

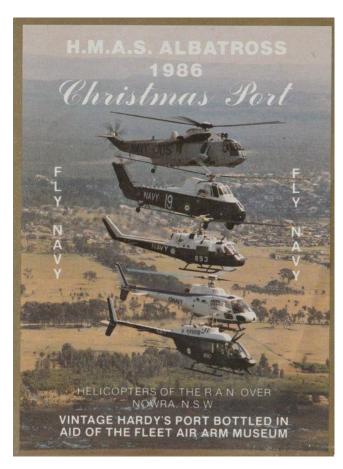
Respect, Gratitude, Admiration

TRIBUTE

The Newsletter of the Military Historical Society Australia, Queensland Division

President: Neil Dearberg Website: <u>www.mhsa.org.au</u>

MAY 2022 No.11



Helicopters of HMAS Albatross , featured on the 1986 Vintage Port in aid of the Fleet Air Arm Museum:

Sea King (1974-2011), Wessex (1962-1989), Iroquios (1964-1989), Squirrel (1984-2017), Bell Kiowa (1973-2000)

(Source: Aviation Historical Society of Australia)

President Report

A new venue awaits us on 14 May. The U3A Noosa was bequeathed a great old home, now converted to a fabulous visitor centre. With meeting room 1 is projector and screen, controlling laptop, speakers, microphones by hand and lapel, brew making, library and theme lighting. Rest of the building upstairs has large meeting room, games room, board room, computer room and computers. Toilets up and down and plenty of off-street parking on a Saturday.

Located at 64 Poinciana Av Tewantin, right opposite the Shell servo on the road that leads to the ferry over Noosa River. Would be great to have you turn up and join your fellow military historians, especially those who have not been for a while – need to see your smiling faces and words of historical joy.

All the better as our own sizzling sangar snags are back, bbq in the sun shaded carpark – yumbo!!

From the Editor

Welcome to *TRIBUTE* No 11. This month we feature the Gulf War 1990-91 and Iraq War 2003-2009 with special emphasis on the roles of the Royal Australian Navy and Air Force. Whilst research these short articles I have discovered that the Australian War Memorial Official Histories of the period from the Iraq, Afghanistan and East Timor is well advanced so I am looking forward to there release. The project is expected to be completed later this year.

The Official History of Australian Operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, and Australian Peacekeeping Operations in East Timor will comprise the following volumes:

Volume I: covering operations in Afghanistan and the Middle East, 2001–06

Volume II: covering operations in Iraq, 2003–11

Volume III: covering operations in Afghanistan, 2005–10

Volume IV: covering operations in Afghanistan, 2010–14

Australian peacekeeping operations in East Timor:

Volume I covering the period of the Interfet deployment, 1999–2000

Volume II covering the period 2000–12

Seven distinguished historians have been appointed as authors: Dr Craig Stockings (Official Historian), Dr Steven Bullard, Dr Rhys Crawley, Dr David Stevens, Dr Roger Lee, Dr William Westerman, and Dr Andrew Richardson.

Gulf War, 1990-91

On 2 August 1990 Iraq invaded its rival oil-exporting neighbour Kuwait. The invasion was widely condemned, and four days later the United Nations (UN) Security Council unanimously approved a trade embargo against Iraq. A blockade of Iraq's access to the sea followed within weeks, as the United States assembled a large multinational task force in the Persian Gulf, while another was formed in Saudi Arabia.

By the end of 1990 the coalition force numbered some 40,000 troops from 30 countries, although the United States remained the dominant partner in the coalition. In November 1990 the UN Security Council set 15 January 1991 as the deadline for an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait. Iraq failed to comply, and on 17 January full-scale war erupted when coalition forces began an air bombardment of Iraqi targets. Within four days, coalition forces destroyed the Iraqi invading forces and drove the remnants out of Kuwait, although the Iraqis retained significant military strength intact in Iraq. The air bombardment continued without respite until the war ended 43 days later.

On 24 February 1991, after more than a month of air attacks, the coalition's ground forces moved against Iraqi positions in Kuwait and in Iraq itself. The magnitude and decisiveness of these strikes destroyed what was left of Iraq's capacity to resist. After two days of air strikes, Baghdad radio announced that Iraq's armed forces had been ordered to withdraw from Kuwait to the positions they had occupied before August 1990. Two days after this order, the coalition ceased hostilities and declared victory. Coalition losses amounted to 166 killed, many by "friendly fire". At least 100,000 Iraqis had been killed.



Accession Number: P01575.006

Gulf of Oman: an Iraqi motor vessel is intercepted by HMAS *Darwin*.

Australia was one of the first nations to join the coalition force. Australian forces were deployed under the auspices of the UN. Three Australian warships conducted blockade operations in the Persian Gulf. Australia also provided a supply vessel, four medical teams

and a mine clearance diving team that joined a protective screen, under US operational control, around aircraft-carrier battle groups in the Gulf.

The Royal Australian Navy (RAN) provided vessels for the multinational naval force, which formed an interception force in the Persian Gulf to enforce the UN sanctions. The RAN presence included two frigates and the replenishment ship HMAS *Success*, which, having no air defences of its own, relied on the army's 16th Air Defence Regiment. In January 1991 the replenishment tanker HMAS *Westralia* left Fremantle, Western Australia, to relieve Success. Four warships, HMAS *Sydney* (IV), HMAS *Adelaide*, HMAS *Brisbane*, and HMAS *Darwin*, also served tours of duty in the Persian Gulf. During the operational phase of their deployment, they formed part of the anti-aircraft screen for the carrier battle groups of the US Navy. An RAN clearance diving team was also despatched for explosive ordnance and demolition tasks.

In addition to naval units, Australian personnel took part on attachment to various British and American ground formations. (Then Major John Cantwell [later Maj Gen Cantwell AO, DSC] a tank officer on a professional development posting was one of those who served in the ground forces as a liaison officer for the British Forces.) A small group of RAAF photo-interpreters was based in Saudi Arabia, together with a detachment from the Defence Intelligence Organisation. Four medical teams were also despatched at the request of the United States. Although the ships and their crews were in danger from mines and possible air attack, Australia's war was relatively uneventful and there were no casualties.

