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Sabretache



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SABRETACHE

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OF AUSTRALIA



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JAMES W. COURTNEY

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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.

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EDITORIAL

Over the past months quite an amount of correspondence and articles dealing with the appalling situation in which the Australian National War Memorial has found itself in relation to the conservation of relics, particularly paintings, uniforms and other items which need constant attention and care, have come to light in the Press.

Indeed, the present Director, perhaps to the astonishment and dismay of his Public Service counterparts, appeared publicly on television to show the conditions which some of these invaluable items are in. These relics have been placed in the care of the Board of Trustees, for safe keeping and preservation for future generations to see. They belong to the people of Australia.

It is estimated that the items held at the Memorial exceed \$100,000,000 in value, and that their collection of paintings alone is one of the finest and most priceless in Australia.

Yet, we have a situation where the Government of the day has seen fit not to increase the staff vitally needed to carry out this maintenance, but also to place financial restrictions to enable the present under-staffed conservationists and assistants to keep anywhere near abreast of their work. In fact it is admitted that many items will never be able to be properly treated and kept in proper display condition.

Perhaps it is not quite fair to blame the present Government for this situation. It could well be that successive past Governments have not provided the necessary staff ceilings and finance to carry out the work, and perhaps it could well be asked whether previous Directors and Boards of Trustees of the nation's prized collection of militaria have been insistent enough over the years to demand trained personnel and the necessary finance when such were readily available. Indeed had the early custodians of our national heritage had the foresight, knowledge and training, which has certainly been present in similar institutions around the world, the present predicament would never have occurred.

The present Director has at least acted with great courage and sense of purpose to try to ensure that past wrongs might be righted, but unfortunately the time when immediate action is required comes when the nation is gearing itself to financial cutbacks in expenditure.

I am aware that most, if not all, Government Departments, and organisations which affiliate themselves with particular facets of those departments, tend to think that theirs are more important and deserving of support than others.

However, in relation to the Australian National War Memorial it must be remembered that it is unique among the great national monuments of the world for the grandeur of its setting, and the vivid manner in which its many and varied exhibits tell their historic story. Here, war is not glorified. The Memorial is the nation's tribute to the sacrifices and achievements of Australian men and women who died serving their country in time of war.

It is up to the Government and people of Australia to ensure that it is properly and effectively maintained, and that whatever the cost, the collections housed within its

walls are conserved for all time as a symbol of our nations' heritage, for generations to come.

I would like to request all members of our Society to write to their local members stressing their concern at this deplorable situation.

JAMES W. COURTNEY
Editor "Sabretache"

NEW AUSTRALIAN HONOURS

Text of an address given by His Excellency The Governor-General of Australia The Honourable Sir John Kerr, K.C.M.G., K.St.J., Q.C., on Radio and Television on 17 February 1975.

I announced earlier today that Her Majesty The Queen had been pleased to give her approval to the institution of a new system of honours and awards for her Australian subjects — and in that announcement I outlined quite briefly the main elements of the system.

Under Letters Patent signed by The Queen, Her Majesty has established an Australian society of honour for the purpose of according recognition for achievement or for meritorious service. The Queen has also instituted certain Australian decorations to be awarded for acts of bravery, and an Australian medal for long service in certain occupations.

The society of honour is to be known as the "Order of Australia" with The Queen as the Sovereign Head of the Order, and with the Governor-General of Australia as the Chancellor of the Order, responsible for its administration.

I am making this statement as the representative of The Queen and as the Chancellor of the new Order.

