

**MAJGEN Tim FORD, AO (Retd)**  
**RAA Representative Colonel Commandant April 2005-**  
**December 2012**



Major General Tim Ford retired from the Australian Army in 2003 and was appointed to the honorary position of Representative Colonel Commandant of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery in April 2005.

Tim was a graduate of the Royal Military College of Australia (1966), the University of Sydney (1968), the Royal School of Artillery, UK (1974), the Defence Services Staff College, India (1977), the Joint Services Staff College, Canberra (1983), the US Army War College (1992) and the Australian Institute of Company Directors (2003).

During his military career General Ford undertook a wide range of command, staff and training assignments. He saw active service in Vietnam and with the United Nations. His gunner postings have included 131 Divisional Locating Battery, the Directorate of Artillery, 19 Composite Regiment, 8 Medium Regiment, 1 Field Regiment and 4 Field Regiment RAA. He was the Commanding Officer of the 4<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment in Townsville in 1984/85 and the Director of Artillery in 1987/88.

He was promoted to Brigadier in December 1992 and to Major General in January 1996 to assume command of the 1<sup>st</sup> Division. From April 1998 until April 2000, Major General Ford was appointed to a United Nations command as the Head of Mission of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) in the Middle East. This was followed by selection as the Senior Military Adviser in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in United Nations Headquarters, New York where he served until September 2002.

During his seven years as RAA Representative Colonel Commandant, General Ford worked with some six RAA Heads of Regiment to support the many challenges that faced the RAA over this period including overseas operations and undertaking major changes to structure. He also worked hard to make the RAA Regimental Committee more effective including developing a Strategic and Heritage plan. In 2010 he worked with other retired Gunners to restructure the RAA Historical Company as a national organisation working closely with a wide range of artillery State and unit organisations to promote the significance of Australia's Artillery, its history and heritage. His main disappointment was the lack of progress by Army to build the promised new army artillery museum at Puckapunyal to replace the Museum closed at North Fort in 2010.