



SAS History Now Out on Video

For the first time in its short but event-filled history one of the world's most secretive fighting forces - the Australian Special Air Service Regiment (SASR) - has allowed its history to be documented in a DVD series.

Titled ***The Australian SAS - the Untold History***, the 10-part documentary traces the development of this small but highly effective Special Forces unit from its beginnings as a deep penetration reconnaissance company into a highly sophisticated reconnaissance, strike, recovery and counter-terrorist force.

Covered in word and picture are the regiment's major campaigns from Konfrontasi in Borneo through South Vietnam to Cambodia, East Timor, Iraq and Afghanistan (2001-2003). Included are the SAS's Winning Hearts and Minds strategy and the key role SAS members played in the MV Tampa affair.

Vivid images capture the intensity of the unit's rigorous tri-service selection course and the exhaustive training programs required to develop demanding land, sea and air skills in those chosen to wear the coveted Sandy Beret.

The Australian SAS - The Untold History is the brainchild of retired University of Southern Queensland Professor Bruce Horsfield, himself a former special operations soldier with Sydney's 1st Commando Regiment, and producer of the classic Australian Forces Vietnam battle saga, ***Long Tan - The True Story***.

The documentary has been mainly co-funded by the University of Southern Queensland and the Department of Defence, and endorsed by an earlier Governor-General of Australia, Major General Michael Jeffery, AC, AO (Mil), CVO, MC (Retd), a former SAS commander.

Prof. Horsfield spent 14 years gathering images and interviews with past and serving SAS soldiers to piece together a story that not only forms a valuable video catalogue of one of Australia's most mysterious military units but has done so in a way that's gained the blessing of the tightly-knit SAS "family".

"SAS has been a fascinating project, much more complex than *Long Tan - The True Story*," Prof. Horsfield explained.

"While Long Tan was a single battle, the SAS documentary covers many campaigns and includes the unconventional thinking behind Special Forces units and what motivates a soldier to become an SAS soldier.

"For the first time there is an officially-sanctioned but independent television history of the Australian SAS that shows in detail how a group of dedicated men overcame bureaucratic obstacles and official uncertainty to transform themselves from a fringe unit into one of Australia's most effective operational forces," Prof. Horsfield added.

"In this sense it is a very Australian story.

"At the same time it is also a wonderful history told by former and serving members of the SAS with rare archival and amateur vision that reveals the real people, the unorthodox culture and the strategic war and peace time flair that have catapulted the SAS into the very front ranks of elite soldiering."

In an introduction to the series, Australia's former Special Operations Commander, Major General Mike Hindmarsh AO, DSC, CSC, writes:

"The material is powerful. Bruce Horsfield is a gifted and accomplished documentary maker. His incisive and meticulously accurate and balanced expose provides a rare and unfettered insight into an organisation which has traditionally been out of bounds to the public.

"This is a series of unquestionable historical importance because it captures, largely through the words of the soldiers themselves, the essence of this unique unit stretching across the fifty years of its existence. Essential viewing for anyone who truly wishes to understand the Australian SAS, its evolution and what makes it tick."

The full series is expected to be completed later this year. But for those interested in an advance look at this engrossing documentary, Part 1 (Heads and Hearts), Part 2 (The Arc of Instability), Part 3 (The Phantoms of the Jungle) and Part 4 (Fortress Australia) are available from Prof. Horsfield by calling **0402 204 356** or emailing forwardscoutfilms@gmail.com. Cost is \$35.95 for one DVD or \$135.95 for all four, postage included.

For more information on the series go to www.forwardscout.com.

Photos show the documentary covers for Parts 1 and 2.

Media information

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Released September 2, 2010.

In SAS THE UNTOLD HISTORY. past and serving SAS soldiers tell the stories of their awe-inspiring SAS battle exploits from Borneo, Vietnam, Iraq & Afghanistan. SAS peace-making operations in remote trouble spots are revealed for the first time. The series includes rare archival & amateur film & photos.

The series explores how SAS was undervalued & misunderstood for decades by the Australian Army & how, through its own creative energy & comfort in chaos, the Regiment transformed itself from a small fringe force into pride of place as Australia's "force of first choice".

SAS - the Untold History goes beyond the media clichés & Special Forces action stereotypes to reveal the real people, the contemporary values & the strategic flair in battle that have won the SAS a reputation for bravery and brilliance throughout the world.