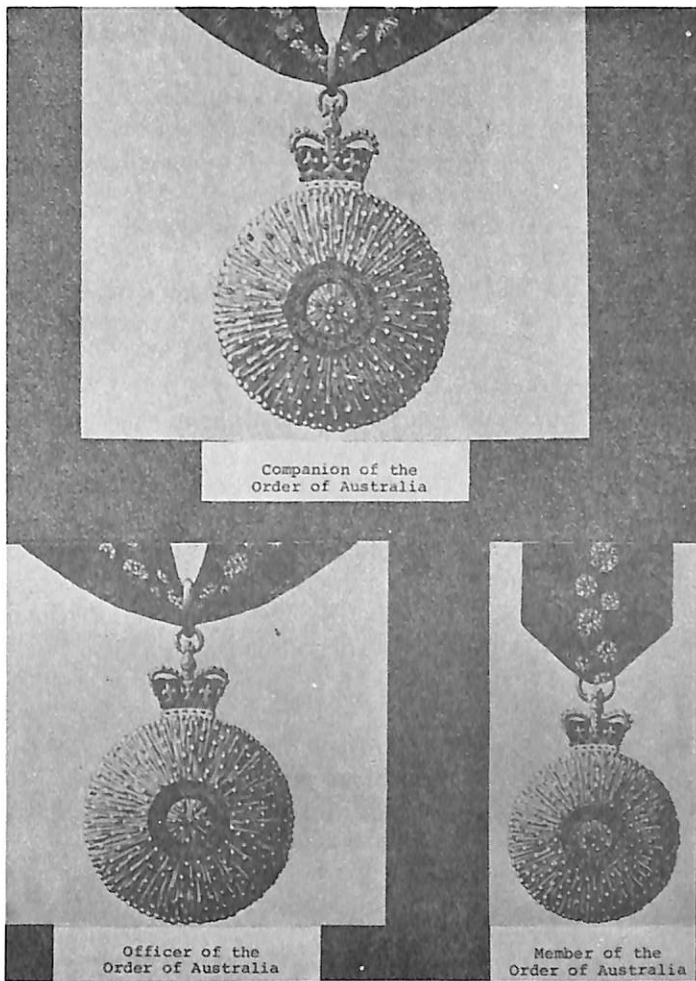
The Institution of this new system is a logical development from the change in Her Majesty's Australian Royal Style and Titles reflecting her position as "Queen of Australia", to which she was pleased to give approval when she visited Australia in October 1973.

Awards in the "Order of Australia" and for bravery will be made in the name of "The Queen", and with The Queen's approval, and will be available to all Australians.

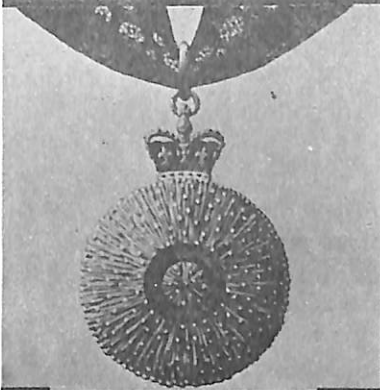
The "Order of Australia" is for distinguished service and there are three degrees of membership. There is a Civil Division of the Order and a Military Division.

The Companion in the Civil Division will be awarded to not more than 20 persons in any calendar year, for eminent achievement and merit of the highest degree in service to Australia or to humanity at large.

Not more than 50 persons may be appointed in any calendar year as Officers in the Civil Division — for distinguished service of a high degree to Australia or to humanity at large.



Companion of the
Order of Australia



Officer of the
Order of Australia



Member of the
Order of Australia

Not more than 125 Members in the Civil Division may be appointed in any calendar year – for service in a particular locality or field of activity or to a particular group.

In the Military Division of the Order of Australia, members of the Defence Forces may be appointed as Companions, Officers and Members – for important service in positions of great responsibility, for distinguished service in responsible positions and for exceptional service or performance of duty respectively.

For bravery there are four decorations – the Cross of Valour for acts of the most conspicuous courage in circumstances of extreme peril, the Star of Courage for acts of conspicuous courage in circumstances of great peril, the Bravery Medal for acts of bravery in hazardous circumstances, and the Commendation for Brave Conduct for other acts of bravery which are considered worthy of recognition.

Awards in the Civil Division of the Order of Australia will be recommended to the Governor-General by a Council representative of national and state interests. Awards in the Military Division will be recommended to the Governor-General by the Minister for Defence.

Awards for bravery decorations will be recommended to me by a Decorations Advisory Committee, which again is to be made up of appropriate Australian and State nominees.

I am already in touch with the Governors of the States to invite them to let me have any nominations they wish to make to these two advisory bodies. I have asked the Chief Justice of Australia to be the Chairman of the Council of the Order of Australia, and he has accepted the Office. I am hopeful that shortly after my return to Australia from the Coronation of the King of Nepal, the Council will be able to come together and consider nominations for awards that I expect will be forthcoming from all sections of the Australian community. Nominations may be made by governments at all levels and by any organisation or individual.

