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Reflections on the Royal Australian Navy

Richard D. Fisher Jr.

T.R. Frame

J.V.P. Goldrick

P.D. Jones

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Canada would be "surrounded by foreign territory." Since Canada has open access to the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans without the Arctic or Newfoundland, it is difficult to imagine what the author means.

In the end, *Arctic Leverage* fails to provide satisfactory answers to its own questions. There is simply not enough relevant evidence presented to shed new light on Canadian sovereignty and security. The author's numerous errors of interpretation and of the facts, along with his frequent inconsistencies, internal contradictions, and weak analysis, all add up to the conclusion that the reader should look elsewhere for answers on Canadian defence issues.

R.W.H. MCKILLIP
Lieutenant Commander
Canadian Forces Maritime Command
Ontario, Canada

Frame, T.R., Goldrick, J.V.P., Jones, P.D. *Reflections on the Royal Australian Navy*. Kenhurst, New South Wales: Kangaroo Press, 1991. 417pp. \$49.95

Royal Australian Navy (RAN) officers Thomas Frame, James Goldrick, and Peter Jones have combined in this work the proceedings of the first Australian Naval History Seminar, conducted under the auspices of the Australian War Memorial in July 1989. This seminar represents the beginning of an effort to "remedy a perceived imbalance in Australia" of military history that has been oriented mainly towards the Australian army.

To that end this volume marshals the insights of current and former RAN officers and noted military analysts from Australia, Britain, Canada, New Zealand, and the United States.

An introduction is provided by RAN Chief of Staff Vice Admiral M.W. Hudson. The volume's following twenty-five chapters examine: Australia's naval history under British colonial rule; the contributions of specific commanders and politicians; the RAN's relationship with the British Royal Navy, other Commonwealth navies, and the U.S. Navy; and perspectives on the RAN's participation in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam.

Of special interest to American readers will be Steven Allen's instructive analysis of the disastrous results of early USN-RAN cooperation in the two-day August 1942 battle off Savo Island. Providing contrast to these painful beginnings is Thomas-Durell Young's chapter on the origins and extent of Australian-American naval cooperation under the aegis of the 1951 Australia-New Zealand-United States alliance (Anzus). The impact of the RAN's turn to the U.S. alliance is further examined in Peter Jones's chapter on the RAN's decision to buy the *Charles F. Adams*-class destroyer.

Those seeking deeper insights into the character of the RAN will benefit from several useful chapters that detail aspects of its relations with the Royal Navy and other Commonwealth navies. The authors also examine the naval cooperation between Australia and New Zealand during New

Zealand's effective withdrawal from Anzus, as well as the impact of the RAN's development on the Canadian navy's inception, plus the British and Australian conflict over conduct of the war with Japan.

The chapters by James Goldrick and James A. Boutilier provide the reader with a useful background for the debate over the Australian navy's intention to procure a helicopter-carrying support ship. Goldrick discusses how the RAN inherited its aircraft carriers from the Royal Navy, and Boutilier compares the decisions made by Canada and Australia to abandon their aircraft carriers.

Australia is a proud country that Americans all too often take for granted, but that is likely to become more important in the U.S. strategic plan for Asia. Therefore, military and other professionals who seek to better understand Australia's navy are well advised to read *Reflections on the Royal Australian Navy*.

RICHARD D. FISHER, JR.
The Heritage Foundation
Washington, D.C.

Albinski, Henry S. et al. *The South Pacific: Political, Economic and Military Trends*. Washington, D.C.: Brassey's (US), 1990. 100pp. \$9.95
The Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis, the Pacific Forum, and the Center for Strategic and International Studies have published a compendium of papers from five respected authors on a region of the world

which, until the mid-1980s, escaped the attention of most officials and security analysts. During the latter 1980s, however, the enactment by the New Zealand Labour government of its antinuclear policies and the subsequent demise of the Anzus alliance (in a tripartite sense), the two 1987 Fijian coups, and continued domestic unrest in New Caledonia and Papua New Guinea, combined with other issues, convinced the Western powers that the once politically sleepy South Pacific had the strong potential of becoming a security nightmare if previous policies and approaches to the region were not changed.

The particular value of this collection is that it addresses most security and diplomatic aspects regarding contemporary affairs in the South Pacific. Henry Albinski opens the work by providing a broad overview with emphasis on past and present U.S. policy toward the region. Robert Kiste and Richard Herr analyze the South Pacific island micro-states, considering them as regional actors, and also assess the region's numerous multilateral organizations. Ross Babbage provides an excellent description of how the region's key power, Australia, views this vast area of thirty million square kilometers of ocean, interspersed with occasional underdeveloped island micro-states that have a combined population of only approximately five million. Finally, Denis McLean (previously the permanent secretary of the New Zealand ministry of defence) writes of New Zealand's policies and