

Military Historical Society of Australia
Sabretache



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SABRETACHE

the Journal of

The Military Research & Collectors Society of Australia
(formerly Military Collectors Society of Australia)

Number 6.

July 1959

Officers for Year Ending 30/6/60:

HONORARY COMMITTEE.

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Mr. A. N. Festberg, 2 Springfield Ave, TOORAK, Vic.
Phone BJ3584.

THE BADGE.

Inset on the flap of our Sabretache is a representation of the Society's badge, which is based on the formation sign of 21st. Army Group.

THE BLAZON.

Argent, a cross gules engrailed or, charged overall with swords in saltire of the same; all within an orle gules bordered gold.

BADGES.

Lapel badges may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary for 5/- each. Cuff links bearing the badge are available also for 12/6 per pair.

MEMBERSHIP.

Membership of the Society is by annual subscription, payable on the 1st July in each year.

Subscription rates are fixed annually, and for the current year are:

Adult members- £1.1.0 or \$2.50 US.
Junior members
(under 18 years)- half rate.

SABRETACHE.

Subject to availability, additional copies of written articles may be obtained from the Editor. A number of these are available at present, some illustrated.

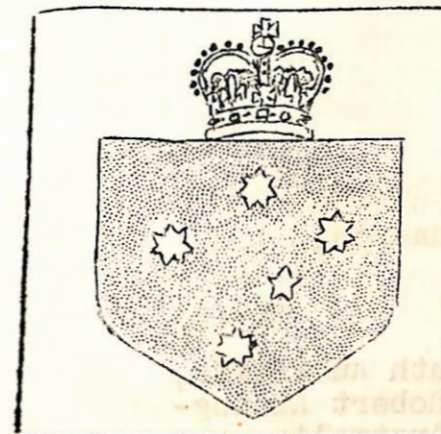
Back numbers of SABRETACHE if available will be supplied to members on demand for 3/- per copy. SABRETACHE is not for sale to non-members.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Members' advertisements may be inserted for a flat rate of 5/- per advertisement, except trade ads., which will be the subject of special arrangements with the Secretary.

MEETINGS.

Held on the Third Friday in each month, at places notified in each issue of SABRETACHE.



SOUTHERN COMMAND
COMMEMORATIVE BALL,
18 June 1959.

THE FIRST HUNDRED YEARS.

On July 15, 1859, the Governor of the Colony of Victoria, Sir Henry Barkly, K.C.B., issued two proclamations to raise a Volunteer Corps in Victoria. At that time a few independent Volunteer units of various kinds, raised under the Victorian "Volunteer Act of 1854", already existed as an outcome of fears of invasion by Russia during the Crimean War.

The proclamation specified the units to be raised and called on "Our loyal and faithful subjects resident in Victoria to enrol themselves and be prepared to assemble for the purpose of drill and instruction at times and places appointed".

The Corps was placed under the inspection and control of the Deputy Adjutant General of the forces, Lt. Col. J. M. B. Neill, an Imperial Staff Officer on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief in Australia whose headquarters was then in Melbourne. A few days later, however, Lt. Col. Neill died following a fall from his horse, and Capt. G. Dean Pitt, the Inspecting Field Officer and Military Secretary, an officer of the 80th Foot (South Staffordshire Regiment) was appointed to the task of raising the Volunteer Corps and was designated "Colonel of Volunteers". Capt. Pitt, subsequently promoted to Colonel, remained in this office until he joined his regiment on active service in New Zealand in 1862.

1959 is thus the centenary of the establishment of the Victorian Military Forces. This Command, changing throughout the years according to circumstances, continued after the withdrawal of the Imperial garrisons from Australia, in 1870, until it became what it is today---
Southern Command.

Taken from the souvenir programme
prepared for the Ball.

6/2.

CEREMONIAL PARADE

No.24(City of Adelaide)(Fighter) Squadron,
R.A.A.F.

At a ceremonial parade held at Mallala, South Australia, on Sunday, 15th. March, 1959, His Excellency Sir Robert Allingham George, KCV0, KBE, CB, MC, Governor of South Australia, presented to No.24(City of Adelaide)(Fighter) Squadron, the Winged Sword Emblem of the recently disbanded No.601 (County of London)(Aux.) Squadron, R.A.F.

The Emblem was accepted on behalf of No.24(City of Adelaide) Squadron by Group Captain R.M.Rechner, DFC, ADC, Citizen Air Force Member of the Air Board, who was responsible for the affiliation of No.601(County of London) Squadron and No.24(City of Adelaide) Squadron.

The Emblem is now displayed in the Officers' Mess of No.24(City of Adelaide) Squadron.

At the same parade two Pilot Officers were presented with their Flying Badges, and Corporal Lawrie, C.G. received the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

This information and the two squadron histories contained in the following pages were supplied by the courtesy of the Commanding Officer of No.24(City of Adelaide) Squadron; and the illustration of the Badge of No. 24 (City of Adelaide) Squadron by courtesy of R.A.A.F. Headquarters.....

HISTORY OF NO. 24 (CITY OF ADELAIDE) SQUADRON

1. No. 24 Squadron was first formed as a general purpose squadron at Amberley, Queensland, on the 17th June, 1940. As initial strength, the squadron comprised six officers and 33 airmen and had four Wirraway aircraft. During the latter half of 1940, the squadron also converted onto Hudson aircraft and moved to Townsville, where it commenced seasearch operations.



2. In December, 1941, No. 24 Squadron, equipped with Hudson and Wirraways, was moved to Rabaul for operations as an Advanced Striking Force against the rapidly approaching Japanese forces. The enemy carried out feeler raids in early January, 1942, but it was not until the 20th January that they raided in strength. On that day, a force of 100 enemy bombers with fighter escort, bombed wharves, gun posts, shipping, civil and military installations and the airstrips.

3. For the next two days, heavy raids continued with No. 24 Squadron gallantly giving battle to the enemy until the general evacuation was ordered on the 22nd January, 1942. In the brief period of its action against the enemy, the squadron had lost ten Wirraways, four Hudsons and ten members of air crew.

4. After the debacle at Rabaul, the squadron was reformed at Townsville with Wirraway and Airocobra aircraft. In February, 1943, it was temporarily equipped with Spitfires but in June that year these were withdrawn and it was re-armed with Vultee Vengeance Dive-Bombers and some Brewster Buffaloes.

5. On the 30th August, 1943, eighteen aircraft and crews proceeded on Active Service to New Guinea in support of the 9th Australian Division in the Sattelberg area. During the first three months of 1944, RAAF units which included No. 24 Squadron were engaged in support of the 6th and 7th AIF Divisions in the closing stages of the Huon Gulf campaign. During these months the squadron carried out 33 missions and made 307 sorties without crew loss and with great damage to enemy installations and personnel.

6. After operations in New Guinea, No. 24 Squadron was moved to Lowood, Queensland and was re-armed as a heavy bomber unit with B24 Liberator aircraft. After training, the squadron was moved to Fenton in North-West Australia and from there carried out very effective attacks against the enemy in the Netherlands East Indies and Portuguese Timor.

7. In May, 1945, the majority of No. 24 Squadron aircrew were sent to Morotai. From this base they made heavy raids on enemy occupied bases in Borneo and the Netherlands East Indies. However, these activities were brought to a close on the 15th August, 1945, by the cessation of the war. No. 24 Squadron was then moved to Tocumwal, New South Wales, in December, 1945, and in May, 1946, it was disbanded.
8. In April, 1951, the squadron was reactivated as a Citizen Air Force Squadron under the name of No. 24 (City of Adelaide) (Fighter) Squadron and was commanded by Wing Commander R. M. Rechner, DFC. It was stationed at Mallala, South Australia, and was equipped with Mustang and Wirraway aircraft and commenced training Citizen Air Force pilots. This training is still going on and the same aircraft are in use.
9. In July, 1955, the squadron was advised that Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Second, had been pleased to approve an affiliation between No. 24 (City of Adelaide) Squadron and No. 601 (County of London) Squadron, Royal Auxiliary Air Force. This affiliation was largely brought about by the personal efforts of Wing Commander Rechner when he was in England as a member of the RAAF Coronation Contingent.
10. The purpose of the affiliation was to foster a closer relationship between the affiliated squadrons by a regular exchange of information about training and social activities and by the extension of hospitality to members visiting each others country.
11. Marshal of the Royal Air Force, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh was the Honorary Air Commodore of No. 601 (County of London) Squadron and Air Vice Marshal, Sir Robert George, KCVO, KBE, CB, MC, the Governor of South Australia is the Honorary Air Commodore of No. 24 (City of Adelaide) (Fighter) Squadron.
12. Squadron Leader S. Bradford DFC is the present Commanding Officer of No. 24 (City of Adelaide) (Fighter) Squadron. He took over command on the 12th January, 1959. He served in the South-West Pacific Area during the last war with No. 86 and No. 75 Squadrons, and was a member of the Occupation Force in Japan until 1950. He saw service in Korea with No. 77 Squadron and also in Malta with No. 78 (Fighter) Wing where he was the last Commanding Officer of No. 76 Squadron. He has just recently completed the RAAF Staff College at Point Cook.

HISTORY OF NO. 601 (COUNTY OF LONDON) SQUADRON

1. No. 601 Squadron was first formed at Northolt, England on the 14th October, 1925, and the first Commanding Officer was Squadron Leader Lord Edward Grosvenor. During the first year of operation it won the coveted Esher Trophy, awarded to most efficient unit of the Auxiliary Air Forces. It also repeated this performance in 1928.



2. The year 1928 was characterised by the squadron's part in the annual Air Defence Exercise. No. 601 Squadron was attached to the "East Forces" and made a number of successful raids flying DH9 aircraft and late one afternoon, successfully "bombed" the Air Ministry from "4,600 feet without opposition."

3. In September, 1928, the squadron was re-equipped with Wapiti aircraft. At this time the strength of the squadron was 21 officers and 140 airmen and the Commanding Officer was Sir Phillip Sassoon.

4. In 1934, the unit was converted to a fighter squadron and in the years that immediately followed, normal work of training exercises, camps, and numerous social activities continued.

