



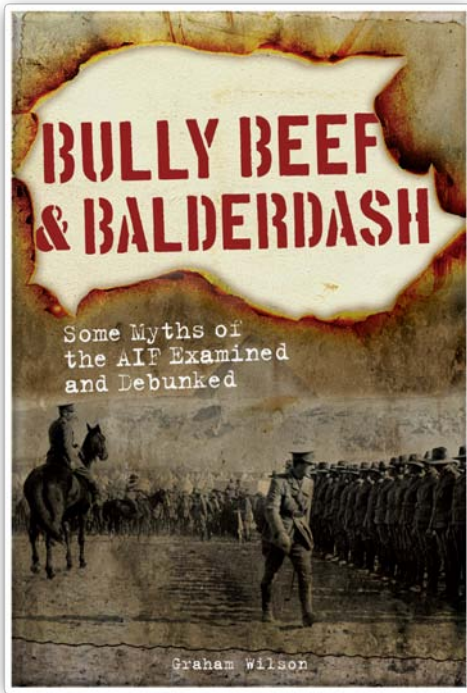
www.bigskypublishing.com.au

Bully Beef & Balderdash

Some Myths of the AIR Examined and Debunked

Graham Wilson

Was Alfred Gaby VC's eerie studio portrait actually taken after his death?
Did the AIF fight the war on an unrelieved diet of bully beef and biscuits?
Did the men of the Light Horse shoot their horses rather than see them sold off to the hated 'Gippos'?



Graham Wilson's *Bully Beef and Balderdash* shines a critical light on some well-known myths of the AIF in World War I, arguing that these spectacular legends simply serve to diminish the hard-won reputation of the AIF as a fighting force.

In *Bully Beef and Balderdash*, Graham Wilson mounts his own campaign to rehabilitate the historical reputation of the AIF in World War I free from hyperbole and jingoism to demonstrate that misleading and inaccurate embellishment does nothing but hide the true story of Australia's World War I fighting army.

Wilson is by no means an AIF Basher rather an AIF Rehabilitator. He asserts that the story of the AIF is extraordinary in its own right; its fighting record so well established that there has never been a need to embellish that story. However, as *Bully Beef and Balderdash* demonstrates, the history of the AIF has become so shrouded in misinformation that what is now generally accepted as 'history' is often little more than myth and legend.

Wilson painstakingly examines a number of myths associated with the AIF, some cherished and well seasoned, others obscure and even whimsical. With meticulous analysis, he sets out to debunk these myths, using a range of first-hand accounts and official records to unravel the facts and set the historical record straight.

Additional Information

- *Bully Beef and Balderdash* deliberately targets some revered legends and, for those who cherish the mythical story of the AIF, this will be uncomfortable but essential reading. Yet, given the extraordinary truth of the AIF's history, it is certainly compelling reading.
- Some of the other myths examined by the author include:
 - Was Beersheba the last great cavalry charge in history?
 - Did the AIF storm the red light district of Cairo and burn it to the ground while fighting running battles with the military police?
 - Was the AIF the only all-volunteer army of World War I?
 - Were Catholics in the AIF denied the VC because of their religion?
 - Was Gallipoli an intelligence failure?

About the Author : Graham Wilson served in the Australian Regular Army for 26 years, including 17 years in the Intelligence Corps. After retiring from the Army, Graham remained in the intelligence field with the Department of Defence, before an appointment in the Defence Department's Directorate of Honours and Awards, where he worked until February 2011, mainly doing historical research and complex writing in the policy area. Graham now works part-time as an historian with Department of Veteran's Affairs. Graham is the author of a number of successful military history titles and has received a number of awards for military history writing.

Wilson's next book *Dust Donkeys and Delusions – the Myth of Simpson and his Donkey Exposed* will be released in June 2012. Wilson debunks this myth in the light of historical records and facts. One that he believes does a great disservice to the history of the AIF and the Australian Army. In June 2012 a panel will meet to consider awarding Simpson posthumously a Victoria Cross.

Bully Beef & Balderdash
Graham Wilson

*

Release Date: April 2012

*

RRP: AU\$34.99

*

Category: Non Fiction/Military

*

Hardback 448pp

*

ISBN: 978-1-921941-56-6

Available at all good bookstores nationally or online at www.bigskypublishing.com.au

Distributed by Woodslane T: 1800 803 443

Author available for interviews, for more information, cover images

Publicity Contact – Sharon Evans, Big Sky Publishing

02 9918 2168 | 0410 332 789 | sharon@bigskypublishing.com.au



Bully Beef and Balderdash by Graham Wilson

Author and Book Background

Interesting points or points of interest... ASKING GRAHAM WILSON ...

“...much of the accepted “history” of the AIF is false or, at the very least, “hyped” and the AIF as a fighting force has a good enough reputation in its own right not to need this.”

Graham Wilson

What do you see as the major themes of the book?

Bully Beef and Balderdash addresses a number of myths associated with the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) in the First World, some well-known and widely accepted, some lesser known, and sets out to refute. The aim is to rehabilitate the memory of the AIF and demonstrate that the story of the AIF is strong enough to stand on its own and not be embellished with mawkish myths.

Why would people enjoy reading your book?

Some people I would hope would enjoy reading the real, as opposed to the mythological story of the AIF while others, again I would hope, would enjoy for their own sake some of the stories used to refute the myths, as many of these stories are fascinating in their own right.

What prompted you to write this book?

I was originally victim to many of the myths myself, however, over the years, as my knowledge and expertise as an historian has grown and matured I came to realise just how much of what is generally accepted by the general public as the “history” of the AIF is in fact myth, legend or outright lie. I am determined to set this right, to the very best of my ability.

Why do you think this approach of yours is so important?

As both a historian and a soldier, I have special affinity for the AIF. From years of reading and research I am a firm believer that, from a very shaky start, the AIF developed into a formidable fighting machine and that the record that this fighting machine forged – the actual record that is – is able to stand very much on its own and does not need the corpus of myth, legend and lie that surrounds it to bolster or boost it.

Are you prepared for the backlash from people to whom the cherished myths are actually truth?

Very much so; I am aware that there are plenty of people out there who subscribe the idea of “history as they want to have been” rather than history as it actually was and who will refuse to believe the facts put before them in the book. I am aware that some of these people will take huge exception to what I have to say in the book. Unless these people can show my research to be faulty, however, then their outrage will not bother me in the slightest.

What would your reaction be if someone was able to demonstrate that something you have stated as fact in the book is actually wrong?

I would be delighted and I make this clear in the book. My whole aim in writing the book is to get the history of the AIF right. If someone can prove that I have got something wrong, and, most importantly, back that proof up with irrefutable sources, then I will feel that I have achieved my aim. History will have been set right.

What makes you an expert on the subject?

Years of research, both personal and professional - As to the latter, I spent 10 years working in the Defence Department’s Directorate of Honours and Awards, mostly in the policy area. Over that time I was exposed to numerous myths related to all three of Australia’s armed forces and was required to research these in depth to prepare complex Ministerial or Departmental responses.

Do you have any military experience or background yourself?

I come from a military family, with service to Crown and country going back to at least the Boer War. Both of my grandfathers served in both world wars; my father served in the RAN for 42 years; all of my brothers served more than 20 years in either the army or the navy. Personally, I served 26 years in the Australian Regular Army, including nine years in the infantry and 17 years in the intelligence corps and retired in 1996 as a Warrant Officer Intelligence Analyst.

Do you address the story of John Simpson Kirkpatrick, the “Man with the Donkey” in this book?

Only a passing mention; the myth of John Simpson Kirkpatrick is so huge that it deserves a book all of its own and I have already written one due out June 2012.





