Cyber warfare, global warming, the strain on non-renewable resources, and the influence of non-state actors are just some of the potential challenges the NZ Army will face, an audience of 230 was told at the Chief of Army Conference recently.

**Enduring Conflict: Challenges and Responses**

The biennial Chief of Army Conference was co-hosted by Massey University and the NZ Army at the Palmerston North campus. Speakers from a variety of academic, military, environmental and economic backgrounds considered the future of conflict over the next 20-30 years. Dr Wayne Mapp, Minister of Defence also delivered an address.

The keynote speaker, former Chief of the Australian Army and head of the National Security Institute at the University of Canberra, Professor Peter Leahy, said for countries like New Zealand and Australia the range, scale and intensity of future operations would be difficult.

"The old certainties are gone," Professor Leahy told the largely Army audience.

As an example Professor Leahy noted recent times had seen a dramatic increase in cyber attacks.

"I’m happy to declare cyber warfare is on at the moment," he said.

Leahy said the future would be characterised by "more people, more challenges, more times," and that Armies would need to "do more, more often, with what they’ve got."

Other speakers at the conference included: Dr Michael Evans, Australian Defence College; Associate Professor Steven Hoadley, University of Auckland; Dr Adrian Macey, NZ Ambassador for Climate Change; Dr Richard Shaw, Massey University; Mr Brendan Donnan, Chief Economist, Westpac; and Ms Hilary Dussing, General Manager, Todd Energy.

Chief of Army Major General Rhys Jones said the Army valued its relationship with the University as education helped broaden the mind especially as we head into uncertain environments.

"Change has to be based on understanding of the future, not on our past expectations," GEN Jones said.

Vice Chancellor of Massey University, the Hon. Steve Maharey, said the partnership between Army and Massey was modern and sustainable.

"It’s a win-win situation - it’s good for both of us because it’s a partnership between an academic and an organisation and recognised the long and close partnership that Massey and Army shared. It was the ninth Chief of Army Conference they had co-hosted since 1997.

A number of NZ Army staff are currently undertaking or have undertaken professional military study at the University.

Centre for Defence Studies director Prof Glyn Harper said the conference was a concrete expression of the educational partnership between Army and Massey.

**NEW NZDF ID CARD**

Army personnel are being issued new NZDF identity cards. The Army and the Joint Logistics and Support Organisation (JLSO) have been working together to issue the new NZDF identification cards which are compliant with both DFO 12/2007 and the Geneva Convention.

The new credit-card sized identification contains a high resolution photograph and incorporates a holographic overlay for increased security from tampering or counterfeiting. The new card also includes PAYD, meaning this one card now replaces two cards – simpler and better. Changes to the initial PWD PIN numbers loaded with the cards can be completed directly by individuals via the PAYD application on the NZDF Intranet, or via your local administration support staff.

Over the last six weeks, more than 4,000 of the new ID Cards have been issued to Army and civilian personnel (employed within Army) located at Wellington, Trentham, Linton, Burnham, Papakura, Arch Hill and Wairau. Responses to the new ID card have been overwhelmingly positive, with longer serving personnel especially appreciating the quantum improvement over the old style ID 5.

The Army and JLSO are now working on a plan to cover Territorial Force personnel and any other personnel missed during the initial bulk issue. To support future requirements capture equipment is being provided to each Camp’s JLSO Service Delivery Centre, with printing to be completed off site at the JLSO National Service Centre. Cards will normally take 48 hours to be printed and delivered back to the recipient, however special arrangements will be made to support urgent requirements.

**ARMY LOOKING FOR INNOVATIVE SHARED SERVICE SOLUTIONS**

The NZDF continues its search for innovative business solutions and the Army is no exception. The Central Region Shared Services (CRSS) Project is now in full swing, with a review of selected personnel administration and logistics functions, services and personnel requirements.

The CRSS Project is looking for more efficient ways to provide the Army with support, value for money and improved shared services. Integral to the success of delivering a regional solution, the Wairau and Linton Working Groups have been busy gathering data about non-operational support services that can be performed by civilians, to release military personnel for core activities.

Chief of Defence Force Lieutenant General Jerry Mateparae has made it clear the NZDF cannot continue to operate as it has. The CRSS Project and the similar Air Force Shared Services Review, link in with the Defence Transformation Programme (DTP), Project Alexander, the Army Transformation and Army Logistics Transformation Programmes to ensure the NZDF does things "simpler and better."

The CRSS Project aims to provide a shared service solution to the Army. Options being reviewed are focussed on merging support functions into a single, independent entity, whose only mission will be to provide services as efficiently and effectively as possible.

A shared services structure will allow resources to be freed up, enabling the Army to focus on their core business. This would offer flexibility to allow any back office administration tasks to be performed independently of front-line activities.

When the project began several months ago, the CRSS Project team identified 42 key functions which should be reviewed at Waiouru and Linton Camps (19 at Waiouru and 22 at Linton). The selected functions range from administration centres, security management and reprographic centre services, to welfare and library services.

Eighty-five per cent of the functions identified at both Waiouru and Linton have now been reviewed, documented and summarised. Due to the quantity of review work required for some functions, business analysts will continue to work at the camps for some time.

The Working Groups at each camp are currently reviewing their findings, which will soon be presented to the CRSS Project Steering Committee. When approved, the findings will be incorporated into a business case for change, which will be collated over the next two months.

With a significant amount of work still to be done, how these functions will look in the future is still to be determined. If you are asked to be involved, be sure to contribute any ideas you have about the best way to operate.

For a more detailed progress update or further information, visit the CRSS Project intranet site: http://org/ljsa/lP/Publication/BDG/BDG-CentralReview.aspx.

Any personnel with a specific query should contact a member of the CRSS Working Group, their Commanding Officer, or Major Allan Cox: allan.cox@nzdf.mil.nz.
Thoughtful planning and analysis; the end state for VICRS would be a fully implemented NZDF system for recording NZDF vehicle crashes is being developed. The Vehicle Incident and Crash Reporting System (VICRS) will act as a central database for NZDF vehicle incident reporting system. VICRS will automatically produce an insurance claim form for a band that had been together for just over a week to even compete at that level was an amazing achievement. Cory Band from Wales proved why they are ranked number one in the world and they now have the WMC title to add to the European Champs and Great Britain Champs titles. Although the competition part of the trip was over we had one final combined gala concert with the Cory Band. It was a massive highlight to end the tour playing in concert with Cory and the crowd turned out in huge numbers for the final night. As a first time National Bandsman I will never forget playing on the world stage as a representative of New Zealand. It was a huge honour to be surrounded by the best musicians and playing against the best bands in Europe, and one I will never forget.

NEW VEHICLE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM

Due to the number of incidents involving military vehicles, and the desire to actively reduce accidents, a new online system for recording NZDF vehicle crashes is being developed. The Vehicle Incident and Crash Reporting System (VICRS) will replace the various current manual systems. By the end of this year, relevant incident information will be captured in one database. Replacing the manual forms currently in use, an incident report on this is contained on pp 4–5 of this edition of Army News will feature reports from each of the five Capability Management Cells on projects contributing to Army’s short and mid term objectives. The scale may surprise some of you: we presently have nearly 120 separate projects underway to acquire new equipment and build new infrastructure. Here I will briefly summarise one of the key capability areas that Army General Staff along with LTDG and LCC are addressing to ensure that the New Zealand Army has soldiers who are trained and prepared for the future land operating environment.

Capacity to operate at night is being significantly enhanced by the acquisition of 756 Mini N/Sea night vision goggles. These will soon be complemented by a purchase of night aiming devices and for some crew served weapons, night sights. A soldier survivability project aims to provide lighter and more modular individual protection equipment to the individual soldier, to provide increased levels of protection against blast, fragmentation and bullet. A more detailed report on this is contained on pp 4–5 of this edition of Army News.

In conclusion my message to you is simple. Our Army has good equipment, and is getting more. We are developing tactical organisations that will be relevant and capable and we have good people putting in long hours to make this work. We need you to take good care of your equipment and spend the time becoming an expert in its use. Provide us with honest and timely feedback through the command chain on what works well and what needs to be fixed.
The gear, including new body armour and combat helmets, is part of an ongoing five-year programme and delivery of equipment which is known as soldier survivability programme of equipment (SSPE). The Afghanistan rotation is the first operation being equipped and will be followed by other operations in order of threat level.

After operational needs are met, equipment will be delivered to wider units in the Army over following years out to 2013.

The new gear includes:

- Advanced combat helmet
- Improved body armour
- Ballistic goggles and glasses
- New individual torch
- Handheld GPS
- Enhanced patrol pack
- Combat gloves
- Enhanced modular (MOLLE) webbing and pouches

The improvements in the equipment will see soldiers significantly more comfortable, lighter, and notably with an enhanced level of protection from ballistic threats. A recognisable change is the colour which is now standardised as 'Coyote Brown'.

The improved body armour (IBA) provides enhanced ballistic and fragmentation protection and is now sized to the individual rather than the last one-size-fits-all model. The IBA is truly world-class and has been developed based on lessons learned in Iraq and Afghanistan. It is a Special Forces variant and is currently in use with US Navy SEALs and US Army Rangers. This is the first part of wider range of equipment that will come on-line over the next five years as part of the Soldier Modernisation Programme including night vision equipment, In-Service Weapon Replacement and Upgrade Programme (ISWRUP), Urban Operations and Less Lethal Projects. On-going work for SSPE includes the replacement of the field pack, development of the next generation combat uniform and introduction of an active noise reduction commander’s headset.

As the new equipment comes into service, current in-service equipment will be distributed throughout the wider Army for training purposes.
ADVANCED COMBAT HELMET:
The Rabintex ACH is a light-weight ballistic helmet that provides the same ballistic protection as the current in-service helmet but is 0.5kg lighter. Its internal mounting system is comfortable to wear and allows greater interoperability with ballistic glasses and TMCS. The design of the ACH helmet allows for greater freedom of movement than the existing design. The Rabintex ACH is in-service worldwide; notably with the ADF.

A helmet cover has also been designed for the ACH which comes in both desert and woodland DPM, is tight fitting on the helmet, has google retaining straps, and has several IR patches inserted for combat identification.

BALLISTIC GLASSES:
The ESS ICE ballistic glasses are already in-service with the NZDF on current operations. They provided the greatest overall comfort and interoperability with the ACH helmet and PRR. They come with three coloured lenses to allow use in low-light and sunny conditions. These will protect eyes against blast fragmentation and other non-ballistic threats.

BALLISTIC GOGGLES:
The Revision Desert Locust goggles were selected as they offered the greatest durability and functionality as a ballistic goggle. These will protect the wearer against blast fragmentation and other non-ballistic threats whilst also protecting the eyes from wind, sand, dirt and snow.

