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*Sabretache*



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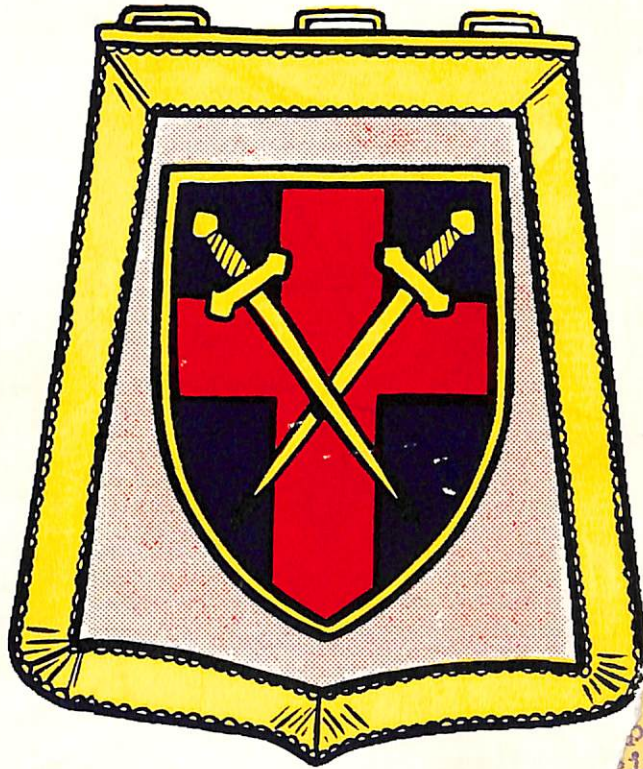
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Military Historical Society of Australia  
PO Box 5030, Garran, ACT 2605.  
email: [webmaster@mhsa.org.au](mailto:webmaster@mhsa.org.au)

# SABRETACHE



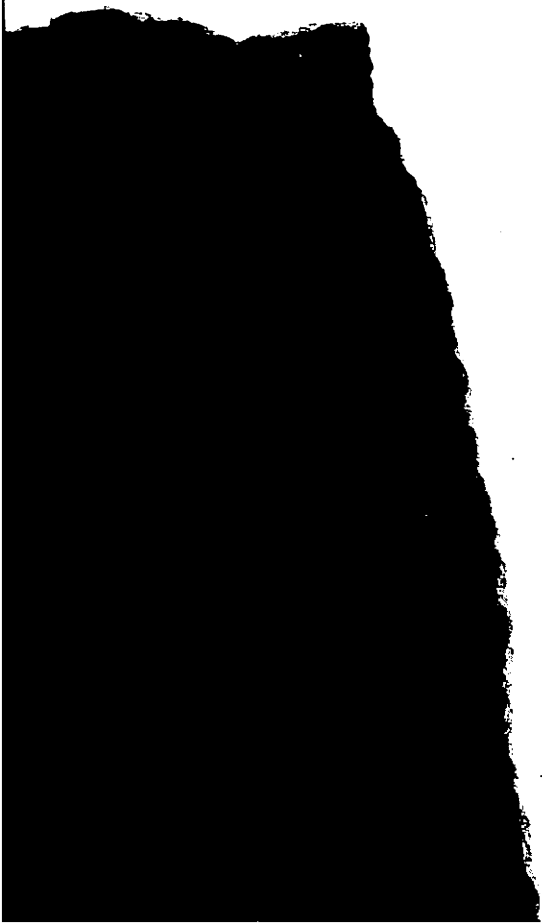
The Journal of  
 The MILITARY RESEARCH and COLLECTOR'S  
 SOCIETY of AUSTRALIA

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VOL. III

APRIL, 1961

dealer in  
 ics, Native Curios,  
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 .S.W.





MEMBERS' ADVERTISEMENTS.

COLLECTORS CORNER.

We thank the readers of SABRETACHE for their wonderful response to our last advertisement, but, as our stocks of badges and medals run into many hundreds, it is impossible to prepare lists of all items and maintain low prices.

So please send "want" lists.

As a general guide, the following is a list of our prices:-

British Line Regiments	cap 7/6	collar 5/-
" Corps units	5/-	3/-
" Cavalry & Yeomanry	15/-	10/-
" H.P.Inners and Fusilier	cap badges 30/-	
Scottish regiments	cap 10/-	collar 7/6
Commonwealth countries	7/6	5/-
Foreign "	7/6	5/-
Australian Light Horse	20/-	15/-
" Militia (post-Federation)	20/-	15/-

Plus postage on the above at the rate of 6 pence per four badges.

This month we offer the following rare items:-

- Tasmanian officers frock, scarlet with white piping, black facings, gold lace and buttons, circa 1870.....£13.
- Tasmanian Artillery officers frock, rank Major; dark blue with heavy frogging and knots in black and red, c. 1890, one toggle button is missing.....£13.

Both the above are in good order and have been cleaned and moth-proofed.

- Australian folding trench periscope WW1.....£1.15.0
- Italian Marine helmet WW2 .....£4.5.0
- British "cricket ball" hand grenade (safe) pre-1915.....£2.12.6
- Collection of Dutch cap badges--23 different--Mint.....£6.
- " " " " " --27 " " .....£4.5.0
- Pre-Fed.N.S.W.Volunteer officers belt fittings(sterling silver buckle, end tab, and keeper) and cape clips....£4.10.0.
- Nickel cavalry pickers and chains, pre-Fed. Similar to those worn by Vic,Mtd.Rifles.....£2.10.0
- Early 19th.Century artillery plans, scale 1" to 1'
- 24 pounder deck gun; 9 pounder deck gun;
- 32 " " " " 32 " carronade
- .....£1 each.
- British Boer War water bottle, heavy glass, felt covered,with sling and cork.....£2.15.0

All the above prices include packing and registered postage, or freight.

LEONARD L BARTON,

Licensed General Auctioneer and Dealer in  
Coins, Medals, Swords, Old Guns, Military Relics, Native Curios,  
and all Collectors Items.

122 Jersey Rd., WOOLLAHRA, N.S.W.

Phone FB 4178.



MEMBERS' ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY INSIGNIA COLLECTORS EXCHANGE.  
Bernard A.Louth,  
26 Cark Rd., KEIGHLEY,  
Yorkshire England.

Membership 7/- covers members listing, plus five lists of items for exchange per year. Also lists of items that Mr.Louth has for sale. Very reasonable prices. A fair deal is given. Items for exchange are sought from members. This Exchange includes collectors of all types of militaria, and seems to us to be a very good idea.

Enquiries should be addressed to Mr.Louth at the above address.  
.....

AIR FORCES BADGES WANTED.

Particularly wings of Australian Military Forces and Aistralian Flying Corps, and early badges of the R.A.A.F.

B.J.Videon,c/- 14 Meredith St.,BANKSTOWN,N.S.W.  
.....

BADGES FOR SWAPPING.

R.MELB.UNIVERSITY REGT h & c	W.R.A.A.C. h
ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE h	N.W.VICTORIAN REGT h
R.AUSTRALIAN REGT. h &c	R.AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY h & c
R.AUSTRALIAN SIGNALS CORPS h	R.AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY h & c
P.O.W.LIGHT HORSE (RAAC) h	R.AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS h & c
FIRST ARMoured REGT h & c	MELBOURNE RIFLES h
R.MELBOURNE REGT h & c	R.A.E.M.E. h & c
ARMY APPRENTICES SCHOOL h & c	VICTORIAN MTD RIFLES h & c
38th.BATTALION h & c	THE HUME REGT h
R.A.A.M.C. h & c	R.AUST. SURVEY CORPS h & c
AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES in both gilt and in w/m h & c	R.A.A.O.C. h
R.A.A.S.C. h & c	AUST. ARMY PROVOST CORPS c
R.A.E. h & c	C.Q.M.S. crown and wreath
Signaller (crossed flags)	BANDSMAN lyre
BANDSMAN drum	MARKSMAN crossed rifles.
R.S.M. (WOL) blk.	
AUST.ARMY CATERING CORPS h.	

