

NEW ZEALAND

DEFENCE UPDATE

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Navy lifeboat accident findings

Three main factors have been identified as contributing to the Royal New Zealand Navy lifeboat accident in Sydney last year.

A faulty release mechanism, the absence of a correctly fitted safety indicator guard, and incorrect drills by the lifeboat crew contributed to the accident, according to the findings of a RNZN Court of Inquiry. Twenty-two sailors were in the lifeboat when it released prematurely from the tanker HMNZS *Endeavour*, and landed upside down in the water. Thirteen were injured in the incident.

RNZN Maritime Component Commander, Commodore Jack Steer who assembled the Court of Inquiry, has accepted the Court's findings, and all sixteen of its recommendations will be implemented. No disciplinary action will be taken against any individual.

The Court noted that it was the combination of all three of the factors occurring together that caused the accident.



HMNZS Endeavour.

The Royal New Zealand Navy is taking the following specific actions to give effect to the Court's principal recommendations:

1. repositioning safety and operating signs and developing or purchasing new training equipment
2. improving procedures for use of the ship's lifeboats, including training procedures, lifeboat maintenance, and operation
3. reviewing policy and training for the operation and maintenance of all RNZN ship life saving equipment including the future PROJECT PROTECTOR fleet.

The Court noted that many of the ship's company performed exceptionally well on the day in rescuing the injured sailors and that two in particular exemplified the RNZN's core values of commitment, courage and comradeship by entering the water to rescue several of their shipmates.

It also noted the valuable support provided by the Royal Australian Navy.

Sailors remember lost comrades

The Royal New Zealand Navy ships *Te Mana* and *Endeavour* paused in their training programme in the South China Sea recently to hold a brief memorial service for the men lost when two allied ships were sunk in a Japanese air attack nearly 64 years ago.

The service was held just before Anzac day to commemorate the loss of HMS *Prince of Wales* and *Repulse*. *Te Mana* and *Endeavour* sailed over the wrecks, which were sunk as World War II broke out in the Pacific. A wreath-laying ceremony was held over the *Prince of Wales*, and *Te Mana*'s executive officer, Lieutenant Commander Shane Arndell spoke about those on board the two battleships in 1941, several of whom were New Zealanders. The two ships' wrecks are considered war graves, and Commonwealth warships frequently visit their location near the Malaysian port of Kuantan. *Te Mana* later berthed in Sembawang at the base where the two battleships prepared for what was to be their last mission.



Te Mana and *Endeavour* are in Southeast Asia to take part in a variety of operational

exercises, activities and defence diplomacy visits. The aim of the deployment is to maintain the NZDF's combat capability in a maritime environment, and to provide an opportunity for the New Zealand and allied navies to train together. The ships have taken part in a Five Power Defence Arrangement sea and air exercise, and will support New Zealand's involvement in the World Expo 2005 in Aichi, Japan. The ships will then sail north for diplomatic visits to Vladivostok, Russia, and Shanghai, China before returning home.

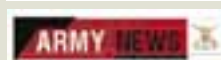


New Zealand Defence Update provides information about defence policy and people, and the activities of our forces throughout the world, to a wide audience in New Zealand and overseas. It is published monthly, and is also available on www.nzdf.mil.nz. We welcome your feedback.

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These are available on request.

COVER: New Zealand Provincial Reconstruction Team member in Afghanistan Major Peter Nichols on patrol. Photo: Flight Lieutenant Campbell Harvey. Inset: An ANZAC wreath is thrown from HMNZS *Te Mana* in the South China sea to commemorate the loss of two Royal Navy ships in World War II. Photo: Lieutenant Vicki Rendall.

Defence funding package announced

The government is to spend an extra \$4.6 billion on defence over the next ten years.

Releasing the government's long-term approach to building New Zealand's defence capability, Defence Minister Mark Burton said the funding package would ensure the New Zealand Defence Force had the capacity to meet New Zealand's defence requirements into the future.

