



Royal United Services Institute
of Victoria Inc.

Promoting National Security and Defence

A Constitutional Body of the Royal United Services Institute of Australia

Patron: The Honourable Alex Chernov AC QC
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Victoria Barracks
Ground Floor 'H' Block
256-310 St Kilda Road
Southbank, Victoria 3006

Phone: (03) 9282 5918

Fax: (03) 9282 5857

Email: rusi.vic@defence.gov.au

ABN 46 648 764 477

RUSI VIC NEWSLETTER

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LUNCHTIME ADDRESS

Defence Plaza – 661 Bourke Street
1200 – Auditorium One

Thursday 25 September

Professor Marilyn Lake

University of Melbourne

The Militarisation of Australian History

Professor Marilyn Lake was elected Fellow of the Academy of Humanities of Australia in 1995; and Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences of Australia in 1999. She is currently President of the Australian Historical Association.

Marilyn has published widely on the impact of war on Australian society. The *Limits of Hope: Soldier Settlement in Victoria 1915-38* won the Harbison-Higinbotham prize and was short-listed for the Age Book of the Year in 1987. Other books include her biography *FAITH: Faith Bandler Gentle Activist* which won the HREOC award for non-fiction in 2002; *Creating a Nation* written with Patricia Grimshaw, Ann McGrath and Marian Quartly which also won the HREOC prize for non-fiction in 1994, while *Drawing the Global Colour Line: White Men's Countries and the Question of Racial Equality* won the Prime Minister's prize for non-fiction in 2009.

Marilyn is also the co-author of "*What's Wrong with ANZAC? The Militarisation of Australian History*" published by NewSouth in 2010; whose blurb states:

"In recent years Anzac – an idea as much as an actual army corps – has become the dominant force within Australian history, overshadowing everything else.

The commemoration of Anzac Day is bigger than ever, while Remembrance Day, VE Day, VP Day and other military anniversaries grow in significance each year. Pilgrimages to Gallipoli, the Somme and Kokoda are commonplace and popular military history dominates the bestseller lists. Anzac has seemingly become a sacred, untouchable element of the nation. In this brave and controversial book, some of Australia's leading historians dare to criticise Anzac. They show that the Anzac obsession distorts the rest of Australia's history."

Time: Address 12.00 pm to 1.00 pm,
Coffee and Tea from 11.30 am

Entrance fee: \$10.00

For security reasons please advise the Office, of your attendance by email to martin.holme@defence.gov.au or phone 9282 5918 by 5pm Tuesday 23 September. These names are provided to Security to issue Access Passes. If your name is not on the list you will experience a delay in gaining access.

Remember to bring a photo ID with you.

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September Newsletter

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

Cyberlinks

RUSI AUST (inc Victoria)	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
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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

From The President:

Commander Warren Kemp RFD, RANR



The lunchtime address given by Colonel Richard Iron, CMG, OBE, on 'The Changing Character of War' was, as expected, most interesting and quite challenging for our military planners of the future. If you were unable to attend this important occasion, his presentation was recorded and is now available for members in the RUSI library. We make every effort to obtain or record our monthly addresses, with approval of the speaker, to add to our collection as a lasting record of our activities and for future reference and research. It was appropriate that we should hear such a distinguished speaker as Colonel Iron, a Visiting Fellow at Oxford University, on the day following the anniversary of our Foundation Day on 2nd June, 1890.

A signal event occurred on Thursday, 31st July with the graduation of our Intern, Kirill Kovalenko, who was admitted to the degree of Master of International Relations at the University of Melbourne. We congratulate him on his achievement of BA, MIR (Melb) and wish him well in his future career, but hope that his membership of RUSI Victoria and contributions to our Institute will continue in the future.

I was pleased to attend our Geelong Branch on Monday, 16th June as your representative at their Annual Dinner, held at the Geelong Club, and was invited to respond to the toast to the Branch with a short resume of the events of the past year and our proposed developments in the future. This was well received by the members present and, as usual, I was made to feel most welcome.

We have had three other excellent monthly addresses arranged by our hard-working Councillor, Colonel Marcus Fielding, that were very well received. In June, Tom Trumble spoke about the allied withdrawal from Timor in 1943 and the difficulties encountered by his grandfather who led the last RAAF contingent to leave, as he has documented so well in his recent book on this subject. The Executive Officer of HMAS Cerberus, Commander Michael Oborn RAN, spoke in July and gave a thoughtful presentation about combined operations and the future of the RAN. This was followed in August by Dr David Wright-Neville's presentation about terrorism and the threat to Australia. He gave an historical account of the asymmetric attacks that have affected this country and the likelihood of future attacks, noting that the

perpetrators keep changing their methods to avoid repeating the same tactics on each occasion.

I have represented RUSI Victoria on three occasions, at the Annual Conference of the RSL Victorian Branch on 2nd July, at the Annual Monash Memorial Service at Parliament House on 1st August, and lastly at the commemoration of the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force departure to New Britain on 17th August. This event in 1914 marked the entry of Australia to the Great War and the first action by Australian Forces at Biti Paka, when the German Naval Wireless Station was captured and our first casualties were suffered. The commemoration was held at Flinders Street Station in the presence of the Hon Ted Baillieu, MLA, Commander Michael Oborn, and a Naval Guard and Band from HMAS Cerberus, followed by embarkation in a vintage steam train for transport to Bell Station and the laying of a wreath at the Darebin RSL Memorial.

