

APPOINTED AN OFFICER (AO) IN THE MILITARY DIVISION

Royal Australian Navy

Rear Admiral Michael Julian VAN BALEN RAN, ACT

For distinguished service as Commodore Support, Fleet Command; Director, Coalition Coordination Centre, United States Central Command; and Deputy Chief of Navy.

Rear Admiral van Balen's distinguished service and leadership has guided and inspired those around him, focussing them on achieving tangible operational and capability outcomes. His deep professional knowledge, ability to quickly grasp the essentials of a situation, and to understand his people, has enabled him to lead his team in demanding strategic and operational circumstances in Australia and overseas. Rear Admiral van Balen's leadership and distinguished service are in the highest traditions of the Royal Australian Navy and Australian Defence Force.

Australian Army

Major General Stuart Lyle SMITH DSC AM, Qld

For distinguished service as Commander 3rd Brigade and Commander 1st Division.

Major General Smith has been fundamental in the realisation of Australia's national interests and in leading profound strategic change for Army in training and command roles. His diligence, clear desire to improve the understanding and management of complex capabilities, meticulous attention to detail, and sense of duty are hallmarks of his distinguished service and bring great credit upon himself, the Australian Army and upon the Australian Defence Force.

Royal Australian Air Force

Air Vice-Marshal Melvin Ernest HUPFELD DSC, NSW

For distinguished service to the Australian Defence Force in senior command and staff appointments.

Air Vice-Marshal Hupfeld is the epitome of professionalism who has distinguished himself through exceptional leadership that has shaped the operational tasking of air assets; enhanced Air Force's reputation with the United States military; and expertly delivered Air Force's operational capability in an environment of constrained resources. His enduring achievements have brought great credit upon himself and the Royal Australian Air Force, and are in the finest traditions of the Australian Defence Force