



Australian
National
University

Legacies & Challenges for Australia's Military at War's End

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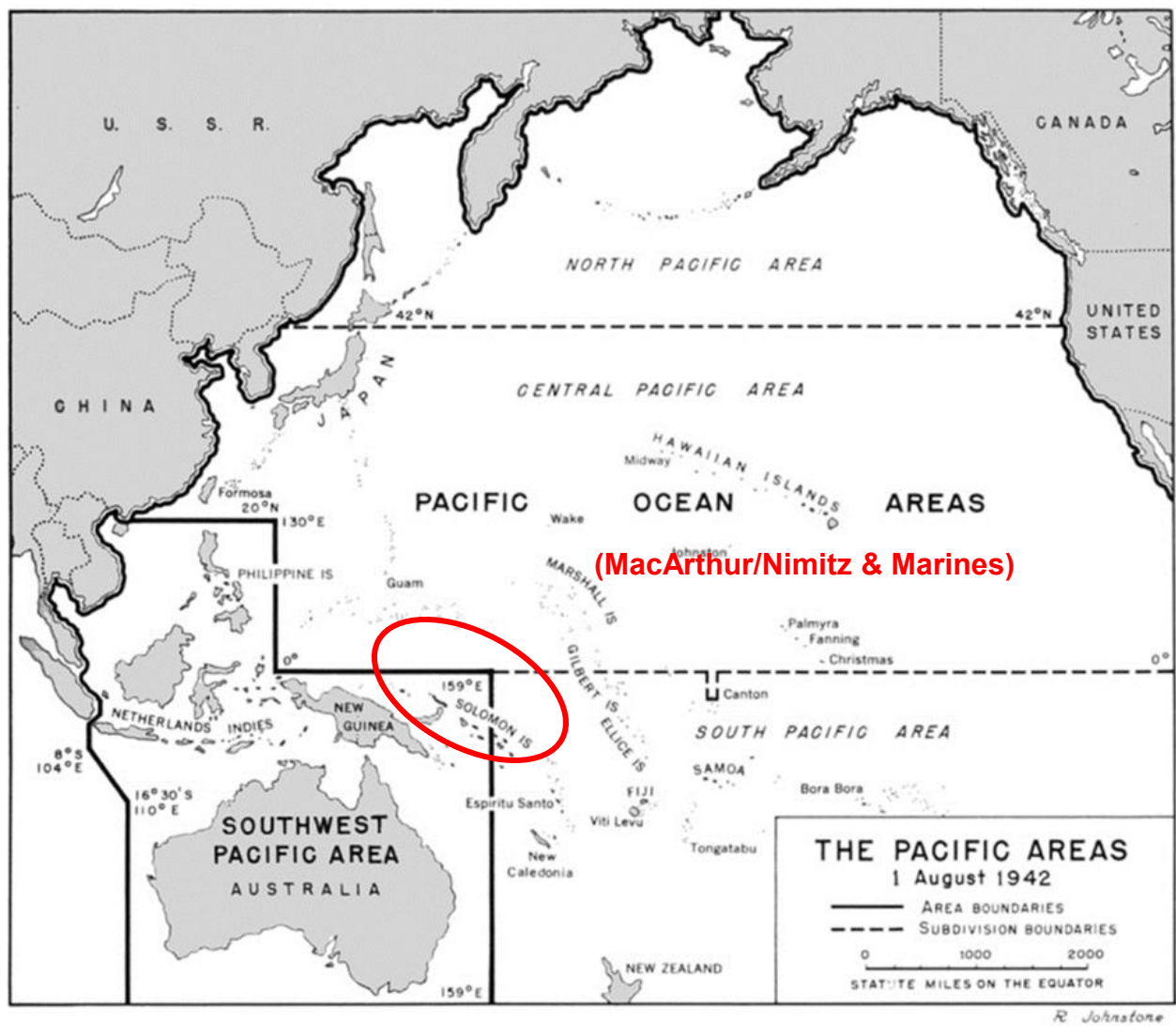
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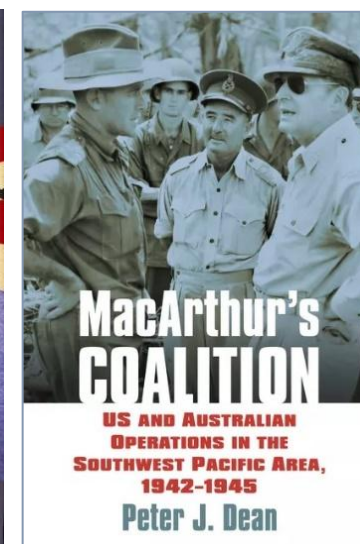
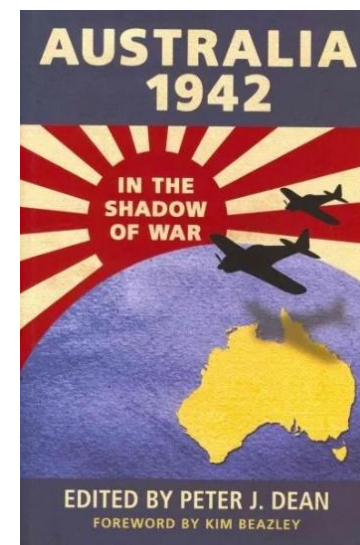
“Background noise”



WW2 game-changer: Battle of Guadalcanal

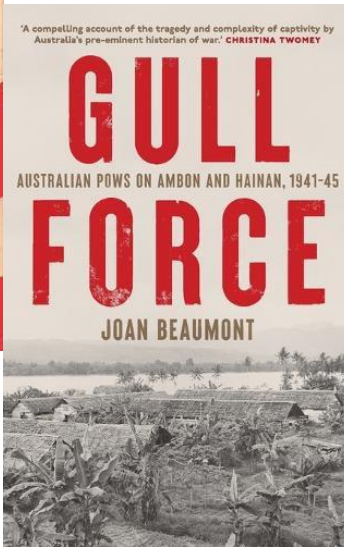
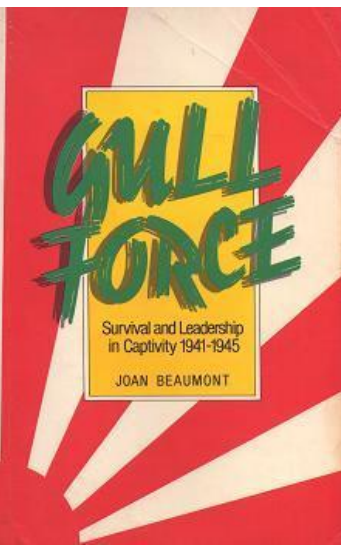


