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Sabretache



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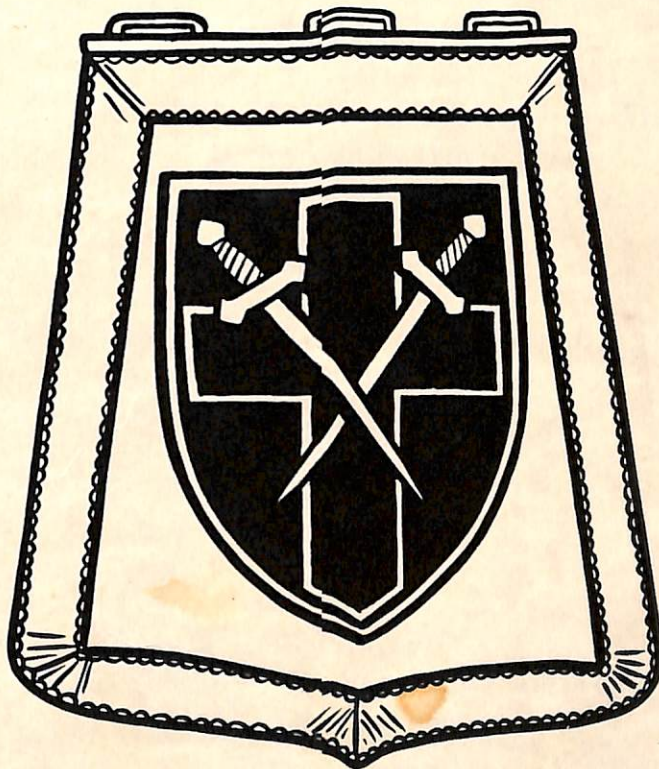
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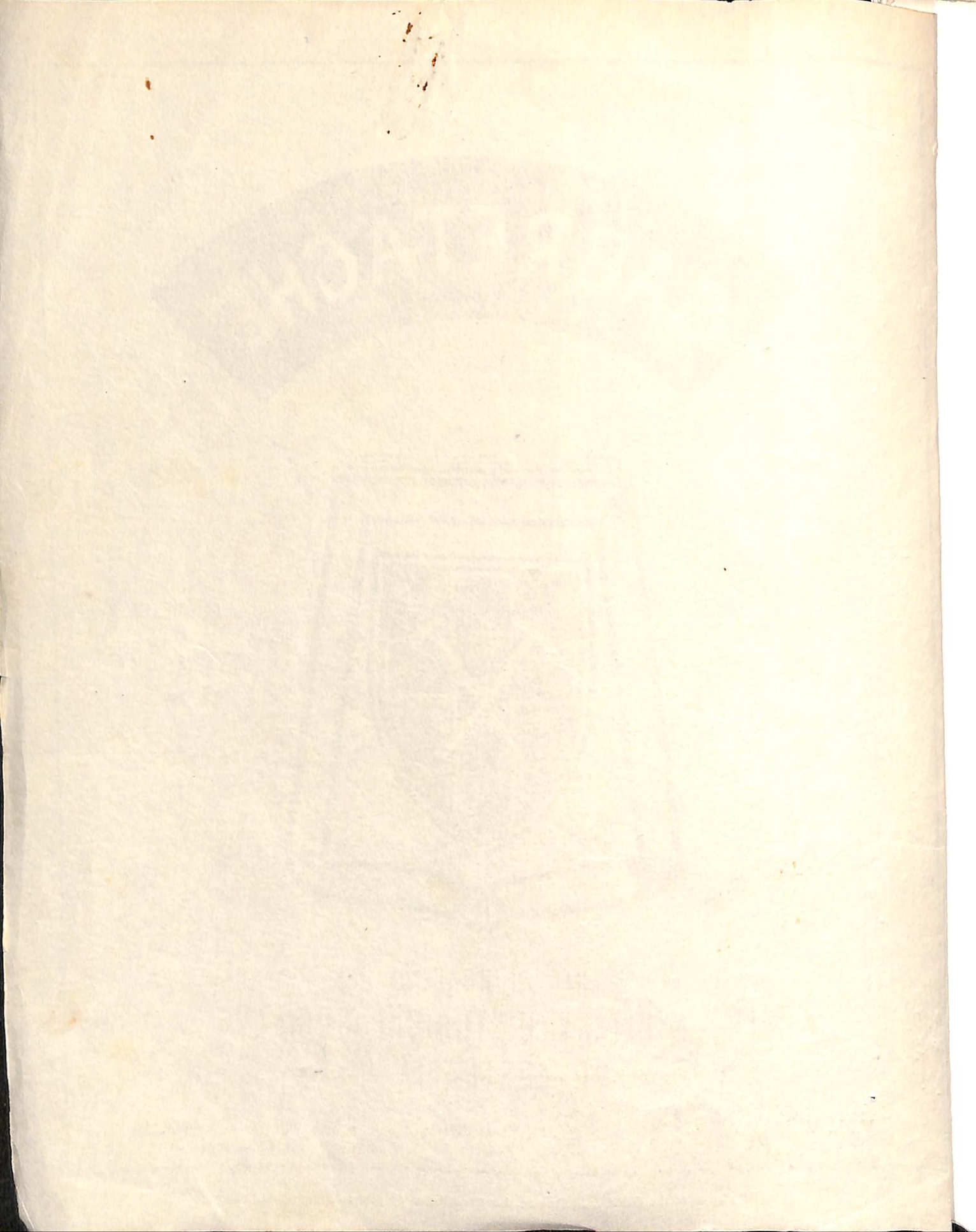


THE JOURNAL OF
THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF AUSTRALIA

VOL. VIII

JULY, 1965

No. 1



THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA.

Founded in Melbourne in 1957

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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.

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AUSTRALIAN GUNNERS USING CAPTURED GUNS	Frontispiece.



Photo: Australian War Memorial, Canberra
Block: Australian Army Journal, Canberra

AUSTRALIAN GUNNERS USING CAPTURED GUNS, W.W.2

Journal and Proceedings of
THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

Vol. VIII

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EDITOR'S NOTES

UNIT HISTORIES.

Commencing with this edition of SABRETACHE, we have pleasure in presenting a series of unit histories gathered and provided by Mr. A.N.Festberg.

These histories will relate to Ships and Shore Establishments of the Royal Australian Navy, and Units and Squadrons of the Royal Australian Air Force. Where possible the histories will be accompanied by an illustration of the appropriate unit badge.

All badges of the R.A.N. are approved by the Commonwealth Naval Board; and those of the R.A.A.F. have been prepared by units, drawn by direction of the inspector of R.A.A.F. Badges (Clarenceux King of Arms), and approved by either King George VI or Queen Elizabeth II.

Dates used throughout these histories were supplied by the Historical Branches of the Services concerned, and Mr. Festberg wishes to record his appreciation of the kindness and co-operation shown by the officials who have co-operated so readily.

Blocks used in the R.A.A.F. series are by courtesy of the R.A.A.F. Printing and Publication Unit, and all illustrations are Crown Copyright reserved.

The histories are arranged in such a way that they can be removed from Sabretache, and can be collected separately, so that in due course readers may compile a series of histories of each of the services concerned.

Mr. Festberg is well known in Melbourne in connection with his interest in heraldry, and, in addition, he has conducted extensive research into the histories of the various units of the Australian Army. He is also intensely interested in the design of badges of all types for the use of the armed services and some public institutions.



H.M.A.S. CERBERUS

Blazon: Azure On a Wreath Gold and Gules aa
 Cerberus passant Murrey fimbriated Or centre
 head in profile gorged Gold with three jewels
 Gules dexter head in profile sinister head
 guardant and serpents tail reguardant.

Motto: "Semper Vigilans"

Battle Honours: Havana 1762 Lissa 1811.

H.M.A.S. CERBERUS I.

Type: Turret Ship (Monitor).

Displacement: 3,340 tons.

Length: 225 feet (overall).
Keel 195 feet $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Beam: 45 feet 1 inch.

Draught: 15 feet 6 inches (Depth of Hold
16 feet 6 inches).

Laid Down: September, 1867.

Launched: 2nd December, 1868.

Completed: 1870.

Designer: Mr. E.G. Reed, C.B., (Chief Constructor, Admiralty).

Builders: Palmer Shipbuilding and Iron Co., Jarrow-on-Tyne.

Machinery: Maudsley, Son & Field; Nominal H.P. 250;
Indicated H.P. 1369; Twin Screws.

Speed: 9 knots (max.) 6 knots (economical).

Bunkers: 240 tons (coal).

Consumption: 50 tons at Full Speed; 24 tons Economical Speed Per Day.

