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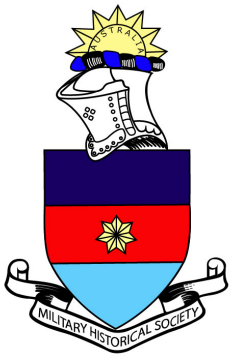

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SABRETACHE

THE JOURNAL OF
THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF AUSTRALIA

OCTOBER, 1966

VOL. IX Nº 2

Registered at the G.P.O., Melbourne, for transmission by post as a periodical.

THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA.

Founded in Melbourne in 1957.

HONORARY OFFICE BEARERS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th JUNE 1967.

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* *

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Monthly meetings are held in Melbourne, Sydney, Canberra, and Adelaide.

Details of times, places etc. may be obtained from the Branch Secretaries concerned.

Members travelling Inter-State are welcomed at any meeting of the Branches of the Society. It is recommended that prior to travelling, arrangements be made with the Branch Secretary in the city being visited.

* * * * *

STOP PRESS.

DISABLED VETERAN.

A letter has been received from an American disabled veteran who states that he is a new member of the American Society of Military Insignia Collectors. He is Mr. Carl Cresafulte, of 1682 Corbin Ave., NEW BRITAIN, Conn., U.S.A.
He writes that he collects foreign cloth shoulder sleeve insignia and cloth crests, and would be grateful to receive some from this country.
Can any member help?

OLD N.S.W.SWORD.

Mr.A.H.Barns, of The Old Cottage, 8 High St.,WAHSTEAD, London E11, England writes:- "Recently a dress sword and scabbard have come into my possession. This sword is inscribed on the blade 'presented to Sergeant Major Thomas Haynes by the New South Wales Volunteer Rifles for services in organising this Corps in February 1861".
I feel this might be of interest in Australia, and Understand the 1/15th Royal New South Wales Lancers may have some connection with the above-mentioned Corps.
Any information you can give me would be much appreciated.

Thanking you in anticipation,
Yours faithfully,
A.H.Barns."

Can any member help with information on this sword and the Corps, please?

GOLDEN FLEECE UNIFORM CARDS.

The Secretary still has half-a-dozen sets of Golden Fleece Swap cards showing Australian uniforms, some with albums.
These may be had by writing to Mr.J.K.Lyons, 262 Tucker Road, ORMOND EAST, Victoria, and enclosing $2.00 Australian. The first three to order get the album free!
These are good cards, and will soon be rarities, so don't miss out.

MEDAL CARDS IN VITA-BRITS.

The manufacturers of Vita Brits(breakfast food) have surpassed themselves by issuing a set of cards showing decoartions and medals applicable to Australian and New Zealand Forces. These cards are produced from colour photographs, and are very good. One criticism is that the V.C.has come out in a dark silvery colour instead of the correct bronze. Generally, however, the colours are excellent. The Secretary expects to have a few sets available for sale to overseas members only. Price will be $2.00 Australian with album.

SOCIETY LIBRARY.

The Society's library has been reduced to comprise only those official publications, handbooks, orders, etc, that are not normally available for sale through usual book suppliers.
If any member has any of this class of material which he would like to donate to the Library, it would be greatly appreciated. Please forward it to the Federal Secretary, Mr.J.K.Lyons, at the address mentioned above. Material from any country welcomed.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

No.101-Mr.C.Halls, to c/- National Museum of Tanzania, P.O.Box 511, DAR-ES-SALAAM, Tanzania.
No.8 -Mr.A.N.Festberg, to Flat 4, No. 5 Dundaloha Crt,ELWOOD, Victoria.

NEW MEMBERS:

The Library Board of Western Australia, cnr.James & Museum Streets, PERTH, W.A.
145 Mr.E.J.Millett, 207 Wendouree Pde.,BALLARAT, Victoria
Arms and Pre-Federation Australian militaria.
146 243385 A.S.M. J.P.Hanbly, HQ Plt. "D" Coy, Army Apprentices School, BALCOMBE, Victoria.
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147 Mr.T.Poulton (Jr.Member), 146 Wickham Rd.,MOORABBIN,S20, Victoria. Military History and badge collecting.
148 Mr.H.W.Meredith, 11 Milne Bay Close, PUCKAPUNYAL, Vic.
Weapons, uniforms and tactics.
149 Mr.J.R.Kurrle, 40 King St.,KORUMBURRA, Victoria
German equipment of WW's I & II.
153 Mr.L.Evans, 64 Gordon St., BALWYN E8, Victoria.
Mounted troops, Australian Light Horse and Armoured Forces of the Commonwealth.
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Military history, Light Horse Regiments.
158 Major D.K.Baker, Australian Staff College, FORT QUEENSCLIFF, Victoria. Collects medals.
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Firearms,military history, helmets.
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(Omitted from previous directory) Collects books on military history and uniforms.
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German military weapons, esp. rifles.
151 Mr.G.P.Tunstill, 40 Katoomba Rd.,BEAUMONT, S.A.
Collects weapons of all types.
152 Cpl. D.R.Carlyle, RAAMC Training Depot, WARRADALE, S.A.
Scottish Regiments, British and Australian badges.
155 Mr.H.G.Harcourt,DSO,OBE,MC, 12 Butgrove Ave.,SANDY BAY, Tasmania. British and C/Wealth military history,Customs and dress etc.
161 Mr.E.Wiseman, "Berrima District Post", Argyle St., MOSS VALE, N.S.W. Dealer in militaria.
163 Rev. H.G.Smart, Congregational House, Canterton St., HURLSTONE PARK, N.S.W.
Collecting military miniatures and uniform plates.
162 Mr.G.J.Shaw (Jr.Member) 21 Liverton Crescent,CHRISTCHURCH 5, New Zealand. Collects cap and collar badges of C/Wealth forces.
160 Mr.W.H.Geppert, Alumnos 48-4, TACUBAYA, Ciudad de Mexico 18.
Collecting and painting Napoleonic miniatures and uniform plates.
156 Mr.J.A.Howbray, P.O.Box 782, Iowa City, IOWA 52240, U.S.A.
British Military History and 19th and 20th Century Military History.

RAAF OFFICER'S CAP BADGES

1921 - 1927

1927 - 1937

W.W.II Economy Issue

1937 - 1953

1953 - 1966

THE NEW CAP BADGE 1966.

(By courtesy of Directorate of Public Relations of the R.A.A.F.)

"SABRETACHE"

The views expressed in the articles in this Journal are those of the authors, and are not necessarily those of the Society.

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Journal and Proceedings of
THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

Vol. IX OCTOBER, 1966 No. 2

Price: Fifty-seven cents.

EDITOR'S NOTES

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND FINANCE

At the Federal Council meeting held on Friday evening 23rd September, 1966, Councillors were distressed to learn that, apart from the new members who have joined recently, there are no less than sixty-nine of our old members who are not financial members for the current financial year.

No doubt there are some who are just late, and some who have forgotten, but the simple fact is that, without the subscriptions of these members, the Society will not be able to continue to produce SABRETACHE in its present form.

In an attempt to raise the money necessary to publish the January edition, the Council will endeavour to secure a market for the magazine in the technical bookshops. It is feared however that the demand for the type of material which we can offer, coupled with the high costs of producing the relatively few copies that we can afford to turn out each quarter, will doom this attempt to failure. We must charge at least our cost price in order to 'break even', and this looks like being too high to attract many new buyers at this stage, after the bookshops have added their oncosts.

Our main source of revenue must continue to be the members of the Society, and we therefore urge each financial member, and each Branch Secretary, to try to recruit new paying members, and to try to get unfinancial members to renew their subscriptions.

PUBLICITY

On the cheerful side, the Federal Council's policy of advertising the Society through the merit of its work is starting to show some results.

The AUSTRALIAN ARMY LINEAGE BOOK published by the Victorian Branch, following on the heels of the Golden Fleece Swap cards sponsored by the New South Wales Branch, has been very successful, and more works are currently in hand.

The next book to be published will probably be Mr. Max Chamberlain's work on NEW ZEALAND WINNERS OF THE VICTORIA CROSS, and this is hoped to be ready for sale by the end of the year. This will be advertised later in this issue.

A prestige publication, dealing with the badges of the Australian Army from 1903 to the present day, is in the draft stage, and this is hoped to be announced shortly also.

One or two other interesting manuscripts are also in the offing, and we feel confident that, given a successful financial year 1966/67 (through the medium of our subscriptions), the Society can continue in this good work, and thereby add materially to its prestige, not to mention its 'interest value' to the researcher and the historian.

SABRETACHE

As Editor, I can offer you some pretty good material in the remaining issues for the year, provided that the funds will permit it to be published.

So remember, if the standard is to stay up, so must the financial membership --- if the numbers stay down, down must go the standard, or, more likely, we shall have to miss at least one issue.

OUR NEW COVER

Members will notice our new cover, which displays a mounted member of the Australian Light Horse in the year that was so well known in the First World War.

We had hoped to have had this new cover in use for the first number in this volume, but, as we had a fair stock of the old ones left, it was desirable to use them before switching over to the 'new look'.

The drawing will be recognised by old members of the Society as one which appeared in the June 1959 edition of SABRETACHE with "Cavalry Snippets" sent in by Lt.Col. P.V. Vernon, the compiler of the excellent book "THE ROYAL NEW SOUTH WALES LANCERS 1885 - 1960".

This cover is a further step in our programme of improvement of the Society's journal.

B. J. Videon.

* * * * * * * * * * *

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE 10th LIGHT HORSE

By P. A. Shaw

MOTTO: "Percute et Percute Velociter"

BATTLE HONOURS: "SOUTH AFRICA, 1900-02" The Great War - 10th Light Horse Regiment, A.I.F. - "ANZAC", "DEFENCE OF ANZAC", "Suvla", "SARI BAIR", "Gallipoli, 1915", "RUMANI", "MAGDHABA-RAFAH", "Egypt, 1915-17", "GAZA-BEERSHEBA", "El Mughar", "Nebi Samwil", "JERUSALEM", "JORDAN (ES SALT)", "MEGIDDO", "SHARON", "DAMASCUS", "Palestine, 1917-18".

EARLY VOLUNTEER CAVALRY UNITS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA[1]

In the year 1861 the Volunteer Movement took root in the colony of Western Australia with official legislation being passed for the raising of a Volunteer Military Force.

It is surprising that with the introduction of such a movement into a countryside where the horse was an essential part of life, only three mounted units came into existence in the early years of this movement. Although proposals were initially put forward by some centres for the forming of mounted units and training actually commenced, the Military authorities preferred infantry units and many of these proposals were consequently withdrawn, or infantry units formed instead. The first cavalry unit to be officially formed was "The Pinjarrah Mounted Volunteers" raised at Pinjarrah[2] in October 1862. Initially this unit only consisted of about 20 members but by 1868 the strength had increased to 61 and by 1873 to 88. However, from the year 1874 onwards there was a steady decline in strength and by 1882 there were only 26 members. Disbandment of the unit was gazetted on 5th December, 1882.

By this time two other cavalry units had come into existence. In the Government Gazette of 19th July, 1870, authorisation was given for the formation of a mounted corps in Perth designated "Union Troop of Western Australian Mounted Volunteers". In its two years existence as cavalry, this unit frequently provided escorts for the Governor on official occasions. On the 21st January, 1873, this unit ceased to be cavalry and was redesignated "Western Australian Troop of Volunteer Horse Artillery". The other cavalry unit to be raised was a unit in the South-West. With the introduction of the Volunteer Movement, the Vasse-Sussex district in the South-West of the colony was one of the first to put forward a proposal to raise a unit, however approval was not given and nothing further was done in this area until 1876 when a recommendation was made for the forming of a mounted corps at

Bunbury. This was accepted and on 25th June 1877 approval was given for the formation of "The Wellington Mounted Volunteers" with headquarters at Bunbury. This unit existed until 1882, when due to lack in strength it was disbanded under Gazette notice of 5th December, 1882. As far as cavalry was concerned there was a dormant period from this date until the 'nineties', although several of the infantry units raised their own small mounted detachments.