IMPROVED BODY ARMOUR:
The BAE RBAV (SF) provided the greatest overall benefit for capability, durability, comfort, functionality and design. It provides significantly enhanced ballistic and fragmentation protection for personnel over the in-service body armour. It contains two main (front / rear), five smaller side and groin plates and soft armour throughout providing ballistic protection. The IBA contains groin, throat, neck, upper arm and side protection and has a MOLLE exterior for attaching pouches.

The IBA is fully modular and also has a quick release system to enable the user or another person to discard the vest quickly if the user is injured or submerged in water.

COMBAT GLOVES:
The Camelbak Impact CT combat gloves are designed to protect the wearer against scratches and cuts when operating in an urban environment. They do not replace any in-service field or cold weather gloves. They provide enhanced protection around the fingers while still allowing users to operate small components like those on their individual weapon.

IMPROVED PATROL PACK:
The Camelbak Trizip provides a significant enhancement to the current in-service patrol pack with its ergonomic design and additional features. The Trizip contains a pouch for a Camelbak hydration system to be inserted into, has a removable back comforter, and is also adjustable for height. The outside of the patrol pack is MOLLE based which allows other pouches to be applied if required.

NEW INDIVIDUAL GENERAL PURPOSE TORCH:
The Sidewinder stood out as the individual torch choice as it is small, light-weight and has excellent functionality. It provides four types of light: red, blue, white and IR. It has four levels of brightness on each including a strobe function. The torch also comes with a helmet mount so that it allows a hands-free operation. With the IR function it significantly improves the local area illumination when used with an II NVG.

IMPROVED INDIVIDUAL GPS:
The Garmin 60cx GPS is a Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS) unit that provides a cheap but very functional GPS. The Garmin 60cx provides colour mapping and new maps can be downloaded via the internet as required. The users found it easy to operate and accurate as an individual navigation aid for tactical commanders.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>INITS</th>
<th>SURNAME</th>
<th>EFFECTIVE DATE</th>
<th>CORPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>CMJ</td>
<td>WILLIAMS</td>
<td>22-Feb-09</td>
<td>RNZAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPL</td>
<td>NTJ</td>
<td>POU</td>
<td>18-May-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>TL</td>
<td>IRAIA</td>
<td>20-May-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>KA</td>
<td>AITKEN</td>
<td>22-May-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WO2</td>
<td>LA</td>
<td>KNAP</td>
<td>26-May-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>AJ</td>
<td>BROWN</td>
<td>29-May-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>MJT</td>
<td>HERBERT</td>
<td>29-May-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPL</td>
<td>CD</td>
<td>JONES</td>
<td>30-May-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSGT</td>
<td>KW</td>
<td>HATI</td>
<td>31-May-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>PR</td>
<td>RATA</td>
<td>3-Jun-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WO2</td>
<td>CSP</td>
<td>CROFTS</td>
<td>5-Jun-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>AJ</td>
<td>HUNT</td>
<td>10-Jun-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>ST</td>
<td>TAHERE</td>
<td>17-Jun-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>RC</td>
<td>BRAY</td>
<td>18-Jun-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>BP</td>
<td>BAKER</td>
<td>19-Jun-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAJ</td>
<td>C.D</td>
<td>WILSON</td>
<td>20-Jun-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPT</td>
<td>J.N</td>
<td>TINSLEY</td>
<td>24-Jun-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSGT</td>
<td>HD</td>
<td>SOUTHCOMBE</td>
<td>26-Jun-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>CP</td>
<td>ROIL</td>
<td>29-Jun-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WO2</td>
<td>RN</td>
<td>MCKIE</td>
<td>1-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WO2</td>
<td>PW</td>
<td>STEPHENS</td>
<td>1-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSGT</td>
<td>DSJ</td>
<td>THOMAS</td>
<td>1-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>SJ</td>
<td>BREARS</td>
<td>3-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>MW</td>
<td>BEVAN</td>
<td>8-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>AM</td>
<td>HOOKWAY</td>
<td>8-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZAMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>LA</td>
<td>WICHMAN</td>
<td>10-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZSIGS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>KT</td>
<td>HAGGERTY</td>
<td>14-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>KP</td>
<td>PACKER</td>
<td>14-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZMP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>SM</td>
<td>WRIGHT</td>
<td>14-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPL</td>
<td>JBB</td>
<td>ORLOWSKI</td>
<td>15-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>BE</td>
<td>PARKER</td>
<td>15-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZSIGS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSGT</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>ST-CLAIR-NEWMAN</td>
<td>15-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZSIGS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WO1</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>GANNON</td>
<td>17-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPL</td>
<td>LAP</td>
<td>HAMLIN</td>
<td>20-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LT</td>
<td>F.A</td>
<td>KING</td>
<td>20-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>AH</td>
<td>MOON</td>
<td>20-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>DC</td>
<td>SMITH</td>
<td>22-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>JH</td>
<td>CLENDON</td>
<td>24-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>ML</td>
<td>DENNIS</td>
<td>24-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>HAWEA</td>
<td>24-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>PRP</td>
<td>KEELAN</td>
<td>24-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>MG</td>
<td>PAHAU</td>
<td>24-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>SG</td>
<td>PENNEY</td>
<td>24-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>TJ</td>
<td>SHAW-THOMPSON</td>
<td>24-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>DI</td>
<td>STEVENSON</td>
<td>24-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>LM</td>
<td>WHITFORD</td>
<td>24-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>AK</td>
<td>BLACKMAN</td>
<td>27-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSGT</td>
<td>IN</td>
<td>CHAPPLE</td>
<td>27-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>JK</td>
<td>DOUGLAS</td>
<td>27-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>DS</td>
<td>WOODNEY</td>
<td>27-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGT</td>
<td>RC</td>
<td>MCCLIMONT</td>
<td>29-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>AC</td>
<td>WILLIAMS</td>
<td>29-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>AD</td>
<td>SPRING</td>
<td>30-Jul-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPL</td>
<td>SK</td>
<td>SALMON</td>
<td>3-Aug-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDARW</td>
<td>AW</td>
<td>SMITH</td>
<td>3-Aug-09</td>
<td>RNZA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSGT</td>
<td>AB</td>
<td>GRAHAM</td>
<td>5-Aug-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>ILANGANA LATU</td>
<td>5-Aug-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>KIRWAN</td>
<td>10-Aug-09</td>
<td>RNZAMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPT</td>
<td>J.A</td>
<td>MCLEAN</td>
<td>10-Aug-09</td>
<td>RNZAEAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPL</td>
<td>AC</td>
<td>SHAW</td>
<td>10-Aug-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCPL</td>
<td>BR</td>
<td>LOCKE</td>
<td>11-Aug-09</td>
<td>RNZALR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPL</td>
<td>ZR</td>
<td>MILLER</td>
<td>11-Aug-09</td>
<td>RNZIR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Promotions**

- CPL DC HUGHES 12-Aug-09 RNZIR
- SSGT GE ROBERTS 12-Aug-09 NZAPTC
- LCPL LM WHITE 13-Aug-09 RNZAC
- CPL SJ BROCKLISS 14-Aug-09 RNZALR
- LCPL PW CONSTABLE 14-Aug-09 RNZALR
- CPL SJ GEARY 14-Aug-09 RNZALR
- LT M.J MACKIE 14-Aug-09 RNZAL
- SGT D NIEUWLAND 14-Aug-09 RNZALR
- CAPT M.L WAHRGLAND 14-Aug-09 RNZAC
- LTCOL I.J MACDONALD 15-Aug-09 RNZIR
- CPL AR HALL 21-Aug-09 RNZIR
- CPL RP LIMA 26-Aug-09 RNZIR
- CAPT K.G ROBERTSON 27-Aug-09 RNZAEAC
- LCPL AW MOORE 28-Aug-09 RNZALR
- MAJ S RUANE 28-Aug-09 RNZIR

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND MILITARY POLICE

**ANSWER THE CALL:**

There’s been an incident overseas. You are:

- ...leaving on Close Protection tasking in Afghanistan in 14 days;
- ...leaving for an investigation in Lebanon in 72 hrs;
- ...leaving to escort suspects back from Solomon Islands in 48 hrs
- ...leaving for an investigation in East Timor in 3 hrs;

*based on actual experience of serving RNZMP soldiers*

RNZMP are recruiting Regular and Reserve Soldiers now. Apply to attend the RNZMP Selection Board 13-15 Oct 09.

For recruiting information contact WO1 Phil Ragg: (04) 527 5104 or philip.ragg@nzdf.mil.nz
PASSENGDALE: THE BELGIAN HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN

by John Archer

The Passchendaele exhibition now on display at the National Army Museum pulls no punches. It is dominated by a dozen sculptures of soldiers caught up in the midst of a battlefield where 50,000 New Zealanders were killed. Belgium artist Rik Ryon has created the soldiers out of copper driving bands recovered from some of the 10 million or so shells fired by British and German artillery during the Great War.

A dazed survivor of an artillery attack carries his wounded comrade through a field littered with the fragments of huge shells, bombs and mortars, a tired pioneer sits and reads a letter from home, a riflemen whose nerves have cracked is shot at dawn, a terrified Belgian mother raises her hands in despair, a pair of crippled German and British soldiers help each other walk to the rear, a Canadian medic John McCrae sits writing "In Flanders fields the poppies grow," and the artist has depicted himself using the scrap metal scavenged from the killing fields to turn swords into ploughshares.

The exhibition was prepared in Belgium by the Memorial Museum of Passchendaele 1917 thanks to the efforts of Mrs Jo Kane, the former deputy mayor of Waimakariri, a sister city of Red Cross. Other support came from the Waimakariri-Zonnebeke Trust and the National Army Museum’s existing exhibits; the bloodstained Boer farmer, the Wounded Warrior, the Wounded Soldier and the Wounded Child. The exhibition is open to the public until February 28, 2010.

TRAINING YOUNG LEADERS

By Gillian Boyes

Chief of Defence Force, Lieutenant General Jerry Mateparae set a clear direction at the Defence Transformation Programme (DTP) two-day Summit, held at Trentham Military Camp on 10–11 August.

LTGEN Mateparae challenged the DTP two-day Summit to "stand and deliver", to advance the agenda for change. "That action call, backed by the "Stand and Deliver" soundtrack from contemporary band ‘Mister M’, was answered by the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) and the 50 military and civilian DTP Sub-Steering Committee members. The Summit move several stands of work for the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) to approve—a plan for change that will start immediately.

