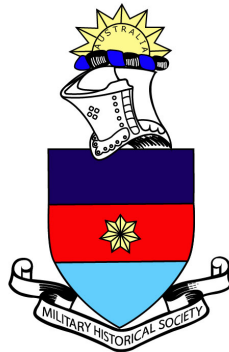


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Sabretache



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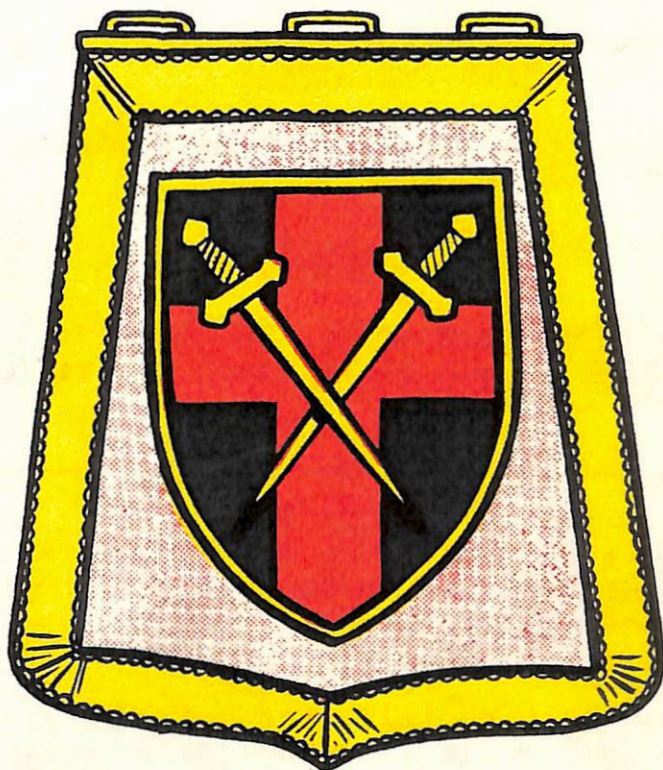
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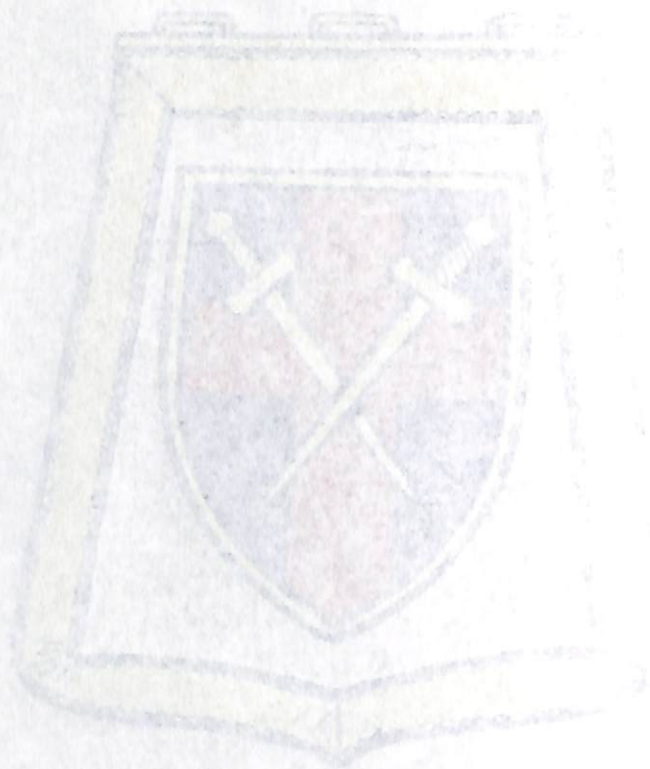
II

1960

No 8



The Journal of
The **MILITARY RESEARCH and COLLECTORS**
SOCIETY of AUSTRALIA.



The Journal of
THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF
ANTHROPOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND COLLECTORS
AUSTRALIA

SABRETACHE

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(formerly Military Collectors Society of Australia)

Number 8.

January 1960

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

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



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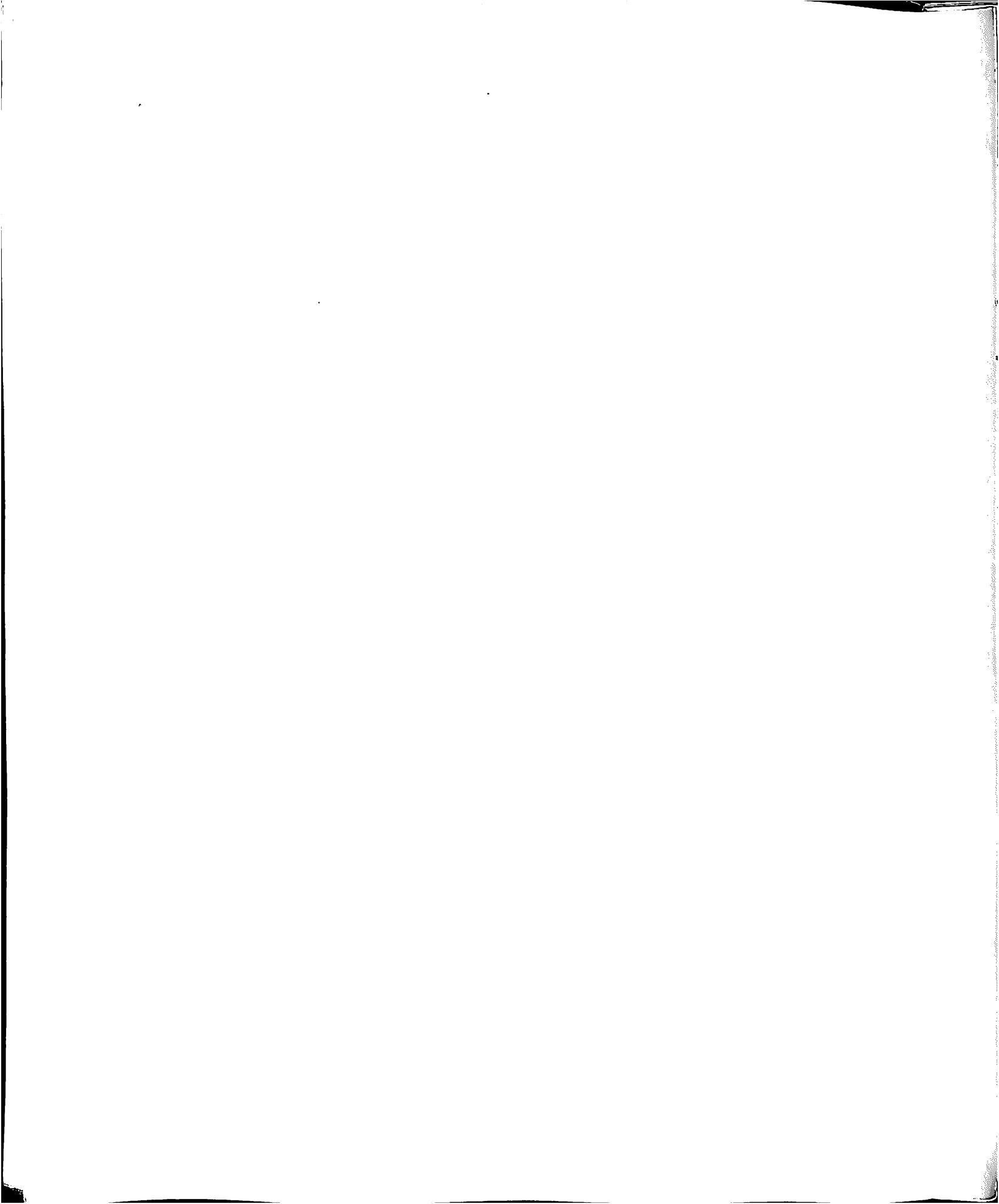
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THE CANADIAN
SERVICES COLLEGES

8/1.

The Canadian Services colleges consist of three establishments:

- (i) The Royal Military College of Canada at Kingston, Ontario;
- (ii) the former Royal Canadian Naval College at Hatley Castle, Royal Roads, Esquimalt, B.C.; and
- (iii) Le College Militaire Royal de Saint-Jean, at Saint-Jean, P.Q.

The senior college, at Kingston, closed during World War II, was re-opened in 1948 to provide officer cadets of the Canadian Navy, Army and Air Force with a service and academic education on the university level in arts and engineering. At about the same time, Royal Roads was reactivated as a triservice institution. In 1952, the third college, located at Saint-Jean was created to accommodate French-speaking students. Royal Roads and Saint-Jean offer two-year and three-year courses respectively to enter suitable candidates into the third year of the four-year curriculum at Kingston. For the first time in its history, academic degrees were conferred by the Royal Military College to its graduating class in 1959.

Character building is the keynote of the training given at the Canadian Services Colleges. The purpose is to provide a sound and balanced liberal, scientific and military education, instilling a sense of responsibility, discipline, fair play and fellowship. It affords an opportunity to develop the ability to command men and gain a practical experience of "man management" and teamwork. It aims to break down the differences between English-speaking and French-speaking cadets, thus developing a sense of national unity. Besides offering comprehensive academic instruction, the Colleges provide a basic knowledge of all three armed services and the problems of national defence.

Under the present system, the Services Colleges are linked with approved Canadian universities in the recently-devised Regular Officer Training Plan (R.O.T.P.), whereby the Department of National Defence sponsors a limited number of high school graduates to obtain a university education, through the Service Colleges or certain Canadian universities, leading to a degree. The cadets of the Services Colleges and specially-enrolled students at the universities compose the Canadian Officers' Training Corps (C.O.T.C.). They spend three or four months in the summer between sessions training in their chosen arm at one of the large establishments of the Active (i.e. Regular Army). Equivalent training is given at Royal Canadian Navy and Royal Canadian Air Force centres. At the end of three summers, commissions are granted to successful candidates.



The Royal Military College of Canada

The idea of a military college for Canada was first mooted as far back as 1816 by Captain A.G. Douglas of the Nova Scotia Regiment, who, during his active career, had been adjutant of the forerunner of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, England, for nine years.

No official action was taken at the time with regard to his proposals, as urgency in military affairs had abated after the repulse of the American invasions of 1812-14 and the defeat of Napoleon Bonaparte in 1815.

In 1867, the existing Canadian provinces were confederated into the self-governing Dominion of Canada, which thereupon assumed responsibility for national defence. Consequently, British regular troops were removed from Canada in 1870 and 1871, with the exception of small garrisons at the Esquimalt and Halifax stations. The withdrawal of these professional soldiers was soon found to have deprived the Canadian militia, such as it was, of an important source of military education. By an amendment to the Canadian Militia Act in 1871, training schools were established in connection with the skeleton Permanent (i.e. Regular) Force, but such courses proved inadequate for the country's military requirements. Furthermore, no adequate provision existed for training in higher command. Under these handicaps there was a definite decline in the efficiency of Canada's forces.

By 1874 the weaknesses of the militia system and the need of higher military education had become so apparent that many patriotic Canadians, as well as British military men and the Imperial Government, persisted in drawing the attention of the Canadian authorities to the situation. Interest was still further stimulated by discussion in the press and debate in the Federal Parliament. The Governor General, the Earl of Dufferin, took a deep concern in the matter and, in particular, Lieut. Col. Walker Powell, acting adjutant-general of the Militia, urged a "high class military school" for Canada.

In 1876 the newly-elected Canadian government under Alexander Mackenzie lost no time in taking definite action. An act of parliament was passed early that year establishing a military college "for the purpose of imparting a complete education in all branches of military tactics, fortification, engineering and general scientific knowledge in subjects connected with and necessary for a thorough knowledge in the military profession and for qualifying officers for command and staff appointments." Two years later, in 1878, this institution was granted the name, "The Royal Military College of Canada", by Queen Victoria.

Kingston, Ontario, the site chosen for the new Military College had deep roots in Canadian military history and traditions. The oldest military post in Canada west of Montreal, its history dates back to the days of the French regime. In 1673, Governor Frontenac of New France built a fort bearing his name on the shore of Lake Ontario at the mouth of the Cataraqui River, the site of the present city of Kingston. This strategic position controlled both the entrance to



the St. Lawrence and the old Iroquois route from Oswego to the Ottawa River. In the French drive to the west, Fort Frontenac became one of the chain of strongholds linking the St. Lawrence with the Ohio River. In 1686-87 the Marquis de Denonville used the fort as a base for his campaign against the Iroquois. Subsequently it was besieged on and off by the Indians for two years and then evacuated by the French. In 1696 Frontenac, again Governor, rebuilt the fort. In 1756 it was the assembly point for the Marquis de Vaudreuil's attack on the British in Oswego. In 1758 British troops under Colonel John Bradstreet compelled the surrender of Fort Frontenac's weak garrison.

During the American Revolutionary War, 1775-1783, the British troops built a dockyard at Carleton Island, opposite Fort Frontenac, deeming the latter's harbour unsuitable for naval purposes. After the Treaty of Paris, 1783, Carleton Island became United States territory and the British consequently had to construct a new naval base in the vicinity of the old French fort. Military detachments were sent to Cataragui, later known as Kingston, where a number of Loyalist settlers were soon to be established. The ruins of Fort Frontenac were considered "altogether defenceless" and the Tete de Pont Barracks were erected on their site. In the new construction, the spot where the Royal Military College now stands was chosen for a naval depot. In 1812, the Kingston naval base was attacked by an American naval squadron from Sackett's Harbour, the engagement consisting merely of an exchange of shots between ships and shore batteries. This was Kingston's closest brush with the enemy, although it was in the midst of the theatre of operations and an objective of several expeditions. There is no doubt that the strong Kingston base played an outstanding part in the defeat of the attempted American conquest of Canada.

The Rush-Bagot Treaty of 1817 drastically restricted, but did not entirely eliminate, warships on the Great Lakes. Most of the Canadian naval vessels built during the 1812-14 war were laid up in reserve, while others on the stocks were left uncompleted. The Kingston Naval Base remained in existence for a number of years more. In 1820 a large stone warehouse was completed to hold ship's gear and other naval stores. This building, known as the "Stone Frigate", is a direct link between the Royal Military College and Kingston's historic past, as it eventually became a dormitory for the military cadets. In 1831 the annual maintenance appropriation for the naval base lapsed and by 1836 the last of the disintegrating ships had been eliminated. Thus, when the Military College was authorized, accommodation was available in one of Canada's most historical spots.

