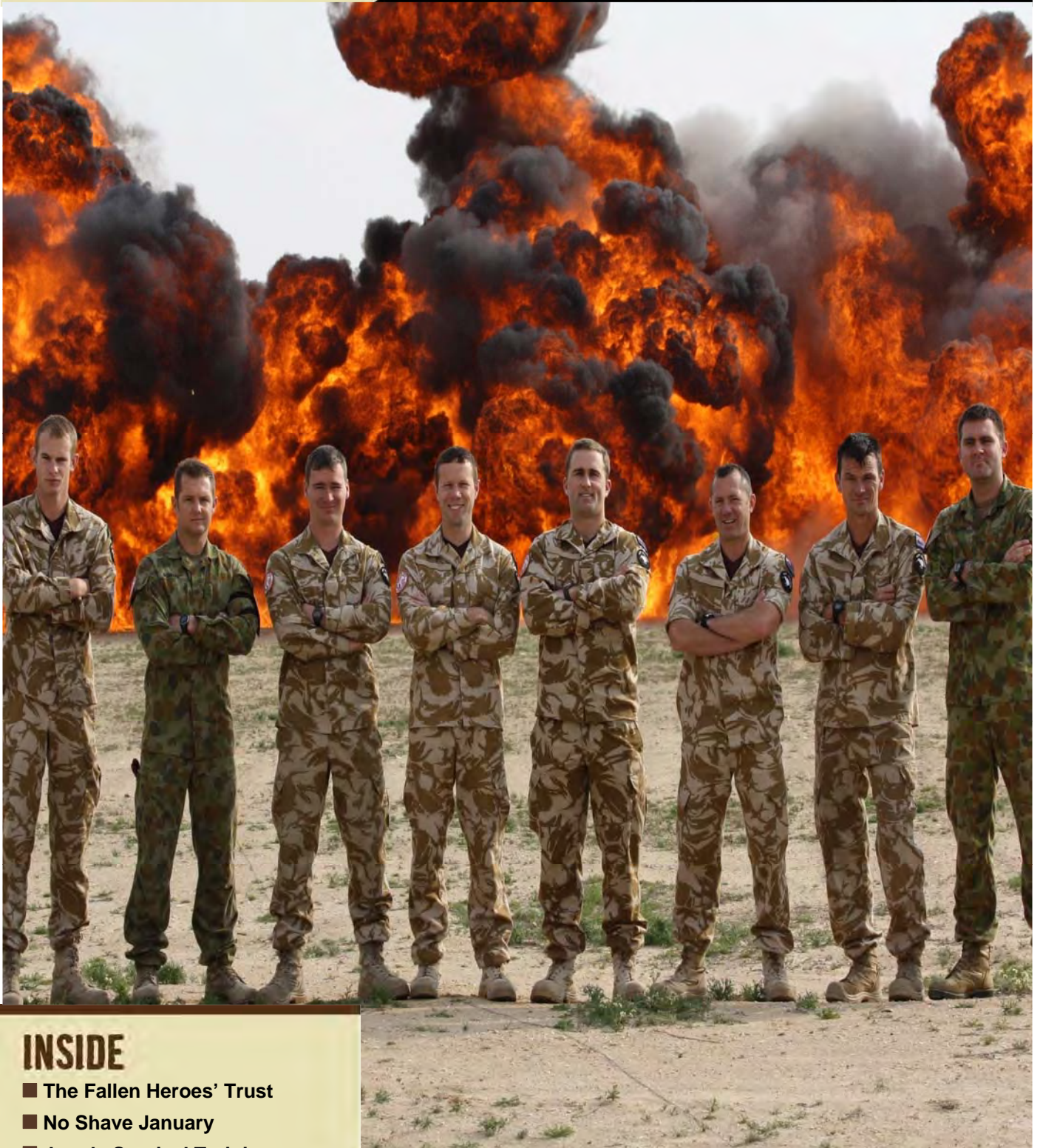


THE BUGLE

Issue 182 | March 2013



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- No Shave January
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- Who is the Car Washer?

COURAGE | COMMITMENT | COMRADESHIP | INTEGRITY

"THE BUGLE"

The Deployment Newsletter is produced for families and service personnel associated with current overseas deployments.

Deadline

The deadline for Edition 183 is 20 March 2013 at 4.00pm

Bugle contributions are welcome and should be sent to Carol Voyce.

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Disclaimer

Articles and opinions expressed in "The Bugle" are not necessarily those of the New Zealand Defence Force.

Cover Photo:

The winning team (excluding the Australians) during the Explosives Ordnance Disposal Cup, Sinai

Left to Right:
LCPL Fraser
PTE Fulton
MAJ Prouse
CAPT Smart
SGT Allen
LCPL Britt-Foy

GUEST EDITORIAL

**WO1 A.D. Cunningham,
Warrant Officer of the Defence Force**

We have an exciting year ahead with the return of our people from Afghanistan, Timor-Leste and the Solomon Islands, the re-orientation of our people back into training in the Pacific, and the ramping up of joint exercises with our allies, and improving the Joint Amphibious Taskforce capability, culminating with exercise Southern Katipo. Certainly enough to keep us busy and focused!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the DSO staff throughout the country for the endless support for those personnel on operations and their tireless hours. On behalf of all deployed personnel, thank you very much.

The Fallen Heroes' Trust is up and running with a website and facebook page. (New Zealand Fallen Heroes' Trust).

A bit of background:

Following the deaths of 15 servicemen and one servicewoman of the New Zealand Defence Force in recent times, a community group made up of former servicemen, and people with strong connections to the Defence Force, have seen a role for the sort of support an independent trust could provide. Modelled on similar international initiatives, the NZ Fallen Heroes' Trust aims to provide practical, immediate and direct support to the injured and the families of the deceased. The Trustees are Baden Ewart, Rob Munro, Leith Comer, and Neville Reilly. They are seeking your sponsorship and support. Fund raising activities in Defence can be initiated through me. This will allow us to keep track of our efforts and not trip over each other with our



**WO1 A.D. Cunningham,
Warrant Officer of the Defence Force**

support to the whanau. Awesome effort so far!

■ Donations to Westpac Acct, Fallen Heroes' Trust, 03-0584-0281562-00.

Safety in training. Whilst on this subject it is important we are aware of the risks, if I could use the Air Force term "mission first, safety always".

The RSA have some excellent initiatives for our returning veterans, but more on this later.

**"The Fallen Heroes'
Trust is up and
running with a
website and
facebook page
(New Zealand Fallen
Heroes' Trust)"**

We will remember them

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

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NEWS FROM AFGHANISTAN

Major Valanda Irwin Kabul

Headquarters International Security Assistance Force (HQ-ISAF) located in Kabul, Afghanistan is a deployment commonly unknown among the NZDF, and is often forgotten about when referring to 'NZDF in Afghanistan'. However, we are currently nine in total under the ISAF New Zealand Senior National Representative (SNR) Colonel Paul Curry.

Primarily all of us have a part to play at the in-theatre strategic Headquarters, (that being HQ-ISAF), which is currently commanded by US Marine General John Allen of the SNR. The SNR works in anti-corruption/counter insurgent narcotics, the other staff officers work in Transition Assessment, Special Forces Partnering, Legal Advisory, Intelligence, and for a limited time only, me in Redeployment/Retrograde (getting out of the Area of Operations).

The scene setter above describing what we are doing here is really only the half of the story. The

second half resides in the environment itself. This is the part of our work that really makes the experience one to remember. As many NZDF members will attest to, is that staff work can be boring and arduous. However, in this environment, there is never a dull day.

The Headquarters has members of approximately 33 nations and

various contractor companies all working in some form of 'collective cohesion' at any one moment. Nations you could expect to see are US, Australians, Canadians, Brits, Irish, Germans, Malaysians, Polish, Danish, Mongolian, Czechs, Norwegians, French, Spanish, Italians and the list goes on. Having such a melting pot of cultures makes for some interesting times and situations.

The time spent here will usually be driven by whatever the COMISAF's campaign priorities are and the staff will generally scramble to find that information, make analysis, once the information requirements are met, by wading through the melting pot of various sources (meetings and liaisons) and we will generally try to get to the sporting or physical training facilities to break up the day.

Another way to break up the day is to assist the Personal Protection Officer, Jody, with any particular movement tasks around the wonderfully smoggy capital city of Afghanistan, Kabul. Sometimes this is a welcome reprieve for the staff officer who may be slave to a



Members of the NZDF and associates at the 'Shack' HQ ISAF on Christmas Day 2012

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

computer, or a meeting that should only take 10 minutes but actually takes an hour on account of the many nationalities and various levels of English speaking expertise within the room.

Movement in around the various Headquarter locations and places of work in Kabul, as in any city, is often fraught with challenge through traffic, however, force protection measures often make travel difficult due to various threats posed to various groups and areas within this city.

To compound movement issues, if Mother Nature decides to put the snow coat on, then this may also make movement even slower. Of course, as in other major cities in similar countries, the road rules aren't taught, they are learned on the road.

Enforced by the masses of vehicles, as opposed to the many traffic wardens throughout the city waving their arms and blowing their whistles all day to no effect. The odd horse and cart skilfully seem to manage, and the traffic seems to get where it needs to go no matter what the speed (usually very slow).

Garbage, dust and livestock also make an appearance despite the pride shown by the locals when cleaning up the major roading systems with brooms and the odd hose.

To our families and for those in the larger Defence family who always wondered what is going on over here in Kabul, hopefully I have been able to give you some insight.

We will continue to represent New Zealand with pride, and we all look forward to getting back home; the smog here is horrendous.

Lieutenant Colonel R.J. Weston Commanding Officer CRIB Theatre Extraction Team

Dear Families,

I hope this finds you all well and enjoying your Summer. There are some very envious Kiwis in Afghanistan who are becoming less enthusiastic about knee deep snow and consistently sub-zero temperatures, but who are looking forward to some warmer temperatures - hopefully soon.

The focus of the Theatre Extraction Team up until now in the deployment has been reducing the amount of equipment in Kiwi Base, and confirming the array of processes and procedures which we need to conform to in order to return equipment to Bagram Airfield (BAF) and to the NZDF logistic support element in Dubai.

Assisted by the National Support Element (NSE) in BAF and the team in Dubai, TET has been able to gain access to RAAF C130J and USAF C130H, in addition to the US

military sponsored trucking agency in BAF. As a result this has seen TET working hard to back-load a range of equipment which was either unserviceable or surplus to the PRT requirements. So far this has seen 29 truckloads of containers and five USAF C130H sorties to BAF, and two RAAF C130J sorties to Dubai. This is an excellent result from all involved, especially given the unfamiliar bureaucracy involved with US systems, and the inherent accounting and stores management requirements associated with the movement of NZDF equipment.