At the conclusion of hostilities, 75 Australian personnel were sent to northern Iraq to assist in the provision of humanitarian aid to Kurds living in the UN-declared exclusion zone, while ships of the RAN remained on station, at the request of the United States, to enforce UN sanctions. Australian naval officers Rear Admiral James Vincent Purcell Goldrick AO, CB and Rear Admiral Allan Kendell de Toit AM commanded the multinational interception force. Australia later provided weapons inspectors in Iraq to monitor the discovery and disposal of prohibited nuclear, chemical and biological "weapons of mass destruction".



Accession Number: P01575.016

Gulf of Oman: HMAS *Darwin* (04) is replenished by HMAS *Success* (304).

(Source: Australian War Memorial)

Gulf War - Operation DAMASK

By Ian Curtis

On 10 August 1990 the Australian Prime Minister R J Hawke announced his government intended to commit two Royal Australian Navy (RAN) frigates and a supply ship to the Multinational Naval Force being assembled to enforce sanctions in the Middle East. Under the codename Operation DAMASK. HMA Ships, *Adelaide*, *Darwin* and *Success* with just 72 hours notice were ready to depart. None of the first deployment knew what to expect, but the ongoing commitment became one of the longest and most complex ongoing operations ever undertaken by the RAN.

The United States Navy was responsible for the overall campaign. On arrival the RAN ships immediately joined with the multinational force assembling in the Arabian Gulf. The maritime embargo served as a continuing demonstration of international resolve and a deterent to any Iraq attempt to widen the crisis. The use of warships in the operation allowed individual nations to make a contribution. The Australian Task group commander Commodore Don Chalmers RAN, was able to build on a common doctrine and many years of combined exercises, which made it relatively easy to operate within an ad hoc coalition.

In October HMAS *Adelaide* fired warning shots across the bow of an Iraqi cargo ship, which was the first shots in anger by an Australian Warship using its main gun armament since the Vietnam War.

On 12 November 1990 HMA Ships *Brisbane* and *Sydney* sailed from Sydney to relieve *Adelaide* and *Darwin*. Commodore Chris Oxenbould and his staff embarked in Brisbane and on arrival in the Area of Operations assumed responsibility for the Australian naval task force. Enroute to the Middle East, Oxenbould was advised that the United Nations Security Council had adopted Resolution 878, authorising the use of force against Iraq unless it withdrew from Kuwait by 15 January 1991. In support of the resolution Prime Minister Hawke announced on 3 December that the Australian units were to be allowed to pass through the Strait of Homuz and enter the Arabian Gulf.

Some Naval Historians believe at the height of the conflict it was the most powerful and complex naval force ever assembled. 15 nations had together deployed six aircraft carriers, two battleships, 15 cruisers, 67 destroyers and frigates and more than 100 logistic, amphibious and small craft. In total these forces operated more than 800 fixed and rotary wing aircraft.

The frigates HMAS *Adelaide* and HMAS *Darwin* each had two helicopters and the supply ship HMAS *Success* had one helicopter. Two, 10 person surgical teams served aboard the US hospital ship USNS Comfort. Elements of the Australian Army's 16th Air Defence Regiment served with HMAS *Success*, which had no air defence capability of its own.

The main tasks for Australian sailors were;

- Issuing Warnings
- Interrogating the crews of ships they intercepted
- Boarding intercepted vessels, later in the war, by boat or fast-roping from helicopters

HMAS *Success* made regular voyages to replenish the Australian and other coalition vessels. The supply ship carried some 8000t of supplies during the war. When its deployment ended, HMAS *Success* was replaced by HMAS *Westralia* which reached the Middle East on Australia Day 1991. Amongst it crew were 7 female members who became the first women in the RAN to deploy overseas on frontline service.

In Bahrain, Navy divers from Clearance Diving Team 3 (AUSCDT 3) assembled to undertake a broad range of tasks ranging from explosive ordnance disposal to underwater inspections of ports and facilities. AUSDCT 3 was an ad hoc unit formed whenever the divers were sent into a combat area and consisted of members from AUSCDT 1 from Western Australia and AUSDCT 4 from New South Wales. It was also the first time a dive team had been deployed since the Vietnam war. The team was deployed alongside British and US forces to begin clearing unexploded ordnance and booby traps from coastal instillations, the harbour and waters around Kawait. This dangerous task commenced in March 1991 took 3 months to completed before the divers returned to Australia.

Iraq failed to comply with Resolution 678 and on 17 January full scale war erupted.

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SUBJ: COMMENCEMENT OF HOSTILITIES (U)
RMKS/

1. GENTLEMEN, AS OF THE DTG OF THIS MESSAGE U.S. AIR OPERATIONS
FROM SHORE AND SEA BASED AIRCRAFT HAVE COMMENCED AGAINST TARGETS
IN IRAQ AND KUWAIT. COUNTERSTRIKES BY IRAQI FORCES ARE POSSIBLE.
REQUEST ENSURE ALL DECONFLICTION PROCEDURES ARE FOLLOWED, SPEED
AND GOOD HUNTING, RADM MARCH
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Tomahawk land attack cruise missiles were launched from ships in the Arabian Gulf (Battle Force Zulu). Air strikes followed as Operation DESERT SHIELD, transitioning to Operation DESERT STORM. On 24 February after a month of air attacks, the coalition ground forces moved against Iraq positions in Kuwait and in Iraq itself. The magnitude of the attack destroyed what was left of the Iraq's capability to resist. Bagdad radio announced that Iraq's armed forces had been ordered to withdraw from Kawait to positions they had held before August 1990. Two days later the coalition ceased hostilities and declared victory.

Throughout the 43-day war, Australian warships formed part of the protective screen around US aircraft carriers, defended them from air and missile attack whilst the two replenishment ships provided logistic support. An indication of the danger to the coalition naval force came on 18 February when Iraq minefields off the Kawait coast seriously damaged two USN warships, (USN *Princeton* and USN *Tripoli*) injuring a number of personnel.

Once Iraqi forces had surrendered, maritime patrols aimed at ensuring Iraq's compliance with UN sanctions continued, and for the next decade Australia maintained a regular presence with the Maritime Interception Force (MIF) in either the Gulf or the Red Sea. Over 1800 Australian, the majority Navy served in the Gulf War.

