



CENTRAL BUREAU INTELLIGENCE CORPS ASSOCIATION MARCH 2019

Publicity Officer: Helen Kenny, Room 1, St Paul's Aged Care, 27 Eastern Valley Way, Northbridge, NSW, 2063. Ph: (02) 8405 1051

VALE GORDON GIBSON

It is with great sadness that Newsletter reports the unexpected passing of our long serving member, and former President, Gordon Gibson, on 6th March, 2019. Gordon was so well at the recent CBICA AGM on 4th February, that his passing has come as a shock. His long and committed Service has been a magnificent example for us all. I am sure all CBers extend sincere condolences to Sue, and Gordon's family on this sad occasion. BJB (Hon Sec)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to our first Newsletter of 2019. Wow, March already and most recently in February we had a very productive Annual General Meeting. It's always a productive event with a lot of lively discussion and laughs, which is brilliant!

Anzac Day 2019

With Anzac Day fast approaching, I'd like to share some information about this year's commemorations.

This year's Anzac Day March will follow the route introduced three years ago and the March will officially start at the intersection of Martin Place and Elizabeth Street, with dispersal at Liverpool St, as far left as possible.

CB's form up area is at Position 13 on the March route map, on the corner of Phillip and Hunter Streets, at 0845 hours. Our esteemed Banner Bearers, Rob Moore and Mark Blackley, will be there to meet you at our form up area.

If Veterans would like to march and feel they need some support, we encourage marching with a support buddy/carers in the form of a family member, ideally, or CB member marching as a descendent.

There are Land Rovers available again this year for anyone who would like to be transported during the March. A team will come around to advise all WWII Veterans they are available and also to assist them in to the back of these vehicles. Veterans wishing to be transported in a Land Rover are requested to be on the corner of Phillip and Hunter Streets by 0830 hours - and to complete the form provided in the newsletter.

The Act of Remembrance will be observed as units march past the Anzac Memorial in Elizabeth Street, which is clearly marked on the March route. A marshal will be positioned in the correct area in order to assist unit leaders with giving the eyes left command.

Veterans who cannot participate in the March, however would still like to watch in person are able to reserve a seat alongside the route to watch (corner St James Road and Elizabeth Street, eastern side).

Reserved seating is available for a Veteran (and one carer if required) and you must book your seat(s). To book, please contact me and I will organise this for you. It is first in first served.

I am really looking forward to seeing everyone who can make it to what is always a very special and memorable occasion, our Anzac Day luncheon in our “Windows Room” of the Pullman, Hyde Park.

For anyone wishing to march this year or travel in a Land Rover or have seating, please could you contact me via email or phone (my contact details are below) and I will do my best to provide you with the necessary updates, following the official March Meeting upcoming.

Email: Kt@ktgcreative.com.au

Tel: (02) 9411 5933 Mobile: 0414 388 879

Wreath Laying Ceremony

This year, as with last year, I will be laying the Wreath on CB’s behalf at the Dawn Service at Roseville Memorial Club. You are of course all welcome to join the service very bright and early at 0500 hours. Coffee/tea is provided!

Donations and Grants for CB

I would like to acknowledge and personally thank those people who kindly made a donation to CB last year, this year already, and over the years. Your generosity and kindness are greatly appreciated, and makes a real difference to what we can achieve for CB.

Get in touch and share your news

My thanks as always go to the outstanding team that makes our Newsletter possible – our exceptionally talented Publicity Officer Helen Kenny.

Our team enjoys being able to share the latest CB news with you, and it is always wonderful to hear from our members.

If you have any other news or photos to share, any feedback or ideas about what else you would like to see in Newsletter, or if there is anything you would like us to address in the running of CB, please let me know. I’ve included all my contact details below, so feel free to send me a letter, email or give me a call.

It would be terrific to include profiles on our CB members and past members, so get in touch and let us know what you’ve been up to!

