

Could this be the most important novel we at Shawline have ever published?

It just might be, because it includes an important message for the people we entrust with the defence of our nation. Read on and we'll explain.

Our new book, "The Thirty Sixth Eagle", by Jeff Muller, is back in stock. The first two print runs sold out within weeks, but now we are now filling back-orders.

Why did it sell out so quickly? Well, apart from being one of those novels that once you begin you don't want to put it down, it has a message, and that message just could be prophetic.

In 1924, seventeen years before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour, US Army General William Mitchell predicted that the Japanese would use air-power to make a surprise attack on the ships of the US Navy. His superiors scoffed, saying that it was impossible for aircraft to sink battleships.

In 1925, just one year later, British naval analyst Hector Bywater wrote a novel, "the Great Pacific War," outlining just how the Japanese could make good Mitchell's prediction. He even spelled out how

and where they would make these surprise attacks, including on Pearl Harbour and Manila Bay.

Fast forward 82 years from that "day of infamy", and the Japanese are now our trusted and reliable allies. Unfortunately, under a communist regime that repays goodwill from the west with aggression, the People's Republic of China has ramped up tension with western powers, including Australia, to the point that war really is a distinct possibility.

If the unthinkable should happen, will the PRC play by the rules? You'd think not, especially after President Xi Jinping's compatriot, Vladimir Putin, kept assuring the world that the Russian army was simply holding exercises, right up until the day of the invasion of Ukraine.

The 36th Eagle begins with a scenario that is entirely plausible. In it, PLC operatives make a series of crippling blows on Australia, and get away scot-free.



The author has been flying for 55 years. He has lots of good stories about his flying experiences.

How did they do that? Easy. They walked in whilst our defence bases were closed for the weekend.

You might dismiss that as an impossibility, but read on.

On a Sunday some years ago, Jeff and a fellow flying enthusiast were exercising their two World War Two AT-6 Harvard aircraft. They flew in formation from Bankstown to Cessnock airport, then, on the spur of the moment, decided to deviate to the RAAF Williamtown air base on their way home.

To their surprise, they taxied up to the rows of the RAAF's then frontline F/A-18 Hornet fighters without challenge. They were instead greeted by two off-duty servicemen, who were as keen to look at the two WW2 aircraft as Jeff and his mate were to look at the Hornets. Not only did they then get a full

tour of the jets and the RAAF base, but they got to fly both Hornet and BAC Hawk simulators.

At one stage during the afternoon, Jeff asked if there was any base security. "Yes, a night watchman comes on at 6pm."

"Is he armed?"

"No, but he's got an alsation dog."

About two years ago Jeff met a building contractor who'd just completed a project at the same airbase. Jeff related this story. The contractor laughed.

"Nothing has changed," he said. "If the Chinese were to come on the weekend, they could take the whole base without firing a shot!"



It was in this beautifully-restored 1942 AT-6 Harvard that Jeff flew into RAAF Williamtown. In this photo he's near Queensland's Gold Coast, preparing to make a mock attack on Sanctuary Cove as part of an air display. Jeff flew this aircraft for the 2001 remake of the movie "South Pacific", and in 1996 he introduced both Tom Cruise and Patrick Swayze to WW2 -era aircraft in it.

So just who is Jeff Muller? Jeff is well known in the aviation world. He has served as director for the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, Australian Warbirds Ltd, and the Historic Aircraft Restoration Society. He is a current member of the Gliding Federation of Australia.



For many years, Jeff flew this replica WW2 Japanese Zero at air shows in Qld, NSW, and Victoria.

The aircraft had been built for the 1960's movie, "Tora Tora Tora". It was the lead aircraft in all the action and close-up scenes. It also appeared in several other WW2 movies, including Empire of the Sun.



One of Jeff's favourite aeroplanes is this 1943 SNJ. It has belonged to close friends of his since 1985. Here he's sitting in the cockpit preparing to start-up, whilst the owner gives him some last-minute tips.

This aircraft features in one chapter of "The 36th Eagle", where Jeff uses a real-life experience to add authenticity to the book.



Another of Jeff's favourites is the L-39. This one came from the Ukraine.

The L-39 is used in many countries as a fighter-trainer and light-attack jet.

Jeff's wife Liz likes the L-39 also.



Since their flights together, Tom Cruise has invited Jeff to “come fly the Mustang with me,” but he hasn’t done so yet.

