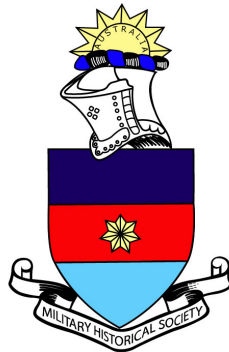


Military Historical Society of Australia
Sabretache



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.

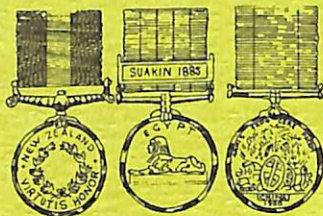
www.mhsa.org.au

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

96

SABRETACHE

JOURNAL OF
THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF AUSTRALIA



EDITED BY
JAMES W. COURTNEY

PRICE THREE DOLLARS (AUST)

JULY 1975

Vol. XVII

No. 1

Registered at the GPO, CANBERRA, ACT, for transmission by post as a periodical - Category B

Aims of The Society

The aims of the Society are the encouragement for the 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.

Published by Authority of the Federal Council of The Military Historical Society of Australia by Ken White, P.O. Box 67, Lyneham, ACT, 2602

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



THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

Patron

Major E.W.O. Perry ED, MA, BEc, FRHSV

Honorary Office Bearers Elected for 1974-75

Federal Council

President

Major I.L. Barnes, E.D.,

Vice President

Brigadier M. Austin DSO, OBE psc (RL)

Secretary

Mr K.R. White

P.O. Box 67

Lyneham ACT 2602

Telephone: 487497 Home
950361 Office

Minute Secretary

Mr I.D. Lomasney

Treasurer

Lt. H.B. Gordon (RL)

8 Coutts Place

Melba, ACT 2615

Councillors

(ACT Branch)

Major R. Clark OStJ, JP

(Victorian Branch)

Mr A.J. Ray LLB

(Geelong Branch)

Major I.L. Barnes ED

(W Aust Branch)

Mr P. Shaw

(Qld Branch)

Mr J.H. Irwin

Editor

Mr James W. Courtney

1 McCubbin Street,

Weston ACT 2611

Legal Advisor

Colonel B. Virtue LLB

Librarian

Mr I.D. Jenkins



BRANCHES OF THE SOCIETY

VICTORIA

Secretary

Mr R.J. Kirk
18 Osborne Court
HAWTHORN, Vic. 3122

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Secretary

Mr K.R. White
P.O. Box 67,
LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Secretary

Major S. Kuusk
480 Portrush Road,
LINDEN PARK. S. AUSTRALIA 5065

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Secretary

Mr J.D.C. Burrige
9 Albert Street,
CLAREMONT. W. AUSTRALIA 6010

GEELONG (Victoria)

Secretary

Captain W.G.J. Titchmarsh,
Unit 7, Glenleith Court,
GEELONG, VIC. 3220

QUEENSLAND

Secretary

Mr S.W. Wigzell
17 Royal Street,
CAPALABA QUEENSLAND 4157



CONTENTS

Article		Page
Editorial	Editor	5
Notes From The Federal Secretary	Federal Secretary	6
Sultan of Oman's Bravery Medal to An Australian	Federal Secretary	7
The Somme – A Tragedy of Errors	R.J. Brockett	8
The Indian Army Mutiny At Singapore 1915	Brig. M. Austin	20
Webley Government Model Revolver	I. Crawford	22
The Dhofar Campaign Medal to Australians	Lt.Col. I.C. Teague	29
Some Observations On "The Mouse"	S.W. Wigzell	31
British Commonwealth Occupation Force (BCOF)	Aust. War Memorial	34
Brief Notes On Sir E.H. Seymour's Career	C. Falk	37
Queensland Branch Notes		40
The Queensland Defence Force Prepares For War	D.W. Spetham	41
A Personal Appreciation of Steel Helmets	H. Mahaffey	45
Palm Sunday at Appomattox	J. Duncan	46
The Japanese War Cemetery at Cowra		48
Medalman		49
Modelman		62
Badgeman		64
Book Reviews		66
Letters To The Editor		71
Advertisements		73

EDITORIAL

This issue represents the first of a new form of Sabretache. The format is the same but to allow members a wider say in the content we have invited each Branch to submit copy on behalf of their members and no restriction on the subject matter has been placed on the articles submitted. This issue contains a number of articles from Queensland Branch and our thanks are extended to the Branch for their assistance.

We would like to record our thanks to all those members who have written to comment on the past issues, and while the majority of letters have been in laudatory terms, we also appreciate the genuine criticisms offered. Sabretache is only as good as the articles submitted for inclusion and while a few have been received which are not suitable for inclusion, without extensive re-writes or due to errors of fact etc, we have been able to publish most articles as received.

This issue also contains the first of our Modelman series and we trust it will fill a gap that has been evident in Sabretache for some years. Many of our members list modelling as either a primary or secondary interest and we are sure this series will fill a definite need.

CORRECTION TO FEBRUARY 1975 ISSUE

We wish to apologise to Mr Peter Burness for attributing the article on "NSW Cavalry 1854-1935" to him. Peter did not write the article, which was written by an unknown officer of the Australian Light Horse in 1936. Peter did however provide the fine photo of the NSW Rifleman on page 254.



Obverse

Reverse

Legion of Frontiersmen, Australian Medal of Merit

NOTES FROM THE FEDERAL SECRETARY

Members are reminded that subscriptions of \$10 for 1975-76 are now due and are payable to Federal or Branch Treasurers as appropriate. The Society has and still is, experiencing considerable problems in meeting our financial commitments, in producing Sabretache and all members are asked to help by paying subscriptions as soon as possible.

The effect of the recently announced mail increases has not yet been assessed but without a doubt will have a considerable effect on our costs so please ensure that we don't have to spend money on postage in sending reminder notices, which is needed to produce Sabretache. Incidentally you can help the Society by always enclosing return postage when writing to the Secretary.

You will be interested to know that the Royal Australian Artillery Museum at Darwin suffered comparatively minor damage in Cyclone TRACY however this cannot be said of Gary Cooper's Spitfire which was a complete write-off. Gary salvaged the Spitfire from Thailand and had it shipped to Darwin for inclusion in the outdoor display and it was from this location that it was destroyed.

Members will note that we now have a number of advertisers in Sabretache covering a wide range of Militaria and you are asked to support these businesses, as their continuing support of Sabretache is helping to ease the continually rising cost of production.

We have recently made contact with the Imperial German Military Collectors of America who produce a very fine magazine full of very informative articles on their particular interests. Enquiries re membership should be addressed to:

William E. Hamelman,
General Secretary,
Imperial German Collectors of America,
11042 Wallbrook Drive,
Dallas, Texas. 75238.
U.S.A.

Apologies are offered to those members who ordered copies of the 42 Bn history advertised in the last issue of Sabretache. Unfortunately supplies did not come to hand as expected but we are still trying to get hold of a number of copies, which will be despatched immediately on receipt.

K.R. WHITE
Federal Secretary.

SULTAN OF OMANS BRAVERY MEDAL AWARDED TO AN AUSTRALIAN

His Majesty Qaboos bin Said, Sultan of Oman awarded his Bravery Medal to Ra'ees Rex Clark for gallantry in action in Dhofar. At the time of the cited action Ra'ees Clark was serving with the Imperial Iranian Armed Forces Brigade. In addition to the Bravery Medal Rex was twice wounded and awarded the Dhofar Campaign Medal with Clasp. Her Majesty the Queen has given unrestricted permission to wear the medals mentioned.

Congratulations from all members of the Society for earning a bravery decoration whos rarity is evident, as since 1965 (when Dhofar campaign started) only 26 expatriates have received this award.

Federal Secretary.



Presentation Khunja, Bravery Medal (left) and Dhofar Campaign Medal.

THE SOMME – A TRAGEDY OF ERRORS

by

R.J. Brockett

At 0730 hours on the 1st July 1916, 100,000 British soldiers, imbued with the confidence of victory and enthusiasm of patriotism and youth 'went over the top' and attacked the German front lines in the Somme Valley. By night fall, 57,470 had fallen.

To older generations of Australians, and to younger generations with an interest in Australia's military heritage, the name of Pozieres is synonymous with the gallant performance of the ANZAC Corps in the series of partial actions in Picardy in the period 1st July 1916 to 18th November 1916, commonly referred to as the First Battle of the Somme. In this article the writer does not intend to attempt to recount the exploits of the ANZAC Corps, as it is considered that they have been far more adequately covered in a number of well documented works, notably Dr. C.E.W. Bean's Official History of Australia in the Great War. Instead, the writer hopes to give Society readers a critical appraisal and analysis of the genesis of the Battle of the Somme, its political and strategic implications, its planning, preparation and initial execution. In an offensive that the Generals had hoped would crack the German defensive positions and perhaps even allow their beloved cavalry to burst through and have free rein in the German rear, that it should instead commence with a casualty rate of 57,000 men on the first day, then degenerate into a series of attritive piecemeal actions, and result in British casualties of close to half a million, and the virtual destruction of the British New Army, something must have gone wrong.

The Genesis of the Somme offensive is to be found at the Allied Conference at Chantilly, the French G.H.Q. on 6 December 1915. The French plan for 1916 was to the effect that the Allies had to recommence offensives against the Central Powers on all fronts as soon as possible. However, they pointed out at some length that as France was already extended considerably, the effort would have to be undertaken by Great Britain, Italy and Russia. A British General Staff paper of 16 December 1915 concluded that mass moves of troops to open new fronts would not only be ineffectual due to lack of security and the Central Powers capability to conduct war on internal lines, but would also dangerously weaken existing fronts to Allied detriment. In the event, the British Chiefs of the General Staff and the War Committee agreed that France and Flanders were henceforth to be the main area of operations for the British Empire. On 13th January 1916 the War Committee decided that every effort for close Allied offensive co-operation in the Spring of 1916 was to be the theme for that year, and at a Commanders in Chief Meeting on 12th March great value was attached to united action.

Thus the theme for joint Franco-British action was decided for 1916; but where? As the B.E.F. had gradually expanded with the raising of the New Armies, it had

progressively enlarged its area of responsibility, so that by the Spring of 1916 the B.E.F., with the small residual Belgian Army, held the line from the Channel coast to the area of the Somme Calley in Picardy (see map 1). If the allies were to pursue their aim of "united action" then it had to be in the region of the junction of their two Armies. If not the alternatives were separate, partially co-ordinated efforts such as Loos and Champagne in 1915, which were largely unsuccessful, or the somewhat difficult exercise in sidestepping whole armies. Whilst these deliberations and debates had been undertaken, the initiative suddenly passed from the allies when the German Fifth Army under the Krom Prinz Wilhelm struck at Verdun. It rapidly became apparent that the French were in danger of collapse. The original Joffre Plan for 1916 which had postulated the attack by forty French divisions supported by twenty-five British divisions gradually waned as the position at Verdun, exacerbated by the French principle of "ils ne passerent pas", even for strategic reasons, became critical. Increasing pressure was brought to bear on the British to bring the date of the advance forward, although Haig had grave reservations, based mainly on the inexperience and lack of training of his New Army troops. Because of political pressures and reasons initially, and then for strategic ones, the British Expeditionary Force was committed to a major offensive action in the Somme region in 1916, and, as far as the French were concerned, the sooner the better.

One factor that may have influenced the British planners in the choice of the Somme was the topographical nature of the chosen battlefield. After successive failures in the swamps, canals, and mire of the Ypres-La Basee area, the dry, chalky soil of the Picardy region must have seemed most attractive. Nonetheless a closer examination of the proposed battlefield would have revealed an inherent problem as far as the topography was concerned. In the series of would be out-flanking movements conducted by both sides in the period following the German withdrawal from the Battle of the Marne in September-October 1914, the Germans had displayed a superior skill in selection of ground for defensive purposes. As a result, in the Somme Valley, the Germans were in possession of a major ridge line feature running roughly north west and then west north west from Peronne, intersected by the narrow valley of the Ancre River (map 2), and giving major observation over the allied lines and the land behind them. To quote Manefield, in *The Old Front Line* "Almost in every part of this old front our men had to go uphill to attack The enemy had look-out posts with fine views over France Our men were down below with no view of anything but stronghold after stronghold, just up above, being made stronger daily." The chalky soil of the Somme region lent itself to deep, well structured positions, especially on the heights, a fact that was to become tragically apparent to the attackers on 1st July 1916. Obviously an uphill approach was excellent for artillery observation and fire control, but for infantrymen going into the attack with the bayonet it was a physical and psychological handicap.

Having established the forces and pressures on the British to mount an offensive in spring and summer of 1916, and the reasons for the choice of venue being the Somme-

Ancre Valley area, it is important that something be said concerning the principal players, the Generals who were to command in the forthcoming battle, since their backgrounds and personalities were to have an impact on the plan of the battle and its execution.

The new C in C, B.E.F. General Sir Douglas Haig was an ex cavalry officer. He had had a distinguished career, including service in South Africa, had been an infantry corps commander in 1914, subsequently an Army commander, and had succeeded Sir John French as Commander of the B.E.F. in December 1915, due, it was said maliciously by some, to his influence in Court (his wife was a lady-in-waiting to the Queen). A dour lowland Scot, 55 years of age, an ardent member of the Church of Scotland, he firmly believed God was on his side. He had the respect and loyalty of his subordinates, he delegated easily and stood by his subordinates.

General Sir Henry Rawlinson, the Commander of the British Fourth Army, the formation that was to play the major part in the forthcoming battle, was an ex infantry officer, and had seen action in Burma, the Sudan and the Boer War. In 1914 he had been the Director of Recruiting at the War Office and had been directly involved in the raising of the New Armies. He had then successively commanded a division, a corps and an army in France. He was on relaxed easy terms with Haig, and this aspect of the relationship was to indirectly effect the plan and outcome of the battle.

General Allenby, later to win military fame in Palestine, was Commander of the British Third Army, and as such, was responsible for the mounting of a diversionary attack in support of the main offensive. He did not get on well with Haig, and, despite misgivings over the plan, he did not voice them to Haig, but let the corps commander involved handle it.

The Commander of the Reserve Army was General Sir Hubert Gough. He came from a famous military family, and between 1914 and 1916 had commanded a brigade, a division, a corps and now finally an Army.

After considerable haggling it was agreed by the Allies on 1st February 1916 that the joint offensive would be mounted on the Somme on 1st July that year. In postponing the offensive, the initiative had passed to the Germans when they struck at Verdun, and the French became engrossed in a struggle that had political but no strategic value. This loss of initiative impaired the allied effort for the rest of 1916, and resulted in the French effort on the Somme being reduced to merely one of a subsidiary effort in support of the British main thrust. The objective or aim, of the offensive was "to relieve the pressure on Verdun, and to inflict casualties on the enemy". There was no intention of effecting a breakthrough: Joffre wished only for a battle of attrition which would achieve the aim, Haig, the cavalryman, however, saw possibilities of a breakthrough with cavalry exploitation, but Rawlinson, the infantryman saw only an infantry attack limited to capturing the German defences. Haig, having tasked Rawlinson to mount the attack was reluctant to interfere, and because of the friendly relations existing between the two, Rawlinson tended to have his way with the plan.

In his appreciation, Rawlinson noted that this key terrain feature, the ground of tactical importance, was the ridge line which ran south east from Thiepval through to Pozieres, which was the high point, and on down to Ginchy (see map 2). Infantry attacks were to be made at Montauban, Mametz, Fricourt, Contalmaison, Ovilliers, La Boisselle, Thiepval, Beaumont-Hamel and Serre (see map 3). Supporting attacks were to be made in the south by the French Sixth Army under General Fayolle. A diversionary attack with limited objectives was to be mounted against Gommecourt to the north. This attack was given to a Corps of the British Third Army under Allenby who was distinctly dubious of the whole thing, but, as has been stated, rather than complain to Haig, with whom he did not enjoy cordial relations, he told the Corps Commander tasked with the attack, Lt Gen Snow, to get on with it.

The main attack by the Fourth Army was to be undertaken by four corps against the area from Montauban to Thiepval with a further corps attack north of the Ancre as flank protection. The infantry were to capture the first and second German defensive lines north of the Albert-Pozieres-Baupaume Road (see map 3), but only the first lines south of it, due to the distance separating the first and second lines in this sector, plus the limited nature of the French attack in the south which could have left the British right flank open. Although infantry tactics of the period advocated a rush across No Man's Land in order to be over the enemy trench systems before the occupants could recover from the preparatory bombardment, the Fourth Army Tactical Notes laid down an attack formation based on waves. Infantry battalions were to attack, usually two companies up, each company in two waves no more than a hundred yards apart, the distance between men being two to three paces apart. The remaining companies and support and command elements adopted a similar formation. Some battalions adopted a one company up formation, with a battalion frontage being about four hundred yards. The waves were to cross No Man's land at a rate of a hundred yards every two minutes. Rawlinson was concerned at the inexperience and lack of training of his troops (the vast majority were wartime volunteers, and even the Regular and Territorial Formations were diluted) and he considered that tactics other than the wave system would cause confusion and lack of control, and result in casualties and dissipation of strength.

Obviously such an infantry attack plan required considerable Artillery support. In support of the attack the Fourth Army had 1,010 field guns, 427 heavies as well as 100 French guns. In addition Stokes mortars light, medium and heavy were to be used. The Fourth Army artillery fire plan for the preliminary bombardment detailed fire on targets commencing on "V" Day (24th June) through to "Z" (or Zero) Day (29th June) lifting at Zero hour on Z day. When the Zero Day was postponed until 1st July the bombardment had to be further stretched to cover that period with the obvious logistic problems in ammunition. Such targets were trench systems, the wire, machine gun emplacement, billets, communications trenches, railways etc, with priorities on the German trench system and wire. In order to grant his infantry uninterrupted passage

across No Man's Land and uncontested tenancy of the German trench system Rawlinson intended to use his artillery to cut the wire and pulverise the German first and second line of defences, as the Germans had done to the French at Verdun. To cut the wire use was made of the new Stokes mortars and 18 pounder guns using variable timing (VT) fused shrapnel shells. Unfortunately many of the Stokes mortar bombs failed to explode: as for the 18 pounder VT shells, great accuracy in the setting was required otherwise they either burst harmlessly overhead or plowed into the chalky soil, in both cases leaving the wire virtually intact. High explosive (HE) shells were to be used to eliminate any viable opposition in the German trenches, enabling the infantry to merely stroll over and occupy them. Unfortunately the Germans had occupied the Somme area for nearly two years and their defensive preparations had been continuous and effective. Apart from thick belts of protective wire, the trench systems they dug were deep, up to forty feet, because the chalky soil of the rises above the Somme and the Ancre lent itself to deep hollowed out bunker systems with timber beam and steel plate rivetment. They had quarters for officers, sleeping areas for the troops, storage bays for weapons, extra ammunition, food and water, and many had piped water and electricity.

The length of the bombardment was the subject of correspondence between Haig and Rawlinson during April. In his plan submitted to GHQ BEF on 3rd April 1916, Rawlinson had proposed a 48 to 72 hour bombardment. In reply Haig suggested, on 12th April, that a shorter, more intensive bombardment would better achieve surprise and damage enemy morale. Rawlinson believed, probably rightly so, that surprise was already compromised, and that the effect of a longer bombardment, depriving the enemy of sleep, food and water would be far more damaging to enemy morale, and that wire cutting could not be effectively achieved in five to six hours. He had his way, Haig compromising by agreeing to a long bombardment, but stressing that no advance was to be made, until commanders on the ground were certain that all, or most, of the obstacles on their axes of advance had been destroyed.

Haig, ever the optimist, hoped for a breakthrough, and a cavalry exploitation to follow. To this end he gave Gough command of a newly created formation, the Reserve Army, and allotted him three cavalry divisions. There had been talk in London of disbanding cavalry formations due to the expense involved in maintaining them in France, especially in view of their apparent uselessness on the Western Front. If the infantry could effect the breakthrough, Haig wanted to pass the cavalry through (see map 4), but Rawlinson, the infantryman, as commander of the battle, would be the one to let Gough's cavalry off the leash.

The British intended to observe normal tactical practice and jump off at dawn, but the French wanted good light to be able to see to the direction and control of their artillery (they had more than the British in terms of ground to be covered). Zero hour was fixed at 0730 hours, when the sun, and 1st July was a beautiful day, was well and truly up.

There were thus in effect two plans. An infantry attack, supported by artillery to seize a portion of the enemy line, and an infantry attack to effect a breakthrough followed by cavalry exploitation. In the event, the former one was only partly successful, and then at frightful cost, and an opportunity to win success with the second was lost due to indecision on the first day.

With the planning established, preparations were proceeded with at a fast, intense rate. Divisions were withdrawn from the line in rotation, and put through repetitive rehearsals, over ground chosen for its similarity to the actual battle area, specialists schools in machine guns, Stokes mortars, bombing etc, were conducted. Vast dumps of supplies were established, roads were built, medical installations were set up, and leave was granted to as many as possible. Additional stores were issued and surplus equipment and personal kit withdrawn and stored. In this coming battle the infantry were going to be somewhat heavily laden. Each man in the attack was to carry something in the order of 60 to 90 pounds in weight. As well as rifle and bayonet or Lewis gun and ammunition, men carried 190-220 rounds of ammunition, a full water bottle, the unconsumed portion of Z Day ration, an iron ration, two gas helmets, spare clothing, an entrenching tool, pick or shovel, extra sandbags, spare drums of Lewis gun ammunition and various forms of signalling devices. Extra communication trenches, assembly areas and jump off trenches were dug, in some cases such as Gommecourt, where No Man's Land was some 800 yards wide, to bring the start line closer to the enemy forward defended localities.

On the eve of the battle, by way of tactical preparation, raids were staged all along the front to ascertain the conditions prevailing in the German trenches. The reports were fairly unanimous in substance, the wire was uncut except in a few places, and the enemy trenches seemed to be adequately manned by Germans, who, whilst weary and shaken by seven days of bombardment, were still able to man their defences, built around machine gun posts which appeared to be largely untouched.