HMA Ships *Brisbane* and *Sydney*, and AUSCDT 3 were each awarded Meritorious Unit Citations for "sustained outstanding service in warlike operations".



HMAS Adelaide takes a replenishment from HMAS Westralia

After the fighting ended, 75 Australian personnel in tri-service contingents centred around 4 medical teams deployed to an exclusion zone in north Iraq. They joined an international effort to provide humanitarian aid to the local Kurdish population.

Australia also contributed to the United Nations Special Commission (Unscom) to monitor and verify Iraq compliance with UN directions to destroy nuclear, chemical and biological weapon capabilities. The maritime blockade remained in force. The RAN continued to contribute in provideding a single ship, under Operation DAMASK, although there were periods when no Australian ship was involved. The last Operation DAMASK deployment occurred in mid-2001.

References

- 1. Stevens D and Perryman J, Gulf War 1 operation DAMASK
- 2. www.anzacportal.dva.gov.au Australians involved in the Gulf War 1990 to 1991
- 3. www.aph.gov.au Australian Naval Contribution to the Reconstruction of Iraq

Iraq War, 2003–09

On 20 March 2003, a combined force of American, British and Australian troops under US leadership invaded Iraq in what was termed "the Second Gulf War". Their object was to locate and destroy suspected weapons of mass destruction.

Small but highly effective Australian army, air force, and navy elements assisted the operation. Within three weeks coalition forces had seized Baghdad and the corrupt and brutal

dictatorship of Saddam Hussein was overthrown. However, no weapons of mass destruction were found.

The coalition's victory was followed by a difficult "nation building" and counter-insurgency campaign to prevent Iraq sliding into civil war. In July 2003 an Australian army training team began to train Iraqi soldiers in Iraq and in April 2005 the army deployed a task group to southern Iraq to protect a Japanese engineer construction unit.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL P04101.592

Accession Number: P04101.592

Iraq: Warrant Officer Lionel Orreal from the 1st Military Police Battalion passes an Iraqi woman wearing the traditional burka while on patrol outside the former Australian Embassy residence, Baghdad.

By 2006, approximately 1,400 Australian soldiers remained engaged in reconstruction and rehabilitation work in Iraq together with American and other coalition forces. In mid-2008 Australia began to reduce its forces with the withdrawal of approximately 500 troops, leaving almost 1,000 Australian soldiers in Iraq. Australian combat troops ceased their operational role in Iraq on 31 July 2009.

By May 2011 all non-US coalition forces had withdrawn from Iraq and the US military withdraw all forces on 18 December 2011, thus ending the Iraq War.

Two Australian service personnel died in the conflict in Iraq between 16 July 2003 and 31 July 2009.

(Source: Australian War Memorial)

The RAAF in Iraq 2003



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL P04103.250

F/A-18 Hornet aircraft of 75 Squadron, 27 April 2003.

Fourteen F/A-18 Hornet aircraft from 75 Squadron played a significant role in the war in Iraq. The Hornets were based at Al Udeid air base, near Doha in Qatar. At first they flew long missions of five or six hours, escorting and protecting coalition early warning AWACS aircraft and tanker aircraft used for air-to-air refuelling. Later, at the height of the war, the Hornets were used to attack Iraqi ground forces with laser-guided bombs. Targets included tanks, trucks, and artillery, as well as bunkers and storage areas for fuel and ammunition. As Iraqi resistance crumbled, the Hornets also flew close air-support missions to assist Australian and other troops on the ground as they advanced on Tikrit, north of Baghdad, a centre of support for the regime.

The RAAF also sent two P-3 Orion maritime patrol aircraft and three C-130 Hercules transport aircraft to the Middle East. The Orions typically flew long 12-hour missions, especially at night, over the Persian Gulf. They assisted naval operations in the Gulf by keeping track of the large number of small vessels in the area, both to curb smuggling and to guard against the danger that they could be suicide boats packed with explosives. As the war went on, the versatile Hercules flew supplies and equipment into Iraq, and later flew some of the first humanitarian aid into Baghdad.

(Source: Australian War Memorial)

From the News



Australian Defence Force personnel deployed on Operation Flood Assist 2022 march down Casino's main street to the applause of locals after assisting northern New South Wales communities respond to devastating floods.

Since 27 February, more than 4,000 Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel have deployed on Operation Flood Assist 2022 in the Northern Rivers region supporting emergency services and local communities in the response and recovery from two catastrophic flood events.

As the ADF has continued to complete tasks, there has been a steady reduction in the number and types of tasks requested by local Government and emergency services partners.

In close consultation with state and local authorities, the ADF has returned forces back to their home units, where they will refurbish their equipment and remain ready to once again provide support to authorities in their home states and territories, or indeed across the country should they be requested.

By 14 April, the vast majority of ADF personnel deployed to northern NSW had returned to their home units. A small contingent of personnel and assets will remain to support site refurbishment post-ADF use.

Chief of Joint Operations, Lieutenant General Greg Bilton, AO, CSC, said the ADF mobilised forces quickly from across Australia to help devastated communities. "More than 4000 ADF personnel and assets deployed rapidly from across the country to help the communities of northern NSW," Lieutenant General Bilton said. "I am incredibly proud of their efforts and their ability to work hand-in-hand with State and local government agencies, who are now in a position to move forward with reconstruction operations.

Lieutenant General Bilton also thanked personnel from the Republic of Singapore and Republic of Fiji for their support in our time of need. "We are very fortunate to have close partnerships with the Republic of Singapore Air Force and Republic of Fiji Military Forces," he said. "Their contribution was invaluable to the operation and we deeply appreciate their support during this difficult time."

Commander Joint Task Force 629, Major General David Thomae, AM, said the ADF had conducted a multitude of essential tasks, but would continue to be on stand-by should weather conditions in northern NSW change once again. "Our personnel have made a tremendous contribution to the community, supporting authorities with tasks as diverse as search and rescue, distributing food and essential supplies, and undertaking back breaking work such as debris removal and helping locals clean up homes and businesses after experiencing the worst flooding on record. "Now we re-posture our forces, but ensure that our personnel remain vigilant and our capability ready to respond to a request for assistance," Major General Thomae said.

