

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS (DSC)

Australian Army

Lieutenant Colonel N

For distinguished command and leadership in warlike operations as the Commanding Officer of Special Operations Task Group 632 on Operation OKRA from November 2016 to June 2017.

Lieutenant Colonel N's distinguished command and leadership of Task Group 632's mission to advise and assist Iraqi security forces whilst deployed on Operation OKRA produced outstanding results. Under his leadership, Task Group 632 provided crucial assistance to the Iraqi Counter Terrorism Service in their successful liberation of the city of Mosul, one of the most significant urban battles in the contemporary era. His team also greatly enhanced the collective capability of the Counter Terrorism Services units to defeat terrorist threats to Baghdad.

Colonel Richard Anthony VAGG, ACT

For distinguished command and leadership in warlike operations as the Commander of Task Group Taji IV in Iraq on Operation OKRA, from December 2016 to June 2017

Colonel Vagg's distinguished command and leadership of Task Group Taji IV significantly enhanced training for Iraqi security forces during a period of protracted combat in Iraq, including the battle for Mosul. He creatively fostered an integrated Australian and New Zealand Defence Force approach which delivered training to over 8,000 members of the Iraqi Security Forces and established an advisory team that assisted the North Baghdad Operations Command to disrupt Da'esh in the North Baghdad area.

Royal Australian Air Force

Air Vice-Marshal Timothy Charles INNES CSC, ACT

For distinguished command and leadership in warlike operations as the Commander Joint Task Force 633 on Operations OKRA and HIGHROAD from January 2016 to January 2017.

Air Vice-Marshal Innes demonstrated outstanding commitment and dedication by leading Australia's contribution to operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and more broadly throughout the Middle East Region. Air Vice-Marshal Innes' exceptional operational oversight, critical leadership engagement and tireless efforts ensured the effectiveness of Australia's military contribution and greatly enhanced the international reputation of the Australian Defence Force in the Middle East Region.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL (DSM)

Australian Army

Lieutenant Colonel Christopher Dudley GARDINER, ACT

For distinguished leadership in warlike operations as Commanding Officer Training Task Unit of Task Group Taji IV in Iraq on Operation OKRA from November 2016 to June 2017.

Lieutenant Colonel Gardiner demonstrated distinguished leadership of the Training Task Unit within Task Group Taji IV. Under his command, the Training Task Unit delivered training to 8,105 members of the Iraqi Security Forces many of whom then fought to liberate Mosul from Da'esh control in 2017. Lieutenant Colonel Gardiner's exceptional leadership, innovation, dedication and superior knowledge have enhanced the delivery of training to Iraqi Security Forces, which will have an enduring benefit to the nation of Iraq.

Colonel Michael Lee MURDOCH, ACT

For distinguished leadership in warlike operations as the Commander of the Kabul Garrison Command Advisory Team, and Senior Mentor to the Kabul Garrison Commander from October 2016 to June 2017.

Colonel Murdoch demonstrated exemplary leadership, commitment, and energy in leading a multi-disciplinary team to train, advise and assist the Commander and staff of the Kabul Garrison Command. These efforts significantly improved the Garrison Command's ability to coordinate the efforts of more than 25,000 soldiers, policemen and intelligence personnel across Kabul City and the surrounding province.

Royal Australian Air Force

Wing Commander G

For distinguished leadership in warlike operations as Commander Task Element 630.1.1 on Operation OKRA from January 2017 to May 2017

Wing Commander G exhibited impeccable skill and judgement in the conduct of close air support missions in the dense urban environment of Iraq. He also displayed superior leadership of his task element to deliver outstanding air power support to the Iraqi Army and partnered Coalition forces during the liberation of West Mosul. Wing Commander G's efforts contributed to the success of operations in Iraq and to the excellent reputation of the Australian Defence Force both within the Coalition and Iraq.

Royal Australian Air Force (continued)

Air Commodore Michael Robert KITCHER AM, NSW

For distinguished leadership in warlike operations whilst deployed as Commander Air Task Group 630 on Operation OKRA from January 2017 to June 2017.

Air Commodore Kitcher demonstrated distinguished leadership of Air Task Group 630 operations during a period of heightened tempo that included the liberation of Mosul, arguably the most significant urban battle in recent times. In a complex and unpredictable environment, he displayed insightful analysis and provided clear guidance to the Air Task Group. His leadership and professionalism contributed greatly to the success of the Air Task Group in supporting Iraqi Security Forces on the ground.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL (DSM)

Air Vice-Marshal Stephen Leslie MEREDITH AM, ACT

For distinguished leadership in warlike operations whilst deployed as Director Combined Air and Space Operations Centre, United States Air Force Central Command, from January 2017 to July 2017.

Details not released at request of recipient

COMMENDATION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE (CDS)

Australian Army

Major B

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as the Executive Officer of Special Operations Task Group 632 Rotation VI, in Iraq on Operation OKRA from November 2016 to June 2017.

Major B distinguished himself by his efforts coordinating Headquarters Special Operations Task Group's support to the broader Task Group mission of providing assistance to the Iraqi Counter Terrorism Service. His efforts significantly enhanced the Task Group's ability to provide excellent support to the Counter Terrorism Service in two distinct missions-as the spearhead of the Iraqi Security Forces in the liberation of Mosul and in the conduct of counter terrorism operations in the defence of Baghdad.