All my very best wishes and I hope to see many of you on Anzac Day.
Long live CB!

Katy Denis

10/75 Stanley Street

Chatswood NSW 2067

Email: Kt@ktgcreative.com.au **Tel:** (02) 9411 5933 **Mobile:** 0414 388 879

SECRETARY'S REPORT

On behalf of all Members, Associate members and your Committee I want to thank Rob Moore for his willingness to fill in as temporary Treasurer on the resignation from the position by Annette Salmon. Rob has been so good as to mind the fort while we sought a replacement. Thank you indeed Rob – you have been terrific. Fortunately Rob will remain on the Committee as well as continuing as our esteemed banner bearer with Mark Brackley. It is with great pleasure the Committee accepted the offer of Katy's sister-in law, Cathryn Gibson, to become our new treasurer, effective from 1st March, 2019.

We had the CBICA AGM at Roseville on 4th February. Present were, Gordon Gibson, Helen Kenny, Katy Denis, Annette Salmon, Rob Moore, Mark Brackley and the undersigned. ANZAC Day is looming next month. Newsletter is anxious to publish news from across the continent – not just Sydney. If you have a gathering, please feel free to report to us so we can acknowledge it in Newsletter. Be it formal or informal, only two or three, or maybe, as in Sydney, where we are looking optimistically at some 60 CBers, families and friends gathering in the "Windows Room" at the Pullman Hotel, after the March, do send a report to Katy, Helen, or myself.

For instance, last November, Coral Hinds made sentimental trip with her son from Melbourne to her home town of Orange and then on to Sydney for Remembrance Day. Her short report follows.

In addition to the (Sydney) ANZAC Day Form I have attached a Membership Renewal Form with this Newsletter. Please note this should be returned to Cathryn, and her address is on the form. If you have already paid your Membership for 2019 (and thank you very much!) you may consider convincing another family member or a friend to join CB as an Associate member.

On behalf of your Committee I would extend to each of you, Member or Associate, very best wishes for a happy and healthy 2019.

Bruce Goudge

(Hon) Secretary 0412579160 bgoudge@optusnet.com.au

FROM OUR NEW TREASURER

CATHRYN GIBSON

I am the daughter-in-law of Gordon Gibson.

I was brought up on the Lower North Shore, attending Mackellar Girls High before completing an Associate Diploma in Accounting at TAFE.

I currently work in a software company managing staff and developing new programs. I have been with Talman since 1992, taking time off when we moved overseas for my husband, Dean's work.

Outside of work, my interests include reading, cryptic crosswords (a new found love) and spending time with my friends and family. I also love learning new things. I am exceptionally proud of Gordon and all who served in CB for their incredible contributions and the significant role they played in reducing the duration of World War II. My first official duty will be to collect your Annual Membership Subscriptions for 2019 and, payment for those of you attending the ANZAC Luncheon in the Pullman Hotel. Please forward cheques to my address, below, or perform a direct debit with the details shown on the accompanying forms.

It is an honour to have taken on the role of Treasurer of CBICA.
Cathryn Gibson (Hon, Treasurer)
4 Buckra Street
Turramurra NSW 2074

MARK BRACKLEY

PROUD CB BANNER BEARER WITH ROB MOORE

My name is Mark Brackley and I have been associated with CBICA for many decades through my father, Colin, a Leading Aircraftman with the RAAF, who served in 6 and 1 Wireless Units in Hollandia, Biak and the Philippines during World War II.

Dad's World War II service involved the interception and transcription of Japanese signals and kana code, which would then be sent to the cryptographers and codebreakers for analysis. My father was extremely proud of his knowledge of Morse code and his wartime service and he would tell me many stories from his training at Point Cook and Laverton and from his active overseas service.

