



“OAA-ADF ORATION”- 2013

The Order of Australia Association-ACT Branch in partnership with The Australian Defence Force

Held on Thursday 17 October 2013, in the Theatrette of the ADF Headquarters, Canberra.

The ACT Branch's third in the series of the “OAA-ADF Oration” was delivered by Major General P.W. (Gus) Gilmore AO DSC, Appointed Deputy Chief of Army September 2013. Formerly Special Operations Commander Australia - ADF.



TITLE: "The future of Special Forces"

Major General 'Gus' Gilmore reflected on 25 years involvement with Special Operations and shared his views regarding the future of Special Forces.

He entered the Royal Military College Duntroon in 1979 graduating into the Royal Australian Infantry Corps in 1983 and served initially in the 8th/9th Battalion of the Royal Australian Regiment. His regimental service includes a variety of appointments, culminating in command of the Special Air Service Regiment in 2001 and 2002. During this time he led the first Australian Special Forces Task Group into Afghanistan.

General Gilmore has served in a variety of senior staff appointments, including the Director General Future Land Warfare and the Director General of Defence Public Affairs. In 2003 he was seconded for 18 months to the National Security Division of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Senior operational appointments include command of the coalition Advisory Support Team to the Iraqi Joint Headquarters and twelve months commanding all NATO and other Special Forces assigned to the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan. He was promoted to Major General upon return to Australia and appointed “Special Operations Commander Australia” in January 2011. In September 2013 MAJGEN Gilmore was appointed Deputy Chief of Army.

He is a graduate of the British Royal Military College of Science, the Australian Army Command and Staff College, and the Australian Centre for Defence and Strategic Studies. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of New South Wales and a Master of Arts (International Relations) from Deakin University.