On the 9th May, 1894, approval was given for the raising of "The Perth Mounted Rifle Volunteers" with an establishment of 40 all ranks. However this corps was not a success and by 1895 strength had fallen to 24 and eventually disbandment was ordered as from 30th June 1897. Probably as a result of the South African War, the year 1900 saw a great effect on the Volunteer Movement and quite a number of cavalry units came into existence. In January, 1900, a half-company of mounted infantry was officially formed as part of The Bunbury Rifle Volunteers, and in February detachments were formed at Harvey, Donnybrook and Brunswick Junction. These units were commonly referred to as "South-West Mounted Infantry". On 1st March 1900, "The Pinjarra Mounted Infantry" with a division (troop) at Coolup was formed. This was the second unit to be formed at Pinjarra[2], the first was disbanded 17 years before. These units had an independent existence until around June, 1900, when a complete regiment known as the "Western Australian Mounted Infantry" was organised. On 7th June 1900, orders were given for the forming of two divisions of mounted infantry at each of the following centres:- Geraldton, Cannington, Northam, Newcastle (now Toodyay) and Karridale. Also on the 11th August an order was given for the forming of a division at Fremantle and in September 1900 a division at Busselton was formed. The regiment was organised with Head-quarters at Perth, 'A' Company (S.W. District) - Bunbury, Busselton, Pinjarra; 'B' Company - Victoria District (Geraldton); 'C' Company - Eastern District; 'D' Company - Central District. (Around this time, squadrons were known as "Companies" and troops as "divisions"). It is in this regiment, the Western Australian Mounted Infantry, that the present 10th Light Horse has its origin.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN WAR

At the Outbreak of the South African War in October, 1899, the colony had a small Volunteer Force of very able-bodied men, but not very efficiently organised. Therefore to meet the Empire's call it was decided to raise a separate force of volunteers for service in South Africa, as was the case with most of the other Australian Colonies. With the call for volunteers no time was wasted in forming a company of infantry of 5 Officers and 125 other ranks. After having undergone several weeks training in camp at Karrakatta, this unit, better known as the First Contingent, set sail from Albany on the 8th November, 1899. This company of infantry became mounted on arrival in South Africa and was officially known as "The West Australian Mounted Infantry Company". Altogether nine

contingents were sent from Western Australia, the first six being sent prior to Federation were known as West Australian Mounted Infantry, and the last three sent after Federation were the 2nd, 4th and 8th Battalions, Australian Commonwealth Horse.

Although there was no connection between the mounted infantry raised for service in South Africa and the Volunteer regiment, the Western Australian Mounted Infantry which was in existence around this time, many members of this regiment enlisted for service in South Africa with the various contingents. It is due to this fact that the 10th Light Horse have been granted the battle honour "South Africa, 1900-02".

REORGANISATION UNDER THE COMMONWEALTH

The organisation of the Western Australian Mounted Infantry was not completed until 1901. Although the Volunteer Forces of Western Australia came under the control of the Commonwealth upon Federation in this year, the Western Australian Mounted Infantry continued as such until 1st January 1903, when under the Commonwealth reorganisation and numbering it became designated "18th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Western Australian Mounted Infantry)". This regiment was organised with Headquarters at Perth; No. 1 Squadron - Perth, Fremantle; No. 2 Squadron - Bunbury, Pinjarra, Cannington; No. 3 Squadron - Geraldton, Northampton, Greenough, Nawaba-Walkaway; No. 4 Squadron - Newcastle, Northam, Mukinbudin. (Later the centres in the Geraldton area and at Cannington were abandoned.)

The 18th Australian Light Horse Regiment (W.A.M.I.) continued as a militia regiment recruited from volunteers until 1912, when the Universal Training scheme was introduced. With the introduction of this compulsory training scheme further reorganisation and renumbering took place, and in July, 1912 the 18th was redesignated "25th Light Horse (Western Australian Mounted Infantry)". Also in this year the regiment came under the command of Lt.-Colonel N.M. Brazier. The 25th Light Horse continued in this role as a regiment of the Citizen Forces until 1918. Although these years passed quite uneventfully for the 25th, it was during these years that the light-horsemen of Western Australia fighting overseas in the Great War, built up the name, honours and traditions now proudly preserved by the present regiment.

THE GREAT WAR [3]

With the outbreak of the Great War in 1914, the 25th Light Horse had seen two years of successful training under the Universal Training Scheme and a large portion of the regiment was made up of youths undergoing their first or second year of training. As this was the case with the majority of other units of the Australian Military Forces around this time, it was decided to raise a separate force, to be known as the Australian Imperial Force (AIF.), for service overseas.

When the first call for volunteers to unlist in this force was made, there was great disappointment when no mounted troops were required from Western Australia. Many men, including a good number from the 25th Light Horse, immediately enlisted in the infantry or other units which were being formed in the State, but there were others who never lost hope that sooner or later a mounted unit would be asked for. Eventually approval was given for the formation of one mounted squadron in Western Australia and those selected for this unit began training in the first week of October, 1914, near the Old Remount Depot at Guildford.

This Squadron was known as 'C' Squadron, 7th Light Horse; the remainder of the 7th was to be recruited from Queensland and New South Wales. However, with the continual flood of applications for enlistment in the Light Horse, it became evident that a complete regiment should be formed and further applications were made to the authorities, much effort being made by Lt.-Colonel Brazier. Finally approval was given for the formation of a complete AIF. Light Horse regiment in Western Australia to be known as "10th Light Horse Regiment". The original 'C' Squadron of the 7th Light Horse now became 'A' Squadron of this regiment and 'B' and 'C' Squadrons were formed at the Claremont Showgrounds. On the 28th October, 1914 these two Squadrons joined 'A' Squadron at Guildford and remained training there until December 18th when the whole regiment moved to Claremont Showgrounds. For the following two months the regiment underwent intense training including a camp at Rockingham.

On February 8th, 1915 the 10th Light Horse Regiment, less 'C' Squadron embarked on the British India steamer "Mashobra" on route for Egypt and joined the 8th and 9th Light Horse Regiments which together with the 10th, made up the 3rd Light Horse Brigade. The regiment was commanded by Lt.-Colonel Brazier and also included many other volunteers from the 25th Light Horse. On the 8th March, 1915 the regiment together with other elements of the 3rd Light Horse Brigade reached Alexandria, and proceeded to Cairo then to Mena where the First Australian Division was encamped. The regiment was completed with the arrival of 'C' Squadron on 23rd April, and with the movement of the First Division the camp was now only occupied by the Light Horse.

After their short period in Egypt the 3rd Light Horse Brigade together with the 2nd Light Horse Brigade were sent to Gallipoli and disembarked at Anzac on May 21st, 1915. Throughout the following months at Gallipoli, the 10th Light Horse Regiment, although fighting in a dismounted role, proved itself a unit of great fighting characteristics. Also at Gallipoli, Lt.-Colonel Brazier, often called the father of the regiment, was killed, as were his two successive commanders. In December, 1915, command of the regiment was taken over by Lt.-Colonel T. Todd who led the regiment for the remainder of the War.

From Gallipoli the 10th Light Horse Regiment together with the other Light Horse regiments that had seen action there, returned to Egypt where training and reorganisation as mounted troops began. This training continued into the first two months of 1916 when preparations were made for action in the Middle East with the Desert Mounted Corps which included

all Australian and British mounted troops in this area. In the following years the 3rd Light Horse Brigade as part of the Imperial Mounted Division and later Australian Mounted Division, saw action in Sinai, Gaza and Palestine. It was during these desert campaigns that the 10th Light Horse Regiment won its true fame and glory.

With the cessation of hostilities the 10th returned home and was disbanded in 1919, together with other Western Australian units of the Australian Imperial Force. However with the disbanding of this regiment, its name and deeds were by no means lost and have been preserved by Western Australia's cavalry regiment of the Militia and Citizen Forces to the present day.

BETWEEN THE WARS

In order to perpetuate the traditions and distinctions gained by the units of the Australian Imperial Force during the Great War, and which were still overseas at this time, it was decided in August 1918 to change the designations of the Citizen Force units to conform to the numbering of the AIF. units which were raised in the same States and areas. This was promulgated under Military Order 364 of 3rd August, 1918 and took effect as from 1st October, 1918. Consequently from this date, the 25th Light Horse (Western Australian Mounted Infantry) was designated "10th Light Horse".

During the war years the 25th Light Horse had been under several different commanders, however in 1920 the 10th Light Horse came under command of Major A.H. Sweetapple. This officer was later promoted to Lt.-Colonel and commanded the regiment until 1928. In 1921 further reorganisation of the Citizen Forces took place and on the 18th May, 1921 the 10th Light Horse became "10th Light Horse Regiment", and some time later was granted the additional title "West Australian Mounted Infantry". The regiment continued throughout the 'twenties' as a Citizen Force unit under the Universal Training Scheme, although in 1922 this scheme was modified and applied only to the more populated areas. In 1923 the first six day camp was held at the Guildford Remount Depot, but from this year onwards annual camp was held regularly, usually around March. Around this time the regiment was organised with Headquarters at Perth, Headquarters Squadron recruited mainly from Perth, Northam and Toodyay, 'A' Squadron from Katanning, Tambellup, and Narrogin, and 'B' Squadron from Bunbury, Harvey and Donnybrook.

On the 10th March, 1928, during annual camp, a ceremony was held on the Esplanade in Perth at which the regiment was presented with its guidon, bearing many famous battle honours including "South Africa" and those gained by the 10th Light Horse Regiment, AIF. during the Great War. Also in this year Lt.-Colonel Sweetapple was placed on the Reserve of Officers and from this year until 1936 the regiment came under a number of different commanders. In 1929, compulsory training which had existed since 1912, was suspended and the 10th Light Horse Regiment (W.A.M.I.) was organised as a Militia regiment and recruited on a purely volunteer basis. The regiment continued as such until the early years of the Second World War.

In 1936 a great honour was paid to the regiment by H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester who was visiting Western Australia, when he announced that His Majesty the King had approved of the alliance between the 10th Light Horse Regiment and the famous British cavalry regiment, the 10th Royal Hussars. The 10th Light Horse Regiment was already allied with another British cavalry Regiment. The Warwickshire Yeomanry which had seen action with the 10th Light Horse Regiment, AIF. during the Great War. In July 1936, Lt.-Colonel Sweetapple was reappointed as commanding officer and continued in this post until February, 1940. Up until 1936 there were only two sabre squadrons in the regiment, namely 'A' and 'B' Squadrons, and this year saw the forming of a third-'C' Squadron. In 1937 the regiment was highly honoured when four of its members were chosen as part of the Australian Contingent for the Coronation of King George VI.

Apart from some of the events mentioned, there was not much of an outstanding nature that took place during the 'thirties' and the regiment's main activities, like most other Militia units of this period, were its annual camps.

THE SECOND WORLD WAR [4]

In March, 1939 the regiment held its annual camp at the Claremont Showgrounds, the same place where the original 10th Light Horse Regiment, AIF. was encamped prior to its departure overseas in 1914. With the outbreak of the Second World War in September, 1939 there was a great increase in training and general activity within the Militia, and in November a further camp was ordered for the 10th Light Horse Regiment at Naval Base and Rockingham, where they remained for three months. Initially many members of the regiment were anzious to obtain as much training as possible, believing that the regiment would be called out on active service. However under the Defence Act at this time, the Militia was confined to service within the Homeland and another Australian Imperial Force was raised for service overseas. In the following months many members of the regiment enlisted in the AIF. units which were formed in Western Australia, and throughout the following years of the war there was a steady decline in strength of the regiment due to transfers to AIF. and other manpower demands.

In February 1940 Lt.-Colonel Sweetapple resigned from his command and was succeeded by Major M. Tweedie, who had been with the regiment since 1920. He was officially appointed as Commanding Officer and Lt.-Colonel in March 1940. Also in this month the regiment completed its three months continuous training around Rockingham-Naval Base and for the remainder of the year reverted to normal weekly training parades at the various centres. In January, 1941 the regiment was called into camp at Bunbury where alternate three month camps were held for most of the year. Also during this year the regiment received its first draft of trainees under the Universal Service Scheme which had been recently introduced. Early in 1941 a sister regiment to the 10th Light Horse Regiment, the 2nd/10th Armoured Regiment, AIF. was formed as part of the newly raised 1st Armoured Division, AIF. This whole division later became based in Western Australia as part of III Australian Corps.

With the breakup of camp in October, 1941, there was talk that the regiment may become mechanised and many thought that this camp was the last time they would see their horses. Towards the end of the year mechanisation became more definite with bren gun carriers arriving at the camp, and in December 1941, much to the regret of its members, 10th Light Horse Regiment (West Australian Mounted Infantry) became designated "10th Reconnaissance Battalion (West Australian Mounted Infantry)". 'A' Squadron became mechanised with the new vehicles and became 'A' Company, however 'B' and 'C' Squadrons remained mounted as sabre squadrons.

With the entry of Japan into the War in December, 1941 the troops were recalled into camp at Bunbury and training under this new organisation commenced. In January 1942 the Battalion moved to Wanneru, just north of Perth, from where it carried patrols along the coast and other local defence work. In April 'A' Company was detached from the Battalion and moved further north to Geraldton and Dongarra for patrol duties with other units that had also been sent there. On the 18th May, 1942 authority was given for the unit to revert to the title of "10th Light Horse Regiment" and on the 11th June a further change in title took place, becoming "10th Australian Light Horse Regiment". Also in this month the former 'A' Company returned to the regiment and once again became 'A' Squadron, although it was quite some time before it became rehorsed.

In August 1942 the regiment left Wanneru and moved south of Perth to the Mundijong area where further training and coastal patrols were carried out. The regiment remained in this area until February 1943 when once again they moved north, this time to the Gingin area. During 1942-43 many members of the regiment had enlisted and were accepted in the AIF., probably due to the new orders introduced around this time allowing Militia units to be designated "AIF" if 75% of their personnel became AIF. The 10th Australian Light Horse Regiment soon reached this percentage and consequently on the 31st July, 1943 it became officially gazetted as "AIF". To the men of the 10th who were now becoming tired of their rather inactive role, this brought new hopes that overseas service may be in store. However the regiment remained around Gingin until late September when they returned to Perth for a short spell. Although most of their time was spent training in Perth, the regiment did spend a brief period of training at the jungle training centre around the Wellington Dam area in the South-West. On 15th December, 1943 Lt.-Colonel M. Tweedie relinquished command of the regiment and was succeeded by Major E. T. Doncon who became Lt.-Colonel in February 1944.