5. In November, 1936, Sir Phillip Sassoon presented the squadron with its crest which had just been approved by His Majesty The King. When considering a crest for the squadron, the first Commanding Officer, Lord Grosvenor, felt that as the squadron was the County of London Squadron, it should include the sword, which was the symbol of London. The wings were added to the sword to make it representative of a flying unit. This idea was submitted and accepted. It is interesting to note that no motto was included and this crest is unique in that it is the only RAF crest that carries no motto.

6. In 1938, the first decoration was awarded to one of the squadron members. This was the Empire Gallantry Medal which was awarded to Pilot Officer G. R. Branch for dragging the pilot clear of a burning aircraft in which he had been a passenger.

7. With the outbreak of war, all members of the squadron were called up for full time service and training continued day and night. The squadron was at that time equipped with

Blenheims and on the 28th November, 1939, six aircraft took part in a raid on the German seaplane base at Borkum. All aircraft returned safely.

8. In 1940, the squadron moved to Tangmere and re-armed with Hurricane aircraft. It quickly settled down to its fighting role. The first decoration of the war for the squadron was announced - the DFC to Flight Lieutenant M. F. Peacock, for his part in the Borkum raid.

9. In the months that followed, No. 601 Squadron operating from Tangmere was in the forefront of the Battle of Britain and in one day the squadron shot down 12 enemy aircraft for the loss of only one Hurricane. During the subsequent struggle in the skies over Southern England, the squadron claimed well over 100 German aircraft destroyed.

10. The squadron continued with various types of offensive operations from its base in England and in 1942 it was posted overseas to become part of the Middle East Air Force operating in the Western Desert. In the final of the operations in the desert, No. 601 Squadron held the record for the most hours flown by a single squadron. From the desert, the squadron moved to Italy and fought through the defences on the Gothic Line and around Bologna, Venice and Milan.

11. When the war ended, No. 601 Squadron had destroyed over 300 enemy aircraft in combat, 6 on the ground and damaged 116. It had also destroyed 299 motor vehicles and damaged 334 as well as an undisclosed number of Tiger Tanks.

12. After the war, the squadron reverted back to an Auxiliary Air Force Squadron and was reformed at Hendon with Spitfire MK 14 aircraft. However, in 1949 it was moved to North Weald and equipped with Vampire MK3 aircraft. It retained these aircraft until 1952 when it was again re-equipped, this time with Meteor MK 8's which it retained until the squadron was disbanded on the 9th March, 1957, along with all the other Royal Auxiliary Air Force Squadrons.

13. At the time of disbandment the question of the disposal of the crest arose. No. 601 Squadron felt that it should, if possible, be handed for safe keeping to a unit that was actively flying and it was decided to hand the emblem to No. 24 (City of Adelaide) (Fighter) Squadron.

GUNNERY & TORPEDO INSTRUCTORS,
VICTORIAN NAVAL FORCES.

Defence Circular No. 36- 15th. February 1886.

With the view of increasing the efficiency of the Naval Service, and of encouraging the men to thoroughly qualify themselves in Torpedo and Gunnery Instruction, and also of establishing an instructing class of men permanently in the service of the Government of Victoria, the plan existing in the Royal Navy, viz., that of giving an increased rate of pay to such men as are found to be duly qualified, is adopted.

- (1) Twelve rates of Gunnery and Torpedo Instructors are established, with an allowance of 6d. per diem, and permission to wear a gilt badge, Torpedo and Gun.
- (2) Thirtysix rates of Seamen, Gunners and Torpedo men are established, with an allowance of 4d. per diem, and permission to wear a silvered badge, Torpedo and Gun.

COST.	
12 Instructors at 6d. per diem	109.10.0
36 Seamen, Gunners & Torpedo men at 4d. per diem	219. 0.0
Probable cost of badges	<u>11.10.0</u>
TOTAL	£340. 0.0

NEW BUCKLE FOR GUNNERS.

A new dress belt buckle for "walking out" has been approved for the Royal Canadian Artillery. The buckle will be worn with the normal web belt, and is being bought at no cost to the public.

The regimental buckle incorporates the badge of the Royal Canadian Artillery on a plain brass background. the badge is detachable. Overall dimensions are 2" x 2½".

Orders have been placed for the new buckles and delivery is expected soon. Members of the Corps, Regular and Militia, are eligible to wear the new buckle.

from Directorate of Public Relations
Ottawa.

SOME CURRENT INSIGNIA
of the
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS.

Illustrated opposite are:-

1. FIRST ARMoured BRIGADE.- Formation sign.
Red crocodile over brown boomerang with green palm tree behind, on a yellow ground. Worn in pairs, crocodile facing forward.
2. SECOND ARMoured BRIGADE:- Formation sign.
Mailed forearm and battleaxe in black on a gold background. Worn in pairs, axe facing front.
3. FIRST ARMoured REGIMENT.- Cap badge.
Silvered cap and collar badges. Collar badges worn in pairs facing inwards. Cap large, collar small.
4. ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS.- Cap badge.
Silvered cap and collar badges. Collar badges worn in pairs facing inwards. Cap large, collar small.

Both 3 and 4 above appeared also with Imperial Crowns in the period in which distinctive insignia commenced to reappear about 1952-1954.

Silver buttons bearing the badge of the RAAC are worn by both these units. These buttons appeared only with St. Edward's Crown, universal type buttons having been worn in the previous period.

Shoulder titles of all Armoured and Light Horse units are of scarlet lettering on yellow cloth.

Lanyards are yellow.

Officers' worsted rank insignia are embroidered onto yellow cloth.

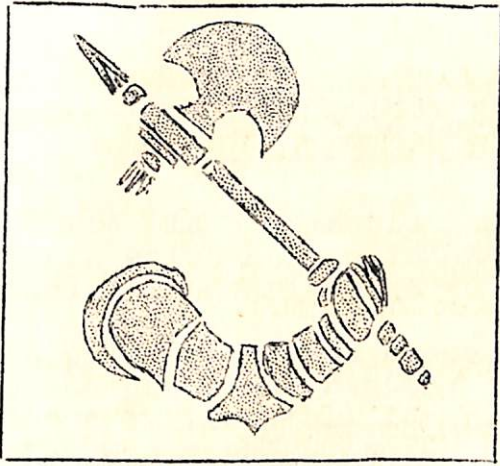
In No. 1 dress officers wear silver shoulder cords with gilt and enamel insignia. In No. 2 dress they wear on the cloth shoulder straps silver and enamel insignia.

In the same orders of dress N.C.O.'s wear silver sleeve rank insignia.

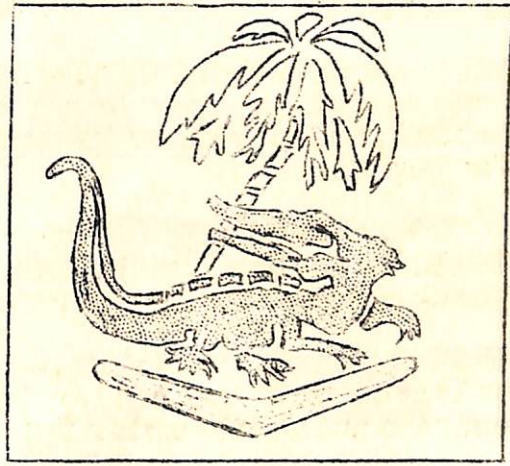
The uniform of the Armoured Corps is the normal blue uniform with red-striped trousers, worn with a black beret.

B.J. Videon.

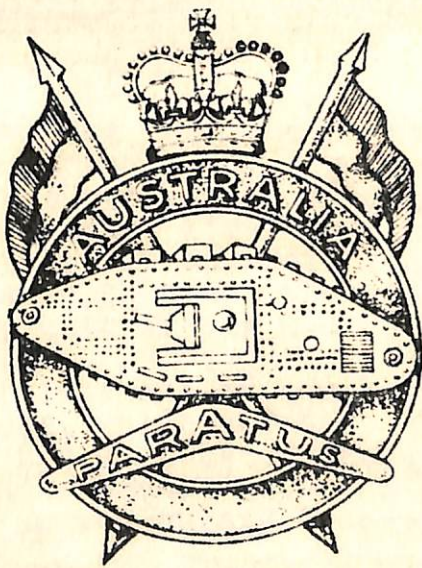
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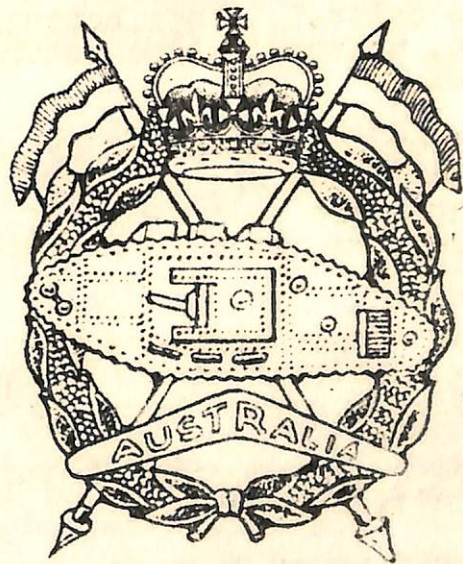
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4.



THE "DEATH or GLORY" BADGE.

A link with Wolfe.

By Ernest Rivers-Macpherson.
(from "The Legionary", August, 1958)

There is a romantic touch about the badge of the 17th/21st Lancers which has an interesting link with Canada. The badge is officially described as :

A pair of crossed bones with a skull (Death's Head) superimposed thereon. Resting on the lower portions of the crossed bones a small scroll inscribed "or Glory". The interpretation of the whole badge is "Death or Glory".

This somewhat macabre badge originated as follows. When Major-General James Wolfe, the hero of Quebec, lay dying in the moment of victory on September 13th, 1759, he requested that his friend Colonel John Hale be allowed to take the despatch concerning the battle to the king in England.

This was done, and when the king saw Hale he appointed him Colonel of a Light Dragoon Regiment about to be raised --- the 17th. It is said that Hale chose the "Death of Glory" badge out of respect for Wolfe.

On turning over the pages of history, I can only find the Skull and Crossbones being used by the German "Death's Head Hussars", which were well known to Canadians in the First World War. It was, of course, first adopted by the pirates of the Spanish Main, who flaunted it on their flag, popularly known as the "Jolly Roger". I am unable to trace the adoption of this badge by any other military unit of any modern army.

