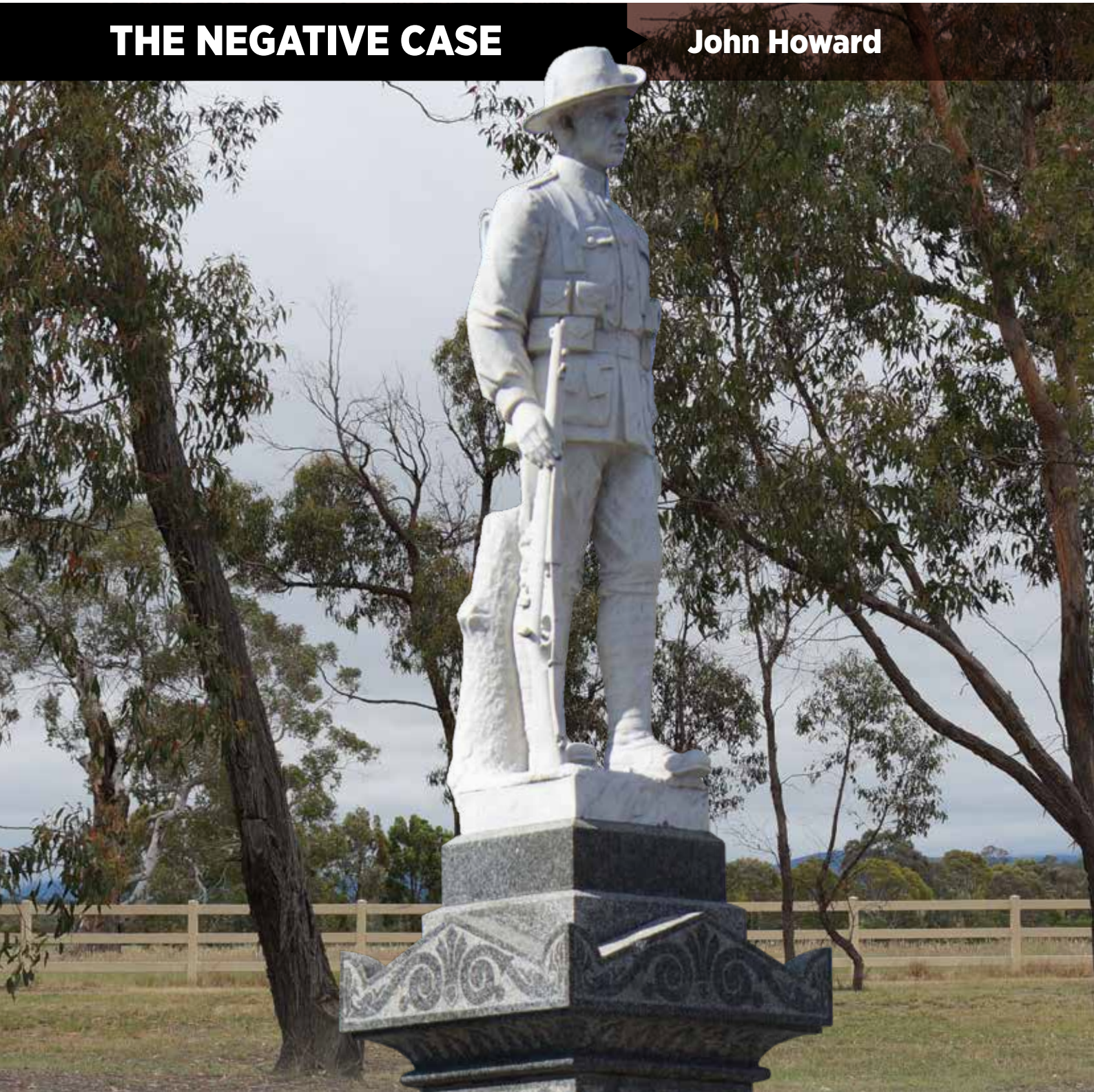


Great Debates: The Anzac Legend

That the Anzac legend is an idealised version of the truth

THE NEGATIVE CASE

John Howard



Great Debates: The Anzac legend

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Source Analysis Worksheet

Source	What is the source? Who created it?	What information does the source provide?	What argument does this provide your character?	What questions are you left asking?

