

association update

Vale Brigadier James Osmond Furner, AO, CBE, DSM (Retd)

Jim Furner, who died at home in Terrigal, NSW, on 17 September 2007 after a short illness, holds the distinction of being the only career intelligence officer to have been head of two of Australia's intelligence agencies. He was initially Director of the then Joint Intelligence Organisation (JIO) and subsequently Director-General of the Australian Secret Intelligence Service (ASIS). He also holds the distinction of being the longest serving Director-General of ASIS.

Jim was born in Warrigal, Victoria, in 1927, attained a BA at Melbourne University and first joined the workforce as a school teacher. In 1952 he sought a career change and enlisted in the Army as one of the first intake into the Officer Cadet School (OCS) at Portsea. Jim initially joined the infantry and first saw overseas service with the 1st Commonwealth Division in South Korea during 1955-56. On his return from South Korea, Jim transferred to the Australian Intelligence Corps. His subsequent postings as a military intelligence officer included Headquarters Far East Land Forces in Hong Kong (1958-60), an Intelligence staff exchange posting with the US Defence Intelligence Agency in Washington (1963-66), the senior Australian military intelligence appointment in Vietnam as GSO2 (Intelligence) at Headquarters 1st Australian Task Force (1967-68), Commanding Officer and Chief Instructor of the Australian Army Intelligence Centre at Woodside (1969-70), SEATO Headquarters in Bangkok (1973), Headquarters Field Force Command in Sydney (1975-78) and Deputy Director (Military) JIO during 1978-82. Jim filled the latter appointment on promotion to brigadier, the first OCS graduate to reach that rank.

He retired from the Army on age in early 1982. Later that year he was appointed, as a civilian, as Director JIO, later renamed the Defence Intelligence Organisation (DIO). He was the first career intelligence officer to head JIO (and one of only two to ever do so thus far).

When directed by Foreign Minister, Bill Hayden, to take over ASIS in early 1984 (he was given just 24 hours to transfer jobs), Jim inherited an organisation, thanks to the Sheraton Hotel affair, that was both dispirited and whose future was very much under the political microscope. Also, at that time ASIS was already undergoing significant disruption, with an accompanying loss of many experienced staff, due to the imminent move of its headquarters from Melbourne to Canberra

Jim served 8½ years at the helm of ASIS, longer than any of his predecessors or successors, retiring in November 1992 just one day prior to his 65th birthday. From a very

challenging beginning, he left an organisation that was organisationally sound and highly respected, both politically and professionally. This he achieved through his many qualities, including his intellect, pragmatism, energy, and commitment to teamwork through a collaborative approach with staff.

Jim's distinguished service with the Army, JIO and ASIS was appropriately recognised by government. He was awarded a DSM for his service in Vietnam, a CBE in 1980 for his service to Defence intelligence, and an AO in 1993 for his service to international relations.

As a person, Jim was unassuming, very direct in his dealings, always approachable, and had a good sense of humour. For those who had the privilege to serve with him, he will be remembered with respect and affection. ♦

Vale Major General Paul Cullen, AC, CBE, DSO*, ED, FCA (Retd)

Australia lost one of its most distinguished citizen soldiers when Major General Paul Cullen passed away on the 19 September 2007. Born at Newcastle on 13 February 1909, throughout his 98 years he made an outstanding contribution to soldiering, commerce and humanitarian causes.

Paul's lifetime of Army service commenced as one of the last conscripts in 1927 and then as a member of the Militia. The outbreak of World War II saw him as a very early volunteer (NX163) for the 2nd AIF. Leaving Australia in February 1940 he saw service in the Western Desert, Syria, Greece, Crete (where he commanded a battalion comprised of elements from various escaping units), and New Guinea – where he commanded with distinction and bravery the 2nd/1st Infantry Battalion.

BEQUESTS TO THE ADA

Have you considered making a donation or bequest to the Australia Defence Association?

The Association runs a very lean operation and every dollar makes a difference. A suitable form of bequest is 'I bequeath the sum of \$_____ to the Australia Defence Association (ABN 16 083 007 390)'.

If you have already made a will, you don't have to change it; you can simply make a codicil.

The Association can assist with the provision of will or codicil forms, or referral to a solicitor. Further details may be obtained from bequests@ada.asn.au

He joined the Citizen Military Forces (now Army Reserve) in 1948 retiring in 1966 having risen to the rank of major general and Citizen Force Member of the Military Board. Paul is remembered for the way he used his outstanding wartime service to make a major contribution to the CMF. He was instrumental in the introduction of Officer Cadet Training Units, developed the concept of special conditions battalions (Bushman's Rifles) for those unable to undertake conventional part-time training obligations, and developed and championed the scheme whereby some 500 CMF officers undertook short operational tours to 1ATF in South Vietnam.

In his civil career, Paul demonstrated motivation, determination and a willingness to try new activities and new ways of undertaking old ones, characteristics that were features of all three strands of his life. A qualified accountant he established Australia's first Fixed-Unit Trust, early versions of today's supermarkets and project housing, and extensive pastoral enterprises.

His wartime experiences honed his concern for those less fortunate and the last forty years of his life saw an extensive involvement in humanitarian causes. He helped establish the Australian Jewish Welfare Society, AUSTCARE (Australians Caring for Refugees), the Refugee Council of Australia, Cumberland Industries, Foresight, the Australian Disaster Relief Organisation and the United Nations Association. Paul also served on the Australian Council for Overseas Aid and, having joined the Sydney Industrial Blind Institute pre-war, was its long-serving president after the war when it became the Royal Blind Institute. He was also the National Chairman of the Order of Australia Association in its formative years. His presidencies of many organisations, especially

AUSTCARE and the Royal Blind Society, extended over periods of 20-40 years.

Throughout his life Paul Cullen maintained contact with those that he served with. In 1970 he established the Citizen Military Force Association, which now as the Defence Reserves Association, continues to articulate the valuable contributions that citizens serving as part-time ADF personnel make to our national defence efforts.

Dedicated, enthusiastic and a tireless advocate and champion Paul maintained a keen involvement in all that he had an interest in. His latter years were spent with his wife Eve on their stud property at Wingello Park.

His contribution during his long life had been recognised by many awards and decorations including a DSO and bar for acts of outstanding bravery and leadership, the UNHCR Nansen Medal, the RSL Peace Prize, and being appointed a Companion of the Order of Australia and a Commander of the British Empire.

Paul Cullen was accorded a military funeral at Victoria Barracks in Sydney on 26 September 2007. Some 500 people, representing family and all of the organisations with whom he had been involved, paid a fitting tribute and farewell to a long-serving soldier and a great Australian. ♦

Kevin Baker's biography, *Paul Cullen, Citizen and Soldier: The Life and Time of Major General Paul Cullen AC, CBE, DSO*, ED* was reviewed in the Winter 2005 issue of *Defender*.



Research Assistant Position ADA National Office

The ADA national office has a vacancy for a part-time research assistant from mid 2008. Salary will be negotiated to reflect the time available and the qualifications and experience held.

The location of the position is not necessarily tied to Canberra as long as Internet access and general computer skills allow effective inter-action in other locations.

Enquiries concerning this position should be directed to the executive director at execdir@ada.asn.au or (02) 6231-4444.

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The National Journal of the Australia Defence Association

Cartoonist Wanted

Defender is seeking the services of a cartoonist to assist in hammering home the Association's messages about the need for Australia to be adequately defended.

If you are a caricaturist, with or without a penchant for satire, please make yourself known to the editor at editor.defender@ada.asn.au or (02) 6231-4444