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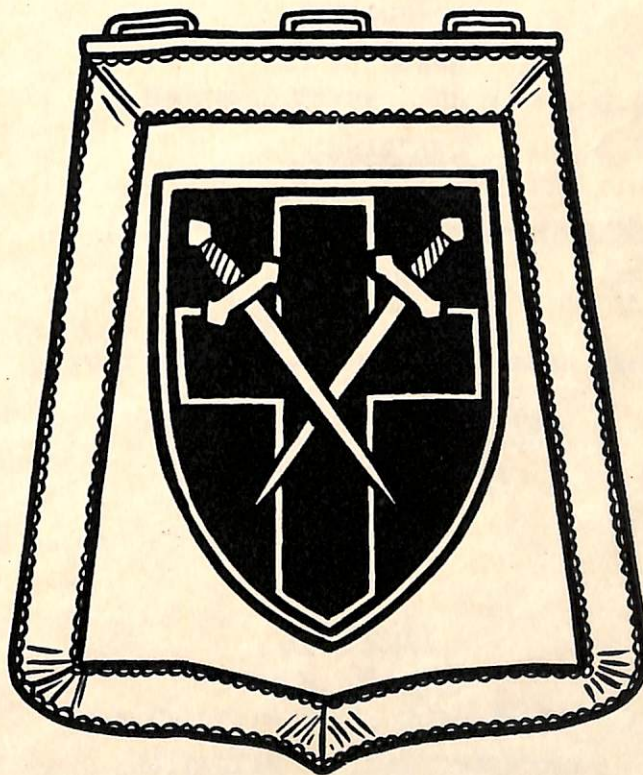
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email: webmaster@mhsa.org.au

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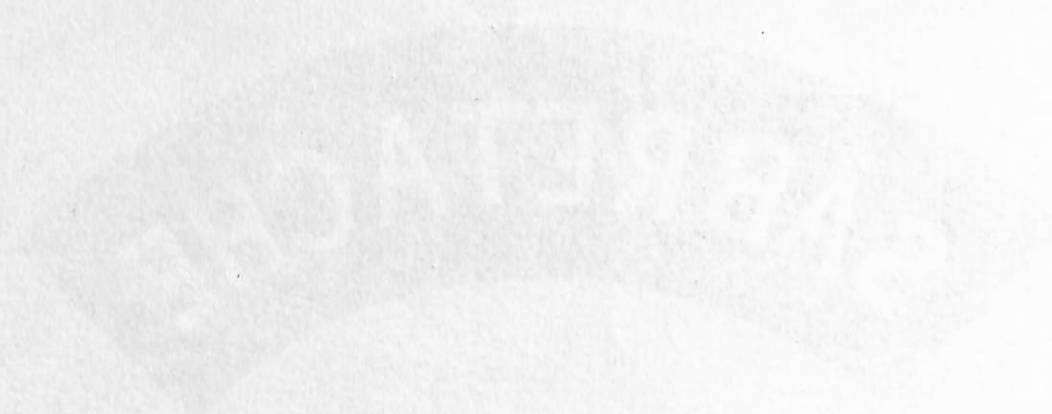


THE JOURNAL OF
THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF AUSTRALIA

VOL. VII

APRIL, 1965

No. 4



THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

Founded in Melbourne in 1957

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Founded in 1807

SOMMERS COUNTY A HISTORY FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1907

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THE ASSISTANT PUBLISHER

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"SABRETACHE"

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

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
EDITOR'S NOTES	85
A UNIQUE GROUP OF MEDALS seen by the Editor	86
SOME MEDAL RIBBONS AND THEIR MEANINGS By Robert Gray	87
AUSTRALIAN MILITARY HISTORY - SOME SOURCES FOR STUDY PART I - By Barbara McDonough	90
THE LEGION OF FRONTIERSMEN By Commandant N.H. Garden	95
RUSSIAN CAVALRY 1838 (continued) By Major John C. Gorman, Jr.	98
LE REGIMENT DE MAISONNEUVE By Adrian S. Tatarinoff, M.A.P.A.	100
EXTRACTS FROM "THE ANNALS OF BENDIGO" (Cont'd.) Submitted by the late C.R. Murray	103
BRANCH NOTES	107
MEMBERS' ADVERTISEMENTS	107
THE MILITARY HERALDRY SOCIETY	108

PLATE

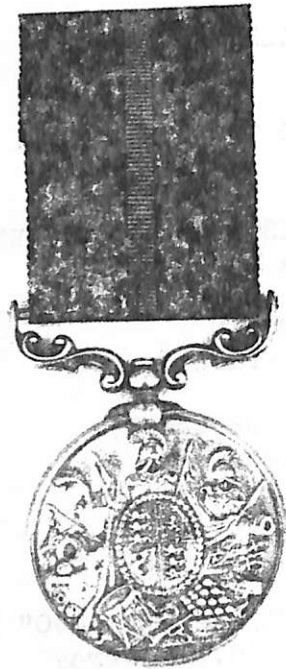
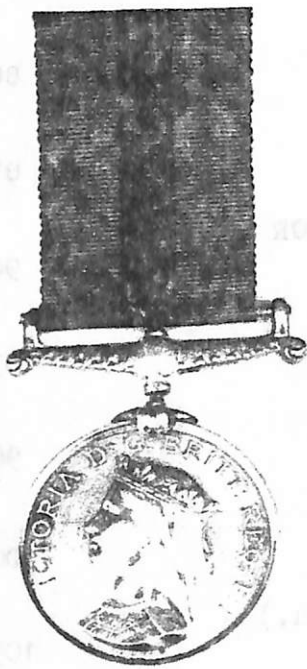
A UNIQUE GROUP OF MEDALS

Frontispiece

"GABRIEL" 187

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CONTENTS



Journal and Proceedings of
THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

Vol. VII

April, 1965

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EDITORS NOTES

A NOTE TO CONTRIBUTORS

It is pleasing to note that additional contributors are now submitting articles, including some very well documented and thoughtful efforts. Those which deal with foreign forces will be dealt with progressively in order to endeavour to maintain a balance of approximately 2/3 to 1/3 in favour of Australiana.

Contributors are asked to quote sources from which they quote verbatim, or on which they base statements. This is most important. While it is interesting to know that "Mr. Smith" says that the "Greenfield Grenadiers wore pink coats", it will be of much more value to the uninformed reader if he is told that this fact appeared in Dress Regs. of 1750 or in Lady Chatterley's memoirs! So please do not send lists of facts unless you give the authority - even if it is based only on your own observations.