That the Germans knew an attack was coming is undisputed. The preparations to place an army of over half a million in position for an attack could hardly go un-noticed by an enemy whose elevated position gave unhindered observation of the British rear. A British parliamentarian, in a speech to munitions workers in England, had unwittingly indicated the date of the attack as being the end of June. The commanding officer of a battalion of the 32nd Division, on leave in England in late May was somewhat perturbed at the number of people who were able to tell him all about the 'Big Push' on the Somme at the end of June. And of course, as Haig had pointed out to Rawlinson, the drawn out preparatory bombardment was a sure indication.

The troops of the first waves filed into assembly trenches on the night of 30th June, under intermittent enemy artillery fire. Due to inclement weather, the Royal Flying Corps had been unable to fly artillery spotting missions in the German rear, and the British counter battery fire had been less effective than it had been wished. The British preparatory bombardment intensified at 0625 hours or Zero minus 65 on 1st July, and

at 0730 hours the first waves of heavily laden British infantry 'went over the top' and in dense massed waves started to move slowly uphill, eastwards, except on the extreme right, into the sun. The British artillery had lifted at 0730 hours to the second and third German lines, and the Germans in the first line immediately and rapidly manhandled machine guns up to the shattered remnants of their surface trenches and waited, but not for long. As the British advanced they found the wire uncut except in a few places, and their front had to contract to effect passage, and the German machine guns commenced firing. The result was a foregone conclusion. Entire waves went down, battalions and brigades ceased to exist as fighting entities in a matter of minutes. Small groups that survived either went forward in rushes and effected temporary lodgements in the German trenches or were trapped in No Man's Land until dark, which was not to be until after 2100 hours that day. By midday all was quiet except for occasional shots as some individuals carried on their own private war. The artillery was bound to observe a timed programme and after it had lifted to the German rear, could not be bought back except by Corps order. Most corps HQ were about five miles behind the lines, and except where divisional commanders on their own initiative brought the artillery back, the orders were not effected and the infantry were left to fend for themselves in the temporary lodgements they had effected, but were soon to be evicted from, or, worse, in the German dominated No Man's Land. Signalling devices provided were useless due to the smoke, dust, and confusion occasioned by the breakdown of the command system. 57,470 men fell on that day, 20,000 being killed outright, sixty per cent of officers had become casualties including 53 battalion and brigade commanders and thirty battalions sustained casualties in excess of 500. Most of the casualties were incurred in the first ten minutes between 0730 and 0740 hours.

Ironically the two areas where success was achieved, Thiepval and the Montauban sections were areas where the plan was discarded. Opposite Thiepval, the 36th (Ulster) Division sent large numbers of troops out into No Man's Land before Zero. Whilst some might say unkindly that this was because of naive Hibernian impetuosity, a major break-in was effected, and part of an important German post, the Schwarban Redoubt was held for the day. Unfortunately the Corps commander did not reinforce this success but chose to use his reserve to attempt to help a division that was held up: consequently the Ulsters had to withdraw. To the south, the GOC of the 18th Division opposite Montauban told his troops to advance into No Man's Land before Zero Hour, close up to the German wire and be prepared to accept six per cent casualties from their own artillery. The success achieved here in the south was not exploited by cavalry. When the report of the success and the request for the cavalry reached Rawlinson, it came, as other reports, some distorted and inaccurate, came telling of failure and disaster. Rawlinson, not having plenty of time to make an appreciation, decided against it and the chance was lost. The scenario was set for five months of a bloody slogging match on the Pozieres ridge.

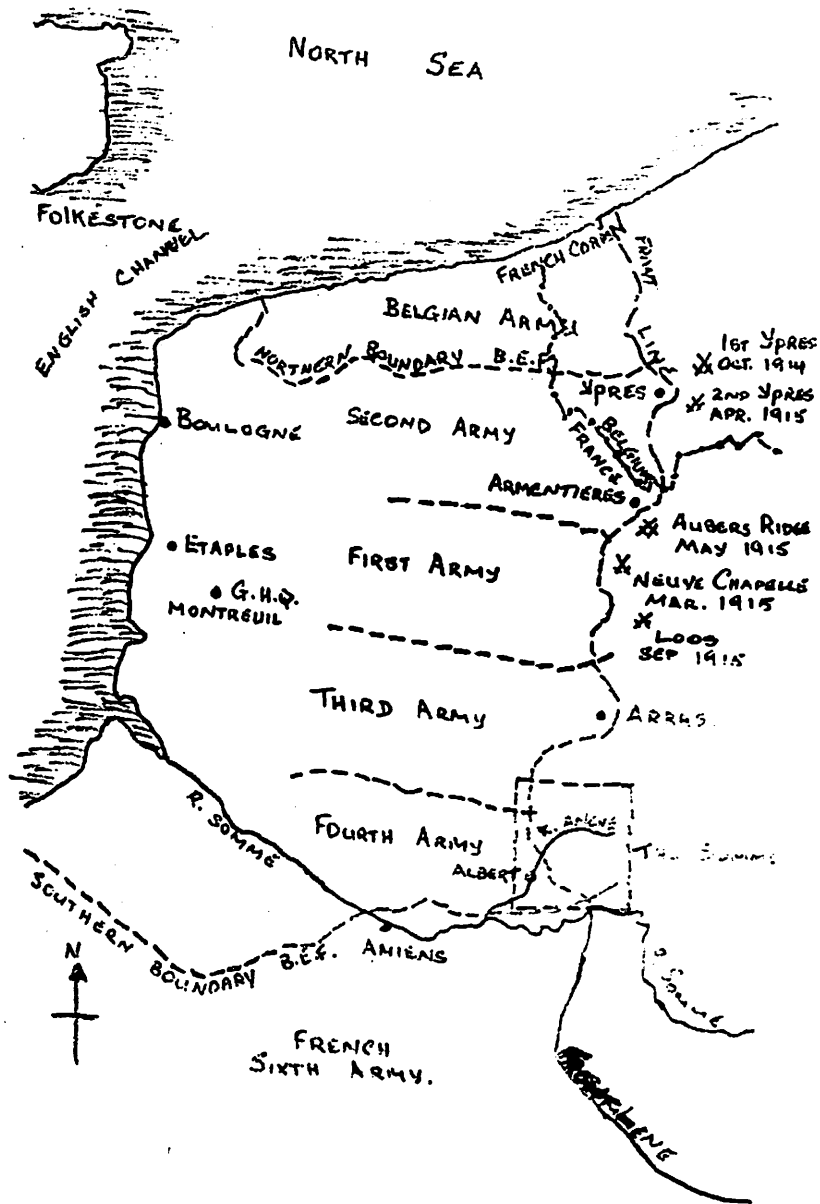
In formulating a plan that had such disastrous results for British arms, Rawlinson had formulated three basic premises: his infantry were ill-trained and inexperienced, hence the decision to advance in slow, plodding massed waves; his artillery could cut the wire and destroy completely the Germans defences and defenders, and even when intelligence on the eve of the Battle indicated this was not so the attack still went on; he did not consider there was a possibility of breakthrough and cavalry exploitation and did not utilize the opportunity when it presented itself. Haig must accept the blame for not imposing his authority on his subordinate when he, Haig, had misgivings concerning the plan. One wonders why Haig persisted with the battle into the late autumn of 1916. In the first few days false, optimistic or sycophantic reports may have led him to believe the prospects were brighter than they were in reality, but after that it appears to have been his stubborn Scots nature which caused him to persist with the battering-ram efforts which characterized the subsequent fighting on the Pozieres Ridge.

And for what?

To be sure, the original aim was achieved. Verdun was relieved and some 660,000 German casualties of their old pre-war Army were inflicted, but at a cost of 630,000 allied soldiers, the majority being British. The tactical gain of the Pozieres Ridge was negated next spring when the Germans voluntarily withdrew to new, prepared positions and again drew the allies onto unfavourable ground. Something else was lost as well, the faith, patriotism, loyalty and enthusiasm of Britain's volunteer soldiers. As the war stretched into 1917 and 1918 their emotions gave way to cynicism on their part and frightened despair on the part of the conscripts that now came to join them. The crusade was over, and the British Empire had lost tantamount to a generation of its fittest and most intelligent manhood.

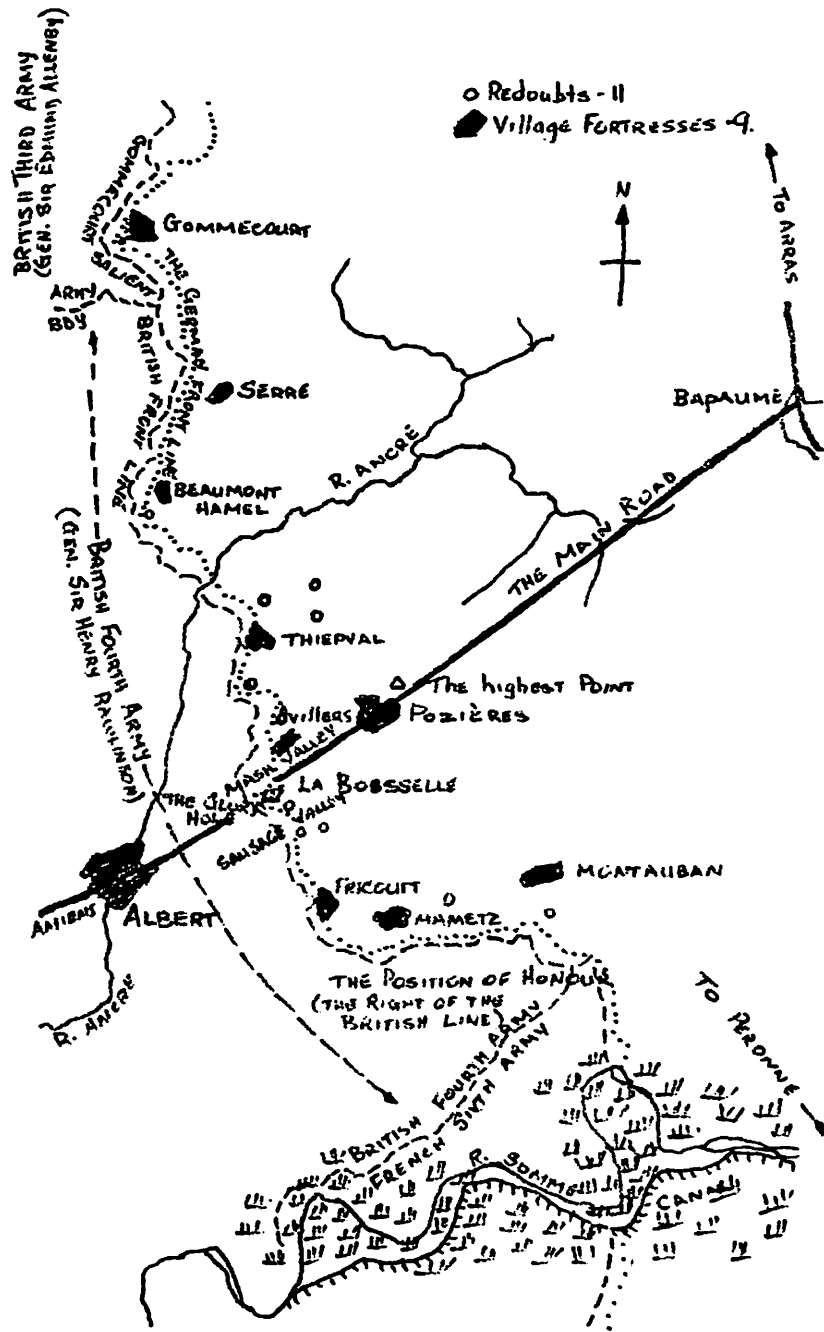
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author is indebted to John Harris for his superb novel, *Covenant With Death*, the enthralling story of a New Army Battalion from its formation in 1914 to its death on the Somme not quite two years later. This was the inspiration which prompted further reading. Reference sources used included *The Official History of the War – Military Operations in France and Belgium, 1916 Volumes I and II*, the relevant Maps and Appendices; Captain Sir Basil Liddell Hart's *History of the First World War*; Charles Messenger's *Trench Fighting 1914-18* and Martin Middlebrook's extremely informative *The First Day on the Somme*.



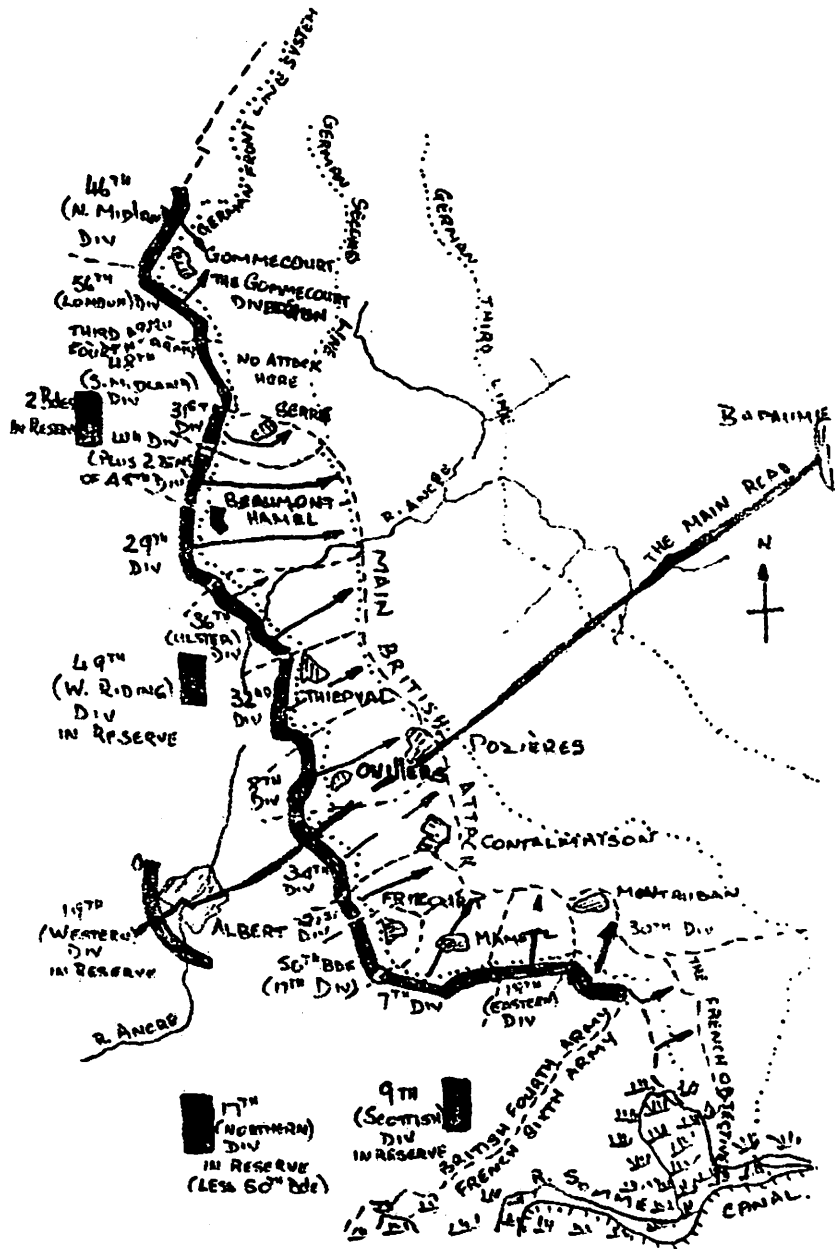
Map 1

The British Zone, June 1916



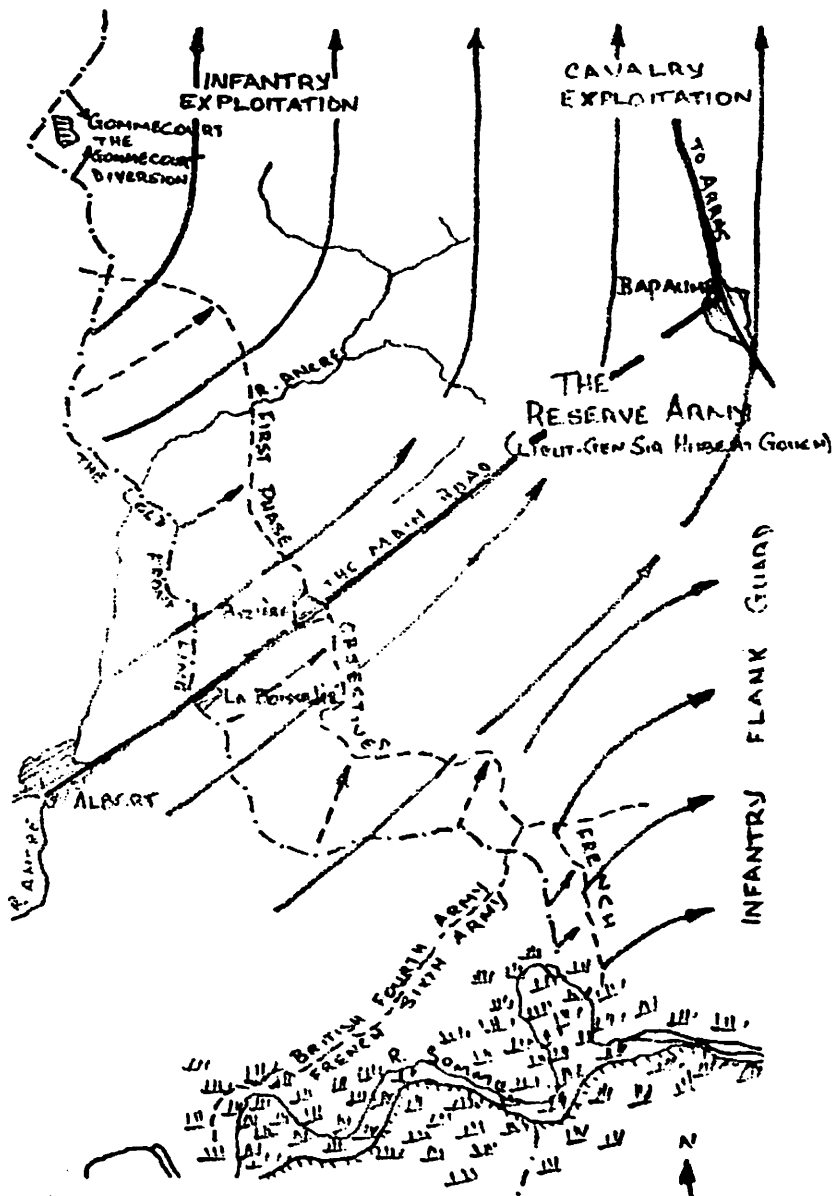
Map 2

The Somme Front, June 1916



Map 3

The Infantry Attack Plan, 1 July 1916



Map 4

The Breakthrough Plan

THE INDIAN ARMY MUTINY AT SINGAPORE 1915

As Seen by a Japanese Resident

(T. Nishimura, Zainan Sanjugonen (Tr. 'Thirty-Five Years in the South')
publ. Tokyo, 1936)

Submitted by Brig. M. Austin, D.S.O., O.B.E.

p.222 15 February 1915

At 7 a.m. the Consul, Mr Fujii, rang to say that eight hundred sepoy in Alexander (sic) Barracks had mutinied and marched on the German P.O.W. camp. As the area in which the consular residence was situated was in danger, he asked me if his wife could shelter in my house. 'This is a serious uprising', he said.

I immediately went to the Consulate in Orchard Rd to see how they were. While I was there Suzuki (Director of Military Medical Services), Dr Nakano and others rushed in. A telephone call came for the Consul from the Governor saying that his presence was requested immediately for consultations. As he shot off in his car to Government House he called out to us: 'I'll telephone you about what we have to do.' We all waited impatiently at the Consulate for the telephone call. Almost all of the leading Japanese were there. We discussed the information that had come in about the mutineers. The garrison troops had blocked off Orchard Road west of the Police Station. The Consulate was in the danger area. Almost all the Europeans, and particularly British families, had taken refuge aboard H.M.S. NAIRU (Japanese phonetic spelling), leaving Indians or Chinese to look after their houses for them. The mutineers were hunting through the European dwellings, house by house. When they found that the object of their search, the Europeans, had already left, they withdrew. Knowing that the Indians would not hurt Orientals, some heroic Japanese made unauthorised visits to the danger area to see what was going on.

A telephone message came that the mutineers had got as far as Tanglin Rd. A little later we heard that they had stopped going any further in the streets.

p.223

The violence subsided somewhat and they did not occupy places like the Telegraph Office or the Town Hall. We heaved a sigh of relief. At about 11 p.m. the Consul telephoned and said: 'The Governor does not wish me to leave. I have therefore decided to remain at Government House. The Governor has asked that a volunteer unit be formed immediately among the Japanese residents. He has promised that they will not be sent overseas, but will be used to guard important buildings and to maintain essential services.'

One and all we immediately agreed to the Consul's request and at twelve midnight, each of us taking a different district, we went out to recruit volunteers. Before the night

was out we had provided the men and reported to the British authorities. As preparations had to be made for possible military action, those in charge decided to make the Consulate our military HQ. We were relaying messages almost the whole night. Japanese are decisive and prompt to respond when called upon — by 6 a.m. the number of volunteers had reached 120-130. From these, 103 were selected without medical examination. Wada, a reservist lieutenant, marched them to Johnston Pier. They had become soldiers over night. From my hospital Irie was put in charge of No. 2 Section which guarded Baresuchiru (Japanese phonetic spelling) Rd. Hirose served in the same section.

During the night there was a rumour that the mutineers were attacking the city; but when dawn broke this was found to be without foundation.

February 17th

There was a second call for Japanese volunteers and ninety responded. 3rd Fleet which had left here for Hong Kong two days ago received a message to return and arrived back at 5 p.m. to-day. Marines were promptly landed. They crossed over the Pasepanjan (Japanese phonetic spelling) and launched an attack. They promptly occupied the mutineers' base, Alexander Barracks' and hoisted up the Japanese flag.