On the 1st January 1944 the regiment, by now greatly depleted in strength, moved from Perth to Wanneru again. Three months without much activity passed by, but at the beginning of April, things began to stir, for it was learnt that the horses were to go. Over the following days as the saddelry and other equipment was gradually returned, there was a general feeling of sadness that after being with the regiment for so many years these fine animals now had to go. As they looked upon the horse lines in April 1944, the troopers were witnessing something which would never be seen in Australia again, for the 10th Australian Light Horse Regiment, AIF. was the last of the mounted light horse regiments in Australia. The horses were led away on the 9th April, 1944 and although this brought much regret

it also revived hope that at last a much awaited change was coming. However this was not to be, for it was this month that saw the disbandment of the regiment and the following month its members departed for the Eastern States, destined for other units.

The camp at Wanneru was quickly demolished and all cavalry equipment including the much treasured emu plumes, were returned to the Ordnance, the troopers being re-equipped as infantry. The regiment, although having been officially disbanded, left Wanneru at the end of April and returned to Perth for a short period of rest and leave. From here they entrained for the Eastern States and proceeded to Bootry Hill camp in New South Wales where they did not remain together for long, being split up and sent to various training centres of drafted to other units as strength requirements demanded. Thus, much to the regret of its members who had been with the regiment throughout the past war years, the 10th Australian Light Horse Regiment, AIF. was not given the opportunity of proving itself in the field of battle. The 2nd/10th Armoured Regiment, AIF. like many other units of the 1st Armoured Division, AIF. also met a similar fate.

THE POST WAR PERIOD

With the reintroduction of the Citizen Military Forces (formerly Militia) in 1948, the nucleus of a regiment designated "10th West Australian Mounted Infantry", under the command of Lt.-Colonel P. J. Keenan, was raised in Northam, as part of the recently formed Royal Australian Armoured Corps. By 1952 the regiment had been fully organised with further squadrons and centres at Perth, Waroona and Geraldton. (later the regiment established its headquarters in Perth.)

Although the title of this regiment was an endeavour to combine the original title with that of the famous 10th Light Horse Regiment, it was never very acceptable and caused considerable agitation, particularly from members of the old 10th Light Horse Association. Around 1955-56 proposals were put forward and the authorities approached concerning a change in title for the regiment and eventually in July 1956 approval was given and it was announced that in future the 10th West Australian Mounted Infantry would be known as the "10th Light Horse". Since the adoption of this title the regimental spirit improved considerably and closer relationships have been established with the old Light Horse Association.

Although there have been many changes in organisation of the Australian Military Forces over the past few years, the 10th Light Horse has escaped disbandment or amalgamation with any other unit and is one of only two regiments which still bear the title of "Light Horse". The regiment is at present organised as an armoured reconnaissance regiment with headquarters, headquarters squadron, 'B' and 'C' Squadrons at Karrakatta in Perth, and 'A' Squadron at Northam. Although the days of the dashing light-horsemen are gone, the regiment is proud of the traditions it preserves, and today more than ever, in their fast moving vehicles, the 10th Light Horse live up to their motto of "Percute et Percute Velociter" - Strike, and strike swiftly".

NOTES AND REFERENCES:-

1. Gathered from W.A. Government Gazettes and from "The Volunteer Movement in W.A. 1861-1903" G.F. Wieck.

2. There were two official spellings of this town in existence at this time.

3. From "Westralian Cavalry in the War" Lt.-Col. Olden.

4. Information concerning the activities of the regiment during World War II obtained from notes compiled by Capt. W.C. Belford who served with the Regiment during these years.

THE MINIATURIST'S NOTEBOOK

By R. A. Powell

PART 2. SOME UNIFORMS OF CZARIST RUSSIA.

To a generation that has known no other Russia than that built out of the Revolution, Czarist Russia will ever be an enigma. From time to time old men with Russian surnames take up the pen and in the recollections of some expatriated officer we may catch a glimpse of life in the hot house atmosphere of the court circle of the last Czar of all the Russias.

But very soon these few survivors must pass and with them their memories, then the western world will be left with nothing but pitifully inadequate written records of the history of the tremendous army which weighed so heavily in the scales of European politics from the time of Peter the Great to the First World War. Despite her recognized backwardness, the inefficiency and corruption in her governmental administration and, at times, near national bankruptcy, Russia was always a power to be reckoned with. The tremendous weight of her manpower drawn from an area between the Polish border and the Pacific ocean gave teeth to the threat behind the expression 'Panslavism' that rang like a tocsin through European Diplomatic reports of the 70's, and prompted the coining of a word 'Jingoism' in the English music halls.

No army ever had a greater variety of uniform dress than that of Russia, with regiments raised from every race in her vast domain. In the pages that follow we have illustrated a few of the more unusual and little known of these uniforms.

Frank Thornborough prepared this materials for us and the drawings are copies of his originals. Unfortunately the reproduction does less than justice to Frank's artistry.

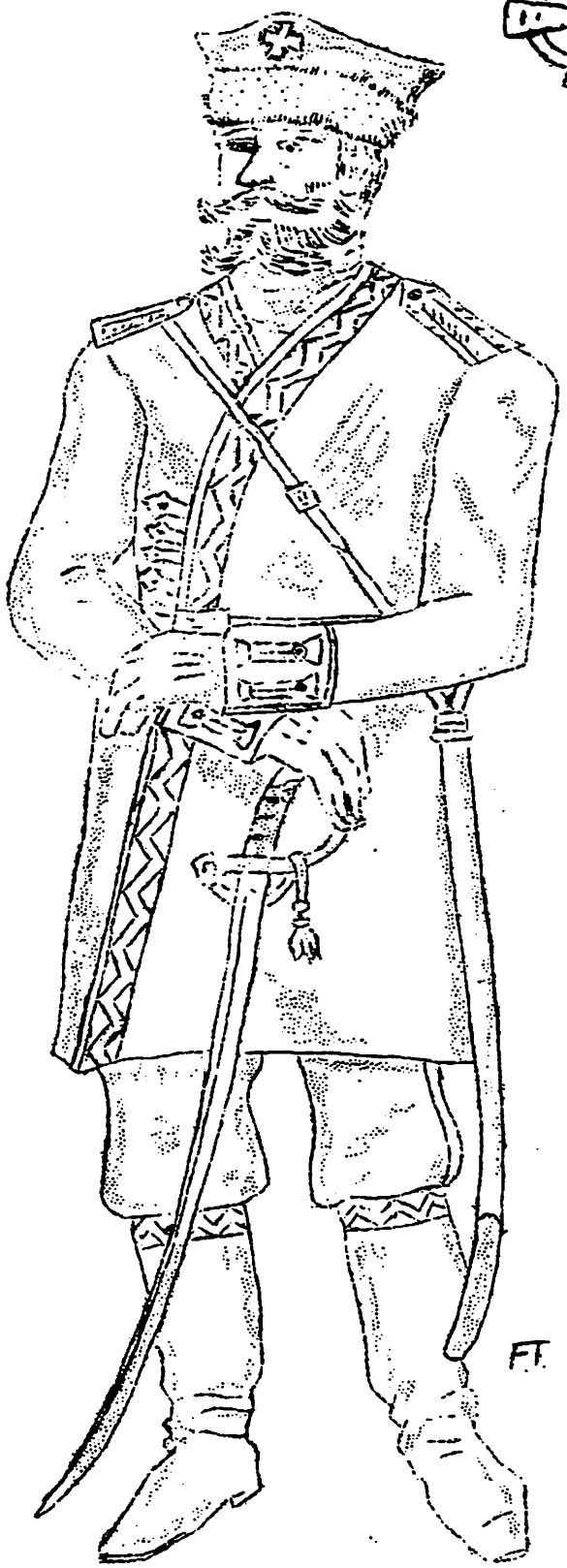
NATIVE CAUCASIAN TROOPS. 1887-1917.

In 1887 eight units or "Druschinen" were raised amongst the native Caucasians.

These were organised as Rifle units and consisted of both Christian and Mohammedan members. Four of the units were regulars and eventually became the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Caucasian Rifle Regiments and the other four consisted of reserve troops (in these cases practically all Christians) who eventually formed the basis of 202nd, 204th, 207th and 208th Infantry Regiments of the Imperial Army.

The following table shows these developments in detail:-

12th July, 1887.	31st December, 1899.	20th Feb., 1910.
1st Rifle Druschine	5th Caucasian Rifle Battalion	5th Caucasian Rifle Regt.
2nd " "	6th " " "	6th " " "
3rd " "	7th " " "	7th " " "
4th " "	8th " " "	8th " " "



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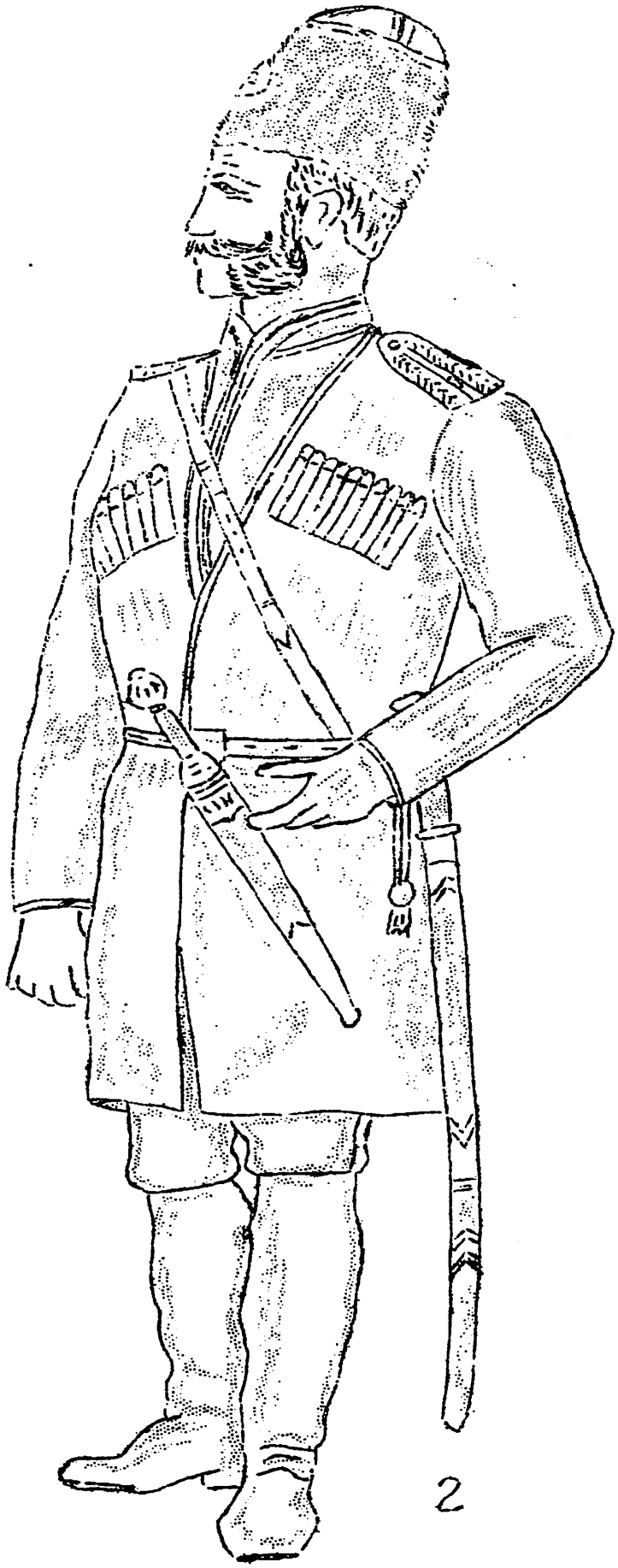

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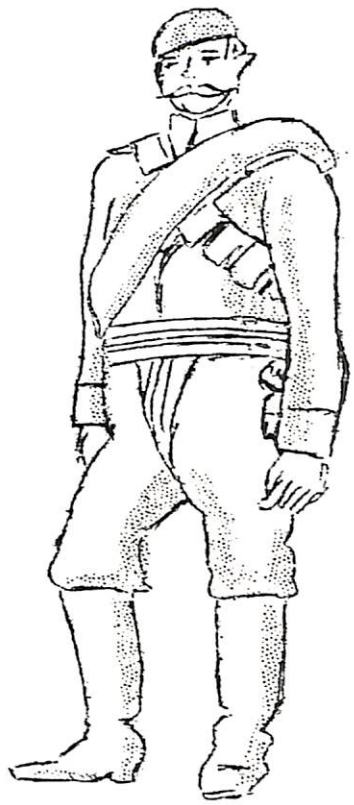

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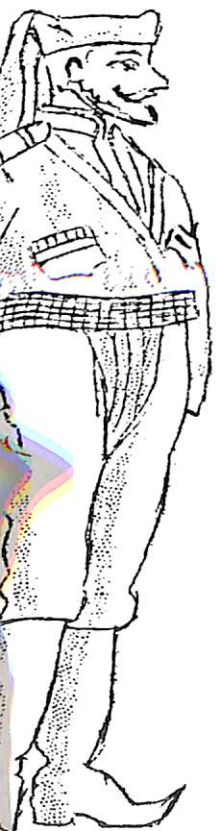

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12th July, 1887	20th September, 1889	20th November, 1910
1st Reserve Druschine	Reserve Inf. Regt. Gorŭski.	202nd Inf. Regt. Gorŭski
2nd " "	" " " Delijanski*	208th " " Lorŭski
3rd " "	" " " Nevobaiazetski.	207th " " Nevobaiazetski.
4th " "	Reserve Inf. Regt. Ardoganski.	204th Inf. Regt. Ardoganski Mikhailovski.