Armament: 4 Muzzle - load 10 inch bore - 18 ton guns -
Charge 60 lbs; Shot 400 lb. Mounted in two turrets.

Armour Plate: 6-10 inches.

Disposal: Scrapped 1924; scuttled as breakwater at Black Rock,
Victoria, 2nd September, 1926.

HISTORY.

The activities of American commerce raiders during the Civil War, including the visit to Port Phillip of the armed cruiser SHENANDOAH (February, 1865), and the ever present threat of Russian Pacific action, convinced the Victorian colonists that some form of maritime protection other than that afforded by the armed sloop VICTORIA was imperative.

In 1865, an Imperial Act, known as the Colonial Naval Defence Act, laid down provisions enabling the British Colonies to maintain men-o'-war for their own defence.

Note: H.M.V.S. VICTORIA acquired in 1856 by the Victorian Government, was not classed as a warship.

The Chief provisions of the Act were :

- (1) Colonies were empowered to provide, maintain, and use their own vessels of war under such conditions and for such purposes as Her Majesty in Council from time to time approved, and to place such vessels at Her Majesty's disposal, when any such vessel would become to all intents a vessel of Her Majesty's regular army.
- (2) To raise and maintain seamen for service in such vessels.
- (3) To raise and maintain volunteers entered on terms of being bound to general service in the Royal Navy, emergency volunteers so raised to form part of the Royal Naval Reserve.

In 1866 therefore, the Victorian Government sent the Treasurer (Hon. George Verdon) to England as a delegate from Victoria to H.M. Government. Among other matters affecting the colony, he was instructed to apply to Her Majesty's Government, (through the Earl of Carnarvon) for an iron-plated ship as essential to complete the defences of the Colony, together with a wooden ship suitable for training purposes.

The Imperial Government granted the application and in a letter dated 15th November, 1866, stated :

"The Comptroller of the Navy will arrange with you the details of an armour plated monitor or turret ship, to be constructed by contract in a private yard, under Admiralty superintendence, and to be capable of carrying 22 ton guns.

The cost of the ship is not to exceed £125,000 of which the colony will provide £25,000. The cost of armament is to be borne by the colony. The maintenance, manning and command of the ship are to be undertaken by the Colonial Government, receiving such occasional aid as heretofore in the selection of such officers and men from Home as may be requested.

It is to be clearly understood that this ship is maintained for the protection of the important British as well as colonial interests that require naval defence in the waters of the colony. She will therefore, in time of war, be under the command of the Senior Officer on the Station, who in the event of any serious emergency will not be precluded from withdrawing her for a time from the immediate waters of the colony."

The offer of the Imperial Government being duly adopted by Victoria, Mr. E.G. Reed (Chief Constructor to H.M. Navy 1863-70) was instructed to design a suitable vessel.

It was an era of experiment in naval construction, the day of the transitional iron-clad, strongly influenced by the success of the turret ship in the American Civil War, notably in the Battle of Hampton Roads.

Thus was created a whole series of turret ships or monitors, some useful for coastal bombardment, others mere curiosities in naval construction. Following this pattern Reed designed a medium size turret ship to carry four 18 ton muzzle loading guns. Dubbed the "Monster Class" they included CERBERUS (the first of the type) CYCLOPS GORGON, HECATE and HYDRA, named after the hideous monsters of classical history.

All in all they were strange craft, with their wide hulls and negligible freeboard (3 feet), which by flooding of certain compartments could be reduced so that the vessels almost disappeared beneath the waves, with only a shallow breastwork 112 feet long, projecting above the water.

The breastwork was of Lowmoor Iron, 8 inches thick. The two gun turrets mounted upon it had armour 10 inches thick in front and 9 inches at the back. They were 5 feet 6 inches high and all their internal machinery was protected behind the rifled muzzle loading guns, firing a 400 lb. shell with a charge of 60 lb. of powder. One of these turret guns can be seen today mounted in the Ballarat Botanical Gardens.

CERBERUS was powered by Maudsley and Field horizontal double piston-rod engines rated 250 h.p. driving twin screws. Steam was provided by four marine-type boilers working at 30 lb. pressure per square inch.

On 24th April, 1870, Lieutenant Panter¹, R.N., left Melbourne with instructions to take command of CERBERUS for the voyage to Australia. On arrival in England in June he reported to Admiralty, and presented his credentials from the Victorian Government. At this time CERBERUS was lying at Chatham completing fitting out.

Five months were spent in preparation for the voyage. There were long wearisome delays while the question of her status en route was decided, there being no precedent for a ship of her class flying the Merchant Flag. There were arguments over stores, and difficulties in recruiting a crew.² At last, however, all difficulties were overcome and CERBERUS sailed from Chatham on 29th October, 1870, flying the Red Ensign and manned by a crew of twenty-five merchant seamen. In the Downs, however, en route for Plymouth she ran into heavy weather and with her decks constantly awash she became absolutely unmanageable. Speed was reduced to $1\frac{1}{2}$ knots as she wallowed in the heavy seas and her scratch crew were constantly at work baling the deck with buckets. Nevertheless she reached Spithead without serious mishap, and when the weather abated the voyage to Plymouth was continued, at which port most of the crew promptly deserted. At Plymouth a new crew was recruited, the number being increased to sixty-five and after coaling, the voyage to Australia began on 7th November.

On the 9th November, CERBERUS again met heavy seas and for the next four days she rolled so heavily (some 45 degrees each way) that, so the story goes, a sailor asleep on one of the lockers was thrown 30 feet without touching the deck. At this time CERBERUS was carrying a close reefed main try sail with the head hauled in, and a fore stay sail or fore try sail used when possible. Steam and sail combined failed to keep the labouring monitor head to the wind. Panter declaring the gale to be one of the worst in his experience.

Carrying 100 tons greater burden above the water line than below and rolling in a crazy fashion, CERBERUS reached the safety of Gibraltar, where the naval authorities informed the commander he should not permit his vessel to roll more than 10 degrees before he cut his masts away. At the Rock there were fresh desertions.

The Bay of Biscay had done its worst and from then on the weather relented and there were calm seas for most of the remainder of the voyage. Proceeding via Malta, Port Said, Suez, Aden, Galle, Batavia and Fremantle, she reached Port Phillip heads at 8am on 9th April, 1871, one hundred and twenty-three days out from Plymouth.

On 22nd April, 1871, the Illustrated Australian News commented:

"The iron-clad monitor, the CERBERUS, is now in Hobsons Bay. At noon on Sunday, the 9th April, 1871, this warlike monster arrived and great was the sensation caused thereby. The extreme danger of the transit from Great Britain to the Antipodes had been thoroughly realised in Melbourne, and not a few having in mind the fate of the CAPTAIN were extremely dubious of the CERBERUS reaching what may be hoped is its final destination."

"At an early hour on the 9th, a sharp look out was kept for the arrival in Hobsons Bay of the latest addition to the Victorian Navy, H.M.V. Ships CERBERUS, NELSON³ and VICTORIA. About 12 o'clock, her hull was seen looming in the West Channel and by 12.30pm she had passed the light ship, and shortly thereafter brought up off Williamstown some two cables astern of the NELSON."

"Recognition of her quality was given as she steamed past NELSON, the boys of which manned the rigging and gave three hearty cheers, the ensign being dipped at the same time. Shortly after her anchoring, Captain Koltovskoy of H.M.I.R.S. HAYDAMACK, sent an officer on board with his compliments to Lieutenant Panter."

"Upon approaching the CERBERUS, great disappointment was expressed at her strange appearance, which at present is very different from what we Victorians had been led to expect. She now looks like an elongated gasometer fitted with masts and sent to sea on an experimental cruise. She will, however, present a different appearance when the top hamper, which was put on to allow her safe navigation to this port, is removed. Her deck will then be only two feet above the water, only showing fighting turrets, funnel, ventilators, and armour plated pilot house."

On arrival CERBERUS went immediately into the Alfred Dock for general overhaul and preparation for her role as the Port Phillip Guard Ship. At this time, she was painted white with yellow funnel but later conformed to Navy pattern, black hull, red boot topping, white upperworks, with a broad royal blue band at the top of the breastwork and a buff funnel.

The remainder of the turret ship's life was spent on the calm waters of Port Phillip, as a training ship, port guard ship and naval depot ship. Her peacetime complement comprised twelve officers and eighty-four men with provision for a war complement of a further forty ratings.

For more than fifty years she was a familiar sight at Williamstown. Periodical training runs down the bay to Sorrento or Queenscliff at Port Phillip Heads was the limit of her sea-going career in that time. Manoeuvres on the bay were an invariable Easter time diversion for members of the Victorian Navy. Then the iron-clad with her attendant Torpedo Boats⁴ would set sail for the Heads and there engage in a mock battle with the forts. The return by way of Corio Bay (Geelong) invariably ended with a searchlight display. Then returning to Williamstown she would quietly rock at her moorings until the next "Bay" cruise.

