



Việt Nam Revisited

Some thoughts on the Australian literature

Michael O'Brien



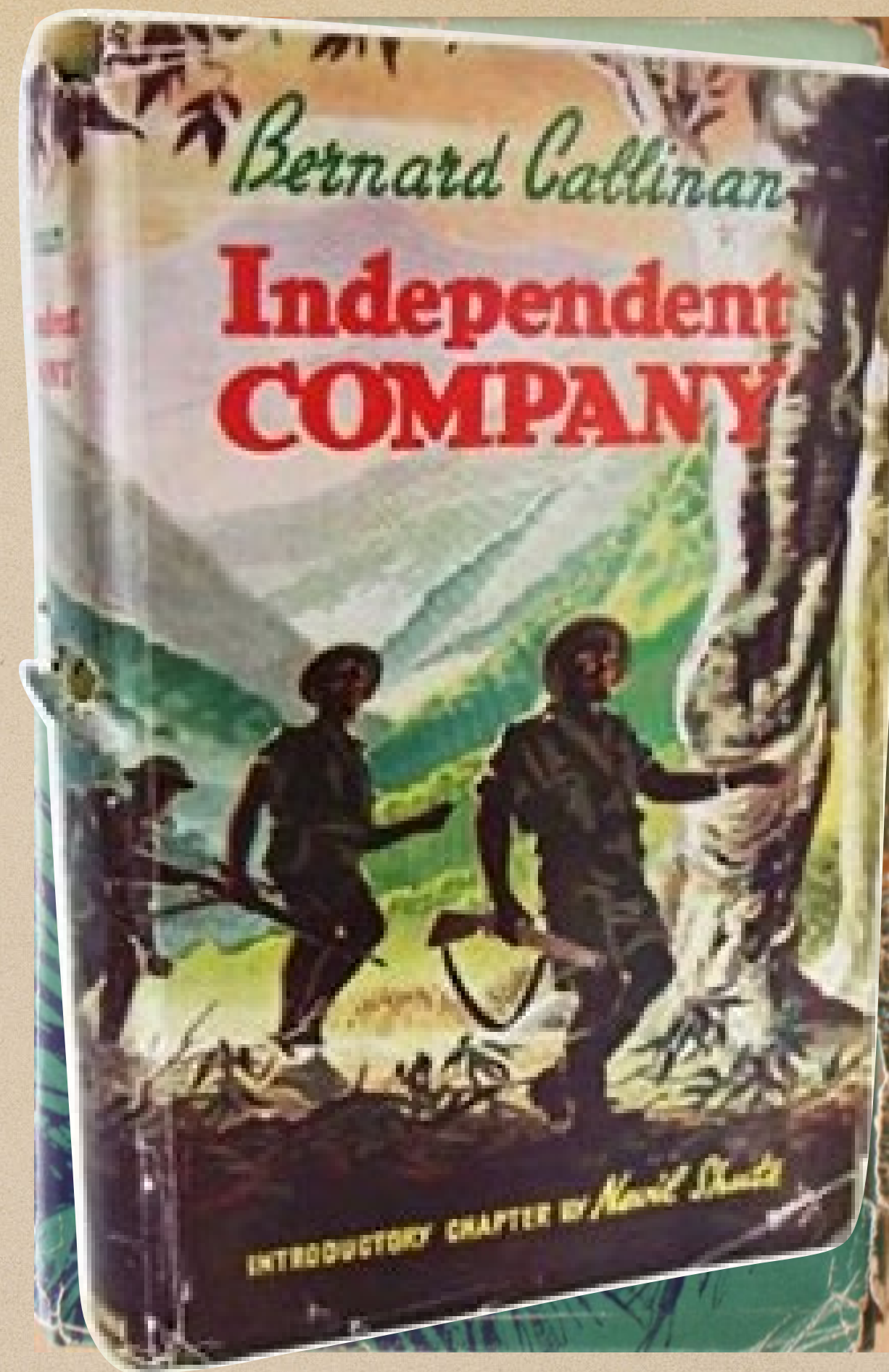
Is Non Fiction Literature?

Written works, especially those considered of superior or lasting artistic merit.

Literature is any collection of written work, but it is also used more narrowly for writings specifically considered to be an art form, especially novels, plays, and poems.

The Nobel Prize for Literature has never been awarded to a non fiction writer





19539



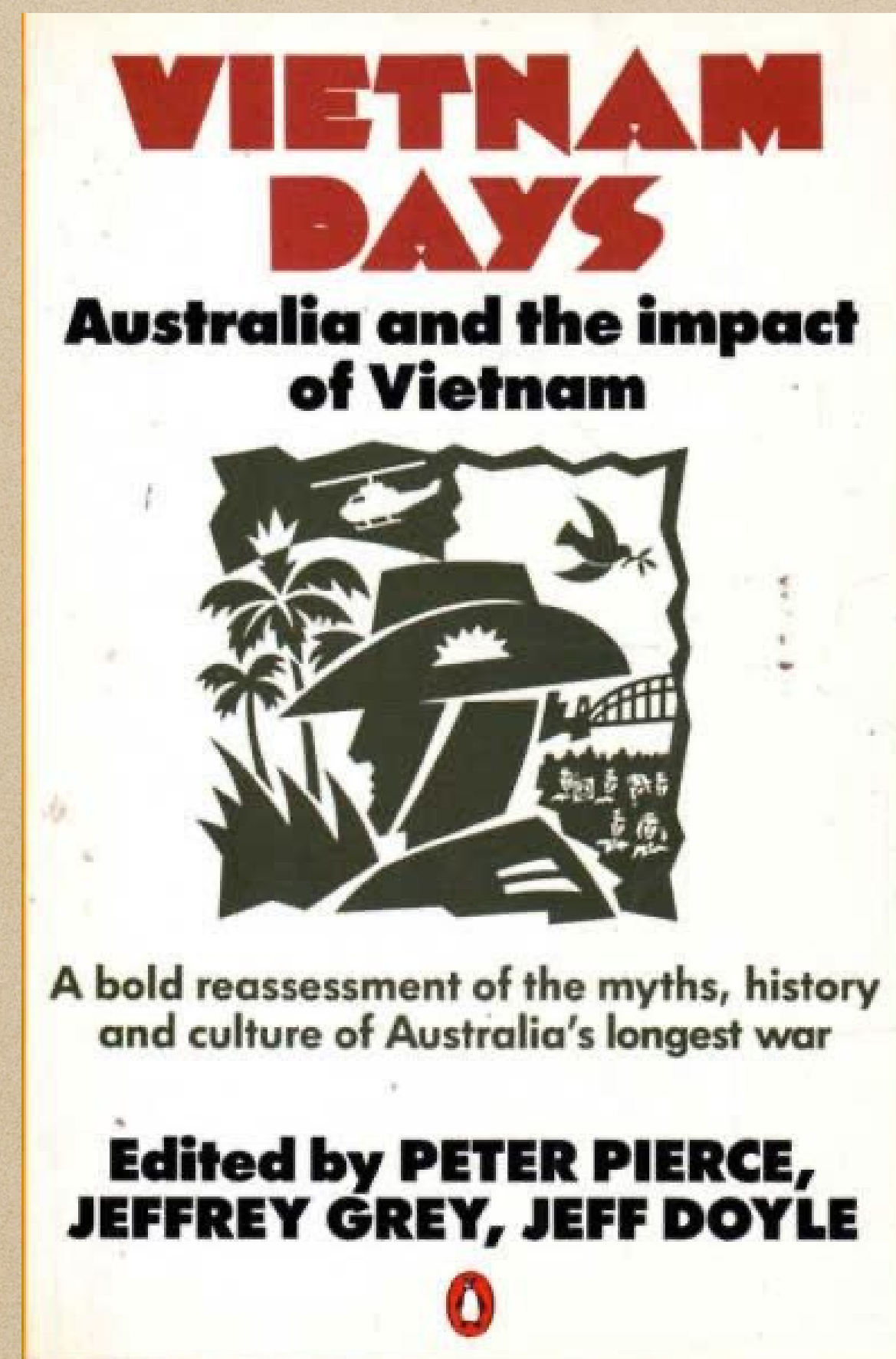
1960, 1963, 1968



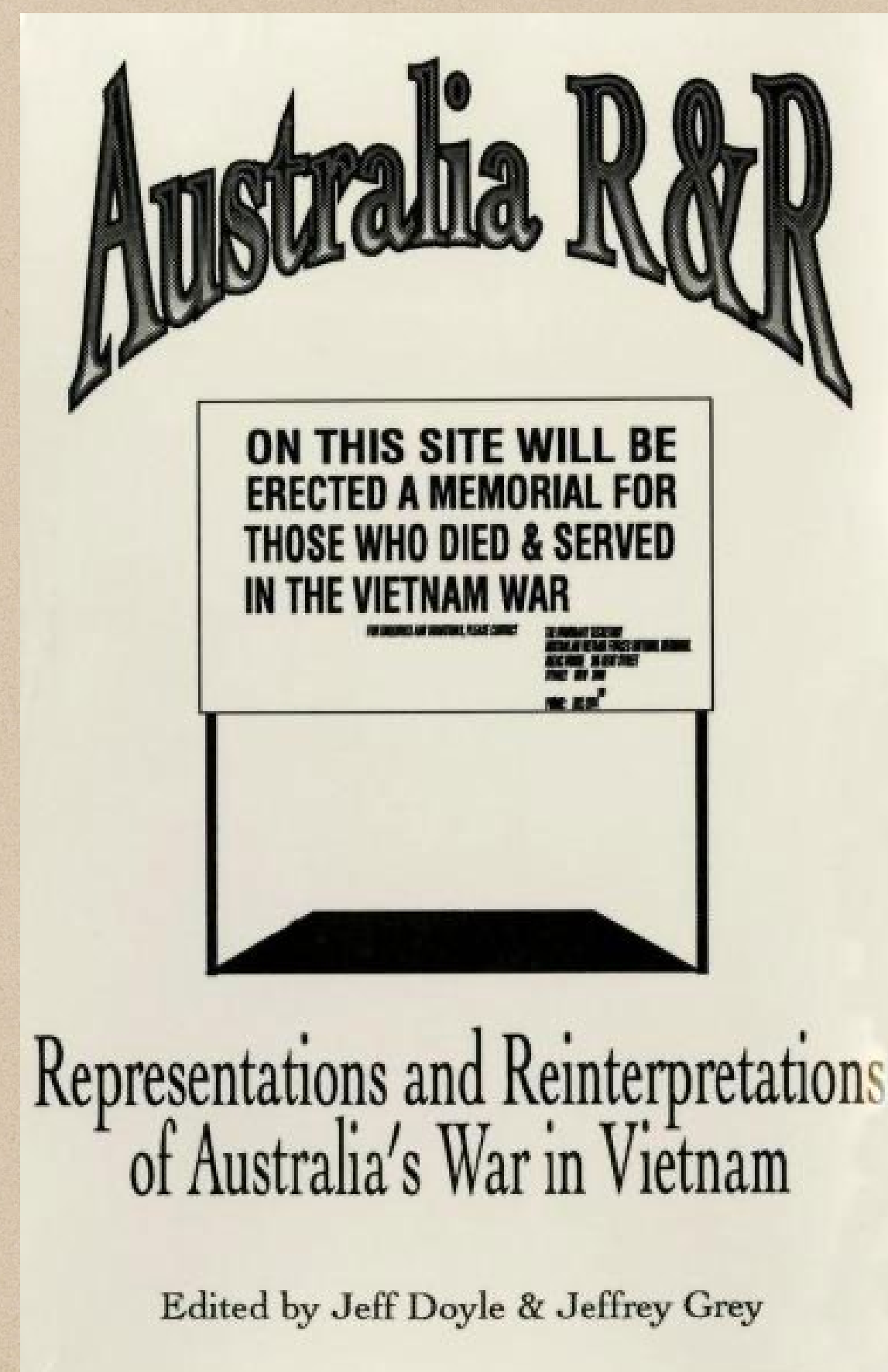
New Military History Reads

"New military history"

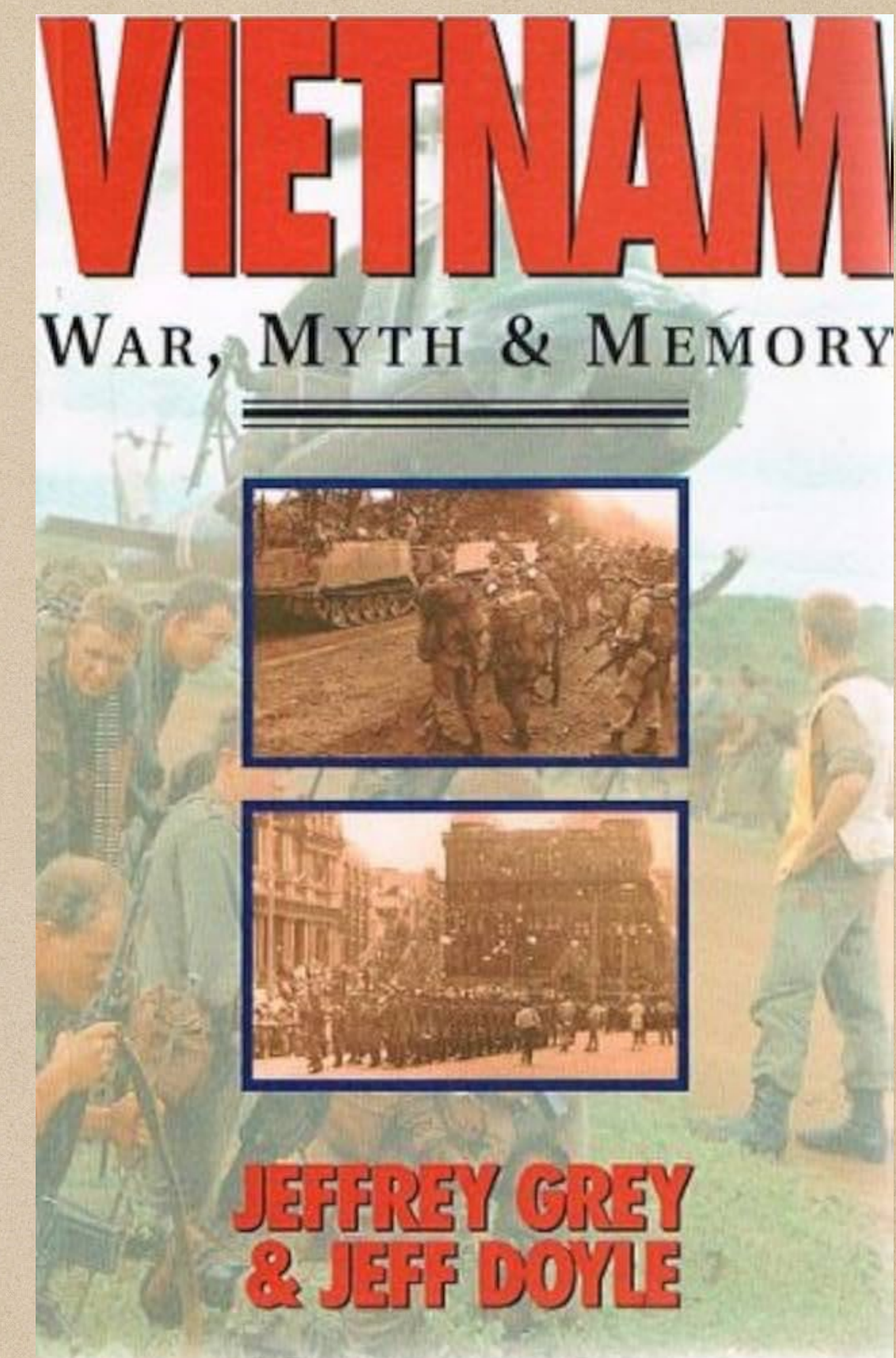
- Broadening Scope
- Methodological Shift
- Contextual Analysis



1991



1991



1992

Categories

- Official History
- Personal accounts
- Unit souvenirs
- Long Tan
- Agent Orange
- PTSD

1992

1993

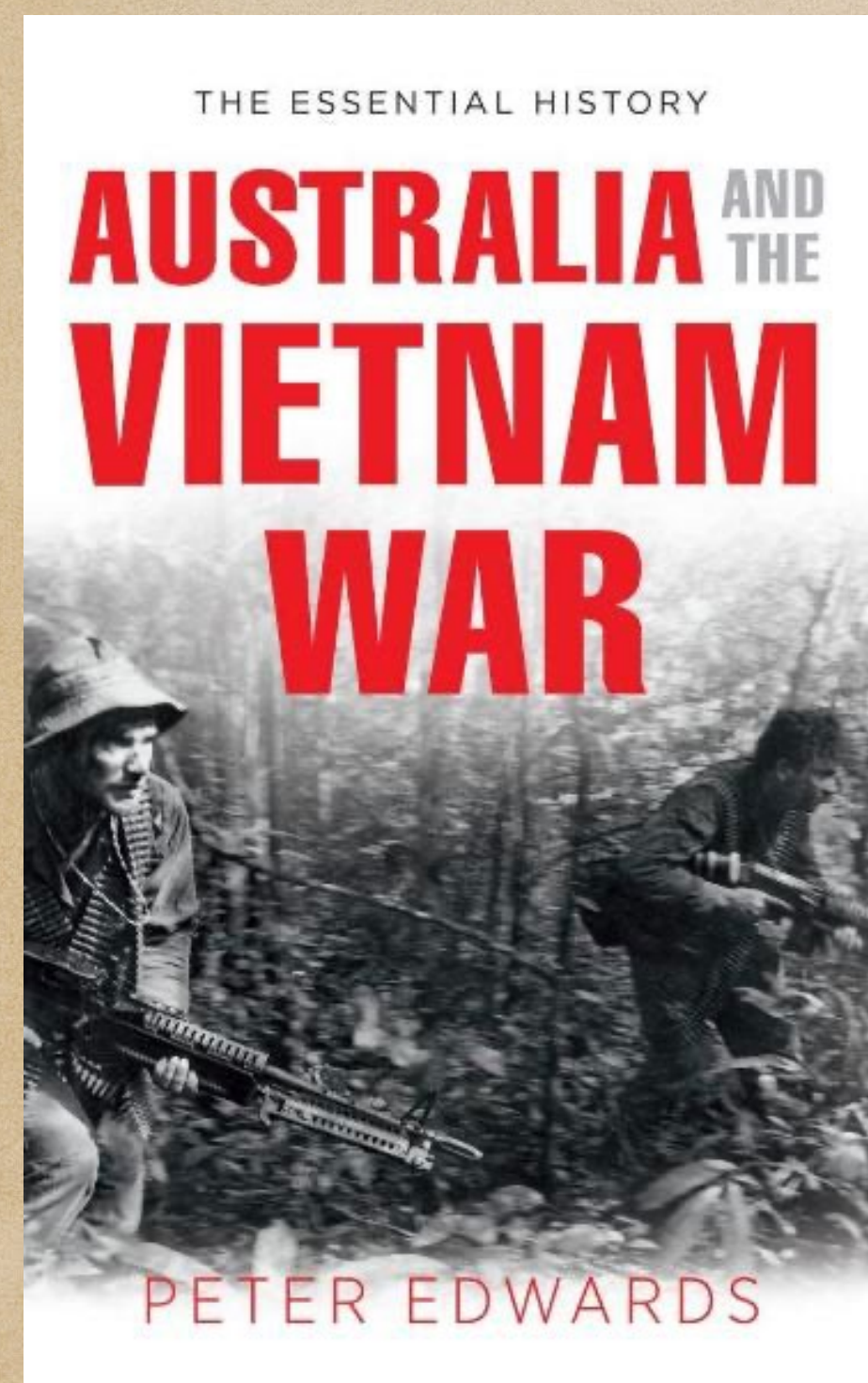
2003

2012

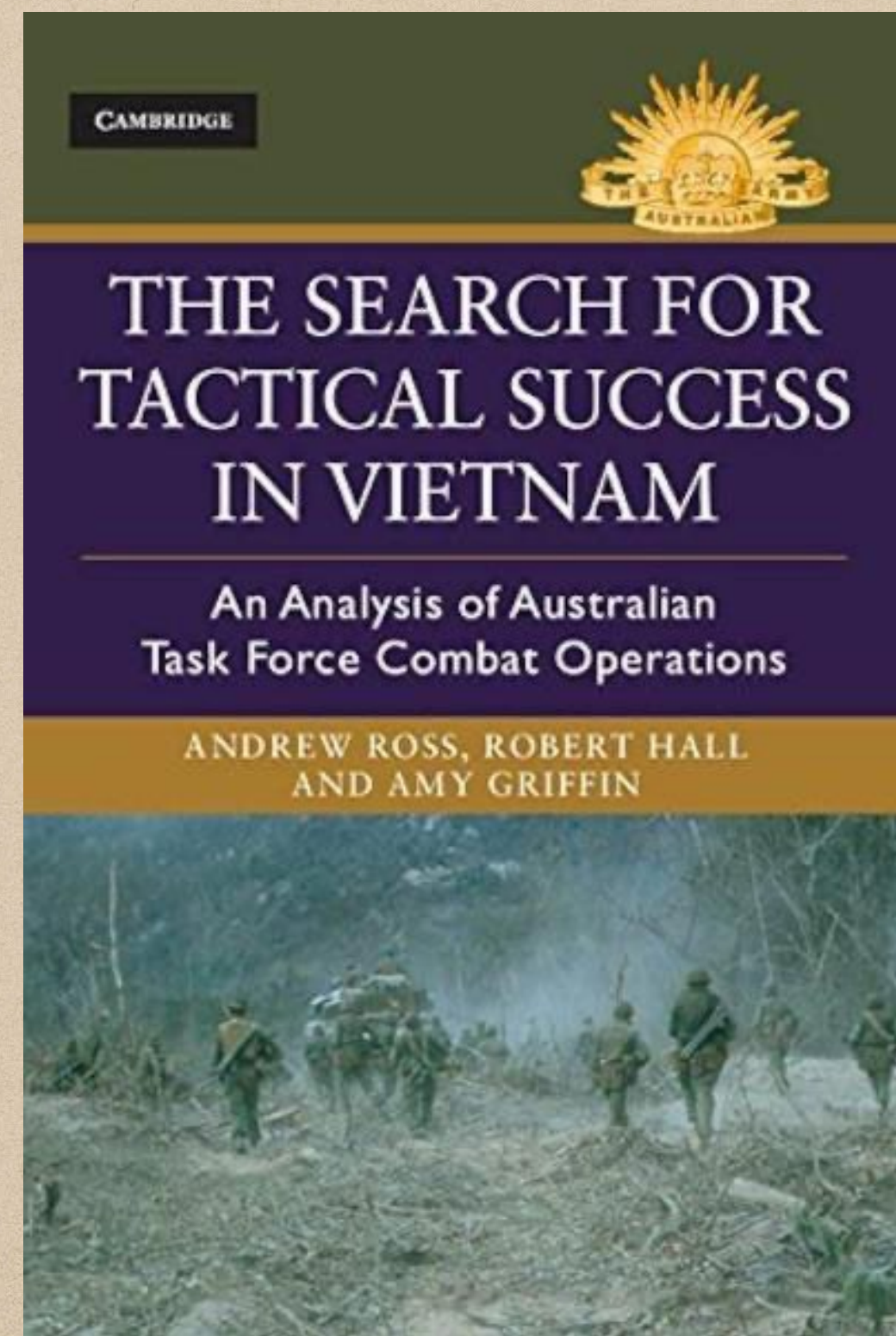
The official histories

1998

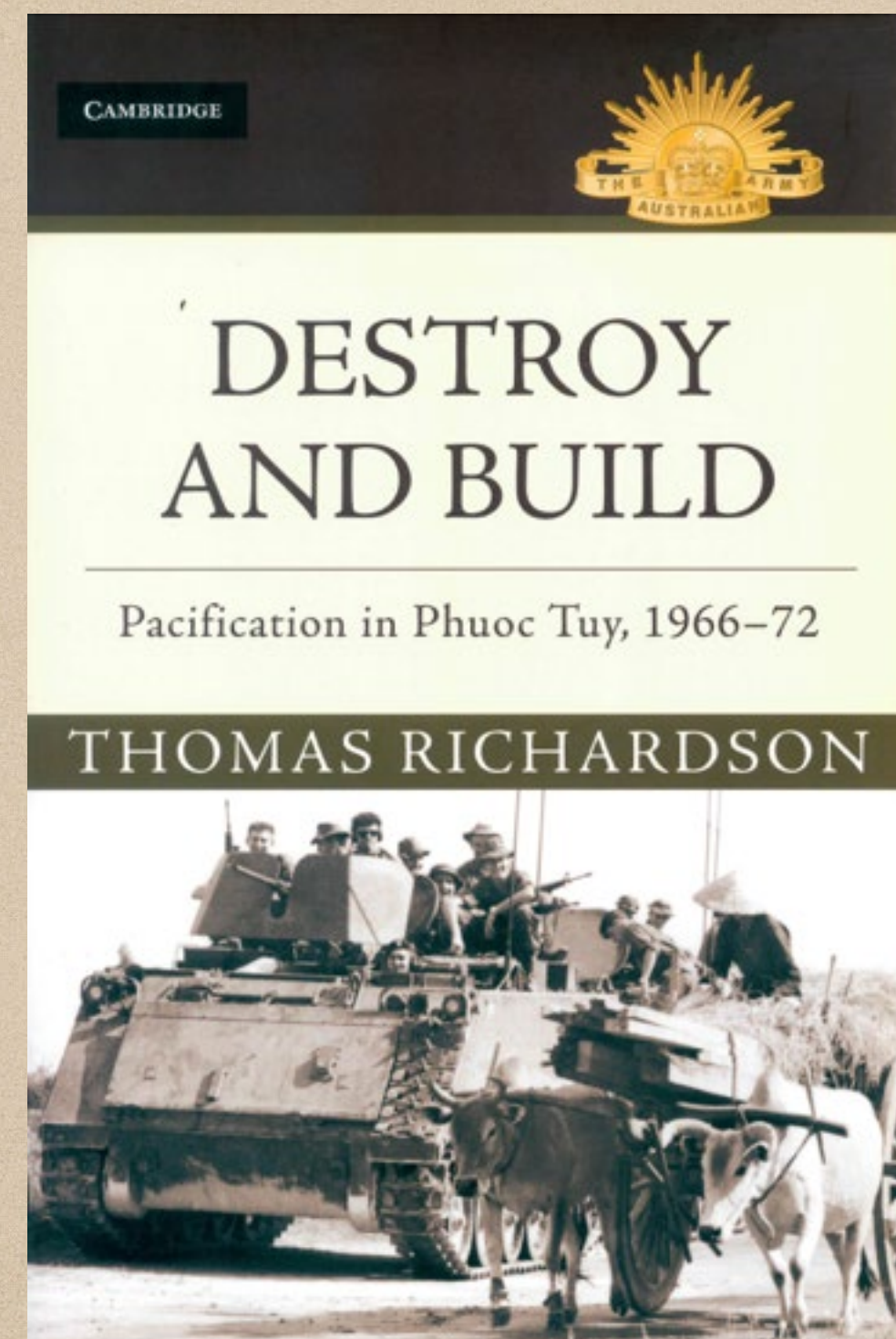
1995



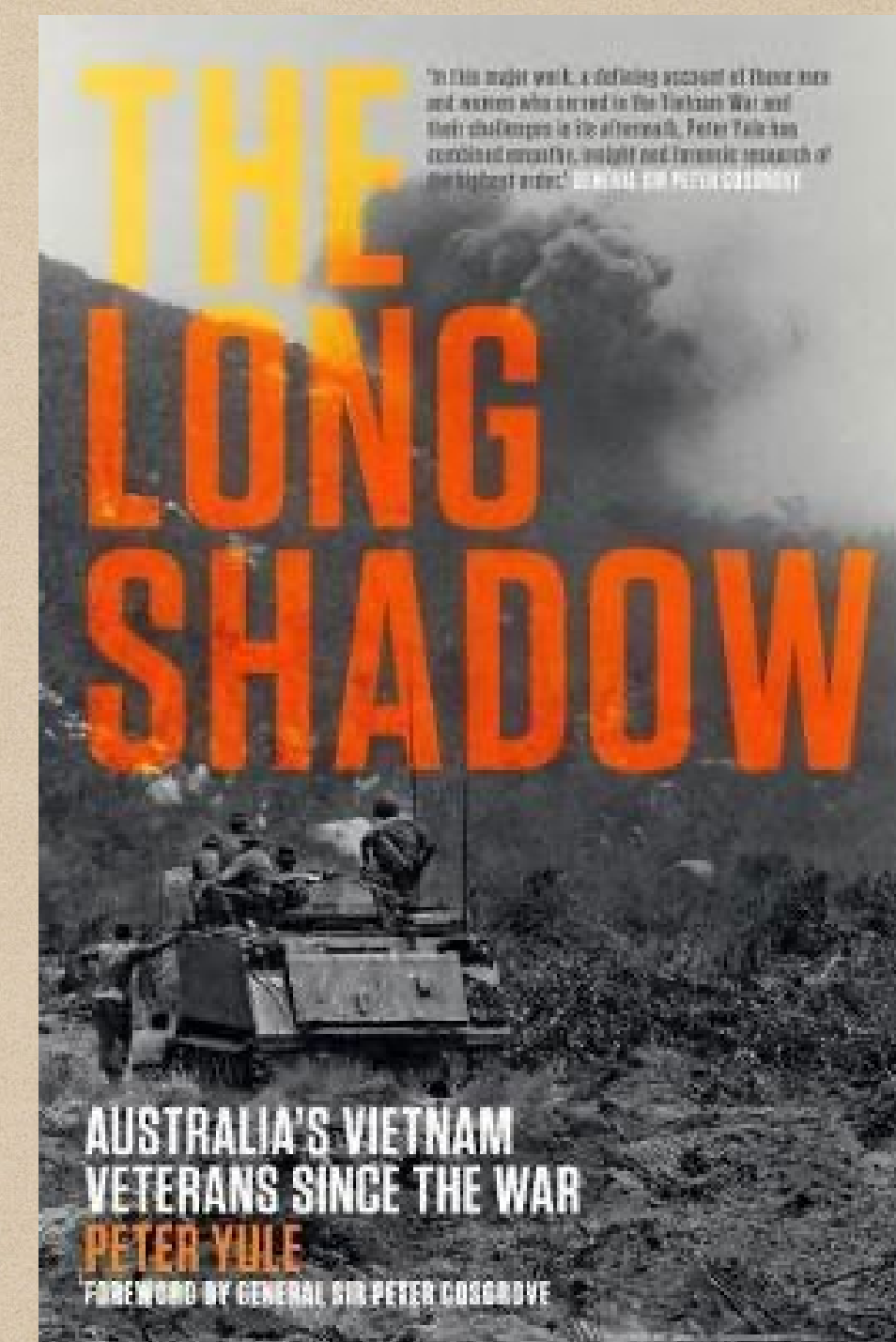
2014



2015

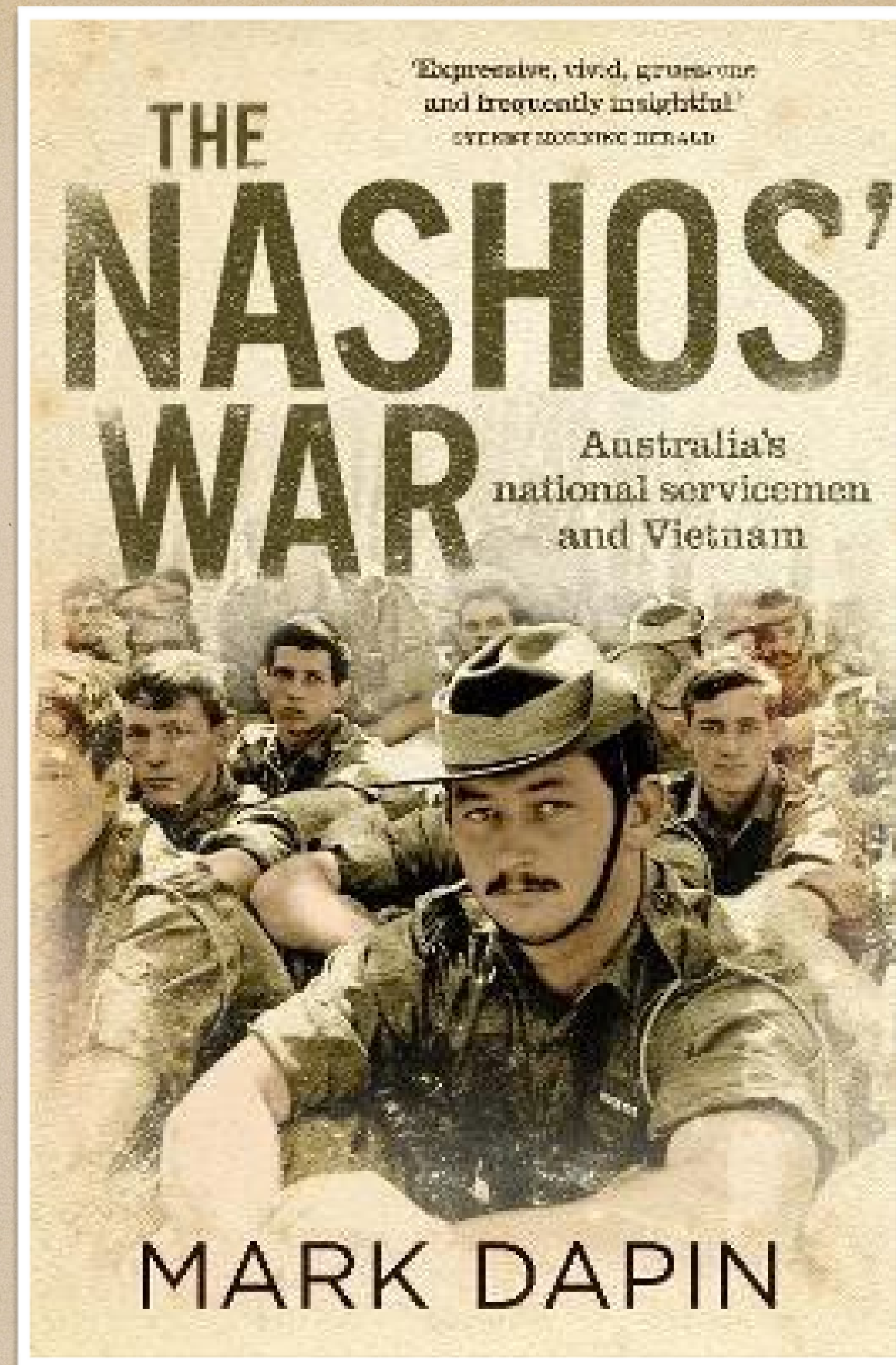


2017

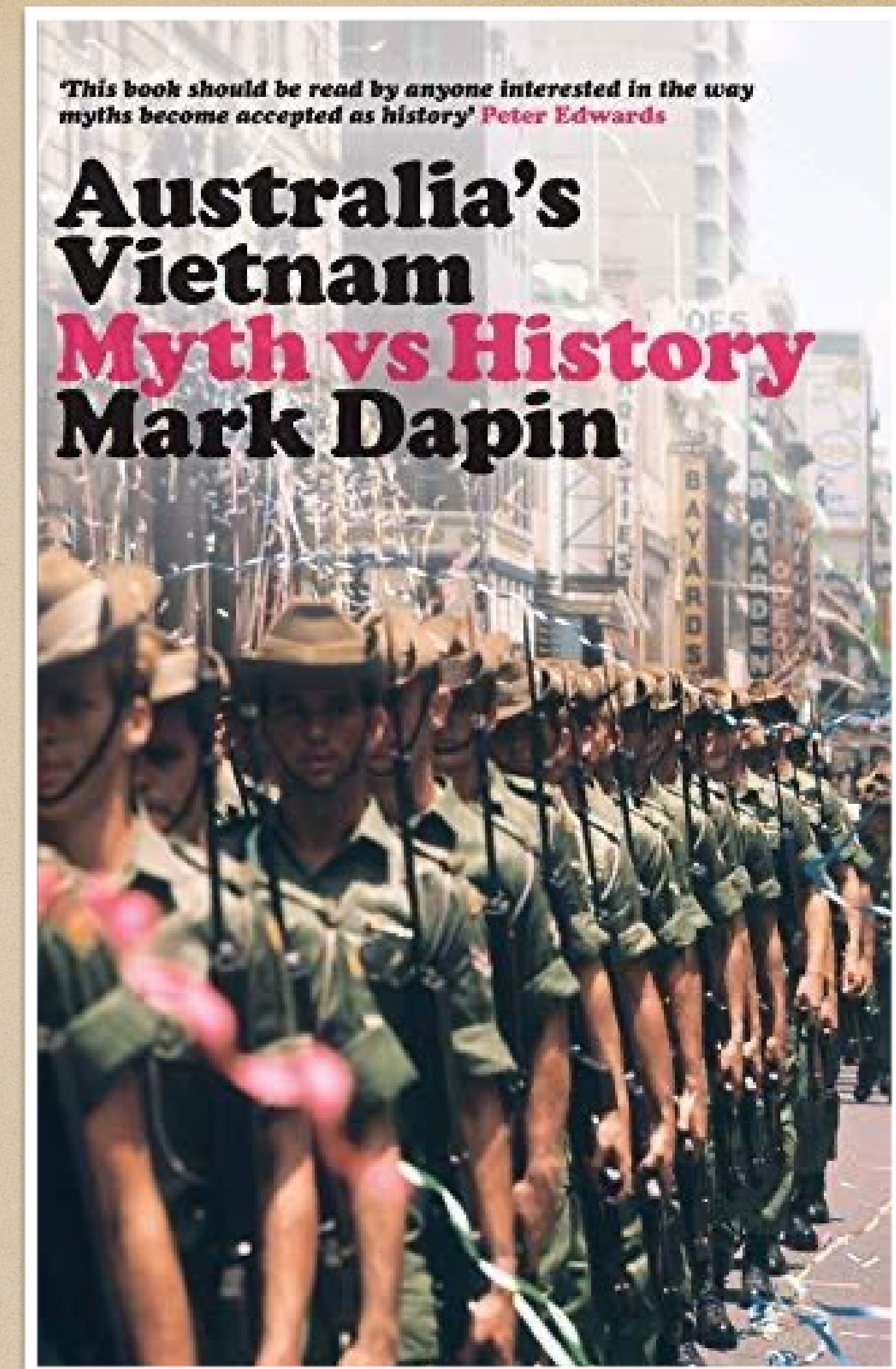


2020

There is an important distinction to be drawn between writing by former active combatants, which often appeared in the immediate post-war period and was largely inspired by personal experience of the war, and fiction by non-combatants, published considerably later. Each new generation must form an image of the wars that have shaped its times and must assess the way in which those wars have impacted on their own society.



