

# In service of their country

**On Wednesday 7 March 2007, Garuda Airline flight GA200 crashed on landing in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Federal Agent Mark Scott and Commander Brice Steele were among the 21 passengers who died as a result of the crash.**

The two federal agents were travelling as part of an advance team ahead of the visit of Foreign Affairs Minister Alexander Downer. Three other Australians including a diplomat, a journalist and an AusAid official also lost their lives in this tragedy.

The following pages are dedicated to the families of Mark and Brice as well as their colleagues, especially in Indonesia and in the words of Commissioner Keelty 'to celebrate the lives and careers of two great members of the AFP'.

## **AFP investigational support response**

Deputy Commissioner John Lawler accompanied Minister Downer to the accident site and the AFP offered assistance to the Indonesian National Police (INP) with investigations into the disaster.

At the invitation of the Indonesian Government the AFP provided a rapid

response capacity to the region following the plane crash.

A Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) team was sent to Yogyakarta to assist with the investigation of the disaster and an Air Safety Bureau of Investigation expert accompanied the team to assist with investigations.

On Saturday 10 March, DVI experts presented evidence to the Indonesian Identification Board and the Board subsequently positively identified Federal Agents Brice Steele and Mark Scott and all of the Australian victims.

In a media statement, Commissioner Keelty said while the loss of these two agents was deeply felt by all members of the AFP, he hoped that the confirmation could help begin the healing process for the organisation and the families of the two agents.

"Today's identification will bring some closure to the families of the deceased officers – particularly Brice's wife, Kellie, and Mark's wife, Sally, and their children – who have been living through the uncertainty of the tragedy this week," Commissioner Keelty said.

## **Bringing them home**

On a still Canberra autumn morning the Royal Australian Airforce Hercules touched down bringing home the bodies of the five Australians who perished in the airline tragedy.

On Wednesday 14 March, the AFP hosted a dignified repatriation ceremony at the Fairbairn Air Base, providing families and friends an opportunity to pay their



– Brian Hartigan

respects. The ceremony was attended by a host of dignitaries including Governor-General Michael Jeffery, Deputy Prime Minister Mark Vaile, Foreign Affairs Minister Alexander Downer, Senator Ellison, the new Minister for Justice and Customs, David Johnston and Commissioner Mick Keelty.

Federal Agent Scott's casket was adorned with an Australian flag, an AFP flag and a police sergeant's cap, while Federal Agent Steele's casket had both flags and a police commander's cap. Two AFP Bearer Parties in full ceremonial dress worked in tandem to carry the five caskets to the hearses to the beat of an AFP drummer.

*Amazing Grace* was played by AFP Piper Constable Stephen Ladd, while families gathered around the caskets and reflected on loved ones.

The repatriation followed a similarly dignified ceremony at the departure of the caskets from Indonesia officiated by AFP Chaplains Sheikh Khalil Chami and Roger O'Donnell.



# An officer, gentleman and beloved husband



Commander  
Brice Steele

**On Monday 19 March 2007, more than 1300 people including family members, friends, colleagues and dignitaries attended the funeral of AFP Commander Brice Steele at St John's Anglican Cathedral, Brisbane.**

The funeral was held with full Police Honours in recognition of Federal Agent Steele's significant contribution to the AFP and tributes flowed during the service conducted by Chaplain David Cockram.

Commissioner Keelty delivered a Valedictory to the congregation detailing Federal Agent's Steele's distinguished career and highlighted his key achievements including his role in combating international drug trafficking and people smuggling.

Commissioner Keelty awarded Federal Agent Steele with the National Medal for his long and dedicated service to the community and presented the medal and a police commander's cap to Brice's wife, Kellie Steele.

Kellie delivered a heartfelt speech about her loving husband and said that "Brice

was my inspiration and he was my inspiration for getting up here today".

Frank Steele spoke of his son's close relationship with the family and read written tributes from Brice's mother, brother and sisters.