Winter has limited what equipment the PRT has been able to release to the TET. The weather has also impacted on the ability for movement by road and closed the airfields in Bamyán and BAF for periods. The TET is now preparing for more stable weather conditions which will see an increase in the amount of equipment being released from the PRT and readied



**USAF C130H Callsign GROWLER landing at BAMYAN on 4 Jan 13.
(Photo by SSGT Kate McGregor)**

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...



LCPL Karl Frame,
3rd Combat Service Support Battalion,
RNZALR, after loading Callsign
GROWLER on 4 Jan 13
(photo: courtesy of
SSGT Kate McGregor)

for back-loading. This increased rate of effort will continue throughout the remainder of our time here. To assist with this increase, TET will shortly receive additional Army and RNZAF movements and supply personnel as well as a newly introduced bar code based equipment tracking system. These additional personnel will reinforce the TET elements in Bamyán and BAF, with the ability to move back to Dubai as work rates require.

TET is also working closely with the non-NZDF elements within Kiwi Base to synchronise their extraction and closedown. This is seeing support to US detachments, the Malaysian contingent and the facilities management team FLUOR. Aside from the NZDF element, FLUOR has the largest amount of equipment in Kiwi Base and it is pleasing to see that the very good working relationships that have developed throughout NZDF's time in Bamyán are continuing as we all focus on extraction.

Plans are beginning to firm up for the remainder of the PRT and TET's time in Afghanistan. As yet, we are unable to publish any detail, but TET remains on track for returning to NZ approximately in May. Between now and then there is a significant amount of work for both the TET and PRT, and a

series of milestones which we have to work to. Time is flying by for us and will continue to do so right up until we leave. I hope from the TET family's perspectives that time is marching away too, with all of the milestones and opportunities the New Year offers.

Regards, Richard.

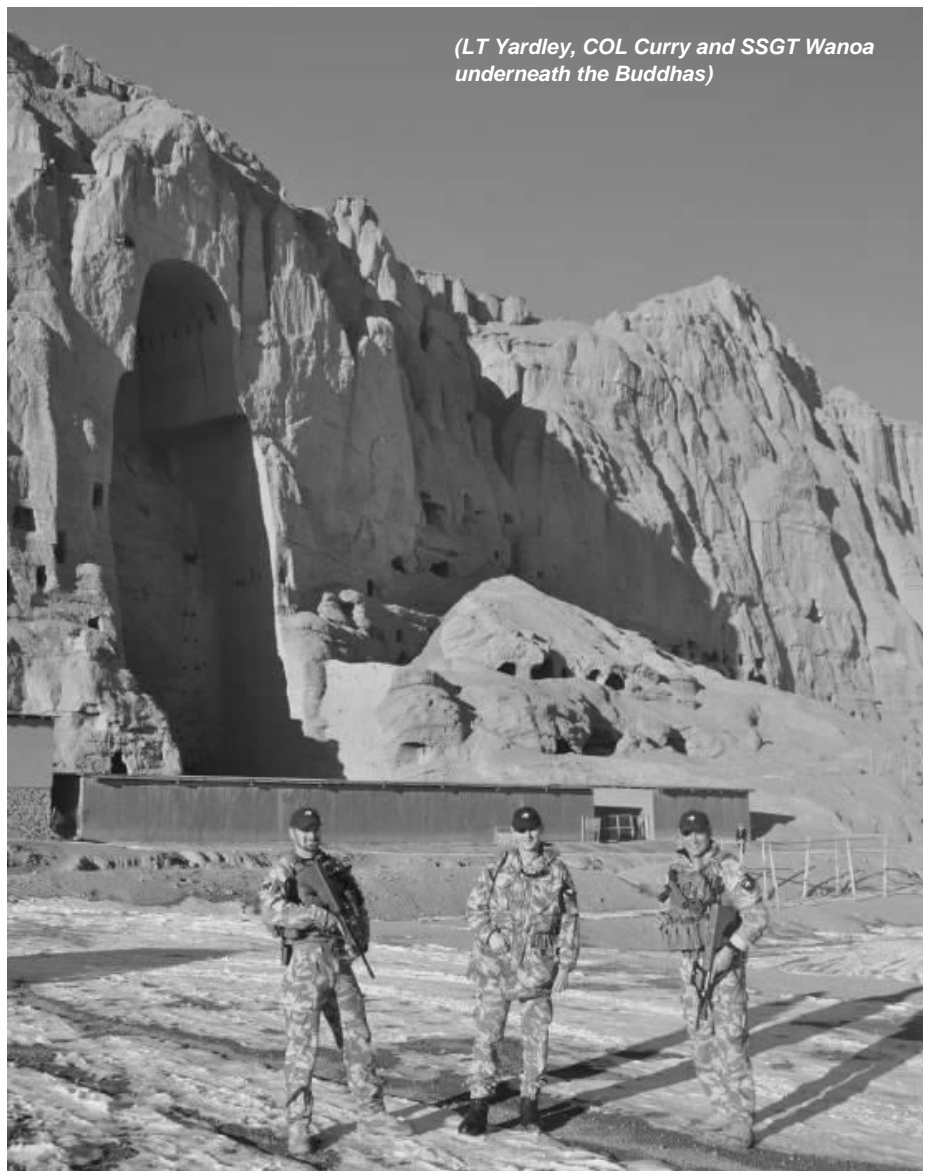
Lieutenant Conor Yardley **From the Military Police Desk**

The Military Police day job in Afghanistan consists of providing close protection to key individuals throughout the area of operations. Lieutenant Yardley and Corporal

Brown, based out of the NZ PRT in Bamyán, act as drivers and protection for the Civilian Director and the CRIB 21 Commanding Officer.

“The driving is out of this world; you have to have your wits about you or you will get stuck in bumper to bumper traffic.”

Daily duties include planning, communication and security around the local area. The MP's also



(LT Yardley, COL Curry and SSGT Wanoa underneath the Buddhas)

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

conduct planning and protection for visiting VIP's to Bamyan, of which there are many. The job also involves conducting general Military Police duties and Investigations when required. Lieutenant Yardley said, "I enjoy the variety the job brings, we do something different every day. The people here are great and we have a good crew to keep us entertained."

The team are looking forward to getting home to some warmer weather and catching up with loved ones. For all three, it is their first trip to Afghanistan, Corporal Brown said, "We are all thankful for the opportunity to work here in Bamyan before the PRT is packed up and sent home, it has been an excellent experience."

The team conducted several courses and specific training for their job whilst deployed and have enjoyed the chance to put their training into reality.

Staff Sergeant Wanoa, based in Kabul, Afghanistan, is the Personal Protection Officer for the Senior National Officer. He said, "The driving is out of this world, you have to have your wits about you or you will get stuck in bumper to bumper traffic".

All three MP's will be returning to 1st (New Zealand) Military Police Company upon the NZ PRT's return.

NO SHAVE JANUARY



Padre Stu Hight, CRIB 21

For the month of January we threw away the razor and grew a beard. Most soldiers took up the challenge. The deal was to donate \$20 to the "Fallen Heroes' Trust" This raised \$2,300.

By the end of January there was a move to have the time extended. The Commanding Officer agreed. Most of us had had enough of the itching but the more hardy types went through to Waitangi Day and raised a further \$250 for the cause.

So most of you back home won't have seen us with beards and probably will never again!

You may recognise some of the faces.



LT Conor Yardley, SSGT Jody Wanoa and CPL Shaun Brown outside Kiwi Base



Lieutenant Conor Yardley on a snowy visit to Band-e-mere Lakes



The 'Silver Fox' - Major McGregor

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...



The Three Engineers: Left to Right: CPL Cassidy, SGT Ruddle, LCPL Olsen



Supporting good growth



The 'Best' ginger beard belonging to LT Gifford



LCPL Harvey, SGT Alexander, LCPL Morrell and CPL Takitimu

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

LT COL Sholto Stephens Commanding Officer, CRIB 21

It is again hard to believe that March is already upon us - it seems like just yesterday that the Extraction team led by Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Weston said to us, "soon it will be 2013" - time really does seem to be racing by. As always, most of my article will be about our mission across here. As I said to many of you who came to the family briefings back in August 2012, we are all very aware that we are here in Bamian to do an important job, to complete a decade's worth of Kiwi presence in Bamian Province. Many of us want to make certain that when we look back on what we have accomplished here in our seven months, that we are proud of our achievements, and of what condition the Province and its half a million inhabitants are in after we have departed.

Today I was called up to the Provincial Chief of Police's Headquarters as he had invited some guests to come and speak about their security concerns in the Province. To my surprise he had a hall (much like any community hall you would find in rural New Zealand) filled with over 200 Village Elders, community holy men (Mullahs), and other community leaders. For several hours' dozens of them took centre stage and talked about the hopes, fears and observations from the communities that they each represented. Yes, they all agreed, there are challenges in the years ahead, but they also commented frequently on how effective the local security forces are, quoting several recent arrests which show how successful the Police are here in Bamian. From a very selfish perspective I was pleasantly surprised that not once did they express concern that the Kiwi's are leaving Bamian Province in a couple of month's

time. This tells me that we/they are ready for us to depart.

In the meantime your loved ones have been in a state of 'business as usual' to a certain extent. Many of the CRIB Kiwi's have been intimately involved in training the Provincial Response Company group (kind of like a SWAT team) over the last 10 or so weeks.

We recently held a graduation ceremony, where similar to the graduation ceremonies for NZ Army Recruits in Waiouru, the Afghan Policemen gave a demonstration of their new skills. It was great to have seen them on day one, as a new bunch of individuals pulled together from various departments and then a couple of months later as a cohesive team, confident in their abilities. They, and all of the Afghan dignitaries, made special mention of the Kiwi's who helped to train them: Captain Wylie, SSGT Rogers, SGT Manson, SGT Green and CPL Day (All Infantrymen) can feel especially proud of their efforts in getting this team formed and prepared for performing much of the role that the PRT has done in Bamian Province over the last decade.



PRC Graduation Parade

It dawned on us recently that we have regularly been exposed (in the case of the local cuisine this has sometimes has mixed results) to the local customs and culture, but we have had very few instances where we have demonstrated our own culture to the Afghans here. As

the Multi-Cultural Group were putting on a show for those of us in Kiwi Base, it seemed an ideal opportunity to invite several key Afghan figures, including Governor Sarabi, to experience some of what makes us tick. The Malaysian contingent also came to the party performing a couple of Malay dances and songs for the audience, which included Kiwi's, Afghans, Malays and Americans. It was an awesome night as you can see from some of the photos (over the page) with the highlight being the contingent 'Tika Tonu' haka and an action song which emphasized some of our hand-eye co-ordination deficiencies!

It sounds like many of you enjoyed the chance to meet with Janine, Carol and Marie recently at the family update briefings. Thanks to Doc Nicholl and SSGT Rogers for their efforts in compiling another CRIB 21 video production DVD for you all, complete with a cameo appearance from the Christmas Yeti. Overall, the last six or so weeks have been busy, productive and varied.

