



# CAF MESSAGE

## 2010 CHIEF OF AIR FORCE ESSAY COMPETITION

Earlier this year at the 2010 Air Power Conference I announced the inaugural Chief of Air Force Essay Competition (CAFEC) as a key initiative in improving the professional mastery of our Air Force men and women. Further, the CAFEC will enhance the level of air power analysis and discussion.

CAFEC comprises two prizes that are named in honour of two extraordinary airmen—one for his mature approach to air power strategy and the other's youthful valour in battle. Each prize has a different target audience and submission requirements.

The *Air Vice-Marshal H.N. Wrigley Prize* is open to all Australian citizens or recognised foreign military exchange officers serving with the ADF. Wrigley was the first senior RAAF officer to seriously think and write about air power. Based on an analysis of a contemporary air power topic and a 5000 word limit, the winner of the Wrigley prize will receive \$2000.

The *Pilot Officer R.H. Middleton, VC Prize* is open to RAAF Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) officer cadets. Middleton, at the age of 26, was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross and commissioned with the rank of PLTOFF from FSGT after being killed returning his stricken aircraft and fellow aircrew to the relative safety of the British coastline during World War II. Essay submissions to the Middleton Prize have a 3000 word limit and must be a historical analysis of a selected air battle or operation. The winning essay will be awarded fully funded sponsorship on the annual 2011 ADFA Battlefield Study Tour.

The Air Power Development Centre (APDC) will administer the 2010 CAFEC with submissions due by 1 November 2010. I will select the best essay for each prize and announce the winners at the 2010 Air Force Awards in May 2011. Full details of the CAFEC, including terms and conditions and selected topics, are available on the [APDC website](#).

I look forward to reading a range of thought provoking and challenging air power essays. For my commanders, I ask that you challenge your subordinates to embrace the CAFEC initiative. To the Air Force as a whole, the CAFEC is an opportunity to enhance and demonstrate your air power professional mastery. I encourage all of you to embrace this opportunity.

**M.D. BINSKIN**  
Air Marshal  
Chief of Air Force

14 June 2010