Building on earlier major capital injections in the Defence Long Term Development Plan, the Defence Sustainability Initiative will provide additional funding (excluding gst) of \$4.4 billion (operating) and \$209 million (capital) over the next 10 years. This will restore and develop the resources of the NZDF and the Ministry of Defence and should align long-term personnel recruitment, training, development and resources with the defence capital acquisition programme. This will enable:

- Increased personnel numbers and enhanced training and retention.
- Maintenance and development of infrastructure at camps and bases.
- Increased reserve stocks of necessary equipment and spares.
- Strengthened administration and management systems.
- Cover of depreciation on defence assets.

Working with the Ministers of Finance and State Services, Mr Burton directed in early 2004 that a review be undertaken to look at the capability and resourcing requirements of defence.

The Defence Capability and Resourcing Review identified a number of areas where there were deficiencies in both the New Zealand Defence Force and the Ministry of Defence.

“The Defence Sustainability Initiative takes a strategic approach to addressing these issues, and in particular to developing a Defence Force for the 21st Century,” said Mr Burton.

“We know these issues cannot be addressed overnight, particularly in the area of recruitment and retention, where capabilities must be built up progressively over time. That is why this funding initiative is to be phased over 10 years. Building personnel capacity takes time.

“NZDF has engaged in a number of high tempo operations in recent years, including deployments to Timor Leste, Afghanistan, Iraq, Solomon Islands, Indonesia, and the Gulf region. These operations have stretched the resources of the NZDF. Further demands on resources imposed by the acquisition of major equipment have highlighted the need to build the capacity of the defence force in the areas of people, infrastructure and corporate systems.”

The Ministry of Defence will also be funded to develop its policy and purchase advice functions.

The Defence Capability and Resourcing Review revealed needs in existing military and corporate capability.

Priorities for the new funding will focus on building personnel levels, bringing new and upgraded equipment into service and strengthening defence planning and management systems and ongoing sustainability.



Cambodia-helping rebuild a nation

By Judith Martin

It's a memory that involves the Khmer Rouge, a helicopter, and being shot at from the ground in Cambodia. It still manages to make New Zealand Army officer Phil Morrison smile.

"I was in a helicopter with a New Zealand naval officer, Nick Quinn, in a place called Siem Reap. We suddenly realised we were being shot at (by the Khmer Rouge). There was only one flak jacket on the helicopter seat, to provide some protection for your backside if bullets came up through the helicopter. We both lunged at it - it was sort of like a game of musical chairs - and in the end I think we settled for half each, joint co-operation and all that. When we landed there were about three bullet holes in the tail section, but we were ok."

Lieutenant Colonel Morrison, now commanding officer of the Royal New Zealand Engineers in Linton, talks easily about the bittersweet experiences members of the New Zealand Defence Force have had in Cambodia.

The NZDF's 15- year involvement in Cambodia, which has seen the deployment of hundreds of personnel, and the establishment of a flourishing demining programme, ended on April 30.

Cambodia's ability to build and administer its own demining capabilities has developed over recent years to the extent that it is timely now for the New Zealand Defence Force to withdraw, says NZDF Strategic Commitments director Colonel Rob Hitchings.

"Our withdrawal is a mutual decision between the governments of New Zealand and Cambodia, and is part of a reassessment of where the NZDF contributes throughout the world."

When an uneasy peace descended on Cambodia in the early 1990s, New Zealand soldiers, sailors and airmen were at the forefront of the international effort to restore stability and help the local people restore their lives.

Millions of landmines were laid in Cambodia by all factions involved in the war and the overthrow of Khmer Rouge regime. Unseen, deadly and indiscriminate about whom they kill, the mines claimed hundreds of

casualties. The New Zealanders, all experienced deminers courtesy of their Army engineering training, soon realised they could pass that training on.

