

## **OFFICER (AO) IN THE MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA**

### ***AUSTRALIAN ARMY***

#### **Major General John Patrick CANTWELL AM, ACT**

For distinguished service as the Director of Strategic Operations for the Multi-National Force – Iraq.

Major General (then Brigadier) Cantwell consistently demonstrated visionary leadership and strategic perspective while leading, managing and coordinating the efforts of the Strategic Operations Directorate of the Multi-National Force - Iraq. He did this in Baghdad and in other locations throughout Iraq while working under constant threat of attack. He was instrumental in planning and coordinating Coalition and Iraqi military operations across the Iraq theatre of operations. His distinguished performance and exceptional achievements in the most difficult and dangerous of circumstances are in keeping with the finest traditions of the Australian Army and the Australian Defence Force.

#### **Major General Mark EVANS DSC AM, ACT**

For distinguished service to the Australian Defence Force in senior command and staff appointments.

Throughout his career in senior command and staff appointments, Major General Evans has demonstrated outstanding vision and leadership of an extraordinary calibre. His subordinates view him as a wise, determined and compassionate man of great stamina and good humour. He has shown great skill and sensitivity when working with Members of Parliament and other Government Departments. Major General Evans' contribution to the Australian Defence Force over successive command and staff appointments has been outstanding.

### ***ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE***

#### **Air Vice Marshal John Nicholas BLACKBURN AM, ACT**

For distinguished service to the Royal Australian Air Force as Commander of the Integrated Area Defence System and Deputy Chief of Air Force.

Air Vice Marshal Blackburn's professionalism, leadership, insightfulness and visionary thinking are hallmarks of an outstanding career spanning more than 31 years. He has provided distinguished service as Commander of the Integrated Area Defence System and Deputy Chief of Air Force. Through his achievements and planning prowess, he has ensured that the Royal Australian Air Force is well prepared to meet the challenges faced by the next generation.