Some of the mutineers hid in the woods around Mt. Kannon (Canning?). Others were running about near Bukit Timah Rd. They were in utter confusion. Having lost the will to fight, they either surrendered or were captured. Within two or three days the mopping up was completed.

p.224

On the 21st there was a ceremony to mark the disbanding of the Japanese Volunteers. At this Japan was represented by Adm Doya' (Flag Officer Commanding 3rd Fleet, his staff-officers and the captains of both his ships. Great Britain was represented by the Commander of the Volunteers and several Generals and other officers. The Consul read an address to which Wada, on behalf of the Volunteers, replied.

The same day there was a ceremony to mark the withdrawal of the Marines. Admiral Doya, the captains of both his ships, Araki (the Service attache), the Consul and the principal Japanese residents were present as were the Governor, the Garrison Commander and the press. The ceremony was most solemn. Many thousands watched and applauded the fine discipline and precise drill of the Japanese troops. It won prestige for the Japanese residents.

p.225 **April 1st**

Recently, one afternoon, a band marched through the city streets from the Militia Barracks at Beach Rd playing lively tunes. When we asked what was afoot we were told: 'They are shooting the Indian mutineers'. According to one of the crowd: 'Their deaths will be awesome. Their bravery and resignation are such that none of them will be shamed by a dishonourable death'. As I wanted to see it, I too made for the place of execution.

It is now 5 p.m. On the lawn on the outer wall of Outram Rd Gaol' posts have been sunk at 10 feet intervals. The bystanders are congregated on the road and on the slope inside the grounds of the hospital. There are about 20,000 of them and because they are arranged in tiers everyone can see well. All are waiting restlessly with dry throats.

It is now 5.30 p.m. The 6 prisoners (and stretch-bearers carrying six stretchers) are escorted from the gaol by thirty soldiers. Under their direction each mutineer stands upright in front of his post. They are not blind-folded or anything. An English major reads the death-sentences aloud. One of the mutineers is speaking in what appears to be uncontrollable anger. It is in his own language; so I can understand none of it.

There are five riflemen to each mutineer. On the officer's command they fire in unison and as the shots ring out five of the prisoners sink pitifully. The sixth, though dead, is still standing up-right. After the M.O. has formally examined each corpse, they are lifted onto six stretchers covered with white sheets and carried back to the gaol by the same route. They came living; they return dead. This was the fourth of the executions. As they believe in the transmigration of souls they were splendid in death. The way they behaved did not belie what that man in the crowd had said to me earlier in the afternoon.

WEBLEY GOVERNMENT MODEL REVOLVERS

by

I. Crawford

Introduction

The name of Webley has long been associated with the Armed Services of Britain and the Commonwealth. For over seventy years a Webley-type revolver has been the official side-arm for the Navy, Army and later the Air Force. The history of these weapons, as seen in present day collections, reflects the history of the British Empire from 1890 and our own military heritage over much of this period.

This official association with the firm of Webley commenced in 1887, when Henry Webley submitted the first of his newly designed top-break revolvers to the British Government for testing. Webley finally secured Government contracts, the close rival in the trials being the American company, Smith and Wesson, who at that time, also manufactured top-break service revolvers. Although Webley revolvers such as the Royal Irish Constabulary (R.I.C.) models were held in high esteem by service personnel, and often purchased privately for service use, the way was now clear for adoption of the newly designed Webley revolver as the official side-arm of British service personnel throughout the Empire. Gradually the previously issued Adams, and Enfield Mark I and Mark II, revolvers were withdrawn from front-line service and replaced with the Webley Mark I revolver.

General Features of Webley Government Models

1. A strong and safe saddle type breech lock which gave immunity from the risk of blowing open.
2. A combination of a smooth trigger action with a perfect cocking action.
3. A cylinder that positively locked except when required to rotate.
4. Exclusion from fowling in the cylinder bearing.

Top-break self extracting revolvers have always caused some discussion as to the safety of their breech fastening, especially when using heavy charges. For this reason there has often been a preference for solid frame weapons and even Smith and Wesson, together with other pistol manufacturers, adopted this latter type of design. Webley on the other hand has maintained its top-break design continuously for over 80 years and in fact moved out of the solid frame R.I.C. type weapon into the top-break almost exclusively. The strength, dependability and safety of the Webley weapons lies, not unnaturally, in their design. When the top strap is closed onto and around the recoil block and the stirrup is secured the breech fastenings form practically a solid mass and the metal would virtually have to be torn apart to blow the pistol open. Further, if the revolver is not secured at the breech it cannot be fired as the hammer will come into contact with the stirrup and either cause it to fasten or force the top rib upwards; in either case the weapon is safe from blowing open.

The lock mechanism consists of five limbs only, whereas many revolvers require 9 to 12. The five limbs of the Webley are the hammer and attachment, the trigger, the lifter (arm), mainspring auxiliary and the mainspring (Nos 6,9,11,12 and 13 in Figure 1.). The action is very dependent on the mainspring as this permits the sear and sear spring, the trigger spring, pawl spring and sear pin to be dispensed with. The main spring itself can be replaced without the assistance of any tool.

Free revolution of the cylinder is obtained by mounting it on an almost frictionless bearing on the hollow axis. This permits free and smooth rotation on the axis and a uniformly smooth and light trigger action, no matter how many rounds have been fired.

The introduction of the Government model Webley revolvers marked another break with tradition as vulcanised india rubber was now used for the first time, replacing the traditional walnut for the grips.

Government Model Mark I

Barrel Assembly. The barrel, holster guides, extension rib and foresight were machined from a single blank. The barrel was bored to a diameter of 0.441", rifling consisted of seven circular grooves 0.004" deep concentric with the bore and having a pitch of one turn in 20 inches. Lead-in to rifling at breech was 0.460". The sight was a simple rounded blade. A smoke ferrule (gascheck) which prevented fouling from getting between the cylinder axis and cylinder was fitted to the barrel assembly.

Cylinder Assembly. Grooves replaced the earlier "church steeple" type fluting of the Enfields. Each groove was $\frac{3}{4}$ " long, $\frac{7}{16}$ " wide and $\frac{1}{8}$ " deep terminating in radius at

the breech ends. The cylinder revolved on an axis secured at the front by a screw and at the rear by an anti-friction nut. The front end of the cylinder was radiused for pocket or holster use. The extractor axis pin was round and relied on two or three locating pins on the under surface of the extractor hand* to position by a traverse screw with a slotted and milled head.*

Frame. The frame and shield was milled from a single part in the Mark I but as manufacture proceeded the shield was separate being dove-tailed into the breech and secured by a screw (Mark I*). The barrel latch (stirrup) was attached to the frame with a single axis screw and tensioned by a V spring. The rear sight was milled into the top of the catch and allowed a 5" sighting radius. Trigger pull was to be 6-8lb and weight to raise hammer to full cock 12-15lb. There was a hump incorporated on the frame at the top of the back strap (grip).*

Grips were moulded in black vulcanite with diamond pattern chequering and were secured by a high single screw entering from left to right and a positioning pin in the bottom section of the frame. They were of so called birds-beak design.

Dimensions etc.

Overall length — 9 inches
Barrel length — 4 inches
Cylinder length — 1½ inches
Weight (unloaded) — 2lb 2oz. + 1oz.

Calibre

.442 (initially)
.476
.455

Date of manufacture 1887 onwards.

Markings. Weapons were liberally stamped with Government markings as each part (including screw heads) bore the broad arrow and/or W.D. In addition the frame, barrel assembly and cylinder were stamped with view and proof marks and the left hand side of the frame was stamped "Webley Mark I Patents". The serial number will be found on the under surface of the barrel assembly, near the pivot point, and on the frame just behind this point. Regimental numbers are often seen on the grip strap. Models issued to the Royal Navy were stamped N on the frame behind the hammer.

The origin of the weapon in the authors collection is unknown but it was reputed to have been used in a bank at one time and may have been bought as surplus military stores or have been purchased new by the bank. Mark I Webleys were available for civilian purchase and it is recorded that the Union Steamship Company announced in 1894 that they had equipped their fleet with this weapon.

*Identifying feature.

Government Model Mark II

Minor modifications of the Mark I appeared with the introduction of the Mark II.

Frame. The "hump" on the top strap was removed. The hammer was equipped with a stronger nose and a larger spur for the benefit of cavalry who found it difficult to cock the small hammer with gloved hands. The chequered thumb portion of the barrel was also increased in size, probably for the same reason.

Calibre .455
.476

Date of Manufacture. 1894 onwards. * *

Markings were as for the Mark I, "Webley Mark II Patents", replacing those on the previous model on the left hand side of the frame. The example in the author's collection is stamped with A702 and D6D and 12.01 on the back strap. It was issued to and carried by an Australian during the New Guinea campaign of W.W.II.

* * (Manufacturing dates of most Mark models overlapped e.g. the Mk II was still manufactured in 1900, three years after introduction of the Mk. III and a year after Mk. IV.)

Government Model Mark III

Further modifications appeared with the introduction of the Mark III service revolver.

Cylinder Assembly. The hollow axis pin was attached to the barrel assembly instead of being part of the cylinder assembly as in Mark I and Mark II. Instead of the knurled transverse screw used previously for securing and releasing the cylinder assembly a cylinder cam, lever and screw was employed for the first time.* In addition some Mark III revolvers will be found with a spurred trigger which allows the hammer to be set at half-cock.* The Mark II was also the first model to have two flats machined on the extractor rod.* These replaced the 2-3 long locating pins found on the inside of the extractor hand of previous models, and with a short register pin riveted to the extractor hand served to locate the extractor.

Calibre .450
.455
.476

Date of Manufacture. 1897 onwards.

Markings. As for Mk I but with "Webley Mark III Patents" on the left hand side of the frame. In addition "Mark III" appears on the left hand side of the barrel strap. Back strap of the weapon in the author's collection is marked 5₃R₂E and is possibly an English issue.

Government Model Mark IV

This weapon has often been called the "Boer War" model due to its extensive use in those campaigns. It enjoyed the longest production run of any of the Government models and a number of small bore commercial models were adapted from it.

Only minor modifications were introduced with the Mark IV.

Barrel assembly. A groove width of 0.005" and depth of 0.155" is recorded for this model and several barrel lengths were available.

Cylinder assembly. The trigger-stop grooves were increased from a width of 0.062" to 0.140". An alternative was made to the cylinder release system with two screws being employed, one on either side of the barrel lug.* This was used on all subsequent models.

Frame. The half-cock mechanism recorded under Mark III was not included in the Mark IV. The heavy cavalry size hammer was reduced to the original Mark I dimensions.

Dimensions Overall length – 9 3/8 (4" barrel)
Barrel length – 3", 4", 5" and 6"

Calibre .455

Date of Manufacture 1889 onwards

Markings. As for the Mark I but with 'Webley Mark IV Patent' on left hand side of frame and Mark IV on left hand side of the barrel strap. The back strap of the grip of the weapon in the author's collection is marked ACG956, possibly Australian Colonial Government but its antecedents are unknown.

Government Model Mark V

Only one minor modification was made to the Mark IV with introduction of the new model. The cylinder diameter was increased 0.012" to accommodate the use of nitro powder.

The production of the Mark V was limited to a single contract for 20,000 at the beginning of World War I.

Dimensions Overall length – 9 1/4" (4" barrel)
Barrel length – 4" and 6"

Calibre .455

Date of Manufacture 1913-1915.

Markings. As for the Mark I but with "Webley Mark V Patents" on the left hand side of the frame and Mark V on left hand side of the barrel strap. Above the cylinder pipe housing on the right hand side of the barrel is stamped ".455".760" 6 TONS."

Government Model Mark VI

Mechanically the new model was similar to its predecessors but adoption of a standard 6" barrel and newly designed grips produced a distinct change in appearance.

Barrel assembly. The foresight was a separate blade and fitted in a slot in the foresight ramp, being secured by a transverse screw.* A .22 calibre target version was equipped with a round 6" barrel with a high foresight and no holster guides.

Cylinder assembly. Standard cylinders for all Webley Government models were chambered for rimmed ammunition. The chambers were not recessed, the rims resting on the rear face of the cylinder with a maximum clearance of 0.052" between cylinder and shield. Mark VI cylinders were modified for use with Smith and Wesson clips and .45

ACP cartridge by removing 1/16" from the rear of the cylinder. In doing so the extractor hand was also reduced by 1/16", making it rather fragile for a service weapon.

Frame. The grip straps were designed reintroducing in part the "hump" of the Mark I, but replacing the birds head grip of earlier Marks with a semi-plough-shear type butt.

Dimensions	Overall length — 11¼" (6" barrel)
	Barrel length — 6" (standard), 4", 6½" (.22 calibre target)
	Cylinder length — 1½", 1" (.22 calibre target)
	Weight — 38,40 oz. (.22 calibre target)
Calibre	.455
	.22

Date of Manufacture 1915-1928.

Markings. As for Mark I but with "Webley Mark VI Patents" over the manufacturing date on left hand side of the frame and Mark VI on the left hand side of the barrel strap.

Accessories

Bayonet. Although not official issue a short bayonet was designed for clipping under the Mark VI barrel. These bayonets were made up by W.W. Greener from the ends of French Gras bayonets. The blade was therefore of "T" section with an overall length of 8¼" and an effective length of 7". This blade, used as either a dagger or bayonet, was widely used in the close quarter combat of trench warfare during World War I.

Prideaux Loaders were six radial, spring-loaded claws in the form of a cylinder and contained six rounds. These devices allowed instantaneous reloading of all chambers after extraction of the spent cases.

Shoulder stocks. These were detachable and were fixed by removing the standard grips and replacing with the wooden stock. Before the large scale manufacture of light and heavy machine guns the Mark VI with shoulder stock and Prideaux loaders produced a useful rate of fire.

Pistol, Revolver, No. 1. Mark VI

From 1921 onwards the Webley Mark VI was made in the Royal Small Arms Factory at Enfield Lock. New nomenclature was introduced with the Enfield weapon but there were very few alterations to the original Webley Mark VI:

Grips. The Enfield revolver had grips that were approximately ¼" less from side to side than the Webley, producing a more slender look.

Limited numbers were produced after 1932, when the .38 calibre Enfield Pistol Revolver No. 2 Mark I was adopted as the official sidearm of the British armed services. Some of the .455 calibre weapons were produced in 1941-1942 and these possessed two rifling grooves instead of the standard seven.

Markings. The usual Government proof and view marks were present but the "Webley Mark VI Patents" and "MARK VI" were absent from the left hand side of the frame. The right hand side of the frame bears the stamping "Enfield" over Mk crown VI," both over the manufacturing date. The specimen in the author's collection is stamped

A 4½715 on the right hand side of the frame and M on each grip. It has Australian antecedents but its mint condition would indicate little if any use.

Epilogue

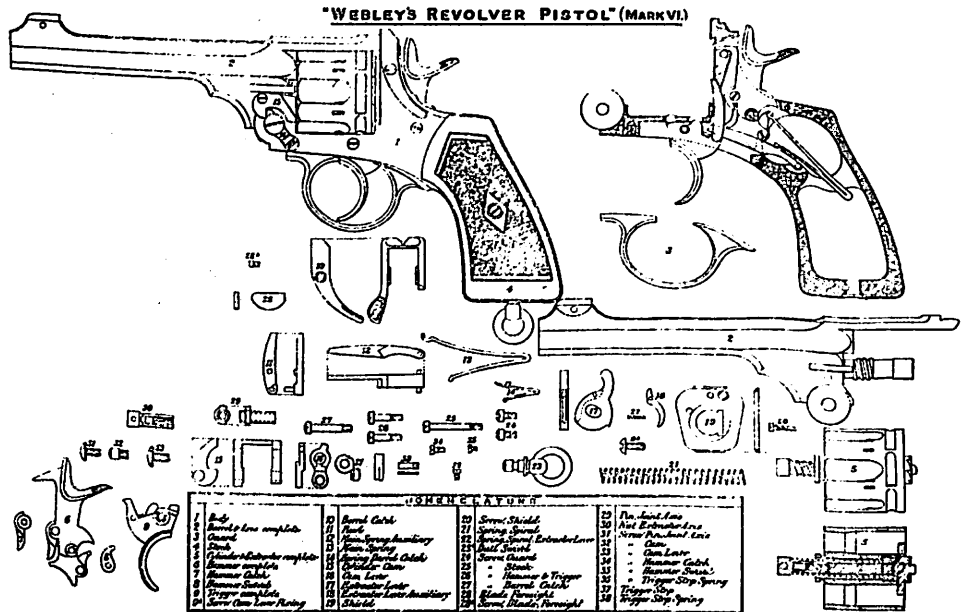
The Mark VI, in its various forms, was the last of the famous series of Webley Government Model revolvers, reputedly called "The Peacemaker of the British Empire" by some Americans. The basic Webley action was retained in the .380 calibre service revolver which replaced them and in the numerous civilian weapons produced by Webley.

Reference

Dowell W.C. "The Webley Story".

Request

The author would respectfully request the assistance of any members who may have information on, or examples of, Webley revolvers generally. Any assistance in viewing, or acquiring, specimens of the earlier Webley weapons would be greatly appreciated.



THE DHOFAR CAMPAIGN MEDAL

TO AUSTRALIANS

by

Lt. Col. I.C. Teague



SAF Hat Badge

Her Majesty the Queen granted unrestricted permission for the acceptance and wearing of the Dhofar Campaign Medal by personnel serving with the Sultan's Forces. (U.K. Defence Council Instruction 110 of 1968). The qualification is 14 days service with the Sultan's Forces in the Dhofar operations from 23 May 1965 to a date to be decided.

The Dhofar Campaign Medal is of cupro-nickel and bears on the obverse crossed swords encircled by an inscription in Arabic denoting 'Sultan Said bin Taimar bin Faisal, Sultan of Muscat and Oman' and on the reverse a mountain range encircled by an inscription in Arabic 'For Military Operations'. The medal has a clasp with the inscription in Arabic 'Dhofar'. The ribbon is one and a quarter inches in width with three equal stripes red, sand and green.



(Obverse)



(Reverse)

Dhofar Campaign Medal

There have been Australians serving in the Sultan's Armed Forces since 1968 and the following is a list of Australians who have been awarded the Dhofar Campaign Medal.

Major N.A. Powell MBE

Major K.A. Newman

Major R. Clark *

Major B.W. McFarlane

Capt J.P. Ayliffe

Capt P.W. Harriss

Capt I.S. Dawson

Capt C. Playfair

Capt P. Isaacs

Capt K. Payne VC

Flt Lt P.J. Judges

Flt Lt T.M. Shanley

Flt Lt F.W. Robinson

Flt Lt J.G. Prowse

Flt Lt K.J. Connors

Flt Lt M. Glajnaric

Flt Lt J.F. Byrnes

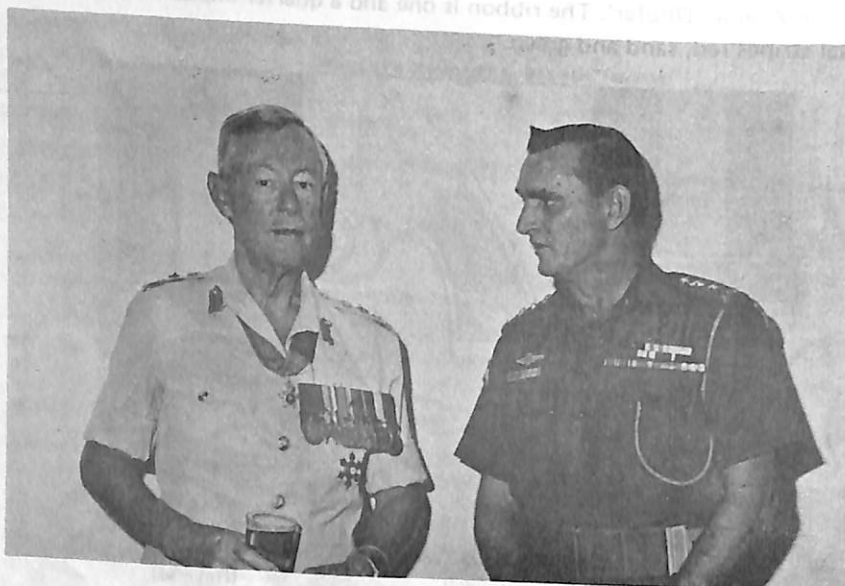
Flt Lt R. Buncher

Flt Lt M.C. Hutchins

Flt Lt M.C. Hutchins

* Also awarded the Sultan's Bravery Medal.

With one exception all of those listed had operational service prior to the Dhofar Campaign. Major Powell served in World War II, Kenya (during emergency), Congo, North Yemen and is now in Rhodesia. The Dhofar Campaign Medal to Australians is an extreme rarity and none are known to be in the hands of a collector.



Capt Keith Payne VC, DSC, SS, CG with Brig Maxwell DCSAF

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON "THE MOUSE", THE BIGGEST TANK OF WORLD WAR TWO

by

S.W. Wigzell

"Die Maus" was one of the most remarkable tank developments of WW2, representing incredible technical achievements in spite of wartime difficulties and wasteful misdirection of the German war effort by the highest authority, Adolf Hitler himself.

The story of the "Mouse" began on 8th June, 1942 when Hitler gave an oral contract for this design to Professor Ferdinand Porsche, the famous designer of the Volkswagon and Porsche line of cars. Hitler apparently wanted a super tank that would demolish the heaviest Russian tank with superior fire power and also serve as a mobile fortress. The tank would weigh 180 tons and be armed with a 128mm (4.5 inch) gun.

Although disagreeing with this concept, Porsche had to go along with the idea. His numerous discussions with and letters to the Ministry of Armaments record his objections, but to no avail. This was one of Hitler's pet projects, a secret weapon to win the war in a hurry. Albert Speer, Hitler's Minister for Armaments, asked for these specifications which embodied Hitler's concept. The 128mm gun was to have the small recoil travel of one yard notwithstanding the fact that the fixed ammunition measured five feet. The upper armour plating in front of the driver was to be 13³/₄ inches thick, other front armour 10 inches thick. The floor had to be heavily armoured also, for protection against mines. These specifications upped the weight to 188 tons.

