



NEW ZEALAND

# DEFENCE UPDATE

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# Into Sudan, out of Mozambique, Sierra Leone

**Two New Zealand Defence Force personnel begin a one-year peacekeeping mission in Sudan next month. The pair will be military observers in the United Nations mission in the strife-torn country. A third officer may deploy later this year as part of the mission's headquarters staff in southern Sudan.**

The observers will be working alongside personnel from the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Bangladesh, Pakistan, India and Egypt.

The peacekeeping mission in Sudan was established following a UN resolution passed in March, and will support the peace agreement signed between warring Sudanese parties in January. About four million dollars has been contributed directly to humanitarian relief efforts in Darfur, in western Sudan, in the last year by the New Zealand government.

Meanwhile, the NZDF missions in Mozambique and Sierra Leone end this month. New Zealand soldiers have been involved in demining in Mozambique since the early 1990s, when up to 25 Kiwis were there at any one time, teaching locals how to clear mines from the ground. In recent years the number of deminers from New Zealand working in the east African country has dropped to two, with about 500 Mozambicans running the demining programme.

The NZDF has been contributing peacekeepers to the United Nations mission in Sierra Leone since 1998. Friction began in the country over the uneven distribution of wealth, and the Sierra Leone army, feeling it was suffering most, staged a coup in 1997. Rebel factions took over in the eastern and northern regions, and a military junta took power. In recent years, New Zealand peacekeepers in Sierra Leone have patrolled villages and towns to identify problems which may affect security, and have completed many others tasks, including helping in local elections. The New Zealanders have worked with peacekeepers from Defence Forces throughout the world, including the United Kingdom, Russia, Egypt, Kenya, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Canada.

Among the first sent there were officers who joined a 40-strong group of UN military observers to monitor at the humanitarian situation, and monitor events.



Above, Major Chris Allan with locals, while below, NZ Army engineer Lieutenant Colonel Paul Curry works with deminers in Mozambique.



New Zealand Defence Update provides information about defence policy and people, and the activities of our forces throughout the world, to a wide audience in New Zealand and overseas. It is published monthly, and is also available on [www.nzdf.mil.nz](http://www.nzdf.mil.nz). We welcome your feedback.

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These are available on request.

**COVER:** Territorial Force soldier, dental hygienist Warrant Officer Class One Denise Mariu with young Niuean dental patient Hani. (See A helping hand for Niue) Photo: Judith Martin. Inset: HMNZS Te Mana's quartermaster conducts ceremonial piping on board the frigate as it leaves Vladivostok recently.

## First in class

**Top of the class awards have gone to three New Zealand Defence Force personnel attending overseas courses recently. Flight Lieutenant Joanne Beale, a logistics supply officer, was top student on the Logistic Executive Development Course conducted by the US Army at Fort Lee, Virginia.**

At another United States course, Wing Commander Kevin McEvoy, a navigator, was named top student out of 253 course members attending the United States Air Force Air War College in Alabama.

Major Allan Kinsella, from the New Zealand Army, has been selected as the 2005 Distinguished Master Strategist at the US Army's Command and General Staff College in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. He competed against almost 1000 American officers and about 100 non-American exchange officers. The competition required the students to write both an essay and take part in an oral panel. Major Kinsella was awarded first place in both.

Flight Lieutenant Beale, who works in supply training policy for the RNZAF, said the course she was on, which was run by the US Army, focussed on resource and acquisition management, economics, statistics and "decision science" which is based on logistics.

Apart from US students, other students on the course came from Lithuania, South Korea, Greece, Sudan, Egypt, Turkey, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Romania and Indonesia.

"I enjoyed the interaction with the other students," she said. "I learnt that we as New Zealanders are very good at what we do. Size isn't everything – we as a Defence Force do things very well."



From left, Wing Commander Kevin McEvoy, Major Allan Kinsella, and Flight Lieutenant Joanne Beale.

Major Allan Kinsella, from Wellington, enlisted in the New Zealand Army in 1990. He graduated into the Regiment of the Royal New Zealand Artillery in 1993. He held various positions within the Army after that, and in December 2002 returned to 16th Field Regiment, Linton Camp as the Battery Commander 161 Battery.

Chief of Defence Force Air Marshal Bruce Ferguson congratulated the three officers on their success.

