



MISSION IMPROBABLE **The Transformation of the British Army Reserve**

By
Patrick Bury

Future attempts to transform the reserve have plenty to take from Bury's study.

General Sir Peter Wall, GCB CBE DL

The book's findings are both fascinating and also potentially incendiary.

Professor Anthony King

...this should be the 'go to' book for the latest thinking into one of the most marginalised, but highly politicised, populations – Reservists.

Professor Vincent Connelly

About the Book

A central tenet of recent British defence policy, FR20 sought to radically transform the role and function of the British Army Reserve by making it more capable and more deployable, whilst simultaneously cutting costs by outsourcing logistics capability to reserve forces. In this book, Bury examines the origins, evolution and impact of the policy. He controversially shows how its intensely intra-party and intra-service political origins, the Army's resistance to them, and the Army Reserves' organisational nature, have undermined the policy's ability to deliver the key military capabilities it envisaged. In doing so, he provides evidence of incoherent defence policy making in the Cameron era.

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Why should I read it?

This is the most in depth analysis of the British Army reserves in over 25 years. Provides a key example of force transformation not seen since the abolition of conscription in 1960. Likely to become the standard 'go to' in a similar way that Walker's book on the TA became in the 1990s. With controversial findings backed by extensive research, it's a captivating read with some interesting and pertinent conclusions for the leadership of the British Army plus a number of lessons on how not to do transformation.

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