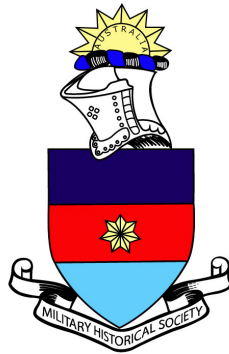


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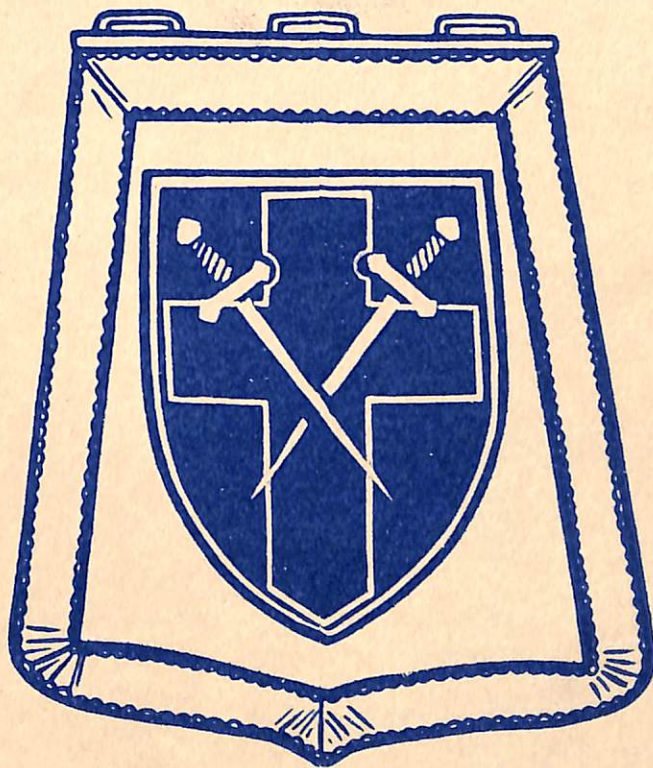
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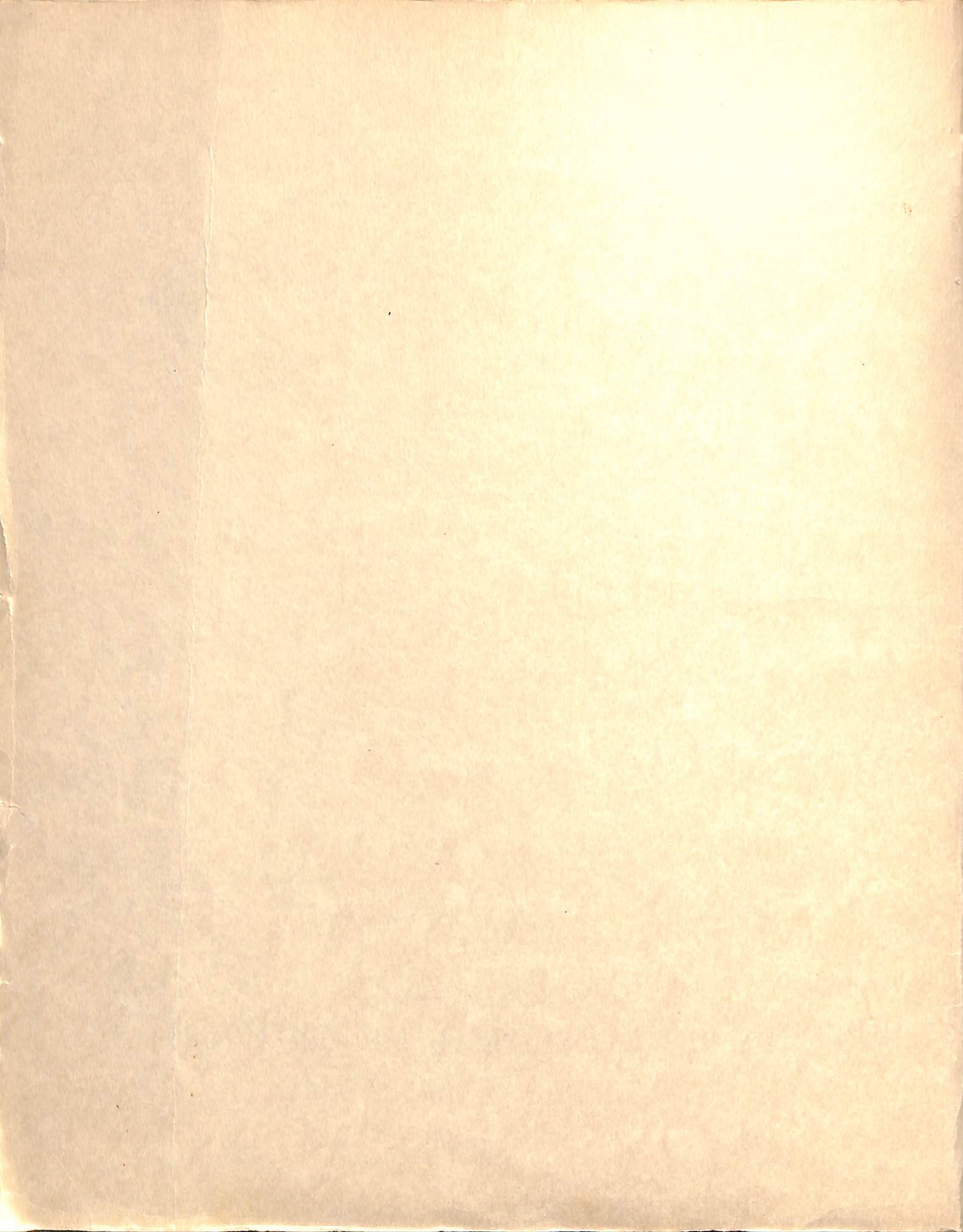
SABRETACHE



THE JOURNAL OF
THE MILITARY RESEARCH AND COLLECTORS
SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

VOL IV

No. 4



S A B R E T A C I E

The Journal of the

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Vol. IV

April 1962

No. 4.

HONORARY OFFICE BEARERS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th June 1962.

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MONTHLY MEETINGS: Melbourne--2nd Friday in each month.
Sydney-----4th Saturday afternoon in
each month.

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MEMBERSHIP.

Membership of the Society is by annual subscription, payable on 1st July each year. Financial members are entitled to a Membership Card, which may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary.

Subscription rates are fixed annually, and for the year 1961/2 are:

Australian members	20/- p.a.
Sterling area members	20/- p.a.
Dollar area members	£ 3.00 p.a.
Junior members (under 18 yrs)	£ above rates.