*On 24th October, 1894 changed to Reserve Inf. Regt. Lorŭski.

From their formation until 22nd March 1907 these Caucasian units wore a distinctive uniform based on their national dress but after that date they were dressed and equipped in the uniforms of the regular Russian Imperial Infantry.

The following brief description of the uniforms worn by the Caucasian Infantry will supplement our sketches.

1887-1907

1st, 2nd and 4th Caucasian Rifles (5th, 6th, 8th Caucasian Rifles)

Cap (Papacha)

Black lambskin with rapsberry red top. In the case of non-commissioned officers the cross seams of the top of the cap were piped in white and the officers' cap tops were piped in gold with a raspberry red light and had a gold bordered rim. Off duty officers wore a black peaked cap with a raspberry red band. All head-dress bore the national cockade.

Coat (Tscherkesska)

Parade - Black with ten bullet pockets on each breast. Other ranks had raspberry red shoulder boards supported by a brass button and bearing a brass numeral denoting the number of the unit and, in the case of NCO's, their rank bars. Officers wore epaulettes of raspberry red with gilt half-moons, gold braid and badges according to rank and the unit numeral in gilt. The Tscherkesska was trimmed with a narrow raspberry red piping around the neck and down the front to the waist.

Tunic or Vest.

Parade - Black trimmed, in the case of OR's, with a piping of raspberry red around the collar top and down the front. Officers vest was trimmed at top and bottom of collar and down the front of the vest with gold braid having a raspberry red light. Sergeants collars were trimmed around the top and down the front of the collar with gold lace and in addition the edge of the Tscherkesska cuff was trimmed with gold lace.

Trousers.

Parade - Black, in the case of officers piped down the outside seam in raspberry red.

Boots.

Black Russian leather - as for normal line infantry.

Great Coats.

OR's wore the "Burka" which was a black sheep skin cape. Officers wore the regular blue-grey Army greatcoat.

Weapons.

Officers and sergeants carried the Caucasian knife and sabre. Officers scab-boards were red with silver mountings and NCO's green unmounted. OR's rifle was the BERDAN mark 11.

Belts.

Waist belts of black leather ornamented, in the case of officers, to the personal taste of the wearer with silver studs. NCO's sword belts, worn over the right shoulder, also of black leather. Officers sword belts of gilded leather.

Gloves.

Officers gloves white.

General Notes.

Mounted officers (CO's and Staff officers) would carry a short whip (nagaika) but would NOT wear spurs.

In service dress the uniform was identical with the above except that the Tscherkesska was of camel hair colour (yellowish-buff) and besides being trimmed in raspberry red around the neck was also trimmed in this colour around the edge of the cuff. Officers in service dress wore shoulder boards, in lieu of epaulettes, trimmed according to rank.

1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Caucasian Reserve Regts. (Reserve Inf. Regts.)

Uniforms were identical with the above except that :-

(a) The cap crown was black with seams trimmed in red for OR's, white for sergeants and gold with red light for officers.

(b) All references to raspberry red above should be taken as red (scarlet).

(c) The unit number appeared as a numeral followed by the letter 'P'. In the Russian alphabet the letter 'P' is the equivalent of our 'R', standing for Reserve.

1887-1890

3rd Caucasian Rifles (7th Caucasian Rifle Regt.)

This unit was raised from the Batum area and wore their distinctive national dress until 1907.

Head-dress.

The Baschlik a type of turban in black. In the case of officers the edge of the hanging portion was trimmed with gold braid.

Coat.(Kurtka)

Black - badges of rank etc, as for other units.

Vest.

Black for OR's not trimmed as for other units with raspberry braid. Raspberry red for officers trimmed as for other units.

Trousers.

Black - with many pleats between front of waist and crotch.

Boots.

Black - of Caucasian cut with up-turned toes. Made of soft Russian leather.

Sash.

Officers only - of patterned silk according to the choice of the individual officer. About 14" wide and 76" long.

Belt. (Belkashi)

Officers, black with gold ornamentation worn over the sash. OR's, red edged in green to which was attached on the right side a small sack and a box with a hinged lid made from leather.

Pack.

Black leather cylinder worn as a bandolier over the left shoulder.

Cartridge bandoliers.

Black leather with a central stripe of raspberry red, holding about 30 bullets. Privates wore one over each shoulder, sergeants one around the waist besides a pocket low on each breast holding 6 bullets. Officers wore a black leather bandolier over the left shoulder with gilded compartments for 20 bullets.

Other details as for other units.

Officers did not wear special service dress but OR's were issued with coat and trousers of camel-hair coloured material piped in black. The normal black vest was worn with this order of dress.

1890-1907

3rd Caucasian Rifles

Head-dress.

In full dress the 'Baschlik' was still worn but for other duties a round cap of black felt was introduced. In the case of officers this was trimmed around the edge with gold cord with a tassle hanging from the left side and two triangular flaps also edged in gold from the back. Officers on duty also wore the peaked cap as for other units.

Coat.

The officers bandoliers had been dispensed with and a bullet pocket capable of holding 8 cartridges had been added to each breast.

Vest.

Officers as before. OR's vests now trimmed on the collar with raspberry red.

Trousers.

As before.

Boots.

Normal line infantry boots.

Sash.

As before.

Belts.

As before - except that officers now carried at the back of their right hip a black leather cartouche box, with gilt ornamentation, holding about 25 bullets. Privates carried a hatchet or spade on this belt.

Cartridge Bandoliers.

Black leather of closed pouch type each holding 45 cartridges worn in same manner as before.

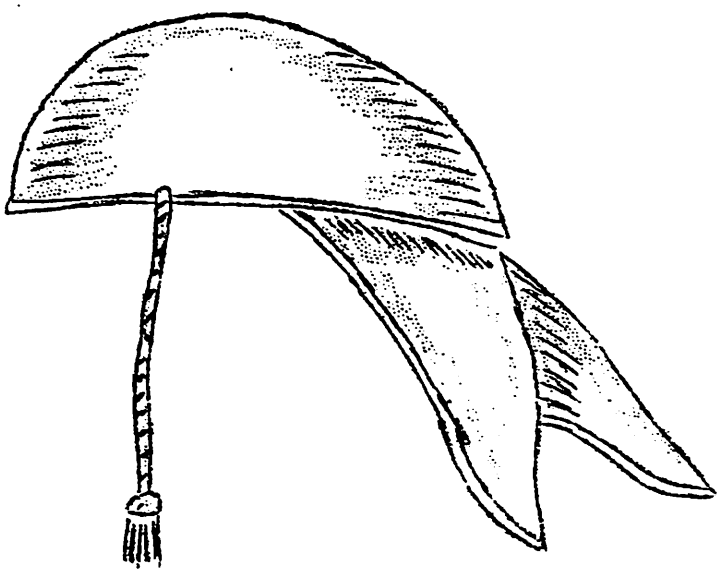
Weapons.

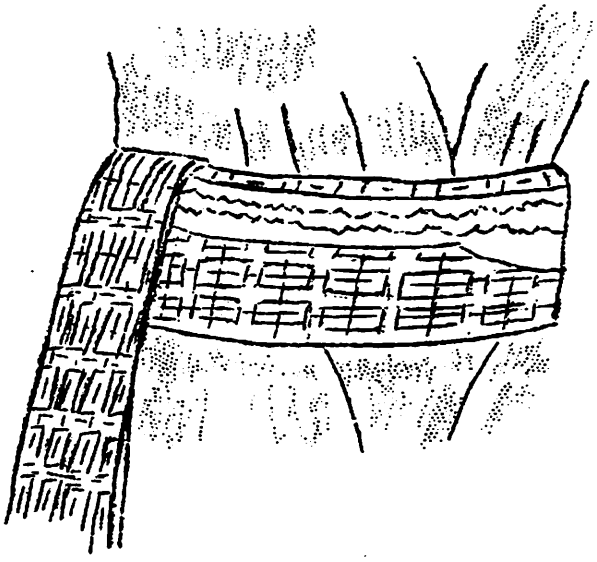
As before - except that revolvers were carried by officers and sergeants. Lanyards for officers were white cord interwoven with black and orange and for sergeants raspberry red cord.

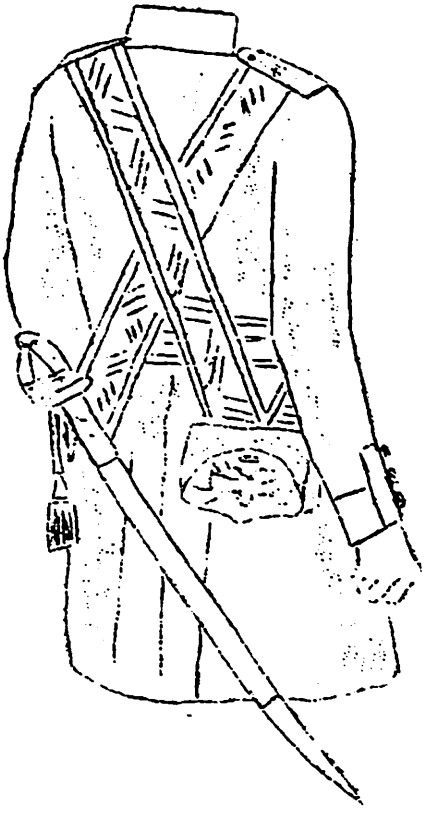
PAINTING INSTRUCTIONS

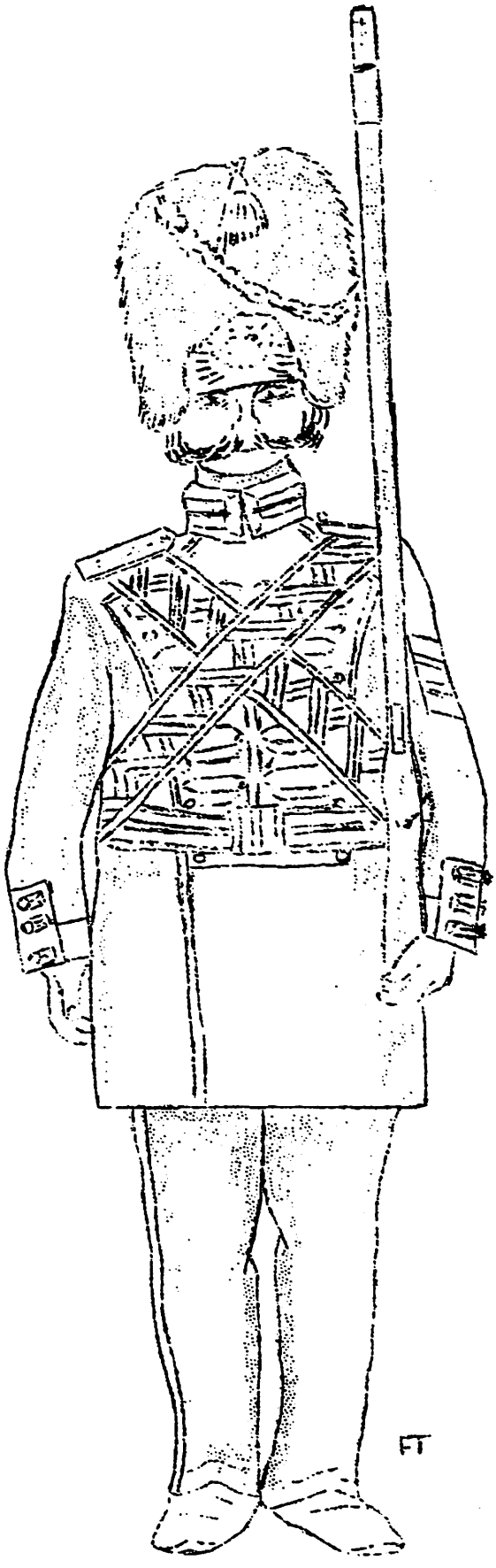
Figure 1.

c 1900. Officer 4th Life Guard Rifle Regt. Parade Dress.









Cap.

Black lambskin with black cloth top, sewn square with corners to front back and sides. Silver cross inscribed "For the faith Czar and fatherland".

Vest.

Crimson.

Tunic. (Kaftan)

Dark blueish/green, edged 1" wide with gold lace with central zig-zag pattern in black, piped crimson. Four gilt buttons with gold lace loops. Cuffs blueish/green piped crimson - gold lace and buttons. Shoulder boards gold lace on crimson ground.

Breeches.

Blueish/green with scarlet stripe.

Boots.

Black Russian leather with scarlet tops - black zig-zag motif.

Sash.

