

Untitled

April 2007

Mr Denis Percy
President of the UN Police Association of Australia
147 Bradfield Rd,
Lindfield NSW 2070

Dear Denis,

DESIGN BRIEF FOR THE AUSTRALIAN PEACEKEEPING MEMORIAL

I am writing to you as the nominated representative of the UNPAA on the APMP Committee to seek your members' input to the design of the Australian Peacekeeping Memorial.

As you are aware, the Prime Minister is about to announce the Canberra National Memorials Committee decision to allocate a site on ANZAC Parade for the Australian Peacekeeping Memorial. In association with the National Capital Authority, we are now developing the design brief for the Memorial, and have formed an APMP Design Sub Committee (DSC) to assist the process. The first brief from the DSC was discussed at the APMPC on the 11th April.

The APMP wishes to ensure that the views of our Peacekeeping veterans and the Australian community are accurately reflected in the design concept for the Memorial. I would therefore appreciate if you could consult with the leadership and members of your organisation, and advise the APMP as soon as possible of relevant considerations with respect to the questions raised in the initial DSC brief. In particular we are seeking opinions on the messages we want the Memorial to convey and the manner in which the history and sacrifice of Australian peacekeeping is appropriately portrayed by the Memorial.

In this respect we wish to address the question of how the Memorial should indicate the many regions of the world where Australian military, civilian and police peacekeepers have deployed, noting that there are over 50 peacekeeping operations that would apparently be included.

Additionally, we are interested in the issues associated with the question of an honour roll to commemorate those who have died on peacekeeping missions. We are aware the police and some (but not all) military peacekeepers that have died on overseas operations are already listed on honour rolls on the National Police Memorial and at the Australian War Memorial. Honour rolls are not normally included on Memorials on ANZAC Parade (although the Vietnam Memorial does include names in a discrete manner), so it may be more appropriate that we aim for a generic representation of the sacrifice of peacekeepers on the APM and push for the inclusion of the names of all peacekeepers whom have died on service at the other National memorials. Your input to the discussion on these questions will ensure the Design brief appropriately addresses the issues and that the Jury that decides on the final design to recommend to the CNMC is aware of the opinions in the peacekeeper community.

Thank you once again for your contribution to the APMP Committee, and please pass on my appreciation to the UNPAA for their strong support to the APMP. I look forward to being informed of the considerations that we should take into account during development of the Memorial. It is anticipated that our input to the Memorial Design brief will need to be finalised by early June so a response by 31st May would be appreciated.

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Yours sincerely,

Major General (Retired) Tim Ford. AO
Chairman