2017

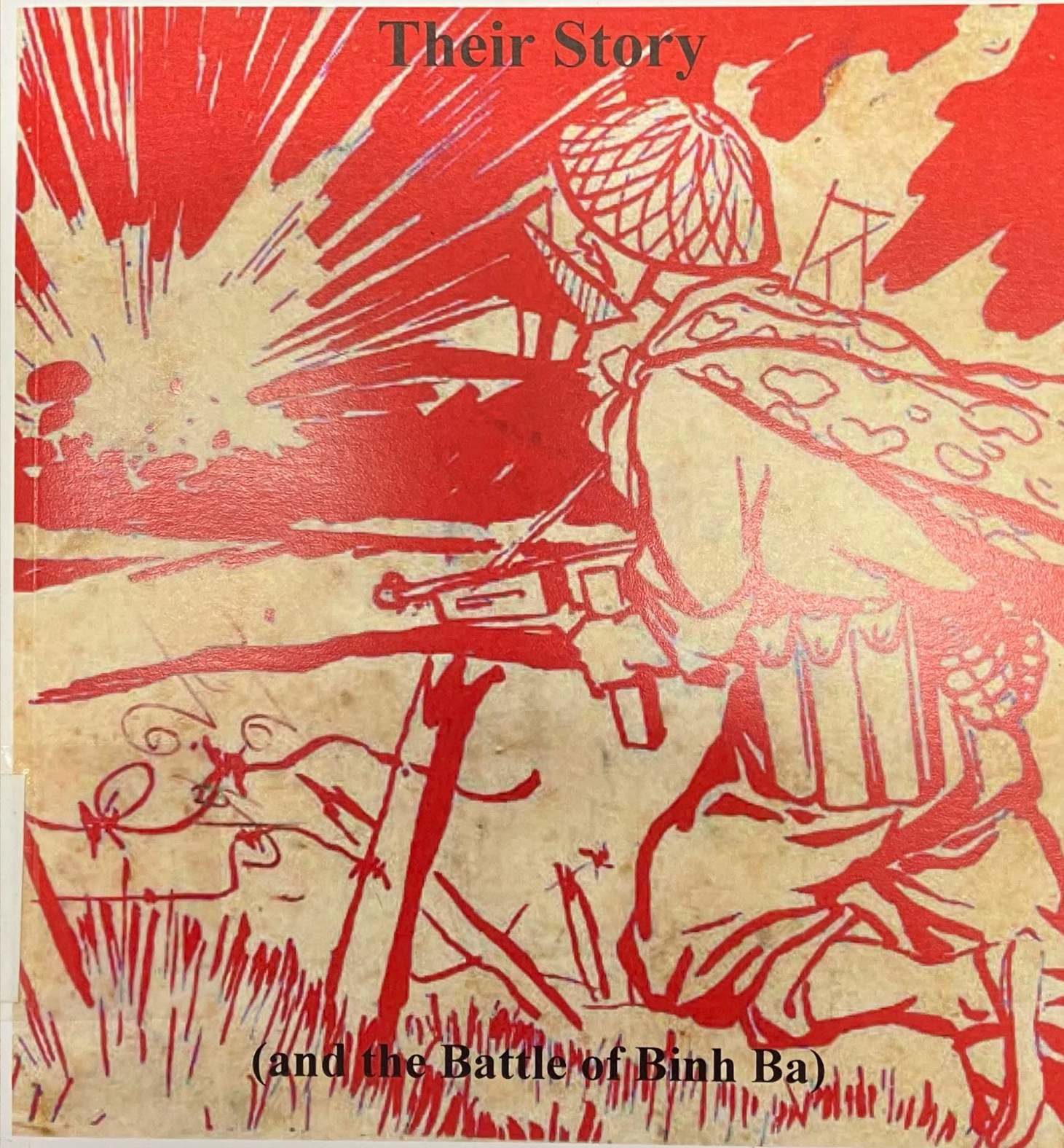


2018

The 33rd Regiment

North Vietnamese Army

Their Story



Ernest Chamberlain

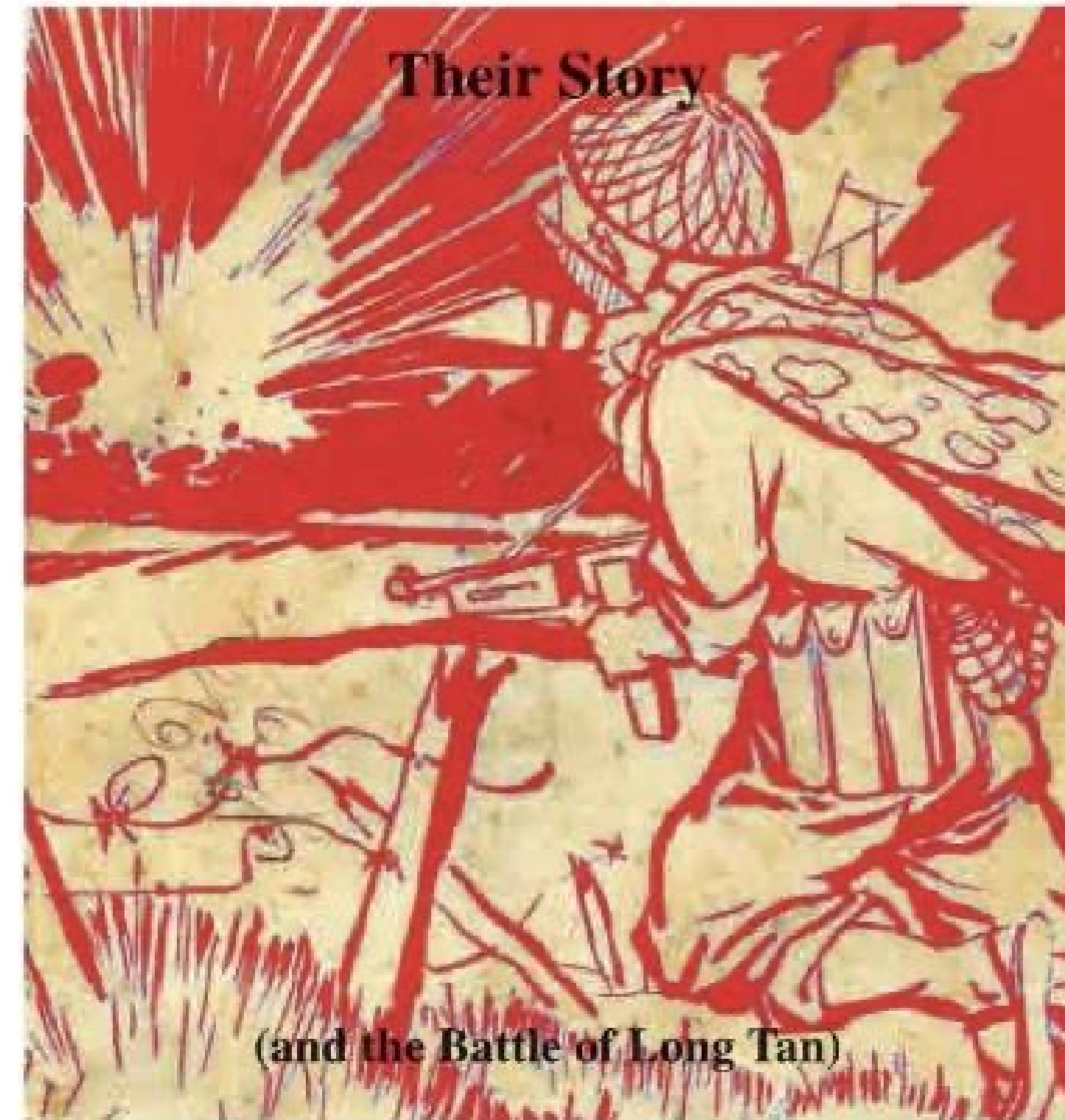
2017

The Viet Cong

D445

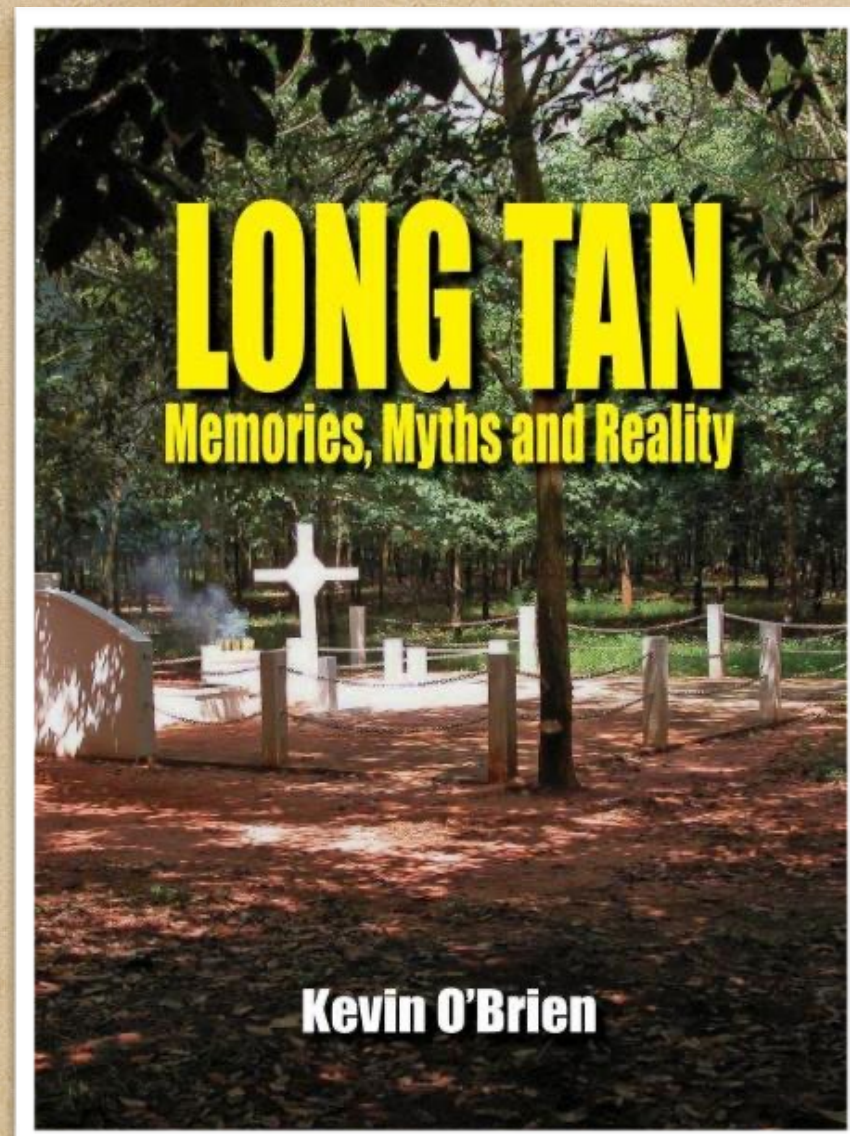
Battalion

Their Story

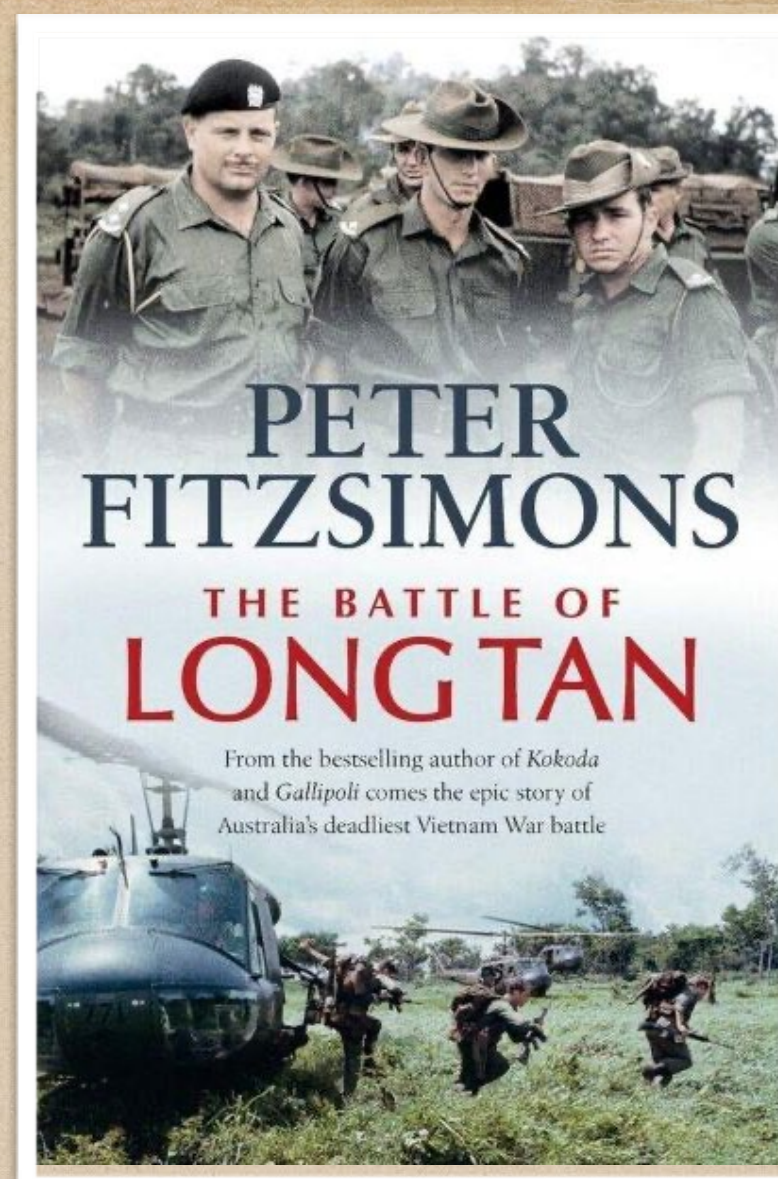


Ernest Chamberlain - 2016

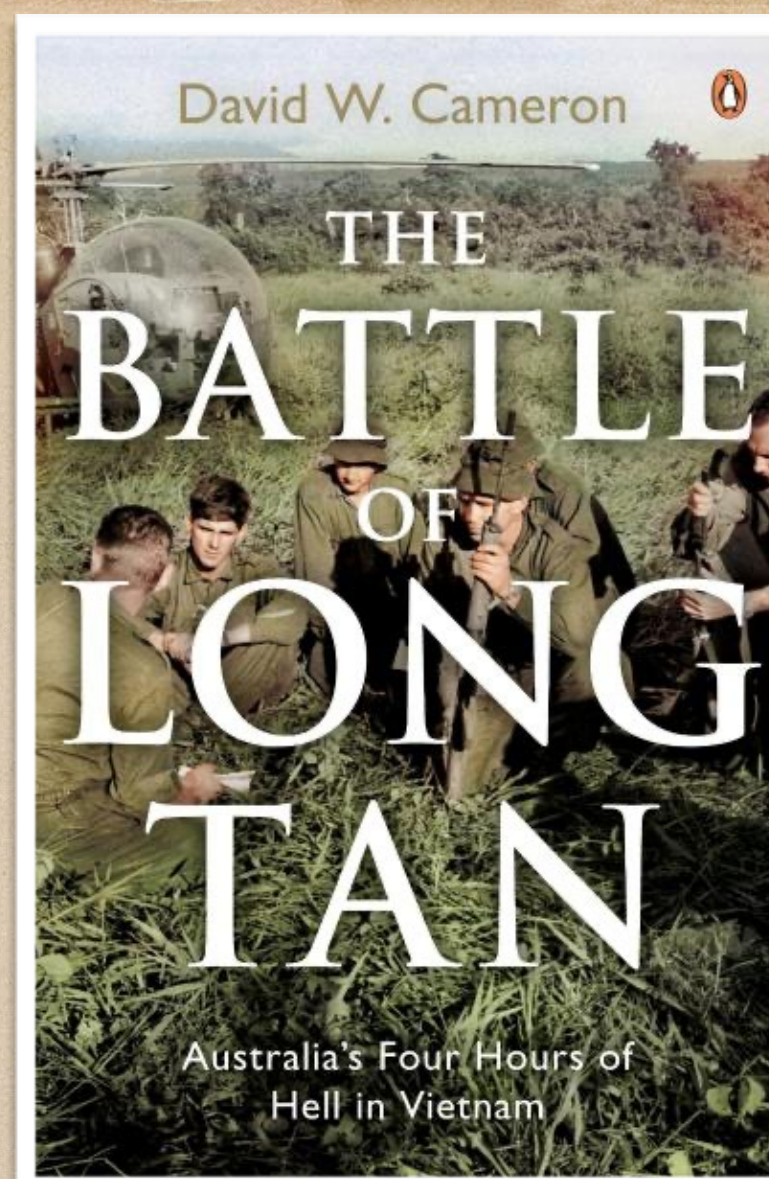
2016



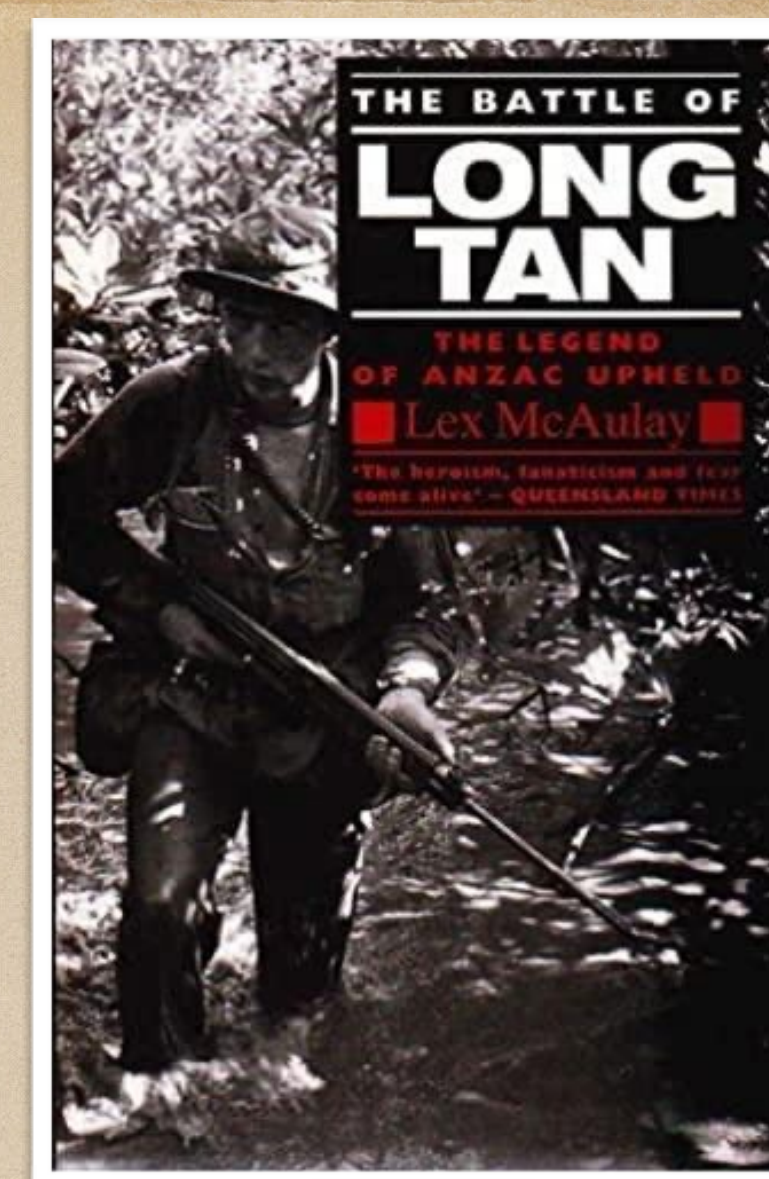
2025



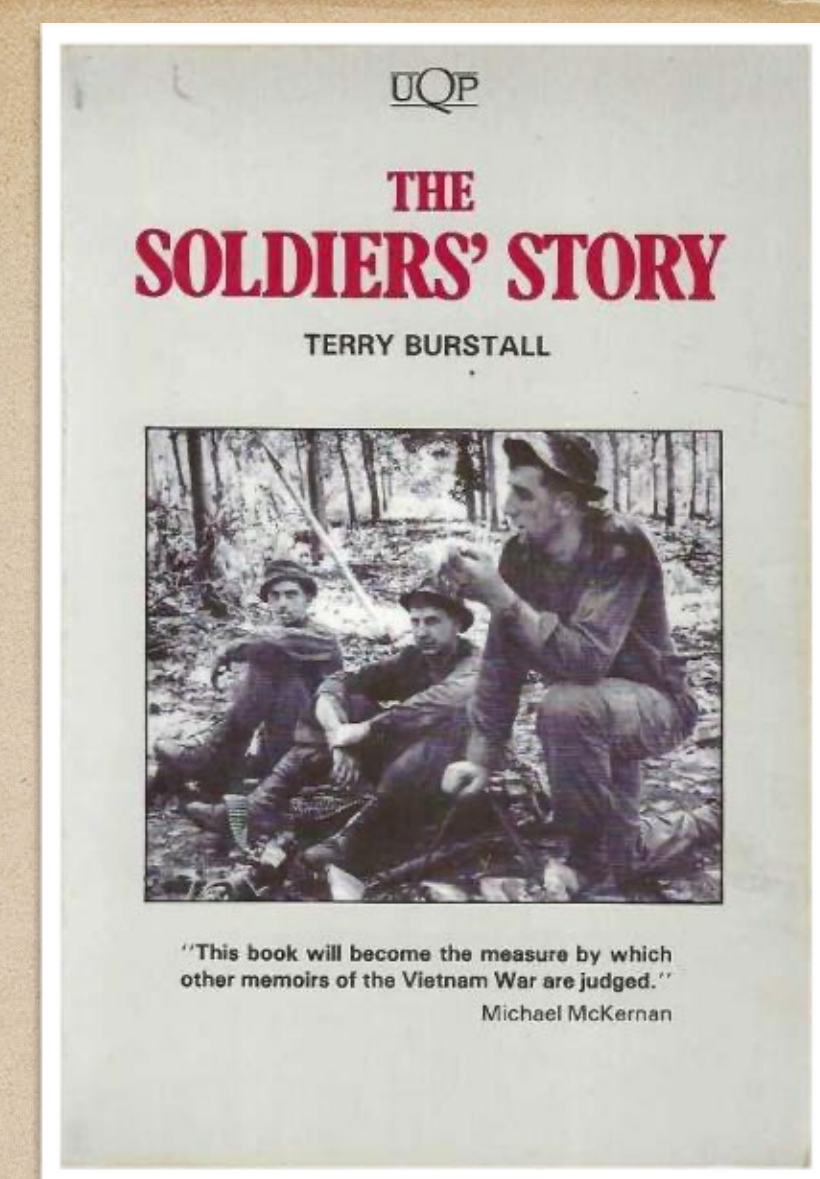
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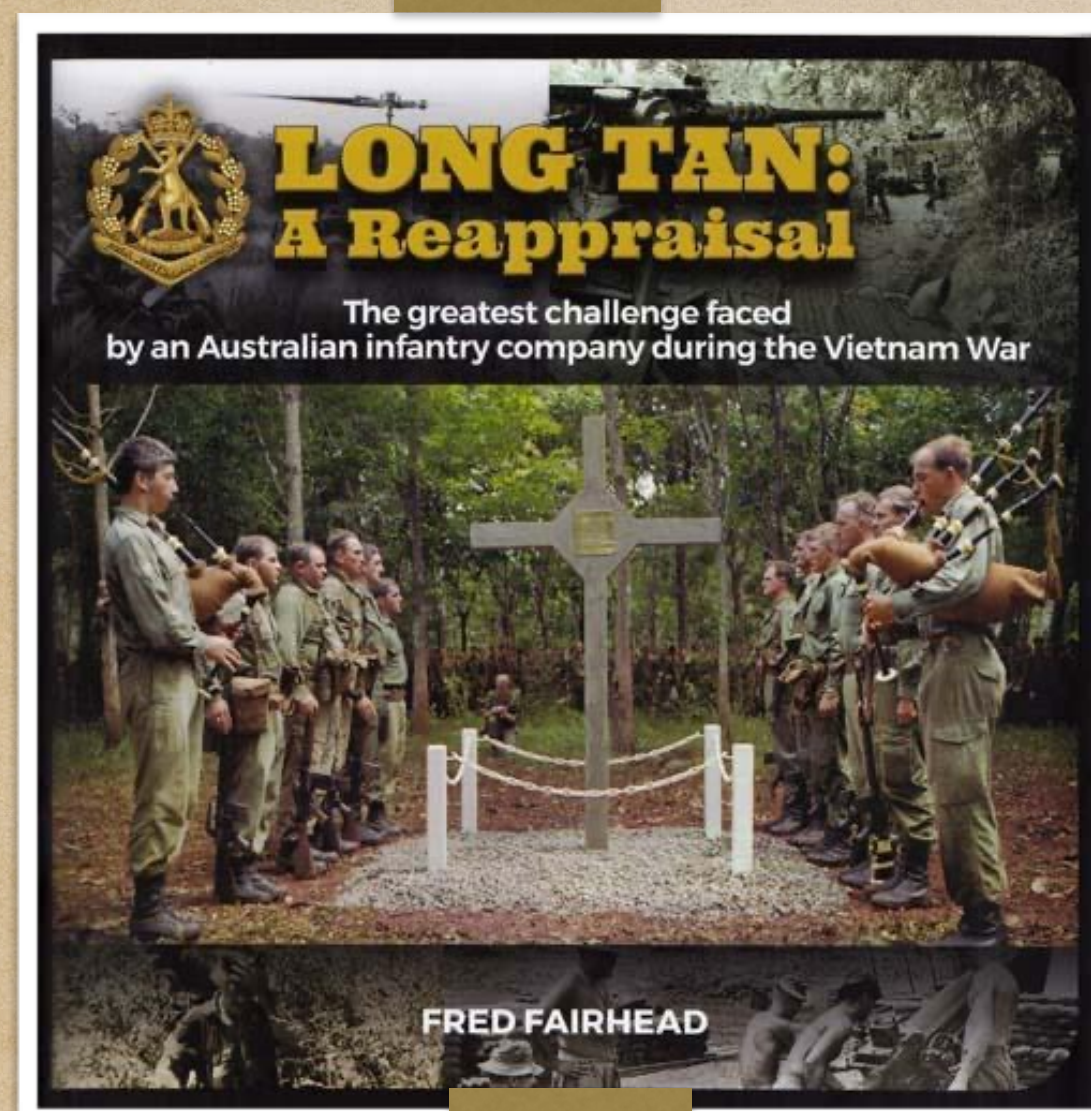
2016



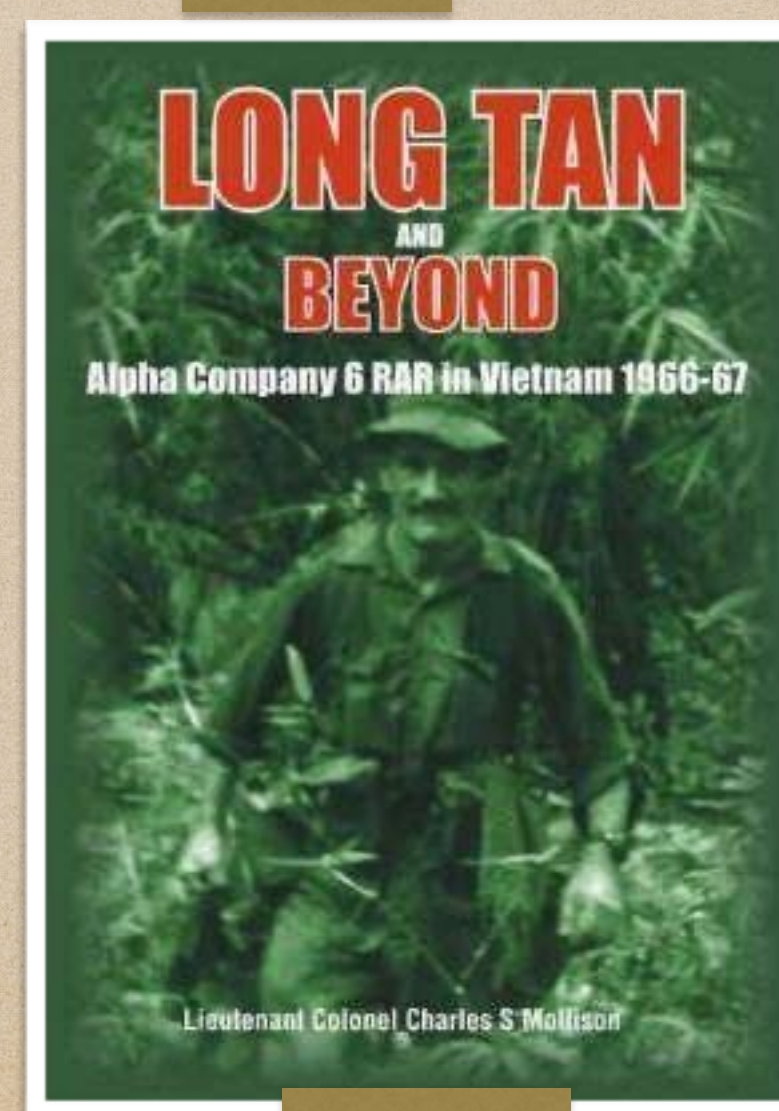
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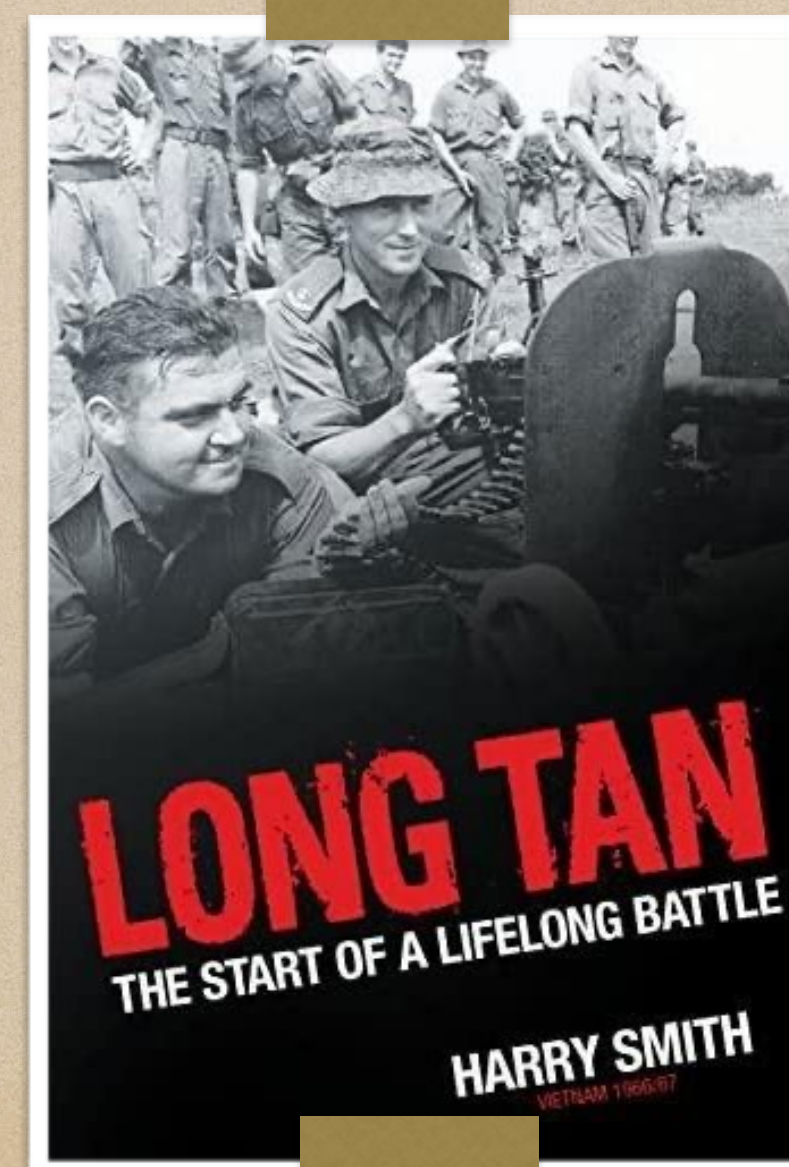
1986



