

DEFENCE WEEK PREMIUM EDITION



Minister for Defence Linda Reynolds, Minister for Foreign Affairs Marise Payne and US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

LINDA REYNOLDS VIA TWITTER

AUSMIN 2020 WRAPS UP

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Secretary of Defence Mark Esper hosted Minister for Foreign Affairs Marise Payne and Minister for Defence Linda Reynolds on Tuesday in Washington for the 30th Australia-US Ministerial Consultations (AUSMIN 2020).

EWEN LEVICK | SYDNEY

During their discussions, the Secretaries and Ministers built on Prime Minister Scott Morrison's official visit to Washington in September 2019.

The talks first covered the Covid-19 pandemic, including the need to strengthen global efforts to 'prevent and mitigate' future health crises.

"[The Ministers] noted the World Health Assembly resolution on identifying the zoonotic origin of the virus and evaluating the WHO-coordinated international health response, and reaffirmed their commitment to facilitating timely and broad deployment of affordable, safe, and effective COVID-19 vaccines

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and therapeutics," the two ministers said in a joint statement.

The talks then went to familiar ground, including: reaffirming the joint focus on a stable and open and prosperous Indo-Pacific; supporting economic stability in the Pacific and an undersea cable for Palau; and countering China.

"THE US AND AUSTRALIA
ALSO DETERMINED TO
ADVANCE INITIATIVES THAT
DIVERSIFY AND HARNESS OUR
INDUSTRY COOPERATION"

"The Secretaries and Ministers noted that the pandemic has reduced States' resilience to shocks and created incentives for some actors to pursue strategic gains in ways that undermine the rules-based international order and regional stability," the statement said.

"In particular, the principals expressed deep concern at the imposition of sweeping and vague "national security" legislation on Hong Kong that has imperilled the rule of law and undermined the rights to freedom of expression,

including for members of the press, and to peaceful assembly.

"The Secretaries and Ministers noted that both the US and Australia are taking steps to suspend their respective extradition treaties with Hong Kong as a result of the PRC's actions."

The statement also denounced gross human rights abuses underway in China's western provinces: "The US and Australia expressed deep concern over the PRC's campaign of repression of Uyghurs and members of other minority groups in Xinjiang, including mass detentions, forced labour, pervasive surveillance, restrictions on freedom of religion, and reports of forced abortions and involuntary birth control."

The statement also included strong language rejecting China's maritime claims and its 'nine-dash line' concept; 'reaffirmed' the 'significant role' of the UN; specified explicit support for Taiwan; acknowledged that 'state-sponsored malicious disinformation and interference in democratic processes are significant and evolving threats'; and touched on Huawei's exclusion from 5G networks.

Defence industry was also a topic of discussion: "The US and Australia also determined to advance initiatives that diversify and harness our industry cooperation, including further pursuing options that enable greater maintenance, repair, overhaul, and upgrade of US military platforms and components in Australia to further strengthen our supply chain resilience in the Indo-Pacific.

"In addition, they noted the ongoing collaboration through the AUS-US Defence Trade Working Group is expected to identify and help resolve defence trade issues of mutual concern, including on export controls."

ADM Comment: The talks reaffirmed Australia's recent refusal to be cowed by China following Canberra's calls for an independent review into the origins of the pandemic and protests against Beijing's gross human rights abuses in Hong Kong and its western provinces. This is evident in explicit denouncements of China's maritime claims,



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explicit support for Taiwan, the suspension of extradition treaties, and US support for Australia's recent strategic reviews.

The language on defence industry cooperation will be noted by many. It does not go into specifics, but the statement on resolving export control issues is perhaps a tacit acknowl-

edgement that all is not as well as both sides might like.

"THE STATEMENT ON
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There is also an obvious disconnect between the language of this joint statement and the actions of the US. Both sides agreed to strengthen global efforts to 'prevent and mitigate' health crises, but the US has withdrawn its membership and funding for the World Health Organisation and acquired the entire global stock of remdesivir, one of two drugs proven to assist in COVID-19 recovery, leaving none for 'close allies' such as Australia.