Silver with three lines of alternate black and orange dots worked into it. Sash approx. 2½" wide.

Sword.

Gilded leather sword belt - gilt hilt - silver knot - black grip. Scabbard black with gold mounts.

Figure 2.

Officer of 1st Caucasian Rifles - Service Dress 1887-1907.

Cap.

Black lambskin - Raspberry red top with gold trim. Cockade silver with orange centre.

Vest.

Black trimmed with gold lace with central red light.

Tunic.

Camel hair (yellowish/buff) piped red. Gold tops to ammunition pockets. Shoulder boards red laced with gold, gold buttons and numerals. Waist belt black. Knife - silver hilt, scarlet sheath with silver mounts.

Breeches.

Black piped red down outside leg.

Boots.

Black Russian leather.

Sword.

Silver hilt and knot, scabbard scarlet with gilt mounts - steel shoe.

Sword belt.

Gilded leather.

Figure 3.

Sergeant - 3rd Rifle Druschine 1887 - Service dress.

Head-dress.

Black.

Kurtka.

Camel-hair colour, black piping. Gold rank braid on silver. Brass cartridges protruding from pockets. Shoulder boards raspberry red with gold rank braid, brass button and numeral.

Vest.

Black with gold rank braid around top and down front of collar.

Cartridge Belt.

Black with raspberry red central stripe, brass cartridges protruding from top of compartments.

Trousers.

Camel-hair colour with black piping in front and down side seams.

Boots.

Soft black leather.

Figure 4.

Officer - 3rd Rifle Druschine 1887.

Head-dress.

Black - hanging, flaps at back piped with gold braid.

Kurtka.

Black - epaulettes raspberry red with gilt half-moons, gold rank braid, gilt badges and numeral.

Vest.

Raspberry red - edged all round collar and down front in gold braid with raspberry red light.

Bandolier.

Black leather with gilted cartridge compartments.

Sash.

Any bright plaid design - suggest yellow with green vertical and red horizontal stripes.

Trousers. Black.

Boots. Black soft leather.

Waist belt. (Belkaschi) Black leather with raspberry red central stripe - gilt ornamentation.

Sword belt. Gilded leather.

Sword. Ivory hilt - red scabbard with gilt fittings - steel shoe. Silver, black and orange sword knot.

Knife. Ivory hilt with silver mounts - scabbard and sling red leather with silver fittings.

Figure 5.

Rifleman - 3rd Rifle Druschine 1890 - Service Dress.

Head-dress. Black.

Kurtka. Camel-hair colour piped black. Shoulder boards raspberry red with brass buttons and numeral.

Trousers. Black.

Cartridge belts. Black leather.

Pack. (worn on bandolier.) Black leather.

Waist belt. Red edged green. Small sack (Kurchumoglue) and water box (motara) attached to belt also in red leather.

Boots. Soft black leather.

Rifle Sling. Brown leather.

Figure 6.

Rifleman - 1st Rifle Druschine 1887

Head-dress. Black lambskin - raspberry red top - national cockade.

Tscherkesska. Black piped raspberry red around neck and down front to waist. Raspberry red piping above cartridg pockets. Brass cartridges protruding from pockets. Shoulder boards of raspberry red with numeral and buttons brass.

Vest. Black piped raspberry red around top of collar and down front.

Belt. Black leather - brown leather cartouche box. Knife brass hilt and sheath black leather with brass mounts.

Trousers. Black.

Boots. Soft black leather.

Cape. Black sheep-skin.

Rifle. Brown leather sling.

Figure 7.

Officer of 3rd Caucasian Rifle Druschine - Parade Dress 1890-1907

Turban. Black with gold piping and cord.

Vest. Raspberry red trimmed with gold lace with a central red light.

Tunic and Breeches. Black - epaulettes - gold with raspberry red ground and lining. Tops to ammunition pockets - gold. Waist Belt black with gold ornamentation.

Sash. A plaid pattern of light blue, raspberry red and white with gold thread worked through the pattern.

Boots. Black Russian leather.

Sword. Silver hilt and knot, scabbard scarlet leather with gilt mounts - steel shoe.

Pistol Lanyard. White with black and orange worked through it.

Sword Belt. Gilded leather.

Figure 8.

1856 - 1910 Grenadier - Palace Guard - Gala dress.

Cap. Black bear-skin with gilt plate gold cords and tassel. At top rear a scarlet patch bearing a gilt grenade. (After 1910 double eagle plate was changed to a simple sunburst.)

Tunic. Dark green. Scarlet collar, cuffs, cuff slashes, plaston and piping. Gold buttons, lace and chevrons. Shoulder boards scarlet with two gold laces - silver royal cypher.

Trousers. Dark green with two gold stripes separated by scarlet piping.

Waist Belt. Scarlet with two gold laces.

Shoulder Belts. Gold lace edged scarlet. The belt over the right shoulder forms a sword frog. The belt over the left shoulder supports the cartouche box which is black ornamented with a gilt ornament identical with the helmet plate.

Boots. Black.

Sword. Short hangar type. Brass hilt - black scabbard with brass fittings. Gold sword knot.

H.M.A.S. ARUNTA

OR an Aborigine kneeling upon his left knee with left arm extended pointing a bone to which a cord is attached and running back to the concealed hand of his drawn-back right arm and thence curling to the base, all proper; and for a motto : CONQUER OR DIE.

Battle Honours:

Guadalcanal 1942
New Guinea 1942-44
Pacific 1943-45
Leyte Gulf 1944
Lingayen Gulf 1945

H.M.A.S. ARUNTA

Type:	Improved "Tribal" Class.
Displacement:	1970 tons (standard).
Length:	377 feet 6 inches (overall).
Beam:	36 feet 6 inches (extreme).
Draught:	9 feet (mean).
Armament:	4-4.7 inch guns 2-4 inch guns 6-40 m.m. A/A guns 4-2 pdr. A/A guns 4-21 inch Torpedo Tubes A/S Squid Armament (triple barrelled depth charge mortars).
Laid Down:	15th November, 1939.
Launched:	30th October, 1940.
Commissioned:	30th March, 1942.
Builder:	Cockatoo Docks & Engineering Co. Ltd., Sydney, N.S.W.
Speed:	36.5 knots (designed) 34 knots (sea speed).

H.M.A.S. ARUNTA the first of three "Tribal" class destroyers built at Cockatoo Dockyard during World War II commissioned on 30th March, 1942, under the command of Commander J.C. Morrow, D.S.O., R.A.N., with a complement of 12 officers and 178 ratings.

WAR SERVICE

April-June, 1942.

Trials and working-up period. Commenced operational duty 17th May, 1942, on Anti-Submarine patrol New South Wales waters. Convoy escort duties eastern Australian waters. On 31st May/1st June, 1942, the Japanese launched a submarine offensive with a Midget submarine attack on Sydney Harbour. Three ships were torpedoed and sunk in June off the coast of New South Wales.

July-September, 1942.

In July, ARUNTA continued escorting coastal convoys. Japanese submarines remained active sinking four ships totalling 15,000 tons. On 11th August, ARUNTA began escorting Australia-New Guinea convoys and escorting shipping in the New Guinea theatre. On 29th August, she experienced her first contact with the enemy when she destroyed by depth charge the Japanese submarine RO 33 off Port Moresby. In September, she continued escorting convoys to New Guinea and while thus engaged took on board the survivors of S.S. ANSHUN at Milne Bay after that ship had been sunk by Japanese cruisers on the night of 6th/7th September.

October-December, 1942.

In the period October to December ARUNTA continued New Guinea escort duties operating between Townsville-Port Moresby-Milne Bay. In this role she played her part in giving naval support to the Allied offensive in Papua. At the close of the year ARUNTA had steamed 44,000 miles in nine months since commissioning on 31st March.

January-March, 1943.

On 7th January, 1943, ARUNTA entered Darwin Harbour for the first time when she arrived to take part in the evacuation of guerilla troops from Timor. The operation was completed on 10th January, and ARUNTA then proceeded to Sydney for 14 days refit. In February she resumed escort of New Guinea convoys.

April-June, 1943.

In the period April-June, ARUNTA continued escorting shipping from Queensland port to New Guinea. As from 4th May, 1943, she became a unit of Task Force 74 the composite Australian-American force operating with the 7th Fleet. In June, she spent 23 days in company of the Task Force (H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA Flagship) mainly cruising in north east Australian waters. At the close of June, Task Force 74 entered the Coral Sea to give covering support for the American landings on Kiriwina and Woodlark Islands.

July-September, 1943.

In early July, ARUNTA continued operating as a destroyer of Task Force 74 covering the Woodlark-Kiriwina operations. It was uneventful cruising interrupted by several days refuelling in the Flinders Group. In mid-July she proceeded in company of Task Force 74 to Espiritu Santo where she detached to proceed to Townsville in company of her sister ship WARRAMUNGA. The remainder of the July-August period was spent on escort and anti-submarine duty in the South and South West Pacific. On 31st August, ARUNTA began three weeks refit in Sydney sailing on 21st September, for Melbourne to become part of the escort of a north bound coastal convoy, arriving Brisbane on 3rd October.

October-December, 1943.

On 8th October, ARUNTA returned to Melbourne sailing for Townsville the following day escorting a convoy. From Townsville she proceeded to Milne Bay in company of H.M.A.S. STUART escorting the Landing Ships MANOORA and WESTRALIA. On 28th October, she arrived in Brisbane from New Guinea and there rejoined the Australian Squadron (Task Force 74) consisting of H.M.A. Ships AUSTRALIA, SHROPSHIRE, WARRAMUNGA and ARUNTA and U.S. Ships RALPH TALBOT and HELM.

On 5th November, T.F.74 arrived at Milne Bay (from Brisbane) where it remained based throughout the month. The Task Force spent six days at sea in the Solomons area giving distant covering support to the

Bougainville operations then in progress. The four destroyers (operating as a detached group) bombarded the Gasmata (New Britain) area on the 30th November. ARUNTA and WARRAMUNGA expended 909 rounds of 4.7 inch against Japanese ammunition dumps near the mouth of the Anwek River. On 27th November, the U.S. cruiser NASHVILLE joined T.F. 74.

December, 1943, opened with Task Force 74 at Milne Bay preparing for the New Britain operations strengthened on 3rd December by a second American cruiser the PHOENIX.

The first two weeks were spent exercising in New Guinea waters. On 14th December, AUSTRALIA, SHROPSHIRE, ARUNTA, WARRAMUNGA, HELM and RALPH TALBOT constituting Task Group 74.1 sailed from Milne Bay for the first phase of the New Britain operations the landings at Arawe. There was no opposition against the covering forces. On 16th December Task Force 74 returned to Milne Bay.

On 26th December, a second landing (Cape Gloucester) took place for which Task Force 74 again gave cover and bombardment support to the American Amphibious Groups (Task Force 76). Again there was no enemy naval reaction and only a small counter attack from the air. On 28th December, Task Force 74 withdrew to Buna. At the close of the year 1943, ARUNTA reached 100,000 miles steamed since commissioning.

January-March, 1944.

January opened with ARUNTA temporarily attached to Task Force 76 (the American Amphibious Group) and constituting with WARRAMUNGA and two U.S. destroyers Task Unit 76.1.3. On the 1st January, the four destroyers gave support to the American 32nd Division for the landings at Saidor, New Guinea. Thereafter throughout the month ARUNTA was busy on escort duties between New Britain and New Guinea. On 16th January, off Saidor ARUNTA captured her only Japanese prisoner of the war when she picked up an airman shot down by American fighter planes. At the close of January, ARUNTA detached from T.U. 76.1.3 and on 1st February, she sailed for Sydney for refit.

ARUNTA returned to New Guinea (Milne Bay) on 1st March, and rejoined T.U. 76.1.3 (eight destroyers) for the landings in the Admiralty Islands. On 3rd March she embarked troops of the 7th U.S. Cavalry, stores and ammunition and sailed with the Task Unit for Hyane Harbour (Admiralties) where after preliminary bombardment she put the troops and stores safely ashore.

Thereafter until 27th March, ARUNTA was constantly at sea on escort and patrol duty in support of the troops ashore in the Admiralty Islands. On 27th March, at Milne Bay she rejoined Task Force 74 for exercises in preparation for the landings at Hollandia on the New Guinea coast.

April-June, 1944.

On 19th April, ARUNTA sailed from Manus with Task Force 74 as one of the units of the very large naval forces assembled to carry out the first

large scale landings in Japanese held New Guinea. The plan of operations being to seize and occupy the Tanahmerah Bay-Humboldt Bay-Aitape areas, isolate large bodies of Japanese troops and thus put an end to effective enemy resistance in New Guinea.

Again the Japanese put up no effective resistance and some 79,000 troops were landed under cover of naval bombardment with negligible casualties.

Task Force 74 remained in the Hollandia area providing bombardment support when called upon until 3rd May when it withdrew to Manus to prepare for a further phase of the campaign to destroy the Japanese army in New Guinea.

In mid-May ARUNTA took part in seizure of Wakde Island her duty as unit of Task Force 74 being mainly confined to bombardment of adjacent areas on the mainland on 17th May ("D" Day) when she expended more than 300 rounds of 4.7 inch ammunition. On Wakde the Japanese garrison fought to the last man (only one prisoner was taken) and some 859 dead were counted after the battle.