It strikes one as a curious idea that this symbol of rapine and murder, which was actually being used by the buccaneers at the time of the raising of the 17th Light Dragoons, should have been selected to commemorate the memory of so distinguished a soldier as Wolfe. He was surely deserving of a better tribute.

The 17th Light Dragoons later became the 17th Lancers and in the Crimean War was one of the British cavalry regiments that took part in the charge of the Light Brigade. In 1921 it was amalgamated with the 21st Lancers, the regiment with which Sir Winston Churchill served in the charge at Omdurman in 1898.

The 17th/21st Lancers is affiliated with Lord Strathcona's Horse, (Royal Canadians).

6/10.

THE DEATH'S HEAD BADGE-

by F.C.Pilkington. From "The Legionary" of January 1959.

Many of your readers miss the interesting articles on the British Army by the late Colonel Ernest Rivers-Macpherson. No doubt he would have welcomed continued discussion of the items written shortly before his untimely death.

For instance, writing of the $\frac{1}{4}$ "Death's Head" emblem worn by the 17th/21st Lancers and the Imperial German Death's Head Hussars, the Colonel stated: "I am unable to trace the adoption of this badge by any other military unit of any modern army".

For the record, here are a few units that have worn the "Death's Head" as a badge:

- (1). In the South African War, 1899-1902, a volunteer corps of the South African Republic, Transvaal,
- (2). In the same war, on the British side, Montmorency's Scouts, an irregular volunteer regiment from Cape Colony,
- (3). In World War I, the German Sturmtruppen (Assault Troops)- a skull over crossed stick grenades.
- (4). In World War II, the Waffen Schutzstaffel (SS) of Hitler's Army- white metal skull-and-bones on cap and gorget patch.
- (5). In the U.S. Army, the 314th Field Artillery Battalion- gold skull on red shield, motto "Sic semper tyrannis".

In addition, the device was used by a number of U.S. air squadrons, painted on the aircraft. I understand that a skull-and-crossbones badge was proposed (but not accepted) for a certain Canadian armoured regiment in World War II.

Captain Pilkington has also sent us
FURTHER OBSERVATIONS ON THE DEATH'S HEAD BADGE.

Reasons for the selection of the "Death's Head" as a memorial to Major-General James Wolfe are not difficult to find.

It is said that on the eve of the Battle of the Plains of Abraham, which resulted in the capture of Quebec citadel and city, General Wolfe was in a reflective mood and recited Grey's "Elegy in a Country Churchyard" to his companions. This poem contains the line

"The path of glory leads but to the grave"
Hence "Death" and "Glory" are appropriate symbols of Wolfe's passing.

In this case, the "Death's Head" emblem has absolutely no association with rapine, murder or piracy. In the Eighteenth Century it was the custom to wear "mourning" and "memento mori" rings, lockets and brooches, which often displayed the "Death's Head" symbol. This was considered to be in good taste, and a worthy tribute to the deceased.

Mention can be made of two more modern military units that wore the "Death's Head" emblem:

- (6). The Natal Frontier Guard, 1856-75, had a badge consisting of "Death's Head and Crossbones" with the initials "N.F.G."
- (7). The Raider units of the 1st. United States Marine Amphibious Corps in World War II wore a shoulder patch composed of a "Death's Head" within a lozenge (diamond), the whole superimposed on a shield charged with the stars of the Southern Cross.

ADDITIONAL "DEATH'S HEAD" BADGES-
from B.J. Videon.

The following badges deserve mention:

- (8). A circular white metal badge, "unit unknown", but clearly Z.A.R., diameter 1.3", illustrated by Dr. H.H. Curson, F.R.C.V.S., in his book "Regimental Devices in South Africa, 1783-1954", page 35. This may be the badge no (1) referred to by Capt. Pilkington.

- (10). Silvered "Death's Head" on black collar patch edged in rose, worn by Nazi Panzer Troops.

The German regiments of WWI which wore the "Death's Head" on their headdress were:

Life Hussar Regiments 1 & 2 (Danzig Langfuhr)-
surmounted by scroll "MIT GOTT FÜR KONIG
UND VATERLAND",

Hussar Regiment 17 (Brunswick)- surmounted by
scroll "PENINSULAR? SICILIEN? WATERLOO",

Infantry Regiment 92, III Batt. (Brunswick)-
over scroll "PENINSULA".

These troops wore the miniature "Death's Heads" on their field service caps, in addition to the coloured cockades.

The traditions of the World War I units was carried on by the following Nazi units:

1st. Squadron of 5th. Cavalry Regt- for 1st and 2nd
Life Hussar Regts, and

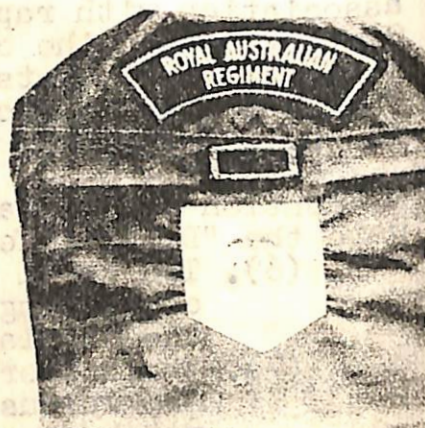
Regimental Staff of the 1st and 2nd Batts. and the
13th company of the 17th Infantry Regiment; and the 2nd Sqdn.
of the 15th Cavalry Regiment- for the 92nd. Brunswick and the
17th. Hussars.

6/12.

UNITED STATES DISTINGUISHED
UNIT CITATION EMBLEM

awarded to

3rd. BATTALION, The ROYAL
AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT.



The emblem of the United States Distinguished Unit Citation is worn by officers and other ranks who are qualified to wear it as follows:-

1. Officers and O.R.'s of 3rd. Bn., RAR, whose names were published in AAO 54/1952 as being in Korea on the posted strength of the Battalion as on 23rd. and 24th. April 1951--may wear the emblem throughout their service.
2. All other officers and O.R.'s on the posted strength of this Battalion may wear the emblem while so posted, and must remove the emblem on leaving the Battalion.

The emblem is a strip of blue watered silk ribbon either on an embroidered background for wear on Nos. 3, 5, 7 & 8 Dress, or in a gilt framed brooch for wear on Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6 & 9 Dress.

It is worn horizontally on each sleeve immediately below and with the upper edge in line with the lower points of the shoulder title. In dress orders where no shoulder title is worn, the upper edge of the emblem is $\frac{1}{2}$ " below the shoulder seam. The emblem is not worn on greatcoats.

Our illustration is of a brassard of the type which was worn in Korea.

B. J. Videon.

(From Dress Regulations 1955).

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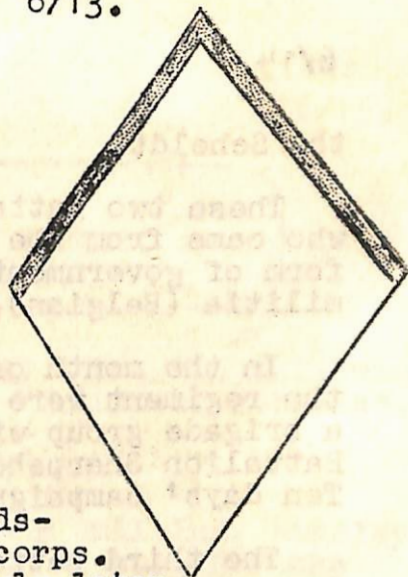
SUBSCRIPTIONS

Please note that subscriptions for 1959/60 were due and payable on 30th. June 1959. We would be grateful to hear from those who have not yet remitted the required amount. SABRETACHE is wholly dependent on subscriptions.

BELGIUM.

1st. REGIMENT OF LINE.
(1ier. Regiment de Ligne).

This Regiment was created by a decision of the provisional government, dated 16th. October 1830.



Some officers, N.C.O.'s and soldiers of Belgian origin, who had belonged to the 1ste. Afdeeling (1st. Section) of the Hollands-Belgium Army, were the the origin of this corps. The strength of the regiment increased slowly later by incorporating enlisted volunteers, and by calling back some militia who had served in the above "Afdeeling".

The 1ste. Afdeeling was raised by a Royal Decree dated the 8th. October 1815, and was taken from the Infantry Battalion No. 1, and from Militia Battalions Nos. 21, 22 and 23, which had been raised in January 1814.

The Infantry Battalion No. 1 took part during the 1815 campaign as a unit of the Brigade Eerens (Div. Stedman), and assisted at the seige of the City of Valenciennes, France, from the 26th. till the 20th. July, 1815.

The 1ste. Afdeeling, like all other regiments of the Hollands-Belgium Army, was required to furnish one company for the organisation, on 26th. October 1826, of an expeditionary corps, destined to strengthen the Netherlands Army in the East Indies. This corps came back in 1830, after the end of the war on Java Island.

The 1st. Regiment of Line was designated at the beginning of its formation as the "First Belgian Infantry Regiment". It was also known under the title of "Regiment of Brussels". A decree of the 25th. November 1830, emanating from the provisional government, gave it the title of "1st. Regiment of Line".

At the time of the bombing of the City of Antwerp by the Netherlands Artillery on the 27th. October 1830, the portion of the regiment then organised made its entry the same day into the city, in company with the volunteers from Mellinet and from Niellon.

In the first days of January 1831, the first two battalions were completely organised, and were made part of the movable army of Antwerp, which became later the Army of

6/14.

the Scheldt.

These two battalions were mainly composed of soldiers who came from the Brussels country, which, under the Dutch form of government, had been reserved for the recruiting of militia (Belgian), into the 1ste. Afdeeling.

In the month of August 1831, the three battalions from the regiment were separated from the Scheldt Army, and formed a brigade group with the 4th. Of Line Regiment, and the First Battalion Sharpshooters (Tirailleurs), participating in the Ten days' campaign (2nd-12th. August, 1831).

The third battalion assisted at the fight of Brasschaet, August 5th., with the help of the second battalion of the 12th. Regiment of Line. The three battalions from the regiment took part in the fight of Bautersem, and at the Battle of Louvain.