Federal Agents Frank Prendergast and Andrew Stark also spoke highly of their friend's dedication to his job and being well turned out. In a light-hearted recollection, Federal Agent Michael Phelan spoke of Brice's impeccable dress sense and how there was always a ready supply of shoe polish kept in Brice's office.

At the conclusion of the service, the AFP executive formed a guard of honour as the casket left the church for a private cremation. Outside the church in a fitting farewell a handsome black German shepherd named Finn sat quietly as his master passed by.

A memorial service was also held at the National Police Memorial providing an opportunity for Canberra-based staff to pay tribute to Federal Agent Steele.



– Photos by Ashley Roach





# A committed father and peacekeeper



Federal Agent  
Mark Scott

**Federal Agent Mark Scott was farewelled on Tuesday 20 March 2007 by more than 800 people who gathered in Canberra at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Forrest.**

In a poignant moment as the AFP Bearer Party carried Federal Agent Scott in to the church, his son James followed at the rear resting his hand on the casket.

Federal Agent Scott's family and friends were accompanied at the service by policing colleagues from New Zealand, Indonesia and Jakarta, the AFP executive, and a number of dignitaries including Prime Minister John Howard, Attorney-General Philip Ruddock, Minister for Justice and Customs David Johnston, Leader of the Opposition Kevin Rudd, and the Indonesian Ambassador Hamzah Thayeb.

Commissioner Keelty spoke of Federal Agent Scott's accomplished 20-year career which ranged from working in ACT Policing to international peacekeeping and counter-terrorism. His significant contributions were particularly noted in Myanmar and the investigations after the October 2005 Bali bombings.

Mark's brother, Gerald reminisced over Scott's younger days and how proud the family was when he found his calling and joined the AFP. He was a "proud copper", he loved going to work every day and it was a privilege to him to be a part of the organisation.

Federal agents John Tanti, Sergeant Peter Davis and David Savage spoke of Mark's passion of immersing himself personally and professionally into tasks with precision and planning. Mark would always give a 100 per cent effort and was proud of his policing achievements, particularly in Cyprus.

David Savage said that while Mark was dedicated to his job, this paled in comparison for the dedication and love he gave to his family. Sergeant Davis highlighted the closeness of Mark's relationship with his wife Sally, saying you'd be hard pressed to find a photo of Mark without Sally by his side as they did everything together.

Towards the end of the service, Commissioner Keelty presented Sally and the children, with framed badges



of rank and a police sergeant's cap in remembrance of Mark's service to the AFP. Sally Scott and her children James, Stephanie and young Emily joined Commissioner Keelty and mourners in farewelling Federal Agent Scott as the AFP Executive formed a guard of honour and the AFP Pipes and Drums led the casket from the church.

— Photos by Beck Browne



# Valedictory

## Brice Steele

**Delivered by AFP Commissioner,  
Mick Keelty**

"It is with great sadness that I join you today to farewell our colleague and close friend, Australian Federal Police Commander Brice Steele.

Brice was an exceptional young man and an outstanding police officer who, in his seventeen years at the AFP, made his mark in many different ways.

Brice joined the AFP on the second of July 1990 as a 19-year-old recruit. At the time he was proficient in Mandarin and Cantonese and was completing a Bachelor of Modern Asian Studies.

As one of Brice's fellow recruits observed, he was the youngest participant on his training course but also the 'brightest' which earned him the nickname of 'Golden Child' in recognition of his destiny for higher achievements.

Brice started work in the Melbourne office of the AFP and was appointed a detective on 11 August, 1994. His career path led him to work across the AFP's national and international operations including an attachment to the Operation Avian team which was focused on large scale transnational organised crime involved in narcotics trafficking into Australia.

In 1999, Brice had his first taste of overseas liaison work in the AFP's Hong Kong office – a key post for our offshore narcotics and financial related investigations work.

On his return to Australia he was attached to the Australasian Commissioners' Working Group on E-Crime, a forerunner to the establishment of the Australian High Tech Crime Centre.