Upon organizing the Royal Military College in 1876 and selecting its site at Kingston, the authorities appointed its first commandant in the person of Major (later Lieutenant General) E.V.O. Hewett of the Royal Engineers. Major Hewett



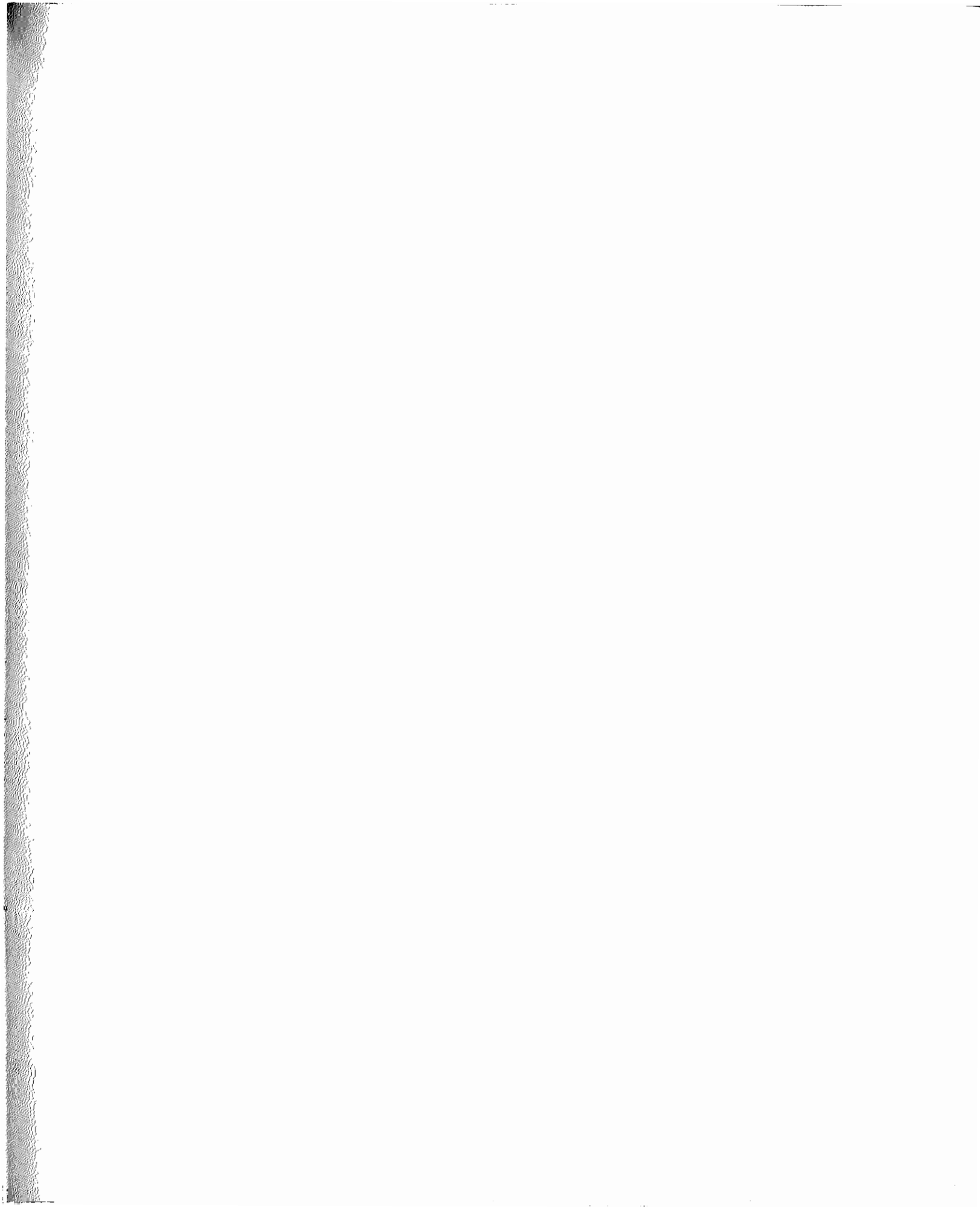
was the son of a distinguished soldier who had served in many parts of the world and had led a "forlorn hope" at Oswego in 1814. The new Commandant, educated at Cheltenham and the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, was commissioned in the Royal Engineers in 1854. For some years he was connected with the defences of Dover and Portsmouth and spent some time as an instructor at Woolwich. He subsequently served in the West Indies and South America then joined the British garrison in Canada as an engineer captain. At the time of the American Civil War, he was appointed an observer on behalf of the British Government and witnessed several campaigns from both sides. In 1867 he returned to England and received his majority. Thus Major Hewett, at the time of his appointment to the Royal Military College, Kingston, had over twenty years' experience as engineer, instructor and soldier, with a first hand knowledge of up-to-date warfare on the North American continent.

The faculty of the College, appointed in 1876, was small but efficient: Capt. J. Bramley Ridout as Captain of Cadets, Capt. E. Kensington as Professor of Mathematics and Artillery, Capt. G. W. Hawkins as Professor of Fortifications, and the Rev. George Ferguson as Professor of German. The first class of cadets entered Royal Military College on 1st. June, 1876, fourteen from Ontario, three from New Brunswick and one from Quebec Province, who are still known by tradition as "The Old Eighteen".

After very careful study of military colleges in Great Britain, the United States and elsewhere, the authorities selected the United States Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. as a model for the Canadian institution. So surely were the foundations laid that by 1886 the Canadian statesman, Sir Charles Tupper, was able to write: "I regard the Canadian Military College as one of the best of its class in the world. The training and results are in every way of a high order and the Americans themselves, I understand, say better than at West Point."

The curriculum of the Royal Military College of Canada has also been acknowledged to be superior to that of the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, and the Royal Military College, Sandhurst (now combined as the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst), the military education being of a higher standard and more thorough. Whereas the courses given at Woolwich and Sandhurst were considered preliminary to further instruction given to young officers regimentally and at staff colleges, schools of musketry and the like, the education given by the Canadian establishment was more or less final.

The scope of instruction, obligatory and voluntary, given by the Canadian college included: cavalry, artillery and infantry drills, equitation, gymnastics, swordsmanship, swimming, mathematics, mechanics, practical geometry, military engineering, technical drawing, hydraulic engineering, design and execution of structures, military administration, law, strategy and tactics, surveying and military topography, reconnaissance French and other modern languages, physics, geology, history,



geography and ballistics. As well as becoming a qualified military officer, the R.M.C. graduate was the recipient of a good general education and a comprehensive grasp of the principles of engineering.

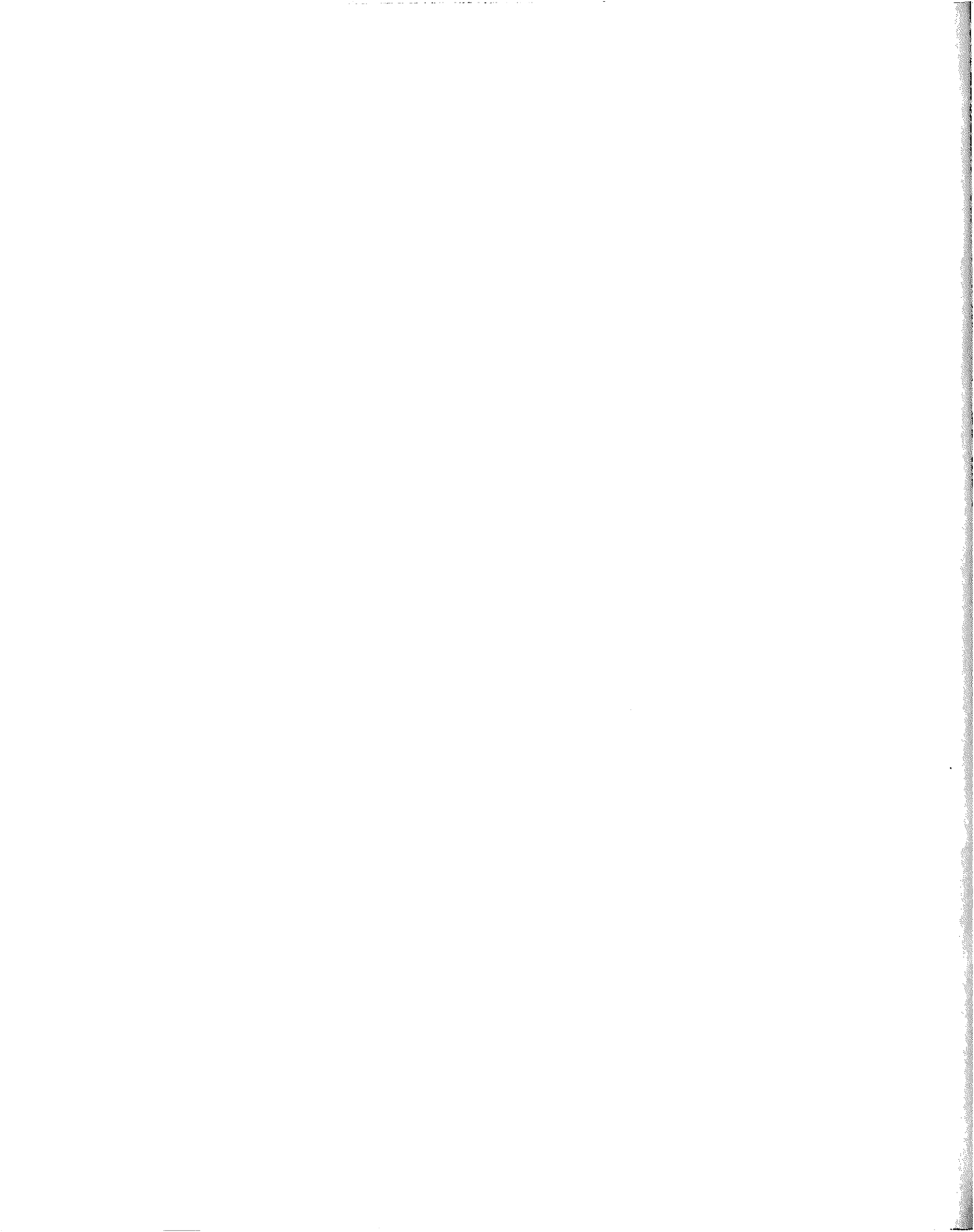
The graduate, moreover, had a standing recognized by the universities and by various Canadian professional bodies such as the civil engineers, land surveyors, law societies, colleges of physicians and surgeons and institutes of chartered accountants. His diploma shortened the period of service under articles in certain professions and exempted him from various preliminary professional examinations. It was accepted by the principal universities in Canada as equivalent subject for subject, to those covered in the first three years of a university course. (The Royal Military College now, as stated before, confers university degrees.)

The main object of the Royal Military College, then as now, was to provide commissioned officers for the Armed Services. Accordingly a number of commissions in all branches of the Permanent Force (i.e. Active, or Regular, Army) and the Royal Canadian Air Force were offered annually to graduates. Prior to the 1948 reorganization, a limited number of naval cadetships were made available to cadets who had successfully completed the first two years at R.M.C. and who desired commission in the Royal Canadian Navy and Royal Navy. All cadets who did not intend to become regular officers received commissions in the Non-Permanent Active Militia (now Militia) being appointed according to choice either to an N.P.A.M. unit or to the Reserve of Officers.

From 1880 the British Government annually offered four commissions in the British Regular Army to R.M.C. graduates, and this number was later substantially increased. As the Canadian Permanent Force had limited opportunities for career officers, the Imperial appointments were popular. For instance, by 1891, out of 175 graduates, seventy had served, or were serving, with the Imperial Forces.

A candidate for admission to the Royal Military College had to be between 16 and 19 years of age, physically fit and a British subject residing in Canada. The entrance qualifications were Junior Matriculation in Arts or science, or the accepted provincial equivalent. Vacancies were allotted according to population to the respective provinces and were filled in order of merit obtained by the candidate in the matriculation, or equivalent, examination. The length of the course was four years of approximately ten months each. On successful completion of the course, the cadet, (in pre-degree days,) was granted a Diploma of Graduation, with or without "Honours".

Space does not permit an account of the records of many individual graduates and ex-cadets. Officers from the Canadian college in the British Army served in more than forty different campaigns, in Africa, China, Burma and on the North-West Frontier of India and elsewhere, between the Burmese Expedition of 1877-78 and the Mohmand Operations of 1908. On the outbreak of the North-West Rebellion in Canada in 1885, the cadets of the College



8/64

volunteered as a body for active service, an offer that was declined as not then necessary. Of the graduates and ex-cadets, however, thirty served with the Field Force and seven on garrison duty. During the South African War, 1899-1901, seventy-four former cadets served in the various Empire forces, including one with the New South Wales Regular Artillery. Of these, seven were killed in action or died of wounds.

Over nine hundred R.M.C. graduates and ex-cadets served in World War I in most theatres of operations, one in every six being killed or dying of wounds. The record of service was maintained in the Second World War and in the Korean campaign.

The list of decorations awarded to Royal Military College graduates and ex-cadets is long and impressive. In the First World War, the Victoria Cross was won by Lieut. Col. William Avery Bishop, D.S.O. and bar, D.F.C., a R.M.C. graduate who became the top-scoring ace of the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Air Force. Three other former cadets were recommended for the same honour. In World War II the V.C. was awarded to Lieut. Col. C.C.I. Merritt, another R.M.C. graduate, for his gallantry while commanding the South Saskatchewan Regiment at Dieppe.

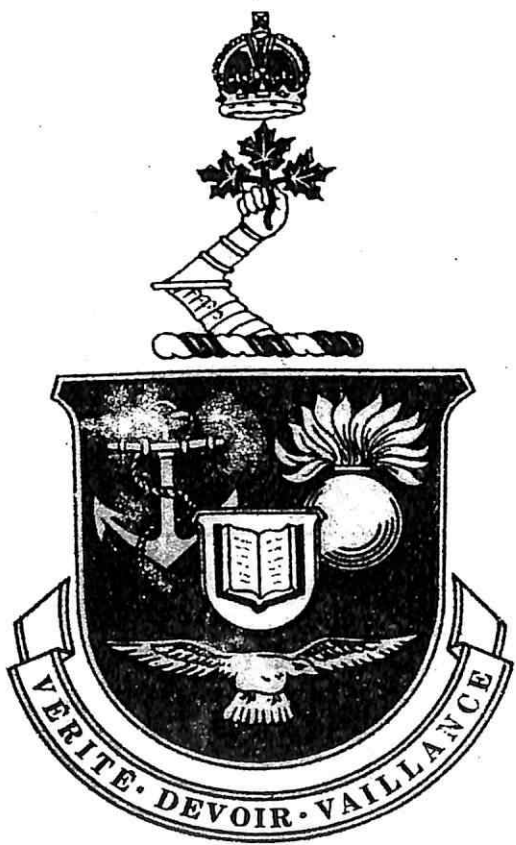
A number of graduates have achieved distinction in the British Army. Of special interest to Australians is the record of one graduate of the R.M.C., Major General Sir William Throsby Bridges, K.C.B. C.M.G. who became the first commandant of the Royal Military College of Australia, Duntroon. (see SABRETACHE, No. 5, June 1959.)

Colonel (later Brigadier General) G.N. Johnson C.M.G. D.S.O. was appointed Director of Ordnance and Commander of the Permanent Artillery in the New Zealand Defence Forces. Brigadier General Sir E.P.C. Girouard K.C.M.G. D.S.O., a brilliant engineer officer served as Director of Railways of the Egyptian Army in 1896-98, when he laid six hundred miles of railways across the desert and thus contributed towards the British victories of Atbara and Omdurman. Most recently, General Sir Charles Loewen K.C.B. C.B.E. D.S.O. retired as Adjutant General of the British Army on 14th August, 1959, after a military career lasting 42 years.