The whole contingent is keen to finish not only what we have done in our short time here, but also the

last 20 Kiwi contingents, to a high standard. Regardless, there is a small piece of all of us that is looking forward to stepping off the plane in the coming months and being reunited with our loved ones.

He tini mano ringa ka oti ai.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...



Audience at the cultural night Kiwi Base



Cultural night with U (2)

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...



LT Jimmy Martin, RNZIR meets with contractors at ANP Police Station



A Kiwi soldier overwatches ANP search of civi vehicle at a checkpoint

NEWS FROM OP RATA II (16) , SOLOMON ISLANDS

CAPT Washburn OC NZ NSE, Solomon Islands

I hear that NZ has had one of the best summers we've had in years! If that's true then you will then have a feeling of what the Solomon Islands has to offer, where everyday is an average temp of 34°C, 100% humidity and... well on second thoughts, maybe not; but one thing that all Kiwis are familiar with is rain, and we have had plenty of that too.

Over the last two months, the Australian and Papua New Guinea (PNG) platoons have had to endure life in the wet jungle and so far due to the amount of rain we have had: the annual acclimatisation exercise was cancelled, 13 Australians were evacuated due to rashes and bites they endured, and key entry points into the training areas have been constantly flooded. The effect of this extra moisture was weighing heavily on the soldier's morale, but little did they know at the time their luck was about to change with the survival training that was just around the corner.

Survival training started with unbelievable weather. It was like someone had prayed to the Gods for blue skies and a hot sun for the duration of this training and so it remained, to the disappointment of the Officer in Charge (OIC). The survival training was designed to teach individuals how to build shelters, how to collect water from local streams, make fire by using natural items from the jungle, recognise edible plants and fauna and how to prep and cook them, how to build traps, snares and hunting tools, and to recognise local herbs.

The training was designed for the Australian platoons, to teach the city boys of NSW how to survive and as the title suggests the training had a 'survivor' feel to it. The only equipment individuals were allowed to take with them was a knife (Swiss or Gerber), cups canteen and a sand bag to carry them in. The platoons were broken up into section groups and each was allocated a harbour area in the jungle. They were given one ration pack per section for the four days they were out there.

Just like the Survivor series, there were challenges that were set and every day just before lunch and dinner all sections would be called in to compete in various activities such as fire making, archery with improvised bows and arrows, and Kim's Games (otherwise known as Memory). The competition was fierce and all involved were thankful for the opportunity to learn a new set of skills and to have a break from the usual tactical training. The

PNG platoon were the instructors and directing staff (DS) for this training and they were very impressed with the skill level of the Australian platoons. They also enjoyed the camaraderie and the opportunity to showcase their wealth of knowledge and experience in the jungle environment.

A significant recent event that occurred during our deployment here was the 8.0 magnitude earthquake that hit Santa Cruz, a group of islands off the SE coast of the Solomon Islands. This resulted in a tsunami warning throughout Guadalcanal and our evacuation of GBR. Fortunately for us though, the 1 metre swell that was predicted ended up being an 80cm ripple. It did unfortunately mean what started out as a relaxing Waitangi Day for us Kiwis ended prematurely, but such is life.

We are all enjoying our time over here but are very excited to be coming home soon. As with every deployment we know that the mahi needs to be done, but home is where the heart is and we constantly have our loved ones in our hearts and minds wherever we are. Bae lukim iu.



SGT Sonia Muir — competing in the archery activity

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

LCPL Matt Harnett, Solomon Islands

With four weeks to go this rotation is coming to a close. The major highlights of this deployment have been gaining my dive tickets for both open water and advanced dive qualifications, the morale boosting effects of our numerous costumes during entertainment evenings and just recently the jungle survival training.

Having the opportunity to conduct both training dives and recreation dives during personal time is a skill and memory that will last a life time. I would like to thank all of the previous rotations for their hard work which has allowed such excursions like this to take place. It is a monument to the effort of hundreds of people over many years which have led to progression and stability of this country.

There have been several nights in which the Kiwis have boosted morale:

- * Christmas Dinner costumes included; Red Santa pants, a variety of red Santa hats and a white 'Meri Krismas' shirt (Pidgin) for the boys while the girls had scandalous Ms Claus skirts. One person had the luck of the draw and was dressed in a fallen angel outfit.
- * New Years was the next function, 007 theme, which involved everyone in Hazmat suits covered in cyume fluid. Once again we were the centre of attention and kicked the party off with a bang.
- * Forces Entertainment Night has only just recently been concluded. The Australians were wondering who the new 'hot' girls were, after three months away even a man in a dress starts to become

appealing. I won't go into details here but the 'Gals' got far more attention than they bargained for.

Once again the Kiwis set the bar high for maintaining morale. There is never a dull moment here on OP RATA.

Two weeks ago I was lucky enough to be able to attend the five-day jungle survival training hosted by the Papua New Guinea (PNG) Platoon. It was an interesting experience to say the least.

The first and second day involved theory and then practical training on four major stands.

The four stands included:

- * Shelter and water
- * Fire and food preparation
- * Weapons, traps and hunting
- * Jungle medicine

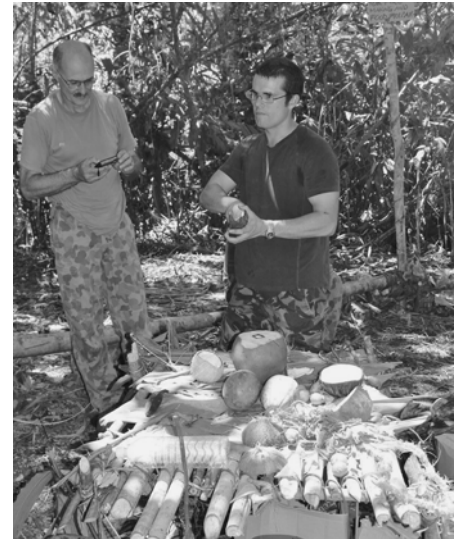
Day three to five we put all of the skills we learnt into practice. There were four sections, three from the Australian platoon and a motley group made up of CTF HQ (which included me).

The morning of the first day was dedicated to shelter construction and food gathering while the afternoon was the first inter-section competition which was fire starting. 2 Section took out the competition and won a mystery prize.

The second morning involved a section competition on hunting skills, a bow and arrow shot or spear throw to accumulate points. 1 Section took victory and the mystery prize.

The second afternoon was the final competition, a memory game of 11 plants we had previously learnt. 4 Section (my section) took victory and won a live chicken.

We ate well that night, making a



Jungle Food

chicken, cassava (sweet potato), banana with chili, lime and ginger broth. The third morning we gathered together for an umu (similar to a hangi but without the pit). Our structure was so well constructed that the local village chief asked for it to be kept.

At the beginning of the tour interaction with the PNG Platoon was limited, they seemed to have many cultural differences but by the end of the survival exercise many of the seemingly strange customs were far more understandable as were ours to them. This has brought our Pacific brethren closer and helped forge a bond between our forces.

The new NSE arrives soon and will begin the pack up of OP RATA. They will have big shoes to fill with regards to entertainment value within GBR as we have set the bar high!

***Although I have enjoyed my
time here on OP RATA, I
am looking forward to
being back on New Zealand
soil once again.***

NEWS FROM OP FARAD, SINAI

CAPT Tommy Smart
Adjutant NZ Contingent
OP FARAD, Sinai

The Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) serves to monitor the Treaty of Peace between Egypt and Israel. The MFO is comprised of 13 nations from around the globe, and New Zealand Defence Force personnel are proud to serve in Sinai on behalf of New Zealand.

Having deployed to Sinai in November 2012, I have been serving in the role of Assistant Staff Officer Plans (ASO Plans), and New Zealand Adjutant, for three and a half months. Having crossed the halfway milestone in the deployment, I continue to enjoy my roles within the MFO and the New Zealand Contingent. The environment in which I serve is very similar to a garrison environment in

New Zealand, however, the mixture of multinational military personnel and civilians makes daily work markedly different. With this difference comes the opportunity to learn about various cultures and nationalities, and contrast the way New Zealanders do business with the methods of other nations. Overall, I have found this exposure to other methods, especially in the realm of operational planning, a valuable experience.

Beyond the role of ASO Plans, there have been some key experiences which I will remember from this deployment. The first month of the deployment varied in experience, from the departure from New Zealand, to Singapore Zoo, to settling into our respective roles in Sinai. Settling in was not an issue, and with a regular physical

training, sporting, and social calendar, the MFO makes all serving personnel feel right at home. Within a month we had developed our rhythm, and all members of the contingent became proficient in their roles.

The second month of the deployment saw an increase in work tempo for most New Zealanders due to a number of activities/events within the MFO and the local area. However, our contingent managed to knuckle down and work hard. Within this busy time we were able to plan and execute Christmas Celebrations, during which time the Australian Contingent managed to narrowly defeat us in backyard cricket. However, they were outdone in the quiz night, which some would argue is a more valuable victory.

During this second month I was lucky enough to complete the Duty Investigators Course, which enabled me to conduct investigations of possible treaty violations at the border of Israel and Egypt. The role of Duty Investigator added another dimension to my work, and provided the added bonus of being able to travel to the Israel/Egypt border on business. The opportunity to investigate violations of the treaty, and then present the findings to a high ranking cabinet, was a highlight of this second month.

The third month of the deployment continued to be exciting, with one sporting competition being my most memorable experience. This was the Explosives Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Cup, a fundraising event for wounded United States soldiers. The New Zealand Contingent combined forces with Australia to enter an ANZAC team in this event, and with some focussed training and motivation, managed to seize victory over the three other teams.



The team during ordnance relay

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...



SGT Allen — Bombsuit pullups



LCPL Fraser during ordnance relay

The EOD Cup involved pull ups in a 40 kilogram EOD Bombsuit, of which Sergeant Steve Allen completed nine.

The next event was the tug of war, and Lance Corporal Frasers' pulling power dragged us to victory over a much heavier American team. The third event was the robot obstacle course, in which competitors had to navigate an EOD Robot over some difficult obstacles. However, Major Paul Prouse and Private Hayden Fulton made the competitors crumble in the presence of their robot skills. A relay was then conducted, in which each team member had to run 800 metres carrying weight, or wearing the EOD Bombsuit. Again, New Zealand posted an excellent time. The final event sealed our victory, with our Australian team members achieving the fastest clearance of a booby-trapped house in an EOD Bombsuit. Overall, the EOD Cup was a great victory for New Zealand, and hopes are high for the upcoming Force Skills Competition.

With the arrival of five new members to the New Zealand Contingent, the faces within the MFO are ever changing. However, the work ethic and pride of our NZDF personnel remains strong.



Tug of war

"Regardless of whether we are just arriving, or about to return home, all members of our contingent are proud to represent New Zealand, and we relish the opportunity to serve in Sinai, Egypt."