"They have displayed professionalism, hard work and dedication, and are excellent ambassadors for the New Zealand Defence Force."

## Bougainville swears in autonomous regional government

**The swearing-in of the new autonomous provincial government in Bougainville earlier this month was a major milestone in the island's quest for peace, says Chief of Army, Major General Jerry Mateparae.**

Mr Joseph Kabui was sworn in as President, as were the Bougainville Autonomous Regional Government representatives at a ceremony in Buka at the northern tip of the island.

Major General Mateparae attended the ceremony, along with other Government representatives from throughout the Pacific. The swearing-in was followed by the raising of the Bougainville flag, speeches and celebrations, and the day ended with a state dinner.

"I was impressed by the commitment Bougainvillians and the Papua New Guinea government have shown to the peace process. In 1997 they signed the Burnham Truce, and they have come a long way in the past eight years. There are still challenges ahead for Bougainville, such as persuading those who remain outside the peace process that peace is the way ahead for the island."

As a colonel in 1998, Major General Mateparae was commander of the Truce Monitoring Team on Bougainville. He said he met old friends, and saw many

familiar faces when he attended the recent ceremony. "And I was impressed at how far Bougainville itself has come since 1998. There is a significant amount of commercial activity happening in Buka, and local businesses are doing well. The schools are full, and the teachers and students are very enthusiastic about education."



The Bougainville Provincial Government will be responsible for issues such as health, education and policing, and Papua New Guinea will retain responsibility for border control, security, and foreign relations.

Major General Jerry Mateparae

# A helping hand for Niue

By Judith Martin

***When huge waves and hurricane force winds smashed over Niue in January 2004, Marie Etuata wondered what would become of the tiny island and its thousand or so residents.***

The mother of four young children helped evacuate the resort she manages, before battering down her family's wooden house. She sat in the dark with her husband and waited as Cyclone Heta proceeded to devastate Niue.

It sent waves up and over 30 metre-high cliffs, sweeping away everything in their path, including the local hospital, museum, hotel, and many small businesses.

"We sent the children to a neighbour who had a solid concrete home. The cyclone reached its peak in the day but it was so dark it seemed like the middle of the night. The noise was deafening. Our roof was blown away, and we lost just about everything, but we were all ok, so we decided to stay. Niue is our home".

A mother and her young baby died, and Marie and 200 other Niueans were left homeless by the devastation wreaked by Cyclone Heta. They were rehoused, and the island and its residents have spent the past 17 months slowly recovering from the pounding they received.

That recovery process escalated at the end of May when 120 New Zealand Army personnel descended on the island and set to building an industrial park, rebuilding sea tracks, clearing a vine-choked tramping track, and conducting health and first-aid training clinics. They ensured the island's works depot was up to scratch and all its equipment repaired and functional. And at the same time as Niue's industry and tourism was being given a hand up, the teeth of each of its 500 primary and secondary children were being checked and treated by a New Zealand Defence Force dental team.

The Army was in Niue not just to help the locals, but also to help itself. The three weeks the soldiers and officers spent on the island provided them with training

opportunities in a tropical environment, while at the same time providing practical help for one of New Zealand's near neighbours. NZAID (the New Zealand International Aid and Development Agency) provided funding for the work, and the Army provided the manpower and expertise, sourced mainly from 2 Engineer Regiment.

Niue, a coral island ringed by high, rugged cliffs, is an island which boasts sparkling clear pools and deep diving valleys filled with coral gardens and a myriad of sea life. It relies heavily on its tropical waters for fishing, and as a diving and snorkelling attraction; when Heta struck however, not only were businesses and houses swept away but the tracks to the lagoons and sea became clogged with coral boulders, and concrete pathways were washed away.

On the Limu track at the northwestern side of the island, Army field engineer Sapper Mark Barker used a jackhammer to smash rock from the little path that leads to a popular fishing, swimming and snorkelling area. Under the burning, early afternoon sun it was not an easy task, but the young soldier enjoyed himself, and relished the thought of the dip he and his mates would take at the end of the day.

"With this sort of work you get to see something for your efforts. It's good to get away from home and be able to give someone a hand."

Further along the track, carpenters built small footbridges, over-ramps, stairs and handrails, and concreted paths and ledges.

