



The Royal United Services Institute of Victoria, Inc.

Promoting National Security and Defence

A constituent body of The Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies Australia Limited

Patron: The Honourable Linda Dessau AC
Governor of Victoria

President: Major General Mike O'Brien CSC (Retd)

Secretary: Lieutenant Colonel Bob Hart RFD (Retd)

Victoria Barracks
B Block
256-310 St Kilda Road
Southbank, Victoria 3006

Phone: (03) 9282 5918

www.rusivic.org.au

Email: secretary@rusivic.org.au

ABN 46 648 764 477

RUSI VIC NEWSLETTER

Volume 18 Issue 2 – July 2019

Editor: Mike Rawlinson

ISSN 1446 – 4527



An Australian Army M777 howitzer gun fires in support of infantry operations during Exercise Diamond Strike, conducted in the Shoalwater Bay training area, Queensland.

Army Photo

Lunchtime Lecture

25 July Anzac House

Dr Roger Lee

Official History of Australian Operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and East Timor

Dr Lee of the Australian War Memorial is the author of the Iraq Volume of the Official History of Australian Operations in Iraq and the Middle East 2001-2014.

Royal United Services Institute of Victoria Incorporated

July Newsletter

RUSI VIC Council 2019

President

Major General Mike O'Brien CSC (Retd)

Immediate Past President

Commander Warren Kemp RFD RANR (Retd)

Vice Patrons

Commodore Greg Yorke CSC, RANR

Major General David Coghlan AM

Air Commodore Glenn Braz, CSC, DSM

Vice Presidents

Air Commodore Mike Rawlinson RAAF (Retd)

Brigadier Ian Lillie AM, CSC

Lieutenant Commander Roger Buxton CD, RCN

Councillors

Major General Ian Freer CB, CBE

Lieutenant Colonel Neville Taylor RFD (Retd)

Captain Martin Holme

Captain Peter Wickham RAN (Retd)

Brigadier Neil Graham AM

Lieutenant Colonel Ian George OAM, RFD, ED (Retd)

Service Representatives

Secretary/Treasurer

Lieutenant Colonel Bob Hart RFD (Retd)

Honorary Librarian

Flight Lieutenant Brian Surtees, RAF

Contents:

3 From the President

4 From the Secretary

5-6 *Opinion: China in Your World View*
Mike Rawlinson

7-8 **Defence Chronicle Jul 2018 – Jan 2019**
Michael Small

Book Reviews:

9 **Kangaroo Squadron** by Bruce Gamble
Reviewer Robert Dixon

10 **D-Day New Guinea** by Phillip Bradley
Reviewer Neville Taylor

Duty Nobly Done by Adam Holloway
Reviewer Neville Taylor

11 **Beyond Combat**
by Tristan Moss and Tom Richardson (eds)
Reviewer Kevan Sanderson

Unconquered: Our Wounded Warriors
by Denny Neave et al (eds)
Reviewer Neville Taylor

12 **John Curtin's War Vol II** by John Edwards
Reviewer Bob Hart

Ypres by Mark Connelly and Stefan Goebel
Reviewer Robert Dixon

13 **1917 – War, Peace and Revolution**
by David Stevenson, Reviewer Neville Taylor
Mutiny on the Western Front 1918 by Greg Raffin
Reviewer Robert Dixon

14 **The Limits of Peacekeeping**
by Jean Bou, Bob Breen et al (eds)
Reviewer Neville Taylor

15 **The Civilisation of Port Phillip**
by Thomas James Rogers, Reviewer Roger Buxton

16 *Library Notes*
New Books

Cyberlinks

RUSI AUST	www.rusi.org.au
RUSI Whitehall	www.rusi.org
Dept of Defence	defence.gov.au
Aust Strategic Policy Institute	www.aspi.org.au
Australia Defence Association	www.ada.asn.au
RAAF Assoc 'Williams Foundation	www.williamsfoundation.org.au
Defence Reserves Association	www.dra.org.au
Defence Force Welfare Association	www.dfwa.org.au
Military History and Heritage Victoria	www.mhhv.org.au
Department of Veteran's Affairs	www.dva.gov.au
Shrine of Remembrance	www.shrine.org.au



Opinions expressed in the RUSI VIC Newsletter are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the Institute.

From the President:

Major General Mike O'Brien CSC



We are always grateful to accept new members and to receive the subscriptions renewals from all our existing members. This has become more important of late.

RUSIs have a national representative body The Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies-Australia (RUSIDSS-A). This important registered company has independent directors elected by the RUSI constituent bodies in each state – these constituent bodies own the Company. Its role is to represent RUSIs to Defence. RUSIV could not exist without this advocacy – Defence will deal only with RUSIDSS-A. The chief benefit that flows to us is our premises – office and library, without which our existence would be threatened.

RUSIDSS-A also provides a national point of contact and an informative website. It has costs but limited income. It has recently requested financial support from constituent bodies. Your council has acceded to this request and paid it a capitation fee of \$1500 from our accumulated funds. It is likely that such a fee will become an annual requirement.

This is not the first time that RUSIs have needed to subsidise a national body, though this has not been required in the recent past. We will have to examine our subscription rate after this year to cater for this cost.

This topic will be discussed at our Annual General Meeting this year, and I look forward to hearing members' views.

Mike O'Brien



May – setting-up



May Speaker: Dr V John Basarin OAM
Gallipoli – The Turkish Perspective



June Speaker – Nicole Sadler AM, CSC
Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in military populations – Challenges and Innovations

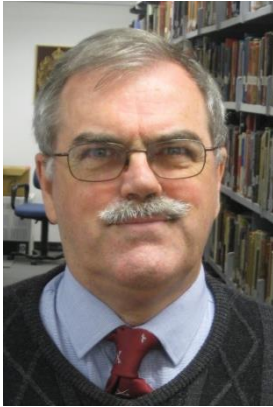
Donations to your Library Fund are Tax Deductible

Help to maintain the Institute's Library as the best collection in Victoria on defence and military related subjects by donating to your RUSI VIC Library Fund. The RUSI VIC Library Fund is a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) approved by the Australian Taxation Office, and monetary gifts to the Fund over \$2 are tax deductible by the donor.

Please make cheques to the 'RUSI VIC Inc Library Fund'. Receipts will be provided.

From the Secretary:

Lieutenant Colonel Bob Hart RFD



Only a few housekeeping matters this month.

Firstly, receipts for donations during the last FY will be sent out shortly. Anyone who needs a receipt for membership for tax purposes, please contact me.

Secondly, for our naval chaps, Chief of Navy has decreed that the post-nominal RANR is no longer to be used. Instead, all RANR will now have the post-nominal RAN. Unless you really want to keep your RANR post-nominal, in which case let me know, I will change all RANR to RAN as at 1 Jan 2020.

As I advised in the April Newsletter RUSIDSS NSW have ceased publication of the print edition of the *United Service Journal*. The quarterly Journal continues online. To download the Winter 2019 Journal go to Link :- <http://www.rusinsw.org.au/Papers/2019W.pdf>

Bob Hart

Programme Dates

Lunchtime Addresses ANZAC House:

25 July	Dr Roger Lee <i>Official History of Australian Operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and East Timor</i>
29 August	Prof Greg Barton <i>The Future for Islamic State</i>
26 September	MAJGEN Marcus Thompson AM <i>Information Warfare</i>
October	Defence Seminar – Navy Week

Membership

Transfer to Inactive list (Overseas)

CAPT Katja Bizilji

New Members

We welcome new members admitted at the June Council Meeting:

CAPT Henry Dudley-Warde
Mr Hector Custeai
LTCOL Graeme Chapman (Retd)
Mr Philip Brabin
Mr Tim Cook
Dr Doris LeRoy

Honorary Member

AIRCDRE Richard Hardacre

Honorary Life Members

Mrs Majorie Colwill
LTCOL Francis Fallon
MAJGEN Davis McLachlan
Hon Andrew Robb
Mrs Annie Whybrow
LT Neil Whybrow
Ms Joan Poon
MAJGEN David Butler

Vale

We record with sadness the passing of the following members:

COL G Farley
Mrs E Skitt

Bequests

Royal United Services Institute of Victoria

The Royal United Services Institute of Victoria was established in 1890. It seeks to promote informed debate on and improve public awareness and understanding of defence and national security.