Colonel Kahlil Scarf FEGAN DSC, ACT

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as the Director of Plans in Combined Joint Force Land Component Command - Iraq, as part of Operation Inherent Resolve from July 2016 to April 2017.

Colonel Fegan provided superb coordination and leadership to the combined planning of the international Coalition and the Iraqi Security Forces for operations against Da'esh. He distinguished himself by his military expertise, nuanced understanding of a complicated environment and ability to unify and motivate all the involved forces. His performance contributed significantly to the effectiveness of Coalition support to the Iraqi Security Forces in a highly complex and contested environment.

Major Christopher Daniel GILMORE, USA

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as Officer Commanding Training Team One of Task Group Taji Three in Iraq on Operation OKRA from May to December 2016.

Major Gilmore demonstrated distinguished service in his leadership of his team which trained Iraqi forces to secure Al-Qayyarah Air Base and subsequently liberated Mosul. His team performed to an exceptional standard and his mission focus, dedication and leadership delivered superior results in building partner capacity for the defeat of Da'esh in Iraq.

Major Brian E HICKEY, ACT

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as Officer Commanding North Baghdad Operations Command Advisory and Assistance Team, Task Group Taji IV, Iraq on Operation OKRA from November 2016 to June 2017.

Major Hickey distinguished himself through his strong devotion to duty, vision and intellect in the design and implementation of Task Group Taji IV's Advisory and Assistance Team supporting Iraqi partner forces. He established an enduring role for his team which enabled them to effectively integrate into the architecture of northern Baghdad security operations. His work significantly enhanced the ongoing security and safety of Baghdad and the force protection of Task Group Taji IV.

COMMENDATION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE (CDS)

Australian Army (continued)

Lance Corporal J

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations in Iraq, on Operation OKRA from March 2017 to October 2017.

Lance Corporal J demonstrated outstanding initiative, hard work and professionalism while undertaking a demanding warlike role. Through application of skills, judgement and dedication to duty, he has delivered engineering effects that have supported the Counter Terrorism Service's battle for Mosul. He has been an influential member of Special Operations Command Task Group's Advisory and Assistance training teams. He has fostered a strong reputation for Australian Soldiers working together with partner forces in direct support to their fight against Da'esh.

Major M

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as the Officer Commanding Special Operations Task Group 632 Rotation VI Special Forces Advisory Team and as the Deputy Commander of Task Force - Counter Terrorism Service on Operation OKRA from December 2016 to June 2017.

Major M's distinguished performance on Operation OKRA was critical to the Special Operations Task Group's success in their mission to Advise and Assist Iraqi Security Forces. Through his distinguished cultural diplomacy, innovation and leadership, Major M enabled the Iraqi Counter Terrorism Service to realise their full potential and achieve outstanding combat results. Major M ensured the Iraqi Counter Terrorism Service Special Mission Units were ready to fight and defeat the growing threat of insurgent terrorism.

Corporal M

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations and in action as the lead Joint Terminal Air Controller in Special Operations Task Group 632 Rotation VI on Operation OKRA in Iraq from November 2016 to June 2017.

Corporal M provided exceptional service as the lead Special Operations Task Group 632 Joint Terminal Attack Controller supporting the Iraqi Counter Terrorism service. His leadership inspired his team as they provided critical fire support to the 1st Iraqi Special Operations Force Brigade as they successfully spearheaded the assault to recapture Mosul. Corporal M's personal contribution to enhancing both Coalition and Iraqi Joint Terminal Attack Controller competence improved the performance of the Iraqi Counter Terrorism Service in the campaign.

Australian Army (continued)

Brigadier Cheryl Ann PEARCE AM, NSW

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as the Commander Task Group Afghanistan, Operation HIGHROAD from February 2016 to November 2016.

Brigadier Pearce exhibited distinguished performance of duties as the Commander Task Group Afghanistan. She consistently demonstrated superior achievement through impressive leadership and exemplary devotion to duty, outstanding relationship building skills and adept strategic acumen. Her performance significantly contributed to advancing Australia's support to coalition operations in Afghanistan in a challenging and contested operational environment.

COMMENDATION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE (CDS)

Private R

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations in Afghanistan, on Operation HIGHROAD from September 2016 to February 2017.

Private R demonstrated outstanding devotion to duty ensuring the safety and situational awareness of his Principal who provided mentoring support particularly during the resolution of high profile attacks in Kabul. He provided insightful reflections and considerations after meetings and train, advise and assist engagements which enhanced future interactions. In doing so he has contributed to the development of the partnered force, exceeding his level in rank.

Major R

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as the Officer Commanding the Special Operations Task Group 632 Rotation VI Intelligence Fusion and Support Cell, in Iraq on Operation OKRA from November 2016 to June 2017.

