

Chigumi KAWAGUCHI, Japan

“The Development of Military Professionalism in Australia: the Establishment of the ADFA”

Key words

military professionalization, Australian Defence Force, military officer corps, civil military relations

Abstract

The purpose of this study is to clarify a feature of Australian military professionalization by focusing on the development of professional military education (PME) in Australia. The theory of military professionalization is largely based on European case studies, with Australia outside of its primary focus. The establishment of the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA), which is part of the Australian Defence Force military education system, was the subject of a long debate among military officer, politicians, and bureaucrats that ended with a joint service and the designation of a non-military and purely academic institution, the University of New South Wales, as the provider of tertiary education and training for cadet officers of the Australian Defence Force. I argue that the uniqueness of this professional military education system and the relations between military officers and civilians during its establishment are essential in understanding military professionalization in Australia. As part of this discussion, I focus on the ADFA's establishment process from about 1950 to 1986.

The term military profession refers to the ‘military officer corps’ that emerged with the birth in the 18th century of the European sovereign state, which needed sophisticated, state-controlled skills in the ‘managing of violence’ to win wars. In his classic study, *The Soldier and the State*, Samuel P. Huntington presents the five key institutional changes necessary for military professionalization. One of the changes, the change in the military educational system is essential for professionalization of military. It developed the professional military education system which forms of qualified and state-controlled professional officers with special skills in managing violence, thus ending the feudal and aristocratic military organizations of the Old Regime.

I apply Huntington's military professionalization theory to clarify the Australian military professionalization process by focusing on the establishment of the unique, diarchic military education system of the ADFA. The process of changing military education normally starts with military officers and develops among them. However, changes in the security environment of Australia during the 1970-80s and the functional and social imperatives of the military required the inclusion of civilians in the establishment of the ADFA. In brief, change in the military education system was initiated by non-military actors, such as bureaucrats and politicians, and not only by military officers. To clarify the process, I concentrate on the policy decision process that created the ADFA by exploring the types of actors who were involved; the interactions among them, especially those of military officers and civilians; and the decisive factors in building this educational system. To deepen the analysis, I make comparisons to the cases of Canada and

Japan.

This study strengthens the theory of military professionalism by bringing Australia into focus. Moreover, it deepens the theory on this subject through its use of policy process analysis as a research approach.

KAWAGUCHI, Chigumi

KAWAGUCHI Chigumi is a former junior research fellow of Graduate School of Security Studies, National Defense Academy, and currently working at Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs as international peace cooperation researcher. Her research topics are Peace Operations, Military Professionalism, Civil-Military Relations, and Military Professional Education. In her doctoral thesis, she has done comparative analysis of policy decision process of changing professional military education (PME) system after the end of cold war in Australia, Canada, and Sweden. As a result, she found that military involvement of the PME policy process as a policy actor is a key valuable for the change. She currently published a book *Comprehensive Approach for International Peace Activities-Development of Japanese Collaboration System*. Also a paper in English to read is "Transformation of UNPKO and Japanese Military Contribution from 1992 to 2009." (You can find it at http://www.pko.go.jp/pko_e/organization/researcher/pdf/01-sato.pdf)