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APSNet for 20050929

Austral Peace and Security Network (APSNet)

Thursday 29 September 2005

Bi-weekly report from the Nautilus Institute at RMIT, Australia.

1. [NEW 'DIRTY BOMB' LABS](#)
2. [DEFENCE REJECTS PACIFIC RECRUITMENT PLAN](#)
3. [DEFENCE CHIEF TIPS RETURN FOR 450 TROOPS](#)
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1. [NEW 'DIRTY BOMB' LABS](#), Simon Kearney, Australian, 2005-09-28 Chemical analysis laboratories will be set up to accelerate Australia's response to any chemical, biological or nuclear terrorist attack. They will work with a new \$17.3 million research facility in Canberra. The centre will be federally funded and run by the Australian Federal Police.
2. [DEFENCE REJECTS PACIFIC RECRUITMENT PLAN](#), AAP, Age, 2005-09-27 Australia's defence force chief has rejected a proposal that soldiers be recruited from the Pacific Islands to solve what he admits is the military's key problem - a personnel shortage.
3. [DEFENCE CHIEF TIPS RETURN FOR 450 TROOPS](#), Brendan Nicholson, The Age, 2005-09-27 Australia's 450 troops in Southern Iraq are likely to return home by next May, according to Defence Force Chief Angus Houston.
4. [MILITARY CUTS BACK SERVICES](#), Fiji Times, 2005-09-27 The army has scaled down some of its activities in order to stay within its annual budget.

5. [STOLEN NAVY AMMO RECOVERED BY COPS](#), PNG Post-Courier Online, 2005-09-29 The majority of the ammunition stolen from the Lombrum Naval Base magazine storehouse in Manus last month was recovered yesterday morning by police. The theft included 9560 rounds of ammunition, explosives and flares.

Thursday Policy Analysis

This is the end reflection of a discussion on nuclear testing in the Pacific:

"Given their experience of fifty years of nuclear testing, most Pacific citizens strongly support nuclear disarmament. Through the United Nations, Pacific Island governments have taken strong stands in support of a comprehensive arms control regime. But within the Islands, the actual nuclear infrastructure--military and intelligence bases, missile testing facilities, and satellite monitoring installations--have yet to be removed. A truly independent and nuclear-free Pacific is still to be created."

Nic Maclellan, The nuclear age in the Pacific Islands. (Dialogue 1: Reflections on Nuclear Testing in the South Pacific). The Contemporary Pacific, Fall 2005 v17 i2 p363(10), University of Hawaii Press © 2005.

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