



Mark Knight

The King of the World

Herald Sun, 21 February 2024

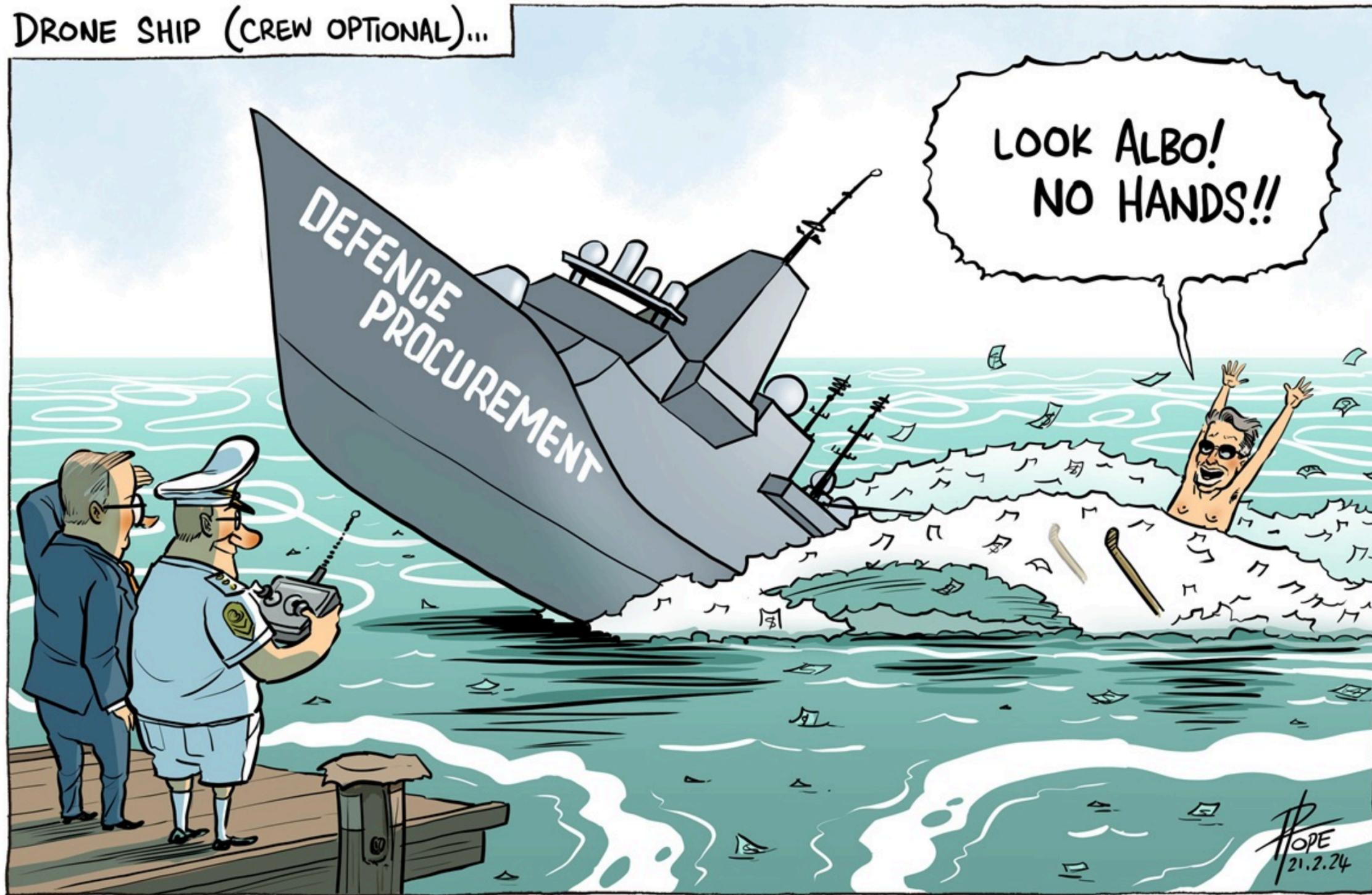
For Mark Knight, the government's plan for the RAN, scheduled to cost \$11 billion over a decade, presented an opportunity to refer to one of Hollywood's highest-grossing films, *Titanic* (1996). The plan includes six new warships capable of being operated remotely. Knight's cartoon has the Prime Minister and a naval officer taking their hands off the wheel to re-create the famous scene from the film featuring Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio.

