

MEDIA RELEASE

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SURVEYORS GET COMMENDED

(Story by LCDR John Sperring, RANR)

Recently, members of the Australian Hydrographic Office were honoured with commendations being presented by the out-going Maritime Commander RADM Raydon Gates.

The HMFEG's Deployable Survey Unit (HODSU) was presented with a MC's Unit Commendation for sterling service given while in support of OP ANODE (Solomon Islands) during 10 Dec 03 to 30 Jan 04. This small-numbered team demonstrated a high degree of dedication and adaptability in the conduct of important hydrographic survey activities; often during difficult and demanding conditions. HODSU were able to compile a provisional navigational chart enabling the TG 635 greater freedom of manoeuvre and safety. HODSU were able to raise the profile of the Australian Hydrographic Service's ability to effect a rapid environmental assessment capability to Commanders in the field.

HODSU members were also awarded their ASMs for service in the Solomon Islands.



Caption Photo 1

Shows RADM Raydon Gates, with LCDR Mick Rigby (OIC HODSU) and ABHSO Melanie Osborne after the presentation of the Commendation to the Deployable Survey Unit.



Caption Photo 2

Shows HODSU members LCDR Mick Rigby and ABHSO Melanie Osborne with their individual ASMs for service in The Solomon Islands.

LCDR Peter Johnson was also awarded a MC's Commendation for his outstanding professionalism and devotion to the duties of Staff Officer Capability Requirements at the HMFEG (Wollongong). LCDR Johnson has been instrumental in facilitating a number of large and complicated Hydrographic-related projects.



Caption Photo 3

Shows the former Maritime Commander RADM Raydon Gates, with LCDR & Mrs Peter Johnson after the presentation of LCDR Peter Johnson's MC Commendation

For further information contact: LCDR John Sperring on Mobile 0407-074 154 or Office 02 – 4221 8670.

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