Lieutenant-General Sir Frank Berryman is one of the most important, yet relatively unknown officers in the history of the Australian Army. Despite his reputedly caustic personality and noted conflicts with some senior officers, Berryman was crucial to Australia’s success during the Second World War. But did the man known as ‘Berry the Bastard’ deserve his reputation?

Bold, calculating and talented, Berryman was at the forefront of operations that led to the defeat of the Japanese, and his operational planning secured Australia’s victories at Bardia, Tobruk and in New Guinea during the Pacific War.

With access to rare private papers, Peter Dean charts Berryman’s special relationships with senior US and Australian officers such as MacArthur, Chamberlin, Blamey, Lavarack and Morshhead, and explains why the man poised to become the next Chief of General Staff would never fulfil his ambition.

Peter J Dean is Manager of the Office of Research at the University of Notre Dame in Sydney.
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For my family

John, Ann and Sharon
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ABBREVIATIONS

AA&QMG Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General (divisional staff)
ABC Australian Broadcasting Commission (now Corporation)
ABDA American, British, Dutch Australian (Command)
ADC aide-de-camp
ADFA Australian Defence Force Academy
Adv GHQ Advanced General Headquarters
Adv LHQ Advanced Headquarters Allied Land Forces
Adv NGF HQ Advanced New Guinea Force Headquarters
AHQ Army Headquarters
AIF Australian Imperial Force
AMF Australian Military Forces
ANGAU Australian New Guinea Administration Unit
ANZAC Australian and New Zealand Army Corps
Arty Artillery
Aust Australia
AWM Australian War Memorial
Bde Brigade
Berry Berryman, Frank Horton
BFP Berryman Family Papers
BGS Brigadier General Staff (corps staff)
BM Brigade Major (brigade staff)
BMRA Brigade Major, Royal Artillery
Bn Battalion
Brig Brigadier
Bty Battery
Capt Captain
CB Companion of the Order of the Bath
CBE Commander of the Order of the British Empire
CCRA Commander, Corps Royal Artillery
CGS Chief of the General Staff
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<tr>
<td>CIGS</td>
<td>Chief of the Imperial General Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-in-C</td>
<td>Commander-in-Chief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMF</td>
<td>Citizen Military Forces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO</td>
<td>commanding officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comd</td>
<td>Commander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coy</td>
<td>Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRA</td>
<td>Commander, Royal Artillery (division)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRE</td>
<td>Commander, Royal Engineers (division)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DA&amp;QMG</td>
<td>Deputy Adjutant and Quartermaster General (corps staff)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAQMG</td>
<td>Deputy Assistant Quartermaster General (divisional staff)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCGS</td>
<td>Deputy Chief of the General Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Div</td>
<td>Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DSO</td>
<td>Distinguished Service Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESB</td>
<td>Engineering Special Brigade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAB</td>
<td>Field Artillery Brigade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FHB</td>
<td>Frank Horton Berryman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forland</td>
<td>Forward Echelon of Adv LHQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FSR</td>
<td>Field Service Regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fwd</td>
<td>Forward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GHQ</td>
<td>General Headquarters, SWPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOC</td>
<td>General Officer Commanding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSO1</td>
<td>General Staff Officer Grade 1 (also G1, divisional staff)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSO2</td>
<td>General Staff Officer Grade 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSO3</td>
<td>General Staff Officer Grade 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HQ</td>
<td>Headquarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inf</td>
<td>Infantry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IO</td>
<td>Intelligence officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joint Chiefs</td>
<td>US Joint Chiefs of Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KBE</td>
<td>Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KCB</td>
<td>Knight Commander of the Bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L of C</td>
<td>Lines of Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landops</td>
<td>alternative name for Advanced Headquarters Allied Land Forces (Adv LHQ); headed by Blamey</td>
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<tr>
<td>LHCMA</td>
<td>Liddell Hart Centre for Military Archives, Kings College, London</td>
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<tr>
<td>LHQ</td>
<td>Land Headquarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LO</td>
<td>liaison officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lt Col</td>
<td>Lieutenant-Colonel</td>
</tr>
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ABBREVIATIONS

Maj  Major
MC  Military Cross
ME  Middle East
MG  machine gun
MGGS  Major-General General Staff
MMMA  MacArthur Memorial Archives, Norfolk, Virginia
MS  manuscript
MT  Motor Transport
NAA  National Archives of Australia
NCO  non-commissioned officer
NEI  Netherland East Indies
NGF  New Guinea Force
NLA  National Library of Australia
OC  Officer Commanding (company, battery)
OO  Operations Order
OP  Observation Post
Pl  platoon
Posn  position
PRO  Public Record Office (Kew, London; now the National Archives)
RAA  Royal Australian Artillery
Recce  Reconnaissance
Regt  Regiment
RMC  Royal Military College
RMO  Regimental Medical Officer
RNF  Royal Northumberland Fusiliers
RSL  Returned Servicemen’s League
RTR  Royal Tank Regiment
SEAC  South East Asia Command
Sigs  Signals
SLNSW  State Library, New South Wales
SWPA  South West Pacific Area
TAB  Thomas Albert Blamey
TEWT  Tactical Exercise Without Troops
Tps  troops
VC  Victoria Cross
VPRO  Victorian Public Records Office
US  United States
WO  Warrant Officer
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