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CONT'D...

CPL Fay Perelini Passport Clerk, NZ Contingent OP FARAD, Sinai

Talofa lava, I'm CPL Perelini from the New Zealand Contingent (NZCON) and I am currently serving in Sinai, Egypt, as part of the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO).

I am currently performing the role of Passport Clerk in the Chief Personnel Services Branch, in the MFO. I am primarily responsible for passport stamping applications, inbound and outbound rotation statistics, Arabic Republic of Egypt (ARE) card applications, in processing and out processing of personnel and the production of MFO ID cards.

We arrived in the MFO on the 3rd of November 2012 after a long flight, and received a warm welcome from the outgoing rotation. Believe it or not, the next day was a work day, which was my first day in the office. There are four personnel working in my office, known as the ANZUS Office (Australia, New Zealand and

the United States). This includes the Staff Officer Personnel and Postal who is an Australian Captain, an American Sergeant, an Australian Corporal and myself.

In late November I was fortunate enough to spend two and a half weeks in South Camp assisting with in processing and out processing of the United States Battalion rotations. Our routine was to complete physical training in the mornings and complete work at night time. This allowed us to visit the nearby shopping malls in the afternoon. I was even lucky enough to spend a weekend in Taba, a small resort town on the Gulf of Aqaba. In addition to this leisure travel, I have visited the city of Beer Sheeva in Israel, which was a great experience.

This deployment is a once in a lifetime experience, especially working with people from different cultures and backgrounds on foreign soil. There are currently 13 contingents serving in the MFO. The Dutch Contingent has recently

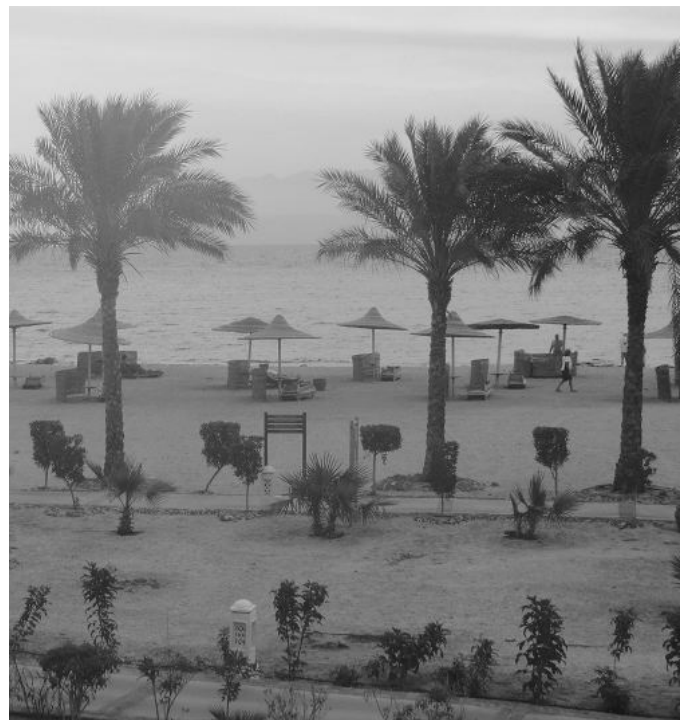
become the new addition to the MFO. There are always troops coming and going from the MFO. The United States Battalion has recently rotated out of Sinai, and a new group has replaced them, beginning their journey here.

The New Zealand Contingent has been busy with Waitangi Day preparations and function, as well as change of command parade preparations. The aim for Waitangi Day was to celebrate it with style and teach invited guests about the NZ history and culture. We also recently welcomed in five new members of the contingent and will sadly be farewelling their replacements after Waitangi Day.

This deployment is an amazing experience, with great places to see and people to interact with. I am grateful to have been given the opportunity to serve with people from all over the world in Sinai, Egypt. Although I am enjoying my time here, I am looking forward to returning home to my children, family and friends.



CPL Perelini at North Camp Range



Sharm El Sheikh

A STORY FROM KABUL — WHO IS THE CAR WASHER?

Name: Abdul Raqeeb
Job Title: Car Washer
Age: 14 years
Cars washed per day: 6
Income: 225 Afs a day
Cost car wash: 150 AFs
Location: Shar e Naw Park

Author: Shannon Galpin

Source: mobycapital.com



My name is Abdul Raqeeb.

I don't like my job as a car washer but I don't have a choice. My father is ill and cannot provide food for the family so this is why I do it. I have 8 brothers and 6 sisters and only my older brother works. He is as a truck cleaner.

Although the summer months are easier and the days are longer, every day is hard and now that winter has arrived, it is even harder; there are less cars on the streets and your hands and body freeze as the water is so cold it hurts. You can't do your job properly so people

get angry with you for wasting their time. This is what all the children working on the streets feel like. When their hands are frozen and the owner of a car is slapping them asking, 'Hey, why didn't you wash my car properly? You scratched it'. And then they speed off without paying. No, it's not good working on the streets.

"You know, when you go to work in the morning, you go with a bad feeling."

But I am lucky. I have Aschiana. There are other children like me from the streets at Aschiana and we can go there for a few hours

every morning to learn about things.

I start my day at 6 o'clock and go to the mosque for prayer. After that I have breakfast and make my way to Aschiana on my bicycle. Of course, there are traffic jams but if someone doesn't accuse me of hitting their car and beat me I am there by 8 o'clock.

They teach me about calligraphy. I have changed a lot since learning how to write beautifully. Yes, Aschiana is a good place. They provide pencils and books and help other children like me.

I am there learning until 11.30am. We are given some lunch and then I go to work on the streets. My patch is on Shar-e-Naw Park where I stay washing cars until sunset, then I go home to Charqala-e-Wazir Abad. I wash with three friends who are older than me and live on the streets. They don't go to school and don't have good clothes either. They are always cold so they can't wash in the early mornings. But it works well when we all wash a car together.

The elder amongst us is Suhrab and he is 16 and he sometimes comes to Aschiana. He controls the



A STORY FROM KABUL — WHO IS THE CAR WASHER?

money and divides it amongst us so we all get an equal amount and we don't fight. If the drivers pay us we get about 150 Afs per car and we wash about five or six a day.

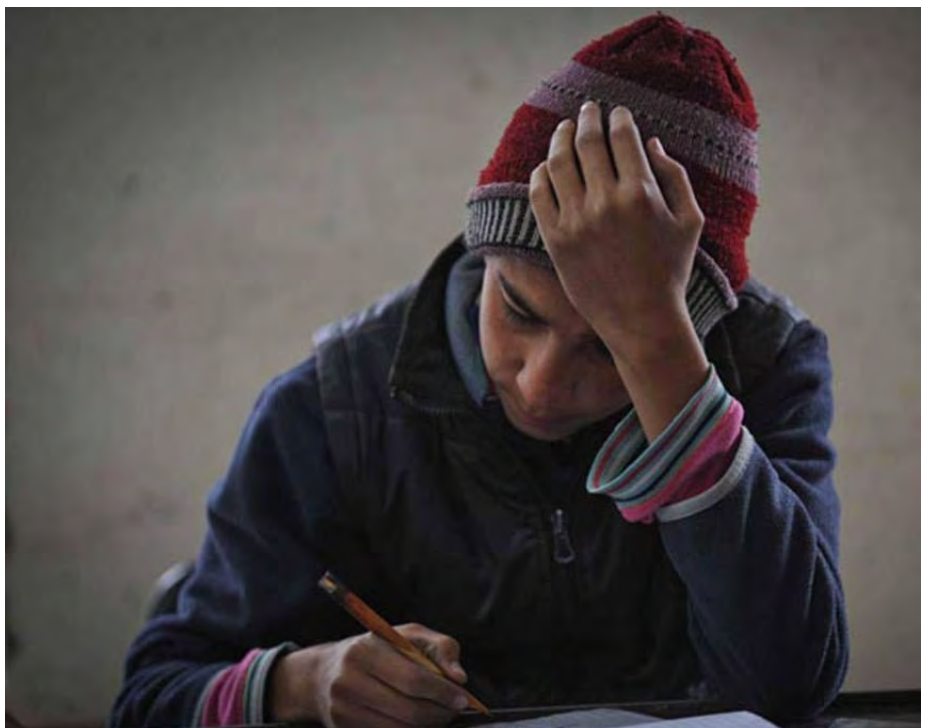
It's a good business. Cleanliness is part of our faith. People want the insides and outsides of their cars to be clean so that diseases don't get passed on. Some of the cars are really full of dust which causes disease and also the engines are all old and produce a lot of exhaust fumes. That is why there is a need for car washers.

Some car drivers are good and some are bad. I suppose we can't all be good to everybody but my hope for the future is that less children will have to work.

Hopefully one day, I'll be able to teach to others about calligraphy and earn money instead of having to wash cars. Although, actually I would really like to continue my education so that in the future I will be something worthy of my country; a teacher or an engineer maybe? Yes, I'd like to be an engineer I think.

Whether you are rich or poor all Afghans are my brothers and we should all study so that we don't have to have children working on the streets anymore. I want other children to study as well so that they can be a support for themselves and Afghanistan and that they have a happy family with a bright future.

I want to study well and become capable of running a place like Aschiana and to help other children and to earn money for my family to survive. I am so lucky that I can go there for half a day to study. If you don't study your future is dark. I have a bright future.



UNTSO — OBSERVER GROUP LEBANON



FLT LT Huse with Team SIERRA and their Language Assistants

DEPLOYED TO THE MIDDLE EAST

Flight Lieutenant Rich Huse

I am currently serving with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO) in the Observer Group Lebanon (OGL) out-station based in the South of Lebanon. Our primary role is to patrol and monitor the 'Blue Line' (Israeli Defence Force Withdrawal Line from 2000) and to observe and report upon violations and potential threats to the United Nations' Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1701—a resolution passed after the cessation of hostilities between the IDF and the Lebanese Islamic resistance movement, Hezbollah, in 2006.

As the leader of Team SIERRA, I manage 10 UN Military Observers (UNMOs), undertaking a combination of duties:

- patrolling (on foot, in armoured vehicles and within helicopters),
- investigation of specific incidents, and
- provision of continuation training for all personnel.

Our area of responsibility is the Eastern sector within the Area of Operations, sandwiched between Israel to the South and Syria to the East.

Lebanon is a remarkable country; a juxtaposition of beautiful landscapes littered with remnants of war, and a gregarious people scarred by generations of conflict. Despite conflicts which had all but wrenched the country apart, the Lebanese people maintain an

improbable optimism for their future and that of their families, displaying a resilience which has been forged by many decades of uncertainty and fear.

It's a small country (10,201 sq km, a mere 4% of the total land area of New Zealand). I can spend a morning navigating through minefields in an armoured vehicle along the Blue Line between Lebanon and Israel, then that evening be back in Beirut, the capital.