Articles supported by illustrations may have to be "programmed" through a series in order to spread the illustrations as nearly as possible in equal numbers to each edition of SABRETACHE.

Do not be disappointed if your article does not appear very quickly. If it is not returned to you, it will be used when it appears to suit the edition in course of preparation.

A UNIQUE GROUP OF MEDALS

(Plate 1)

On a recent visit to a member's home, the Editor noticed the following group of medals which must be one of the rarest groups known. Details of the medals are as follows:-

1. New Zealand medal undated - named S. CHARLES, AUCKL. MILA.
2. Queensland Long Service medal trophy of arms obverse - Queensland for long service and good conduct on reverse. Named 1209 CORPL. S. CHARLES - ENGINEER CORPS.
3. Queensland Meritorious Service Medal - Queen Victoria head on obverse - Queensland for meritorious service on reverse. Named 1209 SERGT. MAJOR S. CHARLES - ENGINEER CORPS.

The long service and meritorious service awards appear in Queensland Army Gazettes but no verification is available for service in the Maori Wars. Could any member verify if the Maori War Service?

Can we hear from any other members who have unusual or unique medals or groups?

* * * *

MELBOURNE CAVALRY

By R. Gray.

Captain A. Rushall raised this regiment in 1901. Uniform blue, facings yellow. White helmets. Became No. 6 Squadron 10th Australian Light Horse Regiment in 1903. The badge comprised crossed sabres surmounted by a crown in gilt, with the regimental title on a blue enamelled scroll beneath.

* * * *

SOME MEDAL RIBBONS AND THEIR MEANING

by R. Gray

Military General Service)	Royal Colours of England.
Waterloo		
Sutlej		
New Zealand		
India General Service (1954))	
China 1857-60. 2nd Ribbon.		(Crimson for Great Britain (Yellow for China
Jellalabad 1842)	Eastern sky at sunrise.
India medals 1842-3		
Kabul-Kandahar 1880		
Afghanistan		(Crimson for Great Britain. (Green for the Sacred colour of (the Prophet
Egypt		Blue and White - Nile.
Central Africa		(Black for the Zanzibar troops (Terra cotta for the Sikhs (White for the Europeans
Soudan		Blue Nile flowing through the desert.
Kings South African		(Green for the Transvaal (White for Great Britain (Orange for the Orange Free State.
China 1900		(Crimson for Great Britain (Yellow for China
Ashanti		Black troops fighting in the jungle.
Soudan		(Black for the Soudan (Green for Egypt (Red for Great Britain
Mercantile Marine		(Port, Starboard and steaming lights (of a ship.
1914-15 Star		Colours of the Union Flag.

Victory medal	A rainbow
Gallipoli Star (Not awarded yet)	(Yellow (Wattle) for Australia (Red for the Army (Blue for the Navy (Grey for the fern leaf (New Zealand)
Gallipoli Star Another type	(Three red stripes - The three landings (Green ribbon - Green slopes of Gallipoli (White edge - The beaches
Africa Star	(Pale Buff - For the desert (Dark blue - For the Navy & Merchant Navy (Red - For the Army (Light blue - For the Air Force
1939/45 Star	(Dark blue - Navy & Merchant Navy (Red - Army (Light blue - Air Force
Pacific Star	(Green & Yellow - Jungle & beaches (Red - Army (Dark blue - Navy & Merchant Navy (Light blue - Air Force
Burma Star	(Red - For the British forces (Orange - For the sun
Air Crew Star	(Light blue - For the Air Force (Black & Yellow - Day & night service (of the Air Force
France & Germany Star	Colours of the Union Flag
Atlantic Star	(Colours being a symbol of service in (the Atlantic. Blue, white & sea green.
Defence medal	(Black - For the blackout (Green - For the land (Flame - For the attack
Italy Star	The Italian colours
War medal 1939/45	Colours of the Union Flag.

Korea. United Nations	(Blue & white. The colours of the (United Nations flag.
Korea. British	(Yellow - For Asia (Blue - For the United Nations
Anglo-Boer War - For faithful service)	Colours of the South African Republic and the Orange Free State
Anglo-Boer War - Wound stripe)	
India Service Medal 1939-45	(Order of the Indian Empire. (Order of the Star of India
New Zealand Service medal 1939-45	National colours of New Zealand
Australia Service Medal 1939-45	(Dark blue for the Navy (Red for the merchant Navy (Khaki for the Army (Light blue for the Air Force
Africa Service medal 1939-45	(Orange for the orange flash worn (on uniforms (Green) Springbok colours (Gold)
South African medal for war services. 1939-45)	Union colours on flag.
Sth. Rhodesia Service medal 1939-45	Colours of the Royal Rhodesia Regt.
Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve	(Blue for the sea (Red for Great Britain (Green for the old volunteer ribbon
Volunteer medal Honourable Artillery Company)	King Edward VII racing colours
Seringapatam 1799	Buff - Tawny colour of the tiger's skin
United Nations Emergency Force medal 1956.	(Yellow for the Sand (Desert) (Blue for the United Nations (Narrow blue for Israel (Narrow green for Egypt

Can any other members add to this list?

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY HISTORYSome sources for the study of the period 1788-1870

PART I - by Barbara McDonough

The history of the defence forces in Australia to 1870 is a part of both British military history, and the history of the settlements in Australia. Thus, the student of Australian military history may find it necessary to consult such varied sources as British government records, British military histories, the records of government of the Australian states, and other sources dealing with the settlement and early development of the colonies in Australia.

The purpose of this article is to survey some of these sources.

British parliamentary sessional papers

This series consists of Bills, Reports of Committees, Reports of Commissioners, and Accounts and Papers, all of which have been before Parliament. Prior to 1801 these were not systematically preserved, but, since that date they have been bound into sessional volumes. Sessional and consolidated indexes provide access to these volumes.

Valuable statistical and general information about the defence forces in the colonies may be obtained from some of these parliamentary papers.

British parliamentary debates

These also are bound into sessional volumes, and sessional indexes are provided.

(For more detailed information about the sessional papers and debates see "A guide to parliamentary papers", by P. & G. Ford, 1955)

Records of the Public Record Office

The National Library of Australia and the Mitchell Library are currently co-operating in a project to place on microfilm records relating to Australia and neighbouring areas, which are preserved in the Public Record Office in London. These microfilms are available for use in the two libraries concerned in the project, and some are also held by the State libraries.