Prior to World War II, Dad worked for the Postmaster General's (PMG) where he was required to communicate in Morse code. In those days, messages and communications were disseminated through Morse code as mobile phones, texting and e-mails simply didn't exist! Both my Dad, Colin, and my Mum, Helen, were always interested in communications. They encouraged my interests in foreign languages and if it weren't for their support, I would never have studied Russian, Spanish and French at the University of New South Wales and I most certainly wouldn't hold an Honours degree in Russian Language.

I have many fond memories of my Dad teaching me Morse Code until our Hungarian neighbour became distressed by its sound and memories of World War II Europe and we were forced to abandon the lessons.

My Mother, Helen, passed away in 2002, so Dad and I had to look after each other until Dad's passing in July 2018.

For many years Dad wanted to join the ANZAC Day March, but despite extensive research by both Mum and Dad, we were unable to determine whether any association existed and whether or not they marched on ANZAC Day.

One year, my Mum, Helen, read a notice in the Sydney Morning Herald about an upcoming ANZAC Day reunion at Phillips Foote in the Rocks. Mum thought, for some reason, that some of Dad's World War II colleagues may be at this reunion, so we decided to check it out. I can still remember the joy and surprise on Dad's face when he met Dennis Moore after all those years. The last time they saw one another prior to this was during World War II. Rob Moore asked me to carry the CBICA banner with him on ANZAC Day when his nephew, Ian MacBride, left Australia to pursue work and career interests overseas. It is an honour and a privilege to carry the banner for our Returned Service personnel and the representatives of our association, CBICA.



CORAL HINDS' REFLECTIONS

A recent visit to Orange, prior to attending the commemoration of the Centenary of Armistice at the Roseville Club with Anthony, my son, set me thinking back.

My childhood, growing up in Orange before the War was carefree. It is hard to describe how, at that time, living in a NSW country town made one feel world events could never impact on any of us! We listened to the News on the radio which preserved our distance from the action.

Imagine our amazement when the family utility was requisitioned and resprayed military green!

I left my job in the local cake shop.



Coral Hinds, 2nd from left, with the Garage Girls at Roseville (2018)

When I enlisted, the army sent me to a signals training course at Bonegilla in Victoria, then to a cipher course in Melbourne.

I travelled by troop train to Brisbane and was escorted to 21 Henry St where two uniformed officers met me at the gate.

Corporal Hinds came into my life.

One of the officers introduced him saying, 'This is Corporal Hinds. He will tell you what to do.'

We walked around the side of the imposing home ‘Nyrambla’ to the garage behind, a workplace where he and his friend, Harry Kroger were stagingawaiting their next posting, a secret destination.

Our friendship blossomed into romance. When he was posted we kept in contact with letters, and, as has been reported elsewhere, with TypeX machine messages, availing ourselves of the free text ‘filling’ at the beginning and end, which standardised the length of messages. Corporal Hinds, Sandy, as I now knew him, became seriously ill in New Guinea and in the Philippines his health further deteriorated. By May 1945 Sandy was discharged and sent back to Australia, unexpectedly.

A proposal... and five days in Brisbane before we travelled to Orange to be married on 2nd June, 1945. War time shortages my beautiful wedding dress had been down the aisle twice before!

In November (2018), on our visit to Orange, I saw the Congregational Church which I had attended, and where we married, and wondered if the Church Hall where ‘the ladies’ catered for our reception, would be equal to the task today. I caught up with a cousin who was a wedding guest.

My son and I stayed in The Old Mill Motel in Byng Street, and I recalled that my grandparents were employed at that mill when they arrived from England. So much has changed. The outskirts I knew as a child have become Orange CBD. I was overwhelmed by the development and there is a young, vital population. Trendy cafes and breakfast rendezvous beckon in the main street and have transformed the Orange I knew. Further afield apple and plum orchards have disappeared. Where are the cherries? Vineyards grace the surrounding hills. In 2019 a Community Festival will celebrate the region’s diverse and high quality food and wine.

Orange, a wonderful part of my early life, is today a thriving city and gourmet food capital!