When remitting by Money order or cheque please make payable to the Society and NOT TO AN INDIVIDUAL. Place at which payable, if required, should be shown as "Melbourne".

"SABRETACHE".

The quarterly journal of the Society, is not available for sale to non-members.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Members' advertisements may be inserted for a flat rate of 5/- for average sized advertisements.

Trade ads. are subject to negotiation with the Hon. Secretary.

WHILE THE SOCIETY WILL NOT KNOWINGLY PUBLISH MISLEADING ADS., NO RESPONSIBILITY CAN BE ACCEPTED BY THE SOCIETY FOR ANY ADVERTISED ITEMS, APART FROM THOSE ADVERTISED BY THE SOCIETY ITSELF.

SOCIETY BADGE.

A small enamelled representation of the Society badge may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary for 5/- plus postage. Cuff links are 12/6 pair.

64. 1880

THE MODERN TURKISH ARMY.

by C. Hallis.

The modern Turkish Army came into existence in 1826, and as it was recruited only from the Moslem population of the Ottoman Empire, it was the first "national" military force the Empire had known. However, it was largely international in composition because of the diversity of the peoples that made up the Empire. Abdul Medjid, successor to the Sultan Mahmoud, modelled the new army on European lines, French influence being particularly strong.

The standing army (sizam) was supported by two reserves known as the first reserves (lichtjat) and the second reserves (redif); there was also a force similar to the home defence corps, known as the "hijade", and a number of auxiliary corps. Although conscription was in force, the majority of the soldiers were volunteers, and served for a period of twenty years. Four years were spent in the ranks of the standing army, followed by periods of two years in the first reserves and six in the second reserves. The remaining eight years were spent in the hijade.

With an estimated strength of 150,000 men in 1877, the standing army comprised six army corps, which corresponded to the six military districts (ordus) into which the Empire was divided. Each army corps consisted of six or seven infantry battalions, six or seven rifle battalions, two to seven cavalry regiments, and one artillery regiment. There was no divisional or brigade organisation in peacetime---these came into effect only in wartime.

The infantryman's uniform was on the European pattern during the period 1826-1877 (approx), and then it became more national in character, comprising an open blue jacket and ornamental waistcoat, leather sash, and wide Turkish trousers, yellow lace boots, and fez cap. Cavalry uniforms were very similar except that the jacket and waistcoat lacing was different. The type of saddle in use was that known as the Hungarian saddle.

In all there were twenty-five regiments of Light Cavalry, each composed of six squadrons, and the cavalrymen's weapons were the lance (for some squadrons), breech-loading carbines, and sword and revolver. These latter were carried by all troopers.

The artillery comprised six regiments of field artillery. The artillery was the most efficient branch of the army, and were highly trained, many Germans being employed as instructors.

THE RESERVES.

After completion of their service in the standing army, they were transferred into the ihtjat, soldiers were liable to recall at a moment's notice, and thus could not leave their districts without permission. Some battalions of these reservists were recalled to the colours for the military expedition to Yemen in 1870.

Service in the redif was easier, as this corps could only be called to the colours in time of war, and was not liable for service outside Anatolia.

From the reserves, soldiers passed into the hijade. In the 1870's this corps was very inferior in organisation.

THE AUXILIARIES.

These irregulars were raised in time of war, and were grouped in two categories:

- (a) Bashi-bazouks, and
- (b) Volunteers.

Bashi-bazouks were usually troops raised by contract. The Governor of a province would receive an order to recruit a certain number of men. He was supplied with the necessary money, and he negotiated with tribal chiefs to furnish men at the lowest cost. The possibilities for corruption in this system are obvious, and, needless to say, most of the money supplied by the government found its way into the pockets of the governor and the contractor, the recruits receiving very little. Thus being poorly paid, the Bashi-bazouks became feared by their own countrymen as well as by the enemy, as they achieved notoriety as looters and terrorists.

During the Greek struggle for independence 1821-33, a war in which atrocities, looting and arson were everyday occurrences, it was the Bashi-bazouks who were the most feared.

During the Crimean War, 20,000 to 30,000 of them were serving in the Turkish army. They were so ill-disciplined and addicted to gambling and general lawlessness, however, that most units were disbanded before the cessation of hostilities.

THE VOLUNTEERS (Spahis).

These were valuable irregular cavalry units, of great value. The recruits came from the wild border tribes of the frontier provinces. Serving under their tribal chiefs and boys, they were noted for their religious devotion. However, their organisation was never taken in hand by the authorities, and they remained merely tribesmen owing allegiance to their tribal leaders. Perhaps this was

their strength, for no amount of indoctrination would have caused them to feel complete loyalty to the Sultans in Istanbul.

VASSAL STATES OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Each of the vassal states was obliged to supply troops for the defence of the Empire in times of war.

EGYPT.

In the Crimean War, Egypt furnished three divisions, and during the Cretan insurrection 1821-22 she supplied a contingent of 10,000 men.

Egypt was pledged to supply an army corps of 30,000 men, complete with cavalry and guns, in 1877.

Ismail Pasha (1863-79) created the modern Egyptian army, virtually from nothing, for, prior to his accession to power, Egypt had only two infantry regiments, and a few detachments of irregulars. In 1877 the army consisted of 15 infantry regiments of 3 battalions each, 4 cavalry regiments, 2 regiments of field artillery, and one battalion of sappers. The wartime strength of the Egyptian army in 1877 was approximately 52,000 infantry, 2,500 cavalry, and 144 guns.

These troops of the regular army were well drilled and organised on European principles. Many French officers served as their instructors.

In the 1870's, Egypt's frontiers were guarded by irregular troops known as "sandschaks". These men received a high rate of pay, but had to provide their own arms clothes and food.

TUNIS AND TRIPOLI.

The contingent from this district was (in 1877) from 2,000 to 4,000 infantry, 1,000 cavalry and 8 guns. During the Crimean War about 4,000 men served overseas, in the Crimea, from this district of North Africa.

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ARE YOU FINANCIAL?.

If not, we would appreciate your subs as soon as possible in order that we may continue to supply SABRETACHE and any other services which may be within our power.

67

AMERICAN CIVIL WAR RESEARCH GROUP OF AUSTRALIA.

We have pleasure in advising members that a new group under the above title has been formed.

Its initial edition of "THE COMMEMORATOR", dated December 1961 has been seen by us, and it is a very interesting effort.

Those who are interested in the American Civil War are recommended to write to the Hon Secretary of the Group,

Mr Norman Bent,
P.O.Box 54,
NORTH SYDNEY, N.S.W.

for details additional to the following:

Membership fee	£1 per annum.
Attendance at Meetings	2/- per head.
Minimum age limit	18 years.