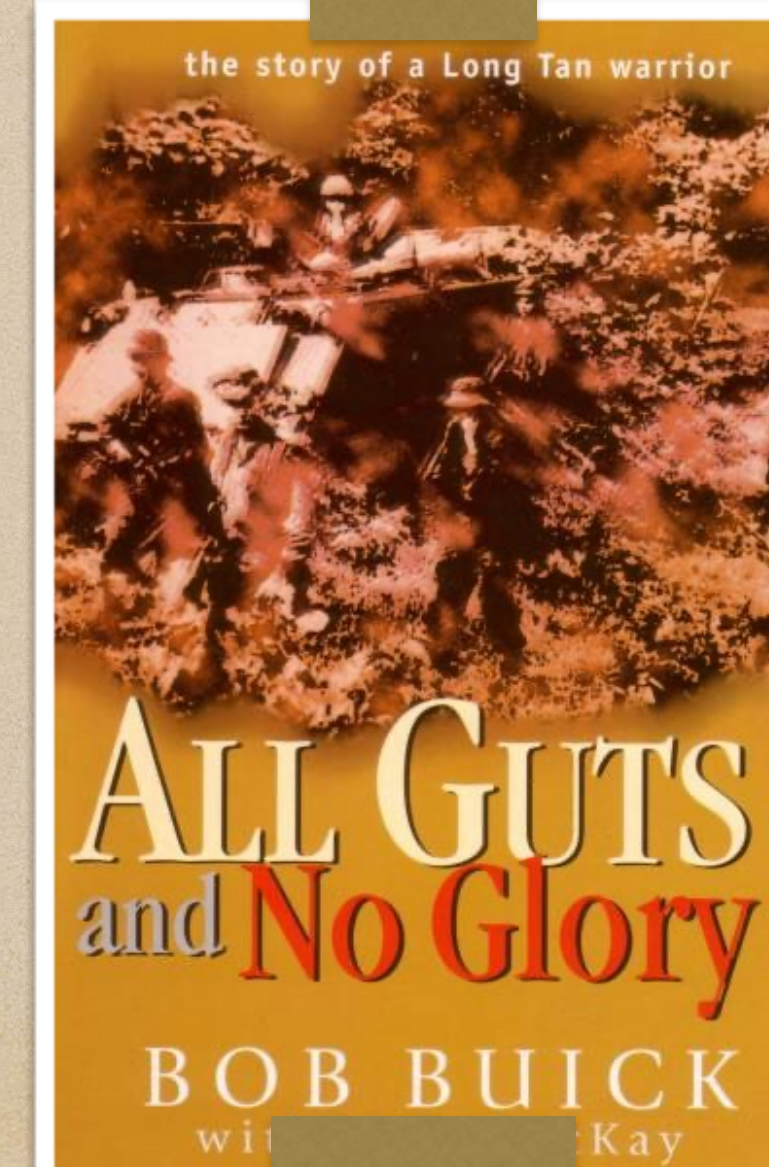
2019



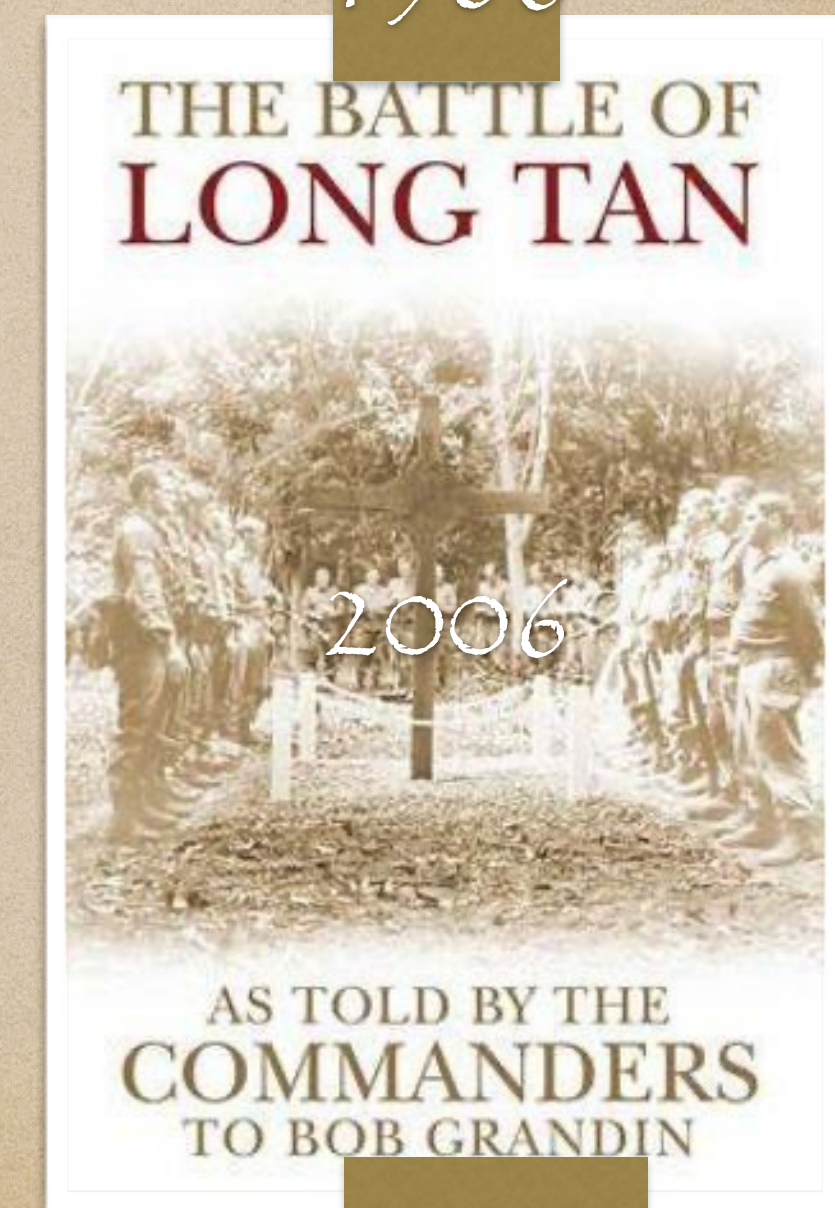
2006



2015



2000



2004

VIETNAM VETERANS
A RECORD OF SERVICE



Alexander M Palmer

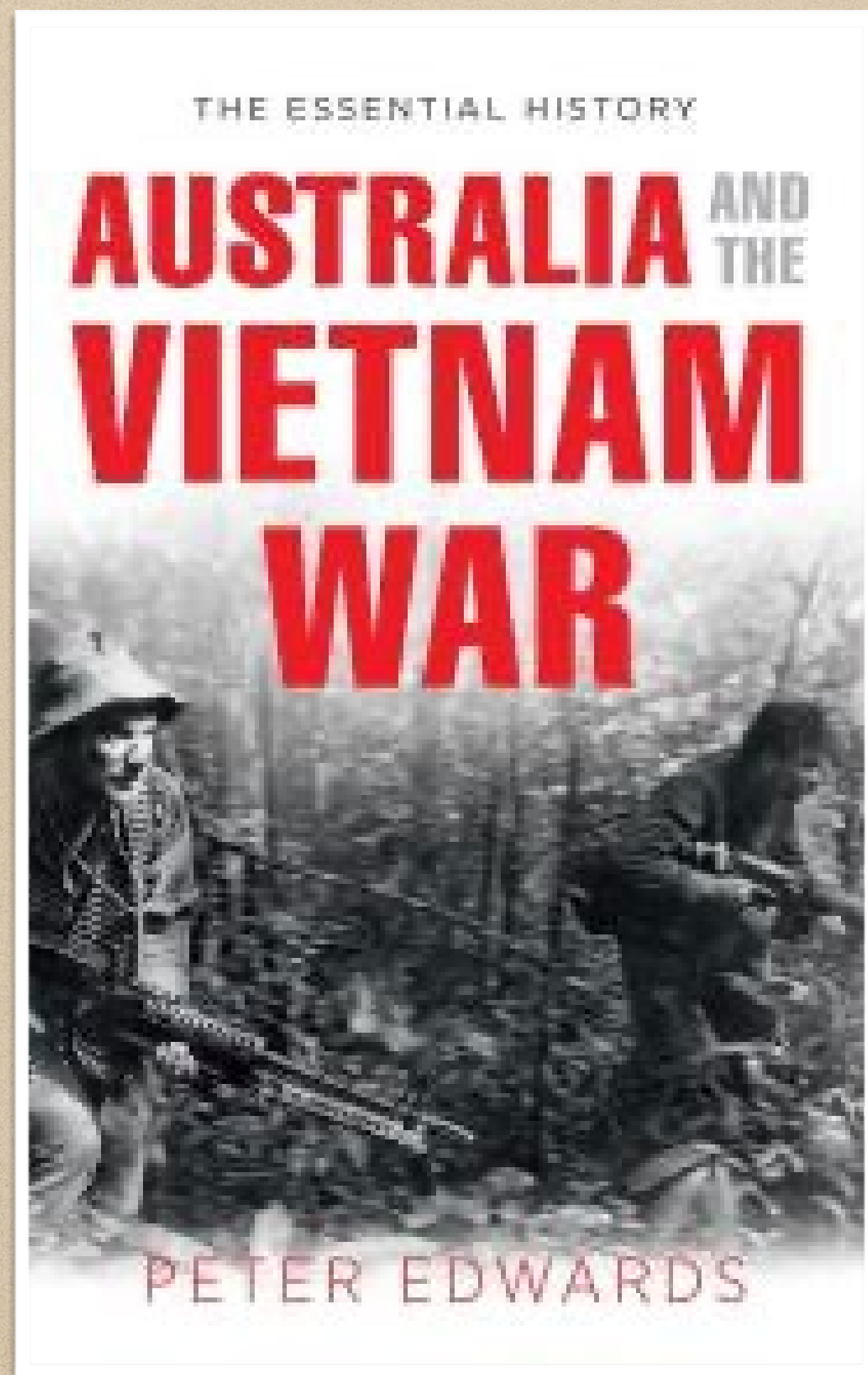
1995

VIETNAM VETERANS
HONOURS & AWARDS
ARMY

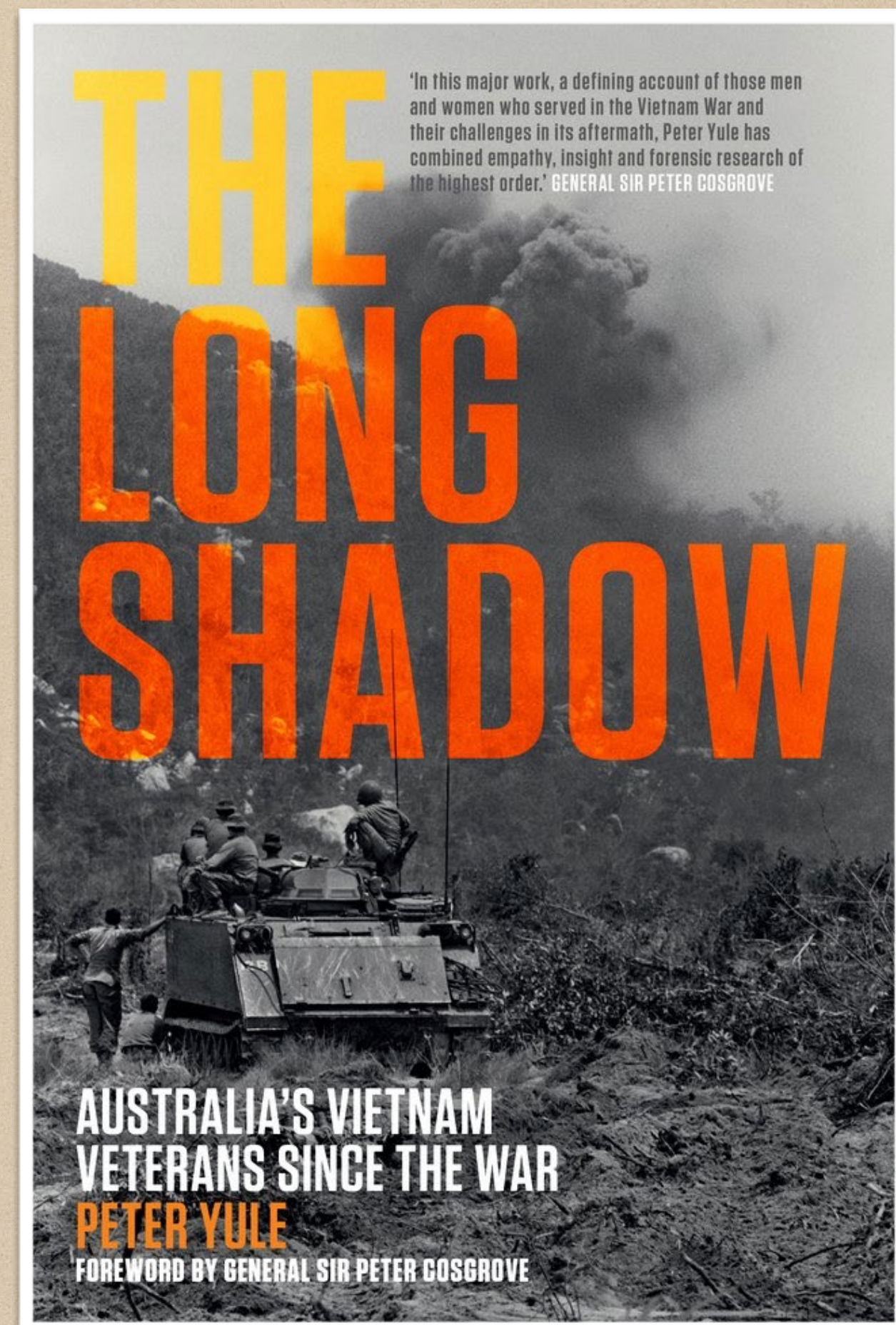


Alexander M Palmer

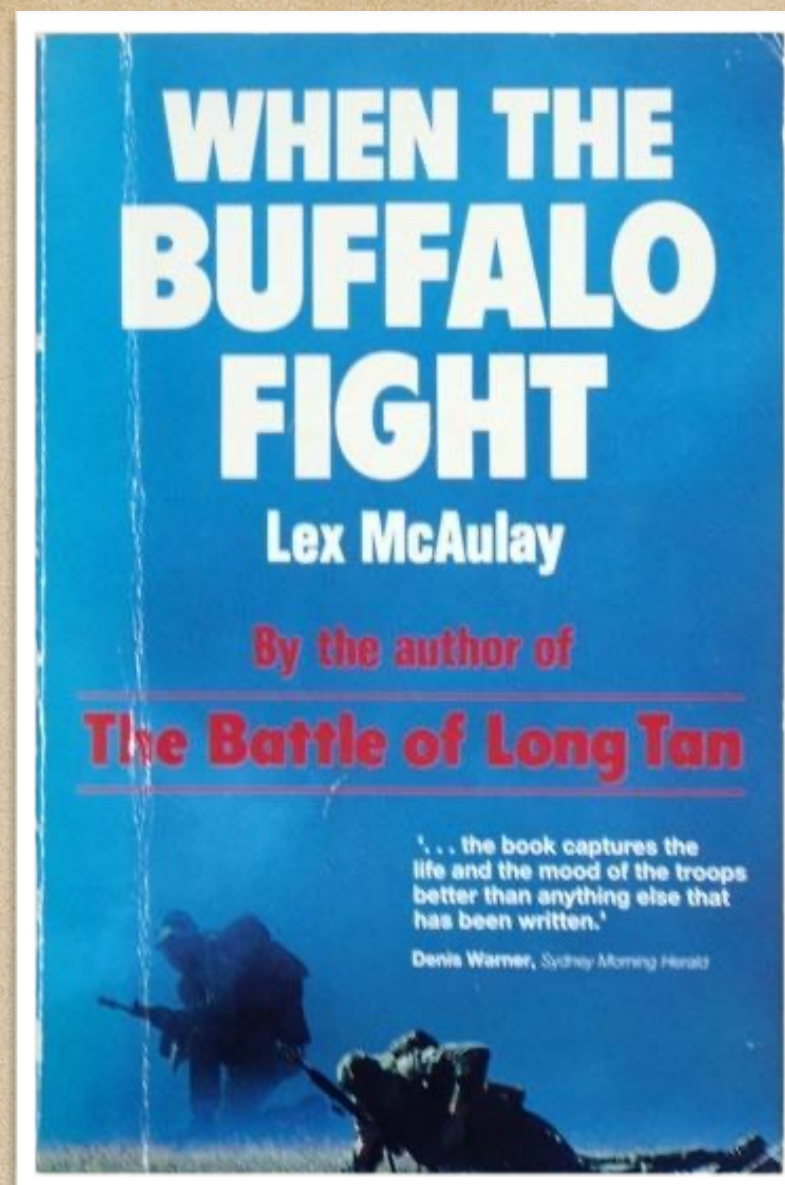
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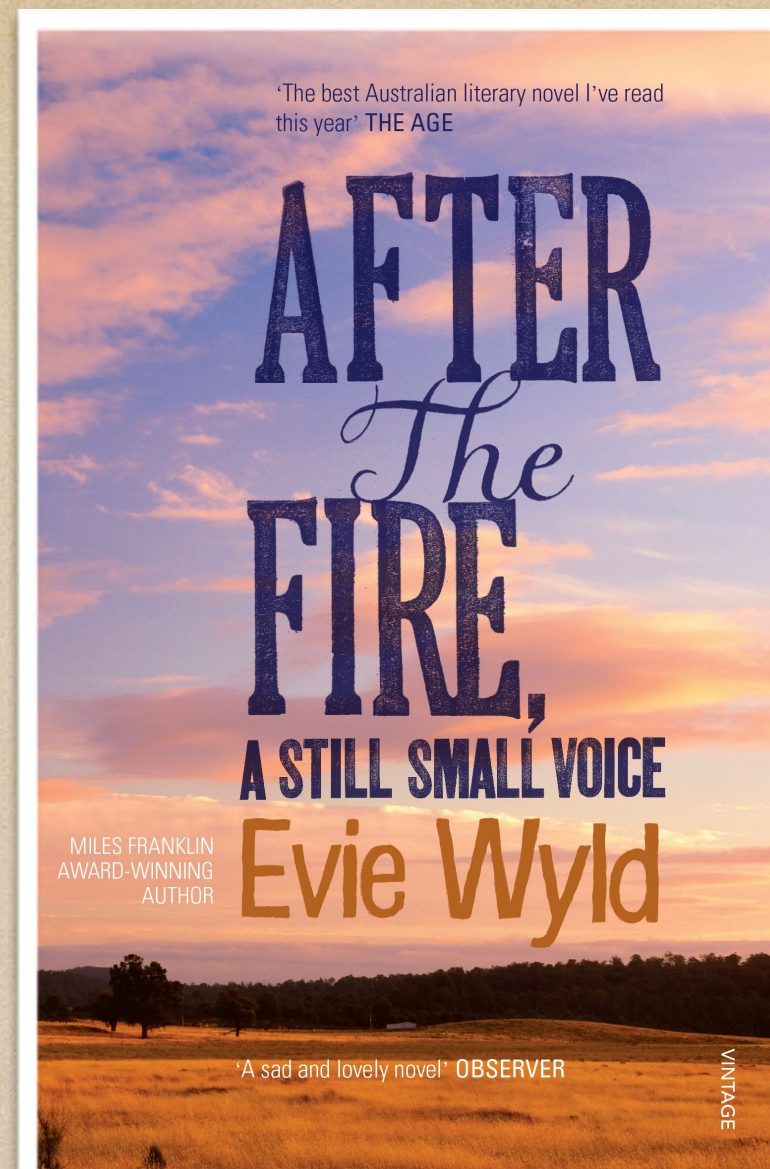
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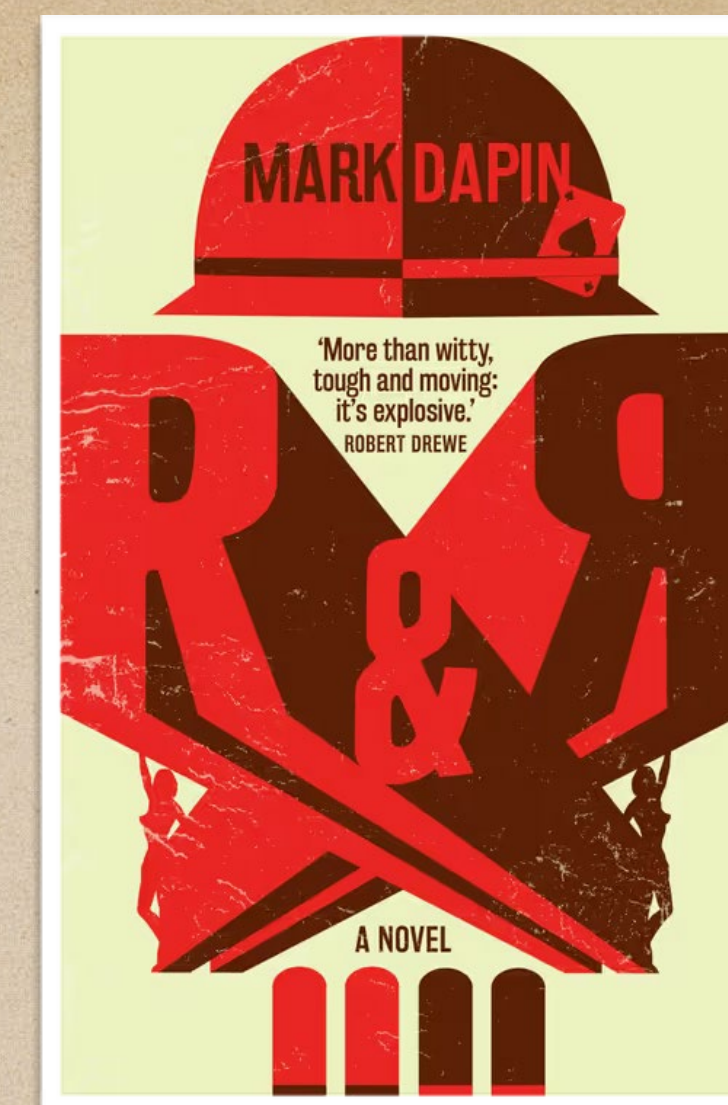
2020



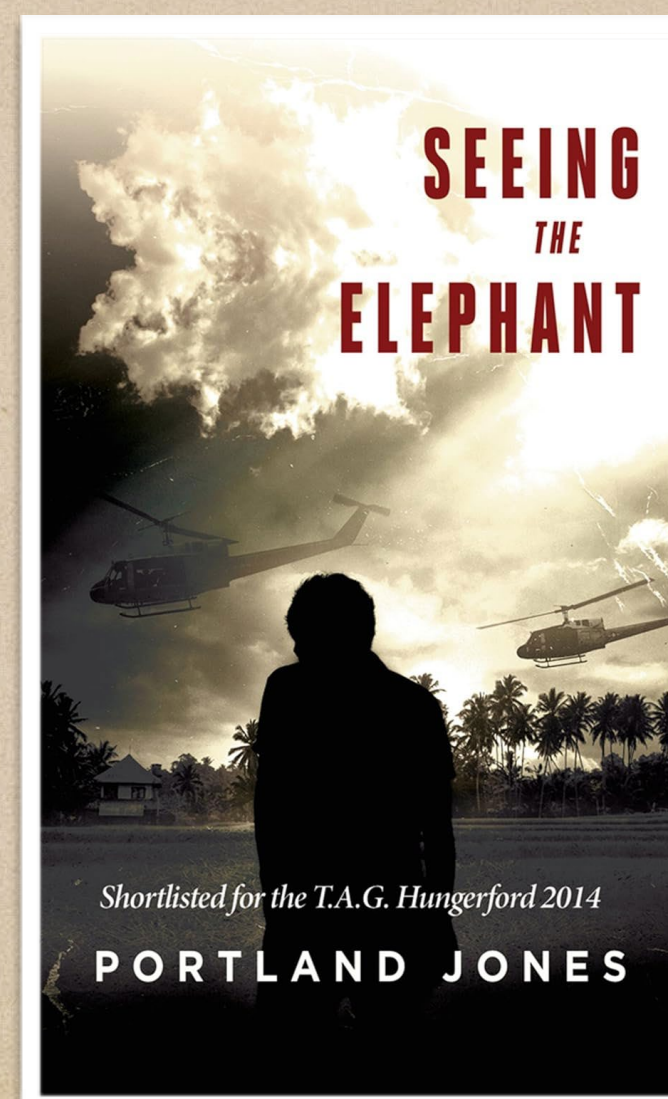
David Alexander
1980



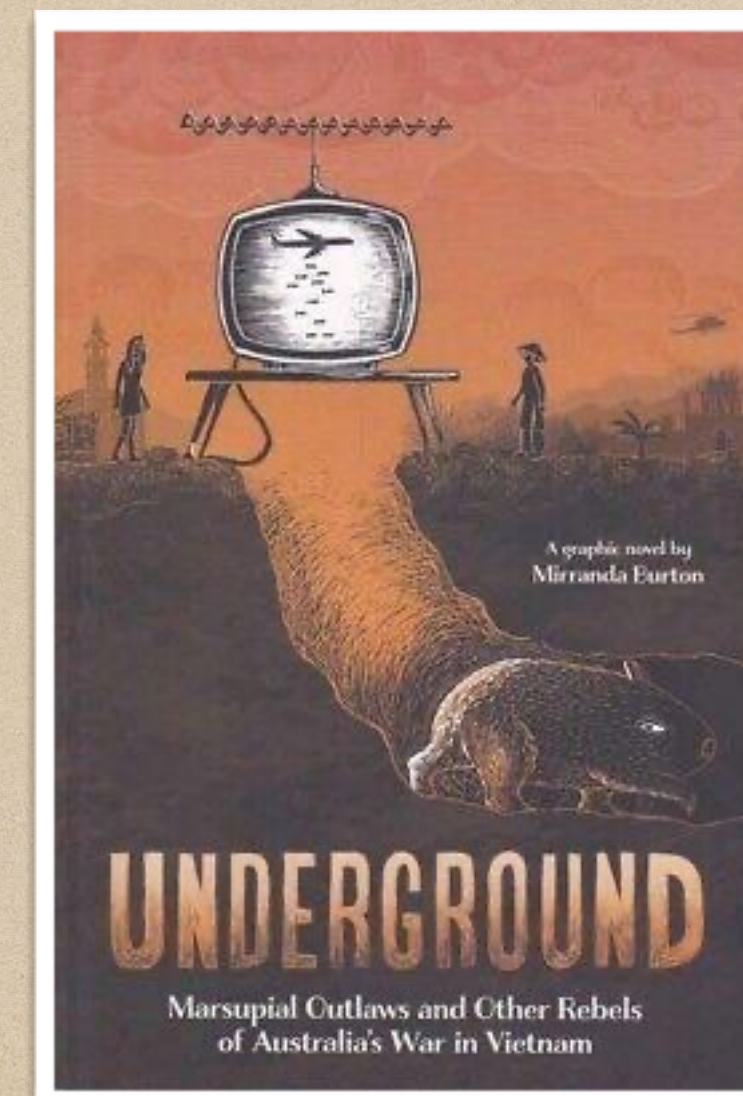
2009



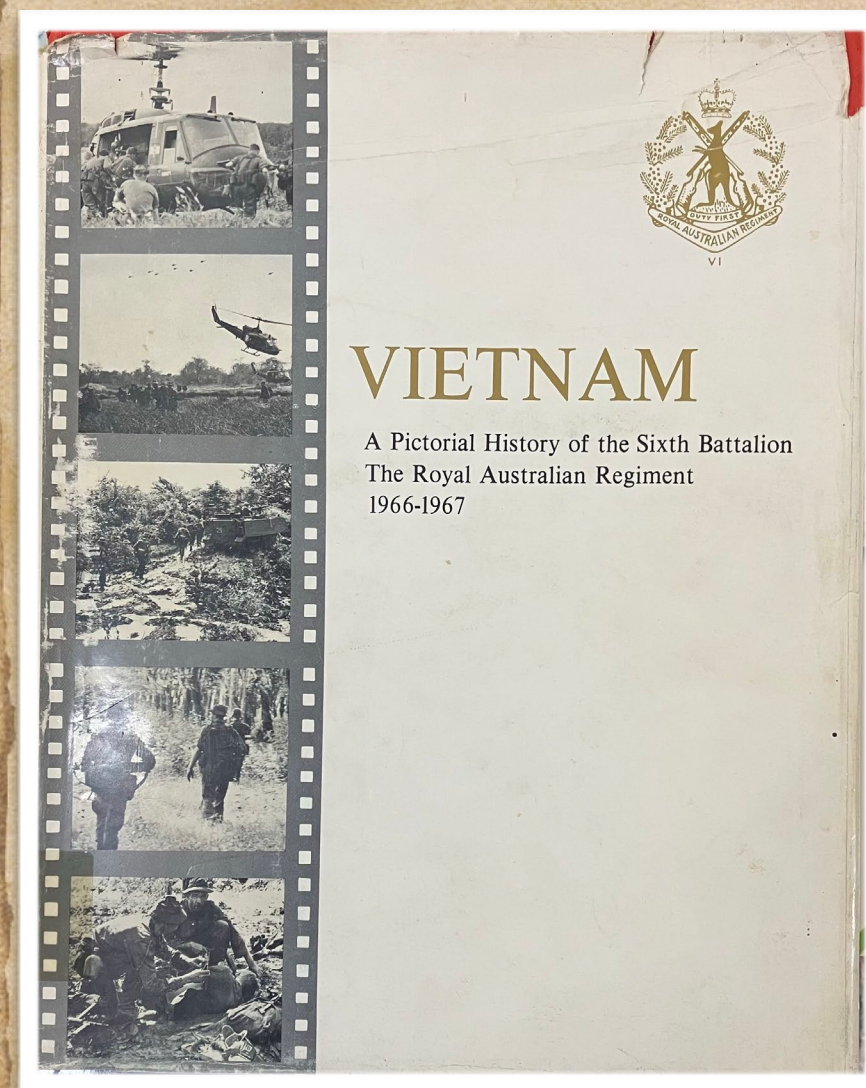
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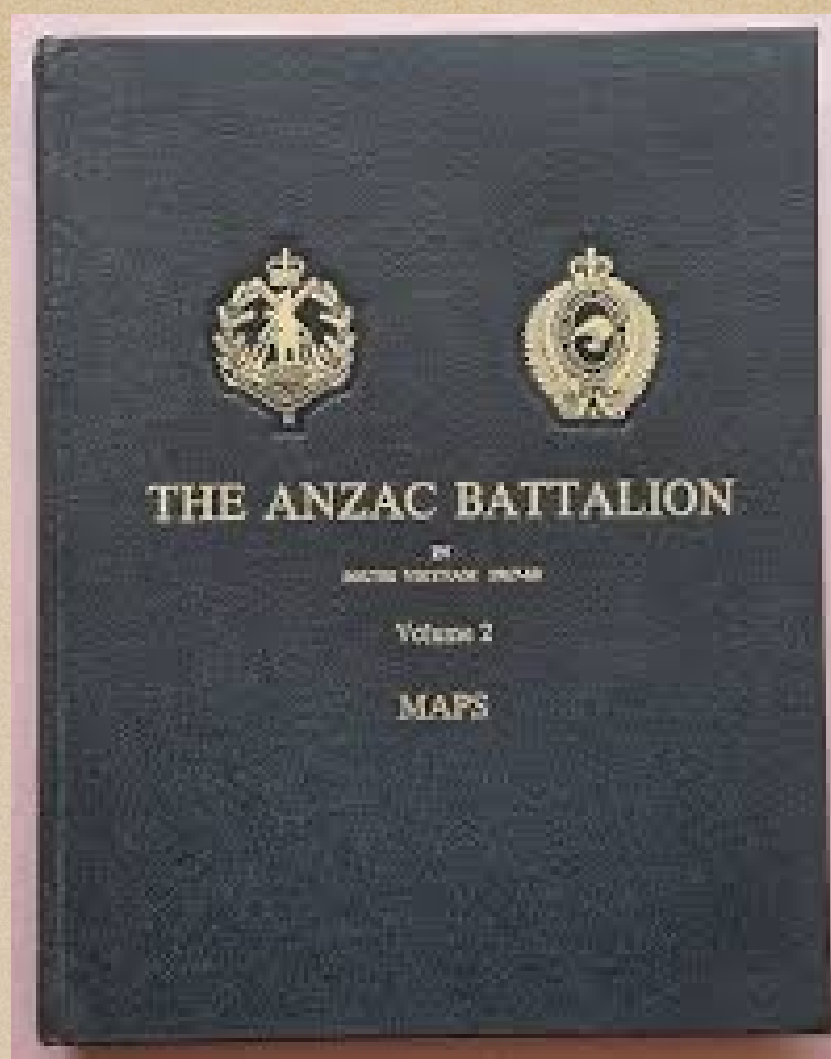
2016



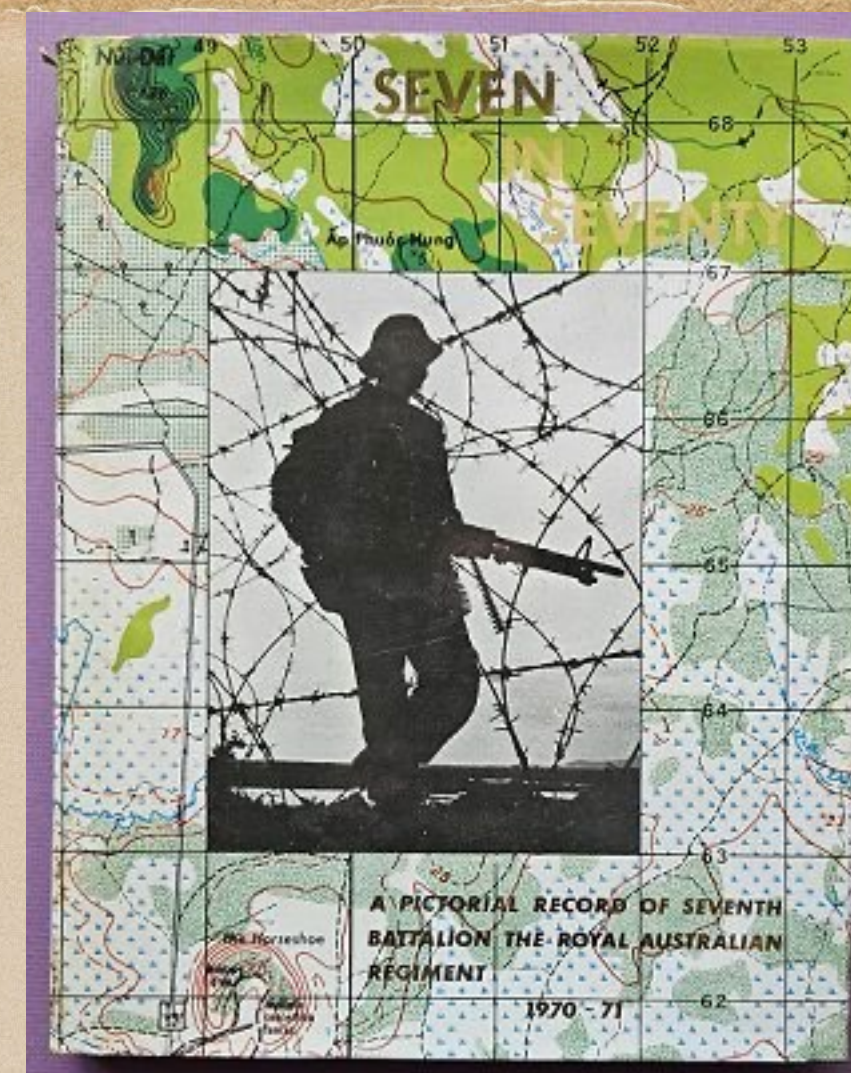
2021



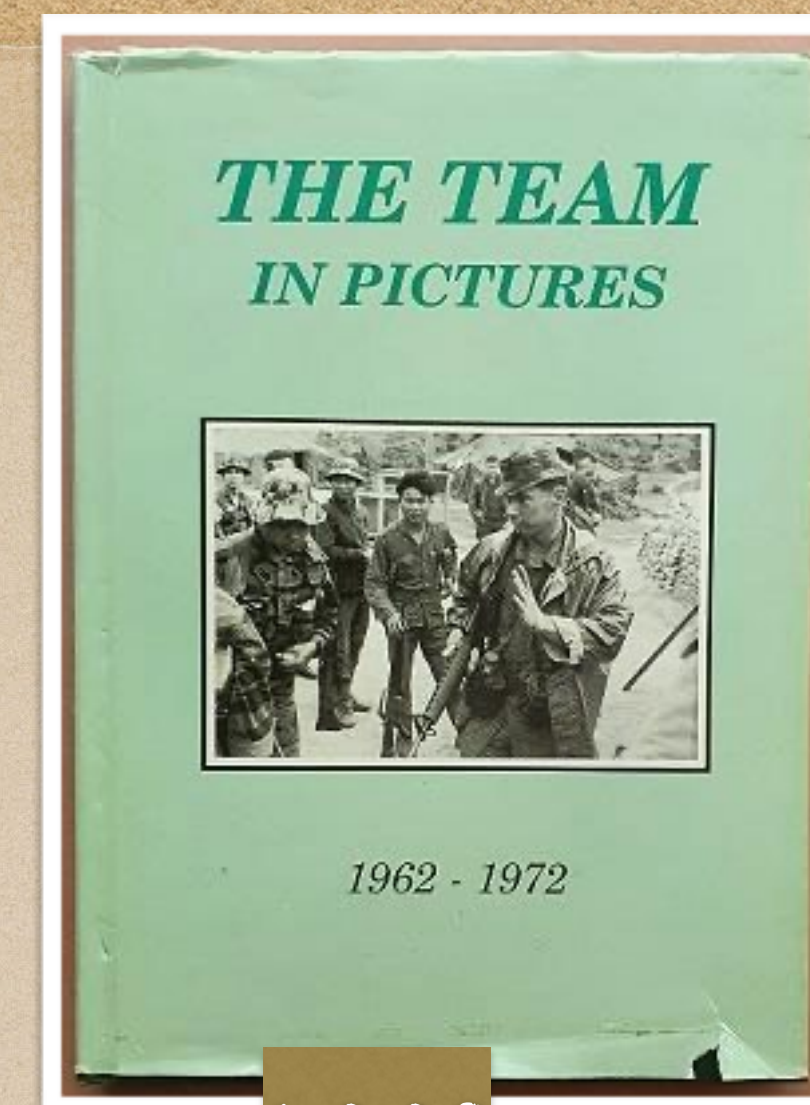
1967



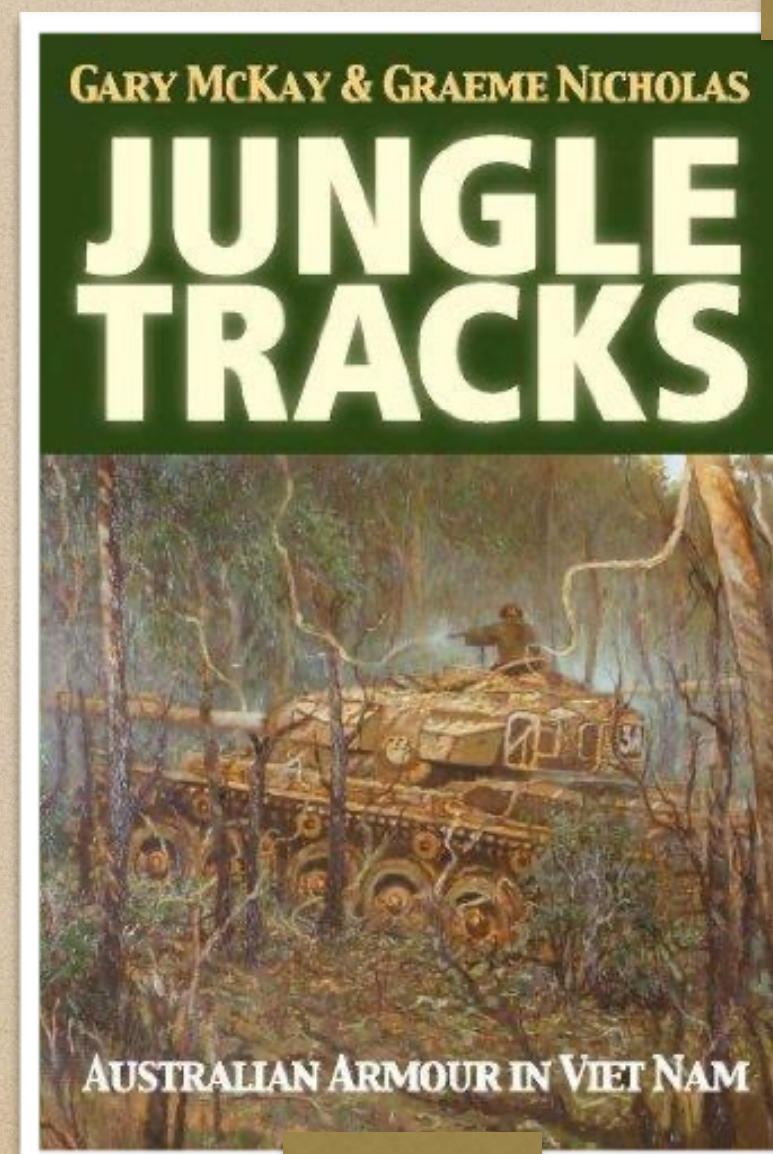
1968



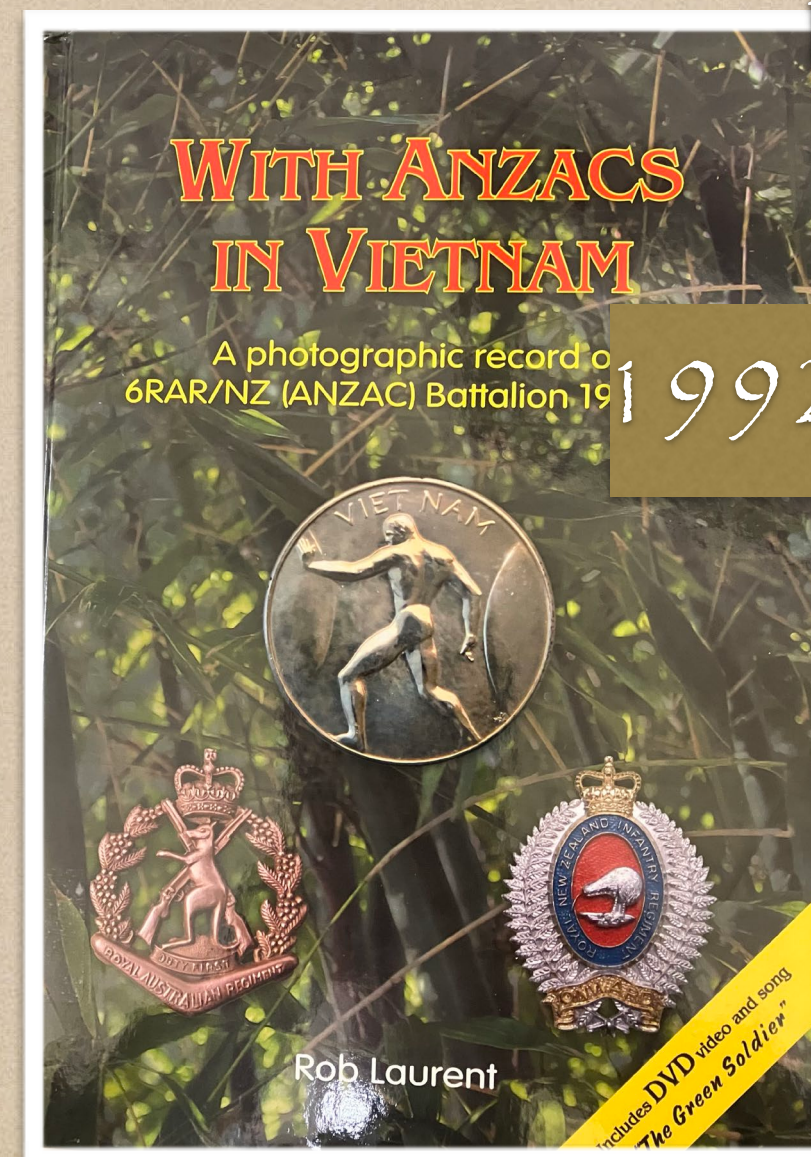
1971



1992



2001



1992

2011

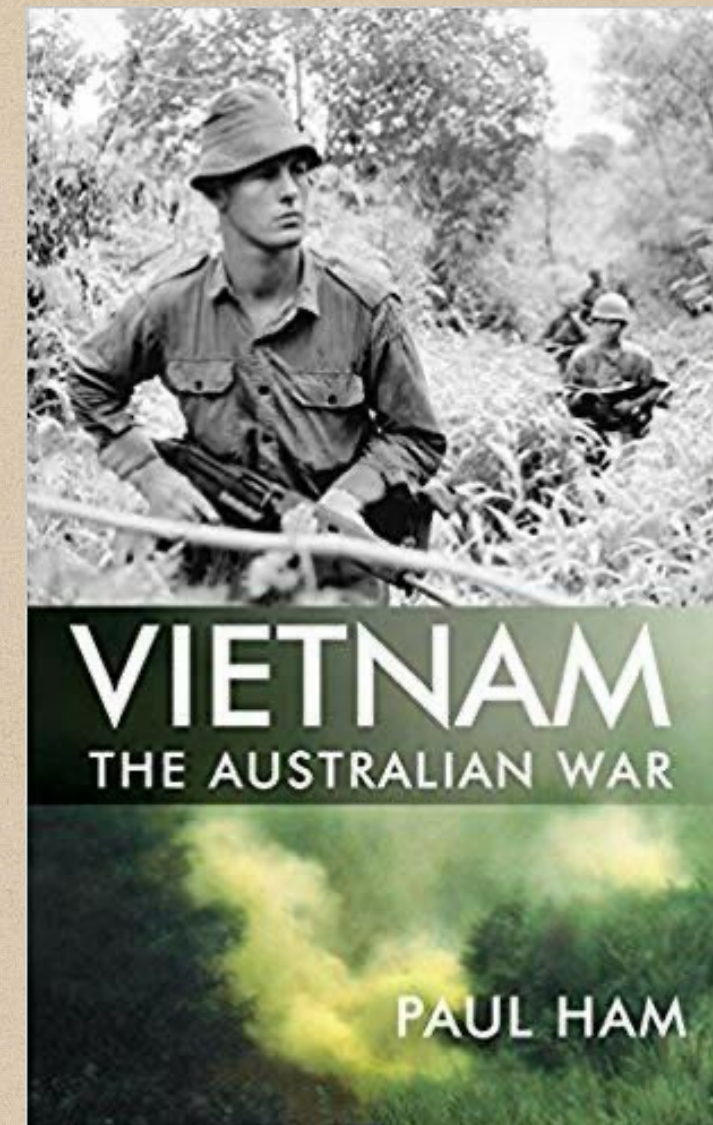


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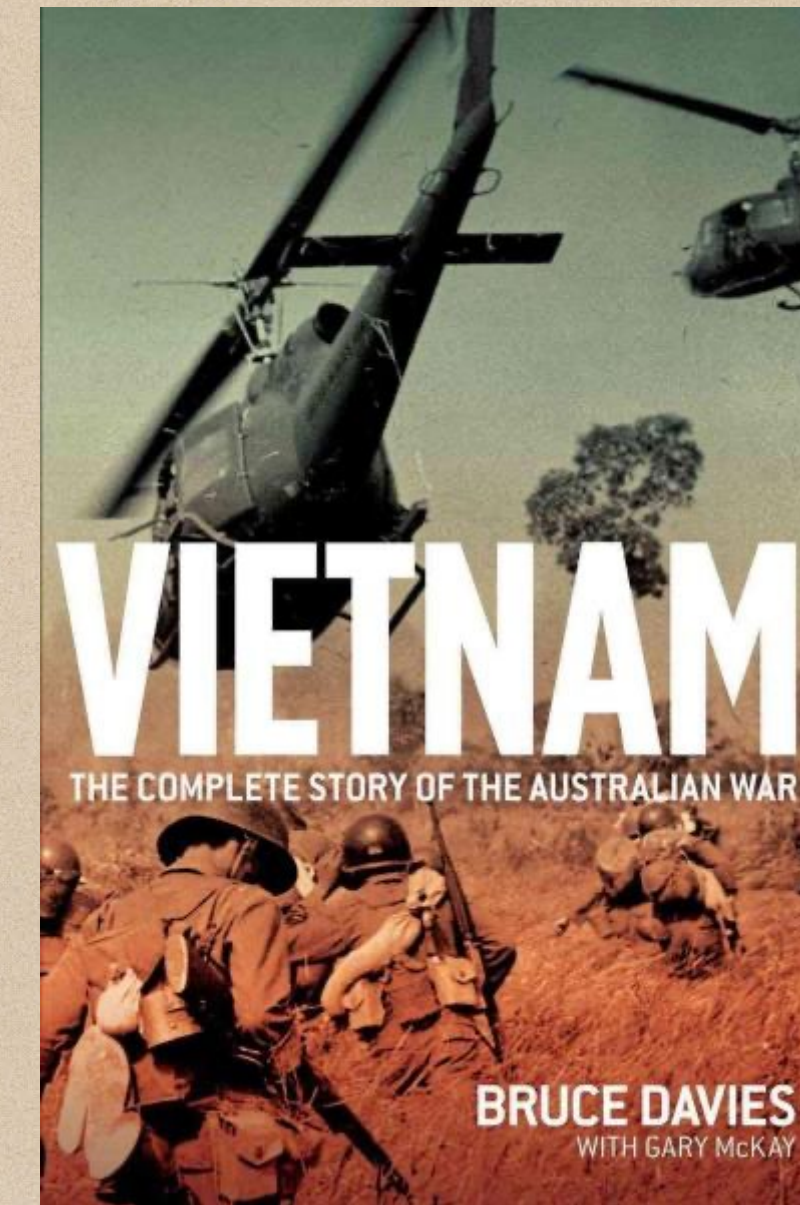
Histories