The NZDF demining specialists worked alongside the United Nations to help the UN establish the Mine Clearance Training Unit, which took over training and supervising Cambodian mine clearing operations on behalf of the UN, and the Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC), which was responsible for mine clearing. The New Zealand engineers were among the first mine clearing specialists to arrive in Cambodia, and they set about developing training programmes, and teaching the locals how to develop standard operating procedures so that mine clearing could be done cohesively and effectively.

Lt Col Morrison, then a young engineering officer on his first United Nations mission, arrived in Phnom Penh in 1992.

"We started working in Siem Reap, which is a town near Angkor. It was pretty rough, just one guesthouse, and with local soldiers carrying grenade launchers and automatic weapons through town.

"We New Zealanders were running a mine clearance training team, which involved taking soldiers from the Cambodian military factions that were being demobilised, and training them into a 30-strong demining platoon. The course took about four weeks, and then we would hand them over to non-governmental organisations that would supervise their demining work. At that stage the aim of the demining was to clear tracts of land that could be used to resettle people from refugee camps on the Thai border."

Lt Col Morrison, who went on to serve in various other NZDF missions, including East Timor and Iraq, recalls the Cambodian soldiers as being very keen to learn how to clear mines to ensure a degree of safety in the country.

"We tried to make sure the people we were teaching had the right attitude and experience to begin with, and that took some effort as sometimes locals attempted to bribe their way into becoming deminers, as it was quite a well-paid job."

The demining programme burgeoned, and in its wake huge areas of land were cleared and made habitable again. But the route to that state was not without tragedy, as can be expected when unseen killers litter the countryside, including where children play.

Former New Zealand Army officer John Flanagan, whose demining experience was such that he went on to advise the United Nations in New York and Kosovo, remembers seeing a group of children just



Hidden killer: Army engineers Warrant Officer Dean Esaiah and Lieutenant Colonel Phil Morrison, both of whom served in Cambodia, with a mine similar to those they worked to eradicate.

outside Phnom Penh, the oldest about eight, find a ball-like object, and begin throwing it to one another. Suddenly the “ball” – a live mine – exploded, killing two of the children and leaving another six with horrific injuries.

Linton-based engineering officer Lieutenant Colonel Paul Curry, who also served in Cambodia, before providing demining instruction in Angola and Mozambique, says he has often been asked how a country such as New Zealand, with a small Defence Force, and no history of mines in its own soil, can develop a world-renowned skill set that has seen it supply advisers to every one of the world’s most heavily mined countries.

“I think it comes down to the way we train, and the empathy that our personnel seem to have with other cultures and people. We spend a lot of time in the minefields, and it took a measure of trust that the deminers were doing their job properly. But it also showed we had faith in them. Safety was always a major issue with us – for our own good and that of the local deminers. Sometimes people take shortcuts, and at one stage we closed down the whole region because of a training issue that needed to be addressed.

“On top of our military mine clearance skills, I think our non-commissioned officers are very good instructors. They’re trained to be good all-rounders in things like planning and logistics, and our officer courses prepare people well to plan operations and set them up. In the end though, I think Kiwis in general – not just those who are in the Army – are very accepting of other cultures. We seem to be able to adapt so that our style of doing things fits the culture we’re involved with.”

After the initial push to make Cambodia self-reliant as far as demining was concerned, the NZDF continued to supply a small team of technical advisers and logisticians.

The NZDF’s involvement in Cambodia has not been limited, however, to mine-clearance and training. In mid-1992 the Army sent 40 communication specialists over to establish and maintain a communications network. Working with their Australian counterparts, the signalers provided the UN with facilities which linked more than 50 villages and towns throughout the country.

In 1992 the Royal New Zealand Navy sent a 30-strong contingent to serve in Cambodia; its task was to patrol Cambodia’s inland and coastal waters, many of which were the thoroughfares for the locals in a country where much of the land was impenetrable. The New Zealand Navy contingent escorted large numbers of boats occupied by mainly Vietnamese down the rivers and back into Vietnam where they were repatriated.