History Rhymes: Geostrategic
significance of Pacific islands

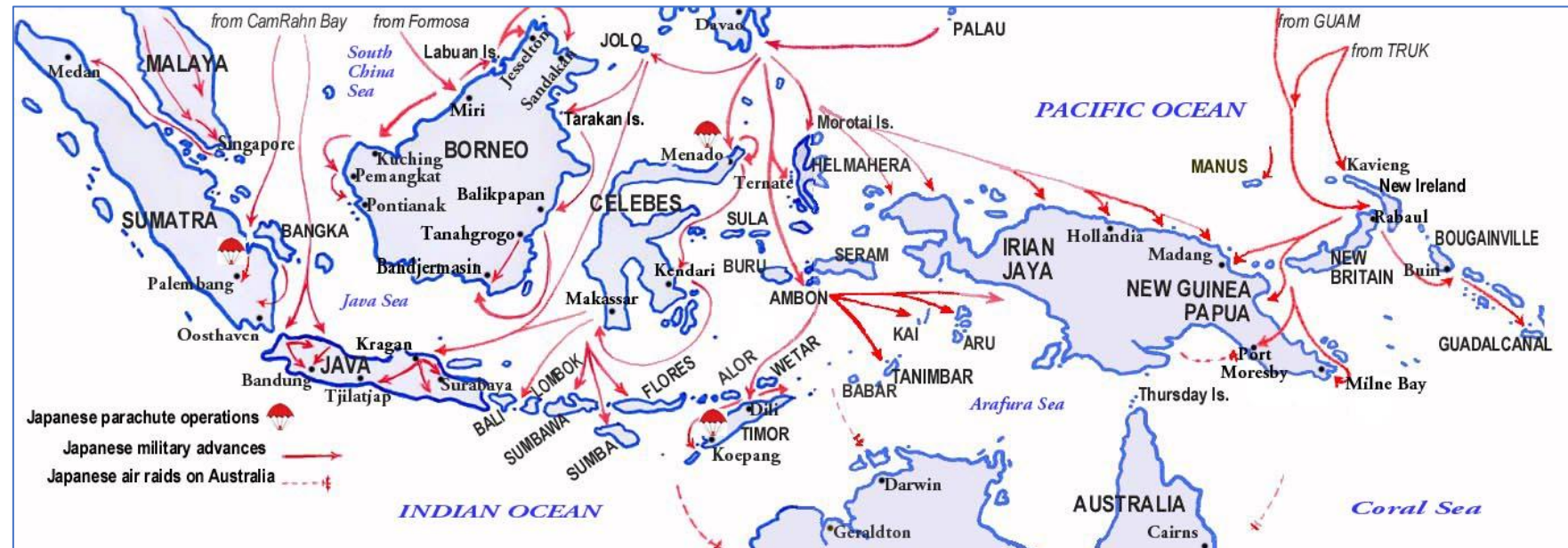
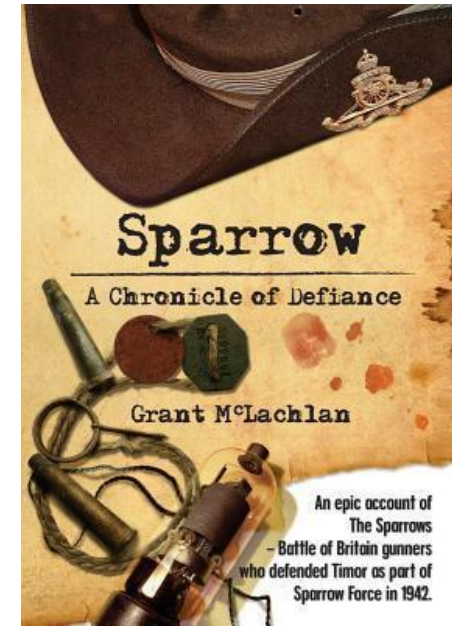


Generals Blamey & MacArthur & PM Curtin

Regional Engagement 1941

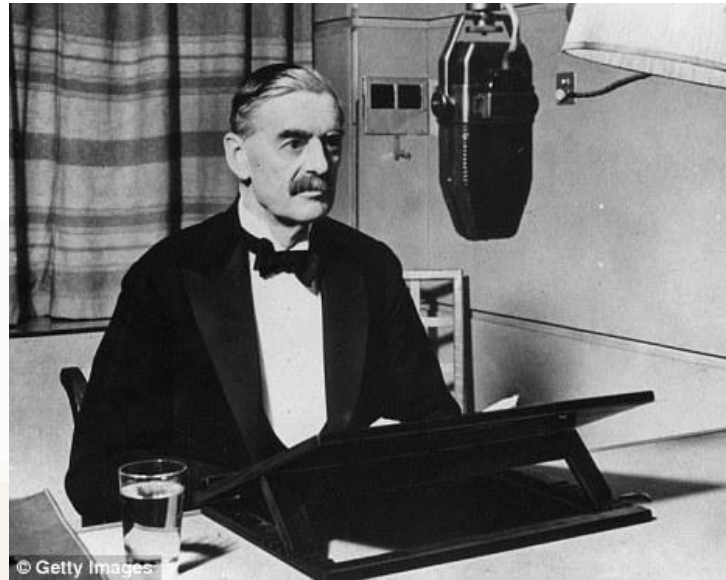


- 8th Div (-) to Singapore/Malaya
- 23rd Brigade, 8th Div
 - Split into 3 battalion sized forces
 - Gull - Ambon
 - Sparrow _Timor
 - Lark - Rabaul
 - Legacy sense of obligation



September 1939: Declaration of War

- Britain and Australia
- **“it is my melancholy duty to inform you officially that in consequence of a persistence by Germany in her invasion of Poland, Great Britain has declared war upon her and that, as a result, Australia is also at war”**



Neville Chamberlain

and



Robert Menzies

The Second World War: 1939-1945

- Raising the Second AIF for overseas service
- British Empire pattern equipment, techniques & procedures