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NEW CAP BADGE FOR ROYAL CANADIAN
AIR FORCE.

by F.C.Pilkington.



A new cap badge has recently been issued to other ranks of the Royal Canadian Air Force, for wear with the peaked service cap, now re-introduced. It comprises the official crest of the R.C.A.F.

DESCRIPTION: Superimposed and beyond an annulus ensigned with the Queen's (E.I.I.R) crown, and bearing the motto "PER ARDUA AD ASTRA", the R.C.A.F. bird volant, head turned sinister. At the base of the

badge a tripartite scroll inscribed "ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE". Height $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches, with $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches. All in gilding metal.

This badge supersedes the bullion wire one worn by R.C.A.F. bands, as illustrated in SABRETACHE IV/1.

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89
SCOTTISH VOLUNTEER UNITS OF THE NEW ZEALAND ARMY.

submitted by L.A.Noble.

(NOTE: Much of the following information is taken from "THE CLANSMAN", the regimental magazine of the New Zealand Scottish Regiment.)

The first Scottish unit was formed in Dunedin in 1863, and other units were formed at various dates until, in 1911, the remaining units were absorbed into the Territorial Force, and all Scottish units lost their titles and distinctive dress.

No. 2 Company (Scottish) DUNEDIN RIFLE VOLUNTEERS.

Formed in 1863. The unit proposed to wear the uniform of the London Scottish Volunteers, but this was later changed to a scarlet jacket with white facings, blue trousers, and a half-shako with horsehair plume.

The first Commanding Officer was Captain John Cargill.

In 1865 the Company had a strength of 80 all ranks. The strength declined with the falling away in the whole Volunteer Force in the 1870's, and was disbanded in June 1874.

DUNEDIN HIGHLAND RIFLE VOLUNTEERS.

Formed in 1865, and commanded by a Captain Glennie. It was planned to adopt the uniform of the Black Watch, which could be obtained from Melbourne.

The strength dropped in early 1866 to below the minimum for a company authorised under the 1866 Volunteer Regulations, and the service of the Company was not re-offered to the Government, and was thus disbanded in 1866.

THE INVERCARGILL HIGHLAND RIFLE VOLUNTEERS.

Founded in September 1873 by some forty men who offered their services. When inspected by Major Gordon, it was found that the actual strength was only seventeen, and he suggested disbandment. This was carried out on May 6th 1874.

THE WELLINGTON HIGHLAND RIFLE VOLUNTEERS.

Formed in April 1871. Wore the Black Watch tartan.

John Carey was the first Captain, and he remained in the post until August 1873, when he resigned due to a difference of opinion with some of the men of the Company. Many of the men resigned at the same time. Owing to the exertions of Senior Lieutenant Charles McKirdy the Company was not disbanded.

The uniforms were obtained and the title changed to the Wellington Scottish Rifle Volunteers.

Lt. McKirdy was promoted to Captain in 1873, and resigned in 1874. Of the remaining two officers, one resigned in March 1875, and the commission of the other lapsed when the unit was disbanded on June 30th 1875.

THE AUCKLAND SCOTTISH RIFLE VOLUNTEERS.

Formed in July 1871, with Major Taylor, an officer of the New Zealand Militia, as Commanding Officer. On March 31st 1874, the Company had a strength of 35 all ranks. By 1878 this had increased to 73, dropping to 64 by 1880. When in 1881 the numbers had fallen to 45, the unit was disbanded with effect from February 1882.

THE CANTERBURY SCOTTISH VOLUNTEERS.

Formed in 1885 as a result of great public interest in volunteering in that year. The uniform consisted of a scarlet doublet, the kilt, and a forage cap. Throughout its existence until disbanded on 12th February 1893 the roll stood at about 60.

THE THAMES SCOTTISH RIFLE VOLUNTEERS.

The unit was formed by changing the name of the Thames Rifle Rangers Volunteers to the Thames Scottish Rifle Volunteers in 1871. It was intended to have a uniform of kilt, tunic and blue balmoral bonnet, but this was changed to a scarlet jacket with helmet. In July 1878, No. 3 Company, Hauraki Rifle Volunteers was renamed No. 2 Company, Thames Scottish Rifle Volunteers, the original Company being No. 1 Company. In August of the same year they were formed into the First Battalion, Thames Scottish Volunteers. By 1880 the companies had expanded to three. In 1881, Regulations limited the size of Companies, and, as a result, No. 3 Company was disbanded in May 1882, and the remainder followed in June.

THE WANGANUI HIGHLAND RIFLE VOLUNTEERS.

Formed on 11th April 1900. Had a roll of 67. The company was first issued with khaki uniforms in November 1900. The full dress uniform of the Gordon Highlanders was adopted in February 1901. The total cost of the uniforms, pipes and drums was £650, and the officers' uniforms cost an additional £210. This Company, with the following four, was absorbed into the Territorial Force in and after 1911.

THE DUNEDIN HIGHLAND RIFLES.

This unit was gazetted in March 1885 as No. 2 Company (Dunedin), Highland Brigade Rifle Volunteers. The name was changed to the Dunedin Highland Rifles, and this title lasted until the unit was absorbed into the Territorial Force. The full dress uniform was that of the Black Watch, with blue jackets and red facings. The jacket was later changed to scarlet.

It is of interest to note that twenty men of the Dunedin and Wanganui Highland Rifles represented New Zealand at the opening of the Australian Federal Parliament in 1901.

THE WELLINGTON HIGHLAND RIFLE VOLUNTEERS.

Gazetted at the same date as the Wanganui Highland Rifles. The Wellington Highland Rifle Volunteers wore the uniform of the Seaforth Highlanders with its scarlet tunic and buff collars ornamented with the elephant and the symbolic letter "F". This was supplied in January 1902.

CANTERBURY HIGHLAND VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

The services of this unit were accepted on December 1st 1900. In 1908 the Company was chosen to occupy the post of honour at the doorway when the Governor opened the Christchurch Exhibition.

THE AUCKLAND HIGHLAND RIFLE VOLUNTEERS.

Accepted for service in 1909. Wore the uniform of the Black Watch. The officers wore feathered bonnets, and the other ranks glengarrys.

THE SCOTTISH HORSE MOUNTED RIFLE VOLUNTEERS.

This was the only mounted Scottish unit in the New Zealand army. Formed in 1906. with headquarters at Waipu.

CHRISTCHURCH HIGHLANDERS (VOLUNTEERS).

Consisted of one Company, and they wore the Gordon tartan.