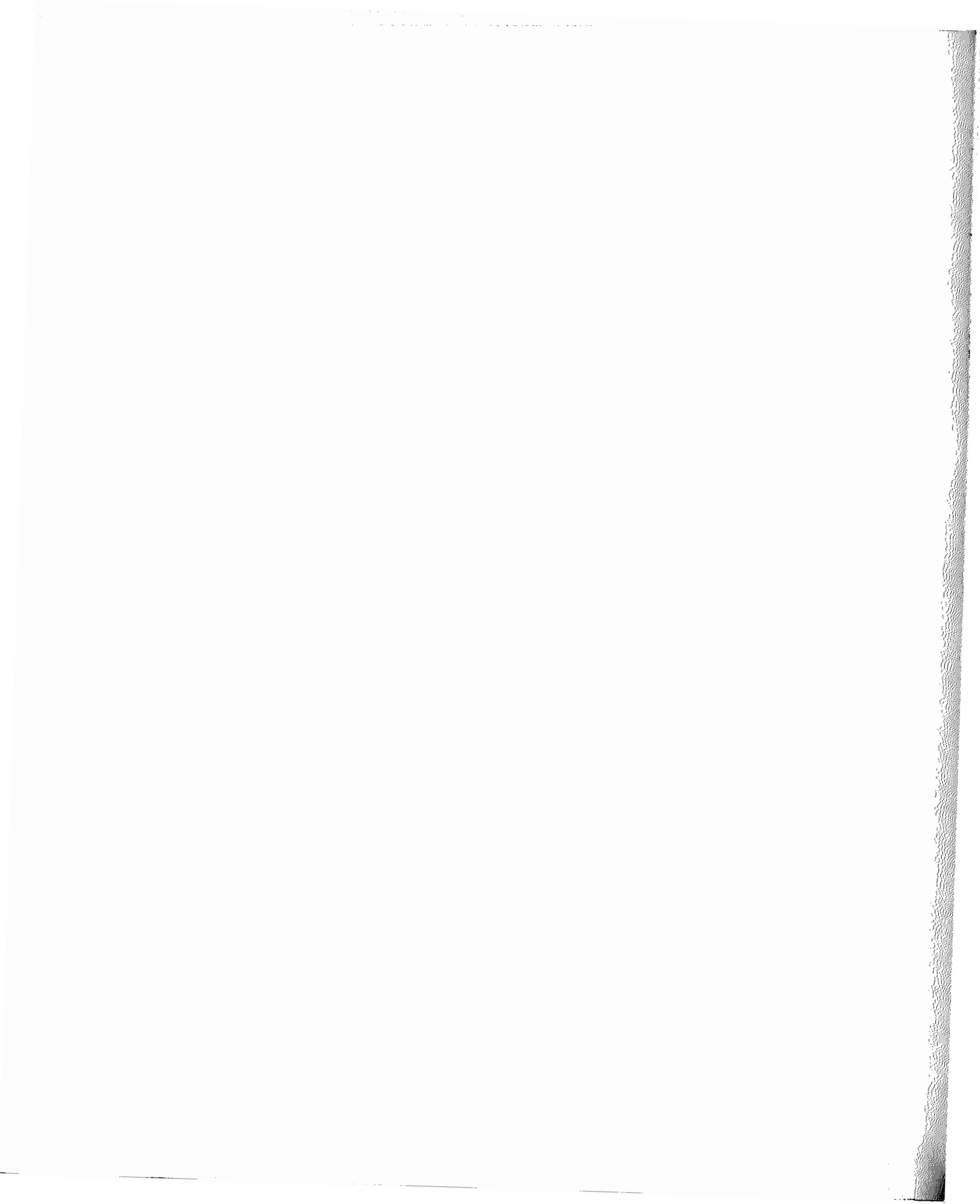
In Canada, Royal Military College graduates have made a name for themselves in both military and civil life. Many attained high rank in the Canadian Army in the two World Wars, among them Major General Sir A.C. Macdonell K.C.B. C.M.G. D.S.O., Major General Sir H.E. Burstall K.C.B. C.M.G. and Major General G.B. Hughes C.M.G. D.S.O. in World War I.

In Canadian civil life, Royal Military College alumni have achieved high executive and administrative positions. Among these can be numbered superintendent of the Dominion Arsenal, chairman of the Canadian National Railway, engineer in charge of building the New Welland Canal, superintendent of rolling mills, general manager of a large iron and steel corporation, provincial engineer, chief of the engineering department of a transcontinental railway, chief geographer to the Department of the Interior, commissioner of irrigation and Canadian trades commissioner.





Collège Militaire Royal
de Saint-Jean



Many are engineers in public service and private practice at home and abroad. Others are lawyers, professors, teachers and businessmen. Apart from thier professional and business careers, a number of former cadets take an active interest in public affairs on the various levels serving as members of parliament, national and provincial, aldermen and police commissioners.

It can well be said that the Royal Military College of Canada and its two allied Services Colleges have left their mark on the nation's growth. Never before has there been such a demand for trained and resolute leaders who have for their watchword the motto of the College: "Truth,Duty,Valour."

F.C. Pilkington.

Sources and References:

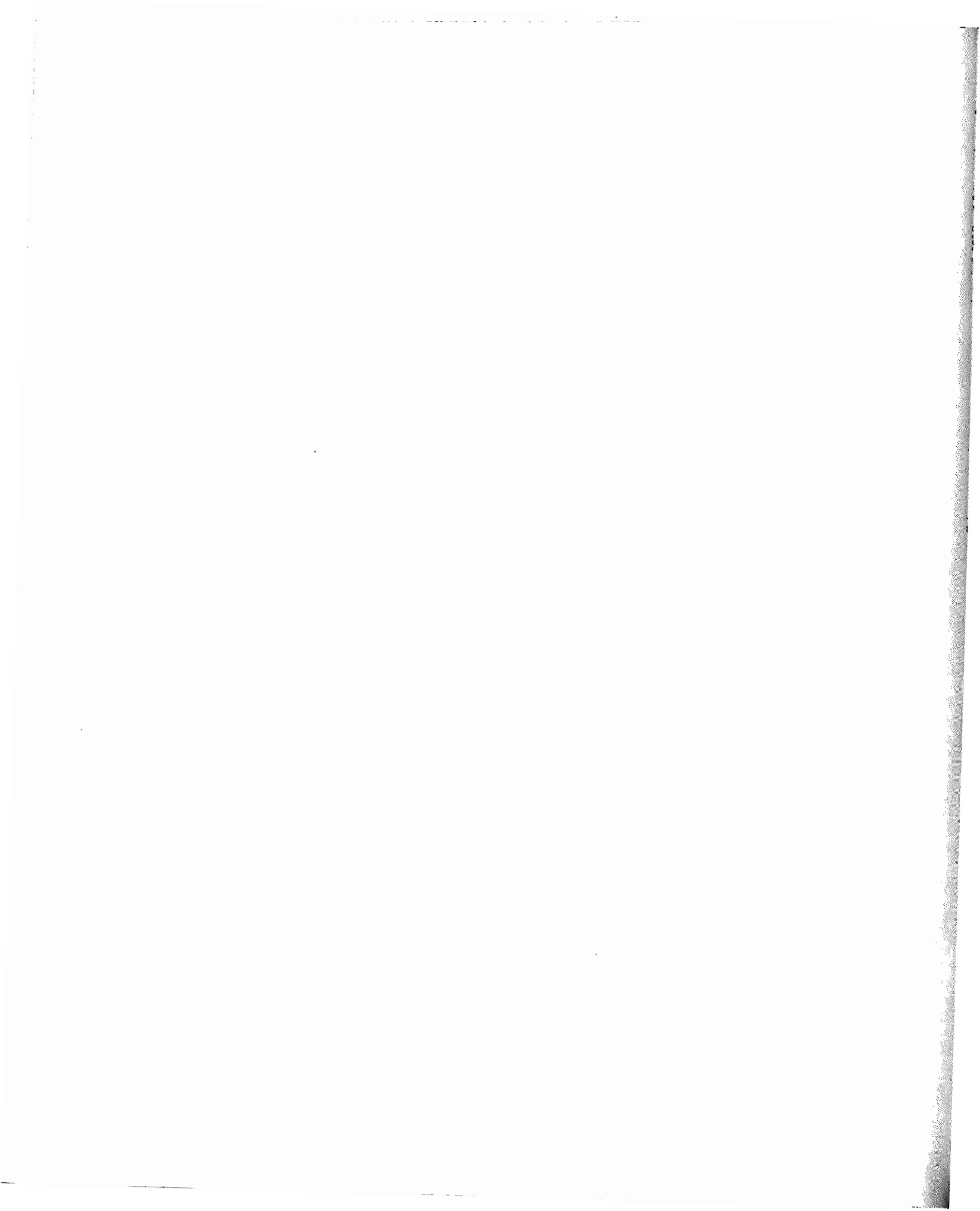
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Le College Militaire Royal De Saint-Jean.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF FORT SAINT-JEAN.

In the conflict between the Thirteen Colonies and Canada, the Richelieu River, on whose banks the College militaire is situated, served as the main invasion route to Canada. As early as 1609, the Founder of Québec, Samuel de Champlain, had made use of it in his struggle for the possession of North America.

It was not, however, until 1665 that the French seriously undertook the colonization of the New World. In that year, a series of forts were constructed along the Richelieu by the newly- arrived Regiment de Carignan- Salieres: Fort Sorel, Fort Chambly, and Fort Sainte- Therese sprang up in rapid succession. The first fort of Saint- Jean was erected in 1666 and rebuilt in 1748.



Plans of the second fort drawn up by the engineer De Lery and approved by General de la Galissonniere are still extant. About this time, Madame Begon, a woman prominent in Canadian society, made this remark about the Fort in her correspondence: "All those who have seen this edifice say that it is very beautiful, but being made of wood it is not very sturdy."

During the French regime, the Fort was mainly used as an assembly and supply point. Then, on August 29, 1760, because of the Anglo-American advances and the fall of I'lle-aux-Noix, the French burned Fort Saint-Jean.

A token English force guarded Fort Saint-Jean until 1775, when the war of Independence began. Carleton quickly realized the importance of this Fort and despatched the 26th Foot Regiment, commanded by Major Charles Preston, to Fort Saint-Jean with orders to prepare it for defence. His forces were strengthened by reinforcements from the 7th Foot, and from the Royal Artillery. It is interesting to note that eighty nine of the 650 men under Major Preston were former Canadians who had fought with the French forces fifteen years earlier.

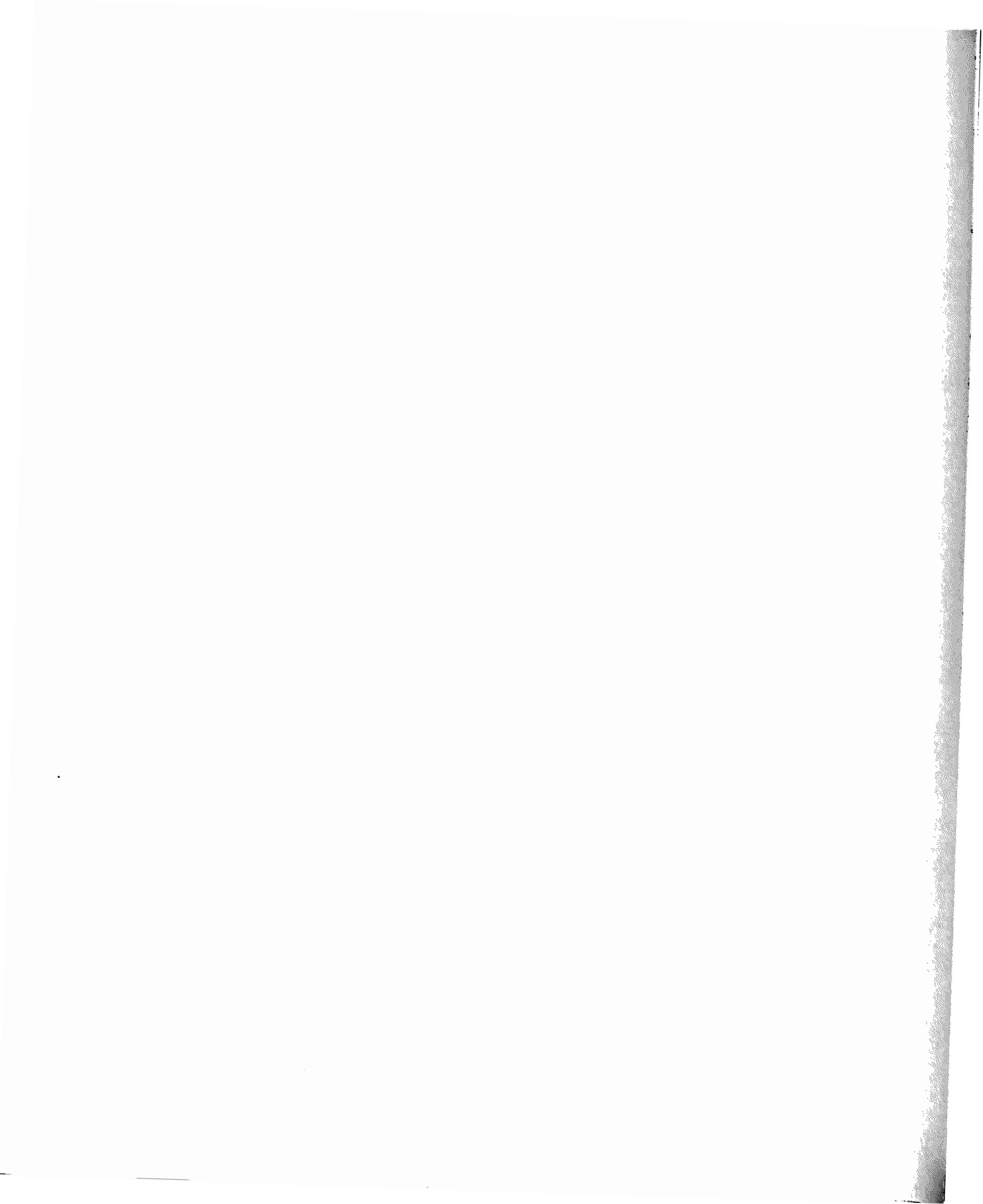
On September 17, Montgomery, Commander of the American troops, attacked Saint-Jean with 3000 men.

The seige of Fort Saint-Jean was an intense one. All equipment and supplies sent from Laprairie to aid the defenders fell into enemy hands. The situation was further aggravated by the arrival of 25 destitute families in the Fort.

Official sources indicate the important role of the artillery in the battle for the Fort. An artillery battery and a 13-inch mortar flattened, from a position of 400 yards, most of the buildings inside the Fort. From within the Fort, Preston's 40 bronze cannons destroyed the surrounding buildings to prevent any American occupation.

To the north, the fall of Fort Chambly destroyed the defenders last hope of help. The depletion of food, munitions and supplies, together with the death of over a hundred soldiers and many wounded, compelled the garrison at Fort Saint-Jean finally to capitulate.

Preston's courage and temerity were acclaimed by Montgomery himself in Article 2 of the capitulation of the Fort: "The garrison shall march out with the honours of war. This is due to their fortitude and perseverance."



Montgomery's campaign against Quebec was strongly affected by the resistance of Fort Saint- Jean, as the winter cold soon forced the Americans to withdraw.

In the course of time, Fort Saint- Jean underwent innumerable changes. In 1778, Haldimand ordered new constructions, which cost 24,000 pounds sterling. Scarcely damaged by the war of 1812-1814, the Fort was gutted by fire in 1817, but was rebuilt immediately. Today, some of the buildings erected in 1839 are still in use.

Fort Saint- Jean has been occupied by some of the most famous regiments of France, and some distinguished Canadian and British units, The Royal Engineers, a British Infantry School, the Royal Canadian Dragoons, the Royal Canadian Regiment, the Royal 22e Regiment, and the Canadian Army Training School (CATS).

