Purpose.

On Saturday 5 October 2013, the Executive Council of the Corporation voted at its AGM to accept the nominees for the inaugural Advisory Board (the Board).

The Board members are:

- . **Maj Gen Michael Krause AM, (Retd)**
- . **Lt Col Colin Toll RAAC, (Retd)**
- . **Lt Col Julian Heath RAAC, (Retd)**
- . **Peter "Pedro" Rosemond, CSC, OAM, RAAC**

The breadth and depth of talent and expertise from all 4 Board members both military and post-military, clearly demonstrates we now have a team with some serious firepower to look after the Corps and its Regimental Associations.

The Board will now meet electronically to elect a Chairman from their midst.

The Constitution allows for the appointment or election of up to 7 Board members. Should the workload become burdensome there is a capacity for the Corporation to seek additional expressions of interest.

Board members will, subject to consultation with and the guidance of the Executive Council, take issues up with the relevant levels of Defence or Government. They will be the SABOT round of the Corporation.

The Executive Council also voted to appoint two senior RAAC members to act as LOs to the Board. These gentlemen are:

- . **Col Lee Long, RFD Hon Colonel 1/15 RNSWL**
- . **BRIG Phillip Bridie, AM DG RES-A.**

COL Long will be the primary in this role. He will be very ably supported by BRIG Bridie who will act as back-up on the event commitments militate against COL Long being able to undertake any of the functions of this role including the size of his workload. Both gentlemen will in fact be the equivalent of Regimental C/S 0A and 0B, and will compliment each other.

The LO role is to essentially act as a bridge between the Board and the Reserve elements of the RAAC.

No conflict of interest either real or perceived, arises for either gentleman as they will not have any involvement in any advocacy matters. That function remains within the remit of the Board members.

Central to the Board's operation will be the remits all Executive Council representatives have been asked to submit. Once these are prioritised, the Corporation will have a better Sense of the issues that need to be taken up on behalf of our constituents.

Some of the issues submitted for the Corporation to consider, include:

- . The matter of the beret;
- . Superannuation issues;
- . Remote locality provisions and allowances for members serving in remote areas; and
- . Welfare matters for members returning from operational service

Given the excellent and very instructive presentation to the AGM by HOC BRIG J.J. Mackenzie, the huge changes ahead for the Corps involving ARA and Reserve, means the creation of this particular role is timely indeed. A number of issues discussed will in fact go to the top of the Board's priority list for action and where necessary, to maintain a watching brief.

Since the death of BRIG Ian 'Luigi' Bryant, AM (Retd), I have been very fortunate to be able to meet monthly for a working breakfast with the Representative Honorary Colonel RAAC MAJ GEN Roger Powell, AM (Retd). Roger's advice to me as mentor and guide has been invaluable and I owe him a huge debt of gratitude.

*(Continued on page 23)*

The year has seen extensive efforts made to conclude the transfer of funds from the former RAAC Federal to the new Corporation as agreed to at the RAACA Congress last October. The legislative issues that flowed from this decision are significant and will require further unpicking before the matter is successfully resolved.

The Corporation is taking small steps as it learns to walk. Financial support through sponsorships is one of the challenges facing it, in this era of cutbacks in the private sector as well as across the whole of Government. The Corporation welcomes all donations and is very grateful to all donors.

Donations may be made to the Corporation via its bank account; viz

**Commonwealth Bank**

**The RAAC Corporation Limited**

**BSB:062-911**

**Account No 10275892**

A warm welcome to the Corporation is extended to the newly-formed 2nd /14th Light Horse Regiment (Queensland Mounted Infantry) Association Inc on and from 18/10/13.

The Corporation also extends its warmest congratulations to Maj Gen John Cantwell, AO, CSC (Retd) on his appointment as the Honorary Colonel 2/14 LH Regt who succeeds Brig Maurie Meecham, AM (Retd).

Here is a brief outline of the Corporation.

### **Membership**

Corporation members are the ordinary paid-up members of any Corps Association or one that supports a unit of the RAAC that is on the ORBAT. These Associations are known as Member Associations.

They have a seat at the table and are eligible to hold office and vote. They have Member status and Foundation Member status. This includes State and Territory Branches of the Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association (RAACA).

The 1st Armoured Regiment Association which represented the School of Armour (SOA) has now transferred that function to RAACA Victoria.

Although not an ORBAT unit, the SOA is central to the Corps. It is our alma mater and as the repository of the Corps history and doctrine, it has a critical role to play and is a very important voice. RAACA Victoria will act as an advocate for the SOA in the same way member unit associations support their ORBAT units.

