



Chief of Navy's Professional Resource List

2019 Edition

A Thinking Navy – A Fighting Navy – An Australian Navy

NAVY VALUES

HONOUR HONESTY COURAGE INTEGRITY LOYALTY

“The nation that will insist on drawing a broad demarcation between the fighting man and the thinking man is liable to have its fighting done by fools and its thinking done by cowards.”

Sir William F. Butler (1889), Charles George Gordon

Officers and Sailors of our Navy,

Our success as individuals and as a Navy will come, in part, through the pursuit of personal intellectual growth and development. Thinking, is certainly something our profession must think a bit more about. This is as true for me as it is for all Navy people.

This is the list of books and online sources, which I have read and found useful, I regularly recommend, or those that have been recommended to me by people whose expertise and judgement I rely upon. It is this final category that I am looking forward to reading as part of my own professional development this year. It is not a resource list for Officers, nor a list for Sailors; it is a list for all in our Navy.

In my travels and engagement across Navy since assuming Command, I have had the pleasure to meet with many of our Sailors and young Officers who have suggested many Podcasts and videos as resources they have found useful in their professional and personal growth. I have included these, and am very much enjoying the process of listening to, and watching them as I travel. I think that you too will find them valuable.

It is impossible to learn what you think you already know. I hope these resources will challenge you, make you think about being a better leader, a better person, a better parent, a better friend and a better member of our Navy. I hope you find them confronting, I hope they start a conversation and I hope that just starting with one book or Podcast will set you on a journey of continual learning which will contribute to our Navy's fighting edge. As General Patton once said, “If everyone is thinking alike, then somebody isn't thinking”.

Not a reader? Try an audio book and have someone read to you. This is great for making the most of your commute or travel time. You can even get abridged versions of many of the books as audio books; these are shorter and still cover the main points. Defence Library Services is a fantastic and free resource for audiobooks and eBooks. Make it your first port of call.

I look forward to discussing them with you, and to learning what you are doing for your own professional development as part of our Thinking, Fighting and Australian Navy.

Mike Noonan

MJ Noonan, AO

Vice Admiral, Royal Australian Navy
Chief of Navy

12 April 2019

“You must linger among a limited number of master-thinkers, and digest their works, if you would derive ideas, which shall win firm hold in your mind.”

Seneca (4 B.C. - A.D. 65), Letters from a Stoic

A Thinking Navy

*Respected, as an agile, resilient, and lethal fighting force;
we understand and are committed to, our nation, our mission, and each other.*

Warrant Officer of the Navy recommendation

START WITH WHY – HOW GREAT LEADERS INSPIRE EVERYONE TO TAKE ACTION - Simon Sinek

Why are some people and organisations more inventive, pioneering and successful than others? And why are they able to repeat their success again and again? In business, it doesn't matter what you do, it matters WHY you do it. *Start with Why* analyses leaders like Martin Luther King Jr and Steve Jobs and discovers that they all think in the same way - they all started with why.

Why read it - Explains the framework needed for organisations and leaders to move past knowing what they do, to how they do it, and then to ask the more important question-WHY? Why do we do what we do? Why do we exist? Learning to ask these questions can unlock the secret to inspirational leadership.

Podcasts

The Learning Leader Show - The best leaders never stop working to make themselves better. As Kobe Bryant once said, "There is power in understanding the journey of others to help create your own." That's really why the Learning Leader Show exists.

Good Life Project - Topics include risk-taking, hope, meaning and purpose, insecurity, growth, goals, love, and more. The goal of the podcast is to help you live a more meaningful, connected, and vital life.

The Ziglar Show - Zig Ziglar motivated millions of people for many years, and The Ziglar Show continues his legacy by teaching you how to be the best you can be. Hosts Kevin Miller and Tom Ziglar interview some of the most influential people to show you how to get motivated and make the changes you need to be successful in all areas of life.