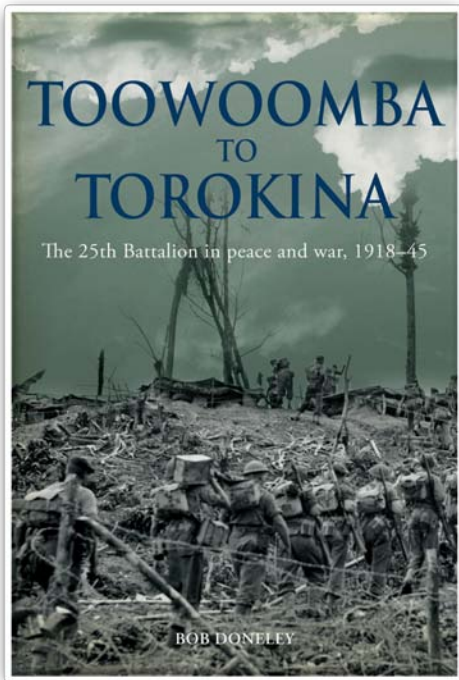
www.bigskypublishing.com.au

Media Information

Toowoomba to Torokina

The 25th Battalion in peace and war, 1918-45

Bob Doneley



The Battle of Milne Bay is an event equal in significance to Kokoda, but rarely discussed. Author Bob Doneley's new book 'Toowoomba to Torokina' seeks to readdress this historical imbalance.

The Battle of Milne Bay is an event equal in significance to Kokoda, but rarely discussed. Author Bob Doneley's new book *Toowoomba to Torokina* seeks to readdress this historical imbalance. This fascinating book traces the proud history of the Queensland regiment of the 25th Battalion, a group of men — pre-war volunteers and conscripts, who answered the call to fight a war that would threaten their country's very existence.

In 1942 Australia faced its greatest peril as Japanese forces advanced rapidly southward toward the island of Papua and New Guinea. If it fell, Australia, too, would eventually fall.

With the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) fighting in North Africa or entering captivity in Singapore, the defence of New Guinea fell to a handful of Militia units, including the Queensland 25th Battalion. They were given the task of defending and halting the initial Japanese approaches to Port Moresby, New Guinea's capital city. Experienced AIF battalions then counter-attacked and drove the Japanese back, securing Port Moresby, New Guinea — and Australia

Like their First World War predecessors, these units fought a determined foe in hellish conditions. From Milne Bay, the 25th Battalion went on to fight in Bougainville, clearing the Japanese from one of their last strongholds north of Australia.

With the pages of *Toowoomba to Torokina* we have the privilege of being introduced, not only to the history of this important military event, but the opportunity to meet the men of the 25th Battalion. To embrace their courage, humour, loyalty, endurance, and determination as they fought from the end of one war to end of the next with, as the Battalion's motto decrees, '**Never a Backwards Step**'.

Additional Information – Why this book?

Bob's interest in the men of the 25th Battalion from Toowoomba and the Darling Downs was a result of his own service with the 25th Battalion – where events such as Anzac Day and Milne Bay Day would bring him into contact with many of the men mentioned in his book. With a lifelong interest in military history and his own military service, it was not hard to direct this interest onto paper.

While structured around official records and newspaper reports, this book draws heavily on interviews with and letters from, the men of the 25th Battalion. This brings the book to life, and makes their story a personal one.

About the Author

Bob Doneley was born in Warwick, Queensland and grew up in Brisbane. As a first year uni student studying to become a veterinarian he also enlisted in the Army reserve. After graduating as a veterinarian he worked in private practice for nearly 30 years. An experienced small animal vet, he is also a registered specialist in bird medicine.

In his military career Bob served as an infantryman and infantry officer for 18 years in the Queensland University Regiment (5 years), the 9th Battalion Royal Queensland Regiment (2 years), and the 25th Battalion, Royal Queensland Regiment (11 years). He retired in 1996 as a major.

Bob lives just outside Toowoomba with his wife of 27 years, Maree. This is his second book on this topic his first *Black over Blue: the 25th Battalion 1915-1918* – traces the Battalion's First War history.

Author available for interviews, for more information, cover images

Publicity Contact – Sharon Evans, Big Sky Publishing

02 9918 2168 | 0410 332 789 | sharon@bigskypublishing.com.au

Toowoomba to Torokina
Bob Doneley

*

Release Date: April 2012

*

RRP: AU\$34.99

*

Category: Non Fiction/Military

*

Hardback 448pp

*

ISBN: 978-1-921-941-58-0

Available at all good bookstores nationally or online at www.bigskypublishing.com.au

Distributed by Woodslane T: 1800 803 443

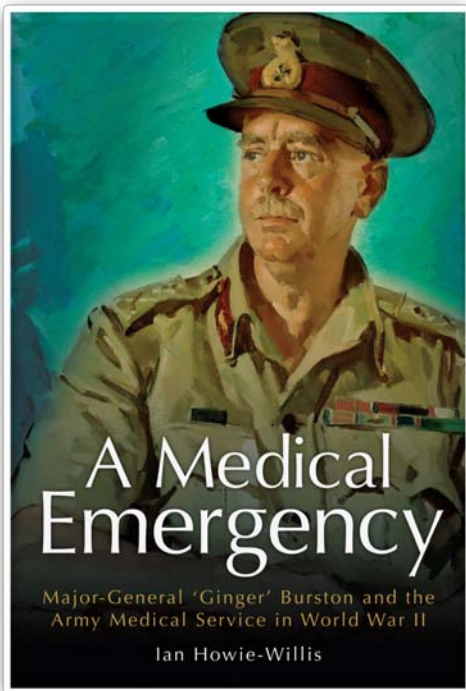




www.bigskypublishing.com.au

A Medical Emergency

Major-General "Ginger" Burston and the Army Medical Service in World War II
Ian Howie-Willis



“During some of the most intense fighting of the entire war more than 10 per cent of the fighting troops were in hospital unable to fight because they were shivering and shaking from malarial fever.”

Author Ian Howie-Willis

A Medical Emergency
Ian Howie-Willis

*

Release Date: April 2012

*

RRP: AU\$34.99

*

Category: Non Fiction/Military

*

Hardback 480pp

*

ISBN: 978-1-921941-57-3

In World War II the Allies eventually beat the Japanese — a victory based, to a large part, on the success of the Australian Army Medical Service (AMS) in defeating malaria. Led by Major-General ‘Ginger’ Burston, the AMS won the war against malaria, enabling the troops to win the war against the Japanese. Their Japanese counterpart never won this battle.

A Medical Emergency tells this remarkable story for the first time. In engrossing detail and using contemporary accounts, veteran historian Ian Howie-Willis brings to life the struggle of ‘Ginger’ Burston and his Medical Service to fight a deadly opponent that decimated the ranks of friend and foe alike. Their victory was key to the ultimate Allied success.

Malaria, threatened the health of the Allies and the Japanese alike. The army that could beat malaria would also defeat its military foe because troops shivering, sweating and shaking with malarial fever cannot shoot straight, let alone fight.

Burston led the Army Medical Service throughout the Pacific campaigns, and by keeping the soldiers healthy, in part by reducing malaria infection rates from 100 to less than one case per 1000 troops per week, the AMS assured an Allied victory over Japan

In *A Medical Emergency* — this pivotal book explains how Burston and his medical team kept Allied troops healthy in primitive and hostile conditions and during the greatest medical emergency of World War II — the struggle against malaria.

Additional Information: 22 Mysterious Parcels contain a historical goldmine
Historian’s dream of stumbling across previously unknown archives — Ian was in the enviable position of receiving a mysterious delivery of a series of large, bulky parcels. These brown wrapped packages were **in fact 22 long-lost files of ‘Ginger’ Burston’s personal World War II correspondence** — a veritable goldmine of documents.

This amazing find was sent to Ian from **Burston’s sole surviving child, the 97-year-old Sir Sam Burston**, to whom the book is dedicated. A courtly gentleman of the ‘old school’, and the commander of a 9th Division tank squadron during the Battle of El Alamein, he was helpful, courteous and co-operative. This unexpected ‘gift’ from Sir Sam ensured that *A Medical Emergency* would be a book worthy of his father.