The statement also noted that disinformation is a threat to democracy, but US President Donald Trump has been

criticised for spreading false information regarding US mail-in voting processes and refused to accept the validity of November's election should he lose.

The actions of the US President do not necessarily reflect official US policy, but certainly do not help Australia's efforts to shape a 'secure and stable' Indo-Pacific amidst a pandemic.

LEAPS AND BOUNDS FOR DRONESHIELD

NSW-based DroneShield has had a good week. On 22 July, the company released a record quarterly report to the ASX, including a record \$2.1 million in cash inflows, its first breakeven operating quarter, an increased cash balance, a 'substantial increase' in US government business and securing a four-year framework agreement to supply EU police forces.

EWEN LEVICK | SYDNEY

he significance is that we are seeing increasing revenues and reducing costs, demonstrating market adoption of our products and the counter-drone industry continuing rapid growth (despite COVID-19)," CEO Oleg Vornik said to ADM. "This is about continuously growing revenues, while managing costs."

On 23 July, the company announced that the US Air Force has awarded DroneShield a contract to deploy multiple units of the DroneSentry integrated detect-and-defeat counter-drone (C-UAS) system at the Grand Forks Air Force airbase in North Dakota, protected by the 319th Security Forces Squadron.

"EACH INDIVIDUAL AIRPORT DEPLOYMENT IS WORTH UP TO A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR CONTRACT"



Company representatives running a demo for the USAF.

DRONESHIELD

As part of the contract, the USAF acquired an option to acquire additional systems following the initial deployment. It is the company's first USAF deployment.

"DroneShield was selected because our technology leverages Artificial Intelligence software and tracking/defeat automation that solves the 319th SFS problem statement with little to no impact on manning," Vornik said.

On 24 July, DroneShield announced an order for the company's RadarZero portable counter-drone system from a 'significant European military.'

"At \$100,000 in sales proceeds, this is an order for an evaluation, expected to lead to additional deployments with this Ministry of Defence customer," Vornik said. "The importance of this sale is several-fold. First, this is our first order from this European military. Secondly, this is the first sale of a radar-only fixed site system powered by DroneShieldComplete, demonstrating the modularity of our offering."

Finally, on 27 July, DroneShield announced that it has successfully completed a trial deployment of its DroneSentinel system at a mid-tier European airport.

"The airport market is a key segment for DroneShield, following high profile dronerelated disruptions such as that has taken place at Gatwick Airport," Vornik said. "We are now seeing airports, in particularly in Europe, mobilising their procurement selection processes towards wide rollouts of counter-drone systems.

"Each individual airport deployment is worth up to a multi-million dollar contract, including upfront and ongoing subscription payments, depending on the airport size and protection requirements. This successful trial forms a critical part of those selection processes."



HANWHA ROLLS OUT REDBACK IFV PROTOTYPES

Hanwha has rolled out two prototypes of the Redback armoured infantry fighting vehicle (IFV) to be delivered to the Australian Army.

The delivery is taken under the Risk Mitigation Activity (RMA) contract under Land 400 Phase 3.

The rollout ceremony took place on July 24 at a factory in Changwon, some 400 kilometres southeast of Seoul. Hanwha's test support team will soon depart for Australia.

The Redback was shortlisted as one of the two final candidates for the Land 400 Phase 3 RMA stage in September last year. The acquisition program is aimed at introducing up to 450 tracked IFVs, comprising eight variants.

Following the shortlist, Hanwha Defence Australia (HDA) signed a \$50 million RMA contract with the CASG to provide three RMA vehicles for test and evaluation.

"TWO REDBACK RMA VEHICLES HAVE BEEN SHIPPED FROM PYEONGTAEK PORT AND WILL ARRIVE IN MELBOURNE IN LATE AUGUST"

Hanwha says two Redback RMA vehicles have been shipped from Pyeongtaek Port and will arrive in Melbourne in late August, where they will be met by Hanwha's team. *ADM* understands the third vehicle is currently being manufactured and will be shipped to Australia in late October.

Army will test the vehicles from November for 10 months. User training and



The Redback IFV is based on Hanwha's indigenous K21 IFV.