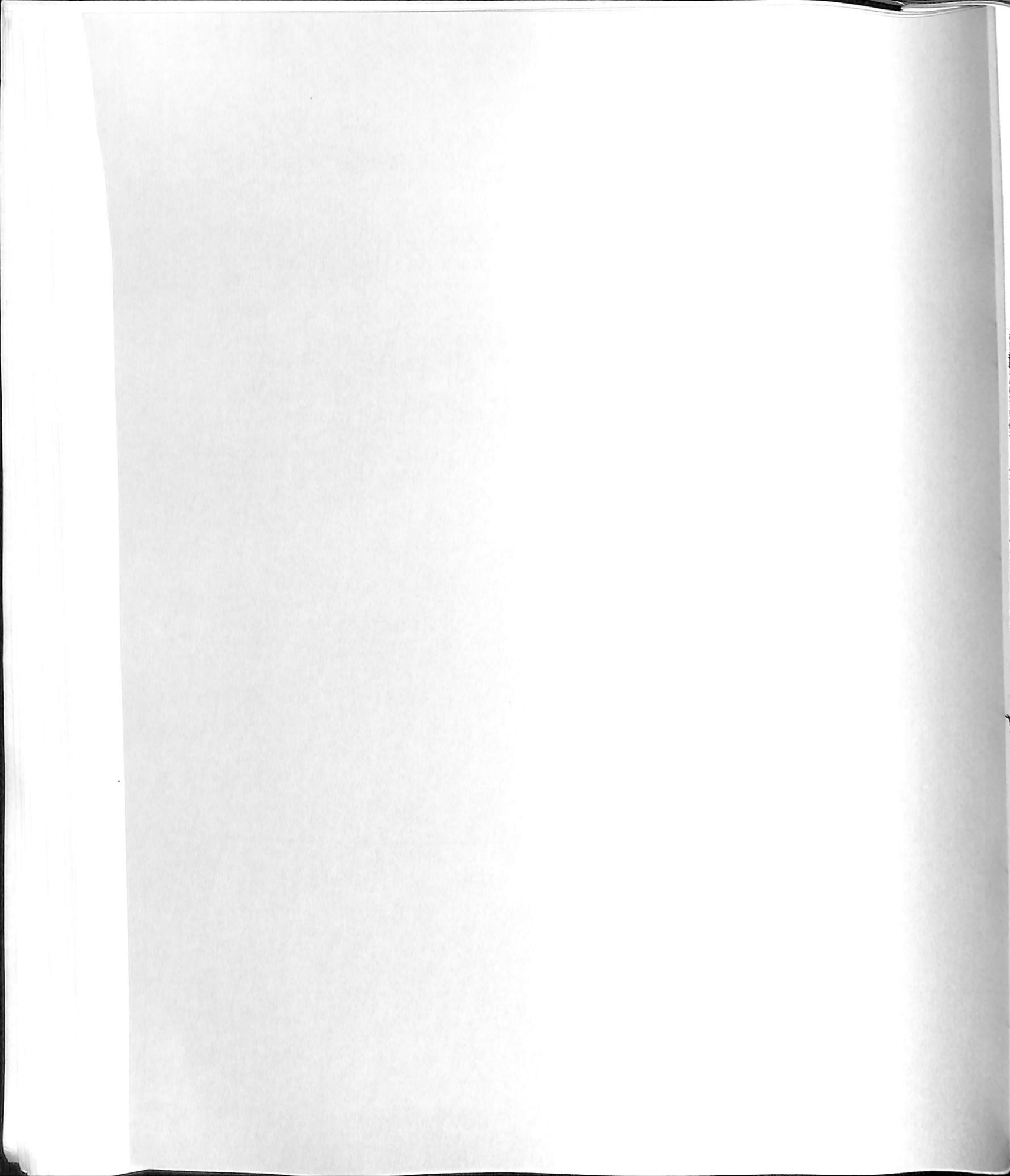
Nearly three centuries of healthy military traditions make the choice of Fort Saint- Jean as a center of training for our young officers of today a logical one.

Information Supplied by
Courtesy of the Commandant.

.....

Dress Regulations-(Brought forward from, and to be read after
page 8/13.

9A	Fatigue Dress (Winter)	Per 1 9 Dress, and in addition Cap-Winter Greatcoat Overshoes Mitts, winter	Per 1 9 Dress, during cold weather.
9C	Fatigue Dress (Inclement weather)	Per 1 9 Dress, and in addition Raincoat Rubbers	Per 1 9 Dress, during inclement weather.



COLLEGE UNIFORMS.DRESS AND OCCASIONS ON WHICH THEY ARE TO BE WORN

The dress authorized for officer cadets and the occasions on which they are to be worn shall be as prescribed below. Numbers have been assigned to the various types of dress for convenience when referring to them.

Number	Dress	Particulars	Occasion.
1	Scarlet Ceremonial Dress	Cap-pill box Scarlet tunic Blue trousers Ankle boots Anklets-leather Grey socks White gloves Belt and frog (White) Rifle and Bayonet	(a) Ceremonial parades (b) Guards of Honour (c) Funerals
1A	Scarlet Ceremonial Dress (winter)	Per# 1 Dress, and in addition: Cap-winter Greatcoat Overshoes Mitts-Winter	Per# 1 Dress, during cold weather.
1B	Scarlet Ceremonial Dress (Cool or inclement weather)	Per# 1 Dress, and in addition cape	Per# 1 Dress, in cool weather.
1C	Scarlet Ceremonial Dress (Inclement weather)	Per# 1 Dress, and in addition Raincoat.	Per# 1 Dress, during inclement weather.



2	Scarlet Dress.	Cap-pill box Scarlet tunic Blue trousers Ankle boots Anklets,-leather Grey socks White gloves Belt(White)	Church Parades,when not under arms.
2A	Scarlet Dress(winter)	Per # 2 Dress,and in addition Cap-Winter Greatcoat Overshoes Mitts-Winter.	Per # 2 Dress during cold weather.
2B	Scarlet Dress (Cool weather)	Per # 2 Dress,and in addition Cape	Per # 2 Dress,in cool weather.
2C	Scarlet Dress (inclement weather)	Per # 2 Dress, and in addition Raincoat.	Per # 2 Dress, during inclement weather.
3	Walking out Dress	Cap-pill box Scarlet tunic Blue trousers black shoes black socks White gloves White belt	(a)Formal occasions (b)On leave or on pass
3A	Walking out Dress(Winter)	Per # 3 Dress,and in addition Cap-Winter Greatcoat Overshoes Mitts-Winter	Per # 3 Dress,during cold weather
3B	Walking out (Cool or inclement weather)	Per # 3 Dress,and in addition Cape.	Per # 3 Dress,in cool cold weather

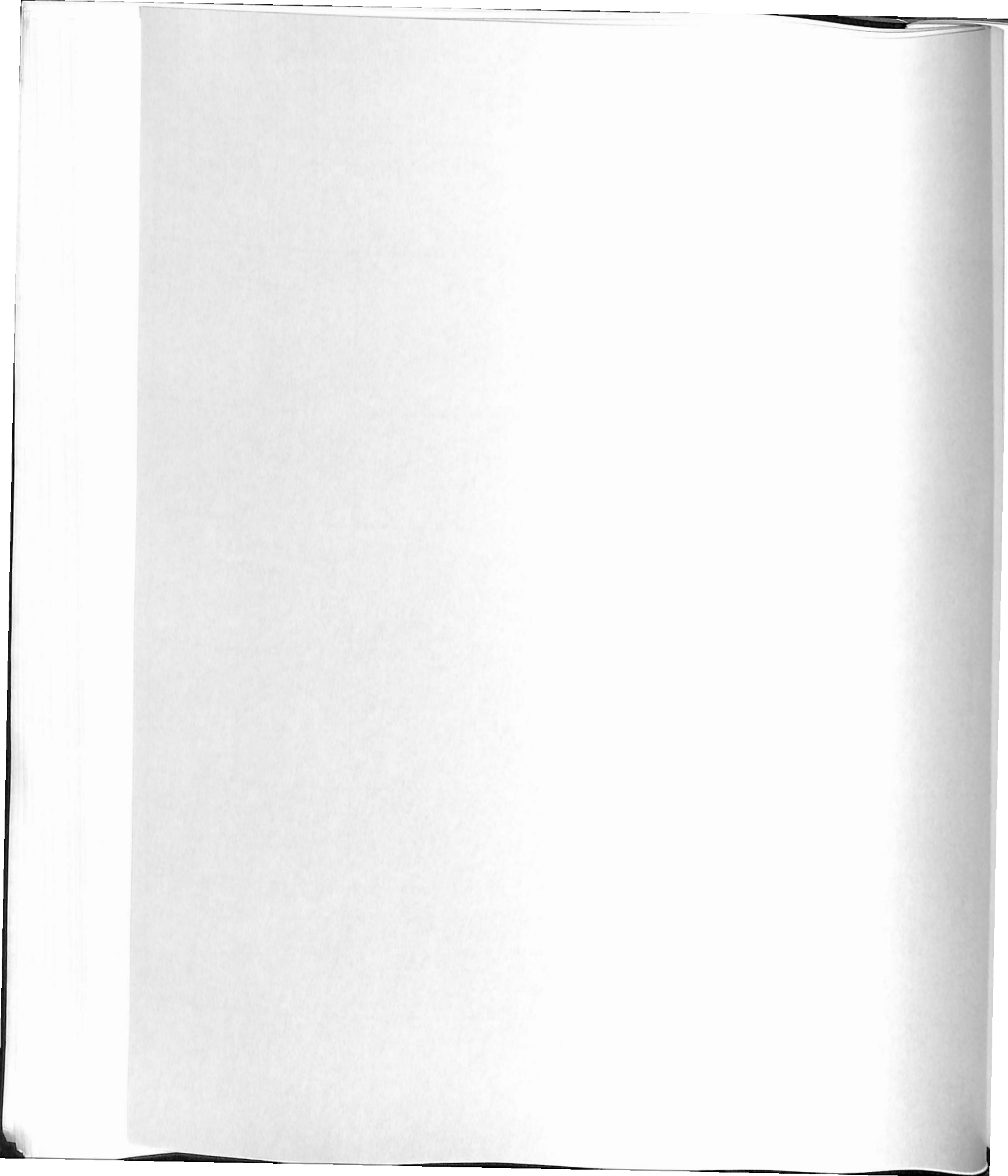


	Blue Undress	Cap(FS) Blue jacket Blue trousers Black shoes Black socks Brown gloves.	(a) Informal occasions (b) Visits within the College grounds
A	Blue Undress Winter	Per 4 4 Dress, and in addition Cap-winter Greatcoat Over coat Overshoes Mitts-Winter	Per 4 4 Dress, during cold weather
B	Blue Undress Cool Weather	Per 4 4 Dress, and in addition Cape	Per 4 4 Dress, in cool weather
C	Blue Undress (Inclement weather)	Per 4 4 Dress, and in addition Raincoat	Per 4 4 Dress, during inclement weather
	Instructional Dress	Cap (FS) Battle Dress Blouse Blue Trousers White Shirt Black Tie Ankle Boots Grey socks.	Ordinary occasions on duty
A	Instructional Dress (Winter)	Per 5 5 Dress, and in addition Cap-Winter Greatcoat Overshoes Mitts-Winter	Per 5 5 Dress, during cold weather
B	Instructional Dress (Drill order)	Per 5 5 Dress, and in Belt & Frog (white) Rifle & Bayonet	Drill Parades



5C	Instructional Dress (Inclement weather)	Per / 5 Dress, and in addition Raincoat Rubbers	Per / 5 Dress, during inclement weather.
6	Recreational Dress	Blue blazer Grey flannels White shirt Black socks Black shoes Belt (CSC) Tie (CSC)	Recreation
7	PT Dress	White singlet Gym shorts Shoes..Gym-White Grey socks	PT Parades
7A	PT Dress (Winter)	Per / 7 Dress, and in addition Sweater, turtle neck White Toque (CS)	Per / 7 Dress in cold weather.
8	Sports Dress	Jersey, games Blue shorts Boots, game or athletic Stockings, game	Sports Parades
8A	Sports Dress (cold weather)	Per / 8 Dress, with Blue denim trousers in lieu of blue shorts.	Per / 8 Dress, in cold weather
9	Fatigue Dress	Cap, FS Jackets blue denim trousers blue denim shirts working ankle boots gray socks	Working dress for fatigue parties

Continued and concluded on Page 8/9.



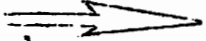
PROJECTS.

Lt. Col. Dick S. Von Schritzt's Coloured Uniform Plates "Regiments of the World 1880-1914".
(listed as Project No.3 in SABRETACHE 6/28.)

The first ten plates in this series have come to hand, and they are very very good, Well-drawn, and printed on good, heavy quality paper, these plates will be a welcome addition to the library of anyone interested in uniforms. Each plate is accompanied by a very complete colouring description, and each buyer receives a well-thought-out Sheet of "Suggestions for colouring".

The first ten plates are :-

- Plate 1- Queensland Scottish Rifle Volunteers
(Officer and Private 1886-96)
- Plate 2- British Honduras Constabulary
(Trooper and Officer 1887-1900)
- Plate 3- Singapore Volunteer Rifle Corps
(Colour Bearer and Sgt. Major. 1880-87)
- Plate 4- 11th Irish Fusiliers of Canada
(Officer and Fusilier 1911-14)
- Plate 5- Calcutta Scottish Volunteer Battalion
(Officer & Private 1914-20)
- Plate 6- Kaffrarian Rifles
(Officer & Private 1903-14)
- Plate 7- Gold Coast Constabulary
(Officer & Haussa 1888-1960)
- Plate 8- Ceylon Light Infantry Volunteers
(Officer & Private 1881-1900)
- Plate 9- Timaru City Rifles, N.Z.
(Officer & Private 1880-1900)
- Plate 10- Jamaica Militia Volunteers
(Officer & Private 1885) (reproduced
opposite)

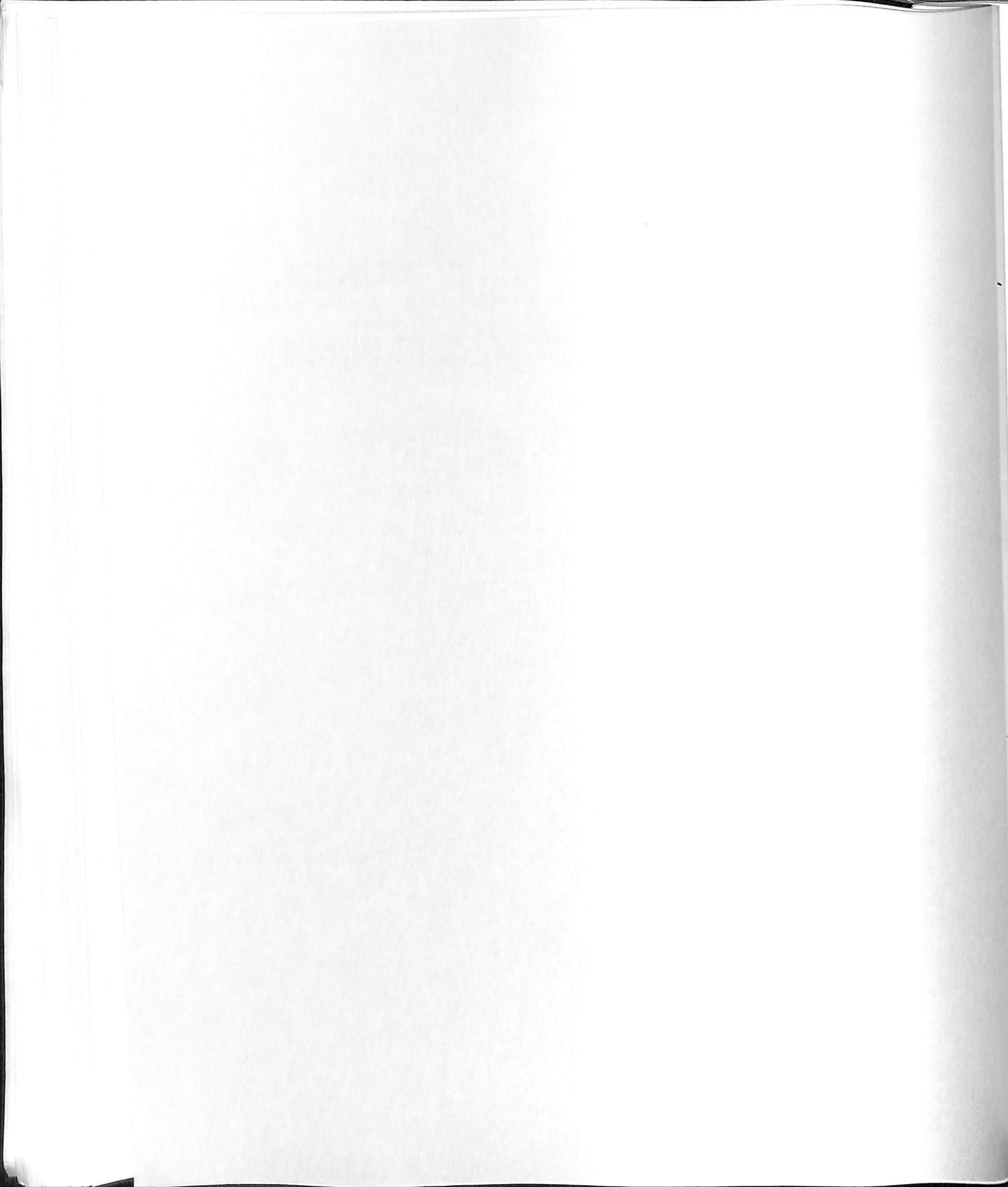
Plate size is $11\frac{1}{4}$ " x $8\frac{3}{4}$ ", figures approximately 7" high. 
Excellent value at 2½ dollars, U.S. (Australian equivalent approx 21/-) for 10, plus postage.