Major R demonstrated exemplary leadership of the Fusion and Support Cell. With exceptional foresight, he harnessed national and coalition intelligence assets to directly enable the Iraqi Counter Terrorism Service as they spearheaded the liberation of Mosul and defence of Baghdad. His efforts enhanced the force protection of the task group and partnered Iraqi forces against a dynamic threat through the development of crucial threat assessments and real time indicators and warnings, saving countless lives.

Brigadier Jason Kyle WALK, ACT

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations while serving as the Deputy Director Sustainment, Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan on Operation HIGHROAD, in Kabul, Afghanistan from July 2016 to August 2017.

Brigadier Walk demonstrated exemplary leadership, outstanding skills as a logistician, and unwavering commitment to duty in leading the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation's institutional capacity building efforts for the Afghan Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defense, with a focus on reducing corruption and reforming supply chain management, logistic command and control, equipment life cycle management, and maintenance programs. Through his efforts, Brigadier Walk has brought great credit upon himself, Task Group Afghanistan, and the Australian Army.

Australian Army (continued)

Colonel Mark Christopher WELBURN, NSW

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as the Deputy Chief of Staff Security Force Assistance, Headquarters Train Advise Assist Command - South, Kandahar Afghanistan while deployed on Operation HIGHROAD over the period May 2016 to May 2017.

Colonel Welburn demonstrated exceptional leadership, superior intellect, and meticulous attention to detail as the Deputy Chief of Staff Security Force Assistance, Headquarters Train Advise Assist Command - South. His mentoring had a profound and sustained impact on the morale, confidence and esprit de corps of the Afghanistan National Army units. Colonel Welburn's determined efforts to promote Afghanistan-led security across Southern Afghanistan, and enhance Australian national interests were outstanding.

COMMENDATION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE (CDS)

Royal Australian Air Force

Flight Lieutenant G

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as the Task Unit 630.2 Dynamic Targeting Intelligence Officer supporting Operation OKRA from December 2016 to June 2017.

Flight Lieutenant G distinguished himself through exceptional performance of duties in his role as the Dynamic Targeting Intelligence Officer. Flight Lieutenant G was responsible for providing operational estimates, weapon recommendations, targeting limitations and proportionality assessments to the Australian Target Engagement Authority. This function was a critical component within the Combined Air Operations Centre during the Government of Iraq campaign to liberate Mosul from Da'esh forces.

Group Captain H

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations whilst deployed as Commander Task Unit 630.2 on Operation OKRA from April 17 to August 2017

Group Captain H displayed outstanding professionalism and dedication to duty as the Commander Task Unit 630.2 in the Combined Air Operations Centre providing outstanding support to Coalition Forces. His excellent application of the Australian Rules of Engagement and the Law of Armed Conflict was instrumental in the coordination of timely and precise application of close air support to ground forces during the Mosul campaign.

Royal Australian Air Force (continued)

Squadron Leader M

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations while deployed as a Combat Controller with the Special Operations Joint Task Force and as the Strike Director, Combined Joint Operations Command, Iraq on Operation OKRA between February 2015 and June 2017.

Squadron Leader M demonstrated outstanding leadership and dedication to duty as a Combat Controller. His judgment, mental agility, and extensive knowledge of joint fires directly contributed to the defeat of enemy forces throughout the Euphrates and Tigris River Valleys.

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS (CSC)

Royal Australian Navy

Lieutenant Commander Amy Leigh BLACKER RANR, ACT

For outstanding achievement in the field of Navy workforce reform.

Lieutenant Commander Blacker's outstanding contribution to the Navy's Supply community workforce review contributed to the fundamental restructuring of the force, transitioning it to a Maritime Logistics Community positioned to deliver Navy logistics capability to new technologies and operational outputs. Through complex review and analysis of Navy future strategic requirements and goals, she assisted in the development of workforce models and organisational changes necessary for the Navy to support current and future warfighting capabilities.

Commodore Grant Ian FERGUSON RANR, ACT

For outstanding achievement as Director General Suakin Branch, Defence People Group.

Commodore Ferguson provided inspired leadership of a team that developed and delivered one of the most challenging and innovative restructures of the Australian Defence Force workforce management model. The model introduced fundamental change in the way members of the Australian Defence Force, including Reservists, render service. Commodore Ferguson used his extensive experience to deliver a model optimised to provide enhanced capability options and workforce flexibility for Defence in the future.

Captain Gregory Allen LAXTON RAN, NSW

For outstanding achievement in the field of Navy Program Management and support innovation.

Captain Laxton's outstanding leadership and commitment to collaboration and cooperation with industry and Navy as the Director of the Guided Missile Frigate System Program Office significantly improved the delivery of capability during an operationally demanding period. His approach to innovation has resulted in the establishment of a Centre for Innovation that will provide long term benefits to Navy through facilities that enable rapid design, prototyping and industry collaboration.

Commander Michael John MILLER RAN, ACT

For outstanding devotion to duty as the Deputy Director Operations within Maritime Border Command.

Commander Miller significantly enhanced the operational effectiveness of Maritime Border Command through application of his extensive maritime operational experience, analytical and planning skills and exemplary management. He formulated joint agency integrated patrol and response plans that supported the safe and successful outcomes of numerous tactical operations. Commander Miller provided critical support to enable long-range operation of the Cape Class Patrol Boats to assist their future operations.