HELEN’S THOUGHTS

HOME SOIL

On ANZAC Day in Sydney our March ends at the towering ANZAC Memorial in Hyde Park.

This memorial now has a new extension, the “Hall of Service”, built to commemorate the Centenary of ANZAC.

Dr Brendan Nelson, Director of the Australian War Memorial in Canberra gave the most helpful answer to Newsletter’s query.

He wrote, “I understand that you are researching the idea that Australian soil from a soldier’s home town or locality was placed beneath a commemorative plaque honouring their service.”

He explained that this related to a project undertaken as part of the extension of the ANZAC Memorial in Hyde



Park, Sydney, to commemorate the Centenary of ANZAC. The extension, called the “Hall of Service” was the idea of artist, Fiona Hall.

This well known, and most creative artist, was selected from a group of seven finalist who submitted proposals. Anne Flanagan, previous Deputy Director of the Art Gallery of NSW chaired the committee.

Fiona Hall’s “Hall of Service” displays close to 1700 towns, suburbs and localities given as a place of address by men and women of NSW who enlisted in the First World War I.

“A small amount of soil from each site is also displayed,” still quoting Dr Nelson. Newsletter knew this must be seen.

It was almost public holiday time - Australia Day - and a difficult time to find someone to take me there in my wheelchair. A willing someone was found, my stepdaughter, Judith Goudge who also took photographs.

We went to the ANZAC Memorial where flights of steps appeared daunting but Gemma appeared to guide us through a step-free way.

We moved through a quiet space to the “Hall of Service”. The wall at which we looked could almost have been taken for a railway indicator..... names like Strathfield and Summer Hill were there. To the left of each name was a circle of glass enclosing soil.

The whole thing - simple typography of names and the circles of different coloured sands - made a pattern of artistry.

The soils, sometimes sandy and yellowish, sometimes pink, were the soils to which the Diggers yearned to return, and had not in this land the soldiers’ families waited in vain.

What a task. Collecting soil samples, packing them, transporting them and at last walling them up. There is no noble statuary to distract.

Fiona Hall says, “I regard the Hall as an informative space and also as a hallowed site to realise the enormity of the Service and Sacrifice given.”

Glass urns engraved with Australian flowers and Flanders Poppies stand at the entrance. The new “Hall of Service” features 100 sites of military significance to NSW service personnel, honouring action in thirty-one countries and jurisdictions. At the threshold to the Commemorative Space are the words....

NSW Service with and for All Australians

Go there if you can. Sit, look and remember.

In the gallery of soil samples and names I looked at S and T, not M so missed seeing the country town of Moree. There must have been a sample of its famous black soil which, after rain, bogged cars, even the doctor’s!

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2018

Remembrance Day is over but Graeme Hosken makes an interesting point in “Digger” Journal of FFAIF – Families and Friends of the First AIF; December 2018.

He writes, “If you were to ask a person in the street when the Armistice was signed, I suspect nearly everyone would say at ‘11.00 a.m. on the 11th day of the 11th month’ without considering the effect of international time zones.

If Australians were to be historically accurate we should pause for a minute’s silence at 9 pm in Eastern Australia and 7 pm in Western Australia.” [Courtesy: Digger, Dec 2018.

Magazine of the Families and Friends of the First AIF Inc]

Wartime daylight saving was scrapped in September 1918.

CHILDREN'S GAMES

When we played games in the backyard we sometimes divided into teams. One was 'French' and 'English' dating back to old wars.

My Granny played 'Bobbies' and 'Bushies' which was police versus bushrangers. And, of course, boys played 'Cowboys' and 'Indians'.

Have these war games ended? NO! Computer games have introduced a unlimited excitement with software like "Star Wars".

SKI-ING OR SHE-ING ?

Just after the War my garage girl friend, Joy Grace, and I decided to do something new – ski-ing.

When I mentioned this to a neighbour, who had been ski-ing from the Chalet, she smiled reprovingly and said, "My dear, it's pronounced SHE-ING.