Colonial Office records form the bulk of the material copied, and these include despatches to and from the Colonial Secretary in Australia. As the military played such a large part in the settlement and early development of this country, these despatches make frequent reference to military personnel and matters.

Of even greater interest to the military historian are the War Office records. Those now on microfilm include monthly returns,

pension returns, casualty returns, general orders, ordnance reports, muster rolls, pay lists and correspondence.

Guides and indexes allow ready access to this material.

War Office publications

It is not intended to deal with the many publications of the War Office, but simply to mention a few.

"The Army list" provides service particulars of military personnel. For the period under consideration, the National Library holds an almost complete set of "The Army list".

Brief histories of the military forces of the Australian states are given in a publication of the Intelligence Division of the War Office. "The land forces of the British colonies and protectorates", 1902.

British military histories

A list of those British regiments which served in Australia may be found in the article titled Military defence, in volume 6 of the "Australian encyclopaedia" (1962). Histories of all these regiments have been written, and the following list may prove to be useful. It should be noted that the territorial affiliations of many of these regiments have changed.

New South Wales Corps (Formed in 1789, became 102nd Foot in 1808, 100th Foot in 1816, and was disbanded in 1818).

History of the New South Wales Corps 1789-1808. (To be found in the War Office records 4/845, 846. - these records are available in microfilm form at the National Library of Australia, Canberra, and the Mitchell Library, Sydney).

73rd Foot.

CANNON, Richard, comp. - Historical record of the 73rd Regiment (1780-1851)

(FARQUHARSON, David Lorraine Wilson ed.) - The chronicle of the Royal Highland Regiment, the Black Watch, Edinburgh, 1913-1914.

(McMICKING, Neil, comp.) - Officers of the Black Watch, 1725 to 1937. Perth, T. Hunter & Sons, (1937).

STEWART, John - A brief history of the Royal Highland Regiment, the Black Watch. 2nd ed. Edinburgh, T. & A. Constable, 1914.

(STEWART, J ?) - The Royal Highland Regiment, the Black Watch, formerly the 42nd and 73rd Foot. Medal Roll, 1801-1911. Edinburgh, William Brown, 1913.

WATT, L.M. - The Black Watch. Edinburgh, W. P. Nimmo, Hay & Mitchell, (1916).

(WAUCHOPE, Arthur Grenfell ?) - A short history of the Black Watch, Royal Highlanders, 42nd, 73rd, 1725-1907. Edinburgh & London, William Blackwood & Sons, 1908.

46th Foot.

CANNON, Richard, comp. - Historical record of the 46th or the South Devonshire Regiment of Foot (originally the 57th Regiment). (1741-1851). 1851.

Annals of the militia: being the records of the South Devon Regiment (from memoranda put together by Colonel Fisk, Captain de Schmid, Quarter-Master Jarvis, and Major Seale Hayne.) Plymouth. (1873)

48th Foot (linked with the 58th Foot, the 48th becoming the 1st Battalion, and the 58th becoming the 2nd Battalion of the Northamptonshire Regiment.)

GURNEY, Russell - History of the Northamptonshire Regiment, 1742-1934. Aldershot, Gale & Polden, 1935.

(WYATT, James Digby, comp.) - A short history of the Northamptonshire Regiment. London, Gale & Polden, 1920.
- enlarged edition. Aldershot, Gale & Polden, 1933.

3rd Foot.

(CANNON, Richard, comp. ?) - Historical record of the 3rd Regiment of Foot, or the Buffs, formerly designated the Holland Regiment. (1573-1838) 1839.

HALL, Eric Foster. - A short history of the Buffs, East Kent Regiment, 3rd Foot. London, Medici Society, 1929. 2nd edition, 1950.

Historical records of the Buffs. East Kent Regiment, 3rd Foot, formerly designated the Holland Regiment and Prince George of Denmark's Regiment. 4 volumes. London, Gale & Polden (vol. 1), Medici Society (vols. 2-4), 1905-1951. (Volume 2, by C.R.B. Knight, covers the period 1704-1914)

40th Foot.

MULLALY, B. R. - The South Lancashire Regiment. Bristol, White Swan Press, (1955).

SMYTHIES, Raymond Henry Raymond. - Historical records of the 40th (2nd Somersetshire) Regiment, now 1st Battalion the Prince of Wales' Volunteers (South Lancashire Regiment) from its formation in 1717 to 1893. Devonport, printed for the subscribers, 1894.

- WHITTON, F. E. comp. - A short history of the Prince of Wales' Volunteers. Aldershot, Gale & Polden, 1928.
- 57th Foot. (linked with the 77th Foot, the 57th becoming the 1st Battalion, and the 77th becoming the 2nd Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment).
- KINGSFORD, Charles Lethbridge. - The story of the Duke of Cambridges Own (Middlesex Regiment.) 1916.
- WARRE, Sir Henry James, ed. - Historical records of the 57th or West Middlesex Regiment of Foot, compiled from official and private sources, from the date of its formation in 1755 to the present time. London, W. Mitchell, 1878.
- WOOLLRIGHT, Henry Herriott. - History of the 57th (West Middlesex) Regiment of Foot, 1775-1881. 1893.
- The Die-Hards. The story of the Middlesex Regiment. London & Melbourne. Hutchinson, (1941) (The Roll of the Drum.)
- History of the Middlesex Regiment. Aldershot, Gale & Polden, (1922)
- 39th Foot.
- ATKINSON, Christopher Thomas. - The Dorsetshire Regiment. The 39th and 54th Foot and the Dorset Militia and Volunteers. 2 volumes. Oxford, University Press, 1947.
- CANNON, Richard, comp. - Historical record of the 39th, or the Dorsetshire Regiment of Foot. (1702-1853) 1853.
- A short history of the Dorsetshire Regiment. Aldershot, Gale & Polden, (1922).
- 63rd Foot. (linked with the 96th Foot, the 63rd becoming the 1st Battalion, and the 96th becoming the 2nd Battalion of the Manchester Regiment.)
- SLACK, James. - The history of the late 63rd (West Suffolk) Regiment. 1886.
- WYLLY, Harold Carmichael comp. - History of the Manchester Regiment, late the 63rd and 96th Foot. 2 volumes. London, Forster, Groom, 1923-25.
- WYLLY, Harold Carmichael. - A short history of the Manchester Regiment. Aldershot, Gale & Polden, 1922. - 3rd ed. 1933.
- The Manchester Regiment. London & Melbourne, Hutchinson, (1941). (The Roll of the Drum)

The Manchesters: a history of the Regular, Militia, Special Reserve, Territorial and Newy (?) Army Battalions since their formation. London, Picture Advertising Co., 1916.