About the Author

Dr Ian Howie-Willis is a professional historian. He was born and grew up in Melbourne but has lived in Canberra since 1975. The author of 17 books, he is the historian to St John Ambulance Australia. He and Margaret (his wife of 49 years) have three children and seven grandchildren.

His current book, *A Medical Emergency*, his 17th, grew from Ian’s St John Ambulance work. Its subject, Major-General ‘Ginger’ Burston, was the inaugural Chief Commissioner of the St John Ambulance Brigade in Australia.

Author available for interviews, for more information, cover images

Publicity Contact – Sharon Evans, Big Sky Publishing

02 9918 2168 | 0410 332 789 | sharon@bigskypublishing.com.au

Available at all good bookstores nationally
or
online at www.bigskypublishing.com.au

Distributed by Woodslane T: 1800 803 443



Interesting points or points of interest... ask the author

“...a detailed and sensitive examination of the life and work of one of the great Australian generals of World War II.”

Why does ‘Ginger’ Burston deserve a book-length biography?

Burston was one of the great generals of World War II. The battles that he and his Army Medical Service waged against the diseases ravaging the Allied troops were as important to the eventual Allied victory as were the campaigns fought by the combat troops.

Why would people enjoy reading your book?

- (1) It tells the story of a great but largely forgotten Australian.
- (2) It shows how the Army Medical Service (AMS) contributed to the Allied victory in World War II, especially in critical and iconic campaigns like those at Tobruk, Kokoda, Milne Bay, Salamaua and Finschhafen.
- (3) It demonstrates how the Australian Army is an intensely political institution.
- (4) And it revisits and reassesses a series of great military-political controversies of World War II.

What were ‘Ginger’ Burston’s special qualities and his main accomplishments?

Burston was a superb wartime military medical administrator. He had the right combination of personality traits, interpersonal skills, political know-how and managerial ability for the wartime command of the Army Medical Service (AMS). The AMS quickly grew into a vast, complex organisation of 32,000 personnel spread across 400 disparate medical units in three major theatres of war — the Middle East, South-East Asia and the South-West Pacific. Keeping the AMS functioning as a coherent whole required a general of Burston’s talent.

The accomplishment for which Burston is best remembered, however, was the AMS’s successful campaign against malaria from 1943. It was a campaign he led with crusading zeal. In the highly malarious South-West Pacific theatre in particular, malaria was as deadly a foe of the Allied forces as were the Japanese. Winning the battle against malaria underlay the success of the fight against the Japanese.

How important was ‘Ginger’ Burston in Australian military history?

Burston was not a ‘fighting’ general, i.e. commanded no combat units, but was nevertheless among Australia’s greatest generals of World Wars I & II. He commanded the Army Medical Service (AMS) during its time of greatest size and complexity — 32,000 personnel in 400 medical units spread across three theatres of war — and during Australia’s greatest military crisis, the Japanese invasion of Australia’s nearest overseas territories and bombing of northern mainland towns. No other head of the AMS before or since has ever had to bear such responsibility.

In the campaigns in Papua New Guinea in particular he was obliged to find a solution to the rising epidemic of malarial infection, which by mid-1942 was hospitalising troops at the astonishingly high rate of 100+ cases per thousand troops a week. This meant that **during some of the most intense fighting of the entire war more than 10 per cent of the fighting troops were in hospital** unable to fight because they were shivering and shaking from malarial fever. Unless malaria could be effectively suppressed in the long term, the disease threatened to eliminate the Allied troops faster than the Japanese could.

Strongly supported by the tropical diseases experts among his medical officers, Burston successfully petitioned the Allied Commanders, Blamey and MacArthur, to give malaria research the highest priority. The result was the establishment at Cairns in mid-1943 of an Australian Army malaria research unit which soon determined the drugs, dosages and anti-malarial procedures needed to stem the malarial tide. Applied in the field in Papua New Guinea, the research findings progressively reduced the rate of malarial infection to less than one hospitalisation for thousand troops a week.

The Japanese, who were unable to benefit from such research, suffered and died from malaria at catastrophically high rates. The fight against malaria commanded by Burston helped tip the balance of the war in the Allies’ favour.

How was ‘Ginger’ Burston the critical figure in the Allied Armies’ struggle against malaria in the South-West Pacific theatre during World War II?

Establishing and obtaining the necessary staff and material resources for the Army’s Land Headquarters Medical Research Unit (MRU), which carried out malaria research, required high-level military-political and administrative skills. Burston was adept in both these areas.

First, he won the support of the Commander-in-Chief, Blamey, for the project, then he secured the resources, allocated the required staff and made the key appointments. The MRU and its work flourished, largely because of the priority Burston gave it. Its accomplishments were the great achievement of the Army Medical Service in World War II. Even though Burston delegated the fight against malaria to the MRU, he maintained an interested overview of its activities. Without his support it could hardly have succeeded as it did.

“...Burston was a magnanimous, affable, informal and approachable chap who made friends easily across the social classes. As an Army senior officer he had a natural air of authority. His circle of devotees among AMS officers was wide; and few among them ever became disgruntled while under his command.”

Ian Howie-Willis

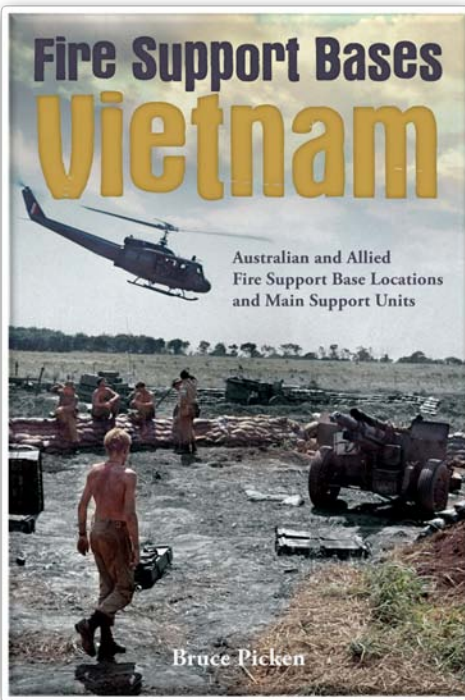




www.bigskypublishing.com.au

Fire Support Bases Vietnam

Australian and Allied Fire Support Base Location and main Support Units
Bruce Picken



Fire Support Bases Vietnam, is the first book to meticulously detail the Australian contribution of the fire support bases, in particular the artillery gun areas, in supporting field units during operations in South Vietnam.

Compiled over nearly nine years by author and Vietnam veteran Bruce Picken, his book outlines through painstaking documentation the construction, location and role of every fire support bases during the Vietnam War. It is the first book to undertake the Australian contribution in this area in such depth and is a concerted effort to provide a guide to historians and battlefield visitors in reclaiming a sense of the way the Australian soldier lived and fought.

Often makeshift bases hacked out of primary jungle; these artillery gun areas provided essential support to infantry field units during operations in South Vietnam.

In its simplest sense, a fire support base was an often hastily constructed fortified artillery base position usually sited forward close to the centre of the area of operations in support of task force, battalion or company operations. The role of the fire support base was to bring artillery and mortar fire within range of friendly forces operating in depth.

Artillery gun areas were not unique to the Vietnam conflict. In previous wars they were deployed in allied territory to cover the front lines and to support advancing troops. The concept was first applied in Vietnam by US forces and quickly adapted by Australian forces arriving in Phuoc Tuy Province in May 1966 to fight a new kind of war.

This conflict was not like its predecessors and the fire support bases were more usually sited in territory dominated by the enemy to provide much-needed protection for forces operating in bitterly contested areas.

Fire Support Bases Vietnam is a detailed account that identifies every fire support base by date, location and role and provides an outline of the operations in which they participated. This is an essential reference book for those with an interest in the Vietnam War, and adds valuable detail to the study of a campaign that occupies a unique place in the Australian psyche.

About the Author

Bruce Picken Bruce Picken was born in Geelong, Victoria, in 1947 and educated at the Geelong College. He commenced a five year electrical apprenticeship which was completed in April 1970. Two days later, he was on a bus heading for Puckapunyal army camp – 2nd Recruit Training Battalion (2RTB) to commence his ten weeks of basic training.