### **Will the Corporation Effect the Way My Association is Operating?**

No. Unit Associations will continue to be responsible for their day-to-day operations, as they have always done. The Corporation is there to act on behalf of ordinary grassroots members on matters affecting everyone – both serving RAAC and former serving RAAC members that require lobbying at the higher echelons of Government and the system. Any issues members have are to be staffed through the relevant Association up to Council.

### **The Executive Council**

The Executive Council (the Council) is made up of all Regimental and RAACA entities (Member Associations) and is truly representative in its membership of all stakeholders. The Council must, consistent with ASIC policy, comprise at least three (3) Council Directors and a Secretary.

These office-holders incur the responsibilities and duties of a Director of a Company including a fiduciary duty of care to all Ordinary Members through their Member Associations.

In order to ensure equity in voting, each member present regardless of size of membership, and eligible to vote is entitled to one (1) vote only and, if the votes are equal, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

The Council is there to receive, review and prioritise all issues forwarded to it by members for consideration and action. The Council will set the annual fee to be paid by Member Associations. The Council elects the Advisory Board.

The Council assesses and prioritises all submissions (remits) it receives from its constituents and then forwards these to the Board for lobbying action at the higher levels. In other words, grassroots members have a say. That say goes to Council who then instructs the Board.

Simply put, the Board and Council will hopefully apply the three characteristics of Armour - **Mobility, Flexibility and Fire-power** through the application of their own personal, professional and corporate attributes.

### **The Advisory Board**

The role of the Advisory Board (the Board) is purely advisory and carries no managerial or directorial authority over the Council, representing the Corporation.

It will provide advice to the Council and will be subject to consultation with Council and pursue matters of policy as determined by the Council.

The Board's advocacy efforts will be directed by Council through a process of consultation and consensus with regard to what deserves the attention of its members, based on what is in the best interests of the Corporation.

The Board will elect its own Chairman and Deputy Chairman and is the SABOT round of the Corporation.

### **The Representative Honorary Colonel and Head of Corps**

The Representative Honorary Colonel, the Honorary Colonels, the RAAC Head of Corps (HOC) or any member still serving in either a full-time (ARA) or part-time (Reserve) role is ineligible to hold any position on the Advisory Board or Council.

This is necessary to remove any potential conflict of interest situation presenting itself if serving members in senior appointments, occupy any substantive positions in the Corporation's Executive Council or Advisory Board.

### **The Representative Honorary Colonel RAAC is Ex- Officio a Member of the Advisory Board.**

The RAAC Head of Corps (HOC) shall also be entitled to attend all meetings of the Advisory Board. Both may provide guidance to the Council on matters to be discussed and referred to the Advisory Board for action.

The Representative Honorary Colonel and HOC or their Delegates will be entitled to attend any Board or Council meeting. Their role is strictly ex-officio and they will not be able to vote.

As ex-officio members, both incumbents will be there to guide and advise Board/Council members on matters being considered for submission to Government.

Their high level of knowledge, expertise and advice at this level is considered to be crucial in ensuring the Corporation discharges its responsibilities in the manner expected, to the Corporation's constituent members.

### **Ex-officio Committees**

There will be ample opportunity for both the Advisory Board and Executive Council to appoint ex-officio committees to examine policy issues and report back to the respective management groups.

### **Conclusion**

The RAAC Corporation has a way to go before it hits its stride. There are still challenges ahead for it.

It will require the support both financial and other, to assist it in this regard.

Any such support will be welcomed and appreciated.

Noel Mc Laughlin, OAM, MBA  
Chairman  
RAAC Corporation

### **NSW Branch News**

The RAACA NSW is no longer a branch of the RAACA as the Federal body has been closed down in anticipation of the establishment of the RAAC Corporation. This, hopefully, will take up the many causes which the RAACA and other RAAC unit associations have been fighting for. It will also conduct the Annual Congress for all Black Hat organisations. As a result the RAACA Federal Website has been closed down. The Federal funds are to be turned over to the RAAC Corporation.

RAACA NSW has established a Web site at [RAACANSW.org.au](http://RAACANSW.org.au). Please take a look and consider forming links with other RAACA sites. You will note any Black Hat old or new is welcome to join the RAACA NSW irrespective of unit or location to enjoy the benefits of membership. Please note the achievements and aims of the RAACA NSW, included in this Armour is the LINK" list (p25) and the members on our current committee (p26).

John Haynes, OAM  
NSW President



## Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association (NSW) Inc.