(h...headdress; c...collar)  
S/Sgt.J.Westernhagen, R.A.E.M.E.,Trg.Depot, Chapel St.,ST.KILDA,  
Victoria.  
.....



NEW FIELD UNIFORM FOR THE  
SWEDISH ARMY--m/1958.

The new field uniform, model 1958, is manufactured from grey-brown-green broadcloth, and trimmed with green collar tabs. On these, on the right side is worn the unit badge, and on the left side, the rank insignia, both worked in yellow silk thread.

A modified summer uniform also exists, and this is referred to as the model 1959. This is of a lighter material, in colour khaki-olive green.

Now, for daily use, there is issued another new uniform, which is referred to as the model 1960. This is of a steel grey colour. The jacket is single breasted, with five gilt or silver buttons down the front. The buttons of officers and non-commissioned officers bear the regimental insignia, while those of the men bear the three crowns so well known on many Swedish insignia. The trousers match the jacket.

In this order of dress, a blue-grey shirt and a steel grey tie are worn. The forage cap is similar in style to the American "doughboy" cap (see illustration). For most units this cap matches the colour of the uniform. The "life- and house-troops", however, have a cap of darker colour, with braiding in their old traditional colours, which are:

Inf. Regt. No. 1.....yellow,

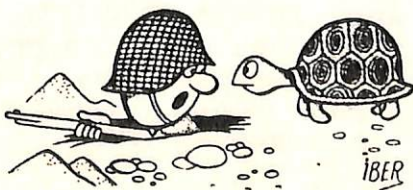
Inf. Regt. No. 3, and Cav. Regt. Nos. 1 & 3.....white,

Inf. Regt. No. 4 and Armoured Regt. No. 1; ; ; .red.

(Armoured Regt. No. 1 is the former 2nd. Life Guards.)

The other armoured regiment wears a dark blue beret, and a similar form of headdress is worn by the Parachutists in wine red, and by the Rifles in green.

Badges worn on the fronts of the headdress are similar in general to those worn in the previous caps--a cockade joined to a button with three crowns by two stripes of gilt metal. For officers, the button with the three crowns continues to be of blue enamel.



No, I am NOT your cousin!  
SCRAM!!



The unit insignia in this dress are similar to the metal ones which were worn on the previous uniforms of 1939 and 1952, but



are now in gilt finish for all units except the following:  
Inf. Regts. Nos. 1 & 4, Cav. Regt. No. 1, Armoured  
Regt. No. 1, and all the Supply Regiments,  
which have their badges in silver. In place of the formerly  
worn numerals on the shoulders, the majority of the infantry  
regiments now wear the shields of the coat-of-arms of the  
county in which they are located, the names of which are borne  
by these regiments. This badge is also worn on the left side  
of the forage cap. Artillery regiments all wear a bomb, set  
on cloth of the old regimental colours. In addition, some  
units have their collar badges mounted on cloth of the unit  
colours. Examples of these are:

Air Defence Artillery.....red,  
Engineers.....black,  
Signals.....green,  
Supply Troops.....light blue.

The regiments of the Guard still wear the Royal Cypher, and  
those regiments which had previously been granted special  
badges in place of numerals retain these badges.

Rank stars of officers now are all of the same size. Previously  
senior officers had larger stars, with braid around the shoulder  
straps, and a Royal crown above the unit badges.  
Senior officers now wear this crown on the shoulder straps,  
above the rank stars--thus, a Major wears a crown above one  
star, whereas a Second Lieutenant would have one star with  
no crown.

Text and illustrations by courtesy  
Eric Kjellberg.

.....  
THE NEW ZEALAND ARMY--A BIBLIOGRAPHY.  
by C. E. Dornbusch.

This booklet (300 copies printed) has recently made its  
appearance. Mr. Dornbusch, of the New York Public Library,  
a Fellow of the Company of Military Collectors and Historians,  
is, as most readers will know, a member of the Military  
Research and Collectors Society of Australia.  
The compiler was able to pay only one all too brief visit  
to New Zealand, yet he has gathered an extensive list of  
references to, and publications about, the New Zealand Army  
and the participation of the British Army in the Maori Wars.  
The list is grouped in 18 classified sections, which, with  
index, take 116 pages. It should prove valuable to the  
student of the New Zealand Army. (Hope Farm Press, Cornwall-  
ville, N. Y., U.S.A.--\$ 4.00) (P. V. Vernon).



THE GOLDEN HAWKS AEROBATIC TEAM,  
ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE.

Organised to take part in the recent activities celebrating the Golden Anniversary of flight in Canada, as well as the R.C.A.F.'s own 35th. Anniversary, the Golden Hawks are one of the few Canadian aerobatic teams to perform on a nationwide basis since the "Siskins" toured the country in 1931.

The Golden Hawks have joined the famous company of such teams as the U.S. Navy's Blue Angels, and the perhaps less-publicised Black Knights of the Royal Air Force.

The Golden Hawks' "show" comprises a 20-minute sequence of loops, rolls, crossovers, bombbursts, Cuban-eights, and rubarbs, all in themselves standard manoeuvres for R.C.A.F. fighter pilots, but performed by the team in tight formation, and with perfect precision.

All the seven pilots in the group are flying instructors, between the ages of 23 and 31 years.

Below is the team's badge for wear on flying clothes. It is embroidered on to blue material, and comprises the head of a golden hawk across a red maple leaf, with the words "ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE GOLDEN HAWKS" in white thread. The maple leaf and the patch are edged in white, and the head of the eagle is picked out in black.

The Sabre jet aircraft of the team are painted in gold, red and white, and must form a very impressive sight in the performance of their work.

Information by  
 courtesy, Royal  
 Canadian Air  
 Force, and Capt.  
 F.C. Pilkington.



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CEREMONIAL WAIST BELT PLATES OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN  
AIR FORCE.

Prior to the Second World War, the Royal Australian Air Force, in ceremonial dress, wore distinctive waist belt plates.

The plate for officers, worn with the sword belt, was one of the most impressive that it has been the writers privilege to see. It is of a type similar to that worn in the Royal Navy, i.e., the plate is in one more or less circular piece, and a hook and loop fastener is employed behind the plate.

The devices appearing on the plate are very typically R.A.A.F. Firstly there appear the distinctive wattle wreath and crown as employed on the R.A.A.F. cap badge for other ranks. In the centre of the wreath there appears a sun rising above a landscape of rolling ground. At the bottom of the circle are the letters "R.A.A.F.". Mounted onto the front of the plate is an eagle in flight, with wings outspread across the circle and wreath in such a way that the sun appears to be shining from behind him. In fine gilt finish, with both dull and high lights, this is a magnificent waist plate. The belt with which it was worn was similar to that of the R.A.F., with two stripes of gold wire embroidery around it.

Other ranks in similar order of dress wore a white leather belt, with braces and sidearm equipment. The plate on these belts was of the "Boy Scout" type, i.e., an outer ring and a central portion interlocking to form the complete design. In this case, the outer ring bore the wattle wreath and crown design, while the central portion bore the letters "R.A.A.F." in the design as employed in the cap badge. The finished appearance of the plate resembled a solid cap badge. This plate was of solid brass, finished in yellow simulated gilt, and was a very impressive affair also.