17th Foot.

(CANNON, Richard.) - A history of the services of the 17th (The Leicestershire) Regiment, containing an account of the formation of the Regiment in 1688, and of its subsequent services. Revised and continued to 1910 by Lieutenant - Colonel E.A.H. Webb. London, Vacher & Sons, 1911. 2nd edition - revised and continued to March 31st, 1912. London, Vacher & Sons. 1912.

CANNON, Richard, comp. - Historical record of the 17th or the Leicestershire Regiment of Foot. (1688-1848). 1848.

CHILTON, A. D. comp. - "Come on Tigers". Being the story of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment, edited by Lieutenant-Colonel S.D. Field. Morecambe, Morecambe Bay Printers. (1955)

(PALMER, P.D.S.) - The colours of the 17th or the Leicestershire Regiment of Foot. Aldershot, Gale & Polden, (1930)

4th Foot.

(CANNON, Richard, comp.) - Historical record of the 4th, or the King's Own Regiment of Foot. (1680-1839) 1839.

COWPER, Lionel Ilfred ed. - The King's Own. The story of a Royal Regiment ... from material supplied by members of the Regimental Historical Sub-Committee. 3 vols. (vol. 3. compiled by J. M. Cowper.) Oxford, University Press (vols. 1 & 2); Aldershot, Gale & Polden (vol. 3.) 1939-1957.

A gallant Regiment. A short history of the King's Own. Reprinted from the Lancaster Observer. Lancaster, Thos. Bell, (1914)

50th Foot.

FYLER, Arthur Evelyn. - The history of the 50th or (the Queen's Own) Regiment. From the earliest date (1741) to ... 1881. London, Chapman & Hall, 1895.

A short history of the Queen's Own. (Royal West Kent Regiment.) London, Gale & Polden, 1920.

21st Foot.

CANNON, Richard, comp. - Historical record of the 21st Regiment, or the Royal North British Fusiliers (1678-1848) 1849.

CLARK, James, comp. - Historical record and regimental memoir of the Royal Scots Fusiliers, formerly known as the 21st Royal North British Fusiliers: containing an account of the formation of the Regiment in 1678; and its subsequent services until June, 1885. Edinburgh, Banks & Co., 1885.

GROVES, Percy - History of the 21st Royal Scots Fusiliers, formerly the 21st Royal North British Fusiliers, now known as the Royal Scots Fusiliers ... 1678-1895. Edinburgh & London, W. & A. K. Johnston, 1895.

BUCHAN, John. - The history of the Royal Scots Fusiliers (1678-1918). 1925.

(to be continued next edition)

THE LEGION OF FRONTIERSMEN

By Commandant N.H. Garden

The Legion of Frontiersmen came into being in London in 1904, arising from the views and experiences of men who had fought in the South African War and a group of farseeing patriots who realised that there might come a time when the Empire would again have to call upon her sons for help.

The founder was Captain Roger Pocock, an Englishman who had served with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, in the North-West Rebellion of 1885. Invalided out with frostbite, he was in turn prospector, pirate, journalist, civil servant, missionary, trader, cowboy and soldier. By 1904 he had seen that his countrymen did not realise their own danger from Germany's sudden enmity, and that it was because the Empire had no eyesight. But there was no lack of eyes, as many men were awake, manning the outposts and the frontiers, and their training in war in wild countries and at sea had made them vigilant. He considered that a few thousand men would form a sufficient army of observation - a unit for field intelligence in peace and war - its duties being those of scouting - "to see, run and tell" - in case of any menace to the British peace.

The Legion is a world-wide organisation of men with no political creed save that of service to the British Commonwealth and the country in which they live. It is a purely voluntary, self-governing self-supporting body, organised on semi-military lines because of simplicity and standardisation, and it is composed of men from all walks of life whose qualifications may be turned to account in any emergency that may arise, whether civil or military.

Captain Pocock formed branches all over the world. He did not seek, and the Legion still does not seek, to recruit young men able to serve in one of the services, but men who were fit, perhaps over-age for the services, or who could show that they had not the time to devote to the latter or were too far away. In some of the outposts of Empire there were lone members; in some there were but two or three. However, in the more populated areas where sufficient numbers joined (e.g. in parts of Great Britain and Canada), troops and squadrons were formed. For such units there was organised training; camps, field days, route marches, short drills, etc. formed the practical side of the work, with plenty of attention to rifle shooting, map reading and equitation. Nowadays, of course, mechanical transport has almost entirely replaced the horse. Ceremonial and social functions are not forgotten.

Each member buys his own uniform and equipment. The uniform comprises broad-brimmed slouch hat with peaked crown (as for R.C.M.P.) dark blue tunic with shoulder chains, and either riding breeches with brown leggings, boots and spurs, or blue trousers, according to local orders. The Legion's badge is the cross of St. George within a laurel wreath surmounted by a 'mural' crown of bricks in the form of a castle wall, and bears the motto "God guard thee" in the centre. The motto is taken from a ring worn by General Gordon at Khartoum.

Long ere the outbreak of war in 1914, Frontiersmen had proved their utility in all quarters of the globe. Captain Pocock wrote: "From the date of recognition, in two years our Legion had reached effective strength. On every front where war was possible, we had our cadres ready to raise regiments the moment they were needed. Take, for example, the test of a Zulu revolt (1906). Our nearest man rode with the news, but his horse fell dead in the outskirts of Maritzburg, so he ran on foot to the nearest telegraph office and cabled to me 'Zulus rising instruct'. This message reached me 24 hours before news was received by Government or Press. I mobilised our 2,000 men in the Johannesburg Command, then offered them armed and mounted to the Government of Natal. Another 1,000 men would be thrown in by sea from our command at Capetown. The Natal Government sent a vote of thanks, but only our transport was needed."