During Operation Flood Assist 2022, Defence has contributed to the response and recovery efforts in northern New South Wales through:

- Initial tasks on the ground included 70 locally-based Army Reserve personnel from the 41st Battalion, Royal New South Wales Regiment, deploying to the streets of Lismore to help neighbours with sandbagging, door knocking and evacuations.
- Aviation support to search and rescue missions, including the rescue and evacuation of 56 residents across the Northern Rivers Region including Lismore, Ballina, Gundurimba, Woodburn, Dunoon, Bungawalbin, Upper Wilsons Creek, Kyogle, Swan River and Upper Main Arm.
- Royal Australian Air Force P-8A Poseidon aircraft aerial surveillance of the region to inform damage assessment and task prioritisation.
- Defence liaison staff embedded in the State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC) at Homebush and SES headquarters in Wollongong, as well as at Fire and Rescue New South Wales and Rural Fire Services.
- Road clearances and debris removal to facilitate the recovery of critical infrastructure, such as the Nimbin water pipe and telecommunications infrastructure in Grafton.
- Two Republic of Singapore Air Force CH-47 Chinooks worked alongside ADF CH-47s including the delivery of disaster relief supplies, generously donated by the Government of Singapore, to Lismore.
- The Republic of Fiji Military Forces worked alongside ADF personnel reconstructing bridges, building roads and infrastructure, and removing dangerous trees.
- Supported clean-up efforts at Lismore Police station, Knox Park in Murwillumbah, various schools and child care centres in townships such as Lismore, Coraki and Mullumbimby.
- Establishing a helicopter landing zone at the Casino food distribution point and a reception party for medical evacuations.
- Delivering essential supplies, including food drops and delivery of infant formula, medical supplies and water to isolated communities.
- Conducting welfare checks and helping to assess immediate support needs to isolated communities.
- Residential and local infrastructure house to curb clean up.

During Operation FLOOD ASSIST 2022, the ADF mobilised more than 7000 soldiers, sailors and aviators – deployed from as far afield as the Pilbara, Adelaide, Perth and Far North Queensland. They reinforced personnel already positioned within NSW and Queensland. (Source: Contact)



An Australian Air Force Cadets promotion courses end of course parade at RAAF Base Edinburgh in 2018.

The government has announced it will invest more than \$1billion to upgrade 73 Australian Defence Force Reserve and Cadet facilities across Australia over the next 10 years.

Over the next year, \$53million in infrastructure upgrades to 18 cadet facilities, including in rural and remote communities will commence.

Minister for Defence Peter Dutton said the infrastructure investment would support the growth of the ADF Cadets by 10 per cent over the next year, and was just one component of a number of initiatives being implemented to enhance the cadet program. "We want to provide improved opportunities for cadets through a number of avenues, including better facilities, enhanced experiences, mentoring and relevant skilling," Minister Dutton said.

As part of this enhancement of the cadets program, General (ret'd) Sir Peter Cosgrove will become the first Patron of the ADF Cadets. Minister Dutton said that, being a former cadet himself, Sir Peter would bring strong values, experience and mentorship to current and future cadets. He also said Defence would increase numbers in existing cadet units and create new units to complement broader government initiatives supporting youth development and skilling.

"In addition to the more traditional skills developed through the program, future cadets will also be engaged in STEM-focused activities including cyber security, virtual-reality simulation, robotics and flight simulation. "The program will focus on growing cadet and volunteer numbers, and establishing new units in rural and remote areas, including in Indigenous communities. "To ensure enduring local unit success, additional personnel including veterans and reservists will be employed to provide administrative support.

"The investment in facility upgrades will also provide opportunities for Australian industry including local and Indigenous suppliers and contractors."

Assistant Minister for Defence Andrew Hastie said that, as a former cadet himself, he knew first-hand that cadets provide young Australians with opportunities to lead, grow and serve our country. "It is a vital part of Defence's contribution to building Australia's future leaders," Minister Hastie said. "These important announcements will help strengthen the future of cadets, and ensures that we grow the cadet program in the critical years ahead."

(Source: Contact)



The government has advanced its \$1 billion weapons program in announcing Raytheon Australia and Lockheed Martin Australia as partners of the Sovereign Guided Weapons and Explosive Ordnance Enterprise.

Defence Minister Peter Dutton said three Australian-based companies – The Australian Missile Corporation, The Sovereign Missile Alliance and Aurecon Advisory – would support the prime contractors as sovereign industry partners of the enterprise. "Australia's strategic environment is becoming more complex and challenging; the Indo-Pacific now sits at the epicentre of global strategic competition," Mr Dutton said. "It is imperative that we work closely with like-minded countries and industry partners to develop a more capable military force to defend Australia. "I am pleased to announce Raytheon Australia and Lockheed Martin Australia have been selected as initial industry partners of the Guided Weapons and Explosive Ordnance Enterprise.

The announcement comes as Mr Dutton officially opened a new \$96 million state-of-the-art maintenance facility for Navy guided weapons at Orchard Hills in Western Sydney. "The facility is a world-first for its inherent safety and functionality and will include advanced software to optimise weapons maintenance," he said. "It is also just one example of the infrastructure that will need to be delivered in coming years to support our sovereign guided weapons ecosystem in Australia. "We are building new facilities and infrastructure to ensure we get the maximum lethal capability from our current missile stocks today and we are

partnering with two of the world's foremost missile-makers to build our own manufacturing base in Australia in the future."

Mr Dutton emphasised the increasing opportunities that would be available for Australian industry as the enterprise continued to grow. "This is an incredibly complex undertaking that will see this new manufacturing capability built from the ground up," he said. "Accelerating the guided weapons and explosive ordnance enterprise will be a whole-of-nation endeavour.

(Source: Defence News)



Beau King in action at the Sydney 2018 Invictus Games. .

Invictus Australia has welcomed the announcement in this years Federal Budget which will provide \$9 million over the next three years to ensure that Australia's strong representation at international events such as the Invictus Games and Warrior Games continue, and the impact of the Invictus movement can be experienced by veteran communities throughout Australia.

.Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel Andrew Gee said that as Australia's military capability grew, so too would support provided to the men and women who serve our nation, and their families. "[Our] government has been a strong supporter of Invictus Australia and the additional \$9 million investment in this budget demonstrates our ongoing commitment to the organisation," Minister Gee said.

"Invictus competitors have all already given so much for our nation through their service, and I am delighted we've been able to provide this extra funding to support their ongoing contribution through sport.