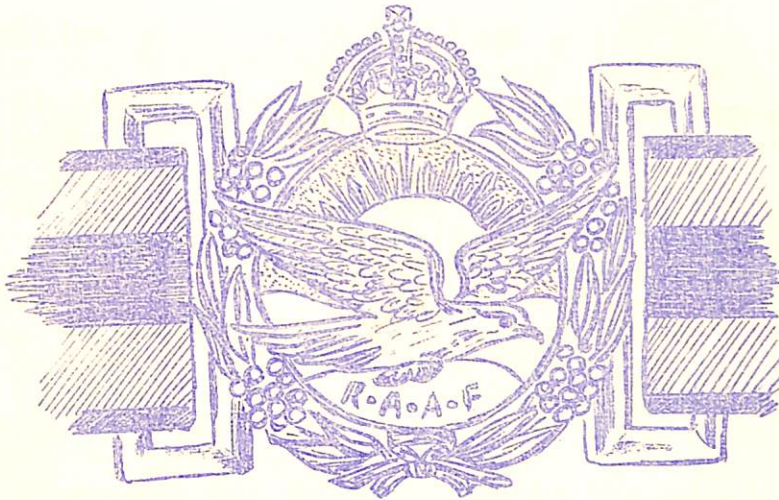
Since the War, officers of the R.A.A.F. wear the less impressive plate of the R.A.F., and men wear white webbing belts and equipment, with the normal army type brass fastener in place of a waist plate.

The sketches opposite are from samples and are accurate in presentation of the appearance of these plates.

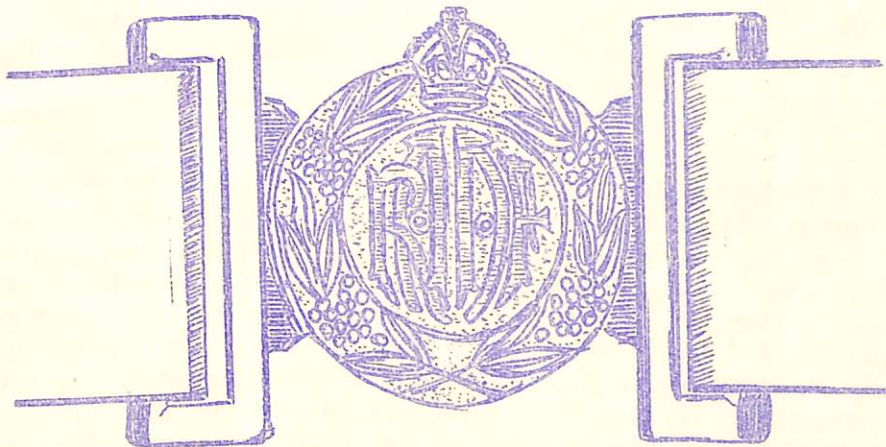
B.J.Videon.



R.A.A.F. PRE-WORLD WAR II WAIST PLATES.



OFFICERS



OTHER RANKS.



COLONEL HARRY WILL PERRIN, V.D., A.G.A.

A biographical sketch of a Garrison Gunner Officer-- Part I.

by Major Warren Perry, R.L.

I. INTRODUCTION.

Nothing much is known today of the character and personality of Colonel Harry Will Perrin, who died in Melbourne forty-five years ago. His official life as an officer of the Australian Garrison Artillery, and of his business life as a company director in the City of Melbourne, have not hitherto engaged the attention of historians.

Perrin was a typical representative of a body of Volunteer and Militia officers who, in the Australian colonies before Federation, and in the Commonwealth of Australia before the outbreak of the War of 1914-18, trained and maintained the only military forces had in those times for use in the event of an enemy invasion of this country. The story of the services of these now forgotten officers has yet to be written. They did their work quietly, unobtrusively, and often in the face of public indifference. They carried out their duties at the sacrifice of much of their own time, often to the detriment of their own business interests in civil life, and at times at considerable expense to themselves. Perrin was a contemporary of Colonel William Henry Ball, V.D., A.G.A. (1847-1928), Colonel John Joseph Hanby, V.D., A.G.A. (1857-1936), Major General James Burston, V.D. (1856-1920) sometime Lord Mayor of Melbourne, and of Colonel Robert Robertson, V.D. (1846-1929), who once commanded the Royal Melbourne Regiment when it was known as the 1st. Battalion, Victorian Rifles. The meritorious service of all these officers, and many others, has not yet been examined, recorded and evaluated by historians. General Sir John Monash also occupied a place in this group, although he belonged to a generation later than that of Perrin.

Harry Will Perrin was an Englishman, although he had lived in Victoria for most of his life. He was born on the 19th. March 1848 near Warrington in Lancashire. About three years later he came to the Colony of Victoria with his parents, and landed probably in Melbourne, sometime in 1851.

His father, Josiah Perrin, was a civil engineer. He was employed, it has been said, in some branch or other of the Colony's public service, and he was the designer of one of the earlier Prince's bridges over the Yarra River in the City of Melbourne.

Harry Will Perrin was educated at the Church of England Grammar School in Melbourne. He and his brother George Joseph Samuel Perrin (1846-1900) entered this school in 1861. Harry Will Perrin, whose number on the roll of the school was 354, remained there until 1863. After leaving school he took up a mercantile



career, and later became an enthusiastic member of the Colony's Volunteer Military Force.

## 2. THE VOLUNTEER FORCE.

It was sometime in 1870, it has been said, that Harry Will Perrin enrolled in the Williamstown Volunteer Artillery Corps as a Gunner. It has not been possible to establish a more precise date for this enrolment.

In August of that year the last of the British troops were withdrawn from the Colony of Victoria, and thereafter, the military defence of the Colony was the responsibility of the Government of Victoria.

On 7th August 1871, Captain Henry William Douch was promoted to that rank and posted to the appointment of Officer Commanding the Williamstown Volunteer (Garrison) Artillery Corps. This officer was enrolled in the Volunteer Force on 8th August 1856, and was commissioned on the 8th August 1865 in the Royal Victorian Volunteer Regiment of Artillery, with the rank of Lieutenant.

It was under Douch, as his Battery Commander, that Perrin served in the ranks and later as a junior officer. Perrin was commissioned in the Royal Victorian Volunteer Regiment of Artillery on the 23rd February 1874, with the rank of Lieutenant, and he was posted to the Williamstown Volunteer (Garrison) Artillery Corps at Fort Gellibrand.

In 1874 the Colony of Victoria was divided into seven military districts, namely, Melbourne, St. Kilda, Hobson's Bay, Corio, Ballarat, Mount Alexander, and Portland. The Williamstown Volunteer Artillery Corps to which Perrin belonged was located in the Hobson's Bay District.

The year after Perrin was commissioned, the Volunteer Force of Victoria was investigated by a Royal Commission, appointed on the 24th March 1875, to "take evidence, consider and report on the present conditions of the Volunteer Force with respect to --

1. The laws and regulations which govern it;
2. The principles on which promotion is made;
3. The distinctions that subsist between those serving under the Discipline Act and those serving under the Volunteer Statute;
4. The efficiency of the Force as a means of defence;
5. The desirableness of extending the Force in its present or some similar form, or of superseding it by some other system of defence which besides being economical in time of peace might be more effective in case of attack.

The Chairman of the Royal Commission was the Hon. Sir John



O'Shanassy, P.C.M.G. The other eight commissioners, except Colonel E.W.Ward, C.M.G., R.E., (who was the Master of the Melbourne Mint from 1870 to 1876), and Sir George F. Verdon (who was a former politician) were politicians. Sir George Verdon had served formerly in the Williamstown Volunteer Artillery Corps as a junior officer, and latterly as its battery commander. He was elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1859 as the Member for Williamstown. He was the Treasurer of the Colony of Victoria from the 26th November 1860 to the 14th November 1861, and again from the 27th June 1863 to the 6th May 1868. In this office he was the Minister responsible to the Cabinet for the Colony's naval and military defence.