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Background Information

John Howard

‘... they forged a legend whose grip on us grows tighter with each passing year’

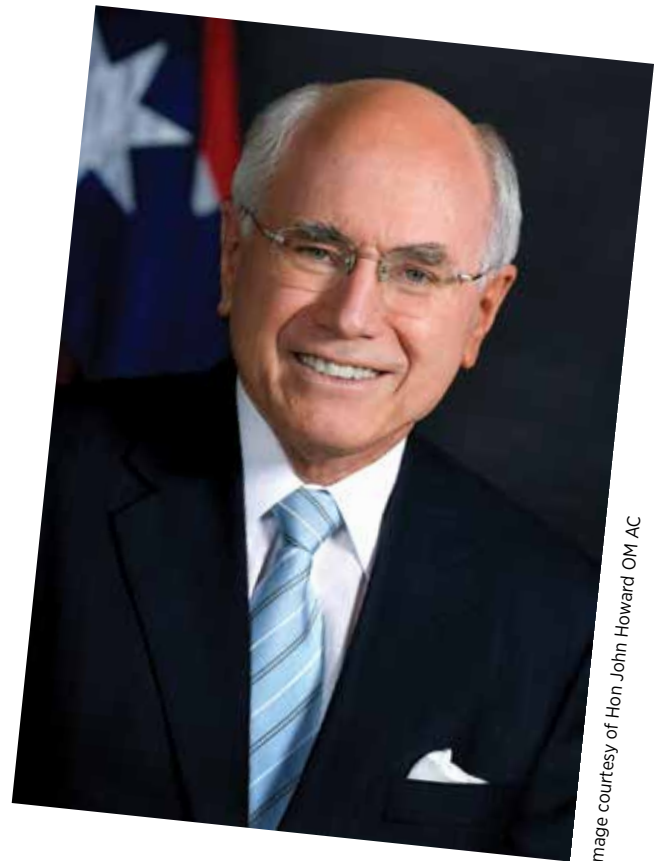


Image courtesy of Hon John Howard OM AC

John Howard was Australia's Prime Minister from March 1996 to December 2007, and he prioritised national security throughout these years. His government deployed many members of the Defence Force to serve in an Australian led international peacekeeping force in East Timor in 1999. In the years following the terrorist attacks in the United States on 11 September 2001, Howard committed Australian troops to wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

When he attended the Anzac Day services at Gallipoli in 2000, Prime Minister Howard noted the continuing importance of the Anzacs to Australia with the words 'Today's generations thank you for making this a free society. We thank you for the way of life that we all enjoy'. From Gallipoli he travelled to the Somme, where both his father and grandfather had served as Anzacs on the Western Front. Howard visited Anzac Cove again in 2005 for the 90th anniversary of the Anzac landings and has made further official and private pilgrimages to the Western Front.

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■ Source 3.1

Ninety years ago, as dawn began to break, the first sons of a young nation assailed these shores. These young Australians, with their New Zealand comrades, had come to do their bit in a maelstrom not of their making.

Over eight impossible months, they forged a legend whose grip on us grows tighter with each passing year. In the hills, ridges and gullies above us the Anzacs fought, died, dug in and hung on. Here they won a compelling place in the Australian story. Today we remember the 50,000 Australians who served in the Gallipoli campaign. And the more than 26,000 who fell or were wounded here ...

Extract from speech by Prime Minister John Howard at Dawn Service, Gallipoli, 25 April 2005

[parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/search/display/display.w3p;query=\(Id:media/pressrel/cbuf6\);rec=0](http://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/search/display/display.w3p;query=(Id:media/pressrel/cbuf6);rec=0)

■ Source 3.2



Les Cane and his granddaughter Jackie Cane attending the Anzac Day Memorial Service in Nowra NSW, 25 April 2012.

Department of Defence:
20120245ran8109938_192

images.defence.gov.au/assets/archives/5003-All%20Defence%20

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■ Source 3.3

The last of the Anzacs, Alec Campbell, died peacefully in Hobart last night. He was 103 ... Prime Minister John Howard described Mr Campbell as the last living link to that group of Australians that established the Anzac legend. 'It is a story of great valour under fire, unity of purpose and a willingness to fight against the odds that has helped to define what it means to be an Australian.'

'Last Anzac is Dead', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 17 May 2002

smh.com.au/articles/2002/05/16/1021544052449.html

■ Source 3.4



Mark Knight, 2011
Courtesy of Mark Knight

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■ Source 3.5



Braidwood war memorial, 2016

Image courtesy of Department of Veterans' Affairs.

■ Source 3.6

In 1984, Australia asked Turkey if the cove on the Gallipoli peninsula could be renamed Anzac Cove in memory of the Australian and New Zealand troops who died there in 1915 during the Gallipoli Campaign of World War One. The Turkish Government agreed to change the cove's name from Ari Burnu and also built a large monument to all those who died in the campaign. In return, the Australian and New Zealand governments agreed to build monuments in Canberra and Wellington to Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, who served as a divisional commander at Gallipoli and went on to become the first president of modern Turkey.

New Zealand Ministry of Culture and Heritage website

mch.govt.nz/nz-identity-heritage/national-monuments-war-graves/ata%C3%BCrk-memorial

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Glossary of terms

Anzac: Originally used to describe the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) that first formed in 1915, 'Anzac' was soon used to describe the men themselves.

Gallipoli: A peninsula located in Turkey where Australians fought in 1915.

Western Front: The central area of operations in Western Europe during the First World War.
