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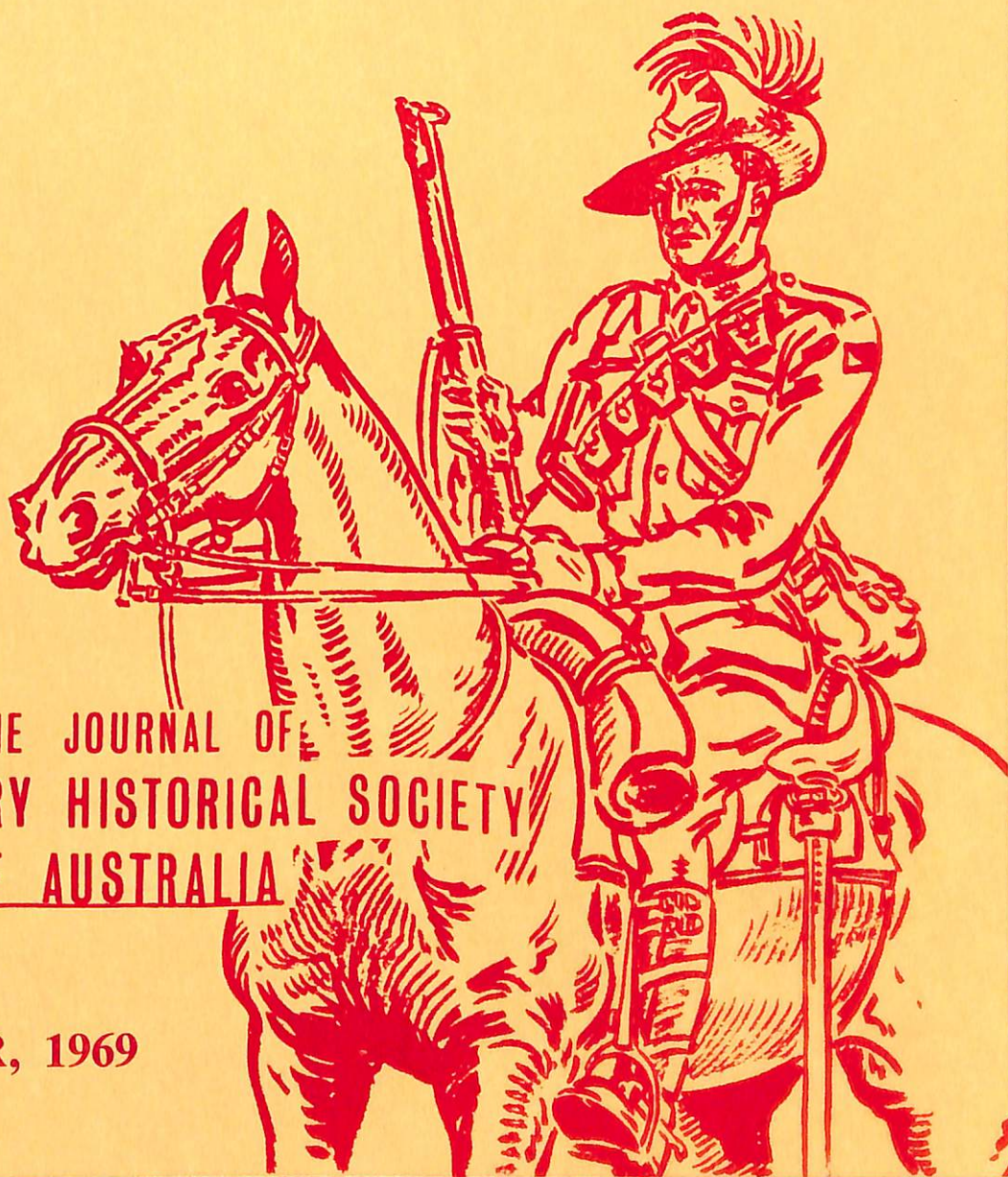
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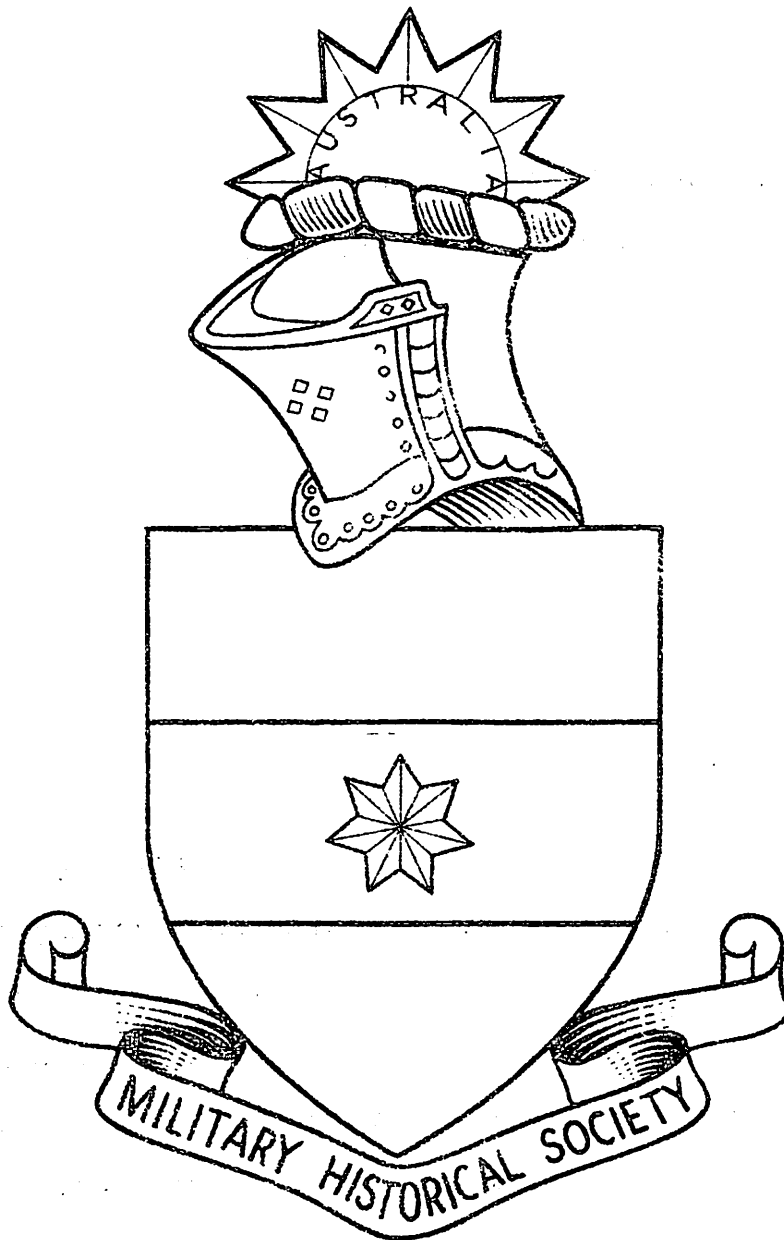
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SABRETACHE



THE JOURNAL OF
THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF AUSTRALIA

OCTOBER, 1969



THE BADGE OF THE SOCIETY

- Features:
- A representation of the first "Rising Sun" badge, used as a heraldic crest to the helmet;
 - A wreath in the national colours of Blue and Gold;
 - A mediaeval helmet in Silver;
 - A 3 colour shield of Navy Blue, over Army Red, over Air Force Blue;
 - The Federation Star of Australia;
 - A scroll bearing the Title of the Society.

THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

(Founded in Melbourne in 1957)

AIMS OF THE SOCIETY

The aims of the Society are the encouragement and pursuit of study and research in military history, customs, traditions, dress, arms, equipment and kindred matters; the promotion of public interest and knowledge in these subjects and the preservation of historical military objects, with particular reference to the Armed Forces of Australia.