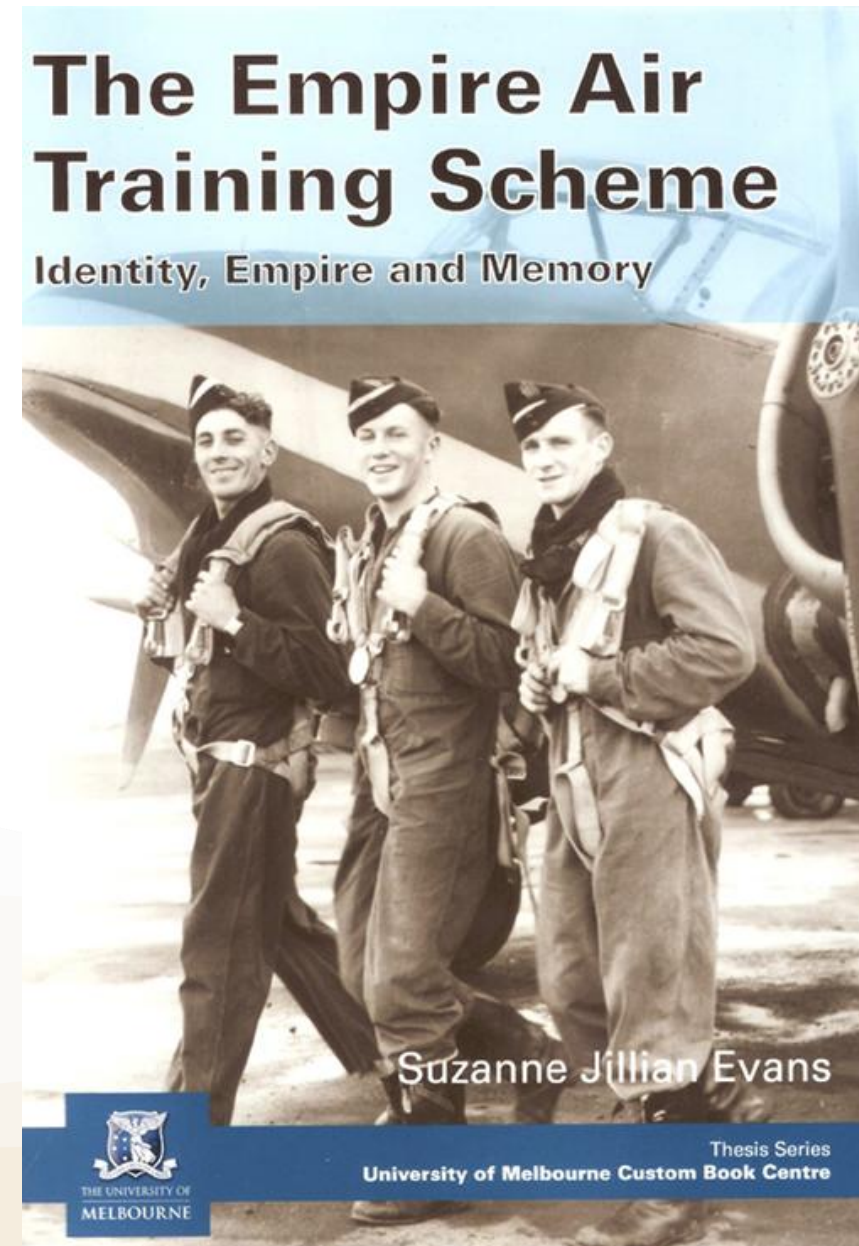
RAN in the Mediterranean, etc & 'Up Top'

- British patterns, procedures, protocols



RAAF & the Empire Air Training Scheme

- UK procedures, protocols, uniforms and aircraft
- Some indigenous aircraft
- Increasingly US sourced aircraft in the Pacific



1932 Statute of Westminster

- Minister for External Affairs appointed
- Ambassador appointed to USA



No. 56 of 1942.

AN ACT

To remove Doubts as to the Validity of certain Commonwealth Legislation, to obviate Delays occurring in its Passage, and to effect certain related purposes, by adopting certain Sections of the Statute of Westminster, 1931, as from the Commencement of the War between His Majesty the King and Germany.

Assented to

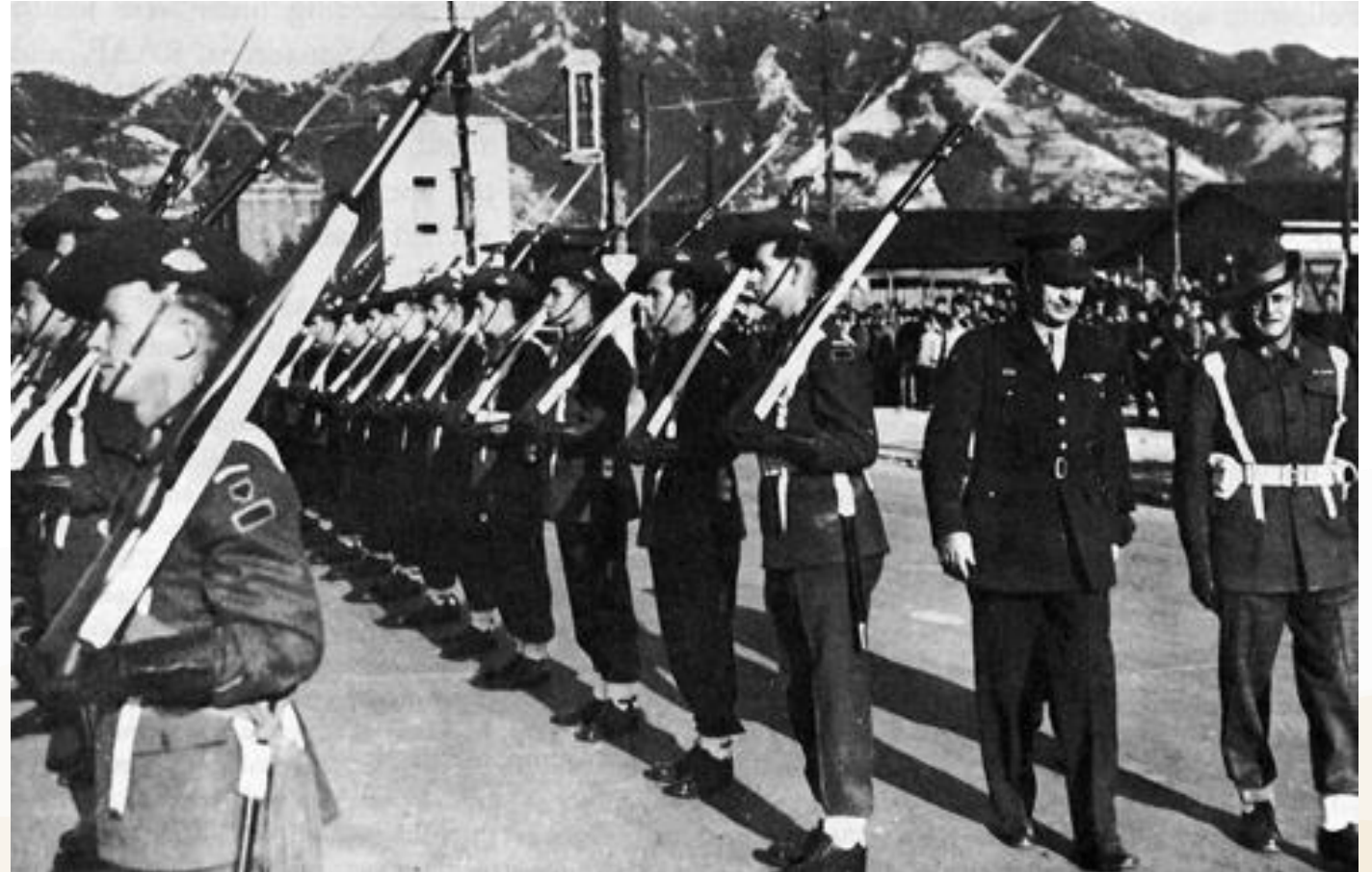
9th October, 1942.