Members of the Royal Commission, accompanied by the Acting Governor and the Military Commandant and members of the Commandant's staff, visited the Williamstown Artillery Corps at their headquarters in the Williamstown Drill Room, on Monday evening 20th September 1875. The object of the Commissioners' visit was to obtain first-hand information for inclusion in their Report on the Volunteer Force.

That evening the members of the Williamstown Artillery Corps mustered in force for this parade, which began at 7 p.m. The Battery Commander, Captain H.W. Douch, was present and in command of the parade. There were altogether 108 members of the battery on parade, this number being made up of 4 officers, 8 sergeants, 22 members of the band, and 74 rank and file. It can only be presumed now that Lieutenant H.W. Perrin was present on parade that evening.

The party of visitors to the battery included the following persons:

The Acting Governor, Sir William Stawell;

The following Commissioners-

Mr. T. T. a'Beckett, M.L.C.

Mr. John McIlwraith, Mayor of Melbourne

Mr. G. V. Smith, M.L.A. ;

Mr. Septimus Martin, The Secretary of the Commission;

Colonel W.A.D. Anderson, the Military Commandant, with

Lt. Col. J. E. N. Bull,

Majors J.A. Anderson; and Le Lievre (Canada Militia);

and W.C. Rees; and W. Stokes;

Captains F.W. Bull; W.H. Snee; and G.N. Turner.

It is not probable that the Williamstown Volunteer Artillery Corps was ever favoured before or after the parade that evening with such a distinguished gathering of spectators. On this parade the men were first put through the manual exercise by Captain H.W. Douch, and subsequently the platoon exercise by Captain Sidney Bartlett. Three 68-pounder guns were then manned, and the three gun crews carried out gun drill on them. According to a report in "The Argus" of this parade, "the work was done very smartly and appeared to give entire satisfaction". The visitors stayed for only about half an hour, however, and then left to attend another battery parade at Sandridge.



Perrin served in the Williamstown Volunteer Artillery Corps as a subaltern for three years, when, on the 23rd. February 1877, he was promoted to the rank of Captain, and remained posted to this unit.

It was during Perrin's service in the Williamstown battery that the Rifle Range at Williamstown was formally opened. This range, officially named "The Victoria Rifle Range", according to "The Argus", was opened on Saturday 27th. July 1878 by Lady Bowen. Situated close to the North Williamstown Railway Station, the range occupied an area of about 300 acres of land, which had been purchased by The Government of Victoria a short time before at a cost of about £15000. This was necessitated by the decision to close the old rifle range at Sandridge, for the purpose of using the land on which it stood for subdivision into building blocks.

When the Governor, Sir George Bowen, and Lady Bowen arrived on the range at Williamstown, soon after midday on that day, they were met by a Guard of Honour, under the command of Captain Douch, provided by the Williamstown Volunteer Artillery Corps.

A little more than two years after the opening, Perrin was fortunate enough to obtain an appointment as Adjutant of an artillery brigade. It is in the appointments of Adjutants and of Quartermasters of units that much of the necessary basic training and experience is obtained for more senior staff appointments, and for a better understanding also of senior regimental command appointments. It was on 1st. November 1880 that Captain Perrin was appointed Adjutant of the 2nd (Garrison) Brigade of the Royal Victorian Volunteer Regiment of Artillery, vice Captain the Hon. Alfred Thomas Clark. It is probable that he remained in this appointment until he was appointed to the Militia Force of the Colony about four years later.

In the year 1880 and for some time previously, the Colony of Victoria was divided into four military districts, namely, the Home District (in which the Williamstown Volunteer Artillery Corps was located), the North Western District (with headquarters at Ballarat), the Northern District (with headquarters at Castlemaine), and the Western District (with headquarters at Portland).

In 1880, too, the Royal Victorian Volunteer Regiment of Artillery was organised into two brigades---the 1st Brigade (Field Artillery) consisting of the East Melbourne, St. Kilda and Metropolitan Batteries, and the 2nd. Brigade (Garrison Artillery), comprising the Williamstown, Geelong, South Grant, Brighton, Western, Emerald Hill and Sandridge Batteries.







No further information has been discovered about the Royal Victorian Volunteer Artillery Association. It is not known, therefore, what precisely were its objects, nor when it was wound up. Further research no doubt will provide more information about this Association, and the part that Perrin played in it.

Perrin attended the Annual Easter Encampment of the Military Forces of Victoria in 1883. In that year it was held at Queenscliff. It was of about four days duration, and began on Thursday evening 22nd. March 1883, terminating on Monday afternoon 26th March, when the troops began to march out of camp to return to their home stations.

It was at this camp...the first time for many years...that every branch of the Colony's military forces was represented. Although the muster rolls did not add up to a very big total, there was some degree of satisfaction felt in having the cavalry side by side with the field artillery, the infantry with the engineers, and the torpedo and signal corps with the volunteer garrison artillery.

Queenscliff, as may be supposed, was considerably enlivened by the influx of these troops for the duration of the camp. The cavalry and artillery had to be untrucked at the railway terminus at Queenscliff, and they had, therefore, to march through the township to reach their camp areas. The main body of the troops, however, were set down at a temporary siding on the railway line, presumably somewhere near the terminus, and a march of about 400 yards brought them to their tent lines in the camp. The main camp was in a paddock at the junction of the Geelong and Drysdale roads. This area was selected as being one which might be occupied by defending troops if they had to defend the batteries at Queenscliff from an enemy if it landed eastward of Point Lonsdale.

Visitors to the camp areas at Queenscliff that Easter, from Melbourne and elsewhere, had to come to Queenscliff either by rail or by boat, and the members of the public were not allowed to leave the train at the temporary siding, which had been erected apparently for the sole use of the military during this encampment. In order to reach the camp areas, visitors had to travel the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles or so either by omnibus or by cab (both horse-drawn).

The main camp area contained 273 bell and oblong tents, which were erected at the beginning of the week before Good Friday, by the Permanent Artillery, and about a dozen large marquees were erected by sutlers to serve as mess tents and canteens.

Although the troops began to march into camp on the Thursday evening, training did not commence until midday of the next day, when the Camp Commander, Colonel Hutton, formally assumed the command, and issued a series of Camp Orders.



The batteries of Garrison Artillery camped in the public reserve between the gardens and the beach, and alongside the batteries which they had to man in the course of their camp training. Lt. Col. William Mair commanded the Garrison Artillery in this camp and he was assisted by Major W. H. Snee, who acted as his Staff Officer for Artillery. The Garrison Artillery and the Torpedo and Signal Corps messed together in one of the large halls attached to Adman's Grand Hotel, and a separate room was set aside there for the Officers' Mess.

At the end of this Easter encampment on Monday 26th. March 1883, most of the Garrison Artillery departed from Queenscliff by special trains for their home stations.

Reports of the encampment may be seen in copies of the newspaper "The Argus" for 24th, 26th, and 27th March, 1883.

(To be continued).

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#### SUBSCRIPTIONS.

At this time of the year it is once again our task to raise the disagreeable subject of MONEY!

As you know, we are entirely dependent on your subscriptions for the running of this Society. They pay for all the postage necessary in getting SABRETACHE into your hands and in trying to obtain various benefits for the members. A considerable proportion of our funds is needed to actually buy the paper used in publishing SABRETACHE. It is our opinion that this expenditure is well worth while, as, in an organisation such as ours, with members throughout the world, a society journal is of paramount importance in bringing news and information to the members.

So please try not to overlook the renewal of your subscription for the coming year. And please remember that, if we have to chase you for it, that means a further drain on the Society's funds.