The Institute maintains a specialist library to assist in this, as well as scheduling regular lectures and visits of interest. The costs of doing so, however are becoming burdensome and are exacerbated by an ageing and declining membership.

To allow us to continue to provide services to members and the community into the future, you could greatly assist us by remembering the Institute in your will. Should you desire assistance in adding an appropriate codicil to your will, please contact the Secretary at secretary@rusivc.org.au. If you have added a bequest to your will, it would be of assistance to be advised of it (not the specific amount) in case we need to communicate with you or your executors.

Opinion: China in Your World View

by **Mike Rawlinson**

Three ships of China's Peoples Liberation Army (PLA) - Navy recently made a visit to Sydney coinciding with the 30th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre. The visit was unannounced by the Federal government. How you interpret this visit depends very much on how China fits into your world view.

World View

Your world view is your outlook on the world and life, which affects your expectations and conditions your actions. This is conditioned by your culture, race, religion, sex, age, education, experiences and the geography and politics of where you live.

We would like to think that our individual worldviews are based on factual information, but research by Swedish Professor of Global Medicine, Hans Rosling indicates that this is unlikely. ¹

Rosling's main interest is in World Bank statistics relating to population, life-expectancy, education, income distribution, extreme poverty, natural disasters, access to electricity, and the survival of species. Based on scientific surveys of people in developed countries he found that across the board, things are much better than most people think they are. Things are bad in some countries but, they are everywhere improving. The pessimism of respondents stems from their lack of familiarity with factual information and their instincts in interpretation.

Human Instincts in Interpreting Information

Humans have ten inbuilt instincts – our dramatic instincts, which result in misconceptions and an overdramatic world view. These instincts can lead to mega misconceptions. It follows that decisions based upon these misconceptions are likely to be wrong.

The first and most important is the Gap instinct. Human beings have a strong bias toward binary thinking. We like to divide all kinds of things into two distinct and often conflicting groups with an imagined gap. For example, a world divided into two classes of countries: rich and poor, developed and developing, north and south, them and us, the West and the Rest. However, global statistics reveal that the divide on most criteria is much less distinct than that which we imagine. Dividing the world into two distinct sides is simple and intuitive, and dramatic because it implies conflict. Binary conflicts are beloved by the media. The gap instinct makes us imagine division where there is just a smooth range, difference where there is convergence, and conflict where there is agreement.

Rosling's other nine human instincts in assessing (distorting) information and getting it wrong, are: Negativity, Straight Line Extrapolation, Fear, Interpretation of Size (getting things out of proportion), Generalization, The Destiny Instinct, Single Perspective, Blame, and Urgency.

These instincts are at play at all stages of a strategic assessment and can affect decisions by wrongly interpreting a situation.

While we assume that intelligence professionals correctly assess a situation and have adjusted for their human biases, political decision makers and the public may not. The media interpretation will be predictably dramatic and will shape public opinion which can feedback and underpin the political will of the government. An example is Saddam Hussein's possession of nuclear weapons (factually wrong) which was the trigger for US initiating the Iraq war.

Currently in the western- Pacific there is strategic competition between the US and China. The hegemon (US) versus the emerging power (China) – perfect material for the gap instinct. The fact that there are a few other significant players - Japan, India and Indonesia, is often overlooked.

In relation to our perception of China and the US/China gap, all ten of our dramatic instincts are at work, in particular: Negativity, Fear, The Destiny Instinct and Single Perspective. Drawing on the facts available, how should Australians view China, our great trading partner?

China - Factual

China is the world's most populous country with a population of 1.4 billion. It's an authoritarian, one-party state (CCP) which since 1980 has operated a mixed economy and achieved phenomenal rates of economic growth. It has the world's second largest economy and is our biggest customer for exports of Iron ore, Coal, Education, and Tourism. China's demand for our mineral exports was a major factor in Australia riding out the Global Financial Crisis.



¹ Hans Rosling, *Factfulness*, Sceptre, 2018

While there are Chinese billionaire entrepreneurs, State owned and directed enterprises dominate China's economy and private corporations have communist party cells high within their management structure. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is tightly integrated into society, and China's military, the People's Liberation Army, is the army of the CCP not the Chinese State.

Often overlooked is that China has massive environmental problems with air, water and ground pollution. Also, an unreliable rainfall and the depletion of ancient aquifers is likely to reduce national food production. Feeding a population with ever increasing standards of living and declining resources has led China to purchase large tracts of agricultural land in Africa and Australia for large scale agriculture.

China also has huge debts, particularly associated with Regional and Local Governments. Corruption is problem endemic to all authoritarian states, and China is no exception. President Xi has cracked down on corruption at all levels and has skilfully used the drive against corruption to eliminate his rivals. He is now effectively President for life.

'Authoritarian capitalism', or 'socialism with Chinese characteristics' involves the mixing of market and planned economies, and inherits the problems associated with each, including unemployment and an increasing rural-urban income gap.

China also has ongoing problems with social unrest associated with ethnic minority regional groups which perceive inequalities and injustice.

China's future growth may be hampered by friction in its relationships with its Asian neighbours. Regional entanglements could even result in a coalition against China, comprising Bangladesh, India, Kazakhstan, Vietnam, and Japan. As well as the long-standing sovereignty issue over Taiwan, there are also the sovereignty disputes over islands in the South China Sea. China's President Xi Jinping has publicly stated his 'China Dream' of making China the world's greatest power by a long-term peaceful rise resulting in economic domination.

Elements of the China Dream strategy are the One Belt-One Road Initiative (OBOR), rapid expansion of the PLA – Navy and effective annexation of the South China Sea. OBOR is a grand strategic agenda designed to link China with Eurasia, Africa and Oceania. Essentially it is a network of modern ports and transportation hubs that are Chinese built, owned and/or operated. The Digital Silk Road provides matching communication technology. The Maritime Silk Road has extended into Oceania with Chinese 'soft power' felt in East Timor, PNG and the South-West Pacific. OBOR is partially financed by the China sponsored Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

In Australia Chinese companies are keen to invest in large-scale agriculture and mining, and readily complement Federal Government initiatives for the development of Northern Australia.

China's Influence in Australia

Clive Hamilton's book *Silent Invasion*, (2018) researched from public sources, documents China's influence in Australia.² It plays to the negative human instinct.

Chinese money has been readily available in Australia and throughout the region buying up infrastructure, agriculture, mines, and property. This ownership can appear benign but can all ultimately be influenced by the CCP. China has also deployed soft-power, including industrial espionage, clandestine cyber activity, intellectual property theft, political contributions, and non-tariff barriers to trade.

China has co-opted former politicians, and Chinese billionaires have made generous donations to universities and political parties. Beijing sympathisers in Australia work at influencing Australian governments to support, or at least not oppose, Beijing policy.

