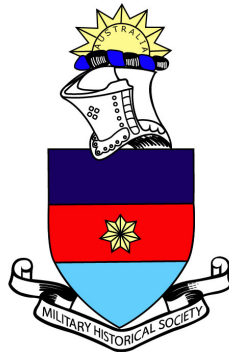


Military Historical Society of Australia
Sabretache



Copyright © 1957-2019 Military Historical Society of Australia on behalf of the Society and its authors who retain copyright of all their published material and articles. All Rights Reserved.

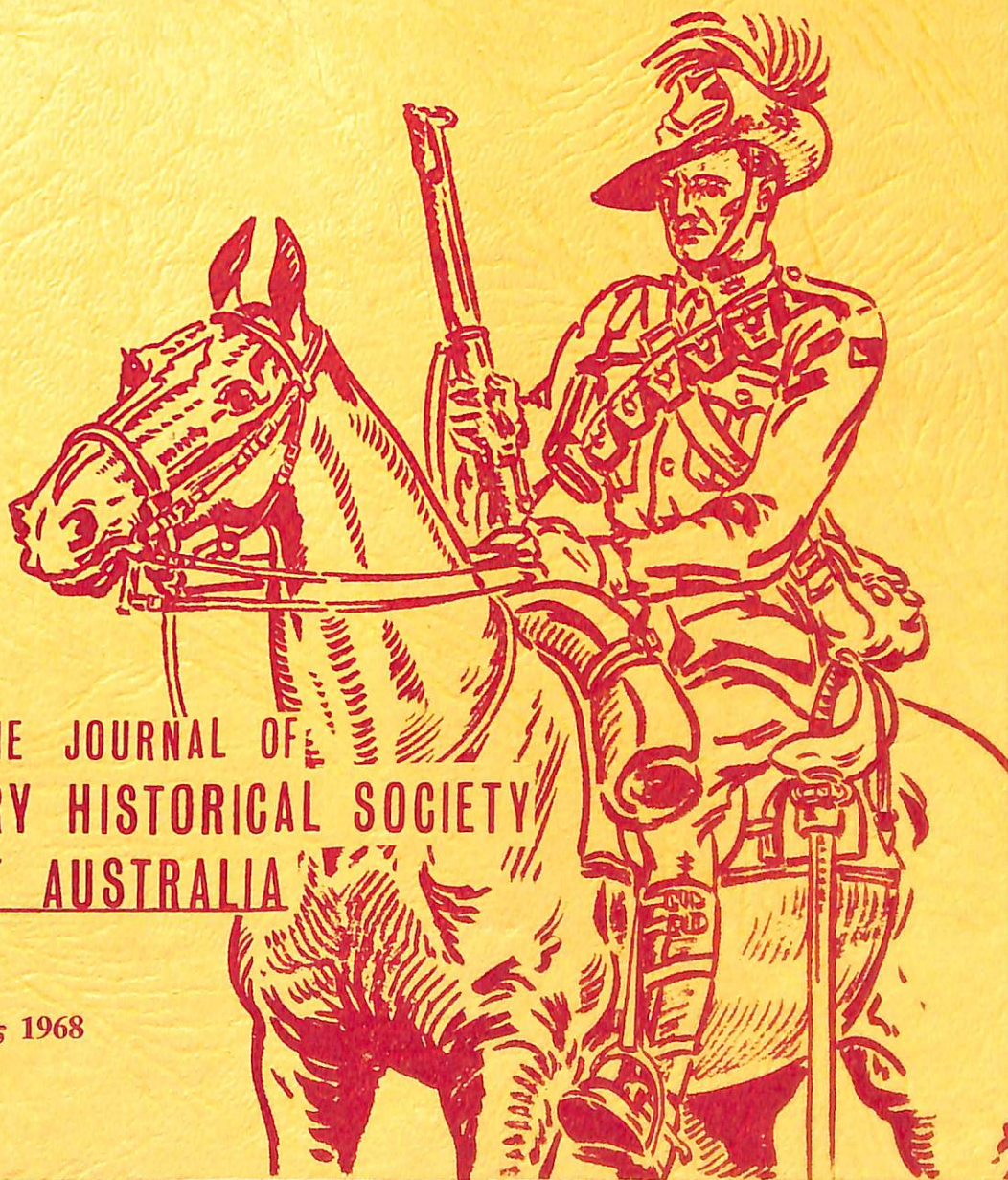
Sabretache policy is that the submission of material gives the Society permission to print your material, to allow the material to be included in digital databases such as the MHSa website, Australian Public Affairs-Full Text, INFORMIT and EBSCO. Reprints to non-profit historical and other societies will be approved provided suitable attribution is included and a copy of the reprint is sent to the author. Copyright remains with the author who may reprint his or her article or material from the article without seeking permission from the Society.

The Society encourages the download and distribution of *Sabretache* for personal use only and *Sabretache* can not be reproduced without the written consent of the Society.

www.mhsa.org.au

Military Historical Society of Australia
PO Box 5030, Garran, ACT 2605.
email: webmaster@mhsa.org.au

SABRETACHE



THE JOURNAL OF
THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF AUSTRALIA

APRIL
JANUARY, 1968



THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Eleventh Annual General Meeting of The Military Historical Society of Australia will be held at the Civic Centre, CAMBERWELL, Victoria, on Friday, 30th August 1968, commencing at 8 p.m.

BUSINESS:

1. To receive and adopt the Report of the Federal Council for the year ended 30th June, 1968.
2. To receive the Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June, 1968.
3. To receive the result of the ballot for Federal Council.
4. To consider any business of which 14 clear days' notice has been given in writing to the Federal Secretary.
5. To appoint an Honorary Auditor for the following year.

By Order of the Federal Council.

Major E. W. O. Perry, R.L., Federal President.
J. K. Lyons, Federal Secretary.

262 Tucker Road,
ORMOND EAST, 3204.
31st March, 1968.

ii.

THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA
ANNUAL ELECTIONS OF FEDERAL COUNCIL 1968/1969.

The Annual Elections of Federal Council will take place at the 11th Annual General Meeting of the Society, to be held at the Civic Centre, Camberwell, Victoria on 30th August, 1968.

Nominations are now called for the following positions:-

Federal PRESIDENT
" VICE PRESIDENT
" SECRETARY
" TREASURER
" COUNCILLORS (3 positions to be filled).

In order to qualify for nomination, a person must be a financial member of the Society at the time of nomination. Only financial members of the Society may hold office.

The prior written consent of each nominee is required for all nominations, and in order to facilitate the provision of this consent, a printed form is supplied.

Although any financial member of the Society residing in Australia may be nominated for a position as a Federal Councillor, he must be prepared, if elected, to attend meetings of the Federal Council in Melbourne in order to carry out the duties of his office. It is regretted that the Society is not in a position to pay any expenses of such travel, but every endeavour is made to ensure that meetings are fixed to suit the convenience of those Councillors who must travel.

The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer must reside in Victoria and as close as possible to each other in order to be able to effectively conduct the business of the Society at its Melbourne Headquarters.

Please nominate your candidate for each or any position on the form provided, and forward, or arrange for him to forward, it to the Returning Officer, M.H.S.A., 87 Tooronga Road, EAST MALVERN, Victoria, 3145 by 30th June 1968. The Returning Officer is Mr. A. Ray, LL.B., who is NOT a candidate for office.

Ballot papers will be forwarded at least 21 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

J. K. Lyons,
FEDERAL SECRETARY.

NOMINATIONS FOR FEDERAL COUNCIL OF THE M.H.S.A. 1968/1969.

The following slips may be separated and sent to the Returning Officer by either nominee or proposer in each case.

FEDERAL PRESIDENT - Nominee

Nominated by

I accept the above nomination

Nominee's signature

FEDERAL VICE-PRESIDENT - Nominee

Nominated by

I accept the above nomination

Nominee's signature

FEDERAL SECRETARY - Nominee

Nominated by

I accept the above nomination

Nominee's signature

FEDERAL TREASURER - Nominee

Nominated by

I accept the above nomination

Nominee's signature

FEDERAL COUNCILLOR - Nominee

Nominated by

I accept the above nomination

Nominee's signature

FEDERAL COUNCILLOR - Nominee

Nominated by

I accept the above nomination

Nominee's signature

FEDERAL COUNCILLOR - Nominee

Nominated by

I accept the above nomination

Nominee's signature

NOTE CONDITIONS SHOWN ON THE NOTICE OF ELECTIONS,

NOMINATIONS TO BE SENT TO THE RETURNING OFFICER AT THE ADDRESS SHOWN.

THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

(Founded in Melbourne in 1957)

HONORARY OFFICE BEARERS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th JUNE, 1968.

FEDERAL COUNCIL

PRESIDENT

Major E.W.O. Perry, R.L., M.A., B.Ec.

VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. B.J. Videon, A.A.S.A.

SECRETARY

Mr. J.K. Lyons,
(262 Tucker Road, ORMOND EAST, Victoria, 3204)

TREASURER

Lt. P. Lober,
(7 Margaret Street, BRIGHTON EAST, Victoria, 3187)

COUNCILLORS

Mr. L. L. Barton,
Mr. A.N. Festberg,
Major J. B. Gale, E.D., M.A.

* * *

EDITOR

Mr. B.J. Videon,
(20 Thomasina Street, BENTLEIGH EAST, Victoria, 3165)

LIBRARIAN

Mr. J.B. Hirsh,
(186 Kambrook Road, CAULFIELD, Victoria, 3162)

* * *

BRANCHES OF THE SOCIETY

VICTORIA

PRESIDENT

Mr. A.N. Festberg

SECRETARY

Mr. L.G. Ryan

(14 Dean Street, MOONEE PONDS, Victoria, 3039)

* * *

NEW SOUTH WALES

PRESIDENT

Mr. L.L. Barton

SECRETARY

Mr. R.K. Cooper

(12 Irvine Crescent, RYDE, N.S.W., 2112)

* * *

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

PRESIDENT

Mr. N.S. Foldi

SECRETARY

Mr. K.R. White

(156 Miller St., O'CONNOR, A.C.T., 2601)

* * *

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PRESIDENT

Mr. R. Harvey

SECRETARY

Mr. G.B. Tunstill

(40 Katoomba Rd., BEAUMONT, S.A., 5066)

MONTHLY MEETINGS

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

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

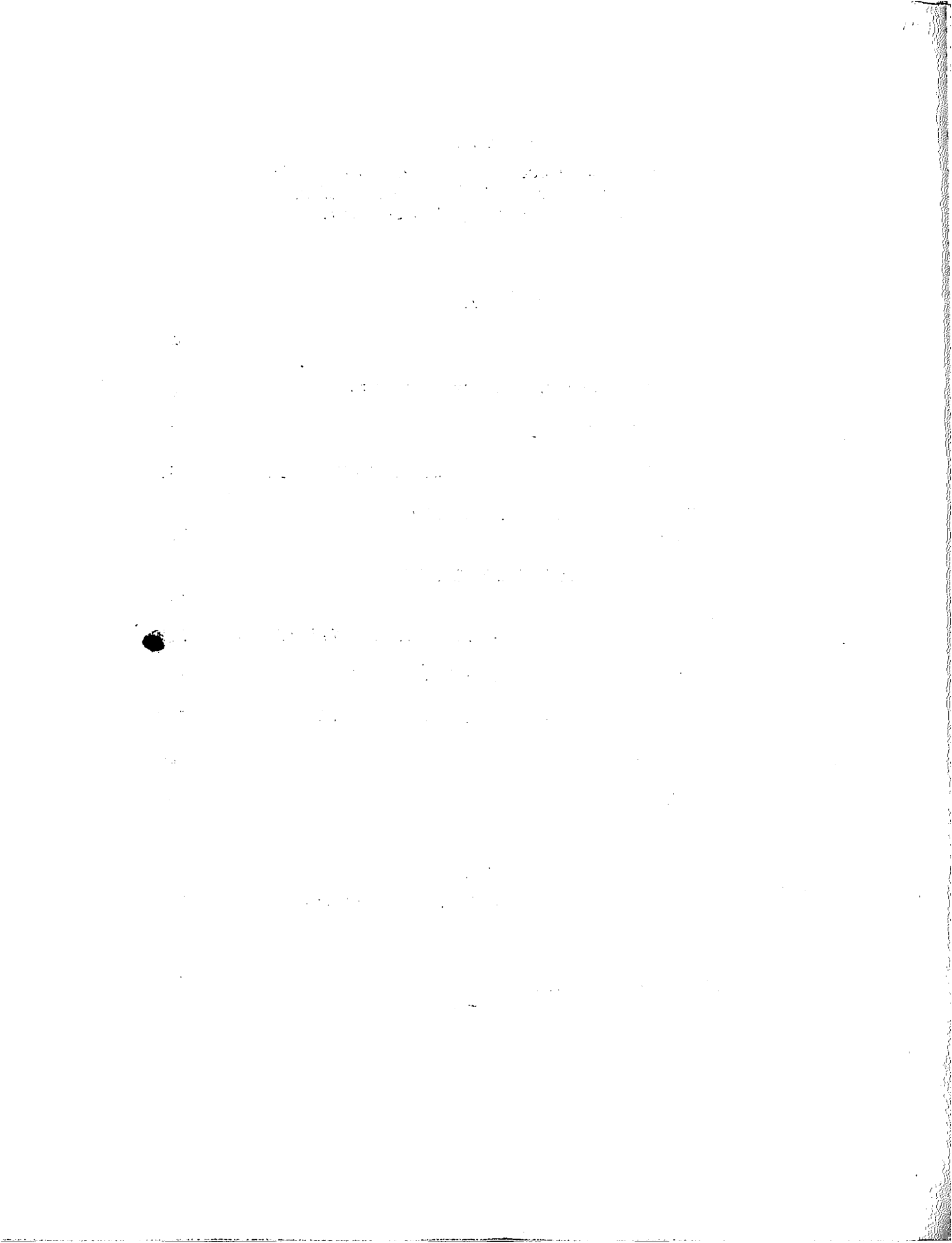
Members travelling Inter-State are welcomed at any meeting of the Branches of the Society. It is recommended that prior to travelling, arrangements be made with the Branch Secretary in the city being visited.

"SABRETACHE"

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

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
THE FORTIFICATIONS AT ALBANY - BY IVAN BIRD	122
FRONTISPIECE TO JANUARY ISSUE	133
ASIAN BATTLE DIARY (CONTD.) - BY W. M. CHAMBERLAIN	134
FORMATION OF THE AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH MILITARY FORCES	140
PROPOSED BRANCH OF THE SOCIETY IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA	150
A TRIBUTE - BY W. M. CHAMBERLAIN	152
THE DANISH ARMY - SUBMITTED BY K. VAEGTER	153
AIR FORCE MINIATURES - NOTES BY B. J. VIDEON	154
DEATH OF MR. PAUL A. HAUSER	156
MOORABBIN AIR MUSEUM	156
RESEARCHERS CORNER	157
AUSTRALIAN ARMY INSIGNIA 1903 - 1966 - BY A. N. FESTBERG	159
ADVERTISEMENTS	158, 159
DIRECTORY AMENDMENTS, APRIL, 1968	i



Journal and Proceedings of

THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

Vol. X

APRIL, 1968

No. 4

PRICE: Fifty-seven cents

Published by J. K. Lyons, for and on behalf of
The Military Historical Society of Australia,
at its Registered Office, 262 Tucker Road,
Ormond East, Victoria. 3204.

