

Preface and Acknowledgements

This book brings together 85 documents from the Russian State Archives of Social and Political History (RGASPI), selected and introduced by us from a collection of thousands of documents concerning the relations between the Communist International and the Communist Party of Australia. The entirety of the collection we surveyed is deposited at the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) Library in Canberra, and is available for public consultation. In the first place, we must thank RGASPI's Director, Dr Kirill Anderson, for permitting the Archive to be reproduced, sent to Australia, edited for publication, and made publicly available: the documents add another important dimension to the story of the early Communist Party of Australia. In this process, the preliminary work of Dr Konstantin Samarin and the late Professor Patrick O'Brien was invaluable.

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Some of the material in the introductory essays, and parts of some documents relating to Aleksandr Zuzenko, have been adapted for use in work published on related topics by Lovell and Windle respectively since 2003. We are grateful to the publishers for permission to re-use this material: *Australian Slavonic and East European Studies*, publishers of Windle's 2004 "The Achilles Heel of British Imperialism": A Comintern agent reports on his mission to Australia 1920–22.

An annotated translation', *ASEES*, 18:1–2, pp. 143–76; Crawford House Publishing, publishers of Lovell's 2007 essay 'Strained Relations: Russia, Australia and the Comintern, 1920–40', in A. Massov, J. McNair and T. Poole (eds), *Encounters Under the Southern Cross: Two Centuries of Russian-Australian Relations, 1807–2007*, pp. 163–184; and Quadrant Magazine Co. Inc., publishers of Lovell's 2008 essay "'Unswerving Loyalty": documenting Australian communist relations with Moscow, 1920–40', *Quadrant*, LII:5, pp. 80–86.

Cataloguing the CAAL documents, making the selection presented in this book, and researching the supporting materials, has taken us much longer than we had expected, largely because of the intrusion of other duties (both of us spending much of the period as Heads of our respective Schools). We are particularly grateful to our wives for enduring the book's lengthy gestation with good humour.

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