Porsche's design team of over one hundred draughtsmen and designers soon had the general arrangement drawings completed and included an electric motor drive coupled to the rear sprockets. The usual German practice was to have the driving sprockets at the front to make the tracks self cleaning. A full scale wooden model was made and shown to Hitler early in 1943. As a result, two prototypes were ordered, Porsche being responsible for the design and supervision of the project. Electrical equipment was supplied by Siemens - Schuckert, engines from Daimler-Benz, hulls from Krupp and tracks from Altemarkische Kettenfabrik. Assembly was by Alkett.

Assembly work on the first of the two prototypes was begun at the Alkett factory in August, 1943. The delay in starting assembly was caused by the difficulty in finding a suitable engine and a change in the armament. The first test run with weights in place of a turret was in December, 1943. By 9th June, 1944, both prototypes were completed but no more were made on account of war-caused production difficulties. It seems however, that eight more prototypes were planned.

The two prototypes were sent to Kummersdorf but here they were rather ingloriously blown up to prevent their capture by the advancing Red Army. Apparently they were never used in battle. A few hulls and turrets were found at the Krupp test ground at

Meppen. All in all, a rather anticlimatic end for such a grandiose project.

Specifications:

1. Hull and General

Length, including gun	—	33 feet
Length, without gun	—	29½ feet
Height	—	12 feet
Width	—	12 feet
Width of track	—	3 feet 7½ inches
Centre of track to centre of track	—	8 feet
Crew	—	6
Maximum speed	—	20 mph

2. Turret and Armament

The turret itself weighed 50 tons and the turret ring in the hull had a diameter of almost 10 feet. The main armament finally adopted was a hard hitting 150mm (5.9 inch) gun which fired a fixed round weighing 154 pounds. The armour piercing version of this round had a projectile which weighed 100 pounds, a muzzle velocity of 2,800 feet per second and a range of 15 miles. This ammunition was so cumbersome it could not be carried in the tank. It had to be off loaded from another vehicle and man handled into the turret where small cranes were used to load it. All of this of course made the "Mouse" and its crew very vulnerable to the normal hostile fire likely to be encountered on a battlefield. In tank battles, the exposed stationary tank is a dead duck. Even on the move, the thick armour would be no certain protection from hollow shaped charges and the determined attacks of Red Army tank killer squads.

In addition to this large gun which would be at home on a naval cruiser, the "Maus" carried a co-axially mounted 75mm semi-automatic gun. This gun was of the same calibre as those carried by the German "Panther" and American "Sherman" tanks.

The turret could be rotated once in sixteen seconds with power assistance, but without power assistance your guess is as good as mine. For underwater travel the turret could be lowered onto a rubber seal while during normal travel the hull was protected from buffeting by three compressible rollers.

3. Motor and Drive

The first prototype was fitted with a V12 Mercedes-Benz 509 type water cooled petrol engine and the second prototype was fitted with a V12 Mercedes-Benz 507 type water cooled diesel engine. Each engine developed about 1,200 horse power. It required about 150 horse power simply to drive the two radiator cooling fans on each engine. The engine in each case was started by an 8 horse power two stroke motor that also supplied air under pressure for the turret to exclude fumes, smoke and gas. This same motor also supplied heating and charged the batteries.

out as most engines are mounted well to the rear. However, this arrangement was necessary as the electric drive motors occupied the space at the rear near the driving sprockets. Coupled to and directly behind the V12 engine was a generator that supplied power to the two electric motors. These motors weighed 3.8 tons each and drove the tank at 20 mph when they themselves were turning over at 3,100 rpm.

As the weight of the "Maus" was so great, a special railway transporter had to be built. This was 90 feet long. The "Maus's" great weight also precluded the use of road bridges and so it had to be made submersible to a depth of 25 feet to cross rivers. To accomplish this feat, the theory was that the "Mouses" would operate in pairs. One "Maus" would stand on dry land and supply power via an electrical cable to the other "Maus" crossing. Once across, the wet "Maus" would reverse its role and supply power to the other for the crossing. Such was the theory. However, as we shall soon see, the actual performance fell far short of this.

3. Suspension and Tracks

The "Mouse" had 48 road wheels in all, 24 for each track. There were 6 bogies per track with two double road wheels per bogie. Suspension was by helical springs. The track width was 3 feet 7½ inches and the links were dry lubricated. In spite of its sophisticated track and suspension system, the "Maus" made heavy going of practically everything. When on prototype went on a trial run through a village near Stuttgart, houses in its path vibrated so much that windows and walls cracked. When even slight turns were made, the cobblestones were shattered by the grinding action of the brakes and the driven tracks. When bogged in a wet field, no other tanks could shift an inch. The soil had to be drained.

Overall Evaluation

Perhaps the most telling comment on this tank came from Porsche himself who described it as a mobile pill box that was useless as a tank. The expenditure could not justify its role even as a pill box as the armour was vulnerable as all stationary armour is soon or later. Recovery too would have been impossible. It is said that Hitler too came at last to realize the monster tank was an impossibility, but by then the two prototypes had been made at great expense, tested, and found wanting.

References:

"German Tanks of World War II" by F.M. von Senger and Etterlin. Published by Arms and Armour Press, London. 1969.

"Beyond Expectation — The Volkswagen Story" by K.B. Hopfinger. Published by G.T. Foulis & Co. Ltd., London. 1962.



This rare picture shows German troops repainting the prototype Maus from winter to spring camouflage after the snow melted in March 1945. Vehicle was then running trials with a simulated turret.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH OCCUPATION FORCE – JAPAN (1946-1951)

From Australian War Memorial

Australia had the chief part in the British Commonwealth's share of the military occupation of Japan, which lasted from 13th February 1946 until the end of 1951, when the San Francisco Treaty was signed. Originally the British Commonwealth Occupation Force consisted of United Kingdom, Indian, Australian and New Zealand forces but, from the closing days of 1948, the force consisted solely of Australians. Extensive demands on British manpower in Malaya caused the withdrawal, within a little more than a year of their arrival, of United Kingdom troops. Because of constitutional changes involved in the creation of the two dominions of India and Pakistan in 1947, all of the forces known as "Indian" withdrew by the end of that year, and New Zealand finally withdrew its units on the ground of heavy demands of manpower in home industry. The British Commonwealth Occupation Force was under an Australian Commander-in-Chief throughout its existence. The first was Lieutenant-General J. (afterwards Sir John) Northcott; the second, Lieutenant-General H.C.H. (later Sir Horace) Robertson and finally Lieutenant-General W. Bridgeford, who held command until the occupation ended.

In conducting the first overseas peace-time garrison in Australian history, many valuable lessons were learned in the organisation and maintenance of a supply line stretching for 6,000 miles across two hemispheres and in the co-operation with other countries and services, particularly in the inclusion of Australians in American training courses. This was evidenced in the adjustments needed when the Korean War broke out.

Besides the obvious objective of ensuring the implementing of the terms of surrender in areas within its jurisdiction, the aims of BCOF were to maintain and enhance the prestige of the British Commonwealth of Nations by worthily representing it in the occupation, and major performances included: disarming and demilitarising five prefectures of the main Japanese island of Honshu and the whole of the neighbouring island of Shikoku; repatriating through ports in its area 750,000 Japanese "surrendered personnel" from overseas theatres of war such as China, Formosa, Korea and Ryukyu Islands; constant patrolling by sea, land and air to uncover smuggling and black marketing and the provision of expert advice on engineering, town-planning and assistance in reconstruction. At its peak BCOF controlled 20,000,000 Japanese in an area of 22,000 square miles.

In August 1946 BCOF was at its maximum strength of 40,236 all ranks, and Australia's component consisted of the 34th Infantry Brigade (65th, 66th and 67th Infantry Battalions), the 1st Armoured Car Squadron, "A" Field Battery, and the 130th Australian General Hospital, plus ancillary and lines of communications components. At BCOF's peak the RAAF representation consisted of No. 81 Fighter Wing (Nos. 76, 77 and 82 Squadrons — Flying Mustangs); No. 5 Airfield Construction Squadron, plus a hospital and base operational services.

HMAS "Commonwealth", the RAN shore establishment at Kure, functioned until the end of 1951 as units of the Royal Australian Navy had been continuously on duty since the surrender in 1945. The RAN maintained the most constant vigil of all British navies in post-war Japanese waters.

The Allied occupation of Japan has been described as the most successful post-war occupation in history and Australia's participation in BCOF, its major peace-time military and logistics experiment, was an unqualified success.

WAR IN KOREA — (1950-1953)

In May 1950 the Australian Government announced plans to begin the withdrawal of BCOF troops from Japan, and Australian servicemen were in the process of packing for this move, when the North Koreans crossed the 38th Parallel into South Korea on 25th June 1950. On 27th June the American delegate to the Security Council of the United Nations advised that his Government had ordered United States air and sea forces to give cover and support to South Korea and on 29th June the Prime Minister of Australia, Rt. Hon. R.G. Menzies, announced that two Royal Australian Navy ships in Japanese waters (the destroyer "Bataan" and the frigate "Shoalhaven") had been "placed at the disposal of the United National through the United States authorities in support of the Republic of Korea".

The same day Lieutenant-General Sir Horace Robertson, the Australian Commander of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force in Japan signalled the Commanding Officer of No. 77 Squadron, Royal Australian Air Force, to prepare for combat in response to a request for assistance from General Douglas McArthur, who became the

first United Nations Commander-in-Chief. No. 77 Squadron was the last of the RAAF squadrons serving with BCOF and was preparing to depart its base at Iwakuni. From there the Mustangs of this squadron went into operations with the Americans on 2nd July 1950 — the day after the first American ground troops landed on Korean soil. Because of the readiness of its RAN and RAAF components, Australia gained the distinction of being the first non-American nation to give active support to South Korea.

When the Australian Regular Army (ARA) took over from the Interim Army, the 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, established its Headquarters at Hin, near Kure. Men from BCOF's former 34th Australian Infantry Brigade, on re-enlisting, were posted to ARA. The former 67th Australian Infantry Battalion became the 3rd Battalion and commenced training for service in Korea.

The main body of the 3rd Battalion arrived at Pusan in Korea on 28th September 1950. Commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel C.H. Green, DSO, the battalion entrained for Taegu where it joined the 27th British Commonwealth Brigade under Brigadier B.A. Coad. The Australians had their first hard fight near Yongyu, north of Pyongyang, on 22nd October. At the spearhead of the west coast advance, the British Commonwealth Brigade captured Pakchon and Chongju, where the Australians had stiff fights. After Chongju, the farthest north reached by the Australians, Colonel Green was killed by shrapnel and Lieutenant-Colonel I.B. Ferguson, MC, became Commanding Officer of the 3rd Battalion.

With the intervention of the Chinese in November 1950, the fighting became fiercer and the United Nations troops were pushed back below the 38th Parallel. The Australian battalion withdrew 200 miles in nine days. After capturing Seoul, the capital of South Korea, early in January 1951, the Chinese halted their offensive and the next few months were comparatively quiet. The next major offensive of the Chinese was launched on 22nd April 1951, when the Australians were in reserve near Kapyong, on the central front, 30 miles behind the front line. The Chinese burst through a gap in the line and flooded southwards until they came up against the British Gloucesters on the Imjin River and the Australians and the Canadians on the Kapyong. Although outnumbered and surrounded the British and Dominion troops dug in and held on for several days, long enough for the Americans to consolidate and turn back the enemy offensive. The Gloucesters were practically annihilated but the Canadians and Australians, although suffering heavy casualties, were able to withdraw intact. The United States Presidential Citation was awarded to these units, and by order of H.M. King George VI all members of the 3rd Battalion were entitled to wear the emblem of the citation on the upper sleeves of their uniform.

A period known as the static war then followed and the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the Royal Australian Regiment, brought from Australia, fought on the Imjin River front, just north of Seoul and near the peace-talks village of Panmunjon. Throughout the static-war period, shelling was constant and there was a ceaseless struggle for the domination of no man's land.

Meanwhile the Royal Australian Air Force had been constantly engaged and No. 77 Squadron, first with Mustang fighters and then with Gloster Meteor Jets, had operated continuously against a formidable enemy, whose MIG fighters were superior to the Meteor at high altitudes. During its three years of operations in Korea, No. 77 Squadron carried out a total of 4,836 missions made up of 18,872 individual sorties, with 15,000 sorties in Meteors. Squadron pilots shot down three MIGs and three other enemy fighters and destroyed an estimated 3,700 buildings, 1,500 vehicles and 16 bridges. It was in the role of ground-attacks that the Meteor was best suited. No. 36 Transport Squadron, RAAF, flying Dakotas, performed valuable duties in aerial supply and medical evacuation for the British Commonwealth forces. The RAAF suffered 35 battle casualties.

During the Korean War nine ships of the Royal Australian Navy, 311 officers and 4,196 men served in operational areas. The ships were the aircraft-carrier 'Sydney', the battle-class destroyers "Anzac" and "Tobruk", the Tribal-class destroyers "Bataan" and "Warramunga", and the River-class frigates "Murchison", "Shoalhaven", "Condamine" and "Culgoa". "Warramunga" and "Bataan" took part in the dangerous evacuation of wounded and refugees from the threatened town of Chinnampo, the port of Pyongyang, North Korea. "Murchison" participated in one of the most outstanding naval achievements of the Korean War, the Han River bombardment. There were 10 battle casualties in the RAN.

After two years' tedious and often interrupted negotiations, an armistice was finally signed at Panmunjon on 27 July 1953. Of the estimated United Nations casualties of 73,500 men killed, of which 47,000 were South Koreans, 273 Australian soldiers were killed and missing. The total Australian Army casualties, including killed, wounded, missing and prisoners of war was 1,537.

BRIEF NOTES ON SIR E.H. SEYMOUR'S CAREER

by

C. Falk

Admiral of the Fleet Sir Edward Hobart Seymour, when he died was the last survivor of the twelve original members of the Order of Merit, instituted in August, 1902, and with his death the nation lost a great sea officer and one of the last links with the Victorian era. He was on the active list of the Navy for well over half a century and saw much active service. To the general public he was best known as the Commander of the International Forces which relieved the Peking Legations during the Boxer rising of 1900. In the Navy he was regarded as an officer of exceptional talents, in whom, when he was on the active list, officers and men had the greatest confidence. He was a strict disciplinarian, but was, nevertheless, popular and the esteem in which he was held

was due to his uniform courtesy and consideration for others.

The family of which he was a member has furnished officers of his rank to the Navy almost without a break since Henry VIII, organised a British Navy in its first regular form. In that reign Sir Thomas Seymour combined the office of Lord High Admiral and Master-General of Ordnance. A Vice-Admiral Seymour served against the Spanish Armada. Another member of the family was killed while commanding the Foresight in the naval battle in which Albemarle defeated de Ruyter in 1666. In every war of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries down to, and including, the Great War there was always a Seymour to carry on the family tradition.

The second son of the late Rev Richard Seymour, and cousin of the late Vice-Admiral Sir Michael Culme-Seymour, he was born April, 1840. He entered the Navy in 1852, and as a midshipman in H.M.S. *Terrible* saw considerable service during the Crimean War. He was present at the bombardments of Odessa and Sebastopol in 1854, and at Kertch and the bombardment of Kinburn Forts in the following year, and thus, early in his career, he earned the Crimean and Turkish medals with clasps.

After the Russian War he saw further service in China. Still a midshipman in H.M.S. *Calcutta*, he was in her launch when she was sunk during the destruction of a Chinese Flotilla in Fatshan Creek in 1857, and he was present at the capture of Canton and of the Pei-Ho Forts. He was awarded the China Medal with three clasps. Thus on promotion to sub-lieutenant he was a young officer with three war medals and many clasps. To these distinctions he soon added the silver medal of the Royal Humane Society by an act of singular gallantry in trying to save the life of a Royal Marine who fell overboard in the shark-infested waters in the Rhia Straits. Promoted to lieutenant and appointed to H.M.S. *Chesapeake* in China, he served on that station during the remainder of the China War, obtaining distinction at Sing-Po and Kah-ding.

Appointed flag-lieutenant to his uncle, then Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth, he received promotion to Commander by means of the system known as a "haul-down vacancy" – now abolished. In 1870 he was wounded in action on the African Coast whilst rescuing a British vessel from pirates in the Congo River.

As a post captain he commanded the *Iris* during the Egyptian War of 1882, and received the Egyptian Medal, the Khedive bronze star, and the order of the Osmanieh for his services. He was A.D.C. to H.M. Queen Victoria in the fiftieth year of the reign, and received the C.B. in the same year. Promoted to flag-rank in 1892, he first flew his flag as second in command of the Channel Squadron, after which he commanded the Naval Reserve, and the Reserve Fleet in manoeuvres for some years, until he was created a K.C.B. in Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee year and appointed Commander-in-Chief in China.

While he was holding this command the great Boxer rebellion, after simmering for some time, broke out violently at the beginning of June, 1900, and additional Legation Guards were immediately sent up to Peking from the Fleet. On June 9 Sir Edward Seymour suggested that an international naval brigade should be formed to relieve

Peking. This was at once agreed to, and on the 10th the Brigade started 2,060 strong. It was composed of British, Germans, French, Americans, Japanese, Austrians, and Americans. Seymour, being the senior naval officer of the station, went in command. On the 13th the force reached Lang Fang, forty miles from Peking, and found itself opposed by Chinese Imperial troops, who were making common cause with the rebels. The position was one of great anxiety and danger. On the 18th a battle was fought at Lang Fang against the Imperial troops, and on the 25th a second column came to the relief of the Admiral, who was now hard pressed. On the 26th the return march began; after which the final operations and the relief of Peking were organised on a larger scale.

Although this first attempt was not successful, Admiral Seymour's gallantry and promptitude deservedly earned high praise. In the words of the Commander of the French contingent, which accompanied him, "the serious difficulties which were likely to arise from the clashing interests of eight nationalities were prevented by the high position and perfect courtesy of Admiral Seymour; and it was especially fortunate for the expedition that that officer met with no mishap while bravely exposing himself to the enemy's fire."

For his services he received the G.C.B. in November 1900, and the foreign orders of the Grand Cross of the Red Eagle of Prussia, and the Grand Cordon of the Rising Sun of Japan. In October, 1902, Sir Edward was appointed First and Principal Naval Aide-de-Camp to the King, and received the Commander-in-Chief at Davenport, having been promoted to Admiral of the Fleet in February, 1905. In 1906 he received the G.C.V.O., and three years later he was made a Privy Councillor.

He had the honour of flying his flag as Admiral of the Fleet in charge of the squadron which visited New York in 1909 in connection with the Hudson-Fulton celebrations.

In 1911 Sir Edward published an entertaining volume of reminiscences under the title of "My Naval Career and Travels", and after his retirement he took an active interest in naval charities and benevolent funds.

He was unmarried so one wonders where his awards are located.

QUEENSLAND BRANCH NOTES

The Queensland Branch was raised in September, 1970, the early meetings being held in a member's house before a permanent meeting place was found at Gona Barracks, Kelvin Grove, Brisbane. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month in the theatre of 20 CRE (Com Z), RAE and are usually well attended by an average of approximately 75% of the members. An effort has been made to keep the formal procedure to a minimum and to proceed as soon as possible to the more entertaining portion of the evening. Auctions, held from time to time, give members the opportunity of pruning or augmenting their collections and also serve the useful purpose of supplementing Branch funds.

Members are encouraged to bring any item of interest for display during "Members' Forum". The highlight of the evening is when a member delivers an address on some topic of interest in the wide field of militaria.

The following list of lectures given by members over the past twelve months gives some indication of the diversity of interests held:

July - "The Battle of Pittsburg Landing" by J. Duncan

August 1974 - "The Battle of Waterloo" by G. Vidgen

September 1974 - "The Fall of Fort Eban Emael" by J. Irwin

October 1974 - "Some Reminiscences of the International Brigades in Spain" by

D. McDonald

November 1974 - "German WW 2 Anti-Tank Weapons" by S. Wigzell

December 1974 - A visit and demonstration of wargames by the Battle Axe War Games Association took place on this evening.

February 1975 - "The Battle of Roundway Down" by J. Irwin

March 1975 - "The Battle of Jutland" by R. Beak

April 1975 - An auction was held on this night

May 1975 - "Armour Penetrating Techniques" by S. Wigzell

June 1975 - "Isandhlwana and Rorke's Drift" by G. Vidgen

July 1975 - "The Politico - Military Background to the Spanish Amarda" by J. Duncan

One of the main interests of the Branch is the preservation of relics of the old Queensland Defence Force. In close collaboration with the Arms Collectors Guild of Queensland, the preservation of Fort Lytton is being investigated and restoration work on three guns, previously mounted in the fort has started. The Branch's share of the restoration work is the construction of a new wooden carriage for a 24 pdr smooth bore muzzle loader.

A monthly newsletter is mailed to members, serving not only to jog memories as to the date of the next meeting, but also including a list of books spotted in bookshops, historical notes applicable to the month in question and a light and usually irrelevant Tailpiece by the President.

The Branch President recently took advantage of holidays to pay a highly successful visit to Canberra. What is generally described as "meaningful discussions" were held with

the Federal President, Ian Barnes, and Secretary, Ken White, and a much better understanding of Federal and Branch problems resulted. It should happen more often and will. The Canberra Community Hospital Casualty Ward was also visited by the Branch President. A certain rent-a-car firm is no longer talking to him.

Any corresponding Branch members who wish to be assigned to the Queensland Branch are welcome to contact the Federal Secretary or Syd Wigzell. Any visitors to Brisbane who might wish to attend a Branch meeting should contact Syd to be put in the picture and introduced around to members who have similar interests.