If you feel that membership of the Society is of no benefit to you (and we hope that you will not!), please do us the courtesy of letting us know promptly.

We hope, however, that you will not only send YOUR sub along, but also that of a friend who may care to join.

ARE YOU FINANCIAL??

The Committee.





A JAPANESE OFFICER  
of the Late  
TOKUGAWA Shogunate  
circa 1867.





A JAPANESE OFFICER  
in half European  
Dress, circa 1870.



THE ORIGIN OF THE MODERN JAPANESE ARMY.

by C.Halls.

Prior to the outbreak of the Second World War, the modern Japanese Army had had a comparatively short, though eventful, history. Its formation was the direct outcome of Commodore Perry's visit to Japan in 1853, and its organisation was in essence due to the genius of one man, Baron Li Kamon Nosuke, the Prime Minister of the Shogun's Cabinet. Li Kamon realised that for Japan to achieve a place among the nations, a modern army was a fundamental necessity, and that the outmoded feudal military system had to be abolished. Thus in 1861, largely due to the efforts of this one man, the Shogunate authorities began to organise a modern standing army for the first time in Japanese history.

The new army was to consist of....

Six regiments of Heavy Infantry (with 13 additional companies for the protection of the Shogun's castle at Yedo (Tokyo), the capital);  
 Four battalions of Light Infantry (with four additional battalions to act as the Shogun's Bodyguard);  
 Six battalions of Heavy Cavalry;  
 Two battalions of Light Cavalry;  
 Six batteries of Light Field Artillery; and  
 Six-and-a-half batteries of Heavy Field Artillery (for the protection of the Shogun's castle).

As will be seen from the foregoing, the "new" army was primarily a defensive force, and its main duty was the protection of the Shogun and his capital, for the ideals of feudalism proved more difficult to eradicate than perhaps Li Kamon had at first realised. Also, the system of recruitment retained many vestiges of the old feudal system. Men between the ages of fifteen and forty five were recruited, and they contracted to serve for a period of five years. They were conscripted from their places of employment on the basis of the amount of income enjoyed by their masters. For example, any man in receipt of a certain amount of rice annually was obliged to supply one or more men for the armed forces.

Until 1870 the training given the Japanese soldier was modelled on that of France, then the foremost military power in Europe, but after the defeat of France by Prussia in 1870-71, the whole system was revised on the Prussian model, and many German and Prussian instructors were employed in the Japanese army and the newly formed Military Academy.

During the 1870's and 1880's many officers were sent to Europe for instruction and to observe the latest developments of military science. Perhaps the most notable of these young officers were Major Tsuniyoshi Murata (inventor of the Murata rifle), Generals



Arisaka (who invented the Arisaka rifle) and Nambu (inventor of the Nambu pistol). The valuable experience gained by these and other officers while overseas was put to the practical test in the Sino-Japanese War of 1893-4, and the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-5, in both of which Japan astonished the world with her efficient military organisation.

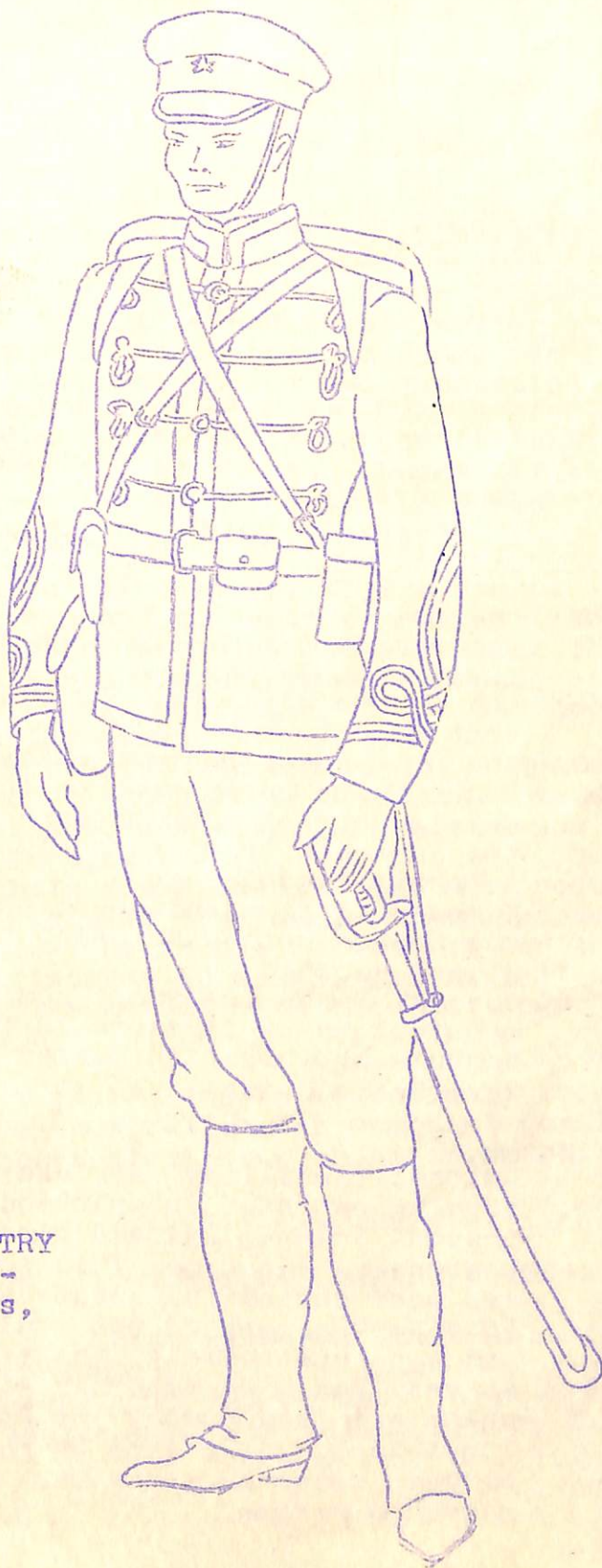
The creation of the "new" army of Japan was the dream of Li Kamon but it fell to another man, a practical soldier, to put this new creation on a firm footing. The man was General Kawakami. He saw the great deficiencies that had to be remedied before Japan could be said to have a modern army, and in 1884 he was one of the officers chosen to study in Europe. In 1885 he was promoted to Major-General and sub-chief of the General Staff, while a brother officer, Major-General Katsura became Vice Minister of War. These two men worked in close cooperation during the subsequent years, and a great improvement in administration was made by placing the General Staff under the direct control of the Emperor.

General Kawakami directed the expansion of the army, and placed less emphasis on coastal defence, developing instead highly mobile striking forces.

In the period 1868 to 1885 the newly organised army underwent its "baptism of fire" in the three provinces of Saga, Kumamoto and Yamaguchi, quelling civil disturbances, and in the expedition to Formosa which followed shortly after. In 1877, civil war broke out in Japan. This war, known as the "South West War", was the last stand of feudalism, and was fought between the "modern" Government troops of the Emperor and the swordsmen of the disaffected Daimyo (or feudal lords) of the south western provinces. The results of these campaigns, as they affected the army, were the creation of an efficient commissariat and divisional staff, and greater attention paid than heretofore on military education of officers. Also, the creation of six military "stations" overcame many of the administration problems that had existed prior to 1885. The six "stations" were at Tokyo, Sendai, Osaka, Nagoya, Hiroshima, and Kumamoto, and became the basis for the creation of six divisions. From 1885 until 1893 there were no radical changes in the organisation of the army. There was, of course, general expansion, development of coastal defences, and numbers of military missions went overseas to study the latest developments in other armies.