In 1878, she suffered her only casualties when a mine exploded in the water off Queenscliff during mining exercises, killing an officer and three seamen.

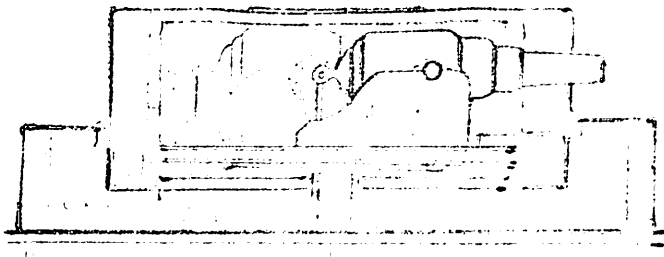
This was her routine until the outbreak of World War I, when she was manned by war complement to assume a state of readiness as Port Guard Ship, a role which proved no less peaceful than her previous forty-four years of service. Her magazines during the war were utilised for the storage of ammunition for auxiliary services.

In 1921, she was removed from Williamstown (where she had moored for fifty years) to Geelong where for the next two years she acted as a Submarine Depot Ship for the Royal Australian Navy's Flotilla six 'J' Class submarines. On 1st April, 1921, her name was changed to H.M.A.S. PLATYPUS II.

In April, 1924, she was sold as scrap to Melbourne Salvage Pty. Ltd., for the sum of £409 who stripped her of everything of value. The Victorian Railways purchased all of the available Lowmoor Iron from her breastworks. In 1926, her hulk was acquired by the Sandringham Municipal Council and on 2nd September, 1926, she was towed across the bay to her last resting place at Black Rock, Victoria, where the old ship serves as a breakwater. Her memory is commemorated in the Royal Australian Navy's Training Depot at Flinders, Victoria - H.M.A.S. CERBERUS.

NOTES:

- (1) Captain Norman formerly the commander of H.M.V.S. VICTORIA was originally sent to England to bring out CERBERUS. He became ill and died in England and Lieutenant Panter was despatched to replace him.
- (2) H.M.S. CAPTAIN (6,950 tons) a turret ship designed by Captain Cowper Phipps Coles, R.N., and strongly disapproved of by CERBERUS's designer, capsized off Cape Finisterre on 6th September, 1870. Only eighteen were saved from her complement of 493, the death roll including her commander, Captain H.T. Burgoyne, V.C., R.N., and Captain Coles her creator.
- (3) H.M.V.S. NELSON was the wooden training ship (Para. 2 Page 2) donated by Admiralty to the Victorian Government. Line-of-Battle Ship; launched 4th July, 1814; scrapped and sold by public auction 1898.
- (4) COUNTESS OF HOPETOUN, CHILDERS, NEPEAN and LONSDALE.



Details of Gun Turret.

IN THE NEWS

by B.J. Videon.

(This is a new section intended to bring to notice the latest news on military matters or personalities. It will be appreciated if members will assist by sending in snippets of information suitable for inclusion under this heading.)

MELBOURNE MEMBER HONOURED.

Melbourne members were delighted to note that Colonel Peter Kaye, R.A.A.M.C. was awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List published on 12th June, 1965. Colonel Kaye is a foundation member of the Society, and his greatest regret has been that the demands of his busy private practice, coupled with his activities as D.D.M.S. Southern Command, have prevented him from attending Society Meetings. It is good to note that his indefatigable efforts on behalf of the R.A.A.M.C. have been rewarded so fittingly.

NEW BADGES FOR WEST GERMAN FORCES.

The April 1965 edition of "DIE BUNDESWEHR" illustrates new badges that have been approved for issue to the Army, Navy and Air Force. These mainly comprise circular branch or skill badges (German word is "Tatigkeitsabzeichen") somewhat reminiscent of those worn in the period of the 3rd Reich, but, in most cases, of more modern appearance, befitting the more modern trades to which they in some instances relate. Flying badges are also illustrated, and it is interesting to see that wing badges similar to those now used in most flying services have taken the place of the old familiar type breast decorations worn by German flying men to the end of the Second World War. The plain pair of wings adopted in the West German flying services have now given place to winged Badges for Pilot (German eagle in a winged wreath); Wireless Operator (an "O" containing a terrestrial globe with a thunderbolt imposed thereon, winged); Flight Mechanic (three-bladed propellor in a winged cogwheel); and Observer/Navigator (globe in a winged "O"). Army Flyers have been granted the cuffband bearing the double-winged insignia presently worn by the Air Force.

Shooting badges have been reintroduced in the form of a placket suspended at the shoulder, with a plaited cord to the top tunic button, similar to those of the forces of the 3rd Reich.

NEW SUBMARINERS BADGE FOR R.A.N.

It is reported that a new dolphin badge has been approved for the R.A.N.'s submarine personnel.

This doubtless follows recent far-reaching changes in the Navy's badge structure for its enlisted personnel (now officially termed "sailors"). Personnel of Petty Officer status now wear a branch badge surmounted by

a crown, while all sailors of lower rank wear the branch badge alone. The old system of stars and crowns has thus mercifully been scrapped. (It is interesting to note that badges of the naval aviation branches depict an ultra-modern aircraft in plan view one that at the present time is quite different from any aircraft in use here).

No. 77 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.



BADGE: An Oriental Lion sejant affronte.

MOTTO: "Swift to Destroy".

AUTHORITY: King George VI.

(The Oriental Lion is a mystical lion regarded as a defender of peace and happiness. It also indicates the Squadron's long service in the East.)

BATTLE HONOURS: Pacific 1942-1945, Darwin 1942-1943*, New Guinea 1943-1944*, Milne Bay*, New Britain 1943*, Markham Valley 1943, Dutch New Guinea 1944*, Morotai*, Borneo 1945*.

NOTES: (1) * = enscrolled on the Squadron standard.

(2) At the date of writing, no Battle Honour for Korea has been awarded.

No. 77 Squadron was formed at Pearce, W.A. on 16th March 1942 as a fighter squadron equipped with Kittyhawk aircraft.

In August 1942 it moved to Darwin, and in June 1943 to Mometo. From there it moved in September 1944 to Noemfoor. In April 1945 it was stationed on Morotai, and it made its final wartime move a few weeks later to Labuan, in Borneo.

When the Pacific War ended in August 1945, 77 Squadron was still operating from Labuan. Instead of being brought back to Australia, as were most of the other R.A.A.F. squadrons, it was assigned to the British Commonwealth Occupation Force in Japan. In September 1945 it was re-equipped with Mustangs, and arrived, after some delay, in Honshu, Japan, in March 1946.

When the North Korean Army crossed the 38th Parallel on 25th June 1950, No. 77 Squadron was the only R.A.A.F. fighter squadron still in Japan. Help was immediately offered to the South Koreans by the United Nations, and a request for aid was received by No. 77 Squadron. It was placed under the command of the U.S. 5th Air Force.

On July 2nd, 1950, the squadron saw its first action in almost five years. By October 12th the squadron had completed its move from Iwakuni to Pohang. During November 1950 the U.S.A.F. 35th Fighter Group, which included No. 77 Squadron, moved from Pohang to Hamhung. Owing to the U.N. Command's withdrawal from North Korea, the 35th Fighter Group was moved south to Pusan, where it was located by Christmas 1950.

Early in April 1951, No. 77 Squadron was withdrawn to Japan, and re-equipped with British Meteor jets. In July 1951 the squadron returned to Korea, to Kimpo Airfield, near Seoul. After the Armistice, No. 77 Squadron returned to Australia.

To the squadron belongs the distinction of being the first British Commonwealth unit to take part in the Korean conflict.

In August 1956 it was reduced to a cadre basis, but in November of the same year it was reformed and equipped with Sabre fighters.

(The squadron history terminates at 1956, with the expectation that the squadron would be re-equipped with Mirage Fighters by the next year. This in fact was not achieved so soon, as the Mirage was not generally available to the R.A.A.F. until 1964. In 1963 the squadron was part of No. 78 Wing at R.A.A.F. Base Butterworth, in Northern Malaya. It will be seen, therefore, that its life has been one of almost continuous operation since its formation.)

HONOURS: On November 1st, 1951, the President of the Republic of Korea awarded to No. 77 Squadron the Presidential Unit Citation "for exceptionally meritorious service and heroism".

SQUADRON STANDARD: On 24th July 1953, Queen Elizabeth II approved the award of a Squadron Standard, and it was promulgated in Commonwealth of Australia Gazette No. 38, dated 24th June, 1954.