"Australians have cheered on our competitors at all four Invictus Games since 2014, and we look forward to seeing them in action at the Hague next month, and again at the 2023 Games in Dusseldorf.

"This funding will also help deliver Invictus' Adaptive Sports Program and get more veterans involved in local and community sport right across Australia."

In response to the announcement, Invictus Australia Chairman James Brown said the organisation was delighted to have the support of the Federal government and the Department of Veteran Affairs for the important work it does to engage veterans and their families through sport.

"This announcement provides a commitment to our Invictus Games competitors now and into the future, as well as the thousands of veterans nationwide who benefit from our local community initiatives," Mr Brown said.

Invictus Australia CEO Michael Hartung said the budget announcement was fantastic news on the eve of the next Invictus Games, which commence on 16 April in The Hague.

"This funding will ensure we can provide the necessary support to Invictus teams and similar events," Mr Hartung said.

"Invictus Australia is a world first, announced last October. "We have been given the right to use this powerful brand in Australia to benefit the broader veteran community outside of the games themselves. "That is why this funding will also support our work to connect veterans and their families with vibrant and engaging local sporting communities. "All of these initiatives make a significant difference to the health and wellbeing of our veterans and their families, in their recovery and as a prevention measure for physical and mental-health challenges."

NY ICTUS CAMES CAM

(Source: Contact)

Australian Invictus Games Team 2022

(Source: Department of Defence)

The 32 strong Australian Invictus Games Team consists of the following personnel;

Navy	Army	Air Force
LS Vanessa Broughill	Peter Walter Brown	Stephen French
Emilea Mysko	Sgt Shane Brambley	Ashley Muir
Mathew Brown	Emma Murfet	Gabriel Ramon
Andrew Wilkinson	Taryn Barbara	FSGT Nathan King
Scott Reynolds	Kerrie Tesslar	
Steve James	Damien Irish	
Joel Vanderzwan	Chris O'Brien	
Braeson Griffiths	Matt Model	
LS Chris Rack	Shannon Stewart	
Stephen Slack	Colleen Swifte	
James Saville	Mark Armstrong	
	Cpl Sarah Petchell	
	Peter Miller	
	Lenny Redrose	
	Peter William Brown	
	Andrew Tebbit	
	Trent Forbes	

A report on the team's performance will appear in TRIBUTE No 12

Navy



During Operation TONGA ASSIST 2022, crews from Navy's 808 Squadron completed dozens of missions around the 169-island archipelago, including VIP flights, airlifting essential stores and equipment, and transporting medical teams and COVID-19 vaccines to outlying islands.

A Navy MRH-90 Taipan helicopter operated from the landing helicopter dock HMAS *Adelaide* and, subsequently, HMAS *Canberra*. Flight commander of Ready Team 1, Lieutenant Robert Garnock, said every single flying mission conducted was rewarding. Frequent air operations were supported by a team of maintainers who worked in shifts, day and night, to service and wash the helicopter. "Having a really good team working on the aircraft means everything," Lieutenant Garnock said. "Without that, obviously we don't go flying."

A key task was transporting Tongan Prime Minister, Siaosi Sovaleni, and Australian High Commissioner Ms Rachael Moore to Nomuka Island in the southern Ha`apai Group to see tsunami recovery operations involving Australian Defence Force, French Armed Forces in New Caledonia and Republic of Fiji Military Forces personnel.

The MRH-90 helicopter was also used for vertical replenishments from HMAS *Supply* and cross-decked containers weighing up to 2.2 tonnes

between *Adelaide* and *Canberra*. Another mission to transport nurses and COVID-19 vaccines to Fotuha`a in the Ha`apai Group also allowed Chaplain Simote Finau to visit his birthplace. "It was a pleasure and a blessing. I had been praying in my heart for the opportunity to see my family," said Chaplain Finau, who often supported air and ground operations by liaising with town officials.

A Fotuha`a town official personally cleared an area of his property with a machete so the helicopter could land safely.

Flight operations officer Lieutenant Tristram Gleeson said all the air missions were conducted according to Government of Tonga and Fleet Air Arm COVID-19 safety protocols. "That involved a testing regime for aircrew, cleaning of equipment and the aircraft, and briefing passengers without close contact. Instead of fitting the personal protective equipment to passengers, we fitted it to one of the crew as an example," Lieutenant Gleeson said.

(Source: Defence News)

Army



Head of Information Warfare Major General Susan Coyle meets Australian Defence Force Cyber Gap Program participant Shobita during the 2021 'capture the flag' cyber skills challenge in Canberra

Participation in the Australian Defence Force Cyber Gap Program (ADFCGP) doesn't have to stop when your program ends, with two former participants now using their experience to mentor participants in the 2022 intake.

Army soldiers Corporal Donovan Leitch, from 142nd Signal Squadron, and Lance Corporal Chris Cigana, from 1st/15th Royal New South Wales Lancers, both joined the program while studying and are excited to offer their insights into the program and Defence. "The importance of time-on-the-tools are foundational skills that need to be practised regularly," Lance Corporal Cigana said. "High-level theories, concepts and frameworks are great, but they cannot replace experience in the day-to-day activities of cyber security professionals in government and Defence. The ADFCGP showed us typical working situations that we would find ourselves in."

If Corporal Leitch could give one piece of advice to the latest cohort, it would be not to give up when things become difficult. "The cyber skills modules will benefit your studies as you'll have more practise on specific cyber activities," Corporal Leitch said. "If you can, align your subject choices with the cyber skills modules. Subjects such as penetration testing, digital forensics log analytics can help prepare you. The challenges start out easy, but become difficult, quickly and, depending on your existing cyber skills, you may struggle. "When this happens, your cohort and Google become your closest friends. Leverage them both to attack the challenges, using your skills to see what creative ways you can get through them."

As a mentor this year, Lance Corporal Cigana said participants should take full advantage of all the resources and opportunities that the program's mentors can provide. "You'll become part of a large group of people who all have the same interests and similar career goals.

Connect with people and embrace the growing cyber security community," Lance Corporal Cigana said. "The online communications platform is a great resource that many of my peers took an active involvement in and this led to some great professional and social situations. A lot of the time 'it's not what you know, but who you know'."