It was an uneasy time, and by mid-1992 the Khmer Rouge began breaching the tenuous ceasefire, and displaying an increasing level of hostility towards United Nations workers.

That hostility came to a head one day for Upper Hutt man John Oxenham, who was then a Navy Chief Petty Officer observing troop movements from a vessel on Tonle Sab Lake in northern Cambodia. Captured at gunpoint by the Khmer Rouge, he, and the five British and Filipino personnel with him, was made to give up their boat and accompany the Khmer Rouge to their camp.

Philosophical about the experience now, Mr Oxenham, who left the Navy seven years ago, says while he realised the seriousness of his situation, he “never lost faith” in the abilities of his colleagues at headquarters in Phnom Penh to negotiate his freedom.

“We were in radio contact, and we just had to rely on them (in Headquarters) to get the job done.”

He and the other hostages were not maltreated by the Khmer Rouge, nor were they guarded at gunpoint. “It was a small village and they’d confiscated the boat. The river was the only way out and it would have been a long, long walk on land. My biggest fear was mines - we were told they were everywhere.”

Eventually, what he believes was political pressure came to bear, and the hostages were freed into the hands of some UN peacekeepers.

“They (Headquarters) wanted me to go back to Phnom Penh because of what we had experienced. But I wanted to stay on the river, so they let me. When it was all over I realised I’d had a bit of a fright, but hey, life goes on doesn’t it?”

A satisfying experience

Helping ease the devastation wreaked by mines and unexploded ordnance was the most satisfying aspect of serving in Cambodia for Captain Brent Smith (right).

As technical adviser at a training centre for local deminers, Captain Smith worked in the minefields supervising the demining techniques and practices of the local deminers.

“Safe practice is paramount, and if shortcuts are taken the consequences can be dire” he says. Unfortunately some of the locals did take a few shortcuts, and the injuries received were horrific. We spent a lot of time in

the year I was there making sure safe practices were used.”

Most of the mine-related injuries were caused by one specific mine that had a low metal content and was difficult to detect at a depth greater than about 10cm.



Drug research welcomed by NZDF

A research paper on the effectiveness of the New Zealand Defence Force's drug policy has been welcomed by the Chief of Defence Force, Air Marshal Bruce Ferguson.

The research, completed by Major Andrena Patterson as part of her Master of Public Policy degree, shows the existing NZDF penalties for illicit drug use are felt by Service personnel to be an effective deterrent. Personnel surveyed want the NZDF to be consistent in its approach towards those who use illicit drugs.

Major Patterson sent questionnaires to 2138 (25 percent of the NZDF) random Regular Force personnel across all three Services. About half the surveys, filled out anonymously as required, were returned.

The survey sought information on the respondents' knowledge of illicit drugs, their views on drug taking within the NZDF, and whether or not they had taken illicit drugs since they enlisted.

Air Marshal Ferguson says the NZDF has an obligation to provide a safe and healthy workplace. "We must always be mindful of the potential substance abuse has to seriously undermine teamwork and reliance on colleagues in both operational and non-operational situations." The research, he says, is useful in that it provides information that will be beneficial in the NZDF's current review of its substance misuse policy.

"NZDF personnel come from all walks of society, so we must expect that in some ways, some attitudes towards illicit drug use, especially when personnel first enlist, will reflect society as a whole. We expect higher standards of our personnel, and expect all personnel to observe the law, along with the core values and ethics of the military."

Of the 1059 survey respondents, 217, or 20.5 percent claim to have experimented with drugs at least once since they enlisted. Marijuana was the most commonly reported drug used.

NZDF Assistant Chief Personnel Commodore Bruce Pepperell says the Defence Force takes a holistic approach to the drug challenge and this includes strong policy, education, deterrents, and rehabilitation.

Urinalysis, a random check of urine for up to six different narcotics, is used in all three Services. These procedures, which last year were used to check approximately 3000 Service personnel, show that about one percent of those tested had used illicit drugs.