When the engineers left they donated the equipment they used - quad bikes, trailers and tools - to the Niue tourism board so that it could maintain its sea tracks and scenic site locations itself.

The waves that crashed over the northern face of Niue washed most of the small businesses near the cliff face into the ocean. One of the Kiwi soldiers' tasks was to construct one of two kitset buildings that will form an industrial park on a site inland from the devastated area. The construction project, which was expected to take 18 days to complete, means the businesses lost in the cyclone can re-establish themselves. It also provided on-the-job training for local tradesmen, arming them with sufficient knowledge and experience to maintain the second kitset building themselves.



*Sapper Charles Manumua (above) works on the industrial park building, while (right) four of his colleagues finish off building a footbridge on Limu Track.*



05.01.69-06



05.01.69-05



05.01.69-08



05.01.69-07

*Clockwise, Sapper Brent Brady clears vines from the Vinivini Track, Sapper Mark Ruddle sharpens his chainsaw; contingent commander Major Ants Blythen with Niue High Commissioner Sandra Lee-Vercoe; Land Component Commander Brigadier Warren Whiting (centre) discusses progress with from left, Major Jim Josephs, Warrant Officer Class One Mike Ross, Warrant Officer Dave McLellan, and Mr David Gibb.*

On the other side of the island, wielding chainsaws and scrub cutters, other teams of soldiers worked their way through the lush, overgrown Vinivini Track. The track, which meanders through the Huvalu Conservation Area, is seven kilometres of tropical rainforest, and is a significant tourist attraction. After Heta, part of it became impassable, with trees fallen across the track, and vines and scrub growing amongst the fallen debris.

Contingent commander Major Ants Blythen from Linton-based 2 Engineer Regiment, says the tasks his soldiers completed on Niue were decided in consultation with the local community and NZAID.

“They gave us a list of tasks, and we decided what we could feasibly do. It took a lot of planning, and it was a bit of a challenge coordinating our arrival with our materials and equipment, which were brought up here using commercial shipping and an RNZAF freight flight.”

With a shortage of manpower on the island – most Niueans live in New Zealand – the locals were obviously pleased at having new faces – and workers – in their midst. A shipping delay meant the soldiers arrived a week before some of their kit. Within hours of the word

going out, dozens of trucks and cars began arriving with a variety of mattresses, pillows and brightly coloured duvets for the soldiers to use in the meantime.

The first aid classes the Kiwis ran in villages throughout the island were fully subscribed, and most of the 500 primary and college age children on the island were on first names terms with Army dental officer Major Andy Gray and Army dental hygienist Warrant Officer Denise Mariu.

Salt spray from the cyclone ruined two of the island’s three dental chairs, and as a consequence dental care has fallen behind. The pair checked the teeth of every child, did whatever dental work was necessary, and instigated a dental health education programme.

The commanding officer of 2 Engineer Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Phil Morrison, who, with Major Blythen established what tasks could be completed on Niue, said his soldiers did an excellent job.

“This exercise placed soldiers in situations where they needed to adapt to local conditions, while at the same time passing on their knowledge and advice. The work is tangible, and so is the training experience for us. And it’s good to know you’re making a difference.”

# Queen's birthday honours

Seven New Zealand Defence Force personnel, including the Army officer who until recently led the NZDF's medical services, and the officer who led the New Zealand Defence Force's first contingent of engineers to Iraq, received honours in the Queen's Birthday list.

Brigadier David Le Page, of the Royal New Zealand Army Medical Corps is to be an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

Lieutenant Colonel Steve Taylor and Major Roger Margetts are to be additional Officers of the New Zealand Order of Merit. Dr Donald Stewart, a civilian specialist senior medical officer, and Warrant Officer Class One Murray Nelson are to be Members of the New Zealand Order of Merit. Leading Marine Technician Matthew Overton and Cdr David Toms are to be additional Members of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

Brigadier Le Page, who became Director-General of the NZDF medical services in 1999, and is currently on sabbatical leave doing clinical work, has served throughout the world, including Iraq, Macedonia and Timor Leste.

His deployment to Macedonia, where he was based at a refugee camp treating people fleeing from Kosovo, was one of the most challenging jobs he has had during his time with the NZDF, he says.