I retreated and didn't use the word again. But Joyce and I investigated ski-ing/she-ing places and settled upon an interesting one.

This was Kiandra.... once the site of an early goldrush when thousands, including Chinese, forced their way over the mountains from the coast. Kiandra, 4600 ft above sea level, was said to be the first place in Australia where ski-ing took place.

So today – 1947 – it was almost a ghost town, but people went there to learn to s--.

Accommodation was at the Post Office building where Mr Paterick, a former snow shoe-champion was in charge.

Before starting this activity you had to practise in a hall wearing s—s on your feet and doing movements such as kick turns and snow ploughs. So we set off, I with skis – long ones- lent by an Austrian friend.

After a long journey we saw snow and the village of Kiandra! It was just one long street lined with wooden buildings with icicles dripping like daggers from the eaves. On the right was one large building, lit up, and inside fires warmed it. We were welcomed, fed and bedded down dormitory style and sex-separated. In the morning the view of Township Hill where we'd start to s-- was steep and rolling, and scattered with snow gums. No ski/she lifts to take us up or down.

Lectures. Demonstrations. Out we went onto the snow. Joy took to it as if born....moving upwards, coming down bending 'ze knees', in approved style. With no brakes on Otto's s—s I counted on gum trees to stop me, falling down before I touched the timber. But stop.

Joy's story comes now while I sit sobbing with irritation at myself. (I won no medals.)

Joy's she-ing story....well, Joy won many badges for her ski-ing and is sending photos for a future Newsletter, I hope.

FERRY RIDE

Last month our village bus took us for a ride on the last car ferry in Sydney. This is the Mortlake Ferry or Putney Punt, as we called it.

It was a slow, lovely trip across the Parramatta River, North to South and back again.

On the punt in childhood we saw a little tortoise waddling between the cars. We, or rather Dad, picked him up. We took him home as a pet and had a hole drilled through the shell....no this didn't hurt 'Torty'. Then we tied him up to a post with string, fed him well and gave him a little pool to swim in.

After a week Torty broke free. We never saw him again. I hoped to sight him on this trip.

He's been walking for 80 years!

The port of Sydney – Port Jackson is almost like an island – Tasman Sea to the East, the Nepean to the West, Pittwater and Hawkesbury to the North, Port Hacking and Shoalhaven to the South. Ferries and bridges had to cross the water. When WW II broke out there was only a railway bridge over the Hawkesbury – the strategic link to the North.

How many car/horse ferries were there? Big ones and small ones!

Car ferries around Sydney were at Ryde, and The Spit, the Hawkesbury and Lugarno.

A horse ferry commenced operation in 1883 from where the Opera House now stands, and went to the North Shore. The ferries were sometimes pulled across by cables.

To the South, a hand punt crossed the Georges River from Tom Ugly's Point to Horse Rock Point and was replaced by Tom Ugly's Bridge in 1929. Tom Ugly, who gave his name to the point and the bridge, may have been a caretaker on a large estate, Thomas Huxley, whose name was mispronounced Hoogli by locals.....or, maybe a local fisherman named Tom Illigley, or perhaps the Aborigine called Tommy who had only one leg and was called Waggerly Tom, waggerly being the Aboriginal word for lame animal.

Debate on the origin of the name continues.

We were told that a famous cockatoo lived at The Seabreeze Hotel, nearby. He was bald and would screech at the cars, "If I had another feather I'd fly!"

This renowned bird, Cocky Bennett, died in 1916 in his 120th year.

HEADLINES

Since we have had a new Prime Minister, some newspapers have been referring to SCOMO.

This sounds foreign!

We thought of other Prime Ministers, MALTU, TONAB, JUGIL, UGHWHI, BOBHA, PAULKE, JOHNHO, and ROBME.

A Prime Minister would ask us to rob him? Disgraceful!

Sir Robert would have something to say about that!