HANWHA

evaluation sessions will also be held during this period.

The Redback IFV is based on Hanwha's indigenous K21 IFV and the power-pack solution of the K9 self-propelled howitzer. Both systems have been deployed with the South Korean Army and Marine Corps.

In particular, the introduction of an In-Arm type hydropneumatics Suspension Unit (ISU) has helped reduce the overall weight of the vehicle in comparison to the traditional design of IFV, while the design reinforces belly protection against landmines and bomb attacks.

The Redback is to be integrated with Israel Elbit Systems' 30mm MT30 unmanned weapon station and the Remote Weapon Station (RCW) built by Australia's EOS Defence Systems. It is also equipped with the Composite Rubber Track (CRT) system provided by Canada's Soucy Defence.

FIRST PATROL BOAT KEEL LAID

The first keel of six new Cape Class Patrol Boats has been laid.

The vessels are being built by Austal at Henderson, which will grow the patrol boat force to 16 vessels, while the new larger Arafura Class Offshore Patrol Vessels are introduced into service.

"The six new Cape Class Patrol Boats will be built with a number of enhancements, improving operational capability and crew capacity compared to the vessels already operated by both the Navy and the Australian Border Force," Minister for



Minister for Defence Industry Melissa Price at the Austal yards in WA.

AUSTAL

Defence Linda Reynolds said.

"They will replace the Armidale Class and be utilised by the Navy as an interim patrol platform until the commissioning of the Offshore Patrol Vessels." "THE LAYING OF THE KEEL NOT ONLY INITIATES THE FORMAL CONSTRUCTION PHASE OF THE BUILD"

"The laying of the keel not only initiates the formal construction phase of the build, it also means job creation here in Perth is well underway," Minister for Defence

Industry Melissa Price said. "The construction of these boats will provide work for 400 of Austal's commercial shipbuilders in WA, as well as more than 1,200 workers in the broader Australian supply chain."

The first of these new vessels are scheduled for acceptance and handover to Navy in September 2021, with subsequent vessels being delivered through to March 2023.

WA POLICE ACQUIRE AIRBUS H145 HELICOPTER

The WA Police Force has ordered one H145 helicopter, making it the first Australian customer to operate the five bladed H145 variant.

A irbus is offering the H145M for the Special Forces helicopter requirement under Land 2097 Phase 4.

Purchased to replace WA Police's BK117 helicopter, and to operate alongside the AS365 N3+, this H145 includes single-pilot and instrument flight rules along with a night vision goggles capability integrated with the on-board police mission system. The helicopter also includes Airbus' Helionix avionics suite and 4-axis autopilot system.

The new aircraft will be based in Perth and will service the entire state.

"We thank the WA Police Force for the opportunity to support its critical operations with our latest five-bladed H145 offering," Andrew Mathewson, Managing Director, Airbus Australia Pacific, said. "The H145 is well regarded as a reference law enforcement helicopter, and we are proud to be able to configure the aircraft to include the mobile policing command post to enhance the capability of the WA Police Force, both in the air and on the ground."

"Not only have we sourced an exceptional helicopter and flying command post



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IMAGE COURTESY OF GA-ASI.





WA Police will be the first Australian customer to operate the five bladed H145.

AIRBUS

"THE NEW AIRCRAFT WILL BE BASED IN PERTH AND WILL SERVICE THE ENTIRE STATE" for the vast State of WA, we are also partnering with a global aviation company who has an extensive local footprint in Australia, ensuring our fleet availability," WA Minister for Police Michelle Roberts said.

Airbus' offering for Land 2097 Phase 4 is the M-version of the H145, currently in use by the German Special Forces.

Their team includes Safran Helicopter Engines for engine support, QinetiQ Australia for verification and validation work and mission trainers, Toll Helicopters, Rafael, Thales Australia, Sigma Bravo for mission planning and a company called Helicopter Logistics from WA.