* * * *

SABRETACHE

JOURNAL AND PROCEEDINGS OF
THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF AUSTRALIA

(FOUNDED IN MELBOURNE IN 1957)

EDITED BY

B. J. VIDEON, A.A.S.A.



FEDERAL COUNCIL, MELBOURNE

VOL. ~~XI~~. XII

OCTOBER, 1969

NO. 2

PRICE: 82 cents

Published by

JOHN K. LYONS

for and on behalf of the Federal Council of

THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

262 Tucker Road,
ORMOND EAST,
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*The views expressed in the articles in this
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MEMORANDUM

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COLOURS OF 11TH BATTALION (THE CITY OF PERTH REGIMENT)

By P.A. Shaw,
Secretary, W.A. Branch, Military Historical Society of
Australia.

1. QUEEN'S COLOUR, 1st INFANTRY REGIMENT (W.A. VOLUNTEER FORCES)

It is believed that the Perth and Fremantle Rifle Volunteers were each in possession of a Regimental Colour around the year 1862, however there appears to be no definite record of this.

Around 1894 the Metropolitan Rifle Volunteers, Fremantle Rifle Volunteers and Guildford Rifle Volunteers were grouped to form the 1st Infantry Regiment, consisting of six companies, each component corps providing two companies.

At a Queen's Birthday Parade held on 28th May 1896 at the Recreation Ground, Bazaar Terrace, Perth (now where the Esplanade is situated), the 1st Infantry Regiment was presented with a Queen's Colour. The Colour was purchased by the W.A. Government with the sanction of the Home Authorities and was the first Queen's Colour to be presented to a W.A. Volunteer unit. The consecration was performed by the Senior Chaplain of the Forces, the Very Rev. Dean Goldsmith and the Colour was presented by H.E. the Governor of W.A., Lt.-Colonel Sir Gerard Smith, KCMG. Also in attendance at the ceremony was the Premier, Sir John Forrest.

A detailed description of this Colour appeared in the "West Australian" of 23rd May 1896, an extract of which is given hereunder:-

"The Queen's Colours, which have been prepared at the Pimlico Army Clothing Depot, London, for the first Western Australia regiment, are of the usual rich colours of the British Union Jack, with the symbolic design of the regiment - a black swan on a choice gold background - in the centre. The material used in the manufacture is the finest silk, and doubled so that both sides of the flag are alike. Above the regimental sign, which is surrounded with a garter of gold lace*, is the Imperial Crown, beautifully worked in silks to represent the rubies, emeralds and diamonds of that diadem. The flag is of the most perfect and handsome workmanship, measures four feet by three feet, is bordered with a thick fringe of magnificent gold and red cord, and is affixed to a nicely polished lance wood pole. On the top of the pole is a gilt representative of the Imperial Crown, capped with a crowned lion. Two gold and red cords, ending in tassels, are attached to the pole near the top and give a finished appearance to one of the most beautiful pieces of work that one could wish to see."

* within the garter are the words "Western Australia"

In September 1900 the Volunteer Infantry units were reorganised to form an Infantry Brigade of five battalions. The 1st Infantry Regiment (less the Guildford companies) became 1st and 2nd Battalions of this brigade. The Guildford Rifle Volunteers became 'A' Company of 3rd Battalion. In July 1903 the Australian Commonwealth Military Forces were formed and absorbed all existing Colonial Volunteer Forces. Under this reorganisation the 1st and 2nd Battalions, W.A. Infantry Brigade, together with the Guildford Company of 3rd Battalion, became "11th Australian Infantry Regiment (Perth Regiment)". This regiment took custody of the Queen's Colour which had been presented in 1896.

2. KING'S BANNER, 11th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY REGIMENT (PERTH REGIMENT)

In 1909 His Majesty King Edward VII directed that honorary Banners be presented to the Australian Infantry Regiments in commemoration of the services of their members who had volunteered for the South African War 1899-1902. (Promulgated under M.O. 132 of 1909). These would be similar to those presented to the Australian Light Horse Regiments, Royal Australian Artillery and Australian Army Medical Corps in 1904. These banners consisted of a plain Union flag with gold and crimson fringe, the pike surmounted by a Royal Crest (i.e. Lion and Crown) in gold, with gold cords and tassels hanging from the top. The lower portion of the pike usually carried a silver inscribed plate. It was directed that these Banners were not King's Colours, but honourable insignia in commemoration of valuable services rendered in South Africa, and should not have Battle Honours borne upon them. They were not to be replaced when worn out, but laid up in the customary manner.

Therefore in recognition of the services of members of 1st Infantry Regiment, and 1st and 2nd Battalions, W.A. Infantry Brigade, who served in South Africa, 1st Battalion, 11th Australian Infantry Regiment (Perth Regiment) was presented with a King's Banner. (The title "1st Battalion" had been added in 1908). This Banner was handed over to the Regiment by the Governor of W.A., Sir Gerald Strickland at a ceremony held on the Esplanade, Perth, 18th February 1911. (Also at this ceremony the regiment was presented with a Regimental Colour (see para. 3) and the 1st Battalion, Western Australian Infantry Regiment was presented with a King's Banner). The plate on the pike of this Banner is inscribed as follows:-

"Presented by His Most Gracious Majesty

The King Emperor

to 1st Battalion, 11th Australian Infantry
Regiment (Formerly 1st and 2nd Battalions,
W.A. Infantry) in recognition of services
rendered in South Africa".

3. REGIMENTAL COLOUR, 11th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY REGIMENT (PERTH REGIMENT)

At the same ceremony held for the presentation of the King's Banner on 18th February 1911 (see para. 2 above), 1st Battalion, 11th

Australian Infantry Regiment was presented with a Regimental Colour. This Colour consists of a red George Cross on a white ground. In the centre is the regimental badge in gold within a wreath of W.A. kangaroo paw and banksia, surmounted by the Crown, all worked in fine silk showing the natural colours. Below the wreath is the Battle Honour "South Africa, 1900-02". (Note:- the official Battle Honour for South Africa granted to 11th Australian Infantry Regiment under M.O. 123 of 1908 was - "South Africa 1899-1902").

4. KING'S (later QUEEN'S) COLOUR, 11th BATTALION (THE CITY OF PERTH REGIMENT)

With the introduction of Universal Training, the Militia, or Citizen Forces as they became known, were reorganised in 1912 into new regimental areas and a complete renumbering of units took place. Under this change 1st Battalion, 11th Australian Infantry Regiment (Perth Regiment), together with parts of 1st Battalion, Western Australian Infantry Regiment, became the 88th (Perth) Infantry. This unit thus took custody of the three Colours which have so far been described. In order to preserve the identity and traditions of the AIF units, which were still serving overseas at this time, in 1918 it was decided to change the numbering of the Citizen Force units to conform to the numbers of the AIF units which had been raised in the same States and areas. Consequently in October 1918, 88th (Perth) Infantry together with elements of other units, was redesignated as 11th Infantry Regiment in order to perpetuate the 11th Battalion (AIF). Once again the number "11" was associated with the regiment.

At a ceremony held in King's Park on 2nd October 1920, the Governor General Sir Ronald Munro Ferguson presented a King's Colour to the 11th Infantry Regiment and other W.A. Citizen Force Battalions, in recognition of the services of the former AIF Battalions during the Great War.

In 1921 the 11th Infantry Regiment was redesignated as 11th Battalion and later received the title of "The Perth Regiment" (This title was eventually changed to "The City of Perth Regiment" - see para. 6). This original King's Colour was carried by the 11th Battalion up until the Second World War, and also by the post-War 11th/44th Infantry Battalion, being finally laid up in 1964 (see para. 7). With the accession of Queen Elizabeth to the Monarchy in 1953, all King's Colours still carried by units on the Order of Battle became known as Queen's Colours. In 1961 Battle Honours for the Second World War were promulgated and those granted to 11th Battalion were emblazoned on the Queen's Colour accordingly.

