

Meet the new Commander-in-Chief (and some of her troops)



Picture: Chris Stacey

Her Excellency the Governor-General of Australia, Ms Quentin Bryce AC, who was sworn in on September 5 and is, by her office, Commander-in-Chief of the Australian Defence Force. She has worked as a lawyer, an academic, Federal Sex Discrimination Commissioner and founding Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the National Childcare Accreditation Council.



ABOVE: This is some of what the new C-i-C's men found: RAAF Sergeant Justin Poole (standing) and Corporal Mick Taylor attach detonation cord to unexploded ordnance found on the Island of Tarawa in Kiribati. They are part of a small joint task force deployed to the small Pacific nation to help dispose of World War II unexploded ordnance (UXO) there. The 33 atolls of Kiribati are scattered across 3.5 million sq km of the Pacific, where the Battle of Tarawa was fought in 1943. Most UXO there are from that conflict and include artillery projectiles, bombs, rockets, mortars and mines. **LEFT:** This is what happened to it.

RIGHT: Meanwhile, in Afghanistan, other members of the new chief's team — a section of mortars — fires on likely enemy positions in a night mission at the new joint patrol base north of Tarin Kowt. The section is part of Reconstruction Task Force 4, which is expanding its operations north from its base in Tarin Kowt, building a series of patrol bases for use by ISAF and the Afghan National Police and Army. The Task Force is now operating regularly north of Tarin Kowt, an area of great strategic significance to the Taliban extremists in Oruzgan Province.

Picture: Corporal Neil Ruskin