Australian Military forces divisions in 1943

Division Designation	Higher Formation	Comments
1 Australian Division	2 nd Australian Army	Militia
2 Australian Division	2 nd Australian Army	Militia
3 Australian Division (Jungle)	New Guinea Force	Militia
4 Australian Division	Disbanded early 1943	
5 Australian Division (Jungle)	New Guinea Force	Militia
6 Australian Division (Jungle)	New Guinea Force	2 nd Australian Imperial Force
7 Australian Division (Jungle)	New Guinea Force	2 nd Australian Imperial Force
8 Australian Division	In captivity	2 nd Australian Imperial Force
9 Australian Division (Jungle)	New Guinea Force	2 nd Australian Imperial Force
11 Australian Division (Jungle)	New Guinea Force	Militia
12 Australian Division	Northern Territory Force	Militia
1 Australian Armoured Division	HQ Reserve	Militia
2 Australian Armoured Division	Disbanded early 1943	Former 2 Australian Motor Division
3 Australian Armoured Division		Formerly 1 Australian Motor Division
2 Australian Corps & assorted brigade formations	1st Australian Army	NE Reinforcement Training Centre

The postwar Defence policy: 1945-1950

- British Commonwealth Occupation Force (BCOF)
- RAN / Army /RAAF
- Foundation of “Regular Forces”: 1st peacetime regular operational army for Aust.
 - PMF 11,880 personnel.
- 2 CMF divisions & CMF armoured brigade (43,423 pers
- Plus HQ & fixed establishments of 20,759,
- Total of 76,062,
 - including 33,641 in the PMF



Post War RAAF

- Over 200,000 Australians had served in the RAAF during the war, operating over seventy squadrons of aircraft including bombers, fighters, reconnaissance and amphibians
- Empire Air Training Scheme
- 1946 plan for the Post-war RAAF proposed a force of 19,483 pers (majority permanent force) tasked to operate a mobile task force including
 - three long-range/ground-attack fighter,
 - three heavy bomber and
 - two transport squadrons and
 - static units including four interceptor squadrons and a mixed heavy bomber/ground reconnaissance squadrons



British Commonwealth Occupation Force (BCOF)

- Australia's land force contributions to BCOF formed the basis for the ARA in 1947 Post War Army Plan.
- 65th, 66th and 67th Australian Infantry Battalions, became 1 RAR, 2RAR and 3RAR.
- British pattern equipment, insignia and procedures endured, with many conscious of their status as member of a force nominally identified as British as much as it was, in practice, substantively Australian.
- 3 X RAAF fighter squadrons deployed in 1946, but gradually reduced to one (77) sqn by 1948