With a keen thirst for knowledge, Brice was committed to further education and self development. During 2003 and 2004, he completed the Certificate of Leadership Studies and the Senior Executive Program in National and International Security at Harvard University in the United States of America.

On 24 March 2002, Brice was selected as the senior liaison officer for the AFP's post in Beijing, China – another significant offshore post for the AFP in strengthening its relationships with offshore partners.

In Beijing, Brice was responsible for forging closer ties with the Chinese Police, known as the Ministry of Public Security. He also oversaw law enforcement liaison with the police in Mongolia and North Korea.

The AFP was the first western law enforcement agency to have a presence in Beijing and Brice was only the second AFP Liaison Officer to be appointed to that position.

Brice's grasp of the language and culture of China was an enormous benefit to the AFP in establishing the strongest of relationships.

Many of us here today witnessed Brice's ability and impressive diplomacy skills first-hand.

With his wife Kellie, who was the Beijing office manager for the AFP, they were a very close and formidable team, not only representing the AFP but as active participants in the Diplomatic Community.

It is a reflection of Brice's dedication and skill that he was able to develop a strong rapport with an organisation such as the

- Ashley Roach



Ministry of Public Security which consists of some 1.3 million staff. In one of the many condolence messages received by the AFP over recent days, Mr Zhao Yongji, a former Vice Minister of the Ministry of Public Security, refers fondly to Brice as a "son" and "close friend". The letter of condolence reads: "Brice was an enthusiastic promoter of Chinese-Australian law enforcement cooperation, who always worked with diligence and strived for perfection. His departure is a great loss to the Ministry of Public Security of China."

How one manages to be influential in such a position is a measure of Brice's intellect and capability.

These strong foundations paved the way for a recent decision by the Government of the People's Republic of China to allow the AFP to open a new post in the Province of Guangzhou.

Brice will always be remembered for taking the AFP's relationship with the largest and fastest growing law enforcement agency in the world to a mature level.

On his return to Canberra, Brice continued to work for the AFP's Asia Desk in the International Section where he received his first promotion to Commissioned Rank in April, 2005.

Later that year, Brice was selected to the AFP's Counter Terrorism portfolio where he was given a leadership role in overseeing a significant restructure.

By this time, there had been several successful terrorist attacks involving Australians and Australian interests in the

Region and the AFP was expanding its offshore terrorism capabilities.

This was a significant period in the history of law enforcement in Australia and Brice was at the leading edge of this work. During this time, he was promoted to his second Commissioned rank of Commander thereby making him a member of the AFP's Senior Executive Service.

Brice's international experience and strategic perspectives made him a valuable member of the SES team.

In January 2007, he was selected by the executive to undertake one of our two most senior positions offshore.

As manager AFP Indonesia, he was responsible for the Joint Operations Teams of AFP and Indonesian National Police working on Counter Terrorism, People Trafficking and Narcotics Trafficking. He was also responsible for overseeing the AFP's involvement in the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation or JCLEC, which has now seen some 1900 students from all around the globe graduate in a variety of studies aimed at improving our collective capability to deal with Transnational Crime but particularly, terrorism.

In a short space of time, Brice established strong ties with the Indonesian National Police, an organisation of some 300,000.

Sadly, his life was tragically cut short whilst on duty on Wednesday 7 March 2007, at Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

Since his passing, there has been an endless stream of accolades for Brice

Steele - the Police Officer and the Person. Anecdotes and valedictories have come from all over the world and have included key government and agency heads as well as work colleagues. In a personal message, Indonesian National Police Chief General Sutanto says he will always remember Brice as a "remarkable and close friend with a charming personality".

Throughout the condolences, reference has repeatedly been made to both his professionalism and intellect. It was indicative of the man that at the time of his passing he was undertaking yet another degree studying for his Bachelor of International Business Management.

If policing is as much about crime prevention as it is investigation, then the work of Commander Brice Steele was pivotal to policing as we now know it.

It is difficult to quantify the dividend of his contribution, but for an individual officer to work so successfully with large policing organisations requires extraordinary strength of character and talent.