MOST EFFICIENT SQUADRON AWARD: The Duke of Gloucester Cup, presented by him on his departure from Australia in 1946, after his term as Governor-General is awarded annually on the basis of overall efficiency, including discipline, flying and morale. The Cup was won by No. 77 Squadron for the year 1949-1950.

BADGE FOR FLYING AND WORKING SUITS: An American-style circular white patch, edged in black, bearing the squadron number "77" in green over a grotesque kangaroo-like figure holding a missile in boxing-gloved hands. The animal is golden yellow and the gloves tan. The missile is white.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The story of No. 77 Squadron's part in the Korean War is well told in George Odgers' book "ACROSS THE PARALLEL", William Heinemann Ltd., 1952.)

SOME NOTES ON UNITS OF THE 1st A.I.F.

by Robert Gray

Prior to March 1918 the Machine Gun Companies were organised on the basis of one company per Infantry Brigade with an additional company per division. In March 1913 they were organised as Battalions.

In March 1918 the Divisional Supply Column and Ammunition Sub Parks were merged and became the Mechanical Transport Companies.

Camel Field Ambulance became the 5th. Light Horse Field Ambulance when the 5th. L.H. Brigade was organised from the Imperial Camel Corps.

EXTRACTS FROM "THE ANNALS OF BENDIGO".

(continued)

Submitted by the Late C.R. Murray.

p.119

"During the year 1870 'land certificates' to the value of £50 were presented to each member of the volunteer force who had been an effective member for the previous five years ending 31st January, 1870. Those members who had not served "effectively" for the full period received certificates for a pro rata amount, according to their length of service. These "land certificates" were issued by virtue of an Act of Parliament passed in 1865, and, presumably, were to be used only in the purchase of land, but the recipients, finding that the squatters were willing to purchase them, disposed of them at prices ranging from £30 to £49.10. 0 for a £50 certificate. There was a great outcry at the time that the certificates had not been used for their legitimate purpose, and the idea of settling the young volunteers on the land having proved abortive, the certificates of 1870 were the first and last that were issued."

"A high compliment was paid to Captain Moorhead and his cavalry troop when they were called to Melbourne in October, 1870, to form an escort to His Excellency the Governor from Toorak to Parliament House on the opening of Parliament. They were highly complimented for the manner in which they discharged this duty."

p. 130

"The Bendigo Rifles celebrated the birthday of Queen Victoria in 1872 right royally by inviting to Bendigo the whole of the Northern Battalion, together with contingents from each of the metropolitan corps, in order to hold a grand review. No fewer than 762 rank and file took part in the review, which was a great success. As the contingents arrived by special trains in the morning they were entertained at luncheon, and afterwards the whole force, including cavalry, artillery, and infantry, were marched to the cavalry parade-ground, Back Creek, where a Royal salute was fired, and a sham fight afterwards took place. Speaking of the cavalry, the 'Advertiser' said 'they were a fine body of stalwart men, exceedingly well mounted'. The visitors were subsequently entertained at a banquet, and left Bendigo with the best impressions of the hospitality of the Bendigo men."

p. 133

"At the Victorian Rifle Association matches in November, 1872, the representatives of the Bendigo Rifles took second place for the representative challenge cup with 221 points, the Emerald Hill Artillery proving the victors with 238. The highest winners of individual prizes were :- Johnson, W. Field, Davidson, Hope, Martin and Crompton. In 1872 an addition was made to the Orderly-room by the erection of a weatherboard drill room at a cost of £425, the retiring room and drill-instructors' quarters being also added at the rear of the Orderly Room. In October, Lieutenant J. Anderson was presented with a regulation sword and a set of full dress belts by the non-commissioned officers and privates as a mark of their respect."

- p. 139 "In October (1873) Captain Joseph was promoted to the command of the Bendigo Rifles, consequent to the removal of Captain Taylor to another district. In the same month Mr. T.H. Henderson was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in the Prince of Wales Light Horse, in the place of Lieutenant Stewart, resigned."
- p. 143 "Queen's Birthday, 1874, was celebrated by the rifles and cavalry inviting the whole of the northern battalion to Bendigo. A review was succeeded by military sports, at which the principal prizes, two silver cups, were won by Privates Bell and Wilkinson. There was a dinner in the evening."
- p. 147 "In 1875 Captain Joseph was promoted to the rank of Major of the Bendigo Rifles, on the retirement of Captain (Colonel?) Bull from active service. The competitions of the Northern Rifle Association at the Sandhurst butts on 30th March, 1875 (Easter), proved an unqualified success. Prizes to the amount of above £100 were competed for by 60 entries in No. 1 match, 86 in No. 2, and 79 for No. 3, the entries received coming from Sandhurst, Castlemaine, Maldon, Kyneton, Malmsbury, and Maryborough. The most coveted prize (Representative Trophy) fell to the lot of Castlemaine with 563 points, Bendigo having scored 555; Maldon 532; and the others lower. Hadden (Bendigo) won first prize in No. 2 match, while Robertson (Maldon) was the winner of the Bendigo Officers' Trophy in No. 3 match, Hannay (Maldon) carrying off the first honors in No. 1 match. During this year Captain Joseph presented a gold medal for the highest average scorer off the rifle for the year, which was won by Mann, and Messrs. Mackay and Burrowes, Ms. L.A., a Parliamentary Trophy, which was won by Sergeant-Major Martin; the "Advertiser" composing staff also presented a silver cup, which was carried off by C. Davidson."

"The strength of the local troop of light horse in 1875 was 39, who not only endeavoured to attain efficiency in their drill as cavalry and artillery, but also made strenuous efforts to excel in the use of the rifle. In September, Lieutenant Sibley was promoted to the rank of Captain, and in November Captain Moorhead was raised to the position of Major. During October an encampment of the regiment of Light Horse took place at Carisbrook, where they gave every satisfaction to the Colonel Commandant, as an extract from the brigade order, subsequently issued, will show :- "The guns were extremely well worked, and served with great precision; the skirmishers

acted with intelligence and rapidity, and the supports and reserves acquitted themselves with equal credit. Colonel Anderson is pleased to record his great satisfaction.'

At the Victorian Rifle Association matches in November, 1875, Major Caleb Anderson presented for competition in skirmishing a handsome piece of silver plate, open to sections of four men from the P.W.V.V. Light Horse, and to be won twice before coming the property of the winners. The competitors were to fall in in uniform, mounted, and at the sound of the bugle advance, then dismount, and, leaving their horses in rear, advance on foot 25 yards, and fire five rounds. They had then to ride a quarter of a mile, jumping two hurdles on the way, and again fire independently five rounds at a target two feet broad, leaving, as before, their horses in the rear. Each man as he finished came to the 'shoulder', at which his time was recorded. The individual performance of each member of every section was recorded, and points given both for time and accuracy of fire. The Sandhurst section in this competition consisted of Troopers Hesse, Delbridge, Wright, and Coulter, who won the second prize of £5, and nearly succeeded in tying with the winning team. The result showed :- Castlemaine troop, 1st, in 6 minutes with 58 points; Sandhurst, 2nd, in 7 minutes, with 65 points; and Bacchus Marsh, 3rd, in 8 minutes, with 65 points."

p. 151

"No history of the Bendigo Rifles would be complete without reference to one of their first drill instructors (Sergeant O'Meara) who filled that position in this corps for above fifteen years. Previous to joining the Victorian Volunteer Force he had served thirteen years in the Imperial troops, and was present in India during the mutiny, where he was employed for some time in active service. He was a thorough soldier, and endeared himself to the officers and members by his geniality, while the men he drilled generally turned out first-class citizen-soldiers. Early in 1876 he was compelled to resign his position in consequence of an infection of the lungs. The officers and men of the corps presented him with a purse of sovereigns, and an emu egg handsomely mounted in silver, upon a pedestal of blackwood, bearing a suitable inscription. The following month Sergeant-Major O'Meara died, and the corps subsequently gave an amateur performance in the Royal Princess Theatre for the benefit of his widow, the sum of £120 being handed over to her."

"At the Victorian Rifle Association's meeting of 1876, thirty teams competed for a valuable challenge cup presented by Mrs. Scott-Sidons, the Bendigo representatives being the highest scorers and taking first place. Shortly afterwards matches were fired between the Bendigo Rifles, Southern Rifles, Emerald Hill Artillery, and Maldon Rifles, when "our own" were victorious in each match."

