



Aussie Soldier – Peacekeeper Book Questionnaire

Denny Neave and Craig Smith, authors of the *Aussie Soldier* series, are currently researching the third book in the series. *Aussie Soldier - Peacekeepers*.

In our first book, *Aussie Soldier up close and personal*, we looked at the core values of the Australian soldier. In our second book, *Aussie Soldier Prisoners of War*, we looked at POWs from the Boer War to Korea and tried to depict their life behind the wire. We now wish to tell another story, that of Peacekeepers, Peace Enforcers, Observers, Humanitarian and Reconstruction Operations.

Since our first Peacekeeping operation in 1947 until now, more than 40,000 servicemen and women have served to keep the peace. From Korea to Afghanistan the story of our soldiers who served on these operations needs to sit proudly alongside those of our ANZAC foundations. Our professional soldiering within this theatre on the world stage needs recognition.

We are asking Australian soldiers who were involved in Peacekeeping, Peace Enforcing, Observing, Humanitarian and Reconstruction Operations, to contribute to this book. The format of the book will be similar to the previous *Aussie Soldier* books. We target a general aspect of soldiering and focus on your perspective of being a soldier next to others from 1947 to 2009.

The chapters are likely to be:

- The Peacemaker
- The Peacekeeper
- The Observer
- The Humanitarian
- The Trainer
- Reconstruction
- Complexities of Inter-Agency operations
- Cultural Challenges of operations
- Battle Book (which will list some/all of the following)

Africa	Middle East	Asia/Pacific	Europe/Americas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Somalia • Rwanda • Egypt • Congo • Uganda • Rhodesia • Namibia • Western Sahara • Ethiopia • Sudan/Darfur • Mozambique 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Israel • Lebanon • Syria • Jordon • Iran • Persian Gulf • Kuwait • Iraq/Kurdistan • Turkey • Afghanistan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India Pakistan • Kashmere • Korea • Indonesia/Dutch • East Indies • West Irian Jaya • Cambodia • Laos • Thailand • Vietnam • Bougainville • East Timor • Solomons • Vanuatu • Tonga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Croatia/Bosnia-Herzegovina/Macedonia • Yugoslavia • Guatemala • Haiti

We invite you to participate in this book by completing, in as much detail as you like, the following questionnaire. Whilst we cannot guarantee your story will be published, we will try wherever possible to include as many stories, quotes and anecdotes as possible. At a minimum, all those who do complete the questionnaire will have their names published in the acknowledgments to thank you for your assistance. Your participation will assist in documenting part of our Australian military history and will be of value to all who read.

If you have any further questions or wish to assist in other way please contact one of the authors:

Denny Neave | Email: denny@bigskypublishing.com.au

Craig Smith | Email: craighedwinsmith@yahoo.com



Questionnaires should be returned no later than 16 July 2011 to either of the above emails or hard copies can be sent to:

Aussie Soldier
Big Sky Publishing
PO Box 303
Newport NSW 2106

Ph: 02-99182168
Fax: 02-99182396

Privacy Policy

Big Sky Publishing will not disclose any personal details or information provided by you to any other organization nor will it be used for any other purpose other than for potential inclusion in the book *Aussie Soldier Peacekeeper*.

Personal Details

1. Full Name:
2. DOB:
3. What year did you enlist and discharge?
4. What is your Regimental Number (for verification purposes only)
5. What Corps did you join?
6. What is your rank (or if discharged was your rank on discharge)?
7. What Peacekeeping/Enforcing, monitoring or observing were you involved in?
8. What is your brief military history (units served, rank, honours and awards etc.)?
9. Do you consent to having your story included in *Aussie Soldier - Peacekeeper*?

When answering these questions please provide as much detail as possible. Our aim is to provide readers with an insight into what soldiers on these deployments went through be it good, bad or ugly. We feel that your story needs to be told to the next generation of Australians. There are a lot of questions, you do not need to answer all of them, just those that have meaning/relevance to you.

- Q1. How do you feel you have contributed to world peace or stability in the countries you were deployed to?
- Q2. What was your role with whilst deployed, and do you have any specific actions relating to this role?
- Q3. Do you feel you achieved your mission within your deployment? Why/Why Not?
- Q4. Can you describe any actions of significance on your deployment? This could be incidents, contacts, close calls, hostilities etc
- Q5. What were the challenges faced in dealing with other defence forces, UN, Non Government Organisations and civilians?
- Q6. Can you describe actions/events that showed compassion or mateship where any person you observed demonstrated these attributes?
- Q7. Can you describe actions/events that showed brutality, war crimes or cruelty that you observed?
- Q8. Can you describe any direct action against the enemy where you were involved in fire fights or offensive/defensive actions even though on peace ops?
- Q9. What did you do to relieve stress/boredom/missing loved etc whilst on operations?
- Q10. Describe the cultural challenges faced in your theatre of operations; include food, religion, culture, personalities, language etc.
- Q11. Did the ROE/OFOF/UN Mandate in which you were operating effect your ability to achieve your role and tasks?
- Q12. Do you think you were adequately supported within the international community for the mission you were given? Why/why not.
- Q13. Were you involved in reconstruction tasks and what sense of satisfaction did you gain from this process?
- Q14. If you were an Observer, did you feel you were able to influence outcomes without the use of your conventional military training? Did you feel empowered enough to achieve your objectives?
- Q15. If involved in humanitarian efforts, what was your sense of pride in completing your task compared to other non-humanitarian operations you may have been involved in? What were the challenges and how was the reception/interaction with the local community?
- Q16. Were you involved in a training team and what issues were faced in regards to this role; include gender, culture, enthusiasm of forces being trained, etc?



- Q17. How were you treated when you were repatriated to Australia? Can you describe the support you received on arrival home?
- Q18. What issues do veterans from your deployment face?
- Q19. How have past diggers/wars influenced/inspired/impacted you?
- Q20. 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?
- Q21. In your opinion what is the greatest 'myth' related to being a peacekeeper?
- Q22. How did you/your family manage while you were away? Concerns, communication with each other etc?
- Q23. Any final reflection on being involved in peace operations; consider leadership, training, complexity, international law and media?

Questionnaires should be returned no later than 16 July 2011 to either of the emails or hard copies can be sent to the address below. Please note our preference is for email replies.

Email:

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