Freakonomics Radio - Discover the hidden side of everything. Each week, Freakonomics Radio tells you things you always thought you knew (but didn't) and things you never thought you wanted to know (but do) — from the economics of sleep, to how to become great at just about anything; Look at things differently.

The Tim Ferriss Show - Newsweek calls him "the world's best human guinea pig". In this show, he deconstructs world-class performers from eclectic areas (investing, chess, pro sports, etc.), digging deep to find the tools, tactics, and tricks that listeners can use.

THINKING, FAST AND SLOW - DANIEL KAHNEMAN

A ground-breaking tour of the mind and explains the two systems that drive the way we think. System 1 is fast, intuitive, and emotional; System 2 is slower, deliberative, and more logical. The impact of overconfidence on corporate strategies, the difficulties of predicting what will make us happy in the future, the profound effect of cognitive bias on everything from playing the stock market to planning your next vacation—each of these can be understood only by knowing how the two systems shape our judgments and decisions.

Why read it - Too often, we mistakenly assume rational thought when we predict the behaviour of potential adversaries, when in actuality human thinking and decision-making is often quite irrational. From *Prospect Theory* (the work that led to his Nobel Prize in Economics) to his examination of the many biases that affect decision making this is recommended for anyone involved in selections and promotions or seeking cognitive advantage.

THE OBSTACLE IS THE WAY - THE TIMELESS ART OF TURNING TRIALS INTO TRIUMPH - RYAN HOLLIDAY

We are stuck, stymied, frustrated. But it needn't be this way. There is a formula for success that's been followed by the icons of history—from John D. Rockefeller to Amelia Earhart to Ulysses S. Grant to Steve Jobs—a formula that let them turn obstacles into opportunities. Faced with impossible situations, they found the astounding triumphs we all seek.

These men and women were not exceptionally brilliant, lucky, or gifted. Their success came from timeless mindset for excellence in the face of adversity.

Why read it - *This book shows us how we can turn our adversity into advantage and opportunity. Great for those stuck in negative mindset and seeking a way to set themselves apart as they strive for their goals.*

Deputy Chief of Navy recommendation

TEAMS OF TEAMS - NEW RULES OF ENGAGEMENT FOR A COMPLEX WORLD - STANLEY McCHRISTAL

Based on his experiences in Iraq in 2003, McChrystal and his colleagues discarded a century of conventional wisdom to create a 'team of teams' that combined extremely transparent communication with decentralised decision-making authority. Faster, flatter and more flexible, the task force beat back al-Qaeda.

Why read it – *Directly applicable to Outcome 5 of Plan Pelorus. Through compelling examples, the authors demonstrate that the 'team of teams' strategy has worked and has the potential to transform organizations large and small. It shows how information can paralyse an organisation but also shows how to empower organisations and enable informed decision making at the right level.*

BLACK HEARTS: ONE PLATOON'S DESCENT INTO MADNESS IN IRAQ'S TRIANGLE OF DEATH - JIM FREDERICK

Hit by near-daily mortars, gunfire, and roadside bomb attacks, suffering from a particularly heavy death toll, and enduring a chronic breakdown in leadership, members of one Black Heart platoons 1st Platoon, Bravo Company, 1st Battalion descended, over their year-long tour of duty, into a tailspin of poor discipline, substance abuse, and brutality. Four 1st Platoon soldiers would perpetrate one of the most heinous war crimes U.S. forces have committed during the Iraq War.

Why read it - *An unflinching account of the epic, tragic deployment of 1st Platoon. Black Hearts is a timeless story about men in combat, the fragility of character in the savage crucible of warfare and the nature of evil.*

RED TEAM: HOW TO SUCCEED BY THINKING LIKE THE ENEMY - MICAH ZENKO

Red teaming; it is a practice as old as the Devil's Advocate, the eleventh-century Vatican official charged with discrediting candidates for sainthood. Today, red teams, comprised primarily of fearless sceptics and those assuming the role of saboteurs who seek to better understand the interests, intentions, and capabilities of institutions or potential competitors, are used widely in both the public and private sector. Red teaming, including simulations, vulnerability probes, and alternative analyses, helps institutions in competitive environments to identify vulnerabilities and weaknesses, challenge assumptions, and anticipate potential threats ahead of the next special operations raid, malicious cyberattack, or corporate merger. But not all red teams are created equal; indeed, some cause more damage than they prevent.