They seek to reinforce our destiny instinct that China's continued rise and the China Dream are inevitable, and we should act accordingly. Beijing has directly employed Chinese students studying in Australia and to seeks to favourably influence about 1 million Australians of Chinese ancestry. Those that have family ties to mainland China can be pressured to support Beijing.

Chinese Investment by private companies or State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) has been in agriculture, mining, ports, power utilities, telecommunications infrastructure, and real estate. Australia as a nation and individual institutions, can be subject to economic bullying.

There has been Defence concern where Chinese companies have acquired elements of Australia's strategic infrastructure. A Chinese company has a 99-year lease on the Port of Darwin, a Chinese SOE owns the Port of Newcastle (the biggest coal port in the world), a Chinese sovereign wealth fund has a 20% holding in the Port of Melbourne, and Chinese companies own most of the Victorian electricity system.

The Foreign Investment Review Board has prevented Chinese investment in the NSW Electricity Grid, the Kidman Stations, Rio Tinto and the NBN. Recently The Chinese telecommunications giant Hua Wei was prevented from tendering for construction of Australia's 5G network. They were not happy.

Continued Page eight

² Clive Hamilton, *Silent Invasion*, Hardie Grant Books, Melbourne 2018

A CHRONICLE of Events, Decisions & Issues relating to Defence Matters July 2018-June 2019 Part I

by Michael Small

'I'm not a theoretical historian, seeking to guide the reader to a general conclusion. I'm quite content to be a narrative chronicler, a slave of the facts', so said Sir Martin Gilbert. Such is the case with this 'Chronicle of Events, Decisions & Issues' relating to defence matters that took place between July 2018 and June 2019 as reported in mainstream media.

"You fight with the force you have, not with the force which is planned for the future".

Some Significant Events Which Occurred During the Course of this Chronicle

This was a period of intense and vitriolic political and ideological debate illustrated by the extraordinary behaviour of some members of the House of Representatives and the Senate. Unexpectedly, Scott Morrison became Australia's 30th Prime Minister, August 24, 2018; and the Coalition lost the seat of Wentworth, October 20, 2018 which they had held for 117 years. In the general election, May 18, 2019 Scott Morrison won an historic victory for the Coalition in one of the biggest upsets with 78/151 seats in the lower house; more than he needed to govern in his own right. Meanwhile, defence issues were still being actively debated and acted upon. The above comments form the background for the events in Part 1 & Part 2.

Part I: commencing July 1 2018 Reports indicate that the United States supplies most of the technology and weaponry used by the Australian Defence Force (ADF). The key criterion, "interoperability", is applied to material supplied to the ADF. The Defence Department is in the process of purchasing new submarines, new frigates and new armoured vehicles. The total cost is expected to be \$90.2bn, but this figure is bound to increase. France wishes to remain a Pacific power and is proposing a new Indo-Pacific axis. ADF will have to attract/train personnel with a broader range of skills in areas such as artificial intelligence, driverless vehicles and robotics.

July 28-29 2018 Gareth Evans, a former foreign minister, writes that Australia should put more emphasis on Asian countries and should spend more on defence. Peter Jennings, director, Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) supports the present alliance, but thinks Australia should prepare a Plan B. China, a great power, is seeking to reestablish itself, with Foreign Minister Julie Bishop being very circumspect when interviewed about China.

August 4-5 2018 The Special Air Service Regiment (SASR) is being investigated over links to criminal gangs, theft of weapons, missing classified documents, unpaid speeding fines, drinking on duty and a breakdown in

leadership. Major General Sengelman has identified failings of leadership and accountability across a range of command responsibilities. The secretive nature of the SASR has led to a breakdown of standards. There is also a tribal culture of rivalry between the SASR and the Commando Regiment, and a disregard for the normal military courtesies.

August 24 2018 Change of government – Scott Morrison became Australia's 30th Prime Minister

September 7 2018 In addition to the \$90.2bn for the purchase of new ships, submarines and armoured vehicles, a revised cost has now appeared for the JSF F-35 fighter. \$17bn had been set aside for the program, with each plane costing \$124m. Final costs have not yet been released, but the 'Defence Innovation Hub' will cost \$640m and 'Next Generation Technologies Fund' will cost \$730m. The final figure for the proposed Defence items could be \$119bn.



September 27 2018 Marise Payne, Minister for Foreign Affairs, met with Wang Yi, Chinese Minister for Foreign Affairs. It was reported that they had "a very excellent meeting" with warm and positive statements from Wang Yi. Nevertheless, China is considered a potential adversary. Comments affirm 'Australia should become more self-reliant'.

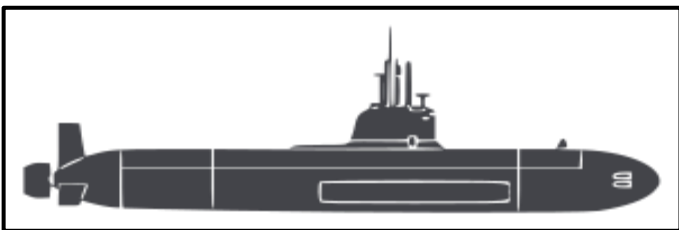
October 3 2018 Ross Babbage, CEO, Strategic Forum Pty. Ltd reported on the quantum computing work being undertaken in China. The Chinese are spending huge amounts on quantum computing applied to code breaking, next generation radar and stealth technology. Christopher Pyne, Minister for Defence, has played down any concern about the \$50bn Future Submarine contract. There appears to have been a dispute between the French manufacturer and the government relating to exchange of sensitive commercial information.

October 5 2018 Despite all the tension about China and the South China Sea, RAN, United States and Chinese naval forces have exercised together as part of a "productive relationship". To illustrate, HMAS *Melbourne* docked at Zhanjiang for exercise with PLA-N *Xiaanning*; HMAS *Ballarat* exercised with PLA-N *Huangshan* (which included surface-target firing, and search and rescue); and Rear Admiral Jonathon Mead RAN was photographed on the bridge of HMAS *Melbourne* with Rear Admiral Wang Zaijie PLA-N. In addition, two Chinese frigates, *Hengyang* and *Yulin*, and the supply ship, *Hongh*, entered Sydney Harbour after exercises off the NSW coast. Reports indicate that the Department of Defence has developed a positive relationship with China based on dialogue, visits, student exchanges, exercises and

October 20 2018 Peter Jennings, executive director, ASPI wrote that companies from China could soon control Australia's gas and electricity infrastructure.

Will the government accept or reject a \$13bn acquisition of the Australian energy infrastructure business APA Group by Hong Kong company CKI? Will the government put national security ahead of a desire for Chinese investment into critical infrastructure? If CKI's acquisition of APA Group goes ahead, then Chinese companies will control 100% of electricity transmission and distribution assets in Victoria, SA and the ACT, and 100% of gas transmissions and distribution assets in NSW and ACT, 99% in Victoria, 86% in SA and 78% in Qld. Question: how did the policy makers allow this to happen? It seems very strange from a national security point of view, but the Foreign Investment Review Board (FIRB) thinks it 'OK' for foreign investment applications to be approved. A new Critical Infrastructure Centre is to be set up in the Department of Home Affairs to deal with these sorts of issues

October 27-28 2018 The ADF has moved to a norm of 'tight interagency co-operation' with the AFP and other similar agencies. Previously, the term 'joint' force was used when describing the ADF's relationship in terms of organization and structure with other agencies. The changing relationships with the great powers *viz.* United States, China, India, Japan, South Korea and North Korea were noted, and the fact that the ADF now has 60,000 active members. The shopping list of new equipment grows *e.g.* 11 Boeing EA-18G Growlers; 72 JSF F-35s; 22 Tiger armed reconnaissance helicopters; 450 tracked infantry fighting vehicles (IFVs), the estimated cost is \$15bn; nine 7000-tonne Hunter class frigates based on the Type 26 City class being built for the RN; \$35bn for the Sea 5000 submarines program. This includes 12 Shortfin Barracuda 4,700 tonne submarines to replace the 6 Collins Class fleet. The planned date is 2030.



