



DEFENCE MEDIA ALERT

MSPA-NSW 050/09

Monday, 20 April 2009

REMEMBERING AUSTRALIA'S HEROIC GALLIPOLI SUBMARINE HMAS AE2

- What:** A commemorative plaque will be unveiled for HMAS AE2, the Australian WW1 submarine, which penetrated the Dardanelles in 1915 on the morning that ANZAC soldiers landed at Anzac Cove.
- When:** Wednesday, 22 April 2009. Event to commence at 11am. Media should arrive to HMAS *Kuttabul* gate no later than 10.30am.
- Where:** Navy Heritage Centre, Sydney. Media wanting to attend should enter via the main gate HMAS *Kuttabul*, intersection of Cowper Wharf Road and Wylde Street, Woolloomooloo. Photographic identification will be required.
- Who:** The Minister for Defence Science and Personnel, the Honourable Warren Snowdon MP, together with the Sydney Consul General for Turkey, Mr Renan Sekeroglu have been invited by the AE2 Commemorative Foundation Chairman, Rear Admiral Peter Briggs AO CSC RAN (Rtd), to jointly unveil the AE2 commemorative plaque.

AE2 was the Royal Australian Navy's second ever submarine. After five days operations in and around the Dardanelles she fell to Turkish gunfire on 30 April, 1915.

The plaque unveiling at the RAN Heritage Centre will create a permanent memorial for the AE2. It is fitting that the memorial is at Fleet Base East, Sydney as this was the site where she left Sydney for deployment, 94 years ago.

The RAN Band will begin playing at approx 10.50am.

The unveiling also coincides with the Official Opening of the art exhibition, 'ART from the MEAO', by Bob McRae. Works depicting troops deployed in Iraq are among the displays. This exhibition will be opened at noon by Rear Admiral Allan du Toit RAN.

Media note: The Minister for Defence Science and Personnel, the Hon. Warren Snowdon MP will conduct a doorstep at 11.35am

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