On a much happier note, during 'Rare Book Week' our vice president, Major General Mike O'Brien gave a very good presentation about RUSI Victoria and the rare books held in our collection. This was attended by several of our councillors and members, who helped to swell the numbers from the Book Lovers Society and the general public. The audience was most interested to hear about us and we greatly appreciated the publicity that he generated.

In conclusion, RUSI was invited to participate in a series of public meetings around the country with the Expert Committee advising the Government on the forthcoming 2015 Defence White Paper. I would like to thank those members of RUSI Victoria who attended our three preliminary meetings and who provided their thoughts in written submissions that we passed on to the Expert Committee. The public meeting in Melbourne was held on 5th August, under the chairmanship of Rear Admiral James Goldrick, former National Vice President of RUSI Australia. Subsequently, he sent a message to me expressing the appreciation of the Committee and his thanks for the work and efforts of RUSI Victoria.

Yours Aye,
Warren

From The Treasurer

A significant number of our members are now paying their subscriptions etc by Electronic Funds Transfer. In order that the identity of the originator of each payment be accurately established it is essential that members clearly state particularly their surname on their transmittal. On the 16 June 2014 we received an EFT payment identified on our bank statement as coming from a "Mrs Vivien Franc". If any member recognises this name, would they please contact the Secretary or the Treasurer so that the payment can be correctly recorded.

If any member does not receive their current membership card within a reasonable period after paying their subscription, please let the Secretary know.

From The Secretary

Captain Martin Holme

I have returned intact from an exhilarating and sometimes exhausting three weeks holiday in Indonesia – an occasionally rugged exploration of parts of Northern Sumatra and time in Jakarta, immediately after the Presidential Election.

The President has commented on the four excellent Lunchtime Address since the last Newsletter. With regard to the Richard Iron presentation, I have a hard copy of his Address which I can mail out to anyone interested. It is, however, embargoed by email.

The August Speaker, as already advertised, will be Professor Marilyn Lake whose topic, *The Militarisation of Australian History*. It will be a most interesting and thought provoking presentation. It should be noted that RUSI does not necessarily endorse the views of its speakers.

Looking further ahead, please note that the Annual General Meeting will precede the 30 October Address when Group Captain Carl Schiller will talk on *Plan Suakin Update*.

The Annual Luncheon will be on Tuesday 18 November at the Angliss Restaurant when your Secretary may be persuaded to talk on *BAOR Wars*, some light-hearted reflections on serving in Germany in the 1960s.

The Christmas Drinks will be on Tuesday 9 December – an ideal opportunity to come and visit our splendid Library and sample some good cheer!

Future Program Dates

25 September Lunchtime Address at Defence Plaza –
Professor Marilyn Lake,

The Militarisation of Australian History

30 October AGM at Defence Plaza –
followed by GPCAPT Carl Schiller OAM
CSM

Plan Suakin Update*
(Whole of ADF Workforce Structure)

18 November Annual Luncheon – Angliss Restaurant -
CAPT Martin Holme

BAOR Wars

27 November Lunchtime Address at Defence Plaza –
LTCOL (USMC Rtd) Dan Mori

Drones and Targeted Killing

9 December Christmas Drinks

Vale

We record with deep regret the passing of:

Mr J. Cohen OAM JP
MAJ J.W. Connal AM
CAPT M.A. Gregson ED
BRIG A. McGalliard
Mr R.H.R. Relf
LTCDR H.W. Webb

New Members

Since our last issue, we welcome the following new Members:

LTCOL M.R. Buckridge
Dr J. Burdon
Mr M. Douglas
Mrs G. Duncan
Mr J.J. Frewen
Mr K. Kovalenko
CMDR T. Makings
WGCDR D.C. Moore RFD
Mr I. W. Urquhart

Geelong Branch

The Branch Annual General Meeting was recently held and Mr Jon Metricas was elected President for the 2014-2015 year. Jon replaced the outgoing President, MAJ Ian Barnes OAM, RFD, ED who has retired following many years of sterling service, and inspiration, to the Geelong Branch. Ian is not lost altogether to the Branch as he remains the elected Vice President.

The new governance year got off to the now traditional slow start in August with many members away from the Geelong area seeking warmer climatic conditions.

Events will move forward during September with Ladies Night being held on Monday 15 September, with CMDR Helen Trigg ANC as the guest speaker, then on 20 October we are looking forward to having a speaker on the 'LAND 400 Project', which should the Geelong bid be successful will do so much for the economy and future well-being of the area.

On 17 November, our dinner speaker will be CAPT Stephen Bowater OAM, Senior Naval Officer – Victoria and Commanding Officer HMAS CERBERUS.

Details for all Branch activities is available from either MAJ Ian Barnes or Mrs Margaret Barnes on 03 5243 9569.

Members from Melbourne are most welcome at the Geelong Branch functions.

* *Suakin* – the Australian Army's First Battle Honour

Opinion - A New Port for Melbourne

Victoria only has three deep-water harbours: Portland, Port Phillip Bay and Westernport Bay.

The recent historical centenary of *the first shot* of the First World War from Fort Nepean; across the bows of the German cargo steamer *SS Pfalz* reflects the military imperative of controlling the entrance to Port Phillip Bay.