THE QUEENSLAND DEFENCE FORCE PREPARES FOR WAR

by

David W. Spethman

In December 1884, the stupid truculence of the Russians brought an increasingly difficult tension to the very verge of hostilities. Crossing the boundaries of Bulgaria and Afghanistan, their troops occupied frontier towns, and the notorious General Skobelev declared that it was a "political necessity for Russia to possess herself of India." (A fact that is fast becoming true today.) The British Foreign Minister, Lord Granville, had declared his opposition to these new territorial encroachments, but as if determined to force a war on Great Britain, the Russians persisted in their advance through Afghanistan.

On the 10th March, 1885, the 'Brisbane Courier' announced a sombre warning that war with Russia was imminent.

Although few feared that the Russians would invade the Australian Colonies, they were concerned at the possibility that the commerce-raiders might wreak havoc with the coastal trade shipping.

As regards the Russian Naval Forces in the Pacific, the 'Brisbane Courier' said: "Their vessels are not fighting vessels in the strict acceptance of the term. . . that would willingly engage even our trumpety little fort at Lytton, but they are strong enough to overpower and speedy enough to overtake most merchant ships on our coasts."

After a night's reflection, the newspaper added that the best technique for "such a raiding squadron would be a threat of bombardment to extract money." The colony was beginning to feel uneasy about its undefended coastline.

The force at Queensland's disposal for self defence was in fact very poor. The Queensland Land Defence Force consisted of only one battery of permanent artillery, (which was raised only a month previously) namely the 'A' Battery, Queensland Artillery, commanded by Lt. Colonel E.R. Drury R.A., two batteries of field artillery, namely the Brisbane Battery, under Major Webb, and the Ipswich Battery under Captain R.B. Scholes, (the established strength for these three units was 72, 65 and 64 respectively) one

company of mounted Infantry, the Brisbane Mounted Infantry (later in the year this unit became the Moreton Mounted Infantry.) commanded by Captain P.R. Ricardo, and consisting of 51 troopers. There were three batteries of Garrison artillery, namely Brisbane, Townsville and Cooktown Garrison Batteries under Lieutenants J.R. Sankey and A.B. Douglas and acting Captain E.B. Power, respectively, with 64 men each. There also was one company of Engineers, the Brisbane Engineers, under Major G.H. Newman, consisting of 74 men. The infantry forces of Queensland at that time consisted of 16 companies: 5 in Brisbane and one to Ipswich formed the 1st Queensland or Moreton Regiment, Commanded by Lt. Colonel C.S. Mein. There were also two companies at Toowoomba, one at Warwick, one at Maryborough, one at Gympie, two at Rockhampton, one at Mackay and two at Townsville. The established strength of each of these companies was approximately 61 officers and other ranks.

The story regarding the Queensland Marine Defence Force was not much better. At that time only the 2nd Class torpedo boat "Mosquito" was in the colony and available for defence. She had a displacement of 35 tons, a speed of 17.25 knots and her armament consisted of two sets of dropping gear for 14-inch torpedoes and a spar.

On 24th March, 1885 the Queensland Defences were strengthened by the arrival of the new gunboat "Gayundah", which was commanded by Captain Henry Townley Wright R.N. (who was to take over the command of the Queensland Marine Defence Force on his arrival). She was a fine little ship of 360 tons, mounting an 8-inch gun in the bows and a 6-inch aft, as well as Nordenfeldt machine guns. If war was coming, the colony had at least the rudiments of a defence.

A week later, the land forces of the colony were in the news as they marched into Fort Lytton for their Easter encampment.

War with Russia was expected early. In Britain the Militia and Reserves had been mobilised and the Admiralty, having obtained the cession of the island of Port Hamilton, south of Korea, as an advance base on the line to Vladivostock, hoisted the British flag there on the 2nd April 1885 and connected it to Hong Kong by telegraph. Every Russian warship outside her ports was shadowed by a sufficient British force, this sometimes leading to delicate situations. On one famous occasion the Ironclad Battleship "Agamemnon" under Captain Long, when covering the Russian Admiral Crown in the Armoured Cruiser "Vladimir Monomakh", entered Yokosuka with the full broadside of the Russian ship trained upon his water-line and upperworks without knowing whether hostilities had broken out or not.

The British Channel Fleet had sailed under sealed orders, and a Baltic Expeditionary fleet known as the Particular Service Squadron was formed at Portland under the command of Admiral Hornby. By June, 1885, this squadron consisted of 121 ironclad Battleships, 7 Cruisers, one Torpedo Ram, one Torpedo Boat Depot Ship, 16 Torpedo Boats, 8 Armed Cruisers and 13 Gunboats.

Meanwhile the Imperial ships on the Australian station were on the move. On the 31st March, the Armoured Cruiser "Nelson" sailed for Western Australia, and the sloop

"Espiegle" sailed under sealed orders probably for Thursday Island to protect the coal hulks there from a sudden Russian descent, leaving only the corvette "Diamond" the sloop "Miranda" and two gunboats to protect the Australian coastal trade shipping.

For a week the "Brisbane Courier" concentrated on the Queensland Defence Force at Fort Lytton which appeared, after all the money that had been poured into it, to be about to justify the expenditure.

The various units took part in sham fights to test the defences; 'A' Battery, Queensland Artillery and the Brisbane Garrison Battery manned the Fortress. The Moreton Regiment and the Moreton Mounted Infantry attacked them while the engineers and the torpedo corps detonated mines in the river with varying degrees of success. The camp finished on the 7th April.

On April 11th, it was announced that war with Russia was only a question of time, and on the 14th, advance parties of 'A' Battery, Queensland Artillery and the Brisbane Engineers were called out on full time duty to man the Lytton Fortress.

The Queensland Marine Defence Force was also activated, with detachments for the "Gayundah" and "Mosquito" and 20 men for Thursday Island whose purpose was to ensure that the coaling hulks did not fall into the wrong hands. The small steamers "Pippo" and "Laura" were taken over by the Navy, armed and pressed into patrol service.

The Brisbane River was closed between dark and dawn, while the "Gayundah" and the two launches prepared to board every vessel entering the river.

On April 14th, there were rumours from America that an accord would be reached between the British and Russian Governments, and although the tone of Russian press was said to be extremely bellicose, the Czar was reported to have stated that he had no intention of going to war with England, being content to attain his ends "by the gradual power of civilization and not by force."

The threat of war continued to mount daily. On April 16th, 100 horsemen offered themselves to the Queensland Government for service under their own leaders, as 'guerrillas'. Townsville was pleading for weapons and the opportunity "to do something of a warlike character." The Admiralty announced that they intended to arm the P & O Steamer "Massillia" on her arrival in Sydney.

The local papers in Brisbane devoted half of their space to long descriptions of the warlike character of the fort at Lytton. The garrison was complaining of the cold, and Captain Des Voeux, the regular adjutant of the Defence Force, formerly of the Bengal Lancers, who had served on detachment for years, secured a load of sacks to serve as flooring in the mens' tents.

Heliograph communications were established between Lytton and the Observatory on Wickham Terrace. By this time, the telegraph service had virtually been taken over by the defence force. Rifles and ammunitions were hastily procured from the southern colonies and despatched to the northern ports.

The war scare continued unabated. The Queensland Government had purchased the steamer "Advance" for £ 12,000 (\$24,000) to act as a despatch vessel for Thursday Island. In the midst of this martial fervour, Mr Alfred E. Harris struck a jarring note with his letter to the 'Brisbane Courier' on April 22nd. He described how his vessel was allowed to proceed up the Brisbane River unchallenged, until he meekly reported to the "Gayundah". The naval officer roused from sleep, was of the opinion that he had already cleared the ship, and his crew, reported Mr Harris acidly, fell far short of the desired naval smartness. Perhaps a navy only a few weeks old can be forgiven this small lapse, but it must have been refreshing to discover that behind the facade of high-flown phrases, the gallant defenders were fallible.

Still the threats of war mounted. On 23rd April, Mr Gladstone demanded a vote of £ 6,500,000 to meet the Russian challenge. General Sir Garnet Wolsey was reported to have been recalled from his vengeful mission in the Sudan to take over command of the British Home Army.

The Queensland coast watcher service nervously reported that two warships were heading down the Queensland coast. The Brigade Office paid little heed to this report, and was promptly rebuked by the appearance of two German men-of-war in Mackay, the only one of all the reported sightings not imaginary.

On the night of April 29th, a sentry at Lytton sighted a red rocket out to sea, and the garrison hastily stood to. It was the high point of the war scare. However the excitement subsided when nothing happened.

The Brigade Office was now nicknamed the "War Department", and the alarmed government found another £ 12,000 to purchase the steamer "Otter" which was armed with a 24-pounder from the sailing ship "Young Australia" and added to the Queensland Navy.

The Queensland Premier Sir Thomas M'Ilwraith donated his steamer "Bompy" to the Government for the duration of the threat. An ambulance Corps was formed and Colonel Thynne M.L.C. the commandant of the volunteer corps had recruited a further 300 volunteers, he was also forming the Queensland Scottish Corps.

The police marched 100 strong down Edward Street to the Botanic Gardens, where they found the gates closed. Nothing daunted, they found another entrance, announced their intention of volunteering, gave three cheers for the Queen, and marched home.

Even the football players of Brisbane petitioned to be allowed to form a distinctive corps. An offer to form an over-age field artillery battery was withdrawn when the government refused to accept the retired soldiers in any other role than garrison artillery.

The footballers' Corps was luckier. On May 6th, they were accepted for service, but on the same day they learned that they would not be needed. The news was announced in London that Russia and England had reached a settlement.

It was not satisfactory to the bulk of either the English or the Australians. Gladstone was attacked bitterly and Lord Randolph Churchill was foremost among those denouncing the humiliating settlement.

The crisis did not subside immediately. On May 9th, the steamer "Taramung" announced that she had sighted a Russian gunboat off Sydney, reporting that she definitely saw the uniforms of the crew.

On 20th May, the 'Brisbane Courier' took England to task for threatening war, inducing the colonies to prepare and then backing down, leaving them feeling slightly foolish in their martial ardour. Never again would Australia, it declared bitterly, rely on the Royal Navy, only to have it recalled, leaving Australia defenceless.

The Great Russian war scare was over, leaving its lessons to linger in the Australian minds for a few years.

"A PERSONAL APPRECIATION OF STEEL HELMETS"

by

H. Mahaffey

The French were the first to introduce the steel helmet, originally only a small bowl fitting like a skull cap. A German doctor, August Bier, first suggested that front line soldiers be issued with a helmet, as the PICKELHAUBE, a rough leather device could not stop flying steel.

Together with a colleague, Friedrich Schweid, he designed a steel helmet and called the War Office, and suggested such a helmet be issued. He then collaborated with a draftsman, Franz Marx, who had much to do with restoration work of old armour and together they presented a design in the form of a SCHALLERN, the ancient Gothic knights helmet.

The final design was sent to a steel works in THALE, where in forty two operations, a helmet was drawn from a single piece of tempered steel. Forty sample helmets were subjected to artillery fire. They could not be pierced by steel splinters or shrapnel bullets.

General VON WRISBERG ordered the helmet to be introduced at once, not only as a piece of equipment for trench war-fare, but as an item of general issue.

The head of the German soldier, in his steel helmet, became the symbol of the age. It was much stronger than the French helmet and infinitely more practical and comfortable than the British steel helmet, which the Germans described as an inverted washbasin.

The only advantage the British helmet had was that in a brawl, it could be used as a vicious cutting weapon, otherwise it was awkward, ill balanced and depressing.

I have been under shell fire, mortar fire and rifle fire often enough, and have lost every steel helmet issued to me. I then took my chance in a slouch hat. I saw no courage in this — I could not obtain another issue, besides that I hated the damn thing.

PALM SUNDAY AT APPOMATTOX

by

John Duncan

In a study of the Civil War, you become aware of a time when two men confront each other and create the most important moment in all American history.

Lee and Grant — the contrast between the two is striking. Grant at 5ft. 9ins. Lee 6ft. 2ins. Lee 58, Grant almost 43. Lee, the most famous of all U.S.M.A. graduates, no demerits in four years, second in his class of 1829, Captain of Cadets, son of a continental Major-General and former Governor of Virginia, husband of George Washington's grand daughter and Master of Arlington. Grant the tanner's son, 180 de-merits, 17th in the class of 1843, expert horseman. The Mexican War was Grant's making. He fought in every engagement except Buena Vista. In all some ten major battles gaining the Brevet rank of Captain. Lee rose from Captain to Brevet Colonel. As Winfield Scott's C.O.S., Lee was in only four big battles and was 39 before he saw a shot fired in anger. Incidentally, Grant, at the same age (39), was a Brevet Major General (Fort Donelson). After the Mexican War, Lee became superintendent of West Point. Grant became Q. Master, 4th Infy., Sakett's Harbour, Michigan. Then his regiment went to the pacific coast losing 200 out of 800 to cholera at Panama. Grant spent time in a few posts in California, but homesick for his wife and children, he took to drink and had to resign under a cloud in 1854. He returned to St. Louis. All Lee did at West Point was to review the famous case of James McNeil Whistler, scion of a military family, who was dismissed for not knowing the difference between a chemical and a gas. He painted a picture of his mother (Whistler's Mother) and went to London to live, never to return to the U.S.

Lee became Lt. Col., 2nd U.S. Cav., at San Antonio, Texas. In 1857 he obtained a leave of absence to manage his Virginia estates. He was at Arlington when Winfield Scott, Gen. in Chf., ordered him and his volunteers aide, Jeb Stuart, to Harper's Ferry. Lee took command of 100 U.S.M.C. marines under Lt. Green who succeeded in capturing John Brown. Green had been under Army command before. A certain Lt. U.S. Grant had taken command of his men at San Cosme Garita.

Meanwhile, Grant had lost his farm, gone broke with woodcutting, lost an election for County Engineer and failed in a Real Estate partnership with his wife's cousins, Harry Boggs and Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain). His father rescued him by employing him as a clerk in his shop at Galena, Ill. He lived in an old house in the Galena Cemetery.

WAR

Recalled from Texas before the Twigg's surrender, Lee went straight to Washington. There, Winfield Scott offered him Field Command of the U.S. Army. Lee declined and a few days later sent in his resignation. His military service at first consisted of command

of Virginia's Army than as Military Adviser to Jeff Davis. On J.E. Johnson's being wounded, he was appointed to the command of the army of North Virginia and succeeded to defeat Generals McClellan, Burnside, Pope, Hooker and almost Meade.

Grant was ignored by nearly everybody until he was made Colonel of the Mattoon Mob. When his West Point graduation became known, he was made a Brig. Gen. He proceeded to then defeat Polk (Blemons), Pillow, Floyd, and Buckner (Ft. Donelson), Johnson, Beauregard (Shiloh), J.E. Johnson and Pemberton (Vicksburg) and Bragg and Longstreet (Chattanooga).

James Longstreet, incidentally, was best man at Grant's wedding. Grant was brought East and given supreme command.

All the Generals on both sides over three years had been eliminated by the two super generals; now they would have to face each other. Unfortunately, for Bobby Lee, Grant proved the more able exponent of War. The War now moved into its final phase. (Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna, Cold Harbor, Petersburg).

Lee's army, as well as himself, had reached the end. Lee evacuated Richmond and did what Grant was waiting for. The pursuit did not last long. The last action being fought at Saylor's Creek. Lee decided to surrender. After an exchange of notes, they agreed to meet at the little town of Appomattox Courthouse. Lee arrived early and selected the house of Wilmer McLean with the help of his aide. He waited till Grant arrived. The contrast between them was striking. They had met once before in Mexico. Lee was dressed in his finest uniform, wearing sash, sword, gauntlets and embroidered top-boots. Grant arrived looking a bit seedy with muddy boots, no sword or spurs and a plain uniform with only a three star insignia to designate himself. They both talked about the Mexican War for some time till Lee brought Grant's attention to the surrender and Grant wrote out the most generous terms ever given to any defeated army in any war. Finding that they didn't have any ink, Lee's aide, Col. Marshall, lent his inkwell to Lt. Col. Horace Porter, who kept blotting the paper because of his nervousness, finally handing it over to Lt. Col. Ely Parker, a full blooded Seneca Indian, so the final twist being an Indian writing the surrender document. Grant then presented Lee to his officers before Lee took his leave. Grant then following him out and raising his hat in salute. After almost four years and one million dead, the Civil War was over. In 1866, Grant became the first American to be promoted full General (4 Star Rank). He became President for two terms, but was too trusting and his Administration was riddled with corrupt officials. Some friends cheated him out of his last small bit of money in 1881 and by 1885 he was penniless and dying of cancer. So that his wife would be cared for, he wrote his memoirs in extreme pain, finishing them only eleven days before his death on 23rd July, 1885. They were an immediate success, selling five million copies.

Lee became President of the Lexington College and occupied himself helping ex-Confederate soldiers to an education, but he was worn out and on 12th October 1870, he died in a coma. Both generals died at the same age - 63.

It is fitting that I finish this article with a quote from both men.

'It is well that war is so terrible, otherwise we would become too fond of it'. *R.E. Lee*.

And the unique quotation from *Grant* which shows the vicious determination that he had in war and lost in peace:--

'I now found myself on dry ground and on the same side of the river as the enemy'.

The words of these great Commanders will always be relevant.

THE JAPANESE WAR CEMETERY AT COWRA

Published with permission from the June 1975 Issue of 'Service' the official journal of the NSW Railway and Tramway Ex Services Association

Side by side with the Australian War Cemetery at Cowra, in the Lachlan River Valley, lies a Japanese War Cemetery, one of the show pieces of the Cowra district. The cemetery is Japanese territory, having been ceded to Japan by the Australian Government in October, 1863, and is maintained jointly by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and the Municipality of Cowra. Although the cemetery was built under the auspices of the War Graves Commission, it was financed by the Japanese Government and was designed by Mr Shigeru Yura, a famous Japanese architect. Mr Yura came to Australia and worked with the War Graves Commission on the project, thus ensuring that the design and landscaping would be truly Japanese.

The cemetery had been in existence for more than 20 years and contained the graves of 247 Japanese, most of them being prisoners-of-war killed in the attempted mass escape from the P.O.W. camp on August 5, 1944.

When the arrangements were completed for the building of the cemetery, the remains of 275 Japanese who had died as prisoners-of-war in other parts of Australia were brought to Cowra for re-interment, making a total of 522 graves in all.

The main feature of the cemetery is a black granite monument, sculptured in Japan, containing an inlaid bronze plate with the following simple inscription: "The graves of Japanese who died in war period. September, 1964". This date refers to the month and year in which the monument was completed.

At the entrance is a stone lantern, known as an "Ishidoro", of the kind commonly used in Japan in front of temples and shrines. It was a gift of the Mitsui company. Japanese ex-prisoners-of-war donated money for plants and other items "to comfort the souls of comrades in arms". The cemetery is about one mile north of Cowra.

MEDALMAN

U.S. Congressional Medal of Honour or Victoria Cross to Flt. Lt. Gary C. Cooper -- Round Two

In the last edition of Sabretache comment on the above award to Flt.Lt. Cooper was made. This resulted in much publicity in an attempt to gain the equivalent British award (VC) for Cooper, however after a little effort and doubtful statements the present Government has done nothing to reward one of the most heroic actions of the Vietnam war.

A news article stated that the Australian Government claim the Pentagon never made a recommendation to Australia re the medal. This is not surprising as most recommendations from the U.S. never got past RAAF HQ, the second most highly decorated unit in Vietnam. Imagine how many less awards would have been available to Headquarters had the full efforts of others in the field been rewarded. The Assistance Minister for Defence wrote to Mrs Cooper stating that the DFC is the highest award for operational flying. Actually it is the second lowest for an officer, the lowest being an MID. Coopers action of course took place on the ground, the flying aspect was rather undignified in that he was shot down.

To settle the matter an approach should be made to Major General Ewell, who initiated the recommendation and not to the maze of the Pentagon who would in any case be reluctant to embarrass the Australian Government. Although Major General Ewell probably signed thousands of recommendations for awards, he would probably remember Coopers case. Particularly as Cooper was one of the few aliens under his control. It is odd that the Australian Government can come up with a statement that a recommendation was not made to them, therefore that is the end of it and the action can continue unrecognized or evaporate. The present Government do not appear to have very much respect for its serving and ex-servicemen anymore. This is clearly demonstrated in the failure to allow the accepting and wearing of foreign awards for Vietnam and by not having an end of war honours list.

Cooper, like many others who know they have done, by any standard, an outstanding job must feel hurt that they have been denied credit. A fellow officer recalls three occasions when Cooper was to receive foreign awards in Vietnam at special parades. In each case directions were issued by RAAF HQ forbidding him to attend. Cooper himself recalls that these were the only times any interest was displayed in his activities, the rest of the time the RAAF HQ had little idea what he was doing. At the end of his tour Cooper had to arrange his own way back to Australia. Orders in Vietnam did not prevent Australians from accepting foreign awards only the wearing of them, so why was Cooper not allowed to accept his award? There may have been a Diplomatic directive which was not published in general orders or the RAAF commander took it upon himself to prevent Cooper accepting the foreign awards. Those involved in similar incidents suspect that petty jealousy as a major motive for denial.

It is apparent that the valour of our Servicemen is now tied to politics so all Australians look forward to the new Government closing the Vietnam war with dignity and honour to our men by ensuring Cooper is included in an end of war honours list.

Rising Prices of Medals

Like all things the price of medals have risen in an attempt to keep in front of inflation. Collectors however should be careful when buying from countries who have a much greater inflation than our own, this applies at present to England where inflation has gone mad and a million are unemployed. Those buying medals as an investment should only buy items that they are happy to have in their collection, then regardless of market values they will always have items of personal value. More and more collectors are turning to collecting foreign medals as the prices of most are within the reach of collectors. There are many good foreign awards which are of great interest, those of our Allies in particular U.S.A. are at present good value for money. A number of collectors regret not having collected a set of awards from the Republic of Vietnam as the Country no longer exists. Other countries in which Australians have fought should have an interest to those who collect medals to Australians. Oman awards which are featured in this edition have wide appeal to collectors.