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PRESENTATION OF COLOURS TO THE FIRST AND SECOND BATTALIONS OF THE NEW ZEALAND REGIMENT.

From Souvenir programmes put in by Sgt Gordon Curley.

The first and Second Battalions, New Zealand Regiment, have recently been presented with their colours.

Those of the First Battalion were presented by His Excellency the Governor General (The Viscount Cobham, CCMG, ED), at Burnham Camp, on 10th September 1961.

Those of the Second Battalion were presented by Major General The Right Honourable Sir Patrick Barrowclough, KCMG, CB, DSO, MC, ED, at the same place, on March 4th 1962.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE 1st NEW ZEALAND REGIMENT.

1 N.Z. Regiment was raised in 1957 for the specific purpose of service in Malaya. The battalion arrived in that country on December 1957, and began anti-terrorist operations in North Malaya three months later. From then until November 1959 the battalion was continually engaged in operations and accounted for the elimination of 28 communist terrorists. This record surpassed that of any other unit of P8 Commonwealth Brigade.

During the period three members of the battalion lost their lives, and one Sarawak Ranger attached to the unit was also lost.

Decorations won by the unit included one CBE, two MBE's, two Military Medals, five Mentions in Despatches, and three awards from the State of Perak. An exceptional record was also achieved in the field of sport.

On returning to New Zealand the battalion marched into Burnham Camp, where they spent 1960 in general training.

Early in 1961 officers and NCO's were posted to the battalion prior to its being brought up to strength for return to Malaya later in the year.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE 2nd NEW ZEALAND REGIMENT.

The Second Battalion was raised in Waiouru in 1959, to replace the First Battalion then serving in Malaya. After an intensive programme of training, the battalion left New Zealand by sea in November 1959, and took over from the First in North Malaya on the 26th of that month.

After some weeks of acclimatization, the unit began anti-terrorist operations in the jungle-covered area of the Thai-Malayan border on January 2nd 1960. Australian, British, Goorka, Malay, Sarawak and aborigine troops were also engaged in these operations, and they worked closely with the New Zealand troops. One of the main tasks of the battalion was the befriending of hostile aborigines with the object of gaining information about the terrorists on which to base ambush and patrol programmes.

By the end of 1960 the communist effort was in its dying stages, and the role of the battalion became one of denying re-entry into the area rather than elimination.

As activity declined further the battalion devoted more time to

training for its other role as an air mobile unit of the Commonwealth Strategic Reserve. Approximately a third of 1961 was spent on practice moves of the battalion and its vehicles by air, and the remainder of the two year tour was spent in operations in the jungles of Northern Perak.

In May 1961 the Second Battalion represented the New Zealand Regiment as a whole in a parade in Malaya which marked the occasion of a formal alliance between the Regiment and the Seventh Battalion of the Royal Malay Regiment.

The unit returned to New Zealand by R.N.Z.A.F. aircraft in November and early December 1961, again changing over with the First Battalion, who returned to Malaya for a second tour of duty.

Awards to members of the battalion during its service in Malaya were 1 MBE, two BEM's, three Mentions in Despatches, 1 Queen's Commendation for Gallantry, and one Commander-in-Chief's Certificate.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SEVENTH BATTALION THE ROYAL MALAY REGT.

The 7th Battalion is the youngest Battalion of the Royal Malay Regiment. It was formed in the period 1st October 1953 to 14th January 1954, under its first Commanding Officer, Lt.Col.A. Gordon, H.L.I. The Rifle Companies of the Battalion were drawn from the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Battalions of the Malay Regiment.

The Battalion has taken part in many jungle operations against communist terrorists in several states, and has to its credit 17 terrorists killed and 5 captured for the loss of one officer killed. It has earned one MC, one AM, two MM's, eight MID's, one PJK (Negri Sembilan), five KFK's and seven GOC'S Certificates.

On 30th August 1956 the Battalion was presented with its Regimental Colour by His Late Highness, Tengku Ibrahim Ibni Almarhum Sultan Mohamed IV, DK, SPMK, KCMG, DK (Johore), Sultan of Kelantan at Port Dickson.

On 27th January 1960 the Battalion moved to the Federation Army Barracks at Taiping, the first permanent barracks ever occupied by the Battalion.

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THIS

SPACE

IS RESERVED

FOR

AN ARTICLE BY

YOU!

SOME BADGES FOR GOOD SHOOTING IN THE FORCES OF THE AUSTRALIAN STATES AND OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

By B.J.Videon.

As one of the main duties of the soldier is to shoot, it is logical that some attention should be paid to the subject of badges awarded for skill in this pursuit.

The following are some of the badges in the possession of the writer:

VICTORIAN FORCES.

Although badges for skill in musketry were worn much earlier, the writer has no regulations which mention them prior to those issued in 1895. In that year, the following regulations are set out:

MUSKETRY BADGES:

Best shot in the Forces-- a silver medal worn on the right breast.

Best shot in the Regiment--Cross rifles worked in gold, with star and crown above.

Best shot of a company--Cross rifles worked in gold with crown above.

Marksmen--Cross rifles worked in gold.

Best shooting company of Militia Infantry--Sergeants will wear cross rifles worked in gold with crown above, to be worn on the right forearm.

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

The following badges in the writers possession were some of those won by a Private Harrison, of the Victorian Rifles--

Gold crossed rifles on a green background, undated, but probably of approximately 1860;

Gold crossed rifles on a red ground with the date 1862 below the point of intersection of the rifles;

Same for year 1863, with bar above bearing date 1862.

Same for year 1865, with no bar above.

Same for year 1866, with bar above 1865.

Same for year 1867, with bars above 1866 and 1865.

Same for year 1868, with bar above 1867.

Same for year 1869, with bars above 1868 and 1867.

Same for year 1870, with bars above 1869, 1868, and 1867.

Same for 1875, no bars.

Same for year 1875, with bars above 1873 and 1872, probably as

a consequence of there being no competition in the year 1874.

Same for the year 1878, with bars above 1877, 1876 and 1875.

Same for the year 1880 with no bars.

Same for the year 1881, with bar above 1880.

In addition to the foregoing, Private Harrison won metal badges as follows:

1. A five-pointed star, in the centre of which is a raised circle bearing crossed rifles, the whole encircled by a wavy band bearing in the top three segments the words "FIVE-YEAR-BADGE". In brass.
2. A white metal badge of crossed rifles on a raised circular centre portion bearing the words "LOCAL FORCE" on a garter; outside this a circle bearing the words "FIVE YEARS BADGE"; behind this a cross bearing in each of the four points a six-pointed star; behind the cross and edging the circle a wreath of laurel, with the Royal Crest at the top.
3. A badge of similar design to the above, but with the words "TEN YEARS BADGE" and the central design on a gold circular section, the remainder of the badge of white metal.
4. A badge similar to the above, but wholly of gold, with the words "FIFTEEN YEARS BADGE".

