

COMMENDATION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

Royal Australian Navy

Captain Simon Giuseppe OTTAVIANO RAN, ACT

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as Chief of Staff Headquarters Joint Task Force 633 on Operation SLIPPER from July 2011 to January 2012.

Captain Ottaviano's distinguished performance as Chief of Staff at Headquarters Joint Task Force 633 directly contributed to the Australian campaign, particularly with regard to improving the procedures for managing critical incidents and matters of national strategic sensitivity, and the capacity to better sustain deployed, widely dispersed operations. Captain Ottaviano was a driving force and inspiration for the cohesive, positive environment which typified the headquarters throughout his deployment.

Commander Andrew Paul QUINN RAN, ACT

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as the Commanding Officer, HMAS *Toowoomba* on Operation SLIPPER from June to October 2011.

Commander Quinn's leadership enabled HMAS *Toowoomba* to achieve an outstanding level of performance in the conduct of coalition maritime operations as directed by the Commander, Combined Maritime Forces. Commander Quinn contributed significantly to the protection of life and security at sea in the Middle East Area of Operations, particularly through operations aimed at terrorism, piracy and other illegal activities.

Australian Army

Lieutenant Colonel B

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations.

Details not available at the request of the Department of Defence.

Major Andrew BAKER, Qld

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as Commander, Brigade Headquarters Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team, Mentoring Task Force 3 on Operation SLIPPER in Afghanistan.

Major Baker diligently and tactfully fostered vital relationships with the commander and staff of the Afghan National Army's 4th Brigade Headquarters, which contributed significantly to an unprecedented improvement in their confidence, competence and efficiency in the planning and conduct of operations in Uruzgan Province. Major Baker has made a valuable contribution to the advancement of Australia's national interests in Afghanistan.

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Major Andrew Thomas CULLEN, Qld

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Troop Commander, Combined Team Uruzgan on Operation SLIPPER from May 2011 to February 2012.

Major Cullen was pivotal in the development of an Afghan National Army explosive ordnance disposal capability in Uruzgan Province and the centralised coordination of Coalition force explosive ordnance disposal across the province. These capabilities greatly enhanced the scarce and highly valuable explosive ordnance disposal capability and saved lives during his command, and will continue to do so in future.

Private Phillip Alan DURHAM, WA

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations and in action as a rifleman with A Company, Mentoring Task Force 3 on Operation SLIPPER in Afghanistan from June 2011 to January 2012.

Private Durham displayed exceptional battle skills and moral courage during a contact with the enemy. In a complex battle situation, he provided critical information to his company command post and the patrol in contact allowing the coordination of effective offensive fire. Moreover, he was instrumental in saving the lives of Afghan civilians and, quite likely, Afghan and Australian soldiers through his advice to an Afghan National Army commander who was directing fire support.

Major General Michael George KRAUSE AM, ACT

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as the Deputy Chief of Staff - Plans, Headquarters International Joint Command, International Security Assistance Force Afghanistan from March 2011 to February 2012.

Major General Krause was instrumental in the development of the first Afghan National Army designed, written and owned campaign plan and planning for the force structure drawdown transition to Afghan-led security. Through his astute understanding of the complexities of the Coalition, his comprehensive and tactful engagement with others, and his foresight, exemplary leadership and commitment, Major General Krause has made an outstanding contribution to the International Security Assistance Force effort in Afghanistan.

Major Benjamin Gerard McLENNAN, Qld

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as the Operations Officer, Mentoring Task Force 3 on Operation SLIPPER from June to November 2011.

Major McLennan's written work and articulate briefings were instrumental to the adoption of improved mentoring approaches across the International Security Assistance Force and for the direction of the Australian mission in Afghanistan. His comprehensive, relevant and timely staff work contributed significantly to the confidence and efficiency of the Afghan National Army's 4th Brigade. Major McLennan's drive and enthusiasm resulted in procedural and organisational changes across critical areas that should have long-term benefits.

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Lieutenant Colonel Christopher Gerard MILES, ACT

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as the Principle Staff Officer Operations, Headquarters Joint Task Force 633, and as Acting Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff Combined Team Uruzgan on Operation SLIPPER.

Lieutenant Colonel Miles' held three extremely challenging appointments during his seven months deployment. In all appointments he was highly effective, developing options and ensuring the quick passage of time-sensitive information to enable well considered and highly effective decisions by his commanders. He was extremely capable under pressure as well as tactful and diplomatic in sensitive situations. He made a significant contribution to the achievement of the mission in the Middle East Area of Operations.

Corporal Daniel Brett MILLER, Qld

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as a corporal mentor, Mentoring Task Force 3 on Operation SLIPPER in Afghanistan from June 2011 to January 2012.

On 9 July 2011, Corporal Miller provided leadership to soldiers of his Afghan National Army mentored force who were being engaged by the enemy and enabled them to recover the situation and successfully clear the enemy from a village. On two other occasions during his deployment, Corporal Miller displayed exceptional courage and professionalism to provide timely first aid and comfort to wounded soldiers and coordinate their evacuation.

Major R

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations.

Details not available at the request of the Department of Defence.

Captain T

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations and in action.

Details not available at the request of the Department of Defence.