

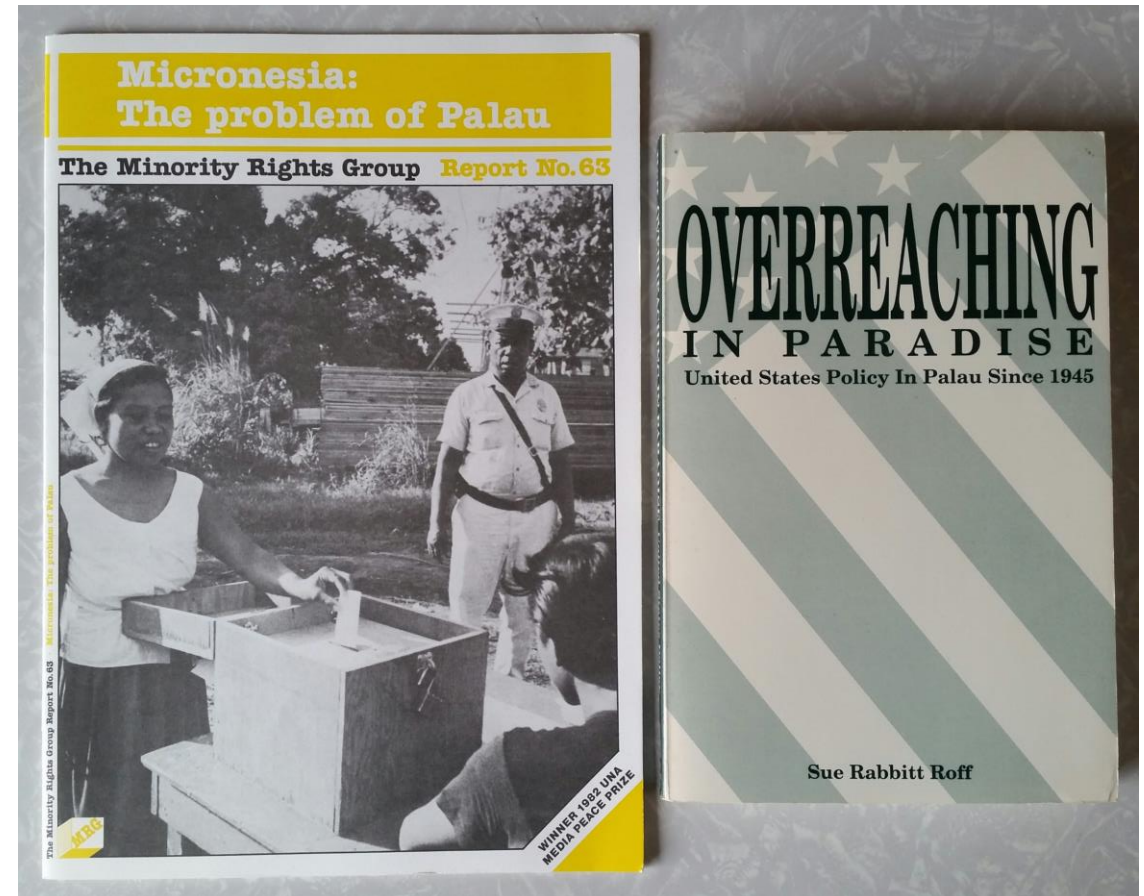
# PROTECTING THE PRIMACY OF THE PRIMARY DOCUMENT IN NUCLEAR HISTORY

## THE ROLE OF ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

Sue Rabbitt Roff  
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# OVERREACHING IN PARADISE UNITED STATES POLICY IN PALAU SINCE 1945 The Denali Press 1991

The document archive for this study is now held at the Special Collections of the Arthur W. Diamond Law Library, Columbia Law School.

