



Major T.A. de CARTERET RFD



Trevor Allen de Carteret was born at Heidelberg, Victoria in September of 1947, the second of two sons to Thomas and Cornelia de Carteret. His father was a regular army Warrant Officer and an instructor at the then Army Apprentices School at Balcombe on the Mornington Peninsula. After Thomas retired from the army in 1960, the family moved to Maryborough in Queensland. Trevor attended the Maryborough Boys State High School where he completed the Scholarship, Junior and Senior Certificates.

Trevor met and married his wife, Valmae (Val) in 1971 in Rockhampton and together they had three children, Amanda [b. 1973], Fleur [b. 1975] and Matthew [b. 1978].

He attained a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Queensland (1977–1984) majoring in psychology, history, and political science. In 1986 he completed a Diploma in Export Management and was admitted as a Member of the Australian Institute of Export. In 2009 he graduated in the AICD Company Directors Course.

After school he moved into teacher training and then, in 1967, on to air traffic control in the Department of Civil Aviation, before moving to the Air Safety Investigation Branch where his focus was on communications investigation and aircraft accident and incident investigation.

Then followed a twenty-six year career with Austrade – the Australian Government's trade and international investment agency.

We thank the History Interest Group and other volunteers who have researched and prepared these Notes. The series will be progressively expanded and developed. They are intended as casual reading for the benefit of Members, who are encouraged to advise of any inaccuracies in the material.

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Commencing in mid 1982 with the Department of Trade and Resources (later to become The Australian Trade Commission), Trevor developed and consolidated the skills necessary to advise companies and individuals on the correct procedures to export their goods and services. This followed a series of internal promotions to enhance his knowledge and skill levels.

From 1988 to 1991 Trevor was Austrade Manager Operations Queensland responsible for the conduct of trade development, export marketing and business planning programs in Queensland.

Then followed a four-year appointment as Austrade Trade Commissioner Jakarta, with responsibility for product sectors including processed food and beverages, food processing equipment, aerospace, aviation, defence, railways, tollways, marine, education and training, retail, and agriculture. His appointment in Indonesia was extended for a further year with particular responsibility for defence related trade in Indonesia and SE Asia generally.

Returning to Australia in 1995 to Sydney, Trevor was appointed to the position of National Manager Defence and Aerospace Industries. The position was responsible for the provision of specialist advice and counselling to Australian defence and aerospace exporters, the management of the SE Asian Defence Trade Commissioner's Program and coordination of the activities of Austrade's other defence related posts to identify and capture export opportunities.

He was appointed Austrade Trade Commissioner Sydney for a year, and then to a similar role in Perth until late 2001. This posting included a period in 1999 returning to Jakarta as Trade Commissioner with responsibility for major mining industry trade exhibitions.

In 2001 he returned to Brisbane as Austrade Trade Commissioner, Brisbane, then Austrade State Manager Brisbane and then in 2002 as Austrade Trade Commissioner and Senior Network Manager, Queensland.

From July 2006 to July 2007 Trevor was appointed as Australian Consul-General in Bucharest and Senior Trade Commissioner in The Balkans. He was responsible for eleven countries, from the ex-Yugoslavian breakaway nations of Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as Moldova, Greece, and Bulgaria.

Returning to Australia, Trevor was re-appointed to his role as Austrade Trade Commissioner and Senior Network Manager, Brisbane before retiring in 2008.

Trevor then founded and was CEO of I Export Solutions Pty Ltd – developing mobile applications for international marketing, international business planning and resourcing utilizing iPad, iPhone, and other tablet platforms.

In 1971 he joined the CMF as a recruit in the Royal Australian Service Corps and shortly thereafter commenced at the Wacol-based Officer Cadet Training Unit on Course 8. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant into RACT in October 1973. He completed regimental training before returning to the OCTU as a Platoon Commander. After four years he transferred to the Australian Intelligence Corps and was posted to the Field Force Intelligence Unit. Later postings were as Staff Officer Grade 2 (intelligence) at 7th Brigade Headquarters, and an appointment as Brigade Major of 7th Brigade. He was later posted to the Reserve Command and Staff College as a tactics instructor; and was awarded the Reserve Force Decoration (RFD) in 1988.

He left the Army Reserve in 1991 when he was appointed as Trade Commissioner to Indonesia.

Trevor joined the United Service Club soon after commissioning in 1973 and maintained his membership during the many years away from Queensland either interstate or overseas.

He was elected to the Club Committee in 2009 and over the next eight years served on and / or chaired all the sub committees before election to the role of Vice-President [2017-18] and President [2018-20].

- Committee Member 2009-17
- Audit Sub-committee 2009-10
- Finance & Property Sub-committee 2009-13
- Finance & Policy Sub-committee 2011-13
- Property Sub-committee Chair 2012–13, Member 2017
- Finance and Risk Management Sub-committee 2015-2016
- Membership & Member Services Sub-committee Chair 2016-17, Member 2020 -2021
- Club Development Sub-committee 2020-2021

Sources included:

- Various web pages
- *United Service Club, Queensland: The First Century, 1892-1992* by Flight Lieutenant Murray Adams and Lieutenant Colonel Peter Charlton
- Club Meeting Minutes, Annual Reports, and sundry documents
- Contribution from Major de Carteret in March 2021