The most rewarding part of the work here is our interaction with the people. Not only do we get to experience the rich Arabic and Lebanese heritage of the local population, but we also get to sample the culture of our fellow UNMOs, from 24 different countries. Within my team, I have had the privilege of serving alongside officers from Nepal, China, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Norway, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Austria, Chile, Argentina, Serbia, Russia, Canada, Belgium, Ireland and even an exotic country called Australia.

The generous leave policy employed by UNTSO has provided me with the opportunity to travel far and wide, including Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Turkey, Cyprus, Spain (Ibiza) and the Netherlands, (as well as a trip to the Czech Republic planned for February).

The combination of the mission, the cultural diversity, the travel and the people has confirmed my 12 month deployment with UNTSO OGL as a highlight of my career in the RNZAF and it will be an experience that I will always cherish.

Source: Air Force News

CHAPLAIN'S PEN — FROM ABROAD

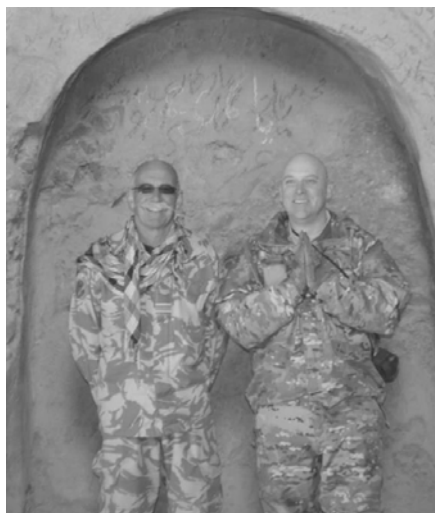
Padre Stu Hight CRIB 21

There is a Chinese story of an old farmer who had an old horse for tilling his fields. One day the horse escaped into the hills and when all the farmers neighbours sympathised with the old man over his misfortune, the farmer replied, 'Misfortune? Good fortune? Who knows?'

A week later the horse returned with a herd of wild horses from the hills and this time the neighbours congratulated the farmer on his good fortune. His reply was, 'Misfortune? Good fortune? Who knows?' Then, when the farmer's son was attempting to tame one of the wild horses, he fell off its back and broke his leg. Everyone thought this very bad misfortune. Not the farmer, whose only reaction was, "Misfortune? Good fortune? Who knows?'

Some weeks later the army marched into the village and conscripted every able – bodied youth they found there. When they saw the farmer's son with his broken leg, they let him off. Now was that good fortune? Misfortune? Who knows? This story talks of giving things time, for you never really know how things will work out – time will tell.

This last week I had the good fortune to meet Chaplain Thomas Dyer, a US Army Chaplain who came to Bamyan. The interesting thing was Chaplain Dyer is the first Buddhist Chaplain in the US Army. For him coming to Bamyan was amazing. To visit the sites of the Buddah's would be like me visiting the Holy Lands. He had studied this site so his knowledge on how the place would have operated 14 to 1600 years ago just made the place come alive. The various rooms located around where the statues were, provided teaching places,



One of the many teaching rooms



Chaplain Dyer in full cry - describing the layout and use of this particular room

debating chambers and the upper most rooms where enlightenment occurred. These rooms would have been elaborately painted and lined

with marble. Around the head of the Buddah was a platform with a curtain that would be drawn across and the monks would teach from this structure that would act like a natural megaphone enabling people to hear across the valley. Down below would have been the bazaar.

On the Sunday, Chaplain Dyer spoke at chapel and shared his faith journey. This is something we've been doing over the time we have been meeting. Everyone's journey is different and hearing one another's story gives us an appreciation of each other. Chaplain Dyer added to the rich tapestry of life people make.



The 3 Clerics, Chaplain Dyer, Padre Hight and the Malcon Ustaz Major Zaini



The view to meditate on

DSO'S CORNER



Carol Voyce

Deployment Services Officer
Southern Regional Support Centre
Editor "The Bugle"

Jethro was simply gorgeous! Just one of the many children who bounced into Briefing venues around the country over the last few days for the Tour Updates for CRIB 21. Jethro's Dad is going to be so proud of this little man when he gets home!

It was a busy weekend with much travel and much talking, but it was a real privilege to have the opportunity to meet with so many families and loved ones associated with the current deployment to Afghanistan. We admire you all for the strength and support you have shown and share the excitement of homecomings too! Not only do we thank you for your commitment, we extend thanks to the Units who supported this activity and to our country presenter, WO1 Percy McLaughlin who gave a great update on the current situation and shared his personal thoughts on a way forward, for the troubled nation of Afghanistan, and its people. Our tour updates gave us the opportunity to meet with over 200 people which must be some near record for this particular brief. We hope that you all enjoyed the opportunity as much as we did and feel better informed, up-to-date and continue to have a degree of peace

of mind as we work towards the end for some, of this rotation.

I am now happily resettled back in Burnham looking at the tasks ahead and enjoying the summer weather. There still seems much to do and much more that I would like to do. Sometimes I think it's amazing how this little office can create so many happenings and meet so many deadlines. I am fortunate to have some great volunteer support to label and stuff envelopes for our regular mailout which certainly is one less job to think about!

With "The Bugle" deadline today, I can see this is going to be a day of writing and putting together the latest edition! How pleasing it was to see two articles contributed to our new column, "Keeping the Home Fires Burning". Again, thanks to Kerry who started the ball rolling and now thanks to those who have come on board to share their thoughts and experiences with us all. I hope their efforts might spur some of you into action for upcoming editions. While we can share the experiences others have told us about when we meet for briefings, this firsthand knowledge is filling another gap and I guess reinforces the fact that often life associated with deployments is not all plain sailing, and to know that others too, have the "speed wobbles" is reassuring in that we are not alone in our ability to manage the separation and we are definitely not losing the plot! I have been in this job for a number of years now and am always grateful that I have been able to learn from people like you (and still do everyday) and to be able to share those experiences with others to help them along the way!

There are so many positives that can come from a deployment, not always evident at the time, but which ultimately set us up with so

many new skills which enrich our lives and become valuable tools to use into the future.

We have a number of "new" families joining our readership today and welcome them onboard. "The Bugle" is our main way of communicating with you all and we look forward to keeping in touch and helping you along the way. We are just a phone call away so please ring any time if we can assist or help you navigate the system.

I haven't been able to get little Jethro out of my mind. (I wish I had had my camera!) Like many other children soon to be reunited with their Mum or Dad after a long separation, there is much to look forward to. For those still waiting or just embarking on the deployment journey we look forward to meeting with you along the way.

Enjoy the glorious summer sun.

Kind regards.



IMPORTANT SUN SAFETY MESSAGE

Slip
into some cover-up clothing
and into
some shade

Slop
on some sunscreen (broad-spectrum SPF30+)

Slap
on a wide brimmed hat

Wrap
on some sunnies

DSO'S CORNER CONT'D..



Janine Burton

Deployment Services Officer
1 (NZ) Brigade

It has been a busy couple of weeks, with briefings over two consecutive weekends and lots of bits to do in between. The weekend before last we were out and about with the families of the CRIB 21 contingent which, while meaning lots of travel with late nights and obscenely early mornings to meet flights, were very rewarding both for the briefing team

and, judging from the smiling faces and feedback we received, for the families as well. Usually at the tour update briefings for contingents we are able to share homecoming dates, or at the very least a window which can be targeted as the projected RTNZ dates. This time however, we just did not have the information to share but family members who attended the briefings do understand and we have undertaken to keep you all updated with the details as soon as we have them to share.

The briefings were a team effort with both Carol and I attending, as we did for the pre-deployment briefings, and WO1 Percy McLaughlin who having returned from Afghanistan late last year, came with us to share his knowledge with families, while also multi-tasking as our chauffeur, bag carrier, supermarket shopper, dish washer upper, technical adviser (a few computer issues), and all-around good-guy.

Thanks Percy, you are a star!

We collected a lot of lovely messages while we were meeting with families too. We have made every effort to publish them as they were written, but if some handwriting has not been interpreted correctly, my apologies.

This "Bugle" will be welcoming a number of new families whose loved ones have deployed or are about to depart NZ. We hope that this publication which will come to you every three weeks, fills in some gaps, gives you an opportunity to send a special message to remember a birthday or anniversary, or just to say that we are thinking of them and looking forward to their return.

I will be away from the office for a while over the coming weeks, but Carol will be here to look after any of your queries. (My numbers have all been diverted to her). Thanks Carol, really appreciate you taking this on.

LOOKING BACK

15 March - 1944—NZ Forces Capture Castle Hill at Cassino

On 15 March 1944 the 6th New Zealand Brigade attacked the Italian town of Cassino as part of the Allies' advance on Rome. The New Zealand Division played a significant part in this campaign and by the time it was withdrawn in early April, 343 New Zealanders had lost their lives.

The success of the 15 March attack on the tactically important Castle Hill depended on the effectiveness of a planned bombing campaign. Troops had been waiting three weeks in freezing rain for suitable weather for an aerial assault. Bombarded from the air and land, Cassino was reduced to a pile of rubble. But the German defenders rallied quickly and put up staunch resistance. In conditions reminiscent of the First World War, Allied armour and infantry were held up by bomb craters that flooded as heavy rain set in, turning the rubble into a morass. Communications were difficult and progress was slower than expected. One New Zealand Battalion did manage to seize Castle Hill, but by dusk the attack had lost its impetus.

Over the next eight days more New Zealand troops entered Cassino, but they were unable to make any headway. On 23 March all attacks were called to a halt and the New Zealanders went on the defensive. Cassino did not fall until 18 May 1944, when it was occupied by Polish troops with the assistance of New Zealand artillery.

FOR YOUR INFO

Return to New Zealand CRIB 21

Dates and timings for the return to New Zealand of those currently deployed to Afghanistan are not yet available for release. There is a great team working behind the scenes to make this happen and this information will be made available to you as soon as possible. We know you are anxious to have a date to work towards to. For security reasons we are not able to print the flight information when it comes to hand, so we will be asking you to contact us (DSO's) for the latest updates. If a "Bugle" has just been posted, then we will send a text message to you all letting you know we have the flight manifests and invite you to make contact with us.

Any dates given are always subject to change for reasons beyond our control so please keep in constant touch to update and confirm information that we are giving you. Never feel that you are annoying us or ringing too often – all part of our need to keep talking to each other and to keep you in the loop!

A reminder – all flight information should be treated with the respect it deserves to meet our security requirements for the safe return of those abroad. Flight details should not be discussed with those abroad by phone, emails and social networking sites or placed on other sites which may be accessed by other people. A little common sense here which I am sure you already all adhere to!

Last Mail

For those associated with CRIB 21 and who are to return to New Zealand in the near future, please do not send anymore mail. If delays do occur then it is a huge unnecessary task to return it to the sender. There are lots of other ways to keep in touch and if you

haven't managed a Bugle message yet – here's a great chance!!