THE FORTIFICATIONS AT ALBANY

by Ivan Bird.

It would seem that King George Sound, guarded by the twin islands Michaelmas and Breaksea, has always been highly regarded for shipping and defence purposes. For over 130 years (1960), despite all the various and numerous defence systems, the Port of Albany, Princess Royal Harbour has never been anything but a weakly defended port.

Major General Sir Peter H. Scratchley, KCMG., a distinguished officer of the Royal Engineers, born 1835, who had served in both the Crimea and Indian Mutiny, was appointed in 1860 as Superintendent of Defence, Victoria. He returned to England in 1864. In 1867 he was re-appointed in charge of all Colonial Defence in the six States.

In 1881 he visited West Australia and in the course of his visit, he made an extensive examination of both Fremantle and Albany; the latter port impressed him much, as will be seen later. At the Inter-Colonial Conference, held in Sydney in 1881, he stated that - "he considered the defence of King George Sound was most important". It was proposed at that Conference to expend £70,000 on defence; of that sum, £13,000 was to be spent at Albany, on the following scheme which was approved at that Conference.

1. Submarine mines for the entrance to Princess Royal Harbour.
2. Three 16 pounder muzzle loading guns on carriages to the west of King Point.
3. Three rifled 7 inch muzzle loading guns above Semaphore Point (the Pilot Station).
4. Two 40 pounders on carriages to the hill above King Pt.
5. A Garrison of 50 artillery and 100 infantry with 15 engineers to work the mines.

The scheme was modified by the Inspector General of Fortifications in England, and considerable correspondence passed between the Imperial Government and the Colonies, without anything being done in regard to the King George Sound defences; despite the fact that there was considerable apprehension both in England and the Colonies from 1879 to 1889 in regard

to Russian aggression. Also rumours became current in 1883 of the intended annexation in the Pacific Ocean by the Germany and France - the Germans credited with designs on New Guinea.

In 1885 the Imperial Government again raised the question of Colonial Defence. The Secretary of State for War stressed Major General Sir Peter Scratchley's report on King George Sound as follows:-

"The protection of King George Sound and Princess Royal Harbour is of vital importance for the general security of the Australian Colonies in time of war. If left undefended, the Sound would become a weak point in the Australian system of Defence."

In 1887 the Colonial Premiers assembled in London for the Jubilee of Queen Victoria's reign, and in April discussed the whole Colonial Defence question with the Imperial Government. From 1885 to 1888 the aggressive attitude of Russia caused a considerable stir in the Colonies. It was reported that Russian war ships were cruising in the Pacific.

On the 13th June, 1888, the First Class Cruiser, H.M.S. Orlando of 5600 tons, and armament of two 9.2 inch B.L. guns and ten 6 inch, with a speed of 19 knots, steamed into Sydney Harbour. Rear Admiral G. Tyron, KCB., the Commander in Chief of the Australian Station, hoisted his flag on H.M.S. Orlando. (Admiral Sir George Tyron, KCB. lost his life in 1893 in the collision between H.M.S. Camperdown and H.M.S. Victoria.)

On the 4th July, 1888, the Australian Advertiser (with which is incorporated the Albany Mail) published the following:-

"The Albany Defence Force is to be abandoned, and the Plantagenet Rifles will be formed. All arms and accoutrements are to be handed to Mr. John McGovern, the Head Warder at the Jail.

(Signed) Lance de Mamel

Late 3rd Battalion of the 5th Northumberland Fusiliers.
Albany."

The foregoing notice is of interest because the men who served in the Plantagenet Rifles and the Volunteers were trained at the Forts and included many who gave their lives in the Boer War (1899-1902), the Great War (1914-1919) and the Second World War (1939-1945).

On the same date (4.7.1888) the local paper also reported -

"that the Garrison on Breaksea Island was much excited by the Russian War scare. The lines manned, Commandant Johnson had sent the women and children to the mainland. A sharp lookout was being kept both day and night.

If blockaded, the Commandant stated that there were enough rabbits to feed the Garrison and to hold the Fort against Russian, Mongolian or French fleets indefinitely.

It is rather unfortunate that the Commandant has neither guns or gun-powder, but he will no doubt, like the rest of the Albanians, put up a fine display of courage."

It is regretted that no further details are given in the Australian Advertiser on the gallantry displayed by the Commandant and his Band of Brothers.

The Australian Advertiser, on the 9th September 1889, reported that Major General Edwards from the War Office, London, had arrived at Albany, and who stated that the defences of Albany were under planning, and that Sir Henry Parkes, the Premier of N.S.W., had submitted a proposal for an Inter-Colonial Conference to Military Officers to discuss Defence purposes, including the defence of King George Sound.

Sir Henry Parkes was one of the most remarkable of men: for 35 years he dominated the political scene in New South Wales: also in his personal and private affairs. For he was vain, predatory and unscrupulous. His debts and his piety were powerless to sink him. In three bankruptcy cases, his debts amounted to £146,000: when the living wage was about £2 per week. He married three times. By his first wife he had 12 children; by his second 5 more. His first child was born in 1837, and his last in 1892. Four years later he died, at the age of 81. But he certainly pushed the defences of King George Sound, and was quite capable of defending it himself.

On Wednesday 25th September, 1889, the Melbourne Leader reported under the heading "Defence of King George Sound"

"an interchange of telegraphic notes by the Premiers of the Australian Colonies on the subject of the defence of King George Sound, and that an understanding has been arrived at with the Imperial Government."

The Imperial Government urged that some attention be given to the supply of armaments, forts and garrison. If the Colonies jointly would defray the cost of construction and provide annual maintenance for the garrison.

Further discussion took place in 1890 between the Imperial Government and the Colonial Premiers on Major General Sir Peter Scratchley's recommendations. The Military Commandants of all the States, and Captain Moore, RN. met in Albany in November 1890 to inspect and report on King George Sound, and made the following recommendations:-

1. That the Imperial Government offer to provide 6 inch guns B.L. and mountings be accepted.
2. That the Q.F. guns, .303 Maxims also offered, be substituted by 9 pounder R.M.L. guns.
3. A submarine mining station be installed in the channel at the entrance to Princess Royal Harbour.

The ultimate results of the Conference being that the Federal Council of Premiers agreed to construct the Forts at Albany which were to be completed and manned by March, 1893.

Early in 1891 a Mr. John Blackburne of the Victorian Public Works arrived in Albany to supervise the construction of the Forts, on the site originally recommended by Major General Sir Peter Scratchley and approved by the Military Conference.

It is as well to remember that the P & O Company inaugurated the Royal Mail service in 1862 to Australia, and that the Orient Company followed in 1883. Also that Albany was the chief and only port of call for the mail boats and the Liverpool White Star Line, who at times carried Royal Mail via the Cape. The harbour at Fremantle was not used by the Royal Mail boats until 1900, and Albany as a defended port offered the only security to the Mercantile Marine other than Sydney and Melbourne.

The West Australian, on Wednesday 20th January 1892, published the following:-

"Albany Fortifications.

The English Government has decided not to ship the guns for the Fortifications at Albany because no preparations have been made to receive them."

The Australian Advertiser of the same date reported that -

"had the foundation ironwork for the 3 guns been delivered alongside the Town Jetty two months ago, it would now have been placed in position for two at least out of the three emplacements, which would have been ready to receive the carriages and guns. Mr. Blackburne is waiting for the foundation ironwork."

On Monday 29th February, 1892, the Australian Advertiser reported as follows:-

"The Fortifications.

The foundation ironworks at the Albany fortifications is on the ground, the race in position, with the emplacement for two guns at the top of the hill; and the ironwork for the guns in the lower battery will be in place today. The batteries are nearly ready for the three big guns, but no date of their arrival is known.

The site for the Barracks and Officers Quarters has been prepared; the site of the latter is a magnificent one, commanding as it does a beautiful view. A paddock of 5 acres has been cleared, grubbed and fenced on the lower ground. A metal road V shaped, is to be made from the lower battery to the battery on the hill.

Contracts for the four new buildings will be let to local tender shortly; namely, Marine Store, Laboratory, Artillery Store on the Fortifications Site and a Drill Shed in the Town on a site near the shed of the Plantagenet Rifles.

The Fortifications are well worth a visit. A vast amount of work has been done by Mr. Blackburne, the Engineer, and Inspector

Boulton; forty-four men have been employed by the works. Mr. White, one of the contractors for the Barracks arrived at Albany on Saturday."

The specifications provide for only jarrah from the Jarrahdale Timber Mill to be used in the building of the Barracks.

The local press also announced -

"that the following money is to be spent on works at Albany: £4,000 on extensions to the Town Jetty, £2,000 on a new school, £1,000 on the goods sheds and a large amount on the Fortifications."

The Australian Advertiser on the 11th March 1892 published the following:-

"The Guns Ready.

But the Secretary for the State of War regrets the apathy of the Australian Governments respecting the Defences of Albany, for which the guns are ready."

"The Fortifications at Albany" under this heading the Australian Advertiser on Wednesday the 16th March, 1892 -

"that the Garrison is to arrive shortly: and that Mr. Blackburne informs us that a cable for the guns for the Fortifications to be dispatched from England, has been sent. He is ready for the guns to be mounted.

The Garrison is being recruited in South Australia, and 20 men will be sent to Albany in readiness to receive the guns, which are expected to arrive shortly. The men are to live under canvas at the Barracks site. These 20 men will receive the guns and mount them, the remainder of the Garrison will be sent over later. Mr. Blackburne is to return shortly to Victoria, as Chief Engineer of Defences. The contract for the erection of the Barracks will be signed probably today by the firm of Innes and Knutson of Perth, whose tender was the second lowest on the list."

On the 25th March 1892, the Australian Advertiser published the following:-

"Mr. Blackburne the Engineer states that a cable from England informed him that the guns for the Albany defences were ready for shipment, but the carriages would not be ready before next July at the earliest. Messrs. Innes and Knutson, the contractors for the erection of the Barracks have already made a start."

The Premier (Sir John Forrest) visited Albany on the 1st April, 1892 and accompanied by the Mayor (Mr. John Mackenzie) inspected the Forts, being much impressed by the whole area.

Early in this year an energetic local business man - to wit - one Jean Marie Pierre de Galle, built the Esplanade Hotel at Middleton Beach, despite

violent local opposition, and of the Military Authorities, who considered that the Hotel would encourage the garrison to sneak down through the bush for "a quickie" far too often and far too long.

The Australian Advertiser dated the 8th April, 1892, reported -

"that Mr. Blackburne had invited 20 men of the Plantagenet Rifles under the command of Lieutenant John Moir and Second Lieutenant Holland to visit the Forts, which took place on the 6th inst."

On Monday 12th April, the local paper published as follows:-

"Recruits for the Albany Forts.

South Australian register reported that the Military had advertised for recruits for the Albany Forts, which is to be manned by South Australians. Thirty men are required and on Monday the 4th, three men had enlisted thus completing the number needed for despatch to the Western colony."

"We learn", writes the Australian Advertiser on Wednesday 6th June, 1892 -

"that information has been received that the guns for the Forts are not ready for inspection till Christmas. They are not now expected to arrive till April next year. The delay is serious for the Barracks and Forts will be ready before the guns arrive."

From the above newspaper reports, it would appear that some confusion existed between the Imperial Government and the Colonies on the question of the guns and carriages, but eventually the Forts were completed and the guns mounted as originally proposed.

On Wednesday 16th November, Major Hannay of the Victorian Permanent Forces arrived at Albany; he inspected the Forts accompanied by the Mayor and Mr. R. C. Loftie, the Resident Magistrate.

From 1890 to 1892, Lieutenant Colonel G. B. Phillips of the local Forces was Commandant of West Australia; from 1892 to 1895, Lieutenant Colonel H. S. Fleming of the Essex Regiment was in command.

The area for the Forts comprised of Reserve 501, and part of Location 3301; roughly 163 acres, but not including the Lower Battery, rifle range and magazine.

The Australian Advertiser on Friday 20th January, 1893, reported under The Fortifications, as follows:-

"An Officer of the Imperial Forces must be in command of the Forts, therefore Captain C. J. Hawker of the South Australian Permanent Forces cannot be sent there permanently, as was proposed; he is to fill the position in a temporary capacity only."

Captain Hawker having been appointed to command the Garrison in April, 1892.

On Wednesday 1st February, 1893, the H.M.S. Orlando, Flag Ship of Rear Admiral Bowden Smith, with Capt. A. R. Arbuthnot, arrived at Albany. The H.M.S. Tauranga also arrived on 14th inst. for a short visit, and probably to inspect the new Forts.

At last, the Australian Advertiser on Monday 20th February, 1893, was able to announce the completion of the Forts as follows:-

"The Albany Defences have been completed at the cost of £15,000, the annual maintenance will amount to £4,000 of which West Australia is to contribute one quarter of the capital cost, the other Colonies to contribute the balance.

The following orders have been issued by Captain Hawker: -- the Garrison will consist of one Sergeant, 25 rank and file of the South Australian Military Forces, and will sail in the S.S. Albany."

In addition Instructor Sergeant Hollingsworth for special duty.

The following are the names of the first Garrison ...

Sergeant Carroll, Corporal Hodgkin, Corporal Kean and Bombadier Clark. Gunners Arthur, Baxter, Barker, Black, Cunningham, S. Clarke, W. Clarke, Carter, Ellison, Ferguson, Inge, Johnson, Kelly, Loughray, Mills, Marchant, Nation, O'Hara, Pickett, Wilkin, Wilson and Wright.

Captain Hawker and the Garrison arrived at Albany on the 28th February, 1893. Lieutenant Colonel Fleming, the State Commandant accompanied by his Adjutant (Captain Campbell) met the S.S. Albany on arrival. The men of the Garrison being sworn in on 1st March by Lieutenant Colonel Fleming.

The Australian Advertiser of Friday 17th March reported:

"The permanent Artillery have settled down at the Forts. The upper Battery has been named the Princess Royal Battery, the lower one the Plantagenet Battery, and the Barracks, the Albany Barracks. The men have been clearing up; making a parade ground 120 x 60 feet in front of the Barracks.

The S.S. Gulf of Taranto left Fremantle on Wednesday last with the guns and mountings, and arrived at Albany this morning (17th). She brings three 6 inch B.L. (Mark V½) guns, weighing 6½ tons each and barbette mountings for the same which weigh 5 tons each. A quantity of Pallister shot and small stores. The guns are fired by electricity.

She also brings a battery of six 9 pounders, rifled muzzle loading guns with limber. The remainder of the ammunition etc. will arrive shortly in the S.S. Echuca. Captain Hawker and his men will mount the guns, assisted by Sergeant Major Hollingsworth.

It was extremely difficult getting everything up to the Batteries, the Military road is not yet completed. The upper Battery is 378 feet above sea level and the lower one 125 feet. The guns etc. will be brought by train from the Town Jetty to the York Street crossing and

conveyed from there to the Forts by Messrs. C. & E. Millars timber jinkers."

On Monday 20th March, the Australian Advertiser stated as follows :-

"Arrival of the Albany Guns.

The guns and barbette mountings for the Albany Fortifications arrived on Friday by the Steamer Gulf of Taranto which landed her cargo on the West. Australian Land Company's jetty."

