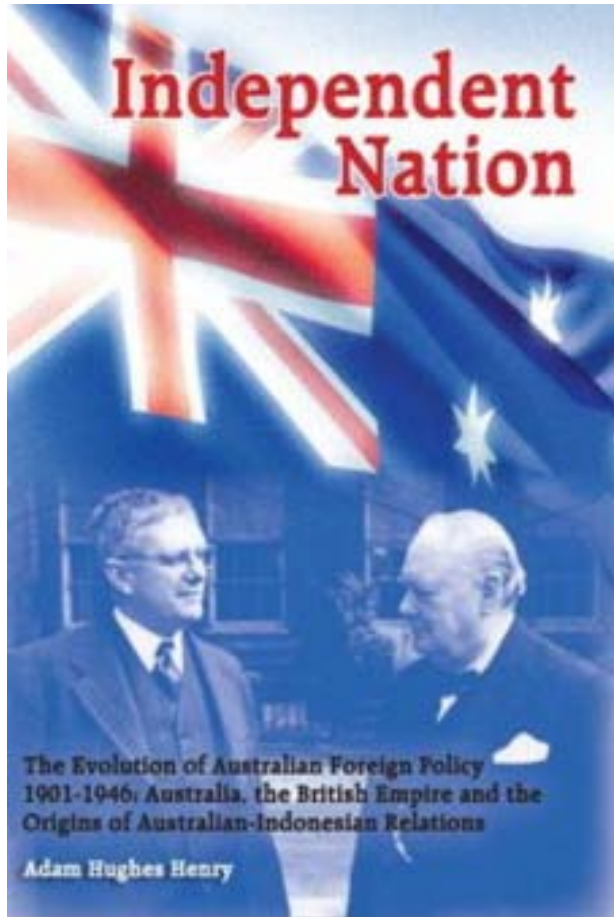


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This book traces the evolution of Australian foreign policy, and in particular through relations with Indonesia after the Second World War. Between 1901–1941, two distinct ideologies formed over Australian strategic policies: pro-Imperial and self reliance. World War Two challenged expectations about Australia's relationship with the United Kingdom. Australia was forced to contemplate the national self-defence and its own regional interests. Alternative foreign and strategic policies were explored that challenged previous assumptions. The emergence of widespread Indonesian nationalism after the Second World War meant that any regional security benefits of Dutch rule in the Netherlands East Indies (NEI) diminished. From an initial position of concerned neutrality, the Chifley government shifted to supporting the Indonesian nationalists. This new independence of thought was shaped by the failure of the pro-Imperial ideal in 1942, diplomatic reconstruction (1942-1945) and a post-war ambition of middle power diplomacy through the United Nations.

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