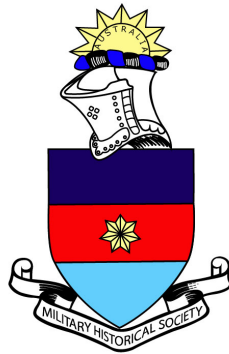


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Sabretache



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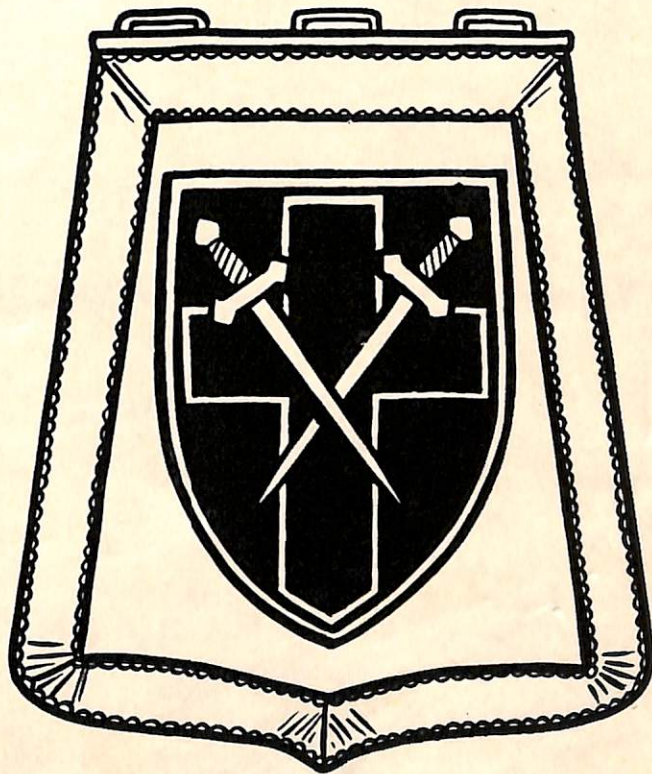
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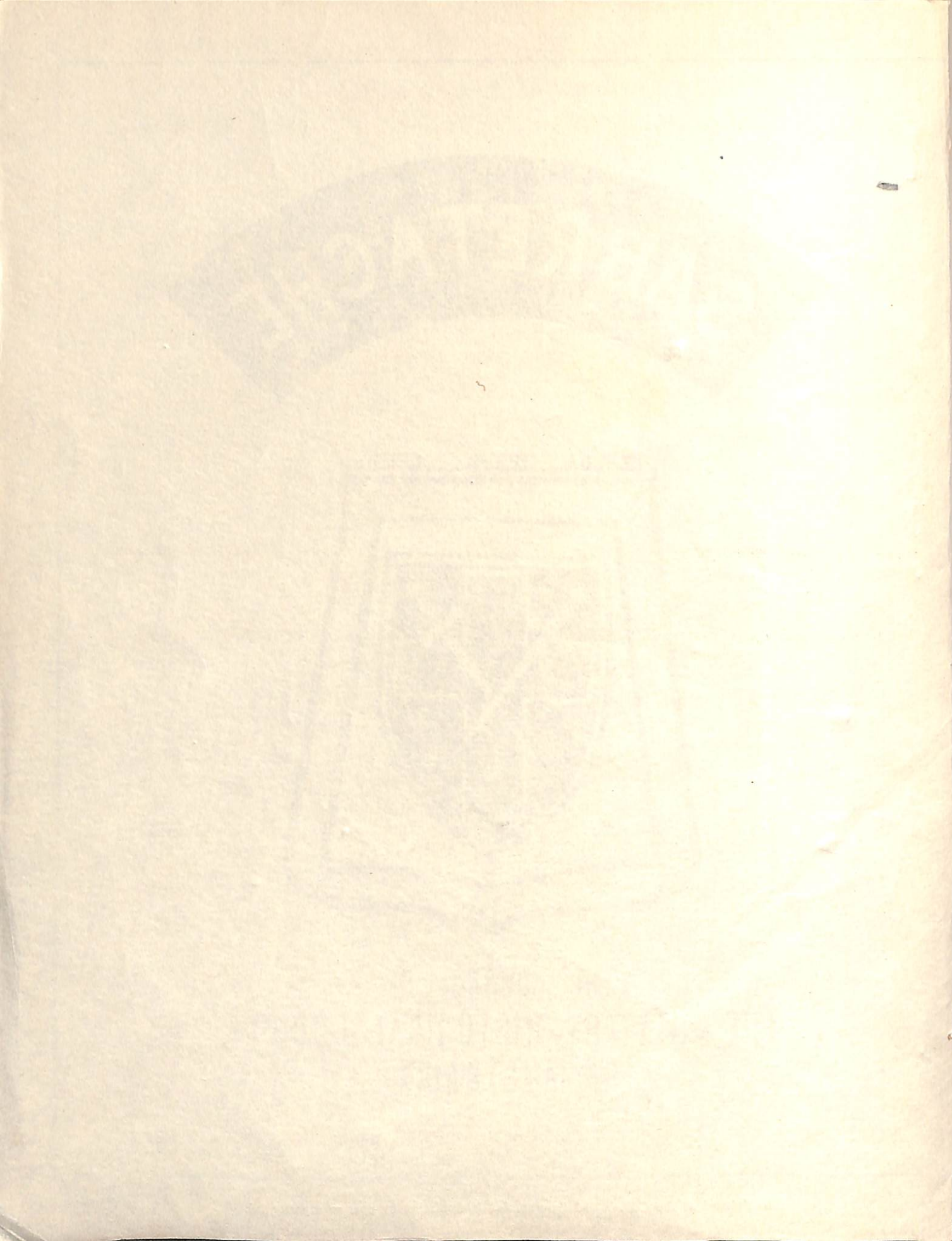


THE JOURNAL OF
THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF AUSTRALIA

VOL. VIII

OCTOBER, 1965

No. 2



THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

Founded in Melbourne in 1957

HONORARY OFFICE BEARERS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th JUNE, 1966.

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THE
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TO THE
HONORABLE
MEMBERS OF THE
NAVY

FOR THE
YEAR 1900

"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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PLATES

AUSTRALIAN TANKS IN NEW GUINEA	frontispiece
NINE SQUADRON BADGES OF THE R.A.A.F.	facing page 7.



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

AUSTRALIAN TANKS IN NEW GUINEA

Journal and Proceedings of
THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA.

Vol. VIII

OCTOBER, 1965

No. 2

Price : Four shillings and sixpence

EDITOR'S NOTES

UNIT HISTORIES.

It is regretted that, in the last edition, the history of No. 77 Squadron R.A.A.F. was not commenced and finished on both sides of a single sheet as intended, for those who wish to file the series separately. As we have the stencils of this issue on hand, will any person who requires this history run off on a single sheet please write to the Editor with this request, and forward a 5d. stamp for return mail.

The series is continued in this issue.

"AUSTRALIAN ARMY LINEAGE."

Members who originally subscribed some time ago for the Lineage of the Australian Army compiled by Mr. A.N. Festberg will be pleased to hear that the draft has now been approved, and that production will now be undertaken by the Victorian Branch of the Society. The Federal Committee regrets its inability to achieve publication in a reasonable time after advertising the work in the first instance, but wishes to point out that the delays were beyond the control of the Society. In view of the long delay, the Federal Council has refunded amounts subscribed.

The Victorian Branch now plans a production of standard equal to the best productions of "SABRETACHE". Typing will be thoroughly proof-read by the compiler and one other, in order to ensure absence of typographical errors. Contents will include :-

Introduction
Foreword
Historical outline of the State Forces pre-Federation
Organisation of the Military Forces 1902-1965.
Lineages of Regiments existing in 1965
Discontinued regiments of Light Horse, Infantry and
Armoured Corps

and The Australian Imperial Forces.

It is hoped that some illustrations can be included of badges, and some detail of uniform changes.

Orders at the pre-publication price of £2 per copy will now be accepted from Australian members. Please send money with orders. Overseas members are asked to place their orders, but not to forward money until they are advised that the book is ready for despatch.

All correspondence concerning this book should be addressed to Mr. B.J. Videon, Treasurer, Victorian Branch, MHS, 20 Thomasina St., BENTLEIGH EAST, SE15, Vic.

FURTHER PROJECT.

Following the completion of the above work, it is intended to commence work on a companion volume dealing with the standards, guidons, colours, banners and flags of the Australian Armed Forces, and, if possible, of the pre-Federation State Forces.

If any member can help this work along to fruition by sending any information regarding :-

- Where colours are laid up,
- Honorary Banners for South African Service,
- P P Presentation or Laying-on ceremonies (copies of programmes would be appreciated)
- Any other relative material.

No matter is too small to mention. Any material on loan will be returned after copying. All letters will be acknowledged.

Please write to the Branch Secretary, Victorian Branch, M.H.S.A.,

Mr. B. Hirsh,
158 Kambrook Road,
Caulfield S.E.8. Vic.

* * *

BRANCHES AND MEMBERSHIP.

Elsewhere in this edition, readers will see an anonymous and pertinent rhyme submitted by Mr. Robert Gray of South Australia.

Your Committee wishes to urge all members to make the most use of the Society, by attending meetings, talking on matters on which they are informed, submitting articles to the journal (good journalistic practice at the least!), and advertising in the Members' ads. section. And try to introduce new members!

Recently we have had a somewhat annoying time in sorting out our constitutional problems. It is felt that these are now behind us, with the regularising of decentralised management by approved Branches.

There will never be a better time than NOW to concentrate our energies and interests once again entirely on our hobbies or studies. The satisfaction which comes from SHARING will more than repay the slight effort involved.

.....

H.M.A.S. CERBERUS (PART 2).

The title "CERBERUS" was attached to the ship of that name only, until 1st July, 1912. On that date the Naval Depot at Williamstown (Victoria) was commissioned as H.M.A.S. CERBERUS, and all the attached ratings thenceforth wore tally ribbons bearing the name CERBERUS.

The title H.M.A.S. CERBERUS II was officially attached to the London Depot in 1919-1921, but for the purposes of appointments etc. it has retained the name as an offshoot of H.M.A.S. CERBERUS.

On 1st April, 1921, Flinders Naval Depot took the title H.M.A.S. CERBERUS, and on the same day the Williamstown Depot closed down, to re-open at Pascoe Street, Williamstown, as a Sub-District Naval Depot on 1st October, 1923.

At the outbreak of World War II all naval depots assumed the status of commissioned ships. The following bore the name of CERBERUS:

Melbourne (including Williamstown)	H.M.A.S. CERBERUS III
Adelaide (Base organisation, S.A.)	H.M.A.S. CERBERUS IV
Freemantle (Base organisation, W.A.)	H.M.A.S. CERBERUS V
Hobart (Base organisation, Tas.)	H.M.A.S. CERBERUS VI

The impracticability of the designations, and the resulting confusion led to the re-naming of the Base Organisations on 1st August, 1940, as follow :-

H.M.A.S. CERBERUS III	became	H.M.A.S. LONSDALE
H.M.A.S. CERBERUS IV	"	H.M.A.S. TORRENS
H.M.A.S. CERBERUS V	"	H.M.A.S. LEEUWIN
H.M.A.S. CERBERUS VI	"	H.M.A.S. DERWENT

Flinders Naval Depot is the chief Recruit Training Centre of the Royal Australian Navy, and all adult entry recruits receive their initial training there. The following training divisions, within its precincts, provide for specialised training in certain branches of the Navy :-
Seamanship, Gunnery, Physical Training, Communications (W/T and Visual), Engineering (Electrical and Mechanical), Supply and Secretariat (Writer, Stores, Cookery and Stewards), Medical (Sick Berth Attendants, Dental Assistants), Music, Instructional Technique, Regulating, W.R.A.N.S. Recruit Training.