Following controversial dredging by the Dutch ship *Queen of the Netherlands* in 2008, key shipping channels in Port Phillip Bay have been deepened to 14m, and are able to accommodate Post-Panamax ships carrying up to 8,000 containers.

With a recovery in the world economy even larger ships are likely to be common in the future. Currently the world's largest container ships are classed Ultra-Large Container Vessels (18,000 containers) and have a draft of 15.5 metres or greater. For example, *The Marco Polo* launched in November 2012 carries 16,000 containers and is 396m long.

A longer and broader view is relevant to the debate on the siting of new container port capacity for Melbourne. This could be either the Port of Hastings in Westernport, or the proposed Port of Bay-West, sited between Werribee and Avalon.



The Port of Melbourne, the Port of Geelong and the proposed Port of Bay-West are all on Port Phillip Bay which has one entry channel through the heads. Should a super-sized ship experience difficulties at the entrance there is a possibility that all three ports could be put out of action for some time with serious commercial consequences.

Whatever the other advantages and disadvantages of the Port of Hastings, it offers redundancy should the entry channel to Port Phillip Bay channel be unavailable for any reason.

While our strategic outlook is currently benign, should we be threatened in the future, a suitable military objective for an adversary could be to restrict heavy maritime traffic through the heads. A major blow to the Victorian and Australian economy could be inflicted by sinking a super-sized ship in the entrance to Port Phillip Bay. This would not be easy, but quite feasible to achieve with an attack by submarine, aircraft, cruise missile or special-forces.

This vulnerability can be removed if both Port Phillip and Westernport have container facilities.

The strategic choice of where to locate new container port capacity for Melbourne is the Port of Hastings.

Mike Rawlinson



Dr David Wright-Neville, addresses the Institute in August on *Terrorism and the Threat to Australia*



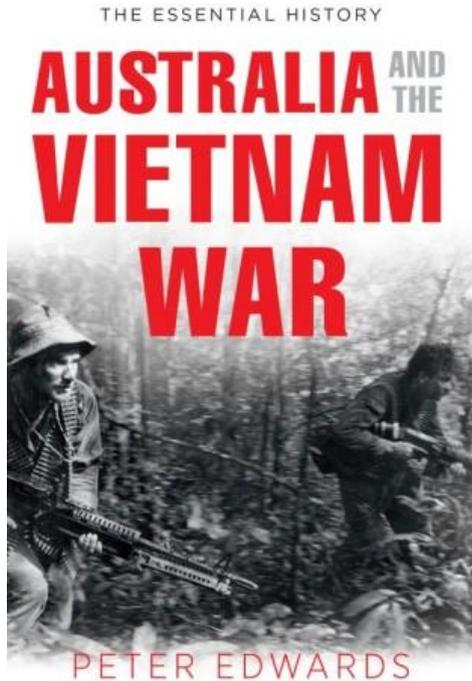
Our June Speaker, Tom Trumble, signs copies of his book *Rescue at 2100 Hours*

Book Review

Peter Edwards

Australia and the Vietnam War

Australian War Memorial Press, 2014



The author of *Australia and the Vietnam War*, Peter Edwards remarked at a recent RUSI Victoria seminar that his publisher permitted him to name his new book anything he liked as long as it contained the words "Australia", "Vietnam" and "War". This anecdote goes some way in providing a glimpse into the essence of the book, which is very much an extensive, yet at the same time sufficiently focused, narrative of the conflict in Southeast Asia from the Australian perspective. Its authoritative and condensed nature stems from the fact that it is, in effect, a book which is a derivative of the extensive, multi-volume *Official History of Australia's Involvement in Southeast Asian Conflicts* for which Edwards has been the Official Historian and general editor.

In the author's own words, *Australia and the Vietnam War* is aimed to be a much more available and accessible version of the voluminous official history. Indeed, it achieves that aim, presenting a very readable, broad brushstroke narrative. It remains firmly tethered to the intricacies of detail to be found in an official history, however, it does not allow them to overwhelm the reader or stymie the pacing of the book.

Even within the popular Australian imagination, the Southeast Asian conflict remains, to some extent, American war which is inevitable given the larger Cold War context. However, as *Australia and the Vietnam War* emphasizes, it is impossible to have a grand narrative which taps into some essential character of the history, for the simple fact that each of the participants is driven by its own unique situations, interests and imperatives which can remain veiled and obscure without determined, penetrating study and insight. Peter Edwards does a commendable job in what can ultimately be seen as a "recontextualisation", where events take on different and unique significance once they are torn away from the conventional (American) narrative to provide an interpretation which accounts for the idiosyncrasies of the Australian

experience. This is especially the case, given the questions that have once again arisen from Australia's recent wars.

Edwards makes the case that "The strategic concerns, diplomatic style and operational methods of a global superpower located in the northern hemisphere were markedly different from those of a middle-sized regional power, adjacent to Southeast Asia."