It is understood that Private Harrison was also the holder of the medal for Best Shot of the Victorian Forces. These badges then, establish the existence in Victoria of musketry badges from at least 1862 to 1881. The method of awarding these is understood to have been that in each year a new badge was won, and the bars bearing the dates of the preceding years to a maximum of three previous consecutive years could be worn above it. After winning the badge for the fifth year in succession, the wearer was awarded the metal badge for Five Years, and then commenced to acquire further cloth badges with bars until the Ten Years Badge was won, and so on. There is no record at the moment known to the writer in which a badge for more than fifteen years is mentioned. A late photograph of Private Harrison shows this arrangement. In addition to the foregoing badges the writer has another badge bearing the date 1884, and a bar bearing the letters "A.C.F." for, presumably, Army Cadet Force.

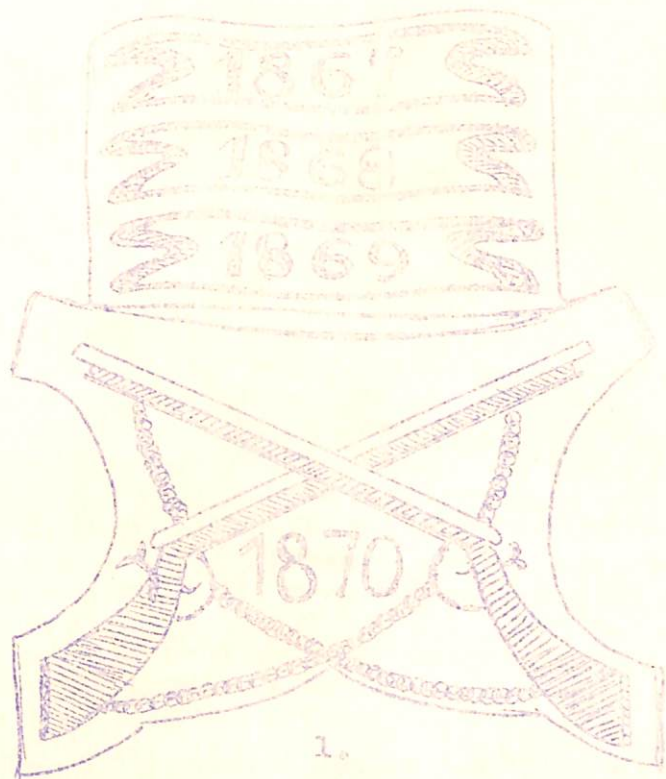
It is not known whether badges for musketry issued after that of 1884 mentioned above bore the date of the award.

QUEENSLAND FORCES.

The writer has little information regarding the wearing of these badges in the Queensland State Forces, but has an embroidered badge of the following design:

On a circular padded plush red velvet cloth, a device of gold crossed rifles with the date 1880 below; surrounding it a blue velvet belt bearing the gold letters "QUEENSLAND RIFLE ASSOCIATION", the whole edged with

TYPES OF HUCKBURNY BADGES OF THE
VICTORIAN FORCES.



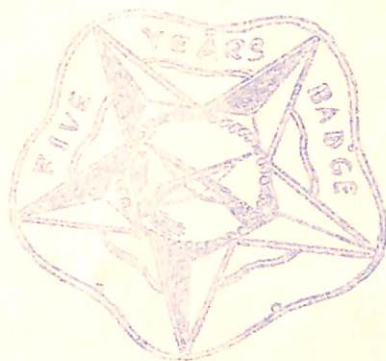
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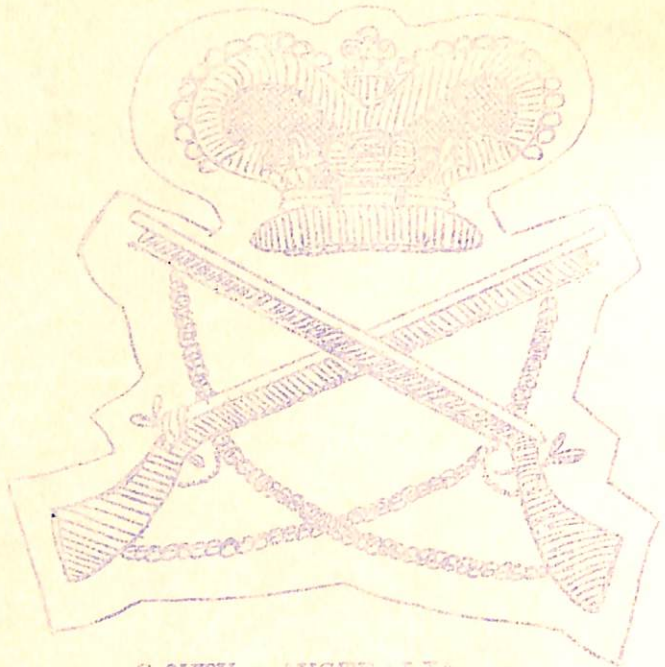


3.

1. Typical cloth and gold wire badge with bars to denote award for four successive years.
2. Typical metal badge as for five, ten, and fifteen years.
3. Possibly earlier type badge for five years.
4. Typical bare-here for Army Cadet Force.



QUEENSLAND



SOUTH AUSTRALIA



NEW SOUTH WALES

silver eyelets.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FORCES.

The writer has no details of wearing of badges, but has a badge of crossed rifles beneath a crown of Victorian type, on a red cloth ground.

NEW SOUTH WALES FORCES.

The writer has two badges of this type from the N.S.W. Forces-- the first bearing the date 1857, and with a crown above and another below the crossed muskets; and the other badge with the date 1874, and a crown above crossed muskets. Both badges are in silver embroidery on a red cloth ground. Evidence for the wearing of these is contained in the Dress Regulations of the period.

TASMANIAN FORCES.

In 1887, the Dress Regulations of the Tasmanian Defence Force read: "The following are the only authorised musketry badges to be worn by members of the Tasmanian Defence Forces:-

TO BEST SHOT OF A BRIGADE OF ARTILLERY OR A BATTALION OF INFANTRY -

A badge of cross rifles worked in silver with star and crown above, or cross guns for Artillery.

TO BEST SHOT OF A COMPANY OF ENGINEERS OR INFANTRY -

A badge of cross rifles worked in silver with crown above.

MARKSMEN - A badge of cross rifles worked in silver, or cross guns for Artillery.