"It was a relatively short deployment, but we were dealing with very traumatised people. Our medical team provided care for those people with minimal facilities where normally their conditions were such they would have been treated in a district hospital. I have worked with wonderful people over many years in the Defence Force."

Lieutenant Colonel Taylor, from the New Zealand Intelligence Corps, was New Zealand's senior national officer with the first 60-strong engineer contingent which deployed to Basra in Iraq in 2003.

The high threat level in Iraq was "just part of the job", he says. "The engineers did an incredible job, considering the challenges they faced. I had oversight of their taskings, and represented New Zealand's interests to the coalition leadership. Part of my job was to ensure our engineers were only employed doing the humanitarian tasks the New Zealand Government had agreed to."

Lieutenant Colonel Taylor has served in the Middle East and Bosnia, and says his deployment to Iraq has been "the most challenging and professionally rewarding in my career so far. I learned a lot about the conduct of operations in a high threat environment, and the importance of soldiers' welfare."

## Diplomatic duties

Maritime Component Commander Commodore Jack Steer (centre) inspects a Russian Navy Guard of Honour shortly before the New Zealand frigate HMNZS *Te Mana* left Vladivostok recently on a diplomatic visit. The ship, accompanied by HMNZS *Endeavour* went on to Shanghai, China for the last of a series of defence diplomacy visits for the New Zealand Task Force. Commodore Steer embarked on-board the ships for the passage. "Considerable progress has been made in the development of the links between Russia, China and New Zealand in recent years, and visits such as this help to develop our relationship further," he said.

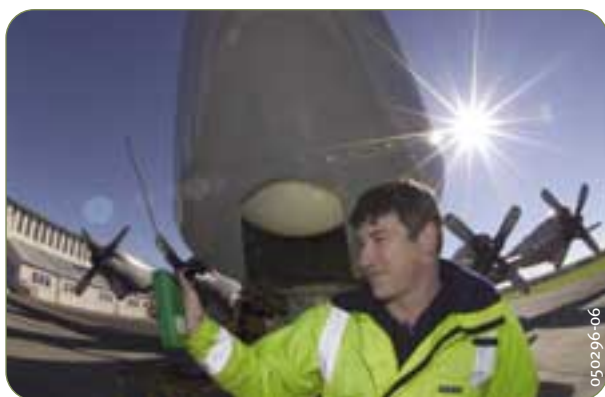


## VJ Day

VJ Day this year, August 15, will mark 60 years since the Allies announced the surrender of Japanese Forces during World War II. Veterans Affairs New Zealand is organising a contingent to travel to the Pacific to mark the anniversary, and has invited veterans to enter a ballot to join the commemorations.

Veterans who served in the New Zealand Armed Forces in the Pacific campaign were eligible to enter the ballot. The commemorations will be held in Solomon Islands, and New Caledonia. A street parade will be held in Wellington to mark VJ Day, and veterans who don't feel like marching in the parade will be transported in the Army's light operational vehicles. A 100-person tri-Service guard will welcome the veterans, who will be invited to afternoon tea at Parliament after the ceremonies.

## Multiple missions for 5 Squadron



The RNZAF's No. 5 Squadron was kept busy earlier this month with four search and rescue missions in five days. On June 6 an Air Force Orion on routine patrol in the Fijian EEZ was diverted to a rescue beacon in the Fiji island group, 120 nautical miles northeast of Suva. The crew quickly picked up on the beacon and found a yacht



foundered on a shallow reef. The yacht's sole occupant signalled the aircraft with flares, and a radio was dropped to the sailor to establish communication. He was later picked up safe and well by a Fijian patrol boat.

Another Air Force Orion was placed on standby to help a stricken yacht rendezvous with a merchant ship after it ran out of diesel and ripped its sails about 740 km off North Cape.

An Air Force Orion was sent to help the yacht Ciru that capsized with two people on board. The Orion dropped a pack containing a radio, food and water to the yacht at first light. A second Orion then flew to the area where the yacht capsized and helped coordinate a rendezvous with a merchant vessel. Orion tactical coordinator, Flight Lieutenant Glen Donaldson said the missions in quick succession were tiring, "but we're happy to be helping out. It's always good to hear that people on the yachts below are ok, healthy and in good spirits."