5. REGIMENTAL COLOUR, 11th BATTALION (THE CITY OF PERTH REGIMENT)

During annual camp at Karrakatta on 7th April 1929, the 11th Battalion (The Perth Regiment) was presented with its Regimental Colour by the Perth City Council. The Colour was handed over by the Hon. Lord Mayor J.T. Franklin, CMG, MLC, JP. This Colour was emblazoned with the

Battle Honour "South Africa, 1899-1902" originally granted to 11th Australian Infantry Regiment in 1908 (see para. 3), together with ten selected Battle Honours of the Great War, gained by 11th Battalion (AIF). Finally laid up with the Queen's (formerly King's) Colour in 1964. (See para 7.)

6. HANDING OVER OF COLOURS TO THE PERTH CITY COUNCIL

In the latter part of the 1920s the 16th Battalion (The Goldfields Regiment) was not maintained as an active unit. In 1930 it was decided to disband the battalion, however in order to preserve the identity and traditions of the 16th Battalion, the number "16" was linked with the 11th Battalion which thus became 11th/16th Battalion.

At a special parade held in Forrest Place on the 2nd June 1930, the 11th/16th Battalion handed over its past and present Colours to the Perth City Council. The Battalion was inspected by the Hon. Lord Mayor, J.T. Franklin, CMG, MLC, JP. and the Commandant of 5th Military District, Brigadier-General C.H. Jess, CMG, CME, DSO. After the battalion had paraded the following former Colours were permanently laid up in the Council Chambers in Murray Street:-

- (1) Queen's Colour, 1st Infantry Regiment
- (2) King's Banner, 11th Australian Infantry Regiment (Perth Regiment)
- (3) Regimental Colour, 11th Australian Infantry Regiment (Perth Regiment)

Also lodged in the Council Chambers were the present King's and Regimental Colours of the 11th Battalion, to be held there except when required by the battalion for ceremonial occasions. (At this time no Colours had yet been presented for the 16th Battalion). This custom continued until 1960.

Due to its close ties with the City of Perth, on 1st January 1933 the 11th Battalion had the title "The City of Perth Regiment" conferred upon it.

The three former Colours which were permanently laid up remained in the Council Chambers, Murray Street until the Council shifted into its new offices in Council House, St. George's Terrace around 1963. These Colours were then placed in storage, the view most probably taken that old decorations such as these did not fit in with modern architecture. Over the past years these Colours have been forgotten or thought to have rotted away, however recently after a number of enquiries I was able to confirm that they still existed and was given the opportunity to inspect them. Considering their age they appear to be in reasonable condition, only rotted in parts. Although it is customary that once Colours are laid up they should be left to hang and naturally rot, in view of the fact that these Colours are no longer properly laid up and are destined to be left in storage to rot away, some move should possibly be made to

have them restored and laid up in a more appropriate manner. As these Colours are of historical significance they should be laid up in such a manner that would preserve them, similar to those now laid up at the State War Memorial (see para. 7).

7. LAYING UP OF COLOURS BY THE ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGIMENT

In 1948 the 11th Battalion was reformed as part of the Citizen Military Forces under the title of 11th/44th Infantry Battalion (The City of Perth Regiment), carrying on the traditions of both the former 11th and 44th Battalions. This unit bore the Queen's and Regimental Colours of both these former battalions, and in accordance with the custom established in 1930 these Colours were held in the Council Chambers, Murray Street, except when required for ceremonial occasions.

Upon formation of The Royal Western Australia Regiment in 1960 these Colours were withdrawn from the Council Chambers and taken into custody by the new Regiment. They were paraded for the last time at the ceremony of presentation of Colours to 1st Battalion, The Royal Western Australia Regiment in November 1962.

Finally on 29th November 1964, the Queen's and Regimental Colours of 11th Battalion (The City of Perth Regiment) together with those of the other three W.A. Infantry Battalions, were permanently laid up in the undercroft of the State War Memorial, King's Park. The Guard and Colour Parties were provided by 1st Battalion, The Royal Western Australia Regiment, and also in attendance were members of the AIF Battalion Associations. These four sets of Colours are laid up in two felt-lined air tight glass cases, part of the cost of which was provided by the R.S.L. and the AIF Battalion Associations.

8. CONCLUSION

It is hoped that with further research information concerning the Banners and Colours of the other W.A. Infantry Battalions can be completed and a further article covering these can be produced.

* * * * *

COMMANDOS AND GUERILLAS

by Staff Sergeant G.R. Vazeny

The mention of commandos immediately conjures up the vision of over the beach assaults; bearded men with knives in their teeth and grenades in the belt; and great deeds of daring.

During World War 2 it was found that a need existed for units to be trained in a more specialized role than that carried out by the normal infantry unit, eg. penetration deep behind the enemy lines.

Independent Companies

A start was made by the formation of No. 7 Infantry Training School at Wilsons Promontary in Victoria to train these units. The first such unit to be formed was 1 Independent Company which was then sent to New Britain, New Ireland, and nearby islands. Their role was to prepare for a Japanese invasion; to harass the enemy; to report on the enemy. At this time the strength of an independent company was 17 officers and 256 other ranks. The units were infantry but had a special establishment designed for their particular role.

1 Indep. Coy. was captured almost intact, that is, the majority of its members were captured, in various places. (See below for casualties).

In March 1942, '1 Aust. Commando Platoon' was formed in the Middle East. This unit later became '9 Aust. Div. Commando Platoon', which disbanded in November 1942. Little is known of this unit.

Commando Squadrons

On the 4th of April 1943, 7 Div. Cavalry Regiment was redesignated HQ 7 Cavalry (Commando) Regiment, and took command of the 2/2nd, 2/4th and 2/6th Indep. Coys.

On the 21st September 1943, all independent companies became 'cavalry (commando) squadrons', but as the word 'commando' was rarely used by the units, it was soon deleted from the squadrons' titles. (The Regiments retained the word in their titles). All privates of the independent companies became troopers on the 21st September 1943.

The redesignation of units over the two periods is shown in the following table:

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. | 1 Indep. Coy. | - Captured, never reraised. | |
| 2. | 2 Indep. Coy. | - Became Serial 6. | |
| 3. | 3 Indep. Coy. | - Became Serial 7. | |
| 4. | 4 Indep. Coy. | - Became Serial 8. | |
| 5. | 5 Indep. Coy. | - Became Serial 9. | |
| 6. | 2/2 Indep. Coy. | - From Serial 2, became Serial 13) | |
| 7. | 2/3 Indep. Coy. | - From Serial 3, became Serial 14) | |
| 8. | 2/4 Indep. Coy. | - From Serial 4, became Serial 15) | Date unknown |
| 9. | 2/5 Indep. Coy. | - From Serial 5, became Serial 16) | |

10. 2/6 Indep. Coy. - New unit, became Serial 17)
11. 2/7 Indep. Coy. - New unit, became Serial 18) Date unknown.
12. 2/8 Indep. Coy. - New Unit, became Serial 19)
13. 2/2 Cdo. Sqn. - From Serial 6
14. 2/3 Cdo. Sqn. - From Serial 7
15. 2/4 Cdo. Sqn. - From Serial 8
16. 2/5 Cdo. Sqn. - From Serial 9
17. 2/6 Cdo. Sqn. - From Serial 10
18. 2/7 Cdo. Sqn. - From Serial 11
19. 2/8 Cdo. Sqn. - From Serial 12
20. 2/9 Cdo. Sqn. - New unit 31 Jan. 44.
21. 2/10 Cdo. Sqn. - New unit 31 Jan. 44.
22. 2/11 Cdo. Sqn. - New unit 31 Jan. 44.
23. 2/12 Cdo. Sqn. - New unit 31 Jan. 44.

