



The actual involvement by Australian military forces in Britain's Egyptian campaigns of 1881 to 1899 was tiny – some five months overall including the pre-deployment phase. Sending the contingent has been seen as the most important expression of Australian nationalism in the nineteenth century.

The Sudan Contingent prefigures several themes which have emerged in Australia's military history over the past century or more. These include generally enthusiastic despatches of forces to conflicts which soon soured in the public mind; as a junior partner in coalition warfare; and in the way Australian soldiers captured overseas imagination in terms of a distinct image.

It was the first time the British Army operated in a dual role: to project a force against an enemy scattered over a vast area of inhospitable land; and support *and* protect civilian contractors on an engineering project. This posed its own challenges to the force commander and his planners.

The Sudan Campaign was very much an engineer's war, in which the erection of field works, the maintenance of communications; and the construction of pipe lines and railways were central to operations.

Speaker – Dr Michael Tyquin, author of *Sudan 1885*

Dr Michael Tyquin is a former army officer and is a consulting historian based in Tasmania. He joined the army in 1982 as a reservist in the 4/19 Prince of Wales Light Horse. Subsequent affiliations include the University of Melbourne Regiment, 5 Field Ambulance, 5 CSSB, HQ 3 Div, SOCOMD, Timor L'este, and ADFHQ. He is widely published in the spheres of military, medical and social history, with 13 books and numerous journal articles to his credit. He is the author of *Sudan 1885* (2015), part of the Australian Army Campaigns Series.

TIME AND VENUE: 10:30AM Saturday, 2 November 2024 at The Auditorium, Anzac Memorial Hyde Park, Hyde Park South, corner Elizabeth and Liverpool Streets, Sydney CBD.
Admission is free of charge but a donation would be appreciated. For information call 0419 698 783 or email: president@militaryhistorynsw.com.au