In September 1970, Bruce was posted to the 4th Battalion RAR stationed at Lavarack Barracks, Queensland. On 12 May 1971 the 4RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Battalion left for Vietnam on its shortened tour of duty. On joining 4RAR, Bruce was posted to the Assault Pioneer Platoon. The Pioneers were the CO's combat engineers specialising in light engineering and demolition and mine warfare tasks. Their primary role was to assist in the establishment and support of FSB areas.

The Assault Pioneer Platoon also conducted TAOR patrols around FSB areas (including the Horseshoe and Nui Dat), as well as ambush patrols and Ready Reaction tasks. Bruce left Vietnam in November 1971 and was discharged from the Army in December 1971, having completed his National Service commitment. Bruce lives in Colac, Victoria, with his wife Lexie.

Author is available for interviews, for more information, cover images

Publicity Contact – Sharon Evans, Big Sky Publishing

02 9918 2168 | 0410 332 789 | sharon@bigskypublishing.com.au

Fire Support Bases Vietnam
Bruce Picken

*

Release Date: March 2012

*

RRP: AU\$34.99

*

Category: Non Fiction/Military

*

Hardback 700pp

*

ISBN: 978-1-921941-54-2

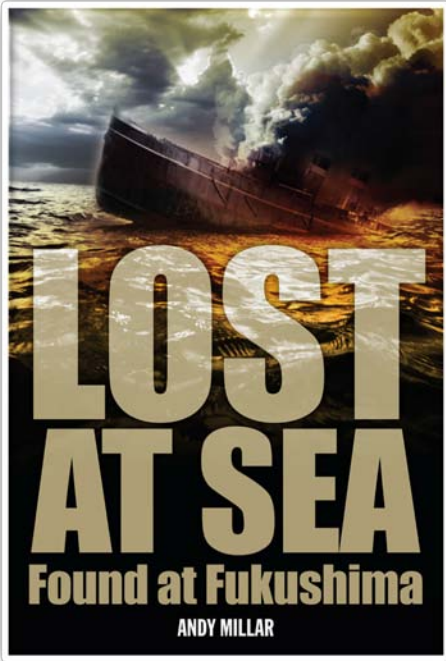
Available at all good bookstores nationally or online at www.bigskypublishing.com.au

Distributed by Woodslane T: 1800 803 443





www.bigskypublishing.com.au



Lost at Sea Found at Fukushima Andy Millar

Author Andy Millar pays tribute to his father David Millar in his new book *Lost at Sea, Found at Fukushima*. A remarkable and true story, of drama on the high seas, capture and imprisonment and the indomitable courage under the most difficult of circumstances of an otherwise very ordinary group of men, women and children, caught up in the horrors of war.

Almost 70 years ago, in April 1942, a British tramp steamer, *SS Willesden*, was shelled, torpedoed and sunk by a German raider, *KMS Thor*. 137 civilian men, women and children, 75 of whom were passengers on the Eastern and Australian Line ship, *SS Nankin* bound from Fremantle to Bombay, were captured at sea by a German raider and ultimately incarcerated in a Convent in Fukushima Japan, vacated by Sisters from the Order of the Congregation of Notre Dame for that purpose.

Among the survivors was Second Mate David Millar – badly wounded, David spent the rest of the war in this POW camp. It is his story, hidden in a cardboard box, and discovered after his death by his son, that provided the inspiration for *Lost at Sea* and the amazing events of a little known, and sparsely reported, chapter in the Pacific War.

What is remarkable about this story, apart from its inherent drama, is that these civilian POWs – numbering more than 130 in all – were officially listed as ‘Missing at Sea’: their presence in the camp remained a closely guarded secret. This meant that it was many months– in some cases, years – before the fog of mystery surrounding their disappearance lifted, and family and friends knew whether their loved ones were dead or alive.

Lost at Sea - Found at Fukushima tells the little-known story of these survivors. It is a tale of honour between enemy naval commanders; of suffering, courage and endurance, as months of imprisonment turned to years; and of the powerful relationships that form when people are forced together in life-threatening circumstances.

Additional Information

- **In the South Atlantic** Ocean in April 1942, a British tramp steamer, *SS Willesden*, was shelled, torpedoed and sunk by a German raider, *KMS Thor*.
- *SS Willesden* was carrying 47 officers and crew, and a cargo of vital war supplies destined for Britain’s 8th Army in North Africa.
- **The survivors were rescued** by the Germans and interned on a succession of prison ships, before being handedover to the Japanese.
- **Thor also sunk** two other steamers, *SS Kirkpool* and *SS Nankin*. Their survivors, including 38 women & children, were held at the same POW camp.
- **The convent** where the POWS were held still exists, damaged by the recent tsunami; the nuns now care for over 300 children, orphaned by this tragic event.

About the Author

Andy Millar is a retired Navy Commander having served 26 years in the Royal New Zealand Navy before transferring to the Royal Australian Navy to take up a position with the Collins Class submarine project. A highlight of his 40year career was his two years secondment to the Royal Malaysian Navy from 1966-68, commanding a Fast Patrol Boat of similar size and capability to the German E-boats which feature at the beginning of *Lost at Sea*. During this period he was also involved in the hunting and capture of pirates and smugglers in the South China Sea and adjacent waters. The David Millar in this book was Andy’s father. He lives in Canberra, with his wife.

Author available for interviews, for more information, cover images

Publicity Contact – Sharon Evans, Big Sky Publishing

02 9918 2168 | 0410 332 789 | sharon@bigskypublishing.com.au

“A great many of us in the aftermath may be a little surly, a little indolent, and sometimes strangely irritable. But we are beings who fought for our pride, and saved it whole – in a long unchronicled private war.”

Madeline Charnaud (POW)

Lost at Sea
Andy Millar

*

Release Date: March 2012

*

RRP: AU\$29.99

*

Category: Non Fiction/Military

*

Paperback 260pp

*

ISBN: 978-1-921941-52-8

Av Available at all good bookstores nationally or online at

www.bigskypublishing.com.au

Distributed by Woodslane T: 1800 803 443





Lost at Sea Found at Fukushima by Andy Millar

Background

SS Willesden was sunk on 1 April 1942.

A date that you wouldn't forget - April fools day - something ironic in that.

Available for Interview

Michael Charanud, one of the last surviving POWs from Fukushima. Interred as a child.

We have the contact details of one of the surviving POWs - Michael Charanud who was interred with his mother Madeline Charanud. Michael was an 11 year old boy when he was interned with his mother (Madeline) in the Fukushima camp and 15 years when he was released. He is one of only 3 or 4 of the internees still alive. He now lives in the UK. Michael plays a prominent part in the Fukushima story.

Michael & Madeline's trials are followed throughout this book. It is Michael's report card that appears on p 169 of *Lost at Sea*, with David Millar's signature as his mathematics tutor, and it was to Madeline that David wrote the incredibly moving letter that commences on p 190. Madeline's own personal reflections of her time as a POW are recorded in Appendix 1 and her photo appears on p18.

Michael is available by email or phone (he's in Britain so our evening)

"Andy Millar has produced a superb action packed book, well researched as a splendid tribute to his Father who was a quiet steadfast inspiration to us inmates! This book is an anthem to the many unsung brave heroes, of the merchant navy that faced death every day they put to sea, to keep the lifelines and arteries of the Allied war effort going as well as the women and children swept up in the maelstrom of war. Well done! Anyone with a love of history will find it a real 'voyage of discovery'!"