Casualties

Fatal casualties for the independent companies and commando squadrons were as follows:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>ORs</u>	
1 Indep. Coy.		149	See note below
2 Indep. Coy.		26	
3 Indep. Coy			Not known
4 Indep. Coy.		6	
5 Indep. Coy.	3	4	
2/2 Cdo. Sqn.	2	18	
2/3 Cdo. Sqn.	3	21	
2/4 Cdo. Sqn.	9	48	
2/5 Cdo. Sqn.	5	60	
2/6 Cdo. Sqn.	8	47	
2/7 Cdo. Sqn.	2	31	
2/8 Cdo. Sqn.	2	5	
2/9 Cdo. Sqn.	2	10	
2/10 Cdo. Sqn.	4	23	
2/11 Cdo. Sqn.	1	6	
2/12 Cdo. Sqn.		1	
		455	
Total	41	455	

NOTE - Figures for 1 Indep. Coy were -

9 killed in action
 5 died of wounds
 1 died of illness while POW
 134 missing, presumed dead at sea, while POW.

In addition, 12 officers were captured and later recovered, and 5 other ranks evaded capture, returning to Australia.

'Z' Special Unit

This unit was the only real commando unit that existed in the Australian Army during World War 2. Never organized on a particular establishment, 'Z' Special was made up of a number of small teams, all volunteers from any corps. The role of the unit was long range penetration behind the enemy lines; the organization of guerilla forces in enemy occupied territory; the gathering of information behind enemy lines. The headquarters of the unit was at Toorak in Melbourne, while training was carried out near Townsville in Queensland.

Most detachments had signalmen on strength, while some had members of the RAN and RAAF attached. The detachments were usually flown to their area of operations although some went by sea. A detachment sailed from Australia to Singapore on the 'Krait', a former Japanese lugger, destroying many thousands of tons of shipping before being captured and executed.

Casualty figures for 'Z' Special were:

9 officers	26 other ranks	- killed in action
7 officers	8 other ranks	- executed while POW
	1 other rank	- died of wounds
<u>2 officers</u>	<u>2 other ranks</u>	- died of other causes
18 officers	37 other ranks	

'M' Special Unit

Formed to give an administrative 'home' to the Army members of the Allied Intelligence Bureau (AIB) (the Coastwatchers), this unit operated in small detachments, reporting on the enemy's movements. The detachments operated always behind enemy lines.

As the war progressed, the role of 'M' Special changed until, in 1944, it was almost solely a guerilla role. The actual guerillas were natives who, on the 1st February 1945, were formed into a separate unit - 'M' Special Unit Inf. Bn. The Australian members of 'M' Special were the leaders and coordinators for the guerillas activities.

The casualty rate for this unit was low and tells little of the most valuable, and dangerous, work of this unit. Completely surrounded by the enemy for many months, sometimes without food, often without weapons, many times without any contact with friendly forces, they carried out their job to perfection. Fatal casualties were -

'M' Special Unit

6 Officers	5 other ranks	killed in action
2 Officers	4 other ranks	executed while POW
1 Officer		died of other causes

'M' Special Unit Inf. Bn.

7 other ranks killed in action/died of wounds
 1 other rank died of illness
 1 other rank missing, presumed dead.

Tulip Force

A composite force of British soldiers and members of 8 Aust. Div., Tulip Force was meant to organize and train Chinese guerillas for operations against the Japanese in Burma. The unit travelled from Malaya, north to China, but was unable to carry out its role. It headed westward, fighting a guerilla war, eventually reaching Australia through India. Two members died of illness and three became missing, presumed dead.

Rose Force

Another composite British/Australian unit, Rose Force was raised in Malaya in late 1941. It carried out a guerilla role against the Japanese, disbanding in January 1942, members returning to their parent units. There were no fatal casualties in Rose Force, although seven members were later killed in action, or became missing and are presumed to be dead, while seven others died while POW.

Other commando/guerilla units

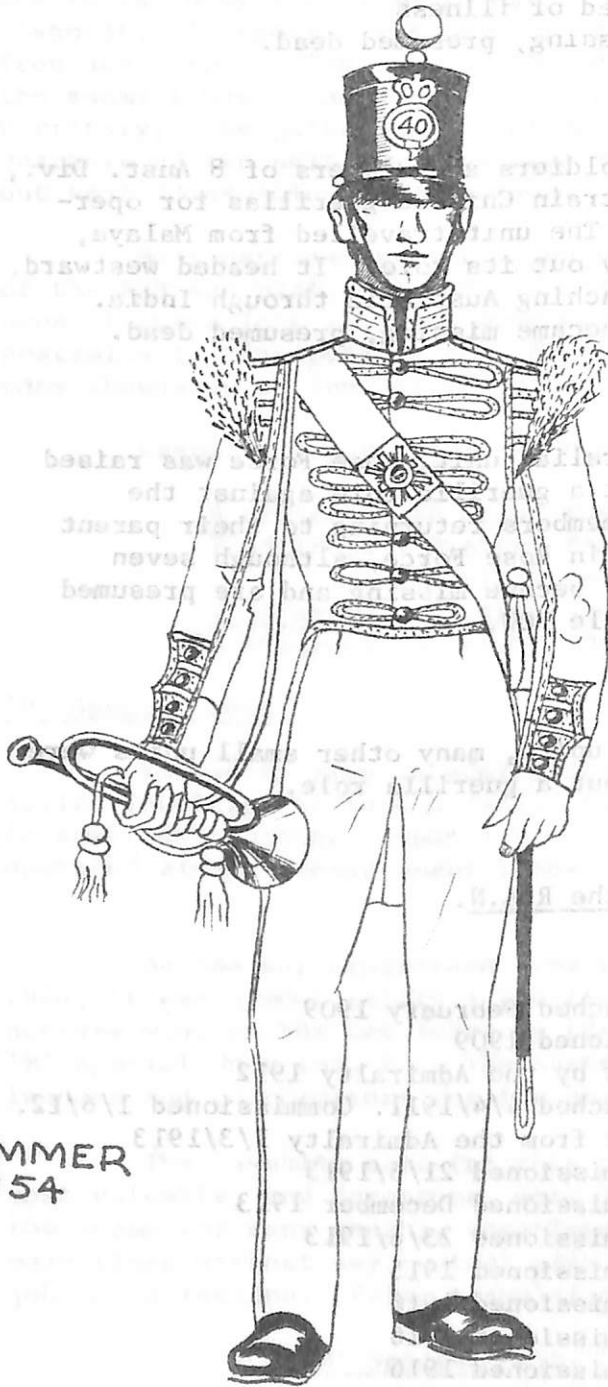
Although not strictly commando units, many other small units were organized on an ad hoc basis to carry out a guerilla role.