Why read it - *Red teams can give an edge over enemy or competition but red teams are only as good as leaders allow them to be. The book focuses on how to create, use and empower red teams, but also what to do with the information they produce.*

SEA POWER: THE HISTORY AND GEOPOLITICS OF THE WORLD'S OCEANS - ADMIRAL JIM STAVRIDIS

From the time of the Greeks and the Persians clashing in the Mediterranean, sea power has determined world power. To an extent that is often underappreciated, it still does. Sea Power, shows us how the geography of the oceans has shaped the destiny of nations, and how naval power has in a real sense made the world we live in today, and will shape the world we live in tomorrow. It is also a keen-eyed reckoning with the likely sites of our next major naval conflicts, particularly the Arctic Ocean, Eastern Mediterranean, and the South China Sea.

Why read it - *When most of us look at a globe, we focus on the shape of the seven continents but after this you will see the shapes of the seven seas and the Influence of Sea Power upon History.*

Head Navy Engineering recommendation

LEADING CHANGE - JOHN P KOTTER

Kotter provides eight steps for managing successful change. Head Navy Engineering has drawn upon these steps throughout his career and found them to be most useful. For videos and details on all the eight steps of the process (and some great other videos and articles) have a look here:

<https://managementisajourney.com/summary-of-kotters-eight-step-leading-change-model/>

LEADERS EAT LAST – SIMON SINEK

His second book is the natural extension of *Start with Why*, expanding his ideas at the organisational level. Determining a company's WHY is crucial, but only the beginning. The next step is how do you get people on board with your WHY? How do you inspire deep trust and commitment to the company and one another? He cites the Marine Corps for having found a way to build a culture in which men and women are willing to risk their lives, because they know others would do the same for them. It's not brainwashing; it's actually based on the biology of how and when people are naturally at their best.

Why read it - *If organisations could adopt this supportive mentality, employees would be more motivated to take bigger risks, because they would know their colleagues and company would back them up, no matter what.*

THE GUNS OF AUGUST – BARBARA TUCHMAN

In seeking to learn about strategy, you could try your hand at Clausewitz or Sun Zi, but they are a tough read. Rather, give Barbara Tuchman's essay the Guns of August a go. Perhaps one of the most influential military books of the 20th century, it traces the causes of WWI, and outlines how miscalculation and poor decision-making can result in horrific consequences.

Why read it - *JFK swore by the book and made all his senior military officers read it during the early 60s; he also used it as a guide during the Cuban missile crisis. The concept of game theory can be traced to this book. Look out for the commentary on the Great Illusion.*

Fiction

The Caine Mutiny - Herman Wouk (also movie)

The Caine Mutiny is the story of a USN destroyer-minesweeper on duty in the Pacific in 1944, its curious episode of near mutiny, and the court martial that follows. The author, writing as a junior officer on board, embarks on a dramatic study of ships and men, clearly demonstrating the tension between loyalty to the Commanding Officer, and loyalty to the Service and the crew when the Commanding Officer is unfit for duty.

Ghost Fleet - PW Singer and August Cole

The United States, China, and Russia eye each other across a twenty-first century version of the Cold War, which suddenly heats up at sea, on land, in the air, in outer space, and in cyberspace. While this book may superficially appear to be facile, it prompts significant thought about the implications of technology on future warfare, and is an enjoyable read.

