APSNet for 20070521

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1. Iraq's Plea: Don't Cut and Run
2. East Timor Violence Erupts as Ramos Horta Sworn in as President
3. GNEP: Partner Plan Shares Benefits - and Risks
4. UN Mercenary Experts Call on Fiji to Regulate Private Security Activities
5. The Use of Force: Asymmetric War and the Ill-Chosen Battlefield

Briefing note: Illegal Fishing and Maritime Patrols in Northern Waters - Jane Mullett and Richard Tanter

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1. Iraq's Plea: Don't Cut and Run, AAP, Age, 2007-05-21Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari says his country is entering a crucial month and has urged Australia and other western allies not to "cut and run". During a joint press conference with Alexander Downer in Canberra today, Mr Zebari said the Iraqi people's confidence in the security forces was improving. He said major initiatives to reconcile feuding factions in Iraq were underway, as was a constitutional review.
   - Brown to Pull Troops Out of Iraq, Brian Brady, Scotsman, 2007-05-20
   - The Beginning of the End of Anglo-American Iraq, Juan Cole, Informed Comment, 2007-05-20

2.
3. East Timor Violence Erupts as Ramos Horta Sworn in as President, Ed Johnson, Bloomberg, 2007-05-20Violence broke out in East Timor as Jose Ramos Horta was sworn in as the nation's first elected president. One person was killed when gangs of youths hurled stones and clashed in the streets of the capital, Dili, Allison Cooper, a spokeswoman for the UN mission in East Timor, said UN police arrested 42 people. "We do not know yet if the violence was politically motivated," said Cooper. An inquiry is under way.
4. Partner Plan Shares Benefits - and Risks, Mark Coultan, SMH, 2007-05-19The Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) is an idea of the Bush Administration to promote nuclear energy and find a way to limit nuclear proliferation. George Perkovich, at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, describes the policy as "the democratic bomb". Perkovich says: "Australia may be the next friendly democratic country for which the US will seek to create a double standard."
5. UN Mercenary Experts Call on Fiji to Regulate Private Security Activities, NewsBlaze, 2007-05-20Concerned that many Fijians have been recruited as mercenaries, experts on the issue today urged the authorities of the Pacific country to ensure that private security companies operate in full accordance with international human rights standards, as they concluded a fact-finding mission for the UN.
    - UN Working Group on the Use of Mercenaries Concludes Visit to Fiji, UN Press Release, 2007-05-10
    - Fiji, the war in Iraq, and the privatisation of Pacific island security, Nic Maclellan, Austral Policy Forum 06-11A, 2006-04-06
6.
7. The Use of Force: Asymmetric War and the Ill-Chosen Battlefield, Coral Bell, ASPI, 2007-05-02The world is currently in a phase of asymmetric warfare. The most relevant battlefields are within the Western world, and the most vital operations are those of intelligence and police services. They are a formidable threat, and deserve more careful analysis than they have been getting, especially on the political side. As someone once said, there are no military solutions available, only political ones.

Briefing Note: Armed patrol boats for illegal fishing interception - Jane Mullett and Richard Tanter

The federal government continues to expand its $389 million illegal fishing intervention programme, claiming a 90% drop in sightings. An armed fisheries patrol boat, the Triton, will join the civil-military interception force under Border Protection Command.

- Net Closes on Poachers, Jamie Walker, Australian, 2007-05-21
- The Illegal Fishing Package One Year On, Media Release DAFF07/051A, Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, 2007-05-10
- Too Early To Declare Victory over Illegal Fishing: WA Govt, ABC News, 2007-05-12
- Border Protection Command, Australian Customs Service
- Gardline Australia Pty Ltd has signed a one-year contract with the Australian Customs Service for the provision of the vessel RV Triton, Gardline News, undated
- Triton Trimaran Research Ship, United Kingdom, Naval Technology
- Defence Spokesperson Response to an APSNet Query about the review of ADF Standing Rules of

Engagement, 2006-12-07

- Special Report: Navy Fires on Illegal Fishing Boat, Richard Tanter, APSNet, 2006-02-20

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