MOST READ ONLINE AT WWW.AUSTRALIANDEFENCE.COM.AU



- 1. Government to consider howitzer acquisition strategy
- 2. Navantia completes LHD design upgrade
- 3. New leadership for Northrop Grumman in Asia-Pacific
- 4. Preliminary design review complete for JP9711
- 5. BAE Systems to support Advanced Air Defence Simulator

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VICOR

EVALUATE

RAAF HEADS TO GUAM

RAAF aircraft and more than 150 personnel have deployed to Guam to join exercises with the RAN and the US.

An Air Task Unit made up of F/A-18A Hornets, EA-18G Growlers, an E-7A Wedgetail and a KC-30A Multirole Tanker Transport will conduct advanced air-sea integration drills with five RAN warships.

The ships are part of a Joint Task Group conducting a regional deployment

through Southeast Asia, before participating in exercise RIMPAC off Hawaii.

"EXERCISING AS A JOINT FORCE
ACROSS AIR AND SEA ALLOWS
THE NAVY AND AIR FORCE TO
UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER'S
WAR-FIGHTING ACTIVITIES"

Minister for Defence Linda Reynolds said training of air and sea forces is an important progression in the joint force capability.

"Some of our most advanced capabilities including the EA-18G Growler and the Guided Missile Destroyer, HMAS *Hobart*, will be able to integrate in a combined air and sea environment," Minister Reynolds said.

"This deployment demonstrates Defence as a capable force, with an ability to conduct complex and extended deployments at sea and in the air organically and with our regional partners."

The transit to RIMPAC provides Navy an opportunity to practice joint warfare. Training will include an E-7A Wedgetail aircraft working alongside the maritime



A pilot from No. 77 Squadron boards an F/A-18A Hornet A21-36 aircraft prior to an air-sea integration mission at Andersen Air Force Base.



A RAAF E-7A Wedgetail from No. 2 Squadron, three F/A-18A Hornets from No.77 Squadron and an EA-18G Growler from No. 6 Squadron.

elements, to generate an overall air and sea picture.

They will also conduct maritime air defence and air combat exercises with US Air Force partners and the Australian Joint Task Group.

"Exercising as a joint force across air and sea allows the Navy and Air Force to understand each other's warfighting activities, to fight better in the maritime environment, make decisions quickly and fully employ their forces across multiple domains," Minister Reynolds said.

The Air Task Unit will return to Australia in late July 2020.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ADM EVENTS

More detail on ADM Events can be found on our dedicated website.

- ADM Women in Defence Awards 23 October 2020 | National Arboretum
- Defence in the North 28 October 2020 | Darwin Convention Centre
- ADM Space Summit 2 December 2020, Hyatt Hotel | Canberra
- ADM Congress 3 February 2021, Hyatt Hotel | Canberra
- ADM Defence Estate 23 February 2021, Hotel Realm | Canberra

STRATEGIC VISION 2020: THE ASPI CONFERENCE SERIES

DATE 22 July – 14 August 2020 **LOCATION** Online – Free registration

WEBSITE https://www.aspi.org.au/event/

strategic-vision-2020-aspi-conference-series

The Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) is delighted to invite you to our virtual conference series, Strategic Vision 2020. Over the course of four weeks, join Australian Walkley Award winning journalist, Stan Grant, in conversation with global thought leaders and policy makers on the big, strategic challenges Australia and the world are facing.

IPSWICH INDUSTRY NETWORK UPDATE WEBINAR

DATE 23 July 2020

LOCATION Online

WEBSITE https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4518575383361782544

You are invited to attend the Education, Research and Training webinar on Thursday 23 July from 11 am to 12.30 pm. A great opportunity to hear directly from industry panel via this interactive, informative and insightful webinar series. The Panel will share their practical insights on: how are they managing and their best practices through COVID-19 pandemic, any contingency tactic that helped them to remain competitive, and how industry and government partnerships assist to offer opportunities for SMEs.

2020 INTERNATIONAL ROUNDTABLE WORKSHOP - BRISBANE

DATE 27 August 2020

LOCATION QUT Brisbane, Gardens Point Campus, Brisbane City

WEBSITE https://iccpm.com/events/2020-rts-brisbane/

The International Centre for Complex Project Management (ICCPM) invites project leaders to participate in the 2020 International Roundtable Series. Workshops will be held in key Australian locations and internationally.