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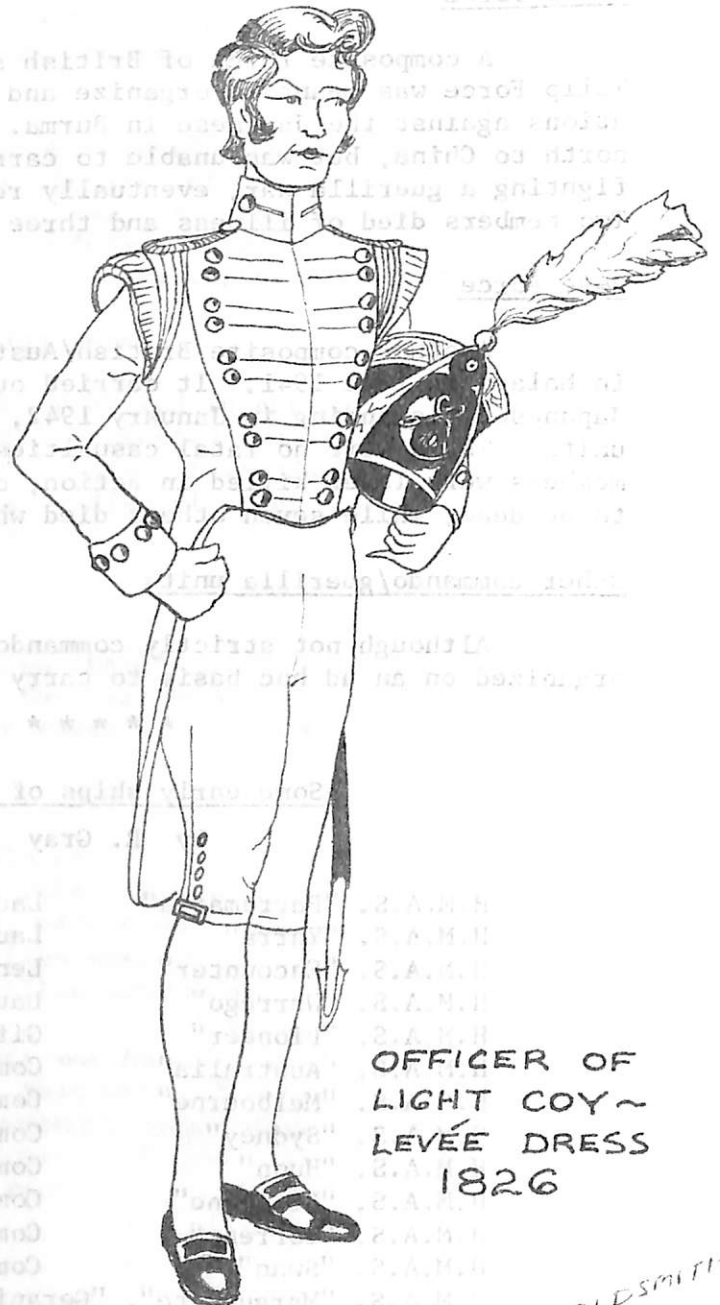
Some early ships of the R.A.N.

By R. Gray

H.M.A.S. "Parramatta"	Launched February 1909
H.M.A.S. "Yarra"	Launched 1909
H.M.A.S. "Encounter"	Lent by the Admiralty 1912
H.M.A.S. "Warrego"	Launched 4/4/1911. Commissioned 1/6/12.
H.M.A.S. "Pioneer"	Gift from the Admiralty 1/3/1913
H.M.A.S. "Australia"	Commissioned 21/6/1913
H.M.A.S. "Melbourne"	Commissioned December 1913
H.M.A.S. "Sydney"	Commissioned 23/6/1913
H.M.A.S. "Huon"	Commissioned 1915
H.M.A.S. "Brisbane"	Commissioned 1916
H.M.A.S. "Torrens"	Commissioned 1916
H.M.A.S. "Swan"	Commissioned 1916
H.M.A.S. "Marguerite", "Geranium", "Mallow"	transferred to RAN 1919.
H.M.A.S. "Anzac", "Tasmania", "Tattoo", "Swordsman", "Success"	"Stalwart" were commissioned in 1920
H.M.A.S. "Adelaide"	Commissioned 1922
H.M.A.S. "Moresby"	Commissioned for survey work 1925
H.M.A.S. "Albatross"	Commissioned 1929.



DRUMMER
1854



OFFICER OF
LIGHT COY ~
LEVÉE DRESS
1826

40TH
REGIMENT

D.Y. GOLDSMITH

THE FORTIETH (SECOND SOMERSETSHIRE) REGIMENT

By Lt. Col. D.V. Goldsmith

Among British regiments which served in Australia, the Fortieth Foot deserves special mention. Firstly, it served here twice, from 1823-1828, and again from 1852-1860. Secondly, with the Twelfth Foot, it was present at the Eureka action at Ballarat in 1854.

Details of the uniform worn over these two periods may be of interest. The illustrations are drawn from information given in the Historical Records of the Fortieth Regiment (Smythies, 1893).

Colour details are as follows:

Drummer - 1854

- (a) Albert Shako - black
white over red ball-tuft, mounted on gilt ball
gilt badge
black leather chinstrap
- (b) Tunic - red
buttons - appear to be dull-white metal
(probably pewter)
lace, including wings - almost defy description! -
for the modeller, or artist at this scale, the
best description is black/red/white "salt-and-
pepper" effect.
- (c) Facings - very light buff (almost white) (note - the only
facing colour visible is on the cuffs). Collar and
wings are completely covered in lace.
- (d) Shoulder belt - white, with gilt plate
- (e) Sword - black leather scabbard with brass fittings
brass hilt
- (f) Bugle - brass, green cord
- (g) Trousers - blue black, red stripe

Officer Light Coy. (levee dress) - 1826

- (a) Shako - 1816 bell type - black
bugle horn badge, around numerals "40"
black cockade with gilt centre button
green plume on gilt ball

- (b) Tunic - scarlet
wings - gilt
front - "plastron" type panel of light buff
facings - very light buff, almost white
(note: no gold lace on cuffs or collar)
buttons - gilt, in 5 pairs
turnback to coattails - white
- (c) Breeches - white, gilt buttons and knee buckle
- (d) Sword - curved, brass hilt
black leather scabbard with brass fittings
- (e) Gloves - white
- (f) Shoes - black with gilt buckles.

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ANNUAL ELECTION OF FEDERAL COUNCIL FOR 1969/70

The result of the Annual Election of Federal Council for 1969/70
was:-

PRESIDENT:	Mr. J. K. Lyons
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Mr. B. J. Videon
SECRETARY:	Position vacant
TREASURER:	Capt. P. O. Lober

Mr. Lyons has informed me that he is willing to act as Federal Secretary until such time as the position can be filled by Federal Council.

A.J. RAY, LL.B.
Returning Officer.

* * * * *

MEDALS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE BY MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY WHO
HOLD A PERMIT FROM THE DEFENCE DEPT.

The following medals may, subject to availability, be purchased from the Department of the Army at Central Army Records Office, Albert Park Barracks, Melbourne, Vic. 3206.

When ordering state Permit No., medals required and forward remittance.

ONLY ONE MEDAL OF EACH TYPE (i.e. 1 AFRICA STAR, 1 BURMA STAR) MAY BE PURCHASED.

1939-45 Star	\$1.10
Africa Star	\$1.10
Burma Star	\$1.10
Pacific Star	\$1.10
France & Germany Star	\$1.10
Defence Medal	\$1.20
War Medal	\$1.20
Australia Service Medal	\$1.25
General Service Medal (with Clasp "Malaya")	\$3.72
Korea Medal	\$1.66
United Nations Service Medal (Korea)	\$1.28
General Service Medal 1962 (with Clasp "Borneo")	\$4.00
Vietnam Medal	\$5.00
Vietnamese Campaign Medal	\$1.51
1914-15 Star	\$1.32
British War Medal	\$2.32
Victory Medal	\$2.07

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AUSTRALIAN ARMY NEWS

By A.N. Festberg

I. Changes in Order of Precedence

1. The Company of Officer Cadets will move from its present position to take precedence immediately after the Corps of Staff Cadets.
2. The Australian Army Aviation Corps will take precedence after The Royal Australian Infantry Corps.
3. The Australian Army Band Corps will take precedence after the Australian Army Psychology Corps.