"In September, 1876, Mr. Simson, of Maryborough, presented for competition amongst teams from all the troops of Light Horse, a handsome gold medal to be fired for at 200, 400 and 600 yards on the Maryborough range. The Sandhurst representatives took first place easily, the scores being Lieutenant Henderson, 62 (with eight shots to fire); Trooper Hesse 91; Coulter 101; Delbridge 100; total, 354; Maryborough, 352; Ballarat, 222; Castlemaine, 203; Sandhurst thus winning by two points, and eight shots to spare. The medal was shortly afterwards competed for by the members of the team and won by trooper Hesse. At the Victorian Rifle Association's matches in October the Sandhurst troop made another effort to obtain Major Caleb Anderson's challenge plate, the first prize for the skirmishing match, and succeeded in wresting it from Castlemaine, who had held it for the previous year. The Sandhurst team consisted of Troopers Hesse, Delbridge, Coulter and Wright, and their total score was 44 points; Ballarat was second with 34 points. The riding, shooting and drill of the team were much admired, and far surpassed that of all other competitors, while in the other matches of the meeting Delbridge carried off £3 in prizes and Coulter £1. At this time the Sandhurst troop occupied the premier position as "shots" among the cavalry, and gave indubitable proof by the success which generally attended them in all competitions!"

p. 157
(1877)

The most noteworthy event of the year was the official inspection of the Bendigo Rifles by the Military Commission appointed to report on the defences of the Australian colonies - Sir William Jervois and Colonel Scratchley - which took place in July of that year. The remarks of Colonel Scratchley after his inspection were of a very highly complimentary character, coming as they did from an officer of distinction, and one who had only lately left Aldershot and the other training

grounds of the British Army. The inspecting officer said :- Major Joseph, officers, and men of the Bendigo Volunteer Rifles, his Excellency Sir William Jervois has deputed me to represent him on this occasion, and to inspect your corps. He sincerely regrets that severe indisposition should have compelled him to give up his visit to Sandhurst, which he was very anxious to see. It would have greatly pleased him as a soldier to witness what I have seen tonight. I am very gratified at the large muster. I find that out of a nominal strength of 181, there are 145 "effective" present. I notice particularly your soldierly-like bearing, the cleanliness of your uniforms, arms, and accoutrements, and the steadiness with which your commanders have put you through. It is satisfactory to find that so large a proportion of your corps has served for many years in the Volunteer Force, and I trust that you will continue to distinguish it by all the qualities I have alluded to. The people of this country should feel greatly indebted to the volunteers for the zeal they display, the leisure time they give up, and the inconvenience they submit to in the performance of their duties. I shall not fail to bring to the notice of Sir William Jervois what I have seen tonight. I allude with pleasure to the gratification I experience in being accompanied tonight by my two old friends - Colonels Bull and Rede - who have been associated with the force since its formation, and have so largely contributed towards its present state of efficiency."

Having won the Major Caleb Anderson Challenge Plate, the first prize in the skirmishing match, in 1876, the Sandhurst Cavalry were very anxious to repeat the performance in 1877, and thus obtain permanent possession of the trophy. The team selected to fire for it (and for the £10 added by the VRA) consisted of Captain Sibley, and Troopers Hesse, Delbridge, and Coulter, and well did they perform the task set them by taking first place with a score of 78 points in $7\frac{1}{2}$ minutes; Kyneton came second with 78 points in $11\frac{1}{4}$ minutes; and Ballarat third with 76 points in $8\frac{1}{2}$ minutes. The Trophy thus became the property of the Sandhurst troop, the victory being very popular. The individual scores were as follows :- Trooper Coulter, 27 points; Trooper Hesse, 25; Captain Sibley 23; and Trooper Delbridge, 3. The Sandhurst troop was officially inspected on 5th July by Colonel Scratchley, accompanied by Colonels Bull and Rede. The officers present were Major Moorhead, Captain Sibley, and Lieutenant Henderson. The visitors expressed their satisfaction at the appearance and steadiness of the men in the field movements executed.

p. 160
(1878)

In 1878 Major Joseph resigned the command of the Northern Battalion of Rifles, and Captain Blackham was appointed commanding officer of the Bendigo Corps. At the beginning of 1878 Lieutenant Henderson was promoted to the rank of captain of the cavalry, Captain Sibley, who declined the command, retaining his connection as a supernumerary officer. Mr. J. Bell and Mr. J. Warren were appointed lieutenants. At the VRA matches in November, Major Caleb Anderson, commanding the cavalry, presented another trophy for competition in skirmishing. Ballarat proved the victors with 75 points, Sandhurst winning second prize of £5 with 70, and Kyneton coming third with 48. The Sandhurst team consisted of Captain Sibley, Sergeant Hesse, and Troopers Coulter and Wright.

(On p. 161 appears a photograph of Major Joseph - full length, seated. Grey uniform, with scarlet cuffs according to a pencilled note by R.J. Peacock).

p. 167
(1879)

In 1879 the Sandhurst Troop of Cavalry again competed at the Rifle Association matches in the Cavalry Skirmishing Match for Major Anderson's trophy, which was won by Ballarat with a score of 102. Sandhurst came second with 86, and Melbourne third with 84. The Sandhurst team was Captain Sibley, Sergeant Hesse, and Troopers Delbridge and Clay, each of whom received a handsome silver cup.

p. 171
(1880)

Captain Blackham was promoted to the rank of Major of the Bendigo Rifles in 1880. Captain Henderson moved to Melbourne in 1880, and was appointed Adjutant to the regiment, upon which occasion the Sandhurst troop testified the high esteem in which they held him by presenting him with a sword of honour, upon which was engraved :- Presented by Sandhurst Troop of P^WVVLH to Thomas Hope Henderson, Captain commanding, as a mark of respect on his leaving the district, 28th April, 1880." On the retirement of Captain Henderson from the command, Captain Sibley accepted the position and retained the command until the disbandment of the regiment.

p. 176
(1881)

"The Royal Visitors (Prince George and Prince Albert) and vice-regal party were escorted by a guard of honor of the Bendigo Troop of Prince of Wales Light Horse, a party of mounted troopers preceding the procession to keep the way clear".

p. 178

In October a contingent of the local cavalry troop was established at Goornong by Captain Sibley.

p. 181
(1882)

At the beginning of 1882 Mr. J.R. Goodisson received his promotion to the rank of Lieutenant in the cavalry, in lieu of Lieutenant Warren who was leaving the district; Lieutenant Bell shortly afterwards received his Captaincy. At the cavalry shirmishing match, which was won by Kyneton, Dr. Beaney offered a silver trophy for individual members in "heads and posts" or pursuing practice. The prize was won by Corporal Reilly of the Sandhurst troop.

p. 187
(1883)

A Commission of Enquiry recommended that the volunteer force should be reconstituted, and that the members should be recompensed for their services, and formed into a militia, the headquarters staff to be composed of Imperial officers "seconded" or lent by the British Army for a period of five years. In accordance with this recommendation, an Act was passed by the Victorian Legislature to give effect to the alterations necessary in the defence force, and the volunteers were disbanded on 31st December, 1883. The final parade of the Bendigo Volunteer Rifle Corps took place on 10th December when Major Blackham was in command, and there were about 100 present. Amongst those on parade there were three members - Captain Anderson, Lieutenant Cahill, and Staff-Sergeant Fly - who joined the force on its inception, and had consequently given about 23 years' service, the three of them having received medals for long and effective service, and the Captain and the Staff-Sergeant Marksmen's Badges for 22 consecutive years. At the parade a gold watch and chain were presented to Sergeant Coyle, who had filled the position of drill instructor since the death of Sergeant O'Meara.

p. 192
(1884)

Under the Militia system which came into operation in 1884, the Sandhurst detachment of the 4th Battalion had a strength of upwards of 200.

The closing scene of the Bendigo Rifles took place in the Orderly Room on 30th January, when a grand banquet was held in honour of those officers and members of the late volunteer force who had decided to retire from active military service. Major Blackham occupied the chair, and seated on his right and left were Captains Sibley and Bell of the Cavalry, and Captains Palliser and Anderson, and Lieutenants of the late Volunteer Corps. About 150 were present, including some 20 of the Cavalry. The toasts included "The Late Bendigo Rifles", proposed by Captain Sibley, and responded to by Major Blackham; "The Sandhurst Troop", by Captain Anderson, and acknowledged by Captain Sibley. "Captain Anderson" by Sergeant Coyle, and responded to by that officer; "The Volunteer Band" by Lieutenant Cahill, acknowledged by Bandmaster Northcott.

During its life of 23 years the Bendigo Rifles had seven commanding officers, viz., Captains Anderson, Skene, Brewer, Lysaght, J.H. Taylor, and Majors G.P. Joseph and W.G. Blackham. During that period the drill was altered and modernised seven times, and the men armed with six different styles of rifle in the following order :- "Brown Bess" (for drill purposes), "Enfield", "General Hay", "Lancaster" (better known at the time as the "Gaspipe"), "Reduced-bore Lancaster", and the "Martini-Henri". There had been three surgeons - Drs. Betham, Stuart, and Hinchcliff, the last mentioned who was gazetted in 1876 being in office when the corps was disbanded.