Following the Wakde operations T.F. 74 returned briefly to Hollandia before sailing on 25th May to give cover and bombardment support for landings on Biak Island on 27th May.

In June, Task Force 74 operated in the Biak area to prevent any Japanese attempt to counter attack or reinforce Biak. For most of the month the Australian Squadron operated in company with T.F. 75 (cruiser group) cruising in the threatened area by night and withdrawing towards Hollandia by day. On the night of 7th/8th June, four Japanese destroyers were contacted and a high speed but unsuccessful chase developed (ARUNTA exceeded 30 knots) which was finally abandoned when the leading Allied destroyers were 30 miles south east of Mapia Island.

On 10th June, the Biak patrol ended and Task Force 74 returned to Manus to prepare for the landing of Allied troops on Noemfoor a small island lying at the northern head of Geelvink Bay in Dutch New Guinea. This took place on 2nd July when after a heavy naval bombardment the troops went ashore unopposed. ARUNTA contributed 545 rounds to the hail of shell-fire.

July-December, 1944.

Following withdrawal from Noemfoor on completion of bombardments Task Force 74 was allotted the task of eliminating Japanese shore batteries eastward of Aitape on the New Guinea mainland. In these operations ARUNTA was assigned bombardment tasks on six days before joining Task Force 78 (3 cruisers - 9 destroyers) to give support to the Cape Sansapor landings on 30th July.

ARUNTA spent August in Sydney returning to New Guinea on 1st September in time to take part in the final major landing operation of the New Guinea campaign the seizure of Morotai Island on 15th

September. On completion of the Morotai operations, Task Force 74 proceeded to Mios Woendi and thence on 25th September to Manus to prepare for the American advance to the Philippines.

On 13th October, 1944, ARUNTA sailed from Hollandia as a unit of the vast armada assembled for landings at Leyte Gulf in Philippines. She was attached with H.M.A. Ships AUSTRALIA, SHROPSHIRE and WARRAMUNGA to Task Group 77.3 (Close Covering Group) under Rear-Admiral Berkey, U.S.N. She took part in the pre-landing bombardments and on 25th October, with SHROPSHIRE took part in the final and most decisive surface engagement of World War II - the Battle of Surigao Strait. Fought in the darkness, the Japanese were placed at a hopeless tactical disadvantage which ended in their complete rout with the loss of two battleships and three destroyers. The Allied force which under Rear-Admiral Oldendorf, U.S.N., comprised 6 battleships, 8 cruisers and 20 destroyers, lost no ships and suffered only superficial damage. ARUNTA remained with the Task Groups patrolling the Leyte area until 16th November, when she sailed for Manus. In all she spent 28 days in the Leyte area under frequent air attack but suffered no damage and fortunately was not attacked by the "Kamikaze" aircraft which inflicted such grevious damage on many ships of the Allied fleet including H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA. December was spent at Manus until the Boxing Day when she proceeded in company of AUSTRALIA, SHROPSHIRE, WARRAMUNGA and three U.S. destroyers to return to Leyte.

On December 31st, 1944, ARUNTA had steamed 154,107 miles since commissioning.

January-March, 1945.

In January, 1945, ARUNTA took part in the second phase of the Philippines campaign the landings at Lingayen. The entire Attack Force for the operation comprised in all some 850 ships of which 305 were fighting or semi-fighting ships. Eleven R.A.N. ships were included, four of them AUSTRALIA, SHROPSHIRE, ARUNTA and WARRAMUNGA attached to T.G. 77.2 consisting of 6 battleships, 6 cruisers and 29 destroyers divided into two groups.

The landings were successfully completed on 9th January in the face of continual air attack. Twelve ships of T.G. 77.2 were damaged by "Kamikaze" planes including AUSTRALIA which was hit five times. ARUNTA was damaged during the approach on 5th January, when a "Kamikaze" plane narrowly missed crashing into her port side. Two ratings Able Seaman H.L. Sellick, O.N.6092 and Stoker P.O. R.A. Hand, O.N.24357 died of wounds. Following the landings ARUNTA proceeded to Leyte escorting AUSTRALIA (9th January) reporting for duty at Lingayen with Task Group 77.2 on 22nd January. Thereafter until the close of February, ARUNTA continued in support of the Philippines campaign as a unit of Lingayen Defence Force. On 5th March, she returned to Manus departing on 10th March, for Sydney to refit.

April-September, 1945.

ARUNTA sailed from Sydney for Manus on 2nd May, 1945, after six weeks refitting. On 10th/11th May, she took part in the naval operations in support of the landing of the 6th Australian Division at Wewak (New Guinea).

Later in the month she returned to the Philippines for a brief visit to Manila. On 5th June, she sailed from Subic Bay as a unit of Task Group 74.3 (flag in the U.S. cruiser NASHVILLE) to support the landing of the Australians at Brunei Bay (Borneo). The troops went ashore at dawn on 10th June, under cover of a naval bombardment of which ARUNTA's share was 500 rounds of 4.7 inch ammunition.

ARUNTA remained in the Borneo theatre giving fire support including the bombardment of Lutong (414 rounds - 4.7 inch) on 20th June, until 22nd June, when she departed for Tawi Tawi in company of T.G. 74.1 (SHROPSHIRE, HOBART, ARUNTA and U.S. Ships METCALF and HART). On 27th June, T.G. 74.1 returned to Borneo and that day began preliminary shelling of Balikpapen in preparation for the landing of the Australian troops on 1st July. In these operations which were unopposed at sea ARUNTA fired 601 rounds of 4.7 inch in pre-landing bombardments. In all on 1st July, the covering force expended 38,052 shells ranging in calibre from 8 inch to 3 inch. Task Group 74.1 (SHROPSHIRE, HOBART, ARUNTA, A.W. GRANT and KILLEN) withdrew to Tawi Tawi on 3rd July where ARUNTA remained until 11th July, when she sailed for Sydney.

When V.J. Day came on 15th August, ARUNTA was refitting at Cockatoo Dock having steamed 184,368 miles on war service in the South West Pacific.

October-December, 1945.

ARUNTA completed her refit at Sydney on 18th October, 1945. On 25th October, she arrived in Darwin departing the same day escorting the repatriation ship ESPERANCE BAY to Timor and thence to Java. In November she proceeded to Japan via Morotai and Guam to join the occupation naval forces.

January-June, 1946.

ARUNTA remained in Japanese waters as the Australian Squadron representative until March. She returned to Sydney on 2nd April, with urgent defects which kept her in dockyard hands until the end of May. On 11th June, her crew having taken part in the Victory Parade the previous day, she sailed for a northern cruise flying the flag of C.C.A.S. (Commodore Collins). Port Moresby, Rabual, Manus and Manila were visited in a seven weeks cruise.

July-December, 1946.

Following her return to Sydney from the Philippines on 18th July, 1946, ARUNTA remained in home waters mainly at Sydney until 3rd December, when she sailed for Japan in company of H.M.A.S. SHROPSHIRE where both ships came under the operational control of C-in-C British Pacific Fleet. Kure was reached on 16th December.

January-December, 1947.

ARUNTA spent the first three months of 1947 in Japanese waters on general duties (including patrol) as one of the British Occupation Force destroyers. In April, she was relieved by H.M.A.S. QUIBERON departing Kure on 7th April, and arrived Sydney on 21st April. Thereafter until November, excepting a winter cruise in Queensland waters she remained at Sydney departing on 10th November, in company of her sister ship WARRAMUNGA for a second tour of post-war duty in Japan.

January-December, 1948.

ARUNTA returned to Sydney on 7th April, 1948, following a 15 weeks tour of duty in Japan. In June, she proceeded on a cruise in the Western Pacific visiting Noumea, Vila, Suva and Tongatabu where she fired a 21 Gun Salute for Queen Salote. The remainder of the year was spent in home waters at Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne. In May, 1948, she passed the quarter million (250,000 miles) mark in her steaming record.

1949-1952.

On 21st January, 1949, ARUNTA arrived in Sydney from Jervis Bay. For the next four years she was immobilised, passing to Dockyard Control for modernisation in 1950. On 11th November, 1952, she recommissioned as an Anti-Submarine Destroyer under the command of Commander J.M. Ramsay.

1953.

The first year of ARUNTA's new commission was spent in Australian waters. At the close of the year she had steamed 15,000 miles mostly on Fleet exercises.

1954.

In January, 1954, ARUNTA proceeded for service in the Far East arriving Hong Kong on 4th February, and Kure on 23rd February. Thereafter until September, 1954, (seven months) she operated as one of the Allied units of the Korean Patrol groups based on Japan. ARUNTA returned to Sydney to refit in October.

1955.

ARUNTA spent the first four months of 1955 in home waters mainly in the Sydney area. In mid May, she proceeded for a second tour of Far East duty. On 29th May, she departed Darwin in company of H.M.A. Ships ANZAC, WARRAMUNGA, TOBRUK and QUADRANT and H.M.N.Z. Ships BLACK PRINCE and PUKAKI for Singapore for exercises with the Far East Fleet. The exercises continued (in Malayan waters) until the close of June when ANZAC, TOBRUK and QUADRANT detached to return to Australia. ARUNTA began three weeks refit at Singapore before joining WARRAMUNGA as the first Australian ships of the Strategic Reserve on the Far East Station. At the close of July, ARUNTA proceeded to Hong Kong and thence to Japanese waters for exercises with American units. In October,

she returned to Malaya where she spent most of the remaining period of her 1955 Far East tour of duty. In December, ANZAC and TOBRUK relieved ARUNTA and WARRAMUNGA and on 5th December, both ships sailed for Australia arriving Sydney, 19th December.

1956.

ARUNTA spent the year 1956 on the Australia Station and excepting a visit to New Guinea, New Britain and Manus in March and April, 1956, and a visit to Norfolk Island in June for the Centenary of the landing of the Pitcairn Islanders, the entire period was spent in Australian home waters. On 14th June, 1956, she arrived in Sydney flying her paying off pendant. On 21st December, 1956, she passed to Dockyard Control for refitting for Operational Reserve. ARUNTA steamed 95,221 miles during the course of three and a half years being the period of her second commission bringing her total mileage to 357,273 since commissioning in 1942.

1957-1965.

In Operational Reserve at Sydney.

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MILITARY MINIATURES

By R. Powell

Since the ending of the war the modelling of military miniatures has flourished as never before and, the membership of societies throughout Europe and America increased apace. In the early years the wide range of well proportioned 54 mm metal castings produced by Wm. Britains Ltd. was available to the craftsman and the majority of kitchen table models were converted from this basic figure by the skilful use of soldering iron and sheet metal. Some workers took the process a stage further and in an endeavour to achieve uniformity in the multiple production of figures made their own solid lead/tin castings from these conversions in a two part mould of dental plaster. However moulding in dental plaster was far from satisfactory. Definition of detail was difficult to attain and because of the inflexible nature of the material, the casting of any undercut shape was impossible; the brittle plaster often was shattered by the removal of the first casting. Nevertheless a great many excellent models were made by this method, but the difficulties tended to deter all but the most determined. Several years ago this state of affairs was radically changed by the advent of 'Silastromer', a product of Midland Silicons Ltd. This material, when processed has the appearance and flexibility of medium hard rubber together with the ability to withstand temperatures to the order of 380°. Silastromer is reasonably economical, being priced at about $A3.00 for a 1 lb. tin from which can be made 5 or 6 moulds; easy to process and capable of reproducing the finest detail. Having a fair degree of flexibility it allows undercuts in castings to come free without mould damage. In fact Silastromer is free from all the classic defects of plaster moulds.

Having made up your mind to have a try at casting some figures, the next problem is what to cast. Some will wish to have an entirely original figure modelled in plasticine, yet others, not so ambitious will purchase a good quality commercial casting and modify it to their own requirements before casting. But for the purpose of this explanation we will assume that our modeller has obtained a commercial casting that is satisfactory for his purpose and requires no modification before moulding.

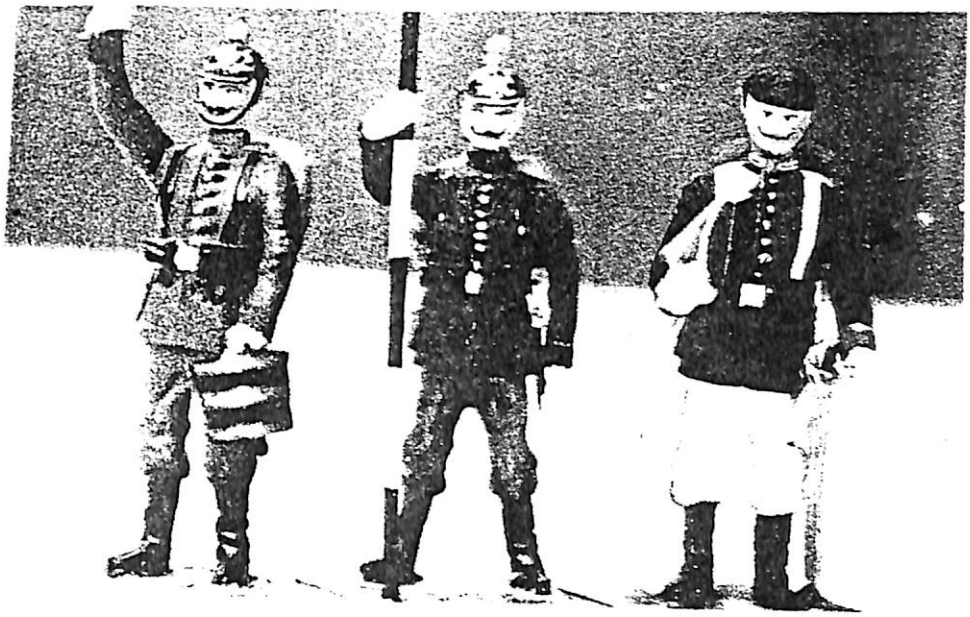
The first step is the construction of a wooden moulding box. This must be of sufficient length to accommodate your figure and allow approx. ½" of rubber beyond its head, yet not over long or valuable rubber will be wasted. A glance at the accompanying photo of a rubber mould will show the approximate size required.