II. Order of Precedence

The Australian Army Staff Corps
 The Corps of Staff Cadets
 The Company of Officer Cadets
 The Royal Australian Armoured Corps - comprising:-
 1st Armoured Regiment
 2nd Cavalry Regiment
 3rd Cavalry Regiment
 1st/21st Royal New South Wales Lancers
 2nd/14th Queensland Mounted Infantry
 4th/19th Prince of Wales's Light Horse
 8th/13th Victorian Mounted Rifles
 10th Light Horse
 12th/16th Hunter River Lancers
 The Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery
 The Royal Australian Engineers
 The Royal Australian Survey Corps
 The Royal Australian Corps of Signals
 The Royal Australian Infantry Corps - comprising:-
 The Royal Australian Regiment
 The Pacific Islands Regiment
 The Special Air Service Regiment
 The Royal Queensland Regiment
 The Royal New South Wales Regiment
 The Royal Victoria Regiment
 The Royal South Australia Regiment
 The Royal Western Australia Regiment
 The Royal Tasmania Regiment
 The Commando Companies
 The Papua and New Guinea Volunteer Rifles
 The Queensland University Regiment
 The Sydney University Regiment
 The University of New South Wales Regiment
 The Melbourne University Regiment
 The Adelaide University Regiment
 The Western Australian University Regiment
 The Australian Army Aviation Corps
 The Australian Intelligence Corps
 The Royal Australian Army Chaplains' Department
 The Royal Australian Army Service Corps
 The Royal Australian Army Medical Corps
 The Royal Australian Army Dental Corps
 The Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps
 The Royal Corps of Australian Electrical & Mechanical Engineers
 The Royal Australian Army Educational Corps
 The Australian Army Catering Corps
 The Royal Australian Army Pay Corps
 The Australian Army Legal Corps
 The Royal Australian Army Provost Corps
 The Australian Army Psychology Corps

The Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps
The Women's Royal Australian Army Corps
The Battalion of Officer Cadets
The Australian Army Apprentices School

III. Banners of the Australian Army and The
Australian Cadet Corps

1. The following formations are, at present, permitted to carry Banners:

1. The Corps of Staff Cadets
2. The Battalion of Officer Cadets
3. The Australian Army Apprentices School
4. The Australian Cadet Corps

2. The Banners will be named after the donor and will be carried on a Pike, mechanical.

3. The Corps of Staff Cadets hold The Queen Elizabeth the Second Banner.

4. The Battalion of Officer Cadets and The Army Apprentices School hold Banners presented by Lord Casey, KG, and Sir Paul Hasluck respectively, called The Governor-General's Banner.

5. The Australian Cadet Corps will receive a Banner in 1970. Details will be announced in the January issue of SABRETACHE.

* * * * *

IN THE NEWS

by B.J. Videon

AIR TRAINING CORPS.

New Air Training Corps cap badges have appeared in anodised aluminium finish. These feature the Australian Wedgetailed Eagle in place of the bird previously used, and on the scroll at the base give the full title "AIR TRAINING CORPS" instead of the earlier "TRAINING CORPS". As with most Australian productions in anodised aluminium, the fittings at the back are strong steel pins and American-styled clutch grips.

NEW HAT FOR W.R.A.A.C.

New felt hats have at last been issued to the members of the W.R.A.A.C. to replace or supplement the old beret-style headgear that has been worn by the girls since the dark green uniforms were first issued.

These hats are the smartest feminine military headdress seen by the writer for a long time. Based generally on the American women's

services hat with brim turned up at the back, this hat goes one better. With its flat top and squarely blocked top edge, the brim tightly turned up at the back and forming a well-shaped "peak" at the front, this is a very jaunty chapeau indeed. The Corps badge sits on a shaped band of the same dark green felt, where it looks neither too large nor too small.

The designer of this hat deserves applause! All the girls need now to make them look smart is a uniform on the lines of the present W.R.A.A.F. winter-weight.

The W.R.A.A.F. led the way in smartening up their girls, the Army is following suit. It is high time the Navy had a long look at what their girls are wearing.

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GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL, 1962

1. A new bar to the General Service Medal 1962 has been announced.
2. The bar is "MALAY PENINSULA" and is awarded to Australian Forces for service in Malaya and Singapore between 17 August 1964 and 12 June 1965 inclusive.

PRESENTATION OF COLOURS

Queen's and Regimental Colours were presented to the 2nd, 5th and 6th Battalions, The Royal Victoria Regiment on 10th October, 1969.

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DESPATCHES

(Comments, queries and letters from our readers).

From Mr. Robert Gray

Regarding Mr. J.C.R. Morton's request for information on a badge he has and which he described in the January issue of "Sabretache", I wish to state that this badge is not a military issue, but of the type that was sold in shops to civilians during the First World War in Australia. There was also another type which had "Australia" instead of "Anzac".

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From Mr. G.A. Garrioch, of 12 Thoresby Grove, IVANHOE, 3079.

The following letter has been passed to us from Army. It would be appreciated if any member(s) can help Mr. Garrioch:

"Dear Sir,

For some time I have been endeavouring to discover the history of two old guns which stand in garden reserves in High Street Northcote, near the Merri Creek. The Northcote City Council advises that they can find nothing in the municipal records relating to these pieces, although local rumour has it that they were placed there shortly after the 1st World War.

The guns are both 8 in. B.L. rifled guns made by Armstrong, and numbered 4266 and 4312 respectively.

In the belief that they were of Naval origin I approached the Navy Department and was informed that according to their records, these particular guns were mounted at the South Channel Fort in Port Phillip Bay about 1885, and that your Department would be the responsible Authority to contact for further details.

I therefore venture to ask whether you may be able to assist me with some research into their history, particularly with regard to the circumstances relating to the removal to their present site.

In the event of obtaining such information I would add that together with some of the local residents, I wish to press the Northcote Council to record it in the Council files and to erect some form of plaque for the information of Citizens of the district.

For the purpose of historical background, I should also be pleased to obtain a few details of both the South Channel Fort and of the old Swan Island Fort commanding the West Channel, if this is possible.

Trusting that you can assist me,

I am,

Yours faithfully,

"

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BOOK REVIEWS

European Military Uniforms by Paul Martin, Spring Books, \$6.00

This book was originally published by Frankh's in 1963 under the title Der Bunte Rock.

Now it has been released by Paul Hamlyn using the same plates and drawings. Every collector of European militaria will find this an extremely interesting book.

A.N. FESTBERG

British Military Uniforms by W.Y. Carman, Spring Books, \$5.95.

Like the above book this is also a reprint.

It is a well illustrated and well written book. Unfortunately too many plates are in black and white and I deplore the lack of sources. Nevertheless it is an important book and traces the development of British uniforms from Henry VII (1485) to modern times.

A.N. FESTBERG

Great Battles of Biblical History, by General Sir Richard Gale, Hutchinson of London, \$5.00.

Here is a fascinating and imaginative book. Sir Richard traces the history of war from the Patriarchs to the fall of Massada.

Israeli children, no doubt, know these battles well - the Bible being their history book - but the motto of the Israeli Forces is: "Massada shall not fall again".

Allraby, Montgomery as well as Dayan read their Bible and the first mentioned generals used the Bible to plan their battles in the Holy Land.

It is a well written and easily readable book and should be read by all interested in the history of warfare. Do not forget to have your Bible at hand.

A.N. FESTBERG

Orders, Decorations, Medals and Battles of the Third Reich by David Littlejohn and Col. C.M. Dodkins, Bender, \$11.20.

I recommend this book as it is an important contribution to the "Ordenskunde" of the world.

It is divided into 17 sections, 10 dealing with the armed forces and the others with the Nazi Party.

Every insignia is illustrated and well documented. Unfortunately the price places it beyond the reach of the average reader.

Obtainable only from the Technical Book & Magazine Co., 289-299 Swanston St., Melbourne, 3000.

A.N. FESTBERG

1. Military Uniforms of the World by Preben Kannik, English edition by Blandford Press, \$5.10.
2. Cavalry Uniforms of Britain & the Commonwealth, by Robert and Christopher Wilkinson-Latham, Blandford Press, \$5.10.

Congratulations are due to Blandford for publishing these two outstanding books and at the same time selling them at a reasonable price.

The first one illustrates 512 military uniforms of the world from the year 1506 until the present day. It also provides an encyclopedia and a military terminology.

A special chapter on British uniforms is written by Mr. W.Y. Carman who also edited this edition.