"A rare & unfettered insight into an organization that has traditionally been out of bounds to the public. Essential viewing for anyone who truly wishes to understand the Australian SAS, its evolution & what makes it tick."

Major General Mike Hindmarsh AO, DSC, CSC, former Commanding Officer SAS & Special Operations Commander Australia

"The myth surrounding SAS has been created by over-zealous journalists & egotistical authors. Thankfully, neither applies to this documentary. It provides an unprecedented insight into the uniquely demanding lifestyle of SAS."

Trooper John Delgado, ex SAS Borneo & Vietnam

THE AUSTRALIAN SAS THE UNTOLD HISTORY

THE AUSTRALIAN SAS

THE UNTOLD HISTORY

For the first time on film, the history of Australia's Special Air Service is told, revealing the secretive operations and unorthodox military culture that make the regiment unique.

PART 1 HEADS & HEARTS

pinpoints what is "special" about Special Forces. The story penetrates the formidable SAS Selection Course, where mind, body & character are all put to a grueling test. We trace the formation of the modern SAS by Britain in World War II and explore the early years of the Australian SAS from their difficult beginnings in 1957. As Communist subversion spreads in South East Asia, the fledgling SAS Regiment trains for war, knowing that its future as a new strategic military force will be at stake.

PART 1 HEADS & HEARTS

PART 1 HEADS & HEARTS

A research publication of **USO UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND**

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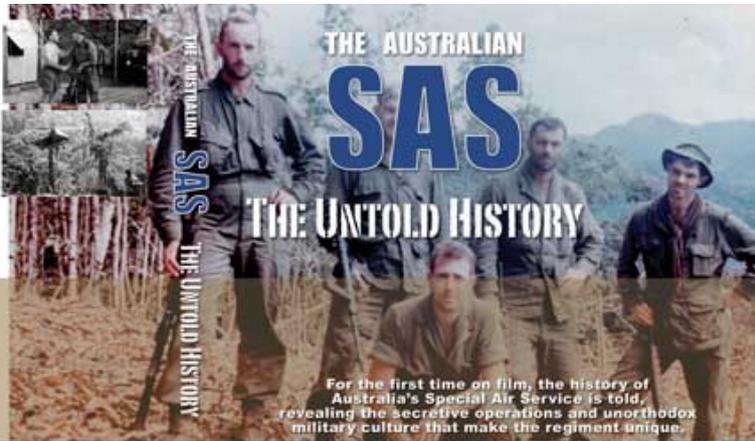
DVD VIDEO

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THE AUSTRALIAN SAS

THE UNTOLD HISTORY

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"The documentary captures the true essence of what it takes to be a soldier in the Australian SAS. Using official records and accepted peer level anecdotal history, the authors catch on film the genuine culture of an SAS soldier serving his country in war and peace. My support for this documentary is unquestionable."

WOI Ian Rasmussen ex-SAS

"Accurate and realistic in description and a work of historical and national importance to our country and community. It covers the capabilities that we Australians have available to us when called upon, especially that most unpredictable and dangerous weapon of all - the SAS trooper."

WOI Paddy Backski, ex-SAS

2 DISC SET
 DVD 1 38 min program
 Photo Gallery
 DVD 2 Extra Interviews
 16:9 ASPECT
 NSFC
 ALL REGIONS
 ENGLISH LANGUAGE
 DOLBY DIGITAL 2.0



Written/Directed: Prof Bruce Horsfield
 Director/Editor: Laura Zulkens

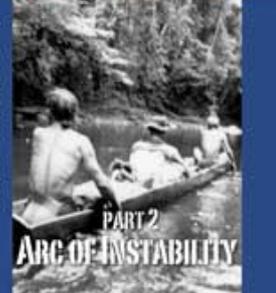
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PART 2 ARC OF INSTABILITY

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throws SAS into the fearsome jungles of Borneo. As Konfrontasi rages in Indonesia, SAS joins with Britain's 22 SAS in the highly secret Claret Operations. Cross border patrols gather strategic intelligence & seek out Indonesian 'killer patrols'. In 1966, when the European Cold War spreads to Asia, SAS joins the Australian Task Force in Vietnam. Small secretive five man SAS patrols set out to pit themselves in a deadly anti-guerrilla war against the fearless & formidable Viet Cong.



EXEMPT FROM CLASSIFICATION

PART 2
 ARC OF INSTABILITY