"The experience of Fukushima and the war at sea is one that is embedded in my soul. Harsh as it was, it was a marvellous testing and teaching class full of characters, a multitude of races and learning how ordinary people help a youngster in distress. My heroes were the Geordie seamen, who had grown up in desperate poverty with kindness flowing through their veins, a Canadian ex bootlegger, the officers from the ships, together with the academic intellectuals such as G.P Stewart and Fred Garner. These people all taught the real meaning of loyalty, of not whingeing and standing steadfast shoulder to shoulder. A useful foundation for life as it strips humbug off and reveals the basic essentials"

Captain David Hart-Dyke RN (Rtd)

"Thank you very much for the copy of your book (Lost at Sea - Found at Fukushima). I am thrilled to have it - I could not admire the story or your authorship more: it is an amazing story and compellingly written. How proud you and your family must be to have the story published, so important for future generations. Your Dad was a remarkable man - what a war and what resilience and strength of mind he showed in such adversity. It is always curious to me that people who have been through traumatic situations rarely talk about their experiences but often have something written down or photographs to be found after their lifetime by family members. Ideally, the trick is to write your story before you fall off the perch if possible! Also, to talk about your story to your family, but that is easier said than done. But you have done it for your Dad and that is wonderful."

Captain David Hart-Dyke RN (Rtd) CO of HMS Coventry in the Falklands War and the author of 'Four Weeks in May', the story of the loss of HMS Coventry in 1982, a British destroyer that was sunk by Argentina in the Falkland war. David's book on the loss of his ship "Four Weeks in May" caused great interest in the UK when it was released in 2007

"It's difficult to add to what David Millar has already written about his father's book. Exceptionally well told story; Andy Millar makes the reader feel like they know the characters. A powerful narrative, particularly well researched, altogether an absorbing book - highly recommended."

J Cooper (UK)



www.bigskypublishing.com.au

Game to the Last

The 11th Australian Infantry Battalion at Gallipoli

James Hurst

In *Game to the Last* author James Hurst gives voice to the men who served in 'one of the finest battalions which served in the war', the West Australian 11th Infantry Battalion, AIF, during the grueling Gallipoli campaign of 1915.

Game to the Last follows the battalion members from their homes in Western Australia through to the Gallipoli Landing and the extraordinary 5 battles and eight months of trench warfare that followed. It shows their suffering and achievement in light of who they were – stockmen, farmers, timber getters, railway workers, clerks, accountants, shopkeepers, professionals, doctors – and where they came from.

Author James Hurst's attention to detail and passion for his subject brings to life a very different side of the Gallipoli Campaign. His intensive research unearthed many previously unpublished personal accounts, that provide the heart of the narrative while including the reconstruction and inclusion of many battles and events omitted from other works, providing fresh context and colour.

The result is an excellent insight into a less familiar and essential part of our military history, finely detailed and captivating.

This is a story about Australian men - sons, brothers, husbands, mostly civilians - who became soldiers in a bloody war on foreign soil. Before 25 April 1915 there was no 'Anzac Legend'. *Game to the Last* is the story of the lives of some of those men who created it.

Additional Information

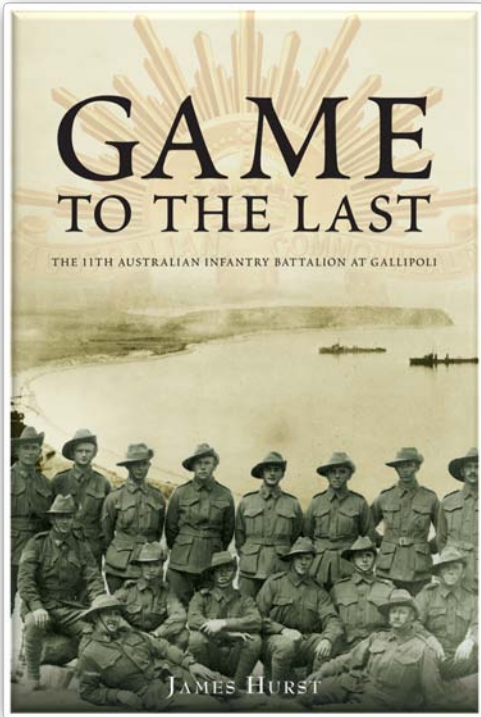
- James Hurst's desire to write this book began in Plugge's Plateau at Gallipoli in 1982, long before Gallipoli was on the tourist route 1982. Since then he has visited the men's training grounds and battlefields, homes and graves and undertaken extensive research. He has returned to Gallipoli half a dozen times.
- A major aim was to reconstruct battles and events of 1915 for the first time since the *Official History* of 1921, or, to a lesser extent, the battalion history of 1940.
- Material was collected from libraries, museums, private collections and the Australian War Memorial throughout Australia and overseas, over many years.
- The photographs had been collected from an extremely wide range of sources, carefully selected from many hundreds and the captions written individually.
- The maps were all original. Drawn up from period trench maps overlaid with material researched and analysed while writing the book.
- It follows The 11th Battalion members from Australia, to Egypt, the first wave of the Australian and New Zealand landings at Gallipoli. The narrative then follows the survivors through the coming months as they fight five more battles under the harsh conditions of trench fighting at the Dardanelles.

About the Author

James Hurst was born in Perth and studied at the University of Western Australia. He has since worked at the Universities of Western Australia and New South Wales and for the Department of Defence. For many years he has researched the Gallipoli Campaign in general and the 11th Battalion in particular, visiting the peninsula five times for research purposes. He has written a number of articles on the subject and produced an interactive CD-ROM guide to the campaign. James currently lives in South Australia with this wife and daughter. This is his first book.

Author is available for interviews, for information, images or review copies.

Publicity Contact – Sharon Evans, Big Sky Publishing



'if you only read one military book in your life, this should be the one.'

'superb... a sometimes humorous, often tragic, but always compelling account ...'

Game to the Last
James Hurst

*

Release Date: February 2012

*

RRP: AU\$34.99

*

Category: Non Fiction/Military

*

Hardback 267pp

*

ISBN: 978-1-921941-13-9

Available at all good bookstores nationally or online at www.bigskypublishing.com.au

Distributed by Woodslane T: 1800 803 443

Game to the Last by James Hurst

Author and Book Background

Interesting points or points of interest,..

Why James wrote the book

In 1982, James was drawn to travel/visit Gallipoli; in those days it wasn't particularly the 'thing to do' so getting there was pretty rough. When he was on Plugge's Plateau at Gallipoli he decided then and there, at that stage a Science graduate, not yet an author, or a history graduate, that he would write a book about Gallipoli.

Beyond the wealth of time he spent in researching the book - his interest also came from his own youth growing up in Perth - then still quite small - the names of the men who are in the book, are family names. 'many of the family names will probably be familiar to Perth residents – a street name, a park...

Of note is the fact that not all the members of this battalion were natives of WA - many came from the British Isles or other Australian states - at that time when the search for work meant people where out of necessity transient travelling around Australia searching for their next job.

James also wanted to ensure that beyond the serious hard yards of his research that he wrote a book that wouldn't just be a 'trainspotters guide for Gallipoli historians' but would also have connections for all readers. Therefore he has included where the men came from, their homes, the streets they walked on - some the same streets he travelled everyday as a kid - so that we can realise how extraordinary the feats of these Aussies really are.

Feedback from readers are that these connections have allowed - people who wouldn't normally pickup a book on Gallipoli or for that matter any historical book - access to and an appreciation for his book.

What's different

Game to the Last is not just a narrative it's a wealth of research that follows a different thread of the battles. James has reconstructed battles and events omitted from other works.

Considering the number of men that fought - we often find that for example when a new movie is made - the research that they drive back to is the same over and over again.
Not for James.

At the time that James was creating *Game to the Last* he didn't realise that his approach wasn't so different from how the official historian in the 1920's created their version.

He reconstructed the battles, by searching archives, diary entries, visiting libraries – at that time he did not have the advantage of current technology and access to the World Wide Web - most of the work was done before then – and was more about pencils and archives and visiting families.