On 12th. January 1832 the regiment received its standard (drapeau) at the City of Ghent, from the hands of H.M. Leopold 1st. (first King of Belgium).

In 1870 at the time of the mobilisation of the army, the general staff, and the three first battalions were included in the 1st. Division (1st. Brigade) of the First Corps of the Army of Observation, on duty on the Belgian-French frontier, during the French-German War of 1870-71.

The 4th and 5th battalions were joined at the Army of Antwerp. Later the regiment took part in the War of 1914-18, and in the 18-days' campaign of 1940 (18th-28th. May 1940).

submitted by: Mr A. Elebaut,
9 Rue Mommaerts 9,
MOLENBEEK, Brussels,
Belgium.

ILLUSTRATIONS are
Collar patch for Belgian Infantry- red with piping in black.
Regimental button.



No.2 (Scottish) Company
ADELAIDE REGIMENT OF VOLUNTEER RIFLES.
Raised 1866. Disbanded 1869.

In a copy of "The Register" dated 25th. May 1866, the following advertisement appeared under the heading of "Volunteer Notices".

IMPORTANT TO SCOTCHMEN AND OTHERS.

A public meeting will be held at the Black Bull Inn, Hindley Street, on Monday 28th. at half past 7p.m. to arrange for the formation of a Rifle Company of Volunteers. "

In response to the above advertisement thirty seven men attended the meeting and signified their intentions of joining the new Scottish Company which was to be attached to the Local Forces.

The Company paraded for the first time in uniform on May 18th., 1867, at the Armoury, North Terrace, and marched to the Park Lands for drill.

The uniform was as follows:-

Scarlet tunic, Hunting Stewart kilt, red and green hose tops, balmoral cap, white spats, and sporran. The badge worn was a thistle.

On the 24th. May, 1867, the Scottish Company took part in the Queen's Birthday Review in the North Park Lands. During the visit to Adelaide of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh in 1867, a piper from the Company attended the civic dinner which was given in honour of the Royal visitor. The title of "Duke of Edinburgh's Own" was conferred upon the Company on November 18th., 1867.

The corps was present with the other local volunteers who acted as a firing party at the graveside of the late Governor, Sir Dominic Daly, on February 22nd., 1868.

This corps had the distinction of being the first Scottish company to be raised in Australasia.

R.Gray.

.....

6/16.

NEW SOUTH AFRICAN RANK BADGES.

"COMMANDO" magazine of May 1959 illustrated the current badges of rank, adopted in 1959, of the South African Defence Force.

Replacing the British Crown on officers' shoulder straps is a pentagonal insignia, representing the design of Cape Town Castle, South Africa's oldest defence fortress.

This design also appears now on the aircraft of the South African Air Force.

In place of the Crowns previously on Naval cap badges, the South African Navy now has the lion-and-fascies symbol similar to that adopted early in 1954 by the S.A. Staff Corps. It is possible that the round seaman's hat with ribbon may have given way to a peaked cap.

It will be noted also that the officers' stars are now five-pointed, instead of the old British pattern.

These insignia are thought to be sufficiently interesting to justify reproduction in these pages, with due acknowledgement to "COMMANDO".

(Any similar types of insignia illustrations for other forces which are "little-advertised" would be welcomed by the Editor for reproduction in this way. Return of articles on loan is guaranteed.)

B.J.Videon.

.....

SAMURAI SWORDS RETURNED.

In June 1958, some of the Australian newspapers carried mention of the return of 24 Samurai swords to their former owners in Japan.

A young priest, Fr. Anthony Glynn, of New South Wales, received the swords from a number of Australian ex-servicemen who requested him to return them as a gesture of goodwill.

Fr. Glynn had brought to Sydney a 500-piece arts and crafts exhibition which the Japanese had presented to him as a gesture of goodwill to Australia.

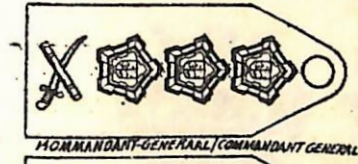
SOUTH AFRICAN DEFENCE FORCE

RANGKENTEKENES: OFFISIERE - RANK INSIGNIA: OFFICERS

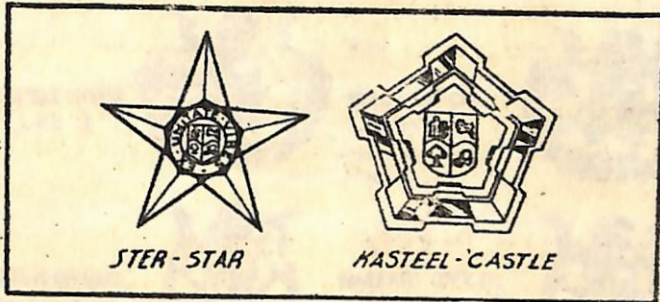
LEER: ARMY

LUGMAG: AIR FORCE

VLOOT: NAVY



HORMANDANT-GENERAAL / COMMANDANT GENERAL

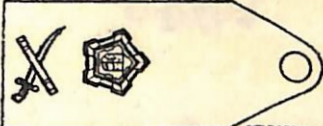


STER-STAR

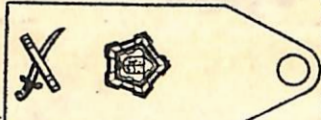
KASTEEL-CASTLE



LUITENANT-GENERAAL / LIEUTENANT GENERAL



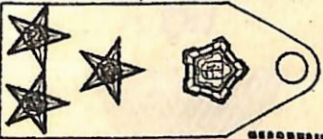
GENERAAL-MAJOR / MAJOR GENERAL



GENERAAL-MAJOR / MAJOR GENERAL



SHOUT-ADMIRAAL / REAR ADMIRAL



BRIGADIER



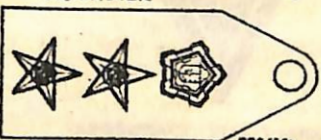
BRIGADIER



SKOUP-ADMIRAAL / REAR ADMIRAL



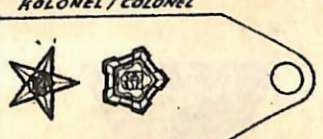
KOLONEL / COLONEL



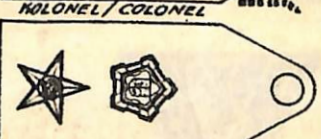
KOLONEL / COLONEL



KOMMODOOR / COMMODORE



KOMMANDANT / COMMANDANT



KOMMANDANT / COMMANDANT



KAPTEIN / CAPTAIN



MAJOR / MAJOR



MAJOR / MAJOR



KOMMANDEUR / COMMANDER



KAPTEIN / CAPTAIN



KAPTEIN / CAPTAIN



LUIT-KOMMANDEUR / LIEUT. COMMANDER



LUITENANT / LIEUTENANT



LUITENANT / LIEUTENANT



LUITENANT / LIEUTENANT



2^{de} LUITENANT / 2nd LIEUTENANT






2^{de} LUITENANT / 2nd LIEUTENANT



ONDER LUITENANT / SUB LIEUTENANT

SOUTHERN PHYSICAL DEFENSE FORCE
 OFFICERS - ARMY - AIR FORCE - NAVY

 ARMY OFFICER	 AIR FORCE OFFICER	
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		

• SUID-AFRIKAANSE WEGERMAG

Onder 'Range' 'Other' 'Ranks

LEER · ARMY LUGMAG · AIRFORCE NAVY · VLOOT



ADJUDANT OFFISIER
KLAS I



WARRANT OFFICER
CLASS I



ADJUDANT OFFISIER
KLAS II



WARRANT OFFICER
CLASS II



STAFSERSANT · STAFF SERGEANT



VLUGSERSANT · FLIGHT SERGEANT



EERSTE OFFISIER · PET EN MOU
CHIEF PETTY OFFICER · CAP AND SLEEVE



SERSANT · SERGEANT



LUGSERSANT · AIR SERGEANT



ONDEROFFISIER · PET EN MOU
PETTY OFFICER · CAP AND SLEEVE



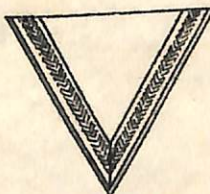
KORPORAAL · CORPORAL



LUGKORPORAAL · AIR CORPORAL



BAASSEEMAN · PET EN MOU
LEADING SEAMAN · CAP AND SLEEVE



ONDERKORPORAAL
LANCE CORPORAL


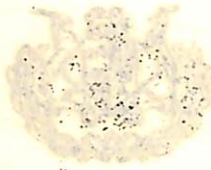




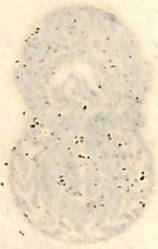






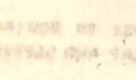




BAASLUGWERKTUIGKUNDIGE
LEADING AIR MECHANIC



BEVARE SEEMAN 1 PET EN MOU (AMBAG)
ABLE SEAMAN 1 CAP AND SLEEVE (TRADE)

ARMY - BRITISH
BRITISH ARMY - BRITISH
BRITISH ARMY - BRITISH
BRITISH ARMY - BRITISH

	OFFICER CLASS 1		OFFICER CLASS 1		OFFICER CLASS 1
	OFFICER CLASS 2		OFFICER CLASS 2		OFFICER CLASS 2
	OFFICER CLASS 3		OFFICER CLASS 3		OFFICER CLASS 3
	OFFICER CLASS 4		OFFICER CLASS 4		OFFICER CLASS 4
	OFFICER CLASS 5		OFFICER CLASS 5		OFFICER CLASS 5
	OFFICER CLASS 6		OFFICER CLASS 6		OFFICER CLASS 6
	OFFICER CLASS 7		OFFICER CLASS 7		OFFICER CLASS 7

6/17.

BADGES FOR WARRANT AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS
AND MEN OF THE VICTORIAN FORCES.
C. 1893-1900

By B J VIDEON

REPRINTED FROM SABRETTAGE No 6 - July 1959

Although badges similar to many of the following were worn by the Victorian Forces much earlier than 1893, the "Dress Regulations for the Victorian Military Forces, 1893" are the earliest in our possession to describe them.