No more trips to the Post Office I hear some of you say! You have played a huge part in boosting morale for those overseas, with your many parcels and letters and we know that this has been appreciated more than you can ever imagine. I know too that occasionally you may not have always received a message of thanks but your dedication and support to this task has been vital in maintaining that link with home and raising spirits!

The closing date for mail for those associated with the current deployment with RATA to the Solomon Islands is Friday 8 March. This is the last date in which we can be reasonably assured that mail will reach our service personnel in a timely manner.

Confused?

There are a number of service personnel who deployed with CRIB 21 who will be staying on longer to assist with the packing up and clearing of the site in Bamian and surrounding areas. Much has already been completed but there is still much still to be done. You will know if your loved one is one of those remaining to assist with this task. The restrictions on mail DO NOT apply to you and you can still continue to send your packages and letters until we suggest otherwise. We will not have Return to New Zealand flight information available for those staying on to complete this task when the details are released for the remainder of the contingent but will keep in touch with you all as it comes to hand.

A number of service personnel are joining the contingent in the near future to provide added assistance to the "packing up". Mail restrictions do not apply to these personnel and their families.

If in doubt, please contact the DSO's (contact details inside cover).

Return to NZ Information for Partners CRIB and RATA

With the mail out of this edition of "The Bugle", there is a copy of the "RTNZ Information – A Guide for Partners of NZDF Personnel on Return from Operational Deployments" for the partners of personnel returning from Afghanistan and the Solomon Islands.

This booklet is packed with valuable information about reunions and is a must read. This information is not intended to tell you how you should be feeling or reacting at this stage of the deployment or to take the fun and excitement out of planning reunions. It is, however, a collection of thoughts, ideas and general information based on previous experiences of serving personnel, their partners and families. The booklet is designed to get you thinking and to be prepared for the changes you are all about to face. Everyone is very different; their reactions to homecomings will be too. If you are feeling anxious, be sure to contact us. If for any reason, a booklet was not included in the mail out or if you require an extra copy, please contact us (details on the inside front cover). Deployed service personnel will receive the same information prior to their return to New Zealand.

Return to New Zealand OP RATA Solomon Islands

Families of those associated with the current deployment to the Solomon Islands have been advised of their homecoming details. For any further information or updates, please contact Carol Voyce, DSO, Burnham.

FOR YOUR INFO CONT'D...

DSO Linton on Leave

Janine Burton, DSO Linton is currently on leave. Her phone has been diverted into the cell phone of Carol Voyce, DSO Burnham, who will provide coverage and welfare support for all missions during her absence. If you dial Janine's number it does take a few seconds for the divert to occur. Please remember that you cannot send a text message to either of our 0800 numbers and you need to use the cell phone numbers listed in the front of "The Bugle" for this. Text messages will not be forwarded from Janine's phone in her absence, so please make sure that you send them directly to Carol.

For a quick reference you can contact Carol on:

0800 33 75 69 or 0274 497 565.

Please don't leave any voice messages on Janine's line as we are unable to clear those! Look forward to keeping in touch and keeping you up-to-date along the way.

Heroes come in all sizes



**because being left
behind takes
bravery, too.**

CRIB 21 Tour Update DVD

Janine and I really enjoyed meeting with many families for the CRIB update and valued your feedback. Enjoyable occasion!

As discussed, copies of the DVD are included in this mailout for those who requested a copy. The DVD has been security cleared for your home viewing only and we ask for your full co-operation in meeting this request. For those who were unable to attend the briefings we are happy to send out copies on request. Please contact Carol (DSO Burnham) if you wish to take up this offer.

Many thanks to the CRIB 21 Contingent for the DVD. We had a great time meeting with families in four locations, country wide and sharing your efforts. On occasions, there were screams of delights, laughter, clapping, cheering and tears. I know it was a huge task for you to get the DVD put together and to get it to us in a timely manner - Two days to spare! Apologies for the nagging from afar - your efforts brought much joy and entertainment to families here and was appreciated more than you can imagine.

OPERATIONAL ALLOWANCES

When NZDF personnel travel overseas, on business or deploy on an operational mission, they are paid additional allowances over and above what they would get paid in NZ. They may get overseas incidental allowances, environmental or security threat allowances relevant to their mission (amounts vary by location).

Many people choose to save as much of this extra money as they can during the deployment to pay off the mortgage or clear some debt, while others use the extra money for such things as lawn mowing, baby-sitting expenses, paying for a holiday when they get home or purchasing luxury personal items, such as a new car.

While there are pros and cons to both approaches, most people have reported that getting the balance right between the two methods is the best idea by spending enough to make life easier at home but clearing some debt and saving for the future as well.

Some families worry about allowances affecting WINZ assistance or child support but allowances annotated NT (not taxable) on the payslip will not affect any financial assistance provided by WINZ.

The reference for this is the Income Tax Act 2007, Part C, CW 23. The Income Tax Act 2007, the Social Security Act 1964 and the Social Security (Income and Cash Assets Exemptions) Regulations 2011 all link into the exemptions provided under the Income Tax Act, Part C CW 23.

If anyone has any concerns about allowances the Deployment Services Officers are more than happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Ms Lynne Smith, J18—Personnel Welfare

KEEPING THE HOME FIRES BURNING



Thanks so much to Kerry for contributing to this new column included in "The Bugle" and for being brave enough to write the first article. I have been on this deployment journey a number of times - as a partner, then a wife with no children and now with children! Each deployment has been different and I have learned so much along the way. Thankfully though, I haven't had to deal with goats and livestock. I can't even begin to write with the humour Kerry demonstrated but I have had my funny moments and my difficult ones.

Deployments have taught me so much and I think contrary to popular belief they have in fact strengthened my relationship with my husband. We have come to appreciate that we both have different skills which we bring to our work and home lives and to our partnership and we know how to compliment each other and bring out the best too! I attribute much of my change to deployments and the fact that I have had to learn to be independent, braver, multi skilled and multi tasked, and most of all to make the most of a given situation and learn from it each time. I am not super woman. I do hide under my duvet and cry sometimes when I feel it is all a bit much but the gloom and doom seems to pass quickly and be less frequent than in years gone by!

When I look back at our first deployment I have to say I was truly a dependant! I couldn't change a tyre, couldn't start the lawn mower, couldn't read the pay slip, couldn't bare to be in the house alone once it got dark and felt depressed and withdrawn with not enough to occupy my out of work time. I didn't try to make things better - was a miserable partner and miserable to my friends who tried to help me. All I did was focus on crossing off days until my partner came home and surviving. Not much of an existence for six months. I was too scared to ask for help in case people thought I was weak (because that's how I felt) so I kept very much to myself in case someone noticed that weakness. When the next deployment came around I was pretty fearful. Not because my husband was going to a location with a degree of danger but rather that I would revert to my old ways and become that isolated "homebody" with nothing to spur me along into normal living or even to experience something new and make the most of the separation.

I very begrudgingly went to a Family Pre-deployment briefing and I must say my whole world changed that afternoon. I learned new skills, was empowered by information, but most of all I met like people who had had both good and bad deployment experiences or

who were setting off for the first time like I had once before. Suddenly I didn't feel isolated, that I needed to hide and as I was living in a Defence Community, I knew I had more friends and more support, which now I have taken to my new abode miles away from such a setting. But I still make an effort to go to any briefings that are held.

For the first time I had contacts who truly understood and people I could talk to. There was a great Padre and a Deployment Services Officer who I could phone or visit. In the Defence community, we got together often for dinner, we had a chance to not cook which was great and we would listen, laugh and share experiences. When our children were born there were instant playmates and other Mums to share the day's highs and lows. I remember once when we all got together, someone came and showed us how to change a tyre (you might laugh at this but it was a fear of mine that one day I would be stranded on a back road) and other great things like how to fix a blown fuse, how to cope with other handy chores and yes even someone to tell us how to interpret that payslip!

I am much more resilient nowadays and don't feel in the slightest anxious. I know how much a little support can

KEEPING THE HOME FIRES BURNING CONT'D.

change ones outlook and the reassurance that someone is at the end of the phone should there be a calamity, makes so much difference. I remember once ringing the DSO to tell her that Child A had passed her ballet exam - I so wanted to share that news with someone!

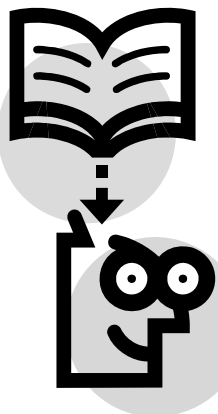
Of course I can't wait until my husband is home and we will take a little time to resettle into our partnership and roles within the home, but we are the lucky ones. I don't suppose you have ever compared yourself with others

who live in your community. Life for Defence families is unique. Absences make us work harder at our relationships - we are in a win-win situation - strange as it may seem at times.

Good luck to you all - you are special. What we do makes the deployment even more successful - yes we have a vital job too - "Keeping the Home Fires Burning"

(Name withheld on request - Editor).

(see over for another contribution).



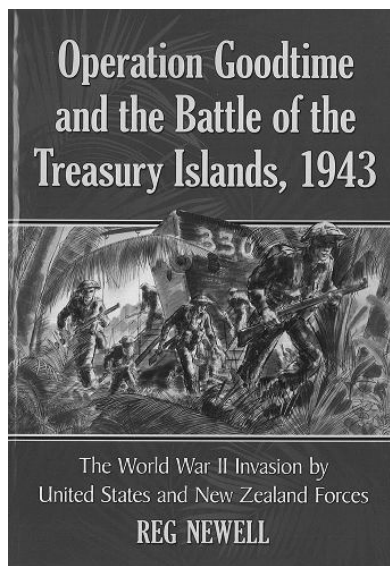
BOOK REVIEW

Operation Goodtime and the Battle of the Treasury Islands, 1943. The World War II Invasion by United States and New Zealand Forces.

By Reg Newell. McFarland and Company, Box 611, Jefferson, North Carolina 28640, USA. 2012.

www.mcfarlandpub.com

After the Japanese were defeated at Guadalcanal in early 1943, the Treasury Islands, Mono and Stirling had to be taken. NZ soldiers with American and RNZAF fighters overhead, invaded the two islands. Little has been written about this until Upper Hutt lawyer Reg Newell undertook 11 years of research and interviews. His book is a treasure trove with its great detail of strategy, logistics and types and capability of craft and armaments used.



Deployment Support Services

- ◆ Need information?
- ◆ Need support?
- ◆ Need a listening ear?
- ◆ Need to send an urgent message to a deployment location?