1987

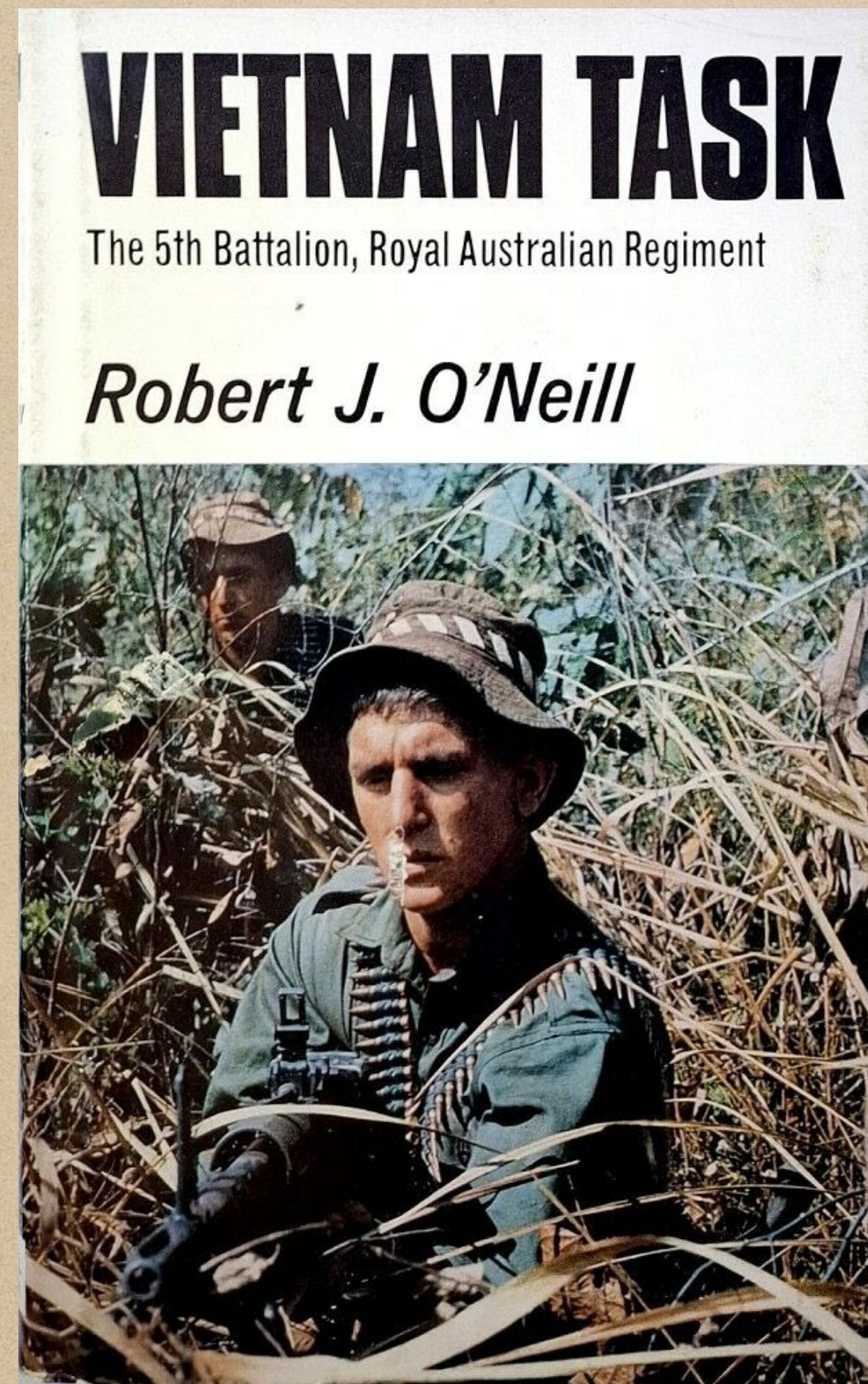


2007

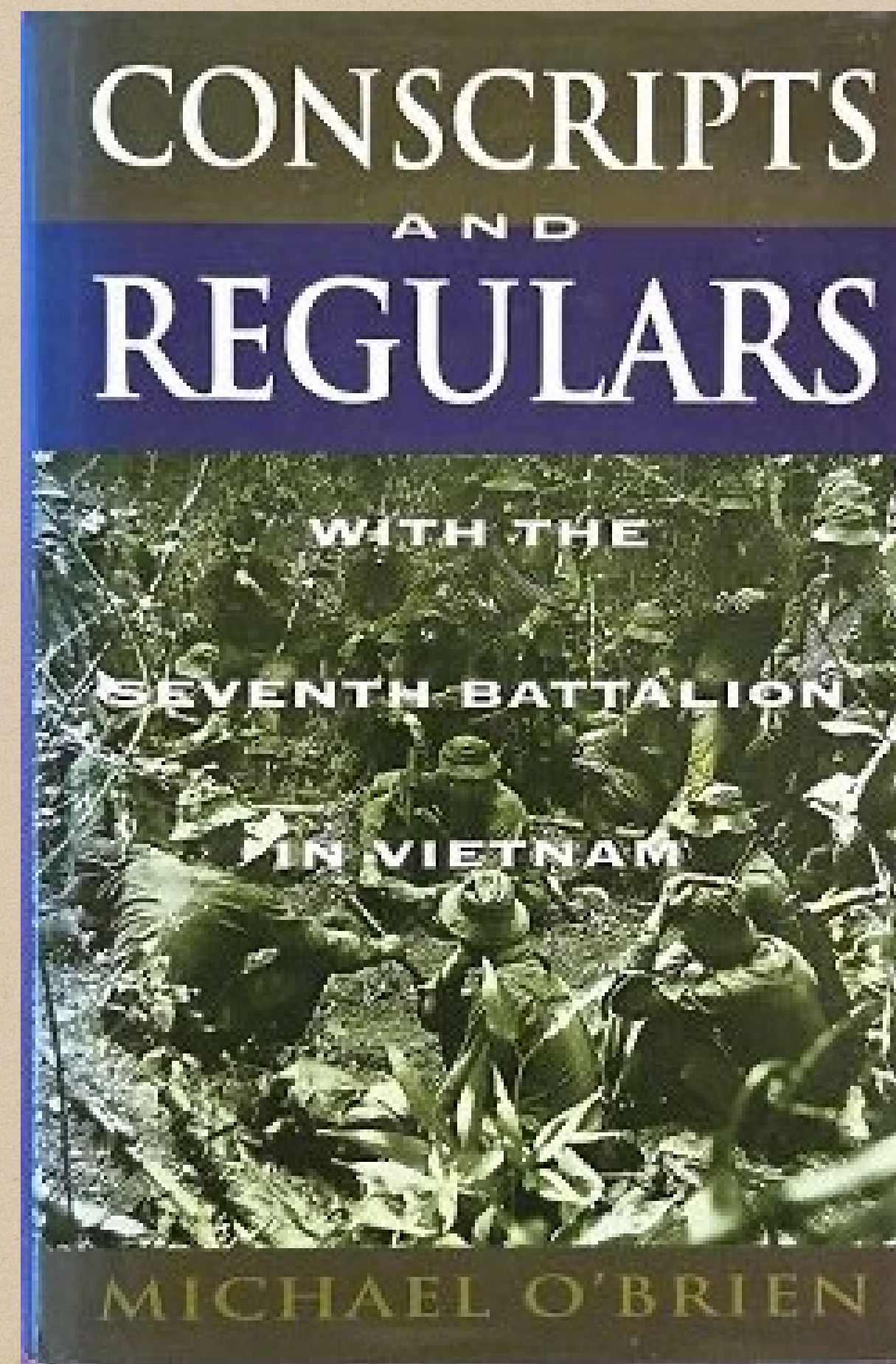


2012

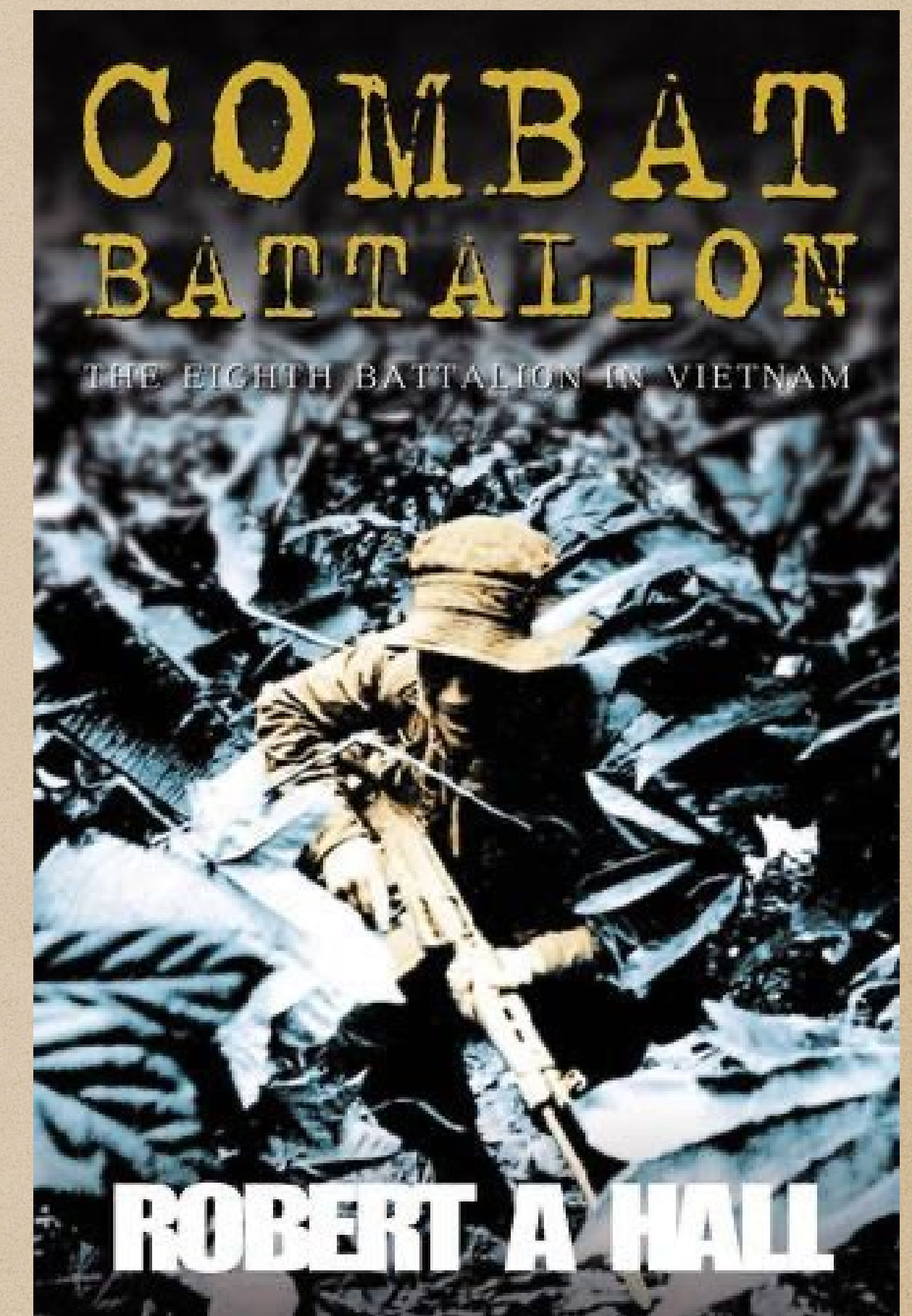
Second Wave



1968



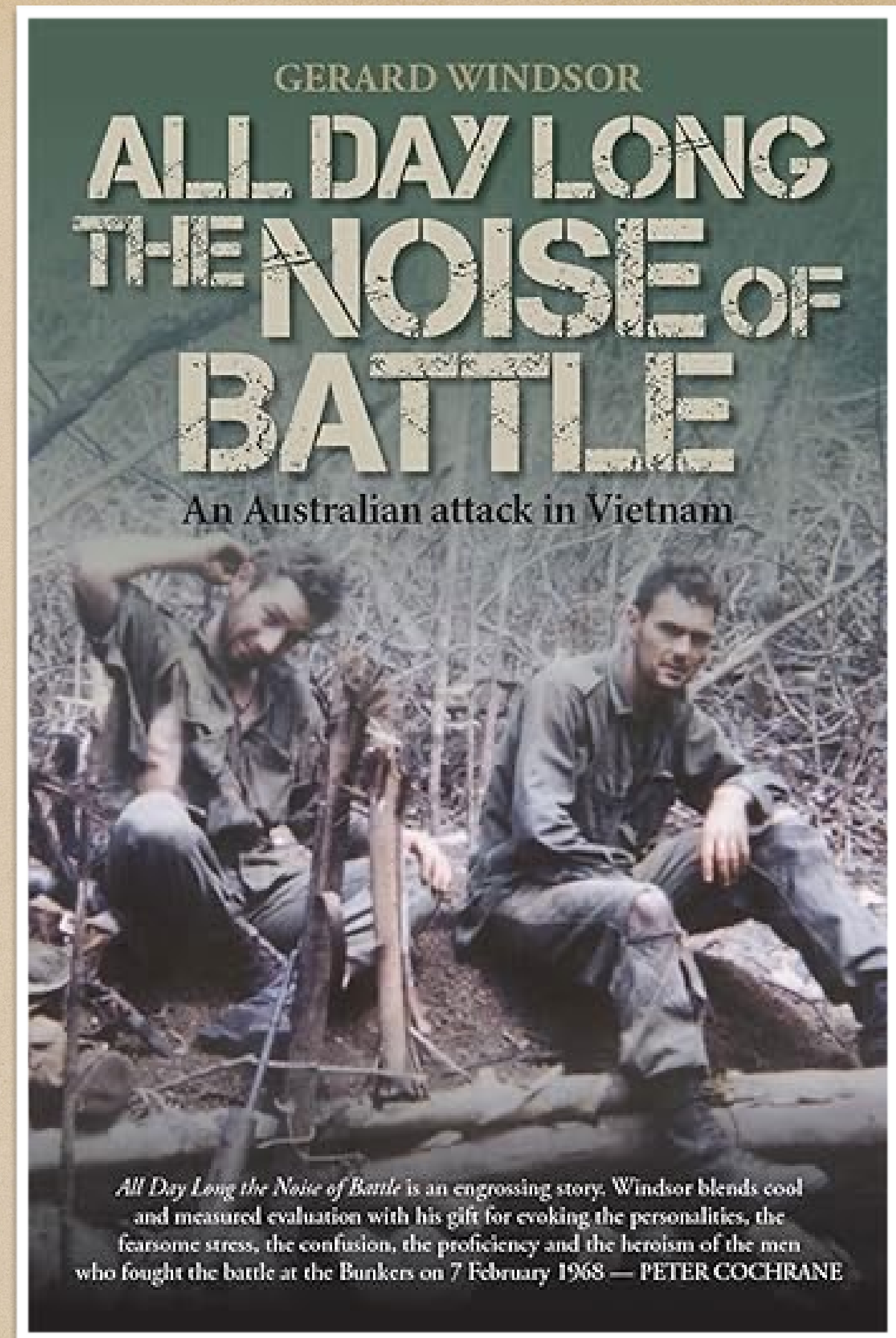
1995



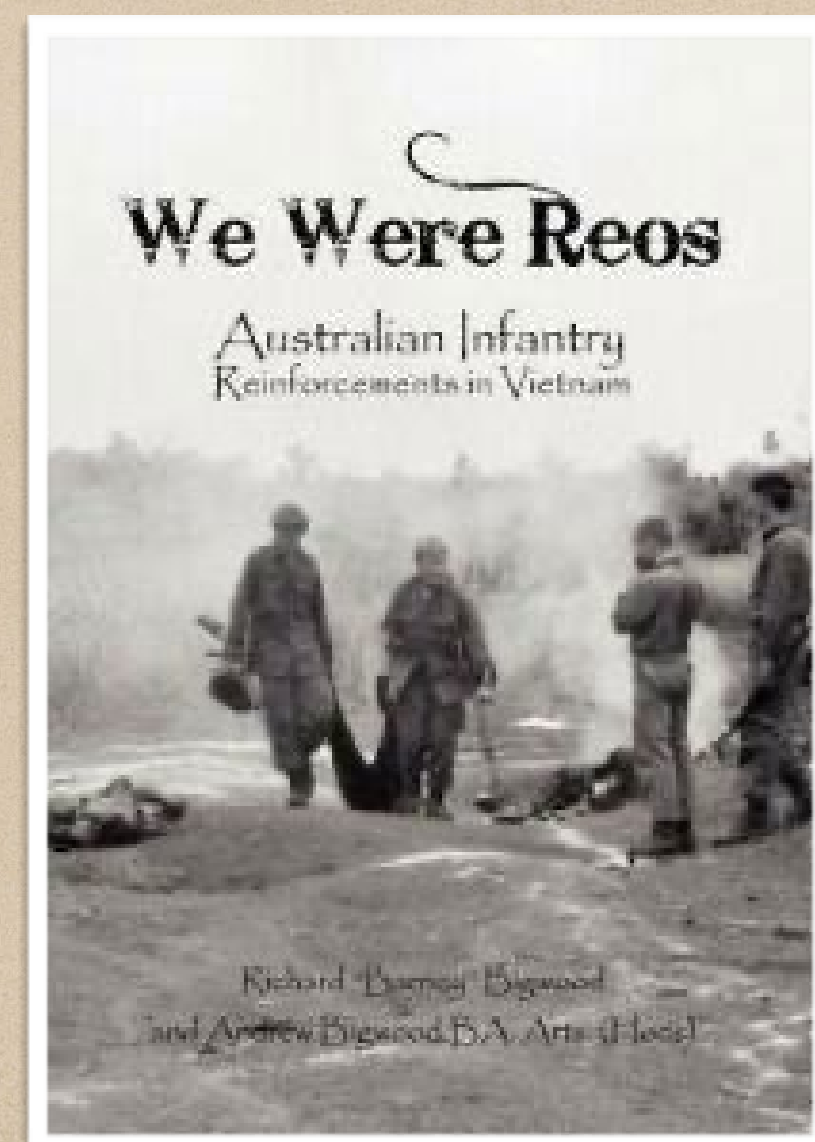
2000

Third Wave

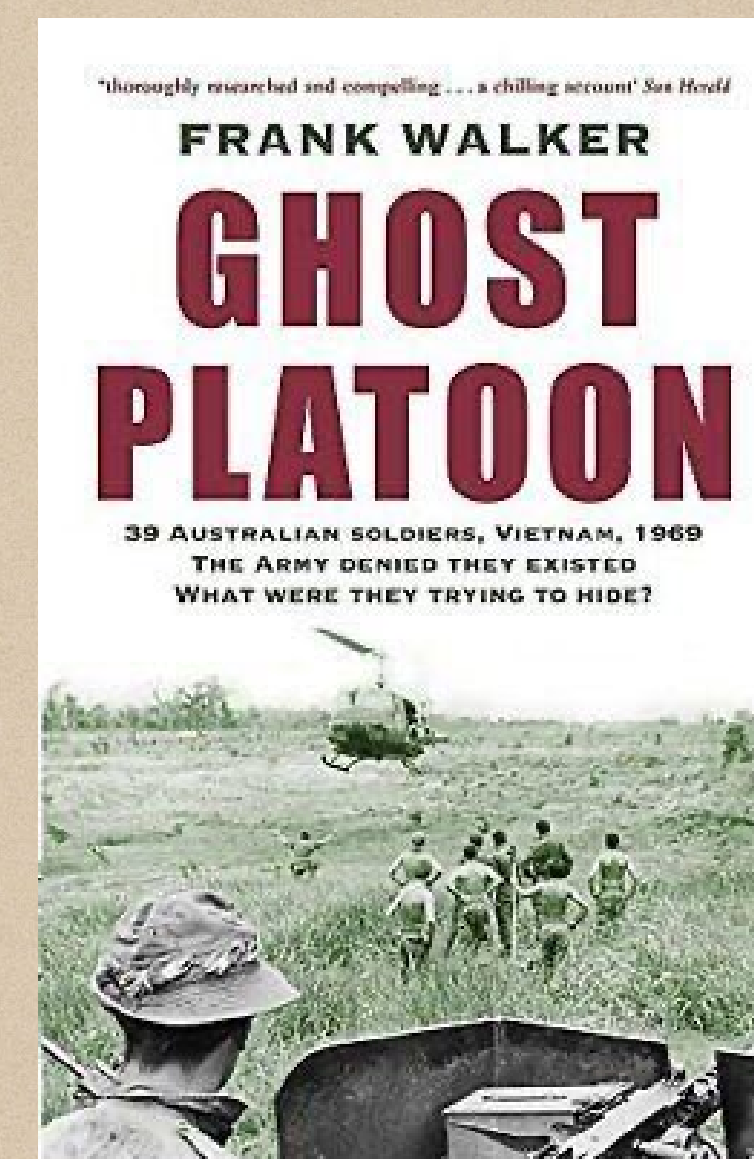
I was enthralled by this story. Its telling of leadership, grit and determination is long overdue.



2011

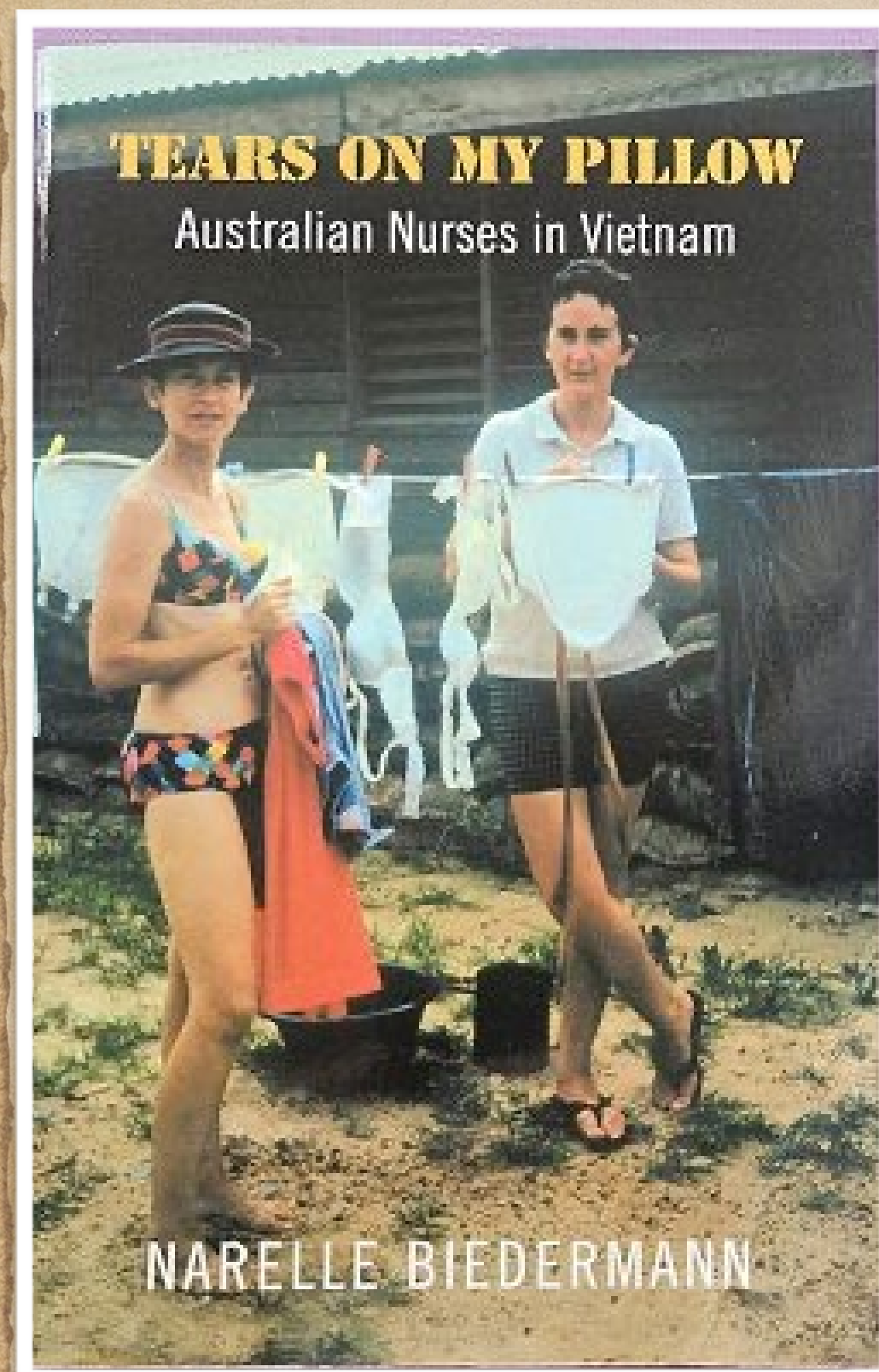


2011

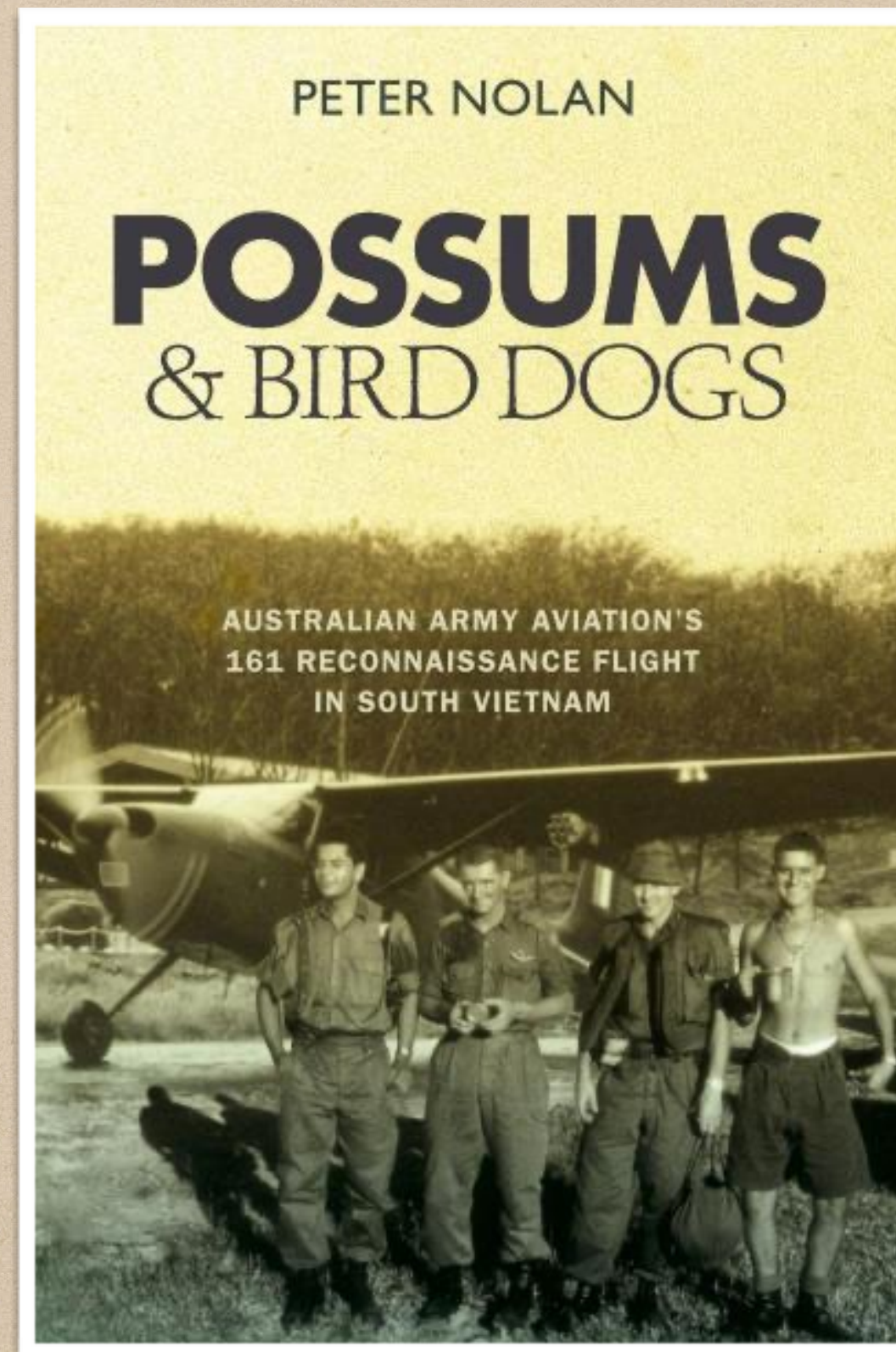


2011

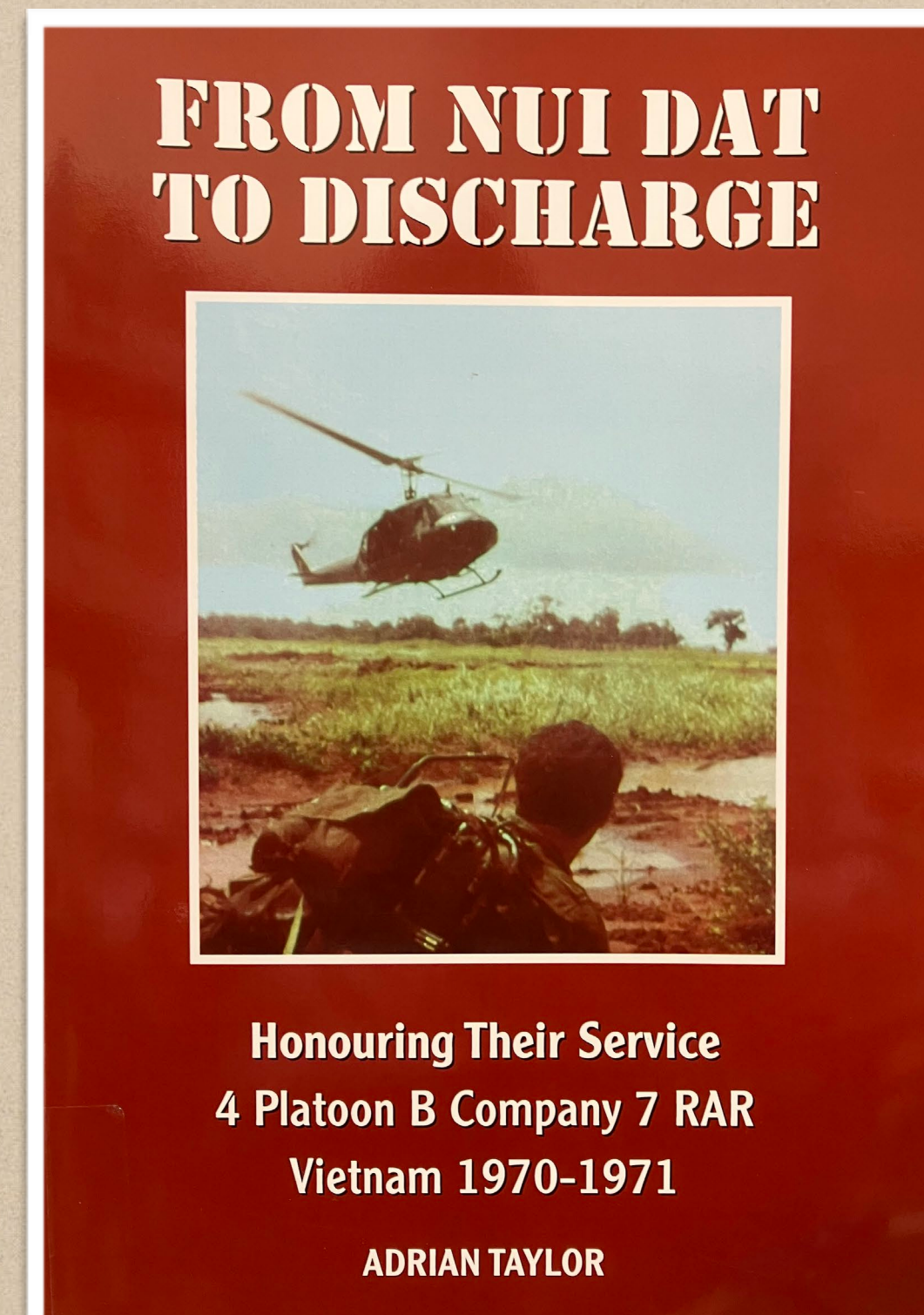
Smaller Units



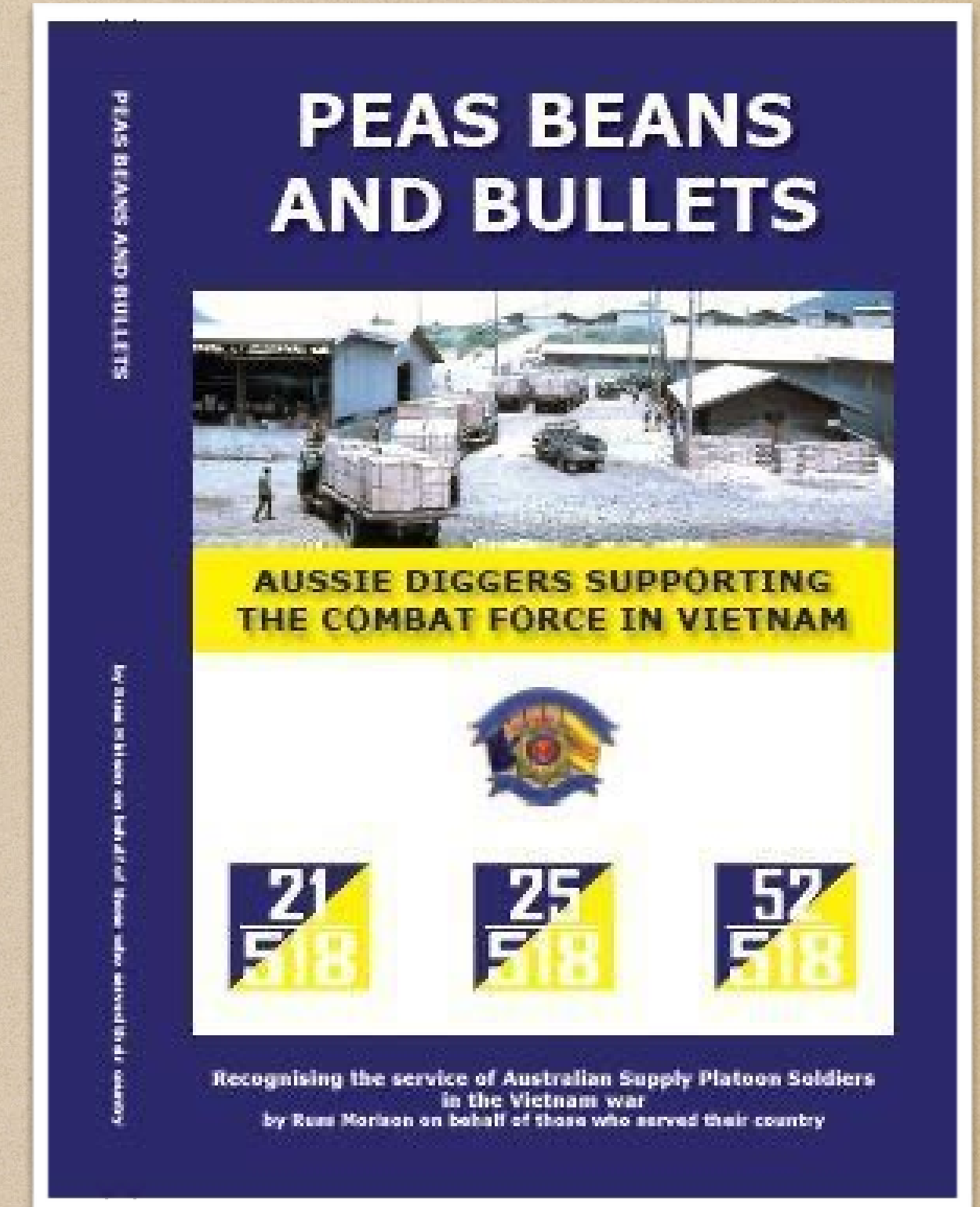
2004



2006



2017

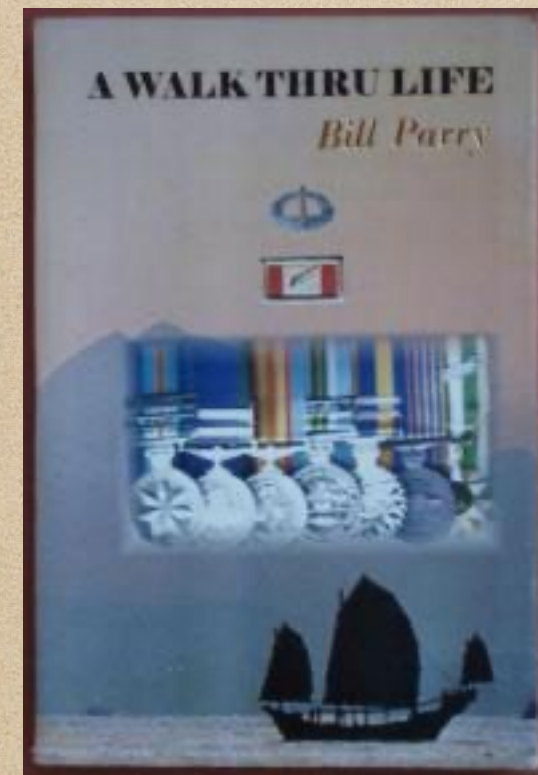


2019

A Good Unit History

- Index
- Nominal Roll
- Casualties
- Awards
- Bibliography
- the Enemy

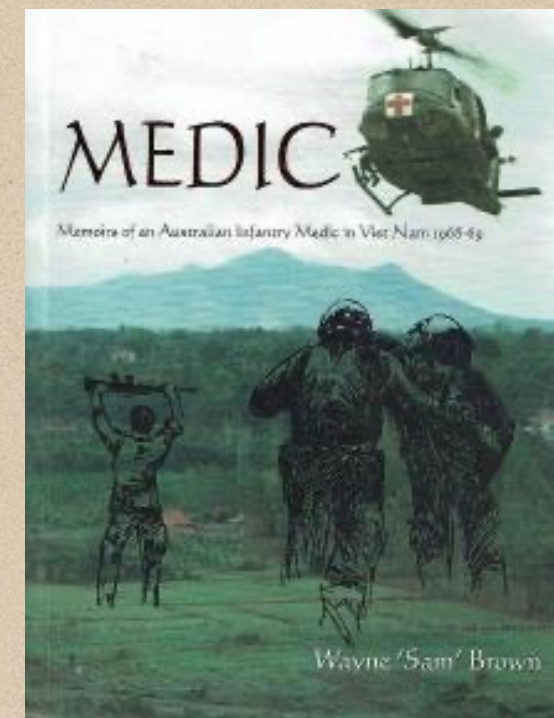
Personal Narratives



2001



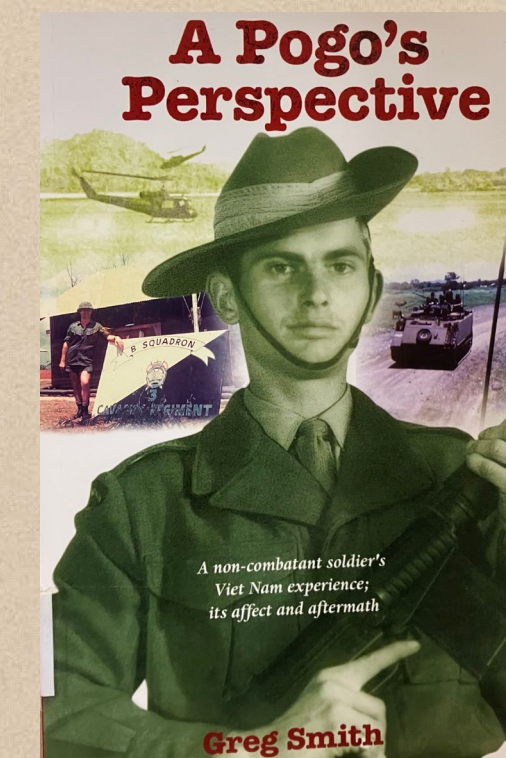
2002



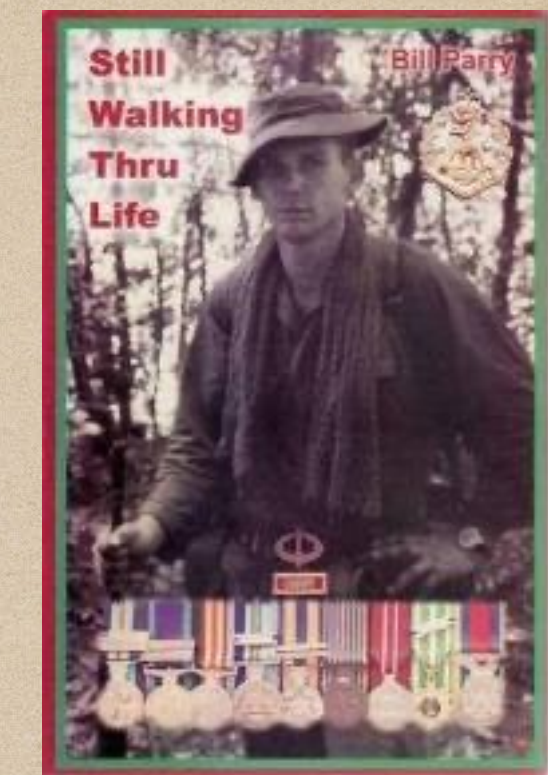
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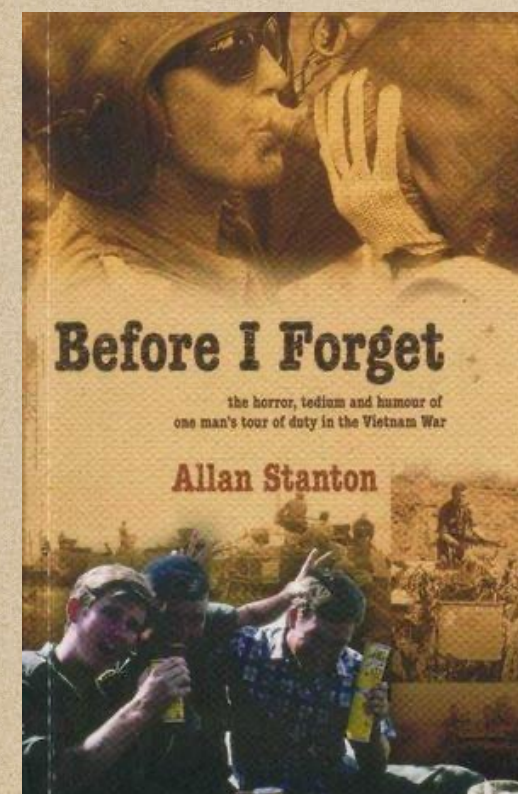
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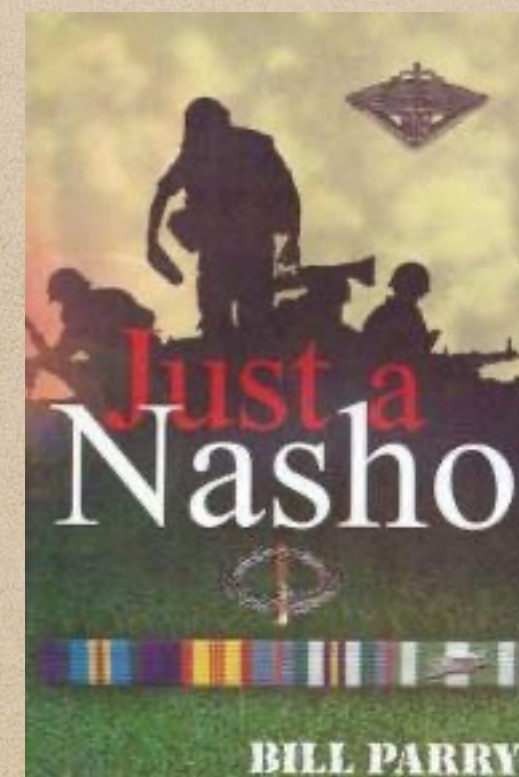
2007