The second book illustrates 96 uniforms executed by J. Cassin-Scott, and R. & C. Wilkinson-Latham wrote the uniform descriptions. Their father, Major John Wilkinson-Latham wrote the notes on swords and weapons. All three bring to the subject a family tradition, for eight generations of Wilkinson Swords have served the forces.

Both books provide a wealth of information and should prove invaluable to the model soldier collector, among others.

French Army Regiments and Uniforms - from the Revolution to 1870, by W.A. Thorburn, Arms and Armour Press, 30/- net in U.K. only.

The effect that the French Army had on the military forces of the world would be hard to estimate. Certainly in the time of Napoleon the successes which it enjoyed made it a force to be admired, envied and emulated.

Like winners everywhere, therefore, it set a trend in military fashions which was copied round the world, and items of dress which were established as the IN THING by the French may be seen in use in many ceremonial uniforms still in existence.

Mr. Thorburn has not followed the usual method of presentation, and his book is the more interesting for it. Mainly illustrated by black and white pictures showing excellent detail in contrast with their white background, the pages contain authoritative descriptions of changes in dress and tell why these changes occurred.

Cavalry, Infantry, and camp-followers, they appear here in orderly sequence, clear and concise detail, and uncluttered by a wealth of "packing".

At 84 pages, bound nicely in hard covers, and with an attractive dust-jacket, this is good value. If it is not in your bookshop, ask for it to be ordered, because you won't get a better buy for this money.

B.J. VIDEON

A Guide to Military Museums, by T. Wise, Bellona Publications Ltd., Hawthorn Hill, Bracknell, Berkshire, England. 5/- sterling.

Just to hand is this interesting and useful reference book.

Mr. Wise has prepared it for the guidance of those who are interested in the military history and tradition of the British Army, in the hope that, now that reorganisation has drastically reduced the number of regiments, the names of the old well-known regiments may not be forgotten.

The guide book is well set up and printed, and comprises 36 pages in a stiff card cover, which shows a colourful selection of uniform and armour details.

The museums are arranged in alphabetical order, and by most of the descriptions in the text there appears a small but clear picture of the badge of the appropriate regiment or corps.

The information given includes addresses, hours during which open, a description of the contents, and the prices of the various souvenir items that are available for sale. These include in some cases reproductions of paintings, cards, books and models.

In general this book is one that should be in every military collector's library, not only for its cheapness, but also for the fact that it will enable many collectors to order books etc. which would otherwise have been unknown to them.

For those who plan to visit the Mother Country a MUST!

B.J. VIDEON

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TWO MINUTES' SILENCE ON REMEMBRANCE DAY

(Submitted by J.K. Lyons)

The suggestion of a period of silence on Remembrance Day (formerly Armistice Day) was made by Edward George Honey, a Melbourne Journalist.

Honey served for a time in the Middlesex Regiment when war broke out, but poor health led to his discharge.

He was still recuperating on November 11, 1918, when Armistice was being celebrated.

For the world, weary with war and slaughter, it was a joyous occasion. But Honey could still not take his mind off the millions of war dead who had made peace possible, and from the maimed, the widows and the fatherless who were still making the sacrifice.

So it was that in May, 1919, he wrote to the London "Evening News." His letter read in part:

"The crusade is over - the falsity is swept away - but in France and in the deserts of the East stand crosses unnumbered to mark the splendor of their sacrifice

"Can we not spare some fragment of these hours of peace rejoicing for a silent tribute to these mighty dead? I would ask for five minutes, only five silent minutes of national remembrance. A very sacred intercession ..."

The suggestion fell on fertile ground, and was relayed via a South African M.P. to King George V. The King issued a proclamation on November 7 of that year calling on his people to commemorate the Armistice four days later by two minutes of silence in honour of the war dead.

The five minutes suggested by Honey had proved too long even for the Grenadier Guards who had rehearsed it, and was therefore trimmed to two.

Otherwise, the principle of Honey's idea remained, and still remains to this day throughout the British Commonwealth.

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PRESENTATION OF COLOURS TO THE 2ND, 5TH AND 6TH BATTALIONS OF THE ROYAL VICTORIA REGIMENT.

As mentioned elsewhere in this issue the above mentioned colours were presented on the 19th October, 1969.

The Society has obtained a number of Official Programmes for its members. These may be obtained, free of charge, from the Acting Federal Secretary.

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"THE SOLDIER'S POCKET BOOK"

(The Centenary of its first Publication in 1869)

By Major Warren Perry, R.L.,
M.A., B.Ec.

This year marks the centenary of Macmillan's publication in 1869 of Colonel Garnet Joseph Wolseley's¹ "The Soldier's Pocket Book". The book was an immediate success; it provided in a convenient form an encyclopaedia on professional subjects for the soldier's use in the field; and the demand for it became widespread and continued for at least two decades.² A review of its First Edition in "The Athenaeum"³ said: "It is a most useful little book"; "It gives minute details on everything connected with the life that has to be led in the field"; and it ended by stressing that "We do not absolutely agree with Colonel Wolseley in everything, nevertheless we thank him heartily for producing the very book that every working soldier has long anxiously craved for."

But the life of an author-at-arms rarely runs smoothly and Wolseley had cause to admit, in "The Story of a Soldier's Life", that: "I soon found that according to the views then entertained by our old general officers, I had committed a serious crime in presuming to express my views upon military matters as freely as I had done in "The Soldier's Pocket Book", a military handbook I had recently published." Nevertheless, the book increased Wolseley's professional reputation and it passed through five editions. The second edition was published in 1871, the third in 1874, the fourth in 1882⁴, and the fifth in 1886. In 1873 Wolseley published also another small pocket book of about 103 pages entitled "Field Pocket-Book for the Auxiliary Forces." In its Preface he said: "It was suggested to me by Messrs Macmillan & Co., that a little handbook for the Auxiliary Forces might with great advantage be compiled from the professional information supplied in the "Soldier's Pocket Book". I have therefore endeavoured in the following pages to select the portions that would be most useful and instructive to the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates of the Yeomanry, Militia and Volunteers, condensing the matter as much as possible with a view to producing a small work that could be sold at a price within the reach of all ranks."

1. Later Field Marshal Viscount Wolseley. Born near Dublin 4 June, 1833. C-in-C, British Army, 1895-1900. Died at Mentone, France 26 March, 1913.

2. It was said of "The Soldier's Pocket Book" in 1896 that "although now somewhat obsolete, is still deservedly highly appreciated in the British Army." See Archibald Forbes, "Memories and Studies of War and Peace." Cassell and Co., Ltd., London, 1896. Popular Edition, P.353.

3. No. 2196 dated 27 November, 1869, p.699.

4. For a review of the Fourth Edition of "The Soldier's Pocket Book" see "The Saturday Review", 11 November, 1882, pp. 639-640.

The century that has passed since the first publication of "The Soldier's Pocket Book" is a long period on which to reflect; the history of the British Army during this time shows not only many but radical changes in the structure of its organisation, in the design and functions of its equipment and in its systems of command, training and administration; and as well can be seen wide differences in its roles at the opening of this century in 1869 and at its close in 1969.

The book was a rich and varied source of information and so it became an invaluable work of reference for all ranks on active service. At the time of its first publication there were few reference books of a professional military character available in English¹; the military education of officers and other ranks of the British Army was at an appallingly low level compared with present day standards in the British Army² or with the standards of Wolseley's time in the Prussian Army. But even if there had been more books of this kind available in English there would have been few persons sufficiently interested to read them. When General Hamley's great work, "The Operations of War", was first published three years earlier it was regarded as a curiosity in some quarters.

The author wrote the Preface to the First Edition of "The Soldier's Pocket Book" in Montreal and dated it March 1869. Wolseley, a strong, fearless and determined personality, said in this Preface:

"Some few years ago when Sir Richard Airey was Q.M.G., of the Army, he proposed to have a practical handbook for the staff compiled by experienced officers of his department, and published for the use of the army. A little money was required for the purpose, which the War Office, from economical motives, would not allow. I was to have been one of those employed to write; so when the scheme failed, I resolved to bring out a work of that description on my own responsibility. The following pages are the result of that determination, and of my leisure hours for the last four years. ... Almost everything in them is deduced from my own personal experience."

