Rear Admiral C.J. Parry, CBE

- Last Updated (Sunday, 15 October 2006)

Current Position: Director General- Development, Concepts and Doctrine,

Ministry of Defence at Shrivenham Speaking in: First Week, Michaelmas 2006 Speaking on: The Future Strategic Context of Defense (click here for the full Termcard)

Chris Parry was educated at the Portsmouth Grammar School and read Modern History at Jesus College, Oxford.Â He joined the Royal Navy as a Seaman officer and subsequently sub-specialised as a Sea King, Wessex and Lynx Observer, operating from carriers and surface combatants.Â He was mentioned in despatches during the Falklands war and received the 1983 Prince Philip Helicopter Rescue Award from the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators.After the Royal Naval Staff Course in 1986, he was Staff Aviation Officer to Flag Officer Sea Training and then Executive Officer of the destroyer leader HMS YORK.Â He was promoted Commander in 1989 and, after appointments in Defence Policy at the Ministry of Defence and on the staff of Commander-in-Chief Fleet, commanded the air defence destroyer HMS GLOUCESTER from 1994 to 1996.On promotion to Captain, he commanded the Maritime Warfare Centre from 1996 to 1998 and was responsible for the teaching and evolution of Joint and maritime doctrine, tactical development and operational analysis.Â After the Royal College of Defence Studies in London, he returned to sea in January 2000 in command of HMS FEARLESS and as Flag Captain to the Amphibious Task Group.Â From April 2001, as a Commodore and as Director Operational Capability in the Ministry of Defence, he was directly responsible to Ministers and the Chiefs of Staff for the provision of independent assessments of operational capability and lessons from operations.Â In September 2003, he took command of the UKâ€™s Amphibious Task Group and NATOâ€™s UK/Netherlands Amphibious Task Group.Â He started his appointment as Director General Joint Doctrine and Concepts on 25 January 2005; this post became Director General Development, Concepts and Doctrine on 1 April 2006 following the incorporation of the Directorate of Land Warfare and the Directorate of Force Development.He has written and lectured on historical and defence themes and has contributed to successive Defence options, cost studies and reviews.Â Apart from his family, his interests include medieval and military history, collecting books, walking and sport and he has represented the University of Oxford and the Royal Navy at Rugby Union.Â He is President of both the Royal Navy and Combined Services Rugby Leagues.Chris and his wife, Jackie, live in Portsmouth and they have two children, Abigail (23) and Jonathan (16).