Regarding the "strategic concerns", he outlines the usual geopolitical dynamics, including the tensions of decolonization and the problematic assumptions of the "domino theory". More specifically to Australia, Edwards illuminates the strategic shift which was caused by the perceived failure of forward defence and expeditionary force deployment. Underpinning all this, there is a running commentary on the developments within the Australian political sphere, including the caprices of political personalities and the intrigues of party politics as well as social and demographic forces, such as the politics of the post-war middle class and the development of a counter-culture. All of this echoes outwards in a butterfly-effect, into Vietnam policy, the process of which is traced by Edwards. While your average reader may be all too familiar with these developments as they occurred in the US, the Australian microcosm is still a fascinating and under-represented story.

Covering the aforementioned "diplomatic style", *Australia and the Vietnam War* begins with an overview with the Malayan emergency and then outlines the particular Australian situation of striking a balance between its traditional ally, the UK, and its new-found one, the US, the interests of whom in Southeast Asia do not necessarily always converge. From this follows the frustrating push by Australian leadership to be included in top-level coalition planning and the subsequent fears of penetration and infiltration by both communist agents as well as the CIA.

Edwards' framing of the conflict is nuanced and objective, always remaining centred on the Australian perspective and contextualising within greater regional developments and tensions, stemming from the end of World War II and affecting world affairs even to this day. It is far broader and greater than a mere Gulf of Tonkin -> Fall of Saigon slice of bombastic military history.

A significant part of the book, of course, is devoted to the "operational methods", wherein Edwards maps Australia's unique history of jungle warfare experience and how that transferred to the small-unit tactics of operations and miscalculations in Vietnam. Furthermore, the Australian operations, troop composition and command style are never presented in a vacuum. The narrative is continuously jumping from highlighting active developments to analyzing its effect on Austro-American relations to reactions on the home front. However, this is done in such a way which prevents the style of the book from being disjointed or jarring. It is also a narrative which is orientated on the present, coming back to present the history in light of recent Australian political developments and military commitments.

Given that it is beyond the capacity of even the most dedicated reader to go through the many volumes of the official Australian Histories, this highly honed, vivid yet authoritative book is what we have needed. Far from being merely a military history, it is also a political, social and cultural history which is a pleasure to read.

Kirill Kovalenko

Letter written by

Lieutenant Colonel Murray Bouchier

the Leader of the Charge of the

Light Horse at Beersheba

OUR Library has been given a valuable letter written by the officer who led the charge of the Light Horse at Beersheba in the First World War. It is accompanied by his copy of *The Australian Imperial Force in Sinai and Palestine 1914-1918*, Volume VIII of the Official History of the War of 1914-1918.

Through the generosity of Mr Ken Duxbury we are now the custodians of the five-page letter written by the then Lieutenant Colonel Murray William James Bouchier (1881-1937). Commanding the 4th Light Horse Regiment, he made the crucial final assault on Beersheba. On 31 October 1917 he led his men, many of them from his own district, at full gallop over two miles into Turkish entrenchments and on for a further two miles (3.2 km) into Beersheba to capture vital wells before the Turks could destroy them. Lacking sabres, the regiment used bayonets held in their hands as shock weapons. For this exploit he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order and earned the sobriquet 'Bouchier of Beersheba'



The letter reads:

Syria
20-11-18

My Dear Uncle,
Well the war is over at last and we are all jolly pleased I can assure you. What did you think of our victory over the Turks? For endurance, speed, and fighting our successes out here are considered to be the greatest cavalry triumph in history - Allenby did what Napoleon could not do. We were marching and fighting for 10 days continuously & during that short period our horses carried us over 400 miles which is a record for any cavalry, and in addition to this the horses in some instances had as much as 18 stone up, as well as living on Army rations. The only words I can use was that the whole thing was magnificent. All our plans

were masterpieces, and were brilliantly executed, otherwise Allenby could not have captured 80,000 Turks & Germans with all their Army rolling stock, mountains of machine guns, stores etc as he did cleverly. The old 4th covered themselves in glory. During these operations I commanded two Regiments, the 12th Light Horse New South Wales under Lt Col Cameron, DSO and the 4th L.H. under Major Rankin, DSO. These two Regiments were designated "Bouchier's Force" and we were known as that throughout the operations culminating in the fall of Damascus when both regiments rejoined the Brigade. I may say that the two Regiments did magnificent work, both the Commanding Officers winning their DSOs. I had the honour of being specially congratulated by the Divisional Commander on the work of the Force so you will see I tried to keep my end up.

I often see Norman. He was away in hospital for a while but is quite fit again and back with his regiment.

We are camped quite close to the great mountains of LEBANON which rise to a height of 10,500 feet. The crest line of this great range is covered with many feet of snow.

Col Cameron and I left here about a week ago on a bear shooting expedition on the LEBANONS. There are wolves, brown bears and leopards on these hills so you can imagine the spirit is fairly exciting. We were away three days. Leaving by motor car we travelled by a good road we zigzagged up 4905 feet to the village of BESHERRI. This is the terminus of the road. We were the first two British officers these people had seen. They all rushed round us and frantically proclaimed us as deliverers of their race. We had a tremendous feed, had about 15 girls waiting on us. These girls were chiefly Syrians, Greeks and Arabs and some were jolly good looking too, especially the former. We then discovered that we had set out bear shooting & thought about making a start, but were informed that all the big game were on the other side of the mountains & would take about 5 days to do it properly, so Cameron and I held a council of war with about 200 villagers around as to our next course. So we immediately decided to visit the last forest swarming of the famous cedars of LEBANON which was only two miles from the villages (but these two miles were nearly straight up). The cedars are 6315 feet about above sea level. After slipping and sliding (& swearing I was going to say) we reached the top which proved to be a great plateau, the climb taking 3 hours. A Beautiful forest of about 10 acres is all that is left of those famous forests. Some of these old giants measure about 10 feet in diameter and so thick is their foliage that it is quite impossible in some places to see the sun. I cut a walking stick off an old monster which is estimated to have been an old tree at the birth of Christ. There is no word to describe the magnificent scenery from the foothills to the house of old cedars 4,000 feet up; above lay the great snow line, from which many waterfalls danced in the sunshine and rushing mountain torrents covered with snow frothe tore their way into the ravines below.

