Twitter Thread by Jack Latimore



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This week marks 12 months since Josephine Cashman supplied Andrew Bolt with a letter falsely attributed to a Yolngu lawman that Bolt published via NewsCorp on Jan 26 as parcel of his persecution of Bruce Pascoe. Cashman & Bolt still haven't provided a satisfactory explanation

Terry Yumbulul didn't write the letter and didn't agree with its content. He said so himself in a video published the next day https://t.co/IJ6ricZeRi and in a written statement published later the same day

The weird thing was, it soon emerged that large sections of the letter had been cribbed from other sources. Weird because as a Yolngu lawman, Terry didn't need to borrow his knowledge from unrelated, alternate sources ... pretty much verbatim https://t.co/mICkFNiJQN

The fallout was swift. Bolt was compelled to do a correction on his column and Cashman was just as swiftly dumped from her position of the Morrison government's Senior Advisory Group for an Indigenous Voice to Government

There was no apology from either of them or from NewsCorp tho, and with the assistance of Sky News After Dark they desperately attempted to obfuscate the reality that everybody involved had been caught out and left red faced

In the last 12 months I've asked Bolt several times to explain what he knew about the letter at the time, what he had been told about it etc etc. Bolt never responds

I've also asked Cashman, as have other journalists. Cashman can't get her story straight. I've also spoken with one other person v. close to Cashman who told me that herself and other people were involved in drafting the latter falsely attributed to Terry Yumbulul.

I have contemporaneous notes of that conversation taken while on the phone, and I again asked Bolt via email if he was aware of this when he published the letter in Terry Yumbulul's name. Bolt never responded.

Anyway, it's weird what comes up around January 26