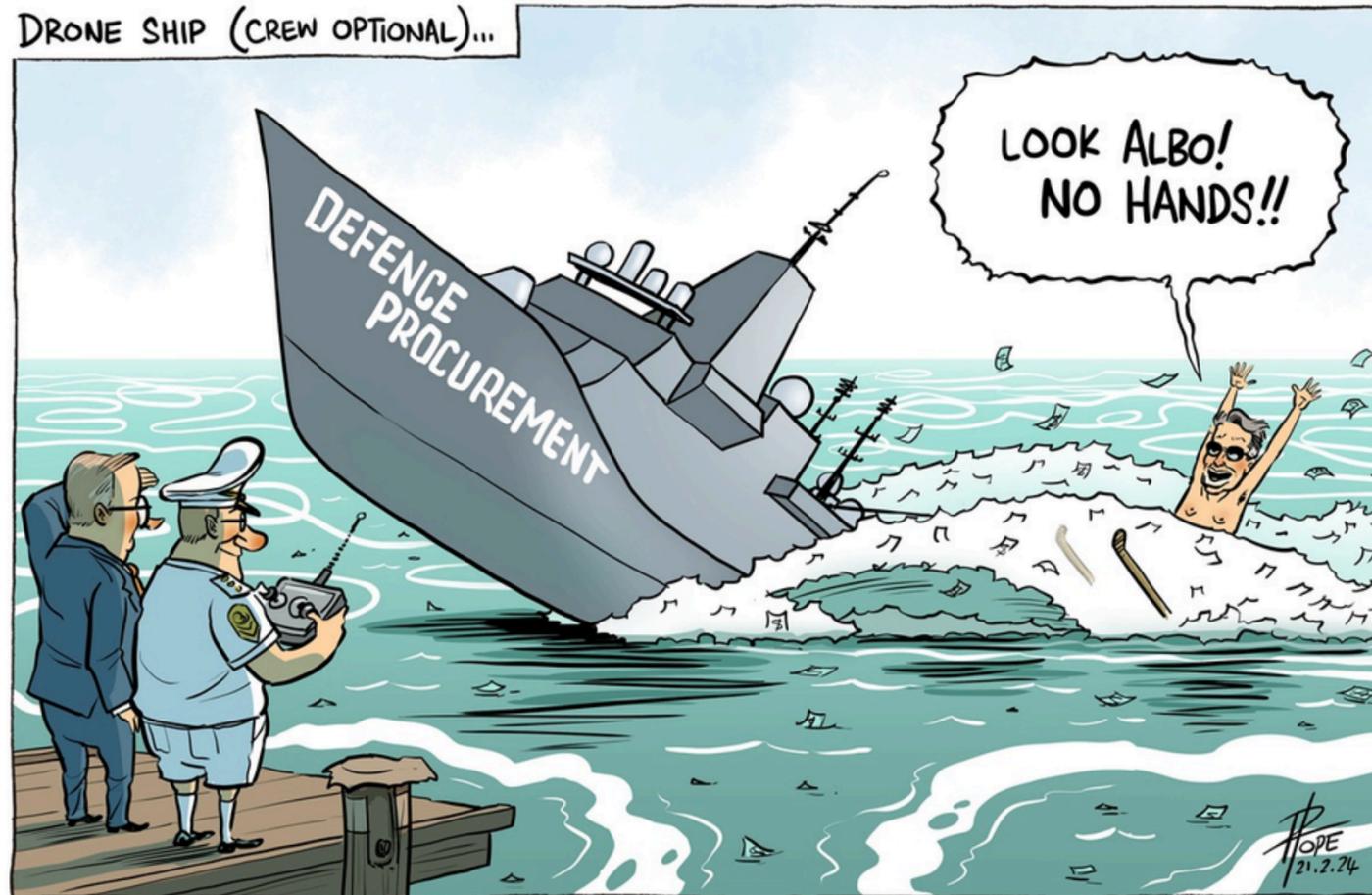
Look Closely:

- Describe what is happening in this cartoon.
- What do you notice about how this cartoon has been created?
- What connections can you make with issues you already know about?

Dig Deeper: How might the techniques used in this piece be intended to support the cartoonist's message? What impact does this have on us as readers?

Take Action! Create your own piece of media to present your point of view on this topic.





David Pope

Drone Ship

The Canberra Times, 21 February 2024

In February the federal government delivered its plan for the future of the Royal Australian Navy's surface combatant fleet. The new fleet includes six new large optionally crewed surface vessels (LOSVs) that can be operated remotely. David Pope has Defence Minister Richard Marles treating one of the ships like a jet ski, suggesting this may be an extravagant purchase.

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Johannes Leak

Heavy Hitters

The Australian, 11 August 2025

On 9 August Foreign Minister Penny Wong issued a joint statement with her counterparts in eight countries, including New Zealand, Canada and the United Kingdom, rejecting Israel's decision to escalate its military offensive in Gaza. This was followed two days later by the Australian Government's momentous decision to recognise a Palestinian state. Despite the announcements, Johannes Leak suggests Australia is a middleweight power at best.

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Cathy Wilcox

Barbarians

Nine Papers, 13 September 2024

On 11 September around 1,200 protesters gathered in Melbourne to protest outside the Land Forces 2024 International Land Defence Exposition, a global military convention. Activists claimed there were weapons on display that had been used in the war in Gaza. Around 100 of the protestors were injured in clashes with Victoria Police officers.

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