The Command - David Poyer

Contemporary story about operations in the Middle East built around the dynamics in the first US Navy warship to deploy with a mixed male/female crew. Looks at resistance to change and the cultural shift in the USN.

A Fighting Navy

Acting together with purpose, as empowered, professional war fighters, we know that success will increasingly depend on the quality of our thinking and teamwork, and our agility in decision-making.

Podcasts

Jocko Podcast - Serious Leadership and Discipline from retired Navy Seal.

War Studies - Non-American war perspectives. Based out of the Department of War Studies at King's College London, this podcast focuses on giving the listener a comprehensive understanding of what war is and how it affects international security.

Hardcore History - This isn't academic history (and Carlin isn't a historian) but the podcast's unique blend of high drama, masterful narration and Twilight Zone-style twists has entertained millions of listeners. Was Alexander the Great as bad a person as Adolf Hitler? What would Apaches with modern weapons be like? Will our modern civilization ever fall like civilisations from past eras?

War on the Rocks - Great discussions with security, defence, and foreign policy experts recorded over drinks.

Policy, Guns & Money (by Australian Strategic Policy Institute) - ASPI is an independent, non-partisan think tank that produces expert and timely advice for Australia's strategic and defence leaders.

HAL MOORE ON LEADERSHIP: WINNING WHEN OUTGUNNED AND OUTMANNED - HAL MOORE

Hal Moore led his life by a set of principles - a code developed through years of experience, trial-and-error, and the study of leaders of every stripe. In a career spanning more than 30 years, Moore's life touched upon many historical events: the Occupation of Japan, the Korean War, Vietnam, and the refashioning of the US Army into an all-volunteer force. At each juncture, he learned critical lessons and had opportunities to affect change through measured responses.

Why read it – *A truly impressive leader immortalised in the movie “We Were Soldiers”. These are the principles that helped shape Moore's success both on and off the battlefield. These lessons and principles are nothing theoretical or scientific. They are simply rules of thumb learned and practiced by a man who spent his entire adult life leading others and perfecting his art of leadership in combat.*

WHAT IT IS LIKE TO GO TO WAR - KARL MARLANTES

War is as old as humankind, but in the past, warriors were prepared for battle by ritual, religion and literature -- which also helped bring them home. In a compelling narrative, Marlantes weaves riveting accounts of his combat experiences with thoughtful analysis, self-examination and his readings. He talks frankly about how he is haunted by the face of the young North Vietnamese soldier he killed at close quarters and how he finally finds a way to make peace with his past. Marlantes discusses the daily contradictions that warriors face in the grind of war, where each battle requires them to take life or spare life, and where they enter a state he likens to the fervour of religious ecstasy.

Why read it - *A powerful nonfiction book about the experience of combat and how inadequately we prepare our young men and women for war. Required reading for anyone interested in this visceral and all too essential part of the human experience.*

ONE HUNDRED DAYS: THE MEMOIRS OF THE FALKLANDS BATTLE GROUP COMMANDER - SANDY WOODWARD AND PATRICK ROBINSON

On 2 April 1982, Argentina invaded the Falkland Islands. The British response was swift. The mission of the Battle Group under the command of Rear Admiral Sandy Woodward presented a challenge that seemed insurmountable.

Why read it - *A unique insight into the Commanders mind in contemporary war. An engrossing memoir as hopes for peace faded and strategies of war evolved, then became reality.*

Fleet Commander recommends**FLEET TACTICS AND NAVAL OPERATIONS (3rd ED) - CAPT WAYNE HUGHES USN.**

Long been considered a go-to resource for US navy officers on battle planning and tactical thinking, its relevance has not waned. The third edition traces the historical evolution of tactics, analysis and operations from the age of sail to the present, including an expanded understanding of how emerging technologies and information warfare are impacting battles at sea.

