



Making the British H-Bomb in Australia – from the Monte Bellos to the 1956 Olympic Games

Sue Rabbitt Roff, University of Dundee

Wednesday 12 October: 5pm for 5.30pm – 6.30pm AEDT at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

October marks the seventieth anniversary of the first British nuclear test in Australia, in 1952. 130 kilometres off the Pilbara coast of Western Australia, the Monte Bello Islands were the site for what came to be known as 'Operation Hurricane'.

It was the first of several nuclear tests conducted on Australian territory in the 1950s, and the first ever conducted by the United Kingdom. Given the geopolitical implications of the Cold War and Australia's obligations to Britain as a Commonwealth nation, the Menzies government authorised the Monte Bello atomic bomb tests despite the hazards of radioactivity. Further tests continued until a month before the opening of the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne – despite the known dangers of fallout travelling from the testing site at Maralinga to cities in the east.



AIIA Victoria invites you to a discussion with Sue Rabbitt Roff as she challenges the official narrative of events based on extensive archival research in Australia, the UK and the USA.



Sue Rabbitt Roff is a social scientist and has published in political, educational and medical areas on a wide range of topics. Over the past 35 years she has conducted research on the long-term health effects on participants in UK nuclear tests which has been effective in winning more than 60 applications for service pensions in UK, Australia, New Zealand and France. She has taught at the University of Dundee for 20 years, while also working as an educational consultant with a particular interest in Professionalism. She taught at the University of Melbourne and Monash University in the 1970s, then became Information Officer for the

Petitioning Delegation of Democratic Republic of East Timor at the UN in New York. As a Non-Governmental representative to the United Nations she testified frequently in the Trusteeship and Decolonization Committees. Her collated writings on the weapons tests are at www.rabbittreview.com.

[If booking for the **webinar**, the access link will be emailed on the day of the event. The webinar will commence at 5.30pm AEDT]

[**BOOK ONLINE HERE**](#)

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Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10.