On 20th February a valedictory banquet was tendered to Lieutenant J.R. Goodisson, of the Light Horse, who was about to visit England. There was a large and representative gathering, including Major C. Anderson, Colonel Parnell (of the United States Cavalry), Captain and Adjutant Henderson, Major Blackham, and Captain Anderson, of the Bendigo Rifles Corps, Mr. R. Burrowes, MLA one of the oldest members of the Sandhurst Troop; Mr. D.C. Sterry, MLC, and Mr. H. McColl, MLA. The chair was occupied by Captain Sibley, and Lieutenant Goodisson's health was proposed by his late commanding officer, Captain Henderson. During the evening, Mr. Burrowes, on behalf of the section of the Troop which had won Major Anderson's valuable trophy desired Captain and Adjutant Henderson's acceptance of it. The trophy consisted of massive silver wine coolers. Shortly after this event the regiment of Light Horse was disbanded, consequent upon the introduction of the Militia system. On 16th May, Captain R.B. Sibley, late commanding officer of the troop was presented by those lately under his command, and his brother officers, with a gold watch accompanied by an address expressive of the high esteem in which he was held during his lengthened service.

(On this page appear portrait photos of Captains Anderson and Sibley, and Lieutenant Cahill (all in uniform). On p. 193 a photo of Major Blackham (not in uniform) appears).

p. 214
(1888)

In June, Sir W.J. Clark's prize, competed for by the Infantry Battalions, was won by the Fourth Battalion (Castlemaine and Bendigo) by a large number of points.

p. 219
(1889)

On 8th March, a farewell military dinner was given to Major Blackham and Captains Dyason and Cordner, on the occasion of their retirement from active positions in the Victorian Defence Force.

p. 233
(1891)

The strength of the Bendigo detachment of cavalry in 1891 was 71. Major Kirby was the commanding officer, but during his absence from Victoria in 1889, the troop was under the temporary command of Lieut. G.G. McColl. The local cadets, known as the First Battalion of the Victorian Cadets, were over 200 strong, and were commanded by Captain Campbell. (End of Book).

by Adrian S. Tatarinoff M.A.P.A.

ORIGIN:

In the 1850's, as the British troops were leaving the Eastern Provinces, the existing Militia Forces were reorganised. The 1st Company of the "Voltigeurs de Quebec" was formed on the 12th June, 1856; the 2nd, made up of students from the Ecole Normale de Quebec, on 16th December 1861, led by 27 year old Captain Ernest Gagnon; the 3rd was born, 27th January 1862; the 4th on 18th February 1862 and the 5th on the 7th March, 1862. On this last date, these five Companies were united under the title of "9th Battalion Volunteer Militia Rifles", commonly known as Voltigeurs de Quebec.

This new Battalion was commanded by Lt. Col. Charles de Salabery, and as Queen Victoria gave her Royal Approval in 1862, this Regiment is thus the oldest French-Canadian Regiment in the country.

Two of the original Companies were composed of Scottish troops which were, on 8th February, 1867, transferred to the 8th Battalion, now known as the Royal Rifles of Canada.

ACTIVE SERVICE:

In 1864, that is merely two years after its creation, one Company is sent to Sandwich and Windsor; the following year, another Company, under the command of Lt. Col. Vohl, is rushed to the American border, thus entwining the Regiment's name with the Trent Affair, a delicate episode in Anglo-American relations prior to the American Civil War.

During the Fenian Invasion in 1866, the complete Regiment is mobilised, one Company under Capt. Gingras is sent to Niagara, the rest remaining in Quebec.

The next complete mobilisation of the 9th is in 1870, during the Fenian's second invasion; it is then housed at the Jesuit Convent (now the Town Hall of Quebec). A few years later, in 1884, a number of "Voltigeurs" took part in the Nile Expedition with the Canadian Contingent.

The 9th was among the first to respond to the call to arms to quell the North-West Rebellion in 1885; it left Quebec for the West on the 3rd April under the command of Lt.-Col. Guillaume Amyot; for this occasion, it received a flag from the City of Quebec.

This hard campaign demonstrated the endurance of the Voltigeurs. The Canadian Pacific Railway had not by then been completed, the Regiment covered half the distance (1674 miles) on foot, part of the trip being across Lake Superior, in melting snow and water. However, the discipline and bearing of the Voltigeurs throughout the trip from Quebec to Winnipeg during the campaign and on the return trip was deeply admired and applauded by all. Once again in 1899, volunteers from the 9th took part in the South African War, including the entire campaign against the Boers in the Transvaal.

FIRST WORLD WAR:

Lt.-Col. G. Amyot raised 550 volunteers in 48 hours at the Declaration of the 1st W.W. On 30th September, the first contingent of Voltigeurs leave Quebec, followed, in November, by more than 500 Officers and men, as part of the 22nd Bn. Expeditionary Force. The Regiment recruited for the 12th, 57th, 41st and 22nd Bns. of the C.E.F.

POST-WAR PERIOD:

In 1920, the 9th receives the official name of "Voltigeurs de Quebec". (15th October, 1920).

SECOND WORLD WAR:

At the outbreak of the War, a number of Voltigeurs are mobilised in the Internal Security Force. In 1941, the remainder of the Regiment undergoes intensive training at Camp Borden, and is renamed "24th Recce Bn.", becoming an armoured Unit. However, it reverts to an Infantry role, is returned its original name, and upon its landing in Europe, is accredited with being the "Most efficient and best trained of all Regiments to pass through England" (General Samson).

Upon reaching England on 20th July, 1943, the Regiment was dismembered to reinforce other French-Canadian Units (effective 29th September, 1943); one group going to the Royal 22nd in Sicily, other segments to the Regiment de la Chaudiere, Fusiliers Mont-Royal and Regt. de Maisonneuve. Over 3000 men underwent training with the Voltigeurs during WW II.

POST-WAR PERIOD:

The 2nd Bn. of the Regiment which had remained in Canada during the War formed the basis for the reorganised Militia, and became the Mounted Infantry Bn. of the 20th Armoured Brigade under the command of Lt-Col. J. Gendron ED.

In July 1953, the Regiment allied itself with the Duke of Wellington's Regiment by Royal Authorisation.

BATTLE HONOURS:

North-West Canada 1885; Mont-Sorel; Somme 1916; Arras 1917; Cote 70; Ypres 1917; Amiens.

MOTTO: "Force a Superbe, Mercy a Foible!"



BADGE IN SILVER

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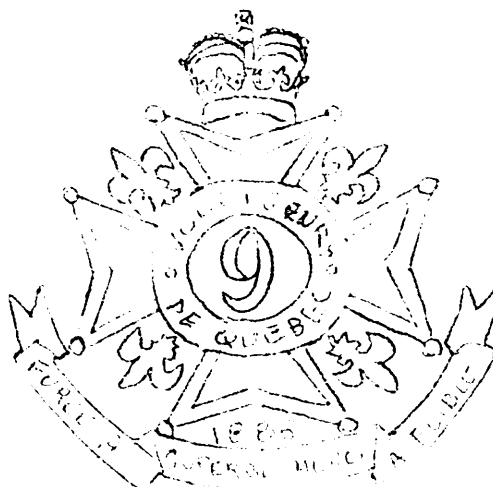
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BADGE IN SILVER

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY HISTORYSome Sources for the Study of the Period 1788-1870 Part 2.

BRODIGAN, Francis ed. - Historical records of the 28th North Gloucestershire Regiment, from 1692 to 1882. London, Blackfriars Printing and Publishing Co., 1884.

DANIELL, David Scott - Cap of honour. The story of the Gloucestershire Regiment, the 28th/61st Foot, 1694-1950, from material provided by Colonel R.M.Grazebrook, etc. London, Harrap, 1951.

A short history of the Gloucestershire Regiment. Aldershot, Gale & Polden, (1923)

80th Foot.

JONES, James P. - A history of the South Staffordshire Regiment, 1705-1923. Wolverhampton, Whitehead Bros., 1923.

51st Foot.

WHEATER, W . - A record of the services of the 51st (Second West York) the King's Own Light Infantry Regiment. With a list of officers from 1755 to 1870. London, Longmans, Green, 1870. (Reprinted from the United Service Magazine for 1869.)

WYLLY, H C - History of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. London, P. Lund, Humphies & Co., (1926-1961) (Vol. 3 by Reginald C. Bond; vol. 4. A register of officers, by Sir Charles P. Deedes; vol. 5. by Walter Hingston.)