Continued Page Eight

Letter from Beersheba continued :

The road to BESHERRI was specially made for people to visit the cedars and is a most extraordinary road as in many places it is a mere cutting around the contours of the hills and winds like a corkscrew. The car on some occasions was running along a ledge within a few feet of a precipice from 3000 to 4000 feet deep. We had a good driver but on one or two occasions we advised him to hug the wall.

In a few days we are visiting the great Roman ruins of BAALBEK which are about 50 miles E of BEIRUT.

Col Cameron I mentioned is a great cobbler of mine, he is a station owner on the upper Hunter in N.S.W.

Well, you will be getting tired of all this, Please give my love to Aunt Jack and the girls (xxx) these are for coppertop.

I am enclosing a few leaves of the LEBNON cedars which I picked up during my visit to the hills.

With love
Yours affectionate nephew
Bill

Murray Bouchier later became a brigadier. He was elected to the Victorian Parliament and held ministerial portfolios becoming Deputy Premier for a time. His great enthusiasm was the welfare of returned soldiers. He was posthumously knighted.

A full biography of Brigadier Bouchier is available on-line at the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* site.

Mike O'Brien

Book Review

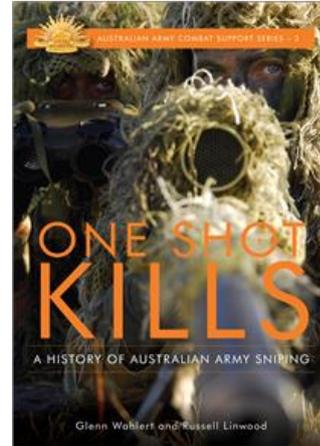
Glenn Wahler, Russell Linwood

One Shot Kills **A History of Australian Army Sniping**

Big Sky Publishing, June 2014
Paperback 220 pages Bibliography and Index
RRP \$19.99

To say that sniping has come a long way since muzzle-loaded balls rattled down rifle barrels in the American Civil War is a massive understatement. Whilst *One Shot Kills* is a history of Australian Army sniping, it takes a global look at the development of sniping as a military art during the last 150 years both from the technological and tactical points of view. The initial concept that snipers could be sourced from 'country lads who were marksmen' has undergone a major transformation in the last four decades; marksmanship is just one of at least nine attributes required for a serviceman to be a successful sniper.

Glenn Wahler, a retired military marksman, has been extremely thorough in his treatment of the subject. He has used Russell Linwood, who resurrected formal Army sniper training in 1976 and was runner-up in the 1991 World Marksmanship Championship, as his major technical advisor. As one would expect, this work is textbook in style, and is most readable if tackled in manageable portions (namely, by the major campaigns/conflicts Australian troops have been involved in).



The text is generously enhanced by photographs of all the major weapons used by snipers, Australia's best-known snipers since Gallipoli and their opposing numbers, key military personnel, as well as art works of enemy snipers and their hides. A key feature is a number of especially identifiable pages devoted to the development, characteristics and history of usage of major rifles used by snipers, optical sights and key snipers - all greatly augmenting the general text. Facsimiles of snipers' target notes add to the historical impact of this work.

The tactical aspects of sniping have been very thoroughly examined. Both those used by our own snipers and the measures they developed to counteract their opposite numbers are described in detail. Individual accounts by historians such as C E W Bean and well-known author Ion Idriess (a trooper in the 5th Light Horse) as well as citations for outstanding and heroic service including the exploits of Corporal Bob Roberts-Smith, VC, MG makes us very conscious that snipers are special soldiers and not just a part of the overall military machine.

One point that is made from the outset is 'history tells us we learn nothing from history!' At the commencement of each of Australia's major campaigns there was a scramble to find snipers, weapons and sights to take their place on the battlefield because sniping 'fell off the radar' as soon as a campaign concluded. The agony of 're-inventing the wheel' sadly resulted in technological advances often reaching our snipers just in the final phases of the conflict.

Neville Taylor

Book Review

Ian Morris

WAR! What Is It Good For? The Role of Conflict in Civilization, From Primates to Robots.

Profile Books Ltd, London. 2014

'*WAR: What Is It Good For?*' is a study of war, rape, pillage, slaughter and starvation. Ian Morris examines the role of conflict in civilization from primates (chimpanzees, bonobos and gorillas) to robots.

Some passages are grisly (the scalping practices of the Scythians, what the people of Mons did when they had no criminals of their own to string up, and the fate of the soldiers known as Towton 25 and 32, AD 1461) so the reader might want to skip over these.