British Awards For Appointments

The last Queens Birthday list again shows that a number of British awards are given because of the appointment held by the recipient. This is shown with the awards for Northern Ireland and Oman, for Oman the only awards were a CB to the Commander and an OBE to the AA and QMG. I am sure, that because the AA and QMG handled awards for the force it had nothing to do with him getting an OBE. No doubt it must be hard for those on a headquarters to give up an award to a deserving officer or soldier in the field.

The Australian Honours

The Australian Gazette listing the new honours and their precedence has been published and most who agree with having an Australian system were stuned at the results. It would appear that no original thought was allowed into the new system, as at best it is a poor copy of the Canadian system. However the designers should be given credit for replacing the word Canada with Australia in the top order as it was thought for awhile our top order would have been called 'The Order of Canada'. The awards are not yet designed, but this should not prevent any problems as they will no doubt be copies of the Canadian awards.

With the order of wearing it is interesting to note that the National Medal (awarded for fifteen years service) is worn before campaign medals. This is unusual as all previous awards for long service are worn after campaign medals. Of course we have not come out and said all Australian awards will be worn before those of any other foreign country.

Surely now is the time to do as other countries have, and give precedence to our own awards and treat British awards the same as all other foreign awards.

Servicemen who qualify for the National Medal are not overjoyed at the thought of wearing the same medal as the Fire Brigade and Ambulance. It may be a case for a different ribbon for the Armed Services. Those who wrote the conditions for granting the medal were not aware that the Armed Services have Midshipmen, Cadets and Apprentices who start their full time service before age 18. The qualification must surely date from the commencement of full time service, be it Midshipman or whatever.

No doubt there are other anomalies with the new Australian system of awards however the formation of a committee composed of those with knowledge of the subject would solve most problems. Nearly forgot, one last comment is it would appear that the Order of Australia is to be given in accordance with rank and not relate to the level of meritorious service performed. Why shouldn't all grades be open to the rank and file, who in many instances do much more to earn their awards. It is time we got away from the British system and make our awards in accordance with the deed and not relate it to the rank of the recipient. Rank and appointment are rewarded by increasing pay and the promotion itself so why throw in an award as well.

Broken Groups

It is regrettable that many groups of medals have for various reasons become separated. Those with a real interest in collecting should try and put groups together again. This can be done as most collectors have broken groups or odd medals which they would do a deal on if they knew who had the other medals. To help re-establish groups of medals the Committee has agreed that adds listing missing medals from groups or medals that belong to a group may be placed in Sabretache free of charge.

Wearing of Foreign Awards

I notice in a recent photo of Keith Payne that he now proudly wears his foreign decorations. What a nonsense that our gallant men must wait until they leave the Australian Forces before that can wear well earned awards. Did I mention previously that Keiths GSM clasp 'Malaysian Peninsular' is unnamed, this no doubt would be denied by the Medal section responsible for issue. Should cause confusion if the group ever came on the market many years from now — I can hear the instant experts.

Awards 1975 — Order of Australia

As the awards of the Order of Australia made in June 1975 were our first it has been suggested that constructive criticism may be helpful in the deciding of future awards. Readers may wish to study the cuttings from service newspapers which announced the awards and forward their comments to the editor. The comments made must in no way be critical of individuals who were granted awards as it is policy that needs to be changed.

There are four aspects which I think stand out. Firstly with few exceptions the citations would better fit awards for long and meritorious service; secondly some of the awards to senior officers are for service which has been granted recognition on previous occasions; thirdly the Order has been used for acts of bravery; lastly the grade of the Order has been related to the rank of the recipient.

Distinguished/meritorious service over a long period is prevalent in awards to the RAN where the average length of service of a recipient is 30 years. The RAAF with the exception of Darwin cyclone and an award to a Padre also average 30 years service. Long service is also a feature in army awards however cyclone awards and bravery awards reduce the average period of service. All ranks now have long and meritorious service rewarded by the National Medal so why lower the standard of the Order of Australia by making it a glorified award for long service.

It seems hard to justify the granting of the Order to senior officers for gallant and/or distinguished service in various campaigns when such service has already been rewarded with the CBE, OBE, DSO, MC etc. The basis of any citation should be for service which has NOT been previously recognised otherwise why not make all Victoria Cross winners members of the Order.

The new system of Australian honours has the following awards for bravery, Cross of Valour; Star of Courage; Bravery Medal and Commendation for Brave Conduct. Why then award the Order for an act of bravery? I am sure those concerned would prefer a bravery decoration for an act of bravery instead of an award which in extreme could be given for meritorious service as a toilet cleaner. Surely we learnt something from the changes that took place in the granting of the Order of The British Empire.

It appears that we have adopted the antiquated British system of granting the Order in accordance with the rank of the recipient and not to the degree of distinguished or meritorious service performed. On merit who would give a higher grade for service in an air conditioned office over that for a man who risks his life every day in the jungle doing bomb disposal? Australians claim they like to be individuals so why follow an outdated British practice of relating the grade of an Order to the rank of the recipient.

If a citation went before the Council of The Order without rank, name or duration of service being shown then the deeds themselves should receive the correct level of recognition.

In reporting the awards, the Service newspaper 'Army' the Soldiers newspaper is given highest marks as the soldier is ignored with photos of four Generals and one Colonel being shown. The lowest ranks who may merit mention but once in their lives should surely deserve to have their photo in *their* paper before those of Generals who appear in most issues. Don't tell me! I know it is easier to get photos of senior officers.

Who will make the next list of recipients for the Order of Australia? If you have had long service, hold high rank and been granted awards for previous service then you can expect to be considered.

Lets have those comments which we will summerise and pass to the Council of The Order of Australia. Any views stated, like mine, are those of individuals and not necessarily those of the Society.

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA AWARDS

JUNE 1975



ADM Sir Victor Smith



RADM Gladstone



CAPT Johnston



ACT. CAPT. MacLeod

COMPANION (A.C.)

ADMIRAL SIR VICTOR SMITH, KBE, CB, DSC.—

Admiral Sir Victor Smith entered the Royal Australian Naval College in 1927. He specialised in Naval aviation and gained his "wings" as an Observer in the Fleet Air Arm in 1937. Admiral Smith was awarded the DSC during World War II and was also Mentioned in Despatches. Admiral Smith has held a number of important command and staff appointments. Among these Captain of the RAN Air Squadron HMAS ALBATROSS, Commanding Officer of the First Frigate Squadron and Captain of HMAS MELBOURNE. He attended the Imperial Defence College in 1960. Admiral Smith held the appointments of Second Naval Member, Fourth Naval Member, Flag Officer Commanding the Australian Fleet and Deputy Chief of Naval Staff before being appointed Chief of Naval Staff in April, 1968. He was appointed Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee on November 23, 1970.



LCDR Fahey

OFFICER (A.O.)

Rear Admiral Geoffrey Vernon Gladstone, DSC and Bar — For distinguished service in the Royal Australian Navy over a period of 40 years. He was awarded the DSC (Distinguished Service Cross) for his part in a raid on Sebang in 1944. Was added a Bar to his DSC for minesweeping operations in Korean waters in 1950-1951. Since promotion to Rear Admiral in 1971, RADM Gladstone has served as Head of the Australian Defence Staff in London and in his current appointment as Deputy Chief of The Naval Staff.

MEMBER (A.M.)

Acting Captain Barbara Denise MacLeod, WRANS — For exceptional service and dedication to the Naval Forces of Australia over 21 years. Captain MacLeod entered the WRANS in 1953 after some years as a primary school teacher in Western Australia and was promoted to probationary Third Officer in May 1954. She was appointed Director WRANS in April, 1973 and has been selected for standard promotion to date June 30, 1975.

Warrant Officer Underwater Control Ronald Paul Jacobs — For exceptional service to the training effort in the Royal Australian Navy for over 24 years. WOUC Jacobs' personal effort as an instructor in the underwater aspect of anti-submarine warfare, coupled with leadership with the training effort at the required high standard, are in the best traditions of our Naval Service. He is presently serving at HMAS WATSON, is married and lives at Eastern Creek, NSW.

Warrant Officer Radio Supervisor Reginald Edwin Foden — For exceptional performance of duty and contributions to submarine communications. WORS Foden joined the Royal Navy in 1942 and in 1947, joined his first submarine. He has served in submarine postings since that time. In 1967, he transferred to the Royal Australian Navy at a time when the Australian Submarine Arm was involved in the introduction of the Oberon-class submarine. He is presently serving at Fleet Headquarters in Sydney, is married and lives at Hornsby, NSW.

Captain Charles Ivan Flaherty, ADC, RD, RANR — For exceptional service, zeal and proficiency in responsible positions in the Royal Australian Naval Reserves. As a Merchant Navy Officer, Captain Flaherty has been a member of the RANR for 25 years. He is at present Captain of the Australian National Line's newest ship, "MV AUSTRALIAN EMBLEM". He is Senior Reserve Officer on the active training list and is presently Naval Aide-de-Camp to the Queen.

Lieutenant Commander James Anthony Fahey, RAN — For exceptional service and performance of his marine engineering duties over 28 years in the Royal Australian Navy. LCDR Fahey is an outstanding practical engineer and his technical expertise has contributed significantly to the operational availability of Fleet Units. He is presently serving at Garden Island Dockyard, is married and lives at Earlwood, NSW.

Chief Petty Officer Quartermaster Gunner Alan George Meyer R54001 — For outstanding service as the parade training CPO at the RAN's Junior Recruit Training Establishment, HMAS LEEUWIN. Chief Petty Officer Meyer joined the Royal Australian Navy in 1958, is single and presently serving in HMAS BRISBANE.

Warrant Officer Marine Technical Propulsion Robert John Cox R48300 — For exceptional service and performance as a senior engine/room sailor in the Royal Australian Navy. WOMTP Cox first saw active service in the RAN Reserve as an ordinary seaman in 1943 before being mobilised. He continued to serve in the Naval Reserves until 1954 when he joined the RAN as an ERA (Engine Room Artificer) 4th Class. Throughout his service he has shown outstanding technical ability and leadership. He is presently serving at Fleet Headquarters, Sydney, is married and lives at Carlton, NSW.

Warrant Officer Quartermaster Gunner Eric Berry R41799 — For exceptional performance of duties as a senior sailor of the Quartermaster Gunner category over 31 years. WOQMG Berry transferred to the Royal Australian Navy in 1967 after 24 years' service in the Royal Navy. He is presently serving in HMAS CERBERUS, is married and lives in Frankston, Vic.

Captain Eric Eugene Johnston, OBE, RAN — For outstanding leadership, exemplary conduct and steadfast performance of his duties while exposed to the dangers of Cyclone Tracy and for his dedication and tireless efforts towards the restoration of Darwin's defence and town services. He joined the Royal Australian Navy in 1947 as a Cadet Midshipman, was promoted Captain in 1973 and has been Naval Officer Commanding North Australia Area since December, 1973. He was awarded his OBE in 1971 in recognition for his service in HMAS VENDETTA during operations in Vietnamese waters. He is married and present residing in Darwin.

Air Vice Marshal Newstead, who was made an Officer of the Order of Australia, joined the RAAF as a cadet in January, 1939, and trained as a pilot. He served with various operational squadrons in the South West Pacific theatre during World War Two. Since the end of the war he has held several senior flying and



staff appointments, including Commanding Officer of No 77 Squadron in Japan (1949-50) Officer Commanding No 78 Wing, Malta (1954-55), and Group Captain Operations, Far East Air Force, Singapore (1966-68). He was Commander RAAF Element Australian Forces Vietnam in 1968-69. Since January, 1973, he has been Air Officer Commanding Support Command in Victoria.

Air Commodore Flemming, a Member of the Order of Australia, joined the Air Force in July, 1943, and trained as a pilot. His flying career has included operational service in Korea where he was Mentioned in Despatches and was awarded the United States Air Medal. In senior staff appointments he has proved to be an exceptional administrator. He is at present attending the Royal College of Defence Studies in the United Kingdom.



Air Commodore Pickering, who has been made a Member of the Order of Australia, joined the RAAF in March, 1942, and trained as a navigator. During World War Two he flew in operations in the Caribbean, and with Coastal



Command in the United Kingdom. He has proved himself to be exceptional in personnel administration, and has held several senior staff appointments. Currently he is Controller of Electronic Data Processing at Department of Defence (Air Office).

Group Captain Hitchens, who has become a Member of the Order of Australia, joined the Service in February, 1942, and flew as a pilot in the South West Pacific during World War Two. Since then he has held a number of senior flying and staff appointments. He was appointed Officer Commanding RAAF Darwin in January, 1973. After



Cyclone Tracy devastated Darwin last Christmas, GPCPI Hitchens demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities and quickly organised the re-opening of the airfield, restoration of communications, emergency housing and feeding of personnel, tending the sick and injured, and control of air coordination, flying the sick and injured and evacuees out of Darwin.

Group Officer Parsloe, who has become a Member of the Order of Australia, joined the Women's Royal Australian Air Force in March, 1951. She has carried out administrative duties at various



RAAF establishments, and in 1972 was appointed Director of WRAAF. She has given exceptional service to the Air Force and, in particular, has shown an intense interest in the welfare of members of the WRAAF.

Wing Commander Monaghan, now a Member of the Order of Australia, joined the RAAF in 1949, training as a pilot. He has served in a variety of flying and staff appointments and was Commanding Officer of Base



Squadron, RAAF Darwin, when Cyclone Tracy struck the base last December. After receiving the Cyclone warning he took decisive action to safeguard personnel and property, and after the cyclone he displayed outstanding leadership and practical ability in restoring base functions and, providing essential services.

Chaplain Quick, who has been made a Member of the Order of Australia, began part time duty as a chaplain at RAAF Base Laverton in 1967, and since then has cared for the needs of apprentices at the RAAF School of Radio. He has continually and willingly gone out of his way to discover and support the needs and problems of the apprentices. On innumerable occasions he has



remained at, or visited the base late at night to talk, listen and give counsel to young lads with problems. He has provided continuous selfless dedication to the needs of young servicemen, while maintaining the normal duties of his parish.

Section Officer Walton, who becomes a member of the Order of Australia, was born in Melbourne. After completing her nursing training she joined the RAAF Nursing Service in May, 1974, and began serving at Darwin six months later. When Cyclone Tracy struck the Base on Christmas Eve, Section Officer Walton was on duty at the base sick quarters which soon became overcrowded with injured civilians and servicemen. Although she had been subjected to the terrors of the cyclone, she quickly recovered and proceeded cheerfully and methodically to restore order, even though the building was damaged and partly flooded. Under direction of the medical officer she provided medical care for many people and directed and controlled the available staff, some of whom were untrained in medical work. She remained on duty for a prolonged period and at all times displayed outstanding qualities of dedication, professional competence and leadership.

Flight Sergeant Khan, who has been made a Member of the Order of Australia, was responsible for the control of technical personnel engaged in the maintenance of RAAF East Sale's ground radio communications and navigational aids for a period of four years. By his exceptionally enthusiastic and efficient approach to his responsibilities as a supervisor he developed excellent team work among his subordinates. In addition he has gone beyond normal responsibilities by freely and willingly making his services available outside normal working hours, often at short notice, when problems arose.

Corporal Finn, who has been made a Member of the Order of Australia, joined the Women's Royal Australian Air Force in 1970, and from 1973 served at RAAF Base Darwin as a dental assistant. During the night of Christmas Eve last year the base was severely damaged by Cyclone Tracy. Numerous injured RAAF and civilian men, women and children required treatment at the RAAF medical centre, the staff of which was hard pressed owing to the absence of several



members on leave in southern states. Although not medically qualified, and normally of a retiring and shy nature, she assisted the one medical officer and two nurses for many hours immediately after the disaster. She personally sutured wounds, gave injections and performed tasks ordinarily beyond her responsibility. She worked almost to the point of exhaustion, and yet remained calm, cheerful and competent. For many days afterwards her devotion to duty and quiet efficiency were an inspiration to older and more senior people.

Warrant Officer Huntley, who has been made a Member of the Order of Australia, has served 21 years in the RAAF, 10 of which have been as a parachute jump instructor. As an instructor, and a Warrant Officer (Disciplinary) he has achieved and sustained an outstandingly high standard of professional ability. As a parachutist his performance has been unsurpassed. Among other achievements he created an Australian Defence Force record by being the first military

parachutist to carry out 1000 parachute descents. He has played a leading part in the



development, standardisation and production of instructional methods and parachuting techniques, and was the first in the Australian Defence Force to develop a new technique in free fall parachuting for taking air-to-air cine films of free fallers and their equipment. He has also been prominent in civil affairs.

Warrant Officer Rinehart, has been made a Member of the Order of Australia. He is an engineer who has served with distinction for more than 30 years, 14 of which have been involved with the maintenance of Canberra aircraft, of which he is an acknowledged expert. Using his outstanding knowledge and skills, he has been able to com-



mand the highest degree of loyalty, and his superior organising ability has been evident, particularly in the significant contribution he has made to the operational success of No 2 Squadron. His initiative and drive in constantly developing methods of achieving the maximum effectiveness from the available personnel and equipment has been indicative of his professionalism.





Lt.-Gen. F. G. Hassett — AC.



Col. K. M. Fowler — AM.

ARMY AWARDS



Maj.-Gen. C. M. I. Pearson — AO
Maj.-Gen. A. B. Stretton — AO
Maj.-Gen. S. Grafiani — AO.

Commander of the Order of Australia (AC)

Lt.-Gen. F. G. Hassett, Chief of the General Staff.

Officer of the Order of Australia (AO)

Maj.-Gen. A. B. Stretton, Director-General of the Natural Disasters Organisation.

Maj.-Gen. C. M. I. Pearson, Chief of Personnel.

Maj.-Gen. S. C. Graham, Head of the Australian Defence Staff, London.

Member of the Order of Australia (AM)

Col. K. M. Fowler, Director of the WRAAC. Col. K. D. Whiting, Chief of Staff, South Queensland Training Group, Australian Army Reserve. Maj. T. B. Crouch, WRAAC HQ 1st Training Group. Maj. J. Messini, RA Sigs., Australian Army Staff, Washington. Maj. S. E. Jennings, Aust. Int. Corps, 1st Training Group, Australian Army Reserve. Capt. T. C. Bayo, RACT, 18th Transport Company. Capt. N. J. Opie, RAAMC. Capt. P. J. Bayliss, RACT, Transportation Centre, Mosman, NSW. WO1 B. B. Agnew, RAAC, Armoured Centre, WO1 P. D. Buckley RA Sigs., 8 Signals Regiment. WO1 C. Kealy, RA Inf., Parachute Training School, Williamstown, NSW. WO2 M. E. Halbreiner, RAAOC, 21 Supply Battalion. Sgt. L. B. Waddington, RAAMC, 2 Army Recruiting Unit, Sgt. A. Sherriff, RAE, 3rd Field Engineer Regiment. Sgt. P. D. Griffin, RA Inf., Army Apprentices School. Sgt. M. G. Holloway, RAE, School of Military Engineering.

The citations, in part, read:

Maj.-Gen. A. B. Stretton. For the high quality of his leadership and organisational ability during Cyclone TRACY.

Maj.-Gen. C. M. I. Pearson. Graduated from the RMC in 1940 and served with distinction in armoured and infantry units in WW2.

He has since served in a variety of important and demanding appointments including that of Commander of IATF in SVN.

Maj.-Gen. S. C. Graham. Graduated from the RMC in 1940 and served with distinction and gallantry in WW2.

Since then he has served with distinction in senior command and staff appointments and commanded IATF in SVN in 1967.

He was GOC Northern Command, and upon re-organisation of the Army Command system, became Commander of 1 Div.

Col. K. M. Fowler. Enlisted in the Australian Women's Army Service in 1943 and served in a variety of postings until her discharge in 1947.

She re-enlisted in the WRAAC in April, 1951, and was commissioned in 1952.

Since 1963 she has been directly involved in the planning and administration of the WRAAC, as a result of which women have been accepted for much wider employment and a greater role in the Army.

She was appointed Director of the Corps in 1972 and in this appointment has displayed efficiency and selfless devotion to duty which have won for the highest regard and respect of all ranks.

Col. D. D. Whiting. Enlisted in the 11th Field Regiment in 1951 and has served continuously in the active CMF — now Australian Army Reserve — ever since.

He became CO of that unit and was the first officer without active service to hold such an appointment in the post WW2 period.

In 1969 he became the C1 of the Command and Staff Training Unit, South Queensland.

He is an outstanding product of the CMF.

Maj. Thelma Beryl Crouch enlisted in the CMF in 1953 and has served continuously since then.

She has achieved undoubted success by constant and unflinching enthusiasm and devoted much of her spare time to the individual problems of the young women under her command.

Maj. James Messini enlisted in 1951 and was commissioned in 1963.

In his posting as Operations Officer of 6 Sig. Regt., his expertise, dedication and knowledge of the theory and practice of communications contributed greatly to the high standards of operation of the Army Fixed Communications Network.

Capt. Trevor Christopher Bayo was serving as an Engineer officer in PNG in August, 1972, when a RAAF *Caribou* crashed in rugged country killing 29 people.

He commanded a team of Engineers sent to the crash site where, because of the dense jungle, he had to be lowered to the ground from a helicopter through trees more than 60 metres high.

By his personal example and untiring energy in the face of hazardous and difficult conditions, Capt. Bayo succeeded in constructing a helicopter landing pad on the steep jungle sloped to permit a helicopter to land to evacuate the bodies to a collection point in a nearby town.

He also took an active part in the difficult and often dangerous operation of winching personnel and essential stores into the crash site.

Without his devotion to duty, determination and courage, displayed over a long period, the task of landing rescue teams and evacuating the dead could not have been carried out.

Capt. Neville John Ople was Regimental Medical Officer, 1 PIR, in PNG, when he and a medical team were rushed to the site of a crashed *Caribou* aircraft in August, 1972.