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS (CSC)

Royal Australian Navy (continued)

Commander Anthony Richard NAGLE RAN, NSW

For outstanding devotion to duty as the Executive Officer in HMAS *Newcastle*.

Commander Nagle's outstanding devotion to duty, leadership and resourcefulness were principal factors in the development of an esprit de corps amongst the crew that resulted in the highly successful conduct of HMAS *Newcastle*'s operational capability throughout 2016 and 2017. His dedication, application of superior management and clear communication skills were major contributing factors to HMAS *Newcastle*'s success.

Captain Aaron Walter NYE RAN, NSW

For outstanding achievement in the field of Major Fleet Units Sea Training.

Captain Nye instigated and led a range of innovative initiatives that resulted in a richer training experience whilst producing significant savings and efficiencies. The inspirational development and introduction of synthetic and simulated fleet unit combat training has resulted in a significant reduction of sea days to achieve required competency standards. His inventive approach to unit collective tactical training has not only provided efficiencies but has also provided inspiration to others to think laterally.

Chief Petty Officer Michael John O'DONNELL, NT

For outstanding devotion to duty during the execution of his duty as the Ship's Damage Control Officer when responding to an engine room fire in HMAS *Maryborough* on the night of 25th and 26th May 2017.

In the face of significant and complex obstacles, Chief Petty Officer O'Donnell expertly applied damage control procedures, systems knowledge and incident management skills to direct the Ship's response to a major fire aboard HMAS *Maryborough*. Chief Petty Officer O'Donnell's actions ensured the safety of Australian Defence Force personnel and limited damage to an Australian Defence Force asset in an extremely dangerous and complex situation.

Australian Army

Lieutenant Colonel Charmaine Sylvia BENFIELD, Qld

For outstanding achievement as the Staff Officer Grade One Selections and Appointments with Career Management Army during 2016 and 2017.

Lieutenant Colonel Benfield fundamentally reformed and established new benchmarks that improved the manner in which the Australian Army selects and appoints Officers. Her applied intellect realised a 50 percent increase in the number of Officers joining the Australian Army and contributed to the Australian Defence Force Academy and the Royal Military College Army intakes reaching close to 100 percent in 2017. Her success in selecting Officers has increased the diversity of the Australian Army and improved the sustainability of the Australian Army Officer Corps.

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS (CSC)

Australian Army (continued)

Major Katie Louise BURRUP, Qld

For outstanding achievement in developing and implementing a Family and Domestic Violence Framework in North Queensland as Staff Officer Grade Two - Personnel at Headquarters 3rd Brigade.

Major Burrup led the development and implementation of the 3rd Brigade Family and Domestic Violence Framework resulting in increased awareness and support of victims of family and domestic violence. Her work informed the development of Family and Domestic Violence programs across Army and in the North Queensland Community. Her work greatly enhanced the reputation of the Australian Defence Force in the North Queensland Community.

Colonel Steven John HUME, ACT

For outstanding achievement in the coordination of materiel support to Australian Defence Force operations.

Colonel Hume demonstrated exceptional dedication and foresight in the coordination and delivery of materiel support to Defence operations. He made an outstanding impact on the Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group's performance in support of operations, and significantly improved the procurement and sustainment of operational capabilities. His remarkable achievements over several years of conspicuous service have resulted in direct and sustained operational outcomes for the Australian Defence Force.

Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin Gerard McLENNAN, Qld

For outstanding achievement as the Staff Officer Grade One Soldier Combat Systems, Modernisation Branch, Army Headquarters.

Lieutenant Colonel McLennan was a driving force behind the modernisation of the soldier combat systems capability for the Australian Defence Force. He was instrumental in designing the system of how these essential capabilities will be managed into the future. His leadership and innovation were critical to the collaborative work across Defence and Industry that will equip up to 52,000 regular and reserve Australian Defence Force personnel with the Enhanced F88 assault rifles, soldier combat ensemble, and enhanced night fighting equipment.

Lieutenant Colonel N

For outstanding achievement in military intelligence.

Lieutenant Colonel N's superior command, vision and leadership was the catalyst for significant improvement in the unit's operational support, and preparation of intelligence teams across the span of the unit's collection, analytical and influence capabilities that resulted in a direct and significant contribution to the Australian Defence Force's and Coalition's success.

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS (CSC)

Australian Army (continued)

Lieutenant Colonel Dennis Patrick ROBINS, NSW

For outstanding devotion to duty as the Senior Instructor Land Intelligence Wing, Defence Force School of Intelligence.

Lieutenant Colonel Robins displayed outstanding leadership, exceptional foresight, professional commitment, and refined strategic awareness as the Senior Instructor Land Intelligence Wing, Defence Force School of Intelligence. His pursuit of excellence and tireless dedication has resulted in a significant modernisation of the training and doctrine of the Australian Army intelligence workforce. His efforts have directly contributed to a positive cultural shift and an improved sustainability of Army intelligence capabilities.

Colonel Leonard Hendrik ROUWHORST, NSW

For outstanding achievement as the Joint Operations Command lead planner for the Middle East Region from January 2015 to August 2017.