***Why read it** - Fire effectively first. That is one of the cornerstones of Wayne Hughes book on Fleet Tactics – a book with a foreword written by the current CNO. Rich in detail and covering a wide canvas, the book describes the interaction between naval operations, wartime campaigns, coalition tactics and war at sea. Look out for the section on Lanchester's Equations on concentration of force. A must for any warfighter.*

AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT FALKLANDS - COMMODORE MICHAEL CLAPP

***Why read it** - An alternative view to Woodward's account, Commodore Clapp's account of the amphibious landing at San Carlos Water reveals much of the problems that can arise at the operational level of war with regard to personality and Command and Control. Here he describes, with considerable candour, some of the problems met in a Navy racing to war and finding it necessary to recreate a largely abandoned operational technique in a somewhat ad hoc fashion.*

Watch the two amphibious Commanders share their story at this link to [Army Website](#).

THE RULES OF THE GAME - ANDREW GORDON

An engrossing education not only in naval strategy and tactics but in Victorian social attitudes and the influence of character on history. In juxtaposing an operational with a cultural theme, the author comes closer than any historian yet to explaining what was behind the often-described operations of this famous 1916 battle at Jutland. Although the British fleet was victorious over the Germans, the cost in ships and men was high, and debates have raged within British naval circles ever since about why the Royal Navy was unable to take advantage of the situation.

***Why read it** - If we want to stave off the "creeping sickness" that a peacetime fleet tends to invite during the "canker of the long peace", we have found ourselves in since the end of World War II this is a great warning. Covers important issues like the centrality of command and control, to the importance of training under war-like conditions, to incorporating new technology and the danger of hubristic thinking in peacetime.*

THE PARADOX OF AMERICAN POWER, WHY THE WORLD'S ONLY SUPERPOWER CAN'T GO IT ALONE - JOSEPH S. NYE JR

Not since the Roman Empire has any nation had economic, cultural, and military power as the United States does today. Yet, as has become all too evident through the terrorist attacks of September 11 and the impending threat of the acquisition of nuclear weapons by Iran, that power is not enough to solve global problems—like terrorism, environmental degradation, and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction—without involving other nations.

***Why read it** - He explains why America must adopt a more cooperative engagement with the rest of the world in order to survive and maintain its superpower status. The challenge of finding the correct balance between its hard power, mainly the capacity to project its military forces whenever and wherever it is needed, and its soft power, or the capacity to cultivate influence and hope among friends and foes alike.*

THE ADMIRALS: NIMITZ, HALSEY, LEAHY, AND KING—THE FIVE-STAR ADMIRALS WHO WON THE WAR AT SEA - WALTER R. BORNEMAN

Chester Nimitz, William Halsey, William Leahy and Ernest King. These four men were the best and the brightest the navy produced, and together they led the US Navy to victory in World War II, establishing the United States as the world's greatest fleet. These four admirals revolutionised naval warfare forever with submarines and aircraft carriers, and how these men - who were both friends and rivals - worked together to ensure that the Axis fleets lay destroyed on the ocean floor at the end of World War II.

Why read it - *It's a book about the personalities and leadership dynamics between the title characters. The author also highlights their shortcomings and flaws, which show them as humans and not perfect leaders. Much of their success was due to their willingness to change and adapt to new ideas, to throw over everything they knew about the importance of battleships in war, and embrace new strategies.*

FICTION

The Cruel Sea - Nicholas Monserrat (also movie)

This is a dramatic story of the long and brutal Battle of the Atlantic of WWII. It is the classic narrative of life at sea, weeks of boredom followed by small bursts of frenetic activity, made all the more harrowing by the strength and fury of the Atlantic Ocean. This beautifully written novel gives great insight into the behaviour of people thrown together in hazardous situations, and how they become hardened, and wiser in companionship in the face of constant tension and danger.

HMS Ulysses - Alistair McLean (also movie)

It is an account of the trials and tribulations of the crew of the fictional HMS Ulysses. This light cruiser is the flagship of an escort carrier group protecting convoys to Russia during WWII. The story is bleak but fascinating, and the dark and terrible side of naval combat is brought to the fore.