If personnel are found in possession of illicit drugs they will be disciplined. Those who test positive through urinalysis will be dealt with using administrative procedures, which generally result in counselling and a warning for release. Two positive urinalysis tests usually mean dismissal.

One of the aims of the review of the NZDF substance misuse policy is to provide consistency across the Services. Commodore Pepperell says Major Patterson's research reinforces that the NZDF is "going down the right path" with its policies on illicit drug use.

"If you are serious about improvement you have to subject your organisation to some form of scrutiny. Other research shows that about 50 percent of people outside the NZDF have tried an illicit drug at some stage in their life. Major Patterson's research indicates the figure is 20 percent in the NZDF. That's not good, but we don't know

from the research results if those who say they have tried drugs did so 15 years ago before urinalysis, or even 30 years ago.

"Research suggests that if respondents to the survey were asked directly when they had tried drugs the response to the question would have been extremely low."

One of the many heartening aspects of the survey results was the attitude of the majority of those surveyed towards fellow personnel who use illicit drugs.

"They don't want to work alongside someone who may be putting them, or their unit, at risk. They realise the health benefits of being drug-free, and appreciate being part of an organisation where their colleagues do not condone drug use."

Major Patterson says her research paper is exploratory and pushes boundaries. She chose the subject because she felt it could be valuable to the NZDF. "I wanted to do a paper on something I was passionately interested in, and I knew from my time as a platoon commander and legal officer that soldiers, sailors and airmen felt they had something to say about illicit drug use.

"I think the research shows NZDF personnel want a clear policy on illicit drug use, and want it to be consistently applied."

Major Patterson has received an "A" range grade from Victoria University for her research paper.



Random check: Navy policeman Master at Arms Brendon Chase processes a urinalysis sample.

The Gallipoli commemoration – an Army chaplain's perspective

By Danielle Coe

As New Zealanders we've grown up with tales of the original ANZACs courageously battling with the Turks on the ridges of Gallipoli.

For Army Chaplain Lance Lukin (below right) those stories run deeper; there's a blood connection to the hallowed ground.

His maternal grandfather fought on the Peninsula as a member of the XI Taranaki Rifle Brigade, which is part of today's Wellington, West Coast and Taranaki Regiment, a TF unit Chaplain Lukin served three years with.

"To trek along the same route they took and to see the absolute sheer cliff faces they climbed in the dead of night was an amazing experience."

In front of three thousand people Chaplain Lukin led the New Zealand Service at Chunuk Bair on Anzac Day last month; in his hand he clutched his grandfather's collar dog.

Away from the crowds that converged on Chunuk Bair it's easy to imagine the fallen soldiers sitting on the hills watching and listening in. For Chaplain Lukin the journey to Gallipoli was a string of poignant moments.

"To put my feet into the Aegean as they had 90 years ago – to see how close they got and yet how far they had to go."

"Seeing the names written on the walls of remembrances, reading inscriptions like 'duty nobly done'."

Some 620 unidentified soldiers lie beneath the ground at Chunuk Bair; there are just ten headstones at the cemetery.

The ground itself is an uncompromising ridge, rising 860 feet from the beach below – the views are breathtaking.

"Standing there you get an appreciation of the size of Gallipoli – the ruggedness, the beauty, but also the sheer impossibility of their task."

Unlike so many, Chaplain Lukin's grandfather survived Gallipoli. He went on to fight in France where he was seriously injured when a shell landed in his foxhole. He was blown out of the dirt; his two mates killed. Eventually after a long recuperation he returned to New Zealand.

For Chaplain Lukin just being at Gallipoli, taking in the atmosphere was a career highlight.

"It was a very emotional thing – to think that so many people died seeing the waters of the Narrows, as if they could almost reach out and touch them, but died without that pleasure."



