

George Gittoes, Sergeant Jodie Clark pencil on paper drawn in Bundeena, NSW in 1993 acquired in 1993

(Accession number 90114) Australian War Memorial

Sergeant Jodie Clark George Gittoes



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About the artwork:

George Gittoes travelled to Cambodia in 1993. While there, he created a number of images of the plight of ordinary Cambodians rebuilding their lives in a war-torn land. In addition to this, he recorded the day-to-day activities of the peacekeeping forces in Cambodia during the country's elections.

As an artist documenting the Cambodian elections, Gittoes was provided with access to the military component of the UNTAC operations. On the eve of the elections, he flew to Battambang, where he was based with the military personnel in their compound. Here he was able to witness the activities surrounding the elections. One of these activities involved Sergeant Jodie Clark supervising the unloading of a train. In this work, she is depicted on a motorbike, talking to another peacekeeper.

Questions:

- 1. What are people doing in this painting?
- 2. What skills would Jodie need to be able to do her job well?
- 3. Why is it an important job?
- 4. How can Jodie get away without wearing a helmet?
- 5. Should she be able to get away with not wearing a helmet?
- 6. Look at the man and child behind Jodie. What has happened to them?