Commentators on defence policy state that Australia should re-think its strategic policy. Relying on the United States is no longer good enough. Australia needs a more self-reliant defence force - but this will cost money. The question is: should Australia spend money on more of the same *i.e.* more ships, more submarines, more armoured vehicles? Or should it choose something different? Cruise/ballistic missiles? Hypersonic weapons? Commentators state that Australia will need psychological resilience in the face of potential coercion.

January 4 2019 In an uncertain world Australia must become more self-reliant. For the past 75 years the United States has been Australia's key defence partner, but the world situation is changing. President Trump wants to avoid "all endless wars forever", and he has

stated that United States' allies must contribute more. What are the policy objectives of the United States in the Middle East? Yemen, Libya, Somalia, Iraq, South Korea and NATO are problematical. The West's post-Cold war strategy has failed *i.e.* intervene with inadequate military forces; find they are facing defeat; initiate a surge in forces; withdraw and start arguing.

(to be continued in Part II ending June 30 2019).

Continued from page six

China in Your World View

In respect of the Single Perspective Human Instinct, there are two different perspectives of China from within government. The first is an overwhelmingly positive perspective from Trade focusing on mutual gains from trade and investment, willing to overlook the behaviours of a one-party totalitarian state. This view is opposed by a negative perspective from Defence and Intelligence viewing China a potential threat to our security and way of life.

Both sides are influenced by the destiny instinct – that the China Dream is inevitable. But it is not.

A very similar situation occurred with Japan. In the 1980s by projecting the 'Japanese economic miracle' into the future almost all commentators expected Japan to overtake the US in national GDP. However, Japanese economic growth was halted by an asset-price bubble that was unforeseen. The 1990s became Japan's 'lost decade'.

A factual world view should incorporate both perspectives of China, and any views in between. We need to balance the positive with the negative and proceed with caution. While welcoming Chinese investment in Northern Australia, it would be prudent to reduce our reliance on China as a customer.

Australia's best course is to act in its national interests, maintain its values, and encourage continued US engagement in the region. However, this does mean that we do not uncritically follow the US, and do not compliantly conform to pressure from China. We need to ensure the security of our strategic infrastructure and maintain a strong defence force that can work with the US and other democratic nations as well as operating independently if necessary.

Book Reviews

This newsletter has eleven Book Reviews. On behalf of members the Editor thanks the reviewers. The Royal United Services Institute of Victoria Library thanks authors and publishers for providing copies for review. If you would like a hard copy of a review, please contact the Secretary.

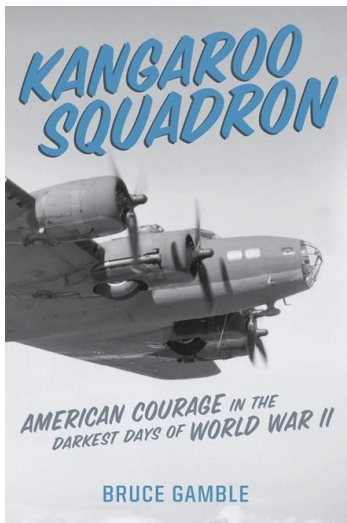
Kangaroo Squadron

American Courage in the Darkest Days of World War II

Bruce Gamble

De Capro Press, Hachette Australia 2018
Paperback 400pp RRP: \$27.99

Reviewer: Robert Dixon, March 2019



I enjoyed reading this book very much. It is very well written and tells a fascinating story about the activities of a US heavy bomber squadron, who had a kangaroo as its mascot, based in northern Australia for much of the first year of the war in the Pacific. One reason this book has much to offer the reader – even a reader not especially interested in aerial warfare – is that this one unit was involved

one way or another in many historically significant events which took place in the Pacific area in that period, beginning with the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour.

In the second half of 1941 it became increasingly obvious to the US government that their forces needed to be strengthened in the Philippines and to this end at 9pm on 6th June a squadron of B-17 bombers departed San Francisco bound for the Philippines via Hawaii. The timing of their departure was such that the bombers arrived over Honolulu early in the morning of the 7th of December, at the same time as the first wave of Japanese carrier-borne aircraft were approaching Oahu.

Included in the book is a photograph taken by a B-17 crewmember as it approached Honolulu of two Japanese dive-bombers flying alongside the bomber and heading for the same destination! Although fired on by both Japanese aircraft and American anti-aircraft guns none of the B-17s were shot down, although two crash-landed. The squadron then spent the next two months flying maritime reconnaissance patrols out of Hawaii.

The squadron was ordered to relocate to Townsville in early February 1942 to undertake long range reconnaissance and bombardment, with an initial focus on Simpson Harbour at Rabaul which by then was in Japanese hands. Their first raid on Rabaul took place on February 2nd and was to be followed by many more raids

on Rabaul, Lae, Salamaua and other locations in an arc from the Solomons to the Netherlands East Indies, often

using Jackson's Strip (now Jacksons International Airport) at Port Moresby as a staging post. Long distance bombing was not their only activity. In March 1942 one of their aircraft flew to the Philippines to fly Douglas MacArthur together with his family, his staff and senior staff members to Australia (the book dispels some of the MacArthur inspired myths about the trip). Shortly afterwards another of their aircraft brought Philippines President Manuel Quezon to Australia (after a brief stay he moved to the US where he established a Philippines government in exile).

In early May the squadron was involved in the Battle of the Coral Sea undertaking both reconnaissance and bombing missions against Japanese ship and in July of 1942 it carried out important aerial surveillance of Guadalcanal followed by bombing raids against Japanese ships off Buna that were providing support to the Japanese forces making their way over the Kokoda Trail. There then followed a steady flow of reconnaissance and bombing missions, especially against Rabaul, but by late October it had been decided that the squadron should return to the US and become an operational training unit for replacement B-17 personnel.

While that was the end of the story of Kangaroo Squadron, the book does not end at that point. Trying to make its way back to Townsville after the squadron's very first bombing raid, one of the B-17s crash-landed in a swamp on the north coast of Papua. The last chapter of the book tells the story of the survival of the crew (itself quite remarkable) and the search since the end of the Second World War for the largely-intact wreckage and its eventual removal to Pearl Harbour where it has been reassembled to recreate its appearance in the swamp, bent propellers and all. (A Google search for 'swamp ghost' will yield a number of photos and videos of the aircraft.)

The book includes forty B&W photographs, many taken at the squadron's bases in Townsville and Port Moresby together with eight maps (although many are unnecessary for an Australian reader) showing the SW Pacific area, the Philippines, Papua and New Guinea. The book also has sixteen pages of endnotes, a select bibliography and comprehensive index.

Bruce Gamble is the author of another book of particular interest to Australians, *Darkest Hour: the true story of Lark Force at Rabaul - Australia's worst military disaster of World War II*, a copy of which is held in the RUSI (VIC) library.

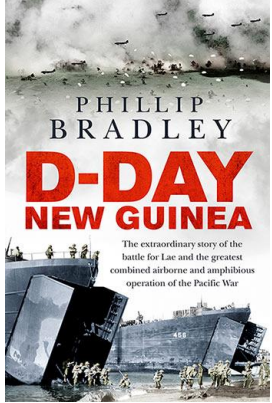
D-Day New Guinea

Phillip Bradley

Allen & Unwin 2019

Paperback 336pp RRP: \$32.99

Reviewer: Neville Taylor, March 2019



One of the best 'campaign' histories I've read to date. The experience was greatly enhanced by references in the text to a specific map or sketch where a village, plantation, river, route, attack or withdrawal could always be located.