AUSCERT 2020

DATE: 15-18 September **LOCATION:** The Star, Gold Coast

WEBSITE: www.auscert.org.au/giveaway

The AusCERT Conference is the oldest information security conference in Australia. Each year, we attract in the vicinity of 800 participants and approximately 50 sponsors. AusCERT is hosting more than 50 speakers at AusCERT2020, as well as an array of tutorials, workshops, networking events & much more.

2020 VERNON PARKER ORATION AND DINNER

DATE 13 October 2020 LOCATION Hotel Realm, Canberra

WEBSITE navalinstitute.com.au/2020-vernon-parker-oration-and-dinner

Sir Peter Cosgrove has kindly agreed to deliver the 2020 Vernon Parker Oration on 17 June. Sir Peter was Governor-General from 2014-2019 and former Chief of the Defence Force. In January 2020 Sir Peter accepted the voluntary role as chairman of the Business Council of Australia's Community Rebuilding Initiative in response to the 2019/20 bushfires.

2020 ANI GOLDRICK SEMINAR — REMOTE AND AUTONOMOUS SYSTEMS AT SEA

DATE 13 and 14 October 2020

LOCATION Adams Auditorium, Australian Defence Force Academy
WEBSITE navalinstitute.com.au/latest-ani-events-and-archive/

The 2020 ANI Goldrick Seminar will discuss a wide range of issues around Remote and Autonomous Systems at Sea. It will comprise six sessions over 1.5 days covering an overview of Remote and Autonomous Systems at Sea (RAS); RAS in the Littoral Domain; RAS in the Maritime Air Domain; RAS in the Undersea Domain; Measuring Effective, and Legal and Ethical Considerations.

4TH ANNUAL SYSTEMS MODELLING CONFERENCE 2020

DATE 27 October 2020

LOCATION Online

WEBSITE https://www.unsw.adfa.edu.au/conferences/SMC-2020

The Capability Systems Centre runs one-day conference on the use of whole-systems approach to design and manage complex problem in socio-technical and socio-ecological systems. The daylong virtual conference on October 27th will feature showcases on the use of systems thinking and systems modelling in a wide range of areas. The event provides a platform for researchers and practitioners to communicate about scientific and practical aspects of real-world problems, receive feedback, and share learning lessons.

10TH BIENNIAL SIA CONFERENCE 2020

DATE: 17-18 November 2020 **LOCATION** Hotel Realm, Canberra

WEBSITE https://www.submarineinstitute.com/sia-conferences

The 10th Biennial SIA Conference will be held 17-18 November 2020 at the Hotel Realm, Canberra. This year's theme is 'Submarine Build and Sustainment Programs: The Strategic Nature of Reliable, Sovereign Supply Chains'. The Call for Presentations is available on the website.

2021

43RD COSPAR SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY

DATE 28 Jan-4 Feb 2021

LOCATION International Convention Centre Sydney

WEBSITE www.cospar2020.org

The Australian space research community enthusiastically extends the invitation to you, to meet with us for COSPAR 2020, and in so doing to forge the friendships and opportunities that will connect space research for global impact. The 2020 Assembly will combine the latest in space research findings with activities designed to enrich the global space research community – including helping equip our future leaders, and workshopping with space industry – and inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers.

LOCATE21

DATE 30 March – 1 April 2021 (rescheduled dates)
LOCATION Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre
WEBSITE https://www.locateconference.com/2021/

Due to COVID-19, Locate20 has been rescheduled for Locate21 happening in Brisbane March 30 – 1 April 2021. The event will focus on how geospatial technologies are intersecting with business, Government and defence to address national challenges. It's Australia's premier spatial conference with the inclusion of over 50 inspiring thought-leaders including speakers from government, academia, the defence force, technology, mining, natural resources and more. We believe this conference is of interest to defence personnel.

LAND FORCES 2021

DATE June 1-3 2021

LOCATION Brisbane Convention Centre WEBSITE www.landforces.com.au

The biennial LAND FORCES exposition is an international industry event to show-case equipment, technology and services for the armies of Australia and the Indo-Asia-Pacific. The Land Forces 2020 team is now setting about ensuring the event will achieve its goals of providing an effective platform for the exchange of ideas on key land forces issues and of taking Australian industry to the world.