He was lowered from a helicopter through trees more than 60 metres high.

At the crash scene he worked tirelessly for long hours under arduous and extremely oppressive conditions to extricate the 29 bodies which had lain in the wreckage for some days.

He worked in hazardous circumstances caused by the precarious position in which the wrecked aircraft was suspended by trees over a deep ravine.

Later, at a nearby town, he worked tirelessly in endeavouring to identify the bodies.

He performed his tasks without thought for his own well-being and safety.

Capt. Peter James Bayliss was serving with the PNG Transportation Squadron in February, 1973, when a civil pleasure craft exploded in the harbour at Port Moresby.

As a result, nine Papua New Guinean civilians, including five young children, were burnt and thrown into the water.

One adult and two children subsequently died.

The incident occurred about 100 metres from the PNGDF wharf where Capt. Bayliss was supervising a shore party unloading stores from HMAS *Sydney*.

He quickly mustered available servicemen and with his untrained crew, by good seamanship and boat handling, got the Army vessel *Tarooki* underway from a difficult berth to arrive first at the scene of the accident.

His subsequent actions and those of this untrained crew in rescuing all of the people on and below the surface was highly commendable.

His quick action, leadership and clear thinking undoubtedly saved a number of lives.

Maj. Stanley Earle Jennings enlisted in the CMF in 1959.

He has specialised in the training of officer cadets and his teaching techniques on a variety of subjects are most effective and the success of graduating classes is in no small way attributable to his ability.

To achieve his outstanding results he has designed and modernised a considerable number of training aids.

WO1 Brian Bede Agnew enlisted in December, 1952, and has served in a number of postings both in Australia and overseas with distinction.

WO1 Patrick David Buckley has served continuously since 1950.

He is a man of integrity and high principles and has served with distinction in a variety of signals units.

His standards are a fine example to young soldiers.

WO1 Clement Kealy served in the Pacific Campaign during WW2 and joined the Regular Army in 1950.

He served in Korea, twice in SVN and in PNG, and to all his appointments has brought a sense of purpose and a devotion to duty that has been an inspiration.

WO2 Maximilian Erich Halbreiner enlisted in 1963.

In 1972 when the Medium

Tank Trials Unit was formed to test tanks for their suitability for the Australian Army, he was selected to take charge of the technical stores section of the unit because of his proved ability and his resourcefulness.

Throughout the trials, he was engaged in ordering, issuing and accounting for all the technical stores for the unit.

These stores came from Australia, the USA and West Germany and three different accounting systems were used.

In the third case, transactions were in the German language, in which he is fluent.

WO2 Halbreiner worked untiringly and with professional competence to ensure the Trials unit was supplied with the required technical stores.

Sgt. Leonard Birkett Waddington was posted to IPIR in January 1972, and in August that year was part of a medical team sent to the site of a crashed *Caribou* aircraft in which 29 people died.

The task of removing the bodies from the wreckage was hazardous and arduous as the burnt-out fuselage of the plane hung precariously over a ravine.

Although he knew the danger of the wreck slipping into the ravine, he worked for long hours extricating the dead.

It was due in large part to the courageous and untiring efforts of Sgt. Waddington and the fine example he set other members of the team that the operation was carried out successfully.

Sgt. Adrian Sherriff enlisted in the Army in 1962 and has served in Borneo and SVN.

In July, 1968, he was posted to 6 Sig. Regt. where he was responsible for the maintenance of the electrical power plant of the primary relay stations of the Australian Communications Army Network.

In June, 1971, a fire caused an immediate loss of power to the station and placed the operation of the Army network in jeopardy.

For more than 70 consecutive hours, Sgt. Sherriff displayed tireless devotion to duty and determination resulting in power being restored and a possible serious interruption of the network averted.

He again displayed exceptional devotion to duty on a number of lesser power failures during industrial disputes in 1972.

Sgt. Patrick David Griffin enlisted in 1965 and served two tours of duty in SVN with the Royal Australian Regiment and was wounded twice.

During his service, both at home and overseas, he has displayed great devotion to duty, a high degree of competence, leadership and a willingness to assume responsibility.

TWENTY soldiers — including two WRAAC — have been named in the first list of recipients of the Order of Australia.

One has been made a Commander of the Order, three made Officers of the Order, and 16 became Members of the Order.

Five of the awards of Member are for service and brave conduct in Papua New Guinea.

Three of these are for bravery when an RAAF *Caribou* crashed, killing 29 people, in August, 1972; one for action when a private pleasure craft exploded in Port Moresby Harbour in 1973; and the fifth for a period of sustained duty disposing of old WW2 explosives in PNG.

The awards are:

Sgt. Michael George Holloway was posted to PNG in 1970 as a bomb disposal technician.

During his three years in that posting he was employed in most parts of PNG on arduous and demanding tasks, frequently involving high personal risk.

He personally disposed of 10,284 items of lethal WW2 naval, land, and air-delivered explosives — bombs, shells and mines.

He completed his work without incurring injury to life or livestock and without damage to property.

Most of the material was severely corroded or decomposed with the explosive contents often in a highly unstable and dangerous condition.

MODELMAN

Since seeing columns in Sabretache dealing with badges and medals, I have thought that our model collectors have been neglected. Hence this attempt to provide a forum for all modelmen to exchange news and views.

I must begin by saying that I do not hold myself out to be any sort of expert and I hope to extend my knowledge from future contributors. My own collection is basically composed of the products of Britains Ltd. I have approximately 650 figures collected between 1938 and 1964. These have been supplemented by figures from such well known makers as Russell Gammage, pocket money permitting.

My immediate aims for this column are:

- (a) to find out how many model collectors, of any type of model, we have in the Society — please let me know of your interest.
- (b) to pass on information received from manufacturers.
- (c) to mention books and articles as they come to notice.
- (d) to provide the means whereby you can either seek information or help other members with their problems.

If you have other ideas, let me know. Write to me at 21 Ingamells St., Garran, A.C.T. 2605.

Having said all that, lets get down to business. One question that many figure collectors come to is "how can I mould my own?" Reasons for this seem to range from the cost of figures to the desire to have more individual figures of particular types. The first step, like Mrs Betton's famous recipe, is to get your master figure. This may be one as acquired, a previously converted model or a handmade master. A word of warning on copyright might be appropriate at this stage. If you wish to dispose of your castings in any commercial transaction steer clear of the ready made master. Messrs. Stadden, Gammage and all will not be amused. Its a different story of you cast for your own use only.

I don't propose giving a step by step description, mainly because I haven't tried yet, but I suggest that you could do not better than contact a member who has recently commenced slaving over a hot stove and who I am sure will be anxious to share what he has learnt. Write to Trevor Jowett, 57 Wentworth Street, Launceston, 7250.

Turning to books, have you seen "How to Make Model Soldiers" by Phillip O. Stearns, published by Hamlyn's? My copy was purchased for \$4.35 at Dalton's of Canberra. Phillip is well known to readers of "Military Modelling". He is an excellent photographer, to which this book bears witness. I particularly enjoyed the step by step photographs of converting, casting and facial painting.

Well, I've made a start and now the rest is up to you. If you want the column to continue keep those letters coming in. The following letter should be of interest to modelers.

Ashpalt Soldier

Over the past three years there has been a great increase in interest concerning the Armed Forces of the Third Reich. In accordance to their sudden new interest many new models have been placed on the Military Miniatures Market. One of the latest figures is that of a Panzer Grenadier of the Waffen S.S. by Hinchcliffe in 75mm. This figure was mastered by Ray Lamb, so the detail speaks for itself. The figure is very clearly cast and is shown wearing the pre-1943 tunic.

The figure is shown in the pose of throwing a "potato-masher" grenade. He also has a "Schneizer" np40 machine pistol slung across his back. When painting the uniform I used Humbrol Combat Uniform Set to paint the tunic pre-1943 Field Grey and for the various S.S. insignia. I made him a Panzer-Grenadier of the Reichs Fuhrer S.S., one of the pure German Divisions, which in the latter part of the war formed, together with the Liebstandorf "Adolf Hitler and S.S. division "Das Reich", the VI S.S. Panzer Armees.

Perhaps the only fault of the kit is that the helmet seems to be more W.W.I size than the normal World War 2 "coal scuttle". When painting the model it is advisable to consult a book on the Waffen S.S. so as to obtain the correct insignia information such as cuff titles, collar patches etc., as the painting instructions do not include such information.

All in all the figure is a good representation of the elite of the elite, a Panzer Grenadier of the Waffen S.S. Certainly to be recommended to anybody interested in soldiers of the Third Reich.

G. TURNER
49 Jamigson St.,
Warrnambool, Vic. 3280.

SUPER SPECIAL

"History of 10 Battalion" By Lock

\$12.00 plus \$1.50 postage.

Federal Secretary.

BADGEMAN

The Swiss Rising Sun

There has been unsubstantiated gossip that a number of Swiss Rising Sun badges are around. To my knowledge the only genuine one in a collection is with Don Mearns so it is suggested that if one collector is offered such a badge he should send it to Don for comment (before buying it). The Society did consider this badge in some restrikes that were being investigated however the reproduction price was unpracticable.

Reference Books On Early Australian Badges

It is hoped that if Albert Festberg is not able to produce one of his excellent reference books on Australian pre federation and 1903-12 period of badges then some other collector will. Many have suggested Bob Gray as he owns the best collection of Australian badges in the world and a book on his collection would cover Australian badges of all periods. I am sure private finance or from a dealer would become available if Bob Gray were to do a book.

Reproduction Badges Noted

Bob Gray has been kind enough, as a follow up on ' Fake Badges'' (last issue of Sabretache), to list the following as reproduction badges which he has seen:

Badges: 1 VMR, 4 VIB, 2 VMR, 1 MPR, Australian Coronation Contingent, 1 Australian Infantry Regiment.

Shoulder Titles: CA/Bushmen, Swan/Australia, 19 ALH, 25 Light Horse, CFS, 1 AIR, 2 AIR, 10 AIR, Australia. Lets hear from others who have possible reproductions but please give reasons why the item is a reproduction.

Boer War Badges

The following is a letter from Bob Gray:

'In the September 1974 edition of "Sabretache" on page 214 there appeared an article under the heading of "Unofficial Boer War badges and titles worn by Australians". Regarding this article I wish to make the following comments. The shoulder titles N.S.W.A., A.C., and A.H. were not unofficial, but were official issues and were die struck. ScH and C.P.R. were not Australian units, but were recruited from Australians and others and therefore worn by Australians. I know of over thirty regiments which were raised in South Africa and no doubt there could be many more who had Australians in their ranks and therefore would have worn the shoulder title or badge of the regiment in which they were serving.

Because they wore these items it does not mean they were Australian units. The unofficial badges and shoulder titles were made in South Africa and not in Australia or elsewhere except the ones that have been made since the South African War. There are

several specimens of these about and collectors should take care when either purchasing or doing an exchange to see the item is a genuine one. Anyone with a knowledge of these unofficial badges and shoulder titles can easily detect the ones that were not made in South Africa during the South African War.

Comment: The first paragraph is worthy of note however the second is a 'well flogged' comment by Bob – it can only be classed as comment as photography and interviews with Boer War veterans established that some of the badges mentioned were being worn in Australia prior to departure. These badges are unofficial and come in a variety of makes as they in some cases were made from shells by the individual soldier. I think we all tend to take the view that if anyone has an item different from the one in my collection then the other person has a reproduction. Experience has taught most collectors that there are few positive statements in collecting badges or medals.

Adam Watson Badge Collection

One of the finest collection of Australian badges was that of Adam Watson. In the 1930's he wrote a series of articles for the 'Queenslander'. The plate shown is taken from the 'Queenslander' which is available in most major libraries.



BOOK REVIEWS

by

B.J. Videon

It never fails to amaze this reviewer, that so many and such a wide variety of interesting and useful books can be produced to inform and delight the collector and student of militaria and of military history. Among the more recent releases are the following:

From Arms and Armour Press: (Australian Representatives, Thomas C. Lothian Pty. Ltd.

Uniforms and Equipment

"Key Uniform Guides, Numbers 1,2,3 and 4" entitled, respectively.

"United States Infantry Europe 1942-45" by Howard P. Davies.

"British Parachute Forces 1940-45" by Howard P. Davies.

"British Eighth Army North Africa 1940-43" by Robin Adair.

"Luftwaffe Air Crews Battle of Britain 1940" by Brian L. Davis.

Priced at 95 pence each in the U.K., each of 32 pages, in card covers, size 24½cm x 18½cm, these contain numerous pictures in black and white, with a wealth of descriptive and historical detail, and in each case, coloured inside and outside the covers show details of uniforms and equipment essential to the collector of models or of full-sized gear.

All are edited by Brian L. Davis, wellknown for his military publications, and these very manageable little books will be sought after by the amateur and the more advanced student alike. This reviewer found to his delight that in two volumes, there were illustrations and identifications of two items previously unidentified in his militaria collection! Many other items were explained in greater detail than had previously been available. Recommended for this reason!

Colour Guide to German Army Uniforms 1933-1945 by J.L. de Smet

Priced at 2.40 Pounds in the U.K. (Australian price \$7.25) this small (18cm x 13cm) of 65 pages shows in colour the uniforms, insignia and some of the accoutrements of the Army of the Third Reich. Text is in both English and German, which will be a help to the struggling student of the German language, with problems in translating other publications from the German(!), and both text and illustrations seem to be quite accurate and useful. Perhaps the colour strays occasionally from the true originals, but there is no doubt as to what is meant. Details of accoutrements in particular will be useful to modellers and collectors alike. This is not a complete text book, but it can not be overlooked by the German enthusiast. Hard covers, with dust jackets.

British Military Uniforms 1768-96 by Hew Strachen

Priced at 4.95 Pounds in the U.K., and with 72 plates in black and white, this most important book comprises extracts from clothing warrants of the British Army, and from other archives dealing with the supply, design and issue of uniform. More than Dress Regulations, the orders here included deal with clothing, accoutrements, and other equipment, including some of the swords, used in the years under review. Not only descriptions, but also the story behind the adoption of the relevant items, may be read in the language of the day, as penned by those ancient military clerks.

The arrangement of the book into segments corresponding to the same sort of order that the Dress Regulations, that were subsequently developed, used, will simplify the use of these orders by those accustomed to dealing with the British Army in its usual Order of Precedence.

A comparatively large book, 384 pages, size 22½cm x 14½cm, it includes an adequate Index, and will comprise, as its Publishers claim, 'a basic requirement for everyone concerned with British military costume'. It certainly fills a desperate need for those who have been baffled by the older styles of British uniforms so often illustrated, but so rarely identified. With hard covers and a pleasant dust jacket, a great addition to the bookshelf!

Weapons

The Bayonet — A history of knife and sword bayonets 1850-1970 by Anthony Carter and John Walter.

Priced at 2.75 Pounds in the U.K. (Australian price \$9.50). Having had an interest in bayonets for some years, the reviewer was delighted to see the clear sketches in this book, showing all relevant details of a great many bayonets from countries all round the world. Makers marks and other markings are dealt with in each case, and simplify identifications for the beginner in this field. A historical introduction, followed by a country-by-country treatment in alphabetical order, provide identifications to most bayonets likely to come in the hands of the average collector. It was a slight disappointment that one German trenchknife-bayonet on the front cover of the book did not appear in the text, but in general, this is an excellent and very informative book. Our own member, Mr Ted Millett, has a mention in the section dealing with Australian bayonets. Of 128 pages, with over 300 drawings in fine detail, size 25½cm x 19¼cm, hard covers and an attractive dust jacket, this is a valuable book, which may be supplemented by nine other books on edged weapons described on the back cover, and available from the same publishers.

Japanese Sword Blades by Alfred Dobree

Australian Price \$6.25. This little book is not for everyone, but for the collector of Japanese swords, or for the person who wants to know something of them, it is a little gem. Of only 73 pages, and with card covers, of size 21½cm x 14cm, it contains a text

based on papers presented by Alfred Dobree, CBE, in 1905, to the Royal Archaeological Institute. The history of Japanese swords is presented, together with photographic and other illustrations that show how different blades can be identified. Appendixes at the rear show a host of Japanese characters that may be found on swords, together with their meanings. A list of the principal swordsmiths and the characteristics of their work is also of interest.

Finally, for the true enthusiast, there is a section dealing with care of the sword blade, a must for those of us who have had visitors handle with the sticky little fingers the one shiny blade we may have owned! At first sight, not a bargain, but look deeper, and you will perceive its worth.

Military Breech-loading Rifles by V.D. Majendie and C.O. Browne

Priced at 2.60 Pounds in the U.K. (Australian price \$7.85). Covering the adoption of the Snider-rifle into the British Army, and the search for a more efficient rifle that led through many trials to the adoption of the Martini-Henry, this is not a recently-written work, but a compilation of the investigations and reports of contemporary officials of the Royal Laboratory at Woolwich. Technical in its approach, it sets out in text, pictures and graphs, details of the weapons, their performances and the ammunitions tried. The methods of manufacture of the rounds are discussed and illustrated by cutaway sketches, and, altogether, this book is for the collector of firearms or cartridges in particular. Its value may be assessed when one learns that the book, when published in 1870, was regarded with official approval, although not actually achieving text-book status. Hard cover, dust jacket, 129 pages plus Index, with a wealth of detail, size 22½cm x 14¼cm.

German Infantry Weapons of World War 2 by A.J. Barker

British and American Infantry Weapons of World War 2 by A.J. Barker

Both priced at 75 pence in the U.K. (Australian price \$2.60). Here are two interesting and useful little books showing the weapons used by the British, American and German forces in the second world war. Written by an expert (Lt.Col. Barker served in the Infantry from 1936-1958, including two years as infantry weapons instructor at the Royal Military College of Science, and has written numerous works on military subjects), these books explain simply, clearly and completely the development of weapons for each side, and then give all relative and necessary details of all the weapons used. Photos and sketches, including some of ammunition, augment the excellent text. Appendixes give comparative tables and data, while German manufacturers codes will be of interest to the German collectors. In card covers, size 21½cm x 14cm, each of 78 pages, these are good value.

For those who wish to contact the publishers of the Australian Distributors, the addresses are:

Arms and Armour Press, Lionel Leventhal Ltd., 2-6 Hampstead High St., London, NW3, England.

and

Thomas C. Lothian Pty., Ltd., 4-12 Tattersall's Lane, Melbourne, Victoria. 3000.

For Wargamers and Modellers

From Model and Allied Publications Ltd. (Australian Representatives: Thomas C. Lothian Pty. Ltd.)

The Funnies — A History, with scale plans, of the 79th Armoured Division by Geoffrey W. Futter.

The 79th Armoured Division was one of the most interesting army units to have existed. In 1943 it was converted to a specialised role that resulted in its unique collection of equipment and the required skills to operate them. Tanks of all types, Bailey Bridges, the Log Carpet Device, Crabs, Congers, Dozers, amphibious vehicles, peculiar trucks, and other oddities, were used to brilliant effect by this formation until the end of the European war. Mr Futter gives, not only the history and insignia of the Division, but also photos and sketches of its equipment, with sufficient detail to fill the needs of modellers and historians alike. In soft covers, with 131 pages including an excellent Index, and with all the detail given, this is excellent value for the British price of 2.75 Pounds. Australian price \$8.25. Size 24½cm x 19cm.

From Hicks Smith & Sons, 301 Kent St., Sydney

More Battlefields of England by A.H. Burne — Publisher, Methuen & Co. Ltd., London. Priced at 4.60 Pounds in the U.K. (Australian price \$15.20). A sequel to "Battlefields of England", this is a most interesting book for the student of ancient military history, and would be of interest to the wargamer. It covers the period between AD51 and 1645, and, in it, Lieutenant Colonel Burne explores the history, topography and results of 18 battles ranging from Cadaoc (commonly known as Caractacus) versus the Romans at Clun Valley, to Roundheads versus Cavaliers at Langport, in the last pitched battle of the First Civil War. Sketchmaps and topographical sketches help to make the scenes of battles live for the reader, and the painstaking research and, in many cases, the intelligent deductions from events where no records are extant, add to the interest of events which, in themselves, were so important to the history of our mother country. Hard covers, excellent quality paper and production, dust covers, and good value. 216 pages, including Index, size 22½cm x 14½cm.

Military Badge Collecting by John Gaylor

(Published by Seely, Service & Co., London) Aust. price &9.60.

In line with the current upsurge in the field of militaria collecting, many books have become available to serve the collector in furthering his knowledge of his particular interest. Many books on uniforms and equipment, weapons tactics etc etc are coming off the presses with great frequency, ranging from basic guides in paperback to weighty volumes dealing with every aspect of militaria.

Military Badge Collecting, by John Gaylor, falls into a middle class which caters for both the beginner but has much to offer the long time collector. The book covers all British Army Headdress badges from 1881 to 1970 and consists of 138 pages of text plus 50 pages of photographs covering more than 600 badges. The text is very detailed listing all known variations and to quote the author is intended as a guide to badge collecting and not just a catalogue of badges of the period. The text is easy to read, with touches of humour and has chapters on Mounting and Display, Translation of Mottoes, Plastic Badges among other detailed sections and most importantly has a very comprehensive Index.

If one can offer a minor criticism it is the fact that the 50 pages of photographs are found at the end of the text, but no doubt this was necessary in the interests of economy.

John Gaylor, who is Secretary of the Military Historical Society, has been a collector since 1939 and this book is the record of his vast knowledge of the subject. It is a reference book which is a "must" for all British Army badge collectors and will also serve as a useful reference for those collectors of Australian badges for the chapters on collecting in general, care and cleaning and mounting and display.

Australian readers may obtain a copy from Collins Book Depot, 115 Elizabeth St., Melbourne, Vic. 3000.

King of Kiriwina by G. Saville and J. Austin

(Published by Les Cooper Ltd. - London)

Sgt. Gordon Saville was a member of ANGAU (Australian New Guinea Administrative Unit), who, early in 1943, was posted as patrol officer at Kiriwina, to become sole Australian Government representative on the Irobiand Islands, a group of islands located in the Solomon Sea, 150 miles North of Meïne Bay. The area was subject to Japanese control, but riot into this situation Saville, armed only with a pistol and 12 rounds, made his first (and last) parachute jump.