His efforts are being formally recognised today with the awarding of the National Medal for long and diligent service to the community which will be received by his next of kin, wife Kellie.

Commander Brice Steele exemplified and personified contemporary international policing. He will be greatly missed but his legacy will continue in our future law enforcement endeavours.

May he Rest in Peace."





# Valedictory

# Mark Scott

**Delivered by AFP Commissioner,  
Mick Keelty**

"It is with much sadness that I join you today in farewelling our friend and colleague Australian Federal Police, Federal Agent Mark David Scott.

Mark's accomplished career with the Australian Federal Police began on 21 September 1987.

His first appointment was to General Duties in the ACT where he received valuable experience in community policing before being transferred to the AFP's Office at Coolangatta, Queensland in July, 1989.

It was here Mark gained exposure to the AFP's national work and in 1991 he completed his Investigator Training Course achieving the coveted title of 'Dux' of the course. He was subsequently designated as a Detective having also completed surveillance training with the NSW Police.

In September 1991, Mark transferred back to the ACT where he undertook all aspects of criminal investigation work.

By this time Mark had established himself as a meticulous investigator who had an eye for detail, but more importantly, developed a logical approach to complex investigations. He quickly earned the reputation as a mentor for young Police Officers embarking on their careers.

In May 1999, Mark transferred to undertake a six month posting as part of the United Nations Civilian Police contingent in Cyprus. His duties included policing the 'buffer zone' and he earned a reputation as one who was able to quickly gain the confidence of the various factions in the community. On 13 October, 1999 Mark Scott was awarded the Police Overseas Service Medal for his work in Cyprus. He also received the United Nations Medal in January 2000.

On 27 April 2000, Mark was promoted to the rank of Sergeant at the North District Patrol returning to General duties work in the ACT. As a qualified police diver, Mark was involved in many search and rescue missions as part of his duties in the ACT and as a Special Constable in the NSW Police. Mark received the ACT Community Policing Medal for his work in this area.

In January 2003, Mark was appointed as a Liaison Officer to Rangoon, Burma joining the AFP's International Liaison Network.

There, Mark was responsible for forging cooperative relationships with authorities in a number of countries including Myanmar, Nepal, India and Bhutan.

His duties largely focused on combating the manufacture and supply of heroin and amphetamines, with Myanmar being part of the so-called 'Golden Triangle'. It was there that Mark's strong investigation skills and affable personality earned him the respect and friendship of the Myanmar National Police. Mark's strategic and operational contributions in this role benefited not only the AFP, but also many of our regional counterparts. In 2005, he received a Letter of Commendation from the Head of the Hong Kong Narcotics Bureau.

Mark's skill and tenacity as an investigator was recognised at all levels of the AFP and on 16 January 2006, Mark was cross-posted from Myanmar to Indonesia to take over an AFP investigations team working to disrupt terrorist activities in the region. As Team Leader of the Jakarta Regional Cooperation Team, Mark worked closely with the Indonesian National Police as part of the joint investigation team.

Mark's work was focused on the activity of terrorists known to have killed many Indonesians and Australians.

Mark's leadership of the AFP Regional Cooperation Team made a significant contribution to a number of operational successes, including the investigation

and capture of many of those responsible for the October 2005 Bali bombings, as well as preventing further attacks and disrupting terrorist networks in the region.

Mark's work was recognised by the Chief of the Indonesian National Police, General Sutanto. This recognition came after the location and death of the most wanted terrorist in the Region – Jemaah Islamiyah bomb mastermind Dr Azahari – in May, 2006.

Sadly, Mark's life tragically ended in an accident while on duty about 8am on Wednesday 7 March 2007.

Since his passing, Mark's dedication and professionalism to law enforcement have been the focus of many condolence messages received by the AFP from within Australia and abroad.

In a personal message from the Chief of Police in the Union of Myanmar, Police Major General Khin Yi, expressed sincere condolences on behalf of the Myanmar Police Force for the sudden passing of "our dear friend Mark Scott".