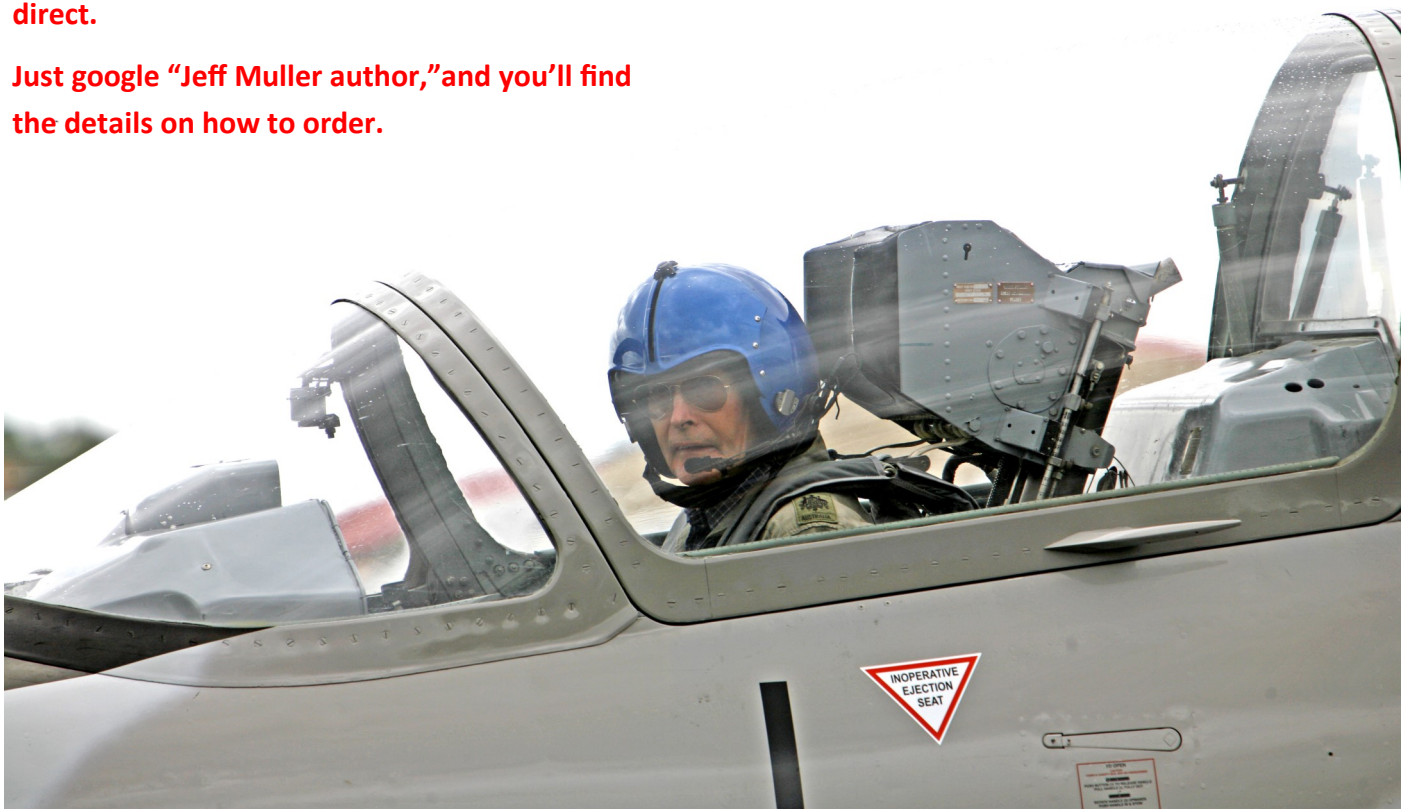
That’s Jeff on the left, in his younger days. Now, with 55 years of flying behind him, he prefers more relaxing jaunts than the high speed and G-forces of fighter jets.

Below: Liz and Jeff at Narromine Gliding Club, November 2023.



If you’d like your own copy of “the Thirty Sixth Eagle”, it is available through Booktopia, Amazon, select bookshops, and from Shawline direct.

Just google “Jeff Muller author,”and you’ll find the details on how to order.



When you read “The Thirty Sixth Eagle,” you’ll feel like you are right in the cockpit with Jeff’s leading character.