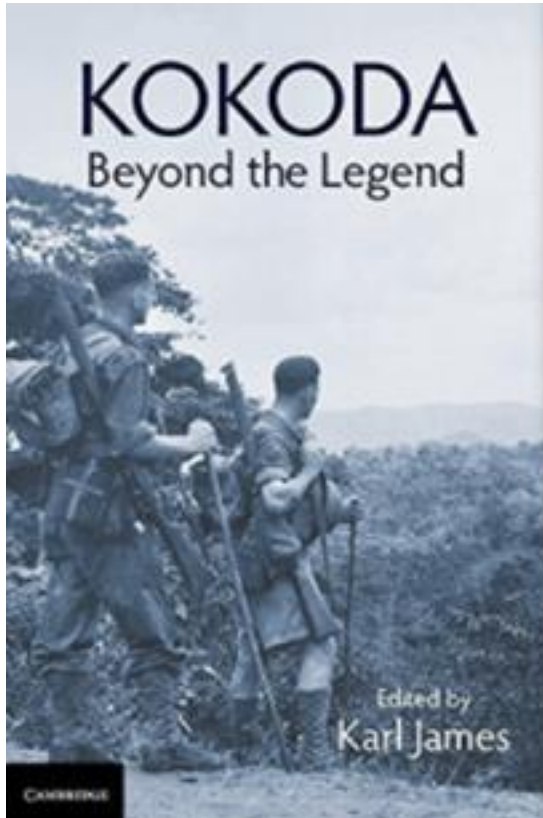


BRENDAN NELSON'S AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL PUBLISHES A FALSE AND SHAMEFUL DISTORTION OF KOKODA

The book "Kokoda beyond the Legend" contains chapters that deliberately, and without any historical justification, falsely diminish the magnificent Kokoda achievement in 1942 and falsely smear Australia's Kokoda heroes as lesser fighters than the Japanese they defeated on the Kokoda Track. The book was published despite timely warnings from Pacific War historian James Kenneth Bowen that the book would contain a false denial of the strategic importance of Kokoda and subject Australia's Kokoda heroes to vile and untrue smears.



Left: The book "Kokoda beyond the Legend" was published by the Australian War Memorial in 2017 to mark the 75th anniversary of the Kokoda fighting; RIGHT: Australian War Memorial director Brendan Nelson.

Kokoda is an iconic part of Australia's military history, and I believe that many Australians will resent Kokoda being tarnished falsely by the Australian War Memorial under Brendan Nelson. A detailed review and exposure of the shameful historical distortions contained in several chapters of this treatment of Kokoda may cause some Australians to feel that there has been a collapse of historical scholarship at the Australian War Memorial under director Brendan Nelson. Nelson has totally ignored written invitations from Pacific War historian James Kenneth Bowen to defend false and insulting claims in his book's treatment of Kokoda. He has also ignored a written suggestion that an apology is owed by him to Australians for publishing a false and insulting history of Kokoda in "Kokoda beyond the Legend."

(Source: The Kokoda Track website.)