The significance of the work Mark was undertaking both in Myanmar and Indonesia cannot be overstated. Working in these countries meant that Mark was at the forefront of protecting Australia's

interests, while at the same time he was making personal and professional contributions to the development of those working with him. He was both a great teacher and a great leader.

It is notable that since Mark was transferred to the joint investigation team in Indonesia, the frequency of terrorist attacks in that country has decreased significantly. While not solely attributable to Mark, his contribution has been vital.

Mark also gained a reputation as a committed family man. Exceptional spouses and exceptional parents make exceptional police officers - Federal Agent Mark David Scott was not only exceptional, but very popular with people from all walks of life both here and abroad. He will be greatly missed.

May he Rest in Peace."



— Beck Browne

# Condolences

**The AFP has received an overwhelming number of condolences and messages of support locally, nationally and internationally, following the Garuda Airlines crash in Yogyakarta. Community leaders, senior Government officials, law enforcement colleagues, private organisations and the general public have expressed sympathy and support to the families of Brice Steele and Mark Scott, and to the AFP community as a whole.**

**Condolences for the two men were given in Parliament by the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition.**

**The excerpts following are just a few of the many personal messages received and placed on the Commissioner's website from 9 March 2007.**

I am writing to express my deepest sympathy on the tragic death of your officers, Federal Agents Brice Steele and Mark Scott, in the recent aeroplane crash in Indonesia.

All Australians are proud of the difficult and often dangerous work that officers of the Australian Federal Police undertake both at home and abroad. The recent and tragic deaths of Brice and Mark while on duty is a stark reminder of both the risks involved and the level of commitment of our Federal Agents.

My wife, Marlina, joins me at this saddest of times in offering our sincere condolences to the families of Brice and Mark and also to the wider AFP community who have lost two fine colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Jeffery

Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

—

On behalf of the Indonesian National Police, I would like to convey my deepest sympathy and profound sorrow on the loss of the AFP Manager in Indonesia Federal Agent Brice Steele on the tragic incident that occurred to the Garuda Airline, yesterday in Yogyakarta.

On a personal level I have duly noted the contribution of Brice Steele to the works and cooperation between our two

institutions. It is with my satisfaction of his outstanding works and performances that the Indonesian National Police is indebted to the strong relation and cooperation that the INP and AFP have benefited from. Brice had remarkably strengthened cooperation and linkages between INP and AFP. I shall always remember him as a remarkable and close friend with a charming personality. The Indonesian National Police will truly miss Brice Steele, as a close friend and colleague.

In this regard, I should like to extend my heartfelt prayers and may God give strength to the family of the bereaved.

Yours sincerely,

The Chief of Indonesia National Police

Drs. Sutanto

Police General

—

On behalf of Myanmar Police Force I would like to convey our most sincere condolence to you following the sudden passing of our dear friend Mark Scott and senior officials from AFP.

I know nothing can diminish the tragedy of the loss, but please accept the sympathies of MPF and know that our thoughts are with you.

Pol. Maj. Gen Khin Yi

Chief of Police

Myanmar Police Force

—



Learning of the tragedy of Garuda Indonesia on Wednesday 7 March 2007... I would like to extend my deepest condolence and sympathy.

May they rest in peace and God comforts the families of the deceased.

Prof. Da'i Bachtiar

Police General

Indonesia

—

I was extremely shocked and grieved to learn of the tragic death of former AFP Liaison Officer in Beijing, Brice Steele.

As an outstanding Police Liaison Officer, a well-known AFP counter-terrorism expert and a friend and envoy between the Chinese and Australian Police, Brice Steele has made significant contributions to the consolidation and promotion of law enforcement cooperation between China and Australia. Brice Steele died as a martyr on duty. His passing is not only a great loss to the AFP but also the Ministry of Public Security of China has lost a dear friend.

Brice Steele is gone but his legacy lives on. I wish to express to you, on my behalf and on behalf of the Ministry of Public Security PRC my profound sorrow and condolences.