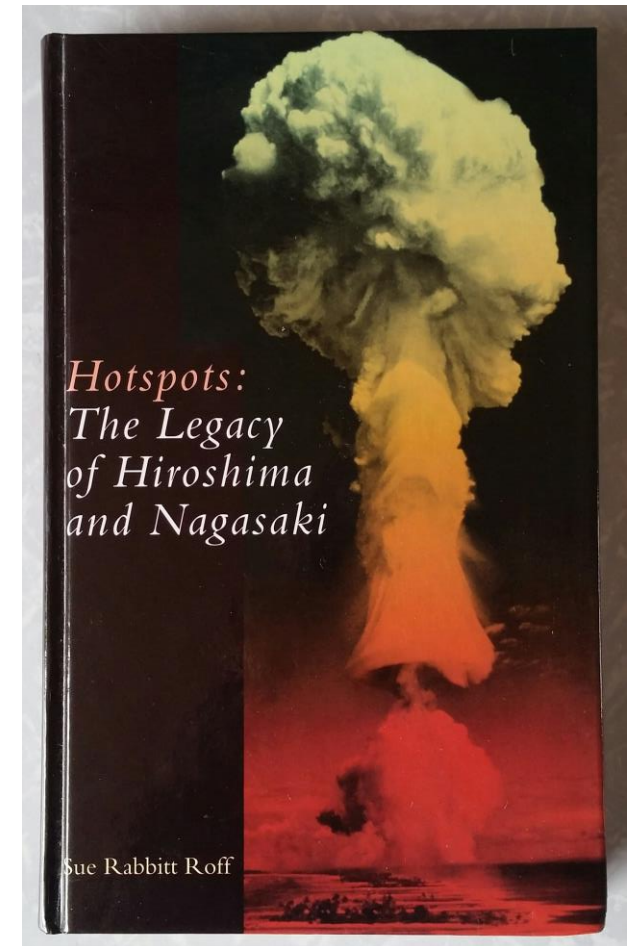


# HOTSPOTS: THE LEGACY OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI

## Cassell 1995

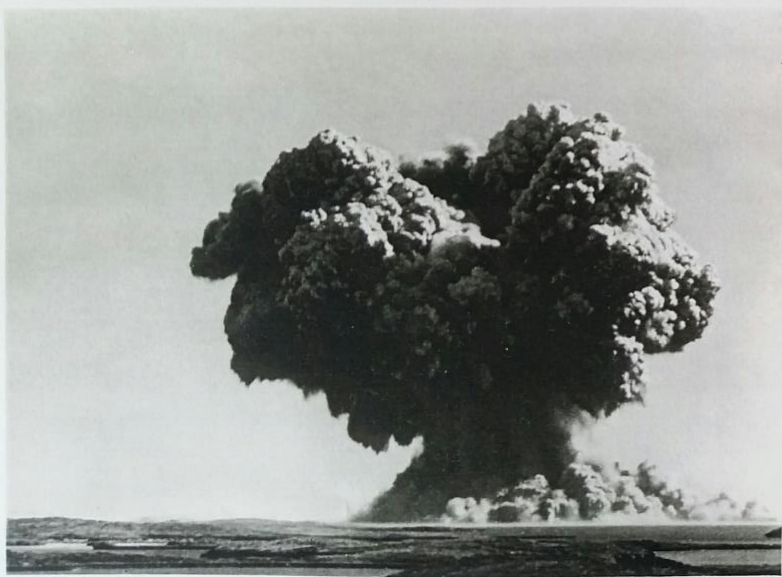
Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission and other holdings at:

- Rockefeller Archives Center
- Alfred Taubman Library and Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan
- Library of Congress
- National Academy of Sciences
- Sterling Memorial Library, Yale University
- Columbia University Libraries
- Eisenhower Library of The Johns Hopkins University
- Wellcome History of Medicine Unit, Oxford
- Science Library, Oxford University
- Dundee University Medical School Library



# AUDITS of Atomic/Nuclear Test Veterans

- Under-ascertainment of multiple myeloma among participants in UK atmospheric atomic and nuclear weapons tests – BMJ Occupational & Environmental Medicine, Volume 60, Issue 12, 2003
- Sue's nuclear bibliography – PubMed articles
- Roff S. "Knocked over by a pile of bombs. Hasn't felt well since." Nuclear test veterans and the UK Ministry of Defence Pensions System" in Suzannah Linton (ed) Festschrift for Roger Clark. Brill/Nijhoff 2015