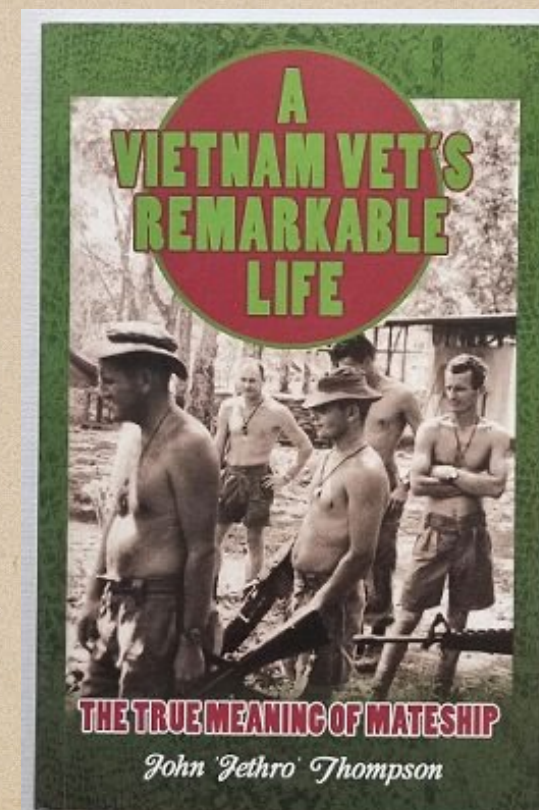
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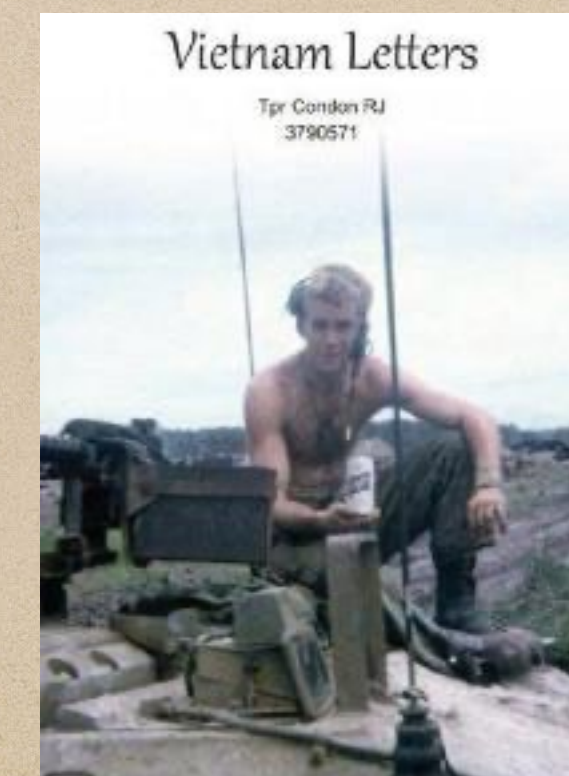
2009



2012



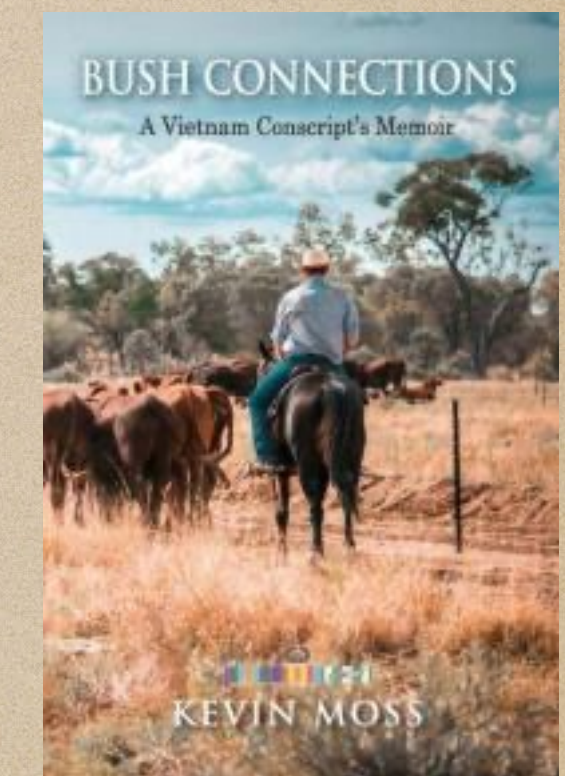
2012



2013



2020

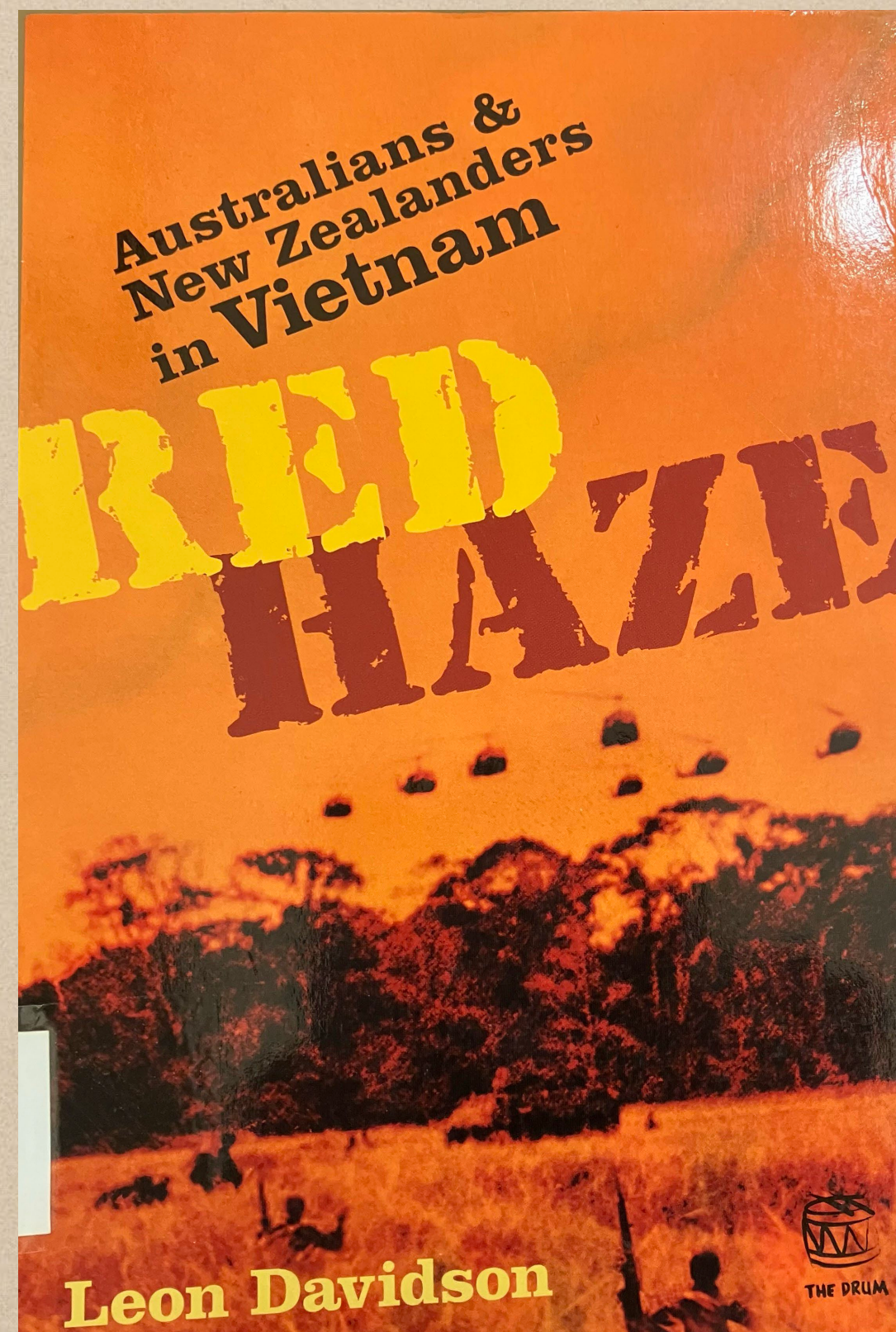


2021

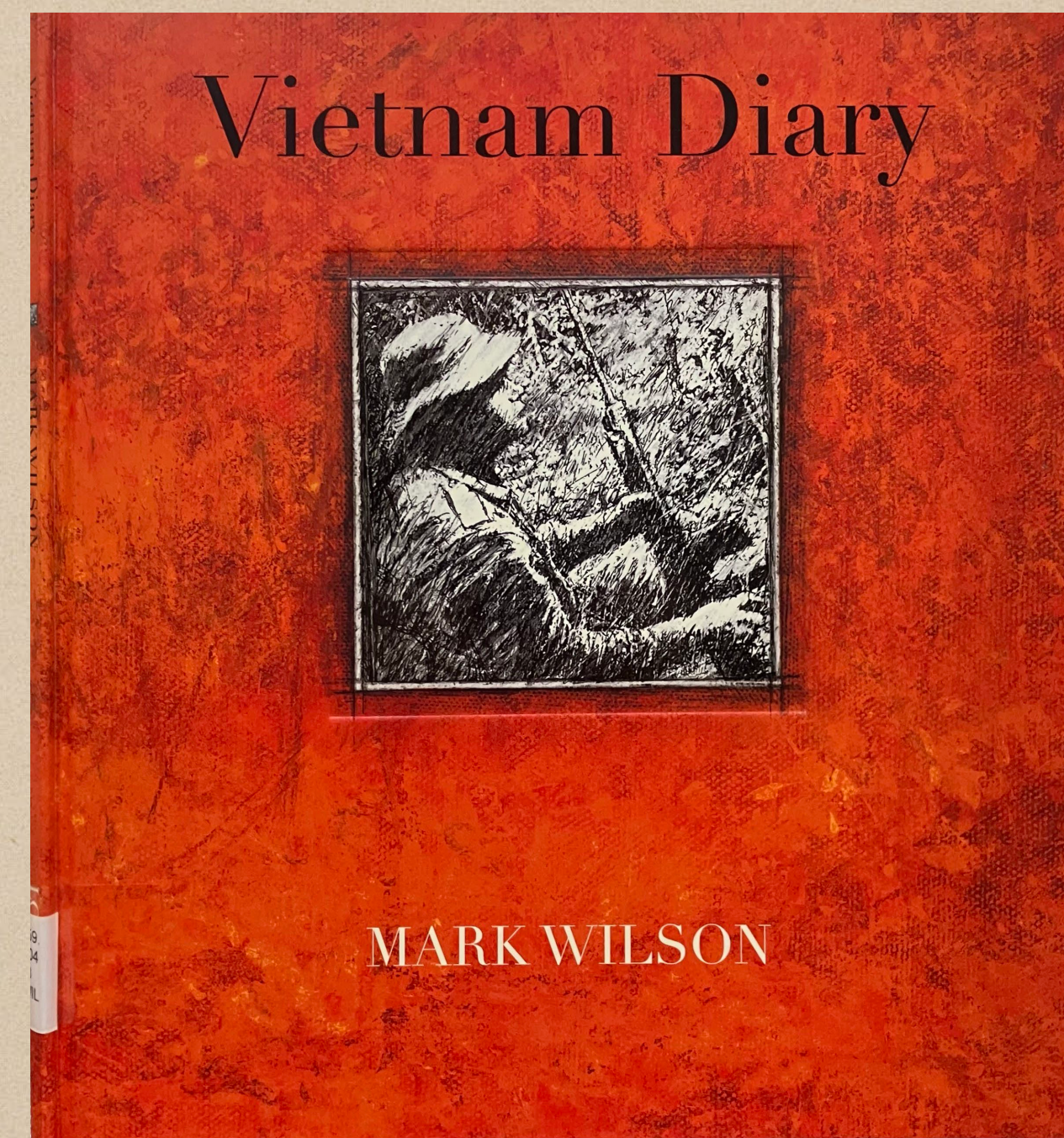
Regional History



Juvenile



2006



2013

Juvenile

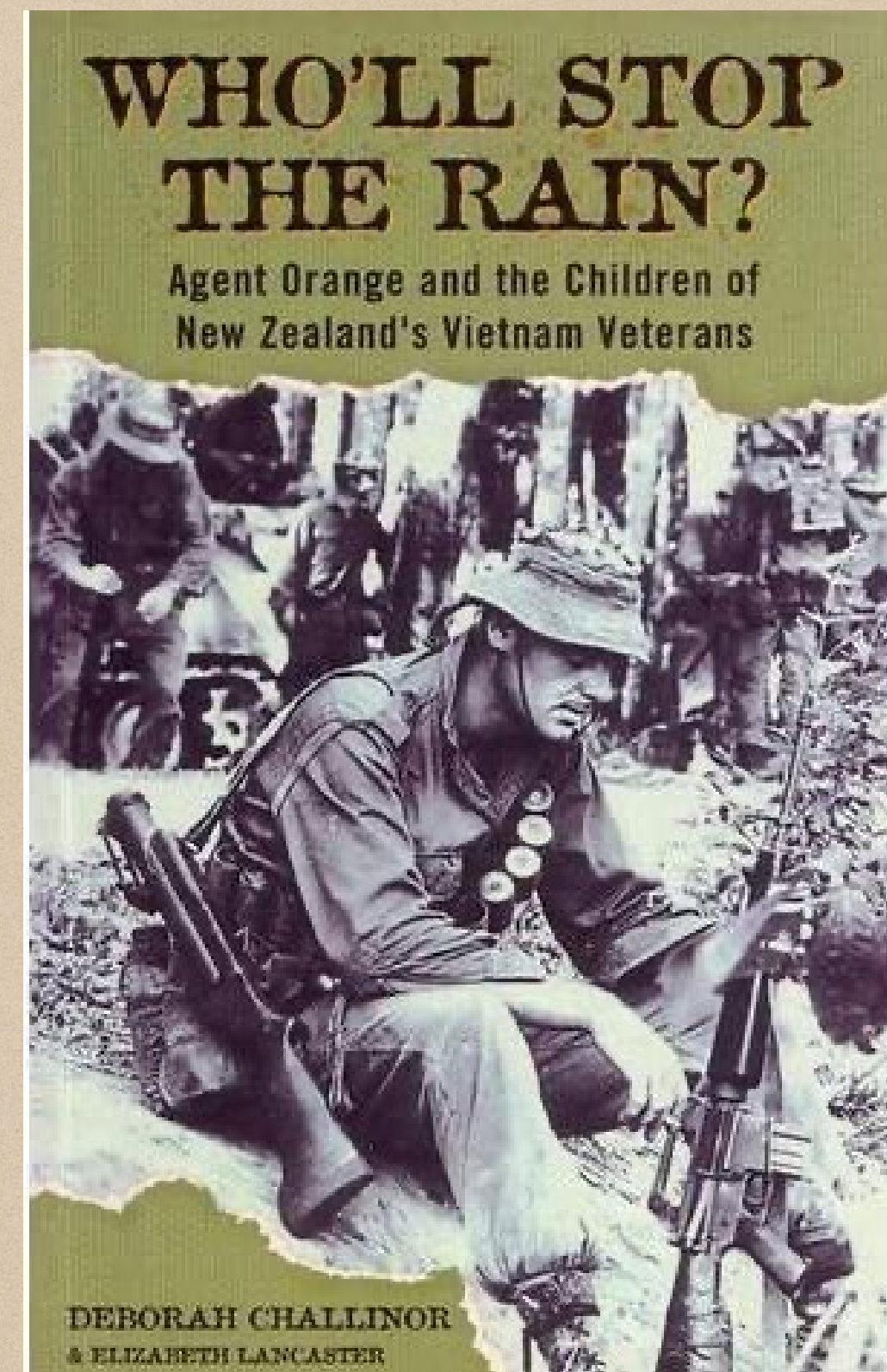


How can the Vietnam War be made relevant to Australian children?

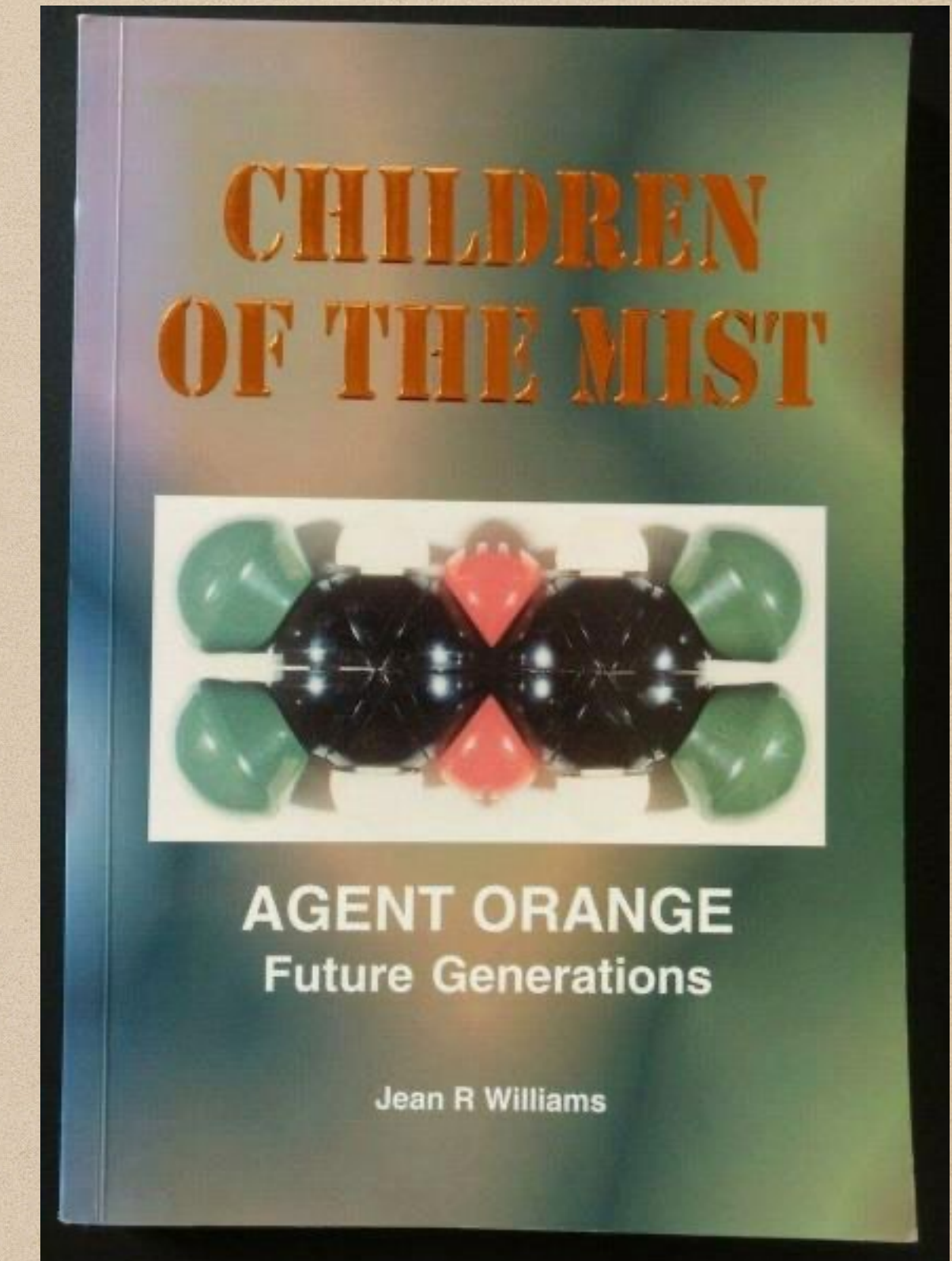
Agent Orange



1984

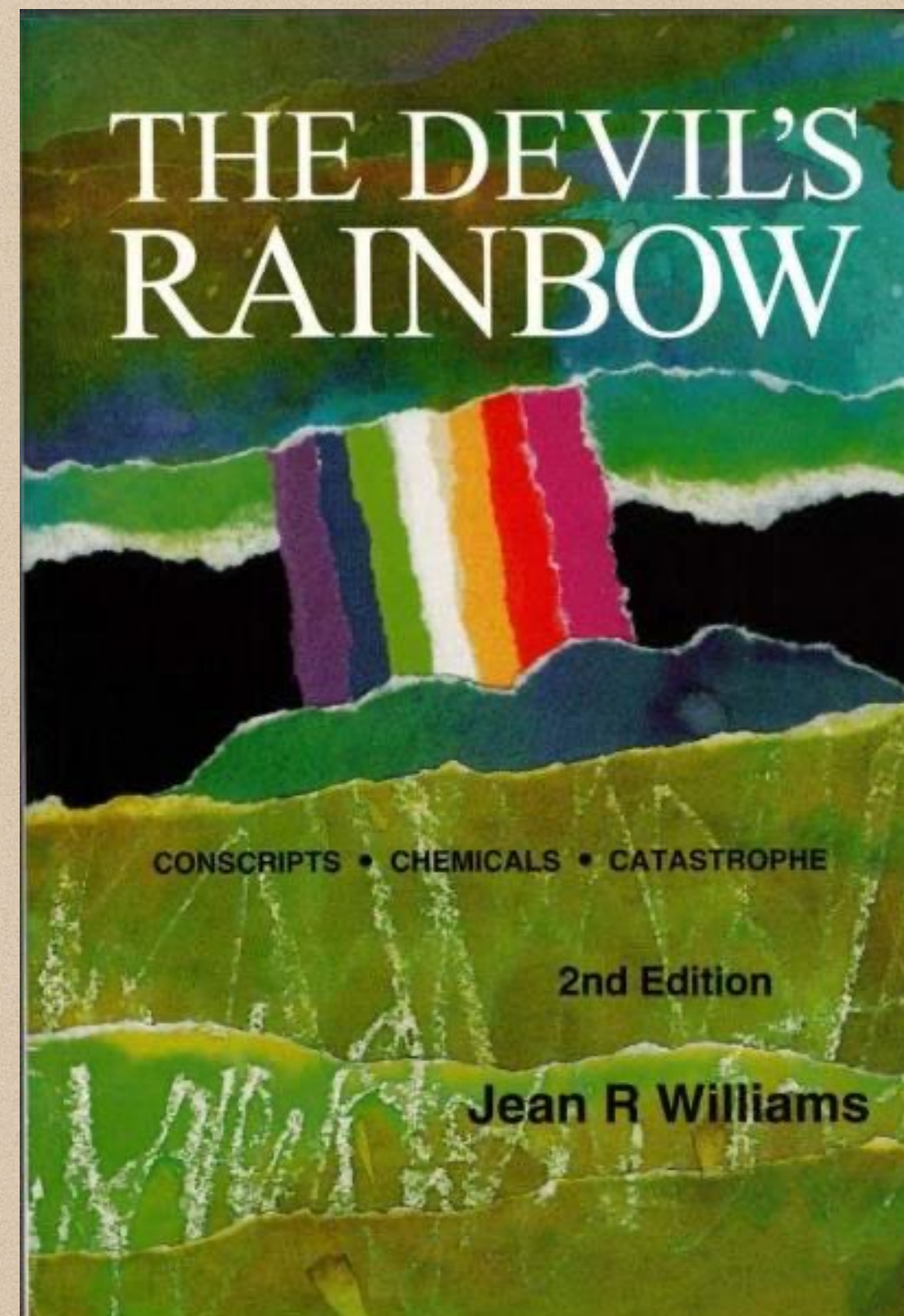


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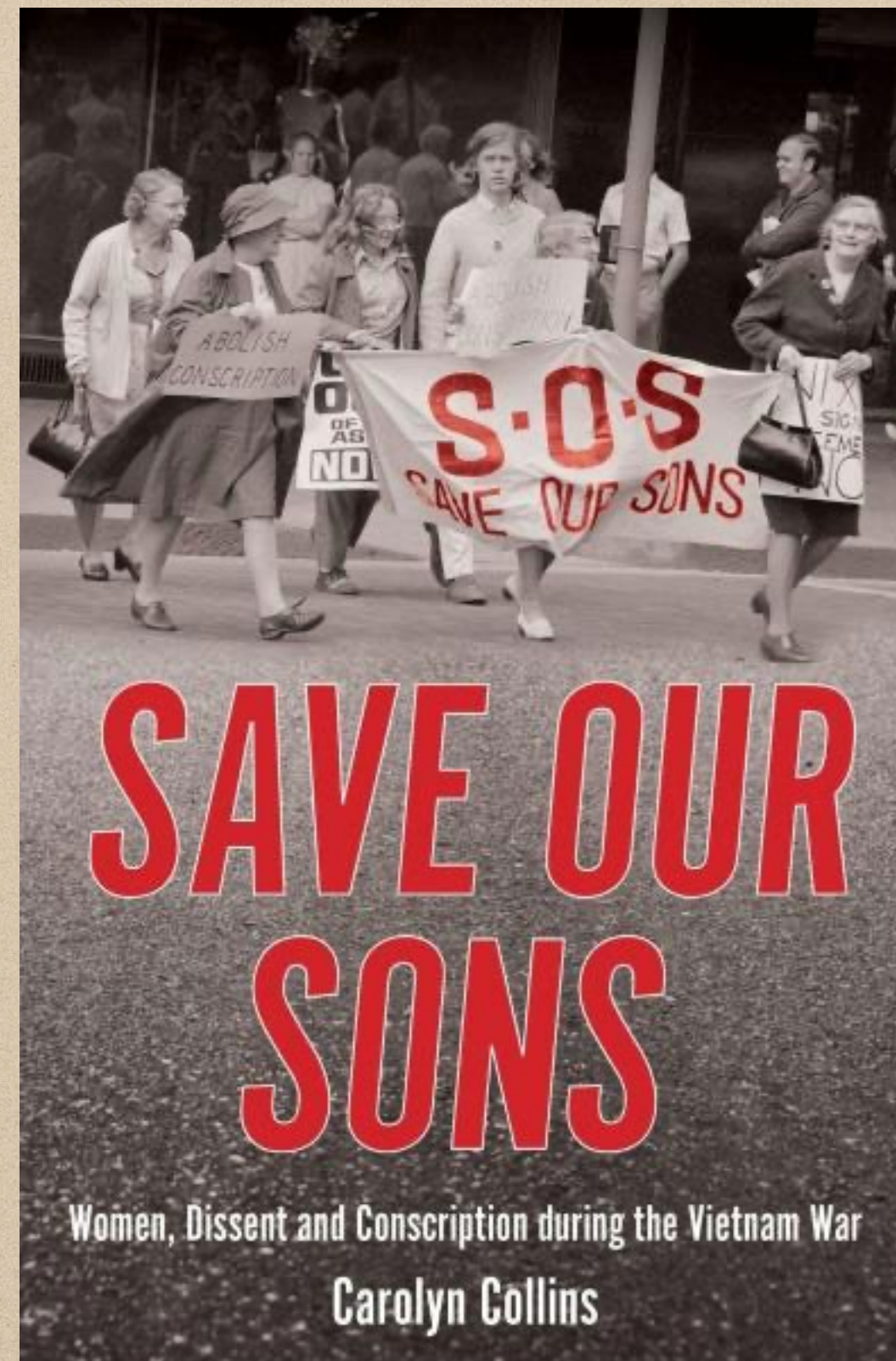
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Agent Orange

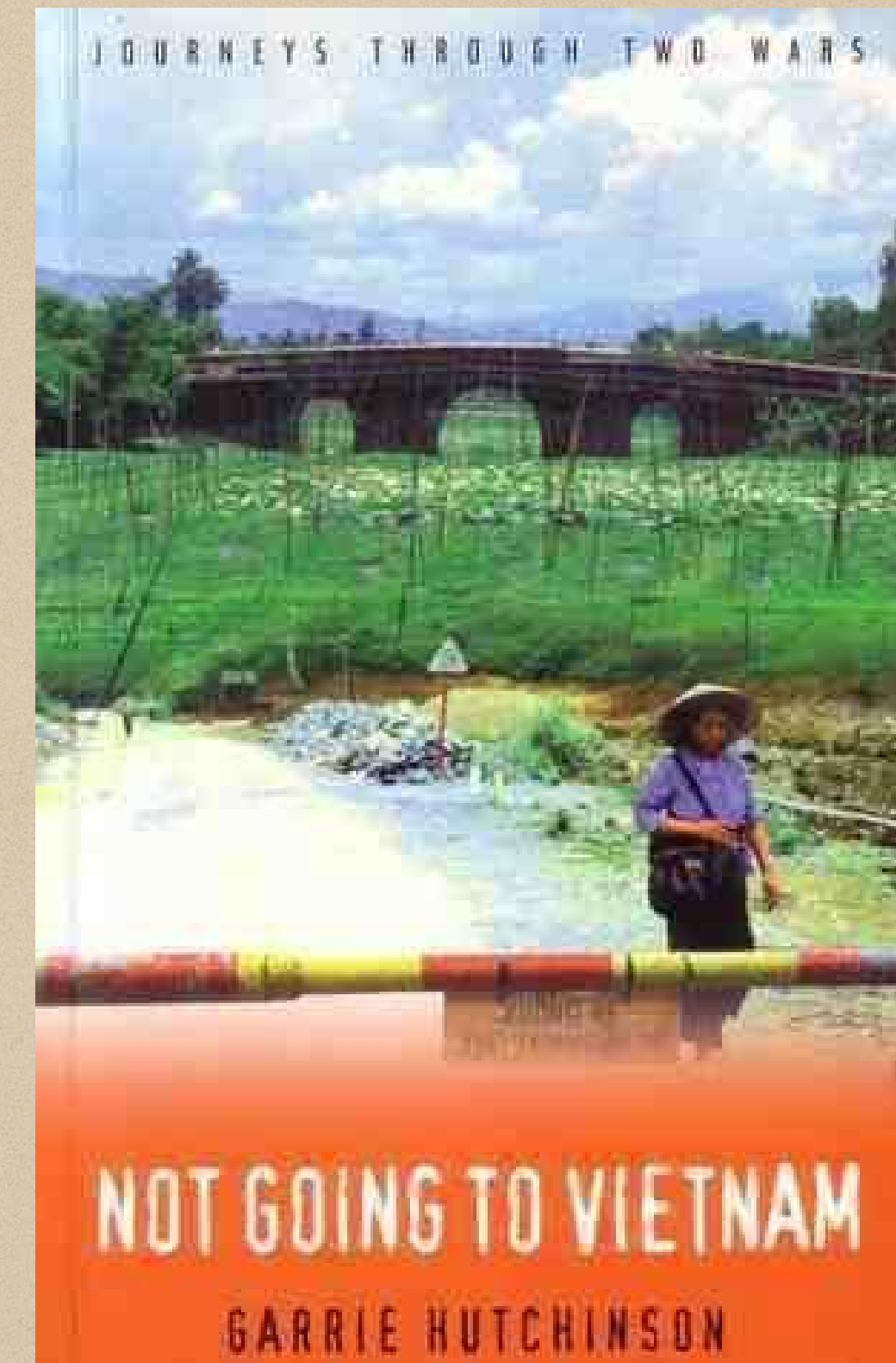


1999

The Protest Movement & Conscientious Objection

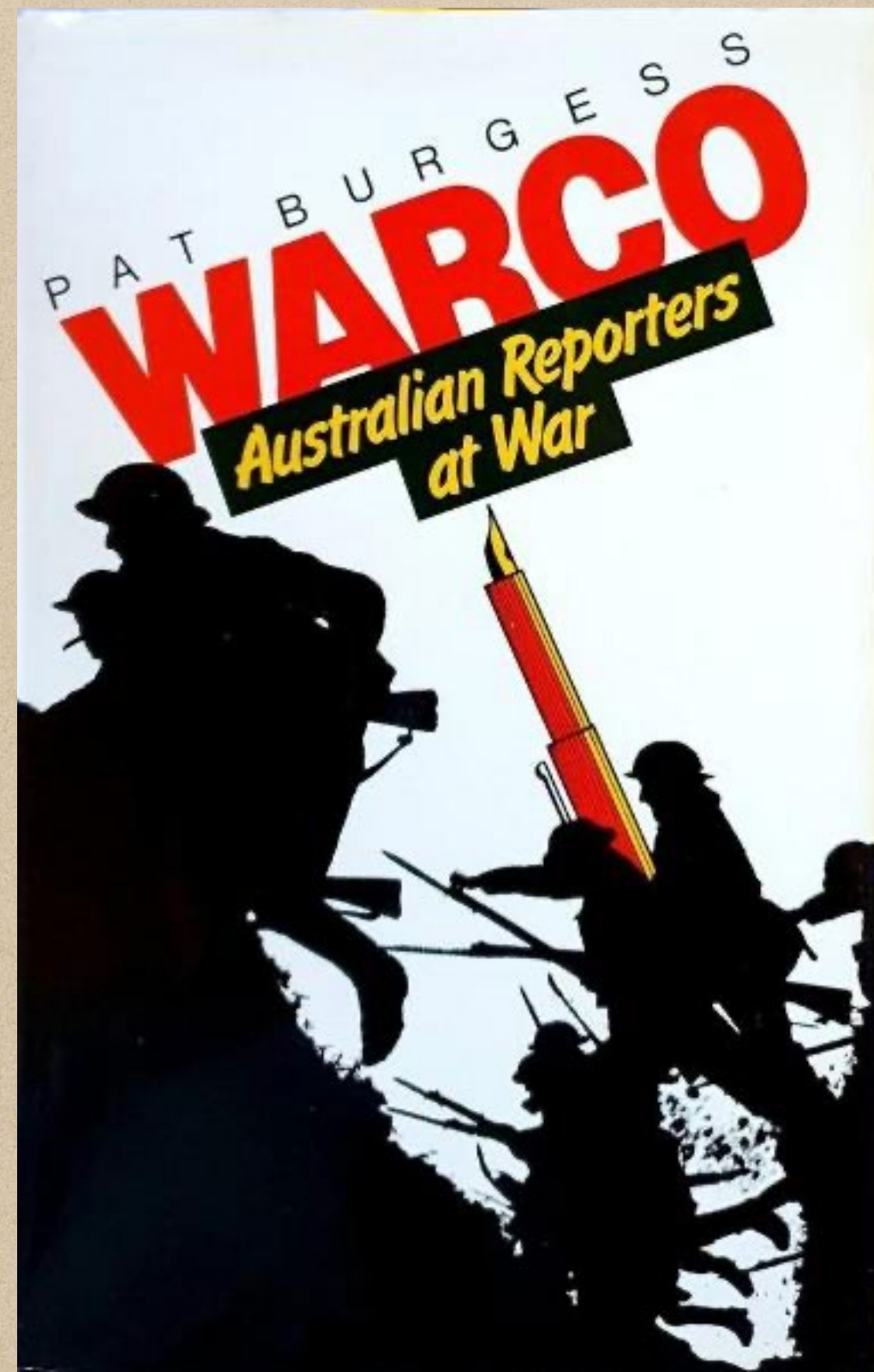


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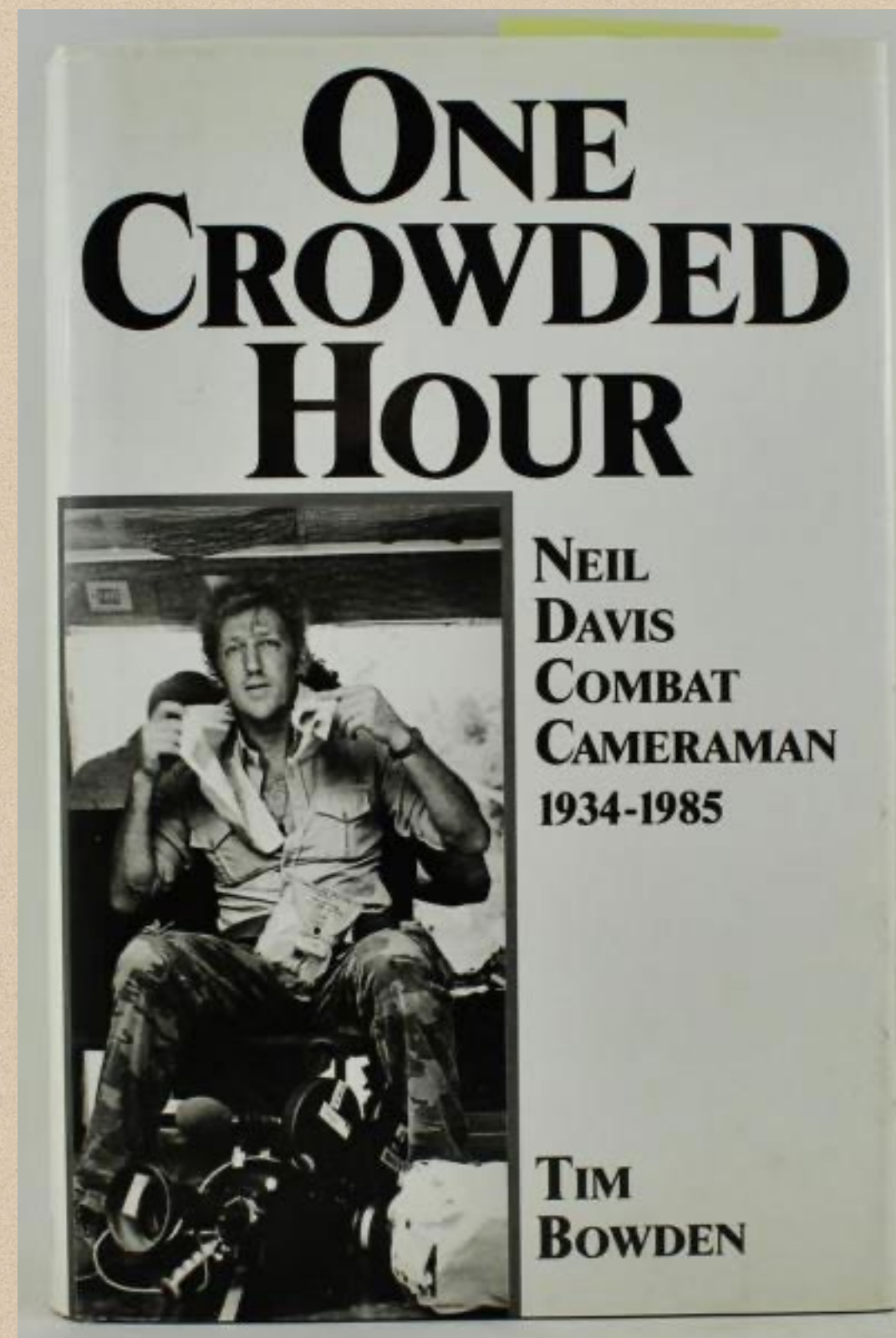