Thus, it should not have come as a surprise when Japan emerged victorious from her struggle with China in 1893, for it was common knowledge that the Chinese armies were poorly led, that corruption and defection of officers was rife throughout most of the army, and that equipment was so inferior that in many instances the Chinese soldiers with great bravery attacked with swords and lances the lines of Japanese riflemen. China proved the testing ground, and the result of the short war was that





JAPANESE INFANTRY  
LIEUTENANT-  
Service Dress,  
1904-05.



Japan was considered internationally as the strongest military power in Asia.

The years 1894 to 1904 were years not only of rapid development during which the original six divisions were increased to thirteen and the effective strength of the army when placed on a wartime footing amounted to 500,000 men fully trained, but also years of experimentation with such modern inventions as the telephone.

So when the Japanese took the field against the Russians in 1904, the mobility of the army had been greatly increased by the widespread use of the field telephone and the observation balloon, while fire-power was increased by the use of massed machine-gun fire.

Co-operation between the army and the navy had also been developed, and the results of this were seen in the blockade and siege of Port Arthur. At the end of the War in 1905, Japan stood recognised as a first rate military power.

#### IMPORTANT DATES IN JAPANESE MILITARY HISTORY:

##### Development of Weapons.

Prior to 1887	the standard military long-arm was the single shot Murata rifle
1887	the Murata rifle was modified from a single-shot to a tube repeater
1897	the new Mauser-pattern Arisaka rifle designed
1904	Major Nambu began work on the testing and development of machine-guns
1904	the Japanese Army was equipped with the Hotchkiss machine-gun
1914	Nambu's first machine-gun produced, based on the French Hotchkiss. Also the Nambu automatic pistol adopted
1927	General Nambu founded a company for the manufacture of firearms in Tokyo
1937	Nambu's organisation merged with that of the Chuo Kogyo Kaisha.

##### Biographical Notes.

###### Arisaka

Colonel (Artillery) Nariake Arisaka. While serving as Chief Superintendent of the Tokyo Arsenal Colonel Arisaka invented the rifle that bears his name. This weapon (type 30) was used during the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-5. The type 30 was modified after 1905 and was superseded by the type 99 (1939), and it was this type together with the type 38 which was used during the Second World War. The Arisaka rifle type 38 may occasionally be seen referred to as the Meiji 38. This is the same weapon.



All of Colonel Arisaka's rifles are of the turn bolt type.

Murata.

Major (Infantry) Murata Tsunayoshi (1838-1921). He fought with distinction in a number of local campaigns and was commissioned by the military authorities to design a rifle for the army. The first rifle he invented was a single shot turn bolt action, weight 9lbs. $\frac{1}{2}$  oz., and of 11 mm. calibre. Issued in 1885, it was modified to a tube repeater in 1887. In 1889 the rifle underwent further modifications to permit it to take an 8 mm. rimmed cartridge. The magazine Murata had a magazine capacity of 8 rounds, and a maximum range of 2,200 m. It was first issued in 1893 to the Imperial Guard, and to the 4th. Osaka Division. In 1890 Murata was admitted to the House of Peers in recognition of his services.

Nambu.

General (Artillery) Kijiro Nambu. Began early experiments in Japan connected with the development of a semi-automatic rifle in 1904. These experiments proved unsuccessful and he turned his attention to the development of machine-guns. Like his two contemporaries, Murata and Arisaka, General Nambu studied military developments overseas, and attended many weapon proving tests in Europe. Nambu's first machine gun was produced in 1914, as was also the famous Nambu automatic pistol. In 1927 he founded a company for the manufacture of firearms in Tokyo, and in 1937 this organisation merged with the Chuo Kogyo Kaisha of Tokyo.

(ACKNOWLEDGEMENT): I would like to acknowledge the help of Major McGrath of the Australian War Memorial for information supplied for the biographical note on Major Murata.

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 JAPANESE LINE INFANTRY UNIFORM c.1904.

Field Dress: Grey tunic with red stiff collar, red shoulder straps.  
 White trousers with red stripe. White gaiters.  
 Cap with yellow band and yellow piping on top edge.

(Ref.Ruhl.)



AN INEXPENSIVE MANEQUIN HEAD FOR THE COLLECTOR.

by John P. Lauth.

Inexpensive manequin heads can be made by the average collector for around 25 cents. An old commercially produced head is used for the original model. Facial features---nose, cheek bones, etc. can be changed by the addition of modelling clay to the original.

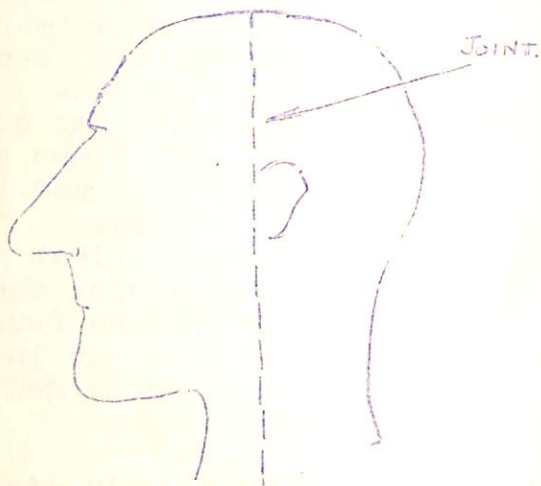
A layer of 2-inch square pieces of newspaper soaked in water is then applied to the model. The a layer of common wallpaper paste is smeared over this layer. Another layer of soaked newspaper and more paste is used until a thickness of fine layers of newspaper is built up.

Next the model is baked in an oven at 450 degrees for about 20 minutes until the outside layer is hard and dry. It is now ready to be cut from the model. This is best done by cutting across the head down through the ears in such a way that there are left equal front and back of the head. The two halves are then baked for another 20 minutes or until dry.

The two halves are then sewed together with overcast stitches, after which a layer of paper is applied over the sewing, to hide the joint.

The manequin is now ready to be painted. Water colours are not suitable, but almost any other type of paint will serve, such as oils or quick-drying model paints.

When the paint is dry, theatrical hair can be attached for eyebrows, beards etc.



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(If any collectors make some of these manequin heads, we shall be pleased to hear about them, and, if possible, to see some photos of them in use.--Ed.)

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## MILITARY MINIATURES--Spring 1961.

Mr Russell Gammage has brought out his Spring catalogue again, and we are interested to note that he has introduced a new type of figure designed to assist the maker of dioramas. Cabalt figures will be discontinued as the stocks are sold. Mr. Gammage's address is 45 Sundorne Rd., SE7, LONDON, U.K.



AUSTRALIAN REGIMENTS WITH A PIPE BAND OR PIPERS.

by Robert Gray.

The following units are known to have had either their own pipe bands, or pipers. The writer will be pleased to hear of any additions to this list.

Before 1903:

Scottish Company, Adelaide Regiment of Volunteer Rifles;  
 Scottish Company, South Australian Military Forces;  
 Queensland Scottish; Victorian Scottish;  
 Mount Gambier Scottish Company (South Australia).

1903-1912.

South Australian Scottish Infantry; Victorian Scottish;  
 New South Wales Scottish; Western Australian Scottish.

1st. A.I.F. 1914-1918.

4th Battalion;	5th Battalion;	8th Battalion;
9th "	14th "	42nd "
52nd "	4th Machine Gun Company.	

1929-1939.

Sydney University Regiment; South Australian Scottish;  
 New South Wales Scottish; Victorian Scottish;  
 Queensland Scottish; Cameron Highlanders of Western Australia;  
 Darwin Mobile Force.

1939-1945.

Australian Womens' Army Service;  
 3rd. Battalion Volunteer Defence Corps.

2nd. A.I.F. 1939-1945.

2/8 Field Ambulance; 2/25 Battalion; 2/31 Battalion.

From 1948.