Colonel Rouwhorst was the Joint Operations Command lead planner for Australian Defence Force operations in the Middle East Region for two and a half years from January 2015. At a time of significant change to Australia's deployments, his exceptional understanding of the requirements and challenges at the operational level, his depth and breadth of analysis and his superb ability to articulate the complex battlespace succinctly to the most senior level was a fundamental component of operational success.

Colonel Kirsty Marie SKINNER, NSW

For outstanding devotion to duty as the Staff Officer Grade One Postings, Directorate of Soldier Career Management, Army.

Colonel Skinner applied her devotion to duty, selfless dedication, strategic acumen and exceptional values to enhance soldier career management. Her outstanding contribution achieved exemplary career management outcomes from limited resources, ensuring that Army's 23,000 strong full time soldier workforce delivers Army's capability requirements while being career managed with respect and compassion.

Lieutenant Colonel Henry William STIMSON, ACT

For outstanding achievement as the Brigade Major of the 6th Combat Support Brigade.

Lieutenant Colonel Stimson demonstrated foresight, superior leadership and organisational skills to lead 6th Combat Support Brigade through a revolutionary readjustment of contingency forces, including the development of new capabilities and the establishment of smaller, more agile force elements. His excellent planning skills, experienced guidance and outstanding dedication to duty contributed to the 6th Combat Support Brigade deployment of elements to ongoing coalition operations and domestically to Operation QUEENSLAND ASSIST.

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS (CSC)

Australian Army (continued)

Brigadier Wade Bradley STOTHART DSC AM, ACT

For outstanding achievement in significant contributions to the reform and improvement of career management and the Army people capability as Director General Career Management - Army.

Brigadier Stothart made significant contributions to the reform and improvement of career management and Army's people capability through his exceptional leadership, professionalism and dedication which consistently focused on enhancing Army's workforce and its reputation. His leadership and dedication to continued improvement of career management has resulted in lasting benefits for the Australian Army and the Australian Defence Force.

Colonel Simeon Luke WARD, ACT

For outstanding devotion to duty during the transition of the Capability Development Group and establishment of the Force Design function within Defence.

During a period of significant organisational change, Colonel Ward's dedication, initiative and outstanding leadership has been instrumental in implementing the Force Design function and roles within the Australian Defence Organisation. His drive and enthusiasm has made a profound and enduring contribution to the new Capability Life Cycle and Defence's goal in achieving a joint force by design.

Lieutenant Colonel Philippa Elizabeth WEILAND, NSW

For outstanding dedication to duty as Staff Officer Grade One Psychology in Headquarters Forces Command.

Lieutenant Colonel Weiland has shown outstanding dedication to duty through the provision of highly reliable, timely psychological and mental health advice. She personally ensured the superior management of several sensitive, high-profile matters including the immediate psychological response to witnesses to the death of a soldier in training. She directly contributed to the professional competence of Army's psychological staff and led a number of initiatives that have enhanced the common understanding of resilience and its utility across Army.

Royal Australian Air Force

Flight Sergeant Renee Louise COLE, SA

For outstanding achievement in the advancement of the Australian Defence Force's Space situational awareness capability at Number 1 Remote Sensor Unit.

Flight Sergeant Cole made an extraordinary and enduring contribution to Australia's ability to monitor objects of interest in Space. She applied specialist knowledge and skills relating to the C-Band Space Surveillance Radar with outstanding professionalism and devotion to duty; training and mentoring the initial cadre of specialists. Australia's C-Band radar is now fully operational and Flight Sergeant Cole has been the leader in the development of training and procedures that underpin this crucial Australian Defence Force capability.

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS (CSC)

Squadron Leader Samuel Ian HARKISS, ACT

For outstanding devotion to duty as the Information Systems Technical and Acquisition Manager within the F-35A Joint Strike Fighter Division of Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group.

Squadron Leader Harkiss has been pivotal in advancing the acquisition and technical aspects for the introduction of the F-35A Joint Strike Fighter into the Australian Defence Force. Operating in a highly technical, demanding and dynamic environment he has demonstrated outstanding devotion to duty to ensure Australia remains at the forefront of the F-35A Program. His dedication has enhanced Australia's reputation across the program and has established the foundation for F-35A Information Systems to successfully support the Australian F-35A Initial Operational Capability.

Squadron Leader Michael James YEOMANS, Qld

For outstanding devotion to duty in managing the implementation of the F-35A Joint Strike Fighter facilities program as part of the Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group.

Squadron Leader Yeomans applied exceptional skills and outstanding devotion to duty in managing and delivering the largest Defence facilities program since World War II. He provided Defence senior leadership with the critical support needed to address the challenges and opportunities of integrating 5th generation air combat capability requirements into contemporary construction activities that will significantly enhance the introduction of the F-35A Joint Strike Fighter into Australian service.

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE MEDAL (CSM)

Royal Australian Navy

Chief Petty Officer Benjamin Keith BRYAN, NSW

For meritorious devotion to duty as the High Power Maintenance Manager in HMAS *Adelaide*.