1999

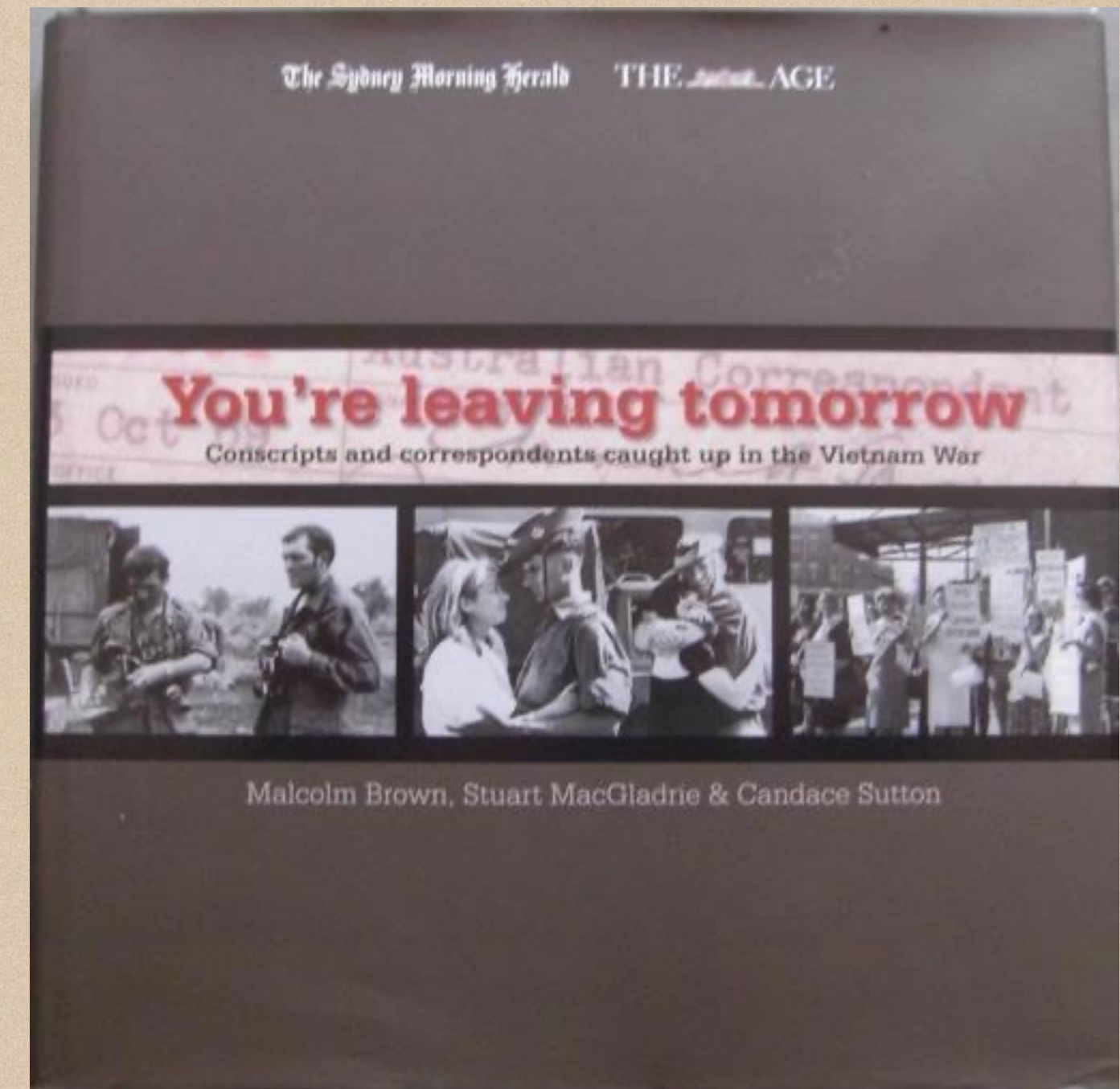
The Fourth Estate



1986

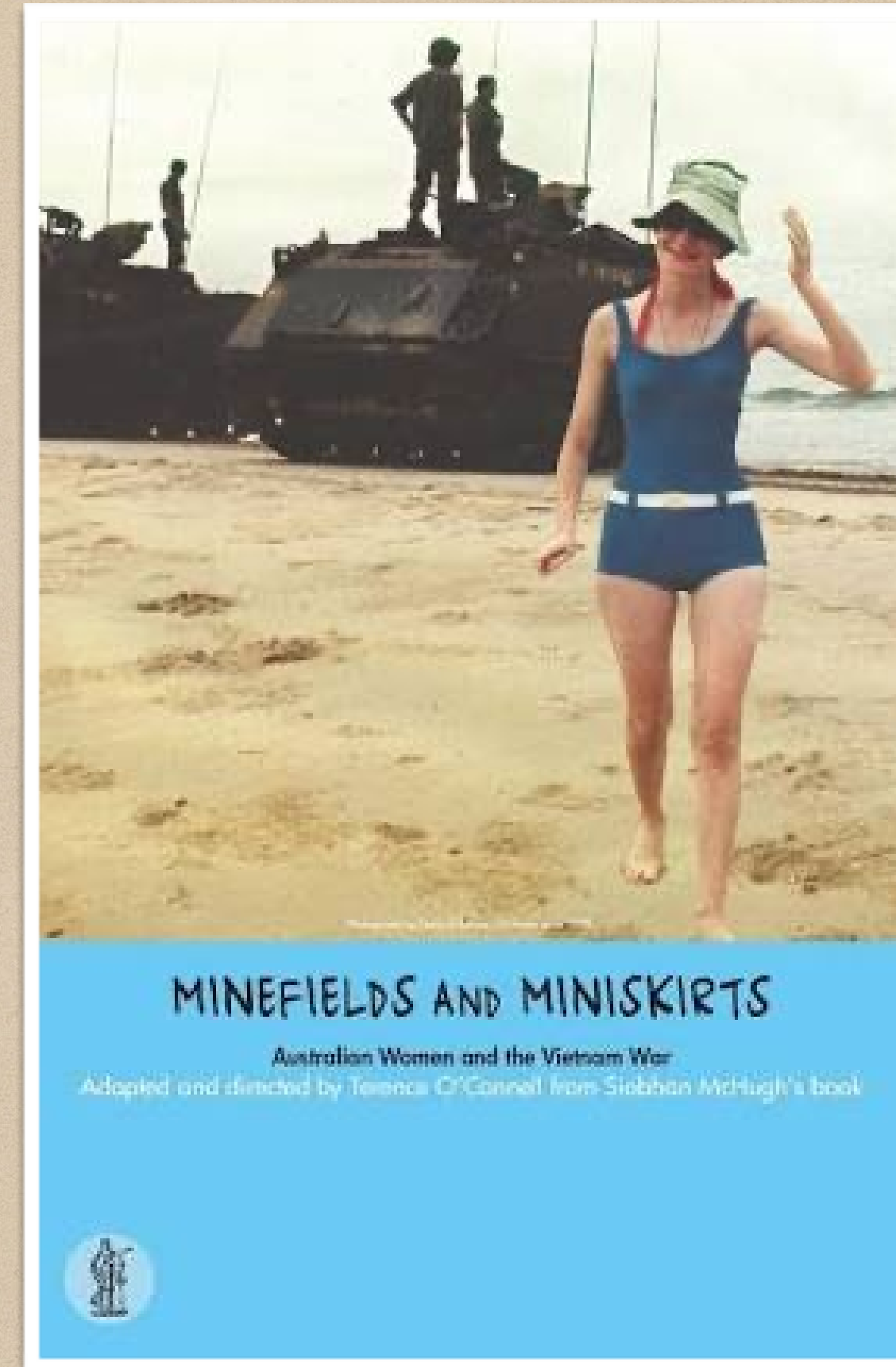


1995



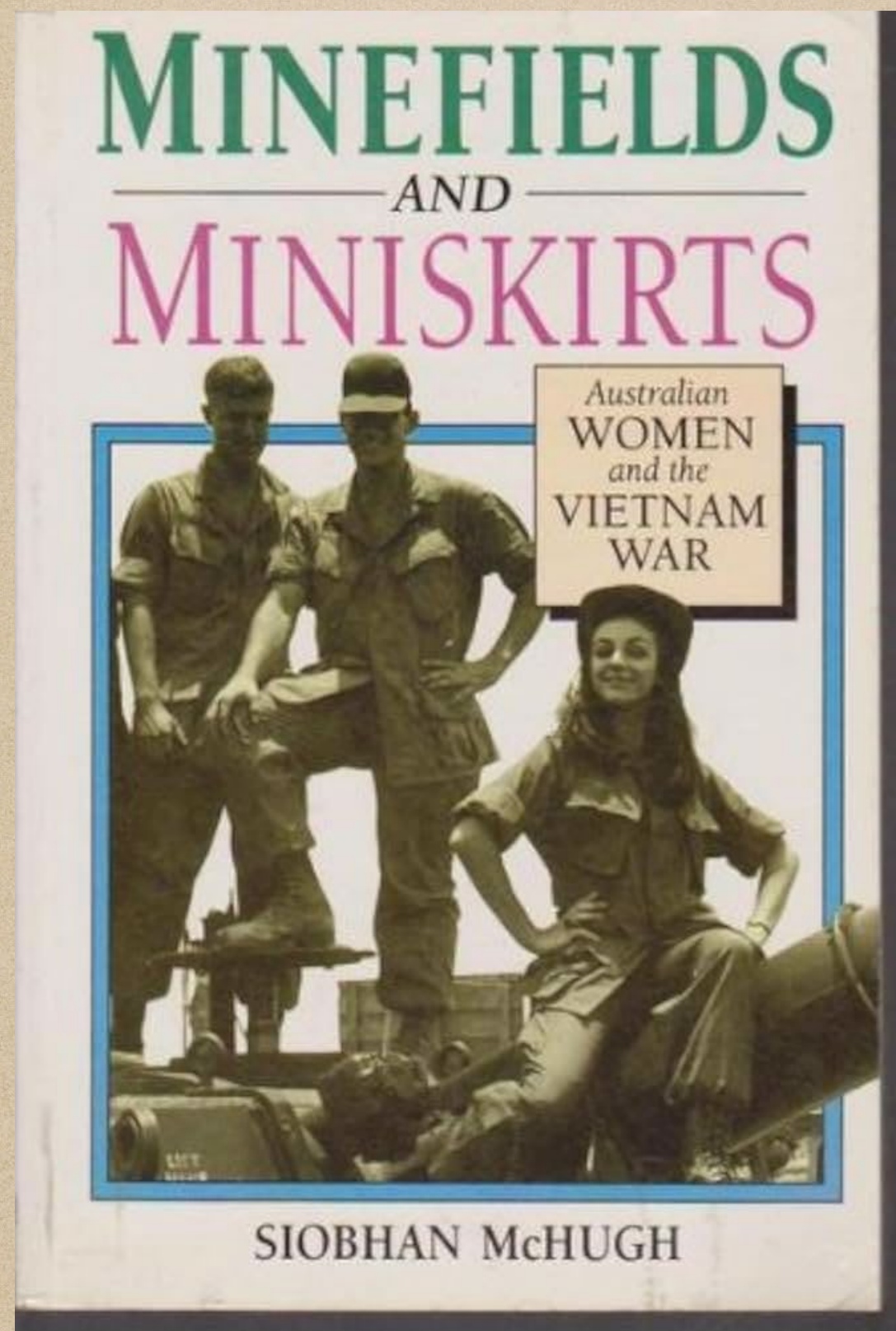
2007

Plays



2005

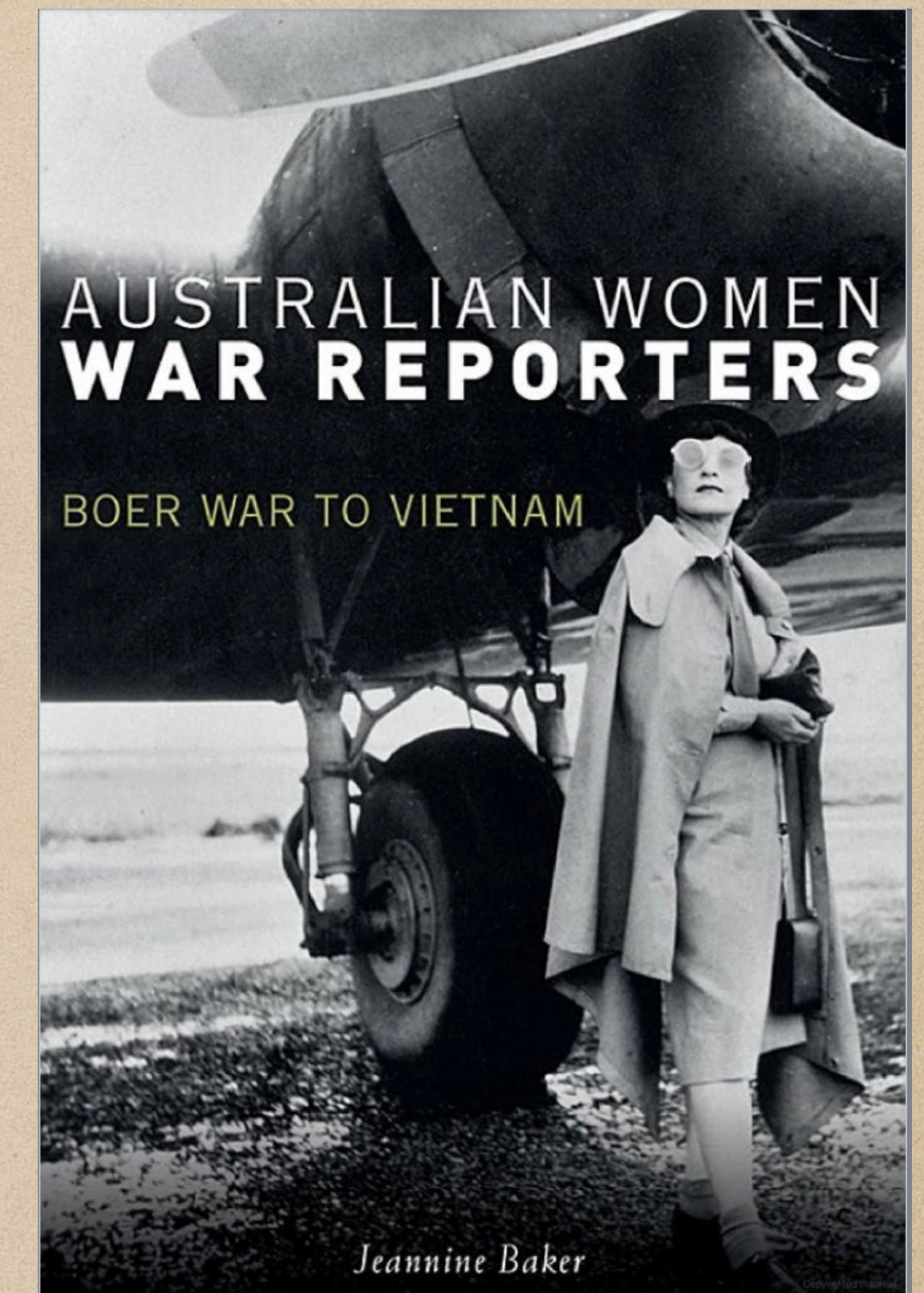
Women



2005

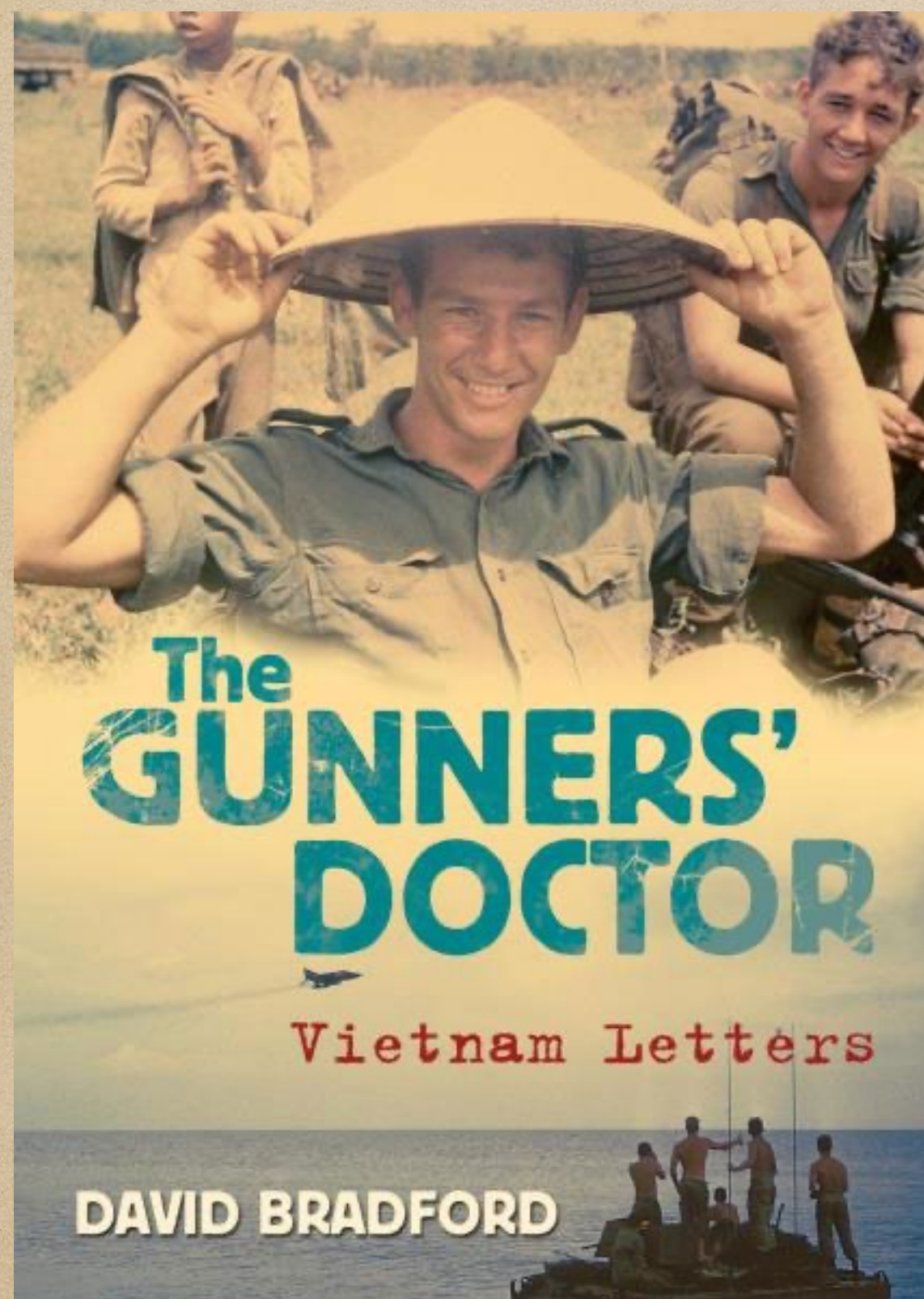


2004

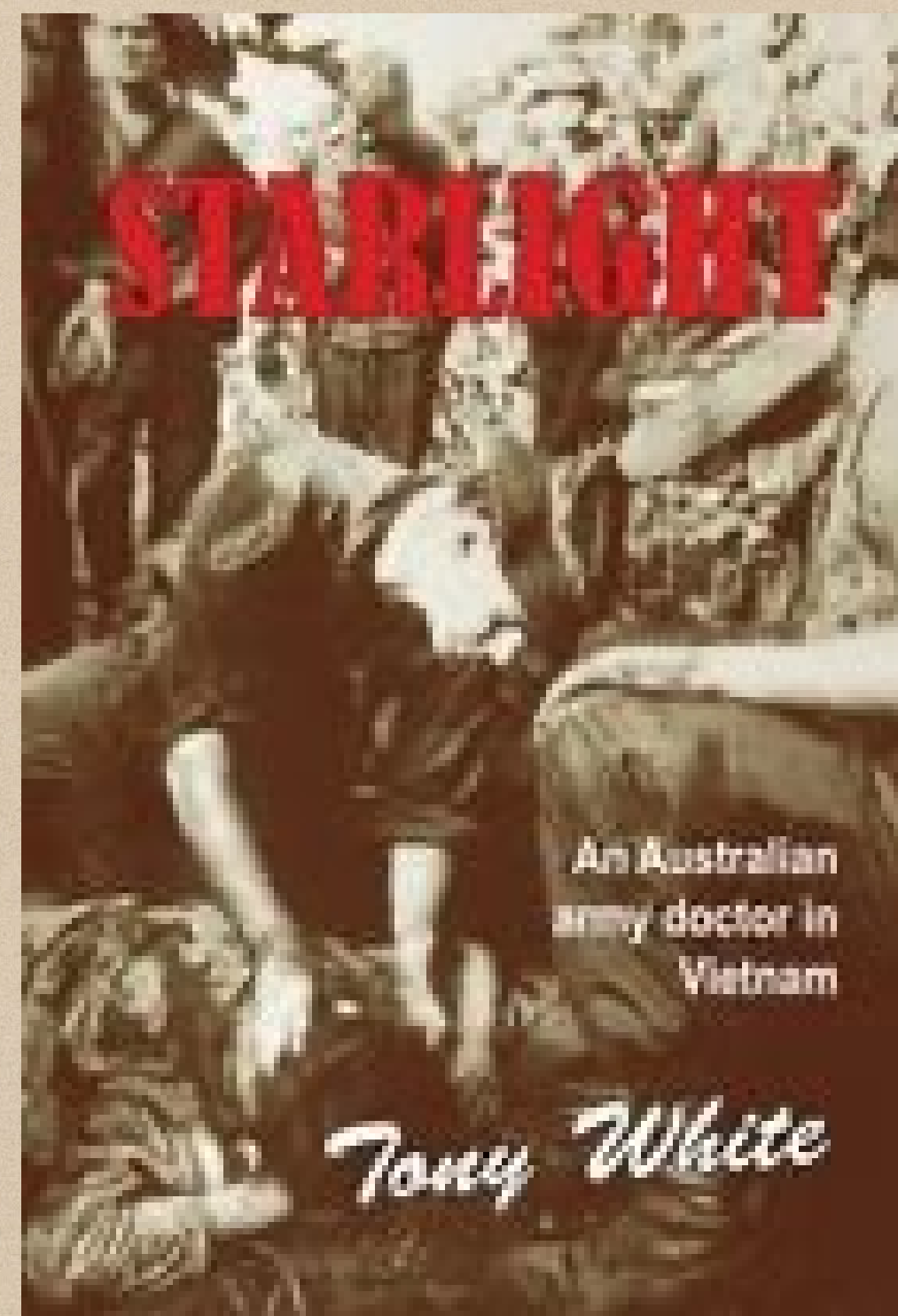


2015

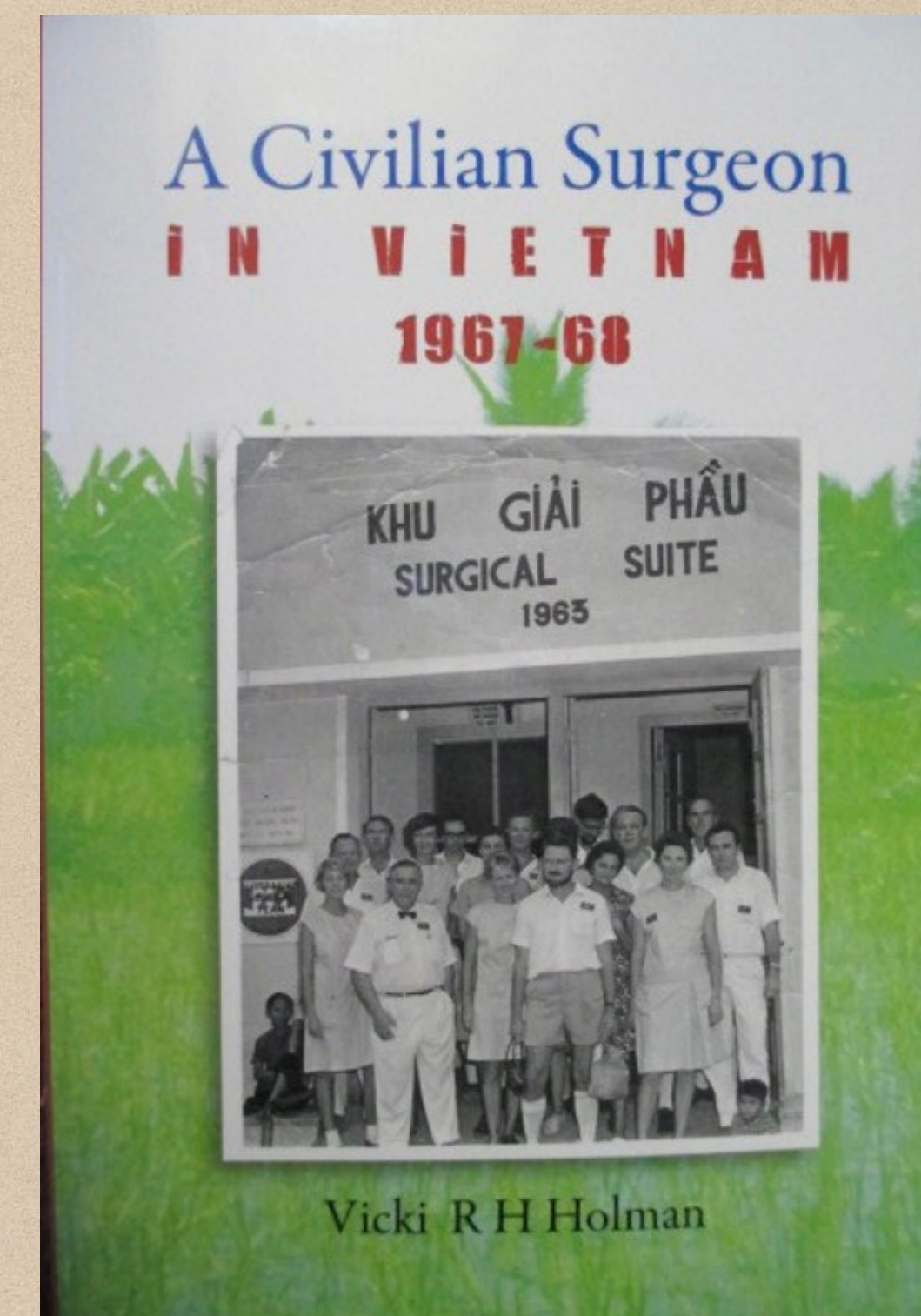
Doctors



2007



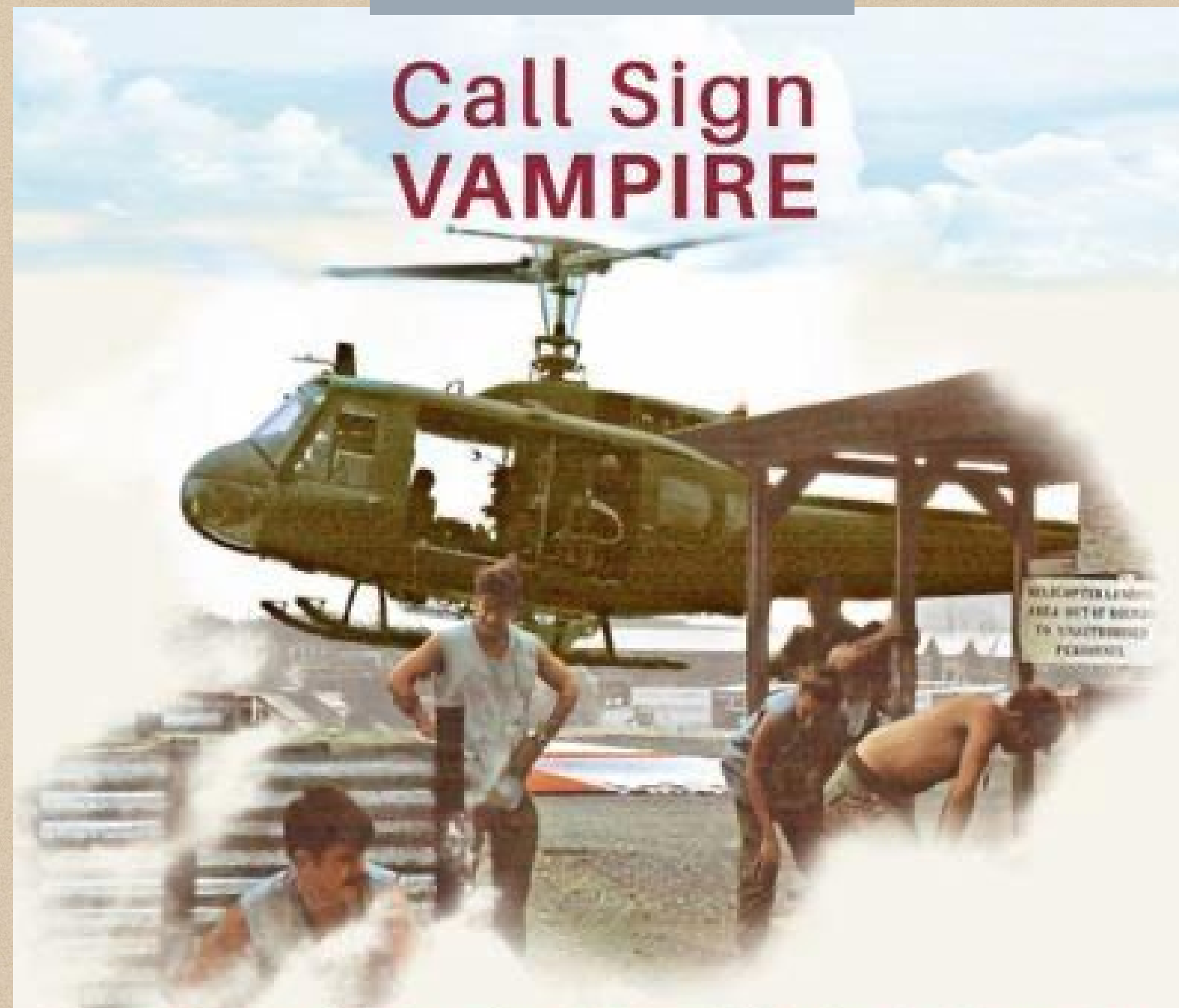
2011



2015

Hospital

Call Sign VAMPIRE



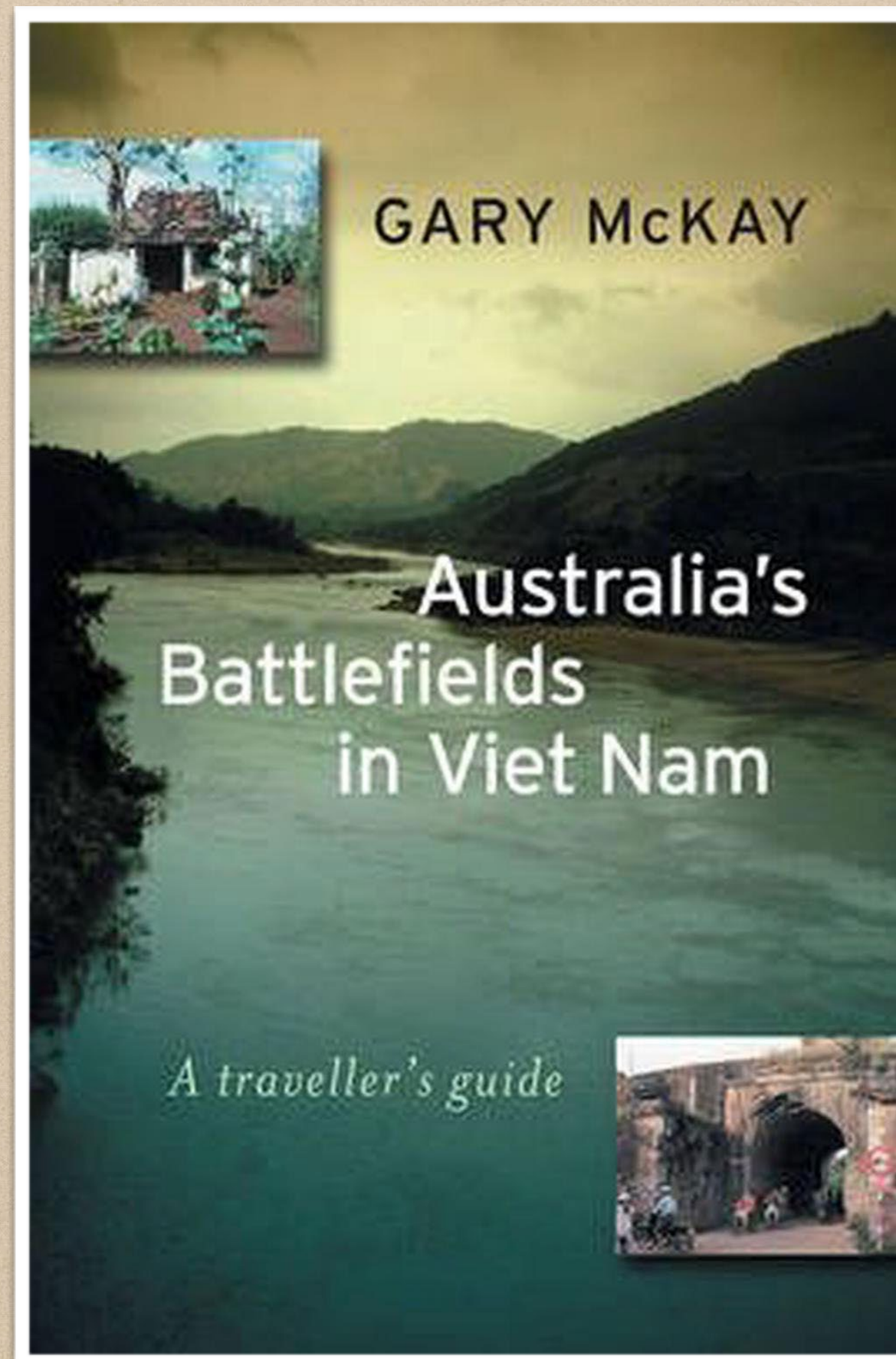
The inside story of an Australian Field Hospital during the Vietnam War.