Members of the China Command took the field in the rescue of Europeans from beleaguered posts. Here, timely reports led to the suppression of gun-running on behalf of rebellious and turbulent tribes; there, they put a stop to filibustering expeditions which might have re-acted prejudicially on the prestige of the Empire.

And so the members of the Legion worked until the day when the call of war sounded throughout the Empire in 1914. Then they were among the first to come forward, many of them making their way from the back of beyond to the nearest centre of recruiting. Over 600 Canadian Frontiersmen enlisted in Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry and were among the first Canadians in action; barely 20 of them survived. In England the Legion raised the 25th. (Frontiersmen) Battalion, Royal Fusiliers, and this battalion fought under Colonel "Danny" Driscoll in East Africa. Some formed remount depots; others

were found in many Army units of the Empire and in the Navy. The members of the Manchester Squadron were so anxious to meet the foe that on the day war broke out they offered their services as a complete unit. When this was refused, they paid their own fares to Belgium and joined the Belgian 9th. Lancers, first going into action with them on 16th. August, 1914 - a week before the 'Old Contemptibles' joined battle at Mons. Thus the Legion has undisputed claim to have been the first British troops in action in the 1914-1918 War.

Many famous names have been found in its ranks - all members joining initially as troopers - including: "Danny" Driscoll, "The King of Scouts"; William le Queux (author); F.C. Selous (big game hunter on whom Rider Haggard modelled the character Allan Quartermain), Lord Baden-Powell; Sir Ernest Shackleton (explorer); and Field-Marshal Jan C. Smuts.

In the Second World War Frontiersmen played their part again, and in more recent times the Mount Kenya Squadron did excellent work in co-operation with British Troops during the Mau Mau emergency.

To-day the numerical strength of the Legion has fallen somewhat, due in part to the shrinkage in the frontiers of the Commonwealth. Headquarters are still in London; Commands still exist in Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and Australia. The strongest and most active Command is understood to be New Zealand, which has a strength of about 900.

The Officer commanding Australian Command is Commandant N.H. Garden of Concord, Sydney, under whom are New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania Areas. The Legion of Frontiersmen Rifle Club, formerly attached to 30th. Infantry Battalion, Sydney, flourished for years, but Army re-organisations and new policies governing rifle clubs have restricted that activity. However, new members are not coming forward to-day and the Legion is kept alive by a small, hard core of 'old-timers'. It seems that there are so many distractions and other avenues of service to-day that the Legion cannot attract new members in this country. This is not to say that there is no longer a need for such a body. Civil defence is one arena where a numerically strong unit of the Legion could render valuable community service and help to demonstrate the ideals on which the Legion was founded.

RUSSIAN CAVALRY 1838 (Continued)

By Major J.C. Gorman Jr.

CUIRASSIERS

Helmet black, high comb, horse hair crest sweeping forward, copper plaque, copper edge to black peak, brass scales.

THE GUARD

Coat white, Cuirass gold, strapped silver underlined red, epaulettes red edged white, collar and cuffs red, two gold galons, breeches white, high black boots, coat tails crossed with thin red braid, sword gold hilt, brown knot, silver scabbard, white sword belts, pouch black, copper guard star, cross belt white, gauntlets white. Shabraque mid-blue, edged yellow-red-yellow, guard star in silver. Lance pennon triangular yellow top, blue bottom, with white triangle at base. Horses black.

1st Regt. of Catherine's.

Coat white, collar plain orange, cuffs orange with two gold buttons, trousers light-blue with thin orange stripe, cuirass black with gold studs, shabraque orange with broad white edge, square cut, horses bay-brown.

2nd Regt. of the Grand Duke Michael.

Coat white, collar mid-blue, cuffs same with silver buttons, trousers mid-blue with dark blue thin stripe, cuirass black, gold studs, shabraque mid-blue, white border and white monogram "H" curly, with bar down from cross-bar. Chestnuts.

3rd Regt. of Prince William of Prussia

Coat white, collar and cuffs light fawn, silver buttons at cuff, trousers light blue, thin fawn stripe, cuirass black, gold studs, shabraque fawn white border and monogram white, Horses bay-brown.

4th Regt. of Pskoff.

Coat white, collar and cuffs pink-cerise, two silver buttons at cuff, trousers light blue, thin pink stripe, cuirass silver, gold studs, shabraque pink, border white, white monogram. Horses "moreau" (sic.).

5th Regt. of Ordre.

Coat white, collar and cuffs navy-blue, two gold buttons, trousers light blue with navy thin stripe, cuirass gold, gold studs, shabraque navy, border yellow, with monogram yellow. Horses bay-brown.

6th Regt. of Stavropol.

Coat white, collar light blue, cuffs light blue with gold buttons, trousers light blue with thin light blue stripe, cuirass gold, gold studs, shabraque light blue with yellow border, monogram. Horses chestnut.

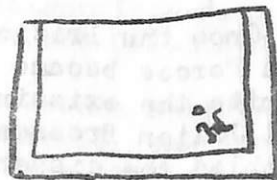
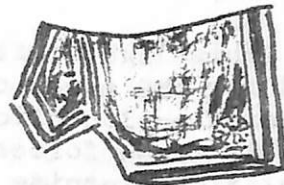
7th Regiment of Prince Albert of Russia.

Coat white, collar and cuffs forest green, gold buttons on cuff, trousers light blue with thin green stripe, cuirass black with gold studs, shabraque green with yellow border and monogram, horses bay-brown.

8th Regiment of the Grand Duchess Helene Pavlona

Coat white, collar and cuffs mid-blue, gold buttons on cuff, trousers light blue with thin mid-blue stripe, cuirass black, gold studs, shabraque mid-blue with white border and monogram, horses "moreau".

From Weiss "Les Armées D'Europe" Vol II U.S.I.



Russian Cuirassiers 1838

LE REGIMENT DE MAISONNEUVE

By Adrian S. Tatarinoff M.A.P.A.

ORIGIN:

The Regiment of Maisonneuve originated amongst the first volunteer corps - Militia of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - raised for the defense of Ville-Marie. As this island was dedicated to Holy Mary by Proclamation, citizen were invited to enrol into squads of seven persons which elected their own Corporals. This was quite a separate body to the regular Militia, where service was compulsory.

This volunteer force had as a primary mission to reinforce the numerically weak regular French troops.

In 1760, the Militia Forces of the Government of Montreal - descendants of the Volunteer Militia - consisted of thirteen Companies, including one of gunners. The constant fights with the Iroquois and the Seven Years War made these troops the best united and with the most combat experience in the whole of Canada.