The Australian Government announced the ADFCGP in 2019 as part of its cyber-resilience and workforce package. The pilot intake of the program commenced in 2020 and the final intake will finish the program at the end of 2023.

As part of the ADFCGP, cyber students further their cyber skills and learn about career opportunities in Defence and the Australian Public Service. The program is run in conjunction with the Australian Public Service Digital Profession program and aims to boost Australia's sovereign cyber workforce capability.

(Source: Contact)

Air Force



Air Force has welcomed Air Vice-Marshal Darren Goldie as the new Air Commander Australia, who was formally appointed during a change of command ceremony on 7 April.

The ceremony was held at RAAF Base Glenbrook, NSW, where outgoing Air Commander Australia, Air Vice-Marshal Joe Iervasi, handed over his command of RAAF's operational headquarters.

Air Vice-Marshal Iervasi said it had been a privilege and honour to serve as Air Commander Australia for nearly three years. "Air Command units have overcome an extremely diverse and unique set of challenges the last few years, some of which we have never had to face before," Air Vice-Marshal Iervasi said. "From bushfires, floods, pandemics to non-combatant evacuation operations in Afghanistan, we have had to navigate the unknown and I couldn't be

more proud of the women and men of our Air Force today. "It's important that our aviators reflect on the resilience they've demonstrated, particularly through the last two years and have confidence in the dynamic skill-sets they've acquired, when faced with new challenges in the future."

Air Commander Australia is responsible for the provision of operational support to the Chief of Air Force and the joint force, by preparing the workforce to generate, project and sustain air and space power effects to protect and advance Australia's national interests.

Coming from the Prime Minister and Cabinet office where he provided strategic foreign policy advice to government, Air Vice-Marshal Goldie looks to inspire Air Force aviators and the Australian public through his new appointment. "Much has been demanded of the men and women of Air Command recently, as it will be in the future," Air Vice-Marshal Goldie said. "After 20 years in the Middle East and two years of COVID-19, we have to challenge ourselves and ask if we are ready for what may come next. "Our nation needs us to be prepared, which necessitates focused training, and ongoing prioritisation of our resources.

Air Vice-Marshal Goldie is embarking on an extensive visit program to hear from Air Command's Air Force, Australian Public Service and contracted workforce. "My focus now is to meet the people of Air Command face-to-face – I need to know what we can do better and how I can help to achieve that."



(Source: Defence News)

United States Air Force Senior Airman Reginald Dormeville and RAAF Aircraftman James Lunney in front of a United States Air Force B-2 Spirit from the 13th Bomb Squadron, at RAAF Base Amberley, Queensland

A unique visitor to RAAF Base Amberley has given No. 2 Security Forces Squadron the opportunity to enhance security interoperability by working with a foreign partner.

A United States Air Force (USAF) B-2 Spirit stealth bomber flew from Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri to RAAF Base Amberley. The combat aircraft, from the 509th Bomber Wing, became the first B-2 Spirit to land at Amberley. The B-2 Spirit is a multi-role bomber capable of delivering both conventional and nuclear munitions.

The B-2 Spirit was the world's first stealth strategic bomber. Its characteristics give it the unique ability to penetrate the most sophisticated defences. The aircraft remains a cutting-edge technology, providing a strong and effective deterrent and combat force. Building security interoperability, No. 2 Security Forces Squadron delivered integrated security with the USAF team in response to the current threat environment.

The joint force ensured the visiting aircraft was well protected, providing constant patrols at Amberley as well as a static guard for the B-2. Leading Aircraftwoman Mairead Nash was a member of the detachment tasked with providing security for the B-2. "Our work requirements and procedures aligned very well with the visiting USAF security forces as they follow a very similar routine. The opportunity allowed us to gain new experiences and perspectives from our coalition friends," Leading Aircraftwoman Nash said. "The opportunity to provide security for a significant USAF asset helped build both respect and rapport between the two partners' security teams."

Aircraftman James Lunney, assigned to the security detachment, benefited from working closely with the American team. "Working with USAF personnel was a great experience. They were easy to get along with and maintained an easy-going yet highly professional demeanour," Aircraftman Lunney said.

The experiences gained from the visit enhanced engagement opportunities between the two air force security forces as they continue to work closely, especially with upcoming visits, exercises and operations

(Source: Defence News)

Quiz

Quiz Questions

- 1. What is the name of the first Evolved Cape-class patrol boat?
- **2.** Who is the first Defence Space Commander?
- **3.** What is the name of the 6th Brigade Commander?
- **4.** What colour is the HQ 6th Brigade colour patch?
- **5.** What do the common defence terms mean?
 - Adgie
 - Beagle
 - Birdie
 - Grunt
 - Middy

Answers- Quiz questions in TRIBUTE No 10

1. Name the ship in the Australian Fleet. Clue – Australian cricket legend, the late Shane Warne, made his highest Test score with the bat in this city?

Answer: HMAS Perth

2. Name the ship in the Australian Fleet. Clue – The football team for this town was for many years known as the Pumpkin Pickers?

Answer: HMAS Maitland 3. How old is the Army?

Answer: 121 years old

4. Who is Army's Indigenous Elder? **Answer:** Aunty Lorraine Hatton

5. Which countries are members of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, commonly called the Quad?

Answer: Australia, US, Japan and India

6. When was the current rising sun pattern introduced into service and what iteration is

Answer:1991, The 7th

7. Which year was the ban on gay and lesbian people serving in the ADF lifted? **Answer:** 1992

8. What is the oldest, continuously active Defence base in Australia and where is it? **Answer:** Anglesea Barracks, Hobart

9. The crew of which US Navy ship helped during the recent flood clean up in Brisbane? **Answer:** USS Frank Cable

10. A Navy captain is leading an expedition at what research station?

Answer: Mawson Station, Antartica

Show and Tell

Somalia 1993

In the period January to May1993 an Australian force based on 1 RAR was deployed to Somalia. The wore the new AUSCAM uniforms, brown leather boots and a Kevlar helmet. Also available was a wide brim cloth bush hat with the brim turned down. The sodliers were equipt with Pattern 1988 ICLE. Body armour was issued which resembled the Vietnam era flak jacket, but was distinguished by having additional padding over the shoulders, and a chest pocket on the left hand side.