Chief Petty Officer Bryan's performance as the High Voltage Authorised Person in Control and as the electrical maintenance work centre manager for HMAS *Adelaide* has been outstanding. His exceptional leadership, mentoring and devotion to duty, ensured the extremely high work load of the maintenance centre has been achieved by a resilient team with an expanding skill set and ship knowledge. His efforts have directly contributed to improving the Navy's capability to fight and win at sea.

Lieutenant Scott Stanley DOWD RAN, NSW

For meritorious achievement in the field of Navy Information Warfare.

Lieutenant Dowd demonstrated exceptional skill, vision and technical innovation in the fields of Communications and Information System design, integration, information security and capability support in the Navy. His outstanding professionalism will continue to deliver long-lasting, critical and superior upgrades and capability sustainment that will enhance the quality and efficacy of communications and information systems in the Royal Australian Navy.

Chief Petty Officer David James HOUSTON, VIC

For meritorious devotion to duty in the field of Navy Engineering Training Services.

Through his ingenuity and commitment to training, Chief Petty Officer Houston made an invaluable contribution to the quality and technical competence levels of electronic technicians entering the fleet. His restructuring and redevelopment of the initial technical training course provided significant time and cost savings whilst increasing the Navy's ability to fight and win at sea through the provision of qualified personnel.

Lieutenant Commander Gordon JARDINE RAN, NSW

For meritorious achievement in the field of landing craft training for the Royal Australian Navy.

Lieutenant Commander Jardine worked assiduously to oversee the planning, development, training and implementation of landing craft Amphibious Operations into the Royal Australian Navy. His commitment and significant dedication established a baseline of training for all landing craft operations and Well Dock Management in the Royal Australian Navy, and will have an enduring impact for all future amphibious operations for the Australian Defence Force.

Royal Australian Navy (continued)

Lieutenant Commander Jasmine Alison LAUER-SMITH RAN, ACT

For meritorious devotion to duty in the field of submarine operations intelligence.

Lieutenant Commander Lauer-Smith performed her role as the Submarine Operations Intelligence Officer in an exemplary manner. She demonstrated outstanding skills in acquitting her responsibilities for the production and planning of submarine operations and activities throughout the region. Her dedication, application, rigour of process and professionalism resulted in the execution of well planned and highly effective submarine operational employment throughout the period of her tenure in the role.

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE MEDAL (CSM)

Lieutenant Commander Jorge Mathew McKEE RAN, ACT

For meritorious devotion to duty as Planning (Operations) Officer in Combined Task Force 150 on Operation MANITOU from November 2015 to April 2016.

Lieutenant Commander McKee provided exceptional service as the Planning (Operations) Officer of Combined Task Force 150 in performance of his duty during force preparation and as the planning officer for Combined Maritime Forces (a coalition of 31 nations) of Exercise CUTLASS EXPRESS 16 and in the conduct of key leadership engagement with African nations. His meritorious achievements embrace Navy's core values and signature behaviours, are of the highest order and in the finest traditions of the Royal Australian Navy and the Australian Defence Force.

Warrant Officer Scott Joseph WAKE, NSW

For meritorious devotion to duty in the field of Naval Aviation Maintenance.

Warrant Officer Wake's service in 725 Squadron as the Assistant Aviation Engineering Officer has been marked by great devotion to duty and demonstration of the highest professional standards. His exceptional leadership, outstanding dedication, superior work ethic and professional knowledge have made an inspirational contribution in 725 Squadron and have provided great confidence in the safety and technical airworthiness of the new MH-60R Seahawk capability.

Australian Army

Lieutenant Colonel Peter Andrew ALLAN, ACT

For meritorious achievement as the Brigade Major of 7th Brigade.

Lieutenant Colonel Allan's exemplary foresight, energy, and mastery of the operational art were instrumental in the development of distributed manoeuvre capabilities, extensive force modernisation and the generation and sustainment of operational and contingency forces from within the 7th Brigade. His outstanding performance as a Brigade Major is of the highest order and in keeping with the finest traditions of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery, the Australian Army and the Australian Defence Force.

Australian Army (continued)

Corporal James Edward CUNNINGHAM, Qld

For meritorious achievement as a Section Commander in the 1st Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment.

Corporal Cunningham displayed outstanding devotion to duty as a Section Commander in the 1st Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment. His leadership and initiative has yielded an increase in the lethality of close combatants from the Battalion and a range of other Army and United States Marine Corps units. His contribution to the broader implementation of combat shooting has been exceptional. He pioneered the implementation of world-best training techniques and fostered a highly effective and unique adult-learning environment.

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE MEDAL (CSM)

Corporal D

For meritorious achievement as a Troop Sergeant within the 71st Electronic Warfare Squadron, 7th Signal Regiment.

Corporal D demonstrated technical aptitude of the highest order in the development of electronic warfare capability. His outstanding innovation and devotion to duty have resulted in the actualisation of an incredibly capable and advanced system to revolutionise unit operations which has enhanced the operational effectiveness of the 7th Signal Regiment and the Australian Army.

Lieutenant Colonel Travis John GORDON, Qld

For meritorious devotion to duty as the Commander of Joint Task Group 658 in support of the national elections of Papua New Guinea during the conduct of Operation HANNAH.