The guns and mountings were taken to York Street crossing, where they were placed on jinkers provided by Miller Bros. and taken to the Forts. A special team of nine horses was provided by Miller Bros. and this morning two guns were delivered at the Upper Fort. Lieutenant Colonel Fleming, his Adjutant Capt. J. A. Campbell, watched one gun mounted into position. It was placed in position in 10 hours.

On Friday 21st April, the Australian Advertiser stated :-

"The mounting of the 6 inch B.L. guns completed on Friday 14th, the whole work being done by the Permanent Military Forces under the supervision of Sergeant Major Hollington; the first gun took 10 hours to mount and the others 8 hours each, which was extremely quick work, as all the cases had to be opened etc. The ammunition expected by the S.S. Echuca arrived this afternoon. Arrangements have been made to convey it very quickly to the magazines. It is probable that the guns will be fired next week or the following week. The effective range of the guns being 9000 yards."

The Australian Advertiser reports on Monday, 24th April:-

"The ammunition for the guns was landed from the S.S. Echuca under Captain Hawker, who gave instructions to have all deck fires put out whilst the ammunition was being landed. Each case had to be handed ashore and not allowed to be slung. The ammunition was sent up to the York Street crossing supervised by Corporal Clarke and a guard of four men under Bombadier Cunningham. It was taken by Miller Brothers' teams to the Forts Magazine. Danger flags were placed on each end of the drays. A soldier sat in front and one behind each dray. The conveyance of the ammunition will be completed today."

On Friday 28th April, the Australian Advertiser states:-

"... that Captain Hawker received the following General Order ... from Captain Campbell, the State Adjutant...

The Commandant wishes to express to Captain Hawker and the Garrison under his Command, the appreciation he feels for the excellent work which has been done by the mounting of the guns at the Albany Forts."

On Friday and Saturday (29th) April, Captain Hawker and the Permanent Artillerymen were busy testing the mountings of the 6 inch guns at the Princess Royal Battery; from each gun was fired one $\frac{1}{2}$ charge, one

3/4 charge and two full charges each with Pallister shot. The full charge contains 48 lbs. of prismatic gunpowder and the Pallister shot weighs 100 lbs. Everything worked in perfect order.

The guns will throw a shot or shell 5½ miles and are capable of penetrating with Pallister shot, a wrought iron plate of 12 inches thickness at that range.

The Australian Advertiser reported on Friday 5th May -

"... that the men of the Garrison were busily employed on preparing the 9 pounder field guns at the lower Battery, which had recently arrived from London."

It had previously been laid down by the Imperial Government that an officer of the Royal Garrison Artillery was to be in Command at the Forts. Confirming this order Lieutenant Hector Horatio Harvest R.G.A. arrived at Albany on the 8th May and took over from Captain Hawker, who returned to South Australia.

Bearing in mind that Captain Hawker had not only brought the Garrison from South Australia but had mounted and tested all the guns.

A General Order issued by the State Commandant gazetted Lieutenant Harvest to the rank of Captain as from 30th March, 1893. Early in 1894 Captain B. T. Goadby of the Royal Engineers arrived at Albany to install the submarine mining station across the channel entrance to Princess Royal Harbour, which was completed in 1900.

At some time in 1895 a Lieutenant Templeton arrived, as second in command at the Forts. He later became engaged to Miss Alice Yelverton of Quindalup but died early in 1897.

On Tuesday 29th December 1896, the Australian Advertiser stated -

"... that Government Surveyors had arrived to survey the proposed Marine Drive and the Jetty at Ellen Cove, the State Commandant Colonel Alex Wilson of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, most strongly objected to this proposal. Not only was the Drive far too close to the Forts but passed between the upper and lower Batteries. It is interesting to note that Major General A. Wilson C.B. had command of the Karachi Brigade from 1912 to 1914. He commanded the 10th Indian Army Division at Port Said and was G.O.C. of the Suez Canal in 1914-5: so that he was once again associated with the Colonials in the First A.I.F."

As a Military measure of security, the whole of the north-eastern slope of Mt. Adelaide, from the Forts to the new Marine Drive was completely cleared of trees and undergrowth during 1896-7: which gave the Garrison a clear field of fire in the event of an enemy landing at Ellen cove. This clearing remained visible for over 40 years.

On the 7th November 1892, Lady Robinson the wife of the Governor, tipped the first load of stone into the sea, for the commencement of the

North Mole for Fremantle Harbour, which was opened to shipping on the 8th October 1897. As a sop to the Albanians, the Premier (Sir John Forrest) most generously had the Marine Drive and the Jetty at Ellen Cove built, which were completed in 1900.

In 1898 Colonel G. H. Chippendale of the West Riding Regiment succeeded Colonel Wilson as Commandant.

On the 11th October 1899 the Boer War commenced, amidst intense patriotism the Colonial Troops proceeded to the seat of War. Major H. G. Moor, R.G.A. in command at the Forts left Albany in the Liverpool White Star Liner "Medic" in command of the 1st West Australian Contingent of Mounted Rifles, on the 7th November, 1899. He was killed at Palmfontein on the 19th July, 1900. The Boer War Memorial in Kings Park, Perth, commemorates those who served in that war.

Captain W. C. Curme and Lieutenant V. L. Beer of the R.G.A. took over from Major Moor. In 1901 Capt. Beer married at Albany Miss Georgina Butcher, a daughter of the late Captain G. Butcher, the Chief Harbour Master. Lieutenant Colonel Beer died in England during 1936.

During the Boer War the Albany Volunteer Rifles were under the command of Lieutenant Philip Henry Meeks and in 1900 the Volunteers became the Albany Volunteer Garrison. Lieutenant Colonel J. A. Campbell of the Local Forces took over command from Colonel Chippendale in 1901.

In 1902 the Australian Garrison Artillery took over the Forts, the first State Commandant being Colonel P. R. Ricardo of the Commonwealth Military Forces.

In 1903 the Albany Volunteer Garrison became No. 1 West Australian Company of Australian Garrison Artillery.

The following officers held the position of State Commandants :-

1905 - 1906	Colonel R. Wallace C.M.F.
1906 - 1909	Colonel H. Le Messurier C.M.F.
1909 - --	Colonel G. C. H. Irving C.M.F.

Amidst universal joy the Boer War ended on the 31st May 1902, which was followed by the return of the West Australian Mounted Rifles (Bushmen) Contingents, many of whom had been trained at the Forts.

Early in February, 1907, the Flagship of the Australian Station the H.M.S. Powerful accompanied by the H.M.S. Encounter arrived for the Albany Week Celebrations. On the 8th both ships landed Royal Naval brigades for a mock attack on the Forts, a simply terrific attack followed with blank ammunition. First Lieutenant of the Powerful mounted on a cab horse, performed heroic cavalry charges with a cutlass, urging the sailors on to victory, despite the gallant defence of the Garrison. In September 1908, Uncle Sam (U.S.A.) "Great White Fleet" of sixteen battleships, accompanied by store ships and colliers and the H.M.S. Gibranler, anchored in the Sound under the protecting guns of the Forts.

In 1910 one of the guns in the upper Battery was condemned (A1) and in 1911 the Battery was changed to No. 12 Battery of Australian Garrison Artillery.

During February 1914, gun A1 was removed to Fremantle and the Submarine Mining station abandoned.

On the 4th August 1914 the First World War commenced ... On the 28th October 1914, there steamed into King George Sound, forty-two ships (42). The Lighthouse keepers on Breaksea Island, the Garrison at the Forts, and the Albanians, saw the greatest assembly of ships ever seen or will be seen at Albany.

The H.M.S. Minotaur and Philomel with the two new Royal Aust. cruisers Sydney and Melbourne escorted the 28 merchant ships carrying the First A.I.F., and ten ships with the New Zealand Forces. The Convoy anchored in the Sound in three divisions and sailed on 1st November to War and everlasting fame in the name "Anzac".

Seven days later, the H.M.S. Sydney, in Australia's first Naval engagement, sank H.I.M. Emden at Cocos Island.

In 1919 work was commenced to make Albany a Naval Base, but was abandoned in 1921 by the Washington Disarmament Conference: the manning of the Forts was also abandoned.

Four years later the Battery was again raised as the No. 24 Heavy Battery, under the command of Lieutenant E.N. Knight, who made it the champion Battery of the Commonwealth. Later local Garrison Commanders being: Lieutenant A.H. Richardson (died 1960) and Major F. Vaughan, 1939-1945.

* * * * *

The writer was born at the Old Farm, Strawberry Hill, Albany, just eleven days before the guns were first fired. So that from birth to boyhood, the Forts on Mt. Adelaide became part of ones life. The Commandant's house, some of the buildings, the flagstaff and the cleared area were distinctly visible, about a mile away across the vale of Lake Sepping. The whole slope west of the cleared area was in summer a magnificent mass of flowering Xmas tree.

The clear notes of the bugle calls were distinctly heard at the Old Farm and you could set your watch by them. On the 22nd January 1901, the Forts fired minute guns announcing the death of Queen Victoria.

Even when the Marine Drive was built, the Forts remained to the boys of Albany a place of mystery and imagination; to loiter on the Marine Drive meant a roar from the sentries. The whole area was barred and bolted: to attempt to souvenir an old empty cartridge case from the rifle butts was a heroic deed and fraught with danger and probably a firing squad. Insofar as can be remembered the whole area of the Forts was out of bounds to all except business people and Volunteers.

There is no doubt that the Light Horse Memorial from Port Said should have been erected on the brow of Mt. Adelaide; it is a landmark for all vessels and the whole area commemorates the Deathless Army of bygone years.

After 65 years (1960) of peaceful service - for never once were the guns fired in anger - the Forts have become a peaceful haven for all. But at least they will stand for many a year as a memorial to those who served their Country with Honour, in Peace and War.

* * * * *

FRONTISPIECE TO JANUARY ISSUE

The sketches drawn by our busy member, Mr. P. A. Thornborough, for the January issue, showed the uniforms of two of Australia's early volunteer cavalry units.

On the left is a Corporal in the Reedbeds Mounted Volunteers, from near Glenelg, South Australia. The unit existed between 1860 and 1867. Members were proposed, seconded and elected to the troop, paid an entrance fee, and contributed to expenses by payment of an annual subscription. The uniform was of grey doeskin, with Napoleon boots, and a white helmet with black horsehair plume. The forage cap for drill use was of the same colour as the uniform, with peaks front and rear. As the uniform prescribed for dismounted drill was "forage cap and spurs", it may be assumed that the troop presented an alarming appearance when so occupied!

The hirsute gentleman on the right is from the Prince of Wales Volunteer Light Horse Hussars, which grew up in Victoria from a number of earlier and smaller cavalry units formed from 1861 onwards, and was disbanded in 1883.

Note the Prince of Wales feathers on the hat badge; and the unusual plastron effect on the Garibaldi-type blouse. A white leather sword-belt with a silver snake clasp held the sword. The heavy leather bottoms to the trousers added to the workmanlike and rather "European" appearance. It is unfortunate that we have no colour details, but the uniform probably was blue with white piping.

* * * * *

ASIAN BATTLE DIARY
(Continued)

by W. M. Chamberlain.

MALAYSIAN CONFRONTATION

1963

Oct. 3 Btn. relieves 2 Btn. in Malaysia.

1964

Oct. 29 Australians round up 50 Indonesian guerillas N. of Kesang R. Malacca.

Dec. 14 H.M.A.S. Teal engages Indonesians in two small boats. Three enemy killed.

1965

Feb. 23-24 H.M.A.S. Teal captures boat load of armed Indonesians off Sth. Malaya.

25 R.A.A.F. helicopter guides Malaysians to Indonesian Guerillas.

27 I.S.A.S. (150 Australian troops) move into Borneo.

Mar. 3 Btn. on operations in Borneo.

25 Australians of 3 Btn. clash with Indonesians on Borneo for the first time - no casualties.

Apr. 3 Btn. transfers to Bau district of Sarawak.

Apr. May Three Australians killed by Indonesian mines.

- Units of IRNZR fly from Singapore to Kuching, Sarawak. Remainder to join by ship.

June 3 24 Construction Squadron, RAE, departs Brisbane to relieve 1 Field Squadron in Borneo.

17 Australians ambush Indonesians across Sarawak border. At least 17 (possibly upwards of 50) killed. 2 Australians wounded.

30 New Zealanders kill 3 Indonesians, capture 1 in clash in Sarawak. No N.Z. casualties.

July 102 Fld. Batt. R.A.A. in action in Sarawak.

1 N.Z.'s attack in Sinianggang area Sarawak - call in artillery support, forcing raiders back.

28 Helicopters from H.M.S. Albion fly 3 Btn. men out to Torendak Camp, Malacca (also 2 Fld. Tp. RAE) replaced by 10th Gurkha Rifles.

3 Btn. have had 4 killed, 4 wounded since March.

29 N.Z.'s in clash with infiltrators.

Aug. 9 Singapore quits Malaysia.

- ISAS return after 6 months duty in two flights by R.A.A.F. Hercules. Replaced by a British Unit.

- 4 Btn. relieves 3 Btn. in Malaysia.. A Batt. relieves 102 Fld. Batt. and 7 Fld. Sqdn. relieves 2 Fld. Tp.

Sep. 4 Nine Indonesians killed in clash with security patrol incl. N.Z.'s.