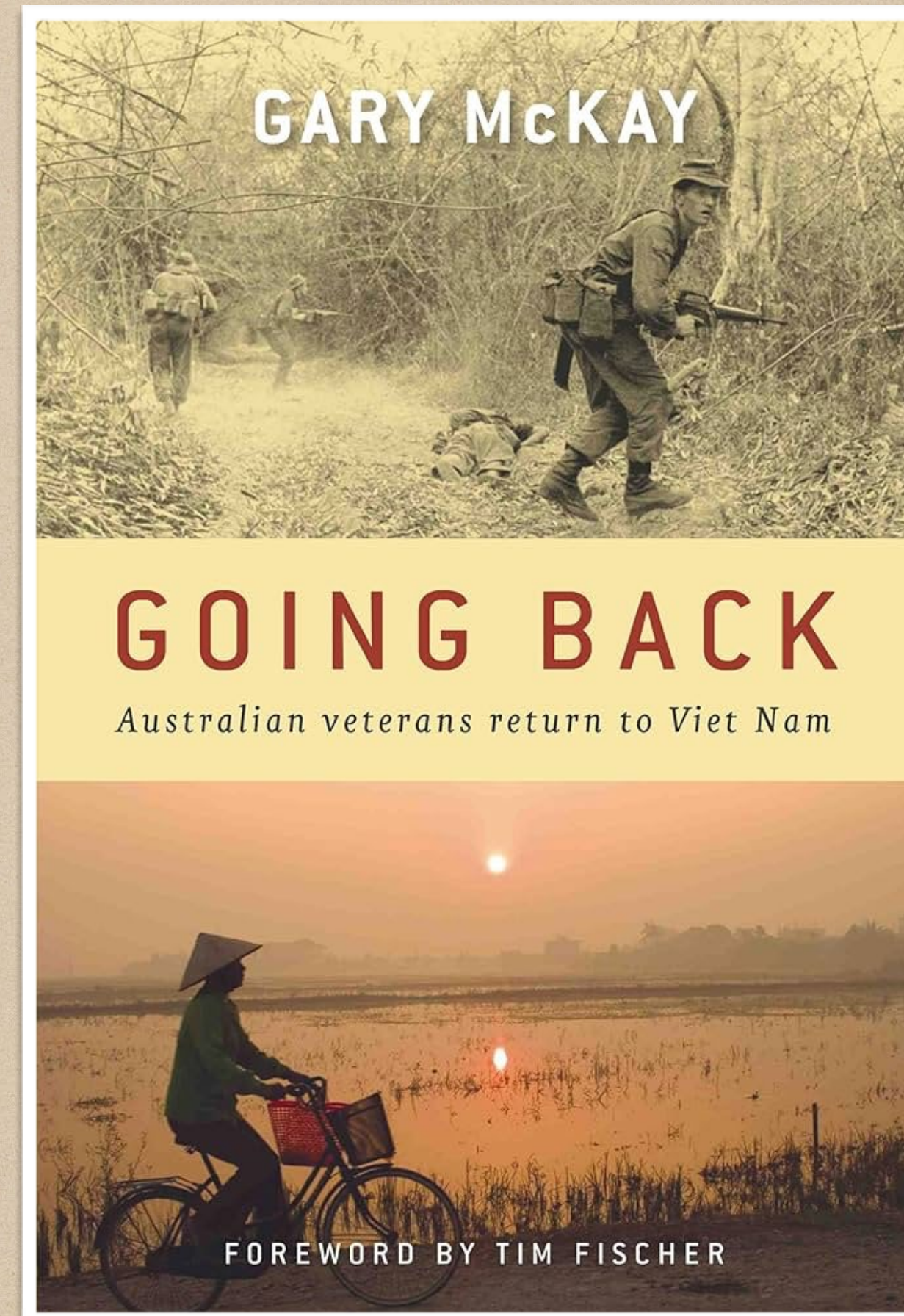
1st (Aust) Field Hospital Association Incorporated

