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**Perfect-bound 75 pages**

**Reviewer: Lt. Col. Neville Taylor RFD, April 2025**

Michael Garnett was born in Essex UK, served his National Service in the RAF and was posted to the Far East for operational service during the Malayan Emergency of the 1950's. After moving to Australia, he served for ten years as a reserve officer with No 21 (City of Melbourne) Squadron, RAAF. Currently resident in Romsey in Central Victoria, he has authored three monographs on local militia units, one on Yeomanry regiments and now, on the 80th year since the Victory in the Pacific, *Japan's Final Surrender*.

A concise and comprehensive history of Japanese aggression in China and on the Manchurian Peninsula brings the reader to the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbour. The British Navy lost its two battlecruisers as the Japanese swept down the Malay peninsula, and thousands of Allied forces became prisoners of war.

With each chapter kept short in length, the reader's interest has been maintained as each significant location, key figure and incident has been visited. Interspersed with the conditions of surrender and surrenders at different locations are descriptions of the Japanese treatment of those in their captivity and the fate of their leaders after the War Crimes Trials held in Tokyo. Not overlooked is the infamous 1944 Cowra Breakout that saw 231 Japanese internees and four Australian lives lost.

Written in a concise and readable style, the text has been generously supported by an excellent selection of photographs and coloured art works and is complimented by a detailed *Table of Contents* and *Index*.

A fine monograph to help us remember the events of eight decades ago.