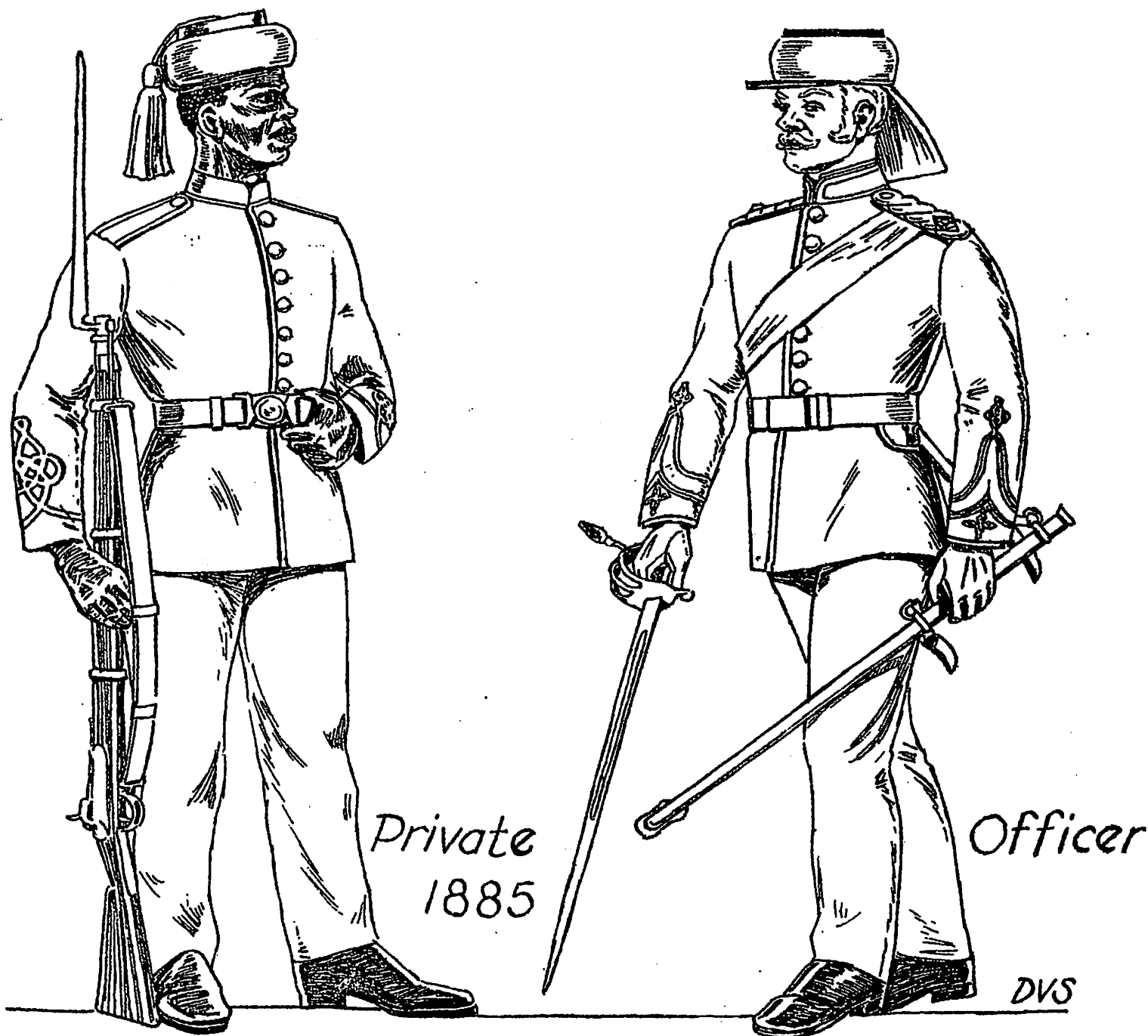
A limited number of these plates, beautifully painted, may be obtained for 3 dollars per plate. We have seen the quality of this work, which really is worth the money.

Col. Von Schritzt may be contacted by writing to:-

Lt. Col. Dick S. Von Schritzt
O-23944
Special Warfare School,
Fort Bragg. N.C. U.S.A.

.....





*Private
1885*

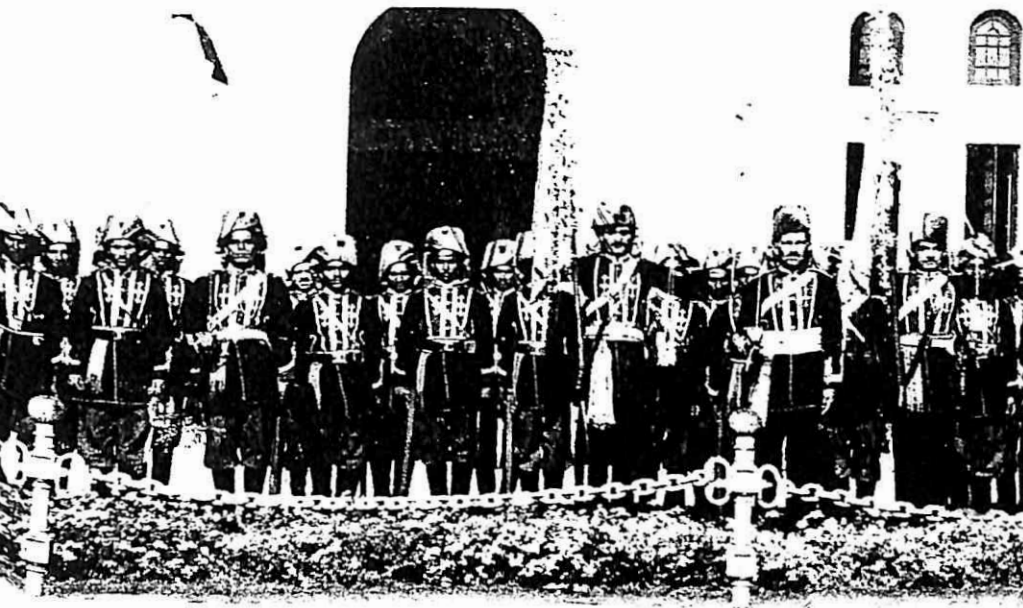
Officer

DVS

*Jamaica Militia Volunteers
Kingston, Jamaica*

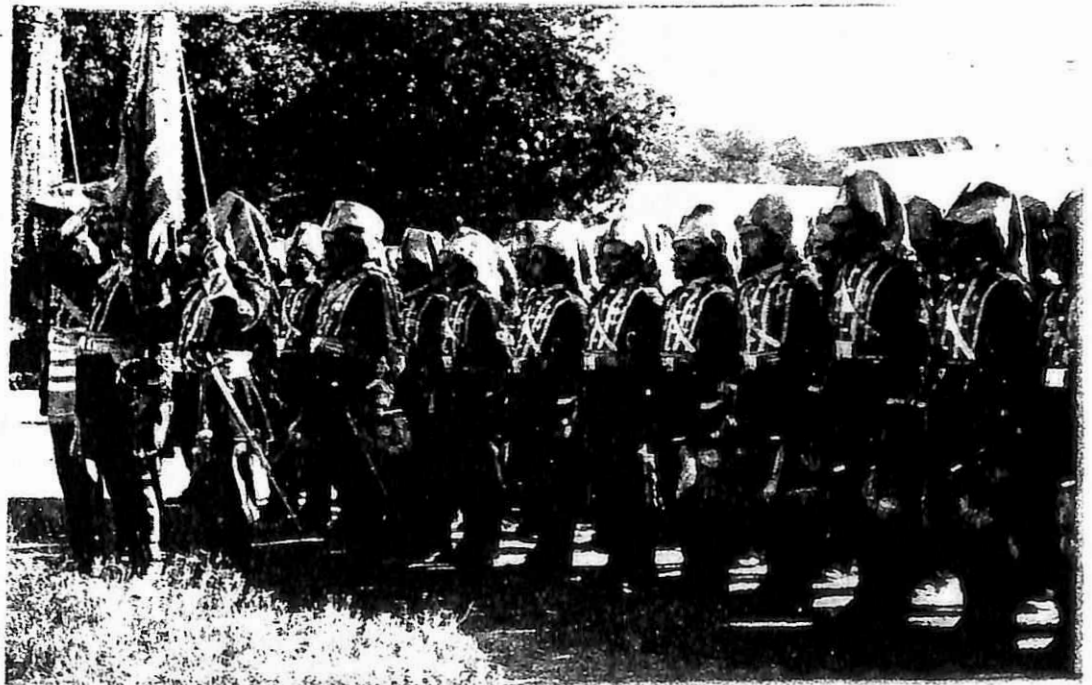


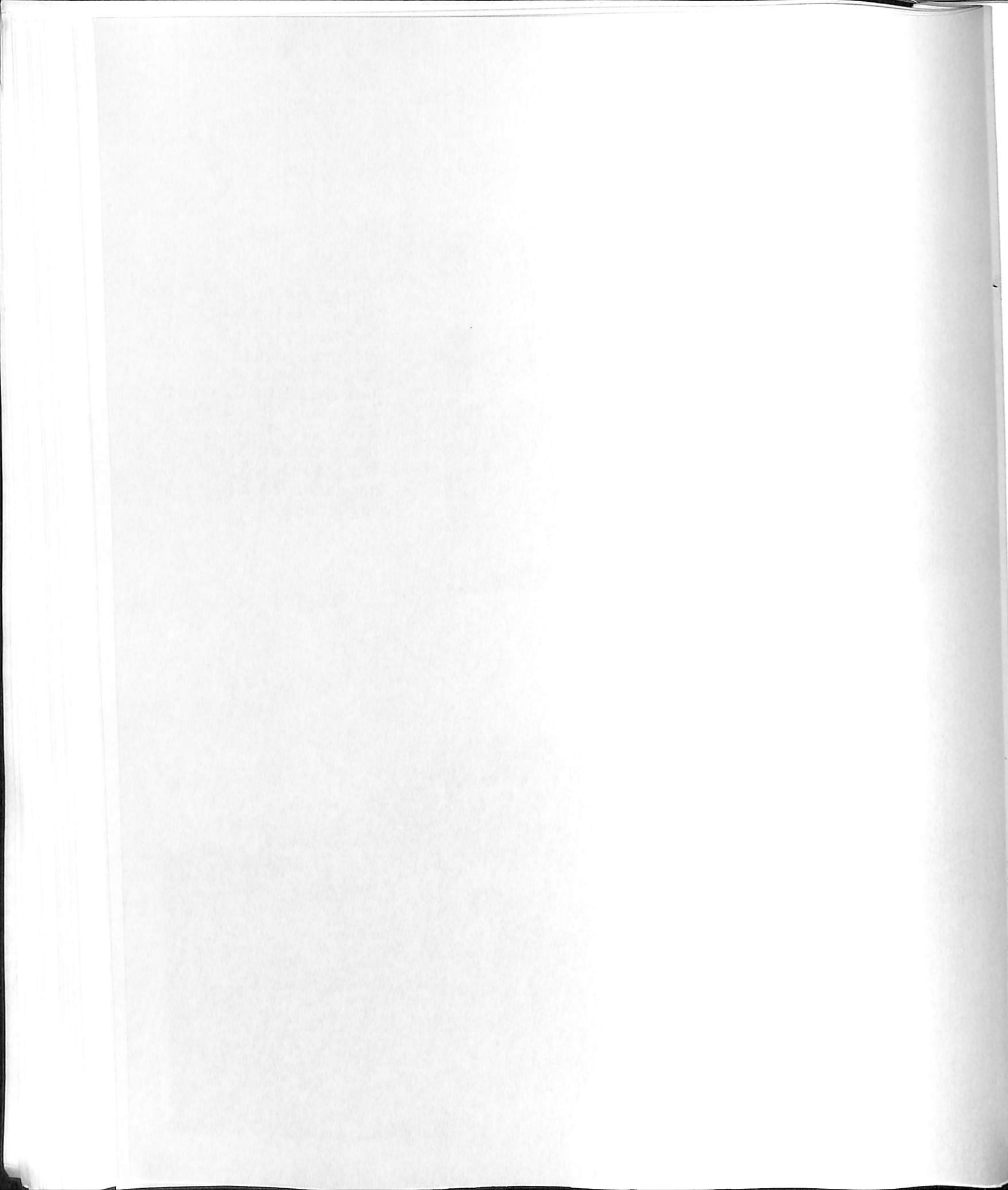
JAMIAT NIZAM MAHBUB.



GUARD OF HONOUR,
with the Nizam's
and Regimental
Colours, awaiting
the arrival of
General His Exalted
Highness the Nizam,
G.C.S.I., G.B.E.,
near the Jubilee
Pavilion on the
occasion of his
Birthday.

A section showing
their Band with
Turkish musical
instruments.





THE JAMIAT NIZAM MAHBUB.

8/15.

During the last quarter of the 19th century there were a few thousand Hadhramuth Arabs in the city of Hyderabad. They were mostly in the service of Arab Jamedars (those who commanded a few hundred armed men for which they are paid by the Government. Some bigger Jamedars even had Jagirs-tax-freelands) who were very influential at the Court of the Nizam. To maintain his status quo, the Minister also patronized a few of them.

The Arabs were paid Rs. 6 to 7 per month which was not sufficient for them. To increase their income they used to lend money to poor and peace loving Deccanis at very exorbitant rates of interest going up to 15% per month. They were ruthless in their demands and when the debtor could not pay them they would resort to brutality. The monied Arabs took lands, buildings and jewellery as mortgages on high rates. To collect their dues they would send their men with instructions to extort the money in merciless manner.

Thus the Arabs were a source of anxiety to the Government, as they would openly flout Government orders and go Scot-free by reason of their influential patrons.

At this juncture the Minister, Sir Salar Jung, G.C.S.I. decided to make use of this martial race in a manner that would be beneficial to them, as well as to the public, who were horror stricken by their brutalities.

Sir Salar Jung was now the Co-regent. The Nizam was a minor, when in April 1871, he ordered the raising of a Jamiat (Corps) of 1000 strong. On the 27th therefore, this Jamiat was raised at Taramati near Golconda Fort, and was designated as the Jamiat Nizam Mahbub. (Mahbub was the august name of the Young Nizam, Mir Mahbub Ali Khan Bahadur.) Then after four days the Jamiat was moved to Kishogiri near Chandrayangutta (or Chinna Rai Gutta - Hillôck of Small stones), about 3 miles to the South of the city. Again, on 3rd. June 1871, the Jamiat was sent to Maisaram +,

+ The Jamiat Nizam Mahbub is also known as Maisaram Regiment. It is not a corruption of "Monsieur Raymond", but the name of the village where the Jamiat was stationed for a few years.



8/16.

a village about 12 miles to the south of the city. Finally on 19th September 1886 the Jamiat moved into newly constructed barracks near Kishugiri.

The Minister had fixed the salary of each sepoy at Rs. 15' per month. This was a great inducement to the Arabs, who flocked in numbers to enlist, and by August 1873 there were 1000 on the rolls. These were divided into ten companies of 100 each. There were 500 Vilayati (pure) Arabs, 100 Muwallid (Deccani born) Arabs; 300 Rohillas; and 100 Siddis (Africans). A year later an 11th. Company was formed when Afghans from the police joined the Jamiat.

In 1874, the Arabs and Rohillas disagreed, and 2 Arabs and 4 Rohillas were killed, and 36 wounded. The Rohillas were ordered to move out from Maisram to Champapet. A Board of Inquiry was set up, and, later, it was decided that those who wished to continue in the service might return to the Barracks, 50% Rohillas returned, and others joined the District Police. Thus, 150 vacancies occurred which were later filled by Arabs from the Nazam.

In the beginning commands were given in Turkish and orders issued in Arabic. This continued till 1873, when Arabic replaced Turkish.