Between 1930 and 1958 the Royal Australian Naval College (H.M.A.S. CRESWELL) was situated also at Flinders Naval Depot.

ERRATA TO PART I (SABRETACHE Page 4) for "army" read "navy".

.....

FIFTY YEARS OF MILITARY AVIATION IN AUSTRALIA.

The Victorian Division of the Air Force Association during 1965 caused a medallion to be struck to commemorate the celebration in 1964 of the fiftieth year of Australian military aviation.

A very limited number of medallions were issued in silver, and two hundred only in bronze. These were sold at £5 and 30/- respectively, and the proceeds of the sales went to the Air Forces Memorial Appeal Centre.

Attractive in appearance, the medallions will undoubtedly become rarities because of the very limited number struck. Those in sterling silver appear to be quite unobtainable. The first silver medallion struck was presented to Sir Richard Williams on 8th May, and a similar one to Mr. D. Manwell. These gentlemen are the only surviving members of No. 1 Flying Course, which was held at the Military Flying School, at Point Cook, in 1914, with four students participating. Sir Richard achieved the rank of Air Marshal prior to his retirement from the service.

The obverse shows the badge of the Air Force Association, with the words "STRUCK BY THE AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION", and the reverse shows aircraft of 1914 and 1964 with their respective dates, and the words "FIFTY YEARS OF MILITARY FLYING". A small plastic envelope protects each medallion from damage.



B.J. Videon.

No. 1 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

Badge
as
Plate

BADGE: On the Jerusalem Cross a diving
kookaburra.

MOTTO: "Videmus agamus"

AUTHORITY: King George VI, May 1940.

The badge commemorates Captain Frank McNamara's
Victoria Cross-winning action.

BATTLE HONOURS: EGYPT 1916, PALESTINE 1916-1918,
PACIFIC 1944-1945, MALAYA 1941-1942,
DARWIN 1944, BORNEO 1945.

No. 1 Squadron (Australian Flying Corps) was formed at Point Cook in September 1915, and left Melbourne on 16th March 1916, with 28 Officers and 195 other ranks.

On arrival in Egypt the squadron was equipped with BE2C aircraft by the Royal Flying Corps. In September 1916 it was re-designated No. 67 (Australian) Squadron (RFC).

Captain (later Air Vice-Marshal) Frank McNamara won his Victoria Cross on 8th June, 1917.

On 6th February 1918, the squadron reverted to its original designation No. 1 Squadron (AFC). In 1919 it returned to Point Cook and was disbanded.

The squadron was re-formed at Point Cook in 1922 as No. 1 (Composite) Squadron, and for years reflected the typical peacetime airforce operations --- training, air search for lost prospectors etc., photographic work, meteorological flights, as well as transport of V.I.P. passengers.

Prior to moving to Malaya in the middle of 1941, No. 1 Squadron converted to Hudson bombers. On 8th December it was based at Kofa Kharu. Forced back to Sumatra, it took part in the defence of the Netherlands East Indies. The Commanding Officer and 160 other ranks were captured on Java when the N.E.I. capitulated.

In Australia No. 1 Squadron was reformed in 1943, and equipped with Beauforts. Towards the end of 1944 the Squadron converted to Mosquito bombers.

At the end of the War No. 1 Squadron returned to Australia and was reduced to cadre basis by the end of 1946.

Reformed again in 1948, the squadron equipped with Lincoln bombers, and by July 1950 was back in Malaya in response to a request by the British Government for assistance in suppressing Communist terrorism in the Malayan jungles. In August 1954 the first Australian-built Canberra bomber was handed over to the R.A.A.F., and the squadron converted to these aircraft soon after.

AWARDS: In September 1957, the Squadron became the first of the R.A.A.F. to receive its Squadron Standard.

It won the Gloucester Cup for the Most Efficient Squadron in the years 1950-51, 1954-55, 1958-59, and 1959-60.

On 8th July 1962, an affiliation with No. 24 (City of Adelaide) (Auxiliary) Squadron (CAF) was approved.

.....

NUMBERS 2 and 3 SQUADRONS, R.A.A.F.

COMPILER'S NOTE: A certain amount of confusion seems to exist in regard to the origins of these two squadrons of the Australian Flying Corps, due, doubtless, to the change in numbers before and after their attachment to the Royal Flying Corps. In order to avoid further discussions, the sources used to compile these two histories are given as footnotes.

No. 2 SQUADRON.

BADGE: An Australian piping shrike (magpie) displayed charged on the breast with a Fleur-de-Lys.

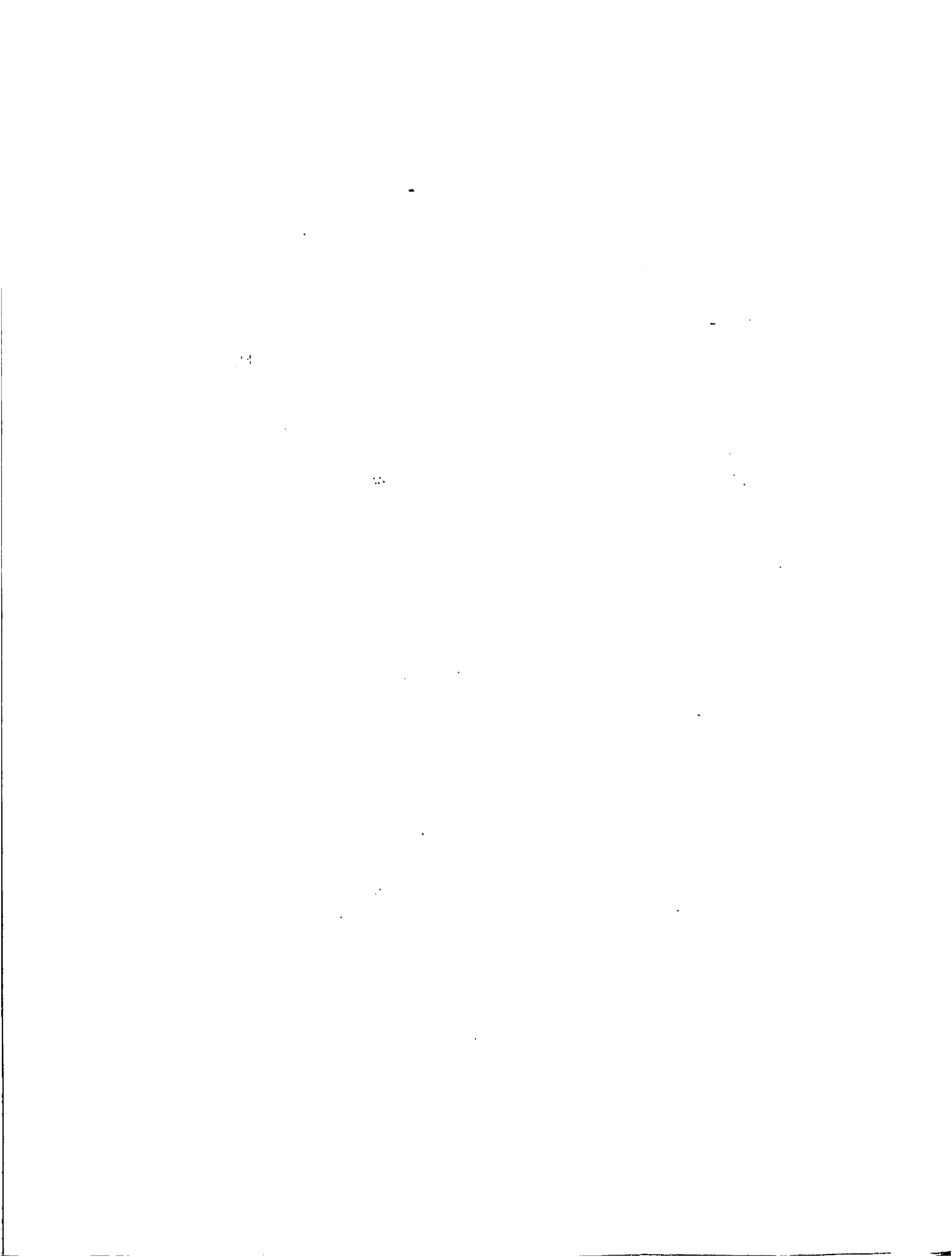
MOTTO: "Consilio et Manu".

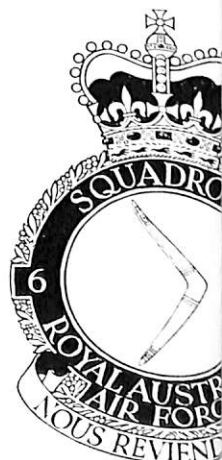
AUTHORITY: King George VI, 1943.

The Fleur-de-Lys refers to the Squadron's service in France, and the motto to its role as a bomber squadron.

BATTLE HONOURS: WESTERN FRONT 1917-1918,
PACIFIC 1941-1945, DARWIN 1941-1945.

No. 3 Squadron Australian Flying Corps was formed in Egypt in 1916⁽¹⁾ and arrived in England on 30th January 1917. Being an untrained unit, it was posted to the 24th Training Wing RFC, at Harlaxton, Grantham, Lincolnshire, and re-designated No. 68 (Australian) Squadron RFC. After lengthy training, the squadron arrived in France on 21st September 1917, where it was attached to the 13th (Army) Wing RFC, operating with the British Third Army⁽²⁾.





The squadron saw its first action on 2nd October, and thus became the first Australian squadron to engage the enemy in France.⁽³⁾

On 19th January 1918, No. 68 (Australian) Squadron RFC became No. 2 Squadron AFC⁽⁴⁾. By the end of February 1919, all Australian Squadrons had handed over their machines and stores and in May embarked in the transport "Kaiser-I-Hind" for Australia⁽⁵⁾. No. 2 Squadron AFC disbanded on arrival in Melbourne in June 1919⁽⁶⁾.

On 3rd May 1937 No. 2 Squadron was reformed at Laverton as a general reconnaissance squadron, with a strength of 3 officers, 38 airmen, and 2 Demon aircraft. The squadron was mobilised on 4th September 1939 with a strength of 11 officers and 130 men, with 10 Anson aircraft.

In January 1944, the Squadron was re-armed with Beauforts, and three months later with B25's. On 14th November the squadron was withdrawn from active service overseas, and by Christmas 1945 was based at Laverton. On 15th May 1946 it was reduced to a name basis only.

On 20th June 1947, No. 2 (Communication) Squadron was formed at Mallala, and re-designated No. 34 (Communication) Squadron on 31st March 1948.

No. 2 Squadron reformed at Amberley on 23rd February 1948 as a bomber squadron armed with Lincoln aircraft. In 1954 it became the first squadron to re-equip with Canberra jet bombers.

AWARDS: No. 68 (Australian) Squadron RFC was mentioned in despatches on 22nd November 1917, by the G.O.C. Royal Flying Corps in the field (Major General Trenchard). No. 2 Squadron RAAF was cited on 4th January 1943 on the recommendation of the Supreme Commander, S.W.P.A. (General Douglas MacArthur), by the President of the United States. In the year 1960-61, it won the Gloucester Cup.