VE Day

Members of the New Zealand Defence Force, Diplomatic Corps, veterans and dignitaries laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior on Monday May 9 to commemorate the 60th anniversary of VE Day, the end of World War II in Europe. The ceremony included a tri-Service catafalque guard, bugler and a drummer. Six New Zealand Army, Navy and Air Force junior officers also travelled to France to take part in ceremonies to mark the 60th anniversary of VE Day.

Prime Minister of Vietnam visits

The Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Mr Phan Van Khai was welcomed to New Zealand by an Air Force Guard of Honour and a 19-gun salute on Monday May 9.

RNZAF patrols P-3K

One RNZAF P-3K Orion and crew deployed to Palau recently to complete surveillance patrols in support of regional patrol boats in the exclusive economic zones of Papua New Guinea, Palau, Federated States of

Micronesia, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. Meanwhile, another RNZAF P-3K Orion and crew have deployed to South Korea via the Philippines for the bi-lateral military exercise ROKIWI. Following the exercise the P3K crew will return to New Zealand via Japan for a goodwill visit.

Humanitarian aid, manpower

The Royal New Zealand Navy Hydrographic ship HMNZS *Resolution* visited the island of Pukapuka earlier this month to deliver humanitarian aid and to provide technical



and manpower assistance. *Resolution* is currently on a six week deployment to the South Pacific.

The island is part of the Northern Cook Islands and was devastated by a number of cyclones earlier this year, the worst of which was Cyclone Percy. *Resolution* loaded Red Cross humanitarian aid at Rarotonga before arriving at Pukapuka Island. On arrival, a small team went ashore to coordinate the transfer of aid and to establish how the ship could assist the Islanders in the short one day visit.

IN BRIEF



New Zealand Army medic Corporal Kelly Wang received a surprise when she was promoted recently in Afghanistan where she is based – Defence Minister Mark Burton was on hand to present her with her new rank slides.

The Minister travelled to Bamyan, Afghanistan where the New Zealand Provincial reconstruction team is based, to see the work the PRT is doing. His visit included a tour of Bamyan University, to which New Zealand has provided support, and he was able to see the work the NZ PRT patrol teams do. Assisting Mr Burton (right) award Cpl Wang her rank slides is (left) the NZ PRT Commanding Officer, Group Captain John Duxfield. The New Zealand Provincial Reconstruction Team's main role in Afghanistan is to strengthen security and stability, and support the development of self-sustainable provincial and district government. It does this through making its presence felt by patrolling the surrounding Bamyan area, and assisting security sector reform. It is strengthening the influence of the Government of Afghanistan by helping rebuild institutions, monitoring disarmament, and reducing the causes of instability and insecurity.



The ship's company of HMNZS *Manawanui* put a team of fishery officers through its paces recently when the officers joined the ship to receive specialist training in all aspects of naval deployments. An increasing number of fisheries officers are deploying aboard Royal New Zealand Navy vessels as part of a joint surveillance effort of New Zealand fishing grounds.

THE NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE FORCE: ALL CORNERS OF THE WORLD

NZ DEFENCE FORCE OPERATIONS

CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN MISSIONS	LOCATION	DEPLOYED
UNMISSET	Timor Leste	6
UNMIK	Kosovo	1
UNTSO	Middle East	8
UNAMSIL	Sierra Leone	1
UNAMAC	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	4
ISAF Staff Officers	Afghanistan	3
MFO	Sinai	26
OEF Staff Officers	Afghanistan	5
OEF Provincial Reconstruction Team	Afghanistan	122
OEF (RNZAF)	The Gulf Region	6
OEF	Florida, USA	3
TOTAL DEPLOYED		190

NZ DEFENCE FORCE DEPLOYMENTS

HMNZ ships <i>Te Mana</i> and <i>Endeavour</i>	Southeast Asia	209
HMNZS <i>Resolution</i>	South Pacific	35
Exercise ROKIWI (RNZAF)	Korea	16
Operation Norpat (RNZAF)	South Pacific	19