Dress Regulations of 1875 do not describe any sleeve badges, while those described in 1863 were merely the badges of rank for NCO's and Drill Instructors.

It is extremely probable that two or more Dress Regulations were published between 1875 and 1893.

FROM 1893 DRESS REGULATIONS.

"WARRANT OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND MEN:-
Badges for Proficiency and Good Conduct-

Gunnery, Musketry and Engineering badges gained in a year's course will be worn till the best shots, marksmen, first class gunners, and engineers for next year's course are published in General or Regimental Orders.

Signalling badges can be worn for a year from the date of the order granting them. After a year holder will again be examined, and if allowed to continue to wear the badges the same will be notified in Orders.

Good Conduct badges will be worn by the Victorian Permanent Artillery and Permanent Section Victorian Engineers. Lowest good conduct badge to be $\frac{1}{2}$ " from top of Austrian knot, or 1 inch from point of sleeve on left forearm.

Gunnery, Musketry, Engineering or Signalling badges to be 1 inch above point of sleeve or Austrian Knot, or $\frac{1}{2}$ " above good conduct badges on left forearm.

Assistant Instructors in Signalling will wear a Signalling badge over chevrons.

6/18.

GO 167/95 inserts "Layers" after "Gunnery."
GO 31/97 deletes "Gunnery, Layers", and replaces them with "Artillery"; deletes present list of badges, and replaces them with:--

Artillery	{	Battery Competition	} According to arm to which soldier belongs.
		Gunnery	
		Gun Layers	
		Drivers	
	}	Engineering	
		Musketry	
		Signalling	
		Ambulance	

In the case of a non-commissioned officer or man holding two or more badges, they will be worn in the following order, commencing from the point of cuff, each 1 inch above the other

Gunnery Engineering Musketry	}	According to arm to which soldier belongs.	
			Signalling
			Ambulance

(GO 167/95 inserts "Layers" after "Gunnery".)

The following is a description of the above badges, and to whom issued:-

Artillery Badges.

1. To best first class Gunner in each of the Horse and Field Artillery, the Victorian Permanent Artillery and Garrison Artillery -- a badge of cross guns worked in gold, with star and crown above.
2. To best first class Gunner in each battery of Horse, Field and Garrison Artillery, and the second best in the Victorian Permanent Artillery -- a badge of cross guns worked in gold, with crown above.

(GO 167/95 inserts "and Hastings Battery, Victorian Rangers" after Garrison Artillery.)

3. First class Gunners -- a badge of cross guns worked in gold. For number allowed see Artillery pamphlet, Annual Gunnery Course.

(GO 167/95 amends to "First class Gunners of Horse and Field Artillery, Victorian Permanent Artillery, and Hastings Battery, Victorian Rangers) (same order stipulates "for Hastings Battery 15").

4. Best Driver of each battery of Horse and Field Artillery - Cross whips in gold, with star above.
5. Second best Driver of each battery of Horse and Field Artillery -- cross whips in gold.

GO 31/97, subsequently amended by GO 81/97, reads Artillery badges.

Battery Competition Prizes consist of badges to be worn by all Non-Commissioned Officers and men of a prizewinning battery present on parade, and shall be as follows:--

- | | | |
|-----------------|----|--------------------------------------|
| 1st Class Badge | -- | crossed guns & crown worked in gold. |
| 2nd " " | -- | crossed guns & star worked in gold. |
| 3rd " " | -- | Crossed guns worked in gold. |

Gun Layers Prizes.

Three per Battery, Victorian Permanent Artillery Garrison Artillery Militia, and Hastings Battery Victorian Rangers; twelve per Battery, Horse and Field Artillery Brigade -- Badge, an "L" worked in gold.

Sergeant Layers Prizes.

One per Battery, Horse and Field Artillery Brigade --- Badge, an "L" worked in gold.

Gunnery Prizes.

One badge of 1st, 2nd & 3rd class for each Battery --

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1st Class badge -- a "G" in gold with
crown
2nd " " -- a "G" in gold with star
3rd " " -- a "G" in gold.

Gunnery Prizes for competition among the Sergeants of
each battery ---

1st Class badge -- a "G" in gold with
crown
2nd " " -- a "G" in gold with
star

Drivers Prizes one 1st class badge and three 2nd class
badges per Battery, Horse and Field Artillery Brigade,

1st Class badge -- crossed whips in gold
with star above.
2nd Class badge -- crossed whips in gold.

Engineering Badge.

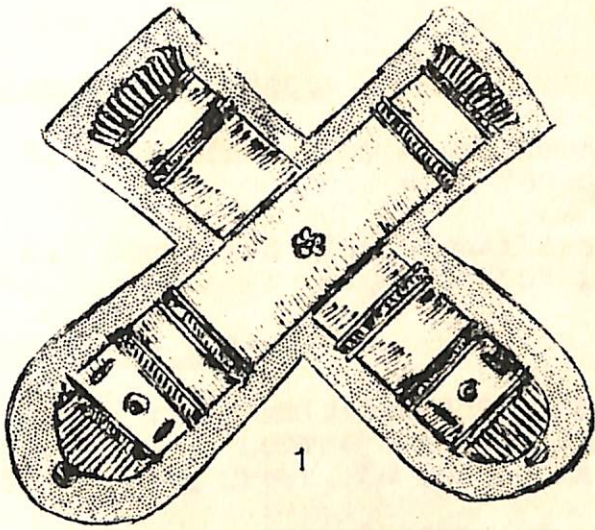
Best men of Field Company, Victorian Engineers, not exceeding
10 per cent of strength -- a badge in gilt metal of a gabion
surmounted with felling axe, crossed with pick and shovel, rifle
with bayonet and pontoon anchor. Scroll motto at base of badge
"Pro Deo et Patria, Victoria."

Musketry Badges.

1. Best shot in the Forces -- a silver medal worn on right
breast.
2. " " " Regiment -- Cross rifles worked in gold, with
star and crown above.
3. " " " Company -- Cross rifles worked in gold, with
crown above.
4. Marksmen -- Cross rifles worked in gold.
5. Best shooting Company of Militia Infantry -- Sergeants will
wear cross rifles worked in gold,
with crown above, to be worn on
right forearm.

Maxim Gun Badges (inserted by GO 67/98)

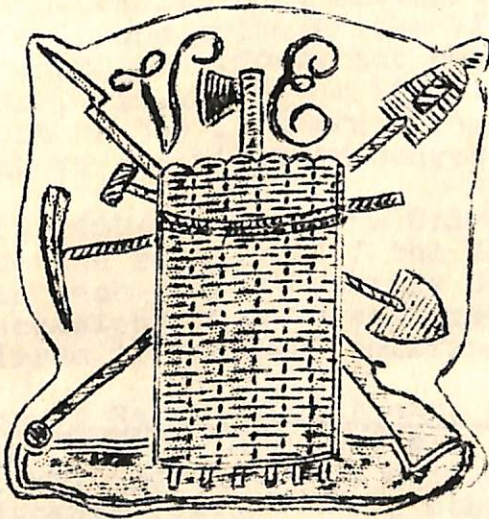
To each qualified Non-Commissioned Officer and Man of
authorised Maxim Gun Detachment -- special badge to be worn 1"
from each end of collar. (Not described).



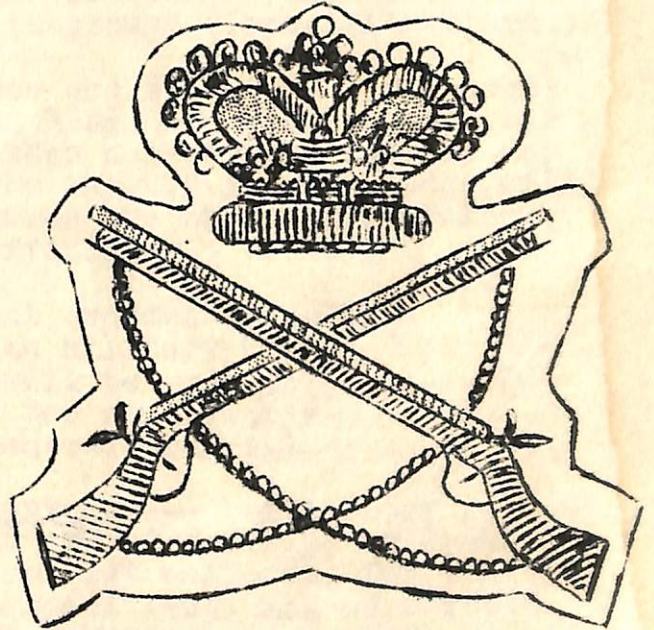
1



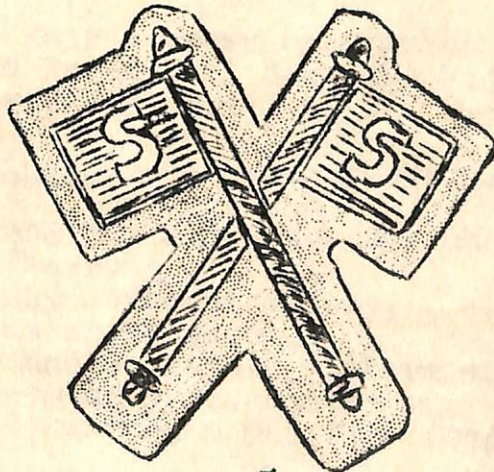
2



3



4



5



Signalling Badges.

1. Certified Army Signallers -- Cross flags worked in gold, with "S" on each flag, and crown above the flags.
2. Certified Flag Signallers -- Cross flags worked in gold, with "S" in blue on each flag.

Ambulance Badges.

For Non-Commissioned Officers and men who have passed through an Ambulance Course and First Aid Instruction -- circular badge of a Geneva Cross, in red, on a white ground (Imperial Pattern.)

Non-Commissioned Officers and men who are winners of badges in the Queens prize of the Victorian Rifle Association may wear them when in uniform, but not more than one badge at a time may be worn, viz., the one last issued by the V.R.A. The badge will be worn on the left arm, midway between the shoulder and elbow, and above all military badges for efficiency.

(GO 167/95 adds "The Silver medal awarded annually to the Best shot of the Victorian Military Forces in each year's Musketry Course will be worn on 1 occasions when in uniform until the next year's issue is made and notified in General Orders.)