The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. London & Melbourne. Hutchinson. (1941) (The Roll of the Drum.)

Short history and traditions of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. Aldershot, Gale & Polden, 1920.

A short history of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry 1755-1928. Pontefract, W. McGowan, 1929.

96th Foot.

See 63rd Foot.

99th Foot.

(CARTER, H M ?) - Historical retrospect of the Wiltshire Regiment. (1899)

GILLSON, R M T . - A short history of the Wiltshire Regiment (Duke of Edinburgh's) (62nd and 99th Foot) from 1756 to 1918. London, Gale & Polden, 1921.

KENRICK, N C E . - The story of the Wiltshire Regiment (Duke of Edinburgh's) the 62nd and 99th Foot. 1963.

58th Foot.

See 48th Foot.

11th Foot.

(CANNON, Richard, comp.) - Historical record of the 11th or the North Devon Regiment of Foot. (1685-1845) 1845.

TAYLOR, Jeremy - The Devons. A history of the Devonshire Regiment, 1685-1945. Bristol, White Swan Press, 1951.

The Bloody Eleventh. The story of the Devonshire Regiment. London & Melbourne, Hutchinson, (1941). (The Roll of the Drum.)

A short history of the Devonshire Regiment. London, Gale & Polden, 1921.

65th Foot.

BROUGHTON, E C .ed. - Memoirs of the 65th Regiment, 1st Battalion, the York and Lancaster Regiment, 1745 to 1913. London, William Clowes & Sons, 1914.

PAYNE, A A . - A concise history of the York and Lancaster Regiment. Bristol, J.W. Arrowsmith, 1922.

RAIKES, G A - Roll of the officers of the York and Lancaster Regiment, containing a complete record of their services .. (1756 to 1884.) 2 parts. London, R. Bentley & Son, 1885.

WYLLY, H C - The York and Lancaster Regiment, 1758-(1953). 3 volumes. Frome & London, Butler & Tanner, 1930-1956. (Vol. 3. 1919-1953, by O.F. Sheffield.)

12th Foot.

CANNON, Richard, comp. - Historical record of the 12th, or the East Suffolk Regiment of Foot (1685-1847.) 1848. (This volume provides background material but does not include the period when the 12th Foot was serving in Australia.)

WEBB, Edward Arthur Howard - History of the 12th (the Suffolk) Regiment, 1685-1913. London, Spottiswoode & Co., 1914.

An illustrated record of the 12th Foot for 250 years. 23 June, 1685 - 23rd June, 1935 (Bury St. Edmunds), 1935.

A short history of the Suffolk Regiment. London, Gale & Polden, 1921.

GARDINER, C H - Centurions of a century, among which are many who have soldiered in the 12th, or the Suffolk Regiment of Foot. 1915.

77th Foot.

See also 57th Foot.

WOOLLRIGHT, Henry Herriott - Records of the 77th (East Middlesex) the Duke of Cambridge's Own Regiment of Foot, now the 2nd Battalion, the Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment.) (1907)

14th Foot.

(CANNON, Richard. comp.) - Historical records of the 14th or the Buckinghamshire Regiment of Foot. (1685-1845) 1845
(This volume provides background material but does not include the period when the 14th Foot was serving in Australia.)

O'DONNELL, Henry ed. - Historical records of the 14th Regiment, now the Prince of Wales's Own (West Yorkshire Regiment) from its formation in 1685 to 1892. Devonport, A.H.Swiss, (1893)

(TEMPEST, E V) - History of the West Yorkshire Regiment ... Leeds, Henry Walker; Bradford, D. Wilson, 1941.

A short history of the West Yorkshire Regiment, the Prince of Wales' Own. London, 1921.

18th Foot.

CANNON, Richard, comp. - Historical record of the 18th, or the Royal Irish Regiment of Foot, (1684-1848) 1848.
(This volume provides background material, but does not include the period when the 18th Foot was serving in Australia.)

GRETTON, G leM - The campaigns and history of the Royal Irish Regiment from 1684 to ... (1922) 2 volumes.
Edinburgh & London, William Blackwood & Sons, 1911-1927.
(vol. 2 by Stannus Geoghegan.)

A short history of the Royal Irish Regiment. London, Gale & Polden, 1921.

Royal Artillery.

CALLWELL, Sir Charles - The history of the Royal Artillery from the Indian mutiny to the Great War, by Sir Charles Callwell and Sir John Headlam. 2 volumes. (1937)

DUNCAN, F - History of the Royal Regiment of Artillery.
2 volumes. 1873.
2nd ed. 3rd ed. 1879.

HIME, H W L - History of the Royal Regiment of
Artillery, 1815-1853. 1908.

JOCELYN, J R J - The history of the Royal Artillery
(Crimean period.) 1911.

This list is not necessarily exhaustive, nor do I suggest that all of these books contain information about the regiments during their period of service in Australia. However, the military historian who is interested in such subjects as the customs, colours and dress of these regiments cannot afford to ignore these sources. Likewise, other general military histories may be useful, such as :-

CLODE, C M - The military forces of the Crown, their
administration and government. 2 volumes. 1869.

CHICHESTER, Henry Manners - the records and badges of every regiment
and corps in the British Army, by Henry Manners Chichester and
George Burges-Short. Gale & Polden, 1895.

RUDOLF, R deM ed. - Short histories of the territorial
regiments of the British army. London (1905)

Colours of Infantry regiments of the British army. London, Gale
& Polden, (1916)

A LIST OF OFFICERS OF THE SCOTTISH COY. STH. AUSTRALIAN MILITARY
FORCES AND SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SCOTTISH INFANTRY.

by Robt. Gray

Lieut. A.J. McLachlan (O.C.)	}	Scottish Coy. 1900-1903.
" J.B. Stevenson.		
" T.H.Smeaton.		
Capt. T.H. Smeaton (C.O.)	}	S.A. Scottish Inf. 1903-1907.
Lieut. D. Sutherland.		
" J.J. Stewart.		
" R. Patrick		
" S. Clark		
Capt. J.J. Stewart (C.O.)	}	S.A. Scottish Inf. 1907-1911.
Lieut. D.D. Gordon		
" D. Beasley.		
" C. Smith.	}	S.A. Scottish Inf. 1911-1912.
Lieut. D.D. Gordon (C.O.)		
" G.E. Redberg.		
" F.G. Giles		
" M.J. Herbert		

A LOOK AT THE BADGE OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY.

By B. J. Videon.



In 1902 a badge was struck for the use of the 1st Battalion Australian Commonwealth Horse who were serving in Australia's contingents to the South African War.

This badge was to become the forerunner of many of similar appearance, including those worn in the two major world wars of this century.

It and its successors have been illustrated and "written up" in various publications over the years, the latest of which was Mr. E.R.A. Garrett's article in the Australian Army Journal No. 186 of November 1964, pp 14-23.

There is no need therefore to trace in detail the history of its design and adoption, concerning which there is still some controversy. It is of interest, though, to list the main variants in order to appreciate that, as the need has arisen, so has it been deemed expedient to adapt the badge to the requirement of the time.

Firstly, it should be mentioned that, in at least three States, badges embodying the device now familiarly referred to as "the rising sun" were in use from about 1885 to 1903.

BADGES OF THE AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH MILITARY FORCES UTILISING THE DEVICE REFERRED TO AS "THE RISING SUN" :-

1. The original seven-pointed badge bearing the word "Australia" around a crown.
2. A more elaborate version with the wording "Australian Commonwealth Horse".
3. A variation of No. 1 showing more clearly defined "rays", with a cutout behind the word "Australia". This badge was worn by the contingent to the Coronation of King Edward VII.
4. The design brought out in 1903 by Gaunts, which served as the pattern for all subsequent General Service Badges to this day. This appeared in sterling silver, in gilt, in white metal, in bronze, in brass, and, in its most elaborate form, in a combination of gilt, silver and red enamel for Staff officers. This badge served as Australia's officially approved badge in both the first and second World Wars, and was used by all units who did not have a special badge of their own, including Volunteer Defence Corps (Home Guard), Australian Womens Army Service, Australian Army Medical Womens Service, Australian Army Nursing Service prior to it becoming a Corps, and many Cadet units.
5. In 1949 the word "Commonwealth" was taken out of the scrolls.
6. In 1965 the introduction of St. Edward's Crown was belatedly accomplished in, initially, an order of small-sized badges, to be followed shortly after by some of the larger size.

In addition to the foregoing, many regiments and corps utilised the sun-shaped background as a basis for their own unit devices, thus producing a series of similar-shaped regimental badges. Other units employed the general service badge in miniature in some part of their own badges. Finally, the badge itself appeared in a number of embroidered cloth formation badges, the latest of which is that worn in South East Asia in the series of conflicts of recent years.