Make your moulding box from 4 stout pieces of wood screwed together to form a picture frame effect about 1¼" depth, into which your moulding material will be poured. My boxes are made from approximately 3/4" thick wood, lighter frames are liable to deform when screwed up with disastrous effect on the mould. Make a pencil line along the inside face of each of the box sides so that when screwed together you have a continuous line marking the half way depth of your box. After screwing the box sides firmly together, place it on a level bench top or board, press plasticine into it until half filled, using the pencil line to ascertain your level. Take your master figure and gently but firmly press it into this plasticine bed until it is exactly half submerged. Be at some pains to ensure that the line the plasticine makes on your figure outline is precisely the half way point. I have found that whilst Silastromer is flexible and will release trapped castings, the less you rely on this property the longer your mould life will be.

If your figure has his limbs and torso in the one plane, placing it in the plasticine is comparatively straight forward, but should an arm or leg be swung forward as would be the case for a marching figure, the plasticine bed must be built up to follow the centre line of the uppermost limb. After a little practice you will be able to determine at a glance the line your plasticine should take. Meanwhile, I suggest the beginner limit himself to a standing figure as shown in our photo. You can position each leg of the finished casting individually with a fine saw and soldering iron before painting, if you wish.

You are now ready to pour the first half of your mould. Before pouring, the figure and plasticine surface must be thinly painted with a parting agent consisting of a 5% solution of paraffin wax in xylene (believe it or not I obtained a half pint of this for 80c from a suburban pharmacist). This prevents the Silastromer from adhering to plasticine. Pour sufficient Silastromer into an old cup, (use about ½ cup full), put in about a teaspoonful of catalyst and stir thoroughly. Do not be hasty at this point for unless the catalyst is thoroughly mixed with Silastromer your mould will have pockets of uncured latex and be useless.

After mixing, tap the cup gently for a few seconds until all air bubbles have come to the surface - any air which remains in the mix and later lodges against your master figure will cause an imperfection at that point. Take a



child's cheap watercolour brush and paint the surface of your figure with Silastromer. Again be sure that all air is driven out of eye sockets, beneath arm pits etc., as you paint. When your figure has a fairly liberal coating of Silastromer, put aside your brush and slowly pour the remaining Silastromer until the mould box is filled. Pour from one end of the box so that all air is expelled by the latex as the level rises. Take care with this operation and do not hurry - you have about half an hour at least before your latex begins to stiffen.

Leave your mould to cure for 24 hours, after which your mould box may be unscrewed and the 4 sides gently eased away from the Silastromer mould. Peel off the plasticine and one half of your mould is revealed. You may remove your master figure at this point and inspect the impression made in the rubber. Now you are ready to pour the second half of your mould. Replace the figure in it's impression, replace the rubber mould in the mould box and screw up firmly. Take particular care that the mould block is replaced in the box exactly as it was previously so that pressure from the mould box does not bend or distort the mould. It must fit exactly to prevent leakages of latex and yet be not deformed by pressure which when released would allow the mould to change shape.

This point is most important - a little careless work here can ruin the project. Your mould box will now be upturned and what was previously the underside will be uppermost. The rubber will now occupy the position previously occupied by plasticine. Coat the upper surface of this rubber with parting agent as before and wait a few minutes until the xylene has evaporated. Mix a quantity of Silastromer and repeat the previous process of painting it on the figure and then filling the mould box.

Again after 24 hours the latex will be cured. Open the mould box and carefully insert a thumbnail between the two mould halves. A gentle pressure and they can be peeled apart.

All that remains is to cut a tapered pouring channel into one foot of your figure at the mould surface and you are ready to begin casting.

Your mould should be allowed to cure for at least 7 days before casting in order that the volatile components will be lost before heating. This is best achieved by placing the mould open to sun and rain in the garden. In the next issue I will deal with the subject of casting from your mould.

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The figures we photographed for this issue are the work of Mr. Ivan Lock, of Melbourne, whose particular interest is the study and collection of the uniform dress of the Imperial German Armies. During the last six months Ivan has turned his hand to the creation of 54 mm figures to supplement his uniform collection and the three figures he has chosen for our photographer are his initial effort; they are a Prussian artillery-man with aiming post; Bavarian infantry and a most imaginative model of an under-officer of the Kaiser Alexander Garde Grenadier Regt. No.1 carrying his mitre cap. In these figures Ivan has most certainly demonstrated that first attempts need not be failures.

The photographs of miniatures in this edition, as in past numbers, are the work of Mr. Roderick Serle. A good friend of the society since its inception, Mr. Serle is one of that rare breed who are ever ready to expend time and energy without thought of reward in support of a venture they consider to be worthwhile. Many thanks Rod.

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"IN THE NEWS"

By B. J. Videon

SCOTTISH GROUP, MODEL SOLDIER COLLECTORS

This reader is much struck by the excellent information which is contained in this Group's journal "DISPATCH".

Commander Ian Hamilton, R.N., obviously goes to great pains to secure the sort of thing that will interest the members of his group, and he seems to succeed admirably.

Details of uniforms, details of meetings, news about other societies, the latest 'gen' on postcards, uniform plates and the like, new figures and manufacturers make this the best value we have seen for a long time, at the modest annual subscription of 7/- - and it is bi-monthly!

Model soldier collectors, card collectors and others who might wish to apply could do so by writing to Commander Ian Hamilton, R.N., at Kilbride Croft, Balvicar, Isle of Seil, By Oban, Argyll, Scotland.

Any members of branches of this Society who may wish to write for membership might perhaps care to do so en masse, listing their names etc., in one envelope, and remitting one bulk draft. This would perhaps be welcomed by the Commander, who, by the looks of it, seems to have a pretty full-time job already, if our own experience is any guide.

COLORED POSTCARDS - ADOLF KORSCH VERLAG.

Listed in detail in the "DISPATCH" are the set of coloured uniform postcards now published by this company, whose address is: 8 Munchen 13, Schellingstrasse 103, West Germany.

There are 24 cards in the series, which sells for DM 7.40 (about $A2.00) and this is fantastic value! The writer has seen two of these cards, and his mouth has been watering for more. Countries covered are all of the interesting military countries of Europe in the period roughly from 1750 to 1850. Some troops are mounted, and colour bearers are included.

Don't wait - write now! And mention that you saw them advertised in "SABRETACHE".

SOUTH AFRICAN POSTCARDS

Many of our older members will recall three uniform postcards of South African soldiers, well portrayed in coloured photography in Scottish-type dress. These were issued some 5-6 years ago by the South African National War Museum, Johannesburg, for the reasonable price of 5d. each.

The range has now been extended to nine cards, four showing "Scotties", 1 showing General officers full dress, one Light Horse undress, two army mess dress, and one card showing two types of air force mess dress. Three of the cards show photos of very good dummies, the rest are of men photographed out-of-doors. The whole set is very good, and well worth the chasing. Unfortunately we do not know at this moment the price charged by the War Museum, but it is probably as reasonable as it was some years ago. Members who can't bear to wait may buy the cards from Ajay's Bookshop, 380 Flinders Street, Melbourne, for $1.35 Aust. the set, or 15 cents each card.

"SHORT HISTORY OF THE AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE"

Now in the course of production is a small book under the above title, showing the lineages of Australia's mounted regiments and their association with the pre-Federation cavalry units.

The initial edition is by subscription, for a cost of $1.50 Aust., and it is hoped that publication will be achieved in the near future, possibly by the end of October.

Those interested should write to the compiler of this work, Major R. J. Hall, 31 Alamein Road, Puckapunyal, Victoria, enclosing their subscription. Major Hall will issue receipts, and the numbers on these will correspond with the numbered copies of the book when they are eventually mailed.

This work is recommended unseen to the student of Australian military matters, in the confidence that, in it, the reader will find excellent value for the small cash outlay.

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STATE BADGE NOW AVAILABLE

Word has come at last that the first of the State Regiment badges to be manufactured has been approved by the Army.

This is the hat badge of the Royal Queensland Regiment, and is available from either Ince Bros. in Melbourne, or Christies in Sydney. They are NOT available from the Society at the present time.

The badge is pleasing in design and appearance, being based on the design of the pre-Federation helmet plate of the Queensland Forces. The main differences are the cypher of the present Sovereign, and the fact that the regimental title is on a blue enamelled circle, rather than on a garter, as was the title on the early plate.

Although of the new anodised aluminium, this is one of the best in this material that has yet appeared.

Prices can not be quoted exactly, but are in the vicinity of 85 cents Australian currency each. So much for making them from the cheaper metal! One wonders how these will look when they have been around for as long as some of the pre-1914 badges that are now in collections.

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NEW ZEALAND WINNERS OF THE VICTORIA CROSS

A book under this title has been prepared by Victorian member Mr. Max Chamberlain, and is now offered for sale by subscription to the first 100 persons who send their orders with the sum of $1.50, plus 10 cents for postage if applicable.

Production will be of the standard of the present edition of "SABRETACHE".

Contents are: Introduction; The Warrant instituting the V.C.; a precis of the changes introduced by the later Warrants; and copies of the citations setting out the awards of Crosses to the 23 New Zealanders who have been so honoured.

Mr. Chamberlain has managed to obtain illustrations of all winners, and, subject to being able to reproduce these suitably, all will be included. If some are not suitable, then a selection will be made.

This is a work that has not previously been published, and we will be proud to offer it to our readers.

Of some 50 pages, with an attractive cover design, this is excellent value, and Mr. Chamberlain has very handsomely asked the Society to retain any profits that may accrue from its sale, as a contribution to our very meagre funds.

After the initial orders for 100 copies have been met, the price for sale to the general public will be $1.75, plus postage.

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VIETNAM MEDAL RIBBON

The medal ribbon for the Vietnam Medal has been issued to Australian troops who have served the requisite period in South Vietnam.

The colours are symbolic, being the Vietnamese flag colours (yellow with three narrow red stripes vertically arranged in the centre) superimposed on the colours of the three services (dark blue for navy, red for army and light blue for air force). It is understood that the design for the medal has not yet been decided.

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AIR FORCES NEWS

By B. J. Videon

BADGES AND INSIGNIA OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE IN THE UNITED NATIONS EMERGENCY FORCE

A small chart has recently come to hand, showing insignia of the R.C.A.F. in U.N.E.F. This chart was apparently issued by courtesy of the Department of National Defence, Ottawa. It shows all the usual badges of rank of the R.C.A.F. of recent years, together with the badges for aircrews, Chaplains and Medical personnel.

Of interest to note, however, is the cap badge that is shown instead of the normal cap badges worn by the R.C.A.F. It is a circular badge, with the letters "U.N." above the globe and wreath device of the United Nations. It is not known whether this insignia is worn by all ranks.

Also illustrated are the circular shoulder badge bearing the words "UNITED NATIONS" and the U.N. Device, and the Canadian Sleeve Badge showing a Canadian maple leaf within a wreath, surmounted by the word "CANADA" all on a shield. These appear to be for wear on the right and left sleeve heads respectively.

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A REALLY RARE WING

Cross and Cockade Vol.6 No.4 of 1966 illustrates a rare pilot wing. It is from a photograph taken in 1918, and the wing was designed for the proposed Royal Canadian Flying Corps. One set only of these wings was made, and its whereabouts is not known. Possibly some collector has it!

The design shown is attractive in the extreme: conventional wings, apparently of silver thread, with a wreath of green laurel in which are the letters R.C.F.C., apparently in thread, surmounted by a matching crown, behind which rises a Canadian maple leaf, possibly also in green. The whole on conventional dark cloth background.

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R.A.A.F. GETS NEW EAGLES (See Frontispiece)

Eagles in the badges of the R.A.A.F. are now being altered from the previous type of bird, which was copied from the original R.A.F. badges

The new bird is the Australian wedge-tailed eagle, thus ending for ever the controversy as to whether the bird in the badge is an eagle or an albatross. It is shown with outspread wingtips, and the two long tail feathers are very noticeable.

It has already appeared on the new type R.A.A.F. buttons (aluminium anodised), and cap badges for Warrant Officers and Officers are now being supplied.