NOTICE

Newsletter needs contributors. We have many interstate members. Only Coral Hinds writes from Victoria, the Isdales from Queensland, and Geoff Parker phones from Victoria.

Otherwise it's the sound of silence.

Write to me, email Bruce...there is news interstate.

CBers were not lazy in war years and we are looking for a revival of that wartime zeal!

AUSTRALIA'S FIRST SPIES

By John Fahey

Allen & Unwin, 2018: 9781760631208

443 pages; RRP \$34.99 reviewed by Dr Ian Pfennigwerth*

This impressively researched book deals with the origins and development of Australia's intelligence services from Federation to 1945. As well as covering the better-known organisations and their work, Dr Fahey reveals the birth of Australia's political intelligence capabilities - initially directed at the French and British in the Pacific - and the intriguing 'Wanetta' Organisation. Operating under the cover of a legitimate pearling company, its luggers ranged freely throughout the Netherlands East Indies reporting on the activities of German agents during World War I.



A rare photograph of Reg Hockings, owner of the Wanetta Pearling Company, who avoided publicity by never marrying and living on his plantation on Boerton Island, Celebes. *Brisbane Courier*, 24 June, 1934.

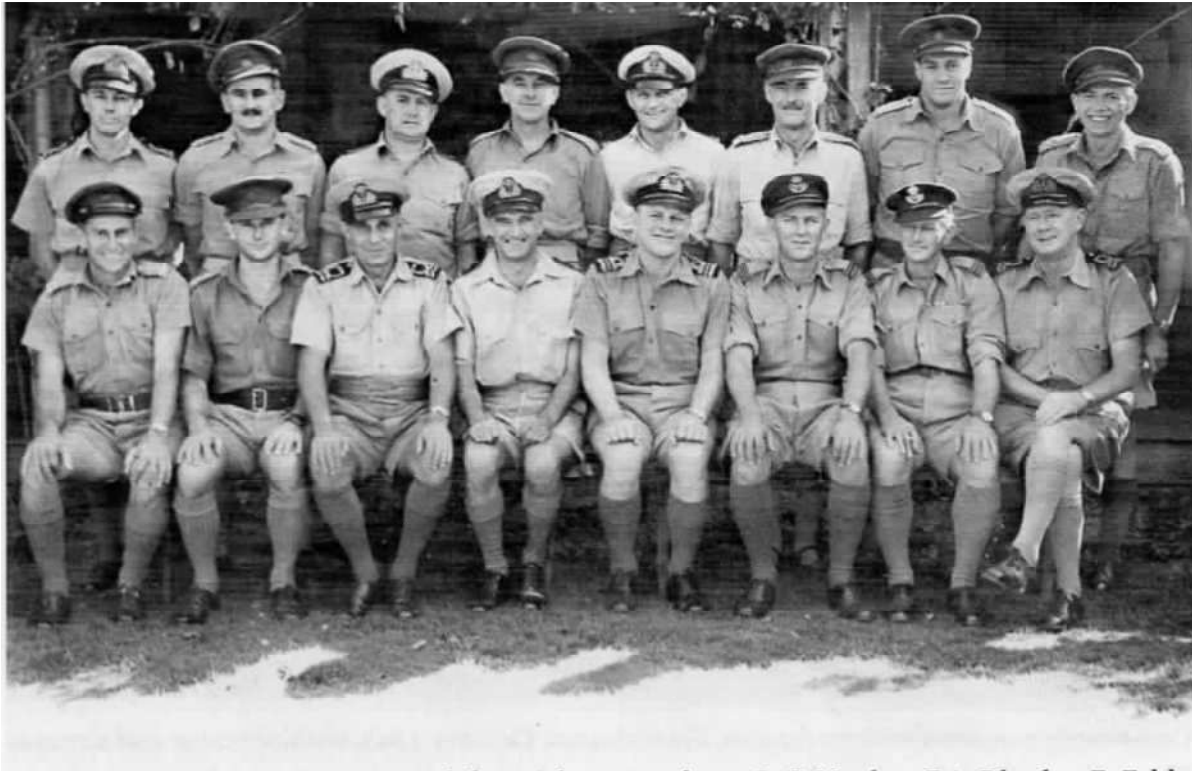
Dr Fahey's research provides greater depth to our knowledge and understanding of the efforts of Australia's navy and army to develop and refine their capabilities in human intelligence and the new art and science of signals intelligence during and post-World War I. Early successes are chronicled, including the breaking of German codes by the Navy and the shaky start to the RAN's Coast Watcher Service, along with failures as Australia struggled with a distinct lack of central guidance which might have created a national intelligence capability before World War II. The problem was not confined to this country as the story of wasteful US inter-service rivalry and intransigence throughout the war demonstrates.