Lieutenant Colonel Gordon continuously displayed superior performance in his command of Joint Task Group 658 in support of the Papua New Guinea national elections, enabling Australia to better understand the operational environment and upholding the reputation of the Australian Defence Force throughout the region. His achievements have brought great credit upon himself and the Australian Army.

Lieutenant Colonel Clarence Vincent HOVELL, NSW

For meritorious achievement in operational planning and execution in the Australian Army.

Major Hovell was instrumental in establishing the Directorate of Land Operations. His personal commitment and professional expertise has significantly improved Army's input into joint planning and the execution of domestic and regional operations. Through dedication, initiative and professional mastery Major Hovell provided outstanding service to the current planning and execution of Army's domestic and regional operational commitments during a high tempo period.

Australian Army (continued)

Warrant Officer Class Two J

For meritorious devotion to duty while posted as the Manager of Geospatial Intelligence Support within Special Operations Headquarters.

Warrant Officer J displayed meritorious devotion to duty while posted as the Manager of Geospatial Intelligence Support within Special Operations Headquarters. He proactively worked to provide Special Operations Command and the Australian Defence Force with a technically advanced geospatial intelligence capability for use across several enterprise systems. Warrant Officer J's superior work ethic and professionalism enabled Special Operation soldiers to plan and execute complex missions in several current theatres.

Warrant Officer Class Two L

For meritorious devotion to duty in the field of Static Line parachuting, instruction, and training development from 2016 to 2017.

Warrant Officer L has been instrumental in the development and implementation of innovative changes to the conduct of Static Line parachuting to Special Operations and the Australian Army through exemplary dedication to duty, professionalism and commitment to Army.

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE MEDAL (CSM)

Corporal M

For meritorious achievement as a Troop Sergeant within the 71st Electronic Warfare Squadron, 7th Signal Regiment.

Corporal M demonstrated extraordinary commitment and technical skill in the development of an advanced Electronic Warfare capability. His vision and innovative methods have resulted in the actualisation of a number of highly capable and advanced systems that provide the Australian Army with ground-breaking new capability. His outstanding dedication has enhanced the operational effectiveness of the 7th Signal Regiment and the Australian Army.

Lieutenant Melissa Jane OSMAND, NSW

For meritorious devotion to duty as the Personnel Advisory Committee Section Corporal within the Directorate of Soldier Career Management.

Corporal Osmand demonstrated tireless and exemplary performance, innovation and capacity for work supporting the coordination and administration for the Personnel Advisory Series for 8000 soldiers. Through her initiative, management acumen and inspirational commitment she was able to display skills and fulfil responsibilities above and beyond the normal expectations of a Corporal, in extremely challenging and demanding situations.

Australian Army (continued)

Captain Angela Gay ROSE, Qld

For meritorious achievement in establishing the Defence Force School of Signals Regional Training Wing.

As the Operations Officer, Captain Rose made an enduring contribution to the development and delivery of innovative training to the Royal Australian Corps of Signals and the wider Australian Defence Force. Her leadership and devotion to duty has delivered Defence an exceptional regional training capability, supporting current and future operations, and made significant cost saving to Defence.

Warrant Officer Class One S

For meritorious devotion to duty as a Squadron Sergeant Major in the Special Air Service Regiment between January 2014 and December 2016.

Warrant Officer S displayed meritorious achievement and devotion to duty as a Squadron Sergeant Major at the Special Air Service Regiment. His leadership, mentoring and initiative have greatly enhanced Special Operation Command niche capabilities.

Major Scott Brady SAMSON, NSW

For meritorious achievement as the Officer Commanding of Trainee Rehabilitation Wing at the School of Military Engineering.

Major Samson displayed leadership, empathy and dedication to his appointment as Officer Commanding of the Trainee Rehabilitation Wing. This resulted in the increase of injured Army trainees successfully returning to training. Major Samson's development, implementation and refinement of trainee rehabilitation are recognised as best practice within Army.

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE MEDAL (CSM)

Warrant Officer Class One Jason Edward STEN, Qld

For meritorious devotion to duty as the Regimental Sergeant Major of the Australian Contingent and Force Headquarters Training Warrant Officer whilst deployed to the United Nations Mission in South Sudan on Operation ASLAN from November 2016 to August 2017.

Warrant Officer Sten demonstrated outstanding devotion to duty and leadership through the reinvigoration of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan rules of engagement training and enhancement of the Australian Contingent force protection. His motivation, professionalism and leadership significantly enhanced the security and wellbeing of the Australians, and the operational effectiveness of the United Nations Force.

Australian Army (continued)

Warrant Officer Class Two Lucas Brian TELLEY, NT

For meritorious devotion to duty as the acting Regimental Sergeant Major of the 1st Combat Service Support Battalion.

Warrant Officer Telley's efforts have been instrumental in the progressive improvement of soldier skills within the 1st Brigade. His coordination of significant community engagement activities within the Darwin region positively enhanced Army's reputation. His performance as a Regimental Sergeant Major has been an exemplar of a Battalion's senior soldier.

Royal Australian Air Force

Flight Lieutenant Joshua Dominic BROWN, SA

For meritorious achievement in the introduction of the P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol and response aircraft capability.