Ian Morris is Professor of Classics and a Fellow of the Archaeology Centre at Stanford University. He argued that productive war had been the motor that made the world safer and richer by creating Leviathans (*i.e.* large or strong undivided governments) that in turn created bigger societies, pacified them internally and allowed economies to grow.

He introduces us to the great personalities of civilization. We read about Thomas Hobbes, the 17th century English philosopher, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau, the 18th century Geneva-born philosopher, but probably more French than Swiss. We meet the Greek historians Herodotus and Thucydides and then Alexander the Great. We meet the Romans, Pompey, Cicero, Horace, Caesar, Tacitus, Pliny and Marcus Aurelius. From more recent times, Carl von Clausewitz, Arnold Toynbee, Adam Smith, Thomas Paine, Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, Immanuel Kant and Napoleon also get a mention.

The reader is told how men have tried to kill each other over almost anything that can be imagined. Morris relates how the beautiful Helen (married to Menelaus) was carried off to Troy by Paris. This led to the expedition and subsequent destruction of Troy (1200 BC). The War of Jenkin's Ear (AD1739) is also given as an example. Morris takes a bold approach arguing that the Five Hundred Years' War (1415-1914) was the most productive war the world had seen, creating the biggest, safest and most prosperous world system. Morris writes that "we kill because the grim logic of the game of death rewards it". He argues, like the Romans, that the legacy of war is peace.

Morris reviews the Great War (of attrition), describing the use of chlorine gas, the 'land iron-clads', the aeroplane and the economics of war. Morris calculated that Germany and its allies were far more efficient in producing corpses than Britain, France, Russia and the US.

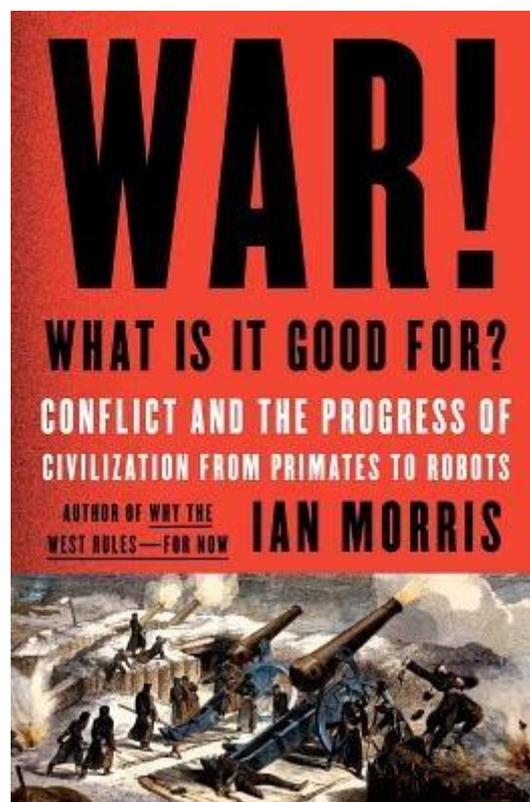
To illustrate, the allies spent \$36,485.48 for every corpse they produced while the Germans and their allies could do the job more efficiently for only \$11,344.77 per corpse.

Morris writes that the Second World War was the most destructive war ever fought, but in terms of lives lost, there were fifty to a hundred million deaths in the Great War as opposed to only fifteen million deaths in the Second World War. The atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki with the deaths of more than 150,000 people, and the after effects of the explosion of "a fairly standard hydrogen bomb" are described in graphic detail.

One issue which Australia has to resolve is to make the choice between its primary economic partner (China) and its primary security partner (the United States). Morris is firmly of the view that the United States must maintain its military spending and readiness at levels that make it a credible Leviathan and so preserve the global order. Pax Britannica was followed by Pax Americana to be followed by Pax Technologica. In the words of the Romans *si vis pacem para bellum* (If you want peace prepare for war).

This book is wide ranging and multi-disciplinary; if the reader is looking for a riveting and fascinating and informative read about the classics or political science or sociology or history or climate change or even the social life of chimpanzees and gorillas then this is the book.

Michael Small

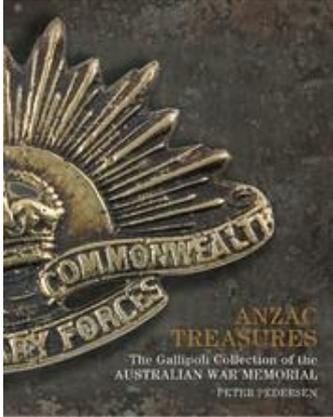


Book Review

Peter Petersen

Anzac Treasures: the Gallipoli Collection of the Australian War Memorial,

Murdoch Books, Crows Nest NSW, 2014 (RRP \$69.99)



Peter Pedersen has written much about the First World War from a broad Australian perspective. His *Monash as a Military Commander* (1985) remains the best analysis of the performance of Australia's senior leader in that war and his more recent *The Anzacs: Gallipoli to the Western Front* (2007) deserves much greater attention from readers and scholars than it seems to have attracted. His collaboration with Chris Roberts in *Anzacs on the Western Front: the Australian War Memorial Battlefield Guide* (2012) is a model of its type. Pedersen has rightly adopted the mantle as one of the nation's most authoritative military historians.