The projects identified in the plan are designed to improve NZDF’s ability to deliver military capability by freeing up resources for the front line. These and future DTP projects will ensure:

- Support Services will be increasingly organised along functional lines—leaner and smarter to better support our military capability, including people, platforms and activities. Headquarters will be more streamlined and more effective, with more integrated Human Resource, Education and Training and Logistic systems, processes and policies across NZDF.

DTP — READY TO STAND AND DELIVER

By Col Phil Collett, Cde Chairman Army Rugby

Army beat a committed Air Force side 29-11 at the Inter-Services Rugby tournament at Linton Camp last week. Their five tries gave them a points advantage over Navy and enabled our team to win the tournament and retain the King George V trophy for the sixth consecutive season. 2 LFG did a great job in organising and hosting the tournament and WO1 Sean Thomas and his coaching team worked hard throughout the year to prepare the Army Team for the tournament. The Army Team displayed great fortitude to recover from their earlier loss to Navy. A full game report and more photos will appear in the October issue of Army News.
Ten months after they began what will undoubtedly be the most arduous training in their military careers, two men will soon be inducted into the NZDF’s elite fighting force—the 1 NZSAS Group.

The pair, an officer and a soldier, have spent much of the past year on what the SAS calls its “Cycle”. In layman’s terms, that’s the training that is undertaken once an aspiring SAS trooper or officer passes the selection course.

What’s special about the 1st New Zealand Special Air Service Group? 1 NZSAS GP is a multirole unit that works in whatever environment the government requires. NZSAS troopers are generalists rather than specialists, in that they master a broad range of skills to a very high standard. The unit’s ethos is embedded in every soldier: the unrelenting pursuit of excellence, embracing equality, humour, humility, and self discipline.

Training is carried out in a variety of environments; one month troopers could be exercising in mountains, the next in a desert or jungle, the next learning counter terrorism skills in an urban setting.

The skills needed by SAS troopers are vast. 1 NZSAS GP personnel require the individual and team skills needed by an SAS troop, four of which are in each Sabre Squadron: amphibious, air, mobility and mountain. Many advanced team and individual skills are needed, and every unit member undergoes specific training in counter terrorism, conventional and unconventional warfare. SAS trainers say their troopers “will never stop learning throughout their careers. They must continually become more skilled and adaptable for the ever-changing operational environments and complex missions we are required to undertake.”

While training is provided, the qualities this elite fighting force needs, as the SAS ode says, “to go always a little further” are innate. To successfully pass through the SAS cycle personnel must be physically and mentally robust, and reliable.

They must, say their trainers, have the self-confidence and intelligence to survive on their own when everything appears to be against them. “They must have self-discipline, stamina and the determination to keep themselves going—always.” And they must have the self-sacrifice to put a challenge before everything else.

A 1 NZSAS Group trooper must be mature and determined, with a good grounding in military skills, and at least three years experience as a soldier, sailor or airman also helps.

THE SELECTED FEW—

THE UNIT’S ETHOS IS EMBEDDED IN EVERY SOLDIER: THE UNRELENTING PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE, EMBRACING EQUALITY, HUMOUR, HUMILITY, AND SELF DISCIPLINE.

TRAINING IS CARRIED OUT IN A VARIETY OF ENVIRONMENTS; ONE MONTH TROOPERS COULD BE EXERCISING IN MOUNTAINS, THE NEXT IN A DESERT OR JUNGLE, THE NEXT LEARNING COUNTER TERRORISM SKILLS IN AN URBAN SETTING.

APPLYING FOR SELECTION

Nominations close: 30 October
Pre-selection: 7–8 November
Selection: 9–17 November
Officer selection: 18–20 November

1 NZSAS Group selects candidates normally in early November. This selection process will change in the year 2010, with two courses annually during February and June. Personnel who want to apply for selection should:

- inquire about corps/trade change to NZSAS and complete an AINZ 3 form found on the NZDF intranet site http://awt-team.nzSAS
- obtain a recommendation from their Unit Commander
- have all administration issues complete (R tests, Med Board, RFL)
- have basic navigation skills
- have Steyr TOETS
- be able to use an MBTIR at a basic level

Once a candidate has been accepted for further training they will be issued a joining instruction package.

WE ARE THE PILGRIMS, MASTER; WE SHALL GO ALWAYS A LITTLE FURTHER: IT MAY BE BEYOND THAT LAST BLUE MOUNTAIN BARRED WITH SNOW ACROSS THAT ANGRY OR THAT GLIMMERING SEA …

Extract from the poem – Hassan by James Elroy Flecker, which is inscribed on the Regimental Memorials “Granite Parachute”, Ronnie Lines, Papakura Military Camp.
MEETING THE MIND CHALLENGE—CAPT “W”

“For me, the SAS cycle was more about a certain mind-set rather than a physical challenge. It was about training my mind to believe I could do it, that I could achieve what I wanted to.”

That’s how CAPT “W” an infantry officer for the past 10 years, views his NZSAS selection and Cycle process experience. Becoming a member of the NZSAS was, for him, a natural progression in his military career, he says. “I have always looked up to the (SAS) unit, and have always seen it as a step up in terms of professionalism. It was about mind training. The physical challenges are achievable through training. But to get my mind attuned I used to do things like go for walks for seven to 10 hours at a time with a full pack on, that sort of thing, to get used to what that felt like mentally.”

He says the most challenging aspect of the Cycle was the special reconnaissance phase. It involved a lot of time in the bush and intense training.

“Yet it was physically very challenging, especially when we were being pursued. If I made a mistake I wanted to make sure I didn’t repeat it.”

Officers who attempt NZSAS selection forego their officer rank during Cycle. They need to be able to recognise the hardships their troops go through, and the most effective way to do this, NZSAS trainers say, is to experience those hardships and stresses themselves.

But CAPT “W” says he found the situation refreshing. “It was enjoyable to be all treated equally. I have made some excellent friends through doing that.”

He agrees there are different challenges facing an officer, but did not find them insurmountable. “The training is exceptional—that’s what I enjoyed most.”

He has a supportive wife and family who know how important his decision to join the NZSAS is to him. And his advice to other NZSAS aspirants? “It’s never too late. You just need to make the decision and follow it through.”

CLOSE QUARTER BATTLE – LEARNING TO FIGHT THE SAS WAY

The basic Close Quarter Battle course run for the NZSAS Cycle is one of the more memorable courses to date, says Sapper K.

The week-long course, which provides instruction in hand to hand fighting, and has been run for the SAS by an expert CQB instructor Mr “Tank” Todd personally for the past twenty years.

The basics are similar to those taught in the Regular Army courses but as the days progress more advanced skills are taught, the main one being combat milling. Designed to teach soldiers how to defend and attack, guard and strike, it also serves as a tool to give them exposure to taking some knocks and getting back up into the fight.

As expected there is some blood and bruises on most but all usually come away feeling satisfied they have stuck it out. Pugil sticks are also introduced to simulate bayonet fighting and again it is an excellent way to learn techniques to ensure survivability.

“Like all aspects of the SAS Cycle this year, excellent instruction coupled with a good instructors to student ratio prepared us well for the testing phase at the completion of day four,” says Sapper K. “Tasked as a individual to escape from an enemy strong hold, we had to fight our way past guards, disarm terrorists and knife wielding attackers and finally, for the cycle personnel only, neutralise unsuspecting sentries.

“For those of us on the NZSAS Cycle the CQB course is one more skill set learned, and one step closer to becoming a badged member of the NZSAS.”

KEEPING AN EYE ON THE PRIZE – SAPPER “G”

Although he has been in the Army not quite four years, Sapper “G” says he has wanted to become an NZSAS trooper for as long as he can remember.

The cycle has been, he admits, very demanding. Before he applied for selection he talked to friends and researched as much information as he could. “The Cycle has been intense but very rewarding. The intensity of the selection process pales in comparison with the Cycle. You get to a point when you think you probably can’t push yourself any further but you do anyway and just keep pushing on and on. I just kept thinking that anything that is hard but that you really want usually needs a lot of work, and I was mentally and physically prepared to put in a lot of work.”

At no stage did he contemplate pulling out of the Cycle process, but says his energy levels waned at times.

“You have to maintain your mental stamina. You can’t have people here who want to quit when the going gets really tough.”

Sapper “G” is counting down the days until he is handed his NZSAS sandy beret and unit badge.

“It seemed so far away at one stage.”
Although I acknowledge that they have their uses, I don’t much like computers. Nevertheless, just as I don’t need to know how a Karcher kitchen works to appreciate the quality of the meal it produces, I don’t need to understand computers or computer technology to appreciate that simulation can enhance the survivability of our soldiers on the battlefield by allowing them to: practise drills until they become second nature; make better decisions faster; develop greater awareness in a range of situations that can not otherwise be simulated in training; appreciate the need to move tactically; and encourage judicious offensive action so that the mission is achieved despite the hazards of the battlefield.

Simulation enhances training, it doesn’t replace it and, best of all, it provides cost effective, real time, realistic training with immediate feedback. Accordingly, valuable training dollars can be spent on becoming competent in outputs essential for the conduct of operations. Simulation can be used to mitigate skill fade in outputs that need only to be maintained to a trained state, or where resources, or the ability to replicate actual operational events, is limited. Unfortunately, despite its advantages, there are those who disparage the simulation virtual world as a training medium, describing it as ‘nothing more than a game from which little benefit derives’; this attitude is about as helpful as likening Army manoeuvres to a game of Cowboys and Indians but it is absolutely true that units that do not take it seriously get nothing out of it. Conversely, experience shows that units that treat simulation training in a professional, soldierly and serious manner, benefit significantly. I suggest starting small to see how it can work for you; use virtual simulation to create training aids, work up to training events for combat and logistic operations, or use our terrain products for over flights, aerial reconnaissance, or terrain analysis.

With regard to live simulation, it has been observed that not using the Tactical Engagement Simulation System (TESS) during infantry minor tactics training inculcates a sense of invulnerability and recklessness in our soldiers that can only shorten their lives on the battlefield. Equally, it has also been observed that soldiers wearing TESS during training are more inclined to take cover sooner and to refrain from taking the appropriate action in order to avoid becoming a casualty. Used properly, TESS allows junior commanders to effectively reconcile their soldiers with the risks of the battlefield, while simultaneously emphasising the need to achieve the mission. In essence, TESS adds the realism that gives our training meaning.

Another obstacle to the use of TESS is that can highlight gaps in leadership knowledge, skills, or competence. Given that our employment is characterised by a significant risk to life and limb, our leaders have an absolute obligation to be professionally competent TESS, when combined with the recently introduced Small Arms Retaliatory Target system (SART) with TESS shoot-back capability, allows officer and SNCO trainers to produce a more confident, competent, and situationally-aware leader.