Meng Hongwei

Vice Minister

Ministry of Public Security P.R.C

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The very sad news of Brice's death came as a bolt from the blue, making me feel extremely sorrowful.

Brice is not only an outstanding talent of Australian Federal Police, but also a good foreign friend of mine despite the great difference in our ages whom I deeply cherish. During his tenure as AFP's police liaison officer in China, besides making remarkable achievements in the field of law enforcement cooperation between China and Australia, he has formed a sincere attachment to me. Even to this day, the close "father and son" relationship we enjoyed and the affection we held for each other are still clear and vivid in my memory. His death means the loss of a talented man, who can be entrusted with a great mission, to the Australian Federal Police.

Brice was an enthusiastic promoter of the Chinese-Australian law enforcement cooperation, who always worked with diligence and strived for perfection. So his departure is also a great loss to the Ministry of Public Security of China. More importantly to me, I have lost a friend whom I consider a confidant.

At this particularly painful moment, I am writing this letter on my own behalf to express my grief and extend to you my heartfelt condolences.

Zhao Yongji  
Former Vice Minister  
Ministry of Public Security P.R.C

I am writing to express my sincerest condolences for the loss of the two Australian Federal Police Officers, Federal Agent Brice Steele and Federal Agent Mark Scott in the tragic air disaster in Yogyakarta. Please convey my sympathies and condolences to the families of these two fine officers. I hope that they will find the strength to bear this tragic loss. Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely

Estasia Widyo Sunaryo  
First Secretary  
Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia  
Indonesian National Police Liaison Office

So sorry to learn that there were two AFP Agents aboard the Garuda plane that crashed this morning. I understand that they are Manager (Indonesia), Federal Agent Brice Steele, who I met during the SMMCT, and Federal Agent Mark Scott who previously covered Singapore.

Our prayers are with them and their families.

Warmest regards,  
Boon Hui Khoo  
Commissioner Singapore Police

Please accept my sincere condolences for the tragic loss of Australian Federal Police officers Brice Steele and Mark Scott in the Yogyakarta aircraft disaster. I understand Brice and Mark had extensive meaningful contact with our Embassy and were dedicated, accomplished public servants.

The disaster reminds us of the importance of every life and the valuable interconnections we share. Our hearts and prayers go out to the victims, their families, and the wider AFP community.

The United States joins with you in mourning the loss of these highly regarded men.

Sincerely,  
Robert D. McCallum, Jr.  
Ambassador of the United States of America

A brief note to say that I and all of my colleagues at the High Commission are thinking of you at this terrible time.

The AFP are good friends of ours and we feel for you all as part of the family.

Yours sincerely,  
The Rt Hon Mrs Helen Liddell  
British High Commissioner

Like you, I have been so saddened and shocked by the likely deaths of so many wonderful friends and colleagues in Yogyakarta. I didn't know either Brice or Mark well but I just wanted to say that I can barely imagine how heartbroken you all must be feeling at the probable

loss of two such fine officers. It is beyond comprehension. I knew so many truly excellent AFP friends and colleagues while I was up there and we all became very close, as no doubt Brice and Mark and their families were to the embassy community.

Our thoughts are with their families and with all the AFP officers in Jakarta and Canberra.

David Ritchie  
Deputy Secretary  
DFAT

I heard yesterday of the air crash in Indonesia and just learned this morning of the circumstances of Brice and Mark. Such things are always tragic events but I feel this incident far more personally and acutely given my affinity with the job and the people involved. I did not know Brice well but Mark and I used to work in the same squad in uniform many years ago...

No doubt it is a difficult time for you as it will be for all in the AFP. Please accept my sympathies and best wishes for the days ahead.

Kind regards,  
Warren Crighton, Director  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Immigration  
Port Moresby, PNG

We are shocked and saddened by the news of the plane crash in Yogyakarta yesterday.

On behalf of the Greens, I extend my thoughts and sympathies to the Australian Federal Police officers Brice Steele and Mark Scott and to the families and friends of all those who are missing.

