APSNet Semi-Weekly Bulletin, August 6, 2007

Recommended Citation

"APSNet Semi-Weekly Bulletin, August 6, 2007", APSNet Semi-Weekly Bulletin, August 06, 2007, https://nautilus.org/apsnet/apsnet-for-20070806/

APSNet for 20070806

Austral Peace and Security Network (APSNet)

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

Monday 6 August 2007

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6. Australia extends Rp800 Billion to Fight against HIV/AIDS in Indonesia
7. Climate Change and Conflict, ICG, July 2007

1. Air Force Takes Operational Control of Southern Afghanistan Skies, Media Release CPA 235/07, Defence, 2007-08-05A 75-strong RAAF detachment formally took over management of a portion of Afghanistan's operational airspace. RAAF's Control and Reporting Centre (CRC) are undertaking 24/7 operations from Kandahar Airfield. RAAF personnel are responsible for air space management and air surveillance tasks over southern Afghanistan. CRC is also responsible for coordinating air to air refuelling.

- Kandahar Mobile Control and Reporting Unit, Australia in Afghanistan, Nautilus Institute, 2007-05-24

2.
3. Shopkeepers Strike over Digger Raids, Tom Hyland, Age, 2007-08-05The behaviour of Australian and Dutch troops in southern Afghanistan has sparked a protest strike by local shopkeepers complaining of harassment and unjustified searches. The strike came in a week in which Australian troops, fearing suicide attacks, fired twice on civilians, killing a man and wounding two children. A second fatal shooting, this time by Dutch troops, is reported to have further fuelled animosity.
   - Casualties - Civilian, Australia in Afghanistan, Nautilus Institute, 2007-07-26

4.
5. Spike in Mass Bombings against Civilians, Megan Greenwell, Age, 2007-08-06The number of Iraqi civilians killed in mass-casualty bomb attacks rose sharply from June to July. But the overall number of civilian casualties remained significantly lower than before the US troop increase in February, according to a Washington Post analysis, even though violence claimed 1539 civilian lives.
   - Iraq Body Count
   - Carnage from the Air and the Washington Consensus, Tom Engelhardt, TomDispatch, 2007-0--09
   - Stabilizing Iraq: DOD Cannot Ensure that U.S.-Funded Equipment Has Reached Iraqi Security Forces, GAO, July 2007 [PDF]

6.
7. And Now the Defence Wedge, Geoffrey Barker, AFR*, 2007-08-06Attempting to wedge Labor, the government and its supporters are trying to tag the opposition with a narrow defence-o--Australia regionalism shaped by an irrelevant obsession with geography. Australia has always maintained a bipartisan regional-global defence policy balance. To challenge that balance for crass electoral reasons is simply delusional.
   * Subscription required.
8. Canberra's NT Troop Move 'Devastating', Lindsay Murdoch and Katharine Murphy, Age, 2007-08-06The authors of the Northern Territory's 'Little Children are Sacred' report have slammed the Howard Government's radical intervention, saying they were "devastated" to see the army roll into remote indigenous communities. Pat Anderson said she and Rex Wild, QC, "feel betrayed, disappointed, hurt and angry" because the intervention does not include acting on any of 97 recommendations they made after a nine-month inquiry.
   - Operation Outreach, Defence Department

9.
10. Australia Extends Rp800 Billion to Fight against HIV/AIDS in Indonesia, Antara, 2007-08-03Australia donated cash worth some A$100 million (Rp800 billion) to strengthen the prevention and handling of the HIV virus spread in Indonesia. Australia will also cooperate with the Papua and West Papua provincial administration, to manage and fund the responses towards HIV.
    - Impact of HIV/AIDS 2005-2025 in Papua New Guinea, Indonesia and East Timor: Final Report of HIV Epidemiological Modelling and Impact Study, AusAID, February 2006 [PDF]
    - Indonesia, YouandAIDS, UN Development Program
    - Projects, AusAID in Indonesia, AusAID

11.
12. Climate Change and Conflict, ICG, July 2007The security implications of climate change are attracting increased attention, and for good reason. The potential consequences of these changes and of the environmental degradation associated with them are grave. They include food and water shortages, population shifts and economic losses. These in turn may increase a range of risks to human security, including the risk of deadly conflict.
    - Beyond Terrorism: Towards Sustainable Security, Chris Abbott, OpenDemocracy, 2007-04-17
13.

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