REFERENCES:

- (1) Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-18, Vol VIII, Australian Flying Corps, by F.M. Cutlack, p.424.
- (2) ditto, p.178.
- (3) ditto, p.178
- (4) Squadron Histories, RFC, RNAS & RAF 1912-59, by Peter Lewis, pp 39-40.
- (5) Cutlack, p.385; The Battle Below by H.N. Wrigley, p.179.
- (6) Cutlack, p.385; Wrigley, p.180.

See also R.A.A.F. News, Vol. 2, No. 2.

.....

No. 3 SQUADRON.

BADGE: On a Grenade winged and flamed a Fleur-de-Lys.

MOTTO: "Operta Aperta".

AUTHORITY: King George VI, May 1940.

The winged grenade denotes the squadron's early role of army co-operation, and the Fleur-de-Lys its service in France.

BATTLE HONOURS: WESTERN FRONT 1917-1918, EGYPT AND LIBYA 1940-1943, SYRIA 1941, NORTH AFRICA 1943, EL ALAMEIN, SOUTH EAST EUROPE 1943-1945, EL HAMMA, ITALY 1943-1945, SICILY 1943, ANZIO AND NETTUNO, GUSTAV LINE, GOthic LINE. (Those underlined are enscrolled on the Squadron Standard.)

No. 2 Squadron Australian Flying Corps was formed at Point Cook in August 1916, and on 26th October of that year it left Melbourne for England, where it arrived on 28th December 1916⁽¹⁾. On arrival the squadron, now named No. 69 (Australian) Squadron RFC, was posted to 23rd Training Wing RFC, at South Carlton, Lincolnshire.

The honour of being the first Australian squadron to arrive in France was theirs, when the squadron assembled at Savy on 9th September 1917⁽²⁾. It was also the first squadron in No. 23 Training Wing RFC to be posted overseas⁽³⁾.

Here the squadron was posted to 1st (Corps) Wing, RFC, but on 15th November, it became Corps Squadron for the 1st ANZAC Corps, this being the first occasion where an Australian Corps had an Australian squadron co-operating with it.⁽⁴⁾

On 19th January 1918, No. 69 (Australian) Squadron RFC became No. 3 Squadron AFC.⁽⁵⁾ By the end of February 1919, all Australian squadrons had handed over their machines and stores and in May embarked on the transport "Kaiser-I-Hind" for Australia⁽⁶⁾. No. 3 Squadron AFC disbanded on arrival in Melbourne in June 1919⁽⁷⁾.

No. 3 Squadron reformed at Point Cook on 1st July 1925, again as an Army Co-operation squadron, armed with DH9's, SE5A's, and Avro 504K's. Within three weeks it moved to Richmond, NSW, where it remained until its departure for the Middle East in World War 2. On 23rd August 1940, the squadron arrived in Egypt, where it was re-equipped with Gladiators, Gauntlets and Lysanders⁽⁸⁾.

On 29th January 1941, No. 3 Squadron began to rearm with Hurricane aircraft⁽⁹⁾ but on 20th April was ordered to hand over all aircraft to No. 274 Squadron RAF, and to proceed on leave before re-arming with Tomahawks⁽¹⁰⁾. Kittyhawks were supplied in December 1941.⁽¹¹⁾

No. 3 Squadron was the only non-EATS squadron to operate in the Middle Eastern and South Eastern European Theatre of operations. And on 14th September 1943, the squadron was able to claim the distinction of being the first British squadron to operate on the European scene since Dunkirk, in providing air support to the U.S. Army on the Salerno beachhead with No. 112 Squadron.

After the armistice, the squadron returned home, and on 30th June, 1946 was again disbanded at Point Cook.

No. 3 Squadron was reformed with No. 4 Squadron at Canberra on 8th March, 1948 as a Tactical Reconnaissance squadron with Mustang aircraft. On 1st March 1956 it was re-armed with CAC Avon Sabre jets, and again became a fighter squadron.

Four years later it became the first R.A.A.F. fighter squadron to be fitted with Sidewinder air-to-air missiles.

SQUADRON STANDARD: On 11th July 1952, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II approved the award of a Squadron Standard, and it was promulgated in Commonwealth of Australia Gazette No. 62 dated 11th September, 1952.

REFERENCES:

- (1) Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-18, Vol. VIII, Australian Flying Corps, by F.M. Cutlack, pp 424 and 175; The Battle Below, by H.N.Wrigley, pp. 20-21.
- (2) Cutlack, p.177; Wrigley, pp.30-31.
- (3) Wrigley, p.30.
- (4) ditto, p.41.
- (5) Wrigley, p.50; on page 26, Wrigley states: "On the last day of March (1917) the nomenclature of the Squadron was changed a second time, a War Office memorandum of that date notifying the unit that in future it would be known as No. 69 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps". This change is not substantiated by RAAF Historical Section.
- (6) Cutlack, p.385.
- (7) Wrigley, p.180.
- (8) Air War Against Germany and Italy 1939-1943, by John Herington, pp.57-58.
- (9) Herington p.67.
- (10) ditto, p.74.
- (11) ditto, p.208.

See also R.A.A.F. News, Vol. 2, No. 3.

.....

BADGES FOR FLYING AND WORKING SUITS.

About 1963, some R.A.A.F. units commenced to adopt unofficial insignia for wear on various parts of their working or flying suits. In the majority of cases, these were units which did not have already one of the official type squadron badges made up for wear on these items of clothing.

Illustrated are the badges of No. 2 (B) Squadron---2 Bees on a red lightning flash, the tail marking of their aircraft; and No. 3 (Fighter) Squadron -- a sabre to signify the aircraft type.

No. 2 SQUADRON

BEEES yellow with black
lines and green wings;
BOMBS black;
FLASH red;
GROUND white;
EDGE blue.

No. 3 SQUADRON.

NUMBER red;
GROUND white;
SWORD KNOT red;
REMAINDER black.



THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1964-65

1. Since the monthly meeting in October 1964 the Society in Victoria has been meeting in hired premises at 37 Spring Street, Melbourne, which is a central meeting point for all members. Previously meetings had been held at the residence of the Federal Secretary in Ormond and this opportunity is taken to place on record the Society's appreciation of the kindness of Mr. & Mrs. Lyons in this respect.
2. The Society's Journal, "Sabretache", has been registered with the P.M.G's Department for transmission through the post as a periodical. The first mailing, under this arrangement, was in April 1965 and it had the effect of making a very considerable reduction in the Society's postage expenditure.
3. Application was made in August 1964 to the Victorian Registrar of Companies, Melbourne, for the registration of the Society. Some progress was made in this matter but it could not be completed until the new constitution was adopted and put into operation.
4. A Week-end Conference was held in Canberra in October 1964 under the auspices of the A.C.T. Branch of the Society, which was the host branch on this occasion. Representatives of the New South Wales Branch and Society Headquarters attended. The business included a discussion of constitutional matters, a talk by the General Editor of the History of Australia in the War of 1939-45, Mr. Gavin Long, O.B.E., and visits to places of interest, including some homes of members of the ACT Branch where collectors' items were displayed.
5. A new Constitution and Rules of the Society was adopted on 9th July, 1965 and came into operation on that date.
6. At a Society meeting held on 9th July, 1965 it was moved, seconded and carried that a Victorian Branch separate from the H.Q. Administration be formed to carry on the domestic affairs of the Society in relation to the State of Victoria, in accordance with the new Constitution. The date of inauguration of the Branch was made retrospective to June, 1957 - the date of formation of the Society. A Branch Committee was elected at a meeting on 13th August, 1965.
7. At the monthly meetings in Melbourne the following lectures were delivered during the year :

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject etc.</u>
10th July, 1964	Annual General Meeting and election of office bearers for the year 1964-65
14th August 1964	"The 50th Anniversary of the War of 1914-18". By Major E.W.O. Perry.

7. (Cont'd)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject etc.</u>
11th September	"An Author at Arms: A Literary Portrait of General Sir Edward Bruce Hamley." By Major E.W.O. Perry.
9th October.	"The History of the City of Ballarat Regiment". By Major E.W.O. Perry.
13th November.	"Colonel W.A.D. Anderson - An Early Commandant of the Military Forces of the Colony of Victoria." By Major E.W.O. Perry.
11th December.	A Film Evening and Lecture Illustrated with Slides. Arranged by Mr. F.B. Hirsh.
8th January, 1965	"Australia's Part in the South African War, 1899-1902." By Mr. W.M. Chamberlain.
12th February, 1965	"New Zealand Winners of the Victoria Cross" By Mr. W.M. Chamberlain.
12th March, 1965	An Address by Mr. B.J. Videon, a Past President of the New South Wales Branch, on the Activities of that Branch in Recent Times.
9th April 1965.	"The Fiftieth Anniversary of the Landing at Gallipoli." By Major E.W.O. Perry.
14th May 1965.	Meeting Cancelled.
11th June 1965	" U.S. Small Arms since the War of 1939-45". By Mr. J.K. Lyons.

8. Following the separation of the Victorian Branch from the Federal Headquarters administratively, in accordance with the newly adopted Constitution, the Annual Reports of the Federal Council will be confined to Federal matters and those matters concerning Branches will be left to Branches to record in their own Annual Reports.

9. In conclusion I take this opportunity to thank the Vice Presidents, the Federal Secretary, the Federal Treasurer and Branch Presidents and their Committees for their co-operation and assistance during the year 1964-65.

10th September, 1965.

Warren Perry,
Federal President.

DO YOU JUST BELONG?

Submitted by Robert Gray.

Are you an active member -- the kind that would be missed,
Or are you just content that your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings, answer your letters, and mingle with
the crowd,
Or do you stay at home and crab both long and loud?

Do you take an active part to help the group along,
Or are you satisfied to be the kind to "just belong"?

Do you ever go collecting for a member who is sick,
Or leave the work for just a few, and talk about the clique?

There is quite a programme scheduled that means success if done,
and it CAN be accomplished, with the help of everyone.

So attend the meetings and your letters regularly, and help with
hand and heart,
Don't be just a member, but take an active part!

Think this over, member, are we right or wrong?
Are you an active member, or -- do you just belong?

(Author unknown).

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY HISTORY

Some sources for the study of the period 1788-1870 Part 3.

Parliamentary sessional papers and debates of the Australian States.

The content of these publications is similar in type to those of the British sessional papers and debates referred to earlier. Similarly, the sessional papers are supported by sessional indexes, and in some cases, consolidated indexes, and the debates by sessional indexes.

Bibliographies of Australia.

- (a) FERGUSON, Sir John Alexander - Bibliography of Australia.
Sydney, Angus and Robertson.

This bibliography has been completed in four volumes for the period 1784-1850, and is intended to include every printed book, pamphlet, broadside,

newspaper, magazine, government paper or report of any importance relating to Australia. This bibliography is currently being taken forward to 1900, in three volumes. These volumes include printed books, pamphlets and broadsides, with certain exceptions.

(b) PETHERICK, E.A. - Bibliography of Australasia.

This unpublished bibliography is held by the National Library. The section dealing with Defence lists books, periodical articles and newspaper items dealing with the defence forces in Australia.

Historical records of Australia.

(a) Historical records of Australia, edited by J.F. Watson, and published by the Library Committee of the Commonwealth Parliament.