In conclusion, I’m a soldier not a technician, I disagree with those who think that simulation training is a game; training for war is not a game. The NZ Army simulation capability has evolved significantly and it has a part to play in keeping our soldiers safe on operations. With your help it could be even better, give us a call or check us out on the new Army Intranet website at http://org/l-asc.
Joint Fires Observer - what does that mean? Where has this skill set evolved from? To fully understand the answers to these questions there is other terminology that is required to be understood.

Within NZDF the requirement to coordinate aerial fire support to ground forces was the responsibility of a Forward Air Controller (FAC), either airborne or ground mounted. In recent years the ground mounted FAC responsibilities have evolved and the term now widely associated with the role is a Joint Terminal Attack Controller (JTAC). A JTAC’s responsibilities range from coordinating close air support (CAS), from both fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft, to coordinating troop movement by air assets and coordinating CASEVAC requirements. The NZ Army has been sending individuals overseas on courses to gain this skill and qualification for the last few years. So what about the Joint Fires Observer (JFO)?

A study conducted in the United States in 2004 determined a number of issues that needed to be addressed. They were:

- an increasing interest from Army in air delivered fire support,
- Army requirements will increase the demand for JTACs,
- Army organic fires remain the most efficient means to meet the routine unplanned requests for fire support, and
- Air attack and ground manoeuvre should be planned as mutually enabling activities.

The findings illustrated the need for an asset to increase the critical combat capability the JTAC brings to the air ground battle—a JFO. Although the concept of the JFO is not new, the Army’s recognition that the JFO’s role in light of the increased need for JTAC’s is a logical and effective step.

So what can a JFO do? A JFO is “a trained service member who can request, adjust and control surface to surface fires, provide targeting information in support of Type 2 and 3 CAS terminal attack controls and perform autonomous terminal guidance operations (TGO)”.

The various types of CAS controls, types 1, 2 and 3, determine the criteria that must be met prior to an aircraft firing/ releasing munitions. A JFO is not a certified JTAC and will never replace a certified JTAC. A JFO can serve as the eyes and ears of a JTAC to provide timely and accurate targeting information. When a JTAC is not available and the tactical risk mandates the use of an unqualified controller, the JFO will be capable of controlling CAS.

The School of Artillery has recently conducted the first Joint Fires Observer (JFO) course in New Zealand with the assistance of two Australian JTAC’s to supplement the NZDF JTACs as instructors. Royal New Zealand Navy instructors also supported the course by providing instruction in Naval Gunnery Support procedures. The course duration is ten days involving theoretical lessons and practical assessments utilizing the Indirect Forward Air Controller Trainer (IFACT) simulator.

The personnel who have been identified as being potential JFO’s range from RNZA personnel to QAMR and RNZIR reconnaissance personnel. The NZ Army has been sending individuals overseas on courses to gain this skill and qualification for the last few years. So what about the Joint Fires Observer (JFO)?

Equipment that will assist JFOs in conducting their job is currently being identified and investigated for procurement, with the assistance of Capability Branch staff. JFOs are required to know how to employ Laser Target Designators, high power Infra Red Markers, and Transponder Beacons to assist in identifying friendly force locations. This equipment is in addition to radios that are capable of UHF and VHF communications, AN/PRC 117 and AN/PRC 148 radios.

Ideally, live aircraft are preferred for testing but the entire course can be conducted and assessed in a simulated environment. The NZ Army holds two IFACT computers that link into existing Indirect Fires Observation Trainer (IFOT) computers. The computers in the Weapon Training Simulator (WTS) ranges and the IFOT buildings are the same. Because Waiouru has dedicated IFOT and WTS facilities the IFACT computers are able to be connected to that hardware, providing additional simulation venues. For this reason future JFO courses can only be conducted in Waiouru.

Once students are qualified there is a requirement for ongoing currency training. This involves a combination of CAS and surface to surface controls of Offensive Support Assets. The currency requirements are able to be conducted within a simulated environment, IFOT and IFACT.

A battlefield of today and tomorrow will require highly trained personnel at all echelons to coordinating troop movement by air assets and coordinating CASEVAC requirements. The NZ Army has been sending individuals overseas on courses to gain this skill and qualification for the last few years.

For further information on JTAC and JFO training / employment contact the Master Gunner, School of Artillery.
SSGT Marc Mackie, of HQ NZDF Directorate of Legal Services, is nearing the completion of a law degree after nearly 25 years in the infantry corps. He was a successful candidate at the recent Officer selection Board, and was promoted to Lieutenant by Brigadier Kevin Riordan, the Director General of Defence Legal Services.

CPL Harvey is Geo analyst from 2 Engineer Regiment’s Geo Troop, and he attended the course to further his knowledge of imagery analysis and its use in the field.

Imagery analysis is used, among other things, to describe what a commander can expect to see on the ground. The analysis can, for example, describe choke points or areas which may be vulnerable.

CPL Harvey said the course was excellent, with instructors who had been specialising in image analysis for many years. Image analysis is a new area for New Zealand Army Engineers. CPL Harvey is currently lending his expertise to HQ NZDF. Later this year he will join 1 MI Company to help integrate traditional military intelligence with new leading edge spatial networks developed by 2 Engineer Regiment.

Three Army officers were awarded the Distinguished Service Decoration by the Governor General Anand Satyanand at a ceremony in Premier House, Wellington on 1 September.

Major Bob Gillies received the award for the work he did in Khowst Province, Afghanistan where he served with the United States Joint Task Force Combined Explosives Exploitation Cell. He was second in command of the Counter Improvised Explosive Device Team there.

Major Simon Strombom, a Territorial Force officer, received his award for his work as a liaison officer in the Civil Military Co-operation branch of the International Stabilisation Assistance Force Headquarters in Afghanistan.

 Brigadier Sean Trengrove, also a Territorial Force officer, received his award in recognition of the role he played last year in ensuring the effective operational interaction between the security forces of Timor-Leste, the United Nations police contingent, and the International Security Force.

Three Army officers were awarded the Distinguished Service Decoration by the Governor General Anand Satyanand at a ceremony in Premier House, Wellington on 1 September.

Major Bob Gillies received the award for the work he did in Khowst Province, Afghanistan where he served with the United States Joint Task Force Combined Explosives Exploitation Cell. He was second in command of the Counter Improvised Explosive Device Team there.

Major Simon Strombom, a Territorial Force officer, received his award for his work as a liaison officer in the Civil Military Co-operation branch of the International Stabilisation Assistance Force Headquarters in Afghanistan.

 Brigadier Sean Trengrove, also a Territorial Force officer, received his award in recognition of the role he played last year in ensuring the effective operational interaction between the security forces of Timor-Leste, the United Nations police contingent, and the International Security Force.

Brigadier Sean Trengrove with his wife Diane (second left) and daughters (from left) Emily, Georgina, Alice and Stephanie.

From left, COL Ross Blair, COL Peter Hanrahan, LT COL David Voss, LT COL Mark Gardener, LT COL Bryn Gradwell and fellow officer Capt Lyndsey Bargh.

Major David Voss ED, Major Bryn Gradwell ED, and Major Mark Gardener ED were all promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel at a ceremony in Auckland recently. The three are medical specialists who practise in Auckland, and all are Territorial Force personnel with 2 HSB(NZ). The three officers were promoted to their new rank by Colonel Ross Blair ED, the Colonel Commandant of the RNZAMC. The promotions were conducted in the presence of the Commanding Officer of 2 HSB(NZ) LTCOL Pete Hanrahan.

Three Army officers were awarded the Distinguished Service Decoration by the Governor General Anand Satyanand at a ceremony in Premier House, Wellington on 1 September.

Major Bob Gillies received the award for the work he did in Khowst Province, Afghanistan where he served with the United States Joint Task Force Combined Explosives Exploitation Cell. He was second in command of the Counter Improvised Explosive Device Team there.

Major Simon Strombom, a Territorial Force officer, received his award for his work as a liaison officer in the Civil Military Co-operation branch of the International Stabilisation Assistance Force Headquarters in Afghanistan.

 Brigadier Sean Trengrove, also a Territorial Force officer, received his award in recognition of the role he played last year in ensuring the effective operational interaction between the security forces of Timor-Leste, the United Nations police contingent, and the International Security Force.

Three Army officers were awarded the Distinguished Service Decoration by the Governor General Anand Satyanand at a ceremony in Premier House, Wellington on 1 September.

Major Bob Gillies received the award for the work he did in Khowst Province, Afghanistan where he served with the United States Joint Task Force Combined Explosives Exploitation Cell. He was second in command of the Counter Improvised Explosive Device Team there.

Major Simon Strombom, a Territorial Force officer, received his award for his work as a liaison officer in the Civil Military Co-operation branch of the International Stabilisation Assistance Force Headquarters in Afghanistan.

 Brigadier Sean Trengrove, also a Territorial Force officer, received his award in recognition of the role he played last year in ensuring the effective operational interaction between the security forces of Timor-Leste, the United Nations police contingent, and the International Security Force.

Three Army officers were awarded the Distinguished Service Decoration by the Governor General Anand Satyanand at a ceremony in Premier House, Wellington on 1 September.

Major Bob Gillies received the award for the work he did in Khowst Province, Afghanistan where he served with the United States Joint Task Force Combined Explosives Exploitation Cell. He was second in command of the Counter Improvised Explosive Device Team there.

Major Simon Strombom, a Territorial Force officer, received his award for his work as a liaison officer in the Civil Military Co-operation branch of the International Stabilisation Assistance Force Headquarters in Afghanistan.

 Brigadier Sean Trengrove, also a Territorial Force officer, received his award in recognition of the role he played last year in ensuring the effective operational interaction between the security forces of Timor-Leste, the United Nations police contingent, and the International Security Force.
Ten years ago this month New Zealand sent more than 1000 soldiers, sailors and airmen to anarchy-ridden East Timor in an effort to make, and then keep, the peace.

It was this country’s largest deployment since the Korean War in the early 1950s. Kiwi troops arrived to find Dili burning, the city’s wells clogged with corpses, and thousands of refugees fleeing their tormentors. In total some 6000 tri-Service personnel deployed over three years.

The operation brought together soldiers from throughout the New Zealand Army who faced, on their arrival, a high threat level and desolate conditions. Five soldiers died during the deployment, including Private Leonard Manning, New Zealand’s first combat casualty since the Vietnam War.
2000 FEBRUARY 
NZ Batt Two arrives in East Timor for a six month tour of duty.

2001 MARCH
NZ Batt Four arrives.

2002 MAY 
NZ Batt Six arrives.

NZDF personnel began arriving home.