Badges of Rank, Appointment, and Chevrons --- will be of gold lace or worked in gold (on a scarlet ground for blue or khaki uniforms, and on a blue ground for scarlet uniforms) for tunics and jackets (except where otherwise specified,) and of worsted for great coats. For Mounted Rifles on a crimson ground similar to facings.

Warrant Officers --- wear a crown or star on right forearm viz., Garrison, Brigade and Regimental Sergeant Majors, a crown; Quartermaster Sergeants a star.

Non-Commissioned Officers --- wear chevrons as follows:--

Lance Corporals and Bombardiers - one chevron
 Corporals - two Chevrons
 Battery and Company Sergeant Majors,
 Battery Quartermaster-Sergeant,
 Colour-Sergeants and Sergeants - three chevrons
 Regimental Quartermaster Sergeants
 (below rank of WO) and Drum Majors - four chevrons

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Chevrons (except for regimental Quartermaster - Sergeants and Drum Majors) will be worn on the right upper arm midway between the shoulder and elbow. For Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeants and Drum Majors on the right forearm, above the cuff, and with point uppermost. On great coats, badges of rank and chevrons will be worn on the right forearm, so that they may be seen below the cape.

Badges of appointment, rank, &c. -- 2 The following also will be worn; -

Bandmasters and Bandsmen (on established strength of Band) -- a lyre.
Battery Sergeant Majors - a gun and crown.
Company Sergeant Majors and Staff Sergeants - a crown.
Drum Majors and Drummers - a drum (Imperial pattern).
Colour-Sergeants - crossed colours.
Artillery Sergeants - a gun.
Farrier-Sergeants and farriers - a horseshoe.
Armourer-Sergeants, Armourers and Blacksmiths - cross pincers
Collarmaker-Sergeants and Collarmakers - a "bit".
Roughrider - a spur.
Trumpeters - cross trumpets.
Buglers - same as Drummers in Militia Infantry,
in V. Rangers and Cadet Corps - cross bugles.

Badges of appointment for Non-Commissioned Officers will be worn above the chevrons; for men, Trumpeters and Buglers &c, on the right upper arm, midway between the shoulder and elbow.

Badges, Special.

No badges of a special character are allowed to be worn except those authorised by Regulations.

Garrison Sergeant-Major.

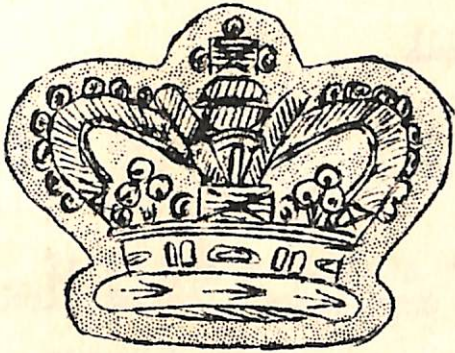
His full dress scarlet tunic has distinctive trimming on the collar and cuffs, and, in addition, the shoulder straps edged with tracing lace with "VR" scroll pattern worked in gold wire."

His khaki jacket has "shoulder straps with "VR" worked in gold, scroll pattern."

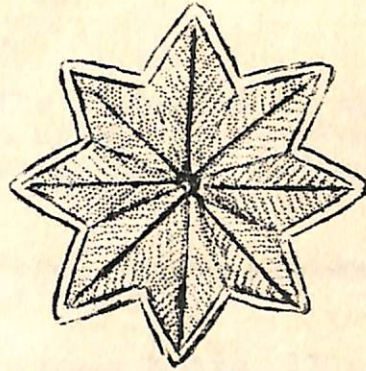
Military Staff Clerks.

Khaki jackets to have "shoulder straps with "VR" worked in gold, scroll pattern."

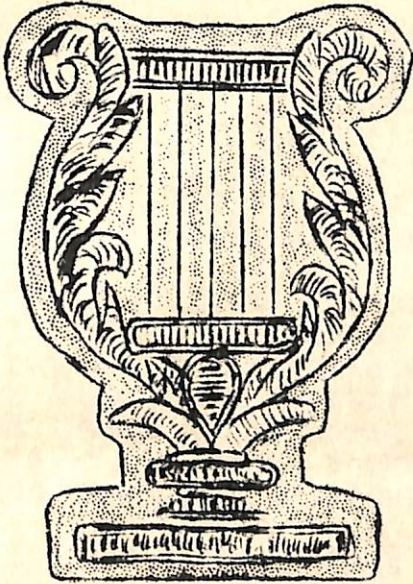
Blue undress uniform jacket introduced by GO 108/96 has blue shoulder straps edged in $\frac{1}{2}$ " black mohair braid.



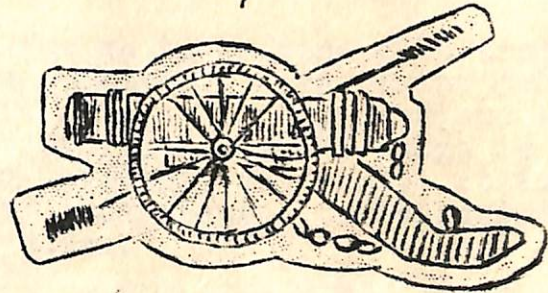
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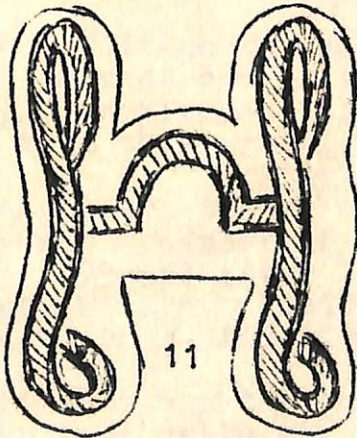
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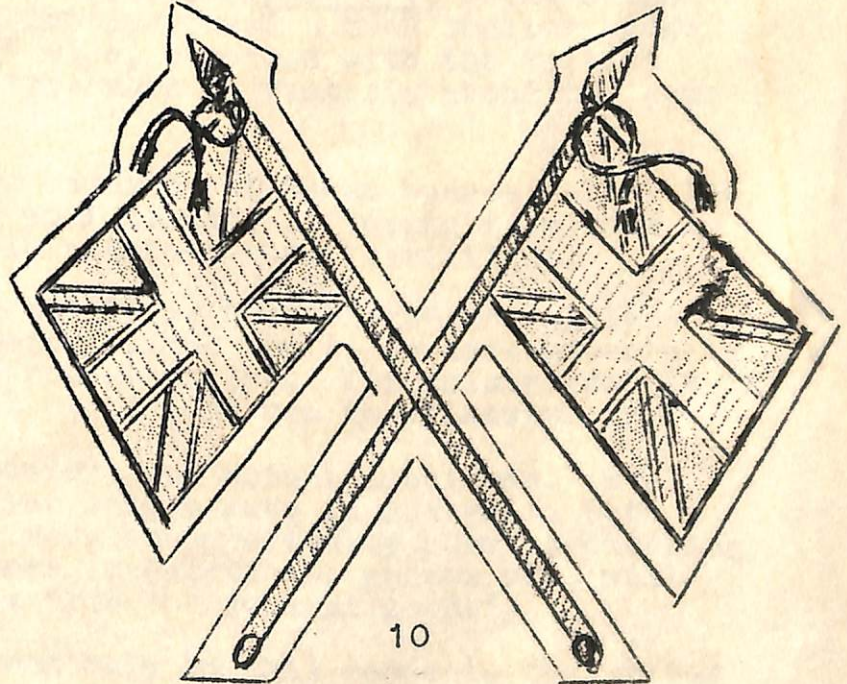
8



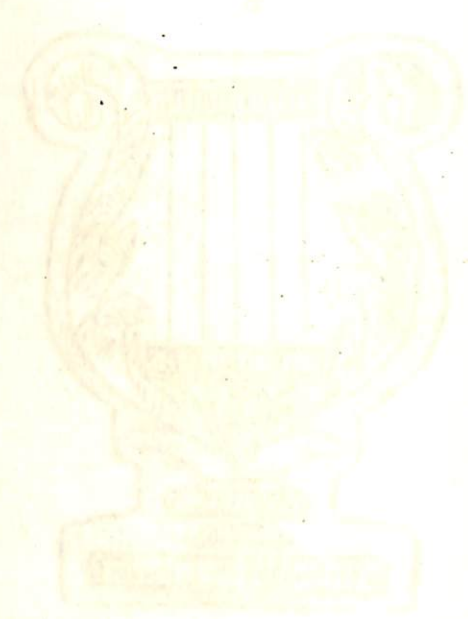
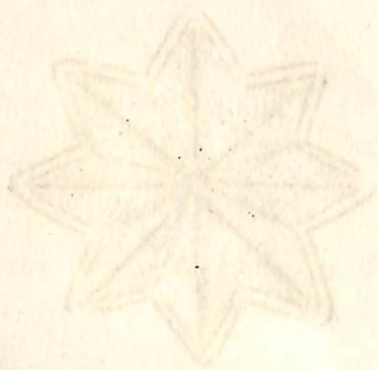
9



11



10



ILLUSTRATIONS.

It is almost as frustrating to the collector to acquire a sample of this type of badge, and be unable to pinpoint its period and meaning, as it is to know the period and meaning and lack the badge.

It is quite obvious that embroidered badges are much more likely to be scarce than are those of metal.

Time, insects, the elements and carelessness all contribute to their rarity.

It is not possible therefore, for me to provide illustrations for all of the 1893 badges at this juncture. Some of the subjects illustrated are definitely identified as of that period and some are possibly of the period. The Victorian Engineer badge is almost certainly not of the period (probably earlier). It is illustrated for the sole purpose of interpreting the description under the heading of "Engineering Badge."

The illustrated crossed colour badge for Colour Sergeant is provisionally identified as British Army, but it possibly set the pattern for the Victorian Forces. (Possibly, because the South Australian Scottish Volunteers used a much smaller badge about 1904. It measured $2\frac{1}{4}$ " wide, compared with the British type's 4". A khaki-backed type worn in Victoria about the same period measured $3\frac{1}{2}$ " wide.)