Publication of this ambitious work ceased after 33 volumes had been published. Governors' despatches to and from England for the period 1788-1848 are reproduced in the 26 volumes of Series I. In the six volumes of Series III appear despatches and papers relating to the settlement of the States, from 1802 to 1830. The one volume of Series IV consists of papers dealing with the development of the constitution during the years 1786-1827. Each volume is supported by an index. In addition the National Library holds, in manuscript, documents which were not included in the published volumes.

(b) Historical records of New South Wales, edited by E.M. Bladen and published in Sydney by the Government printer.

This series, published in seven volumes, covering the period 1762-1811 is similar in scope to the "Historical records of Australia", and also is supported by volume indexes.

Newspapers.

Newspapers frequently supply the historian with information which is not available elsewhere. As mentioned above, Sir John Ferguson's "Bibliography of Australia" refers to the early Australian newspapers, and the National Library publication, "Union list of newspapers in Australian libraries". Part 2, lists the Australian newspapers in existence in the major Australian libraries.

One problem associated with the use of newspapers is their bulk and the consequent difficulty of finding specific information. However, for the period under consideration there are two newspaper indexes which should not be ignored.

(a) POOLEY, G. Hendy - Index to the Sydney Gazettes, 1803 to 1842.
Sydney, 1916.

(b) The Times - Palmer's index to the Times Newspaper.
London, Palmer.

Periodicals.

There are so many periodicals of possible interest to the military historian that it would be impossible to list them all here. Therefore it should be realized that the following titles are representative only :-

- (a) The Army quarterly and defence journal. London, William Clowes.
- (b) Journal of the Royal United Service Institution. London, Royal United Service Institution.
- (c) Journal of the Society for Army historical research. London, Society for Army historical research.
- (d) Journal and proceedings of the Royal Australian Historical Society. Sydney, Royal Australian Historical Society.
- (e) Historical Studies, Australia and New Zealand. Melbourne, University of Melbourne.

There are many periodical indexing services available, through which articles in periodicals may be located by author or subject. Again the titles given here are representative only :-

- (a) POOLE, W.F. - An index to periodical literature, 1802-1881 (4th edition) Boston, Houghton, 1891. (with supplements)
- (b) Air University Library index to military periodicals. Alabama, Maxwell Air Force Base.

Australian Military bibliography.

DORNBUSCH, C.E. compiler - Australian military bibliography. Cornwallville, N.Y., Hope Farm Press, 1963.

This is a most useful reference tool for the student of Australian military history, however, there are few references to the period under consideration in this article.

Very little has been written by Australians on any aspect of the early military history of the country. One notable exception is "Short history of the military forces in New South Wales from 1788 to 1953", produced by the Department of the Army, Headquarters, Eastern Command.

Both the National Library of Australia, in Canberra, and the Mitchell Library, in Sydney, have valuable manuscript and printed collections in the field of early Australian history. The National Library also has considerable resources for the study of British military history, and the catalogues, indexes and services of the reference staff are available to assist in the use of this material.

Barbara McDonough
February 1965.

THE SWAN RIVER VOLUNTEERSWESTERN AUSTRALIA

By C. Halls

In his first proclamation, dated 18th June, 1829 Governor - Designate, Captain James Stirling R.N. made reference to the proposed introduction of universal military training in the newly founded Swan River Colony. He appealed for all males between the ages of fifteen and fifty years to enrol for militia service.¹

This ordinance was not enforced until 1862 when the first Western Australian volunteer units were raised and gazetted.

However, one rather short-lived unit was raised in 1829; this was an irregular company known as the Swan River Volunteers. This corps of volunteer riflemen was recruited aboard the emigrant ship "Warrior" while on the voyage out from England to Western Australia in October 1829.²

Recruits were drawn from among the able-bodied male emigrants. They wore no uniform, parading in civilian clothes, and they either supplied their own arms or were issued with firearms from the ship's arsenal. Their drill was supervised by one or other of the ship's officers.

The corps was organised to help defend the "Warrior" in the event of an attack by pirates, for even at this comparatively late date piracy flourished in the Atlantic Ocean.³

In the diary kept by Mr. S.W. Turner, a passenger aboard the ship we read :-
"October 28, 1829, we had a muster of all our rifles, guns and pistols to see what a respectable or rather formidable appearance we could make in case of any pirates coming to visit us."⁴

Later referring to the volunteers' drill aboard ship, he comments on the difficulty of carrying out exercises as the ship rolled; "we had a little drilling of the platoon and when we were ordered to stand at ease, it was anything but that."

During the voyage the volunteers had musketry practice, shooting at seagulls. After disembarkation at the Swan River, the settlers dispersed and the "Swan River Volunteers" ceased to exist as a unit.

However, there is reputedly a reference in a contemporary document to a small force of armed irregulars, calling themselves the Swan River Volunteers at Busselton in the south west of the state in the eighteen thirties.⁵

In 1860 when a public meeting was held at Guildford to discuss the British Government's intention to withdraw the garrison troops from Western Australia, the citizens decided to raise a corps of mounted infantry, to be known as the Swan River Volunteers. Although twenty three men volunteered immediately and training commenced soon thereafter, the unit was short-lived. Lieutenant Colonel Bruce, Military Commandant in the Colony disbanded the Swan River Volunteers on the grounds that there were too few recruits to warrant the formation of an independent unit.⁶ He proposed as an alternative, that Guildford should contribute a company to the Perth Corps. This proposal was rejected by the citizens of Guildford and the Swan River Volunteers disbanded.

NOTES AND REFERENCES.

1. Le Tessier, J.J. "A Short Colonial Military History" (microfilm) Battye Library. Western Australian State Library.
2. Turner, T. "The Turners of Augusta" Pub. Perth 1956.
3. The pirates were mainly Spaniards, for this was the period of the Carlist Wars in the Iberian peninsula.
4. Turner, T. "The Turners of Augusta" p.p. 40-41.
5. This information was passed to the author by Mr. J. Honniball, a librarian of the Battye Library of Western Australian History.
6. Wieck, G.F. "The Volunteer Movement in Western Australia" 1861-1903. p.p. 22-23.

CANTERBURY YEOMANRY CAVALRY
NEW ZEALAND.

By Gavin Shaw.



Cap badge of the
Canterbury Yeomanry
Cavalry.
(In brass.)

November 1964, is the one hundredth anniversary of the founding as a corps of the volunteer unit the Canterbury Yeomanry Cavalry. In 1864, the corps, in their blue, red, and gold uniform were ready to fight Russia or any other country which, according to the rumours of the time, were always about to get into trouble with Great Britain, mainly by threats to her colonies.

The keenness of the volunteers and their personal contribution in time and money ensured from the outset that the unit was efficient and the esprit de corps was of the highest. Attention also to social contacts during camps and reunions ensured their popularity throughout the province.

There was drilling, manoeuvring and camping all through the latter half of the nineteenth century, and the early years of the twentieth century.

The name of the C.Y.C. was established in the South African campaign, in the 1914-18 War on Gallipoli, in Egypt, and through Palestine, where the "mounteds" fought and died. In 1941-43, as an integral part of the New Zealand Divisional Cavalry, the unit again fought in Egypt.

It was in June 1860, that a Christchurch newspaper announced: "It is in contemplation to form a cavalry corps of gentlemen on the plains."

There was no further mention of the plan for two years.

Then, in February 1862, a meeting was held in the old Town Hall, at which Mr. John Hall presided.

Twenty-four hours, Mr. Hall said, might bring news of a rupture with the Federal States of America. Mr. W.S. Moorhouse, Superintendent of the Province, supported the proposal, and there was great enthusiasm.

The scare passed, however, and though fighting with the Maoris in the next year caused more talk of the necessity of a cavalry unit in Canterbury, it was not till October 8, 1864, that an advertisement appeared signed by J.C. Wilson, W.S. Moorhouse, and seventy-five others, stating that they were willing to join a cavalry corps and calling a public meeting to form such a corps.

The officers elected were as follows: Captain Reader to be Major Commanding; J.C. Wilson, W. Thompson and E.S. Wakefield to be captains; C.C. Aikman, W.S. Moorhouse and M.W. Anderson to be lieutenants; L.P. Traherne, J. C. Aikman and H. Tancred to be cornets.

The services of the corps were accepted at a meeting held on November 26, when the honorary secretary appeared in a uniform recommended by Captain Reader. This had a "Blue tunic with red facings and gold mountings, sword belt worn underneath, while a pair of pantaloons of corresponding colour and material are worn under a pair of serviceable long boots -- cap of a kind known commonly as the 'ruffin cap' which could be made to suit the climate by the simple addition of a white cover and peak. Spurs of the swan-neck pattern. The arms supplied are the Terry breech-loading carbine, and a sabre, rather heavy yet withal a serviceable article."

At the same meeting it was decided that officers should pay £10 and men £2 annually toward the expenses.

The corps at once got to work, drilling twice a week under Sergeant-Major Darby, who had been transferred from the police force, having previously belonged to an English cavalry unit, and having at one time been instructor to the cavalry volunteers at Melbourne. A little later drills were being held every evening, and the corps rapidly became efficient.

When it took part in the first volunteer camp in Canterbury, April 15 to 19, 1865, at Hillsborough, it is stated to have "added immense life to the scene -- fifty strong, and not a bad mount among them."

When Captain Reader had to leave temporarily, on a visit to England, he said that he had for many years served in the regular cavalry of England, but he could truthfully say that he was as proud of the Canterbury Corps as he had been of his old regiment.

Drilling was mixed with the social side of affairs. After manoeuvres at the foot of the Cashmere Hills the whole unit would go to one of the lower foothills near Captain Crackroft Wilson's house and there they would find a meal spread. Speeches and toasts were almost as necessary to a meal as food in those days and after them the cavalry would go home.

In 1866, Trooper Henry Slater, afterwards to become so prominent in the corps, was elected to the position of cornet. Some time later he resigned and was in charge of the C.Y.C. Cadets but later again joined the ranks of his old unit, working his way up through non-commissioned rank until he became its O.C.

He, with the other officers and the men, used to turn out in Latimer Square every Tuesday morning at six o'clock for riding school.

When Sir George Gray, then Governor of the colony, paid a visit to Christchurch in 1867 the C.Y.C. marched over the Lyttleton hills to meet him. They had a long wait there, in the hot sun, and another wait in Christchurch when they returned as his escort and guard. As a consequence of this, Trooper Black, who was sunstruck during the day, died, and the C.Y.C. lost one of its members "on service".

During Sir George's visit there was a big review in Hagley Park when the C.Y.C. as usual, acquitted itself very well.

However, the colours were not entirely discarded, but were incorporated in the officers' mess kit for formal functions and indeed were always prominent for many years on such occasions.

In 1907 Colonel Sir Heaton Rhodes was appointed Lieutenant Colonel and Officer Commanding the First Regiment, North Canterbury Mounted Rifle Volunteers.

He was succeeded by Captain George Rhodes, who commanded the C.Y.C. until the Territorial Force was formed under the Defence Act.

The unit was strongly represented in the New Zealand contingent serving in the South African War, and the mounted rifles of Canterbury performed splendid service.

The largest assembled force of mounted men ever to parade through Christchurch up to this date, (Jan. 1965) rode in from their Brigade camp at Yaldhurst on April 16, 1913. (Approximately 10 miles.)

The men left the camp at 10.30am and on reaching the city, were given a tremendous welcome. The column was led by the Canterbury Yeomanry Cavalry (325 men) with Colonel Heaton Rhodes at their head. The 8th (South Canterbury) Regiment (236 men) under Lieutenant-Colonel C.M. Milton were next in line, and the mounted signallers with nineteen men under Lieutenant Gibb, and the Maxim detachment under Lieutenant P.B. Henderson (30 men), with the galloping Maxim and the pack-horse Maxim, made up the rest of the brigade.