Soon after His Highness's Installation, in 1884, the Nizam honoured the Jamiat, named after him in his youth, by causing it to mount guards at the Royal Palaces. Thus the Jamiat began functioning like the British Foot Guards. A year later the Jamiat was placed under the Golconda Brigade and thus became part of the Regular Troops.

The dress selected for this Jamiat resembled that of the Zouaves. Unlike other units the musicians had Turkish musical instruments, and played Arabic and Turkish tunes. On Birthday Parades the Jamiat was given the honour of praying for the long life and prosperity of the Sovereign and the State.

On all ceremonial occasions, the visits of the Princes of Wales (later George V and Edward VII), and the Viceroys of India, this regiment took a prominent part, and was much admired for its gorgeous dress and smart turn out.

The Jamiat never went out of the city for duty. It was disbanded in 1948, and most of the men were taken into the Sarf Khas Mubarak (Private Estate of H.E.H. the Nizam), for guard duties, and continue as such to this day.

M.ASHRAF.

NOTE:

Mr. Ashraf kindly supplied a number of rubbings showing badges of this force, but they were not able to be reproduced satisfactorily in these pages.

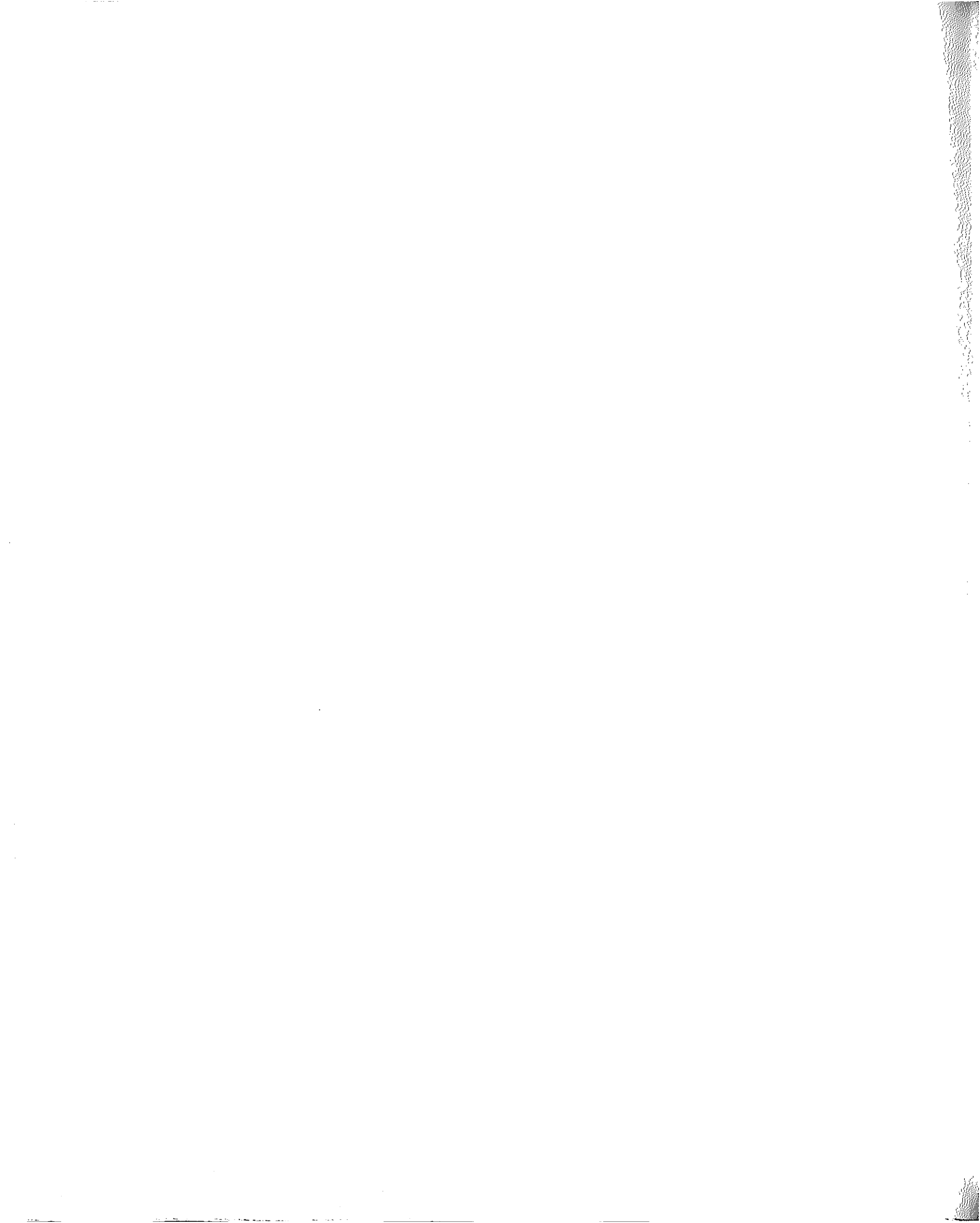
Descriptions appear opposite.-Ed.



FEZ BADGE.



OFFICER COMMANDING
J.N.M.
in full dress order.



Jamiat Nizam Mahbub.

UNIFORM AND BADGES.

FULL DRESS.

1. Black coat with green facings, and yellow piping (gold for officers). Red nickers with black tape at sides (gold for officers). Black leather gaiters. Mahramah (Arab head-covering)--Shimal.
2. Blue dress with red piping. Replaced by khaki in 1912.
3. White dress with red piping.

BUTTONS, etc.

Up to 1914 no buttons or badges were used except on the shoulders. The officers resorted to General Service appointments.

- BUTTONS:** Brass, 3 sizes. Slightly globular. In the center, in (1914-18) Arabic with excellent Naskh "JAMIAT NIZAM MAHBUB", and the motto of the Nizams "AL-AZMATU LI'L-LAHI" ("Glory is for Allah"). The whole surrounded by a circular band with "H.H. The Nizam's Jamiat Nizam Mahbub"; and surmounted by the Dastar. For smaller buttons the same but with "H.H. The Nizam's J.N.M.".
- (1918-50): Same design, but with "H.E.H." in place of "H.H.".

SHOULDERS: Brass J N M.

COLLARS: Silver for officers, white metal for O.R's. Crossed sabres superimposed by an oval band resembling an "O", the initial of the Nizam, Mir Osman Ali Khan Bahadur, with "H.E.H. THE NIZAM'S JAMEEAT NIZAM MAHBUB". Inside the "O" JNM. Dastar on top.

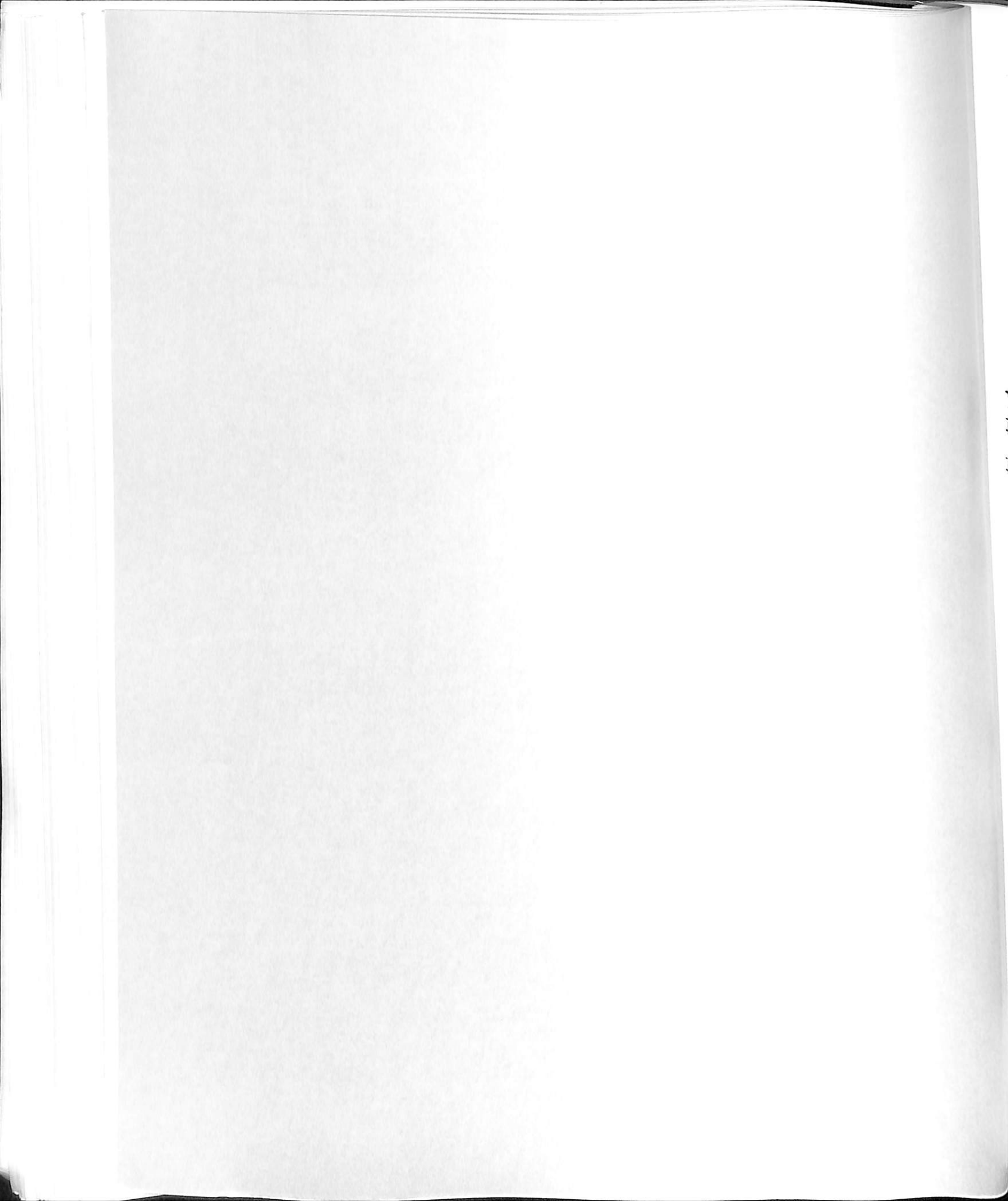
BADGE for red fez: Copper and brass. Two sizes. Crossed daggers pointing upwards. Words in Arabic, in excellent Naskh script. "YA OSMAN" above crossed daggers, "NIZAM" on one side, "MAHBUB" on the other, and "JAMIAT" below. over "YA OSMAN", a scroll with "AL-AZMATU LI'L-LAHI". The whole within laurel wreaths, surmounted by the Dastar.

WAIST PLATE: Brass. In Arabic, excellent Naskh script, in Tughra "JAMIAT NIZAM MAHBUB". Dastar on top.

SPECIAL BADGE: Brass. In an oval the photo of the Nizam. Rope around the oval. On top, crossed daggers pointing up. The Kulcha between the points. Scroll below with "AL-AZMATU 'L-LAH", in Arabic and Nastaliq script. Wrongly inscribed.

This badge was granted to 12 selected soldiers, officers and warrant officers who were to escort the Nizam's State Landau. This particular badge was once worn by Major-General Syed Ahmed El-Edroos Bahadur, C.I.E.

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8/18.

FREEDOM of CITY
to
R.A.A.F. UNIT.

At a ceremony held on Sunday, 22nd November, 1959, the City of Sale presented an Address of Honour to the Royal Australian Air Force, East Sale.

The following is the text of the Scroll Conferring the Freedom of Entry :-

CITY OF SALE

At a Meeting of the Council of the City of Sale held in the Council Chambers.

on Monday the 21st day of September, 1959, it was

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

that the
FREEDOM OF ENTRY

to the
CITY OF SALE

be granted to the
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE EAST SALE
now therefore

to the Officer Commanding and his Officers, Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, Airmen and Air-women

GREETINGS:

Whereas the Mayor, Councillors and citizens of the City of Sale in the County of Tanjil, being sensible of the great record and glorious traditions created by The Royal Australian Air Force over many years of loyal and devoted service to our beloved Queen and Her Royal Predecessors and country and being desirous of recognising, cementing and fostering the intimate association which is now and has for so long been enjoyed between our City and the R.A.A.F. based at East Sale DO BY THESE PRESENTS confer upon you the title, privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of our CITY OF SALE on all ceremonial occasions with SWORDS DRAWN, BAYONETS, FIXED, DRUMS BEATING, BANDS PLAYING and with COLOURS FLYING."

cont/..



8/19.

" A SHORT HISTORY of THE ROYAL
AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE, EAST SALE.

R.A.A.F. East Sale commenced to function as an operational and training base during April, 1943, when No. 1 Operational Training Unit was transferred from Bairnsdale to the newly-completed airfield some three miles east of the City Of Sale.

With a complement of almost 2,500 personnel, the unit was not only responsible for training qualified aircrew members as operational crews, but was required to under-take operational sorties around the South-Eastern corner of Australia. The sorties were, in the main, convoy duties and anti-submarine patrols.

From its opening until the cessation of hostilities 3,158 pilots navigators, signallers and gunners were trained at the base. All of these crews later operated in the Pacific theatre of war. With the end of war, R.A.A.F. East Sale remained in being, but with diminished numbers of personnel and aircraft, functioning as the main post-graduate training base of the Royal Australian Air Force. The base is now equipped with Canberra, Vampire, Winjeel and Dakota aircraft to meet its heavy flying training commitments. The following units are stationed at this establishment: Central Flying School, School of Air Navigation School of Photography, Maintenance Squadron, No. 2 Airfield Construction Squadron and Base Squadron.

The main task of Central Flying School is flying instructor training; however, it also has other major roles, being responsible for training all pilots as to their flying ability and skill in bad weather flying.

School of Air Navigation trains navigators both in basic and advanced stages of the art. The School also develops new navigational techniques and trains weapons officers, both in the ground and air aspect of their duties.

The School of Photography trains all Service photographers."

(From a programme supplied by courtesy of the Commanding
Officer, R.A.A.F. Station, East Sale.)

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8/20.

WAR MEDALS: PRIVATE ISSUE.

by Don Forsyth.

Recently I have been dabbling into the history of war medals, and it is rather surprising to find that it was left to private persons to reward officers and men who had taken part in such great and far-reaching victories as the Nile and Trafalgar, for no official medals were issued for these battles until 1848, just 50 and 43 years after the battles had been fought.

The only exception was Waterloo. The medal for that was issued between 1816 and 1817 at the suggestion of the Duke of Wellington. Besides being bestowed on all officers and men who had been present at Waterloo (June 18, 1815) it was also given to those who had fought at Quatre Bras (the Four Roads) the previous day, and at Ligny on June 16.

The Waterloo medal was thus the first war medal as we know it, for it was issued to all troops, in contrast to that awarded for Battle of the Nile on August 1, 1798. Then Lord Nelson's prize agent, Mr. Davidson issued a medal at his own expense to every officer and man engaged - in gold for admirals, silver for lieutenants and warrant officers, bronze-gilt for petty officers, and bronze for seamen and marines. That very commendable display of patriotic pride cost the donor about £2,000.

Quite a commonplace medal amongst collectors is the Crimea War Medal, 1854, but one that holds pride of place was awarded to No 716 John Forsyth (bar, "Sebastopol), R.M.T. (Royal Military Train), and as the Public Records Office, Chancery Lane, London, has advised that he was a First Class Driver, I like to picture him at the head of the Mule Train helping to salvage captured Russian guns, for it was from these that the highest award, The Victoria Cross, was struck.

Here it may be of interest to mention that an award of the V.C. made during 1951 in Korea brought the total of those who had won the supreme decoration "For Valour" at that stage to 1,343.

The fact that in the 1939-45 War only 181 V.C.'s were awarded, compared with 632 in W.W.I. suggests that the present-day mechanized army has less scope for individual heroism.

Comparisons, I know are odious, but let me mention some facts about the German Iron Cross, which is a similar type of decoration but awarded much more freely than any British Order, decoration or medal granted for acts of bravery in war.