The story of his nine months as King of Kiriwina is a fascinating tale which one will find very hard to put down. It tells the story of this island paradise from the early history of Western influence, through the daily life and habits of the natives, including their rather unique sexual customs, to the stark reality of war which finally

caught up with the islands in mid 1943. Not the least important message from the book is that of the destruction of the island economy by the American invasion of the island and indeed the unopposed abortive amphibious assault that was used as an example of how not to organise such an operation.

Saville's common sense and great sense of humour were often stretched close to breaking point but always he was able to cope with the situation and his standing with the natives may be gauged from the £ 245 which the natives offered General Morris, Commander of ANGAU, for his purchase so that he could remain with them.

As an example of the work of ANGAU this book should be read by all military historians interested in the New Guinea Campaign but as a good readable yarn it is a book to be read as entertainment regardless of the historical interest of the reader.

Australian readers can obtain a copy from Collins Book Depot, 115 Elizabeth St., Melbourne, Vic. 3000.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Editor,
"Sabretache"

Early Cavalry Unit

It was with interest that I read the article "New South Wales Cavalry 1854-1935" by P.B. Burness which appeared in the February 1975 edition of "Sabretache". I do not agree with the statement that New South Wales was the first Colony to raise a Volunteer Cavalry Unit. This honour belongs to South Australia. There was a force known as the South Australian Volunteer Militia raised in 1840. (G.G.114/1840). This force consisted of Cavalry and Infantry.

Bob Gray.

GALLIPOLI

By

Eric Bush, George Allen Ltd., 1975 pp. 335

Reviewed by: James W. Courtney

It may be strange to some that a boy of fifteen, when most boys of his age were still at school, could find himself in charge of a picket boat from the cruiser HMS Bacchante towing three ships boats crammed full of Australian and New Zealand troops heading for the inferno and carnage which lay ahead at Gallipoli, on a beach later to be known as ANZAC.

This happened before dawn on 25 April 1915, and for the following 72 hours, Midshipman Bush worked without respite in fanatical attempts to get men and supplies onto the beach ahead. For his actions he received the Distinguished Service Cross, the youngest ever to receive it.

Bush saw the war from start to finish, and although many books have been written about the Gallipolo Campaigns, few have covered the story in such a captivating manner or have been so critical of the planning and organisation of the landing, particularly so of his own service, the Royal Navy, to whom he attributes most of the blame for the final outcome of what was to become a futile and costly campaign. He sheets most of the blame squarely on the Navy, who caused the landing to be made more than a mile north of the planned landing point, which was the first of a series of blunders, errors of judgement and tactical mistakes on both the Navy and Army side which eventually led to the evacuation (successfully in terms of troop losses) which perhaps was the highlight of the campaign.

After the war, he revisited the battle areas on many occasions, and pieced together the story which unfolds in his book. In doing so he spoke to many of the men "who were there", and read many diaries, reports and accounts written at the time. His own personal experiences in World War II in combined operations make him eminently suitable to write what will be perhaps the last book to be written by someone who was on the spot.

Bush captivates the reader by his clarity of style and narration, and his deliberate interviews of the men of the many nations who were present, including a number of senior service officers of the day. His liberal use of photographs also enhances his work.

The cost in terms of life were high on Gallipoli. The Allies suffered 285,665 casualties in their efforts to take the Peninsula, whilst estimates of Turkish casualties vary from 251,000 to 350,000. Australia's casualties were 26,094 (7,594 killed) and New Zealand's 7,571, including 2,431 killed.

Although the cost of this work may seem high, (recommended price \$21-10) it is good value for money, and must surely enhance the Military Collectors' Library, as it is a must for the collector, and in terms of value to the reader, is well worth the cost of what must surely be one of the best books written about the Gallipoli Campaign.

THE COLLECTOR

178 Payneham Road,
Evandale, S.A. 5069
Phone 42 5599

KEN STANLEY
Phone 264 4158
After Hours

ROBIN LEVINSON
Phone 264 9319
After Hours

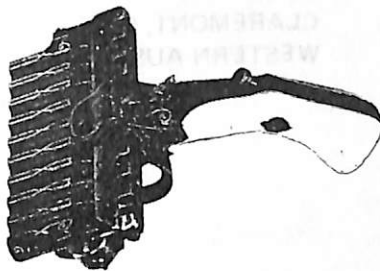
Please address all correspondence to P.O. Box 54, Ingle Farm, S.A. 5098

As the result of our expansion we are publishing a sales list each month, so please advise address if you wish to receive a copy.

We handle genuine items of Militaria, Medals, Badges, Helmets, Swords, Daggers, Bayonets, War Souvenirs, Antique Guns and related items.

IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SELL OR
EXCHANGE, PLEASE LET US KNOW AS
WE ARE INTERESTED IN ALL YOUR

SURPLUS ITEMS



**J. BURRIDGE
9 Albert St.,
Claremont. 6010
Western Australia.**

Cables: Lucknow
Perth, W.A.

Telephone: 314139



MEDALS – BADGES – EDGED WEAPONS – HELMETS

LARGE RANGE OF THE FINEST MILITARY

ANTIQUES AVAILABLE IN AUSTRALIA

CURRENT ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE NOW AVAILABLE

AT \$2.00 FOR 4 ISSUES – REFUNDED WITH FIRST PURCHASE

**J. Burrige,
9 Albert St.,
CLAREMONT, 6010
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.**



The Armoury

296 BRIGHTON ROAD, NORTH BRIGHTON, SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5048

Michael Oleinkaff, J.P. Neville Gibson

Telephone: 08-2965126 AH 08-2935028 or 08-2962855

Our first 1975 catalogue was nearly a sell out. In fact medals and badges were sold out. Swords and longarms as usual were very popular, the Baker rifles being among the first to go. Our book catalogue published in April, 1975 was also well received, some of the better items such as the first edition of 'Greener on Gunnery' was ordered 16 times. We are now in the preparation of our catalogue for the second half of 1975 which should be ready early in July. If not already on our mailing list please send \$1.00 for our catalogues. Please note that \$1.00 does not cover the printing costs. We have decided to devote a major portion of this catalogue to the Sword and to this end we have purchased a fine private collection as well as many other fine individual pieces so far we have 75 swords including Rapiers, Smallswords, Courtswords, Blue and Gilt sabres and swords etc.. Guns will include Muzzle-loading cannons down to the finest ladies purse pistols. Including a good selection of 12 inch Sea Service flintlocks in both .56 and 65 cal.

The Long Arm Collector will be well catered for with a selection of Nocks Screwless lock muskets, Blunderbusses, Harcourts and Yeomanry flintlocks carbines up to Mausers, Jungle carbines etc. . .

We look forward to hearing from you.

GALLANT AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE --- VIETNAM 1962-1973

by

I. L. BARNES



Foreword by

1 Lt Gen Hon Sir Edmund Herring, KCMG, KBE, DSO, MC, KStJ, ED.

A MUST FOR ALL WITH AN INTEREST
IN AUSTRALIAN MILITARY HISTORY AND
ALL WHO SERVED IN VIETNAM

Cardboard Cover — \$5.00

Limited Edition

—

So Order Now

All Profits Go To The MHSA Support Your Society

Order From Federal Secretary

ADVERTISEMENT

ITEMS AVAILABLE FROM FEDERAL SECRETARY

All profits from the sale of these items are used to further the efforts of the Society in providing additional publications at a minimum price for members, so buy and help the Society to help you.

Publications Available	Price	
Soudan Contingent, NSW. 1885. R. Clark. 2nd Edition	2.50	
Medals To Australians. M. Downey	2.50	
1st QMI Contingent in the SA War. R. Clark	2.50	
New Zealand Medal for HMCS Victoria. R. Clark	1.00	
Australian Awards of the Kings South Africa Medal. R. Clark	2.50	
Dress Regulations, Commonwealth Military Forces. 1903	2.00	
Dress Regulations, Commonwealth Military Forces. 1906	2.00	
Australian Imperial Force, 1914-20. Data	2.50	
Volunteer Movement in Western Australia. Weick	2.00	
Western Australian Contingent in the South Africa War. Burriog	2.50	
1st Bn, 5 Australian Infantry Regt.	2.00	
Sir Ross Smith Flight	1.00	
Small Arms of World War 1	1.00	
Saga of a Sig. Ken Clift	5.50	
The Whale Oil Gaurds By J. Kennedy (53 Battalion)	5.00	
Orders for more than two books 50 cents, otherwise add 40 cents for each book		
Badges, Buttons and Insignia		
Medallions 50th Anniversary of Armistice, 1918	Gilt 5.00	
	Silvered 4.00	
	Bronze 3.00	
Cloth Insignia 3 Division Formation Sign	10 cents	
HMAS Lonsdale Tally Band	10 cents	
ARP Badges, Victoria Tin, ARP Warden	10 cents	
	Metal, various types	30 cents
Buttons RAAF, Kings Crown, Brass and oxidised, various sizes	10 cents	
	AMF, Kings Crown, brass and oxidised, various types and sizes	10 cents
	AMF and Corps, current pattern, various types and sizes	10 cents
Badges, Rank Major and Lt KC and QC Gilt, white metal and oxidised	20 cents	
Add 43 cents for postage with each order.		
Model Soldier Australian Light Horse type, Galipoli dress	1.00	

**AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL PUBLICATIONS AT 20 PERCENT
DISCOUNT TO SOCIETY MEMBERS**

These Australian War Memorial publications may only be purchased from the Secretary at a 20 percent discount on prices shown. Outstanding value which members should make use of. No limit on the number of copies a member may purchase. Postage must be added. Within Australia (per volume): N.S.W. 80 cents; Vic & Qld 95 cents; SA, NT & Tas \$1.20; WA \$1.30. Overseas: \$3.10 (Any overpayment will be refunded.)

OFFICIAL HISTORY – AUSTRALIA IN THE WAR OF 1939-1945 (22 Volumes)

The following 21 volumes have been published

		Price
Series 1	TO BENGHAZI, Gavin Long	\$2.50
(Army)	GREECE, CRETE AND SYRIA, Gavin Long	\$3.00
	TOBRUK AND EL ALAMEIN, Barton Maughan	\$4.00
	THE JAPANESE THRUST, Lionel Wigmore	\$4.00
	SOUTH-WEST PACIFIC AREA – FIRST YEAR, Dudley McCarthy	\$3.00
	THE NEW GUINEA OFFENSIVES, David Dexter	\$4.00
	THE FINAL CAMPAIGNS, Gavin Long	\$3.50
Series 2		
(Navy)	ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY, 1942-1945, G. Hermon Gill	\$4.00
Series 3	ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE, 1939-1942, Douglas Gillison	\$4.00
(Air)	AIR WAR AGAINST JAPAN, 1943-1945, George Odgers	\$3.50
	AIR WAR AGAINST GERMANY AND ITALY, 1939-1943, John Herington	\$3.00
	AIR POWER OVER EUROPE, 1944-1945, John Herington	\$3.50
Series 4	THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE, 1939-1941 Paul Hasluck	\$3.00
(Civil)	THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE, 1942-1945 Paul Hasluck	\$4.00
	WAR ECONOMY, 1939-1942, S.J. Butlin	\$2.50
	THE ROLE OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY, D.P. Mellor	\$3.00
Series 5	CLINICAL PROBLEMS OF WAR)	\$3.50
(Medical)	MIDDLE EAST AND FAR EAST)	\$3.50
	THE ISLAND CAMPAIGNS) Allen S. Walker	\$3.50
	MEDICAL SERVICES OF THE RAN)	
	AND THE RAAF)	\$3.50

OFFICIAL HISTORY – AUSTRALIA IN THE WAR OF 1914-1918 (12 Volumes)

The following 6 volumes are still available:

Vol. II – THE STORY OF ANZAC (Part II) C.E.W. Bean	\$2.10
Vol. IV – THE A.I.F. IN FRANCE, 1917, C.E.W. Bean	\$2.10
Vol. V – THE A.I.F. IN FRANCE, 1918, C.E.W. Bean	\$2.10

Vol. VI – THE A.I.F. IN FRANCE, 1918, C.E.W. Bean	\$2.10
Vol. VII – THE A.I.F. IN SINAI AND PALESTINE, H.S. Gullett	\$2.10
ANZAC TO AMIENS, C.E.W. Beans	\$3.00
A concise history of the 1914-1918 War	
THE SIX YEARS WAR, Gavin Long	\$7.50
A concise history of the 1939-1945 War	
PICTORIAL HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA AT WAR, 1939-45	\$23.00
A five-volume photographic record	
SERVICE ANNUALS – Of the 20 published, the following is still available	
On Guard	\$1.00
SOLDIERS OF THE QUEEN – 12 inch long play record	\$4.00
MUSIC OF BOER WAR (Postage 80 cents)	\$4.00
THEY DARED MIGHTILY, Ed, Lionel Wigmore in collaboration with Bruce Harding. The story of Australian VC and GC awards.	\$4.20
AUSTRALIA AT ARMS, Ed. Norman Bartlett	\$2.50
From the Maori Wars to World War II.	
WITH THE AUSTRALIANS IN KOREA, Ed. Norman Bartlett	\$2.50
A cover of the Korean War	
TWO MEN I KNEW, C.E.W. Bean	\$2.00
William Bridges and Brudenell White – Founders of the A.I.F.	
SOUVENIR RECORD FOLDER	\$1.25
Bugle Calls played in Cloisters of AWM (Postage 40 cents)	
THE SHELLAL MOSAIC, A.D. Trendell. Paperback, illustrated	60 cents
Description of the discovery, origin and design of this important relic.	
OTHER BANNERS, Ed. J.T. Laird	\$3.90
An anthology of Australian prose and verse of the 1914-18 War	
MILITARY AIRCRAFT OF AUSTRALIA, 1909-1918, Keith Isaacs.	\$6.50
The first of four volumes of a history of Australian military aviation since 1909	
AIRCRAFT MURAL CHARTS – Chart 1 (1909-1918), Chart 2 (1919-1939) and chart 3 (1940-1942). Three of six charts of the Australia War Memorial aircraft mural by Harold Freedman. (Packing and postage on one or two charts is 50 cents extra; three charts and up to six, posted together would cost an extra 90 cents.)	25 ea.

HALL OF MEMORY – Paperback. Description with illustrations in colour	60 cents
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL PAINTINGS, Ronald Monson Paperback, illustrated	60 cents
PORTFOLIO OF WAR MEMORIAL PAINTINGS, 9 reproductions	\$1.50
POSTCARDS OF WAR MEMORIAL PAINTINGS – 6 cards in wallet	60 cents
THE BILLYBOY AND CEMENT WORKER – Reproductions of Dobell's paintings	\$1.50 ea.
COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHIC POSTCARDS – War Memorial Scenes	10 ea.
VIEW FOLDERS (2) – War Memorial Scenes in colour	25 ea.
COLOUR SLIDES (35mm) – War Memorial Scenes	30 ea.
AUSTRALIANS IN THE BOER WAR	40 ea.
THE SIX YEARS WAR – G. Long	\$7.50
BLAMEY – Controversial Soldier – J. Hetherington	\$7.50

SPECIALS

Orders and Decorations by V. Menicka	\$5.00
Contains 195 plates mainly in colour. 316 pages	
Formation Signs obtained due to withdrawal from Singapore	
HQANZUK, 28 Bde ANZUK, FARELF, NZ Forces, Singapore District	30 ea.
Sydney University Regiment by A. Lilley	\$4.00

Payment with orders please

AS IT WAS by Major C. Dieppe (Western Front 1916-18)	\$3.50
--	--------

WANTED 1914-15 Star, War Medal and Victory Medal to 6836 Pte A.M. Baddon 8 BN AIF, 2653 Pte A. Robinson, 3501 Pte J.R. Whitehead, 1365 Pte F. Bourke, 1387 Pte H.G. Hudson, 1346 L/Cpl W.S. Cox, 395 Sgt G.J. Clunne, 1515 Sgt P. Carrick, 4363 Pte J.W. Blankenberg, 351 Pte W.O'Brien, 1695 Pte C.J.R. Steel, 2134 Pte W. McDonald, 2833 L/Cpl P.B. Geary, 3105 Col H. Valling, 2525 Pte A. Juens, 3162 Pte J.H. Meers, 1914 Pte J. Duke.

CONTACT – Secretary

BOOKS AND MILITARIA

Contact

J.B. HIRSH

P.O. Box 20,
GLENHUNTLY, Vic. 3163

Phone: 211-5469

Large Stocks of Orders, Decorations, Medals,

Badges, Uniforms and General Militaria

Mail Orders Our Speciality

Send \$1.00 for 12 months subscription to our Catalogue, issued quarterly

Top prices paid for your surplus stocks of books, medals, badges and
militaria.

Write Today - Don't Delay



WANTED – MEDALS

1914-15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal trios to the following units:

Light Horse Regiments: 1,2,5,8,10, 13 to 23.

Infantry Battalions: 1,4,5,14,16,19,21,26,28,30,31,33.

Victory Medals to: Lieut P.A. Ballard AIF; 332 T Sgt E.R. Williams.

1914-15 Star and War Medal to: 6029 Pte S.C. Andrews; 1135 Pte T.W. Seshfield.

War Medal and Victory Medal to: 2857 Pte L.V. Brooks.

Mercantile Marine Medal and Victory Medal to: B.C. Haylock 3053.

Any WW2 Medals to: W. Hockett MN

WANTED – AUSTRALIAN BADGES

1903-12 ALH – Hat: 16 without motto

Collar: 8 facing right, 9 facing right, 13 facing right

1903-12 Infantry – Hat: 3,4,5

Collar: 4 pair

1912-18 ALH – Hat: 26,28,29

Collar: 2 facing right, 25 facing right

Infantry – Hat: 7,19,46,50,54,60,65,70,88,92,86

1930-42 LH – Hat: 12,16,24, 1 Arm'd Car, 2 Arm'd Car

Collars: 1 Arm'd Car, 2 Arm'd Car, 7,24

Infantry – Hat: 6,8,18,23,28,37,50,52,55,56

WANTED – BOOKS

3 Light Horse Regt by G. Bell; 4 Light Horse Regt by C. Smith; 8 Light Horse Regt by T. Austin; History of 15 Battalion by P. Chataway; 20 Battalion AIF by M. Jones; The Story of 21 Battalion by A. McNeil; Eggs A Cook by G. Longmore; 3 Light Horse Brigade by C. Wilson; 4 Light Horse Brigade by F. Nutting.

If you have any of the above medals, badges or books for sale or exchange the please contact:

REX CLARK,

140 Belconnen Way,

Scullin, A.C.T. 2614.



MILITARIA



BOX 138 P.O. GRAFTON 2460

AUSTRALIAS OLDEST ESTABLISHED FULL TIME MILITARIA

MEDALS

HELMETS

UNIFORMS

BOOKS

RIBBONS

DAGGERS

BADGES



ALL CURIOS BOUGHT AND SOLD

50c STAMPS FOR CATALOGUE



ADVERTISEMENT

IRISH REGIMENTAL BADGES AND MILITARIA

WANTED: Books, Medals, Cap Badges and Shoulder Titles to the Royal Irish Regt., Royal Meinster Fusiliers, Royal Dublin Fusiliers. Also Cap Badges or Shoulder Titles to the Australian Irish Units.

**CASH OFFERED FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE OR CAN OFFER
MOST U.S. AWARDS IN EXCHANGE.**

Robert J. Rolleg,
1745 Grand Avenue,
Long Beach, California, 90801
U.S.A.

WANTED TO BUY

1930-42 AUSTRALIAN HAT BADGES

CONTACT:

Mr L.J. Landis,
94 Rice Street,
North Rockhampton,
QLD. 4701.

SUPER BOOK VALUE !!

"A Pictorial History of The United States Army In War And Peace, From Colonial Times To Vietnam" by Gene Gurney.

3,000 Illustrations in colour and black and white. Colour plates include insignia, medals etc.

Over 800 large pages.

SUPER VALUE AT \$10.00 AUST.

SALE TO ASSIST SOCIETY FUNDS

CLOTH INSIGNIA

CLOTH INSIGNIA

A LARGE RANGE OF CLOTH INSIGNIA RANGING FROM
1912 TO 1970's

SILVER BULLION BRIGADE SHOOTING BADGE – \$2.00

TITLES EMBROIDED – 20 CENTS EACH

Central Queensland Regt – North Queensland Regt
Perth University Regt – 6 Rec. Training Coy – NSW
University of Technology Regt (2 types) – 14 and 15
National Service Training Bns – Royal Aust Army
Dental Corps (1st type)

SERVICE CHEVRONS – 1939-45 – 4 & 2 years Bars – 10 cents each

BATTALION CHAMPION SHOOTING TEAM (1912-22) – 50 cents each

SPECIAL PACK – 10-12 ITEMS – \$1.00 pack

Includes Titles, Formation Signs, Colour Patches etc.

AVAILABLE FROM

Federal Secretary,
P.O. Box 67,
LYNEHAM. ACT. 2602.

PLEASE ADD 43 CENTS FOR POSTAGE

All Proceeds to assist Society Funds



MEMBERS ADDS

WANTED

— **POLICE MEDALS**
EITHER SINGLES OR GROUPS
WILL EITHER PURCHASE OR EXCHANGE

CONTACT — H. Storer,
4 Deanswood Court,
Cheltenham, Vic. 3192

WANTED

PURCHASE OR EXCHANGE

- (1) **RAAF ½ WING PARA-JUMP INSTRUCTOR**
BOTH SILVER AND EMBROIDED

- (2) **WORLD WAR II AUSTRALIAN PARACHUTIST**
SHOULDER FLASH, "BLUE EAGLE/MAROON BACK-
GROUND"

CONTACT — E. Wilkins,
25 Charmaine St.,
Moorooka, Q'land. 4105