Phillip Bradley, having lived for two years in Lae, examines the events from both sides in great detail, with personal anecdotes of the belligerents woven

through many of the actions described. From the early patrols seeking information of Japanese strengths and dispositions, the reconnaissance patrols looking for potential river crossings and airstrips, the mind-boggling numbers involved in the logistics and planning for intended attacks and blocking operations, and the dilly-dallying at highest command level, leave the reader with very little time to 'take a breath'.

Being the first truly aggressive Allied action in the South West Pacific, MacArthur was hell-bent on it being a total success. The planning was extremely thorough and the landing was to become a model for similar actions in the Pacific theatre and of course, Normandy nine months later. The lessons learnt from *Operation Postern* enabled effective fine-tuning that reduced casualties and effort in the future.

When Lae was entered, it was found to be unoccupied, but the lack of planning beyond the objective, that is, follow-up (exploitation) was not considered: resulting in over 6500 (75%) of the Japanese who occupied Lae escaping to Kiari on New Guinea's north coast. Blamey had believed they were not capable of 'escap(ing) the hardship of the formidable mountain tracks'.

Written (almost like a mystery novel) in an easy-going, yet with obvious authoritative style, this was difficult to put down. The text has a list of 19 maps and sketches, a useful list of abbreviations, Notes (between 40 and 60 for most chapters), a most comprehensive Bibliography an easily navigable Index, and is rounded out with a collection of black and white photographs.

This is an excellent work for anyone looking for further knowledge of the Second World War in the South West Pacific.

Duty Nobly Done

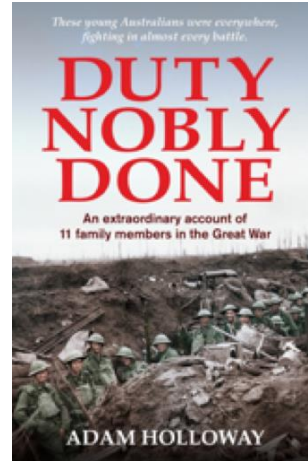
An extraordinary account of 11 family members in the Great War

Adam Holloway

Big Sky Publishing 2019

Paperback 528pp RRP \$34.99

Reviewer: Neville Taylor, May 2018



Adam Holloway has thoroughly researched an incredible amount of material to produce a highly detailed account of the eleven members of his forebears' participation in the Great War. A family tree concisely links those involved in the narrative. From Roma, Inglewood and Brisbane there were three brothers from one family, two from three families and one son from two families

who enlisted between August 1914 and January 1918. They were, of course, accompanied by those who had attended the same schools, and been with them in sports teams and workplaces.

These men strengthened their family bonds on Gallipoli and the Western Front over the four years of the War. Holloway follows each one from enlistment, their initial training, unit postings, battles, wounding and death. At every opportunity they sought their relatives on the battlefield and some exchanged letters. Their loyalty spilled over to those who fought beside them, and their feelings and emotional involvement is well presented to the reader.

Of the eleven, three paid the supreme sacrifice, one was repatriated back to Australia, and most of the others experienced wounding and or gassing. The Epilogue elaborates on their individual years back in Australia where they often could not fit back into society and missed the action and camaraderie of their war years.

This is a family history, not a military history: there are no maps, no notes, bibliography or index. Holloway has used his talent with prose to put the well- and accurately described actions into context for the reader. An interesting collection of high-quality family photographs has been imbedded in the text.

A most enjoyable, readable and amazing account of one 'dynasty's' contribution to Australia in its time of turmoil.

Beyond Combat

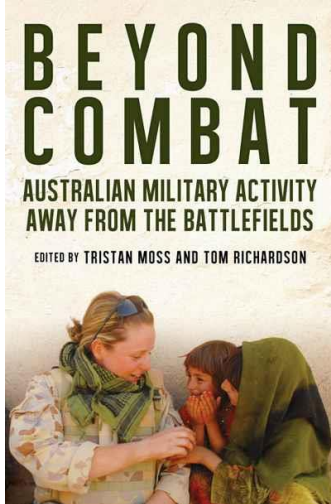
Australian Military Activity away from the Battlefields

Tristan Moss and Tom Richardson (Eds)

NewSouth Publishing 2018

Paperback 256pp RRP: \$39.99

Reviewer: Kevan Sanderson, April 2019



The premise of *Beyond Combat* is that interactions between war and peace are better understood by examining the harder to define, overlooked and niche aspects of defence forces. Categorizing these aspects as managing soldiers and their families, education, caring for the soldier, and death and remembrance, the book aims to broaden military history.

Beyond Combat is comprised of thirteen essays loosely assembled as four themes. The first theme is "Managing Soldiers and their Families" and leads off with a rambling summary of ADF personnel on overseas assignments and related experiences. It is followed by two essays that outline the evolution of acceptance of LGBTI personnel in the ADF and the impacts on individual careers. "Education" addresses training by the ADF of foreign forces and the development of pre-First World War military science education. "Caring for the Soldiers" looks at First World War preventative medicine, with a particular focus on lice infestation, the perspective of the Australian Army nurses through a review of their letters home, the impact of military meals and nutrition and the role of military bands. The final theme, "Death and Remembrance" focuses on efforts to identify and retrieve remains of ADF personnel lost in battle, naval vessels as museums and Singapore's new military history.

Exposing aspects of combat and military history often glossed over is the best part of this book. I found a few of the chapters, when taken alone, to be quite interesting. For example, the chapter describing the largely ineffective measures taken by HQ to control lice infestations and the more effective yet disagreeable remedies of the troops themselves was fascinating. Equally fascinating was the chapter on food and nutrition and I enjoyed reading about the experiences and perspectives of the nursing corps, some of which were very moving. I learned that until recently ADF bandsmen did double duty as stretcher-bearers in combat, and it was particularly interesting in the chapter describing efforts to locate and retrieve lost servicemen's remains.

The essays are written by well-credentialed contributors however they are a mixture of styles and quality and provide varying levels of detail that makes the book

difficult and frustrating to read. The editors - I use the term loosely as they appear to have contributed little beyond collecting some unrelated and unconnected articles and bound them together - have failed to provide any cogent thread which lessens the impact that some of the articles probably deserve.

Whilst there is undoubtedly "a lot more to military life than war" as the media release states, this book does little to stimulate or promote interest in such "Beyond Combat" activities nor justify its' initial premise. Chapters Two and Three, about LGBTI, seem out of place. Naval museums based mostly in the USA and the military history of Singapore respectively are described in the last two chapters. One is perhaps more appropriate for a travel magazine and the other seems completely out of place and irrelevant leaving the reader to assume they were included only as filler.

Aristotle said, "The whole is greater than the sum of its parts" which cannot be said of *Beyond Combat*. Chapter One, written by the editors and which would be better presented as an Introduction, provides an adequate précis of each chapter. I recommend that readers study Chapter One then selectively read the particular essay or essays that might be of further interest.