15 NOVEMBER
NZDF personnel began arriving home.

1999 MAY
Timelapse

1999 NOVEMBER
Private Leonard Manning. It is New Zealand's first combat casualty since the Vietnam War.

1999 OCTOBER
Belulik Leten.

1999 SEPTEMBER
799 (Foho Debilulik) Private Boyd Atkins drowns while on leave.

1999 MAY
A large group of reinstated airmen NZ patrol, shooting and killing Private Leonard Manning. It is New Zealand's first combat casualty since the Vietnam War.

1999 JULY
The militia contact, and Private Manning's...
COIned Its ethOs phrase COUraGe, COmraDeshIp , COmmItment anD InteGrIty .

Evacuate their premises. and to help them plan escape routes should they be forced to

To do this he travelled unarmed to provide support to UN staff,

Significant bravery award, the New Zealand Gallantry Star.

Personal mission which would later see him presented with a

Staff were in considerable danger.

It happened slowly at first, escalating to a situation

Without intimidation. It was very hard to tell what was going to

There was a lot of concern within the community that

When the turmoil of East Timor erupted in 1999, the army had not yet coined its ethos phrase COURAGE, COMRADESHP, COMMITMENT AND INTEGRITY.

Those values were very much apparent however, with several New Zealand Defence Force personnel being recognised for the courage and commitment they displayed.

Brigadier Neville Reilly than a Colonel, was serving with the United Nations Mission to East Timor when the referendum which sparked most of the mayhem was held. It fell to him and his group of military liaison officers to liaise with the Indonesian Military to find out what was going on throughout the country, and try to pre-empt any violence.

"There was a lot of concern within the community that it would not be a free ballot. There was supposed to be registration, education about the ballot, and then the vote, all without intimidation. It was very hard to tell what was going to happen. We had heard about threats of violence, but we were unarmed, and there wasn't a lot we could do."

As soon as the referendum was announced the trouble began. It happened slowly at first, escalating to a situation where the militia forces were running rampant and several UN staff were in considerable danger.

BRIG Reilly, unflappable and quietly spoken, set to on a personal mission which would later see him presented with a significant bravery award, the New Zealand Gallantry Star.

He was asked by the UN to ensure the safety of their mission. To do this he travelled unarmed to provide support to UN staff, and to help them plan escape routes should they be forced to evacuate their premises.

He was in the Headquarters of UN Mission with other UN staff

Colonel Charles Lott knew he had nothing to worry about when he began the logistics task of feeding, equipping, and making operational New Zealand's 1000 troops to East Timor.

Nothing being the operative word. "There was nothing there (in East Timor) - nothing that would assist the task we had here in New Zealand. No sea port, no useable airstrip, and one road that was impassable at that time of the year. No electricity, no telephones, no fuel supply and no guaranteed water. We had to be self-sufficient in East Timor because our supply chain was 6500 kilometres long."

The New Zealand Defence Force had done a lot of preliminary planning as the East Timor deployment had been predicted for some time. When the Government decided to commit New Zealand forces, it meant four weeks of often 20-hour days for Colonel Lott and his five key staff.

Aircraft and ships were chartered to carry equipment to East Timor, and 110 containers were packed, and loaded onto vehicles that left from Wellington. Securing aircraft was a feat, with New Zealand at the behest of the market as non-governmental organisations throughout the world tried to get food and supplies in to the people of East Timor.

"We had a very small team, and we had to ensure that in no way did the logistics of the mission hold up or impede the mission itself. The aim was that New Zealand forces would have to their allocated area of operations, secure it, then get out and contain other areas. They had to go in self-sufficient."

The logistics operation included delivering 32,000 food ration packs, 120 vehicles, and, by air, a further 15 vehicles and six helicopters. Colonel Lott says he envisaged East Timor would be like Somalia was when the New Zealand Defence Force deployed there several years ago.

"And I was pretty well correct. There was no infrastructure, no sewerage, and the threat was still there. We didn't know if our landing would be contested and our troops would have to fight to get on to the beach. We told the master of the first vessel we sent out from New Zealand that we couldn't really give him a destination. When he was near Darwin he got more instructions."

United States forces helped move containers from HMAS Tobruk to shore, and RNZAF C130 Hercules did about 38 sorties in the early days, with air staff flying 12-hour days.

Colonel Lott said he was mindful throughout the planning and execution of the logistics operation that if a mistake was made "someone was bound to get hurt. "If the ammunition didn't arrive on time, that sort of thing. It was always hanging over you."

He says the establishment of a national support element in Darwin was excellent.

"It meant we could buy goods from the local market and get them over there much easier. We didn't know until our troops got there that we'd have a company of Canadians (soldiers) and platoon of Irish soldiers and groups of Pakistani soldiers drawing off us for a while."

There were some communication breakdowns, and many lessons learned. "Theoretically the proportion of fighting personnel and logistics personnel should be 70 percent on fighting, and 30 percent on logistics. We were light on logistics and regretted it. We also learned the value of reliable goods and services, as opposed to cheap and unreliable, was incalculable."

"Looking back, we know we planned it, got it in, and sustained it. And that is what we always set out to do."

When the turmoil of East Timor erupted in 1999, the army had not yet coined its ethos phrase COURAGE, COMRADESHP, COMMITMENT AND INTEGRITY.
By Jane Mortlock

Last month 65 New Zealand troops, mainly from 2/1 RNZIR, took part in Exercise SUMAN Warrior, a week-long Command Post Exercise in Malaysia, working alongside four of our closest neighbours and partners to overcome a simulated threat. I was lucky enough to tag along.

The name SUMAN is an acronym for the participating nations–Singapore, United Kingdom, Malaysia, Australia and New Zealand, and the exercise is organised annually under the auspices of the Five Powers Defence Arrangement (FPDA).

Each year a command post planning exercise is conducted in order to improve and maintain working practices between the multinational forces involved. This year it was Malaysia’s turn, and the exercise focused on the defence of the Malaya peninsula. A number of scenarios were used to get the best possible training value to learn best practice from other nations.

Whilst the actual Command Post Exercise part of the trip involved three days of planning and three days of actual “on the map” exercising, SUMAN Warrior more importantly provides an opportunity for us to test our deployability and our interoperability with partner nations in an unfamiliar environment.

As the token civilian and PR advisor on the trip I was privileged to see the many different sides of the exercise and how each individual who participated had an important role to play. I spent time talking with the Mov Op about the ins and outs that go into organising such a large trip into a foreign country. I went out with the medics to visit the local hospital to ensure that if anything did go wrong we could smoothly access assistance from our people. I “hung” with the admin cell who were set up specifically for the exercise and watched them complete all the behind the scenes admin necessary. I learned all about the work that goes into setting up computers for the exercise by the Sigs, and I watched the exercise participants plan and then participate in the actual CPX, sometimes working through the night to get everything achieved.

Throughout the two weeks we were in Malaysia I was incredibly impressed with the professionalism and integrity that our people displayed. They represented the New Zealand Defence Force with pride and participated in the exercise with the gusto and enthusiasm that it deserved. As one young soldier pointed out to me, it is exercises like this one that help our people learn exactly what makes other countries “tick”. It provides an environment where they can interact with soldiers and officers from four other nations and learn how they operate and how they think.

I was proud of the relaxed and friendly approach from our soldiers towards the other contingents, keen to share a little bit of kiwiana with all who were interested, and keen to learn more about the others contingent’s cultures and way of life. I can better understand why the countries that we are deployed to, on the whole, appreciate the support and stability that the kiwi contingents must bring.

If you would like to find out more about Exercise SUMAN Warrior 09 please check out my blog on the Army Intranet page, under Items of Interest.
On 31 July 09 the Corps of Officer Cadets New Zealand (OCS (NZ)) deployed on Exercise Kepimpinan (Ex. K.P.). Translated into English, Kepimpinan means leader, or leadership in Malaysian. Ex K.P. comprised mainly close country jungle tactics techniques and procedures and platoon level Immediate Action drills, as well as section and platoon level command assessments.

This was our first close country exercise, with the added pressures of being in an overseas tropical environment as well as being assessed and observed 24 hours a day. This made the exercise a testing one for the 38 Officer Cadets, not to mention the media attention with One News tagging along for the ride.

Flying through the blue cloudless sky, we looked down with mixed thoughts as they descended from heights of 30,000 feet seeing the prominent coastline and coral reef through crystal clear water. A New Zealand Royal Air Force Boeing 737 touched on the tarmac and came to a halt. Greeted by temperatures of over 30°C we knew we had arrived at Faleolo Airport, Samoa.

Much to our surprise and relief, the RNZAF had erected most of the forward operating base already, having already arrived with the Navy on the HMNZS Canterbury. The Army component was known as Ex. K.P, however, the Joint Forces exercise was known as Exercise Tropic Astra. It was the first time the Corps of Officer Cadets had worked with the Air Force on an exercise of this scale; it was also the first deployment of the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) to Samoa.

As the officer cadets settled into their accommodation, morale lifted to amazing heights after being shown around the forward operating base. Aside from the village of accommodation tents, the forward operating base consisted of one internet tent, separate male and female showering tents and a mess hall tent with an outdoor set up.

On 31 July 09 the Corp of Officer Cadets New Zealand (OCS (NZ)) deployed on Exercise Kepimpinan (Ex. K.P.). Translated into English, Kepimpinan means leader, or leadership in Malaysian. Ex K.P. comprised mainly close country jungle tactics techniques and procedures and platoon level Immediate Action drills, as well as section and platoon level command assessments.

This was our first close country exercise, with the added pressures of being in an overseas tropical environment as well as being assessed and observed 24 hours a day. This made the exercise a testing one for the 38 Officer Cadets, not to mention the media attention with One News tagging along for the ride.

Flying through the blue cloudless sky, we looked down with mixed thoughts as they descended from heights of 30,000 feet seeing the prominent coastline and coral reef through crystal clear water. A New Zealand Royal Air Force Boeing 737 touched on the tarmac and came to a halt. Greeted by temperatures of over 30°C we knew we had arrived at Faleolo Airport, Samoa.

Much to our surprise and relief, the RNZAF had erected most of the forward operating base already, having already arrived with the Navy on the HMNZS Canterbury. The Army component was known as Ex. K.P, however, the Joint Forces exercise was known as Exercise Tropic Astra. It was the first time the Corps of Officer Cadets had worked with the Air Force on an exercise of this scale; it was also the first deployment of the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) to Samoa.

As the officer cadets settled into their accommodation, morale lifted to amazing heights after being shown around the forward operating base. Aside from the village of accommodation tents, the forward operating base consisted of one internet tent, separate male and female showering tents and a mess hall tent with an outdoor set up.
The cadets spent the first four days acclimatising and having practical lessons both in the base camp and in the jungle immediately south of base camp. D-day soon came around and we deployed via Unimogs and Helo. Ending up on a lava dump on the south coast, the 38 future leaders of the New Zealand Army began rotating through the platoon commander’s role for assessment.