The Hunt for Red October - Tom Clancy (also movie)

This is the story of Soviet submariner Captain Marko Ramius who seeks to defect to the US with a billion dollar present, and of Dr Jack Ryan, the US Intelligence analyst who is trying to understand what is going on. The Hunt for Red October is the first in a series of novels to popularise the real-to-life genre, and is also the first fiction that the US Naval Institute has knowingly or admittedly published.

An Australian Navy

We serve Australia with pride and passion, guided by our values. We reflect the best of Australian society knowing that the quality of our people is our most important contributor to our future success.

Podcasts

[How Do You Sleep At Night?](#) - There are some people in today's society that the general populace have decided are 'bad' people – murderers, game hunters, abortion protesters, etc. This is not a podcast about damning certain people's life choices or coming to the conclusion that these people are, in fact, bad. This production is about handing over the microphone to the killers and pokies kings to let them have a say. True, what they say may cement your view, but the production is unbiased, keeping an open mind and very revealing.

[Everyday Ethics](#) - Everyday Ethics is a weekly podcast that takes a look at many of the ethical dilemmas that face us every day, and attempts to break them down for easier understanding.

[Laws of War \(by Australian Red Cross\)](#) - Why do wars have laws? Where did they come from and what do they mean for today's armed conflicts? How do these laws affect humanitarian agencies, armed forces, prisoners and non-combatants?

[How Aid Works \(by Australian Red Cross\)](#) - Ever wanted an intimate chat with people who treat the wounded in wartime, fight epidemics and respond to disasters? Get ready for a wild ride with larger-than-life, uplifting and occasionally tear-jerking stories.

[The Brendon Show](#) - Brendon Burchard is the author, motivational speaker, and personal-development coach behind The Brendon Show. The podcast is ad-free and offers advice on how to excel in all areas of life.

CRUISER - MIKE CARLTON

A narrative of the life of the cruiser HMAS *Perth*, and her operational history in World War II, leading to her sinking in the Battle of the Sunda Strait and the ordeal that many of her crew faced in captivity.

Why read it - *Permits a reader to understand the life of a ship's company in extraordinary circumstances, and the impact that naval service can have on the families at home.*

THE CRUEL LEGACY: THE HMAS VOYAGER TRAGEDY - TOM FRAME

On the night of 10 February 1964, during naval exercises off the coast at Jervis Bay, the destroyer HMAS *Voyager* inexplicably turned towards the RAN Flagship, HMAS *Melbourne*, and steamed under the mighty carrier's bows. The impact cut *Voyager* in two, with 82 of her complement losing their lives in Australia's worst peacetime naval disaster. Forty years on, the author, revisits the two Royal Commissions into the disaster and why they failed to find the truth.

Why Read it - *An important part of our Navy history and a salient reminder of the perils and dangers of life at sea and trust placed in our leaders.*

ENDURANCE: SHACKLETON'S INCREDIBLE VOYAGE - ALFRED LANSING

A thrilling account of one of the most astonishing feats of exploration and human courage ever recorded. In August of 1914, the British ship *Endurance* set sail for the South Atlantic. In October 1915, still half a continent away from its intended base, the ship was trapped, and then crushed in the ice. For five months, Sir Ernest Shackleton and his men, drifting on ice packs, were castaways in one of the most savage regions of the world.

Why Read it - *An amazing tale of human survival. The book recounts a harrowing adventure, but ultimately it is the nobility of these men and their indefatigable will that shines through.*

LEGACY - JAMES KERR

In the best-selling *Legacy*, author James Kerr goes deep into the heart of the world's most successful sporting team, the legendary All Blacks of New Zealand, to reveal 15 powerful and practical lessons for leadership...*Legacy* is a unique, inspiring handbook for leaders in all fields.