This decoration, instituted by King Fredirick William 111 in 1814, had two classes, together with a Grand Cross.



There was also a special class the Grand Cross on a radiant star of gold which was created especially for Blucher for the Battle of Waterloo, and was later only again awarded to Field - Marshal von Hindenburg in 1918. Those of the first and second classes which were again revived for the Franco- German War of 1870-1871 and the First World War 1914-18, and subsequently in the 1939-45 flare-up, had a very lavish distribution.

Figures for the 1939-45 period are not available, but from 1813 up to the end of the 1914-18 War, no less than 219,300 awards of the First Class, and some 5,500,000 of the Second Class had been made.

Three of the privately-issued South African medals have a particular fascination. The first is the Sir Harry Smith Medal, which is of great rarity, for it was given by Sir Harry to 30 of his men who, with him, made a 12 mile dash on horseback from Fort Cox to King William Town in 1851.

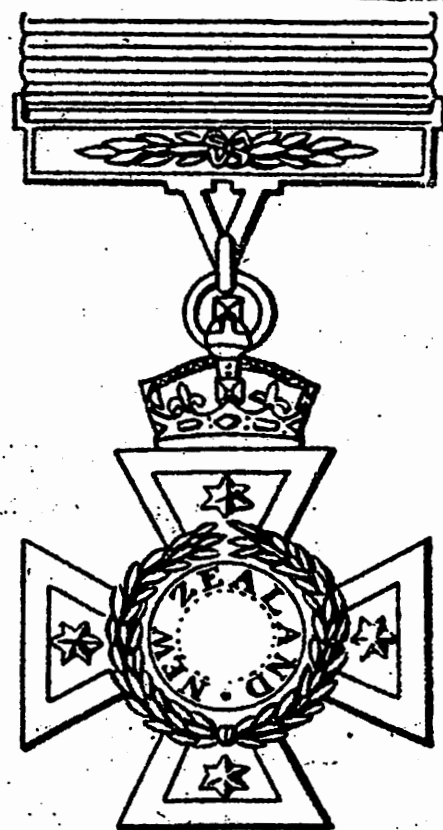
Another the O'kiep Copper Company's Medal, in silver to officers and in copper to men, was awarded by that Company to those who had defended the town of O'kiep against the Boer forces led by General Oom Jannie Smuts.

The third privately-issued medal was again associated with the Anglo-Boer War, 1899-1902 and was known as the Defence of Kimberley Star or, more commonly, the Mayor's Siege Medal, and was awarded by the Mayor and officials of the City of Kimberley to those who had defended the City when it was besieged from October 15, 1899 to July 15, 1900. Although the Queen graciously consented to the troops accepting the award, she stipulated it could not be worn in uniform.

The first known woman to be awarded a war medal was Jane Townsend who served at Trafalgar aboard H.M.S Defiance and who, received the Naval Service Medal, 1793-1840 with bar, "Trafalgar". Have you ever heard that a baby also received a medal? The first one was awarded to an infant by name McKenzie. He was born on board during the battle of the Glorious First of June, 1794, to the wife of one of the officers of H.M.S Tremendous. In those days wives could accompany their officer-husbands to sea.

Fifty-four years later, in 1848, this "baby" who had been baptised Daniel Tremendous, applied for, and I am sure after much checking up and reading and re-reading of regulations governing the award, duly received the medal for the battle fought on the day he was born.

In Britian a substantial business is done by some firms in buying from and selling war medals to collectors.



*The New Zealand Cross
The Queen Was Not Amused*



8/22.

A New Zealander looking around a firm near St James Palace in London a few years ago, saw thousands of medals for sale. Among them was one of the rarest of all gongs- the New Zealand Cross, one of which went recently for £235.

Only 23 of these famous Crosses were issued by Governor Bowen of New Zealand to reward acts worth a V.C. in the Maori Wars. He decided on their issue in order to eliminate the years it took for recommendations to be acted upon, with Whitehall lassitude adding still more months to the six each way for the voyage to England.

Queen Victoria was far from amused when she heard about the New Zealand Cross and very sharply refused to give her assent to the medal or to the issue of any further ones, and so the decoration lapsed- and Governor Bowen earned a salutary rebuke.

(The foregoing article appeared in "THE LEGIONARY" of March 1959).

Captain F.C. Pilkinton writes as follows:-

(1) Far from the Duke of Wellington suggesting that the 1816 Waterloo Medal be bestowed on all officers and men who participated, there is reason to suppose that the Duke was loath to see the officers wear the medal if the men were given it. His opinion was over-ruled. (Ref. Stanley C. Johnson, "Medals of Our Fighting Men". P. 30)

(11) I understand that the comparatively small number of Victoria Crosses awarded in World War 11 was due to the change in the regulations governing its bestowal.

(111) A Royal Military Train unit in the Crimea was not necessarily a mule train.

(1v) Hitler reconstituted the following classes of the Iron Cross in 1939: Grand Cross, Knight Cross (four grades); First Class; Second Class; (Ref.: SABRETACHE, NO. 3, p.41)

(v) Among the awards made by private individuals and organizations, mention could be made of Matthew Boulton's Trafalgar medal and of the Highland Society's medal to the 42nd Highlanders. Another group includes medals issued by such corporations as the East India Company and the British South Africa Company. (Ref.: Johnson, op. cit. PP 91-93)

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ANOTHER DEATH'S HEAD BADGE.

Mr.C.R.Murray has drawn our attention to an additional Death's head badge--that of the 100th.Squadron,R.A.F.,formed February 1917.

The badge is in the usual form of the R.A.F.squadron badges, the central motif being a skull "full face" superimposed on the intersection of crossed bones.

The squadron motto appears on the scroll--"SARANG TEBUAN JANGAN DIJOLOK"



8/23.

SOCIETY NOTES

ANNUAL MEETING AND COMPETITIONS

The Annual Meeting was held at 1 Harper Ave, Bentleigh on Saturday afternoon, 12th December.

Although a comparatively small meeting (23 attending), this was generally felt to be the best held to date.

In addition to interest in some of the competitions, much enjoyable discussion took place on all aspects of Military interest.

Overall, there were rather fewer entrants than we had expected in the competitions, the results of which are listed below:-

1. Competition for Military Art or Craftsmanship - No entries.
2. Competition for a painted Model Figure - Lt. Col Kaye's figure, French Marine de la Garde 1812, was adjudged the best of 8 entries. The painting of some of the entries in this section was of a very high standard, and judging could not have been an easy task. The trophy, an engraved cup, is Dr Kaye's third for competitions involving model figures.
3. Competition for a Collection of badges - This competition was "for a collection of badges of the British Army, the collectors to illustrate or follow the history and development of a regiment, department or corps".
Only two entries were submitted, the trophy being won by Mr. B.J.Videons entry "The Royal Marines".
4. Competition for a converted figure. - This competition attracted a record number of entries. We were particularly pleased to receive entries from Major John Gorman, of Queanbeyan NSW. Up to the present time, Major Gorman has been a "lone wolf" model painter and converter, and has developed some interesting techniques to a marked degree.
Judging in this section again proved to be difficult; and the trophy was awarded to dr Kaye's 21st Lancer Officer, 1914.
(It was interesting to note the extent to which Dr Kaye has developed his series depicting Australian military types). This competition shows promise of developing into a most interesting and hotly contested one.
Mr. Ken Pryor is to be commended on the method of presentation and display of his many fine entries.
5. Trophy for best Unpublished Unit history. - No entries submitted.
6. General. - It is thought that lack of response may be due to two factors, viz, in some cases, a feeling by prospective entrants that they are unable to completely fulfil the specification laid down by the donors; and diffidence in trying to compete with the more established



8/24.

SOCIETY NOTES (cont).

competitors.

The Committee earnestly urges members to try to make a showing in annual competitions.

By this means, at least two objects are attained--the improvement consequent upon continued striving; and the entertainment and enlightenment of the remainder of the members.

It is reasonably sure at this stage that there will be competitions in most of the above sections (and, possibly, some others) in 1960, so please start on your entries NOW.

TELEVISION PLAY "TREASON".

The Society was able to be of some assistance to 1 of the local television studios-National station Channel ABV2-in a research matter recently.

As a result of enquiries at the Melbourne Public Library, ABV2's research officer, Mr. Peter Cook, approached the Society for information concerning German uniforms of the WW2 era.

We were able to produce some useful information, and, in addition, some of the members rallied around, and lent such items as medals, badges and uniform trimmings. Some of these were actually worn in the play, while others were copied for manufacture where larger numbers than were available were needed. The ABV2 wardrobe department did a good job on most of these copies, we are pleased to say.

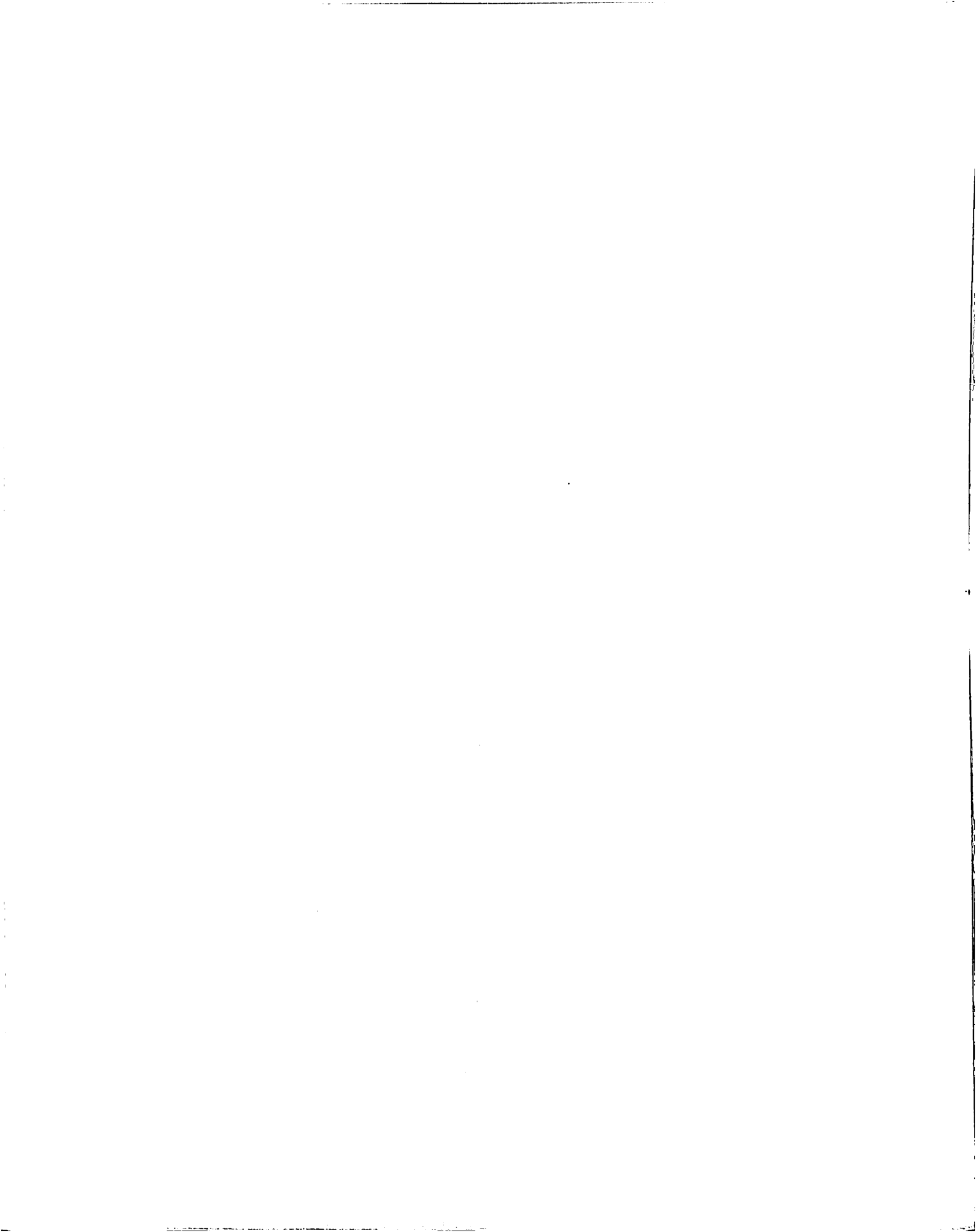
The play dealt with a wartime plot on the life of Hitler.

DOCUMENT MISSING FROM AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL.

The Director of the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, has written to the Society to ask for its assistance in trying to locate an historical document which was stolen from a display case in the War Memorial on Thursday 7th January, 1960.

This incident received wide publicity in the Australian Press at the time, but, writes the Director, "it has occurred to me that your members, in the course of their collecting activities, may be shown or offered the document, and it would thus be advisable for them to be aware of the position. We would much appreciate the assistance of your members in reporting as quickly as possible, any information which may lead to this document's recovery".

Here is a copy of the Press Release:-



8/25.

SOCIETY NOTES (cont).

MISSING DOCUMENT (cont).

" On the afternoon of Thursday, 7th January, 1960, an important historical document was extracted from a display case at the Australian War Memorial.

When the Japanese attacked Java early in 1942, an Australian force-designated BLACKFORCE-under command of Brigadier Arthur S. Blackburn, V.C., cooperated with British, United States and Dutch forces in defence of the country. Subsequently, however, after a gallant defence, the Allied troops were forced to capitulate and passed into captivity during which many died.

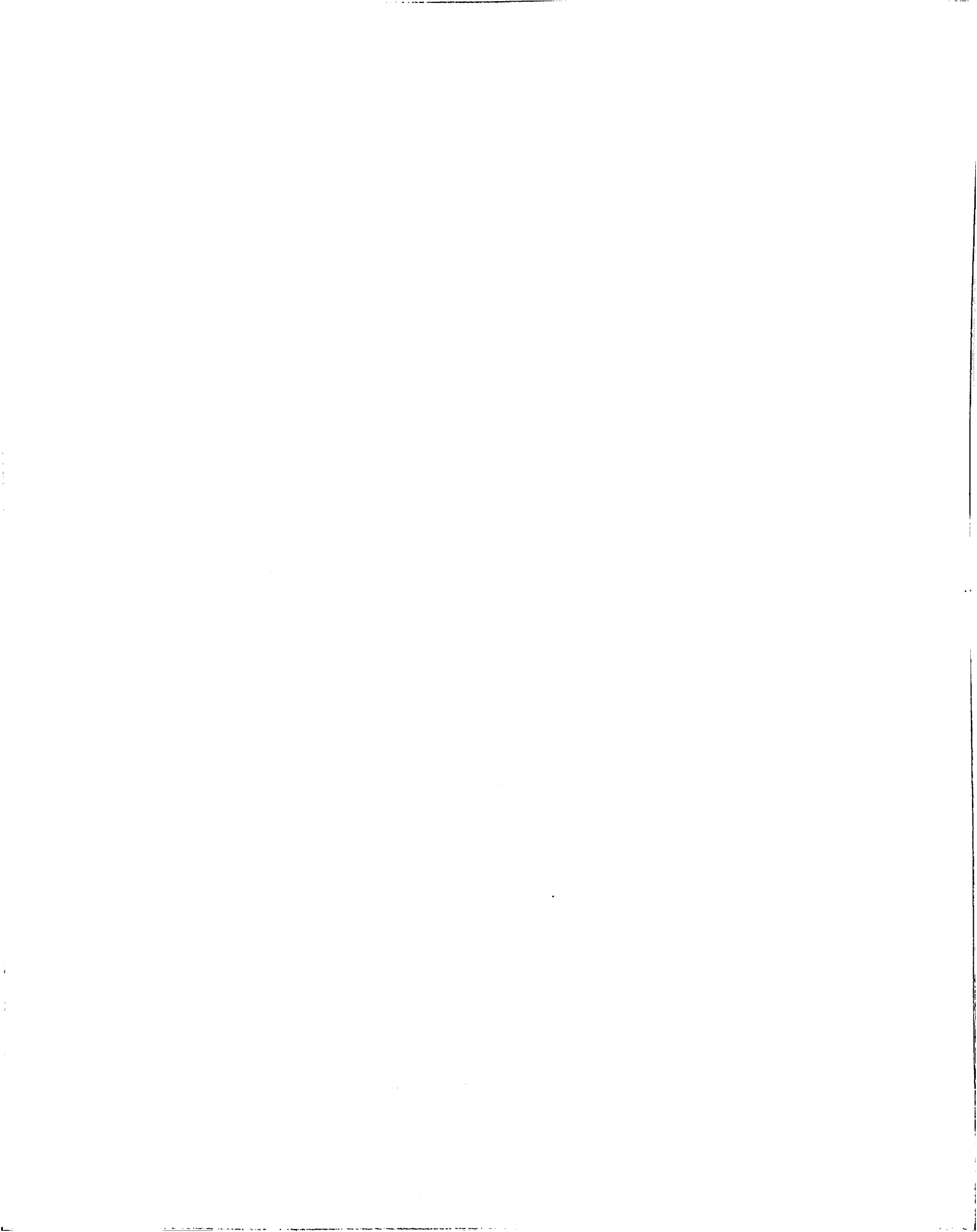
After the war, the Memorial received through Brigadier Blackburn, four documents relating to surrender arrangements on Java, which were buried for several years. It is to this group that the missing document belongs.