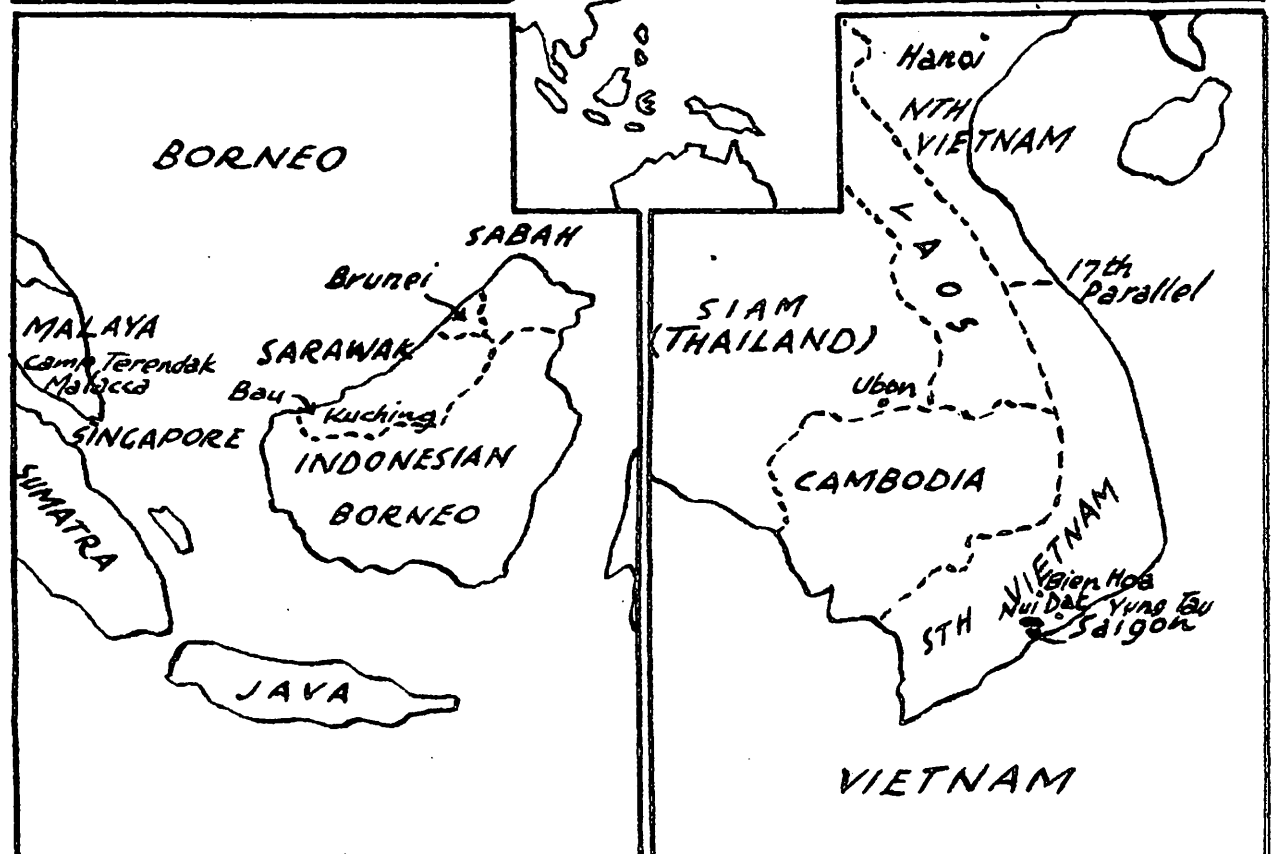
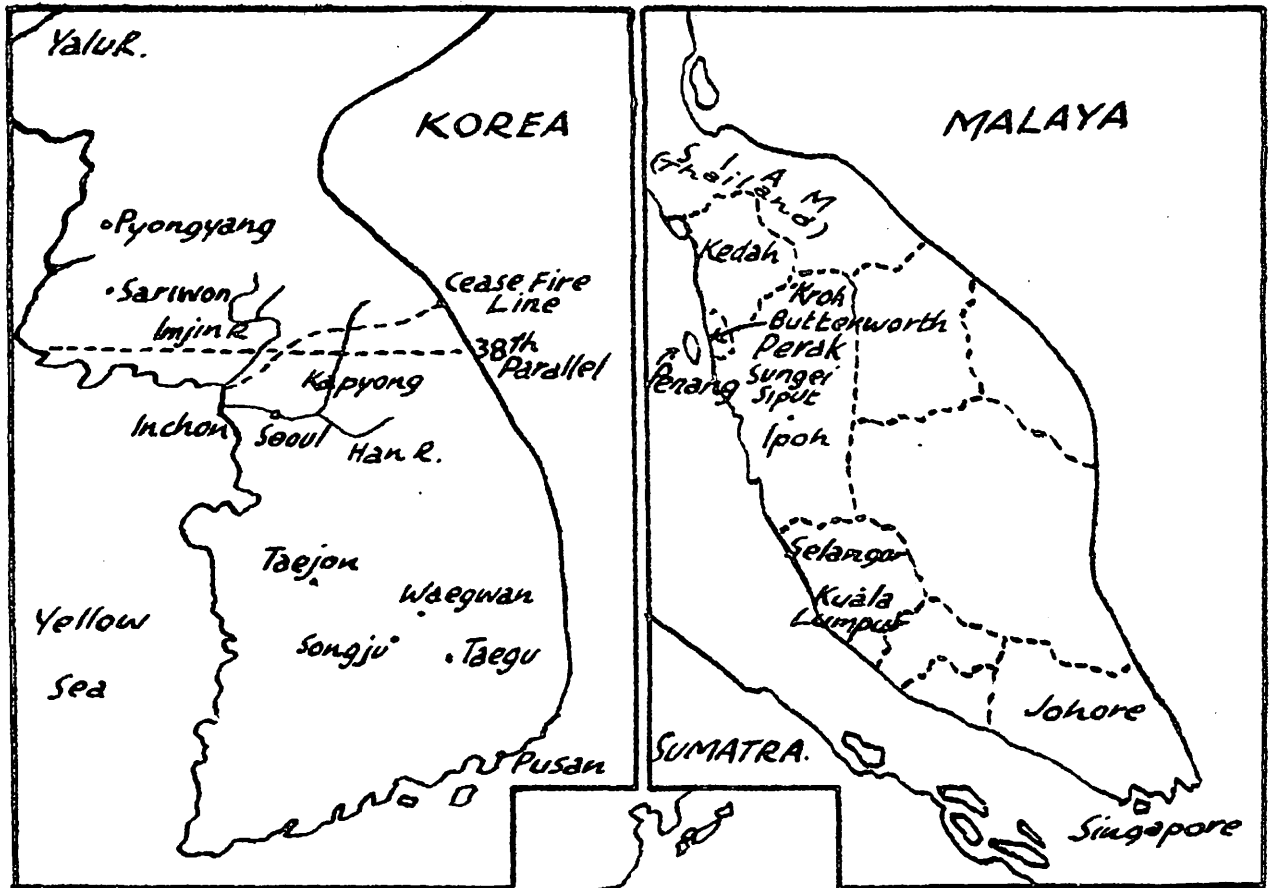
- 4 Btn. arrives in Borneo.

Oct. 12 N.Z. Infantry break up Indonesian troop concentration on Malaysian border.

Dec. 8 Announced General Service Medal with Borneo clasp for troops in Borneo.

1966

Jan. 18 H.M.A.S. Ibis, Teal on way home, replaced by H.M.A.S. Hawk, Gull.



ASIAN BATTLE DIARY

(Continued)

by W. M. Chamberlain.

MALAYSIAN CONFRONTATION

1963

Oct. 3 Btn. relieves 2 Btn. in Malaysia.

1964

Oct. 29 Australians round up 50 Indonesian guerillas N. of Kesang R. Malacca.

Dec. 14 H.M.A.S. Teal engages Indonesians in two small boats. Three enemy killed.

1965

Feb. 23-24 H.M.A.S. Teal captures boat load of armed Indonesians off Sth. Malaya.

25 R.A.A.F. helicopter guides Malaysians to Indonesian Guerillas.

27 I.S.A.S. (150 Australian troops) move into Borneo.

Mar. 3 Btn. on operations in Borneo.

25 Australians of 3 Btn. clash with Indonesians on Borneo for the first time - no casualties.

Apr. 3 Btn. transfers to Bau district of Sarawak.

Apr. May Three Australians killed by Indonesian mines.

- Units of IRNZR fly from Singapore to Kuching, Sarawak. Remainder to join by ship.

June 3 24 Construction Squadron, RAE, departs Brisbane to relieve 1 Field Squadron in Borneo.

17 Australians ambush Indonesians across Sarawak border. At least 17 (possibly upwards of 50) killed. 2 Australians wounded.

30 New Zealanders kill 3 Indonesians, capture 1 in clash in Sarawak. No N.Z. casualties.

July 102 Fld. Batt. R.A.A. in action in Sarawak.

1 N.Z.'s attack in Sinianggang area Sarawak - call in artillery support, forcing raiders back.

28 Helicopters from H.M.S. Albion fly 3 Btn. men out to Torendak Camp, Malacca (also 2 Fld. Tp. RAE) replaced by 10th Gurkha Rifles. 3 Btn. have had 4 killed, 4 wounded since March.

29 N.Z.'s in clash with infiltrators.

Aug. 9 Singapore quits Malaysia.

- ISAS return after 6 months duty in two flights by R.A.A.F. Hercules. Replaced by a British Unit.

- 4 Btn. relieves 3 Btn. in Malaysia.. A Batt. relieves 102 Fld. Batt. and 7 Fld. Sqdn. relieves 2 Fld. Tp.

Sep. 4 Nine Indonesians killed in clash with security patrol incl. N.Z.'s.

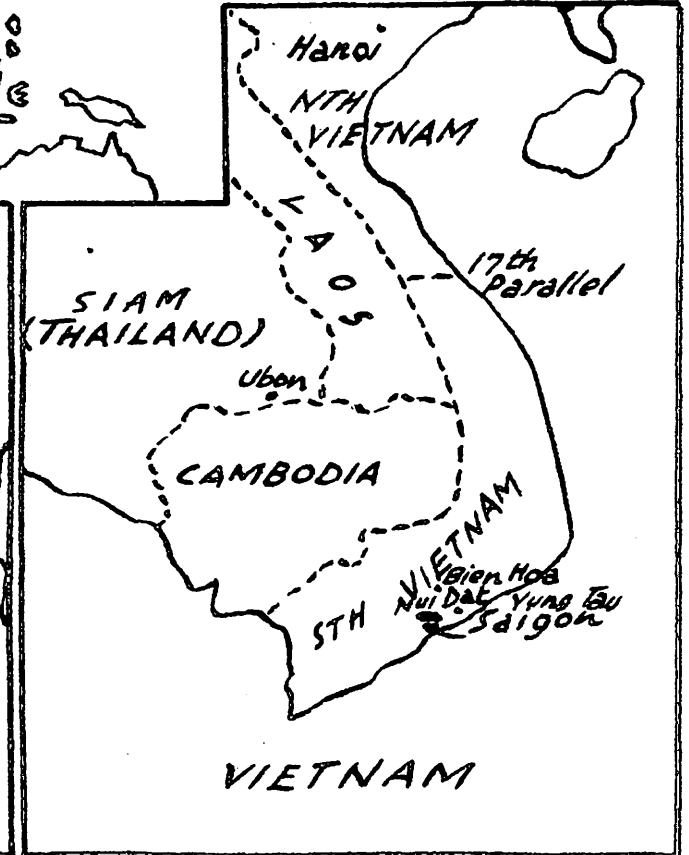
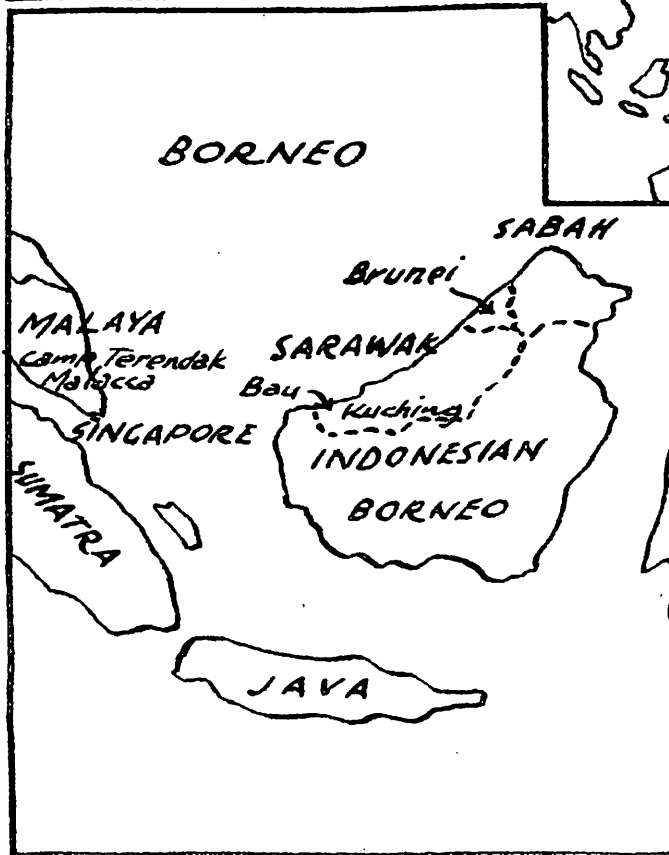
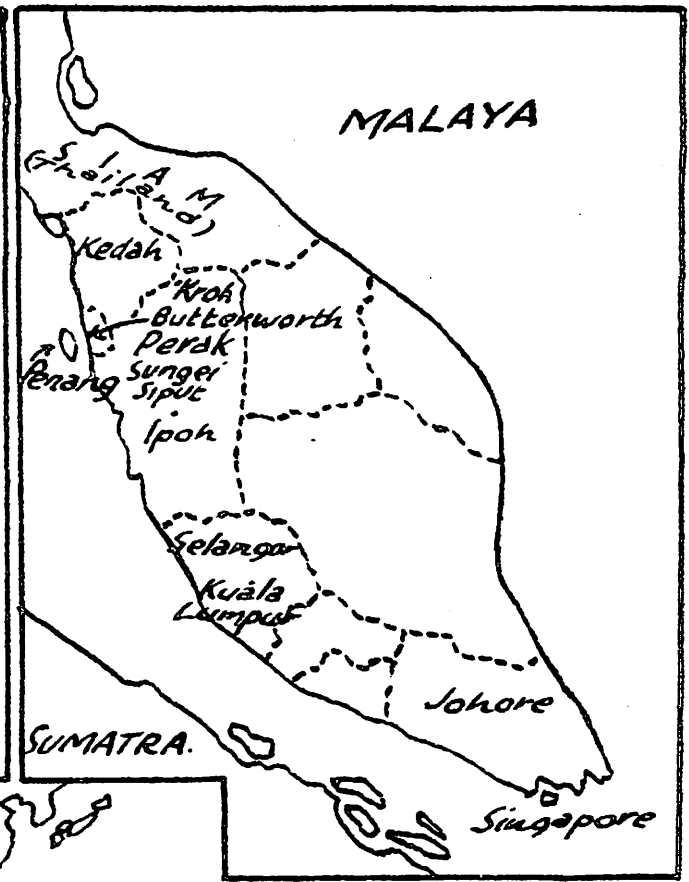
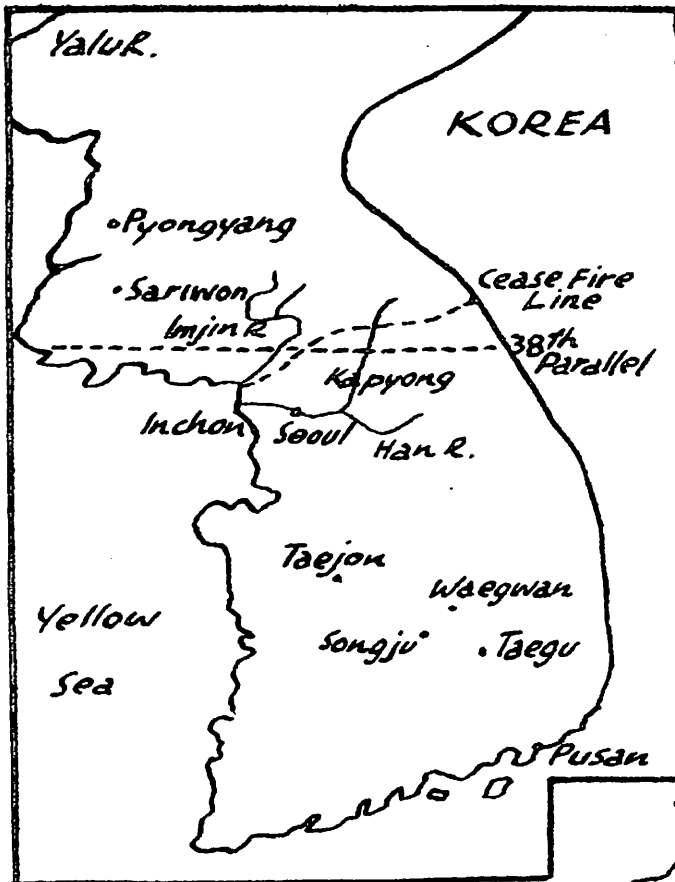
- 4 Btn. arrives in Borneo.

