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Austral Peace and Security Network (APSNet)

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

Monday 22 May 2006

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1. [Indonesia Challenges PM on Papua](#), Morgan Mellish, AFR*, 2006-05-22 Indonesian Vice-President Jusuf Kalla has challenged Prime Minister John Howard to provide concrete evidence that Australia does not support independence for Papua and warned against any intervention in East Timor.
 - * [Subscription required.](#)
 - [Downer accepts Papua is Jakarta's](#), Samantha Maiden, Australian, 2006-05-22

- 2.
3. [Japan to Help Rebuild Iraq After SDF Pullout: Koizumi](#), Japan Times, 2006-05-22 Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi said that Japan will continue to help rebuild Iraq after the Self-Defense Forces are pulled out of the war-battered country, but he gave no specific time frame for the withdrawal. Japan "will continue humanitarian support and reconstruction assistance," he added. "Even after the SDF leaves Samawah, there will be other things" to do to help Iraq.
4. [U.S. Should Close Prison in Cuba, U.N. Panel Says](#), Tim Golden, NYT*, 2006-05-20 An important United Nations panel roundly criticized the United States on Friday for its treatment of terrorism suspects, and called for shutting down the detention camp at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.
* Free registration required.
 - [Foreign Prisoner Support Service: Save A Life: David Hicks](#)
 - [Concluding Observations on Reports of Peru, Georgia, Guatemala, the United States, Qatar, Togo and the Republic of Korea](#), UN Committee Against Torture, Press Release 2006-05-19
 - [Response of the USA 2006, to the List of Issues to be Considered During the Examination of the Second Periodic Report of the USA, OHCHR, 2006 \[PDF\]](#)
- 5.
6. [Hopes Rise for Deal to End Timor Unrest](#), Mark Forbes, Age, 2006-05-22 An end to weeks of unrest in East Timor is set to be brokered with rebel soldiers, with the intervention of President Xanana Gusmao. An agreement negotiated by Timor's Foreign Minister Jose Ramos Horta will see the independence fighter lead a retreat with rebel leaders to finalise the peace package. It is believed military commander, Dr Ramos Horta and Mr Alkatiri will also attend the retreat.
 - [Ramos Horta criticises E Timor PM](#), ABC Online, 2006-05-22
 - [United Nations Office in Timor-Leste](#)
- 7.
8. [Fiji Plans to Bar the Country's Armed Forces Commander from Politics, PM Says](#), AP, www.stuff.co.nz, 2006-05-22 Mr Qarase, sworn in for a second five-year term, said he would seek an interpretation from the Supreme Court on the constitutional role of the military. Military chief Commodore Frank Bainimarama, who backed the opposition in the election, marched troops through the capital, Suva, during the May 6-13 election.
9. [Armed Attacks in Bougainville Spark Fears of Civil War](#), Steve Marshall, ABC The World Today, 2006-05-15 There are fears that a spate of armed attacks against police posts in Bougainville could signal a concerted attempt to plunge the island back into civil war. In the last week, the autonomous Government of Bougainville has been forced to arm the police force on the island for the first time since 1998, when a peace treaty ended a long-running war over money and mining.
10. [Solomons PM Wants Inquiry on Police](#), Mary-Louise O'Callaghan, Australian, 2006-05-22 Solomon Islands Prime Minister called for an inquiry into the handling of last month's riots by the two Australian policemen heading the country's police forces. But speaking after Foreign Minister Alexander Downer delivered blunt messages on the future of the Australian-led and funded Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI), Manasseh Sogavare conceded there would be chaos if RAMSI was withdrawn.
 - [Operation "Helpem Fren", Solomon Islands \(RAMSI\)](#), Australian Federal Police
 - [Facilitation of International Assistance Act 2003](#), Solomon Islands
- 11.
12. [Pacific Unrest Brings NZ and Australia Closer on Defence](#), NZPA, New Zealand Herald 2006-0-

-21NZ Defence Minister, Phil Goff, said after yesterday's meeting with Dr Brendan Nelson: "Recent developments in East Timor, Bougainville, and Fiji emphasised the importance of the two countries working together with their Pacific neighbours to achieve security and stability in the region." Mr Goff later added that NZ and Australia had the same responses planned for Timor Leste, the Solomons and Fiji.

13. [Industry Praises Lead Climate Role](#), Amanda Hodge, Australian, 2006-05-20 The Government yesterday secured the co-chair position in a fresh round of talks that draws all parties - Kyoto Protocol countries, protocol outsiders Australia and the US and developing nations - back to the negotiating table. The Future Action Dialogue, will discuss how to tackle climate change after the protocol's first commitment period ends in 2012.
 - [Twenty-Fourth sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice \(SBSTA\) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation \(SBI\) of the UNFCCC and First session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol \(AWG\) and related meetings](#), May 2006
- 14.

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