He went on to say that: "This Pocket Book is intended to be a guide to officers from the moment war is declared"; and that "I make no apologies for its shortcomings, but publish in the hope that it may be found useful by soldiers of all ranks in Her Majesty's Army."

1. An earlier work, with resemblances to "The Soldier's Pocket Book" but "Published by Authority", was Major F.A. Griffiths' "The Artilleriest's Manual and British Soldier's Compendium." The seventh edition of this work was published in London in 1856.

2. See Major General Sir Alexander Bruce Tulloch, "Recollections of Forty Years' Service". Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh, 1903. Chapter 12. This chapter describes the low standards of British officers' general and professional education at the time Wolseley first published his Pocket Book.

The book contained concisely written articles on a wide variety of subjects. These subjects included the Army's organisation, notes on strategy and tactics, military engineering, surveying and military law and the duties of staff officers who should remember, the author said, that "they are but the agents of the general and paid public servants." The Private soldier was even told how to clean his equipment and make tea and coffee for himself; officers were told how to indent for stores and equipment; and commanding generals were told how to manoeuvre their formations in the field. A number of miscellaneous notes included information on weights and measures, trigonometrical formulae, designs for filters, exchange rates for foreign currency and even menus for Irish stews. The book had an index and the construction and comprehensiveness of it in the Fifth Edition would be an inspiration to some present-day authors and publishers.

The author's biographers, Major General Sir Frederick Maurice and Sir George Arthur, said in their biography, "The Life of Lord Wolseley", that "The Soldier's Pocket Book" was "the forerunner of the modern 'Field Service Regulations', and forty years later the War Office itself produced a 'Field Service Pocket Book', which was in fact an expansion of Wolseley's attempt to give the soldier a compendium to which he could refer the questions which war would bring to him."

At the time of the author's death in March 1913 it was said in London that: "Lord Wolseley was undoubtedly the greatest soldier this country has produced since Wellington". that "While Wellington did nothing to put the constitution of the military forces on a better footing, Wolseley worked incessantly at their reformation"; and that "For what the British Army is to-day, the country owes him a deep debt of gratitude." The Pocket Book demonstrated publicly for the first time Wolseley's propensity for candid and dogmatic statements, for he deliberately used it as a medium to disseminate his advanced military opinions. These opinions were not always popular and some of them offended people inside and outside the Army.

1. See "The United Service Magazine", London. Vol. 47 (New Series), April, 1913 to September, 1913, p.144.

THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA
COMMEMORATIVE MEDALLION NO. 3 - TO COMMEMORATE
THE FIRST FLIGHT FROM LONDON-TO-AUSTRALIA 1919

Fifty years after this event, so momentous for Australia, The Military Historical Society of Australia is offering (as the next Medallion in its Commemorative Medallion Programme), to aviation enthusiasts, numismatists and military historians a medallion as per the illustration.

The medallions will be 60 mm. in diameter, and will be made by the Melbourne firm of Lega Pty. Ltd., which cast the two previous medallions. The art work is again by Mrs. Grace Taylor of Mornington, Victoria.

The medallions will be serially numbered, limited to 250 in number, and supplied in a plastic box, unless a velvet presentation case is required. They will be finished in Bronze unless otherwise ordered. Orders will be by subscription for the first 100 medallions, closing on 20th December, 1969. The first 100 will be sold at \$4.00 each, post paid. Numbers 101-on will be sold at \$4.50 each, post paid.



FIRST FLIGHT LONDON-TO-AUSTRALIA, 1919

On 12th November, 1919, a Vickers Vimy bomber, powered by two 360 H.P. Rolls Royce engines, left Hounslow Aerodrome, London, on the long flight to Australia.

At the controls was Captain Ross Smith, M.C., D.F.C., and his brother Keith was in charge of the navigation. Ross Smith had served in No. 1 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps, in Palestine, and had already had long-distance flying experience. Keith, who had served with the Royal Air Force during the war was awaiting repatriation to Australia, and was well equipped to act as both co-pilot and navigator. As Mechanics in charge of the engines were Sergeants W.H. Shiers and J.M. Bennett, both late of No. 1 Squadron, A.F.C.

On 10th December, 1919 they landed at Port Darwin, having travelled a hazardous 11,060 miles to win the £10,000 prize offered by the Commonwealth Government for "the first machine manned by Australians to fly from London to Australia within 30 days".

This epic journey, with all its planning, hardships, and perils captured the imagination of the world, and the intrepid airmen were feted from the time of landing in Port Darwin until they eventually reached Adelaide on 23rd March, 1920, after having travelled a total distance of 14,350 miles in over 188 flying hours. Knighthoods for the Smiths and decorations for all the crew were later bestowed.

In Melbourne they handed over to the Commonwealth Government, on behalf of Vickers Ltd., the grand machine that had brought them safely to their destination. The Government later presented it to the Nation as an historic relic of the first aerial flight from London to Australia.

The machine now stands in a glass-fronted display hangar in the grounds of the Adelaide Airport, together with several historical items and signs telling of its achievements. On one outside wall of the hangar there is carved a monument to the aviators, showing all four standing in flying gear.

To: The Military Historical Society of Australia,
262 Tucker Road,
ORMOND EAST. Victoria, 3204.

Please supply the following medallions to commemorate the FIRST FLIGHT FROM LONDON-TO-AUSTRALIA, 1919 as below:-

_____	Bronze, serially numbered, @ \$A4.50 each, post paid.
_____	Oxidised Silver, " " " " " "
_____	Antique Gold, " " " " " "
_____	Set/s, serially numbered, @ \$12.00 per set, post paid.

Each medallion supplied in a plastic box free of charge.

I understand that if my order is one of the first 100 received I will be refunded the sum of FIFTY CENTS (in postage stamps), and I accordingly remit herewith the sum of \$A4.50 in payment for each medallion on that basis. If my medallion(s) is/are numbered between 1 and 100 I will expect the aforesaid refund, otherwise I shall not. I understand that The Military Historical Society of Australia will maintain a Register of the serial numbers of all medallions sold, that they will be sold in numerical order and that on payment of the sum of 20 cents I may at any time receive a copy of the Register.

Please also supply Presentation Cases (Velvet) for the medallions at 50 cents each, for which I enclose the further sum of \$: .

Registered Post, if required, will be a further 25 cents.

My total remittance of \$: is enclosed herewith.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ Postcode _____

The Military Historical Society of Australia,
115 Victoria Road,
Melbourne, Victoria, 3200.

The following medallions to commemorate the FIRST FLIGHT
of the B-24-24-Australia, 1919 are below:-

- _____ Bronze, serially numbered, @ \$24.50 each, post paid.
- _____ Oxidized Silver, " " " " " " " " " " " "
- _____ Antique Gold, " " " " " " " " " " " "
- _____ Set's, serially numbered, @ \$12.00 per set, post paid.

Each medallion supplied in a plastic box free of charge. I will
be pleased that if my order is one of the first 100 received I will

be pleased the sum of FIFTY CENTS (in postage stamps), and I
will be pleased to remit herewith the sum of \$24.50 in payment for each
medallion on that basis. If my medallion(s) is/are numbered
I will expect the amount refund, otherwise

I understand that The Military Historical Society of
Australia will maintain a Register of the serial numbers of all
medallions sold, that they will be sold in numerical order and that
the sum of 50 cents I pay at any time receive a copy of
the Register.

I will also supply Presentation Cases (Wolver) for the medallions
at 10 cents each, for which I enclose the further sum of \$ ____.
If reduced form, if reduced, will be a further 25 cents per set.
The total cost of \$ ____ is enclosed herewith for your

Postcode _____