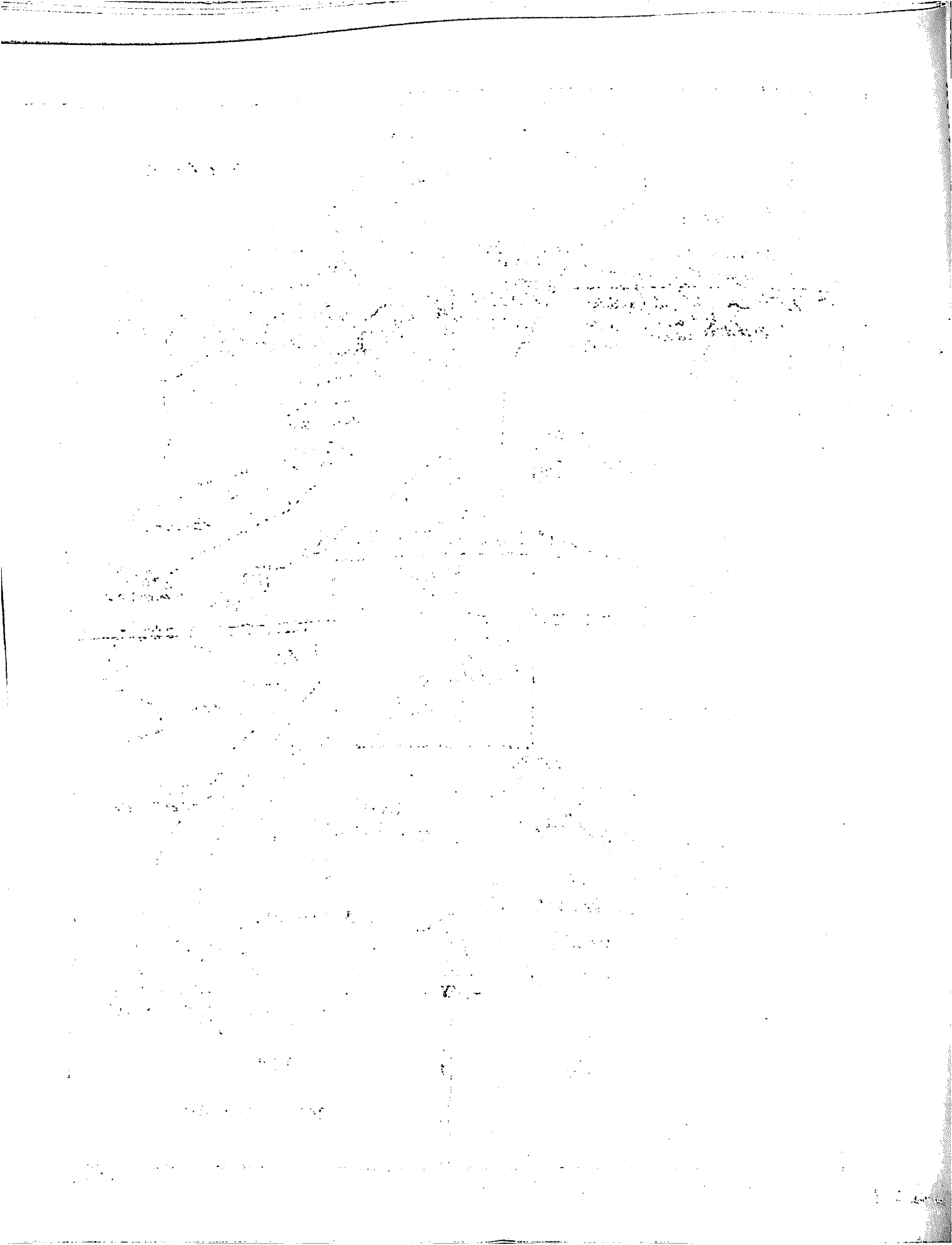
Oct. 12 N.Z. Infantry break up Indonesian troop concentration on Malaysian border.

Dec. 8 Announced General Service Medal with Borneo clasp for troops in Borneo.

1966

Jan. 18 H.M.A.S. Ibis, Teal on way home, replaced by H.M.A.S. Hawk, Gull.





MALAYSIAN CONFRONTATION (Contd.)

1966

- Apr.13 Announced 150 National Servicemen to go to Malaysia and Borneo in June.
 - 4 Btn. on Ops. Borneo under roster of 28th Commonwealth Infantry Brigade Group.
- Jun.15 Australian patrol in battalion sized up close to Indonesian border, Bau (Gunong Raya Ridge). National Servicemen on Ops.
- Jul.27 2 SAS return from Borneo.
- Aug.11 Peace Treaty ends undeclared 3 year war. Indonesia had lost 570 men, Malaysia and Commonwealth over 100, including Australians.
 20 Australians begin withdrawal from Borneo (Kuching to Malacca).
- Sep. 4 Main body 4 Btn. arrives at Singapore from Borneo.
- Oct. R.A.F. to remain in E.Malaysia. All other non-Malaysian Commonwealth units to be withdrawn by end of year.
- Nov. - Announced Malaysians and Indonesians co-operating to destroy communists operating along Sarawak border.
 28 22 Construction Squadron RAE withdrawn from Sabah after 2½ years service.

1967

- Sep.17 4 Btn. in Malaysia will be replaced by 8 Btn. by November.

* * * * *

VIETNAM

1962

- Aug. Contingent of Australian Army advisers sent to Vietnam for training purposes.

1963

- Australian Adviser killed.

1964

- June Advisers committed to active service in Vietnam. Numbers increased progressively to 50, 80, 100.

Aug. RAAF unit being formed for service in Vietnam (Caribous).

Nov. 6 RAAF aircraft operating from Cap St. Jaques drop flares.

1965

Apr.29 Announced 1 Btn. RAR to serve in Vietnam.

May 14 RAAF Caribou forced down on Hai Yen airstrip under Viet Cong shelling.

26 Advance party 1 Btn. arrives Saigon.

27 H.M.A.S. Sydney departs with 1 Btn. RAR (first trip).

27 Announced N.Z. Artillery Battery to serve in Vietnam. No. 161 Batt. of 16 Fld. Regt. Four 105 m.m. Pack Howitzers.

Jun. 2 First batch of 1 Btn. arrive by air. Stationed Bien Hoa Air base, 12 m. from Saigon. Joined on June 4, 6, 17, by further detachments.

27 3 Australians killed, 10 wounded in grenade accident.

30 1 Btn. attack Viet Cong in War Zone D. 4 wounded.

Jul. 7 Australians pinned down by ambush, later escape. 1 wounded.

19 Australian, N.Z. and U.S. troops fight off heavy attack on Bien Hoa. First joint action since N.Z.'s arrived last week.

VIETNAM (Contd.)

1965

- Jul. 29 Australian patrol call N.Z. Artillery support Dong Nai R.
- R.A.A.F. Hercules flying out wounded.
- Aug. 1 Australians, N.Z.'s hold off Viet Cong for 3 hours.
11 H.M.A.S.'s Duchess and Vendetta sail for S.E.Asia Strategic Reserve.
Relieve Parramatta, Yarra.
17 Australian Scouts, section leaders armed with Armalite Rifles.
18 Announced Australians to be increased to Battalion Group by inclusion of
350 specialised support troops, including aircraft from No. 16 Light
Aircraft Squadron.
- Sep. 11 H.M.A.S. Sydney leaves with 350 troops and aircraft of No.16 L.A.Sqdn.
(Second Trip).
15 Australians, U.S. Sth. Viets. in large scale search and destroy
assault 20 miles north of Saigon (Ben Cat).
19 Australians clear Viet Cong villages and sieze explosives. Call on
N.Z. Artillery to destroy village.
- Oct. 6 105 Fld. Batt. fired first shots at weekend, together with U.S., N.Z.
Artillery. Ops. in Ben Cat area.
25 Australians kill 2 Viet Cong, wound 3, in action Ap Tan Dinh.
Engineers clear helipad, guns from 105 Fld.Batt. lifted in Army
helicopters swept area on 23rd-24th. 1 Australian killed,
1 wounded.
- Nov. 8 Announced Australian Engineers have destroyed strategic point 15 miles
N.E. of Bien Hoa. Australians kill 6, capture 5 Viet Cong.
10 Australians and U.S. troops kill 391 Viet Cong (2 Australians
missing, 6 wounded).
24 Australians trap Viet Cong at Duc Hoe, kill 7, with 4 possibles.
28 Australians capture 26 Viet Cong. 2 Australians wounded. Six Austral-
ian Armoured Carriers make fast sortie into village near Duc Hanh,
capture 6 Viet Cong.
- Dec. 1 To date Australians have rounded up 389 suspected Viet Cong (150 later
confirmed), Vo Dat Valley; Capture village of Vo Xu.
15 N.Z. Battery has fired 12,000 rounds since arrival.
21 1 Btn. returns to base after 4½ weeks continuously in field on 2 Ops.
Kill 18 Viet Cong, capture 177 for loss 1 killed, 4 wounded.
- 1966
- Jan. 3 Announced Australians have moved into north edge of Mekong Delta for
first time, hunting large force trying to seize rice harvest.
4 Operations within 12 miles of Cambodian border.
10 4 Australians killed, 18 wounded in Operation Crimp. Destroy Viet
Cong H.Q. for whole Saigon Area.
7-14 10 Australians have been killed, 32 wounded during this week.
15 Australians lifted out by helicopter. Ho Bo Wood (8K, 30W.)
- Feb. 8 Australians smash major Viet Cong base in War Zone D, (1K, 4W.)
9 1 Btn. returns to base after 6 days in War Zone D. (Op. Roundhouse)
25 Op. Rollingstone. Australians kill 12, wound 2 for no loss.
26 U.S., Australians, N.Z.'s. repulse Viet Cong attacking U.S. Brig.H.Q.
- Mar. 14 1 Australian killed, 8 wounded.
15 Two RAAF Caribous holed by mortar fire.
21 Australians return from Op. Silver City.
22 9 Australians wounded.
26 N.Z. announced another 27 men plus 2 105 m.m. howitzers to be sent.
- Apr. 7 10 Australians wounded in search and destroy mission, which comm-
enced Mar. 30 (Op. Abilene).

VIETNAM (Contd.)

1966

- Apr. 18 First N.S. troops left Sydney by air in Advance Party of 4500 strong Task Force to replace 1 Btn. (35 special charter flights to transfer troops).
- 24 H.M.A.S. Sydney leaves with 400 troops of 5 Btn. (Third trip).
- May - Men land from H.M.A.S. Sydney. Vung Tan.
- 24 Op. Hardihood begins.
- 26 First National Serviceman killed.
- 31 100 of 6 Btn. depart from Amberley Air Base.
- Jun. 1 5 Btn. kill 3 Viet Cong in Op. Hardihood. N.Z. Gunners support.
- 3 Viet Cong raid on Vung Tan logistical support group camp.
- 7 No. 9 Sqdn. R.A.A.F. (helicopters) land Vung Tan, flying from H.M.A.S. Sydney (Fourth trip) to pads prepared by 5 AC Sqdn. Join No. 35 Caribou Sqdn.
- 9 Second Australian killed, Op. Hardihood. 13 Viet Cong killed so far.
- 10 2 Australians killed, 4 wounded by Viet Cong mortar.
- 16 Announced "Vernon Sturdee" nosed into virtually unknown river to provide road building equipment. Armed more heavily than usual.
- 17 4 Australians killed, 6 wounded, near Vung Tan.
- 25 6 Btn. levelling town of Long Phuoc in first Op.
- Jul. 11 Viet Cong infiltrate Task Force Area, 2 Austs.K, 5W.
- 21 Op. Sydney. 5 Btn. encircle Viet Cong Stronghold.
- Op. Hobart. 6 Btn. Op. First major contact with Viet Cong 3 Austs.K. 19W. mostly by mortar fire. Inflict heavy casualties on bugle-blowing Viet Cong guerillas. RAAF Iriquois helicopters flew into heart of battle to take out wounded.
- Aug. 2 U.S. Artillery Battery added to two Australian, one N.Z. Batts. in Australian 1st Field Regiment. 18 howitzers fired 8000 shells in 2 months since becoming operational.
- 10 Aust. Task Force allotted responsibility for S.W.Phuoc Tuy Province.
- 17 22 Australians wounded in mortar attack.
- 18 17 Australians killed, 1 D.O.W., 26W. in action in Baria Area. (Battle of Long Tan. 6 Btn.) 245 Viet Cong K. Australians rescued by arrival of Armoured Personnel Carriers.
- 25 Op. Deckhouse. Clean up area by Australians, U.S. Marines destroying tunnels.
- Sep. 21 6 Btn. kill 7 Viet Cong, W.4, capture 2, for loss of 1W. in Op. Vaucluse. Helicoptered out to attack difficult mountain stronghold, Nui Dinh.
- Oct. 6 Op. Canberra. Australians kill 6 Viet Cong in mountain country
- 10 W. of H.Q.
- 21 Australian patrols scout precipitous jungle area W. of base.
- 30 1200 Australians operating against Hoa Long village.
- Nov. 1 38 Viet Cong taken at Hoa Long.
- 7 Operation at fishing village Phuoc Hoa (5 Btn. and one Coy. 6 Btn.).
- 9 Op. Hayman. Battalion-plus operation. Troops heliborne by Chinooks to swamp island (Long San) 12 Viet Cong killed. RAAF Iriquois sinks two Viet Cong sampans.
- Dec. 3 Op. Ingham ends, (Began Nov. 18). 6 Btn. and elements 5 Btn. APC. Aust., N.Z., U.S. Artillery against D445 Viet Cong Battalion.

VIETNAM (Contd.)

1966

- Dec. 15 W.O. K.A.Wheakey awarded posthumous V.C. for action on Nov.13, 1965.
 21 Announced increase in Task Force to 6,000 (extra 1700).
 No. 2 Canberra Bomber Sqdn. (from Malaya, to be replaced by Mirages).
 H.M.A.S. Hobart, and a Naval Diving Team.
 26 Artillery batteries in barrage against communist troop concentrations.