Marksmen of more than one year may wear a small silver star above the cross rifles or guns for every year they have qualified after the first.

No further details are known at the present time regarding the other musketry badges worn by States forces.

THE AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH MILITARY FORCES.

Very similar badges were worn in the Commonwealth Forces when they were formed. The two earliest in the writer's collection are from units of Infantry in Victoria and South Australia, of the period immediately after 1903. They are of red cloth back-ground, with crossed rifles embroidered in yellow thread. That of Victorian Infantry is embroidered in a woollen thread, and that of the South Australian Scottish Volunteers is in a non-wool thread.

RIFLE CLUBS members, if uniformed, were entitled (vide Standing Orders for Dress and Clothing 1912) to wear Musketry badges of "worsted on ground of material of same colour as jacket (khaki), the year in which earned to be quoted in worsted".

The same Regulations listed to following Skill at Arms badges for the remainder of the army:

MUSKETRY:

Crossed rifles and crown-Best shot in regiment, left forearm.
Sergeants of best shooting Squadron
or Company (right forearm)

Crossed rifles and star-Best shot in each Squadron or Coy.

Crossed rifles - Marksmen.

In Regulations issued in 1918, the Musketry badge for Rifle Clubs is prescribed as "crossed rifles of gilding metal".

Skill at Arms badges for the remainder of the army as for 1912.

Regulations of 1922 altered the badges slightly. The new badges were:

Crown and crossed rifles in wreath-Best shot among Sergeants and
Lance-Sergeants in a regiment or Battalion.

Star and crossed rifles in wreath-Best shot among Corporals and
Privates in a regiment of Battalion.

Crown and crossed rifles-Troop Sergeants and troop NCO's in the
best shooting squadron of a light horse regiment. and
Commanders of sections and platoon sergeants in the best
shooting company of divisional engineers or battalion of
infantry.

Star and crossed rifles-Best marksman of a squadron or Coy.

Crossed rifles - Marksmen in cavalry, engineers and infantry.

Badges for machine guns and mortars are also prescribed in these regulations. Musketry badges were prescribed for wear on the left forearm, with the exception of the crossed rifles and crown is sued to sergeants of the best shooting company or squadron, which were to be worn on the right forearm.

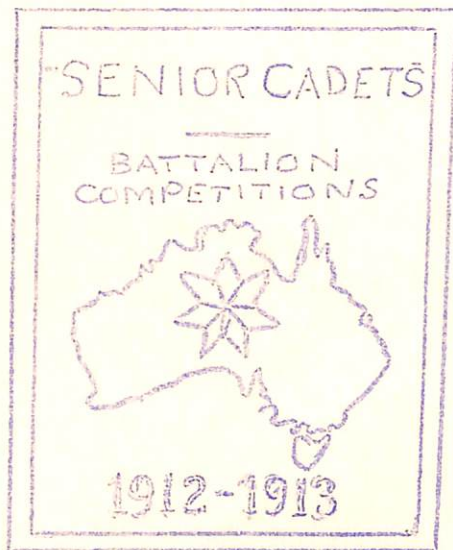
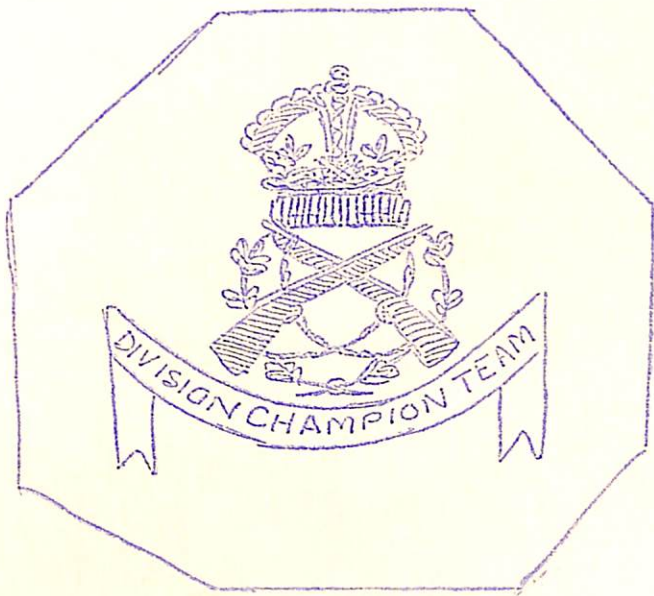
In Amendments to the 1925 Regulations, the words "best combines rifle and light automatic shot" are substituted for "shot". The remainder of the provisions regarding the badges are substantially unaltered. Badges are prescribed to be worn annually until the results of the next years' competitions are known.

These badges remained substantially the same until about 1938, when an amendment to the 1935 Regulations inserted the words "or medium machine gun" in place of the word "Automatic".

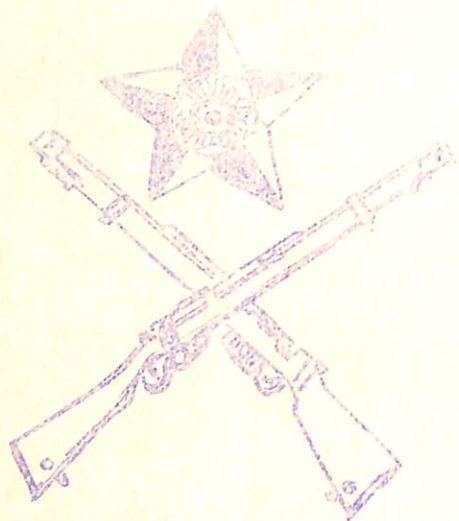
In this period between the wars, badges were of either Khaki or white worsted on khaki material, or, towards the second world war, of gilding metal. In the early stages of the war, metal badges were oxidised black.

During the Compulsory Training Period (1910-22), there were, in addition a number of badges which could be competed for in the search to provide incentives for greater efficiency.

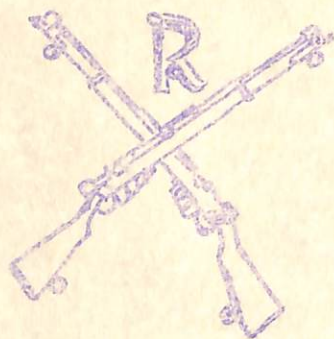
Among these was a badge for Senior Cadets Battalion Competitions. There is one of these in the writers possession, of white



SOME MUSKETRY BADGES OF THE COMPULSORY TRAINING PERIOD, AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH MILITARY FORCES.



METAL BADGES IN USE PRE-
WORLD WAR II.