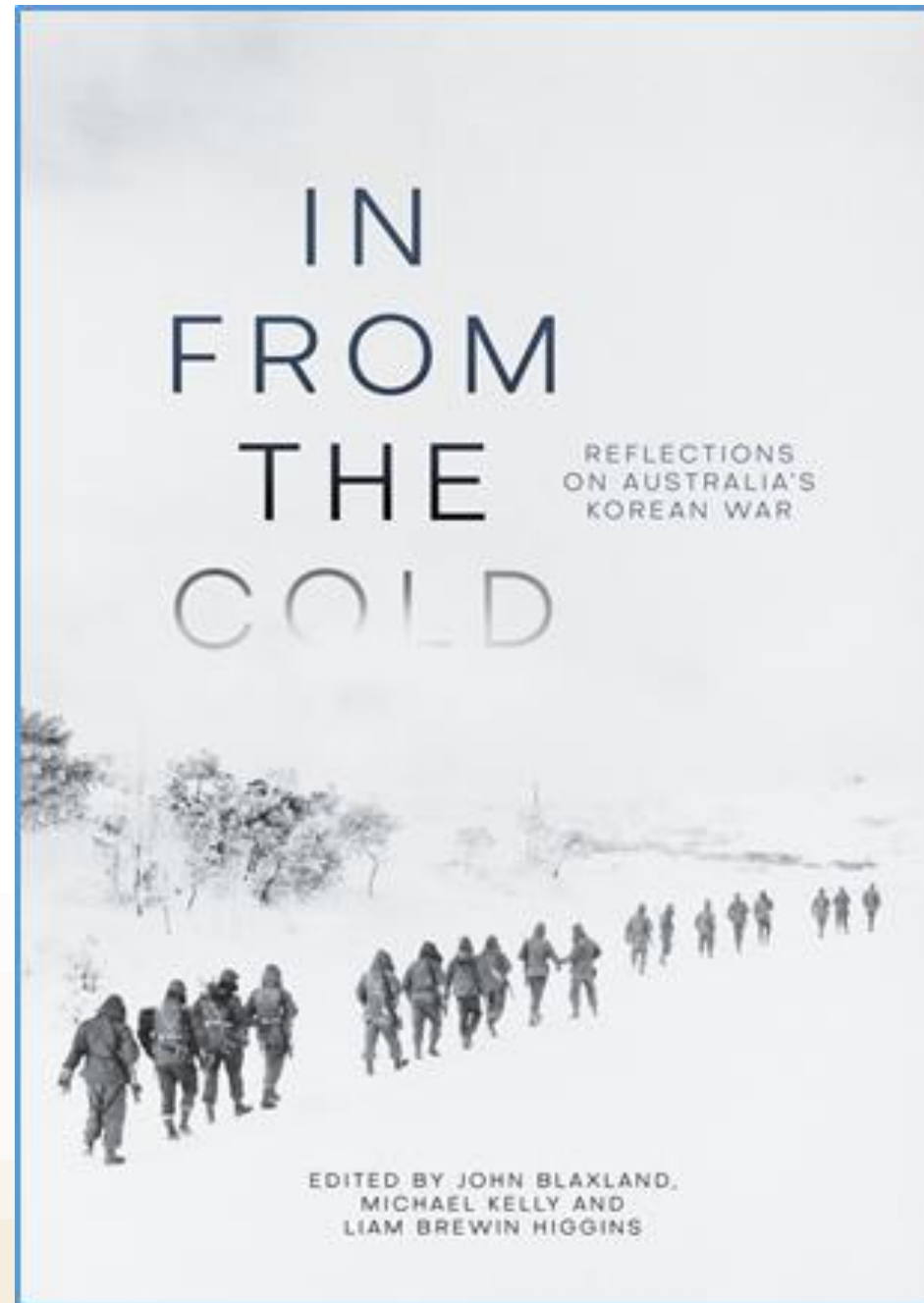


AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

DUKJ3135

Korean War

- NK invasion of ROK – Russian global feint?
- RAN/RAAF/Army commits to Korea
- Colombo Plan initiated

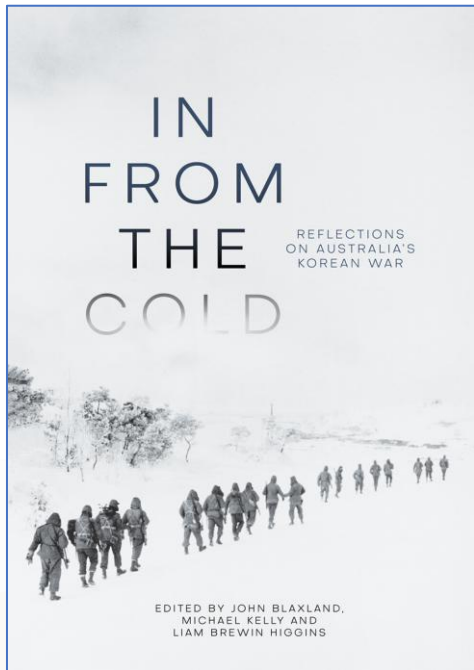


ANZUS Treaty Signed

- September 10, 1951
- Concurrent with the Japan Peace Treaty



Korean War and British standards

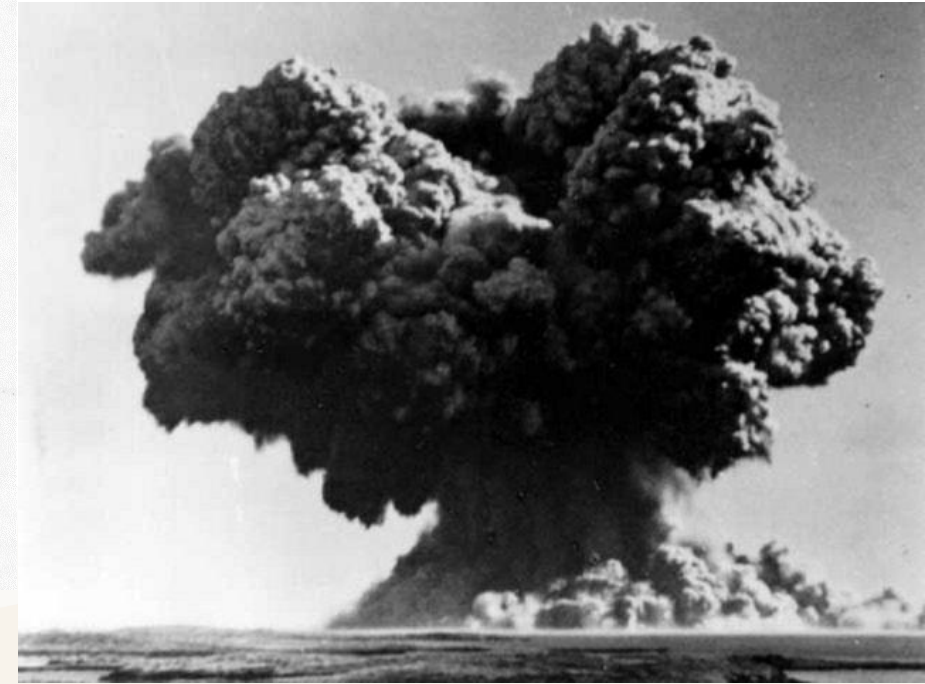
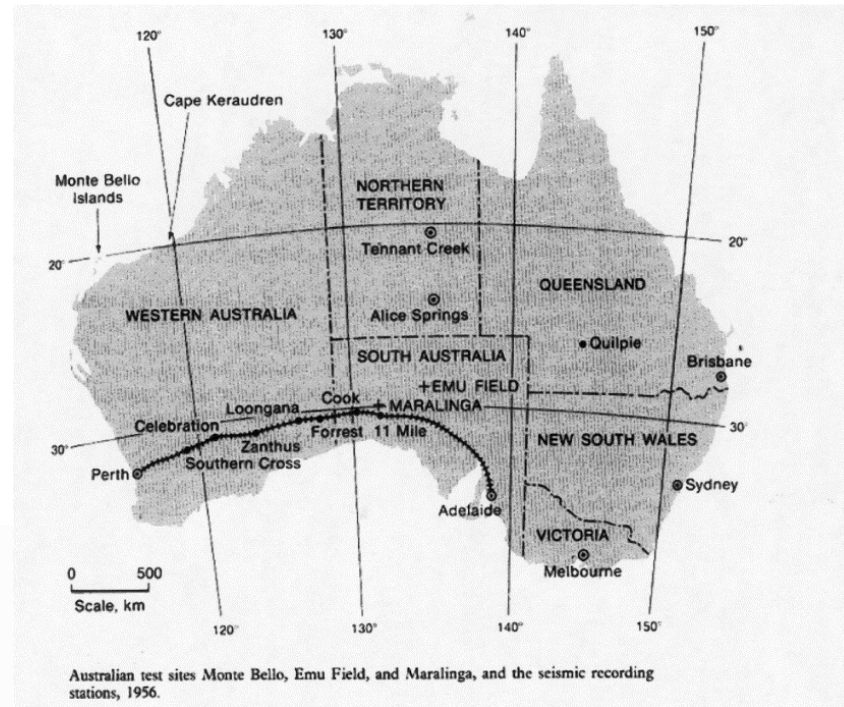


The RAN Fleet Air Arm's 21st Carrier Air Group, flying Sea Fury and Firefly aircraft off the deck of HMAS Sydney (III), conducted 2,366 sorties over a period of 64 days during the latter months of 1951.