Flight Lieutenant Brown displayed exceptional skills, judgement and dedication throughout the introduction of the P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol and response aircraft capability into Australian service. His extraordinary contribution enhanced the safe operation and relationship of the Australian Defence Force and United States Navy P-8A capability.

Squadron Leader Alesha Lee CANTELO, NSW

For meritorious devotion to duty as the Task Unit 630.1 Operations and Aviation Safety Officer on Operation OKRA from November 2016 to June 2017.

Squadron Leader Cantelo demonstrated meritorious devotion to duty in supporting combat operations and the promotion of aviation safety. Through building staunch relationships with Coalition partners and the host nation, she significantly enhanced the timeliness and quality of responses to aircraft emergencies and enriched Australia's reputation in support of Operation OKRA. Her outstanding commitment and engagement contributed to the ongoing successes of the Task Group 630 mission.

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE MEDAL (CSM)

Group Captain Nathan Mark CHRISTIE, Qld

For meritorious achievement as the Chief of Staff, Headquarters Combined Joint Task Force 633, while deployed on Operation ACCORDION during the period September 2016 to July 2017.

During a period of very high operational tempo across the Middle East Region including the Battle for Mosul, Group Captain Christie continuously pursued improvements in headquarters staff process to provide excellent support to Joint Task Force 633. He provided clear, concise and timely advice to commanders and excellent mentoring to his staff. Group Captain Christie's inspirational and inclusive leadership style instilled confidence and improved co-ordination across the Task Force to deliver exceptional operational outcomes.

Wing Commander Peter John HAY, SA

For meritorious achievement in the project management of the P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft and support systems capability acquisition.

Wing Commander Hay's agility to deliver a highly complex major capital acquisition whilst implementing innovative solutions to several complex challenges have significantly enhanced the P-8A Poseidon aircraft weapon system and reflect his unwavering commitment in supporting Australia's strategic interests. His outstanding professionalism, superior financial acumen, and conspicuous devotion have made an enduring contribution to the Australian Defence Force's maritime patrol and response capability in demanding circumstances over years of devoted service.

Wing Commander Julie-Ann Elizabeth LEO, Qld

For meritorious achievement in the introduction of battlefield mobility capabilities into the Royal Australian Air Force.

Wing Commander Leo made an exceptional contribution to Air Force's battlefield mobility and communications capabilities over a prolonged period in the face of an extremely complex and dynamic project management environment. Her extraordinary perseverance, superior insight, inspiring tenacity, and devotion to duty have ensured an enduring agile and connected battlefield mobility capability for the next generation Air Force.

Flight Lieutenant Tobias John LIDDY-PUCCINI, USA

For meritorious devotion to duty as the Fighter Combat Instructor at Number 75 Squadron and as Instructor of the inaugural Air Warfare Instructor Course at Number 2 Operational Conversion Unit.

Flight Lieutenant Liddy-Puccini's contribution to air combat has been exemplary and will have an ongoing impact on the F/A-18A Hornet community as it transitions to a 5th Generation capability. He demonstrated outstanding devotion to duty as the Fighter Combat Instructor at Number 75 Squadron through his exemplary preparation of aircrew for combat operations in Iraq and Syria, and in their preparation for Exercise RED FLAG. He then continued this remarkable contribution as Instructor of the inaugural Air Warfare Instructor Course at Number 2 Operational Conversion Unit.

CONSPICUOUS SERVICE MEDAL (CSM)

Corporal Daniel Joseph MAYNARD, Qld

For meritorious achievement in cyber security development at Number 462 Squadron, Royal Australian Air Force.

Corporal Maynard made an outstanding contribution to the Royal Australian Air Force and wider Australian Defence Force cyber security; being instrumental in creating and developing solutions to cyber security risks. His exceptional technical skills and devotion to duty has seen his contribution expand beyond his rank and position, whilst his solutions have been keenly accepted and utilised on operations. He created the infrastructure for defensive cyber operations and has influenced future designs to enable new capabilities for the Australian Defence Force.

Royal Australian Air Force (continued)

Leading Aircraftman William John NEWNHAM, SA

For meritorious achievement as the lead intelligence analyst for the Space Mission at Number 1 Remote Sensor Unit.

Leading Aircraftman Newnham made an outstanding contribution to Number 87 Squadron's intelligence support to Number 1 Remote Sensor Unit, where he has been instrumental in developing and providing intelligence to the emerging space mission. His exceptional leadership and devotion to duty has seen his contribution expand beyond the role of an Air Intelligence Analyst to a level where his guidance and support has been critical to the effective operation of space mission systems; whilst developing new capabilities for the Australian Defence Force.

Wing Commander Ray Gregory SIMPSON OAM, WA

For meritorious achievement in air warfare development as the inaugural Commanding Officer of Number 88 Squadron, Royal Australian Air Force.

Wing Commander Simpson distinguished himself through exceptional determination, professionalism, humility and skill as the inaugural Commanding Officer Number 88 Squadron. His composed and inclusive leadership style and personal expertise created an environment of high morale, directly contributing to a disproportionately effective benefit to the Australian Defence Force through the delivery of the Air Warfare Instructor's Course.