1967

- Jan. 30 5 Btn. patrol returns from 6 day Op., 4 Viet Cong K. 7W.
 Feb. 7 4 Australians killed, 13W. by N.Z. Artillery Fire (defective Plotter).
 Feb. - Op. Tambourine. 6 Btn. kill 8 Viet Cong.
 17 6 Btn. airborne into battle, 6 hour fight in rice paddies R.A.A.F.
 helicopters supply ammunition. 70 Viet Cong killed. 8 Australians
 killed, 27 wounded.
 27 R.A.A.F. fly 50 wounded home by Hercules.
 Mar. 5 Advance Units of 2 & 7 Btns. arrive.
 7 H.M.A.S. Hobart leaves for 6 months service.
 8 N.Z. to send another 210 men (Total 360).
 8 Australian Spotter Planes of 161 Recce. Flight in daylight, attack
 (Cessnas).
 9 R.A.A.F. Iriquois evacuate S.Viets at Xuyen Moc.
 14 No. 2 Sqdn. R.A.A.F. to operate from Phan Rang 150m. N.E. of Saigon.
 (Three R.A.A.F. Squadrons now in Vietnam, greatest number on Air ops.
 at one time since W.W.II.)
 16 Caribous drop 44 gall. petrol drums. Ignited by tracers from
 R.A.A.F. helicopters.
 16 H.M.A.S. Hobart to assist U.S. 7th Fleet in Gulf of Tonkin.
 Apr. 21 7 Btn. helicoptered into Task Force base camp Nui Dat from H.M.A.S.
 Sydney (5th Trip) at entrance to Saigon R.
 21-2 H.M.A.S. Hobart fired on by North Viet. coastal batteries.
 23 R.A.A.F. Canberras make first strike of war. 6 planes attack
 targets 250m. S.E. of Phan Rang.
 May - Op. Puckapunyal. Canberras combine with Task Force (first Op.
 7 Btn.) in Op. N.W. of base. Helicoptered in under cover U.S.
 fighters N.Z. Arty.
 3 H.M.A.S.'s. Melbourne, Supply, Derwent leave for Singapore for 3
 months with Far East Strategic Reserve.
 4 Announced Canberras in precision night bombing raids, support
 Australian ground troops.
 9 Australian Military H.Q. Saigon blasted by Viet Cong mine.
 10 7 Btn. kill 7 Viet Cong. Op. Lismore. Tracker dogs first used.
 11 The first N.Z. Infantry arrive Vietnam. 62 men (about half Maoris)
 advance party of 200-man company.
 12 H.M.A.S. Hobart in action bombarding 19m. N. of port of Dong Hoi.
 13 H.M.A.S. Hobart sinks North Viet. cargo ship and damages another
 off N. Vietnam.
 14 6 Btn. ends Op. Bowen. No contact in Long Tan area.
 16 H.M.A.S. Sydney sails (6th trip) with 2 Btn. Had returned with
 5 Btn.
 19 H.M.A.S. Hobart with U.S.S. Allen M. Sumner sink 14 Viet Cong
 cargo barges and other craft.
 24 9 Sqdn. R.A.A.F. mini-gun helicopters blast Viet Cong storage
 camp and Sampan supply base Rai River.

VIETNAM (Contd.)

1967

- May 30 R.A.A.F. Caribous drop non-toxic riot control gas on Viet Cong concentrations for first time.
- Jun. 5 Announced 10 mile wire barrier from Nui Dat to coast almost complete. Fort at start garrisoned by N.Z. company and battery.
- Op. Barbarossa. First full-scale op. by 2 Btn. No contact.
- 9 101 Batt. 1 Fld. Regt., hand over to 4 Fld. Regt.
- 10-11 6 Viet Cong killed by Australian ambush patrol and N.Z. Artillery.
- 22 Announced N.S. comprise 50% of Australian combat troops in Vietnam (5200 men in 2, 7 Btns., 4 Fld. Regt., SAS, APC, supports. With R.A.A.F., R.A.N. about 6000 men).
- 22 Op. Geraldton. 2 Btn.
 - Op. Broken Hill. 7 Btn.
- Jul. 2 Op. Coorparoo. 7 Btn. sweep destroys 14 Viet Cong camps.
- 3 2000 tons bombs dropped on 750 targets by No. 2 Sqdn. in first 2 months Ops.
- 13 Entire task force in Op. Paddington, controlled by U.S. 94th Div. against Viet Cong 274 Regt., 5th Div. Largest sweep in Phuoc Tuy Province. 15000 against 1500. 2 Austs. killed. 170 Viet Cong killed (est.).
- Op. Ballarat. 6 Australians killed, 17 wounded.
- Aug. 25 Two R.A.A.F. Iroquois fight close range gun battle with Viet Cong as Australian patrol is winched out of the jungle.
- 30 Viet Cong guerillas attack A.A.T.T. H.Q. with rockets, Dalai.
- H.M.A.S. Hobart in bombardment of Chong Phu railyards 110m. S. of Hanoi, under shore fire.
- Sep. - Op. Ainslie. 2 Btn.
- 5 H.M.A.S.'s. Yarra, Stuart leave to serve with Strategic Reserve.
- Oct. - Op. Kenmore 2, 7 Btns. helicoptered to jumping-off point, re-supplied by parachute drop for first time.
- 15 46 Naval Air Arm men leave Sydney for Vietnam. Crew and maintenance of 4 helicopters to serve with U.S. Army. (Also H.M.A.S. Perth, Naval Diving Team.)
- 17 Announced 3 Btn. to be sent to increase Task Force to 7300 (Army 6000). Also 15 Centurian Tanks, with crews (250 officers, men). 8 more helicopters for No.9 Sqdn. R.A.A.F. Navy Skyhawk pilots for Ops. with U.S.M.C. Engineer Construction Unit, Specialists, H.Q.
- N.Z. to raise force from 376 to 546 in Nov., Dec.
- 17 Maj. P.J. Badcoe awarded posthumous V.C. for actions in Feb., Mar., Apr., 1967.
- 18 H.M.A.S. Perth hit by North Viet gun batteries while firing on target 176m. N. of demilitarized zone. 4 Casualties.
- 24 H.M.A.S. Perth scores hits on road, bridge 14m. N.N.W. Dong Hoi.
- 26 H.M.A.S. Perth fires last of 3500 salvoes, burns out barrels of guns in first month of Ops.
- Nov. - Op. Sante Fe 2 & 7 Btn. 15000 Aust. U.S. Sth.Viet. troops engaged 10m. N.E. Nui Dat.
- 10 2 Austs.K. 6W. in ambush in Phuoc Tuy Province.
 - 12 R.A.N. pilots in first action (Op. Sante Fe). Integrated with No.135 U.S. Army Assault Helicopter Coy. (Vung Tau). Carried U.S., Sth. Viet. troops to area of Ops.

VIETNAM (Contd.)

1967

- Nov. 19 Op. Sante Fe completed. Austs. kill 38, wound 9, capt. 5 for light losses. Also capture stores.
- 21 R.A.A.F. Iroquois helicopters rescue Army Pilot and observer (Bell helicopter) forced to land in enemy territory.
- 27 4 Australians killed and 17 wounded in battle in jungle. Artillery of 4 Fld. Regt. hammer Viet Cong escape routes as they attempt to break out of cordon around their camp in heavy rain. Op. Forrest - to deny rice harvest to Viet Cong. Three R.A.A.F. Iroquois helicopters of No.9 Sqn. lift wounded Australians out of jungle hills N. of Vung Tan, directed by pilot of 161 Independent Recce. Flight (Army) in Bell Sioux helicopter.
- 27 H.M.A.S. Hobart to leave for South Vietnam soon.
- 30 H.M.A.S. Sydney to take troops to South Vietnam in December.
- 30 2 Australians killed, 10 wounded in two incidents in Phuoc Tuy Province. 11 Viet Cong killed. 7 Btn. takes enemy base in 2-hour pitched battle.
- Dec. 1 Australian Infantrymen hit back at Viet Cong after a week of clashes causing 6 Aust. killed 30 wounded.
- 4 Australians kill 3 Viet Cong, wound 2.
- 12 2 Btn. kill 2 Viet Cong E. of Nui Dat.
- 12 Adv. Party 3 Btn. arrives in Saigon.
- 16 2 Australians (Trg. Team) killed in ambush.
- 16 H.M.A.S. Sydney departs Adelaide with 500 troops (3 Btn.) (7th trip).
- 19 2 R.A.A.F. helicopters rescue 5 man patrol from heavy fire N.E. of Nui Dat.
- 22 Australians kill 5 Viet Cong in two separate actions, 1 Aust. wounded.
- 27 3 Btn. arrives Sth. Vietnam to give Task Force three operational battalions.

* * * * *

FORMATION OF THE AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH
MILITARY FORCES

As is generally known, January 1st, 1901 saw the federation of the six Australian Colonies into the Commonwealth of Australia, and control of the defence forces of those Colonies thereupon became a Commonwealth responsibility.

It was not until July, 1903, however, that the re-organisation of the forces was put into effect, and the authority and detail is contained in the following extracts from GENERAL ORDERS, 1903 (from which details of Establishments have been omitted by the Editor).

G.O. No. 169. Part II of Para. 1. Commonwealth of Australia,
Department of Defence,
Melbourne, 24th July, 1903.

COMMONWEALTH MILITARY FORCESCONVERSION, DISBANDMENT, AND RE-ORGANIZATION OF CORPS.

His Excellency the Governor-General in and over the Commonwealth of Australia, by and with the advice of the Executive Council thereof, in exercise of the powers conferred by the undermentioned State Acts, namely -

	<u>State</u>	<u>Act.</u>
New South Wales	...	The Military and Naval Forces Regulation Act, and the Volunteer Force Regulation Act of 1867.
Victoria	...	The Defences and Discipline Acts.
Queensland	...	The Defence Acts, 1884 to 1900.
South Australia	...	The Defences Act 1895.
Western Australia	..	The Defence Forces Act 1894.
Tasmania	...	The Defence Act 1885, The Defence Act 1889, and the Defence Act 1893,

and by the Constitution of the Commonwealth, has been pleased to approve of the following conversion, disbandment, and re-organization of Corps, to take effect on and from the 1st day of July, 1903; but nothing in this order will bring Corps under the Partially paid system which are not already existing as such, or be taken as an authority for the expenditure of public moneys:-

NEW SOUTH WALES.

(Six Regiments of Australian Light Horse.)

Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 6 Squadrons, New South Wales Lancers, to be formed into the 1st Australian Light Horse Regiment (New South Wales Lancers) and one squadron attached.

"C" Squadron, 1st Australian Horse, and "J" and "G" Companies, 3rd Infantry Regiment, together with Nos. 1 and 2 Squadrons and the Forbes Half Squadron of No. 3 Squadron, New South Wales Mounted Rifles, to be formed into the 2nd Australian Light Horse Regiment (New South Wales Mounted Rifles).

The Canterbury Half Squadron, New South Wales Mounted Rifles, to be formed into two Troops of Australian Light Horse, and attached to the 2nd Australian Light Horse Regiment (New South Wales Mounted Rifles).

"F" Company, 2nd Infantry Regiment, to be formed into one squadron of Australian Light Horse, and attached to the 2nd Australian Light Horse Regiment (New South Wales, Mounted Rifles).

The Bega Half Squadron of No. 3 Squadron, New South Wales Mounted Rifles, and "K" Company, 2nd Infantry Regiment, together with "A" and "B" Squadrons, 1st Australian Horse, to be formed into the 3rd Australian Light Horse Regiment (Australian Horse).

No. 4 Squadron and the Newcastle Half Squadron, New South Wales Lancers, to be formed into the 4th Australian Light Horse Regiment (New South Wales Lancers).

No. 5 Squadron, New South Wales Lancers, and "K" Company, 4th Infantry Regiment, together with No. 4 Squadron, New South Wales Mounted Rifles, to be formed into the 5th Australian Light Horse Regiment (New South Wales Mounted Rifles).

"G" Company, 4th Infantry Regiment, together with "D" and "E" Squadrons, 1st Australian Horse, to be formed into the 6th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Australian Horse).

The Border Scouts to be disbanded.

AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY. - (FOUR BATTERIES)

"B" Battery, New South Wales Field Artillery, to be designated No. 1 New South Wales Battery, Australian Field Artillery.

"C" Battery, New South Wales Field Artillery, to be designated No. 2 New South Wales Battery, Australian Field Artillery.

"I" Company, 1st Infantry Regiment, to be formed into No. 3 New South Wales Battery, Australian Field Artillery.

"G" and "H" Companies, 1st Infantry Regiment, to be formed into No. 4 New South Wales Battery, Australian Field Artillery.

AUSTRALIAN GARRISON ARTILLERY. - (FOUR COMPANIES)

Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6 Companies, New South Wales Garrison Artillery, to be designated Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, New South Wales Companies, Australian Garrison Artillery, respectively.

CORPS OF AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS.

The Companies of the New South Wales Corps of Engineers (Militia) to be reformed, and designated as follows:-

No. 4 (Half) Company, Corps of Australian Engineers, to be formed from No. 1 Company, New South Wales Corps of Engineers.

No. 1 Field Company, Corps of Australian Engineers, to be formed from the remainder of No. 1 Company, New South Wales Corps of Engineers, and No. 2 Company, New South Wales Corps of Engineers.

No. 1 Submarine Mining Company, Corps of Australian Engineers, to be formed from No. 3 Company, New South Wales Corps of Engineers.

No. 1 Electric Company, Corps of Australian Engineers, and the Field Telegraph Section, Corps of Australian Engineers, to be formed from No. 4 Company, New South Wales Corps of Engineers.

AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY.

"J" Company, 2nd Regiment, New South Wales Infantry, together with "A," "B," "C," "D," "E," "K," and the Drummoyne Company, 1st Regiment, New South Wales Infantry, to be formed into the 1st Australian Infantry Regiment.

"F" Company, 1st Regiment, New South Wales Infantry, together with "A," "B," "C," "D," "E," "G," and "H" Companies of the 2nd Regiment, New South Wales Infantry, to be formed into the 2nd Australian Infantry Regiment.

"A," "B," "C," "D," "E," "F," "H," and "K" Companies, 3rd Regiment, New South Wales Infantry, to be formed into the 3rd Australian Infantry Regiment.

"A," "B," "C," "D," "E," "F," "H," and "I" Companies, 4th Regiment, New South Wales Infantry, to be formed into the 4th Australian Infantry Regiment.

AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY.

"A," "B," "C," and "D" Companies of the 5th Regiment of New South Wales Infantry (Scottish Rifles) to be formed into the 1st Regiment, Australian Scottish Rifles.

"E" and "F" Companies of the 5th Regiment of New South Wales Infantry (Scottish Rifles) to be formed into the 2nd Regiment, Australian Scottish Rifles (three companies).

That the Establishments of the 6th, 7th and 8th New South Wales Infantry Regiments be as follows (omitted here).

The Establishments of the Civil Service Volunteer Infantry Corps and the University Volunteer Rifle Corps (two companies each) to be as follows (omitted here).

The National Guard to be disbanded.

AUSTRALIAN ARMY SERVICE CORPS.

The Establishment of the Australian Army Service Corps (New South Wales) to be as follows (here omitted).

AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

The Australian Army Medical Corps (New South Wales) to be formed into -

- Staff, Field, and Garrison Forces.
- Officers attached to Regiments and Forts.
- 1 Mounted Bearer Company.
- 1 Infantry Bearer Company.
- 3 Field Hospitals.

VICTORIA.

(Five Regiments of Australian Light Horse.)

The Broadford, Avenel, Yea, Cathkin, Mansfield, Murchison, Rushworth, and Shepparton Detachments of Victorian Mounted Rifles to be formed into the 7th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Victorian Mounted Rifles).

The Euroa, Longwood, Violet Town, Benalla, Thoona, Wangaratta, Rutherglen, and Beechworth Detachments of Victorian Mounted Rifles to be formed into the 8th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Victorian Mounted Rifles).

The Rochester, Echuca, Kerang, and Macorna Detachments of Victorian Rangers, together with the Ballarat, Bacchus Marsh, Clunes, Talbot, Maryborough, Elmore, Wharparilla, Kerang, Durham Ox, and Pyramid Hill Detachments of Victorian Mounted Rifles, to be formed into the 9th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Victorian Mounted Rifles).

The Sale, Stratford, Rosedale, Cowwarr, Dandenong, Morwell, Warragul, and Drouin Detachments of Victorian Rangers, together with the Sale, Moe, Thorpdale, and Warragul Detachments of Victorian Mounted Rifles, to be formed into the 10th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Victorian Mounted Rifles).