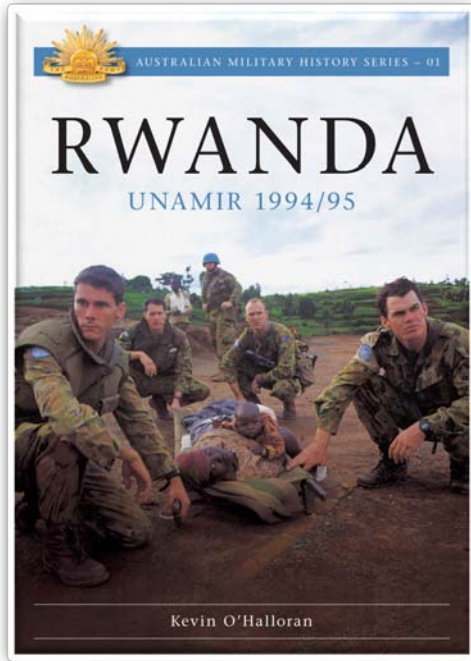
Also by following the battalion you can see the wear and tear on the people who were fighting, the ones who died and those who survived, sent back into battle, the injuries, the long-term issues, the issues these men faced with their physical health under a constant barrage of fighting.

Some of the personalities involved are funny, their anecdotes entertaining, some would go onto become well known Aussies, and others would never make it back.

***Game to the Last* is.. 'superb... a sometimes humorous, often tragic, but always compelling account ...'**



www.bigskypublishing.com.au



RWANDA

UNAMIR 1994/95

Kevin O'Halloran

Author Kevin O'Halloran's new book *Rwanda UNAMIR 1994/95* is the first in the new Australian Army History Units *Australian Military History Series* focusing on the nuts and bolts on this type of support missions.

Rwanda is no stranger to violence. In 1994, an orgy of killing swept across the tiny land-locked nation and genocide - the size and magnitude unseen since the Hitler horrors of WWII, erupted. Around one million men, women and children were mercilessly shot, hacked to death or burnt alive.

To alleviate the suffering and restore order, a group of Australian UN peacekeepers was sent to Rwanda under a United Nations' mandate. These Australians would be exposed to a lack of humanity they were not prepared for and found hard to fathom.

On 22 April 1995, the daily horror and tragedy they had witnessed escalated out of control. At a displaced persons' camp in Kibeho, in full view of the Australian soldiers, over 4,000 unarmed men, women and children died in a hail of bullets, grenades and machete blades at the hands of the Rwandan Patriotic Army. Constrained by UN peacekeeping Rules of Engagement, these Australians could only watch helplessly and try to assist the wounded under the gaze of the trigger-happy killers.

Rwanda – UNAMIR 1994/95 is a detailed account of what happened during this peacekeeping mission. Kevin O'Halloran, a Platoon Sergeant at the time, has recorded these events using material from numerous interviews and eyewitness accounts.

For many, their service in Rwanda would come with a personal toll. No Australians died during this operation though as this book testifies, the suffering and tragedy is embedded in their memories.

Rwanda is Kevin's second book. His first book *Pure Massacre, Aussie soldiers reflect on the Rwandan Genocide*, (Big Sky Publishing, 2010), was received with Australian and international acclaim as 'heartfelt and frank, showing the world that genocide did happen in Rwanda.'

About the Author

Kevin 'Irish' O'Halloran was born in Dublin, Ireland in 1961 and migrated to Australia with his parents, elder brother and two sisters in 1970. He grew up around the inner suburbs of Melbourne and was educated at University High School, Parkville. He left school at the end of 1978 aged 17, and worked on numerous labouring jobs.

In April 1981, Irish joined the Australian Army. During his nearly 28 years of service he has served on four operational tours of duty, all in the Royal Australian Infantry Corps (RAInf). He lives in Perth and is married to Michelle and their two children. His hobbies and interests revolve mainly around his young family; however, he does hold a certificate as a Rugby Union Coach as well as a Rugby Union touchline judge. He regards his deployment to Rwanda as his most demanding and rewarding posting to date.

Author is available for interviews, for more information, cover images

Publicity Contact – Sharon Evans, Big Sky Publishing

02 9918 2168 | 0410 332 789 | sharon@bigskypublishing.com.au

"It was the Vietnam Vets that taught us by saying quote "it's not what you get out of life that's important it's what you give." unquote. And this advocacy will always remain a battle for all soldiers who continue to serve in war torn countries. But as usual, and as for all soldiers, the last and most important battle of any war is writing its history. "

Author Kevin 'Irish' O'Halloran

Rwanda UNAMIR 1994/95

Kevin O'Halloran

*

Release Date: March 2012

*

RRP: AU\$19.99

*

Category: Non Fiction/
Military/Rwanda/Peacekeeping

*

Paperback 148pp full colour

*

ISBN: 978-1-9219414-8-1

Available at all good bookstores nationally or online at www.bigskypublishing.com.au

Distributed by Woodslane T: 1800 803 443

Warrant Officer Class One Kevin 'Irish' O'Halloran - Position in Rwanda: Platoon Sergeant



Currently lives: Perth, Western Australia

"By nature, most service personnel seldom discuss anything as personal as their actions in operations and tend to resent those who embellish the stories they do tell. For many this book is the first time soldiers have spoken so comprehensively, in such depth and at such length about Kibeho. Some have opened up about things they have never communicated to their families. Each personal account could be a book in itself."

About Kevin "Irish" O'Halloran

Kevin 'Irish' O'Halloran was born in Dublin, Ireland in 1961 and migrated to Australia with his parents, elder brother and two sisters in 1970. He grew up around the inner suburbs of Melbourne and was educated at University High School, Parkville. He left school at the end of 1978 aged 17, and worked on numerous labouring jobs.

In April 1981, Irish joined the Australian Army. During his nearly 30 years of service he has served on four operational tours of duty, all in the Royal Australian Infantry Corps (RAInf). Irish retired end of 2011 from the Defence force and has just commenced a new job as OHS officer at the WA mines.

In 2010 Irish published his first book *Pure Massacre, Aussie Soldiers reflect on the Rwandan Genocide* – his book was received with open arms from Australia and in particular Canada as one of the few books that told the story about the events leading up to and on the day of the Kibeho massacre in Rwanda.

He regards his deployment to Rwanda as his most demanding and rewarding posting to date. Born in Dublin in 1961, 'Irish' migrated to Australia with his parents, elder brother and two sisters in 1970. He grew up around the inner suburbs of Melbourne. He is married to Michelle with two children Sean and Siobhan.

Author Q&A

Why write your book/s?

If there is going to be any purpose to military history, then it has to be written as accurately as possible, otherwise its lessons, good or bad, will be lost. To be a good soldier, what Vietnam vets taught me, is what you think is morally-ethically correct, then that thought compels you to intervene. By what you decide to do, as a soldier everyday of your life, not just on operations, you will be judged a good soldier or not. And sometimes you need to break the rules, to achieve the aim, just like we did in Rwanda. It was the Vietnam Vets that taught us by saying quote *"it's not what you get out of life that's important it's what you give."* unquote. And this advocacy will always remain a battle for all soldiers who continue to serve in war torn countries. But as usual, and as for all soldiers, the last and most important battle of any war is writing its history.

My book shows that courage is what soldiers demonstrate on behalf of those who cannot defend themselves. My first book *Pure Massacre* is also now used by every university in Australia as a resource document for the study of international law.

My book aims to serve as a small part of the healing process for those veterans who said how good it was to talk about their experiences there. We are all obviously very proud of how we performed in Rwanda and believe it's very sad that people don't talk about the operation because it implies that we did something wrong, which we all know is not true. You see, we know that although we were not injured in a battle, we were injured in a war. Kibeho was a part of a war and things like massacres happen in wars. So, the scars of the Australian contingent that went to Rwanda are honourable scars — and these scars will be with us forever.

On Courage

There are some for whom it is nothing to risk one's life for one's mates; however it's a different kind of courage altogether to risk one's life for complete strangers. One of the greatest achievements of the operation in Rwanda, especially Kibeho, was the incalculable number of lives saved by the sheer presence of the Australian soldiers on the ground. In particular the presence of the infantry soldiers and I truly believe our service there should be remembered as a success against all odds.