Australians have a rich mine of gold-bearing material to mine for the Great War. We have easy on-line access to the records of those who served at the National Archives of Australia (NAA). The digitization of so many newspapers of the period by the National Library of Australia in its aptly named *Trove* Internet site provides depth to NAA's material. State (and other) libraries have avidly collected soldiers' and sailors' diaries, letters & other written material for over half a century. Australians (like New Zealanders) prefer to write unit histories at the unit level rather than the regimental or divisional. In common with our rich Official History of the war, this approach enables the ordinary soldier to be seen and understood at least as much as his commanders and often more so. Our resources – and the list above is far from exhaustive – are personal and intimate. They cover the experiences of the fighting participants – men and women – of those at home, of the underlying politics and religious fervors. We are fortunate indeed to have all these assets so readily at hand.

In this period of the centenary of the Great War we have been already assailed by a large number of books treating the conflict anew, accompanied by an almost equal number of reprints from the past. Many of these histories have particular merit. This book has the great advantage of being able to draw from an excellent illustrative resource base.

That admirable institution, the Australian War Memorial, remains unique in its conception and its collection. Since the time of C.E.W. Bean's mission to Gallipoli (and indeed, before) it has amassed a remarkable collection related to the Gallipoli Campaign. Like any good museum, only a portion of the collection is on view. Pedersen's book takes many objects in the collection to tell the Gallipoli story. He starts at the enlistment of the Australian Imperial Force and its training in Australia and Egypt. He speaks of the great convoy that took it to war. He follows the planning of the campaign, the landing, the ensuing stalemate, the largely failed August offensive and the paradoxical triumph of the withdrawal. His tools include a lucid narrative, enriched by the remarkable photographic collection in the Memorial, the dioramas, the map collection, the diaries and letters, posters, bullet-scarred shovels, watches, art works, stills from movies, guns, lifeboats, sculptures and uniforms. In this context the diary of a private soldier is as prominent as that of Major General Bridges; the map of an anonymous engineer surveyor as important as that of Liman von Sanders. Though primary an Australian account, the role of the New Zealanders, British and the French troops receives balanced mention.

This book is well produced and edited. The use of several fold-out pages enhances the objects portrayed. It is well documented and indexed. Considerable care has been taken to ensure that the objects and photographs have been reproduced at the best possible quality. The result is a beautifully designed and well-written book. It is *the* book that will convey the Australian story of Gallipoli to your grandchildren.

Our thanks are extended to the publisher for the RUSI of V Library's review copy.

Will there be an equivalent book on the Western Front?

M. P.J. O'Brien



President Warren Kemp thanks July Speaker CMDR Michael Oborn after his presentation on *The Future of the RAN*

A selection of surplus books is on display in the library. The books are in reasonable to good condition, and subjects cover a wide range of military history. Paperbacks are \$2 and hardbacks are either \$5 or \$10 depending on condition.

Paperbacks and \$5 hardbacks are listed below. Pamphlets (\$2) and Hardbacks (\$10) will be listed in the next newsletter. Collection or delivery of the books would be by means most convenient to the purchaser.

Brian Surtees

TITLE – Paperbacks Price \$2

Author

Waterloo: A Near Run Thing	David Howarth
The Destruction of Lord Raglan: A Tragedy of the Crimean War	Christopher Hibbert
The First Day of the Somme 1 July 1916	Martin Middlebrook
The Price of Glory: Verdun 1916	Alistair Horne
Death of an Army	Anthony Farrar-Hockley
The Spanish Civil War	Hugh Thomas
Weary: The life of Sir Edward Dunlop	Sue Ebury
Corps Commander	Brian Horrocks
The Raiders: Desert Strike Force	Arthur Swinson
Knights of the Black Cross: Hitler's Panzerwaffe and its leaders	Bryan Perrett
The German Army and the Nazi Party 1933-1939	Robert J O'Neill
Soldier's Story	Omar N Bradley
I Remember Blamey	Norman Carlyon
The Desert Generals	Correlli Barnett
Dunkirk: The Necessary Myth	Nicholas Harman
The War Lords	AJP Taylor
Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust	Daniel J Goldenhagen
Korea Remembered: The RAN, ARA and RAAF in the Korean War 1950-53	Maurice Pears & Fred Kirkland
In Valiant Company: Diggers in Battle, Korea 1950-51	Ben O'Dowd
The Ravens: Pilots of the Secret War of Laos	Christopher Robbins
Standard Operating Procedure: A War Story (2 copies)	Philip Gourevitch & Errol Morris
Future Environmental Policy Trends to 2020: Impact of Ship design & Ops.	Glenn Kerr & Barry Snushall
It doesn't take a hero: Autobiography	H. Norman Schwarzkopf
War without honour (Vietnam)	Gerald L. Stone
The German Navy in World War two (Foreword by Karl Donitz)	Edward P. Von der Porten
Amiens 1918	Gregory Blaxland
The Guerrilla and how to fight him	U.S. Marine Corps
Abandon Ship: The sinking of the USS Indianapolis 29 th July 1945	Richard F. Newcomb
The new state of War and Peace: an international atlas	Michael Kidron & Dan Smith
The Six Day War	Randolph Churchill
Diary of the Sinai campaign 1956	Moshe Dayan
The Tiger Man of Vietnam (Barry Petersen)	Frank Walker
The saving of South Vietnam	Kenneth Granville
Arnhem Lift	Louis Hagen
The Desert Column: account of the Palestine and Sinai campaign	Ion L. Idriess
The making and breaking of the post-federation Australian army, 1901-09	Craig A.J. Stockings
The spirit of the Digger: then and now	Patrick Lindsay
1911 Preliminary moves: 2011 Chief of Army History Conference	Peter Dennis & Jeffrey Grey (Ed)
An Awkward Truth: The bombing of Darwin February 1942	Peter Grose
From past to future: the Australian experience of land/air operations	Jeffrey Grey & Peter Dennis (Ed)
The Burma Siam railway: the secret diary of Dr. Robert Hardie 1942-45	Robert Hardie
The Korean War 1950-53: A 50 year retrospective	Jeffrey Grey & Peter Dennis (Ed)
Malaya (Australian Army campaigns series – 5)	Brian Farrell & Garth Pratten
Stolen years: Australian prisoners of war	Dept. of Veterans' affairs
The Civil War: an illustrated history of the War Between the States (US)	Geoffrey C. Ward, Ric Burns & Ken Burns
The field of Waterloo: an illustrated companion to the people and places	Paul Davies
Defence review 2000: our future Defence Force	Dept. of Defence
Defence 2000: our future Defence Force	Dept. of Defence
The Australian Defence Force: Capability Fact Book June 2000 (2 copies)	Dept. of Defence
Australian Perspectives on Defence: Report of the Community Consultation team	Dept. of Defence
Australian Army in Profile 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002	Dept. of Defence
Moscow (1941)	Theodor Plievier
Stalingrad	Theodor Plievier
Hell and high fever (Rabaul)	David Selby
The Iron fist	Leo Kessler
The Sorrow of War	Bao Ninh
The Eagle and the Lotus	Cairns
Until a dead horse kicks you - Alec Griffiths 1900-95	Crack