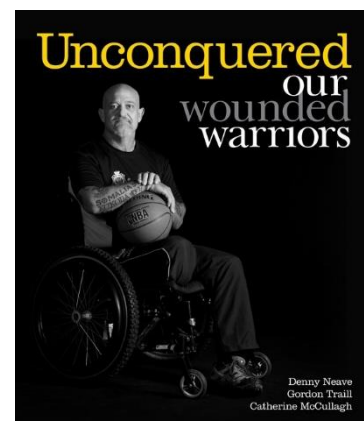
Unconquered: Our Wounded Warriors

Denny Neave et al (Eds)

Big Sky Publishing 2019

Hardback 264pp \$69.99

Reviewer: Neville Taylor, May 2019



Big Sky Publishing has produced a superb coffee table tribute and memento to the Invictus Games held in Sydney in October 2018. Many Australians were spellbound by the images they saw on television, and now some of these have they have been preserved in print form.

The poem *Invictus*, written by William Ernest Henley in 1875 and first published in 1888 inspired the naming of the games for those servicemen and women physically and mentally damaged whilst serving their country. Almost 500 from eighteen countries competed in eleven sports and description of the events lead into the stories of many of our Australian competitors' background, struggles and recent successes in life.

As Australia's largest producer of military books, with this excellent publication Big Sky continues to make its presence felt in the literary sphere.

John Curtin's War Vol II,

Triumph and Decline

John Edwards

Penguin Australia, 2018

Hardcover 512pp RRP \$49.99

Reviewer: Bob Hart, March 2019



This follows on from Vol I published last year. Much of the personal life and background to John Curtin was revealed in that volume, which concluded at the Fall of Singapore. This now takes up the narrative right through until his death in 1945.

If one were to be honest, this is not about John Curtin's War. This is about Curtin's interaction with MacArthur, Blamey, Churchill and FDR. There is little in the book about what was

happening in Parliament. In fact, I struggle to recollect one passage where Curtin is in the House. Nothing is here about wartime problems such as miners' strikes and wharfies' go-slows. Nothing about the struggle to develop an integrated plan for the successful prosecution of the war. Little about the actual effect the war was having on Australia and its people.

One might even think after reading the book that Curtin was a President, as so little is shown of the workings of the War Cabinet. Politics rarely appears, although the 1944 elections do take a few pages. In such a time of great stress, there must have been some strains in Parliament, among the members of the Labor Party, even inside the Public Service. Yet the impression is that Curtin with Shedden sailed through the war without having to worry about rationing plans, the evacuation of the people or any of the many matters that required oversight and decisions made in wartime.

Having said that, what the book does well illustrate Curtin managed the various personalities who were fighting the war. It shows clearly the interactions, both good and bad, between Curtin, MacArthur, Blamey and the ever-present Shedden. It addresses, warts and all, the problems of competing personalities and the demands and stresses of a wartime coalition, especially when one is a very junior partner.

Most of the story is well known but placing it in a context that shows how it developed and shining a light on the egos and personalities of those involved does give these stories more depth. One is left feeling that MacArthur used Australia until we no longer suited him and then discarded. Hence the clamoring for a role for Australian forces in 1945. Certainly, a large part of Curtin's war was taken up in pandering to MacArthur and rightly or wrongly agreeing with his histrionics and self-boosting to gain more American resources for Australia.

Curtin had his foibles, fear of flying being one. But overall he comes out of this book as a capable and dedicated person, working under strain to do the best he can for his country.

Ypres

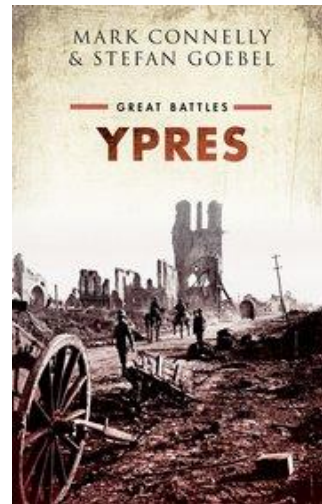
Great Battles Series

Mark Connelly and Stefan Goebel

Oxford University Press, Oxford UK 2018

Hardback 288pp RRP: \$56.99

Reviewer: Robert Dixon, April 2019



It is important not to be misled by the title of this book or by the photograph on the front cover. There is actually very little in this book about the fighting in and around Ypres in the First World War. It is instead an examination of the ways in which the populations of the different countries involved have imposed their own 'narratives' on the city and the region around it since 1918.

Much of the text is devoted to an exploration of the city's growth as a tourist destination after WW1 and especially the development of battlefield and pilgrimage tours. Oxford University Press describes the focus of the books in its 'Great Battles series' as follows: "Certain battles acquire iconic status in history. Commemorated in paintings, verse and music, marked by monumental memorials, and used as the way points for the periodisation of history, these battles have also enjoyed cultural after-lives. Each book in the Great Battles series examines both the battle itself, and also its legacy in the imaginations of the victors and the vanquished."

Consistent with this purpose the book under review moves away from traditional British and Commonwealth remembrances of the battles to compare the views and commemorations of all combatant nations. In the words of the authors (both of whom are academic historians and seemingly writing for other academic historians rather than the general reader): "the book offers the first transnational interpretation of the meaning of Ypres... placing competing visions of its meaning and significance side by side throughout." They go on to tell the reader that "Ypres ... existed in a number of different registers in popular culture and was quotidian as well as ethereal." (If you find that this sentence is meaningful, then this is definitely the book for you!)

The book includes thirty B&W photographs (mostly of memorials to those who died fighting in and around Ypres) together with three maps. The book also has twenty-four(!) pages of endnotes, a lengthy bibliography and an index.

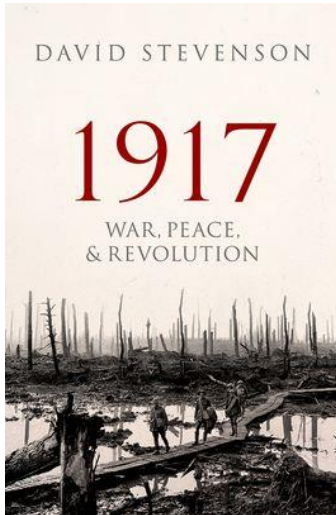
1917 War, Peace & Revolution

David Stevenson

Oxford University Press 2017

Hardback 480pp RRP: \$61.95

Reviewer: Neville Taylor, March 2019



There is no question that this is a monumental work that successfully examines in detail the significant military, political and social events in one of the landmark years of the twentieth century. Three parts examine the Atlantic and U-boats, events in Europe and Russia and repercussions around the globe, before a conclusion looks to the prospects of 1918. There is always a valuable and concise background provided to all sections of the work.

Stevenson looks at the 'when, what, where, who and why' of the major events of the year, often by a day-by-day coverage of the decision-making processes. His work opens with a ten-page listing of principal persons who influenced the outcomes.

Germany prevaricated through 1916 on its attack policy relating to merchant shipping by not wishing to antagonize the United States. Trying to shorten the war by starving Britain, in January 1917 Germany opted for unrestricted submarine attacks. On 2nd April 1917, as a result of these attacks, the US declared war on Germany, while Britain eventually opted for the naval protection of convoys of merchant vessels on 30th April. A table of the month-by-month allied shipping losses is included.

Germany was heartened by the low morale of the Russians in early 1917, the February revolution and the abdication of Tsar Nicholas II on 8th March. This would potentially lead to a reduction in a huge military commitment to the Eastern Front, freeing up troops to pour into the Western Front. The year saw three major Allied offensives fail: Nivelle (France) in April, Kerensky (Russia) in June and Passchendaele (Britain) on 31st July. The German army inflicted massive losses of men and equipment against the Italians at Caporetto (Italy) in October-November. In trying to escape the continuing attrition of previous years, the peace moves in the latter part of the year were rejected by both sides (the Central Powers hoping for a decisive victory early in the following year, and the Allies believing that American intervention would completely alter their prospects).