Source: AWM 044801.

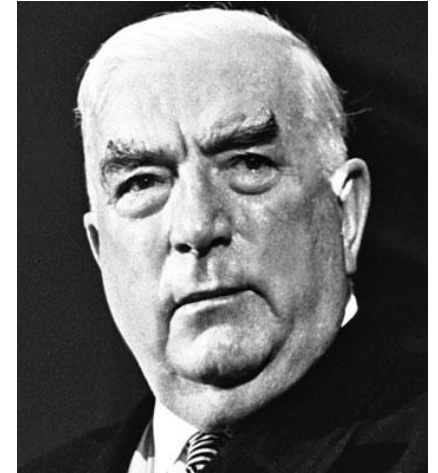
Working with the Brits at home & abroad

- 2 x RAAF squadrons to Malta
- British Atomic testing

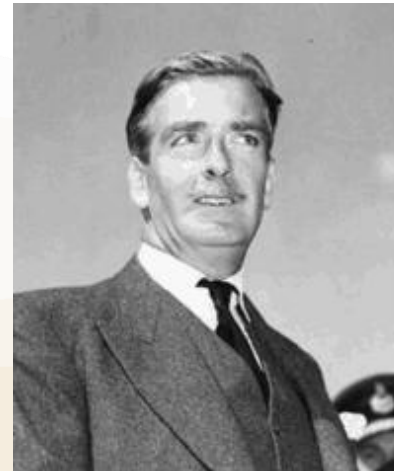


1956 Suez Crisis

- Tipping point for UK (limits of power)
- Turning point for Australia



Organizing the first peacekeeping force, the UN Emergency Force;
November, 1956 (UN photo)



1957 Defence statement

- Announced the raising of a Regular brigade group
- Preparing for 'Cold War' tasks
- Marked the change of reliance from CMF to ARA



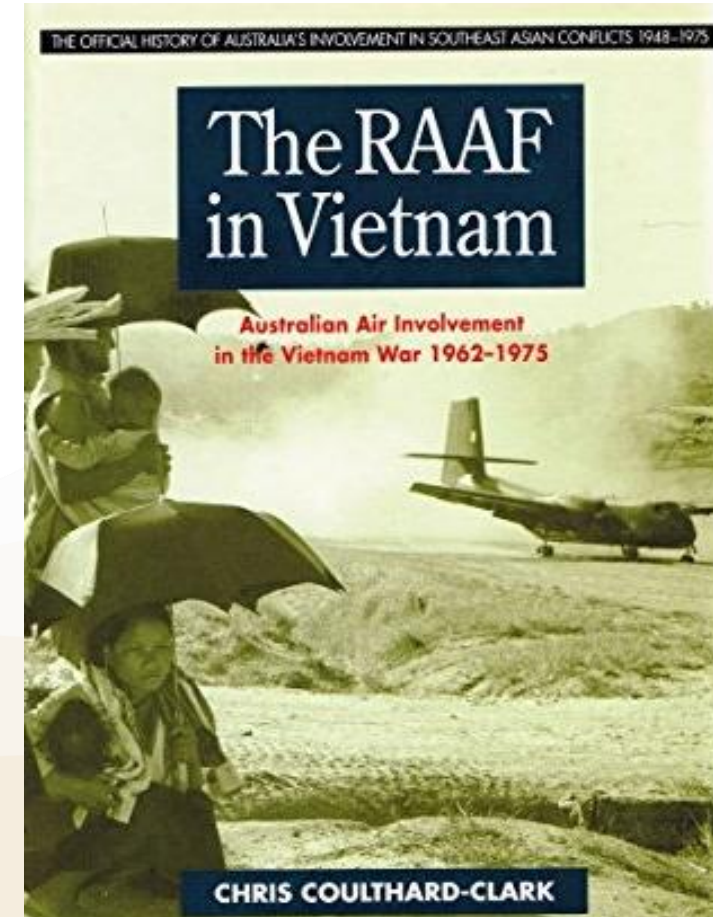
Pentropic Experiment

- Modelled on US Pentomic structure
- US pentagonal / atomic, 1956-1960
- AS pentagonal / tropical, 1960-1964
- Turning point for Army
 - UK→US Influence
- Pentomic model abandoned shortly after Pentropic model adopted
- Emphasis on ability to act independently
- Pentropic model abandoned prior to combat commitment to Vietnam in 1965



