



Australian Government
Department of Defence

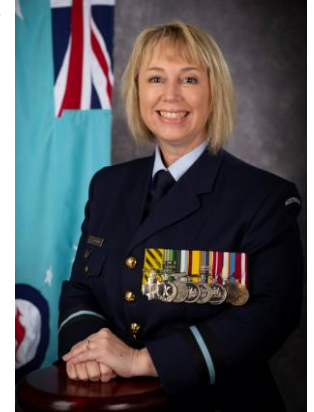
Australia-Singapore Military Training Initiative

Newsletter | October 2022 Update

A message from Air Commodore Sandy Turner, Program Manager

Last month I was fortunate to travel to Singapore. Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) hosted the Australian delegation to foster discussions on a number of bilateral activities including the Australia-Singapore Military Training Initiative (ASMTI). I had the pleasure of meeting with SAF Commander Training and Doctrine Command – Brigadier General Andrew Lim and Head Australia Training Area Development Office – Colonel Alan Yeoh. I would like to thank Singapore for the visit, in particular the tour of the Kranji Camp III Storage and Maintenance Facility, which provided an excellent opportunity for further discussion about Singapore’s requirements for the ASMTI Storage and Maintenance Facility planned for development in Townsville. The past six months has presented some interesting challenges for the collective ASMTI team to navigate, ranging from high rainfalls impacting on construction, to ongoing environmental due diligence activities.

Notwithstanding this, I’ve been really pleased with the tempo and the collaboration that has been occurring across Defence, with Government, Singapore and with our Project Manager / Contract Administrator (PMCA) Aurecon to ensure that the wonderful progress to date, continues.



I would also like to thank Defence’s Managing Contractors Laing O’Rourke (Shoalwater Bay Training Area) and CPB Contractors Pty Ltd (Greenvale Training Area) for their ongoing flexibility, diligence and eagerness to deliver.

As always, Defence remains committed to ensuring that our training milestones and commitments with Singapore are met.

Shoalwater Bay Training Area

Construction Update

On 14 – 15 June and 13 – 14 September, Defence’s PMCA Aurecon and Managing Contractor Laing O’Rourke conducted routine stakeholder progress walks with Defence and Singapore representatives lacing up their boots to view the emerging facilities first hand.

During the walks, the group toured the western Urban Operations Live Fire Facility (UOLF) and fencing (Precinct A), the camp accommodation and medical facility development (Precinct B) and the eastern UOLF and Combined Arms Air-Land Live Fire Range (CAALR) developments (Precinct C).

The notable progress observed during the September visit included the completed structural works for the Main Camp and Heavy Vehicle Maintenance facilities.

Since release of the March Newsletter, two major construction milestones have been achieved, with development of the eastern CAALR (Precinct C) and western UOLF facility Access Road (Precinct A) completed in April and May respectively.



(Above) On 06 May, representatives from Aurecon, Defence, Singapore Armed Forces and Laing O’Rourke, took the opportunity to visit SWBTA before heading to Brisbane for a design meeting



(Above) Overlooking the construction of Precinct B, from left: the exercise administration block, medical centre, ablution block, permanent accommodation blocks, and hardstands for temporary tent accommodation

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Precinct A



(Above) Stage 14 – Western Urban Operations Live Fire Facility construction works [Courtesy of Aurecon]



(Above) Stage 14 – Western Urban Operations Live Fire Facility construction works [Courtesy of Aurecon]



(Above) Stage 3A – Urban Operations Live Fire Facility West Access Road - Water over Stoodleigh Road causing delays to access in July [Courtesy of Aurecon]



(Above) Stage 3A – Urban Operations Live Fire Facility West Access Road – Complete [Courtesy of Aurecon]

Precinct B



(Above) Stage 4 – Camp Accommodation



(Above) Stage 4 - Internal view of a permanent accommodation block

Precinct C



(Above) Stage 7 – Urban Operation Live Fire Facility structural works complete and façades continuing



(Above) Stage 7 – Urban Operation Live Fire Facility – Communications Building and After Action Review building

Shoalwater Bay Training Area (Continued)

Procurement Update

As at 09 September 2022, in Central Queensland 155 work packages have been awarded for the delivery phase design and construction work for the SWBTA, valued in the order of \$537 million. Of these work packages, 115 will be performed by subcontractors with operations in the Central Queensland Region (including Rockhampton, Livingston Shire Council, Mackay, Moranbah, Emerald, and Gladstone areas). The work that will be performed by subcontractors with operations in the Central Queensland Region is valued in the order of \$437 million.