The No. 6 Field Ambulance (Mounted) went on ahead to Hagley Park (in the centre of Christchurch) with wagon and stretcher party.

Viewing the brigade, the spectators saw a long sinuous line of men and horses four deep. The men seemed symbolical of strength, and the mastery of the men over their horses gave to the features of each an individuality and an appearance of determination to play his part in making the parade an unqualified success.

There was an excited and enthusiastic crowd at Hagley Park, full of admiration and enthusiasm. The irrepressible veteran was everywhere, loud in his praise of the turnout.

At all formal functions the regimental band was in attendance. Derry's Military Band was affiliated with the C.Y.C. It was a well balanced band. Their woodwinds (unusual in a strictly military band) blended magnificently with the brass sections. At Regimental dinners and balls they were, indeed, the pride of the regiment.

The Canterbury Mounted Rifles, commanded by Colonel John Findlay, was formed by one squadron each from the C.Y.C., the Eighth South Canterbury Mounted Rifles and the Tenth Nelson-Marlborough Mounted Rifles. Colonel Findlay retained command throughout the Great War; although several times offered Brigade command, he preferred to stay with his old unit. When the second-in-command, Major P.J. Overton was killed in action he was succeeded by Lieut. - Colonel P. Acton-Adams D.S.O., who eventually assumed command in 1921 until 1925, when he was appointed Brigade Commander.

The strength of the regiment stood at 33 officers and 683 men before embarkation for Gallipoli. Eight officers and 163 men were killed in this campaign, while 466 sick and wounded had to be evacuated.

The regiment returned to Lemnos on September 14, 1915, for a rest and re-establishment. After this re-establishment the regiment fought in many areas. The battle honours earned in Egypt, Jerusalem and numerous other theatres of war are forever emblazoned on the guidon donated to the C.Y.C. by Sir Heaton-Rhodes and presented to the Governor-General (Viscount Galway) in 1937.

In these engagements the names of the unit senior officers are mentioned frequently. We read of J. Findlay, D. Chaytor, P. Acton-Adams, J. Studholme, H.C. Hurst, D.S. Murchison, F. Gorton, R. Harper and L.R.C. Macfarlane. Colonel Macfarlane was Officer Commanding, and received the guidon from the Governor-General at the ceremony in Hagley Park in 1937. Colonel Hurst commanded the C.Y.C. overseas succeeding Lieutenant-Colonel P. Acton-Adams. In 1918 he was in command of the unit when Chaytor's force smashed the Turkish Army in the Jordan Valley. He held the command until 1933, when Colonel Macfarlane was appointed C.O. Colonel Herbert Hurst commanded the National Volunteer Reserve during the Second World War.

The Second and even third generations of the founders of the C.Y.C. set out in the early 1920's to carry on the proud tradition created by their forefathers.

The training of newly recruited young troopers was in the capable hands of officers and non-commissioned officers who had been tempered in the battle experiences of the desert campaign in World War 1.

A good deal of new equipment was introduced to the regiment in the years following World War 1. The newer .303 rifle was the standard equipment of every trooper, and the old Maxim gave way to the devastating fire of the Vickers machine gun and the automatic Hotchkiss. And as the new equipment was accepted, the conformation of the regiment changed and a mounted machine-gun troop was attached to the headquarters troop based in Christchurch.

During 1918-19 a number of troop parades and treks were undertaken by the squadron.

Commanded by officers who fought with the unit overseas, Lieut/Col. Percy Acton-Adams and Major (later Colonel) H.C. Hurst as his second-in-command, regimental camps were held at Burnham Military Camp in the 1920's. It was during this period that the 8th South Canterbury Mounted Rifles were merged with the unit.

After training intensively under the watchful eye of the adjutant, Capt. K.J. Walker, the unit took part in a full-scale military pageant at the Addington Show Grounds, Christchurch. One of the most thrilling events

of the pageant was the mounted competition for the Lloyd Lindsay Cup in which teams of four fully equipped troopers jumped several fences, rescued a "wounded" trooper, and then rejumped the fences to the finishing line. Another item of interest was the mounted maypole manoeuvre, and the torchlight mounted manoeuvres and tent pegging competition were highlights of the tattoo.

In one parade through the city during this period the headquarters sergeant-major rode unwillingly past troop after troop. Unable to check his mount, which had managed to get its tongue over the bit, the sergeant-major eventually left the parade far behind.

It was at this time that one of the regiment's more illustrious sons, Lieutenant (later Major) D.G. Logan, trained the headquarters Vickers troop, which several times won the national shoots at Trentham. Major Logan was later awarded the Legion of Merit medal for United States forces while commanding a composite amphibian unit in the Pacific.

When the new guidon was presented to the regiment by the honorary Colonel the late Sir Robert Heaton-Rhodes, a crowd of about 10,000 watched the most impressive ceremony in Hagley Park. The presenting officer, the Governor-General (Viscount Galway), and his escort of other army officers rode first to the saluting base. A hush fell on to the crowd as the regiment presented arms for the Royal Salute and the Royal Standard was broken from the flag pole. After riding down the lines inspecting several hundred horsemen, Lord Galway returned to the saluting base while the old colour was trooped and then Archbishop Julius blessed the new guidon. Lord Galway then dismounted and the commanding officer, Major Macfarlane, knelt before him to receive the guidon. After a short address Lord Galway remounted and turned his horse and rode past the saluting base in preparation for the march past. The regiment presented arms to salute the new colour and, as the band played the regimental tune, "D'ye Ken John Peel", moved off in sections and rode past the saluting base. On the final march past the regiment, more than 200 strong, moved in one straight regimental line.

Owing to defence retrenchments in 1938, mounted units were forced into composite units and the South Island of New Zealand ended up with one regiment made up of a squadron each from the Otago Mounted Rifles, the C.Y.C. and the Nelson-Marlborough Mounted Rifles.

The next year the C.Y.C. unit travelled by train with 200 horses to Wingatui (about 10 miles south of Dunedin -- A total of about 233 miles) for the annual camp, when the Otago Mounted Rifles were presented with their guidon.

The last mounted camp at regimental strength was held in Burnham under the command of Colonel Macfarlane, although a depleted unit encamped at Westerfield under Lieutenant-Colonel R.P. Harper.

On the outbreak of World War II it was realised that the mounted unit was obsolete. Many of the C.Y.C. were mobilised or had already enlisted in the 2nd N.Z.E.F. The unit was then formed into the 1st Light Armoured Vehicle Regiment and its equipment consisted of armoured cars, Bren carriers and Sherman tanks. The duties of the unit were the mobile defence of the South Island, until the 10th Reinforcement took the bulk of those left in New Zealand.

And so, with a cadre of men unfit to go overseas, the C.Y.C. officially ended its existence as a unit.

Through almost a century the men of the Canterbury Yeomanry Cavalry had lived up to their motto, "Pro Focis et Patria" -- For our homes and country.

A well attended reunion of the regiment was held in Christchurch in 1947, Colonel Hurst presided over a gathering of more than 300 men and Lieut./Col. John Deans, the unit officer commanding, was also present. Lieutenant/Colonel R.P. Harper made the address and the regimental band provided some martial airs.

The guidon was marched in under the escort of three officers - Major I.L. Bonifant and Major G.W. Logan and Captain R.F.G. Kingscote.

Another regimental reunion was held in Christchurch during the week-end of November 6, 7 and 8. The guidon was again paraded by mounted troopers wearing regimental uniforms at a Christchurch race course. Members of the regiment attending the reunion also paraded at this same course.

CORPORAL JOHN BERNARD MACKEY, V.C.
2/3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn, A.I.F.

12th May 1945, at Tarakan Island.
 (Posthumous award)

CITATION: Cpl. Mackey was in charge of a Section of the 2/3 Aust. Pnr. Bn. in the attack on the feature known as Helen, east of Tarakan town. Led by Cpl. Mackey the section moved along a narrow spur with scarcely width for more than one man when it came under fire from three well-sited positions near the top of a very steep, razor-backed ridge. The ground fell away almost sheer on each side of the track making it almost impossible to move to a flank, so Corporal Mackey led his men forward. He charged the first L.M.G. position but slipped and after wrestling with one enemy, bayoneted him and charged straight on to the H.M.G. which was firing from a bunker position six yards to his right. He rushed this post and killed the crew with grenades.

He then jumped back and changing his rifle for a sub-machine-gun he attacked further up the steep slope another L.M.G. position which was firing on his platoon. Whilst charging, he fired his gun and reached within a few feet of the enemy when he was killed by L.M.G. fire, but not before he killed two more enemy. By his exceptional bravery and complete disregard for his own life, Corporal Mackey was largely responsible for the killing of seven Japanese and the elimination of two M.G. posts, which enabled his platoon to gain its objective, from which the Company continued to engage the enemy.

His fearless action and courage were an inspiration to the whole Battalion.

(London Gazette 8th November 1945)
 Submitted by A.S. Cansdell.

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2/3 AUST PIONEER BATTALION.

Theatre Awards:

NORTH AFRICA 1942
 S.W.P. 1943-45
 BORNEO

Engagement Awards:

EL ALAMEIN
 FISCHHAFEN
 DEFENCE OF SIKI COVE
 TARAKAN.

Decorations: 1 V.C.; 2 M.C.'s; 1 D.C.M.; 5 M.M.'s.

The Battalion served in Darwin, the Middle East, New Guinea and Tarakan. It is believed to be the only Battalion to have been awarded a V.C., a M.C. and a D.C.M. in the one action, and to have been the only Battalion to have come under the command of 4 A.I.F. Divisions.

A.S. Cansdell.

"DRUITT OF THE 48TH"

by Colonel M. Austin, DSO, OBE.

An address delivered before the
Military Historical Society of
Australia, Canberra Branch.

27th October, 1964.

George Druitt, the eldest son of Edward Druitt, a prosperous merchant, and his wife Jane (nee Cottingham), was born in Dublin in 1775. Like many others who played a part in the expansion of the colony the details of his early life are obscure, although we do know that he was first commissioned as an ensign into Macnamara's (21st) Regiment on 11 October, 1794. His rise was rapid because a month later he was a lieutenant, although it appears probable that in the process he had joined Lewis's (134th) Regiment which dates from 2 November, 1794.

Although the numbers of both these regiments may be unfamiliar, with a number of other regiments with high numbers they were raised about this time as a direct result of Pitt's military policy.

Lagging recruiting and re-engagement rates are not modern phenomena, and the panacea applied in this particular instance was to augment the Army by a scheme known as raising men for rank. In other words rank was offered in direct proportion to the number of recruits raised. This idea was not new since it had been tried before on a small scale, although it had been condemned because of its inherent evils. Pitt, and his Secretary for War, Henry Dundas, in this instance applied the scheme on a grand scale to the raising of whole battalions. The shortcomings of such a system were quickly apparent and the effects greatly magnified. Recruits were no sooner raised than they were drafted to other regiments; the officers could not, and no doubt in some cases would not be absorbed, and were placed, as promised, on the half-pay list. It was thus possible for men of influence and means to get a pension for life by the simple process of out-laying sufficient money to get their quota of recruits. In view of his subsequent history it is not impossible that George Druitt had his ideas moulded at an early age to the possibilities of speculation.