So well-known, indeed, has the badge become, that, even in the minds of those who are not particularly interested in badges, it automatically associates itself with the image of Australian soldiers. (This writer has even been given as "Royal Australian Navy" a button of the P & O Line, which features a rising sun over an anchor!)

It is unfortunate that the design of 1965 must be considered as a purely interim effort. The basis for this contention lies in the title scroll. The wording is "AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES". In modern

parlance the term, as probably in oldest times, may be construed to include all the armed forces at the command of the authorities, i.e., including the seaborne, and, later, the aerial forces also. The words do not adequately identify, therefore, the Australian Army which wears the badge. These more appropriate words should be substituted as speedily as possible in place of the present wording.

At this time, consideration should also be given to the possibility of "pepping up" the badge. Well though it has served us since its inception, the need for a further change is now indicated.

A suggestion that has considerable merit is illustrated by the sketch at the head of this article.

It will be seen that, whilst the general silhouette remains unaltered, a central design has been added. This is the image of the first badge of 1902, complete with its heraldic wreath. The crown is the present "St. Edward's Crown", and the words "AUSTRALIAN ARMY" are displayed on the scroll.

Heraldically, the design is most significant. The central device is the crown, as befits a unit of the British Commonwealth. A seven-pointed star over a heraldic wreath surmounts the coat of arms of the Commonwealth of Australia, and the relationship of this to the seven-pointed sun over a wreath can not be ignored. The seven points, themselves, may be taken to represent the seven states of the Australian Commonwealth from which the army draws its men.

With Australian soldiers once more serving overseas on foreign battlefields, it may be appropriate for them once more to wear a general service badge. What is more apt than to have one which commemorates not only the design that became so well-known in two world wars, but also the "grand-daddy" of them all, the badge taken to South Africa by the 1st Australian Commonwealth Horse.

That the spirit and service of these early "diggers" would prove an inspiration to today's fighting Australian soldier is as undoubted as the desirability of merging their badges into one.

A LIST OF SOME UNOFFICIAL BADGES OF THE FIRST A.I.F.

By R. Gray.

4th Light Horse Regt., 5th Light Horse, Regt., 6th Light Horse Regt., 7th Light Horse Regt., 8th Light Horse Regt., 10th Light Horse Regt., 12th Light Horse Regt., 13th Light Horse Regt., 14th Light Horse Regt., Camel Corps., Postal Corps., Machine Gun Squadron, Wireless Squadron, 4th Field Artillery, 4th Railway Unit.

DESPATCHES

(Questions, comments and answers from readers)

LEGION OF FRONTIERSMEN.

I should like to add a footnote to the most interesting article on the Legion (April, page 95), mainly for those interested in their badges.

The Canadian Branch badge differs slightly from those of the other Corps, as it is surmounted by a beaver, with the collars in matching pairs. During the 1914-18 War, when the Legion formed the 25th Battalion Royal Fusiliers, three distinctly different badges were worn, all, however, being in the form of a fusilier grenade with the words "25th (Frontiersmen) Battalion, Royal Fusiliers". The first pattern was in copper and handmade. The two later badges were diestruick, the first being in brass, and the other and officers pattern in gilt and enamel.

The Canadian Expeditionary Force also had a separate badge struck, consisting of the letters "L.F." in script within a wreath in brass. The collar badge comprised the initials alone.

C.A. Moore

SOUDAN CONTINGENT.

In the July 1964 issue of "Sabretache" there appeared an interesting article on the N.S.W. Contingent to the Soudan in 1885. I wish to add the following information to this article :-

Served in the N.S.W. Soudan
Contingent.

Capt. L.H. Kyngdon. Coy. D.
Lieut. H.P. Airey. Artillery
Sgt. T.J. Lynch. Artillery.
Orderly Clerk Sgt. T.H. Rouse
69 Pte. J. O'Brien. Coy. D.
D.W. Cope.

Served in the Sth. African War
as :-

Lieut. Col. Special Service Officer
Lieut. Col. NSW Citizen Bushmen.
Lieut. NSW Citizen Bushmen.
Lieut. NSW Citizen Bushmen.
234 Pte. Queensland Mounted Infantry
Lieut. NSW Citizen Bushmen.

Col. W.D.C. Williams served in the Soudan, South Africa and World War 1.
G.P. Rauchle also served in the Soudan, South Africa and World War 1.
He died in 1958 aged 92 and was the last known survivor of the contingent.

Deaths.

Vet. Surgeon A. Willows
Pte. J.D. Collister. Coy. D.
Pte. R. Perry. Coy. D.

Typhoid fever - at sea.
Typhoid fever - at Colombo.
Typhoid fever - at Sydney.

Pte. R. Weir. Coy. D. was the first member of an Australian unit to die on active service.

Pte. B. Berry Coy. A. and Gnr. J. Davidson were in hospital in England.

List of known surviving veterans in 1950.

G. Anderson.	W. Muggleston.
R. Ashworth.	P.J. Mahoney.
J.H. Cambridge.	H. Parkes.
W.J. Cox.	G.P. Rauchle.
G.E. Douglas.	W.O. Russell.
R. Esther.	E.H. Shanks.
P.J. Eppell.	B. Tucker.
J. Fraser.	C.F. Wearne.
P.B. McCabe.	J.A. Walker.

No doubt there could be other interesting details brought to light by members of the Military Historical Society of Australia through doing research work on the contingent.

Robert Gray.

"THE N.S.W. CONTINGENT TO THE SOUDAN 1885. (Sab. Vol. XII No. 1 1964)

The following extract from a letter published in "Army" Vol. 6 No. 6 of 3rd September, 1964 is of interest to those who read this article. (The extract is published by permission of the Editor of "Army").

"..... The remaining sole survivor of the Sudan Contingent, Mr. George Rauchle, died in Orange, NSW, about four months ago.

Until 1963 he led the Anzac Day march past the saluting base, though in latter years he joined the march before it reached the saluting base.

I do not know whether Mr. Rauchle soldiered on after the Sudan or whether he re-enlisted later, but many times he told me he had taken his discharge from the Artillery in 1902.

For many years he occupied a position as groundsman at the Orange Municipal tennis courts and served during the Boer War and World War I in the Army.

Mr. Rauchle's son, Fred, served with distinction, winning awards for bravery in World War I and was also selected to attend the Coronation of King George VI.

At the time of selection for the Contingent he was serving with the CMF and was CSM of C Company, 20/54th Battalion, Orange.

Orange also had the distinction of being the only country town which had two representatives at the Coronation - the other being Sgt. Eric Hennessy of the 6th Australian Light Horse, who also distinguished himself by soldiering-on and attaining the rank of Lt.-Col."

"Tiki," 6th Engr. Stores
Regt. Penrith, N.S.W.

In "Blue Haven" - The Centenary History of Kiama NSW, William A. Bayley states that the following Sudan Volunteers were from Kiama - John Walker, Thomas Newing, James Armstrong, Robert Weir, William Arnold, Robert Jervis and J.P.H. Eppell. Robert Weir who died on the Hospital Ship "Ganges" is claimed to be the first Australian Soldier to die in the service of the British Empire.

The names J. Armstrong, J.R. Eppel, T.H. Newing, R. Weir all appear in D Company in the Sudan Roll reproduced in July, 1964, edition of "Sabretache". In the same company is R. Jenis. Could this perhaps have been a misprint for R. JERVIS when the Roll was originally compiled? There is a B. Arnold in B. Company, but J. Walker cannot be found anywhere in the list.

T.C. Sargent.
Major
R. Aust. Svy.

SOME MEDAL RIBBONS AND THEIR MEANINGS.

I wish to draw attention to a misprint on page 87 of the April issue. The date for the India General Service medal should, of course read 1854 and not 1954.

Robert Gray.

FORMATION OF A VICTORIAN BRANCH OF THE SOCIETY.

A Victorian Branch (separate from the H.Q. of the Society) has been formed.

Meetings are held on the second Friday of each month, at the G.F.S. Building, cnr. Spring St. and Flinders Lane, Melbourne, at 8pm.

MEMBERS' ADVERTISEMENTS

WANTED.

By purchase or exchange helmet plate Civil Service Rifle Volunteer Corps; 42 Bn. hat badge with St. Edwards Crown; 6 Bn. badge with St. Edwards Crown; Australian and New Zealand badges, buttons, embroidered titles, belt clasps; 1st A.I.F. shoulder titles D.H.Q., L.H.B., I.B., F.C., M.P., P.O.C., A.V.C., A.P.C. Shoulder titles and badges of Australian troops in Sth. Africa. Wings of the Australian Flying Corps WW1.

R. Gray,
5 Elder Tce., Glengowrie. S.A.

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