If the bird is to appear on all eagle badges of the R.A.A.F., as mentioned in a recent Press Release, the following badges will be affected :-

Airmen's shoulder badges; Apprentices' shoulder badges;
Shoulder strap badges for Warrant Officers;
Shoulder strap badges for Officers' Mess dress;
Collar badges for R.A.A.F. Central Band; Officers' swordbelt plates;
W.R.A.F. Officers' cap badges; Air Training Corps cap badges.

It will be interesting to see how quickly the R.A.A.F. can complete the change.

PRE-1938 R.A.A.F. OFFICERS' CAP BADGES

The January 1961 edition of SABRETACHE which mentioned the existence of an early type of cap badge for R.A.A.F. officers was recently seen by a member of the staff of the Directorate of Public Relations, Department of Air.

As a result, we have been fortunate in receiving from the Directorate the news that the R.A.A.F. Museum now has obtained samples of this early badge in its two forms. The accompanying illustration shows the changes in design of R.A.A.F. Officers' badges since the formation of the R.A.A.F. (See Frontispiece).

The first pattern badge, worn until 1927, had a pale blue silk background to the stars of the Southern Cross within the wattle wreath, while the second pattern, from 1927 to 1937, showed the stars on the plain dark cloth background. In common with all badges made of gold or silver wire, there are numerous minor variations in cap badges of all periods of the R.A.A.F., depending on manufacturers' interpretations of the specifications. It may be as a result of one of these vagaries that the badge illustrated by us in the January 1961 edition was made with a laurel wreath, rather than the wattle.

Officers of Air Rank seem always to have followed the style of the badges worn by the R.A.F., while Chaplains seem to have done likewise (with the exception of the initial letters of the R.A.A.F. rather than the R.A.F. in the Maltese Cross of their badge).

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NEW BADGES FOR ZAMBIA AIR FORCE

The Zambia Air Force has this year issued new badges which no longer feature the British Crown.

The cap badge for men, previously an eagle standing with outspread wings in a wreath surmounted by a crown, has been re-designed to omit the crown, and the wreath now joins at the top. The eagle's wings have a smaller wingspan, and no longer protrude through the wreath.

The cap badge for officers has been completely re-designed. The former badge was based on the general design of the R.A.F. badge, with crown over the Zambia eagle, and sprays of leaves beneath. The new badge, on gray material, features the shield from the Zambian coat-of-arms in silver wire on black ribbed ribbon, within a large open wreath of gold wire embroidered leaves, and a gilt metal eagle surmounting the whole.

Buttons have followed the trend too, and the previous eagle-and-crown design has been altered to omit the crown, and the eagle is moved up to a central position.

No detail on Warrant Officer cap and rank badges is available, nor the changes in aircrew wings and Flight-Sergeant rank insignia.

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NEW TRADE AND SKILL BADGES FOR WEST GERMAN FORCES

The West German Forces have re-introduced circular-style sleeve badges for trades and skills, similar to those worn in the period of the Third Reich. Although this column is concerned with air forces, it is thought that the average reader will be interested to note the illustrations which are reproduced herein from a recent West German publication, showing all the new insignia.

Rather than tamper with the original German text, it is reproduced intact also, to be translated by the interested reader as he sees fit.

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DESPATCHES

Sir,

The following information may interest South Australian readers:-

Location of camps during W.W.1.

Military Camps were established in South Australia at the following locations :-

(1) Morphettville Camp near Morphett Road. Part of the suburb of Glengowrie now takes in this old camp site.

(2) The 3rd Light Horse Regiment was removed from this camp to a new site about a ½ mile away on the north side of the Bay Road (now Anzac Highway). This area is now the suburb of Novar Gardens. (Glenelg East.)

(3) Morphettville Racecourse at Morphettville.

(4) Ascot Park. This is now the site of the Warradale Camp. Adelaide Oval.

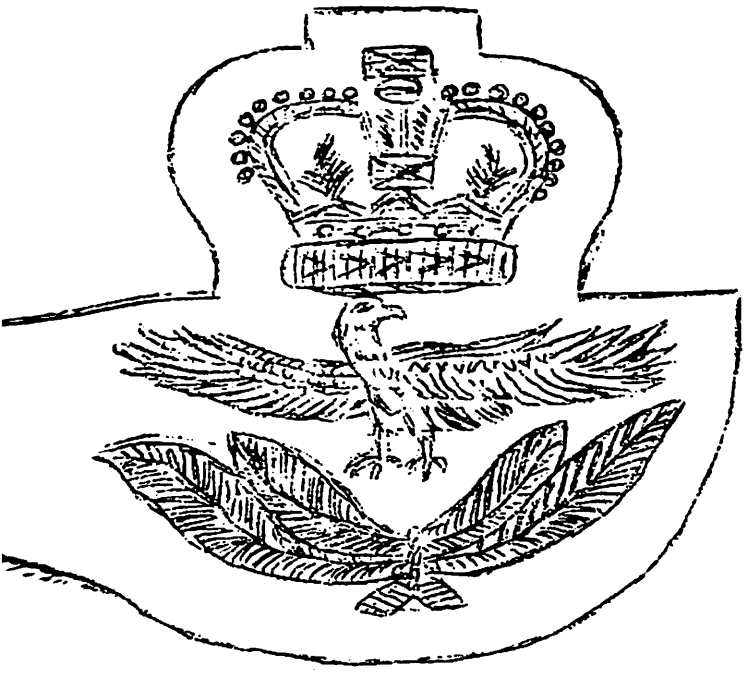
(5) Mitcham Camp. The suburb of Colonel Light Gardens now takes in this area.

(6) Cheltenham racecourse.

Rifle Range W.W.1.

A special rifle range was established for the use of the troops in the Morphettville Camp in 1914 about a mile north of the camp, but owing to trouble with the targets this range was abandoned. This land is now built on and on the sand hill which was used to stop the bullets, a club house now stands. It belongs to the Glenelg Golf Club. It is of interest to note that this area was also used as a rifle range by volunteers in the 1880's. Prior to the club house being built it was still possible to pick up bullets fired from Martini Henry rifles, as well as from the later Lee-Enfields.

R. Gray.



Z.A.F.

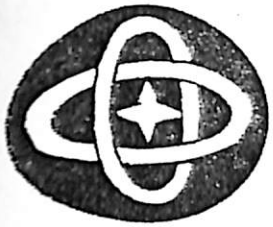
Tätigkeitsabzeichen (Marine)

Schiffssicherung

Taucher

Geschützführer

U-Boot-Personal



Elektronisches Personal

Amphibischer Dienst

Laufbahnabzeichen

Militärgeographischer Dienst (Heer, Lw, Mar)

Brustabzeichen

Flugzeugführer (Heer, Lw, Mar)

Bordmechaniker (Heer, Mar, Lw)

Bordfunker (Heer, Lw, Mar)

Beobachter/Navigator (Heer, Mar, Lw)

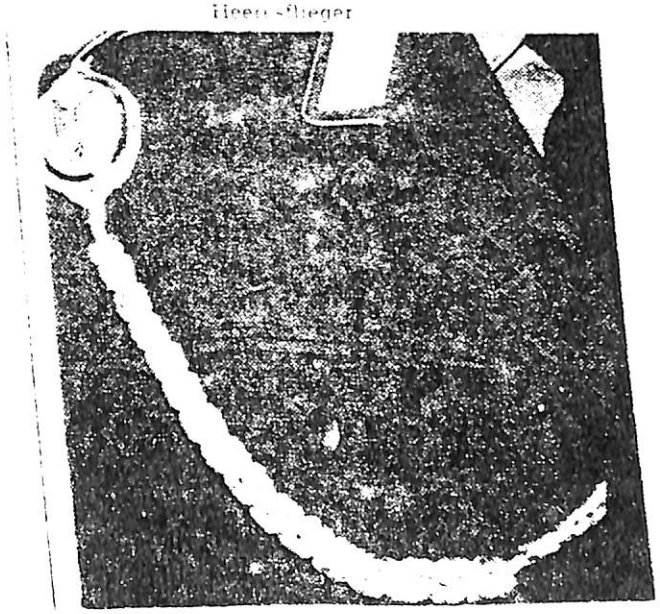
Waffentaucher (Marine)

Einzelkämpfer des Heeres

Ärmelbänder

Unteroffizier-Schüler (Heer, Lw)

Heeresflieger



Schießschnur

wird auf der rechten Brustseite getragen. Heer und Luftwaffe in Silber, Marine in Blau. Die Plakette wird je nach Schießleistung in den drei Stufen Bronze, Silber und Gold verliehen.

Neue Abzeichen der Bundeswehr

Bundespräsident Lübke hat neue Tätigkeits- und Laufbahnabzeichen für die Bundeswehr genehmigt, mit deren Einführung noch im Laufe dieses Jahres zu rechnen ist. Die Tragebestimmungen werden erst dann erlassen werden, wenn sichergestellt ist, daß mit der Aushändigung der Abzeichen begonnen werden kann. Dies wird weitgehend von den Liefermöglichkeiten der Industrie abhängen.

Tätigkeitsabzeichen (Heer)

Schirrmeister

Funkmeister

Rechnungsführer

Feuerwerker

Instandsetzungstruppführer

Radar- und Feuerleit-Feldwebel

Bootsführer (Pionier)

Wallmeister (Pionier)

Taucher (Pionier)

Packer f. Fallschirme (Luftlandetruppe)

Absetzter (Luftlandetruppe)

Flugsicherungs- und Einsatzpersonal

Tätigkeitsabzeichen (Luftwaffe)

Lenkwaffen-Einsatzpersonal

Lenkwaffentechnisches Personal

Flugtechnisches Personal

Fernmeldebetriebs-Personal

Fernmeldetechnisches Personal

Bodentechnisches- und Versorgungspersonal

Bodenverteidigungs-Personal

DESPATCHES

Sir,

Canadian Army Lineage Book

Your readers may be interested to know that a completely revised edition of the earlier work is now available, under the title "THE CANADIAN ARMY, 1855-1965, LINEAGES, REGIMENTAL HISTORIES", published April 14th 1966.

Copies may be had from the Hope Farm Press and Bookshop, Strong Road, Cornwallville, N.Y., U.S.A. 12418, or from Sydney dealer Margaret Woodhouse, 8 Young Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

C. E. Dornbusch.

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Sir,

Legion of Frontiersmen and the Belgian Lancers

Following the publication of Commander Hamilton's query - "SABRETACHE", January, 1966; Pages 28, 29 - enquiry was directed to the Headquarters of the Legion of Frontiersmen in England as to the correct numerical designation of the Belgian Lancer regiment which some members of the Manchester Squadron joined in August, 1914.

The reply indicates that it was apparently the 3rd Lancers. The mention of 9th Lancers in the article in "Soldier" would appear to have been a slip.

P. V. Vernon

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RESEARCHERS' CORNER.

Dear Sir,

In reference to Mr. Gray's query in Researchers' Corner - "SABRETACHE" Vol. IX, July, 1966, concerning Corps and Regimental mottos; the motto of the Royal Australian Survey Corps is "VIDERE PARARE EST" - "TO SEE IS TO PREPARE". This motto was adopted in 1965, the year of the 50th Anniversary of the formation of the Corps; the story of its origin is of some interest as it serves to illustrate the service which military historical and kindred organisations can give.

Prior to 1962 there was no RA Svy motto although several war-time ones were reported; the Latin of most was dubious and the English translation generally unlikely to qualify these mottos for use in official or polite circles. However, in 1962, it was considered that a motto appropriate to the role of the Corps was desirable and several were submitted. These were either of the "United We Stand" variety or so complicated as to lose the real force of a motto.

In 1963 the Corps contacted the Military Heraldry Society with a request for assistance. The Military Heraldry Society canvassed its members for suggestions and the motto now adopted was submitted by a Texas, U.S.A. member.

I regret that I am unable to give a reference to the authority for the motto, due to my present location. It may be Ex.Min.No. 491 of 1965 but this should be verified.

T. C. Sargent (Major)
RA SVY, SINGAPORE. 11.8.1966.

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MEMBERS' ADVERTISEMENTS

W A N T E D

B U Y O R E X C H A N G E

AUST. ARMY BUTTONS (LINE 40)

3/9 SAMR	2 INF BN
4/19 PWLH	12/40 INF BN
6 NSWMR	56 INF BN
7/21 AH	58/32 INF BN
12/16 HRL	SUR (Line 36)

A.N. FESTBERG,
DOS/ORD 3 (b), A.H.Q. MELBOURNE

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WANTED-

H.M.S.O. Publication "DRESS REGULATIONS FOR OFFICERS OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE" 1935 or similar period.

Air Forces insignia of the Baltic countries to WW2.
Shoulder patch of R.A.F. "EAGLE SQUADRON" WW2.
R.A.A.F. Officers' cap badges pre-1937.

Illustrations of foreign air forces badges and uniforms, including newspaper clippings, together with descriptions, dates etc.

B. J. Videon, 20 Thomasina St.,
EAST BENTLEIGH, S.E.15,
Victoria, Australia.

RESEARCHERS' CORNER

Sir,

Can any reader give me information about the following badge, which appears to have been worn by Guards in German Concentration Camps in Australia during the First World War. Crown is Brass, letters W/M.

Any details of the unit(s) wearing the badge would also be of interest.

C. Hornshaw,
27 Day Street,
DRUMMOYNE, N.S.W.

Crown Brass

Letters W/M.

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