The condition of some of the regiments raised under this system can best be described by the Adjutant General :

"It will be some time before you can expect to make any use of them, as very few of the officers have served before and none of the men have ever had a Firelock on their shoulders ... Four of those Irish corps you lately sent us over, viz., the 107th, 110th, 119th and 120th, being not only almost totally unfit for any service, but not possibly to be rendered so in any tolerable time, according to General Hunter's report, are going to be reduced ... the 118th (Lieutenant Colonel Talbot's) are at this moment in an open, barefaced state of mutiny and will do nothing but what they please, despising and insulting their officers in the most shameful manner".

Frederick, Duke of York, who became Commander in Chief early in 1795, felt that little could be done other than break up such units and post the men into good battalions which were seriously under strength. No doubt as a result Druitt, after being admitted as a Free Burgess by the Council of Dundee in August, 1795, transferred to the 58th Regiment in January 1796 where he served for the next 21 years. There is no direct evidence that he actually served with his regiment continuously throughout this period. Although from action taken by the Duke of York to make officers aware of their responsibilities; that he had seen "service in all parts of the globe"; and that "in earlier life (he) had on many occasions distinguished himself in actual service", it is probable that he was present during the many engagements in which his regiment took part during this period.

Between 1796 when Druitt joined them until 1798, the 58th was stationed in various parts of England and the Channel Islands. Towards the end of the latter year the regiment was detailed for service in India, but on arrival in Gibraltar it was diverted to join Sir Charles Stuart for the capture of Minorca. Early in 1800 it joined Sir Ralph Abercrombie for the capture of Ferrol, Virgo and Cadiz. This did not eventuate, however, and later that year it formed part of the reserves under Sir John Moore for the Egyptian campaign, rendering outstanding service at the Battle of Alexandria. The regiment was given Royal permission to bear the sphinx and the word Egypt on its colours, and received the thanks of Parliament. The commanding officer was knighted and all the officers were given gold medals varying in size according to rank.

In January 1803 Druitt was promoted to Captain, and shortly afterwards the 58th returned home. After being located in various parts of England and Ireland it returned to the Mediterranean in 1805. Its subsequent service included the Battle of Maida, and the seige of Scyella in 1806 and the seizure of Ischia and Proddia in 1809. Druitt was promoted Major in 1813, prior to the attack on Tarragona the following month. After joining the Duke of Wellington at Bordeaux in March 1814, the 58th moved to Canada where it took part in the Battle of Plattsburg. Returning to Europe in 1815 it formed part of the Army of Occupation for a short period, before sailing for Jamaica in October 1816.

Possibly to avoid service in the West Indies, Druitt in the meantime had transferred to the 48th, which shortly afterwards sailed for New South Wales. During this voyage two quite unrelated events occurred, both of which were not without their effects on Druitt and his career - a letter was published in the Sydney Gazette signed 'Philo Free' and Margaret Lynch, a stowaway colleen from Ireland was married by the ship's captain to Private Terence Burns of the 48th.

The romance in Druitt's life has been published elsewhere. However, while Margaret had apparently set her heart on Terence, and had followed him aboard, from arrival in Sydney she lived with Druitt in a "fine House", where they lived "in the most extravagant way". Terence left the colony in 1818, although it was not for another seven years that the relationship between George and Margaret was formalized. No doubt there were others besides Paymaster Murray, whose moral susceptibilities were upset at this "outrage of

all decency and decorum", and although the same gentleman stated that Druitt could not pay his mess bill on board on arrival in Sydney, this seems inconsistent with his background, the building of the fine house, and that he appears to have been a lessee of Vaocluse Estate in the same year. However, the event must have caused some stir in contemporary Sydney, and played its part in his subsequent troubles.

Druitt was not in the colony when the famous 'Philo Free' letter was published, although he was a member of the Court which virtually gave a verdict of 'not guilty' to Governor Macquarie's secretary Campbell on charges of libel. This event of itself would hardly have endeared Druitt to Marsden, but when Druitt proved himself a loyal supporter of Macquarie, the long standing antagonism between Marsden and Macquarie must have made Druitt anathema to the Reverend Samuel, although it was not until four years later that he saw his chance.

In December 1817 Macquarie appointed Druitt acting Engineer in the place of Captain Gill - and on the same day, Francis Greenway, the Government Acting Civil Architect was pardoned. Under a Governor such as Macquarie the duties of Engineer could be, and no doubt were, quite onerous. Apart from supervision of the various gangs of convicts constructing roads and bridges, public buildings, etc., Druitt's duties included "those of Artillery Officer and Quartermaster-General, there being no Officer of either of these Descriptions in the Colony". Not content with this small span of control he also apparently superintended "the Dock Yard, the Colonial Vessels and Crews, the Works in the Dock Yard, construction of Boats and Vessels, receipt and Despatch of Colonial Vessels".

As a diversion it may not be uninteresting to note that the Royal Engineers although established by Royal Warrant in 1787, at that time only consisted of officers. When the Duke of York required field engineers for the expedition to North Holland in 1799, the Ordnance Department could not provide any, so the Duke attempted to raise his own - under the control of the Army, not the Ordnance. So was the Royal Staff Corps born "from the different regiments and battalions of Foot Guards and Infantry in Great Britain" with the duty of constructing "Fieldworks", and to do "other military duties, of whatsoever nature, in the Quartermaster-General's Department". It may also be interesting to note that Captain William Dumaresq of the Staff Corps was busy superintending roads and bridges around Sydney in 1826.

Druitt remained Chief Civil and Military Engineer until just before Macquarie left the colony early in 1822. For the first two years he appears to have had few worries, although from the early part of 1819, as a loyal supporter of Macquarie, he was inevitably caught up in the party politics of the period.

At this point it may be pertinent to briefly examine the Commissariat. In the late 18th and early 19th centuries the division of administration in the Army was not as we know it today. In particular the Commissariat was "only employed in time of war, and sought for at the moment of active

operations", and while its members received their orders from the Commander-in-Chief, and were responsible for the distribution of bread, forage, straw, fuel and candle, they were in fact part of the Civil Administration of the Army, and as such, directly responsible to the Lords of the Treasury. However, while the Commissary General was a civilian, his Deputies and Assistants held two commissions - one from the War Office which gave them rights to half-pay, and one direct from the Treasury which entitled them to 5/- per day. Such a system of divided control and loyalty could only lead to difficulties, and it is not surprising to find Wellington commenting in 1810 that "the prejudice of society against a commissary almost prevent him from receiving the common respect due to the character of a gentleman". However, in spite of a recommendation from the Commissioners of Enquiry in 1812, that as the service was purely civil the military commission and pay should be abandoned, nothing was done for many years afterwards.

Deputy Commissary General Frederick Drennan arrived in the colony in January 1819, and immediately applied himself wholeheartedly, if tactlessly, to his task. His activities comprise quite a story in themselves. However, as they affected Druitt, he wrote to Secretary Harrison in March charging Erskine, the commanding officer of the 48th, Druitt and the Quartermaster of the 48th, with conducting the regimental mill for their own private profit - bran supplied for officers' horses was overcharged, and not sufficient bread was obtained from the amount of flour produced. While Drennan saw himself as the Treasury watchdog, fully carrying out the duties of his appointment, he may not have been without some personal interest himself.

Erskine was highly incensed at what he considered unfounded, malicious and disgraceful assertions "against the 48th Regiment as a corps". The end result led to a General Court Martial being convened, although this does not appear to have reached finality as a plea was entered that a GCM was not competent to try officers of the Commissariat since the Mutiny Act of the 17th March, 1818 did not bring such officers under military law until 25th November 1819. Drennan obviously considered Erskine his inferior, and as for Macquarie - "Mr. Drennan seems rather to consider Me accountable to him for My Motives, as if he was the first Officer of the State and the Governor subservient to him".

Some two years later another side of the story regarding the mill of the 48th was presented by Druitt to Mr. Commissioner Bigge who appears to have accepted the evidence without question - admittedly a fair time to prepare a rebuttal if such was necessary. After providing flour for the regiment, only one person - Feagin the baker, was allowed to grind his wheat, at 10d a bushel. The proceeds were then paid into a regimental fund known as the Mill Fund, which was applied for quite worthy objects - clothing the children of the regiment, provision of beds and bedding for maimed soldiers, providing bread for the women and children of the regiment who were "off store" i.e. not provided with free rations, and for extra allowance of spirits for the men on particular occasions. There was also a Regimental Charity Fund which was originally raised by officer subscription. This also had quite worthy objects. It provided, for example, for funeral expenses in the case of death,

and for premiums for children at the regimental school. In the main this fund was sustained by the sale of surplus vegetables from the regimental garden, at the current but lowest market rate. Similar funds have not been unknown in more recent times, are just as open to suspicion, and receive just as much attention from Auditors, whether they be from inside or outside a regiment.

In the flurry of charges and counter charges it would have been impossible for some odium not to have become attached to Druitt. It is not surprising, therefore, that Brisbane, even though he shipped Drennan home under arrest for shortages in his own accounts of up to £6,000, could easily be persuaded, or have persuaded himself, that Druitt was involved in some form of fraud in his role of Chief Engineer.

Leaving to one side Druitt's relationship with Greenway, which also reached a critical point during this period, it is important to examine the friction which arose between himself and Bowman, the Principal Surgeon. It is perhaps not too sweeping a statement to say that in a modern democratic army it would be a very strong character indeed, particularly a staff officer, who would tangle with two people most intimately concerned with morale. - the doctor and the padre. Druitt, of course, was without the advice of our modern newspapers, and perhaps did not realize that the Church may have been in opposition because of the 'Philo Free' case, and the ascendancy of Venus, while at the same time Esculapius was also rising to influence his horoscope for some years to come.

Apart from any other causes, Macquarie's emancipist policies had created intense feeling in the colony at this time. On more than one occasion military officers had been vocal because they met emancipists officially or at important social gatherings, even though they, like some of the exclusives, were not above subordinating their principles when it suited their self-interest.

Soon after the 48th arrived in the colony "Mr. Redfern was also invited by Colonel Erskine to private parties, and as his guest of the mess of the 48th regiment, and it was upon one of these occasions, that the junior officers of the regiment abruptly quitted the table, and in a manner that evidently betrayed their objections to Mr. Redfern, who was present, and who was known to be Lieutenant-Colonel Erskine's guest. The consequence of this conduct of the junior officers, was the promulgation of a mess rule by Lieutenant-Colonel Erskine, requiring that no officer should quit the table until after the first thirds were "drunk". Bigge also noted that Erskine and Majors Morrissett and Druitt not only noticed Redfern at the Governor's parties, but began to be constant visitors at his house.

About the time that Druitt arrived in the colony Bowman, who was then a surgeon and superintendent of a convict ship, had applied for "the Surgeoncy of the Settlement of Hobart Town in Van Diemen's land", and Macquarie had recommended him to Bathurst for that appointment. He had returned to England, where the Government had appointed him as Principal Surgeon in the

colony in the place of D'Arcy Wentworth, even though Macquarie had recommended "the Second Assistant on the Medical Establishment, Redfern, in accordance with long established policy, to that position.