Patron: Lieutenant General L. G. O'Donnell AC  
Victoria Barracks, 75 Oxford Street, Paddington NSW 2021  
Telephone: (02) 8335 5209 Fax: (02) 8335 5357  
Email: raacansw@defence.gov.au www.raacansw.org.au

### The Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association

We see ourselves as a LINK to bind all Black Hats new and old to common causes.

On joining you will receive "Armour" and, on request, "Ironsides". Also, you will be kept up to date with our other concerns and activities, for example:

- We are the only RAAC group actively lobbying Government to improve conditions of Service for our Black Hats new and old.
- Through our initiative the RAACA has obtained a site in Anzac Parade, Canberra for a National Boer War Memorial to commemorate the ancestors of today's RAAC troopers.
- We have succeeded, after 25 years of lobbying, to gain Veterans' Entitlement Act benefits for our RAAC Atomic Veterans and their widows.
- After five years of lobbying we won the battle to introduce a Combat Badge for entitled Black Hats retrospective to the end of WW11.
- We are continuing to seek VEA cover for the RAAC WW11 troopers who spent years training in WA but failed to receive that cover.
- We have succeeded in having a Service Medal awarded after 4 years Service instead of the old 15 year rule.
- We stock silver ACB, AFV Crewman's patches, DVD on Vietnam and other memorabilia for sale.
- We provide advocacy help to members and families facing difficulties in making claims to DVA, Com Super or other institutions.
- We have a cash grant scheme to assist any member in difficulties.
- We offer education scholarships to descendant children of any age for any level of education.
- We conduct commemorative and social activities.
- We help to send Christmas parcels to Black Hats deployed overseas.

Please note the options listed in the Application Form enclosed. We hope you will decide to join the extended Black Hat family of the RAAC.

