

MY DEFENCE2020 ASSIGNMENT

My definition of peacekeepers- Someone who assists a country experiencing a difficult time or conflict to try and bring peace and solution to that particular country. They also assist troubled people in that country by providing required goods that help particular people out. Instead of creating more conflict and fighting back against their enemies, they attempt to help different countries by travelling there and helping out people trying to get the countries to reach peace once more. They operate important ships like the HMAS Ballarat and while they control personnel they also control the ship's weapons during war times. Some help out with medical services and help out particular people who may get injured during war. Some other people fly certain planes during war times and help people out whenever they see them. Peacekeeping is only one of the important tasks defence personnel do.

I have great respect for these peacekeepers as they also risk their lives in the process of their job and they still manage to generally be successful at what they do. They always have those troubled people first in their minds and I will always greatly respect peacekeepers because not only is a such an important job to society, but it takes a great deal of courage to have the guts to take on such an arduous job like the one these brave people tackle everyday.

I have decided to research this group of people who are part of the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER DAVID HUGHES-

An extraordinary man by the name of David Hughes is an Australian peacekeeper. He has with an amazing background of experiences and a history as a peacekeeper. Ever since primary school this particular man has been extremely interested in joining the NAVY. He has always said that he never regretted his decision to join the NAVY, but he mentioned that the only thing that he would have changed was to complete year 12 before he began joining.

He first joined at the age of 17 years and 2 months as an Adult Entry Sailor. He has completed some quite extraordinary work with peacekeeping during his 38 years being in the service.

David's amazing peacekeeping mission involved being deployed to Sudan to maintain the peace agreement that brought the end to 21 years of Civil War, which had really affected the country and the country's citizens. Even today the country is not quite at peace, but David has the hope that eventually the country along with the constant assistance from the UN will eventually return to peace. I also share his belief that the country will return to peace once more, as the UN is extremely good at what they do and no doubt, even if it takes up to a couple of years, the country will eventually become peaceful once again.

He also served in Vietnam and on maritime patrols in the Persian Gulf commencing in 1981, after Iran deposed their Shah. He was also involved in both the actual Gulf wars that took place and was stationed there by the UN, the actual Timor conflict, maritime operations in support of the land operations in Afghanistan and the amazing job of doing humanitarian support towards the tsunami damage on Nias and along with quite a couple of minor incidents that occurred around the Pacific Ocean. It is obvious that he has done amazing work for the Australian Defence Force during his 38 year

membership. He is no doubt a hero to the Australian people during these very difficult times of war and many other conflicts. I personally greatly admire him for his constant bravery that he has given to the defence force during his time.

David said that he enjoys the defence force for the reason of that everyday is a new adventure and no day is the same. He also said that whenever he is deployed to many other countries during very difficult times. He also said that it gives you experience for your private life; you can travel to many other countries like many people want to do. Whenever you do this in life you begin to realise how great Australia actually is and how lucky we are to live in such a great country, not just because of the country itself and its beauty, but for the peaceful lives we live day after day unlike most countries around the world unfortunately haven't got the privilege to do.

He believes that life without the defence force would be like not having a police force, fire brigade or ambulance. He believes that it is such an important job to society and it is a great way to help your country out in difficult times.

He believes that the two most fulfilling parts to his career are when he got the opportunity to sail into the Sydney Harbour as an actual member of the USS NEW JERSEY. The other highlight during his long career was when he got to serve as a peacekeeper for the United Nations in Sudan.

I believe that the Australian people should look up to this amazing man for all the wonderful work he has done for the Australian Defence Force during 38 long years. I believe that he is no doubt a hero to the Australian people and they should constantly remember all the hard work he has put into making this country as peaceful as it is today. I believe that without his bravery through the years Australia may not be as peaceful as it is today and we need to remember that these peacekeepers like him put their lives in danger everyday to help us maintain peace. These people should constantly at all times be remembered for all the hard work they put into doing that for our wonderful country.

FLYING OFFICER KRISTIAN LYRSTEDT

Kristian originally wanted to join the defence force when she was in primary school because it would give her a lot of life experience and she now has been part of the Australian Defence Force for about 6 years.

She has worked as an environmental officer for most of her career, but she had the opportunity to be deployed as a peacekeeper in East Timor. She basically went over to that country to assist the country maintain peace during that very difficult time and it was quite a difficult job to accomplish while she on duty. She found it extremely rewarding though and she also said it was very rewarding and fulfilling the way she got to assist a country during a difficult time.