This light infantry, used to mobile tactics, was indeed the best suited for the needs of the times; it was so well organised that, after the French capitulation to the British, the British Government decided to retain these forces in their entirety. In the century following the capitulation, despite the fact that British troops occupied the country, the Volunteer Militia was always ready to serve to defend the Fatherland; especially during the two invasions from the United States. This Volunteer Militia consisted mainly of French-Canadians, the best known of which were the "Fencibles", "The Voltigeurs" and the "Voyageurs".

Once the British troops left, the necessity to reorganise the Militia Forces became necessary. The Honorable R. Masson had the task to reunite the existing independent units into centralised corps. The Colonel Julien Brosseau (creator of the St. Jean - Laprairie railroad) reassembled the dispersed units of the 21st Bn Light Infantry of Richelieu, thus creating at Laprairie in 1880 the nucleus of the 85th Infantry Regiment, which later became the Regiment de Maisonneuve.

Rev. Mother Marie Victoire (Sisters of Providence) said during a parade of the new Regiment, that the soldiers had "Bon coeur et bon bras" (a good heart and a good arm) - thus creating the Regimental Motto. She also designed the Regimental Badge.

In 1885, the town of Laprairie celebrated the official birth of the 85th, and the Ladies of Laprairie presented two new flags to the Regiment.

In 1900, the Regiment won the District of Montreal Efficiency Cup under the command of Colonel des Trois-Maisons; the award was presented by Donald Smith, who later became Lord Strathcona.

THE FIRST WORLD WAR:

The 85th recruited over 4,000 men who were sent to the Expeditionary Corps (These Corps, although recruited by existing Regiments, had separate names and numbers); thus, the 260th C.E.F., although an active 3rd Bn of the 85th, was renamed at Valcartier and broken up into the 14th, 69th, 150th, 163rd and finally amalgamated with the famous Royal 22nd.

BETWEEN-WARS PERIOD:

In 1920, during a new reorganisation of the Militia, the 85th became officially the Regiment de Maisonneuve, in honour of Paul Chomedey de Maisonneuve, the founder of Montreal and who had a great influence on the creation of Militia Units of that area.

The Regiment is granted the honour of forming the official guard of Montreal, and of Ottawa during the Royal Visit.

The Regiment excelled in sports, especially the baseball cup became its prized possession.

THE SECOND WORLD WAR:

When war was declared, the Regiment was the first to complete its establishments under the command of Lt-Col. Robert Bourassa VD.

As a part of the 2nd Div. of the 5th Brigade, its first task is the defense of southern English Coast. It prepared one Company for the Dieppe Raid and took part in the European Campaign, from the Normandy beaches to the German surrender, specialising in the cleaning up of coastal installations in the north of France, Belgium and Holland.

The Regiment excelled itself at the Orne, Walcheren Island, Den Heuvel (Rhineland), Calcar, Groningen, Delmenhorst and Oldenburg.

From 1942 the Regiment worked closely with the French Resistance, Major D.G.A. Bieler a French-born Canadian of Swiss parents, was dropped in the Montargis area the 25th Nov. 1942. Despite being wounded, he carried out his task near the Belgian border. He directed operations there until 1944, when, captured by the Gestapo, he is taken to Paris. Although tortured several times, he revealed nothing, and was sent to Fresnes; thence to Flossenberg (Germany) where he was confined in cell 23, a cement enclosure 4' wide, 11' long and 7' high. He was shot in July in the prison yard.

During this war, a second Battalion was organised for the training of reserves by Col. J. Brousseau VD, whilst a third, under Col. Croteau, after intensive training, was demobilised and the men and Officers were sent to reinforce the 1st Bn, as well as the Fusiliers Mont-Royal, the Royal 22nd and the Regiment de la Chaudiere.

AFTER-WAR PERIOD:

Another reorganisation followed this conflict, dividing all existing units into Regulars and Militia (Reserves). The only surviving Battalion of the Regiment is reformed into the Regiment de Maisonneuve (Militia). The enrolment was opened at once, and the Regiment is proud to be amongst the most efficient in Canada.

The Regiment continues its series of victories in baseball; in a more military field, it has provided a large number of officers and men for the Korean Brigade, and more recently, figured importantly in the formation of the Compagnie des Fusiliers Mont-Royal, integral part of the European Brigade.

Since 1941, the Regiment was affiliated with the King's Shropshire Light Infantry, with whom it maintains a continuous contact. The Regiment has contributed generously towards the building of a Chapel dedicated to the fallen of WWII of the English Regt.

To-day, the Regiment is led by Lt-Col. J.C. Dubuc, SB StJ, CD, ADC, and is one of the most efficient Regiments of the Canadian Militia. It won, in 1962, the Physical Efficiency Trophy, and in 1964 the General Efficiency Trophy.

WAR HONOURS: 1914-1918: Mont-Sorel; Cote 70; Somme 1916; Ypres 1917; Arras 1917; Amiens.

1939-1945: Crete de Bourguebus; Maltot; FALAISE; Dunkerque 1944; L'Escau CHAUSSE DE WALCHEREN; REICHWALD; GRONINGEN; Crete de Verrieres-Tilly-la-Campagne; Route de Falaise; CANAL D'ANVERS-TURNHOUT; Woensdrecht; Rhenanie; HOCHWALD; Oldenburg; FAUBOURG DE VAUCELLES; FORET DE LA LONDE; Reveland Sud; XANTEN; NORTH-WEST EUROPE, 1944-45.



GOLD WREATH, SCROLL
& CROWN
SILVER CENTRE
PIECE

EXTRACTS FROM "THE ANNALS OF BENDIGO"
(continued)

Submitted by the late C.R. Murray.