It will be seen that the majority of these badges follow the pattern of the British Army equivalents, differing from them in some cases only in size or in manufacturers' variations.

The addition to painted models or "portraits" of soldiers of the correct badges in their correct positions adds materially to the effectiveness of the completed job. For this reason it is hoped that this article will be of some use to painters.

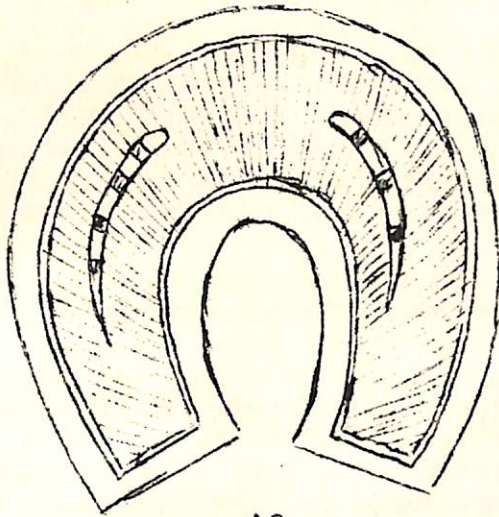
Badges are traced and copied from actual specimens. The writer has a number of similar badges worn in Australia both before 1893 and after 1900, and, as opportunity permits checking against the appropriate orders, regulations, photos etc, will endeavour to publish details "for the general good."

If any other collector can help in this respect, the writer will be most grateful. Badges worn by Australian troops, whether before or after Federation, and of British pattern or otherwise, should be the subject of this assistance.

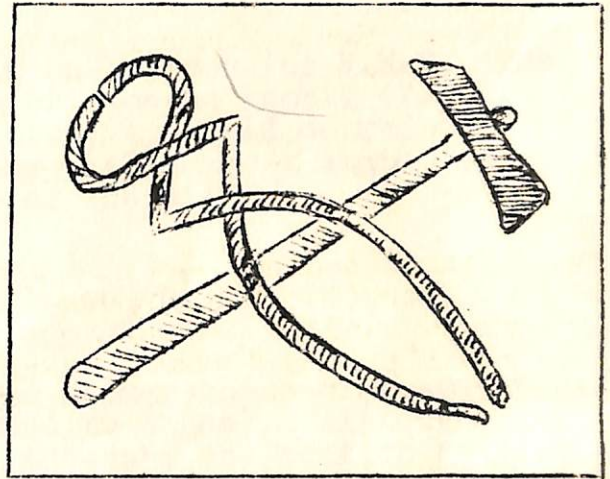
6/24.

KEY TO ILLUSTRATIONS.

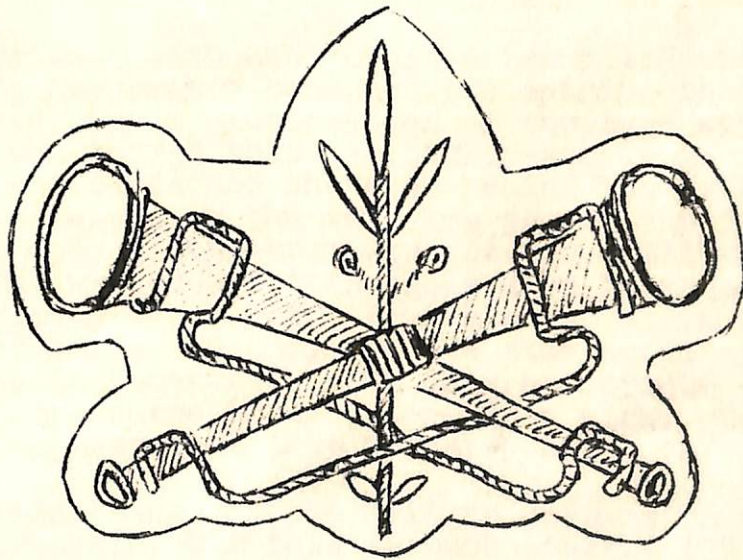
1. Artillery Badge --- Probably same design as that of First Class Gunner. This one is believed to have been worn in Victoria, but the bullion and foil appears silver in colour although it may have been gold originally. Background is blue. The halfround gun barrels are of foil, with bands etc of wire.
2. Gun Layers Prize --- Almost certainly as laid down.
3. Engineers badge --- It would appear very similar to the illustration, which, however, is of gold embroidery on red cloth, and is probably an earlier type. Note absence of scroll. The "ground" under the gabion is of brown silk. Vertical "sticks" in gabion basket are black.
4. Musketry Badge --- Best shot in Company -- is almost certainly as laid down. This one is on a red ground. Inside crown is crimson plush.
5. Certified signallers Badge --- as laid down. Is on blue ground. Letters "S" are light blue.
6. Garrison, Brigade or Regimental Sergeant Majors --- crown, almost certainly 1893 pattern. This one is on blue ground. Inside crown is crimson plush.
7. Quarter Master Sergeant --- star. This one yellow thread on crimson cloth for Victorian Mounted Rifles. Probably for overcoats. The writer has also a bullion star on blue ground which is probably of this period also.
8. Bandsmen --- Lyre. Gold bullion on blue. The writer has also one worked in white thread on blue, with yellow "strings", presumably for overcoats.
9. Artillery Sergeants --- gun Gold on blue.



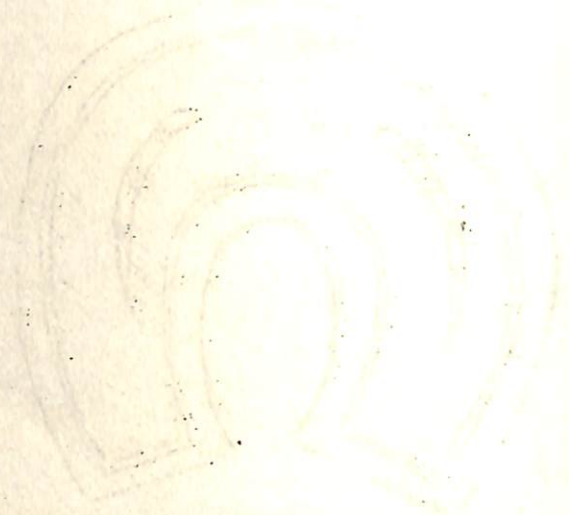
12



13



14.



6/25.

10. Colour Sergeant --- probably British pattern on which local type based. Union jack in natural colours, tips of poles and the cords in gold bullion, poles dark red silk, on a red background.
11. Collarmakers --- a Bit. Gold on crimson for V.M.R. The writer has this badge also in crimson on khaki, (V.M.R. possibly overcoats); gold on blue; and gold on red mounted on a blue square. The last three all have a chain looped across beneath the centre bar of the bit.
12. Farriers --- horseshoe -- gold on red.
13. Armourers --- gold pincers and hammer on scarlet square (Probably intended to be trimmed to shape). Although Regulations specify "Crossed pincers", the section dealing with dress of Armourer Sergeants quite clearly specifies "crossed hammers and pincers."
14. Trumpeters --- although "Crossed trumpets" only are specified, the writer tends to the opinion that the illustrated sample probably was of the type worn at this period, even though this particular sample is marked 7/3/02. Trumpets and cords and the stem behind the trumpets are gold; five leaves on the stem are green; and inside of the four open ends of the trumpets are red. All on a red ground. The writer has this badge also in thread on a crimson ground for V.M.R. Trumpets are shown with handles instead of cords and they and the stem are in yellow, five leaves are in green, four open ends are bright blue, and five Bindings across the trumpets are deep pink. This badge is slightly smaller than that illustrated.

An additional badge in the writers possession shows merely crossed trumpets, but this is much smaller (2" wide), is silver, and appears to be of an earlier period.

B.J.Videon.

6/26.

CANADIAN
WOUND AND SERVICE STRIPES.

From the "Army Newsletter" issued by the Directorate of Public Relations(Army),Ottawa.

Wound stripes and service chevrons for officers and men of the Canadian Army (Militia) will soon be making their appearance across the country. Manufacture of the new badges is complete and delivery can now be made to Militia units; the badges will be worn only by Militia soldiers and will not be adopted by the Regular Army.

For each wound from enemy action in the Second World War or in Korea, Militia soldiers will wear one gold stripe on their left sleeves. The stripes are one and one-half inches long and one-eighth of an inch wide. Wounds suffered prior to the Second World War will be marked by red stripes of the same size.

Service chevrons have been authorised on the basis of one chevron for each two years' service up to ten years, and a maple leaf will be added after ten years, worn above the five service chevrons on the right sleeve. Additional chevrons will not be awarded to personnel with more than 12 years' service since they are then normally qualified for the Canadian Forces Decoration, and this, together with rosettes, indicates long service.

The service chevrons will be coloured French grey on a drab background for wear with drab uniforms, but background colour will vary with different orders of dress. Service chevrons previously were red and were issued one for each year's service in the Second World War, but their wear was discontinued, together with wound stripes, after the war.

.....
TITLES OF STH.AUST.FORCES.

- Sth.Australian Volunteer Military Force-prior to 17/11/1886.
- Sth.Australian Militia 1886-1895.
- Sth.Australian Military Forces- 1/1/1895-1901.

R.Gray.

Society Notes

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A WARNING!!!

NOT ALL INSIGNIA etc. ARE AVAILABLE!

In recent SABRETACHES we have illustrated various kinds of formation signs and badges, etc.

Somewhat naturally, a number of collectors have written to us to try to procure supplies of these.

Whilst we would be delighted to help if possible, we can not always do so, particularly where the less common items are concerned. The position in this country is that all bulk supplies of old type badges have been destroyed, with occasional exceptions which we are fortunate enough to locate very rarely in old military outfitters' establishments, etc.

New type badges are not all available from civilian sources, and the Army, naturally, is not in this class of "business". The badges which are available from civilian sources are usually quite expensive, and most collectors are reluctant to try to base their collections on such highly-priced items.

We will try to put you in touch with other collectors who may be able to help you, but in general, the only items which are readily available for sale to you will be advertised in some way through SABRETACHE.

The prime purpose for illustrating insignia in this journal is in the interests of identification and research. SABRETACHE is not a catalogue in the commercial sense.