The energetic and resourceful empire-building Director of Naval Intelligence, Commander Rupert Long proved to be one of the pivots towards better co-ordination and development of Australian Service intelligence capabilities and of co-ordination with our Allies. The development of Army capabilities from a slow start are highlighted, as is the awakening of RAAF interest in the field.

However, Dr Fahey is commendably forthright in dismissing the claims of the Services Reconnaissance Department of General MacArthur's Allied Intelligence Bureau to any meaningful contribution to the war effort in the South West Pacific Area. In short, the Japanese ran rings around them.

It comes as little surprise that Australia's political intelligence agencies and politicians themselves proved inept in protecting classified information during World War II. Even parts of the Allied military hierarchy had similar difficulties - General MacArthur was a principal offender in releasing the precious ULTRA information indiscriminately. The system for using signals intelligence in ways that would not reveal to the enemy that their codes had been compromised was not standardised among the Allies until 1943, and these rules led to ULTRA being denied to Australian political leaders and government departments. This lax attitudes towards keeping Allied secrets secret was to have ramifications for the nation immediately following the end of the war.

Some of Dr Fahey's conclusions are open to discussion. Navy, with its Coast Watchers in place, its sponsorship of codebreaking through the Special Intelligence Bureau from 1941 and its leadership of the Combined Operations Intelligence Centre was hardly 'unprepared' for hostilities. The only game in town until the Army got itself organised, the claim that Navy 'picked the wrong horse' in throwing its lot in with the USN-dominated FRUMEL ignores the fact that in early 1942 there was no other organisation with which it could co-operate. Navy also supported the formation of MacArthur's US Army-dominated Central Bureau from July 1942 in Brisbane, but FRUMEL's early successes against Japanese advances in the period May-July 1942 were crucial to the course of the war. Central Bureau's days of glory came later, from 1944 onwards.



Coastwatchers in late 1942. *Front, left to right:* L.E. Ashton, L.C. Noakes, F.A. Rhodes, E. Feldt, H.A. Mackenzie, G.H.R. Marsland, H.R. Koch, A. Campbell. *Back, left to right:* M.H. Wright, R.I. Skinner, K.W.T. Bridge, R.C. Cambridge, L.A. Walker, H.A.F. Robertson, C.W. Seaton, H.L. Williams. All of the men in this photograph survived the war, a tribute to the professionalism of Eric Feldt's organisation. AWM

The narrative seems to end quite abruptly. It would have been useful had the author provided a short chapter describing the dissolution of the Allied intelligence organisations in 1945 and the establishment of the Australian Defence Signals Bureau in 1947. This might also have included a brief description of Australian accession to the 'Five Eyes' signals intelligence arrangements resulting from the development of our national capabilities and contributions throughout World War II. This information is buried in Chapter 21 within a discussion of the role of Australian Lieutenant Colonel 'Mic' Sandford of Central Bureau in negotiations with the British, but he was far from the only actor in this important turning point in Australian intelligence history.