- p.87 "The most important incident during March, 1864, was the Governor's visit to Bendigo, on 9th inst. His Excellency (Sir Charles Darling) was met at the railway station by the Mayor and the chief members of the corporation, the volunteer rifles, the Prince of Wales light horse, and the police....."
- p.88 "In June, 1864, 13 representatives from the Bendigo Rifle Corps attended the Victorian Rifle Association's matches and acquitted themselves in a manner worthy of their skill with the rifle and of the fame of their corps. With one exception each of the 13 took one or more prizes, and the unlucky one tied for a prize but lost in the shooting off. The total number of prizes won, including consolation and sweepstakes and the champion cup, was 24. In competing for the latter prize, Bendigo was restricted to nine representatives. Twenty-one corps competed for this coveted prize, the three highest averages being - Bendigo 33 8/9th points; Carlton 32 11/13th; Melbourne and North Melbourne 29. The following were the names of the winners and the number of prizes won by each:- Chapple, 4; Walters, 3; J. Fly, 3; C. Fly, 2; J.C. Caldwell, 2; Macartney, 1; Davidson, 1; Nicholas, 1; Jos. Anderson, 1. Recruit prizes:- Graham, 2; Caldwell, 1. The winners of the Champion Cup will be found in the first ten names, excluding J. Caldwell. In the quick-firing match C. Fly took the first prize, and Ross Macartney the third. Altogether the money value of the prizes brought to Bendigo amounted to £90. Not only did the Bendigo riflemen bring honor to the district as crack shots, but the admirable way in which they had been trained was also conspicuous and drew from Colonel Anderson the remark that "he had often heard of the 'position' of the Bendigo men when firing, but until then (during the match) he had never seen what it was. Having seen it, he could say it was excellent, and reflected the highest credit on the drill-instructor, Sergeant O'Meara."

Another of the most important contests of 1864 was that against the Robin Hood Company of Nottingham Rifles, England, which took place in September. This company occupied the position of the best shooting corps in England, and "our own" occupying a similar position in Victoria, determined to try conclusions with them, and therefore challenged them for a trial of skill in three styles of firing -- individual, file, and volley firing. The match was to be fired by each corps at their own butts on a day named, an umpire being appointed for each team. Major Pitt acted as umpire for the Robin Hoods, and was present during the match at Back Creek, and registered every shot. The match resulted in another win for Bendigo, who made a gross total of 1458 points. The Robin Hoods, whose scores were received subsequently, were as follows:-

Individual firing	901
File firing	183
Volley firing	<u>175</u>
Total	1259

Thus giving a majority to the Bendigo Rifles of 199 points.

The individual Bendigo scores were:- Corporal Martin, 56; James Murdoch, 54; Corporal Fly, 53; Corporal Macartney, 52; B.W. Chapple, 51; Sergeant Fly, 50; Sergeant Nicholas 50; Sergeant Dunlop, 49; Corporal Walter, 49; W. Berkley, 48; Sergeant Anderson, 48; C. Moran, 47; F. Hodges, 47; James Anderson 46; C. Davidson, 45; Lieutenant Caldwell, 44; G. Froggatt, 42; C. Caldwell, 41; Captain Taylor, 34; T. Moran, 20; total, 926. File firing, 234; volley firing 298; gross total, 1458.

About this period the shooting of the Bendigo Rifles was much admired, their scoring being generally first-class, and they were for some years recognised as the premier shots of the colony. Amongst the shooting teams were several of the Eaglehawk contingent, amongst whom may be mentioned Chapple, Early, Jas. Anderson, Davidson, Froggatt, Mann, Hodges, Dunlop, Caldwell, Murdoch, and Hope, while Sandhurst contributed J. and C. Fly, Macartney, Martin, Walter, Moran, Jos. Anderson, Nicholas, and Schmidt. Practice matches between Sandhurst and Eaglehawk were of frequent occurrence with victory oscillating between each team.

The year 1864 saw another change in the command of the Rifles, as in consequence of the death of Captain Lysaght, the command was given to Captain J.H. Taylor, who at that time was the district surveyor of Sandhurst. Since the formation of the corps the "civil" business had been managed by a committee, but during the regime of Captain Taylor, that officer objected to the formation of these bodies, the result being that under his command the corps was in a constant state of turmoil. This state of affairs continued until the removal of Captain Taylor to Beechworth, when Captain G.P. Joseph succeeded him, and approved of the formation of committees, when goodwill again reigned supreme.

At the annual Easter encampment, which was held at Sunbury, some 20 of the Sandhurst troop of cavalry, under Captain Cohn, took part, and gained some praise for their dashing charges at the sham fight.

p.96

"The first orderly-room possessed by the Bendigo Rifles after vacating the old barracks in the Camp Reserve, was a large weather-board building, formerly used as a gymnasium, situated on the site of the present Art Gallery, View-street, and which was purchased by them in 1865 at the cost of £100. This building was subsequently sold and removed to McCrae-street below St. Kilian's Church, where it did duty for many years as a produce store.

An extraordinary record at rifle shooting was attained in June, 1865, by Corporal Macartney, of the Bendigo Rifle Corps. Commencing at the 200 yards and ending with the 900 yards, Mr. Macartney, after firing five shots at each range, scored 131, or

only nine less than the highest number that can be made, thus topping the highest score ever made in the colonies up to that time. He fired with a Whitworth rifle, which had been presented to him by the people of Bendigo some months before, in acknowledgment of his being the champion shot of Victoria.

In 1865 the Bendigo Rifles again occupied the highest position in Victoria in the annual course of musketry instruction. In June, 1865, Mr. Robert Moorhead received a commission as lieutenant, and was appointed acting captain of the Bendigo Cavalry. A visit of inspection was paid in August by Captain Burton, who complimented the men on their improvement and efficiency. On 25th October a grand review of the Victorian volunteer forces, under Captain Anderson, took place at the Epsom Racecourse, some 830 volunteers being present. Of this number the P.W.V.V.L.H. contributed 70 under Captain Burton, the Sandhurst troop under Captain Moorhead numbering 26. At the conclusion of the review a competition took place in sword practice for a handsome sabre presented by Lieutenant Tipper. Private Kraemer, of the Sandhurst troop, proved the victor after a severe tussle. The Bendigo Jockey Club on this occasion took £150 by the sale of booths and admission to the grandstand and grounds, which was divided equally between the Club, the Sandhurst troop, and the Bendigo Rifles."

p.97 "On the opening day (of the Eaglehawk Town Hall) there was a procession in the following order:- Horse - Light Cavalry, band, Volunteer rifles, schools...." (31st January, 1865)

p.105 "In the years 1865 and 1866 the Bendigo Rifles were the highest in the annual course of musketry instruction, thus occupying the premier position for three successive years.