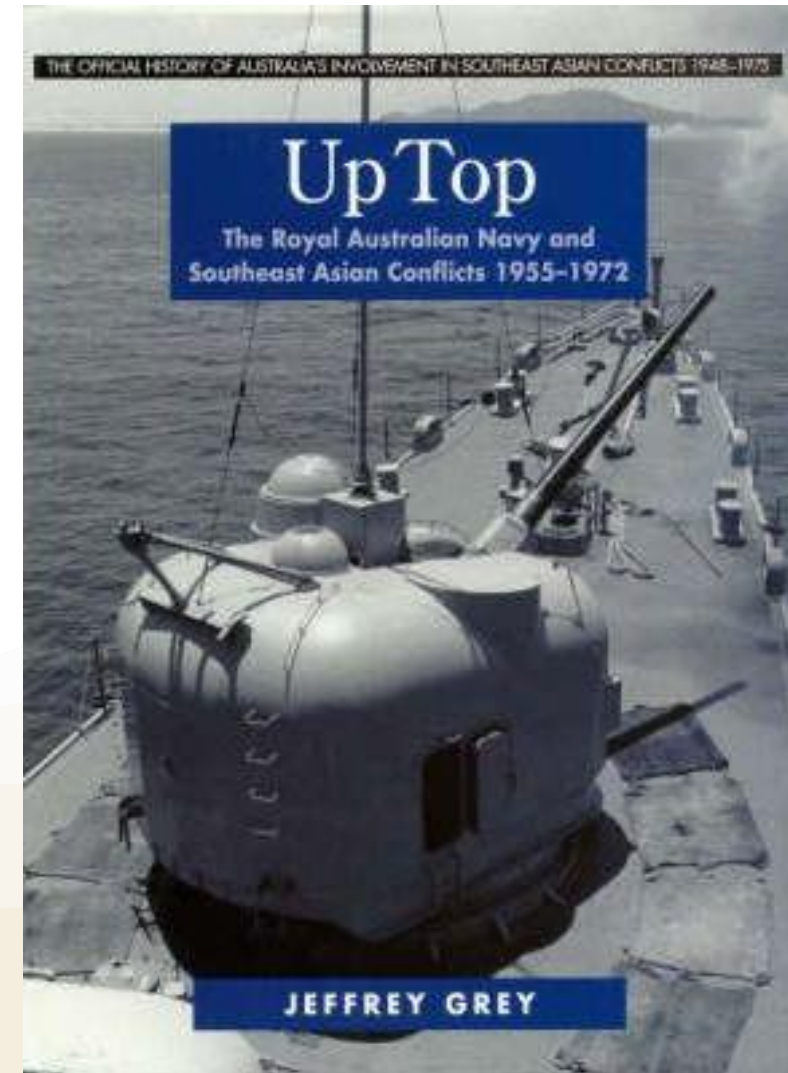
RAAF in Vietnam

- Mixed Fleet
- Greater emphasis on US equipment & TTPs



RAN in Vietnam

- Shift to US warships & TTPs



Australia's role in SEATO Thailand

- SEATO (not NATO) - 1954
- Australia's participation
 - HQ Staff in Bangkok
 - Exs/Ops
- Worked with UK & US
- Sidelined in Vietnam War
- SEATO's demise 1973



1967 UK Ebbing Presence & Orientation to SE Asia

- UK withdrawal 'East of Suez' by early 70s
- ASEAN established
- UK 2nd attempt to join EEC



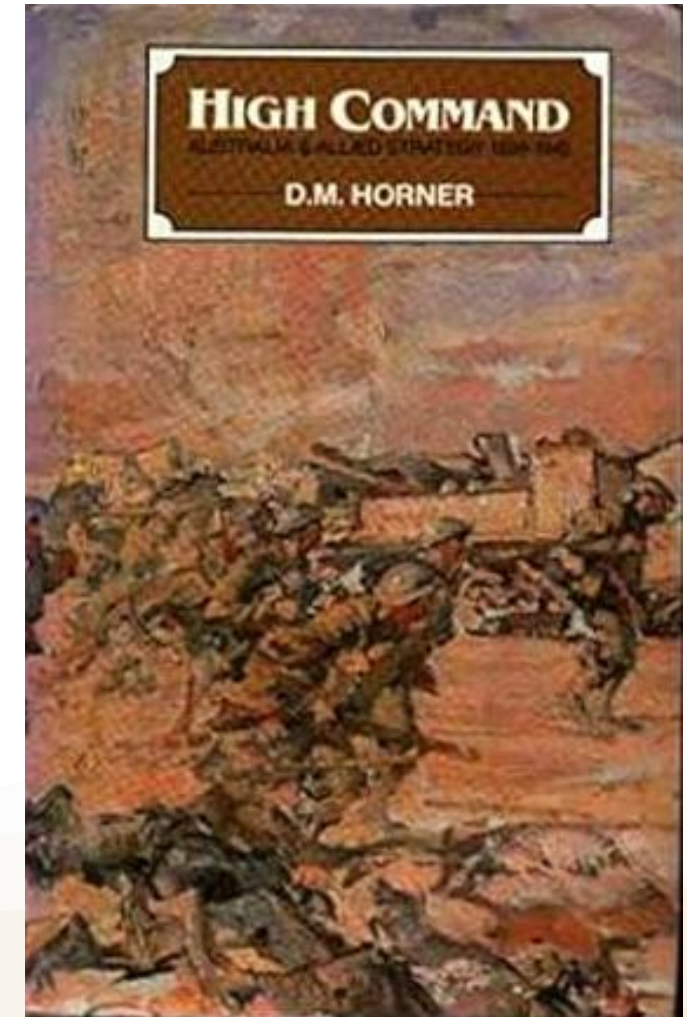
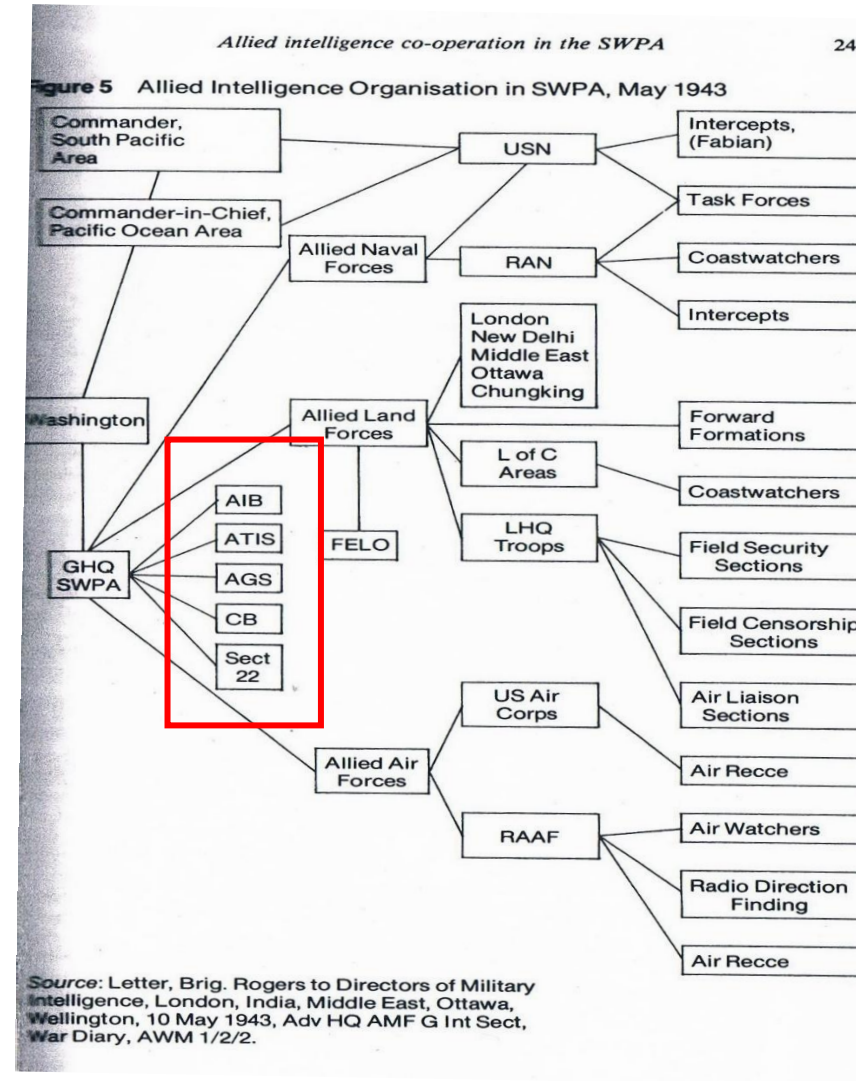
The Wilsons and the Holts at No. 10 Downing Street