South Australian Scottish; New South Wales Scottish;  
 Byron Scottish; Victorian Scottish; Adelaide University Regt;  
 Cameron Highlanders of Western Australia; Sydney University Regt;  
 Northern Rivers Lancers; Pacific Islands Regiment;  
 Launceston Regiment; Wide Bay Regt; 16th National Service Bn.

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DEATHS' HEADS ON SWEDISH HUSSAR CAPS.

Mr Eric Kjellberg writes that the first Swedish Hussars were established in Pommern, in the North of Germany (at that time ruled by the Swedish Government) in 1743. It was a small corps, and was discontinued after one year. In 1758 The first Swedish Hussar Regiment was formed, also in Pommern. In 1761, this regiment was divided into two, the first called the Blue, and the Second, the Yellow Regiment. The Yellow Regiment wore bear skin caps with a badge of a death's head on the front in white metal. In 1766 the two regiments were amalgamated into one, taking the uniform of the Blue Regt. It was transferred to Sweden in 1777.



by Robert G. ...

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22.  
Despatches

1. From Mr. L. Barton.

As a follow-up to Mr Halls' excellent article on the "History of the British Regiments in W.A.", the following notes on the W.A. Military Forces in 1887 may be of interest.

In that year there were no Imperial troops in the Colony, but a Volunteer force was enrolled in 1861 under local ordinance (25th. Vict. No. 3) and consisted of one battery of Naval Artillery one battery of Field Artillery and eight companies of Rifles. The force was an unpaid one. An annual allowance of £1.10.0 per man was granted for every efficient Volunteer, in addition to which each Corps received an allowance for the maintenance of a Band, ranging from £60 (which was the allowance given to the Metropolitan Rifles) to £15 (which was allowed to the Naval Artillery towards the maintenance of a Drum and Fife Band.) The recruits were drilled by a Corps Drill Instructor, under arrangements made by the C.O. of each Corps, for which they received an allowance of from £35 (Perth Artillery) to £18.5.0 per annum. The Metropolitan and Fremantle Rifles received £25 each. In addition to this the Metropolitan and Fremantle Rifles received £20 each, and the other Corps £10 each, on account of prizes for rifle contests. An allowance of 120 rounds per annum of small arms ammunition was made annually for rifle practice, which was conducted under corps arrangement, by orders issued by the Commandant.

The Commander-in-Chief was His Excellency the Governor, Sir Frederic Napier Broome, K.C.M.G.

The Return of Officers for 1887 was:

H.Q. Staff--

Commandant-- Lt. Col. W. G. Phillimore, R.A. (£500 & £100 travelling expenses p.a. 16/7/86)

Adjutant-- Lt. J. A. Campbell £175 p.a. 23/9/86)

Naval Artillery-- Sub. Lt. F. Wenvyss 23/5/83.

Perth Artillery-- Capt. E. W. Haynes 12/4/83; Lt. W. A. Stone 25/4/83.

Metropolitan Rifles-- Capts. R. A. Sholl 31/9/83; T. Sherwood 31/9/83;

Lts. C. Y. Dean 27/9/83; E. Sholl 27/9/83; E. C. Strickland 6/4/85;

J. Rose 6/4/85.

Fremantle Rifles-- Capts. G. B. Humble 8/2/83; H. Smith 13.6.85;

Lts. C. L. Clifton 23/5/85; W. A. Payne 23/5/85; G. H. Stone 23/5/85.

Guildford Rifles-- Capt. S. Gardiner 1/1/79; Lts. J. Allpike 11/2/79;

F. J. Reid 5/12/84;

Geraldton Rifles-- Capt. E. Shenton 8/1/81; Lts. R. H. Cowan 11/8/86;

W. Jose 11/8/86.

Albany Defense Rifles-- Capt. C. Rogers 6/5/85; Lt. J. Moir 19/1/86.

Northampton Rifles (Half Company)-- Capt. S. Mitchell 25/9/85;

Lt. S. H. Mitchell 11/11/86.

Retired List-- Major R. M. Sutherland 13/9/85; Lt. W. D. Cowan 11/8/86.

cont.....







RETURN OF W.A. VOLUNTEER LAND FORCES 30/6/87.

Designation of the several corps:	Establishment Of. OR's			Actual Strength			Armament of each Corps.
Naval Artillery Volunteers	2	36	- 2	1	51	- 2	2 x 6 pdr S.B. field guns on carriage w/o limber.
Perth " "	2	40	- 2	2	40	- 2	2 x 12 pdr. Armstrong R.B.L. guns with field carriages & limbers 8 cwts. no waggons.
Metro. Rifle Vols.	6	150	- -	6	136	- -	Martini Henry rifles
Fremantle " "	6	114	- -	5	119	- -	"
Guildford " "	3	77	- -	3	102	- -	"
Geraldton " "	3	57	- -	3	53	- -	"
Northampton " "	3	37	- -	2	41	- -	"
Albany Defense " Cadet Corps "Lady Baker's Own"	3	77	- -	2	76	- -	Snider Rifles
		50			45		Martini Henry Rifles
	28	638	- 4	24	663	- 4	

Total expenditure on account of volunteers for year ended 31/12/86-----£3373.9.4.  
 Amount voted on account of the Volunteer Dept. for year ending 31/12/87-----£3886.5.0.

There were no military works in W.A. in 1887, but military posts were maintained at Perth, Fremantle, Guildford, Geraldton, Northampton and Albany.

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From MR. P. Drage.

Hitler Medal (SABRETACHE p.40, October 1960)  
 Obverse head of Hitler in Brownshirt uniform and belt over right shoulder "REICHSKANZLER ADOLF HITLER"; reverse "30.7-6.8.33" engraved in the centre, within an oak and acorn wreath around the circumference of the medal. Size about 35 mm. Ribbon about 30 mm. Seems to be red with a white and black stripe at either side. I have found the following information about this medal-- a private medal for sports and shooting days. Made in Konigsberg



DESPATCHES (cont).....

(East Prussia), now Kaliningrad, U.S.S.R. It is one of many private issues. The ribbon is the ribbon of the Prussian Red Cross medal.

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ANNUAL ELECTIONS.  
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The following nominations have been received for election to offices for the financial year ending 30th June 1962:

PRESIDENT:	Mr. A. N. Festberg	)
SECRETARY:	Mr. J. K. Lyons	)
TREASURER:	Mr. P. Lober	)
LIBRARIAN:	Mr. K. W. Pryor	)
EDITOR:	Mr. B. J. Videon.	)

) These are the only  
) nominees to accept--  
) all others declined.

The following Vice Presidents were proposed:

Messrs. D. Von Schrittz, P. V. Vernon, and B. J. Videon.

The above-mentioned nominees for positions on the Committee will take office in accordance with the terms of the Constitution and Rules.

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NEW MEMBERS:

The following applications for membership have been received and are provisionally accepted in terms of the Constitution for a period of three calendar months:

WO.1. K.M. Lyon, of A.H.Q. Survey Regt., BENDIGO, Victoria,  
Australian Light Horse and colour patches 1914-1947.

Mr. J. L. McWilliams, of 1162, 13th Avenue N.W., MOOSE JAW, Sask,  
Canada----Cap badges; medals; and books on same.

Mr. I. D. Lomasney, of Central Army Records Office, Albert Park  
Barracks, MELBOURNE, SCL, Victoria--  
collects medals and ribbons.

All applicants notified in the previous SABRETACHE are accepted, and welcomed to membership.

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ARTICLES WANTED:

Although the Editor still has in hand some articles, it would be appreciated if more could be sent in, as it is necessary to try to provide in each edition a selection which will cover the interests of as many members as possible.  
If you have anything of interest to write, HOW ABOUT IT?