SABRETACHE.

The Committee has decided to advance the dates of publication of SABRETACHE to July, October, January and April.

These dates are felt to be more suitable for the notification of forthcoming elections, competitions, etc., and, subsequently, of the results of these.

RESEARCH PROJECTS IN HAND.

From time to time we hear that some of our members have become seriously engaged in some aspect of military research. They have, in other words, commenced a project.

In the interests of these people, it seems desirable now for us to help them by advertising their work. This may result in avoiding duplication, and in attracting some

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additional information.

We are aware of the following projects which have been commenced:-

PROJECT No.1-Mr.A.N.Festberg-"A Lineage of the Australian Commonwealth Military Forces".
Mr.Festberg's book will give brief histories of Corps and Regiments, in addition to lists of the orders showing the various changes to each unit. The 1st. and 2nd. A.I.F.'s are not included, as Mr.Festberg intends to deal with them in a separate volume. It is hoped that illustrations of badges and colours will be included.
The work is in an advanced stage, the draft having been completed.

PROJECT No.2-Major J.B.Gale-"Australian Winners of the Victoria Cross,1900-1946. It is understood that this work will provide details of the lives of the winners, in addition to details of the actions for which the awards were made. It is hoped that photographs of the winners will be able to be included. The final draft stage has been reached.

PROJECT No.3-Coloured uniform plates of the British Empire 1880-1914.
Lt.Col.Dick S.Von Schriltz and Colonel Brooke Nihart,USMC, are producing black and white uniform plates showing two members of each of such units as the Queensland Scottish Rifle Volunteers and the Singapore Volunteer Rifle Corps. Colouring instructions are provided with the plates. A limited number may be supplied in full and correct colour--we have seen samples of the painting, and it is really superbly done. We are favourably impressed,indeed, with all aspects of this project.
We do not have a full catalogue of plates completed at the present time, but this should be available for the next SABRETACHE. Prices will then be advertised too.
Any member, or other person, interested should write to
Lt.Col Dick S.Von Schriltz,
O-23944,
Special Warfare School,
FORT BRAGG, NC,USA.,
who would be please to receive any information which would help in this work.

PROJECT No.4-Major J.B.Gale-"A History of the Victorian Defence Forces". This work has been commenced.

For our own purposes we have allocated the project numbers shown above--should any member care to write to us concerning any project, these numbers may be used as references.

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ELECTIONS.

At a meeting held on 19th. June, the following officers were elected for the Year Ending 30th June 1960:-

HONORARY COMMITTEE:

President &
Editor

Mr. B. J. Videon

Secretary &
Librarian

Mr. J. K. Lyons

Treasurer

Major J. B. Gale

HONORARY VICE PRESIDENT:

Mr. A. N. Festberg.

COMPETITIONS FOR 1959.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

1. Closing date for entries will be 1st. December 1959. Entries submitted after that date by non-resident members will be considered by the Committee on the merits of each case.
2. Exhibits are to be on show for judging at a time and place to be fixed by the Committee (for resident members only--non-resident members are recommended to have their entries in the hands of the Committee as soon as possible.)
3. Each exhibit in each class is to be accompanied by a text, preferably typed, giving details of the source of the information on which the structure of the exhibit is based, and any interesting facts pertaining thereto. The Committee is to be satisfied of the adequacy of the text for this purpose. (Please communicate drafts to the Committee before closing date for opinion.)
4. Where an exhibit comprises two or more articles, each article, or group of articles if all of the same class, should be identified for the benefit of the viewers by a small ticket bearing numbers related to a key chart to be displayed adjacent to the exhibit.
5. Judging is to be by popular vote of the members present at the time of judging, it being understood that the Committee will endeavour to obtain as large an audience as possible. The Committee must advise the audience concerning any technical point concerning which they might reasonably be expected to be unaware. The responsibility for bringing these matters to the attention of the Committee rests with the exhibitor in each case.

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5. cont- No exhibiting Committee Member may explain his own exhibit to the audience.
6. Names of exhibitors may not appear on entries.
7. Entries in any class will be welcomed from non-resident members.
8. Where there is only one entry in any class, there will be considered to be "NO COMPETITION", and no trophy will be awarded in that class.
9. Results will be published in the first SABRETACHE after the event.

GOOD LUCK TO COMPETITORS!

CLASSES AND TROPHIES.

1. COMPETITION FOR MILITARY ART OR CRAFTSMANSHIP.
Trophy donated by Mr. B. J. Videon- a gilt medallion suitably inscribed and bearing the Society's badge, mounted on a stand as a trophy.
Awarded for the best item, or group of items, of military art or craft other than the making and painting of model soldiers of recognised types. Possible examples would be military paintings or models of military equipment or establishments.
Work is to be substantially that of the exhibitor, the extent to which it is not is to be stated in the text.
2. COMPETITION FOR A PAINTED MODEL FIGURE.
Trophy donated by Mr. K. Pryor- a cup, suitably engraved and bearing the Society's badge.
For the painting of a stock model figure, not to be converted in any way, although filling and cleaning of joints is permitted.
Mounted figures, including models of soldiers usually mounted, are excluded from this competition.
To be wholly the work of the exhibitor.
3. COMPETITION FOR A COLLECTION OF BADGES.
Trophy donated by Lt. Col. Kaye- a tankard, suitably engraved and bearing the Society's badge.
For a collection of badges of the British Army, the collection to illustrate or follow the history and development of a regiment, department or corps.

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4. COMPETITION FOR A CONVERTED FIGURE.
Trophy donated by Mr K. Gilkinson-a gilt medallion, bearing the Society's badge and a suitable inscription and Mounted as a trophy.
For a model figure of any military type. Must be a conversion from another type of figure. Simple conversions accepted, but the degree of conversion is to be stated by the entrant and is to be taken into account in the judging. Models showing "Before" and "After" would be an advantage.
5. TROPHY FOR BEST UNPUBLISHED UNIT HISTORY compiled by a member. May be of any unit of any military force. To be substantiated as completely as possible by reference to published books, orders etc. Preferably illustrated.
Note:- The Society reserves the right to use articles in SABRETACHE.

Trophy donated by Mr J. K. Lyons- A gilt medallion bearing the Society badge and suitably engraved, in a presentation box.

LIBRARY ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

We gratefully acknowledge the gifts of many interesting newspaper clippings from a number of our Australian and overseas members.

Additionally, we have received the following books, from:-

Mr. Alan V. Jones--A Ship to Remember,

Mr. Hugh Harper--The Thistle, Journal of the
Royal Scots,

Lt. Col. Peter Kaye--History of Prahran,
and 2 Volumes of Queens Regs.

To any of our previous donors whom we may not have mentioned in earlier issues, we say "Thank you", too.

Library presentations will be acknowledged in all future issues.

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Despatches.

Comments, queries and answers from readers.

1. From Mr Robert Gray:-

- A. Can anybody tell me when this brass shoulder title was worn?
Sketch from rubbing.



- B. Can anyone give me particulars regarding the 22 nd Bn. South Gippsland Regiment and theit badge?
C. Also a list of Australian units which had pipers or a pipe band during 1914-18 and 1939-45.

D.

QUIST

QH G

TYPE

These titles may not be military.
They are of brass-- can anyone identify them please?
Sketches from rubbings.

2. Mr. Cush. Lord has written from America that he recently presented a sailor's hat ribbon of HMAS Canberra to the Commanding Officer of USS Canberra. He says that the C.O. was very pleased, and sent him pictures, and the commissioning programme, plus a photo of the coat of arms which Canberra sent to the ship. The C.O. subsequently wrote to inform him that the ribbon has been framed and placed in the Officers' Wardroom with a plaque stating that it had been donated by Lt. Cushing Lord, SC, USNR, as a token of the lasting friendship between Australia and the U.S. Cush. says his local newspaper wrote up his medal collection in June.

WANTED TO BUY.

Australian Army Light Horse Training Manual.
Any edition, any year.

Please writ to:

K.W.Pryor,
28 Jersey St.,
BALWYN E8,Victoria,Australia.

WANTED.

AIR FORCE BADGES.

I am anxious to obtain the following badges of:

THE R.A.A.F. and its PREDECESSORS.

Pilot wings "AMF" }
Pilot wings "AFC" } WW1
Metal shoulder title "AFC" }

An alleged first type hat or cap badge reputedly worn c.1920
Sleeve badge, four-bladed metal propellor,1930's
Collar badges-Chaplains,gilt and enamel
Dental Branch,gilt
Meteorological Service,gilt(if any)
Educational Branch
Camouflage Service

Sleeve badge Bomb Disposal,WW2
Postwar aircrew CROWNED HALF-WINGS, all finishes
Postwar sleeve ranks for P1 to P4,blue and khaki
R.A.A.F.Apprentices cap badge surround, and cap band
Lapel badge for civilian wear,R.A.A.F.RESERVE, WW2
R.A.A.F. hat puggaree with blue stripe
R.A.A.F. waist belt plate for ceremonial wear.

OTHER AIR FORCES.

Pilot wings of INDIA, PAKISTAN, CEYLON, SOUTH AFRICA (present type),EIRE.
South African W.A.A.F's badges.

B.J.Wideon,
1 Harper Ave.,
BENTLEIGH SE15, Victoria.

WANTED.

NAVAL INSIGNIA.

Sailors hat ribbons of:-

pre-Federation Australian State's Navies.

Royal Naval Reserve.

South African Navy) all periods
Indian ")

Other Asian Countries.

Naval badges (headdress, rating, rank) prior to 1900.

B.J. Videon.
1 Harper Avenue,
BENTLEIGH.

FOR SALE.

Ince Bros have a number of gold bullion R.A.N rating badges for sale at 5/- each. These are brand new but mainly obsolete patterns, the original prices of which were much higher.

In addition, there are a number of rating badges, in blue on white, or red on blue, at lower prices depending on quantity ordered.

Please write to:-

B.J. Videon.
1 Harper Avenue,
BENTLEIGH.

N.B. Ince Bros regret that they are unable to oblige collectors by attempting to fill orders; but they do pass letters on to this Society, and we will be glad to try to help. We wish to make it clear, however, that NOT ALL badges are available through civilian sources.