Yours in the Spirit of Armour and with best wishes,

John Haynes OAM (RL)  
President

Donations to the RAAC Association are tax deductible ABN 49 709 547 198

## RAACA (NSW) COMMITTEE

11 January 2013

POSITION	NAME	TROOPS TO TASKS	PHONE, ADDRESS @ EMAIL
	RAACA OFFICE		Tel 8335 5209 Fax 8335 5357 <a href="mailto:raacansw@defence.gov.au">raacansw@defence.gov.au</a>
PATRON	Lt-Gen L.G. O'Donnell AO	Patronage	H 62736872 M 0410520467 domnail@tpg.com.au Unit 22/11 Sydney Ave Barton 2600
PRESIDENT	Col John Haynes OAM (RL) (Gwen) Served with 1AR (AIF), 1FDT (Special) Armd School 1AR 1RNSWL, 12/16 HRL, 15 NRL, 6 NSWMR, A Sqn 4/19 PWLH , HQ 1 Armd Bde, 3/9 SAMR & DRAAC	Tank speed to next bound Avoid throwing track Meanwhile pinch hit for everything  National President of the National Boer War Memorial Project	H 9398 3006 M 0418 961 479 W 8335 5209 <a href="mailto:john.haynes@defence.gov.au">john.haynes@defence.gov.au</a> 88 Alison Rd, Randwick NSW 2031
SECRETARY	Michael Phillips (Jill) Served with 3/9 SAMR, 4/19 PWLH	Responsible for general admin., minutes of meetings etc. Public Officer for Association.	H 9958 1009 M 0401 211 452 <a href="mailto:mike.phillips@optusnet.com.au">mike.phillips@optusnet.com.au</a> 34 Salisbury Road, Willoughby NSW 2068 <a href="mailto:mike.phillips2@defence.gov.au">mike.phillips2@defence.gov.au</a>
TREASURER	Mike Lewins (Liz) Served with 12/16 <sup>th</sup> HRL	Responsible for all account keeping duties Subscription reminders, Capitation fees. Hospitality for Auditor	H 4267 3828 21 Kennedy Rd, (PO Box 44) Austinmer NSW 2515 <a href="mailto:mlewins@westnet.com.au">mlewins@westnet.com.au</a>
Vice PRESIDENT	Bill Cross (Terri) Served with 1/15 <sup>th</sup> RNSWL, 2 Cav	Specialist printing in support of Cambrai Dinner; Boer War Memorial etc.	H (07) 3350 1601 M 0417 065 105 W (07) 32572333 F (07) 38541773 PO Box 165 Fortitude Valley Brisbane Qld 4006 <a href="mailto:bill@meccacampaigns.com.au">bill@meccacampaigns.com.au</a>
Vice PRESIDENT	Bob Ferrari OAM JP (Sue) Served with 1AR	1 AR NSW rep, ANZAC Day function, Liaison with 1AR	H 9981 2776 W 9684 1442 M 0418 412 469 F 9638 4435 2 Truman Ave, Cromer NSW 2099 <a href="mailto:bob@bellinger.com.au">bob@bellinger.com.au</a>
AUDITOR	Alan Williams	Audit of RAACA financial dealings.	PO Box 494, Engadine NSW 2233 H 9520 8715 M 0429 915 015 <a href="mailto:myrtewilliams@bigpond.com">myrtewilliams@bigpond.com</a>
COMMITTEE	Ron Baikie Served with 1AR,	Overseas Correspondent.	<a href="mailto:baikieron@yahoo.com">baikieron@yahoo.com</a> <a href="http://LivinginPhilippines.com">Living in Philippines</a>
COMMITTEE	George Baczocha Served with 2 Cav, 8 Sig Regt	Editor "Armour" Boer War Memorial Office Manager	8, Moodie St. Cammeray NSW 2062 H 8920 8383 M 0427085995 <a href="mailto:george.baczocha@defence.gov.au">george.baczocha@defence.gov.au</a>
COMMITTEE	Mike Butler Served with 3 Cav Regt. (Vietnam)	Social Committee, Liaison with 3 Cav Assoc; Anzac Day activities Membership records	H 85441455 M 0401 966 989 8/81 Barden Rd Barden Ridge 2234 <a href="mailto:Mikebutler181@optusnet.com.au">Mikebutler181@optusnet.com.au</a>
COMMITTEE Past President	Mark Gibson IPP Served with 1/15 <sup>th</sup> RNSWL	Help with 1/15 membership and in- Service Reserves advice	H 9809 1944 M 0419 277 198 12 Small St, Putney NSW 2112 <a href="mailto:gibsonm@bigpond.net.au">gibsonm@bigpond.net.au</a>
COMMITTEE	Len Koles (Robyn) Served with 1/15 <sup>th</sup> RNSWL	Lancer Museum/Assoc Liaison Assistance with Reserve Forces March, commemorations	H 9874 4585 W 9942 0095 M 0418 607 456 63 Ruttledge St, Eastwood NSW 2112 <a href="mailto:len.koles@det.nsw.edu.au">len.koles@det.nsw.edu.au</a>
COMMITTEE	Bill Meares Served with 1/15 <sup>th</sup> RNSWL	Membership projects	H 98317160 M 0418634356 99 Wallpark Ave Blacktown 2148 <a href="mailto:Williammeares@bigpond.com">Williammeares@bigpond.com</a>
COMMITTEE	Terry Moore (Ann) Served with 3/9 SAMR & 4/19 PWLH	Membership projects	M 0419823439 H 96902074 D1510/780 Brooke St Redfern 2016 <a href="mailto:terrypmoore@gmail.com">terrypmoore@gmail.com</a>
COMMITTEE	Peter Serle (Christine) Served with 1AR,2 Cav, 3 Cav.	Entitlements advisor TIP Level 1 Membership records. Archives,	M 0412361743 285 Red Hills Rd Marulan 2579 <a href="mailto:psqee@optusnet.com.au">psqee@optusnet.com.au</a>

## 22 Oct 69 B Sqn 3 Cav Regt Vehicles Attacked by Viet Cong, Phuoc Tuy Province, SVN

“ ...22 October was a very traumatic day for the Squadron, with two attacks on its vehicles in different sectors of the province.

The first of these attacks occurred when 1 Troop's 13 Section was deployed with D Company 6 RAR in a joint ARVN/Australian operation near the coast on the eastern side of the Long Hai peninsular. The section was sweeping past an enemy bunker system when the carrier on which Trooper Bert Casey was a crew member was attacked by three enemy troops in an ambush. Two RPG rounds were fired at his carrier with one of the rounds hitting and penetrating the left-hand side of the turret, destroying the traverse gearbox and the vision blocks.”  
Ref ZZ p 189-90”

Crew Commander Fred Venema was seriously wounded and Trooper Bert Casey mortally wounded.