# MAKING THE BRITISH H BOMB IN AUSTRALIA: FROM THE MONTE BELLOS TO THE 1956 MELBOURNE OLYMPICS - A REVISIONIST HISTORY

- Australian National Archives
- Fenner Archives of the Australian Academy of Science
- National Library of Australia
- UK National Archives
- Churchill Archives Centre in Cambridge
- Cadbury Special Collections at Birmingham University
- Wren Library of Trinity College, Cambridge University
- Dundee University Library
- British Library
- Los Alamos National Laboratory Library

# MAKING THE BRITISH H BOMB IN AUSTRALIA: FROM THE MONTE BELLOS TO THE 1956 MELBOURNE OLYMPICS - A REVISIONIST HISTORY

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Sections One and Two will be available as an ebook in September 2021.  
Sign up for news of its release at [www.rabbittreview.com](http://www.rabbittreview.com)

- Section One      **The Rise and Fall of Mark Oliphant:**  
More Belligerent Than Pacifist? A Spy? A Spymaster?
- Section Two      **The Rise and Rise of Ernest Titterton:**  
Menzies' Strangelove, McClelland's Scapegoat - or Both?

# OLIPHANT

Research in the primary documents, audiotapes, photographs etc. shows that:

- Oliphant was the prime mover in getting the UK scientific and political leadership to take up Frisch & Peirels' calculation that an atom bomb could be made in time to be used in World War II.
- He recruited, organised and led the 'Oliphant Group' of a score of scientists to join the Manhattan Project.
- He deeply opposed US atomic monopoly and was the first British scientist to return to the UK, in early 1945, to lead the lobbying for a British atom bomb programme.
- He lobbied throughout the war years for Australia to prospect for and ringfence its uranium deposits.
- He was compromised by the fallout from the Fuchs case and other spy scandals among the Oliphant Group including the suspicion that an Australian scientist had passed information to the Soviets throughout the war.
- He was banned from participating in the British test programme in Australia because of his opposition to nuclear monopoly and the security lapses within the Oliphant Group.
- Oliphant argued strongly for an independent nuclear defence for Australia well into the 1950s. He was an ardent weaponeer throughout the 1940s and 1950s.



# TITTERTON

- The role of Ernest Titterton as BOTH British scientific team member and 'Australian safety advisor' was negotiated with Prime Minister Menzies for at least two years before the first, *Hurricane*, test in 1952.
- Menzies knew that Titterton had been offered – and declined – to serve as Trials Director of the *Totem* tests in 1953.
- Titterton conducted telemetry tests alongside the British scientists at all the tests he attended, even as a member of the Atomic Weapons Tests Safety Committee (AWTSC).
- As well as being an expert in telemetry for the firing devices at *Trinity*, *Shot Baker*, and the Australian tests, Titterton also published research on personal dosimetry but did not require even his ANU laboratory staff to wear radiation badges.
- The President of the Royal Commission into British Nuclear Tests in Australia had a strong personal animus against Titterton that deeply influenced his (mis)reading of several documents and Titterton's role – and therefore of the degree to which the Menzies Government were responsible for the continued testing in Australia right up to barely a month before the 1956 Olympic Games were due to open downwind from Maralinga, Emu Field and the Monte Bellos.

# *In Progress*

## **Section Three:**

Going Thermonuclear in 1956

## **Section Four:**

Repositioning Menzies and the Australian Government from Dupes to Consensual Collaborators in the Narrative of the Making of the H Bomb in Australia until the Eve of the 1956 Olympics

# *What is left to be done 70 years after atomic and nuclear testing started in Australia?*

1. Half of the Minutes of the Atomic Weapons Tests Safety Committee meetings are still 'unexamined' and inaccessible in the Australian National Archives after 70 years.
2. There are more than 10,000 pages of submissions to the Royal Commission into British Nuclear Tests in Australia that are accessible online from the Australian National Archives that don't seem to have been used by independent researchers in 35 years.
3. We have yet to hear why so many files have been withdrawn from the UK National Archives.