The Melbourne, Pakenham, and Lilydale Detachments of Victorian Mounted Rifles to be formed into one squadron of Australian Light Horse, and attached to the 10th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Victorian Mounted Rifles).

The Warrnambool, Woodford, Nirranda, Panmure, Terang, Colac, Camperdown, Branxholme, Hamilton, Dunkeld, Byaduk, Casterton, and Narrawong Detachments of Victorian Mounted Rifles to be formed into the 11th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Victorian Mounted Rifles).

AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY. - (FOUR BATTERIES.)

"A," "B," and "C" Batteries, Victorian Field Artillery, to be formed into Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 5 Victorian Batteries, Australian Field Artillery.

The Hastings Battery (Victorian Rangers) to be formed into No 6, Victorian Battery, Australian Field Artillery.

CORPS OF AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS.

The Companies of the Victorian Engineers (Militia) to be re-formed and designated as follows:-

The Field Company of the Victorian Engineers to form No. 2 Field Company, Corps of Australian Engineers, and part of No. 2 Electric Company, Corps of Australian Engineers.

Submarine Mining Company, Victorian Engineers, to form No. 2 Submarine Mining Company, Corps of Australian Engineers, and part of No. 2 Electric Company, Corps of Australian Engineers.

AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY.

The 1st Battalion, Infantry Brigade, to be formed into the 5th Australian Infantry Regiment.

The 2nd Battalion, Infantry Brigade, to be formed into the 6th Australian Infantry Regiment.

The 3rd Battalion, Infantry Brigade, to be formed into the 7th Australian Infantry Regiment.

The 4th and 5th Battalions, Infantry Brigade, to be formed into the 8th Australian Infantry Regiment.

The Victorian Scottish Regiment to form one regiment of Infantry.

"A," "B," "C," "D," "F," "G," and half "K" Companies, Victorian Rangers, to be formed into one regiment of Infantry (Victorian Rangers).

The Establishment of the Victorian Railways Regiment to be as follows (here omitted).

AUSTRALIAN ARMY SERVICE CORPS.

The Establishment of the Australian Army Service Corps (Victoria) to be as follows (here omitted).

The Australian Army Service Corps (Victoria) to be formed into one Infantry Supply Column and Details for Garrison Troops.

AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

The Australian Army Medical Corps (Victoria) to be formed into -
Staff and Officers attached to Regiments and Forts.
One Infantry Bearer Company.

QUEENSLAND.

(Three Regiments of Australian Light Horse.)

"A," "B," "C," and "E" Companies, 1st Battalion, Queensland Mounted Infantry, to be formed into the 13th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Queensland Mounted Infantry).

"D" and "F" Companies, 1st Battalion, Queensland Mounted Infantry, to be formed into one squadron, Australian Light Horse, and attached to the 13th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Queensland Mounted Infantry).

The 2nd Battalion, Queensland Mounted Infantry, to be formed into the 14th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Queensland Mounted Infantry).

"A" Company, 3rd Battalion, "B," "C," and "D" Companies, 4th Battalion, and the Biggenden Company, Queensland Mounted Infantry, to be formed into the 15th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Queensland Mounted Infantry).

"B" and "C" Companies, 3rd Battalion, Queensland Mounted Infantry, to be formed into one squadron, Australian Light Horse, and attached to the 15th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Queensland Mounted Infantry).

"A" Company, 4th Battalion, Queensland Mounted Infantry, to be formed into one squadron, Australian Light Horse, and attached to the 15th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Queensland Mounted Infantry).

AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY (TWO BATTERIES).

Nos. 1 and 2 Batteries, Queensland Field Artillery, to be designated Nos. 1 and 2 Queensland Battery, Australian Field Artillery, respectively.

AUSTRALIAN GARRISON ARTILLERY (THREE COMPANIES).

The Brisbane Garrison Battery to be designated No. 1 Queensland Company, Australian Garrison Artillery.

The Townsville Garrison Battery to be designated No. 2 Queensland Company, Australian Garrison Artillery.

The Torres Strait Garrison Battery to be designated No. 3 Queensland Company, Australian Garrison Artillery.

CORPS OF AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS.

The Brisbane Submarine Mining Company to be reformed and designated as follows:-

No. 5 Field Company (one Section) Corps of Australian Engineers.

No. 3 Submarine Mining Company, Corps of Australian Engineers, and one Electrical Section attached.

AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY.

The 1st Queensland (or Moreton) Regiment to be designated the 9th Australian Infantry Regiment (Moreton Bay Regiment).

The Establishment of the 2nd Queensland (or Wide Bay and Burnett) Regiment to be as follows (here omitted).

AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS. - (MILITIA).

The Establishment of the Australian Army Medical Corps to be as follows (here omitted).

The Australian Army Medical Corps (Queensland) to be formed into -

1 Mounted Bearer Company.

½ Infantry Bearer Company.

1 Field Hospital.

Details for the Garrison Troops.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

(Two Regiments, Australian Light Horse.)

The Machine Gun Corps, together with the South Australian Mounted Rifles (Active and Reserve Forces), to be formed into the 16th and 17th Australian Light Horse Regiments (South Australian Mounted Rifles) and one squadron attached, as follows:-

The 16th Australian Light Horse Regiment to be formed from-

No. 1 Squadron, Mounted Rifles	...	...	...	...	...	(Active Force).
No. 2 Squadron	...	...	...	...
No. 4 Squadron	...	...	...	...		Mounted Rifles Reserve
No. 5 (Half) Squadron, Narracoorte	...					Force.
The Machine Gun Corps	...	...	...

The 17th Australian Light Horse Regiment to be formed from-

No. 3 Squadron	...	...	...	...
No. 6 Squadron	...	...	...	...		Mounted Rifles Reserve
No. 7 Squadron	...	...	...	...		Force.
The Machine Gun Corps	...	...	...

No. 5 (Half) Squadron, Blackwood (Mounted Rifles Reserve Force), to be formed into one squadron Australian Light Horse, and attached to the 16th Australian Light Horse Regiment (South Australian Mounted Rifles).

AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY - (ONE BATTERY).

"A" Battery (Active Force) to be designated No. 1 South Australian Battery, Australian Field Artillery.

AUSTRALIAN GARRISON ARTILLERY (ONE COMPANY).

Nos. 1 and 2 Companies, South Australian Garrison Artillery to be formed into No. 1 South Australian Company, Australian Garrison Artillery.

AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY.

The 1st and 2nd Battalions, 1st Regiment (Active Force), to be formed into the 10th Australian Infantry Regiment (Adelaide Rifles).

The 1st and 2nd Battalions, 2nd Regiment, except "B" Company, 2nd Battalion (Reserve Force), to be formed into the South Australian Infantry Regiment.

"B" Company, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Regiment (Reserve Force), to be formed into two companies of Infantry, and attached to the 10th Australian Infantry Regiment (Adelaide Rifles).

AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

The Australian Army Medical Corps, South Australia to be formed into -

Officers attached to Regiments and Forts.

1 Field Hospital

Details for the Garrison Troops.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

(One Regiment Australian Light Horse.)

The Western Australian Mounted Infantry to be formed into the 18th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Western Australian Mounted Infantry).

AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY - (TWO BATTERIES).

Nos. 1 and 2 Batteries, Western Australian Field Artillery, to be designated Nos. 1 and 2 Western Australian Batteries, Australian Field Artillery, respectively.

AUSTRALIAN GARRISON ARTILLERY - (ONE COMPANY).

No. 1 Company, Western Australian Garrison Artillery, to be designated No. 1 Western Australian Company, Australian Garrison Artillery.

AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY.

The 1st and 2nd Battalions, Western Australian Infantry, to be formed into the 11th Australian Infantry Regiment (Perth Regiment).

The 3rd and 4th Battalions, Western Australian Infantry, to be formed into the 1st Western Australian Infantry Regiment.

The 5th Battalion, Western Australian Infantry, to be formed into the 2nd Western Australian Infantry Regiment (Gold-fields Regiment).

TASMANIA.

(One Regiment Australian Light Horse.)

"D" Company, 3rd Battalion Tasmanian Infantry, together with the Ross and Ulverstone Troops, Tasmanian Mounted Infantry, to be formed into the 12th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Tasmanian Mounted Infantry).

The Hobart Squadron, Tasmanian Mounted Infantry, to be formed into one squadron, Australian Light Horse, and attached to the 12th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Tasmanian Mounted Infantry).

AUSTRALIAN FIELD AND GARRISON ARTILLERY.

The Launceston Artillery (Field and Siege) to be formed into No. 1 Tasmanian Battery, Australian Field Artillery, and No. 2 Tasmanian Battery (one section), Australian Field Artillery.

The Southern Tasmanian Artillery (Garrison) to be formed into No. 2 Tasmanian Battery (one section), Australian Field Artillery, and No. 1 Tasmanian Company, Australian Garrison Artillery.

The Establishment of No. 1 Tasmanian Company, Australian Garrison Artillery, to be as follows (omitted here).

CORPS OF AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS.

The Tasmanian Engineer Corps to be reformed, and designated as follows -

- No. 5 Field Company (one section), Corps of Australian Engineers.
- No. 3 Electric Company, Corps of Australian Engineers.

AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY.

The 2nd Battalion, Tasmanian Infantry, to be formed into the 12th Australian Infantry Regiment (Launceston Regiment).

The 1st Battalion, Tasmanian Infantry, to be formed into the 1st Tasmanian Infantry Regiment.

"A," "B," "C," "E," "F," "G," and "H" Companies, 3rd Battalion, Tasmanian Infantry, to be formed into the 2nd Tasmanian Infantry Regiment.

The Establishment of the 2nd Tasmanian Infantry Regiment to be as follows (omitted here).

AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

The Australian Army Medical Corps (Tasmania) to be formed into -
Officers attached to Regiments and Forts.
1 Section Infantry Bearer Company.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ Field Hospital.
Details for the Garrison Troops.

JOHN FORREST,
Minister of State for Defence.

2. With reference to Part II. of para. 1 of G.O. No. 169 of this day regarding the Conversion, ... ment, and Re-Organization of Corps, special attention is directed to the detailed "SCHEME OF ORGANIZATION" copies of which have been forwarded to Commandants.

By Order,

J. C. HOAD, Colonel,
D.A.G. and C.S.O.

* NOTE:-

Two or three minor amendments to Victorian Light Horse and Infantry and to Western Australian Infantry were promulgated in Go. 275.

* * * * *

PROPOSED BRANCH OF THE SOCIETY IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Reproduced below are the Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of the proposed Branch of the Society in Western Australia.

Provisional approval to the formation of this Branch was given by the Federal Council on 15th April, 1968.

If no formal objection is received by me within 14 clear days of the distribution of this issue of the Journal, the Federal Council shall confirm the formation of the Branch.

J. K. LYONS,
Federal Secretary.

MINUTES OF THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE PROPOSED WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
BRANCH OF THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA.

HELD in the Library of the United Service Institution, Swan Barracks, Perth, 2000 hrs. 21 Mar. 68.

1. Nominations for meeting Chairman.

Moved Maj. Houlton, Seconded Lt.-Col. McCallum, Chairman to be
Maj. Sargent. Carried.

Nomination for meeting Secretary.

Unanimous vote for Capt. Le Tessier. Carried.

2. Branch Formation.

Maj. Sargent informed the meeting of the Society's rules and the procedure to be followed when forming a new branch of the Society.

3. Persons Present and Special Interests.

Maj. Clem Sargent	Peninsula War; all aspects.
Capt. John Antoine	Aviation History; particularly WW2.
Maj. Nick Smith	General Military History, with particular regard to Ordnance Corps.
Mr. Peter Shaw	Regimental Histories and British and Australian badges.
Lt.-Col. Jim McCallum	Histories of anti-aircraft units of Australian Military Forces.
Maj. John Houlton	Artillery History, particularly units raised in Western Australia.
Capt. John Le Tessier	History and design development of British Commonwealth head-dress badges.
Mr. Arthur McGrath	Badge and medal collection, British Commonwealth and other.

4. Apologies received.

Lt.-Comdr. Ivan Bird	Naval History, State (WA) and Boer War History.
Lt. C.A.M. Roberts	(At present member of A.C.T. Branch.)

Mr. P. Varne	Medals and Australian Military History of 20th Century.
Mr. Alexander Turner	Model soldiers and Military History in general.
Col. A.L. Rogers E.D.	Middle East War (wishing to become a non-active member)..

5. Correspondence.

Maj. Sargent read a letter from Mr. J. Lyons in respect of the formation of a Western Australian Branch.

6. General Discussion.

Clem Sargent reviewed the benefits of the Society as a whole. He gave a brief history from the origins of the Society ten years ago, its changes of name, the system of Federal and State Councils and brief biographies of more prominent members holding office in the Eastern States.

Peter Shaw said that he had benefited from personal contact with other members while travelling interstate. A branch of the Society, if formed in this State, could bring together interested parties. With the aid of the Society's Directory much may be gained to widen one's knowledge of military history. The journal and other publications of the Society were shown as examples of the work of members.

John Le Tessier echoed the benefits which correspondence with members interstate and overseas gave. Accredited members of the Society could often receive help from other organisations, particularly where a member might be engaged in research.

7. Formation of Western Australian Branch.

Proposed by Maj. Houlton that a branch of the Society be raised in Western Australia to be called

MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH.

seconded by Lt.-Col. McCallum.

Votes for the motion 8

Votes against nil

The motion was carried.

8. Election of Branch Committee.

The meeting Chairman called for nominations for the office of President of the proposed Branch.

Nick Smith nominated John LE TESSIER to the position.

Arthur McGrath seconded the motion.

There being no other nominations the motion was carried.

John Antoine nominated Peter SHAW for the position of Secretary/
Treasurer. Jim McCallum seconded the motion.

There being no other nominations, Peter Shaw was elected.

9. Future Meeting.

General discussion indicated that monthly meetings would be preferable to any other time.

It was decided to hold the next meeting on Thursday, 18th April, 1968, at 8 p.m. in the library of the United Service Institution, Swan Barracks, Perth, or at some other location if this was not available.

The business at the next meeting to be a commentary on the U.S.I. Medal Collection by its Curator, the president-elect.

10. Publicity and Recruiting.

To publicise the activities of the newly raised Branch the following avenues should be exploited :-

- a. Command Routine Orders. A run-down of the organisation of the Society, its aims, etc.
- b. Unit Routine Orders with duplication of the above material.
- c. Command P.R.O. When active, an article for newspaper use could be provided.
- d. The U.S.I. Newsletter

The following organisations should be informed of the forming of a Branch of the Society for mutual interest :-

- a. The W.A. State Library
- b. The W.A. Museum
- c. The W.A. Historical Society
- d. The United Service Institution of W.A.
- e. The Naval & Military Club.

11. Closure.

The meeting closed at 2200 hours.

(Signed) John J. Le Tessier
President.

27th March, 1968.

* * * * *

A TRIBUTE

With this issue (April, 1968) "Sabretache" completes its first ten years of existence - 40 separate issues. Whilst engaged in producing an Index to the Journal, it became clearer than perhaps it is when reading each issue in isolation, how much we rank and file members of the Society owe to those who have guided its destiny.