A single sheet of foolscap, in fragile condition, it was the original copy of the decision to capitulate following the Dutch surrender, dated 12th March, 1942, and signed at BANDOENG by Air Vice Marshal P.C. Maltby, Air Officer Commanding R.A.F., Major-General H.D.W. Sitwell, G.O.C. British Troops in Java, Brigadier A.S. Blackburn, Commanding Australian Troops, and Colonel Albert S. Searle, United States Army.

The War Memorial authorities state that the document refers to a particularly important phase of Australian military history, but that, although having little intrinsic value, men risked their lives in captivity to ensure its eventual return to Australia. It is thus of national importance, and its absence from the collection will constitute a most regrettable loss to present and future citizens who visit the Memorial to study Australia's war effort and to pay homage to those who created our military traditions.

The authorities are therefore most anxious that the document be restored to its rightful place, and issue an urgent appeal for its safe return. "

We join the authorities at the Australian War Memorial in appealing to our readers to keep watch for the possible appearance of this document. It CAN ONLY BE AN EMBARRASSMENT TO A PRIVATE COLLECTOR. If any reader should come to hear of its existence, please try to urge the current holder to send it to the Memorial. Failing this, please write to the Director, but we suspect that they would be happy to regain possession of this document on a "no questions asked" basis, without any form of correspondence being entered into.



8/26.

SOCIETY NOTES(cont).

ELECTIONS.

Members are reminded that the Committee and Honorary Vice-Presidents of the Society retire annually from office, and that these offices require to be filled by ballot at the June meeting.

Nominations are now sought for the following positions on the Committee:-

- PRESIDENT.....
- SECRETARY.....
- TREASURER.....
- LIBRARIAN.....
- EDITOR.....

In addition to the above, members are asked to nominate the names of up to four financial members, who, by reason of their deep interest in a branch or branches of military research, may justifiably be proposed for appointment as Honorary Vice-Presidents.

Members are reminded that persons nominated for election to the Committee must be capable of attending monthly meetings, i.e., must be resident in Melbourne or suburbs; and preferably should be qualified by some form of skill which would be of use in the position for which they are nominated.

Honorary Vice-Presidents need not be capable of attending meetings, but preferably should have assisted the course of military research, or rendered valued assistance to the Society, etc.

Only senior members are entitled to vote at elections--unfinancial members' votes or recommendations are not acceptable.

Please refer to the CONSTITUTION AND RULES for full details on which the Society has "legislated" in these matters.

Nominations should be forwarded as soon as possible, and in any case no later than the MARCH meeting (in view of the altered publication dates of SABRETACHE), and should be addressed to:

THE RETURNING OFFICER,
Military Research and Collectors Society of Aust.,
care 34 College St.,
ELSTERNWICK, Victoria, Australia.

Names of candidates for election will be notified in April edition of SABRETACHE.

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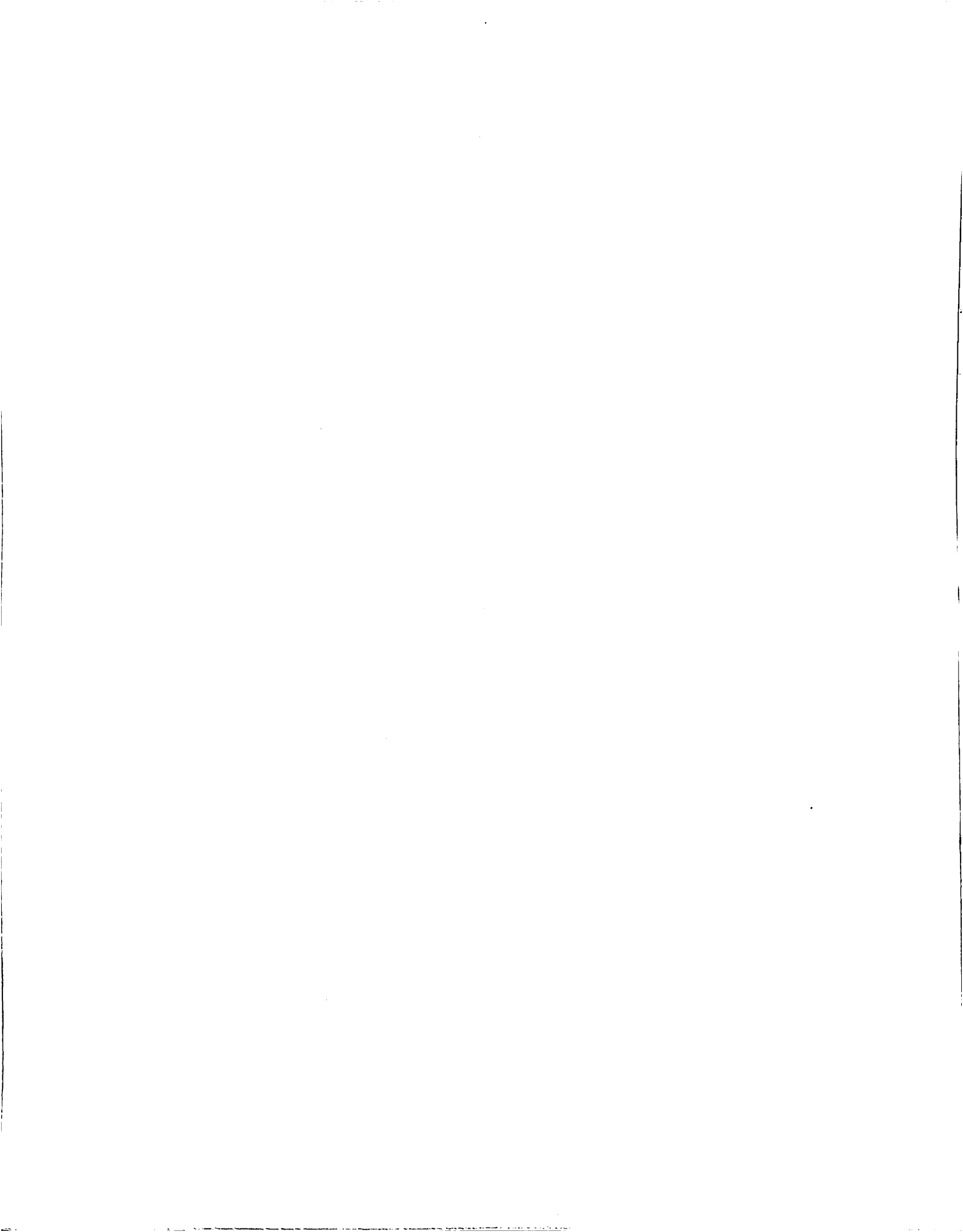
8/26a.

NOTE REGARDING ANNUAL ELECTIONS.

Mr. J. K. Lyons has suggested that he would prefer to relinquish the post of HONORARY LIBRARIAN, and does not wish to be available for election to that office in the year 1960/61.

Major J. B. Gale regrets that he will not be available for re-election, as he is planning to leave this State, and will thus be ineligible to hold office.

It will be necessary, therefore, to nominate new officers for election to these posts.



DESPATCHES.

8/27.

From Mr. C. HALLS, Western Australia.

With regard to the Western Australian badge featured by Capt. Pilkington in the October issue of SABRETACHE, I have been able to identify this as a badge of the FREMANTLE RIFLE VOLUNTEERS, and dated from circa 1900 or 1903.

These volunteers later formed a brigade of the Western Australian Volunteers.

From Lt. Col. VERNON, N.S.W.

Have come across an old paper that monthly gave gazette notices and reports of doings of Australian units--the COLONIAL MILITARY GAZETTE. All I have found in the U.S.I. are two volumes:-

1. The Australian Naval and Military Gazette-1887, published monthly. Editor was M. J. O'Farrell, Victorian Militia Artillery.
2. Colonial Military Gazette and Australian Naval Chronicle-1895/96. It was the later form of 1. above, and was published in Sydney.

I mention these as their existence may be handy for a researcher to know.

P.S.

In the Colonial Military Gazette there is a photo of Colonel Tom Price. A note with it says he took a team of V.M.R. to Great Britain for the Tournament in 1891. This, to me, is very interesting, as my own regiment did the same in 1893.

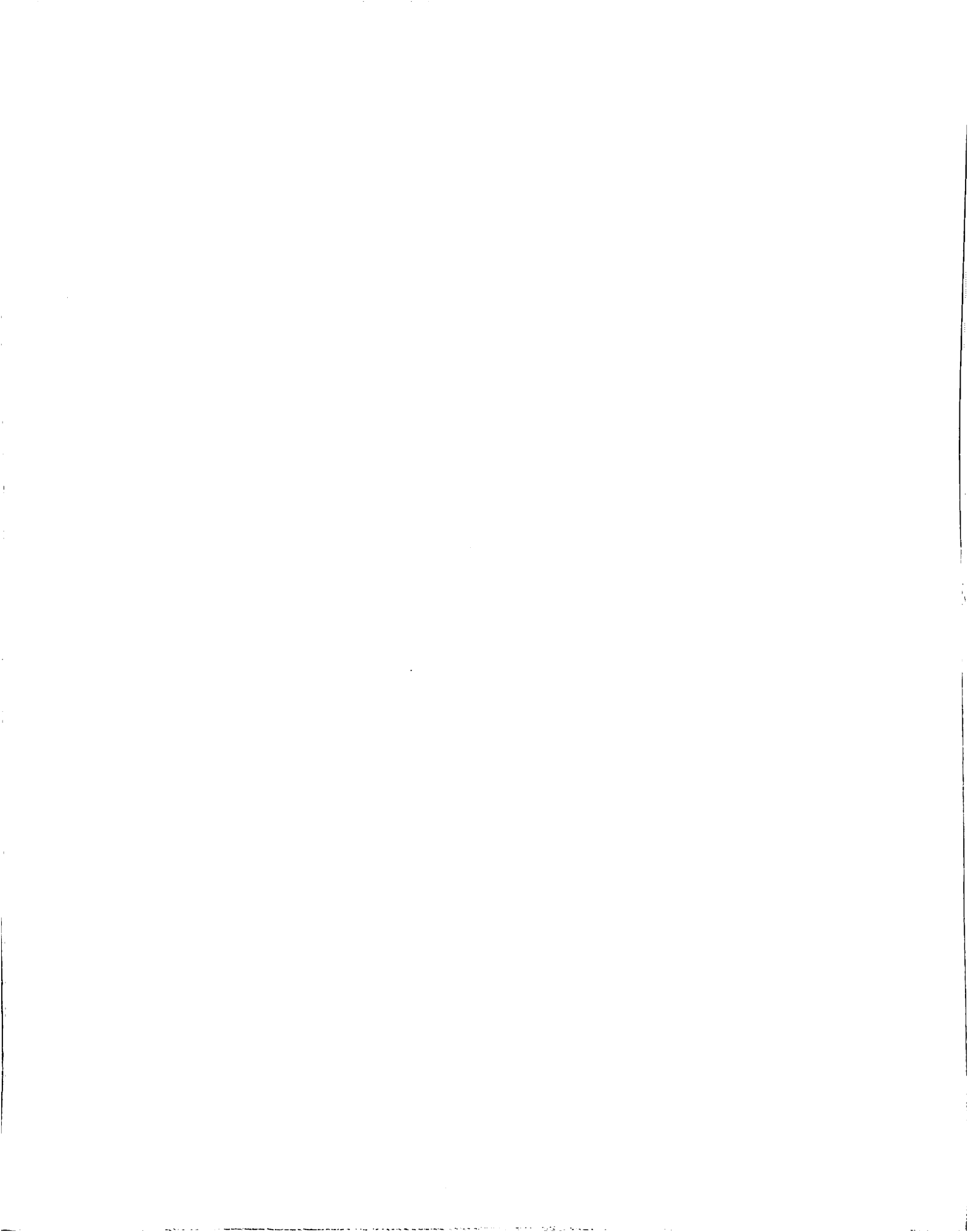
Is there a member who could provide a note about this overseas visit for publication in SABRETACHE?

From Mr. C. R. MURRAY, Vic.

In reply to Mr. R. G. Gray's query as to when the 17th. Light Horse Regt. (Bendigo Light Horse) became the 17th. Light Horse (Prince of Wales Light Horse), I submit the following.

The 17th. Light Horse Regt. may be traced to the Kyneton, Castlemaine and Sandhurst troops of the Royal Volunteer Cavalry Regt. raised in 1862. These troops were later disbanded (see SABRETACHE 7/14), but in 1884 a troop was raised at Sandhurst (later Bendigo) and designated "Sandhurst Cavalry Troop". This survived only until about 1891.

No mounted unit existed in the area from then until 1911, when the 19th. Light Horse Regt. was formed, with headquarters at Bendigo and squadrons at Bendigo, Elmore, Recheater, Echuca, Kerang, Pyramid Hill, Mikamo, Castlemaine and Kyneton. In 1912 the 19th.



8/28.

Light Horse was redesignated the 17th. Light Horse Regt., and in the following year the title changed again to the 17th (Campaspe Valley) Light Horse. As such it remained until 1917 when it became 17th (Bendigo) Light Horse.

In 1931 the title changed again, the new designation being 17th (Prince of Wales) Light Horse, and, ultimately, 17th. Light Horse Regt. (Prince of Wales Light Horse).

During the depression years, the regiment was linked with the 19th. to become the 17th/19th Light Horse, and on being classified as a Machine Gun Regt. in 1937, it unlinked from the 19th. to become the 17th. Light Horse (Machine Gun) Regt. (The Prince of Wales Light Horse). It was allotted to the 2nd. Cavalry Division.

In February 1942, 2nd. Cav. Div. was reorganised as 2nd. Motor Div., and the 17th. became the 17th. Motor Regt. It saw fulltime duty in Victoria and Northern New South Wales until returning to Puckapunyal in May 1943, where it was disbanded.

The unit was not reformed in the post-war organisation, but the territorial title was allotted to the 4th/19th Prince of Wales's Light Horse of the Royal Australian Armoured Corps.

From Mr. H. G. HARPER, U.K.

I have been wondering why the Society chose as its badge one based on a purely British formation sign.

Would not something with a more Australian flavour have been more appropriate?

From both Lt. Col. VERNON and Mr. R. GRAY.

We have received a series of articles from "The Bulletin" and "Reveille", in which much discussion and controversy appears concerning the Rising Sun Badge. These are all intensely interesting, but as no final proof has been submitted to substantiate any version of the origin of this badge, it is not proposed at this stage to reproduce these, in whole or in part, in SABRETACHE.

Issues are:- "Reveille" - 1/10/59. "Bulletin" - 16/9/59 & 11/11/59.

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