Bowman returned to the colony in September 1819 in company with Mr. Commissioner Bigge. Macquarie and Bigge soon afterwards had an angry exchange of letters regarding Redfern's proposed appointment to the magistracy, with which Bigge violently disagreed. "From now on Redfern was the core of Bigge's antipathies. He missed no chance to strike at him and, through him, at the Governor, and at those of the latter's policies which were especially anathema to the exclusives...". Whatever his motives, Bigge's "obsequious, intimate and humble friend and protege" Bowman early in 1820 wrote to Macquarie about a number of minor complaints. The railing of the verandah around the hospital required repairing since patients and others were in danger of falling off. Some ironwork had to be fixed urgently around a boiler in the hospital, because until this was done the bricklayers couldn't fix the brickwork. Two simple requests which could have been met without worrying the Governor, unless there was very good reason to do so. Macquarie replied that he had told Druitt to repair the railing, but the ironwork on the boiler was not necessary as the boiler was already set in strong brickwork.

Nothing happened for another two months when Bowman again wrote to Macquarie accusing Druitt of neglect of duty. In fairness to Bowman the charges from a medical point of view were serious. Nurses of the "worst description" had been provided; the pump in the hospital yard did not provide sufficient water, and wardsmen had to be sent to fetch water, because labourers had not been provided; even though Macquarie himself had ordered the store windows to be properly secured, only strips of wood instead of iron bars had been provided; the dunghill behind the hospital had not been moved, and more to the same effect.

Druitt did not attempt to answer these specific charges, but proceeded to attack Bowman's own administration, which in his view was poor indeed. In doing so he showed his own attitude towards the punishment of the convicts which was not without its effects later. Bowman had been given written notice of punishment; the prisoners had been assembled, but no surgeon had arrived to supervise the floggings. Later both verbal and written notice had been given but the assistant surgeons had refused to appear as Bowman had not issued the necessary instructions. Macquarie backed Druitt - weekly requisitions were to cease, and henceforth requests for minor repairs were required only every other month.

Whatever the rights or wrongs of the foregoing, this background could not have been without some effect when charges of peculation against Druitt were investigated three years later on Governor Brisbane's order by Deputy Commissary Wemyss, and Assistant Surgeon Douglass.

The relationship between Druitt and Greenway need not be dwelt on at length. Greenway wanted to push on with the task in hand, and naturally did not want anybody or anything to interfere with this aim. He was a firm

believer in the task system and rewards for good work. Druitt did not see things in quite the same light. All the labourers under his control could not be worked under such a system, and to apply it in one instance could well have caused discontent in others. The application of the task system would have only given those who enjoyed it more time to "plunder". In any case the system had been tried in the case of the towers on the Government Stables and had not been a success because of the few tradesmen available, and the large number of apprentices who had to be employed.

It would have probably been impossible to reconcile the two widely divergent opinions. Druitt's was possibly the sounder, since he had to take the wider view, although the different social status of the two men in the colony, and a clash of personalities could also have played their part. A point which should not be lost sight of, however, is that Druitt's firm punishment of the convicts, together with his rejection of the task system, must have influenced the convicts, and helped to produce evidence, perjured or otherwise, against him before Biggs, Wemyss and Douglass.

Evidence was steadily accumulating that Druitt was using his position for his own ends. Apart from charges concerning the mill, and the sale of vegetables, other matters had arisen concerning the barter of government stores, manure (a valuable product at this period) being removed to Druitt's farm, and stock being improperly grazed. It is impossible to say whether these charges were properly based, or whether they arose out of the complaints of disgruntled convicts, urged on by a sense of duty, no matter how unlikely, or a sense of injustice; or by others with quite a different purpose in mind. It could be said in some truth, that if Druitt was doing his job properly, his span of control was far too wide, and it was impossible to supervise properly the many duties he had to perform. In this respect it is not without some significance that while Bathurst could not see the necessity for the two appointments of Civil Engineer and Civil Architect and suggested that they should be merged that Bigge, on the spot, suggested to Macquarie that Druitt should not be saddled with dockyard duties, and these were forthwith removed.

Brisbane had little doubt that Druitt was heavily involved, and as he felt that no good purpose would be achieved by a General Court Martial, since the 48th was still present in the colony, he ordered a Committee of Inquiry instead.

Before Macquarie's departure in August 1821, Druitt had presented a Memorial in which he had pointed out the inadequate reward he had received for his services. Altogether in his term as Chief Engineer he had completed a total of 90 miles of road and 206 bridges. He was prepared to complete the road and bridges to Campbelltown and the cow-pastures; to erect a substantial bridge over the Nepean to the latter point; to undertake the building of a road to Bathurst; "and any other public work your Excellency may think proper". As he intended to settle he would prefer a grant of land as adequate recompense. Macquarie reserved an area of 1,000 acres, and recommended to the Earl of Bathurst that a total grant of 2,000 acres be made. Such was the origin of the modern satellite town of Mount Druitt.

In January 1822 the Rev. Samuel Marsden saw his opportunity and wrote to Bigge - "What will be the result of the present inquiry (ordered by Brisbane) is yet uncertain. If the judges do not manage the business with great caution the object will be defeated. Every Engine is at work to defeat the Ends of Justice. Knowing the class of people of which this colony is composed the magistrates should never raise the Sword of Justice against any great criminal unless he is certain he can knock him down nor should he give him time to evade the stroke - Drutt and his friends will stand a better chance of escaping the more time they are allowed. There appears to be but one opinion of the guilt of the parties..."

Shortly afterwards Brisbane outlined the charges against Drutt in a letter to Major-General Sir Herbert Taylor - expenditure was greater than it should have been; no regular books of expenditure were kept; there was no register of Government horses and working bullocks; no inventory of articles at the Carters' Barracks; coupled with all this he had received reports from other quarters that Drutt, who possessed extensive land and stock, had been converting these advantages to his own account. Drutt's conduct was disgraceful. He had already admitted driving his own herds onto government land at night, and removing them before dawn to escape detection. Moreover, it had been proved to Brisbane's satisfaction that Drutt had employed large numbers of "Government men" cultivating his own property - in short "it would be impossible to point out any one Department under his Orders in which he has not been guilty of the grossest malversation of Public trust as well as Public Money". He would have ordered a General Court Martial "could I have assembled one that in my mind would have forwarded the ends of public justice". The President of such a court martial must have been Colonel Erskine who "in many cases (is) so much identified with Major Drutt's proceedings, it would not have been productive of advantage to the service, and without him all the other Officers in the Colony were Junior to the Major". Apart from ordering a Committee of Inquiry, action on Drutt's proposed land grants should not be confirmed, and action taken to prevent him leaving the service. Altogether quite a damning epistle which Brisbane no doubt felt would be supported by the report of the Committee of Inquiry.

Although Mr. Commissioner Bigge had obtained evidence of the state of the colony from a variety of curious sources, his Reports, the first of which was ordered to be printed in June 1822, must be given due weight. Drutt did not escape his censure, although this was not in quite the same damning and sweeping terms as that of Brisbane.

In contrasting Drutt with his predecessor Gill, Bigge stated that Drutt "had the merit of great personal activity, but the details of his department were left to the subordinate officers who executed very imperfectly the arrangements that he had traced out for them. The error that he committed was that of undertaking a great extent of work, without reference to his means of control or superintendence; and without recollecting that the means of plunder augmented with the extension of the works. The numerous instances which he detected and severely punished the authors of that plunder, combined with the repetition of the offence, notwithstanding the severity with which it was punished, ought to have convinced him that the only means of preventing the spoilation of the government property by the convicts was to multiply the chances of detection by repeated examination of the tools that were necessarily committed to their care".

No doubt this situation arose for no other reason than that Druitt was more concerned with agricultural experiments which "have all contributed to embarrass and detract his attention from any effectual attempt to combine moral improvement with the labour performed for government".

Bigge was also critical of the accounting system at the lumber yard, and Druitt's unwillingness "to afford facilities to any other branch of the public service than to those with which he had a local and personal connection".

It must have been quite clear to Druitt that he was in very real danger of losing the land grant recommended by Macquarie. A week before his retirement from the Army he wrote to Bigge, pointing out the biased nature of the evidence being presented and the difficulties he was facing with two sworn enemies conducting the inquiry. He was very sorry to worry Bigge about the matter, but it was quite useless approaching Brisbane, as he was immersed "in private occupations and studies". Bigge in turn wrote to Bathurst pointing out the position Druitt was in. Obviously he did not believe that Druitt was deliberately engaged in any fraudulent practice. However, the severity of his punishments, and his activity in tracking down convicts stealing government property could not have endeared Druitt to them. If there had been any real substance in the reports the convicts would have presented their evidence during the course of his own inquiry, and would not have waited until he had left the colony to present it to the Committee of Inquiry. With this background he left Bathurst to decide the issue.

Apart from writing to Bigge, Druitt had also made several representations to Bathurst complaining of the proceedings adopted against him and stating his willingness to meet any impartial inquiry into his conduct. A further inquiry was ordered, but Brisbane before receipt of these instructions had already forwarded the results of the Committee of Inquiry, with the recommendation that "the Justice of the Case would only be met by ordering (Druitt) to give back the possession of the Crown Land upon which he has been suffered to reside hitherto. But, willing to allow every due weight to the length of time during which the inquiry has been unavoidably protracted, His Excellency determined not to act upon this decision until the whole Case shall be referred to His Majesty's Ministers. Therefore (Druitt) will be allowed a prolonged possession of the Land he at present occupies, but its Grant will not be confirmed without orders from England."

In a later reply to the direction to hold a further inquiry, Brisbane admitted that, to his surprise, "in place of a fair and impartial examination it became a most complete party question". He again drew attention to the looseness of Druitt's administration, but slightly modified his previous stand "...when there was a large arrival from England of any particular article, Major Druitt was in the constant habit of making a requisition for it. Did He not require the whole of such article He went to a person of the name of Levi, a Shopkeeper in Sydney, and proposed a barter of some other Article which He stood in need of. But what I have to complain of was not against the principle but against the Application, as there was no

Entries to satisfy the public as to these dealings. The opinion the 48th Regt entertained of Major DrUITT was so unfavourable that he was avoided by His Brother Officers, and I may add by the Garrison generally as He never dined with one of the Messes after the investigation commenced. I must confess I feel the less surprised at his unblushing Statement of His complaint to Your Lordship, so that, when I acquaint you that the Colony resounded with the epithet of a Peculator you will cease I am persuaded to be surprised at the Steps I have pursued respecting him. Mr. Murray, Paymaster of His Regiment, stated that Major DrUITT was so poor on his arrival in the Colony He was unable to pay His Mess Bill on Board of Ship during the passage, and yet shortly after He builds Himself a fine House, lived in the most extravagant way to the outrage of all decency and decorum".

DrUITT attempted in 1826 to again clear his name. Governor Darling was directed to have a further inquiry so that Bathurst could be guided as to whether DrUITT's grants would be confirmed or otherwise. However charges do not seem to have been preferred and ultimately the grants were confirmed by Governor Bourke in 1837.

After his resignation DrUITT applied himself to the development of his grants, and joined in the invasion of Liverpool Plains which Oxley's (qv) 1818 expedition had opened up. He was prominent in public affairs being a member of the Grand Jury; a petitioner for trial by jury and a House of Assembly; A Justice of the Peace and a member of the Windsor Quarter Sessions; a member of the Agricultural Society; foundation member of the Australian Racing Club; shareholder in the Bank of N.S.W.; gave evidence before the Committee on Immigration; and was suggested as a member of the Legislative Council. In 1828 he gave evidence in a libel suit in which his old antagonist Douglass was involved. He died a few months after his wife, on 8 June 1842. Of their four sons and four daughters, two daughters had predeceased him.