Globally a small number of countries hoped gain strategically by 'riding on the coattails of the Allies' in any settlements made at the conclusion of hostilities. They were Greece, Brazil, Siam (Thailand) and China. Britain offered 'responsible government' (not independence) to India and advocated in November 1917 for Palestine to become the home for Jewish nationals.

The gap in the Allies' balance caused by the Bolshevik Revolution and the Ludendorff's 1918 spring offensive both brought forward the US commitment to the Allied cause. On 8th January President Wilson publicized his *Fourteen Points* for peace negotiations that looked to self-government

supplemented by a stronger international organisation (ultimately the League of Nations).

The academic vigor applied by Stevenson is evident with over twenty photographs and nine maps, a massive 60 pages of Notes, sixteen-page Bibliography and twelve-page Index. This is a most impressive, succinct and valuable work covering a vital year in world history.

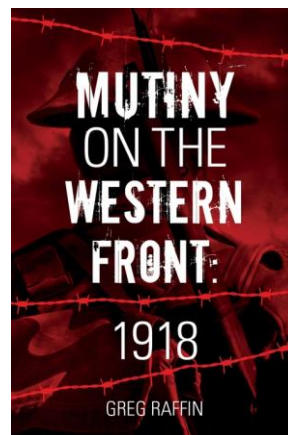
Mutiny on the Western Front: 1918

Greg Raffin

Big Sky Publishing 2018

Paperback 284pp RRP: \$29.99

Reviewer: Robert Dixon, April 2019



This book was released in September 2018 to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the mutiny. Greg Raffin is a retired history teacher and the author of *Australia's Real Baptism of Fire* which is an account of the Australian takeover of German possessions in New Guinea during the First World War.

At about 3pm on 19th September 1918 men of the 1st Battalion of the AIF who had been fighting in the front line for many days were

relieved and sent a short distance to the rear to rest. At some time on the afternoon of the following day they were told that their rest period had been cancelled and were ordered to return to the front. In what was the largest instance of mass 'combat refusal' in the AIF's history 119 men, including a number of NCO's, defied the order and moved further to the rear. The men were court martialled in October 1918. Most were found not guilty of mutiny but guilty of desertion (possibly this was to avoid the application of the death penalty - the penalty for mutiny) and sentenced to jail. Privates were sentenced to three years penal servitude while NCO's were reduced to the ranks and sentenced to between five-and-ten years penal servitude. Eleven of those charged were found not guilty of either mutiny or desertion because the prosecution could find no evidence that those particular men had been ordered back into the line.

Unfortunately, it is not until over half-way through the book that the author gives us an account of the mutiny and its aftermath and presents a summary of views on the nature and causes of the mutiny. The most interesting material in the first half of the book is to be found in Chapter 4 titled 'Military Training and Discipline'. The author draws on the remarkable writings of Charles McMoran Wilson (and in particular his book *An Anatomy of Courage*) on how men react to battle stress, particularly that due to fatigue, monotony and the death of comrades.

In his discussion of the 'mutiny' in the second half of the book, the author shows that the men involved were not told clearly why they were being ordered back to the Front, nor were they told exactly what it was they were expected to do when they go there or how long they would likely be in action. *Continued*

Mutiny on the Western Front: 1918 - Continued

Raffin is of the view that had there been clearer communication of orders and one of his more junior officers to ask the men to write out their grievances for him to read, having read more proactive and effective leadership it is highly likely that the mutiny would not have occurred. Indeed, in one of the most interesting parts of the book (chapter 10) he contrasts the events of 20th September involving the 1st Battalion, where only junior officers interacted with the men, with Brigadier General 'Pompey' Elliot's handling of a very similar instance of 'combat refusal' involving men of the 59th battalion on 5th September. On hearing of their refusal Elliot sent them he then went himself to speak with the men who, after being given time to reconsider their actions, agreed to rejoin their battalion.

As we proceed through the book we follow the life and military experiences of one of the men, Rollo Taplin who had anonymously expressed his views in the award-winning documentary *Mutiny on the Western Front* first shown in 1979. Mainly because of this 'personal dimension' it is impossible for the reader not to empathize with the men involved.

The book includes fourteen B&W photographs together with two very helpful maps. It also has eight pages of very useful Appendices mostly about command structures, commanders, and battles in France in which the Australian Corps was involved) but also including a table showing the number of death sentences and executions for each country involved in the First World War. (Interestingly 121 Australian soldiers were sentenced to death but none were executed while 28 New Zealanders were sentenced to death and five were executed.) There are nine pages of endnotes, a bibliography and an index which unfortunately is limited to people's surnames.

The Limits of Peacekeeping

Australian Missions in Africa and the Americas, 1992–2005

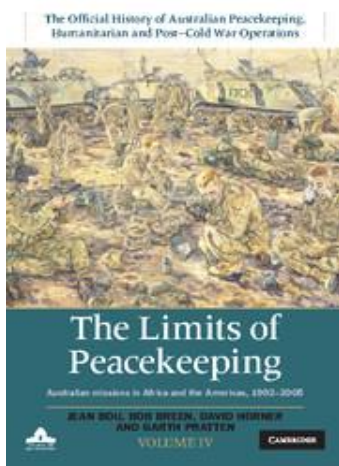
[Official History of Australian Peacekeeping - Vol 4]

Jean Bou, Bob Breen et al (Eds)

Cambridge University Press, Port Melbourne Vic 2018

Hardback 743pp RRP: \$179.00

Reviewer: Neville Taylor, May 2019



With the end of the Cold War there came change in attitudes towards peacekeeping. An *Introduction* examines the philosophy behind Australia's approach to peacekeeping during the period 1991 – 1996.

Wishing to be seen to be keeping its international responsibilities, in late 1992 Australia agreed to providing a major force to Somalia. [This was the 1st Battalion Royal Australian Regiment

group commanded by our current Governor General-designate, David Hurley.] Part 1 is devoted to the four contingents posted there during the period 1993 - 94.

Part 2 looks at Australia's two contingents sent to Rwanda following the April 1994 genocide. Both contingents were forced to work towards establishing a peace and saw the first Australian bravery awards made since the Vietnam War. Members of the second contingent were in Kibeho on 22/23 April 1995 when 1200 – 1500 Rwandans were massacred. Appendix C – *UN Peacekeepers and PTSD* in 30 pages looks at the potential for this to manifest itself as a result of some of its missions.

By contrast Part 3 describes the smaller commitments to the 1994 Mozambique elections and thirteen subsequent contingents to provide mine clearing there until 2002, and the Australian Federal Police 1994 – 95 work in Haiti. Both these missions provided far more positive outcomes than the Somali and Rwandan commitments.

The years of John Howard's prime ministership are examined in Part 4. These commitments were only small: Guatemala in 1997, Ethiopia and Eritrea 2001 – 05, and Sierra Leone 2001 – 2003. The Defence 2000 White Paper proposed defence activities be undertaken in Australia's own neighbourhood and when the involved our own interests and started to show its effect on policy.

Commencing with a *List of Maps*, *Chronology 1992 – 2001*, a long list of abbreviations, the *Contents* with a detailed breakdown of each chapter, the reader is well-prepared to take on this history. The maneuvering of the UN, the Australian ministers, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Australian Defence Force and the Australian Federal Police are all closely examined and are comprehensively referenced in footnotes. Included are seventeen maps and 100-plus photographs (both mainly in colour). The other two appendices are *Key UN Security Council Resolutions* and *Major (Australian) Office Bearers*. The *Bibliography* and *Index* are both 20 pages in length.

There has been no expense spared in producing this most enlightening, thorough and well-written history on a topic that often is given too little attention.