(Above) Representatives from Defence, Aurecon and Singapore Armed Forces viewing the High Explosive Impact Area from the rooftop of a non-live fire building, 13-14 Sep stakeholder progress walk

Shoalwater Bay Training Area Airspace Change Proposal

Under the ASMTI, Defence will formally declare the SWBTA expansion area as a 'Defence Area' in order to establish controls to ensure public safety and enable the successful conduct of military activities and exercises.

The declaration of a Defence Area over the SWBTA expansion area is expected to take effect in 2023.

As part of the declaration, an Airspace Change Proposal (ACP) must be submitted to the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Office of Airspace Regulation and approval, requesting the establishment of restricted area. Defence will submit an ACP to CASA requesting the establishment of multiple restricted areas encompassing the SWBTA expansion area.

In October, Defence will commence community engagement with neighbouring property owners and CASA will publish the Airspace Change Proposal on the Queensland Aviation State Engagement Forum <https://www.avsef.gov.au> website for a period of public consultation.

Review Proposal / Provide Feedback 

<https://www.avsef.gov.au>

Did you know?



The Australian Department of Defence, Security and Estate Group (SEG) are responsible for coordinating the biannual Shoalwater Bay Training Area Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC). EAC membership is on a voluntary basis and comprises external businesses, organisations and community groups in the surrounding area, who have an interest in the sustainable environmental management of the Shoalwater Bay Training Area, including the expansion under ASMTI.

Defence are seeking expressions of interest from the local community and interested parties are requested to contact environmentcq.ncz@defence.gov.au by 30 November 2022 for further information.

Request Further Information 

environmentcq.ncz@defence.gov.au

Greenvale Training Area Update

The planning phase is nearing completion for the GVTA. Defence's Managing Contractor, CPB Contractors Pty Ltd (CPB) are completing the design, with the final design of the GVTA expected in December 2022. Recent activities and progress at GVTA has mostly been behind the scenes, with extensive ballistic testing undertaken at SWBTA by ADF and SAF during September, informing the design elements of the UOLF for GVTA.

There are no further tendering opportunities for design consultant services anticipated for the remainder of the planning phase. To date, CPB has awarded in the order of \$22.9 million of subcontractor work packages, with in the order of 95% of these awarded to local consultant companies.

As part of the land development process for new Defence estate, Defence is required to undertake comprehensive environmental and heritage studies to manage the impact that development, and subsequent training, will have in these areas. (Continued overleaf)

Greenvale Training Area (Continued)

Defence has completed detailed environmental studies for GVTA, to ensure that obligations under Australia's Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (Cth) 1999 continue to be met. Defence is now consulting with the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water to determine the compliance pathway.

Following completion of design and these land due diligence activities, negotiations will commence with CPB for the construction of the facilities and infrastructure, and the release of major construction work packages will follow.

Australia-Singapore Activities

With the Shoalwater Bay Training Area (SWBTA) development rapidly taking shape, the site has been a hive of activity recently with a Singapore delegation visit and site tours. On 23 September, SAF Commander Training and Doctrine Command toured the site, and on 28 September Singapore's Minister for Defence, Dr Ng Eng Hen viewed the accommodation precinct and the eastern UOLF from the air while enroute to visit Exercise Trident, Australia's joint amphibious military training exercise with the SAF.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Singapore's new High Commissioner to Australia, His Excellency Mr Anil Kumar Nayar, who formally started his role in Canberra in August. We wish His Excellency well for his time in Australia and look forward to working with him as we progress the outcomes of the ASMTI.

Keep across all the latest ASMTI news on our website



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Is the ASMTI Newsletter useful for you? Is there something you'd like us to include? We'd love to hear from you so we can make sure we're hitting the mark. Our survey will take less than 2 minutes to complete.

[Take the Survey!](#)



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W: www.defence.gov.au/Initiatives/ASMTI



(Left) Singapore's Minister for Defence, Dr Ng Eng Hen and Head Australia Training Area Development Office, Colonel Alan Yeoh view ASMTI development enroute to visit Exercise Trident [Courtesy ATADO]