



Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies  
New South Wales

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### Repatriation and demobilisation generally Reading List

This is a selected list of works on the repatriation and demobilisation of the Australian Imperial Force in 1919.

When the Armistice was declared, more than 160,000 men gradually returned to Australia and needed sustenance, housing, medical treatment, jobs and training. Creating the new Repatriation Department was assigned to Senator Edward Millen who had been Defence Minister at the outbreak of war and believed repatriation was ‘an emanation of the heart ... worthy of the last shilling’. Demobilisation from the Western Front and Egypt also required a military commander with exceptional energy, experience and intellect. Lieutenant-General Sir John Monash took up his appointment in December 1918, a month after the Armistice. General Monash oversaw the withdrawal of Australian soldiers and established them in England where they took part in education and re-training programs. Using ships he had commandeered from the market, he repatriated an average of 500 veterans back to Australia each day.

The books listed below are available in the Institute’s Ursula Davidson Library. The call number (*i.e.* compactus shelf address) follows the citation in each case.

AUSTRALIA - Department of Repatriation (1975) *Independent enquiry into the repatriation system: report by the Honourable Mr. Justice P. B. Toose, C.B.E.* (appointed by the Minister of Repatriation) (Canberra: Australian Government Publishing Service) Call No: 810.5 AUST 1975 [In three volumes.]

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE – Department of Repatriation and Demobilisation, London (1919) *History of the Department of Repatriation and Demobilisation from November 1918 to September 1919* (London: Ede and Townsend) Call No: QP570.14 (27512) [Highly relevant description of the department’s actions and reporting]

LLOYD, Clem, and Rees, Jacqui (1994) *The Last shilling: a history of repatriation in Australia* (Carlton, Vic.: Melbourne University Press) Call No: 810.5 LLOY 1994

PAYTON, Philip (2018) *Repat: a concise history of repatriation in Australia* (Canberra, A.C.T.: Department of Veterans' Affairs) Call No: 810.5 PAYT 2018

REES, Peter (2016) *Anzac girls: the extraordinary story of our World War I nurses* (Crows Nest, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin) Call No: 570.02 REES 2016 [The after-math of WWI and life back in Australia for nurses: chapter 32 p.305-315]

SCOTT, Earnest (1936) *Australia during the war*. The official history of Australia in the war of 1914-1918 Vol XI (Sydney: Angus and Robertson) Call No 570.14 BEAN v. 11 [Chapter XXIV ‘Repatriation’ (pp. 824 – 857) describes demobilisation in Britain and then repatriation in Australia, including legislation, war pensions, war service homes, land settlement, education of soldiers’ children and returned soldiers’ associations]

**Secondary sources:**

DANIELS, Harold Griffith (1927) *The Rise of the German Republic* (London : Nisbet) Call No: 571.3 DANI 1927 [Focuses only on German actions leading up to WWI and the efforts taken to re-build Germany after 1918.]

Demobilised Soldiers' Association of Australia (1920) *Constitution, aims and objects* Call No: P411.1 DEMO 1920

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