Royal Air Force – Squadron Badges

The Civilisation of Port Phillip

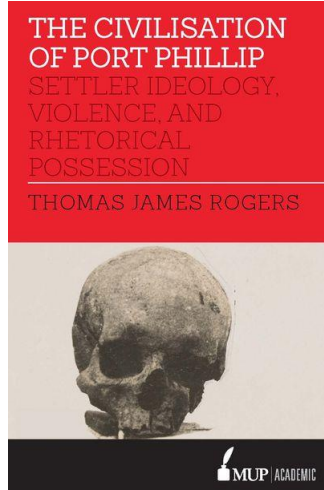
Settler ideology, violence, and rhetorical possession

Thomas James Rogers

Melbourne University Press Academic 2018

Paperback 254pp RRP: \$44.99

Reviewer: Roger Buxton, April 2019



John Batman, Joseph Gellibrand and other prominent Vandemonians formed the Port Phillip Association in 1835 and, at Indented Head; Batman signed a treaty with eight Kulin headmen giving the Association access to 600,000 acres of land for grazing sheep and cattle.

Thomas James Rogers has written a history of the ensuing rhetorical possession of the Port Phillip District, a possession accompanied by

the violent dispossession of the Aboriginal Inhabitants. He asks what the settlers thought they were doing and uses the original reports and settler recollections to show how they told the story of their role in the British civilisation of Port Phillip. Civilisation is a controversial concept, but the settlers believed the Aboriginal occupants were not complete societies, but hunter-gatherers who had not progressed up the scale of civilisation. This is a thought-provoking book about the myths and ideologies of the free settlers themselves, their convict-class servants and the government officials.

Aboriginal history is often considered as separate to, and primarily preceding European settlement, but here the agency of the Aboriginal people is included in the story of the settlement of the Port Phillip District. The actions of their 'cowardly' assigned convict-class servants were often 'written out' by the free settlers. The tropes of the 'cowardly servants' and the 'naked savages' are illustrated by the clashes between the Faithfull brothers and their servants and Aboriginal warriors near Benalla. After firing on Aborigines stealing cattle, what was presumably a revenge attack occurred in which eight 'cowardly' servants and one Aborigine were killed. Some months later George Faithfull and two servants, all mounted on horses were attacked by 'some hundreds of painted warriors' and over the next six hours 60 rounds were fired, and according to George Faithfull, "I trust and believe that many of the bravest of the savage warriors bit the dust". Violence against the 'savages' was sometimes described disingenuously to avoid prosecution for murder.

There were great differences between the free settlers, their servants, government officials and the humanitarians, whose interests in the District were frequently opposed. The settlers wanted to drive the Aboriginal occupants away from their runs, and to destroy them if necessary, while the protectors considered the Aboriginal people as British subjects requiring care and protection. There was also friction between the settlers and the government officials sent down from the Middle District to keep order.

This is a scholarly book with an impressive bibliography and extensive chapter endnotes (in excess of 100 in several chapters) and is recommended reading for anyone with an interest in the early European settlement of The Port Phillip District.

CHURCH NOTICE

This notice can now be found in French churches: its message is perhaps relevant to our Monthly Lunchtime Talks

En entrant dans cette église, il est possible que vous entendiez l'appel de Dieu. Par contre, il n'est pas susceptible de vous contacter par téléphone. Merci d'avoir éteint votre téléphone. Si vous souhaitez parler à Dieu, entrez, choisissez un endroit tranquille et parle lui. Si vous souhaitez le voir, envoyez-lui un SMS en conduisant.

Translation:

It is possible that on entering this church, you may hear the Call of God. On the other hand, it is not likely that he will contact you by phone. Thank you for turning off your phone. If you would like to talk to God, come in, choose a quiet place, and talk to him. If you would like to see him, send him a text while driving.

Completed Internship

Michael Hili, who has recently completed an internship with RUSIV in conjunction with RMIT University reports:

"As of June 2019, I have completed an Honours thesis on the topic, 'Police Building Alongside Military Intervention.' The project aims to analyse the division of labour between foreign police and military personnel in the training of police forces in conflict zones. It pursues a hypothesis that there has been an over – involvement of military units in the orchestration and formulation of police training programs, which has led to highly militarised police units incapable of integrating into local justice systems.

The research focused on a case study of the Australian capacity building program for the Afghan National Police Force (ANP) from 2007 – 2014. Specifically, it analyses the contributions from both the AFP and the ADF in terms of their effectiveness and prudence according to security reform theory and norms."

A copy of his thesis has been added to our Library.

Library Notes:

Your library has just received a further 6 boxes of books from the estate of the late Phil White OAM through the kind offices of Tony Cutroni. Phil was a Vietnam veteran who served with the 8th Field Ambulance in Vietnam and was later much involved with the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia. This collection is heavily weighted towards the Vietnam War and also, more generally, Special Forces.

Thanks to volunteer Kathryn Williamson, ably assisted by Daniel Gluer, our map and poster collection is now sensibly sorted and stored in our two map cabinets. They have also recorded all the relevant information about each item and this is now ready to be entered in the catalogue. Well done!

A new intern, Jasmine Latimer, has joined our ranks. Jasmine attends RMIT University and her studies focus on Terrorism and Bioterrorism. Our Intern programme is proving very successful, the Interns have access to our comprehensive library, they learn new skills (cataloguing etc.) and under the guidance of their university supervisors they produce reports and papers for review and publication. We benefit from their papers both as an addition to our library and for publication in the magazine. Yes, we also use them as a source of manual labour!

We have recently received a donation of posters and displays from Vic Leigh of the Royal Air Force Association (Melbourne Branch) these include a large multi-faceted Battle of Britain poster with the photographs of four pilots superimposed. These pilots signed the photographs. In addition he donated an attractive framed display of RAF Squadron badges printed on cigarette cards. This display now hangs on our wall.

Brian Surtees
Honorary Librarian

New Acquisitions (since March 2019)

Books reviewed in this *Newsletter* have not been included

Title	Author	Subject
<i>The Battle of The Lys April 1918</i>	Colin Matthey	
<i>The Hell Pits of Sendryu</i>	Jim Brigginsshaw	A POW story of survival on the Death Railway and Nagasaki
<i>Highlands to Deserts:</i>	Michael Tyquin	The history of 19th Chief Engineer Works 1962 - 2017
<i>The First World War</i>	Kate Darian-Smith and James Waghorne (Eds)	Universities and the professions in Australia 1914-1939
<i>Purple Patch</i>	Darren Prickett	<i>History of the Third Field Company Engineers in World War One</i>

The following books have not been reviewed:

<i>The British Shell Shortage of the First World War</i>	Phillip Harding	
<i>The Complete George Cross</i>	Kevin Brazier	A full chronological record of all GC holders.
<i>Sharing the Secret</i>	Nick van der Bilj	A history of the Intelligence Corps 1914-2010.
<i>With the Twenty-Ninth Division in Gallipoli</i>	Rev O Creighton	
<i>Hamilton and Gallipoli</i>	Evan McGilvray	British command in an age of military transformation.
<i>The Nek</i>	Peter Burness	A Gallipoli tragedy
<i>Tasmania's War Record 1914 – 1918</i>	L Broinowski	
<i>Egypt and Palestine Campaigns</i>	A Kearsey	Strategy and tactics of the campaigns with details of the 1917-18 operations illustrating the principles of war.
<i>The Kaiser's Pirates</i>	Nick Hewitt	Hunting Germany's raiding cruisers 1914-15
<i>Australia's Few and the Battle of Britain</i>	Kristen Alexander	