Around 600 tri-service men and women, Australian Regular Army and Australian Army Reserve personnel, served in Rwanda, the biggest contingent since Vietnam to go overseas on operations, for 12 months and win the RSL ANZAC Day Peace Prize. Very few were recognised on their return, certainly initially, as being involved in a war, they were peacekeepers – the horror they were involved in wasn't necessarily recognised.

What issues do veterans from your deployment face?

Operation TAMAR ended with a major admission by the UN of its failure to maintain its standing as an assertive legitimate organisation. We can clearly see from our own UNAMIR veterans the full consequences of some of those failures. Some may say that I have been too critical of the UN and its failures in this book; others may say I have not been critical enough. For me I look into the eyes and souls of those who I served with so proudly and I see the pain, suffering and demons that are being dealt with in the aftermath and all I say is I have tried to tell it as it is.

How have past diggers/wars influenced/inspired/impacted you?

The Vietnam Vets were a huge influence on me. To be a good soldier, what Vietnam Vets taught me, is what you think is morally-ethically correct, then that thought compels you to intervene. By what you decide to do, as a soldier everyday of your life, not just on operations, you will be judged a good soldier or not. And sometimes you have to break the rules to achieve the aim, just like we did in Rwanda. It was the Vietnam vets that taught me by the quote *"it's not what you get out of life that's important, it's what you give"*.

If you've deployed on warlike active service (not a peacekeeping mission) what is the most defined difference between this deployment and that of a peacekeeping deployment?

What Chapter we would be on would be the biggest difference. Put yourself for a moment in the position of a soldier suddenly confronted with an individual who appears to be threatening life. Under a Chapter VII mandate you can choose to shoot him immediately. Alternatively, under a Chapter VI mandate you can deliver two verbal warnings, bring your weapon to the action condition (chamber a round), warn him verbally a third time, and then fire. The problem is that it gives him ample time to react. In that time he can kill you, he can kill others and he can influence others to massacre thousands. You have less than a second to make up your mind. It is not comforting when you consider that taking the first option and shooting him immediately could result in a verdict of murder if it is later found that he was not firing directly at you. This was the most the defining difference in Rwanda.

Specifics around Rwanda

How did the genocide happen?

Rwanda has always been divided between ethnic Hutus, who make up 85% of the population and the Tutsi minority which formed the traditional elite. In 1994, the Hutu government was desperately trying to stop the advance of Tutsi rebels. In April, a plane carrying the Hutu president was shot down. Within hours, some members of the government, including the prime minister, organised Hutu militias across the country to systematically kill Tutsis. Checkpoints were set up at which anyone whose identity card showed they were Tutsi was killed; either shot or more often hacked to death with machetes. Neighbours killed their neighbours and those moderate Hutus who refused to take part were also slaughtered. Even nuns and priests have been found guilty of taking part in the genocide.

What did the international community do?

The world did little to stop the massacres but afterwards the UN set up an international court in the Tanzanian town of Arusha to try the ringleaders. The Rwandan government has condemned it for being inefficient, corrupt and not doing enough to protect witnesses. At a cost of more than half a billion dollars, the ICTR has indicted 92 individuals. Two individuals are in detention awaiting trial, one of whom is awaiting transfer to Rwanda after the case against him was transferred to the Rwandan justice system. Additionally, six individuals are currently on trial, 18 are appealing their sentences, and ten have been acquitted and released from detention. Proceedings against four individuals were terminated after two died and after indictments against two were withdrawn. The e cases against two individuals were transferred to national jurisdictions. The e Tribunal has finished proceedings against 30 individuals who are currently serving prison sentences, eight who have finished their sentences and have been released, and three who have died while serving prison sentences. Nine individuals remain at large as fugitives.

How has the UN responded to the criticism?

The tribunal's original chief prosecutor, Carla Del Ponte, said the Rwandan government was trying to stop her investigating crimes allegedly committed by the Tutsi rebels in 1994 before they came to power. Nevertheless, in 2003, she was replaced and left to concentrate on her other duties at the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. Extra judges have also been appointed in a bid to speed up the trials. The United States has helped unearth some alleged ringleaders hiding in various African countries by offering a \$5m reward for information leading to their capture.

What about the ordinary members of the militias?

Those lower down the militia hierarchy are being tried in Rwanda but there are problems here, too. Because of the way the genocide was carried out, huge numbers of people were involved. So far some 6,500 people have been tried by criminal courts and mass trials have been held - in the biggest so far, 105 were convicted and 37 acquitted. But some 120,000 people were arrested after the genocide, taking Rwanda's prisons to bursting point. The government said it could take 100 years for all these people to be tried and released about 20,000 charged with lesser crimes in 2003. These were people who had pleaded guilty and already spent longer - nine years - awaiting trial than their sentence would have been if they were eventually convicted. But genocide survivor groups were still furious.

How is Rwanda addressing this problem?

Traditional community courts, called 'GACACA', meaning the small lawn where village elders congregate to solve disputes, have been introduced to speed up the trial process. Suspects are taken to the villages where they allegedly committed their crimes and confronted directly by their accusers. A key part of the gacaca process is that released prisoners must ask forgiveness for their crimes. The trials are not overseen by legally qualified judges but local people respected for their integrity. Some called it "mob justice" as suspects will not have access to lawyers and will have to represent themselves, but Human Rights Watch agreed that it was necessary despite the legal shortcomings. While the evidence-gathering stage has been painstakingly slow, the trials of what are likely to be hundreds of thousands of people begin in earnest in March, more than a decade after the genoc

Did the ROE/OFOF/UN Mandate in which you were operating affect your ability to achieve your role and tasks?

Yes, it did. If we had a mandate under Chapter VII with greater powers like those given to the French on Operation Turquoise we might have been able to make a difference and achieve our mission in Rwanda. As part of Operation Turquoise, there was an understanding of 'consent' between belligerents. That is, the French and the old Hutu regime agreed to 'consent' to not interfere with each other's operations. We did not even have the consent of the RPA to be in Rwanda.

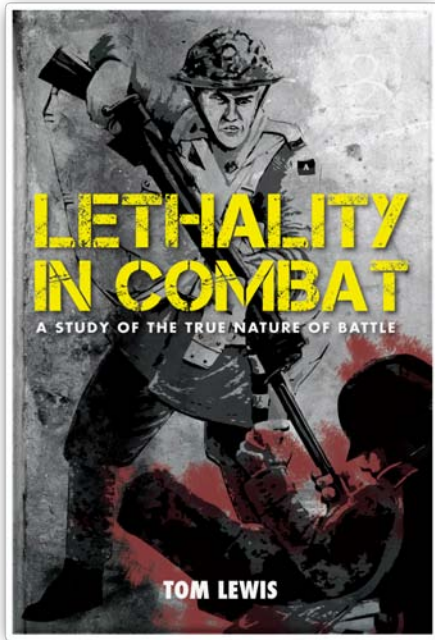
Do you think you were adequately supported within the international community for the mission you were given? Why / why not.

The mission in Rwanda could have been achieved if only the international community was fully committed to the original UN resolution. If the UN troops had arrived in Rwanda with the appropriate mandate to carry the mission, events would have been different. Once the world awoke to the final solution to Rwanda's ethnic problems it suddenly dawned on the international community how little response they had provided. Suddenly the media were all over the events, which culminated in what is now known as the 'Kibeho Massacre'. As the horrible truth registered that at least 4000 people had been killed, the world was appalled.





www.bigskypublishing.com.au



“Just wait until you kill one, then you’ll know how good it feels. I hope I get one every day.”

US Soldier on Okinawa after shooting his first enemy

Lethality in Combat

A Study of the True Nature of Battle

Tom Lewis

Tom Lewis, a combat veteran in Iraq, controversial new book *Lethality in Combat* shatters our preconceptions regarding the rules of engagement and the realities of combat. The truth of warfare is little understood by those who haven’t endured it. It’s romanticised and simplified in many fictional books and movies, and even sanitised in so-called “real” accounts.