Why read it - *What are the secrets of sustained success? How do you turn vision into action? How do you achieve world-class standards, day after day, week after week, year after year? How do you handle pressure? How do you train to win at the highest level? How do you turn purpose into practice? Shame it is about the All Blacks.*

A HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA - MANNING CLARK

If you wish to understand the Australian Navy, you need to understand Australia, and its past. Manning Clarke's tome the History of Australia, traces the early European exploration of our coastline through to the Gallipoli landings in 1915.

Why read it - *If you wish to understand the Australian Navy, you need to understand Australia, and its past. Whilst it's true the RAN's pedigree takes stock from the RN, it was our forefather's and foremother's struggle during the early years of colonisation that shaped our own unique naval identity.*

MAN'S SEARCH FOR MEANING - VIKTOR FRANKL

Psychiatrist Viktor Frankl's memoir has riveted generations of readers with its descriptions of life in Nazi death camps and its lessons for spiritual survival. Based on his own experience and the stories of his patients, Frankl argues that we cannot avoid suffering but we can choose how to deal with it, find meaning in it, and move forward with renewed purpose. At the heart of his theory, known as logotherapy, is a conviction that the primary human drive is not pleasure but the pursuit of what we find meaningful.

Why read it - *Man's Search for Meaning has become one of the most influential books in the world; it to inspire us all to find significance in the very act of living.*

12 RULES FOR LIFE: AN ANTIDOTE TO CHAOS - JORDAN B. PETERSON

What does everyone in the modern world need to know? Jordan B. Peterson's answer to this most difficult of questions uniquely combines the hard-won truths of ancient tradition with the stunning revelations of cutting-edge scientific research. Humorous, surprising and informative, Dr. Peterson tells us why skateboarding boys and girls must be left alone, what terrible fate awaits those who criticize too easily, and why you should always pet a cat when you meet one on the street. What dreadful paths do people tread when they become resentful, arrogant, and vengeful?

Why read it - *Dr. Peterson journeys broadly, discussing discipline, freedom, adventure, and responsibility, distilling the world's wisdom into 12 practical and profound rules that shatter the modern commonplaces of science, faith, and human nature while transforming and ennobling the mind and spirit of its listeners.*

FICTION

Sainsbury VC - J.E. Macdonnell

The novel follows the career of a West Australian member of the RAN from his training in the 1930s until the opening of the Second World War and his subsequent service initially in Royal Navy ships before returning to the Royal Australian Navy.

Narrow Road to the Deep North - Richard Flanagan

The Narrow Road to the Deep North is about cruelty of war, tenuousness of life and the impossibility of love. At its heart is one day in a Japanese slave labour camp in August 1943. As the day builds to its horrific climax, Dorrigo Evans battles and fails in his quest to save the lives of his fellow POWs, a man is killed for no reason, and a love story unfolds.

Once an Eagle - Anton Myrer

Once an Eagle is the story of one special man, a soldier named Sam Damon, and his adversary over a lifetime, fellow officer Courtney Massengale. A study in character and values, courage, nobility, honesty, and selflessness, here is an unforgettable story about a man who embodies the best in our nation—and in us all.

Head Maritime Systems recommendation

MULTIPLIERS: HOW THE BEST LEADERS MAKE EVERYONE SMARTER - LIZ WISEMAN

Try the introduction available at this link:



Online Videos

These videos are a great basis for team and group discussions. You could build them into Divisional meetings and/or professional development training within your teams.

A Thinking Navy

Shawn Achor
The Happy Secret to Better Work



Tim Ferriss
Define your Fears



David Marquet
Greatness



Eleanor Nelsen
The Trolley Problem



Susan David
Gift of emotional Courage



A Fighting Navy

James Stavridis
A US Navy Admiral on Global Security



Graham Allison
Is War between China and the US Inevitable?