GUIDONS LAID UP IN ADELAIDE.

On Sunday May 14th, the guidons of the 3rd and 9th Light Horse Regiments were laid up in a colourful ceremony at St. Peters Cathedral, Adelaide.

The ceremony was conducted by the 3/9 S.A. Mounted Rifles which took over the traditions of the two old regiments when it was formed in 1948.

Eight officers who were formerly members of the two regiments formed a mounted escort for the guidons. The mounts were greys of the well-known South Australian Police mounted division. It is pleasing to note that the mounted escort were uniformed as Light Horsemen, this being one of the few occasions recently when present-day units have bothered to draw attention in this way to the old Light Horse.

The procession of scout cars of the 3/9th, led by the mounted party, "marched" through the main street of Adelaide to the Torrens Parade Ground, where it was inspected by Major-General Hopkins.

The guidons were then trooped before being taken to the Cathedral for the service by the Bishop of Adelaide (Rt. Rev. Dr. T. T. Reed).

A very good photo of the party of mounted officers appeared on page 5 of "The Advertiser" of Monday May 15th.

B. J. Videon.

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ADDITIONAL NEW MEMBER.

Mr. Edgar Penzig, of Museum of Australiana, WALLACIA, N.S.W.  
Mr Penzig is a Committee Member of the Antique Arms Collectors Association, and his interests range from Militaria of the Australian Volunteer period to medals of the Nazi German era. The basic interest of the Volunteer period includes the acquisition of such items as legirons, handcuffs, and early police equipment of the same period.



BADGES FOR SALE BY SOCIETY TREASURER.

From time to time we get the chance to procure a few badges from the services for our members.

When this happens we have to make a quick decision, and we have at present some small stocks of some of these badges.

They may be obtained from the Treasurer, Mr Paul Lober, and we would appreciate your remittance with order if possible.

R.A. Naval Musicians Obsolete insignia:  
Helmet plates star with "lazy anchor" device 4/6  
Cap badges star with upright anchor old crown 2/6  
collar badges gilt lyres (brilliant) 2/-  
musicians naval buttons two sizes approx 4d. ea.  
brass shoulder titles "RAN" 1/-.

Army badges:

Launceston Regt hat badges 4/-  
R.A.A. Nursing Corps " " 4/-  
Wide Bay Regt " " 4/-  
" " collar " 2/-  
W.R.A.A.C. hat or collar " 4/-  
R.A. Engineers hat " 4/-

Most of the above are new crown badges.

U.S. Navy Seabees Australian made wartime distinctives in the form of a bronze shield. This is a nice badge 2/-.

We would welcome your orders for the above badges, as this will give us a return of our cash outlay to enable us to be in a position to buy more cheap badges as the chances come up.

Don't be shy-----order two of each!

We can not always guarantee that we can get badges, as the regulations of most of the service departments provide that obsolete badges shall be destroyed under supervision.

When we DO get the chance we must act quickly.

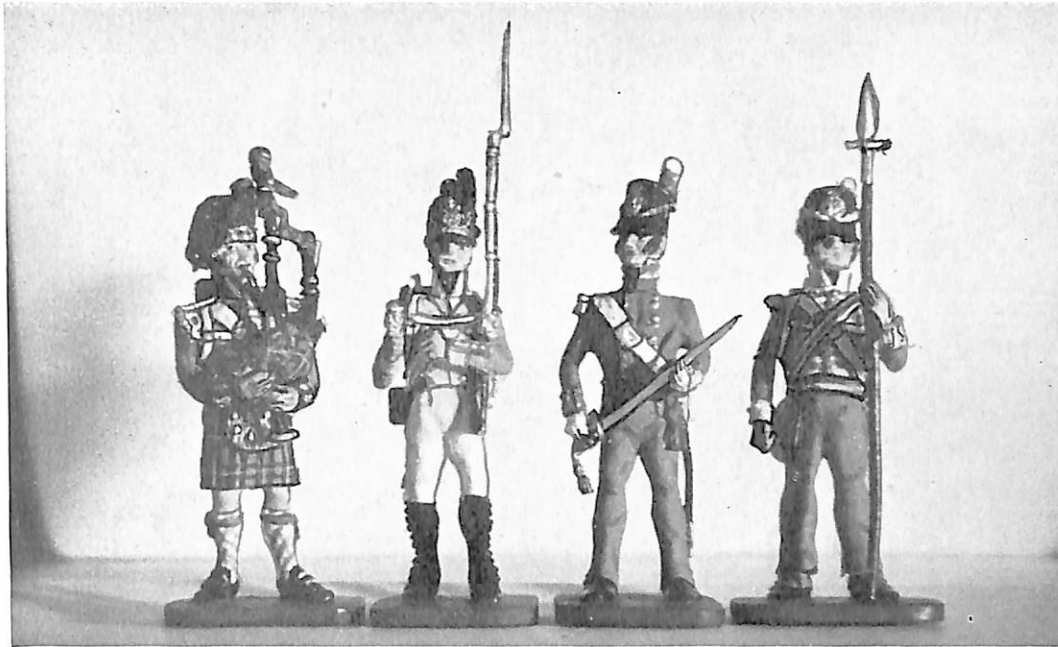
It does no harm if you will drop us a note of your wants, and the amount which you are prepared to spend, so that we may bear you in mind if such a chance comes up again.

THE COMMITTEE.



# HINTON HUNT FIGURES

Military and Historical Models designed by Marcus Hinton for the Connoisseur

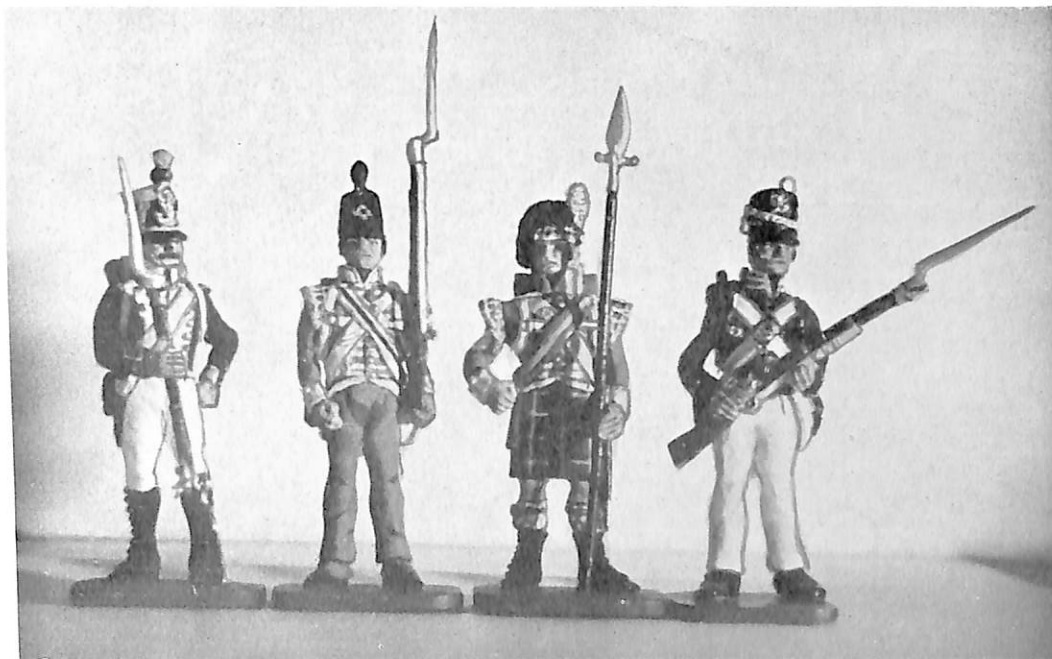


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S31

S97

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S47

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