

MTF-3 HOME

AFTER FROSTY FRUSTRATION

UP TO EIGHT INCHES OF SNOW
FELL ON **TARIN KOT** AT JUST THE
WRONG MOMENT IN JANUARY.

Tarin Kot experienced icy conditions and enough snow to close the runway just as the Australian soldiers, sailors and airmen of Mentoring Task Force - 3 were packing up to come home.

While many Australians celebrated Australia Day at the beach with family and friends, Australian Defence Force members in Afghanistan celebrated under a blanket of snow.

Up to 20cm of snow has covered the mountains near Multi National Base Tarin Kot, also leaving a thick layer of snow on armoured vehicles and over the base.

While snow is common on the mountains around Tarin Kot, it is unusual for snow to fall in the town and on Coalition Headquarters.

With the base's runway closed to all but the most foolhardy pilot, the large

contingent of homesick Aussies who were scheduled to head back to Australia after their eight-month tour of duty was complete could do little but wait out the bad weather.

Members of MTF-3, who had just handed over to MTF-4, and were understandably eager to begin their long journey home to loved ones in Australia, were frustrated by up to three days' delay – some venting their frustrations on Facebook, with the RAAF bearing the brunt.

"You should write a story about how the RAAF is being piss weak and won't land to get the MTF boys back home to their families," one soldier wrote in frustration.

"While civilian planes were landing in TK, the RAAF refused to land because

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