Deployment Support Services are here for you

The larger missions to Afghanistan, Solomon Islands & Timor-Leste appoint a lead Deployment Services Officer (DSO). All other missions offer support from either the DSO, Unit Point of Contact and local Welfare Support Services. The nominated Primary Next of Kin (PNOK) of families of deployed NZDF personnel should, in the first instance, contact their DSO who has a responsibility for transparency into welfare issues. Added to this there are other very valuable support networks available in your local region. For additional support and services:

Army:

Deployment Services Officers:

Linton—Janine Burton

Ph: 0800 683 77 327

Burnham—Carol Voyce

Ph: 0800 337 569

Community Services Officers:

Waiouru—Carolyn Hyland

Ph 06 387 5531

Burnham—Cherie Mansell

Ph 03 363 0322

Community Services Facilitator:

Linton—Lesley Clutterbuck

Ph 06 351 9970

Family & Social Services Officer:

Trentham—Marie Lotz

Ph 04 527 5029

Air Force Welfare Facilitators

Air Staff Wellington:

Trevor Stone

Ph: 04 498 6773

Base Auckland:

Deana Lye

Ph: 09 417 7035

Base Woodbourne:

Claudia Baker

Ph: 03 577 1177

Base Ohakea:

Ph: 06 351 5640

Naval Community Organization:

Ph: 09 445 5534, 0800 NAVYHELP

nib@nzdf.mil.nz

Local Chaplaincy Services

Unit Point of Contact

KEEPING THE HOME FIRES BURNING



My partner is in the advance party and deployed in Afghanistan, it seems like it all happened really fast, one minute he was in Waiouru training and the next thing we were at the airport saying our goodbyes.

I'd like to share my experiences so far, this is our first deployment together as a couple but in no way his first nor would I imagine his last.

I don't come from a military background and don't have a lot of military knowledge and to be really honest, I don't have much of an idea of what my partner does when he is away on deployment except for working extremely hard, long hours and spending a ridiculous amount of time in the gym.

For the past couple of years I have heard stories from my partner and NZDF personnel about their experiences on deployment but I just seemed to laugh it off. While I have found that I am equipped both mentally and emotionally and know how to cope with the many exercises my partner goes on, I must be honest and say that nothing could have ever prepared me for the reality of an actual deployment, it's a strange feeling to know that he won't be returning home after three months like normal.

In the beginning of this deployment I would say to myself "oh, he's only in Waiouru and will be back

soon". As silly as that may sound, this way of thinking has done well for me and has kept me strong up until this last week when the stress of the deployment has suddenly caught up on me.

I think stress had crept up on me and I seemed to do a few silly things that were totally out of the ordinary for me, I set to work on fixing a tiny pull in my car seat, needless to say I made a minor problem into a huge problem by somehow thinking that superglue would prevent the thread from fraying any further, I didn't realise that the superglue would melt the upholstery and burn a rather large hole in the seat!

I then put the superglue tube on the top of the washing machine and there it is, stuck without a care in the world - every time I pass by the washing machine I curse out loud.

I even decided that I would do some DIY and try to mend a hole in our toilet wall, again something I normally wouldn't necessarily do if my man was at home. I marched on down to the nearest paint shop and matched the paint with the tiniest slither of paint that came off the wall, bought sandpaper, putty, a putty knife and went to work. I'd like to say that I did a pretty good job but that would be a wee understatement, while the paint is a pretty close match, I sanded the wall a little too

much and would now be best to sand and paint the entire toilet. I must admit while I was puttying and sanding away, I was cursing him for being away and for leaving me alone to try and fix things; I also cursed him while I was trying to unmelt the glue and somehow fix the hole I now have in my car seat - as if I could ever unmelt glue duh!! Oh, how could I forget, I crashed the car too.

On this deployment we have had our anniversary, Christmas, New Year, all of which we have not been apart from each other until now, he has also experienced his birthday, while he is not unaccustomed to these experiences they have all been firsts for me.

At first I hated the very thought of him leaving me alone, I felt abandoned and if I think about it, I probably had a touch of separation anxiety - strange I guess as I thought I was used to him coming and going, now I can honestly say that this deployment has been one of the hardest things I have ever experienced in my life, however this experience has made me into a stronger woman, I feel like I can now handle anything that gets thrown at me in the future.

While I have had some great advice from both the DSO's in

KEEPING THE HOME FIRES BURNING CONT'D.



Burnham and Linton I wish someone had sat me down and said, "Right babe, this is what you are in for while your man is deployed - also, just a head's up, you will feel like you are going slightly crazy and will probably find yourself doing things that you normally wouldn't do, but you'll be sweet in the long run".

The most valuable thing I have learnt is; to never listen to gossip about Afghanistan or what happens in Afghanistan, it only leads to extra stress, uncertainty and a lot of sleepless nights,

many of which I have had. Why do people always think they know better than you do, even when you are the one actually involved with the deployment?

I have experienced my fair share of challenges, and have cried myself to sleep many times, I keep telling myself that there is nothing I can do to change the fact that my man is away and I can't hurry along the deployment so will continue keeping myself busy with work, study and continue to do baking for him every Sunday, yup, every Sunday; I have a great

sense of pride knowing that my partner has been sharing the home baking with the rest of the boys and the Afghan people he comes in contact with.



Hope I can keep up the baking when he is home xx.

Tracey.



CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

If your address or contact details have changed, or are changing, could you please complete this form and return it to your DSO, in Burnham or Linton.

Service Person's Name:

Deployment Location:

Name:

Old Address:

New Address:

Postcode:

Phone Number: Email address:

PERSONAL MESSAGES



The deadline for contributions and personal messages for the next edition of "The Bugle" is **20 March 2013 at 4.00pm**. Please note: All "Bugle" messages are to be sent to Carol Voyce, DSO Burnham (email: dso.burnham@xtra.co.nz)

From In-Theatre

To Goldilocks & the Three Bears
Miss you all, love Dad.

Mrs Bumble

Love you with all my heart, can't wait to be home with you in my arms. Love Mr Bumble xox.

To my 'Hawaiian Calendar' Thief...

You don't know what it means to me to have my boys back on my wall; I will finally be able to sleep at night without crying myself to sleep. I'm pleased you proved to have a conscience after all and as promised in my reward notices, a handsome reward is on offer if you reveal yourself!

TE and Girls plus Grady

Not long now until I will see you all back in Aotearoa! The days are racing by. Awesome photo's of your beach adventures, I hardly recognised E and A as they have grown so tall! Maybe my boss will let me have a decent length break before heading back to work. Rest assured I have shaved off my beard so no prickly-kisses on the tarmac when I get home! Tell Grady and Fleur to be ready for inspection when I get home. Can't wait for our South Island tiki tour! Kia Kaha, CM xxxo.

From Home

Hi the other half of the jam sandwich

I am really looking forward to your return and counting down the days! I am so proud of the work you are doing over there! It is going to be

amazing to have you back in our arms and be a family again! Keep up the good work and we'll see you jump off that plane! Lots and lots of love, White Bread.

Hi Daddy!

I love you so much! I always look at your pictures and ask Mum where you are, she tells me you are working hard to help others. I love seeing you and hearing your voice on the computer, it really makes my day. You will be so proud of me! I can say a few words now and draw pretty little pictures. I am practising for when you come home to us! Just one thing Daddy, when you jump off that plane you're not allowed to cry when you see me ok! Mum told me to say that as she doesn't want to cry. Love you lots Daddy! Your little Princess Ella xoxoxo.

My Lumberjack Commando

By the time this reaches you, I have probably just left! Glad I got to see the life you lead while you're away from home...and no doubt I probably need to apologise to a few. Well I shall head home to hold the fort till you return...kids won't be locked in their cupboard too much...Shane, Angie, Donna, Pom and Nigel have and will keep me sane as always....just...man we have awesome friends. The kids miss you heaps and Zane is always asking when I'm on the computer..."Daddy awake; he not sleeping?" And well Yasmine is just Yasmine...grunts n groans when asked if she's missing you. Thank you for making our Love-Life-Family so easy. Love you...see you soon....really soon, bring on the homecoming! Your wife and kids, xxx.

Dear Son Larry

A very HAPPY 27th Birthday to you for March 3rd! We will be especially thinking of you on the day and look forward to having a belated party for you when you are back with us. Still need that 'blowing out the candles' photo – ha ha! All our love, Mum and Dad.

Jords and maka paka!

A big HAPPY BIRTHDAY! And HAPPY VALENTINES! Better late than never ae babe! The flowers were beautiful! Can't believe we missed them again! Everything's good here; Raven's chewing things like crazy and maka, well he's just crazy! We're all missing you heaps! Been learning some new baking recipes for when you get back so be prepared for lots of baking! Yum! Hope to Skype soon. Much love from Katy, Makaiah and Raven xoxoxo.

Hey Babe

In thrill I wait, you'll soon be home
Your land, past oceans white
with foam
I brave each day till our eyes meet
Your treasured heart, I miss its beat
Such want to have you close to me
Will soon come true, God let it be
When you arrive I won't be shy
You'll see excitement, I may cry
I'll rush to hold my soldier tight
With all my heart and all my might
Emotions will so fill the day
I'll be the child who loves to play
I'll beam with pride to be with you
You are the best, no doubt, so true
The time we share will
help me through
When days do come without you
Your coming home is all I need
I love you to the moon and
back forever.
Your girl, Trace xxxx.

PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...

Hey my hunk 'a' spunk!

How are you? I'm good, just working loads, looking after the house, trying to keep busy, and save as much money as I can. OMG it's not too long now, and you'll be coming back to the land of the long white cloud! And then.. we can go to Hawaii, woop woop!! I've sent you the last package I'm allowed to send now, so I hope it gets to you alright, and that you like it, hee hee. I'm so proud of the job you and all of the NZ Soldiers are doing over there - you're all legends! I cannot wait 'til you're all safely back on NZ soil! Arohanui, Your Princess xoxoxo.

Hi Bruiser

Not long to go now mate, keep yourself safe and look forward to seeing you. Love Dad.

AL1 & AL2!

Enjoy your last few weeks of living the dream! We look forward to having you home on daddy duties! Love the hapu as Wahine!

Jesse AKA Darling

I know Boy's gona have a laugh as they do. Not long to go now. Don't forget the Duty Free and a huge 'Happy 4-Year Anniversary on 10th April' – know you'll forget. Love you heaps. Me and Layla xxx.

Hey Son

Kei te pehea? We can't wait to have you home in Mataikona! All is well, not long now. Lots of love from Dad, Mum, Missy, Ethan & Desinda xoxo.

McMassive!

Can you believe it's been 200 sleeps! Not long now, good times ahead. xxx.

Hi Bear!

A big hug coming to you from all of us here! Love you heaps. Leeze, Whitney, Dad, Ollie & Jonty. Xxx.

CRIB 21 Medics!

Love your work, looking forward to seeing you all home soon and even better, the celebrations. Thomo.

Brendon

Looking forward to seeing you soon! Love to you from all the family.

Dear Daddy

Looking forward to when you come home. Mum is busy planning our holiday. We'll go somewhere where I can show you my swimming. I can nearly do over-arm now. We miss you lots. Love William + Elena + Mummy. xxxooo.