An intense 11 days was spent defending, attacking and ambushing the ever-evading “Yu’tumese” fictional enemy, known as the Kamarian Action Group. A variety of tasks were undertaken by the respective platoons to try and destroy this Samoan variant of the Musorians. Ambushes, aggressive patrols, quick and deliberate assaults as well stealthy reconnaissance gave us the upper hand in our never-ending struggle with these insurgents. The morale boosting words of “Aunty Huia” discretely made its way via radio to the officer cadets and after a decent two weeks of intense time in the jungle it was time to scrub up and prepare for the trip home.

Before going home, a couple of days of rest and relaxation were on the cards...amazing! The cadets were fortunate to be able to explore other aspects of Samoa, including the lavish resorts and a cocktail-in-a-coconut or two! One such experience was the Siva Afi cultural night, which translates as “Fire Dance”. True to its translation, the team was entertained by a night of Pacific Island traditional dances from multiple cultures, both on fire and not on fire!

AN INTENSE 11 DAYS WAS SPENT DEFENDING, ATTACKING AND AMBUSHING THE EVER-EVADING “YU’TUMESE” FICTIONAL ENEMY, KNOWN AS THE KAMARIAN ACTION GROUP.

Post exercise administration came around soon enough, and it was time to swap the jandals, shorts and singlet for the field dress and load up the Boeing. It was an experience which will be discussed in the Mess for many years to come, however the 38 jaded cadets were ready to go home. Currently the officer cadets are preparing for the next exercise, Exercise Santici revolving around urban operations. Graduation is less than three months away, and we are determined to see the year out.

A BREAK FROM THE HEAT—TREE PLANTING

Officer cadets planted over 300 native trees after spending ten gruelling days training in tropical conditions in the Samoan forests. The tree plantings, in the O Le Pupe Pu’e National Park, were part of the tree regeneration programme undertaken by Samoa’s Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.
by John Cosgrove

Quietly working away in her small office at the Kensington Army Hall in South Dunedin, CPL Fiona Stewart sorts through another pile of old photographs for the 4th Otago Southland Battle Group’s burgeoning History Room.

After two years of hard work by staff and volunteers, the Battalion’s unique History Room has now grown in size from its initial cupboard-sized space on the ground floor of the Army hall to three large display rooms on the first floor, all filled with an vast array of exhibits and memorabilia covering the unit’s history from 1860 to the present day.

Since 1984 staff and volunteers have been steadily cataloguing the hundreds of items donated or loaned to it each year and are amazed at where the items come from.

“This little old lady came in the other day and offered up all her grandfathers’ pictures and badges from the First World War,” said Cpl Stewart, “She said we could have them or she was just going to throw them out as she had no more use for them. They were in immaculate condition and more importantly they had all their caption details with them. That’s the problem we face daily here, identifying the various rooms, the dates and the people in the hundreds of photographs and items donated yearly to the room.”

Many of the items making their way into this unique treasure trove of history are items and photographs souvenired by soldiers as they journeyed through the many campaigns fought by the various Otago and Southland Infantry Battalions over the years. These also include bits and pieces contributed by soldiers returning from recent deployments to Afghanistan, the Sinai and the South Pacific. There have even been donations of items from earlier European wars dating back hundreds of years.

“One day while looking through an old manuscript, we discovered what we believe to be an original poppy from the fields of Gallipoli which had been dried and placed in between the pages,” said CPL Stewart.

Since the start of the year added emphasis has been placed on updating the unit’s history records as the battalion heads towards its 150th birthday celebrations in February 2010.

A volunteer group is planning the celebrations and already the call has gone out nationwide to other RF and TF units, RSAs and RSLs, working men’s and service clubs, and online social sites to contact former members of Army units based in Otago and Southland and invite them to register for the weekend long celebrations.

To help prepare a more modern pictorial multi-media display for the celebrations, the History Room is seeking help from past Regular and Territorial Force soldiers from the various units to look in their storage boxes and old photo albums for any images taken at annual camps, courses and field exercises dating from the 1960’s.

“We would really like soldiers to loan us the images so that we can carefully digitally scan them into our catalogue before returning them. We are endeavouring to build up a comprehensive multimedia display of the modern day activities of the various units associated with 4 O South,” added Cpl Stewart.

Anyone interested in learning more details about the upcoming 150th birthday celebrations of 4th Otago Southland Battalion or contributing to the History Room can contact CPL Stewart on Fiona.stewart@nzdf.mil.nz
SPECIAL FORCES HEROES
BY MICHAEL ASHCROFT (FOREWORD BY ANDY MCNAB)

Reviewed by Sarah Chandler

While Michael (Lord) Ashcroft’s book focuses solely on the daring deeds of about forty British special forces personnel, it will perhaps be of interest to some New Zealanders in light of 1 NZSAS Corporal Willie Apiata’s Victoria Cross award in 2007 and the Prime Minister’s recent confirmation that 70 NZ SAS troops will deploy to Afghanistan in three rotations over the next 18 months. Consonant with standard practice, John Key has made no comment on the operational aspects of the SAS deployment, and while recent books such as Apiata’s biography and Ron Crosby’s NZSAS: The first fifty years have shed some light on the activities of the special air service, an air of intrigue will no doubt continue to surround the workings of these elite forces.

We do know some things about the SAS; their universal motto is ‘Who Dares Wins’. Its members are subject to a rigorous selection and training process to ensure they become flexible, professional soldiers who can both follow orders and use their own initiative. Operating in small groups, they often work in tough physical conditions and are competent in weapons, orienteering, surveillance, close combat, amphibious operations and demolition work. Their training equips them to work undercover and they’re particularly good at working behind enemy lines, countering terrorists and dealing with hostage situations. The nature of their work means details about their activities are necessarily scant.

Not entirely unlike the SAS, Lord Ashcroft, the book’s author, arouses a degree of curiosity himself. He’s the Billionaire Deputy Chairman of the Tory Party, but also a citizen of Belize, the central American country from which he runs some of his many business enterprises. Ashcroft started up UK Crimestoppers, the assault on the Lufthansa Flight LH111, hijacked by Palestinian terrorists in 1977.

Of the various accounts in the book, I found most engaging Ashcroft’s description of Operation Nimrod, the SAS response to the siege of the Iranian Embassy in London’s diplomatic quarter in April 1980. At 16 Prince’s Gate, 26 people, mostly Iranian, were taken hostage for several days by six heavily armed terrorists seeking the liberation of the region of Khuzestan from Iran. Among the four British hostages was the then-BBC journalist Chris Cramer, who was freed on the second day of the siege after experiencing a recurrence of the dysentery he’d contracted in Ethiopia. Speaking at a conference on war reporting at Massey University this year, Cramer recalled the immense trauma the incident later caused him, but which took some time to reveal itself.

The role the SAS played in successfully freeing the remaining hostages and killing all but one of the terrorists earned the British SAS instant celebrity and widespread admiration, not least because the 17 minute special operation at the embassy was televised. In a lighter moment in the book, one of the soldiers recalls that on the evening the siege ended, SAS personnel involved in the raid were having a few victory beers at Regents Barracks when Margaret Thatcher and her husband Denis unexpectedly popped in to congratulate them. As they sat around watching the events of the day unfold on the television news, the Prime Minister inadvertently blocked the view of some of the men. “McMeeus with out thinking, shouted ‘**king sit down Maggie, we can’t see’. Mrs Thatcher … in the knowledge that she was in a tough, non-nonsense male dominated environment, simply did as she was told and sat cross-legged on the floor”.

All royalties from Special Force Heroes will be donated to the Help for Heroes charity which provides support for servicemen and women injured in Iraq and Afghanistan.

---

Crossword 

ACROSS:
1 Make an exploratory military survey
6 Pouches
7 Australia’s domestic counter-intelligence organisation
9 Divided Mediterranean island
10 Dodgers
12 Assistant
13 Small dwelling
14 Intestinal fortitude
15 ----- Bourne, NZ rally legend
17 A Commonwealth country
19 Wrong
20 Feelings
21 Hold rifle upright in front of the body as a salute (7,4)

DOWN:
1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8
9 10 11
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

SPECIAL FORCES HEROES
EXTRAORDINARY TRUE STORIES OF DURING AND AFTER WAR


All royalties from Special Force Heroes will be donated to the Help for Heroes charity which provides support for servicemen and women injured in Iraq and Afghanistan.

---

NZ ARMY REGIONAL CRICKET

TRENTHAM MILITARY CAMP, WELLINGTON
18-22 JANUARY 2010

Why Regional Cricket?
Inter-camp Rivalry
A chance to represent the NZ ARMY
A chance to beat the Navy and Airforce

Nominations for Regional Teams will be called for soon.
Regional POCs
Northern: SSGT Glen Cossey, Sch of Sigs
Central: CPL Scott (Roxy) Roxburgh, 25 ESS
Southern: WO2 Jeff Roy, DTW Burnham
CAPT Scott MacGibbon, 3 Dist Coy
FootBall

After losing the football competition to 1 RNZIR in 07, winning was the only option for 2/1 RNZIR this time. A “cream of the crop” team of 15 was selected from the 24 who showed up at the start of the training week. The team carried out up to 3 hours of training daily during week in prep for the game. The game itself kicked off with 2/1 RNZIR scoring the first goal thanks to PTE Sayers stunning header. However, 1 RNZIR soon fought back and made the score 1-1. During the rest of the first half 2/1 RNZIR secured another two goals again by PTE Sayers and another by PTE Triggs. At the break the score sat at 3-1 to 2/1 RNZIR. A spirited team talk from team captain PTE Triggs and manager SGT Davis lifted the team to attack the second half the same as we did in the first. As the second half started 1 RNZIR pressed hard to attempt to get back into the game, this however did not happen and PTE Sayers scored a further two goals bringing the final game score to 5-1 to 2/1 RNZIR. Player of the day was awarded to PTE Roxbrough the team keeper, thanks to his stunning saves and good control of the back line he kept 1 RNZIR from gaining the initiative.