Kevin Rudd
Are China and the US Doomed to Conflict



Stanley McChrystal
Listen, Learn and Lead



Julian Treasure
How to Speak So That People Want to Listen



An Australian Navy

Simon Sinek
Why Good Leaders Make You Feel Safe



Drew Dudley
Everyday Leadership



Dan Pink
The Puzzle of Motivation



Jeremy Forbes
How to start a conversation about suicide



Head Navy Capability recommended online sources

The following online resources influence my capability thinking, especially future capability. (HNC uses an app "Feedly" to automatically gather summaries of the articles from the sites and provides a link to the full article).

A Thinking Navy

[The RAND Corporation, Naval Warfare](#) - A research organisation that develops solutions to public policy challenges to help make communities throughout the world safer and more secure, healthier and more prosperous.

[U.S. Naval War College](#) - The U.S. Navy's "Home of Thought," they educate and develop competent and ethical leaders, support combat readiness, strengthen global maritime partnerships, help define the future of our service branch, and contribute original strategy and legal research to the national and international community.

[WIRED](#) - This is one of my favourite tech sites and is brilliant for keeping track of leading edge commercial technology. Go to [Boston Dynamics](#) and watch the video of a leading edge robot. It will give you a sense of why I think robotic systems will start replacing humans in platforms, much sooner than most of us think.

[Centre for Strategic and Budgetary Analysis](#) - Great source of current US thinking and strategising and is often used by the Pentagon to air ideas in the broader think tanks. Lots of excellent reports on Naval operations in contested environments.

A Fighting Navy

[Hudson Institute, Centre of New American Seapower](#) - Challenges conventional thinking and helps manage strategic transitions to the future through interdisciplinary studies in defence, international relations, economics, health care, technology, culture, and law.

[War on the Rocks](#) - A platform for analysis, commentary, debate and multimedia content on foreign policy and national security issues through a realist lens.

[United States Naval Institute News](#) - It has often been through this site that I have heard about USN capability developments, ie SM6 being used in the surface mode, Multifunction Advanced Data Link (MADL) being tested with Aegis, Long Range Anti Ship Missile (LRASM) being tested in a Vertical Launching System (VLS). USNI news also gives the links to major policy/strategy announcements like the CNO "A Design for Maintaining Maritime Superiority 2.0".

[Janes International](#) - Janes is still a great staple of news; I read (not as often as I would like) Janes Defence Weekly, Navy International and International Defence Review. You can get a free online subscription that allows you to download the magazines to an iPad app.

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[Australian Strategic Policy Institute](#) - An independent, non-partisan think tank that produces expert and timely advice for Australia's strategic and defence leaders. Reports can be good or bad, but either way they are influential in the national discussion.

[Lowy Institute](#) - Claims to be Australia's leading think tank, providing high-quality research and distinctive perspectives on the international trends shaping Australia and the world. Mostly foreign affairs focussed, there are occasionally some good reports, or articles (the interpreter), in defence capabilities.

[The Cove](#) - An online professional development network for the Australian Army. Designed to connect Defence members together into a professional network, based on their professional interests and/or level of experience. Acts as a medium for the sharing of experience and expertise.

[Australian Naval Institute](#) - The quality of the articles at ANI has improved significantly in recent years and I get their regular e-newsletter. This is the think tank that probably knows our business better than any other.

[TACTALKS](#) - Has improved significantly over the past couple of editions. It is a must read for my Capability team.

Sea Power Centre - Australia

The Sea Power Centre - Australia (SPC-A) was established to undertake activities which would promote the study, discussion and awareness of maritime issues and strategy within the RAN and the defence and civil communities at large.

The aims of the SPC-A are: to promote understanding of sea power and its application to the security of Australia's national interests; to manage the development of RAN doctrine and facilitate its incorporation into ADF joint doctrine; to contribute to regional engagement; and, within the higher Defence organisation, contribute to the development of maritime strategic concepts and strategic and operational level doctrine, and facilitate informed force structure decisions.

Internet site: www.navy.gov.au/spc/

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