To the one who's counting down in pays

How many to go now? We love you. xoxox.

Jackson says naaaaaa

Dad ad dad mwah mwah mwah.

Hey Harvey

Love the mo darling, looking good – ha ha. Highlanders got a beating, from Auntie.

Hey J

Very proud of what you guys are doing. See you soon, from Danners Crew.

Hi Regs

Enjoyed the DVD, see you soon. Love – Mum, Dad & Brendon.

To Hunny Bun

Not long to go now! I'm looking forward to our holiday when you get back. I'm so excited to see you! Have a shower, shave and haircut before you come home; we don't want any feral pictures! Love you lots & lots xoxoxo. Blossom.

Kia ora Kor

Thinking of you much, in a way others may never understand. Looking forward to your return home.

... there's a time for mahi, a time to rest

... there's a time to freeze and a time to defrost

there's a time to serve and a time to come home ...

Nau Mai haere Mai, son. From you Mum & whanau and your baby girl Alex. Arohanui.

Dear E-Saurus

A quick note to say we're all thinking of you and can't wait to see you home again. Much love, your little dinosaur.

Ben

Can't wait to see you! We are all very proud of all you've done; safe home, God speed. Love Mum & Maree xoxo.

To our Golden Years Girl

We love you very much; can't wait until you're home. Love Mum & Dad oxx.

Hi Ro

Can't wait to have you home; have a beer in the fridge and boysenberry trumpet in the freezer waiting for you. Love you lots and see you soon. Soph xxx.

Hey Beno

Really proud of you! Looking forward to seeing you again soon and towing your cruiser out of the mud with my skippy. Love ya, Dad xo.

Jim

The beer awaits you!

Hey Batman

Charles, Simba and I miss you. Just saw the DVD; mad photo bombing skills you have! P.S: We have the house in Taupo. Can't wait for our island holiday and all your future help around the house, ha ha ha! Love you like a fat kid loves cake. H – xoxo.

PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...

Charles Seymour

Kia ora Charles! We miss you heaps. You're looking well. Lots of love from Fleur, Aaron and kids.

Hey Babe

Love you heaps! Can't wait for you to be home ☺. Miss you xxx. (Mum said ur doin the haka for my 21st).

Sup Fool

Saw the video, you were stuffing your face the entire time! Typical! Don't forget to bring home some cool presents! Your loving sister.

Hey Pefs

Time's flying, not long now. Loads of love xoxo. Thanks guys for the mention on the DVD.

Hello Daddy

I really miss you. I saw you in the video. Love Kaia and Lachie.

Hey Babes

Can't wait to see you!! Love you, Love Me. Snooks xxx.

Hey Baby

Was so great seeing you for the short break! Counting down the months now! Kids are being good. Lots of love always, Kami.

Hi Richi

Hope all is well with you. Loved the DVD at mid-deployment meeting. On the big countdown now. Miss you and love you. Mum, Garry xxx.

Hi Rich

Auntie Kath here! Great to see you 'starring' in the DVD. See you when you get back. xxx

Hi Brett

I was here and in your garage. See you soon, from Piripe.

Hi Sam

Great presentation at the deployment briefing! Gave us a better idea of what you're up to.

You might be returning to winter cold here, but be sure you're in for a warm welcome home ...

Hi Hun

Great DVD! Can't wait to see you and REALLY pleased the beard has gone! Love you lots, Chris.

Hi Scott

Looking forward to you coming home! Extra gift for Doug & Libby is a girl. Love Mum.

Hi Richard

At Linton today; just watched the DVD. Well done guys, very informative and good to see you. Looking forward to seeing you home – not long now. Love Dad & Anne.

Hello Brett

Just watched DVD (in Linton). Think I saw you. Looking forward to you being home. Enjoying seeing small glimpse of your life there. God Bless, love you more, haha. Love Mum. P.S: and Dad.

Hello Captain T

Saw the DVD, spotted your big handsome head straight away. Looking forward to you coming home. The boy is looking forward to having some "papa time" too. Take care, stay warm, see you soon. All our love: Team T, xxx.

To Dan Da Man

Not long until you get back to the mighty Ku. Your flag is still flying high and strong. Look forward to having a cold one with you and hearing about your adventure. We are all very proud and wish you a very Happy B-Day. Keep safe. You are part of a very awesome bunch of Kiwis. Lots of love from Mum, Dad, Kieran, Luke, Adam, the Nana's and all your family.

Yo Simon

Keep working hard, not long not long to go. Everyone says "hi". Saw

you on the DVD. Keeping working on the 'guns'; they are almost as big as mine! Look after yourself and see ya soon! From Matty and the rest of the family.

Hi Andrew Lewis

Looking forward to your coming home. Nasi Lemak and Chicken Rice will be waiting for you too. See you soon and take care. Love Mum, Dad, Mark, Rice & Logan.

Whaddup Slumdawg!

We all here together at the briefing. Lovely to see 'girly' dressed up photos of you. Waiting for you to get back!! Lots of love Zed, Mum & Dad ☺ (Puffy & kitty cats too ☺).

Hey Zylen

Can't wait for you to come home and cook for me! Take care, see you soon. Lots of love Laura, Tui, Jethro.

Hello Leon!

Missing you heaps – great that things are going so well. So looking forward to your return. Love you xxx Mum ♥ .

Larry

Not long now. Hopefully you get your last shipment of goodies. Have you cleaned your glasses yet? Ha ha. Your wardrobe is nearly empty. Love Sian.

Hello Zy

Can't wait to see you!! You looked great in the DVD we saw. Love you lots. Take care. Dada, Zed, I and our babies at home are waiting for you to return soon!! Lots of kisses, love & hugs – Mama.

Hello Shane

Looking forward to seeing you soon. Happy 22nd birthday for April! I know you're dying for a beer! Be sensible now! Love you, keep safe from your Awesome Sister, Darrelle: D.

PERSONAL MESSAGES CONT'D...

Hello Shane

Missing you! Love you. See you soon, love Dijon.

Hello Shanee

I love you very much, you are very special to me and I miss you very much. I think of you a lot and I hope you are enjoying it over there. You are really, really Awesome. I am looking forward to seeing you when you come back! I love you! Love, your darling sister Emma! xoxoxo ♥.

Hey Shane

Counting the weeks till you get back, miss you heaps and love you lots (you know that already ☺). Very proud of you! Mum xx. Love from Dijon as well.

G'day Shane

Happy Birthday over there, have a good one. Stay safe. Dad.

Jono

Can't wait to welcome you home Jonny; very proud of everything that has been happening over there and we all really enjoyed the Christmas DVD. So nice to catch up with messaging when we could. After all the years you still amaze me with the things you achieve. Lots of love from Mum and all the family.

To Mr Takitimu

Almost 6 months married. I can't wait to see you and have you close again. The boys are looking forward to having you home and going on their little outing with you.

It's all down-hill from here my huni. Keep your head up; we're all so very proud of you. Lots of love from Mrs Takitimu xxx.

Trooper Daniel Kennedy

Hi to a special man on your special day. Don't know if you will read this before the day, but hope it will be a good one, or, has been a good one. Time is passing quickly and we are impatient for your homecoming. We are both fine, although a bit limpy, but not being overworked - we've got it down to a fine art now. Best wishes from the Aunties, Uncles, and cousins and lots of love. We think of you and your mates everyday. Take care and stay safe. Love from the 2 Nans, Bev, K and L.

BOUQUETS

Ian Moray-Smith

Always a pleasure to brief at Messines and to have access to your fine facilities! Many thanks again for assisting with our visit for families of CRIB 21. We really appreciate your efforts to accommodate and support us on so many occasions and to allow us access to the venue, resources and equipment. You lighten the load!
Janine and Carol.

Auckland North Regiment

Your hospitality on our recent visit for the CRIB 21 briefings was so much appreciated. We always value the opportunity to visit with you and to enjoy your great hospitality offered to us every time - which seems often! Many thanks again for making your facilities available to us for the CRIB family updates - It was a great gathering enjoyed by all. *Carol and Janine.*

WO1 Percy McLaughlin

Thank you so much for joining us for the CRIB tour updates for families associated with the current deployment to Afghanistan. We very much valued your great presentations, fine words of wisdom and assistance along the way. We apologise for the tight schedules and lack of sleep! The feedback from our many families, shows that we more than exceeded their expectations, (always our aim), so much of the credit for this goes to you for your many contributions. Extra thanks too for solving the many technical issues we encountered along the way and for the laughs behind the scenes. We met with over 200 people in less than 36 hours and your input was priceless in helping us keep to schedule! Take a well earned rest! *Carol and Janine.*

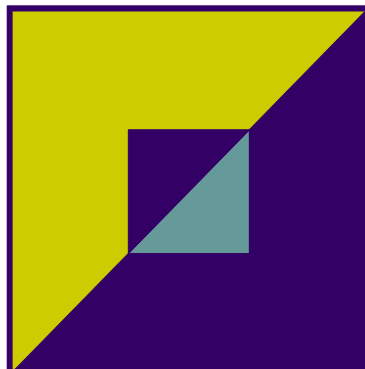


BOOKMARKS

You may like to cut these bookmarks out, glue them to some card and even laminate them.

Remember to:

- * Take time to listen to each other
- * Understand feelings
- * Spend time with people
- * Join a group or take up a hobby
- * Keep up routines
- * Take time out for fun
- * Help others
- * Look after yourself
- * Use NZDF supports and services
- * Reassure and praise children
- * Continue family rituals
- * Talk about change
- * Discuss the deployment with teachers and childcare providers
- * Keep the deployed person part of every day events



DEPLOYMENT

Time
to
grow

*Preparing for
separation*

**REMEMBER
THAT SEPARATION
CAN BE AN
OPPORTUNITY FOR
EVERYONE IN THE
FAMILY TO GROW**



DEPLOYMENT

Time to
celebrate
family

*Creating
family rituals*

**FAMILY RITUALS CREATE
A SENSE OF FAMILY AND
BONDING. THESE
ROUTINES GIVE FAMILY
MEMBERS:**

**A SENSE OF CONNECTION
*WE BELONG TOGETHER***

**A SENSE OF THE
FAMILIAR
*WE SERVE MUM
BREAKFAST IN BED ON
MOTHER'S DAY***

**A SENSE OF IDENTITY
*WE'RE A FISHING FAMILY***

**A WAY TO INSTILL
VALUES
*WE SAY A NIGHTLY
PRAYER***



DEPLOYMENT

Time to talk
—and listen

*Talking about
deployment*
**YOUR CHILDREN NEED
TO BE TOLD WHAT IS
HAPPENING**

**ALLOW TALKING ABOUT
DEPLOYMENT TO BE A
REGULAR PART OF
CONVERSATION:**

DURING DINNER

AT BEDTIME

WHILE PLAYING