ROTORTECH 2021

DATE 15-17 June 2021

LOCATION Royal International Convention Centre, Brisbane

WEBSITE www.rotortech.com.au

The new dates for Rotortech will be Tuesday 15 June to Thursday 17 June 2021. The venue, the Royal International Convention Centre in Brisbane, is unchanged. Rotortech is the region's premier helicopter and unmanned flight systems showcase and forum, featuring more than 100 participating companies and key speakers from industry and government. We believe that deferring Rotortech to its new June 2021 dates will achieve this goal by moving the event to a time where the COVID situation will have improved and the current uncertainties will have passed.

PROJECT AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM

DATE 10 – 12 August 2021 (rescheduled dates)

LOCATION Canberra Rex Hotel

WEBSITE https://www.pgcsymposium.org.au

Foresight is more valuable then hindsight! PGCS 2020 is designed to help project and program managers, and their sponsors and senior managers, develop the skills and understanding needed to deliver projects success in the next decade. Creating the organisational capability needed to underpin the consistent delivery of successful projects in the 2020's starts at the top. Now in its 8th year, PGCS 2020 will focus on ways to build the foundations needed to create project and program success

AVALON 2021

DATE 23-28 November 2021

LOCATION Avalon Airport

The Australian International Airshow and Aerospace & Defence Exposition is one of Asia-Pacific's most prestigious aviation and aerospace events and the most comprehensive aviation, aerospace and defence exposition in the southern hemisphere. Avalon hosts multiple concurrent conferences and expo streams, across the spectrum of Defence, Airlines, Business and General Aviation, Sport and Recreational Aviation, Airports, MRO, Space, Unmanned Systems, Air Safety and Ground Equipment.

2022

PACIFIC 2020 BECOMES INDO PACIFIC 2022

DATE May 2022

LOCATION Sydney Convention Centre WEBSITE www.pacificexpo.com.au

Reflecting the increasing importance of the Indo Pacific region to the entire world, the PACIFIC International Maritime Exposition will become the INDO PACIFIC International Maritime Exposition from 2022. Initially, there will be a new timing. Instead of the previously planned PACIFIC dates in August 2021, INDO PACIFIC will now, in the wake of COVID 19, initially be held during May 2022.

VARIOUS DATES

NSW DEFENCE INNOVATION NETWORK'S REGIONAL ROAD SHOW

DATE: Various **LOCATION:** Various

WEBSITE: defenceinnovationnetwork.com/din-regional-road-show-2019-20

NSW Defence Innovation Network and AIDN will be undertaking a series of small business focused regional forums across NSW. Register to attend and hear about the programs, grants, opportunities and services the NSW Defence Innovation Network (DIN) provides to the small business community across NSW. We encourage small businesses to engage with us and participate in opportunities across our networks, including DIN's seven partner universities, as well as with other state and federal agencies.

ICCPM ONLINE WORKSHOPS

DATE Various
LOCATION Online

WEBSITE www.iccpm.com/online-workshop-webinars

Designed to support project teams who are experiencing new challenges due to COVID-19 concerns – Learn how to mitigate new risk levels, effectively deploy virtual teams, manage messy problems and more. ICCPM Online Workshops and Webinars provide you with an easily accessible and engaging option to continue your training from anywhere in the world. These options provide you and your team with a conducive learning environment to support your complex project success.

ICCPM ROUNDTABLE WORKSHOPS

DATE Various LOCATION Various

WEBSITE https://iccpm.com/2020-rs/

ICCPM, with Series Partner QUTeX, is pleased to confirm the upcoming Workshops for the 2020 International Roundtable Series Harnessing Emergence in Complex Projects: Risk, Uncertainty and Opportunity. The International Roundtable Series is an exciting Thought Leadership initiative where senior practitioners and leading academics come together and discuss the Series Theme to produce new insights and practical steps to improve complex project success. Registrations for in-person workshops are strictly limited to comply with COVID-19 venue safety guidelines. Please refer to each event page for more details.