BasketBall

Basketball was the first sport to be played in the Lone Pine competition and winning the game would set the tone for the rest of the week. The 1 RNZIR line up led by the Army Captain CPL Ronan Tua showed promise, having a number of Army representative players as part of the team. It appeared however that they used up all their good shots in their warm up, and weren’t so lucky at sinking the ball during game time. 2/1 Battalion also had Army representative players but the difference was, this was home turf, there was a lot of pride at stake and in the end we wanted it more. PTE Vesi Luatua ably supported by the rest of his team lead 2/1 to a well-deserved 51-36 win. The speedy steals of PTE Zinzan Hongara and the accurate shooting of PTE Mark Haywood and LCPL Matthew Lloyd as well as the rebounds and excellent defensive play from Privates Luatua, Tyson Huia and Evan Reed ensured 1 RNZIR had little ball to use and meant they were not able to dominate the boards. PTE Anthony Mangino top scored for 1 RNZIR with 13 points closely followed by CPL Tua on 10. PTE Haywood top scored for the home side with 16 points, PTE Luatua on 13 and PTE Reed on 10. Players of the day for the hosts were PTE Hongara, and for the visitors PTE Jade Wharepouri.

THE LONE PINE

THE LONE PINE COMPETITION IS AN ANNUAL SPORTING EVENT HELD BETWEEN THE TWO REGULAR FORCE INFANTRY BATTALIONS (1 RNZIR AND 2/1 RNZIR). THE COMPETITION WAS FIRST CONTESTED IN 1990. THIS YEAR THE COMPETITION WAS CONTESTED BY RUGBY UNION, RUGBY LEAGUE, BASKETBALL AND SOCCER. IT WAS HELD IN BURNHAM IN LATE JULY.

THE TROPHY

The Lone Pine Trophy is a single pine cone held within a wooden and glass case. The pine cone comes from a tree that grows on the ridge known as Lone Pine Ridge on the Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey. Many Australian and New Zealand soldiers lost their lives defending this position in 1915. The trees planted here symbolise the ultimate of bravery by soldiers of the ANZACs. The Trophy remembers their commitment to create a nation that’s disciplined and free.

In this spirit then, we compete for the honour of being its custodian.

Members of 1 RNZIR who toured Gallipoli in 1989 as part of an ANZAC contingent mounted the trophy.

Basketball was the first sport to be played in the Lone Pine competition and winning the game would set the tone for the rest of the week. The 1 RNZIR line up led by the Army Captain CPL Ronan Tua showed promise, having a number of Army representative players as part of the team. It appeared however that they used up all their good shots in their warm up, and weren’t so lucky at sinking the ball during game time. 2/1 Battalion also had Army representative players but the difference was, this was home turf, there was a lot of pride at stake and in the end we wanted it more. PTE Vesi Luatua ably supported by the rest of his team lead 2/1 to a well-deserved 51-36 win. The speedy steals of PTE Zinzan Hongara and the accurate shooting of PTE Mark Haywood and LCPL Matthew Lloyd as well as the rebounds and excellent defensive play from Privates Luatua, Tyson Huia and Evan Reed ensured 1 RNZIR had little ball to use and meant they were not able to dominate the boards. PTE Anthony Mangino top scored for 1 RNZIR with 13 points closely followed by CPL Tua on 10. PTE Haywood top scored for the home side with 16 points, PTE Luatua on 13 and PTE Reed on 10. Players of the day for the hosts were PTE Hongara, and for the visitors PTE Jade Wharepouri.

FOOTBALL

After losing the football competition to 1 RNZIR in 07, winning was the only option for 2/1 RNZIR this time. A “cream of the crop” team of 15 was selected from the 24 who showed up at the start of the training week. The team carried out up to 3 hours of training daily during week in prep for the game. The game itself kicked off with 2/1 RNZIR scoring the first goal thanks to PTE Sayers stunning header. However, 1 RNZIR soon fought back and made the score 1-1. During the rest of the first half 2/1 RNZIR secured another two goals again by PTE Sayers and another by PTE Triggs. At the break the score sat at 3-1 to 2/1 RNZIR. A spirited team talk from team captain PTE Triggs and manager SGT Davis lifted the team to attack the second half the same as we did in the first. As the second half started 1 RNZIR pressed hard to attempt to get back into the game, this however did not happen and PTE Sayers scored a further two goals bringing the final game score to 5-1 to 2/1 RNZIR. Player of the day was awarded to PTE Roxbrough the team keeper, thanks to his stunning saves and good control of the back line he kept 1 RNZIR from gaining the initiative.
Each time the revered pine cone is contested, the senior rugby match between the two battalions always draws in the punters and 2009 was no exception. Speculation was rampant in the build up to the game with arm chair commentators donning their slippers and coming out in force to offer their opinion on the projected outcome.

The pressure on 2/1 to not only win, but win well was ever present throughout the build-up. Fortunately under the expert tutelage of SSgt’s Jim “the needle” Henderson (coach) and Shane “they call me tracksuit” Gadsby (manager) the team was soon well drilled and ready to “just get in there”.

Burnham Camp 30 July 14:30 and “cometh the hour cometh the man”. The first half saw 2/1 dominate the set piece with 1 Cav providing a good contest at the breakdown. However this was more than negated in broken play by the counter attacking ability of Lloyd Carter, Junior “this ones for you babe” Aufai and Jeremy “suns out guns out” Bush, giving 2/1 a solid 25 – 7 half time lead.

2/1 and 1Bn scrums square off against each other.

Second half saw 1 Cav come out firing, managing to trap 2/1 in their own 22 for the first 10 minutes. It was here that 2/1 Captain Maurice “the great black bull whose tread makes the enemy tremble” Walker gathered his team in and rallied them with his Shakespearean quote “Once more unto the breach dear friends once more into the breach if we should fall let us fill up our gaps with our 2/1 dead”. These stirring words from a great leader were enough to ensure a turnover of possession allowing 2/1 first five Patty “the gum digger” Yuki to control the ball into the 1 Cav half and with a dropped ball by the Cav at the lineout 2/1 back on the front foot. Solid work from the resulting scrum saw 2/1 forwards put together some excellent phase play which lead to another try to Jeremy Bush, giving 2/1 a solid 25 – 7 half time lead.

2/1 and 1BN scrums square off against each other.

The first half started off just as we had planned— playing to the game plan, good set plays and great communication —and we were rewarded with some fine tries to LCpl Matchett who showed strength and speed to bust through and out-run his counterparts. Other try scorers in the first half were our two big strong centres Privates Murray and Harvey who proved to be a handful for the opposition on attack and defence for the remainder of the game, with Harvey touching down twice and Murray scoring himself and assisting in CPL Foleni, and Petero, LCpl Matchett, Privates Haapu, Tuala, and Ratima and LT Cowan. The crowd was buzzing and it looked as if we would put 50 points on our big brothers. We were leading 26 – 8 at halftime but as the famous after match line goes it was a game of two halves.

We started the second half off well and continued as we had finished the first, our big prop Tuala proving a handful and carrying four players over the line to score next to the post and Harvey getting his second try. Then our young halves Maxwell and Tahá – Williams who had been guiding and directing our team around so well for the whole game started getting excited and tackling a bit high (shades of Vaigafa and TeVaga). This lead to young Maxwell getting binned and with the return of 1 RNZIR’s old bulls Aaron (Fuifui) Graham, Jake (Widders) Pivac and Malua (Sandom) Tupai back to the match the comeback started. 1 RNZIR regrouped and started running in tries of their own, the crowd started getting very vocal and there was a lot of verbal exchanges taking place on the field which added to more drama. With the game starting to change direction there was a good old fashioned dust up (started by Tupai) but the refs only saw our men retaliate, so Maxwell was back to the bin and Tahá—Williams sent off. With 10 minutes left in the match the boys had to dig deep, 13 against 11, the crowd were screaming, the players were blowing, but we managed to hold out in another drama –filled Lone Pine rugby league game which will be talked about for a while. A great effort by the whole team and 1 RNZIR for just about pulling off another league thriller. The final score was 24 – 14 to 2/1 RNZIR.

Players of the day for 2/1 were, Best back–Pte Harvey, Best Forward–Cpl Rutene and our player of the day was LT Cowan. Player of the day for 1 RNZIR was their prop Tpr Lavulo.

Thanks to all those pers that supported the team behind the scenes and the crowd that helped create an awesome atmosphere. Can’t wait for the next one.
When at first you don’t succeed it is tempting to write it off as an experience, and try something else. Not so for SGT Geordie Roberts from 2 Field Squadron when his team was placed second in last year’s Military Cup category at the Rotorua Tough Guy race.

Encouraged by the placing, a team was reformed from the squadron members not committed to Gyro 7. Training consisted of 18 volunteers enduring long cross country runs and laps of the confidence course.

To assist with selecting the three-man teams that would compete, two benchmark events were selected. The first was the 2FG 10x1 mile relay that saw the Squadron placed second, and the Auckland individual “Tough Guy” race in July that saw some of the team finishing in the top 20 from a field of 1500 runners.

Returning from a two-week exercise in Wellington the team swapped their boots for running shoes and departed for Rotorua to join a field of 1400 runners who would compete in the 12 and 6 kilometre races.

The race consisted of a 6-kilometre circuit that had been turned into a quagmire through continuous rain. Some 550 people turned out for the start of the 12km race that would see the entrants complete two laps of the course. The course did not disappoint those looking for a tough challenge, with waist deep mud and chest deep rivers needing to be overcome along with a series of man-made obstacles. The second of the circuit saw an additional 850 runners churning the ground as they completed the six km circuit.

Crossing the finish line after 1:50 and being handed a can of refreshment SGT Roberts discovered he was the 232nd person to finish “Not bad for a 38 year old” he was later heard to say. A number of the team finished in the top fifty with LCPL Gavin Young coming 15th, LCPL Chris Poppe 21st and LT Rod Masters 23rd.

The Military Cup again eluded the team this year as they were narrowly beaten by a Fire Service team, however they did manage a respectable second and third placing, and will be there again next year under the “third time lucky” premise.

As with all sports there are people and organisations to be thanked and competing in the challenge would not have been possible without two short notice volunteers, the Regiment for the training time, and Rebel Sports for the discounted running gear.
Manchester United and the Wellington Phoenix had their talent scouts out in force in Trentham over the week 3–7 August 2009 as Army held its annual Inter-Regional Football Tournament. They were not to be disappointed as tenacity, skill, fitness and precision were displayed on the footy field, in sometimes challenging conditions.

The tournament was held over three days with the Men’s competition having the traditional Northern, Central and Southern teams, while the women were limited to two teams. Day 1 saw the ladies contest a reduced numbers game which provided the first opportunity for the Army selector to assess their strengths and weaknesses. The weather had already deteriorated during this game, and by the men’s first game in the afternoon it resembled a monsoon. Under these conditions the Northern men took on their Southern counterparts in a hard fought encounter. The usual initial bursts of energy by the younger, more exuberant members soon petered out and were replaced by the cooler, experienced heads to help guide the teams for the whole 90 minutes. Northern took the spoils from day 1 with a 3-0 victory.

