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CEREMONY TO HONOUR THE WORK AND FRIENDSHIP OF DUTCH, AUSTRALIANS, AND WEST PAPUANS DURING WORLD WAR TWO
NETHERLANDS AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL, CANBERRA, 9 SEPTEMBER 2019
Babuan Mirino, Australia West Papua Assoc (Melb); Federal Republic of West Papua Womens' Office (Docklands)



The Eagle and sphere, Australian–American Memorial at Russell Hill, 15 September 1953

THE ELEGANT NETHERLANDS AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL (UNVEILED IN 1991) DWARFED BY THE 79-METRE AUSTRALIAN AMERICAN WAR MEMORIAL (UNVEILED IN 1954), BLAMEY SQUARE, CANBERRA

CEREMONY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2019, TO HONOUR THE WORK AND FRIENDSHIP OF DUTCH, AUSTRALIANS, AND WEST PAPUANS DURING WORLD WAR TWO



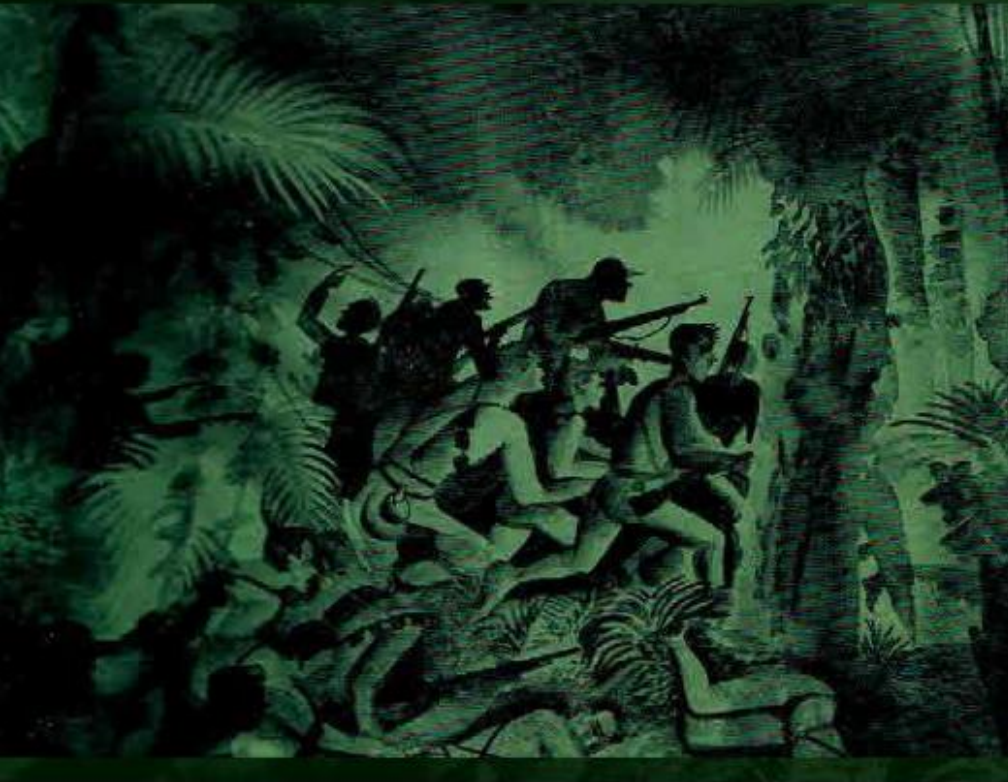
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Henri Licht, Dutch-Australian writer who translated Sergeant Kokkelink's memoir of WWII in West Papua
NETHERLANDS AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL, THOMAS BLAMEY SQUARE, CANBERRA, 9 SEPTEMBER 2019

We Fought in the Jungle

My guerilla struggle in Dutch New Guinea
in the Second World War

Sergeant M. Ch. Kokkelink



English translation by
Henri Licht

The first English translation of a guerilla
fighter's memoir of WWII in West Papua

Published by West Papua Womens
Office (Docklands) in August 2019

“This is certainly a story worth translating and reading.... Its principal lesson is the importance of attempting to avoid violent conflict. **The most effective way of making societies secure is to settle conflicts before they become violent.**”

Fortunately, the commitment of nation states and the United Nations to peaceful conflict resolution has strengthened greatly since the 1940s; and the capacity of many countries for diplomacy, and of the UN, and of peace-building non-government organisations for addressing conflict through mediation has grown substantially.”

From the review by **PROFESSOR JOHN LANGMORE**

- ❖ Director, UN Division for Social Policy and Development (1996-2001)
- ❖ UN Representative, International Labour Organization (2001-2003)
- ❖ Organised 24th session of UN General Assembly—which agreed on the global target for halving serious poverty by 2015



NETHERLANDS
INDIES ARMY

THE ROYAL NETHERLANDS
EAST INDIES ARMY AIR FORCE

THE NETHERLANDS MERCHANT NAVY

Harold Wilkinson, United Nations Association of Australia
READING PROFESSOR JOHN LANGMORE'S REVIEW OF 'WE FOUGHT IN THE JUNGLE'

DIENST VAN HET KONINKLIJK HUIS

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THE HAGUE
27 August 2019

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LOCATION
Noordeinde Palace

Dear Mrs Mirino,

Thank you for your letter of 7 August in which you write to His Majesty King Willem-Alexander about the first English translation of the book *Wij vochten in het bos. De guerrillastrijd op Nieuw-Guinea tijdens de Tweede Wereldoorlog* by Sergeant Maurits Kokkelink.

It was most considerate of you to inform the King about the publication of the book and for taking the trouble to send him a copy of it prior to the Dutch Australian memorial to be held on 9 September. This was much appreciated and I thank you, on behalf of the King, for this kind gesture.

Yours sincerely,

Jan C. Snoek
Personal Advisor to
His Majesty the King and
Her Majesty the Queen
of the Netherlands



King Willem-Alexander's response to the first English-translation of Sergeant Maurits Kokkelink's memoir *WE FOUGHT IN THE JUNGLE; MY GUERRILLA STRUGGLE IN DUTCH NEW GUINEA IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR*; and the Canberra ceremony at the Dutch Australian War Memorial on 9 September 2019.

Kokkelink was awarded the Militaire Willems-Orde, the highest Dutch military honour, in Brisbane in 1945 during the reign of King Willem-Alexander's parents, Queen Beatrix and Prince Bernhard.

