APSNet Semi-Weekly Bulletin, March 19, 2007

Recommended Citation

"APSNet Semi-Weekly Bulletin, March 19, 2007", APSNet Semi-Weekly Bulletin, March 19, 2007, https://nautilus.org/apsnet/apsnet-for-20070319/

APSNet for 20070319

Austral Peace and Security Network (APSNet)

Twice weekly report from the Nautilus Institute at RMIT, Australia.

Monday 19 March 2007

1. Howard in Mid-Air Scare over War-Torn Iraq
2. Iraq: Howard's Choice - When to Recall Troops
3. Age-old Conflict is a Long Haul
4. North Korea: Australian Aid for Kim's Compliance
5. Tonga Government Announces Further Extension of State of Emergency
6. Indonesia: Air Force to Install Radars in Remote Papua
7. Joint Strike Fighter: Progress Made and Challenges Remain
8. Japan-Australia: Security Deal A Significant Step For Two Aspiring Nations

1. Howard in Mid-Air Scare over War-Torn Iraq, David Crowe, Age, 2007-03-18Prime Minister John Howard was involved in a mid-air drama over an insurgent stronghold in southern Iraq last night. The plane had taken off from Tallil - an area infamous for attacks by insurgents loyal to Shiite leader Sheikh Muqtada al-Sadr - after a surprise visit by Mr Howard to Australian troops. After landing, Mr Howard appeared relaxed on the runway.

- Overwatch Battle Group (West), Wikipedia
- An Nasiriyah map, US Army, April 2003, HumanitarianInfo [image]
- Tallil Air Base, An Nasiriyah, Dhi Qar province, Iraq, 30° 56' N, 46° 05' E [Google Earth*]
  * Google Earth (free download) required.
- Ali Air Base, Wikipedia
- Tallil Airbase, Sector Operations Center, Intecept Operations Center, GlobalSecurity.org

2.
3. Howard's Choice: When to Recall Troops, Brian Toohey, AFR*, 2007-03-17Contrary to the common impression, it is now relatively easy for Howard to extricate Australia from the chaos in Iraq on his own terms. He has set out achievable conditions for a phased Australian withdrawal before the federal election due later this year. If he chooses not to do so, it will be because he prefers to wait until the Bush administration starts withdrawing.
   * Subscription required.
4. Age-old Conflict is a Long Haul, Tony Walker, AFR*, 2007-03-16Dennis Richardson, Australia's ambassador to Washington, has intruded the term the "long war" into the Australian public debate, telling an interviewer there was a consensus in Washington the conflict against militant Islam was barely 10 per cent done.
   * Subscription required.
5. Australian Aid for Kim's Compliance, Colleen Ryan, AFR*, 2007-03-16Australia will increase its economic assistance to North Korea provided it abides by undertakings given in the six-party talks under way on the denuclearisation of the Stalinist state. Australia has contributed $57 million in aid to North Korea over the past 12 years and is one of the leading donors through multilateral agencies. Bilateral aid ceased in 2005 but multilateral contributions have continued.
   * Subscription required.
6. Tonga Government Announces Further Extension of State of Emergency, RNZI, 2007-03-16Tonga's Prime Minister, Dr. Feleti Sevele, has extended the state of emergency in force over parts of the capital, Nuku'alofa. The Tonga Broadcasting Commission says the decision gave no indication of when the state of emergency would be lifted.
   - Proclamation Public Order (Preservation) Act (Cap38) (Sections 3(1) And (4)), Press release, Kingdom of Tonga, 2007-03-16 [Primary source]

7.
8. Air Force to Install Radars in Remote Papua, Jakarta Post, 2007-03-19The Indonesian Air Force (TNI) will install air defense radars in Timika and in Kaimana town in West Papua next year. The radar will "monitor and anticipate air violation of foreign airplanes as well as sea crimes," Timika Air Force Base Command Chief Lt. Col. Bambang Triono said. They will be fully operational in 2010. "They are capable of monitoring air zone within a radius of 250 nautical miles," he said.
   - Map of Papua Province, Indonesia, East-West Center [PDF]

9.
10. Joint Strike Fighter: Progress Made and Challenges Remain, Report to Congressional Committees, United States Government Accountability Office, March 2007 [PDF, Primary source]The JSF program has delivered and flown the first development aircraft. However, cost and schedule goals established in the fiscal year 2004 rebaselined program have not been met. Delays were driven by incomplete engineering drawings, changes in design, manufacturing inefficiencies, and parts shortages. The program still plans to complete development in 2013,

compressing the time available for flight testing and development activities.

11. Security Deal A Significant Step For Two Aspiring Nations, Paul Dibb, SMH, 2007-03-16The joint declaration on security co-operation between Australia and Japan signals two important trends in regional security. Australia has accepted its role as aregional security leader beyond its immediate neighbourhood. And Japan is asserting a new sense of strategic independence beyond its traditional ties with the United States.
    - How to Secure a Trade Deal, David Crowe, AFR*, 2007-03-17
      * Subscription required.
    - The new security architecture: Binding Japan and Australia, containing China, Richard Tanter, Austral Policy Forum 07-07A, 2007-03-15

12.

Free newsletters

- Australian region (this newsletter).
- Southeast Asia.
- Northeast Asia.
- Climate change adaptation.

View this online at: https://nautilus.org/apsnet/apsnet-for-20070319/

Nautilus Institute
608 San Miguel Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707-1535 | Phone: (510) 423-0372 | Email: nautilus@nautilus.org