

Michael Stilwell Flynn

The recent AUKUS media event has alerted us to the risks of war and the US control of the ADF and our policy process in foreign policy and defence. China is in the frame of US activity that is designed to increase both US and Australian defence spending. This will shift some of our spend from Europe to the US. I have two major concerns. First, the malign effect of the Five Eyes intelligence vetting of the process of recruitment. This is secret and the effect is that the US dominates who is appointed here to sensitive positions. I see no prospect of change for the better. Perhaps an article for ASPI enhances job prospects.

Second, our public is ignorant of the risks of being targeted if the US goes to war again. US cities are now at risk but US voters believe war is foreign not at home. We have no news here of Pine Gap as a target.