

governments offered scholarships, and not merely the rather limited number that currently engage in the practice.

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Vietnam: War, myth and memory. Edited by Jeffrey Grey and Jeff Doyle. Allen and Unwin, Sydney, 1992. 176pp. NZ price: \$19.95. *An Anzac Muster: War and Society in Australia and New Zealand 1914-19 and 1939-45.* Edited by Judith Smart and Tony Wood. Monash Publications in History 14, Monash, 1992. 175pp. NZ price: \$10.00.

WITH THE COMPLETION of the last volumes of New Zealand's official history of World War II New Zealand's academic discussion of the nation's military history has concerned itself less and less with operational, tactical and soldier experience assessments and increasingly with a study of the political and social origins and implications of war. War memorials, war brides, anti-war movements, post-war rehabilitation, the political influence of allies and xenophobia, have been the stuff of most academic interest. Only a few academics have laboured on with operational studies, albeit with well-received works. James Belich, *The New Zealand Wars* (Auckland, 1986), Vincent Orange, *A Bibliography of Air Chief Marshall Sir Keith Park* (London, 1984), and *Coningham: A Biography of Air Marshal Sir Arthur Coningham* (London, 1990), and Christopher Pugsley, *Gallipoli: The New Zealand Story* (Auckland, 1984) and *On the Fringe of Hell: New Zealand's Military Discipline in the First World War* (Auckland, 1991), are the best known of these operational studies.

Among the most recent New Zealand contributions to war and society history are those included in two Australian publications, *Vietnam: War, Myth and Memory* and *War and Society in Australia and New Zealand 1914-18 and 1939-45*.

In the former, Robert Rabel discusses 'the most dovish of the Hawks' in his analysis of New Zealand's alliance politics in the Vietnam War. Rabel succinctly outlines United States' pressure and the limits of New Zealand political resistance. Given his Australian readers it is surprising that there is so slight attention to Australian political pressure, particularly from the Australian Defence Staff, for a vigorous New Zealand presence in Vietnam, a matter of increasing interest to Australian military historians. His clear summary of events sits well beside assessments of Australia's role in the war. But to balance the books, to assure an analysis of New Zealand's operational role in Vietnam, readers must await the publication of Pugsley's history of New Zealand's post-World War II involvement in South East Asia, and Shane Capon's doctoral thesis on the work of the New Zealand army training teams in South Vietnam.

Digging over the much disturbed soil of World Wars I and II's social impact, the contributors of 'An Anzac Muster' have less to offer New Zealand readers — not through any defect in scholarship but because their contributions, with one exception, are already familiar. There is little of the sweet smell of fresh research in this compilation. Keith Sinclair's 'Australia-New Zealand Relations, 1901-51: A Background Paper', is just that: a useful introduction for Australians of points made in his *Tasman Relations: New Zealand and Australia, 1788-1988* (Auckland, 1987). Jock Phillips's, 'The Great War and New Zealand Nationalism: The Evidence of War Memorials', is well known to attenders at history conferences, and to readers of Chris MacLean and J.O.C. Phillips, *The Sorrow*

and the *Pride: New Zealand War Memorials* (Wellington, 1991). His major point is significant: 'The erection of war memorials was an opportunity to make New Zealand self-evidently more like the mother country and to pay tribute to the Imperial connection. It was not an opportunity to mythologise in stone elements that were distinctive.'

Ashley Gould's 'Soldier Settlement in New Zealand after World War I: A Re-appraisal' discusses the assault of shock troop veterans on undeveloped country and the post-World War I years. Gould assesses the claims that the veterans were hard-done by the government. His well-evidenced piece concludes that the yeoman soldiers maintained a special identity as soldier settlers rather than as members of the farming community. The falsity of the assumption that New Zealanders naturally make good soldiers and good farmers may be better addressed in his doctoral thesis than it is in this article. The contrast with the preparation and support services provided to rehabilitation farmers after World War II could be well made.

Duncan Waterson's 'ANZAC Day in the New Zealand Countryside' is a frankly nostalgic revisiting of ANZAC days in Matamata; in 1938, 1942 and 1950. There are some fascinating reflections: 'The male digger warriors, by their presence, were an antidote to class conflict and urban-rural strains'. 'The Maoris were still divided into what were termed "good" (i.e. respectable, loyal, hardworking and thrifty) and "bad" (feckless, discontented, in ill-health and politically suspect). Needless to say, those Maori who had served overseas were in the ranks of the "good" and were encouraged to march'. This is a fascinating and provocative contribution.

All in all, the New Zealand contributors to these two Australian publications have usefully assisted in the difficult task of making a trans-Tasman older sibling aware of the history of its distant and outlandish little sibling. The absence of operational military history is unfortunate and creates an internal imbalance in presentation. Hopefully, this imbalance will be repaired by increased trans-Tasman awareness of the books, articles, and theses emerging with increasing frequency from a small group of academics and from the University of Waikato's programme in Defence and Strategic Studies.

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Who's Who in Pacific Navigation. By John Dunmore. University of Hawaii Press, Honolulu, 1991. xv, 312pp. US price: \$34.00.

A MORE ACCURATE title for this book might be *Who was who . . .* since it covers 'navigators' in the Pacific from the sixteenth to the end of the nineteenth century. The author explains that he has concentrated on 'navigators' rather than the more amorphous term 'explorers' and thus the emphasis 'naturally and unavoidably falls on captains and leaders of expeditions'. With few exceptions these are Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch, Russian, French and English/American. Indigenous 'navigators', who were crossing the ocean long before these travellers, are omitted since they have become enmeshed in mythology 'so that truth and fiction are impossible to disentangle.' (But I did note one exception — Tupac Inca Yupanqui, 'presuming he is not a mythical figure', who is alleged to have sailed into the Pacific from Peru in the fifteenth century).

Having established these narrow criteria for inclusion, which will not please everyone, Dunmore provides biographies of some 270 'navigators'. Again, not everyone will