Rwanda 1994 – 95



The same items of combat clothing (except the bush hat) ICLE and body armour were worn by the two Australian groups that deployed to Rwanda during 1994-95. However, their headgear was either the light blue United Nations beret or light blue Kevlar helmet.

Infantryman 2000 and the Infantry Soldier Combat System

During the late 1980's and into the 1990's there were discussions in the British, American and European armies about the possibility for future development of the Infantryman as a soldier combat system with clothing, equipment and weapons integrated to enhance his ability to move, observe, shoot, communicate and survive.

The creation of the soldier system concept would replace the traditional method of issuing the Infantryman with weapons, clothing and load carrying equipment in what appeared to be a piecemeal manner, which although each of the individual item of equipment were necessary, weren't always fully compatible.

At the British Army Equipment Exhibition in 1984 a British computer company (SCICON) attracted attention and publicity in some influential defence magazines with their very futuristic and imaginative (life size) concept of Infantryman 2000. He was dressed in a protective combat uniform, a full faced mask helmet, equipment with a futuristic weapon and connected with command and control through networked computer communications and information systems. His individual load carrying capability was based on a vest rather than a harness with power sources, target information and communication systems and climate control built into his helmet and clohing.



Infantryman 2000 was an imaginative project created to attracted attention and promote discussion. The US Army established a Project SIPE (Soldier Integrated Protective Ensemble) in the 1990's which by mid – 1990's had become 21st Century Land Warrior (21CLW) and then Land Warrior.

To be continued

Anzac Day



Eight life size ghost soldiers made by the Bribie Island Mens Shed were unveiled on Anzac Day

(Source: Morton News)



The new memorial at Morven, Western Queensland unveiled in 2021 (Source: Queensland Country Life)

On Anzac Day, the Queensland Police Service pauses to remember the 30 Queensland Police officers who lost their lives on duty in World War I.

Dedicated to serving their country, many police officers applied for leave of absence from the police force to join the other Australians fighting overseas.

One of our officers was killed at Gallipoli in Turkey on 25 April 1915, the day we officially mark as ANZAC Day.

Before the year's end, another four had died in action in Turkey and three more had succumbed to injury or illness elsewhere.

Australian troops began landing in France in April 2016, and 14 of our officers were lost on the fiery battlefields of France and a further five in Belgium over the following two years.

Two officers died in the Middle East in 1918, and one died a Prisoner of War in Germany in the closing chapters of the 'war to end all wars'.

Eighteen of these officers were in their 20s, the youngest 22 and the oldest 41.

We remember them all.

With honour, they served.



` '



Picture of the new memorial Allan Fuary has built in his backyard

ADF Indigenous Elders

Army's second Indigenous Elder

Aunty Lorraine is a Quandamooka Elder of the Noonuccal and Ngughi tribes in South-East Queensland. Enlisting into the Royal Australian Signals Corps, Aunty Lorraine maintained a distinguished and successful career serving 20 years in the Australian Army.



Army's second Indigenous Elder, Aunty Lorraine Hatton, OAM

Aunty Lorraine joined the Australian Army on 14 January 1986 and was posted to the 7th Signals Regiment as an Operations Signaller before transferring to a Joint Service position at HMAS *Coonawarra*, Darwin. In 1992, Lorraine was promoted to Corporal and posted to 72nd Electronic Warfare Squadron. Throughout this period, she was a competitive sports woman, representing the Army in both Squash and Athletics.

Changing roles within the Signals Corps to a Radio Operator, Aunty Lorraine was posted to the 6th Signals Regiment before posting as a Detachment Commander with the 1st Signals Regiment, Enoggera.

In 1997, Aunty Lorraine was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and subsequently posted to Headquarters Northern Command. During this period, she was the first female Signals Sergeant to deploy as the Communications Manager in Irian Jaya, for humanitarian and famine relief operations and then on to the Multinational Force and Observers, Sinai.

In 2003, Aunty Lorraine was the first Indigenous female to be promoted to Warrant Officer Class Two and posted to the Battlefield Command Support System Project Team in Townsville. The following year, she was posted to the 5th Aviation Regiment and deployed to Afghanistan as the first female Communications Manager with the Special Forces Task Group to establish the communications network in Kandahar.

Aunty Lorraine retired from the Australian Army in 2007, however, continues to provide service to the wider community as a mentor to the Preston Campbell Foundation and the Gold Coast Titans Deadly Futures and Community Programs. In addition, Lorraine is the Board President of the Queensland State Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Dedicated Memorial Committee that is currently coordinating the construction of this memorial in ANZAC Square Brisbane. Moreover, Lorraine is the Patron of the Indigenous Youth

Mobility Pathways project, advocating education for Indigenous youth from remote locations of Australia.

Aunty Lorraine is the Indigenous Ambassador for the Corporate Protection Australia Group, a signatory with Prime Ministers Veterans Employment Program. She is a highly regarded and respected role model for the community.

In 2019, Lorraine was awarded the prestigious Order of Australia Medal for her service to the Indigenous Community.

New Indigenous Elder for Air Force



After nearly a decade in the role, Uncle Harry Allie, BEM, handed over his official duties as Air Force's Indigenous Elder to Aunty Deborah Booker at RAAF Base Glenbrook on 25 February 2022.

The role of the Air Force Indigenous Elder focuses on advising the Chief of Air Force on Indigenous cultural matters and engaging and mentoring aviators. It also provides a key cultural link between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and Air Force.

Aunty Deb said she was surprised but very proud to learn she would be offered the appointment.

"I feel honoured and privileged that the Chief of Air Force would place his trust in me with this appointment," Aunty Deb said.

"As the first dedicated service Elder ever appointed, Uncle Harry has played a crucial role in progressing cultural changes within Air Force and I am excited to build on his wonderful work and be a role model and advocate for all of our aviators."

Aunty Deb has served in the Air Force for more than 13 years supporting Indigenous recruitment and community engagement activities, including Exercise Kummundoo, which promotes dental health services to remote Indigenous communities.

As a role model and leader, she has also been instrumental in shaping the Indigenous Pre-Recruitment Course to prepare Indigenous young Australians for Australian Defence Force service.

She is an advocate for numerous health, youth and community initiatives and continues to be an influential voice in shaping national government policies on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment, education and community engagement.