1970 & beyond

- Australia begins withdrawal from Vietnam
- UK successful in joining EEC

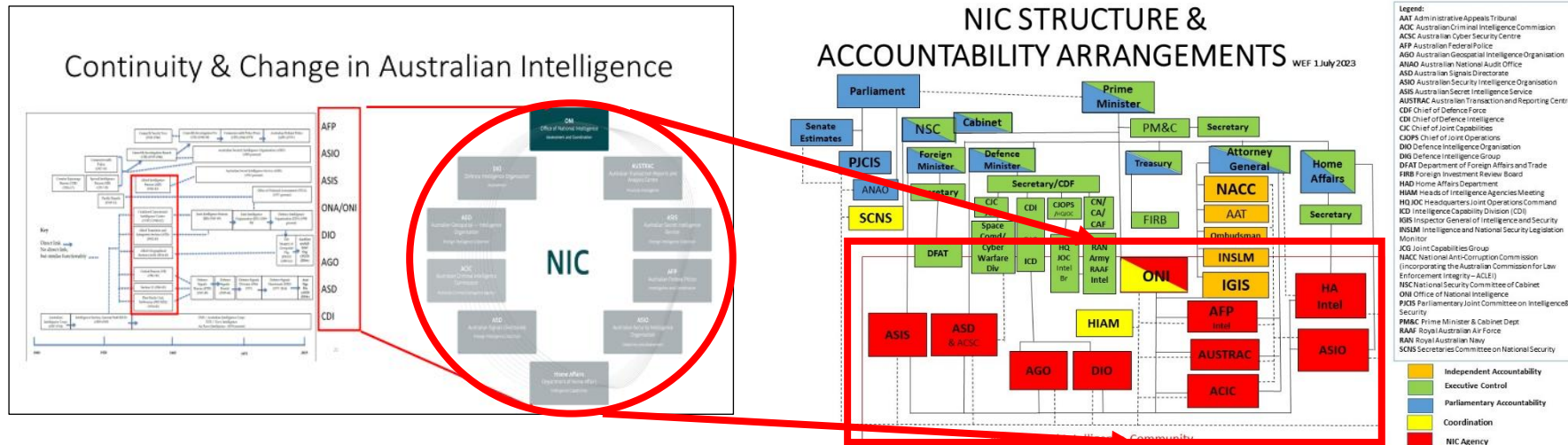


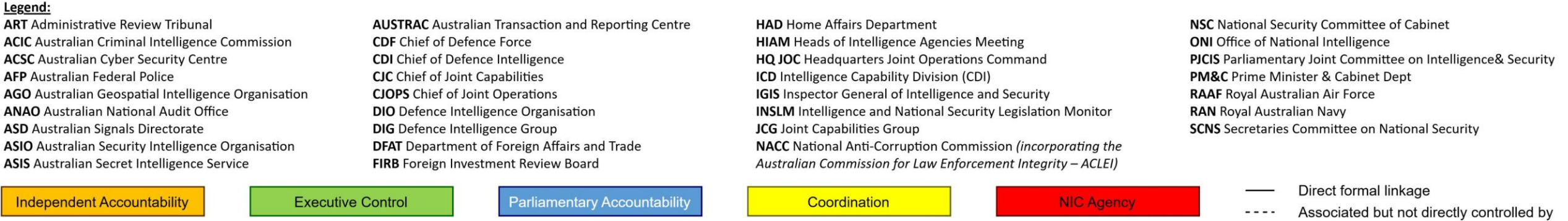
Australian-US Intelligence ties forged in War





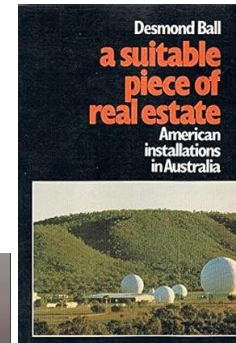
Continuity & Change in the Australian National Intelligence Community



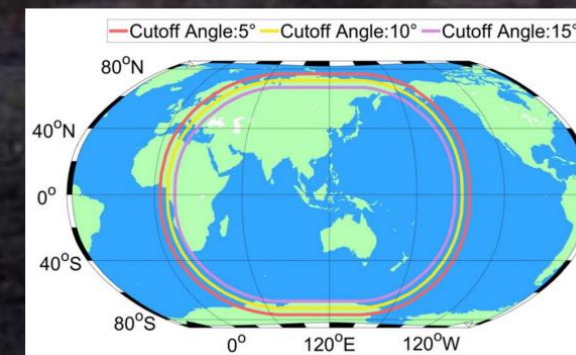
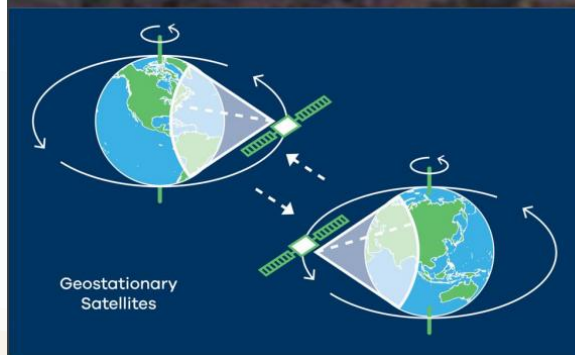




The “Suitable Piece of Real Estate”



Harold E Holt



Reflections

- Australia's military went through a dramatic transformation after the Second World War
- The lingering legacy of British derived technology and operating concepts developed and practised during the two world wars was profound and would have a lasting effect
- the Korean War in 1950, what was available drew on the legacy of the Second World War, with British derived practices, procedures and equipment, albeit with an increasingly distinctive Australian flavour
- But momentum for this reform was slow until after the eclipse of Britain's imperial ambitions following the Suez crisis of 1956
- 1957 and 1959 reviews shift from UK to US models





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