During her time in the defence force she has had many different memorable moments. She stated that her memorable moments actually ranged from going over to Florida on a course study. She also had a memorable moment when she got to travel to East Timor to assist the ADF who were organising a sporting event for one of the local orphanages.

She has made a lot of good friends during her 6 years in the defence force and has also had the opportunity to do a lot of training opportunities. It has been a great experience to be part of the defence force and she wouldn't give it up for anything else. She did strongly recommend to anyone who is interested to seriously give the Australian Defence

Force a decent go because she seriously believes that you will get a great deal from the experience and you will seriously not regret it for a single minute.

Kristian sees the Australian Defence Force as helping many people with many different trades and skills that assist the Australian community. She sees it a proper job, although you have to get up early for training and exercise like most jobs don't and she also believes that it is a great organisation to work for. She also sees the Australian Defence Force as a place that makes a number of varied contributions towards our own society and country which makes it extremely worthwhile for her to continue working with the defence force.

I also believe that she should get looked up to by the Australian community, as she has offered so much to the Australian community during her 6 years in the Australian Defence Force. Like I said about David the Australians should look up to these people, as they make our country as peaceful as it is and without them our country may not be as peaceful as it is today. I am not at all surprised at all about this lady being a peacekeeper. I believe that any sex either male or female should have the opportunity to do something they want to do and I also believe that women should be peacekeepers if they really want to. All of these sorts of careers should not be just for males and females should have equal rights of what they want in life.

It seems from studying these two very interesting people that the defence force is a really interesting place to work for. I realised that it offers abroad range of different things to people who join. It also seems like it an extremely good job which the defence personnel seem to enjoy and for many people out there seems like an interesting career to possibly consider.

DO I BELIEVE THAT PEACEKEEPERS ARE RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS?

I believe that peacekeepers are responsible citizens, why wouldn't they be? They help out our country out in difficult times and all their actions are extremely responsible. Despite of putting their lives in danger they are constantly trying to create peace and I believe that this action is extremely responsible. It is responsible because they are trying to make life better and more peaceful for their country and other countries, but they are putting their lives in danger in the process of the arduous task and it takes extreme bravery and responsibility to have the guts to do this. It is also responsible that they instead of fighting against opposing countries and creating even more conflict, they are instead trying to create peace once more and I can't think of anything more responsible than that. Other people also no doubt realise their responsible actions and no doubt admire them for what they do during times of war. Another reason for their responsibility is also because they force self-discipline for the personnel. Self-discipline is in my mind the most important factor for being a responsible. I thought that being responsible was all about acting maturely and self-discipline enforces this extremely well. The defence force also offers a broad range of jobs to the personnel so much experience in a broad range of different ways that assist them later in life and they are extremely important to have for certain jobs. Some also run special ships during war times and tell other personnel what to do and that is certainly showing plenty of responsible citizenship. They are also certainly responsible citizens to the Australian society because without their bravery and courage they display on a daily basis, I couldn't imagine what our country would be like today. These particular people make our country as unique as it is.

WHAT DO I DEFINE BEING A RESPONSIBLE CITIZEN?

I define a responsible citizen as someone who constantly gives back to their own community. They always help their country out in difficult times and all their actions should be recognized by the Australian society. That is the reason that I recall peacekeepers being extraordinary responsible citizens because they are constantly helping their country during difficult times and in my mind that is the most responsible thing anyone could possibly do. This is my opinion of what makes a responsible citizen because they give to society and help us in extremely difficult times and that is the way my opinion is always going to stay. I will always constantly admire peacekeepers for their bravery they display on a daily basis.

HOW I THINK AUSTRALIANS SHOULD COMMEMORATE THESE PEOPLE

I believe that on ANZAC Day along with remembering our past heroes, we should also take some time to remember these brave peacekeepers that have travelled overseas to help our country out. They sacrifice their lives on a daily basis just to make sure we can continue to live in such a peaceful country and I believe that we should seriously take that fact into account. I know we do our very best to remember these people on ANZAC Day but if we could include these peacekeepers with the people we commemorate on this day, we would be showing the respect that they extremely deserve.

It has been great to take part in this defence challenge because I have really enjoyed doing it and I hope you and they will enjoy reading all the information I have presented. I will thank those personnel for giving up their time to help me out to assist me with this assignment. Thankyou for giving me the opportunity to do this task because although I have not done one quite like it before I really enjoyed getting the opportunity to do something like this for the first time.

Nick Petrie, Campbell Town District High School.

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5. [The interview I conducted on the other page I have sent to you.](#)