Most recently, Aunty Deb took up a role as a senior project officer with Ninti One, the National Best Practice Unit for Tackling Indigenous Smoking.

As the Air Force's Indigenous Elder, Aunty Deb's aim is to help bring people together so they can learn from each other.

"I think we can all make a difference individually, but together we can move mountains," she said.

Navy Indigenous Elder



Navy has appointed a full-time Navy Indigenous Adviser (NIA) as part of its commitment to the government's Defence Reconciliation Action Plan (D-RAP) 2019-2022.

In appointing Lieutenant Commander Samuel Sheppard to the role of full-time NIA in a virtual promotion ceremony on 21 May 2020 Chief of Navy Vice Admiral Mike Noonan said LCDR Sheppard would play a key role in the continuing development and implementation of the D-RAP.

"The appointment of a full-time adviser recognises the importance of this role as Navy continues to work towards the long-term desired outcomes of this 'stretch' Reconciliation Action Plan," VADM Noonan said. "The NIA, in leading the development and implementation of the plan, will provide the cultural advice required to Navy's senior leadership team, Diversity and Inclusion Council and all commands at sea and ashore. "This will ensure Navy achieves our D-RAP commitment and contributes positively to the shared future of our nation. "It will also enhance Navy's engagement with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities wherever we interact with those communities."

Originally from far north Queensland, LCDR Sheppard is a member of the Muluridji People and is proud of his cultural heritage. Based at HMAS Stirling, he said being named the NIA was an honour and a highlight of his 21-year career. "This appointment provides me with the opportunity to guide Navy in the formulation and implementation of policy and to complete our D-RAP aims," he said. "It also allows me to provide cultural advice and to be a point of contact for Indigenous members and divisional staff for feedback and suggestions on Indigenous programs and reference material. "My priority is to establish a 'roadmap' that will plan Navy's approach to meeting the deliverables of the action plan – through these there are great opportunities for Navy to contribute to Closing the Gap initiatives."

LCDR Sheppard said his appointment to the role of NIA would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of his predecessor, Commander Bert Slape, who held the position in an ancillary role. "I would like to thank CMDR Slape for his dedicated commitment to raising awareness and supporting Navy's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members, and for enhancing cultural inclusion," he said. "I have worked closely with CMDR Slape during the past few months and look forward to continuing that relationship as I take up my new role."

At the same ceremony, VADM Noonan appointed Commodore Mal Wise as Navy Indigenous Champion, a role which will see him act as an advocate for Indigenous participation within Defence.

Through his role as Navy Indigenous Champion, CDRE Wise will also drive cultural awareness through Navy-specific and whole-of-Defence initiatives.

One such initiative is to work with Navy's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members to capture our Australian Navy heritage and reinforce links to our First Nations People.

Humour and Poetry

A poetical tribute to Lieutenant Commander R. (Dusty) Rhodes DSC, RAN, on his relinquishing command of HMAS Quickmatch in 1944.

Now Cobbers, fellow shipmates, The time is drawing near When we shall lose that gallant man, Who's skippered us right here.

"Dusty" Rhodes, the chap I mean Our Captain, one and all, The one whom we have followed far Where'er our duty call.

He steered us into Durban Town,
The sailor's land of dreams,
Where women, wine and song are found
Within a matelot's means.

He took us down to "Snooky" And gave a ten-day break, Then he put to sea again For our reputation's sake.

He's sailed us o'er the oceans, On seas both rough and smooth, He treats us right in harbour, Who better could we choose.

And now he's going to leave us,
Not that he wants I'm sure,
He'd like to stick by "Quickmatch"
But that's the luck of the draw.

So let us get together And give three hearty cheers, To wish our Friend and Captain The best in future years.

AB O.J. Wyly

The Naval Ode

They have no grave but the cruel sea,

No flowers lay at their head,

A rusting hulk is their tombstone,

Afast on the ocean bed.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning,

We will remember them.

These two simple but disparate verses are often attributed to the English poet Laurence Binyon. While the second verse comes from Binyon's tribute 'For the Fallen' extensive research has failed to find authorship to the opening verse which may well have come from an earlier folk song. Although of entirely separate derivations this unlikely but happy literary marriage serves us well.

(Source: Naval Historical Society of Australia)



HMAS ANZAC being Launched in 1994

(Source: Naval Historical Society of Australia)

Important Dates in May

- 1 May 1999 Submarine HMAS Sheean launched by Teddy Sheean sister Ivy Hayes
- 4 May 2002 Commissioning of HMAS Diamantina (2)
- 14 May 1974 Parachute Training School
- 15 May 1998 Commissioning of HMAS Huon (2)
- 18 May 1966 HMAS Anzac (3) Commissioned.
- 18 May 2020 Commissioning of HMAS Sydney (5)
- 20 May 2000 Lance Corporal Shawn Lewis 145Sig Sqn died in Bougainville PNG from a driving accident
- 23 May 2011 Sergeant Brett Mathew Wood, MG 2 Cdo Regt died from an IED Explosion during Operation Slipper Afghanistan
- 27 May 2000 Commissioning of HMAS Leeuwin
- 27 May 2003 Commissioning of HMAS Melville
- 30 May 2011- Lieutenant Marcus Sean Case 6 Avn Regt died in a helicopter crash during Operation Slipper Afghanistan
- 30 May 2011 Lance Corporal Andrew Gordon Jones 9 FSB AACC died of small arms fire during Operation Slipper Afghanistan
- 31 May 1973 RAASC disbanded and replaced by RACT and RAAOC



STS Young Endeavour and HMAS Pert (3) during Tall ship regatta in 2009

(Source: Naval Historical Society of Australia)

Military Historical Society of Australia, Qld Division Committee 2021 – 22

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Honorary Treasurer	Ian Curtis
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Committee Member	Scott Meares

IMPORTANT EVENTS AND DATE

- 14 May Bimonthly Meeting
- 9 July AGM
- 10 September Bimonthly Meeting
- 14 16 October Military Spectacualr
- 11 November Remembrance Day
- 12 November Bimonthly Meeting

FELLOWS of MHSA

- John Meyers
- Anthony Staunton
- Donald Wright

NEW MEMBERS

- Peter Hart
- Keith Hart
- Rodger Hart

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