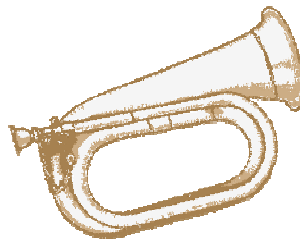
I have difficulty with the book's title. Most of the activities described in it are not in the nature of espionage. Exploiting information freely provided by an organisation of interest through electro-magnetic emissions is intelligence collection - just as your favourite Web browser exploits information you provide when you log on and your local supermarket collects information on you when you swipe your loyalty card. This isn't 'spying', but the word 'Spies' quite possibly might generate more sales of Dr Fahey's otherwise excellent work.

I commend it to lay people and professionals alike.

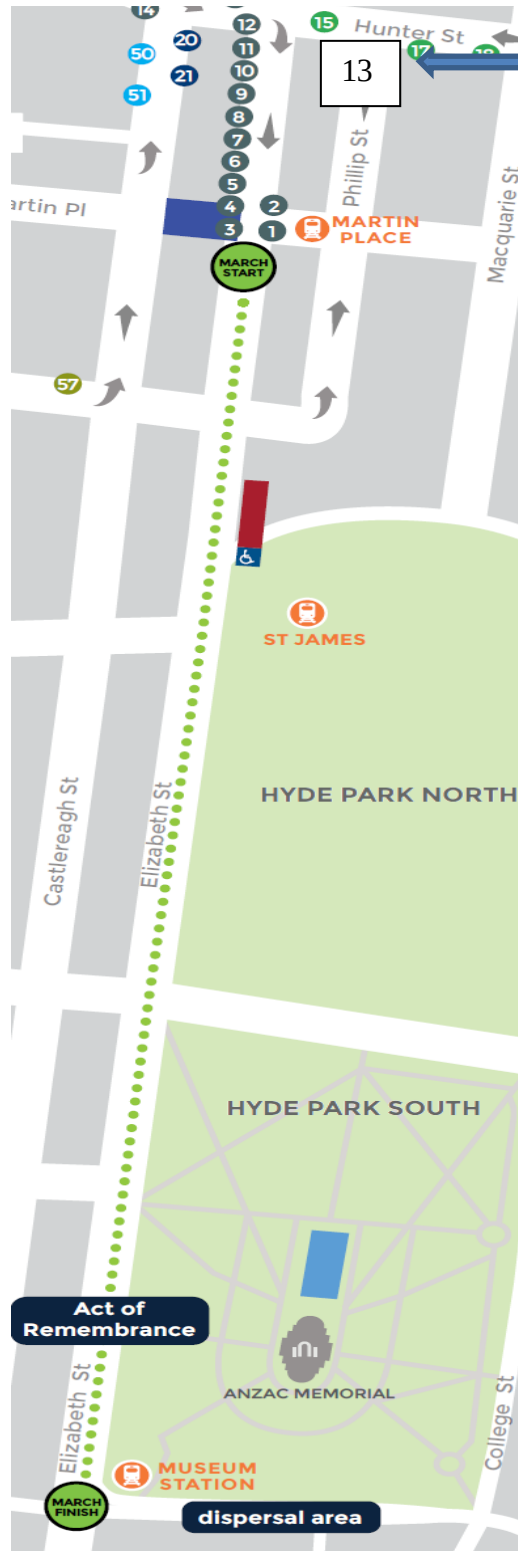
*First published by the Royal United Services' Institution of NSW, this Review is reprinted with the author's permission.

[Dr Pfennigwerth's final years with Defence Forces were primarily in Intelligence. He is the author of a biography of Captain Eric Nave, codebreaker. H.K.]

*[Wherever you are, may your ANZAC Day be a time of friendship,
memories and reflection. H.K.]*



ANZAC MARCH & ASSEMBLY POINT – 2019 (SYDNEY)



Assemble by 0845 hours at Point 13

**(In Phillip St at the corner of Hunter Street – Rob & Mark will be there with the CB Banner.)
(WWII Veterans at 9.20 a.m.)**

Pullman Hotel, 36 College St