## Navy innovation

The Royal New Zealand Navy highlighted the innovative practices in its workplace at an Innovation Expo held earlier this month. Exhibits included, among others, the Navy's technology-based training unit, the Joint Geospatial Support facility, and the Defence Technology Agency, and were on display to demonstrate versatility and innovative thinking.

## The President of Pakistan

A 100-person tri-service Guard of Honour from the New Zealand Defence Force welcomed His Excellency Pervez Musharaff, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, at Government House, Auckland on Friday June 17 2005.

The NZDF Maori Cultural Group, numbering more than 35 Defence personnel, conducted a powhiri to welcome the President.

A Presidential 21-gun salute was fired by Navy personnel within Government House grounds as the tri-service Guard conducted the general salute.

## NZ SAS deploy

About 50 New Zealand Special Air service personnel re-deployed to Afghanistan for up to 180 days this month. The deployment is the third rotation of SAS personnel to Afghanistan as part of New Zealand's ongoing commitment to the international effort against terrorism. The NZ SAS personnel are being commanded by a New Zealand officer and are specialising in the planning and execution of long-range reconnaissance and direct action missions inside Afghanistan. They are operating with other special forces from countries contributing to coalition forces in Afghanistan.

## IN BRIEF



Urgently needed medical textbooks on subjects ranging from paediatrics and podiatry to neurology and nursing will soon be on their way to an Afghanistan hospital, courtesy of Dunedin’s medical fraternity and a Territorial Force officer, Dunedin anaesthetist Dr Roland Wilson. At left, Warrant Officer Medic Giles Jones packs the textbooks ready for sending to Afghanistan.

Dr Wilson who, as a Territorial Force soldier belongs to the Otago South Regiment, was the medical officer for a rotation of the New Zealand Provincial Reconstruction team in Afghanistan last year. He is usually based at either Dunedin or Mercy hospitals.

“In Bamyán where I was based with the NZPRT I helped train some of the nurses and doctors, and also worked as an

anaesthetist. The Taliban destroyed most of their textbooks, and they were desperate for textbooks they could consult, both for on-going teaching or when they needed information during a medical procedure.

“When I left to return to New Zealand they asked me if I could send them an anaesthetics text book. I talked to people I know in Dunedin about the work the PRT is doing, and the need for medical books, and before long I had quite a pile of them. In all about 150 have been donated, on nearly every medical subject you can think of.”

Dr Wilson said while most of the text books are about five years old, that is ideal.

“The technology they are using in the hospital there is about five years behind what it is here and in, for example, America or Britain. The older books suit their needs much more than recently-released books.”

The books will be transported to Bamyán by the RNZAF when the next rotation of Defence personnel deploy in July.

## THE NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE FORCE: ALL CORNERS OF THE WORLD

### NZ DEFENCE FORCE OPERATIONS

CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN MISSIONS	LOCATION	DEPLOYED
UNMISSET	Timor Leste	5
UNMIK	Kosovo	1
UNTSO	Middle East	8
UNAMSIL	Sierra Leone	1
UNCMAC	Korea	1
UNAMI	Iraq	1
UNAMA	Afghanistan	1
CONTRIBUTIONS TO MINE ACTION MISSIONS	LOCATION	DEPLOYED
MADP	Mozambique	1
CONTRIBUTIONS TO REGIONAL MISSIONS	LOCATION	DEPLOYED
Operation Rata	Solomon Islands	1
CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL FORCES	LOCATION	DEPLOYED
EUFOR Liaison Team	Bosnia	8
ISAF Staff Officers	Afghanistan	3
MFO	Sinai	26
OEF Staff Officers	Afghanistan	6
OEF Provincial Reconstruction Team	Afghanistan	122
OEF (RNZAF)	The Gulf Region	6
OEF	Florida, USA	3
NZ SAS personnel	Afghanistan	50

### NZ DEFENCE FORCE DEPLOYMENTS

HMNZ ships <i>Te Mana</i> and <i>Endeavour</i>	Southeast Asia	225
HMNZS <i>Resolution</i>	South Pacific	35
Operation Norpat Kuru Kuru	South Pacific	19
Operation Norpat (RNZAF)	South Pacific	32
Joint Maritime Course (RNZAF)	United Kingdom	30
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONNEL ON OPERATIONS OR DEPLOYMENT</b>		<b>585</b>