



Australia's
Global
University

Policy, strategic and operational outlook for the employment of special operations forces in the current and emerging conflict environment



Special operator, Aus

More information

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Special Operations

School of Humanities and Social Sciences

UNSW Canberra

Our analytical capabilities

UNSW researchers bring expertise in:

- Policy opportunities and challenges for the employment of Special Operations Forces in operations less than war;
- Special operations ethics and leadership;
- Special operations and new technologies;
- Counter-network operations.

Key results

- Deane-Peter Baker "Special Operations Forces and Ethics: A Preliminary Assessment of the Leadership Challenge" in *Military Ethics and Leadership* (Peter Olsthoorn (ed.), Brill, 2017).
- Deane-Peter Baker "Special Operations Remote Advise and Assist" in *Ethics and Information Technology*, forthcoming.
- Thomas Richardson *Destroy and Build Pacification in Phuoc Thuy, 1966–1972*, Cambridge University Press 2017
- Andrew Maher "An Australian doctrinal concept for Special Warfare: Lessons and Considerations" *Army Insights* 2016
- Andrew Maher "Counter-Network Operations: insights into the application of complexity theory" *Australian Defence Force Journal* 2015

Impact

- Deane-Peter Baker, panellist, International Panel on the Regulation of Autonomous Weapons
- Deane-Peter Baker, consultant to the Australian Army Special Operations Training and Education Centre
- Thomas Richardson, researcher on the Official History of Australian Operations in East Timor, Iraq and Afghanistan (2016-2018)

Key personnel

- Dr Deane-Peter Baker – special operations, autonomous weapons, policy and ethics for disruptive capabilities & emerging technology
- Dr John Connor – history of special operations
- Major Andrew Maher (Military Fellow) – irregular warfare, special operations, counter-network operations, strategy
- Dr Thomas Richardson – history of Australian special operations

UNSW – Researching better security futures