Day 2 saw a training run by the ladies during the morning session on a fine and lovely Wellington day. The afternoon session saw the Southern men have to back up their previous day’s efforts against Central with another free-flowing game that offered several chances for both teams. Unfortunately neither side was able to take their opportunities and the game remained 0-0 at fulltime.

Day 3 saw two very competitive games; Northern vs Central Men which also doubled up as a winner-takes-all final, and the Combined Women’s team played an Upper Hutt College female side. The men’s game started with the same frantic pace as the previous two, and scoring opportunities were limited through good defence from both sides. Northern edged ahead through some well-taken goals, including a long range crack by SGT Nick Vairaktaris which found its way into the goal from about 35m out. This earned Nick the Golden Boot trophy for best goal of the tournament, however anyone who knows Nick through footy will tell you his shots normally end up going for a throw-in! The game ended up with a 3-0 victory to Northern and this secured them the Men’s Regional Trophy.

Backing this game up, the women played a very entertaining and closely fought encounter with their slightly younger but equally skilled opponents. There were numerous good chances for putting some goals away if it wasn’t for the two keepers putting their bodies on the line and making some very good saves. The visiting College side secured the only goal of the game although the Army ladies kept fighting right to the end. Although disappointed with a loss, it served as a very good build up game for the upcoming Services tournament.
NZ Army netball is in good hands with a successful Inter-Regional Tournament held at Linton over 27-31 July 2009, and a strong showing at the recent Inter-service Competition held 24-28 August at Ohakea Air Force Base.

With the inclusion of the unofficial mixed netball competition in both tournaments, there was a strong interest in mixed netball and a high level of talent on display throughout both weeks, with a good mix of rookie talent and experience.

Initial Regional Netball pool play saw Northern Women’s and Central Mixed teams come out as top seeds heading into the finals. The Regional mixed final was a closely-contested event, with Central heading into the final quarter with a 37-29 lead over Northern. Northern had a strong finish, however Central secured the win 45-42 at the full time whistle.

The Regional Women’s final saw a strong Northern team dominate the Central team throughout the game. The final score was a convincing 44-23 to Northern, in a well-deserved win.

Most Valuable Players of the tournament were:

Women’s Grade: WO Wai Cross (Northern)

Mixed Grade: LT Jeremy White (Northern)

Strong Army teams were selected, and the subsequent players represented the NZ Army at the inter-service tournament were:

Army Women’s: Coach; Mrs Glenda Parata, Manager; MAJ Tracey Mount, Players: WO2 Wai Cross (captain), Mrs Jackie Fenton, LCPL Casey Tipene-Thomas, SGT Karen Chung, CPL Amy Kelly, Mrs Shar Sincock (NORTHERN), LCPL Sekola Niutao, CPL Jess Bowen, CPL Shalomar Solomon (SOUTHERN), LCPL Sommer Gisborne. Miss Tui Prilkahu (CENTRAL).

Army Mixed: Coach: SGT Jax Tuala, Manager: MAJ Emma Thomas, Players: LCPL Trish Cottier (Co-Capt), Miss Danielle Gopperth, LCPL Tracey Hollands, Sig Eru Palmer, SSGT Johnny Rogers, LCPL Vince Salmon, PTE Alex Akau’ola Laula (CENTRAL), LCPL Rachael Martin (Co-Capt), PTE Raukawa Hepi, Mr Dean Komene (NORTHERN), PTE Forever Clay (SOUTHERN).

Closely fought pool play in both the Mixed and Women’s competition eventually saw Army Women’s seeded 2nd and Army Mixed seeded 1st, both making their respective finals.

Army Mixed dominated Navy throughout all quarters of the final to eventuate the clear winner 52-26, backing up their 2006, 2007 and 2008 Inter-service win. With mixed netball hoping to become recognised in 2010, Army Mixed Netball is in good stead. A strong shooting game from SSGT Johnny Rogers, backed up with an outstanding defensive effort from PTE Alex Akau’ola Laula and PTE Forever Clay.

The Women’s final was a more closely contested event, with Army down 10 goals to Navy heading into the final quarter. Timely changes of CPL Jess Bowen into GA and WO2 Wai Cross into C provided the change of tempo required for a spirited comeback, with the scores tied at 63-63 at the final whistle. This lead onto an additional 14 minutes of extra time, after which Navy were the eventual winners 80-77 in a high-calibre final.

Both teams are already looking forward to the 2010 tournament hosted by Navy and aiming for the clean sweep that eluded us by the narrowest of margins in 2009.

As a result of the week’s competition, congratulations to the following players who were selected in the NZDF Mixed and Women’s teams:

• NZDF Women’s: Coach; Mrs Glenda Parata, Players: WO2 Wai Cross, LCPL Casey Tipene-Thomas, CPL Amy Kelly, LCPL Sekola Niutao, CPL Jess Bowen, LCPL Sommer Gisborne. Miss Tui Prilkahu, Mrs Jackie Fenton.

• NZDF Mixed: PTE Alex Akau’ola Laula, 5 Mov Coy.
The NZ Army football teams travelled to Auckland recently to compete in the NZDF tournament against their Navy and Air Force counterparts. Overall the tournament was a great success and allowed the Army an opportunity to ‘blood in’ a large number of first time Army players in the cauldron that is Services football.

The Army began its campaign with a day’s training camp and then games against Papakura City selections. This gave both coaches the opportunity to try combinations and patterns of play in a friendly setting where the result, while important, wasn’t critical. Both teams came away with good wins and the coaches were pleased to have the opportunity to have a game under their belt before heading over the bridge to Philomel Naval Base.

The hosts, Navy, pulled out all the stops and secured the Tiger Turf (synthetic grass pitch) at North Harbour Stadium for the tournament to be played on. It was pool table flat and ran true and fast, so no blaming the surface for bad touches this year.

**WOMEN’S POOL**

**Day One**

The first women’s game was also the opening game of the tournament and it was Army up against the highly favoured 2008 Champions Air Force. The game started at a frenetic pace but Army dominated possession and goal scoring opportunities. They were soon rewarded and went up 1-0 early in the first half. Both teams continued to play quality attacking football with Army unlucky not to convert some good scoring opportunities. Air Force continued to attack but were held off by Army’s dogged defence until mid way through the second half where they managed to sneak an equaliser which saw them lift their intensity and push hard for a winner. Army continued to defend well and create scoring chances however they couldn’t convert and the game finished in a 1-1 draw. While this was a good result against the strong Air Force team the Army was left rueing not to have a couple more mid way through the game. Army were hurting from their defeat the previous day and came out strong relying on long ball and quick front runners to mount their attacks, but Army preferring to push the ball around made better inroads and scored early and were unlucky to have a couple more mid way through the game. Navy continued with their bustling defence working to upset the Army’s attempts to play the ball around, this paid off with a defensive error allowing Navy to grab a goal back. Both teams played a hard fought and fast game creating chances with Army scoring twice more and Navy once giving a final result of 3 -2 in Army’s favour. This left them with the prospect of beating the Air Force on the last day.

**Day Two**

Day Two of the women’s competition saw the Army take on the largely unknown Navy squad. For the Army to have a chance of winning the tournament they had to beat Navy and by a large numbers of goals to put the pressure on Air Force. Both teams started strongly and created chances early on, however it was soon apparent that the hard game from the previous day was having its toll on the Army players and the inclusion of three NZ Academy players in the Navy side began to show with the high level of football they were playing. While Army defended valiantly they could not keep the Navy out and succumbed to strong attacking play and some well taken goals, Navy taking the win 3-0.

**Day Three**

This was a rest day for the Army women and saw the Air Force and Navy competing for the tournament title. With Army and Air drawing and then Navy getting the better of Army there was a hint of an upset in the air. Navy have never won the NZDF tournament and the whisper through the crowd was that this could be Navy’s year. The predictions proved to be accurate as Navy won 3 -1 to deservedly take their first ever title.

**MEN’S POOL**

**Day One**

The Men’s draw was the reverse of the women’s, so saw the Army have the bye on day one and the opportunity to watch both opposition teams play. As in the women’s pool the Air Force were last year champions and were going to be the team to beat with only having one change in their squad form the previous tournament. This looked the case as Navy put up a spirited fight but in the end succumbed to their skillful opposition and were defeated 3 – 1.

**Day Two**

Army vs Navy, this was of the start of the tournament for the largely unexperienced Army squad and having eight new players was certainly going to make it a tough couple of back to back games. Navy were hurting from their defeat the previous day and came out strong relying on long ball and quick front runners to mount their attacks, but Army preferring to push the ball around made better inroads and scored early and were unlucky not to have a couple more mid way through the game. Navy continued with their bustling defence working to upset the Army’s attempts to play the ball around, this paid off with a defensive error allowing Navy to grab a goal back. Both teams played a hard fought and fast game creating chances with Army scoring twice more and Navy once giving a final result of 3 -2 in Army’s favour. This left them with the prospect of beating the Air Force on the last day.

**Day Three**

After a few days of good weather Auckland turned it on for the last game of the tournament and provided a footballer’s nightmare, near gale force winds! Air Force won the coin toss and being fresh went against the weather in the first half knowing that playing into the wind in the second half would be a disadvantage. The game started a little tentatively with both teams getting a feel for the conditions, but having the wind at their backs Army dominated the chances and to Air Force’s surprise Army scored first. Fortunes changed a short time later as Air Force scored draw level and then after half time with the wind in their favour scored again to go ahead. Army fought back strongly into the wind and with 30 min remaining drew level at 2-2. Air Forces win in the coin toss soon started becoming a key factor in the game as the Army backing up its their game with Navy started to struggle against the wind and Air Force put in a couple more well taken goals to close out the game.

Overall, considering the number of “new Caps”, both Army teams competed well against strong opposition and have now introduced the next generation of Army footballer’s to the passionate world of services football with a view to returning stronger and wiser next year.

A number of Army Players were selected for the NZDF teams that are taking part in the ADF tournament in Sydney in Nov 09, they are:

**Men:**

Manager: Mrs Sherry Peck, MTC Burnham.
Player: LCPL Alana Blackman, 2 Log Bn.
Player: SIG Bree Jordon, 4 Sig Sqn.
Non Travelling Reserve: CPL Chantelle Locke, HQ CTC Linton.

**Assistant Coach:** WO1s Daryl Burton, MCM Trentham.
Player/Capt: WOs Gene Fenton (C), Log Ops Sch.
Player: CPL Simon Burns, 3 Log Bn.
Player: CPL Marty Sutcliffe, TGG.
Player: SFR Reece Brew, 2 Engr Regt.
Player: PTE Callum Vigus, 2/3 NDNZIR.
Leaders Required.