The Journal is possibly the most tangible and valuable of our activities. It is apparent that at some stages great difficulties have had to be overcome to maintain production, and it is gratifying to note that the present standard approaches consistently the peaks of excellence that highlight its progress across the years.

From we who lack, perhaps, such talents as displayed by the brilliant editorship of Barry Videon, the immense scholarship of Warren Perry and the enthusiastic perserverance of John Lyons, I should like to place on record our sincere thanks to these and the many others who have given us a unique and valuable treasury of Military History.

For those of us who have benefited personally from the help, encouragement and patient kindness of these men, the debt is the greater.

W. M. Chamberlain.

* * * * *

THE DANISH ARMY

(Submitted by K. Vaegter.)

The following recent list of Danish Corps and Regimental designations may be of interest to collectors who have the badges.

Den Kongelige Livgarde	(Royal Life Guards)
Danske Livregiment	(1st. Inf. Regt.)
Slesvigske Fodregiment	(2nd. Inf. Regt.)
Prinsens Livregiment	(3rd. Inf. Regt.)
Sjællandske Livregiment	(4th. Inf. Regt.)
Falsterske Livregiment	(5th. Inf. Regt.)
Fyenske Livregiment	(6th. Inf. Regt.)
Jydske Fodregiment	(7th. Inf. Regt.)
Dronningens Livregiment	(8th. cInf. Regt.)
Kongens Fodregiment	(9th. Inf. Regt.)
Feltherrens Fodregiment	(10th. Inf. Regt.)
Bornholms Fodregiment	(Bornholms Værn) Inf. Regt.
Jaegerkorpset	(Paratroopers)
Gardehusarregimentet	(Royal Hussars) Armoured
Jydske Dragonregiment	(Dragoons) Armoured
Kronens Artilleriregiment	(1st. Field Artillery Regt.)
Sjællandske Artilleriregiment	(2nd. " " ")
Nørrejydske Artilleriregiment	(3rd. " " ")
Sønderjydske Artilleriregiment	(4th. " " ")
Bornholmske Artilleri	(12th. " " ")
Sjællandske Luftværsregiment	(Anti Aircraft Artillery)
Jydske Luftværsregiment	(" " ")
Sjællandske Ingeniørregiment	(Engineers)
Jydske Ingeniørregiment	(Engineers)
Sjællandske Telegrafregiment	(Signals)
Jydske Telegrafregiment	(Signals)
Sjællandske Trainregiment	(Army Service Corps)
Jydske Trainregiment	(" " ")
Forsvarets Intendanturkorps	(Army Pay Corps)
Forsvarets Lægekorps	(Army Medical Corps)
Forsvarets Auditørkorps	(Army Justice)
Hærens Tekniske Korps	(R.E.M.E.)

Haerens Musikkorps	(Army Band)
Haerens Officersskole	(Army Cadet Corps)
Generalinsp. for Fodfolket	(Generalstaff for Infantry)
" " Pansertropperne	(" " Armoured Corps)
" " Artilleriet	(" " Artillery)
" " Ingeniørtropper	(" " Engineers)
" " Telegraftrøpper	(" " Signals)
" " Forsyningstropp	(" " Army Service Corps)
" " Hjemmeværnet	(" " Home Guard)
Hjemmeværsregion I - VIII	(Home Guards Regions I - VIII)
H. M. Kongens Adjutantstab	(H.M. Kings Adjutant Staff)
Hærestaben	(General Staff)
Haerkommandoen	(General Command)
2. division	(2nd. Division)
3. division	(3rd. Division)
6. division	(6th. Division)

* * * * *

AIR FORCE MINIATURES

Notes by B. J. Videon.

In "The Dispatch" Number 36, of January, 1968, Commander Ian Hamilton dealt with my earlier query regarding miniature figures of air force types. He has come up with the following list:-

GREAT BRITAIN:

Greenwood and Ball	R.A.F. Officer in Full Dress
Stadden	R.A.F. Officer in Full Dress 1930
Kramer Miniatures	British Pilot 1916
K.S. Miniatures	British Pilot WW1
Cockade Miniatures	R.A.F. Desert Fighter Pilot 1918
Australian Military Miniatures	Australian Flying Corps Officer (projected)
Johillco	R.A.F. Pilot WW2
Britains	Pilot, Rigger and Mechanics
	Officer in Overcoat
	Pilot in full flying kit
	Band, Colour Party, Marching at Slope
	Firefighters
	Despatch Rider
	R.A.F. Officer
	R.A.F. Regiment
	W.R.A.F.
	(There is also, of course, the almost legendary Royal Engineers Balloon Section c 1906.)

U.S.A.:

Krama Miniatures	U.S. Pilot 1918
K.S. Miniatures	U.S. Pilot (Catian Eddie) WW1
	U.S. Marine Pilot WW2

Cockade Miniatures	U.S. Bomber Pilot 1943
Boutet Miniatures	Helicopter Pilot, Marine Air Force or Army Helicopter Gunner
Britains	Army Air Corps Officers and Men Pilot c 1930 Pilot in Peak Cap Officer in Great coat Pilot in Flying Kit c 1930 U.S. Air Force 1949 blue uniforms

GERMANY:

H.R. Products	Von Richtofen WW1
K.S. Miniatures	Von Richtofen WW1 (Possibly the same figure!)
Cockade Miniatures	Pilot, Undress uniform 1916
Stadden	Pilot in Flying Kit 1915
Britains	Luftwaffe Pilot in Full Flying Kit

He also listed the paratroopers of the above three countries.

It was remarked that some of the above figures, including ALL of the Britains figures are no longer in production.

This is a good list, to which may be added the following cast aluminium "toy" soldiers from France, circa 1939, sent in by Mr. D. Mazeas.

French Air Force	-	Soldier in blues with white topped peaked cap, marching with rifle at the French "shoulder" position.
French Air Force	-	Officer in blues looking through binoculars.
French Air Force	-	Soldier in "fatigues" and small cap carrying two cans (?)
Airman	-	In flying suit and helmet and goggles, and with left arm raised to carry an object (propellor or machine-gun?) on the shoulder.

These figures are slightly larger than the usual 54 m.m. figure, and are well-made and well-proportioned. The detail is good enough to justify a little reworking in some cases, and repainting in accurate colour.

It is the writer's opinion that, with the increasing importance and sophistication of airforces in warfare, these miniature figures will become historically more interesting as time goes by, in much the same way that old toy and model weapons have done.

* * * * *

DEATH OF MR. PAUL A. HAUSER

Many of our members will be sorry to hear that the death of the Swiss Book Dealer, Mr. Paul A. Hauser, was reported in the January edition of "The Dispatch" (journal of the Scottish Model Soldier Society and the Scottish Military Collectors Society).

Mr. Hauser's lists of books were eagerly read by many, and their cessation will be regretted. We understand that Mr. Hauser had been in ill-health for some time prior to his death.

* * * * *

MOORABBIN AIR MUSEUM

During March, 1968, members of the Victorian Branch of this Society paid a visit to the Moorabbin Air Museum, conducted by the Australian Aircraft Restoration Group at the Moorabbin Airport.

It was most interesting to note the amount of progress that this Group has made since it started out a few years ago in a small way, and without funds or premises. On show to the public are about eight aircraft, all of which look well-cared-for and as complete externally as is necessary. Many of course lack parts of motors, which however are not essential to the general effect of the museum. Several more aircraft are in store or in the process of being restored to museum condition, and it speaks volumes for the enthusiasm and industry of the working members of the Group that they have achieved so much in such a short time (all spare-time work).

The Museum is at present housed in a fenced enclosure, but the Group is aiming to provide a building, and is working diligently towards this end. A very well-produced booklet describing the Group's aims, and illustrating their work and exhibits is on sale at the Museum in aid of funds.

Membership of the Group is of two classes :-

Associate	..	Subscriptions	\$2.00 per annum, and
Working	..		\$3.00.

Further details may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Australian Aircraft Restoration Group, Box 1765 Q, P.O., Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, 3001, Victoria.

For those who are interested in aircraft, and who wish to belong to a Group that DOES SOMETHING, this Group is recommended.

B. J. Videon.

* * * * *

"RESEARCHERS CORNER"

From - Mr. B. Mulheron,
Box 35, P.O.,
Regents Park, N.S.W. 2143.
2.3.68

Sir,

Recently on reading "Sabretache" January 1968 in reference too W.M.Chamberlain "Asian Battle Dairy" doesn't state that 105 Fd. Bty. was the First Artillery Bty. in Malaya arriving at the same time as 2 RAR also in Oct. 10 1957 he states 1 Fld. Batt. relieved 105 Fld. Bty. RAA which is incorrect as 100(A) Fd. Bty. RAA relieved 105 Fd. Bty. RAA. I think if facts are going too be stated they should be put in properly also he omitted 101 Fd. Bty. Replaces 100(A) Fld. Bty. RAA.

If you wish too have this proved I was a serving Army member at the time and served in Malaya with 100(A) Fd. Bty. and 101 Fd. Bty.

Yours sincerely,

B. Mulheron.

(Editor's note: Thank you for the information; as a matter of principle we would ask any critics to state facts as they know them, without criticising in the above terms the efforts of those who put long hours into the work of preparing such monumental tasks as Mr. Chamberlain's interesting and valuable work.

In a volunteer society such as this, where facts are required and stated to the best of the author's ability, no place exists for caustic comment.)

* * * * *

From - Herbert A. Friedman,
30-75 47th Street,
L.I.C. 3, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

"I am in the process of writing a book on the subject of aerial propaganda leaflets used by the Japanese during the Second World War. I would appreciate hearing from any readers who have samples of these leaflets which they could describe, or any members who have anecdotes or recollections of the dropping of leaflets which might be added to the book."

* * * * *

Second World War Civil Defence Badges as Worn in South Australia.

Submitted by R. Gray.

White - Wardens, casualty services, despatch riders, stores, and equipment, gas detection, decontamination, repair, blackouts, and restricted light, foodstuffs and animals, air raid warning and shelters, officers dealing with schools, institutions and industries and certain other directors.

"RESEARCHERS CORNER" (Contd.)

- Red - Evacuation.
 Green - Quartering.
 Purple - Engineering work for Civil Defence.
 Yellow - Transport for both rail and road.
 Blue - Special Constables. These were under the control of the Commissioner of Police.

The above badges were oval in shape and enamelled.

(Editor's note; Mr. Gray has not made mention of the A.R.P. lapel badges that were also in use in South Australia during the Second World War. These were quite large - 1 and 7/8 inches wide by 1½" high. The design was like a horseshoe standing on a rocker from a rocking chair. On the "horseshoe" were the letters "A.R.P." and on the "rocker" the name of the service. The sample held by the writer is "FIRE EMERGENCY". In the open space in the centre of the design are mounted the intertwined letters "S.A.". These letters and the "horseshoe and rocker" are in coloured enamel (red in this case). Behind the whole design is a vertical torch, with the flames showing above the top of the "horseshoe". Fastening is by safety pin. The whole badge is well made in gilt brass and the enamel mentioned. From memory, the writer recalls that similar badges in the series were in other colours of enamel, white and yellow at least being included.)

* * * * *

ADVERTISEMENTS

(50 cents per advertisement. PLEASE forward remittance with copy, to ensure publication.)

WANTED.

To complete a series -- Parts 7 and 8 of the unbound series of "HER MAJESTY'S ARMY".

To complete uniforms in a museum display -- buttons of 12th and 40th Regiments of the British Army, circa 1854. Any quantity acceptable.

E. J. Millett,
 Eureka Military Museum,
 23 Eureka Street, BALLARAT,
 Victoria, 3350.

* * * * *

WANTED.

1 sample of each of the following PRESENT PATTERN insignia:-

BUTTONS: Royal Artillery, Royal N.Z. Artillery, Royal Marines, Royal Navy Officers and Ratings.

CAP BADGES: Royal Canadian Artillery, Royal Marines, South African Air Force Officers (Pale Blue Backing).

Can exchange limited quantity Australian items.

B.J. Videon,
 20 Thomasina St., EAST BENTLEIGH, 3165, Victoria, Australia.

AUSTRALIAN ARMY INSIGNIA 1903-1966

by A. N. Festberg

The Victorian Branch of the Military Historical Society of Australia has available for immediate clearance 200 copies of the above limited edition book on Australian Army badges for \$5.00 per copy (posted). This is the first ever book on Australian badges, and it is well-produced in cloth covers, gilt titling, and on good quality paper with large excellent illustrations.

Our reasons for selling these remaining copies at half price are a requirement for the cash in order to enable the next publication to be considered, and also a requirement for the space at present being occupied by these books.

This price is less than cost. If you don't want a copy, suggest that your local library buy one.

Army Messes may buy in bulk at the trade price of \$3.00 per copy (ten books or more), PLUS POSTAGE 56 cents per copy where mailing required.

The Branch, Treasurer, Victorian Branch, M.H.S.A.,
20 Thomasina St., EAST BENTLEIGH. 3165, Victoria, Aust.

* * * * *

ADVERTISEMENT

Wanted: By purchase or exchange, the following badges:-

Cadet Units:

Reedbeds Cavalry, Sth. Aust.	28th Illawarra L.H.
29th Port Phillip Horse.	

Rising Sun Badges with the following wording on them:

Nursing Training.	Commonwealth Military Forces.
Australian Commonwealth Forces.	Australian Forces.
With the letters "R.D.S.B."	With numerals in place of the Crown.
2nd. Bn. 3rd. Gippsland Pioneers.	

Buttons:

Australian Army Medical Corps.	58/32 Bn.
7/21 Australian Horse.	A Tudor Crown /an Eagle /R.A.A.F.

Shoulder Titles:

Cadet Units.
Any used by Australian Forces in South Africa during 1899-1902.
Any Australian Light Horse ones for the period 1903-1912.
Any for the period 1912-1918.
Any for the period 1914-1918.

Particulars to:

R. Gray, 5, Elder Tce., Glengowrie,
South Australia, 5044.

* * * * *

DIRECTORY AMENDMENTSAPRIL, 1968

The following new members are welcomed:-

- (250) Mr. I.P. ALEXANDER (Junior Member), Flat 6, Summerland Mansions, 23 Fitzroy Street, ST. KILDA. Vic. 3182.
Military History and Collecting.
- (251) LT. COL. J. McCALLUM (R.), 86 Wichmann Road, ATTADALE, W.A. 6156.
Histories of A/A Units of Australian Army.
- (252) CAPT. J.J. LE TESSIER, E.D., 13 Napier Street, CLAREMONT, W.A. 6010.
History of Development of British Commonwealth.
- (253) LT. COL. J. HOULTON (R.), 340 Canning Highway, BICTON, W.A. 6157.
Headdress, Badges, Artillery History, esp. W.A. Units.
- (254) MR. P.O. VARNE, 44 Sulman Avenue, MANNING, W.A. 6152.
Medals, Australian Military History from 1900.
- (255) LT. COMDR. I. BIRD, R.A.N., 2 Jamison Street, SWANBOURNE, W.A. 6010
Naval History, W.A. and Boer War
- (256) MR. A. McGRATH, 84 Broadway, BASSENDAN, W.A. 6054.
Medal and Badge Collecting.

Change of Address:-

- (239) MR. A.M. HARDING, 46 Baird Street,
SPRINGVALE NORTH, VIC. 3170.