TITLE – Paperbacks Price \$2 (cont'd)

Victory or defeat - armies in the aftermath of conflict
 Out in the cold-Australian involvement in the Korean War
 Defining Victory 1918
 The making and breaking of post federation Australian Army 1901-09
 1911 Preliminary moves
 Dr. Phillip Gareth Law
 In passing - Holland and Atkinson families
 Training Bulletin 22 - Electronic warfare
 The tyranny of dissonance -Australian strategic culture 1901-2005
 A man called Intrepid

TITLE Hardbacks Price \$5

Morale: A study of men and courage, Scottish Rifles-Neuve Chapelle 1915
 Fighting Words: Australian War Writing
 The Battle of the Marne
 The Road Past Mandalay: A personal narrative
 World War 1939-45
 The Six Years War
 The Last Battle: Berlin
 Guerrillas: A History and Analysis
 The South-West Pacific 1941-45
 Springboard to Victory (Imphal & Kohima)
 Kohima
 Unofficial History
 A short History of the Second World War
 Wavell: Scholar and Soldier
 Menzies and Churchill at War
 Ploesti: The Great Ground-air Battle of 1 August 1943
 The Gordon Bennett Story
 Alamein
 Decisive Battles of World War II: The German view
 Corps Commander
 The World at War
 The Long War: The Emergency in Malaya 1948-1960
 Soldier 'I' S.A.S.
 August 1914
 Insight on the Middle East War (1973 Yom Kippur)
 Operation Bernhard (Nazi plan to undermine Britain's economy with forged banknotes)
 I remember Blamey
 There goes a man: Biography of Sir Stanley G Savige
 The ordeal of power: A political memoir of the Eisenhower years
 The only way out: An infantryman's autobiography of N.W. Europe 1944-45
 With Lawrence in Arabia
 Digger: The story of the Australian Soldier
 The scourge of the Swastika: A short history of Nazi war crimes
 Guerrilla Warfare: From 1939 to the present day
 Tanks
 Abandon Ship: The sinking of the USS Indianapolis 29th July 1945
 The Tanks Vol.1: The history of the Royal Tank Regiment (1914-1939)
 The Royal New South Wales Lancers 1885-1960
 Australia in Palestine (published 1919)
 China-Burma-India: World War II
 Air Commando
 Behind Bamboo (POW in Japanese camps)
 Vietnam Inside story of Guerrilla War
 I remember Blamey

Gullet & Barrett (Ed)
 Don Moser (Time-Life)
 Serge Vaculik
 Rohan D Rivett
 Burchett
 N Carlyon

Author

Dennis/Grey
 Evans
 Dennis/Grey
 Stockings
 Dennis/Grey
 Toohill
 Holland
 Australian Army
 Evans
 Stevenson

Author

John Baynes
 Carl Harrison-Ford (Ed)
 Henri Isselin
 John Masters
 Peter Young
 Gavin Long
 Cornelius Ryan
 Arthur Campbell
 E.G. Keogh
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 William Slim
 Basil Collier
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 David Day
 James Dugan & Carroll Stewart
 Frank Legg
 C.E. Lucas Phillips
 Hans-Adolf Jacobsen & J Rohwer
 Brian Horrocks
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 Michael Paul Kennedy
 Alexander Solzhenitsyn
 Sunday Times
 Anthony Pirie
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 Robin Corbett
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 Richard F. Newcomb
 B.H. Liddell Hart
 P.V. Vernon (Ed)
 H S Gullet & Chas Barrett (Ed)