Lethality in Combat lifts the veil on this secret world. It shows that soldiers are often savage beyond the popular myth – because they have to be to survive. It shows the often cannot take prisoners – because it is illogical and dangerous. It shows they often target civilians – because it’s them or us.

Lewis affirms that he ISN’T saying that all such behaviours are ethically correct. However as society members who commission others to carry out violence on our behalf, we should understand these behaviours, and not be too quick to instantly condemn.

Lethality in Combat sets out to illustrate the truth of combat, to destroy several myths on lethality in combat and understand the true nature of lethal behaviour in war. To counter an attitude that lethal behaviour in battle is somehow wrong. As Lewis notes ‘The whole point of warfare is to be lethal, for only by being enthusiastic about their task can those placed in that actual moment of combat... survive.’

Lethality in Combat lifts the veil on the much-misunderstood but very real and secret world of the true nature of warfare and the soldiers we entrust with the job or our nations defence.

Lethality in Combat

Tom Lewis

*

Release Date: February 2012

*

RRP: AU\$34.99

*

Category: Non Fiction/Military/Warfare

*

Hardback 368pp

*

ISBN: 978-1-921941-51-1

Additional Information

- Covers infantry fighting, tactical aviation combat & submarine attacks.
- Drawing on seven conflicts – the Boer War, World Wars I and II, and the wars in Korea, Vietnam, the Falklands and Iraq – the author considers these ethical issues;
- Firstly, if soldiers want to survive close-quarter combat, they must quickly learn to become efficient killers – or die.
- Secondly, the author discusses a range of situations where prisoners cannot be taken, which raises profound ethical dilemmas.
- Thirdly, the author tackles what is perhaps the thorniest and most topical of all military issues: the enmeshing of enemy combatants and civilians. When there is no clear division between the two – as was the case in the Vietnam and Iraq wars, in particular – what is the right course of action?

About the Author

Dr Tom Lewis OAM is a military historian whose first books centered on the Northern Territory. He also served as an officer of the Royal Australian Navy for 18years where he saw active service in the Middle East. Tom has written nine other history books, with his most recent *Zero Hour in Broome*, *Darwin’s Submarine I-124* and *The Submarines Six*. In 2003 Tom was awarded the Order of Australian medal for meritorious service to the Royal Australian Navy, particularly in the promotion of Australian naval history. Tom lives in Darwin, where he is Director of the Darwin Military Museum.

Available at all good bookstores nationally or online at www.bigskypublishing.com.au

Distributed by Woodslane T: 1800 803 443

Authors available for interviews, for more information, cover images

Publicity Contact – Sharon Evans, Big Sky Publishing

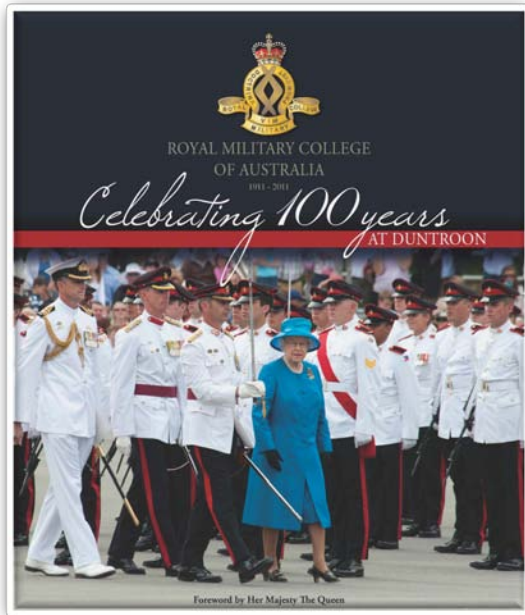
02 9918 2168 | 0410 332 789 | sharon@bigskypublishing.com.au



www.bigskypublishing.com.au

Royal Military College of Australia 1911-2011 Celebrating 100years at Duntroon

Foreword by Her Majesty the Queen



“The Royal Military College Centenary commemorative book depicts beautifully all that is noble about this place and the graduates Duntroon so faithfully nurtures.”

MAJGEN (Rtd) Michael Jeffery, AC, AO (Mil), CVO, MC

In 2011, the Australian Armies prestigious officer training establishment, The Royal Military College of Australia, Duntroon celebrated its Centenary year. In a tribute to the rich history and traditions of Duntroon, Lieutenant Colonel Jason J. Hedges, then, Commanding Officer of RMC, has compiled a wonderful new book, *Royal Military College of Australia 1911-2011 Celebrating 100years at Duntroon*.

With the Foreword by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and introduction by former Governor-General, Major General (Rtd) Michael Jeffery, AC, AO (Mil), CVO, MC, this superbly designed and crafted book is an inspirational record of the accomplishments of one of the world's leading officer training establishments.

A spectacular photographic record this superb book captures the evolving traditions of this institution from construction of the RMC in 1910 to the pomp and ceremony of its Centenary year celebrations including the 2011 Graduation Ceremonies and the presentation of the colours by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The fourth time in her reign.

Discover the rich history of Duntroon with this superbly designed and magnificent book. *Royal Military College of Australia 1911-2011 Celebrating 100years at Duntroon* celebrates and recognises the role of the college and the men past and present.

Available in paperback or limited edition boxed hardback.

Additional Information

- A beautiful book – RMC Duntroon’s ‘story’ – is told eloquently and with the accompaniment of wonderful photos, illustrations and artwork. A very rich and magnificent book.
- Duntroon was originally a grazing property. Construction of RMC Duntroon commenced on 7 November 1910.
- The RMC was founded in 1911 and is Australia's equivalent of Sandhurst in Britain and West Point in the US, training army officer cadets who graduate as lieutenants.
- The first intakes of 32 Australian and 10 NZ Cadets were welcomed on 27 June 1911, by the Governor-General, Lord Dudley. At this time it was announced that His Majesty the King had granted to title ‘Royal’ to the College.
- The Queen presented the colours in October 2011 to celebrate the 100year anniversary. She also presented them in 1954, 1970, 1988.
- In 1927, her father, the Duke of York started this tradition when he presented the first Corps of Staff Cadets with their first colours – the Queen was just over a year old;
- In 1958, The Queen Mother presented their first Sovereign’s Banner.

For more information, cover artwork or images

[Publicity Contact – Sharon Evans, Big Sky Publishing](#)

02 9918 2168 | 0410 332 789 | sharon@bigskypublishing.com.au



Royal Military College of Australia
1911-2011

Celebrating 100years at Duntroon

*

Release Date: February 2012

*

RRP: AU\$49.99 (PB)

Limited edition boxed set AU\$179.99

*

Category: Non Fiction/Military/History

*

Full Colour 336pp

*

(HB) ISBN: 978-1-921941-47-1

(PB) ISBN: 978-1-921941-46-7

Available at all good bookstores nationally or online at www.bigskypublishing.com.au

Distributed by Woodslane T: 1800 803 443



ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE DUNTRON (1911-2011)

Creating Duntroon

Plans to build up the institution as the first Commonwealth College were abandoned in favour of a more modest institution. The original site was the site of the former Duntroon Barracks, which were built in 1880. The barracks were built on the site of the former Duntroon Barracks, which were built in 1880. The barracks were built on the site of the former Duntroon Barracks, which were built in 1880.



The original Duntroon in 1880 and the original plan for the new Duntroon to be built on the site of the former Duntroon Barracks, which were built in 1880.



1940-1945: A TIME OF GREAT CHANGE AND GROWTH

1940-1945: A TIME OF GREAT CHANGE AND GROWTH



PART SIX: THE SPIRIT OF DUNTRON ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE DUNTRON (1911-2011)



Left: Her Majesty The Queen inspects the Corps of Staff Cadets, escorted by Senior Under-Officer R. L. Scott (New Zealand).
 Top centre: Her Majesty The Queen presents the Colours to the Corps of Staff Cadets.
 Bottom centre: Her Majesty The Queen during the Colours presentation ceremony.
 Above right: Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh are ferried from Duntroon House by the Commandant, Major General C.M.F. Neuman, DSO, OBE, MC, last of 1940.