Sincerely,  
Bob Brown  
Australian Greens Leader

It is with great sadness that we learned of the aircraft accident in Indonesia yesterday in which two AFP officers tragically lost their lives.

Manager Brice Steele and Federal Agent Mark Scott will surely be missed, but not forgotten by their friends and colleagues within the AFP and in Indonesia who, apart from feeling a strong sense of grief, must also feel an acute professional loss.

On behalf of all of Interpol, I wish to convey to the families of Brice Steele and Mark Scott, as well as to you, my sincere condolences for the loss of these two officers.

Yours sincerely,

Ronald K. Noble  
Secretary General  
Interpol - Lyon, France

We were shocked and saddened to hear of the feared loss of your officers Brice Steele and Mark Scott. Our thoughts are with their families and their many concerned colleagues.

Michael Carmody, CEO  
Australian Customs Service

We extend to our AFP colleagues, in particular, the families of Agents Steele and Scott, our best wishes at this time.

The Premier, Morris Iemma and the Minister, John Watkins have asked me to reaffirm any or all assistance that can be provided by NSW to the Commonwealth and the AFP in particular.

Regards,

Ken Moroney  
NSW Police Commissioner

On behalf of Austrade, I extend our sympathy to colleagues in Jakarta, within the Australian Federal Police and to the families of Federal Agents Brice Steele and Mark Scott.

We acknowledge the support the AFP has provided to our teams abroad and also in Australia. Our staff in Jakarta describe the relationship with both officers as very supportive as part of the team effort in Jakarta. They will be missed professionally and as personal friends.

We also share in the loss of Allison Sudradjat of AusAid and Liz O'Neill of DFAT.

Yours sincerely

Peter O'Byrne  
Chief Executive Officer  
Austrade

On behalf of all members of the Western Australia Police I wish to express our sincere condolences on the tragic loss of Federal Agents Brice Steele and Mark Scott who perished in the Garuda Airlines plane crash at Yogyakarta, Indonesia on Wednesday 7 March 2007.

This is an extremely tragic event which resulted in a large number of deaths, and it has had major repercussions throughout Australia.

C J Dawson APM  
Acting WA Police Commissioner

I just wanted to pass on my condolences from myself and my family to you and everyone at AFP regarding the tragic circumstances in the Indonesian plane disaster.

I know how difficult it is to deal with both personally and organisationally and to come to grips with losing those that are close and a part of the overall policing family along with their own families grief.

Please know that even though I am retired, you always have that feeling of loss when a police officer is lost. It doesn't matter if it is one of your own Force or of another, it is a loss to all of us.

Bill Kelly  
Former Deputy Commissioner, Victoria Police

I just wanted to say to you both how incredibly sorry I was to hear of the loss of Brice Steele and Mark Scott from the ranks of the AFP. As you have stated publicly, Brice did a monumental job in China and as a relatively recently promoted member of the SES was already kicking goals for the AFP on several fronts. He was a pleasure to work with when I was in Counter Terrorism.

I also had the privilege of knowing Scotty as my staff officer when we worked closely together in 'the bunker' at ACT Policing. A brilliant guy with a great sense of humour and possession of a huge work ethic. During that period Kaz and I also got to know Sally and their kids and feel so deeply for their agonising loss.

The AFP has been extraordinary in its response to this tragic accident, continuing to play a lead role in the DVI and investigational support response, professionalism always at the fore while internally reeling from such a cruel and personal blow.

Take care and my best to all in the AFP. These two champions of the AFP will be long remembered.

Ben McDevitt, former AFP member  
CEO, CrimTrac

These will be awful days as you deal with the consequence of the Yogyakarta air crash and the loss of much respected colleagues. Both their personal and Police families will grieve deeply. You are in our thoughts.

Isabel and Rob Robinson (former NZ Police Commissioner)

We have watched the news of Brice and Mark's loss with shock and great sadness. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and the greater AFP family at such a tragic time.

Regards,  
Shane and Catherine Castles