"The percentage of effectives in the Sandhurst troop of cavalry on the 1st January, 1866, was very satisfactory, being $71\frac{3}{4}$, the Ballarat troop being only $43\frac{1}{4}$. The Sandhurst strength was 39 members, of which 28 were "effective". In April they attended the Easter encampment 26 strong, and on 9th November, at the Prince of Wales's review again made a creditable appearance. In September Captain Cohn resigned, and Captain Moorhead was promoted to the rank of captain-commandant, Sergeant-major Digby being appointed drill instructor. Captain Moorhead immediately took steps to have the cavalry parade ground at Back Creek reserved by the Government, surveyed and cleared."

p.107 "The brick Orderly-room, now the main portion of the Art Gallery, was erected in 1867, and opened by H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh. It cost £870. On the occasion of the promotion of Sergeant Blackham to the rank of Lieutenant in January, he was presented by the corps with a sword bearing a suitable inscription, while in June Captain Joseph, on attaining his captainship, was presented with a sword of honor. During the year 1867, at the annual course of musketry instruction, no fewer than 90 members qualified themselves for marksmen's badges out of a total of 150 on the roll, completely eclipsing all other corps in the colony.

"In February, 1867, Dr. A. Barnett, surgeon of the troop, died, much regretted by the members, and Dr. James Boyd was appointed to the vacant position in April. The troop, numbering some 30 strong, under Captain Moorhead, were present at the Easter encampment in April, when General Carey (in command of the 14th Regiment of Regulars) passed a high encomium upon the Light Horse. On Easter Sunday night that officer had the alarm sounded in the camp, and on the following day published a general order in which he said, "The cavalry were in their saddles, drawn up on their parade ground, all ready in ten minutes by my watch. Any soldier in the world will admit that this is very sharp practice. I consider that you are not only a credit to your officers, but also to the country which you serve." The year 1867 was made prominent in the history of our cavalry by the erection of the first brick Orderly-room in the colony. In View-street a fine brick building, 50 x 36 feet, was erected, with gun-sheds and officers' rooms, at a cost of £500. (This is the large lower room of the A.N.A. Hall.) In June, an amateur performance, in aid of the building fund, was given in the Lyceum Theatre, when "Still Waters Run Deep" and the burlesque "La Somnambula" were produced by members of the troop and the leading amateurs of Sandhurst. The Theatre was crowded, and the performance was repeated on the following night, the result being that considerably over £100 was netted in aid of their Orderly-room. The troop, which for some years had been drilled as light cavalry, were provided with a gun about the beginning of 1867, and received instruction in its use, in order that they could also act as horse artillery. Captain Burton, at an inspection in August complimented the troop upon the manner in which they had acquitted themselves, particularly the gun detachment. He had inspected the other troops in the colony, but had certainly seen none that had shown smarter work than the Bendigo troop. In November Mr. R.B. Sibley was appointed Lieutenant, and Messrs. Purves Magrath, Bell, Clegg, and Code were elected sergeants."

p.108

p.109

(Visit of the Duke of Edinburgh, 1867) "The Prince was accompanied by His Excellency the Governor while the volunteer guard of honour (to the number of about 100) under Colonel Bull and Captains Taylor and Joseph, presented arms, and the volunteer field battery fired a royal salute...."

"The following was the order of the procession:-....

(various Shire Councils reps)

	Cavalry	
	H.R.H.	
Cav-	Suite	Cav-
alry	Cavalry	alry

(other civic groups)

The next stopping place was at the Town Hall, where luncheon was partaken of, and subsequently His Royal Highness opened the Volunteer Rifle Corps Orderly-room."

- p.115 "The first shot and shell practice of the Cavalry troop took place in August, 1868, at Goornong, the guns used being a howitzer and a six pounder. The target was erected at 600 yards distance, and of eight shots fired six struck the target. The practice was discontinued owing to some persons getting into the line of fire and refusing to withdraw."
- p.116 "As it was considered unfair for the Victorian Rifle Association matches to be always held in Melbourne, a Bendigo Rifle Association was formed in 1869."

BRANCH NOTES

A.C.T. BRANCH

Once again it is our misfortune to announce the loss of another member, stalwart Harry Galloway, whom the Army has posted to a warmer climate and who leaves us with our sincere best wishes. Maybe our loss will lead to the first overseas branch of the Society being formed as both Harry and Clem Sargent will be serving in the same area.

Our two recent meetings were very interesting and it is regretted that more members were not able to share our good fortune. In January we were addressed by Mr. A.W. Bazley, assistant to Dr. Bean during and after World War 1, who spoke on the work of Dr. Bean in preparing the Official Histories of World War 1. In February the meeting took the form of a discussion, conducted by Miss B. McDonagh of the National Library, on military historical material available in the Library.

K.R. WHITE
BRANCH SECRETARY

MEMBERS' ADVERTISEMENTS

Wanted by 14 year old Italian boy

Japanese WW2 steel helmet, field caps, tropical helmets etc.
Can offer Italian steel or tropical helmets in exchange, or WW2 German steel helmet.

STEFANO SAVINO
VIA MONTE DELLE GIOIE M24,
ROMA, ITALY.

Wanted.

Foreign Air Forces Badges etc.
Obsolete and current R.A.A.F. Badges

B.J. VIDEON
20 THOMASINA ST.,
EAST BENTLEIGH, S.E.15.
VICTORIA

THE MILITARY HERALDRY SOCIETY

The Military Heraldry Society was formed in 1951 as a focal point for collectors of cloth formation signs, shoulder titles and patches, sleeve insignia and any other such badges of military formations throughout the world. The Society publishes a free quarterly illustrated bulletin with world coverage of this subject for the dissemination of information and to assist members to contact each other. A membership list is issued each year in order to facilitate correspondence. All members are encouraged to use the bulletin by sending information or queries and advertising their requirements.

The President of the Society, Lt. Col. H.N. Cole, O.B.E., T.D., F.R. Hist.S., is a leading authority and the author of several books on military heraldry.

The Military Heraldry Society maintains a permanent display at the Imperial War Museum in London.

Membership of the Society is world-wide and includes museums. On a basis of area membership there are European and American representatives on the Committee. New members are welcome whether they actually collect or only wish to keep themselves informed about this wide field of interest. At present there is no entrance fee and the annual subscription of 7/- entitles the member to receive the bulletin, attend any meetings which are usually held in London, and allows free use of the Society's Library.

Anyone interested in the Society is invited to write to the Publicity Officer, The Military Heraldry Society, C/o 36, Myddleton Road, Ware, Hertfordshire, England, for further details. Applicants should precisely describe their interests.