Although DrUITT's tasks encompassed a very wide field including supervision of public works and the dockyard, and responsibilities associated with artillery and the branch of the Quartermaster-General, his blunt character and actions, lack of firm control over administration and support for Macquarie put him in a vulnerable position.

Apart from illustrating the nature and intensity of party politics of his time DrUITT's main place in Australian history is his contribution to the improvement of the road communication system, and his immediate supervision of Greenway's many important historical buildings.

Blunt on occasions, but in the main plausible and charming, with perhaps a touch of the confidence man, his support of Macquarie's emancipist policy was possibly at the root of the criticism levelled against him.

DESPATCHES

(Questions, comments and answers from readers)

H.M.A.S. CERBERUS.

Regarding the article on H.M.A.S. "Cerberus" that appeared in "Sabretache" dated July 1965 the following notes may be of interest. There were eight ships of this name in the navy. They are as follows :-

1. H.M.S. "Cerberus" 1758-1778, a 28-gun frigate;
2. H.M.S. "Cerberus" 1779-1783, a 32-gun frigate;
3. H.M.S. "Cerberus" 1794-1814, a 32 gun frigate;
4. H.M.S. "Cerberus" 1800-1804
This ship was captured from the French on the 26th of July 1800 and added to the Royal Navy. As there was already a "Cerberus" in the navy the new acquisition retained her French name.
5. H.M.S. "Cerberus" 1820-1866, a 46-gun frigate.
She was laid down in 1820 and launched in March 1827, but was never commissioned owing to the financial difficulties at this period. She was broken up in 1866.
6. H.M.V.S. "Cerberus", 1870-1903 which became
H.M.A.S. "Cerberus", 1903-1921, a monitor.
7. H.M.A.S. "Cerberus", 1921-1924 (Late H.M.A.S. "Protector", previously the old South Australian Gunboat).
8. H.M.A.S. "Cerberus", 1924 - Late "Kooronga". Acted as tender to Flinders Naval Depot.

In August 1799 a Dutch 68-gun ship named the "Cerberus" surrendered to the British during the operations in the River Vlieter. She was added to the Royal Navy under the name of "TEXEL".

Shore Establishments.

The Naval Depot at Williamstown was commissioned as H.M.A.S. "Cerberus" on July 1st, 1912. On April 1st, 1921, the establishment was transferred to Flinders Naval Depot and the old monitor "Cerberus" was removed from the Navy List. She was sunk on a sandbank to form a breakwater at Black Rock on September 2nd, 1925.

R. Gray

10.8.1965.

DESPATCHES (CONT)

Dear Sir,

As a sword collector I have recently purchased a presentation sword inscribed on the blade "Present to William Snow Clifton for services in the Victoria Yeomanry of which he was Secretary 1858".

I was told that the Victoria Yeomanry may be an Australian unit, and I am wondering if it is. Can you give me any information about the recipient of the sword, and also the Victoria Yeomanry.

Richard Angell,
31 Ashburnham Drive,
South Oxhey
Herts, England.

Dear Mr. Angell,

VICTORIA YEOMANRY CORPS.
CAPTAIN William Snow CLIFTON.

Thank you very much for your letter of the 24th July, 1965 on the above subject. I was pleased to hear about Captain Clifton's sword which has wandered so far from Victoria.

The "Victoria Yeomanry Corps" was a Volunteer mounted corps and one of the earliest units of the Military Forces of the Colony of Victoria. It was on the Colony's order of battle in 1858. In that year it was commanded by Major J.H. Ross and Captain W.S. Clifton was the corps' Honorary Secretary and Treasurer. As you probably know these Volunteer corps conducted their own internal affairs by resolutions passed at general meetings of all ranks.

No other information has been discovered about Captain Clifton who could have been in 1858 a former officer of the British Army.

If you know the date that the sword was presented to Captain Clifton it may be possible for us to trace a report of the event in Melbourne newspapers of the time.

Yours sincerely,

(Editor: Would Mr. Angell care to send us a photo of the sword for further study?)

(J.K. Lyons)
SECRETARY

IN THE NEWS

by B.J. VIDEON

R.A.A.F. BADGES.

Badges of the R.A.A.F. are now appearing in the anodised aluminium finish. Those seen so far by the writer are :-

eagle and crown for shoulder straps W.O.'s and for officers in mess dress etc;

and new Medical Branch collar badge featuring one serpent.

These match the anodised buttons which have been in use for some time, and it is more than likely that other badges of the R.A.A.F. will follow suit and change to this less durable medium.

New chevrons for N.C.O.'s have been produced, but the writer has not yet seen these. They are reported to be much smaller, and of embroidery, rather than the 'lace' or tape generally used previously.

R.N.Z.A.F. BUTTONS.

A Melbourne firm recently manufactured some new buttons which are understood to be for the R.N.Z.A.F. These buttons are the present R.A.A.F. type, made of aluminium, but anodized a smoky blue instead of gold. It would appear, therefore, that the use of the letters "N.Z." on R.N.Z.A.F. buttons may be "on the way out".

STATE REGIMENTS' BADGES.

At long last, the badges of the various State infantry regiments are in the course of production. The Society's representative has been told that only the required quantities will be ordered, and that there will be none available for shops. While this is possibly often intended but not achieved, it is certain that this is the Army's intention. The Society has been asked to order its requirements, to be added to those of the Army. Will Branch Secretaries please take a census of their members' requirements as quickly as possible, and submit orders to the Federal Secretary. *Don* Branch members are asked to send their orders direct to the Federal Secretary. Prices are not at present known, but may be guessed at in relation to current badge prices. Branches should be able to remit money at short notice when required to pay for badges ordered, when they become available. As Deliveries are not expected to start for about 6 months, do not send money until requested by the Federal Treasurer.

AUSTRALIAN AND WORLD WIDE COLLECTORS' CLUB.

This is a club that caters for all collectors and hobbyists who may wish to correspond with others of similar interests. It deals with stamp news and discusses collections of various items. The addresses of members of the club, and of many other clubs of similar types appear in the Club's small, but well prepared monthly Bulletins. Membership is £A1, or 15/- sterling, or \$U.S.2.70 per year. For further details write to AUSTRALIAN AND WORLD WIDE COLLECTORS' CLUB, 61 Thistle Street, LUTWICHE, BRISBANE, Queensland Australia.

BOOKS OF INTEREST

ROYAL ARTILLERY.

The following books are offered by the Royal Artillery Institution and appear to be excellent value to those who are interested in the R.A. :-

- "THE STORY OF THE GUN", by Lt. A.W. Wilson, covering history, material and tactics. 85 pages with illustrations.
TWO SHILLINGS PLUS POSTAGE.
- "HISTORY OF COAST ARTILLERY IN THE BRITISH ARMY", by Colonel K.W. Maurice-Jones £1. 5. 0 stg. plus postage.
- "THE DRESS OF THE ROYAL ARTILLERY FROM 1898 to 1956" by Major D.A. Campbell. Bound £1. 7. 6, paperback £1.1.0 stg. plus postage.
- "HISTORY OF THE ROYAL ARTILLERY BAND, 1762 to 1953" by George Henry Farmer £1. 1. 0 stg. plus postage.

The Royal Artillery Institution, Woolwich, LONDON, S.E.18.

OFFICIAL R.S.L. HANDBOOK 1965.

This is the ANZAC JUBILEE ISSUE, published by the New South Wales Branch of the Returned Sailors', Soldiers' and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia. 200 pages including illustrations.

This informative book made its appearance in August 1965. In the 68 main headings in the Table of Contents, there is such a diversity of subjects as "R.S.L. Policy on Defence", "Repatriation Benefits", Historical Notes, statistics of aspects of Australia's participation in wars, rules for guidance of those flying the National Flag (with sketches illustrating the method of preparing flags for hoisting and breaking), price list of Australian War Memorial publications, and list of Australian Army Unit Histories of the War of 1939-45. Many of the historical notes, while brief, could be quite useful for reference, e.g. : First Naval Victory, A. Brief R.A.A.F. History, Korea-Malaya Operations, the R.S.L. V.D.C., The Australian Army Nursing Service.

Available from the R.S.S. & A.I.L.A., Anzac House, College St., Sydney, price 5/6, postage 1/- (in Australia).

P.V. Vernon

THE CANADIAN ARMY.

The R.U.S.I. Journal (May 1965) in its review section praises "THE REGIMENTS AND CORPS OF THE CANADIAN ARMY" (Volume I of the Canadian Army List, which has been produced by the Canadian Army Historical Section. It is an official publication of some 250 pages, dealing with each corps, and giving "sketch" histories of the regiments of the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps and the Royal Canadian Infantry Corps.

For each regiment there are the badge, title, motto and regimental march, together with short history and battle honours. The price is \$5.00. Canadian Govt. Bookshop, Mackenzie Building, 36 Adelaide St., Toronto, Ontario.

P.V. Vernon.

THE AIR FORCES OF THE WORLD.

It is understood that a revised version of this excellent book by William Green and John Fricker (MacDonald, London) will shortly be available. The 1958 edition gave over 300 pages of well-prepared brief histories of all air forces, with illustrations of many of their aircraft, maps, and a host of other useful details. Coloured plates of aircraft markings are a 'bonus' for the air forces enthusiast. If the new edition even lives up to the standard of the old, it will be eagerly sought after. From this publisher, however, we may be sure that the revision will be even better.

B.J.Videon

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ERRATA

"SOME MEDAL RIBBONS AND THEIR MEANINGS".

The following mistake appeared in this article in the April 1965 edition :-

The description of the ribbon of the Soudan Medal 1896-7 should read

yellow for the desert
red for Britain
black for the soudan or the Dervish.

Robert Gray.

.....

ARE YOU FINANCIAL?

Members and Branch Secretaries are asked to please check whether they are "paid up". The Society does not enjoy the benefits of subsidies that some of our overseas counterparts have, and we are entirely dependent on subscriptions to keep our work going. It is regretted that we cannot afford to continue to send SABRETACHE to non-paying members, nor can we afford to set aside spare copies to have them available in case these members should pay up very belatedly and require "back numbers" they have missed. We are forced at present to budget our requirements very closely, and when they are issued, there are no more. So please be sure of yours ---pay up!

MEMBERS ADVERTISEMENTS

(5/- per advertisement)

WANTED BY EXCHANGE OR PURCHASE.

Gallantry Medals (especially DCM and MM) to Royal or Commonwealth Artilleries. Details to :-

Major P.E. Abbott,
29 Woodfields, Chipstead,
near SEVENOAKS, Kent, England.

LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

BULLETIN DE LA SOCIÉTÉ DES COLLECTIONNEURS DE FIGURES HISTORIQUES.

THE DESPATCH, Newsletter of the Scottish Group, Model Soldier Collectors, Nos. 19, 20, 21.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES DRESS MANUAL 1963.

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REMOUNT SECTION A.A.S.C.

A Remount Section of the Australian Army Service Corps was raised in 1910, and disbanded in 1946. The following were the remount depots in Australia in 1927 :-

QUEENSLAND No. 1 Remount Depot, Lytton, No. 2, Enoggera.
NEW SOUTH WALES No. 3 Holdsworthy, No. 4 Prospect, No. 5 Moore Park.
VICTORIA No. 6 Maribyrnong, No. 7 Sth. Melbourne, No. 8 Albert Park.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA No. 9 Glenthorne, No. 10 Keswick.
WESTERN AUSTRALIA No. 11 Guildford.
TASMANIA No. 12 Hobart, No. 13 Launceston.

ROBERT GRAY.