POSTWAR METAL
BADGE WITH
LETTER SYMBOL.

embroidery, or, more correctly, weave, on a brown ribbon. It is not known whether nor where this badge was worn on uniform. The design featured a map of Australia with a seven-pointed star in centre, with the words above "SENIOR CADETS--BATTALION COMPETITIONS," and the dates below "1912-1913".

There was also in the same period a silver badge of crossed rifles on a wreath, with crown above, and with the following words on a three part scroll below "SENIOR CADET:COMPETITIONS: AUSTRALIA". This badge was curved for wear upon the sleeve, and on the reverse side were engraved the name rank and the number of the winner, and the year of winning.

The following woven badges upon khaki material were also used at this time:

In gold wire, crossed rifles on a wreath, with crown above, and on a scroll below, the words "DIVISION CHAMPION TEAM". Later patterns of same general pattern, woven in gold; silver; and worsted brown with white wreath, but with the words "DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP" on the scrolls. These may have been used in the late 20's to early 30's, prior to the general adoption of the metal type musketry badges as the Compulsory training system gave way to the militia.

The use of musketry and other skill at arms badges was largely discontinued during the course of the Second World War, although a few of the black metal types continued in use for a time, and there were available some woven badges.

After the war, cadets revived the practice of wearing musketry badges, and in the postwar Citizen Military Forces new types of badges commenced to be worn during the 1950's.

These badges comprised crossed rifles of a much smaller and neater size, with the additions of letters denoting the weapons in which skill is achieved.

STANDING ORDERS FOR DRESS 1955 set these out as follows:

Badges skill at arms as listed hereunder are awarded annually to Sergeants and lower ranks who qualify on the results of annual range courses, specialist tests, etc, and are current until the results of the succeeding year are published.

Badges and symbols are:

Cross rifles as a basic badge.

- Letter symbols (a) "R"- Rifle marksman
 (b) "L"- First class LMG shot.
 (c) "C"- First class machine carbine shot
 (d) "M"- First Class machine gun shot.
 (e) "P"- First class pistol shot.

Badges are in gilt or silver, as appropriate for No.1 and No.2 Dress, and khaki embroidered for No.3 and No.5 Dress, and Khaki woven for No.4 and No.6 Dress. The letter symbols are

gilt or silver with gilt or silver crossed rifles, and are oxidised for wear with cloth rifle badges. Metal crossed rifles and the letter symbols are provided with holes for stitching to garments.

Letter symbols are worn in the following positions:

- (a) One letter-The first awarded placed between the fore ends of the rifles.
- (b) Two Letters-The first and second awarded will be placed on the right and left sides respectively and within the angles of the crossed rifles.
- (c) Three letters-The first awarded will be placed as for one, with the second and third as for two.
- (d) Four letters-The fourth awarded will be placed between the butts of the rifles.

One skill at arms badge and no more than four letters will be worn at one time. The badges are not worn on the appearance.

In the foregoing article, no mention has been made of the badges for mortar shooting, and the IG and HG within a crest for machine and Lewis gunners, nor of artillery shooting badges. These could be the subject of a later article.

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THE ROYAL NEW SOUTH WALES LANCERS 1888 - 1960.

This unit history, reported in the previous issue of this journal (January 1962), was published by the Royal New South Wales Lancers Association, c/- R.N.S.W.L. Club, 128 Pitt St., SYDNEY.

It is obtainable from leading booksellers in Sydney and also from:

- Ellis Pty Ltd., NEWCASTLE,
- Technical Book and Magazine Co, MELBOURNE,
- Baker's Book Store, BRISBANE,
- & Francis Edwards Ltd., LONDON.

Price in Australia 50/-. .



THE TEXAS RANGERS

Submitted by Mr. J. Llewellyn-Jones.

The Texas Ranger Force is the oldest law enforcement agency on the North American continent with statewide jurisdiction. The earliest information that we have on the Texas Rangers dates back to 1823, when Texas was a part of the Republic of Mexico. More than a century later in its colourful history ---during the year 1935---the Ranger Force was assigned the status it now holds as a Service of the Texas Department of Public Safety, by act of the State Legislature.

Today the Rangers have a force of sixty^{two} men, including six captains, six sergeants and fifty privates, as well as two pilot investigators who pilot the aircraft in the Texas Ranger service.

The State is divided into six Ranger Districts, with Headquarters in Houston, Dallas, Lubbock, Corpus Christi, Midland and Waco respectively. At most company headquarters a Captain, a Sergeant and two or more Rangers are stationed. At strategic points throughout each district other Rangers are assigned to one-man substations. A Ranger Captain commands each company, and the entire force is under the supervision of the Director of the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Among the qualifications for appointment to the position of Texas Ranger are the following: a resident of the State of Texas for at least one year immediately prior to the time of making application; minimum age twentyseven years; physical condition excellent; at least four years experience as a law-enforcement officer with a bonafide outstanding law enforcement agent engaged principally in the investigation of major crime; and be especially adapted for the particular type of work demanded by the Rangers. An attempt is made to secure the most versatile officers possible because of the diversified work required.

After a man is selected for appointment to the Texas Rangers he is given special training. He must complete the Criminal Investigator's School, and other Schools at the Department of Public Safety in Austin which will better fit him for his future duties. Then he works with other Rangers for further training in the various enforcement duties, especially criminal investigation, raids, and mob and riot control. This special training usually consists of a period of approximately three months.

Texas Rangers do not wear uniform. They are permitted to wear the type of clothing best suited to the type of work in which they are engaged. In the brush or hill country one may see a

Texas Ranger dressed in levis, duckings, or any typical ranch or cowboy attire. In the cities he would probably don the clothing of an average business man. In short, the modern Ranger dresses according to his area of operations and the duties to which he is currently assigned, although the conventional matching tan gabardine trousers, western field jacket and wide-brimmed hat are a typical garb. These are embellished with the addition of cowboy boots, ranger-type belts, hand-tooled leather holsters, and sidearms in accordance with the individual's choice. The Ranger badge is concealed beneath the coat when a business suit is worn, but is conspicuously displayed on the left side of the chest by Rangers in other attire.

The present-day Ranger is well equipped to cope with the activities of criminals; he employs all the latest methods of scientific crime detection. Rangers use a three-way radio equipped automobile, the best of arms and other equipment for handling and apprehending law violators, and the resources of The Intelligence, Identification, Communications, and other Divisions of the Department.

The polygraph, or lie detector, in the Identification and Criminal Records Division is used by the Rangers as an aid to the innocent as well as a stumbling block for the guilty. This Division assists the Rangers through the maintenance of comprehensive fingerprint files, and the analysis of evidence in the varied fields of science, and by the furnishing of scientific technicians for criminal investigation.