“That same day 2 Troop's 22 Section was in an ambush near Phu My in the western sector of the province. The ambush was sprung when four enemy walked into the killing zone. The four were believed to be the lead elements of a much larger force. After activating the ambush a fire fight ensued. The enemy fired RPG rounds at the section commander's APC, one of which hit and seriously wounded Sergeant Jim Stones in the neck.”  
Ref ZZ p189-90

### **Notes from LtCol B. Cameron MC (Retd) email 27 Oct 2009:**

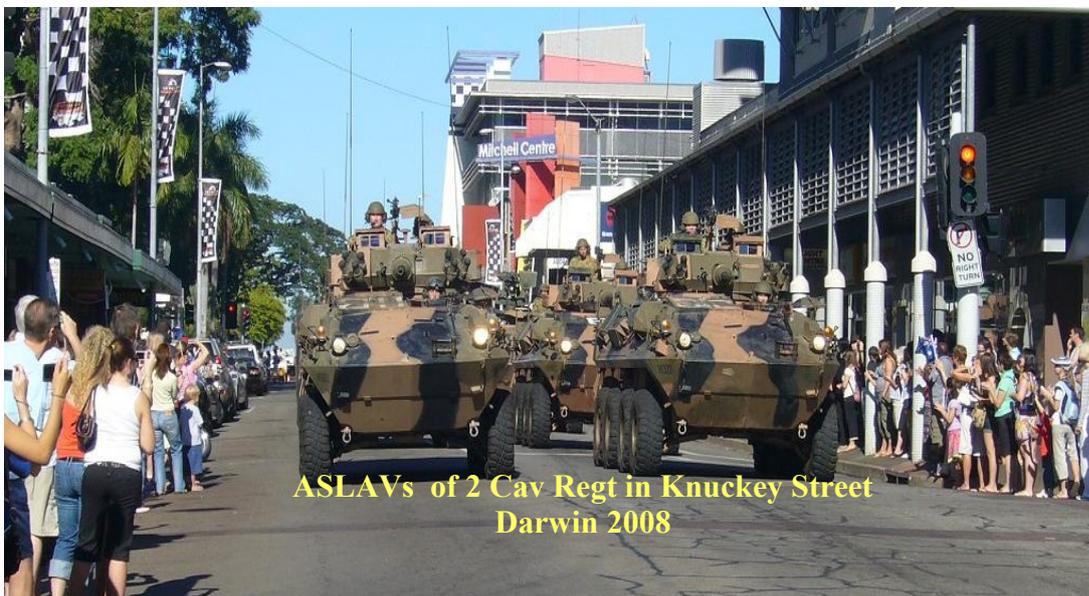
1. Sgt Jim Stones was left a quadriplegic: James Stones, 3 November 1939--23 December 1991
2. Both mini-team members were also WIA on 22 October; one, Spr Tony Lsle DOW on 12 Nov 69. (This was a particularly tragic story, see pages 2, 10 and 15 Chpt 16 of “Cannister On Fire”.)

**RAAC Related Units Involved:**B Sqn 3 Cav Regt

**Other Significant Units Involved Included:** 6 RAR

**Reference:** On This Day—Received from MAJ 1John Baines, On Behalf Of RAAC HOC

RAAC Defence Intranet: <http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/sites/RAAC/comweb.asp?page=143239&Title=Corps%20History>



# Lost Souls

**If anyone knows the whereabouts of the following members would they please contact the RAACA Office**

Members Name	Last Address
Mr Anthony, Brown	86 Griffith Ave, TAMWORTH, NSW, 2340
Mr Noel, Whittle	56 Condong St, MURWILLUMBAH, NSW, 2484
Mr Michael Hayes	21 Speet Place ORANGE NSW 2800
Mr Gardiner	32 Jenkins St DUNDAS NSW 2117
Mrs Cabban	PO Box 127 KOOTINGAL NSW 2352
Mr Kett	13 Kingfisher Loop WILLETTON WA 6155
Mrs Bell	Villa 243 Brentwood Village Scaysbrook Drive KINCUMBER NSW 2251
LTCOL Neels Halgryn	National Sec South African Armour Association ZA
Cpl Kevin Sparke	164 Royal Pde ALDERLEY QLD 4051
Mr Lewis	2/69 Tarrants Ave EASTWOOD NSW 2122
Mr Samuel Roughley	39 Porters Rd KENTHURST NSW 2156
Mr Alf Diggerson	2 Downs St PASCOE VALE VIC 3044

## Change of Address

To change your mailing address, please fill in the new address below and return **the complete page** to: RAACA (NSW Branch) Membership Officer, Building 96, Victoria Barracks, Paddington NSW 2021

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....Post Code:.....

Mobile No:.....

Phone No.:.....

Email:.....

**PLEASE USE BLOCK LETTERS FOR ALL EXCEPT FOR EMAIL**

Members are thanked for their response to the request to receive  
Armour by email.

Due to that response with this issue we have sent Armour by  
email to all who have requested it.

If this doesn't suit anyone or you would like to receive Armour by  
email please contact the office and we will adjust the list accordingly