2021

Battlefield Tourism

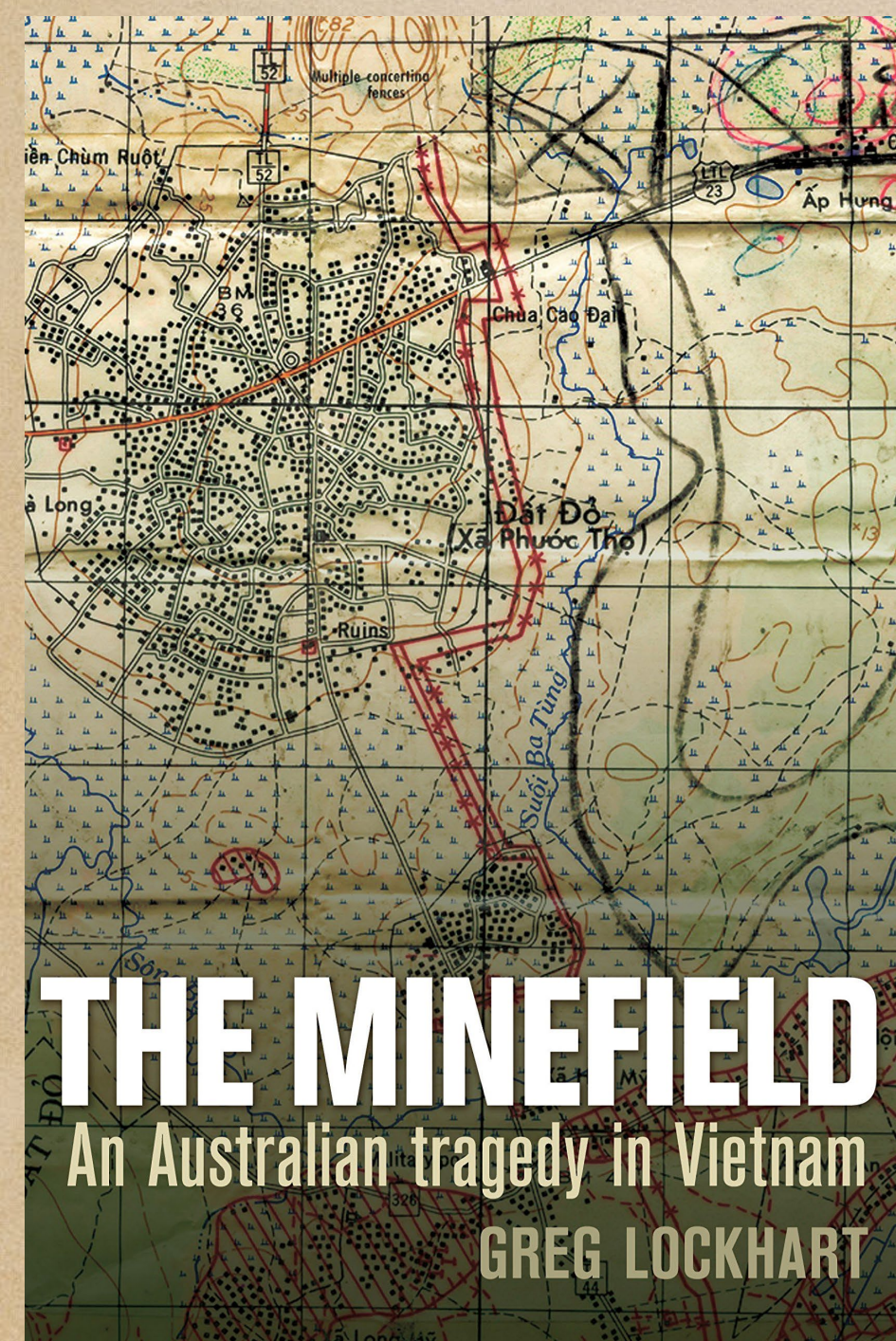


2003

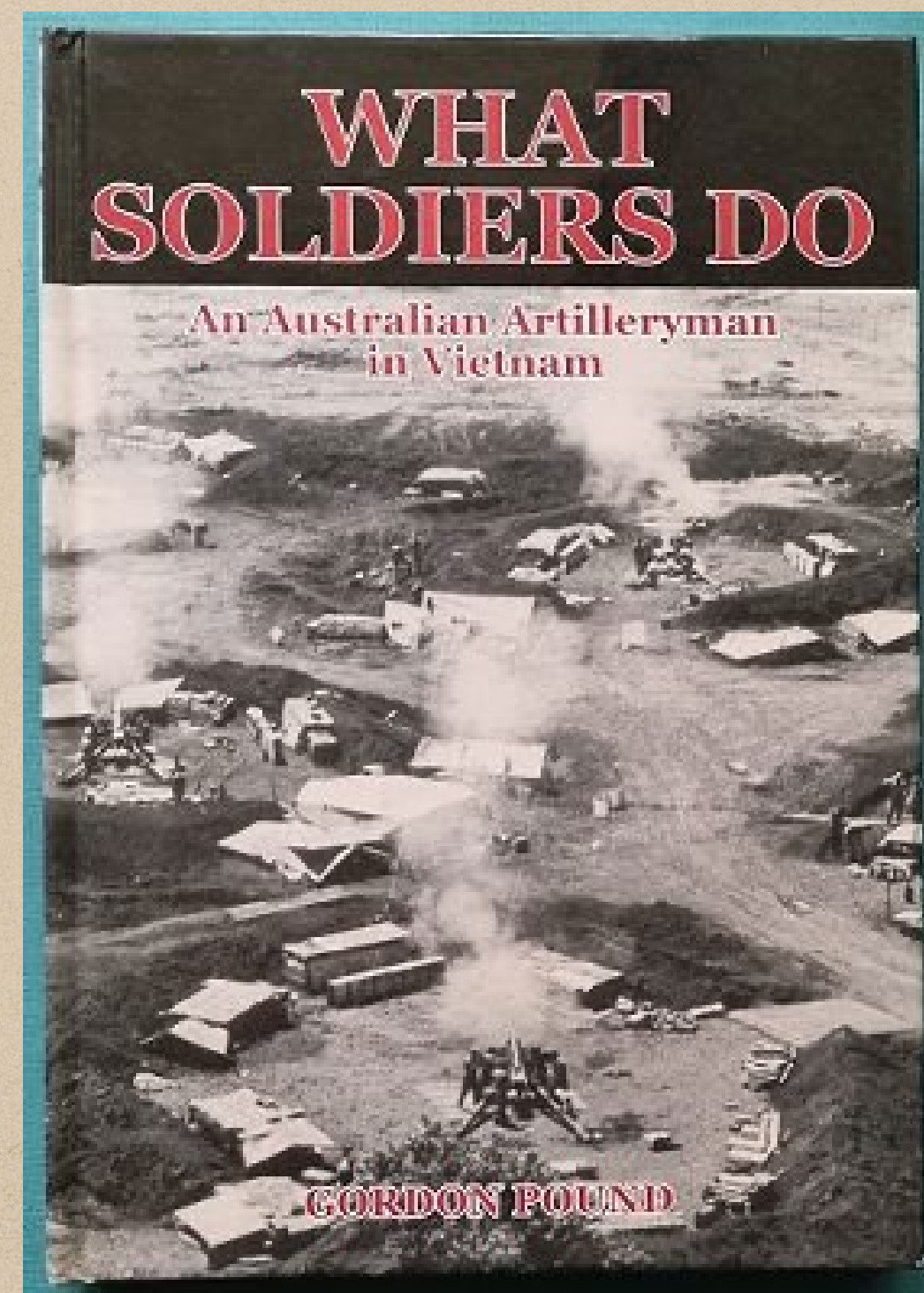


2007

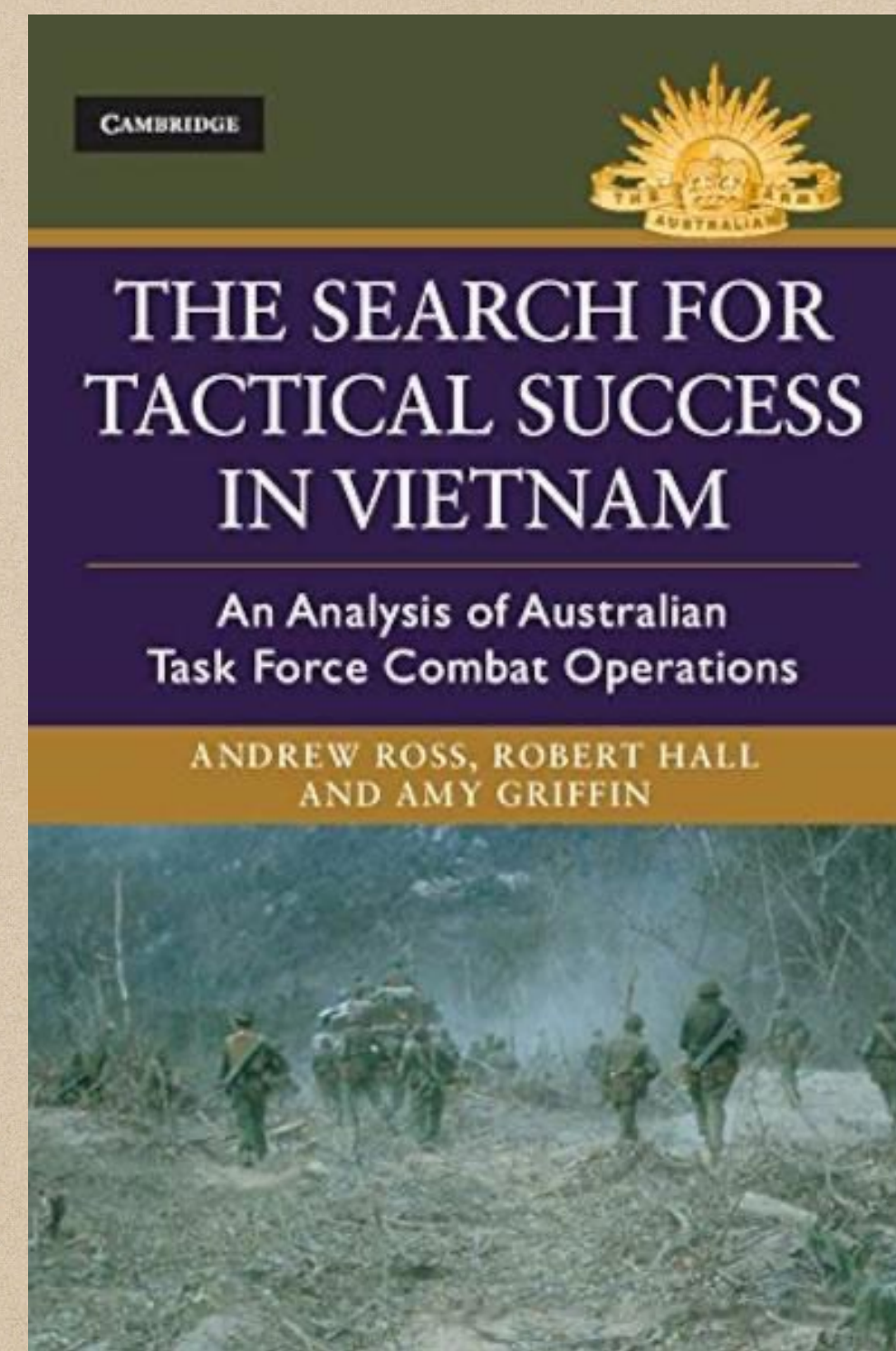
Tactical Analysis



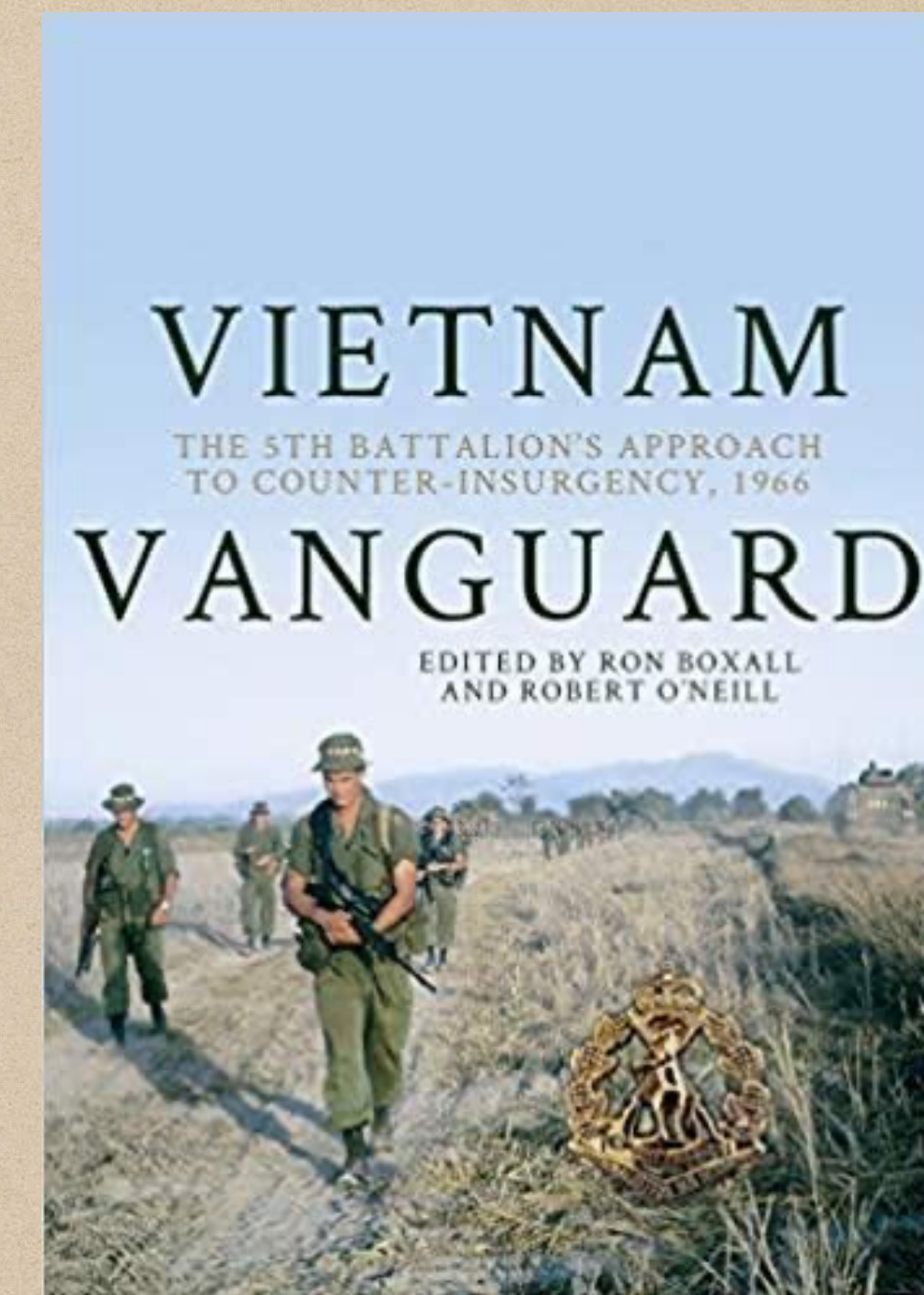
2007



2008

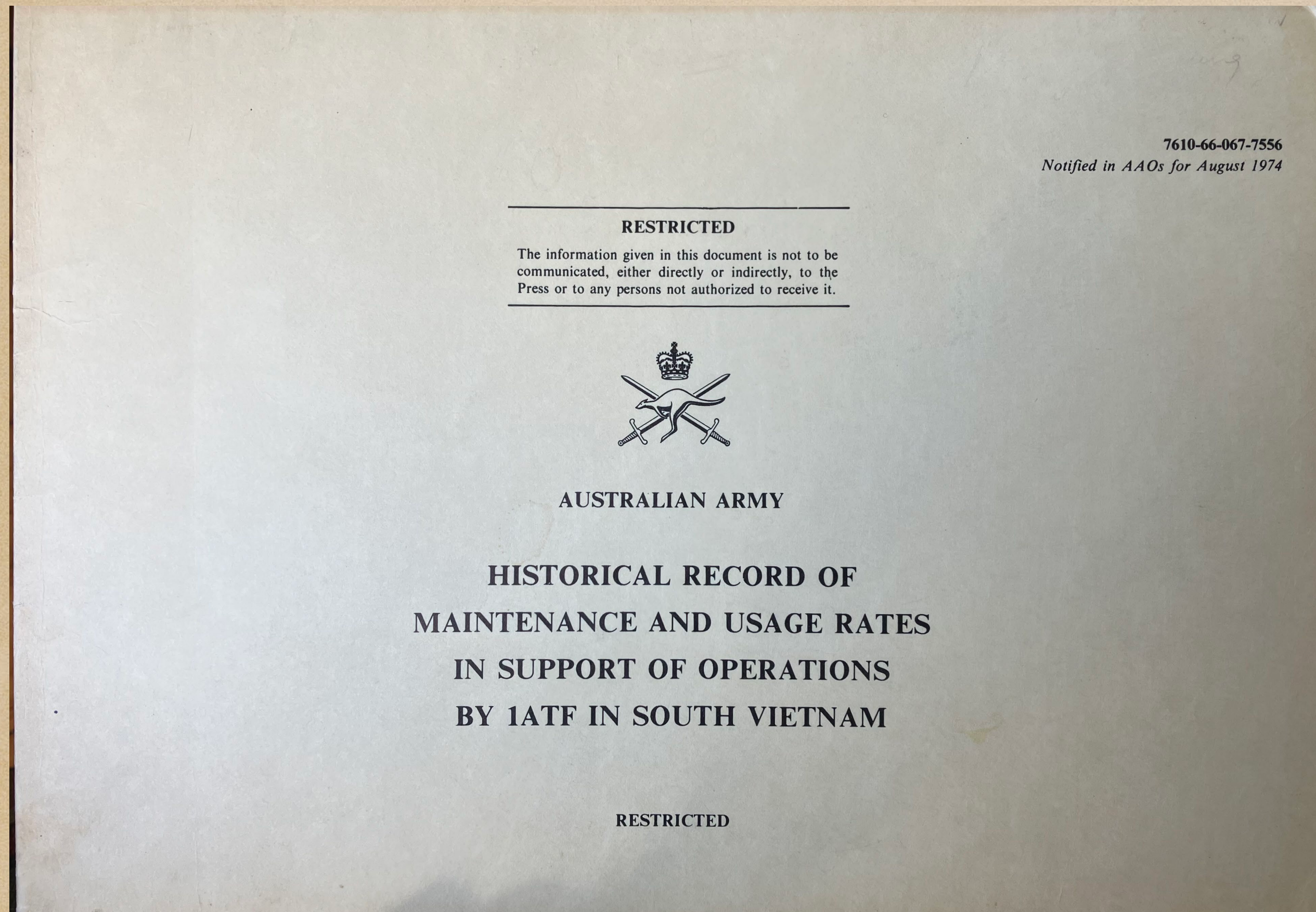


2015

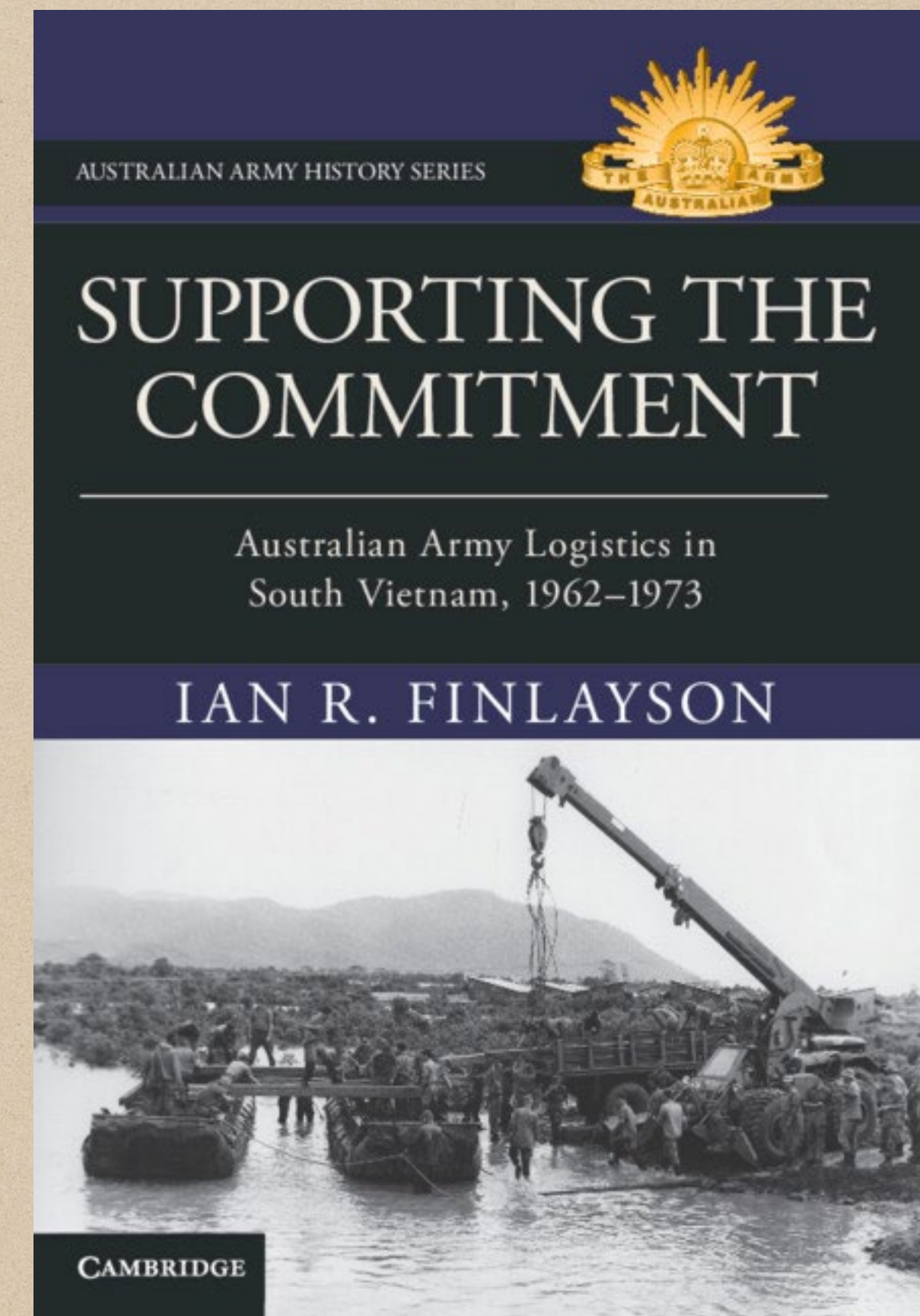


2020

Logistics



1974

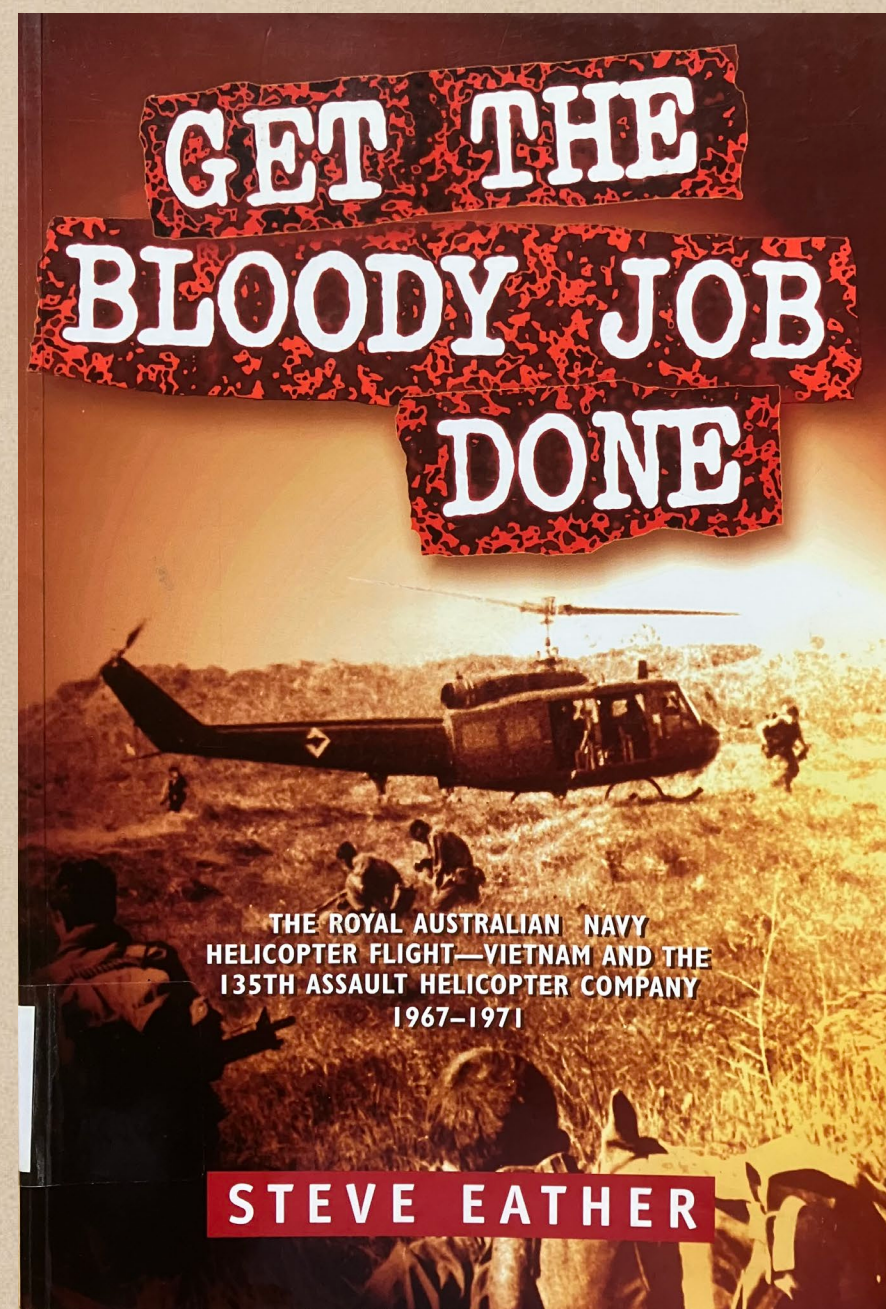


2026

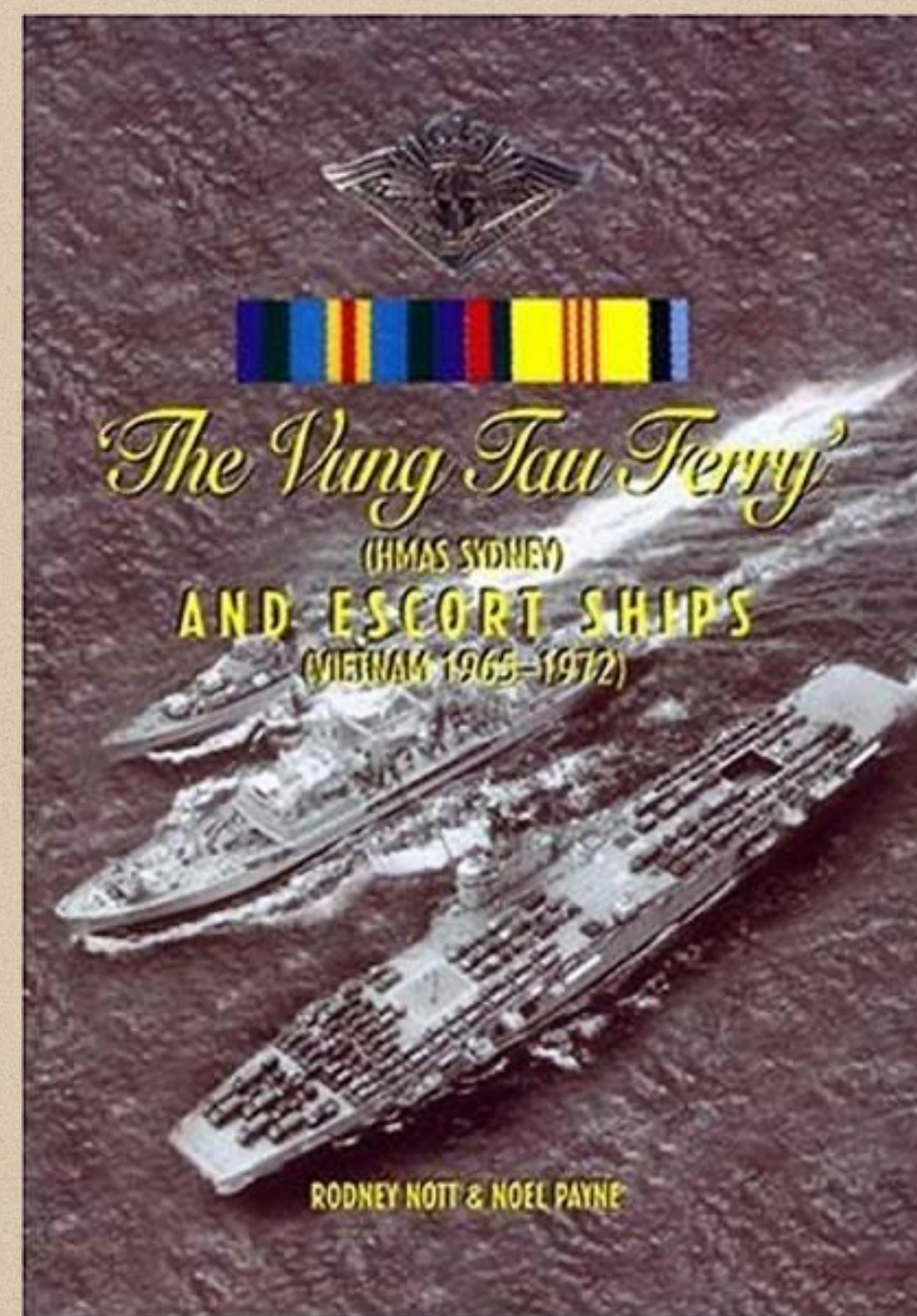
RAN & RAAF



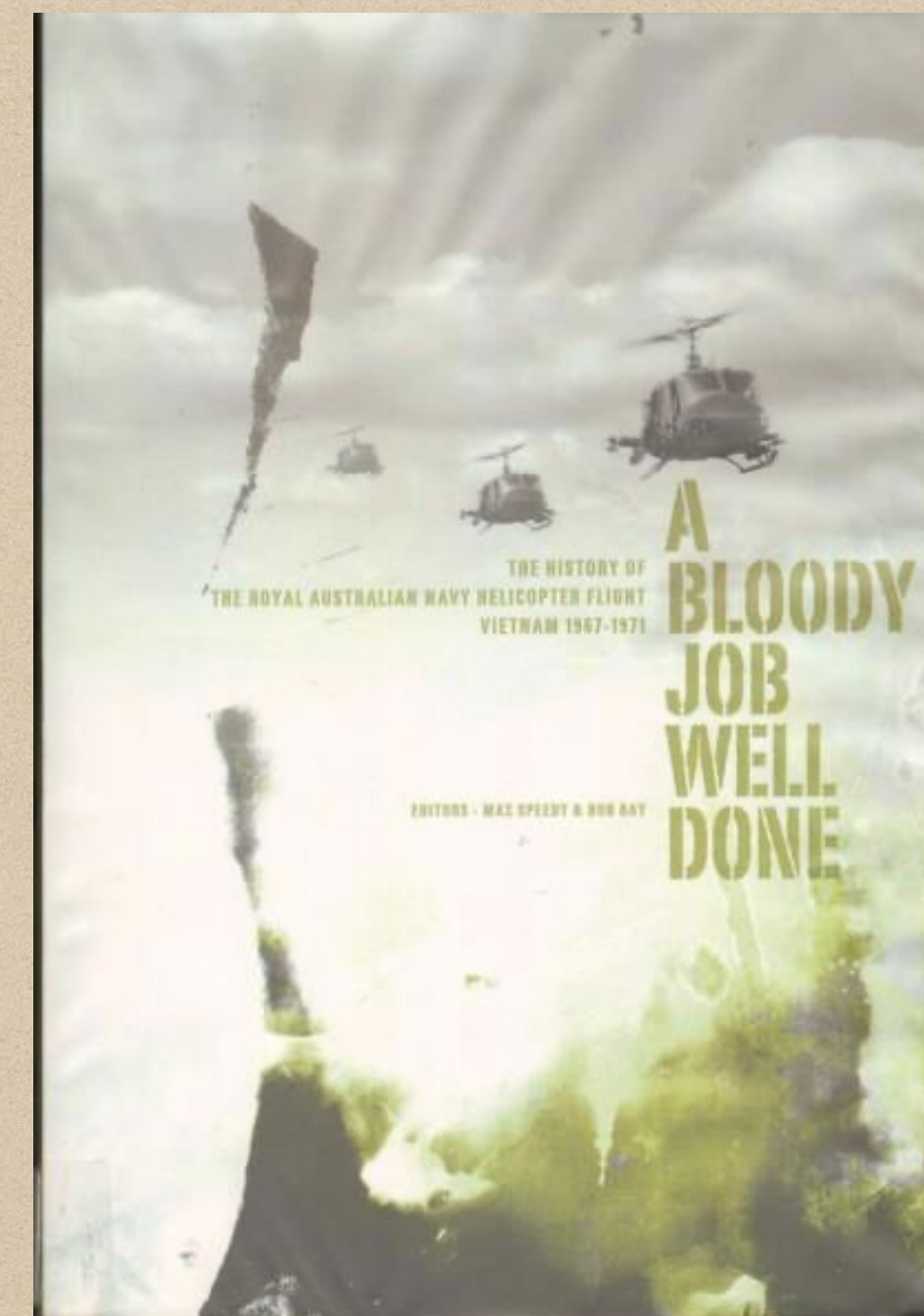
1997



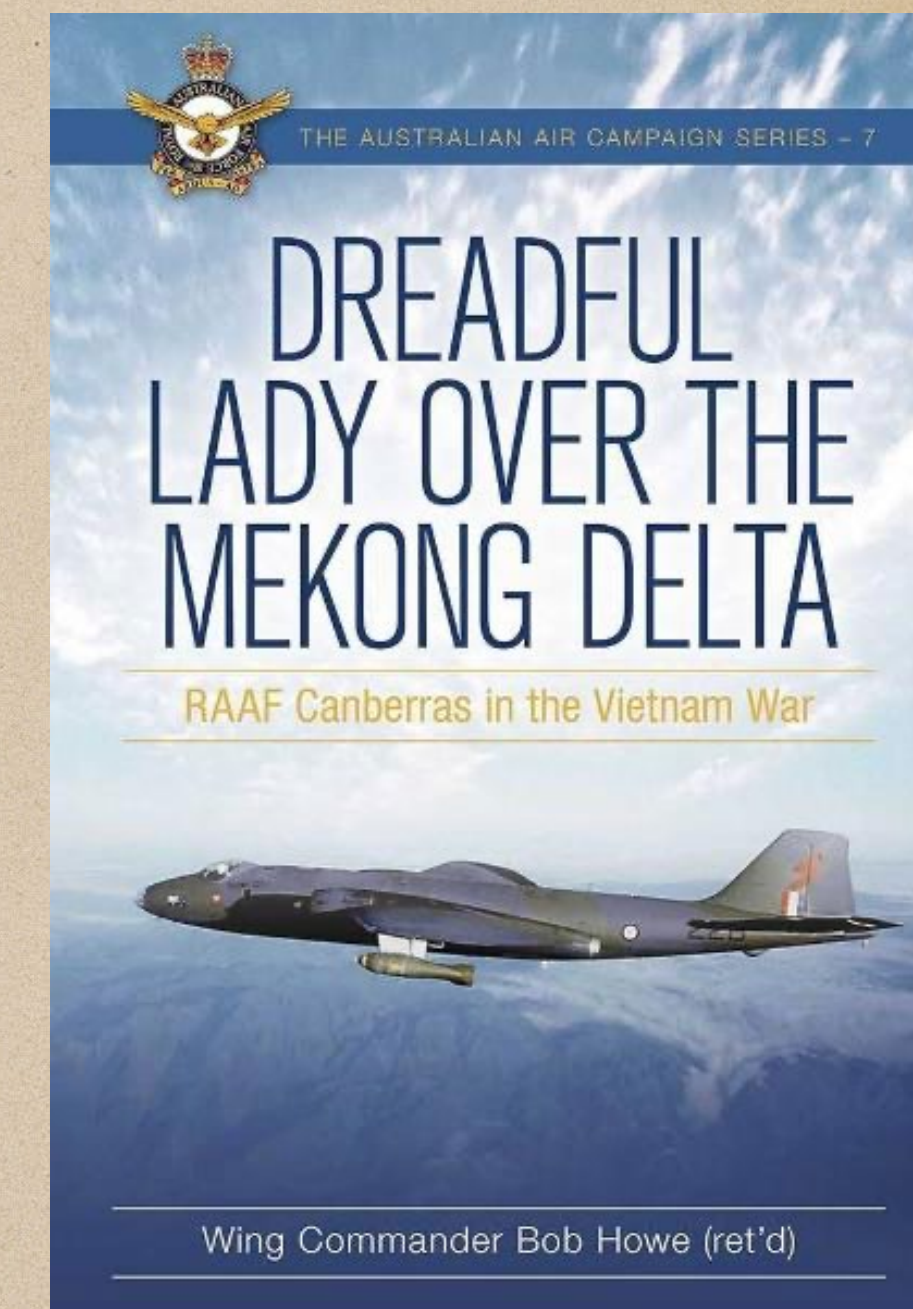
1998



2008

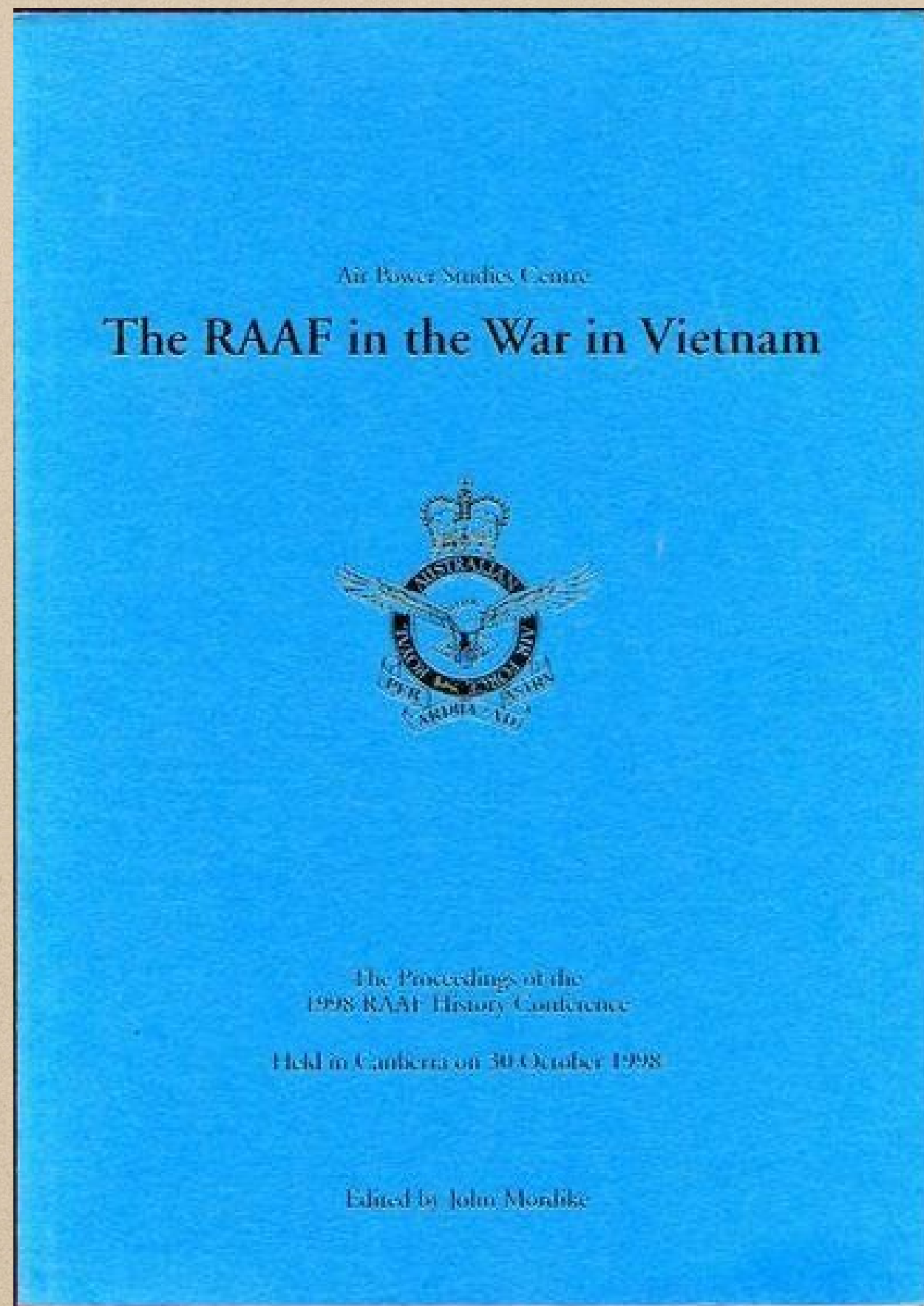


2008

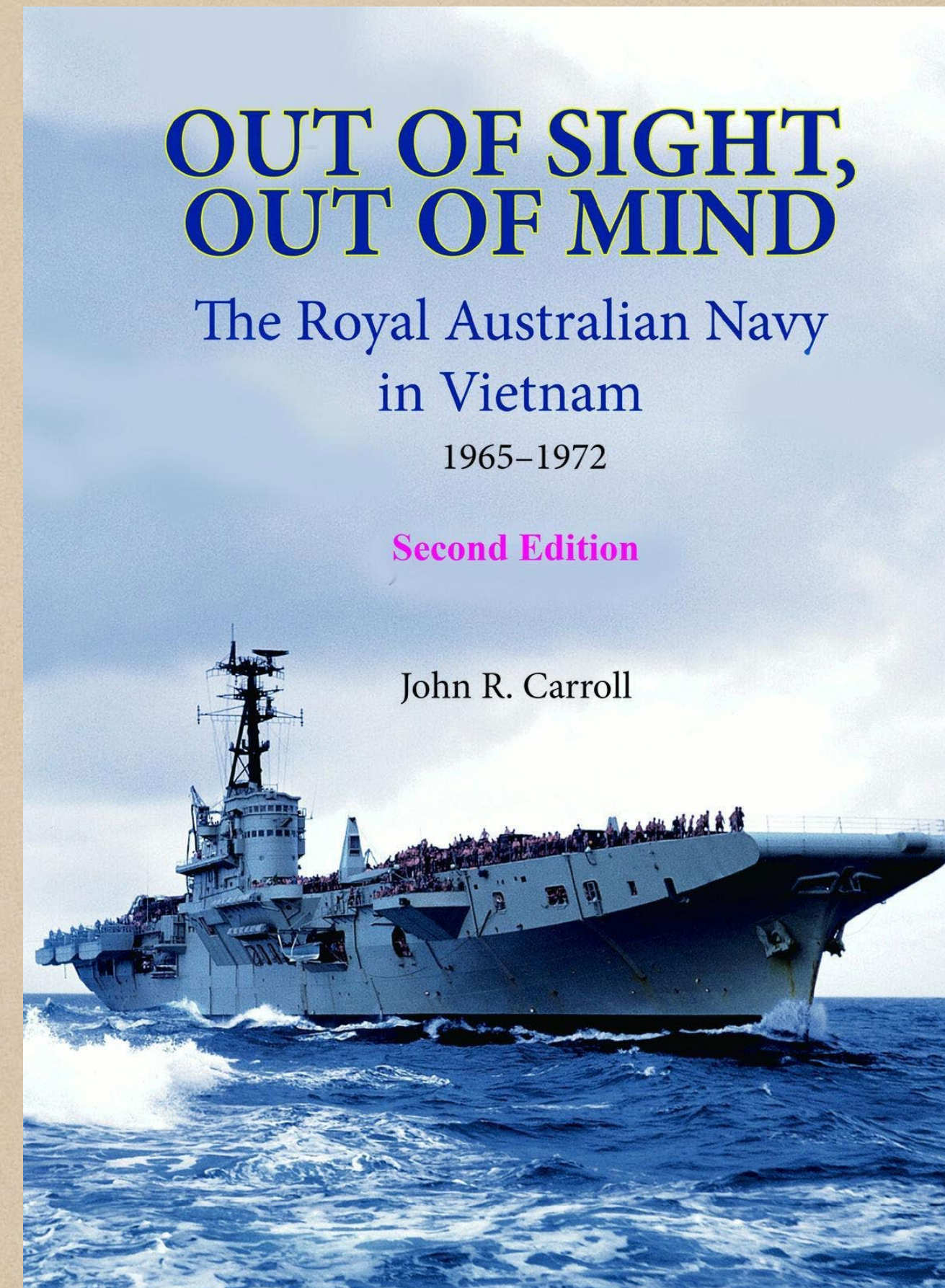


2022

RAN & RAAF

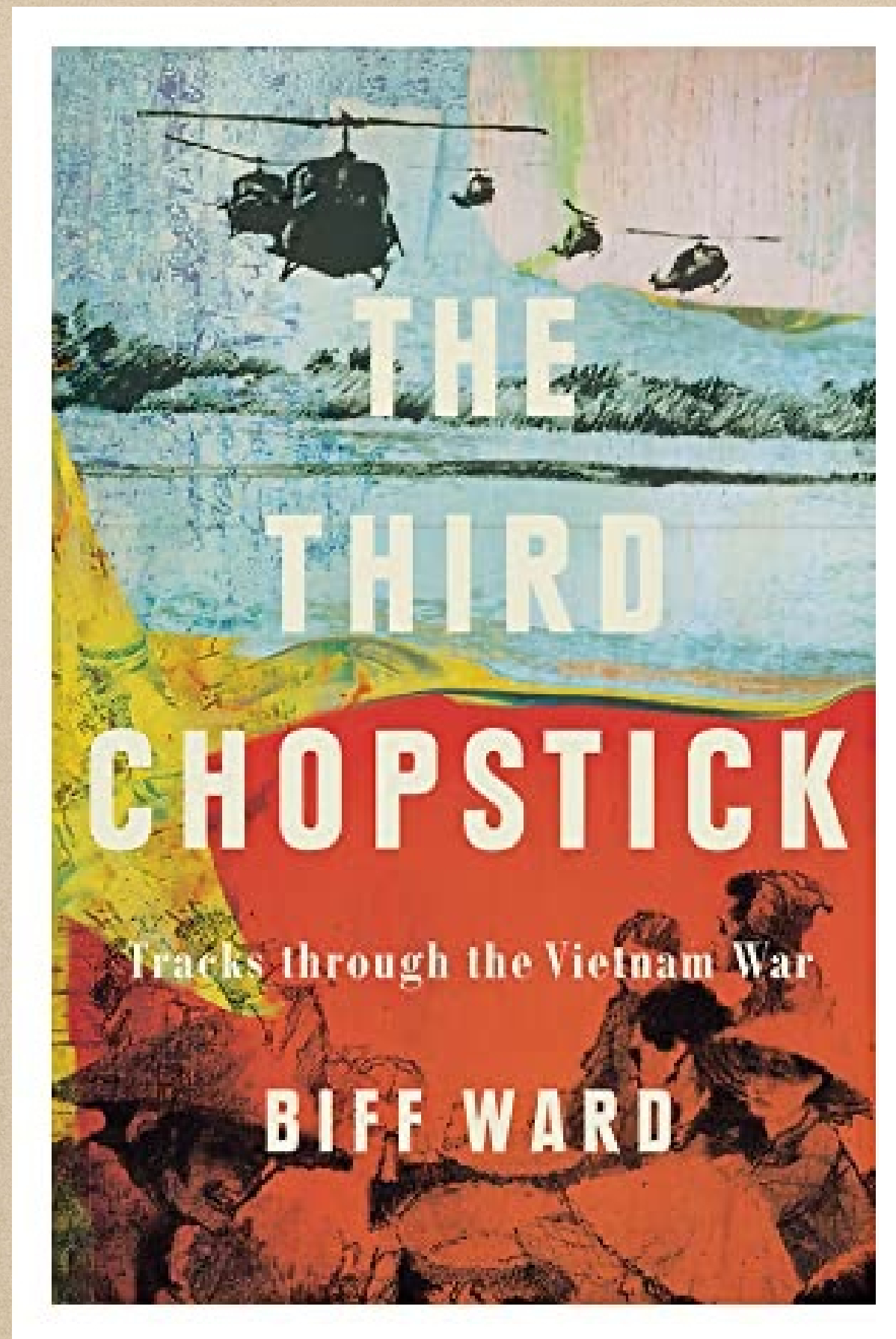


1999



2020

Recollections



The experience of an anti-Vietnam war protester who later chose to meet Vietnam veterans and listen to their stories.

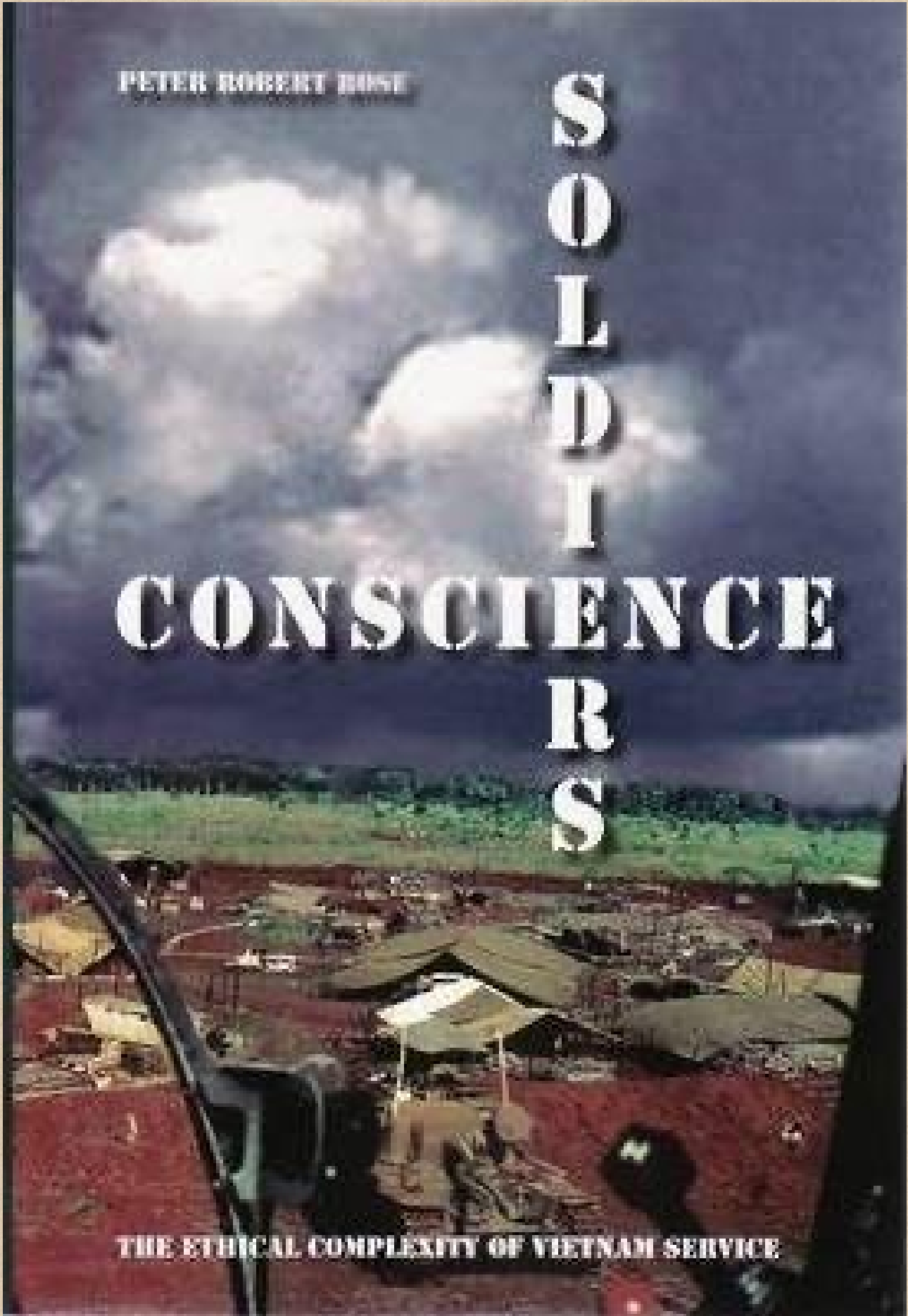
2022

Reacceptance



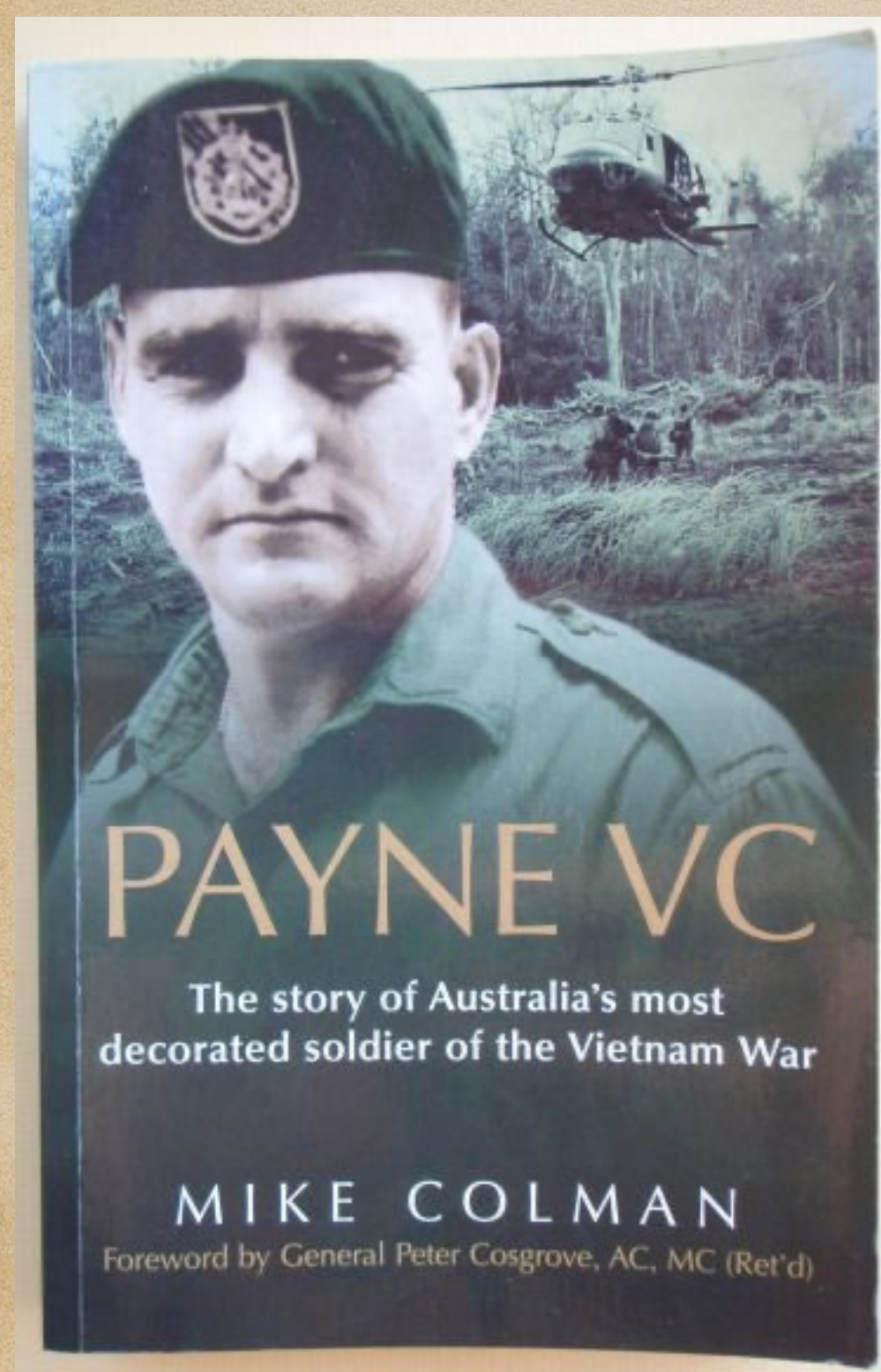
2017

Ethics

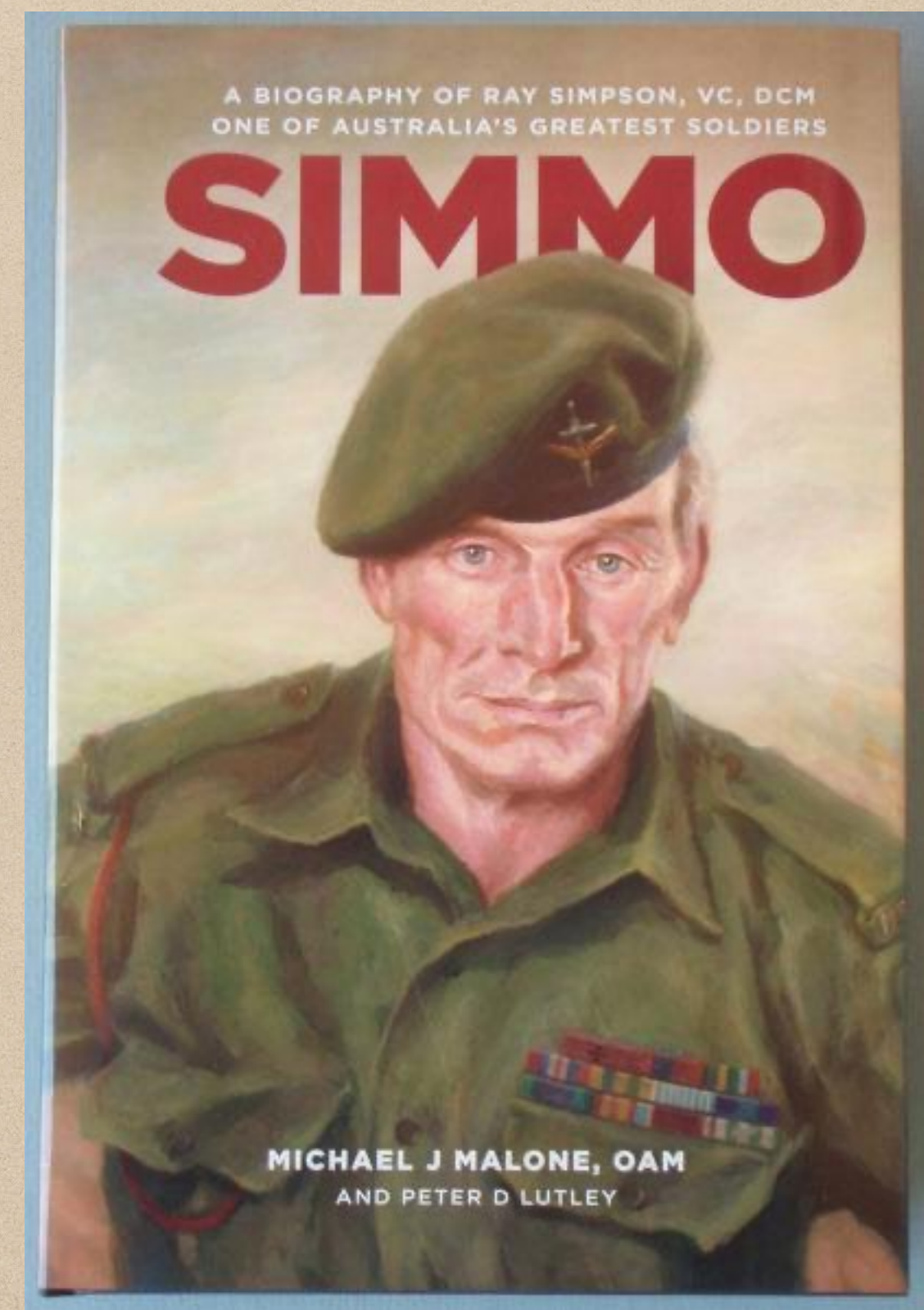


2008

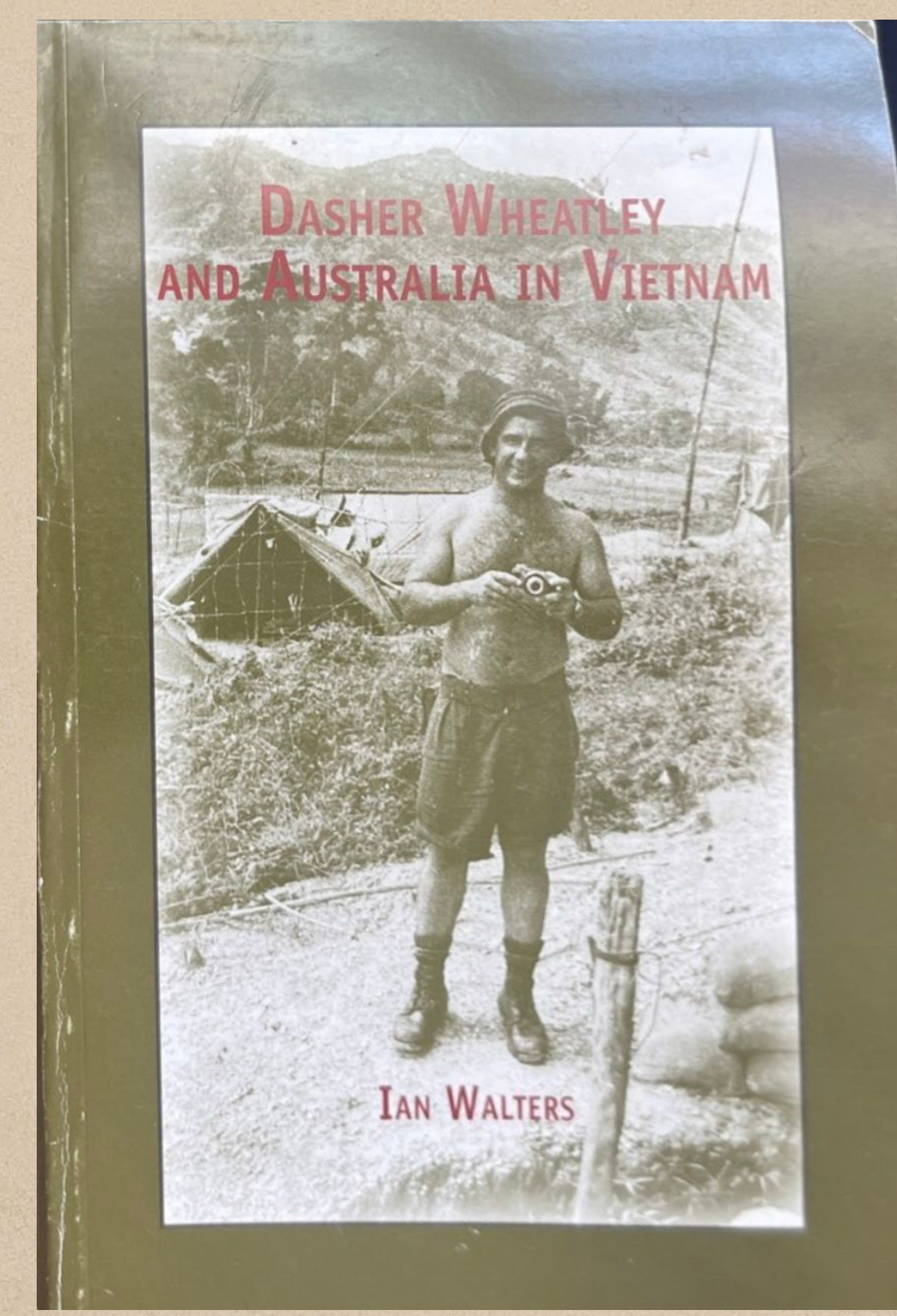
VCs



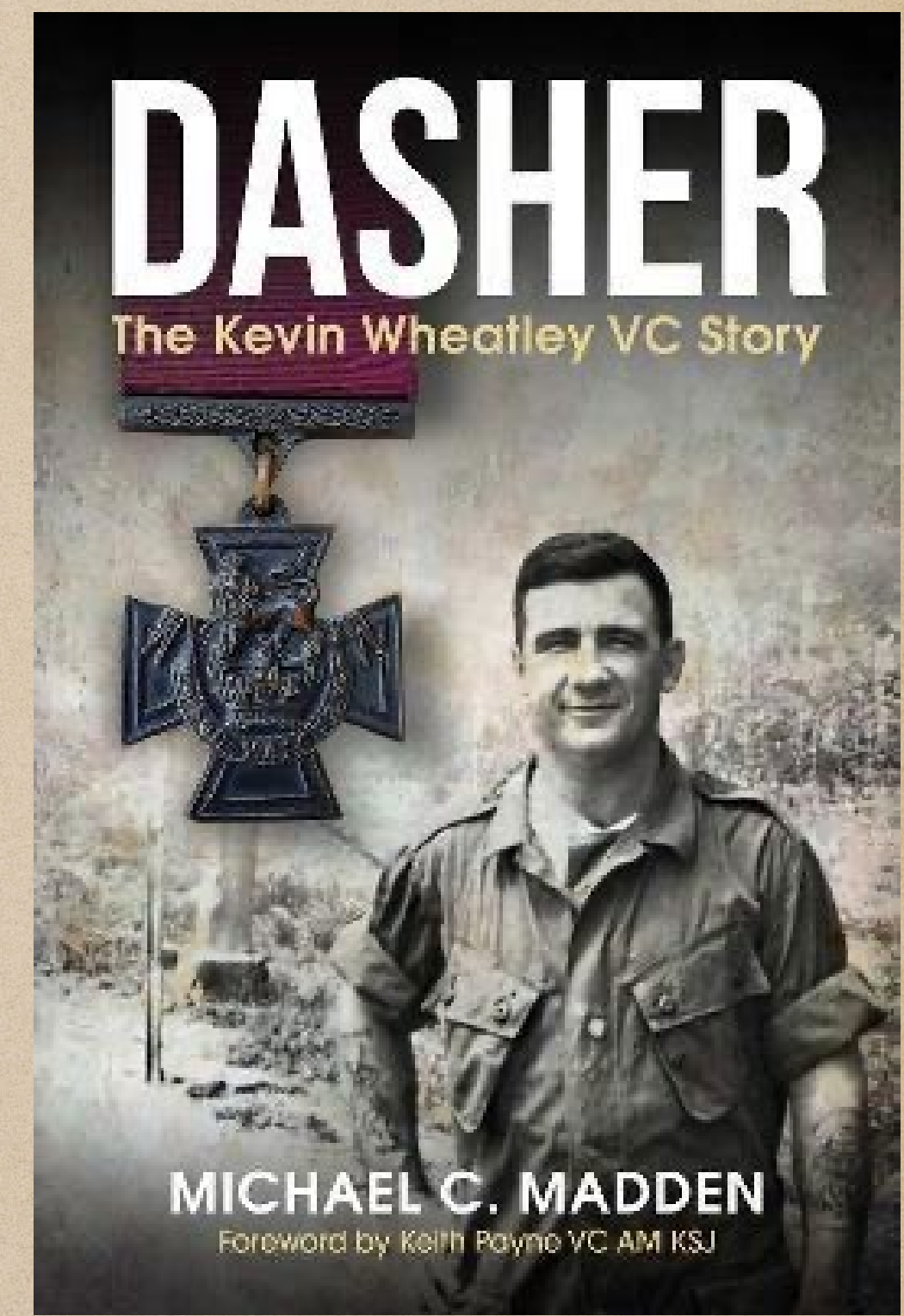
2009



2015

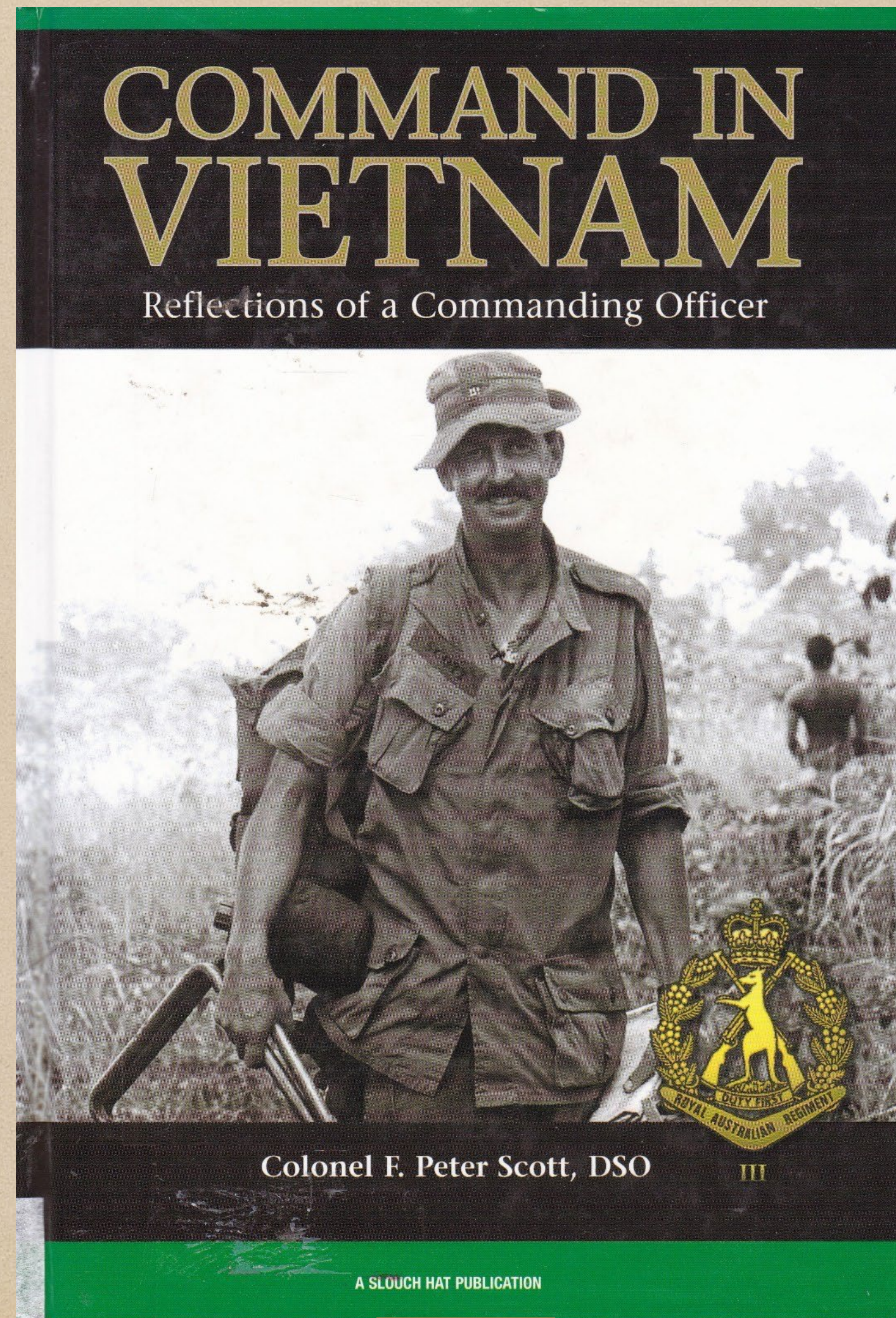


1998



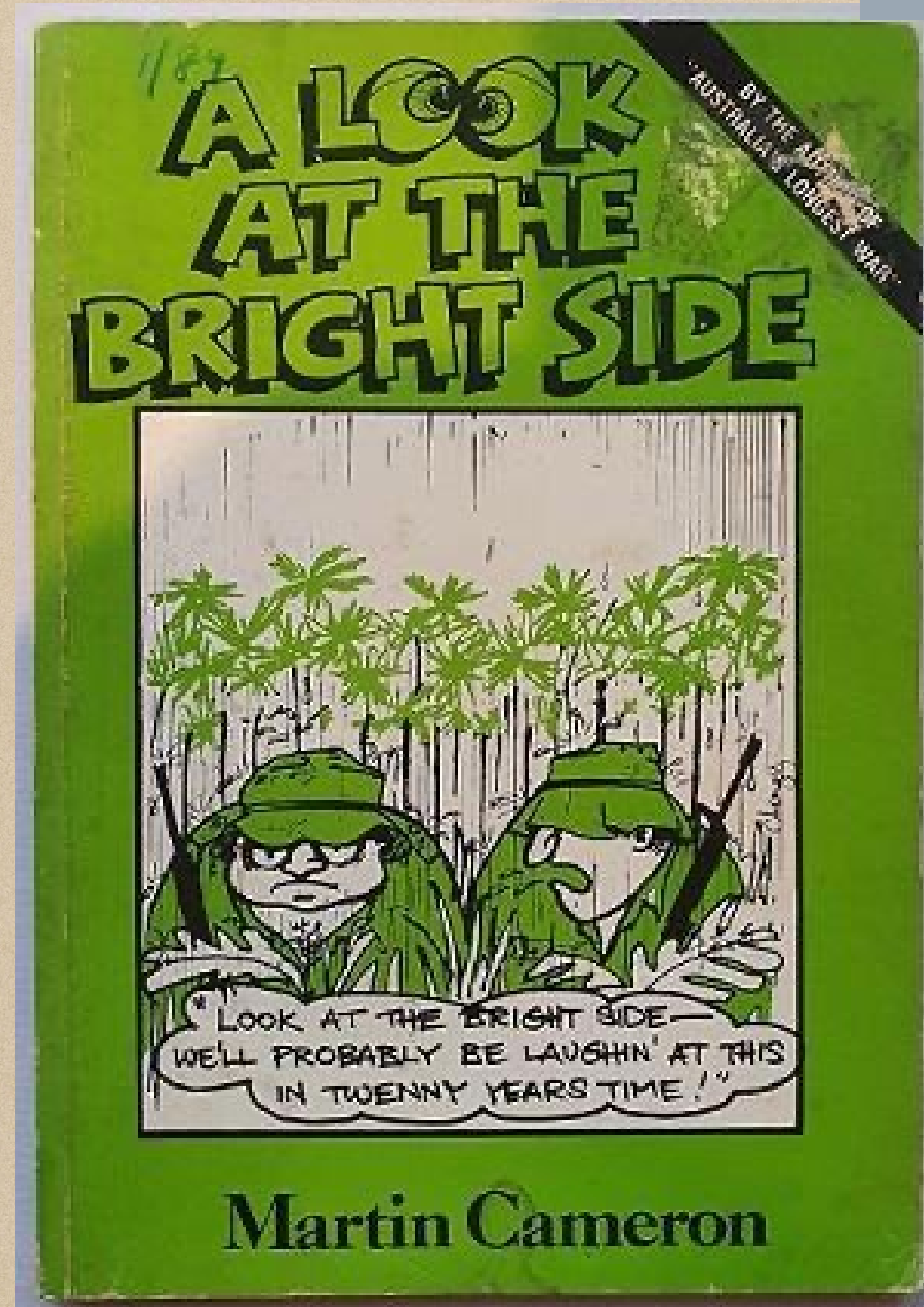
2021

Leadership & Command

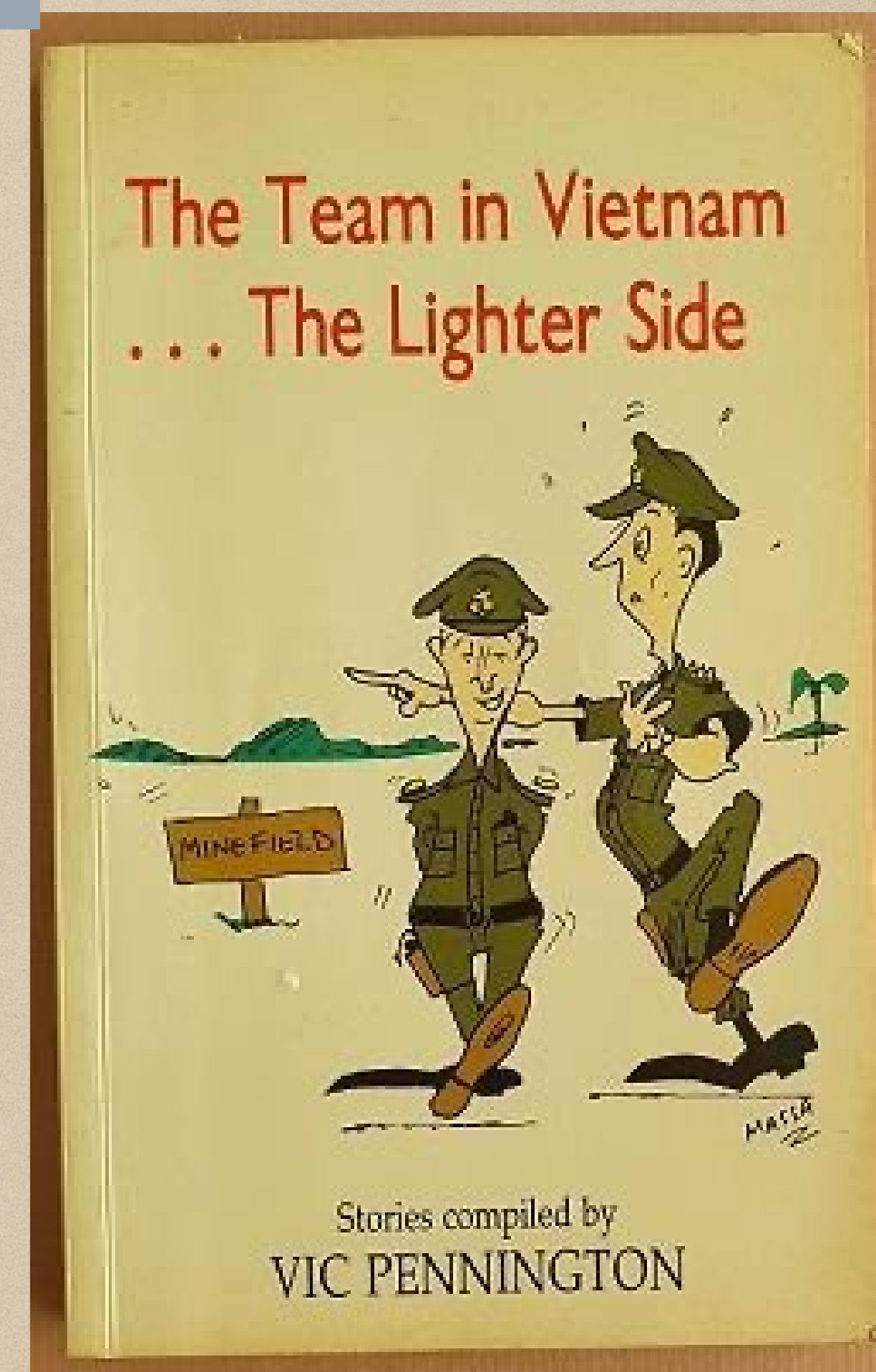


2007

Humour in Uniform



1988



1992

AUSTRALIANS IN VIETNAM WAR



Australians Tours Of Duty
In South Vietnam

2025??

Problems

- Desktop publishing
- Vanity publishing
- Print on demand
- Digital only
- Design
- ISBN, Deposit copies
- The strategic corporal

Green Holes?

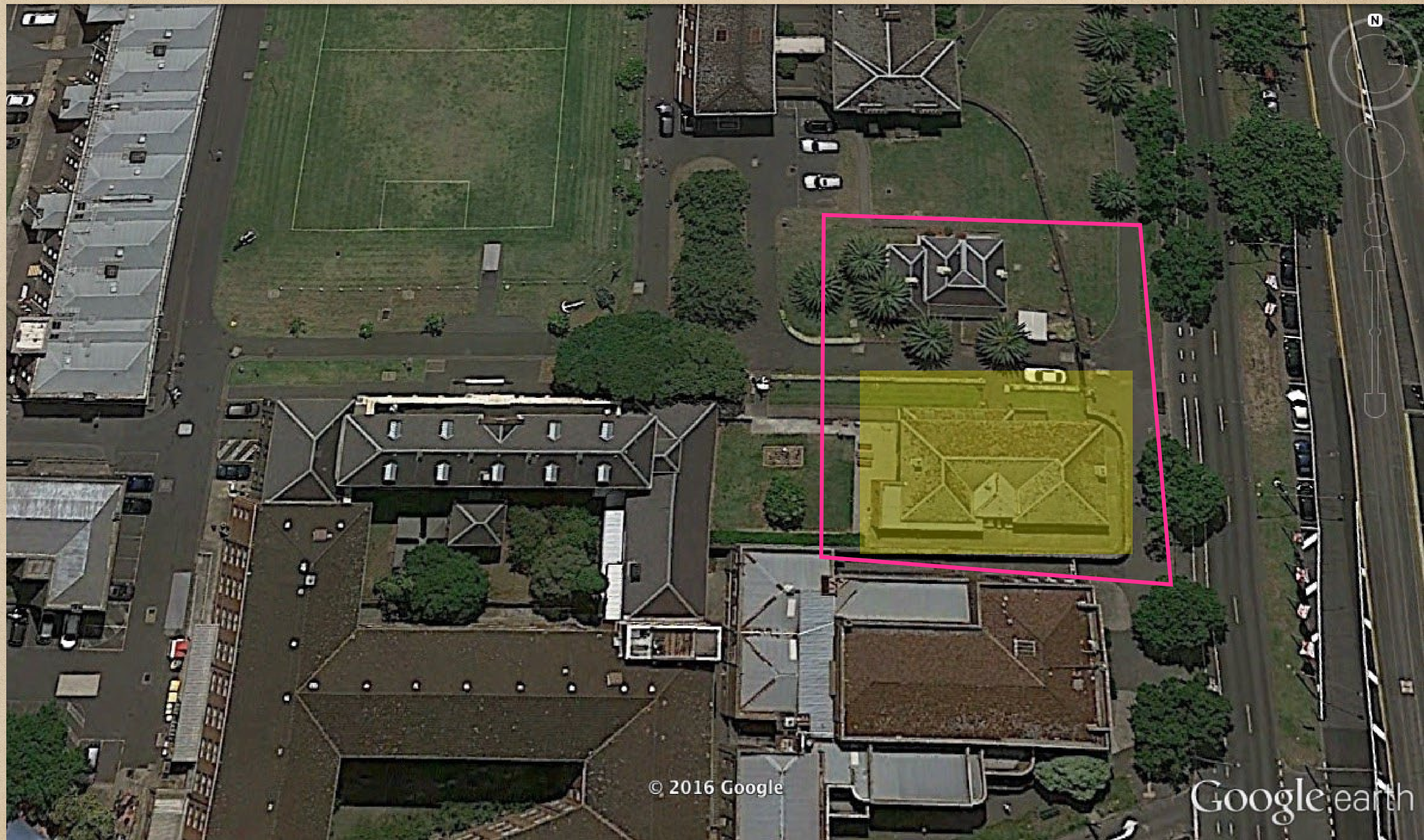
- Regional Biographies
- Biographies of Commanders
- Credibly integrated enemy accounts
- Third generation works
- Cultural understanding
- Training for the war



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