The aeroplane is one of the Departments latest crime-fighting devices, affording speedy transportation of personnel, investigators and laboratory technicians to distant points of the State. Aircraft are often used for spotting jail escapees and automobiles used by fugitives or persons attempting to elude the law. They are also used extensively in connection with floods, frequently providing the stricken area's only means of communication with the outside world.

Texas Rangers are equipped in most areas with horses, horse trailers and riding equipment for use in areas inaccessible by automobile. Bloodhounds are often used in tracking fugitives and missing persons.

Texas Rangers are charged specifically with three main duties:

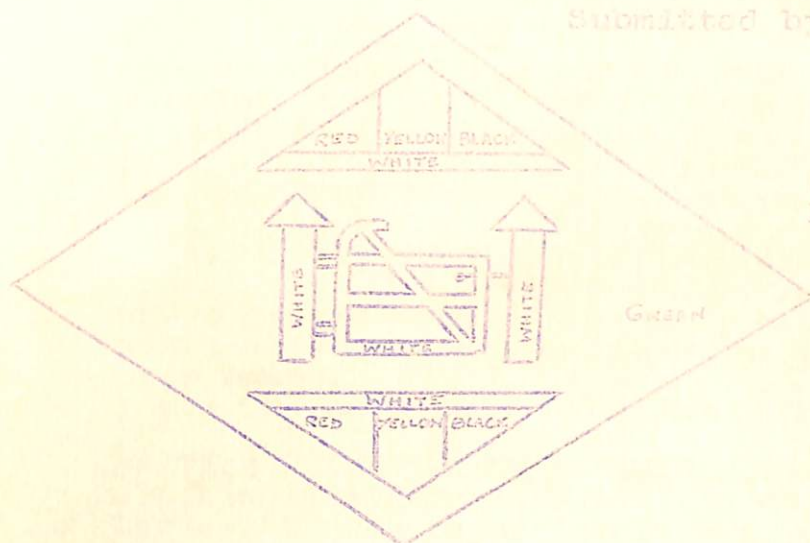
1. Protection of life and property;
2. The suppression of riots and insurrection; and
3. The apprehension of fugitives.

Unless specifically ordered by a court or judge, Texas Rangers are not charged with the handling of civil cases.

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SOME BELGIAN COLOUR PATCHES OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR.

Submitted by A. Siebaut.

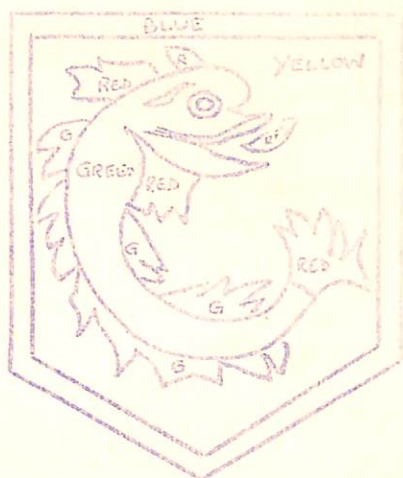


1st. Infantry Division, and Administrative Services and General Staff.
Served in Northern Ireland.
Description: Irish gate in white, on a green patch, with two triangles bearing the national colours of Belgium.

1st Battalion Bomb Disposal,
1945-1946.
Operational sector in the Ardennes country. Disbanded 31st December 1946.



2nd Battalion Bomb Disposal,
1945-1946.
Operational sector in the Belgian coastal area. Was progressively reduced until disbanded in June 1946.



The above patches are here reproduced in full scale.

DESPATCHES (CONTINUED).

POOR REPRODUCTION OF JANUARY SABRETACHE. In reply to the many members who wrote regarding the poor reproduction of the January edition, we apologise for this. The sheets were typed on the usual set-up for a large size Fordigraph, but were actually used on this occasion on a new small machine acquired by the Society. It is unfortunate that our new volunteer crew had this to contend with on their first issue with the new machine. For those who were completely unable to read the first lines on certain sheets we are reproducing elsewhere, under page numbers, the relative lines. We trust that this will assist the frustrated to complete the reading of the articles in question.
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MISSING FRIENDS!

I have lost the address of Mr C.Collier, of Queensland, and would appreciate hearing from any member who may have this, as I wish to write to Mr Collier.

.....B.J.Videon, 12 Noble Ave., PUNCHBOWL, N.S.W.

MEMBERS' ADVERTISEMENTS.

R.A.A.F. ITEMS WANTED.

- Pilot wings 1914-1918 "AMF" and "AFC",
 - Metal shoulder titles "AFC" and "CFS",
 - Cap badge "CFS",
 - Officers cap badges with full wreath and stars of the Southern Cross circa 1920's,
 - Sleeve badge metal four bladed propellor,
 - Lapel badge for "R.A.A.F.Reserve" pre-WW2 civvies,
 - Collar badge Camouflage Service, WW2,
 - W.A.T.C. cap badges WW2,
 - Cap badge for officers of Air Rank,
- and any information regarding unusual uniforms of the R.A.A.F. of pre-WW2.



.....B.J.Videon, 12 Noble Ave., PUNCHBOWL, N.S.W.

DESPATCHES (Continued).

From Mr Robert Powell: Can any member identify for me the following shoulder title?



From Mr B.J.Videon: In my researches into early dress of the R.A.A.F. I have discovered that the following branch colours were worn between the cuff rank stripes of officers, and also on the shoulder boards of mess dress, in which I understand that the practice was initiated:

Medical Branch	scarlet
Engineering	purple
Equipment	white
General Duties	no colour.

I shall be pleased to hear from any member who can add to this information in any way. I would particularly like to get an accurate idea of dates. The closest I have been able to get at the present time is that the mess dress referred to above was introduced about 1923, and that the coloured stripes may have been introduced at that time, and may have continued in wear for the remaining years up to about 1939.

It is thought that the practice of wearing these colour stripes in service dress (on the cuffs) may have commenced later, and remained in vogue for a very few years.

For those who may be interested, a description of the mess dress follows:

Jacket of cut similar to that of naval mess dress, in colour of the R.A.A.F., a dark blue. Shoulder boards with gold narrow rank bars, surmounted by gilt eagle-and-crown badges in matched pair. Gilt buttons, and a "jigger button" to fasten at front. Lapels of pale blue silk. Three gilt buttons at the cuffs.

Waistcoat of same colour, with collar cut low, and with small gilt buttons.

Overalls of matching blue, with two-inch pale blue silk stripe down the outside seam.

Caps service dress or caps field service were worn with this

