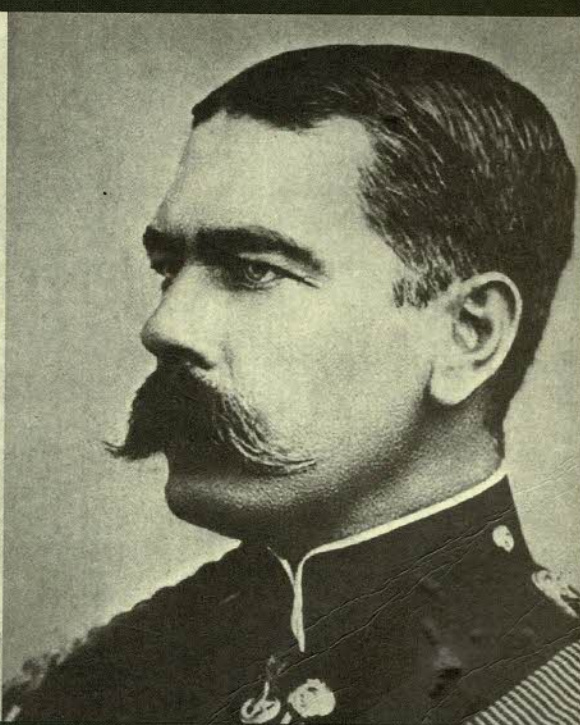
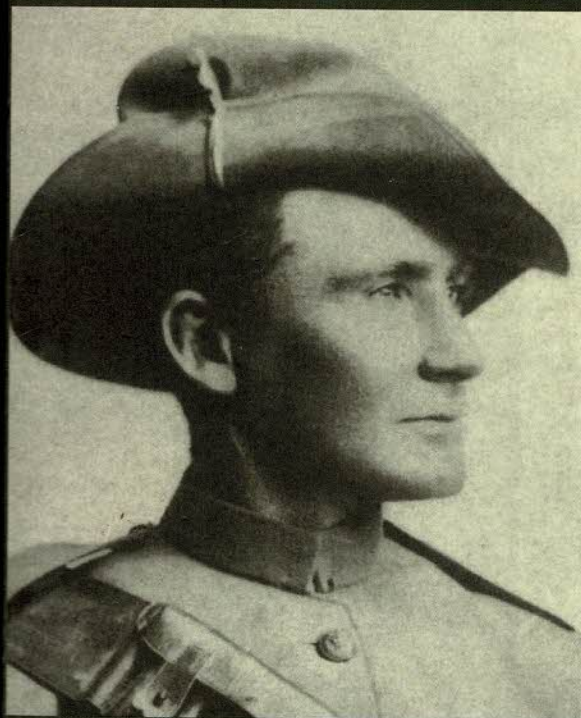


SHOOT STRAIGHT, YOU BASTARDS!



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The truth behind the killing of 'Breaker' Morant



Nick Bleszynski

Foreword by Tim Fischer

Murder or justice?

This question is still being fiercely debated a century after Lieutenant Harry Morant and Lieutenant Peter Handcock were shot on a lonely veldt outside Pretoria at dawn on 27 February 1902, by a British military firing squad. They were found guilty by court martial of murdering Boer prisoners, but claimed they received orders from Lord Kitchener to 'take no prisoners' — a charge both Kitchener and the British government denied.

In every war there is a character like Morant — a buckjumper, bush balladeer and rebellious spirit who ends up on the wrong side of the 'great cause'. Too many people have tried to stop the wheel of history by insisting that all has now been revealed but there's always more ... always, as this book will attest. The lies, deceit and political skulduggery that lay behind these executions are exposed here for the first time. In popular vernacular, 'shoot straight' means 'tell the truth' and there have been some *bastards* who haven't. Shocking and explosive, this is the story that Australians have waited a century to read!

'Shoot Straight, You Bastards! serves to dispatch forever the grab-bag of half-digested Breaker Morant truths ... a strong case to support the view that "being Australian" surely starts with a posthumous restoration of military honour for Morant and Handcock, scapegoats of the empire.'
Anthony Hoy,
THE BULLETIN



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