I anticipate that the standards of qualifications for awards established by the Council and by the Advisory Committee will be of the highest order, recognising not just service as such, but particularly seeking to recognise distinguished and outstanding achievement so that our awards will receive immediate recognition and acclaim.

An Office is being established at Government House, Canberra to administer all aspects of the new Honours system, and I have appointed my Official Secretary to be Secretary of the Order of Australia.

The Australian system also provides for a long service decoration to be called the “National Medal” for members of the uniformed services, including the armed forces, police, fire brigade and ambulance services. Recommendations for these awards can be made to me by the respective chiefs of the Australian and State forces. The principal criterion is diligent service for not less than 15 years.

Awards other than bravery awards will be announced by me in two lists each year – on Australia Day and on the day on which the Queen’s birthday is celebrated. It is intended that the first awards be announced on the Queen’s Birthday 1975 – that is on



Cross of Valour



Star of Courage



Bravery Medal



National Medal

14 June. I am hopeful also that the first investiture will be by Her Majesty personally, in Australia, at a later date and I know that Her Majesty is looking forward to this opportunity. In the meantime the design of the medals and insignia will be undertaken here in Australia and the designs in due course will be submitted to The Queen for her approval.

The institution of the new Australian Honours system does not affect the award by The Queen from time to time of British Honours which may be recommended under arrangements existing prior to today's announcement.

I commend the new Australian Honours system to Australians who, I hope, will help me in ensuring that the system is a success.

DESCRIPTION OF INSIGNIA AND DECORATIONS FOR THE AUSTRALIAN SYSTEM OF HONOURS AND AWARDS

The Order of Australia:

An individual ball of wattle blossom was the inspiration for a simple convex golden disc with its rich texture of beads and radiating lines accentuating a ring of blue enamel inspired by the sea.

The disc is surmounted by an enamelled Crown signifying the position of the Sovereign as Head of the Order. The whole is suspended from a ribbon of golden wattle motifs on a background of moire blue, again evoking ideas of the sea. The official colours of Australia — royal blue and gold — predominate throughout the insignia.

The insignia of the Companion and Officer will be worn as neck decorations: the insignia for the Member will be worn on the left breast.

Cross of Valour:

This is a gold cross in its simplest form, containing two other cross forms to suggest the theme of a cross of crosses. It has the shield and crest of the Australian Coat of Arms in its centre and is suspended by a Crown attached to a bar carrying the inscription "For Valour". The two reds of the wide ribbon symbolise the two colours of blood.

Star of Courage:

The shield and crest of the Australian Coat of Arms form the centre of a silver seven pointed federation star, textured to add sparkle. The star is suspended by a Crown attached to a bar carrying the inscription "For Courage". The ribbon, which is slightly narrower than that of the Cross of Valour, is of the same two reds but in transposed positions.

Bravery Medal:

A circular bronze medal with the shield and crest of the Australian Coat of Arms as its centre, on a background of wattle blossom, contained by a zig-zag border. It is suspended

by a Crown attached to a bar carrying the inscription "For Bravery". The ribbon also uses the two reds of the other two bravery decorations, but alternating in narrow vertical stripes.

National Medal:

A circular bronze medal with the full Australian Coat of Arms contained within a wide rim carrying the inscription "The National Medal: For Service". It is suspended by a crown attached to a ribbon of fifteen alternating gold and blue narrow vertical stripes symbolising fifteen years of service.



NOTE: There has been unfavourable criticism on the design of these awards. Sections of the Armed Services do NOT want to have their existing awards for long service replaced by what appears to be a very much inferior award. Comments by readers on these awards would be welcomed.

AUSTRALIAN WINNERS OF THE MILITARY CROSS AND TWO BARS

PART II

By

Major R. Clark

Lieutenant Leslie DADSON MC 12 Battalion AIF**

Leslie Dadson was born in Sidmouth, Tasmania on 6th March 1884 and prior to the first world war served in the local Militia Unit. In August 1914 he enlisted in the AIF, in the 12th Battalion as a Private although he was at the time a Sergeant in the Militia. He quickly rose through the ranks being promoted to Sergeant the Saturday after the landing at Gallipoli. As the platoon sergeant of 6 platoon 'B' company he led his platoon in the bitter fighting at Lone Pine. Soon after promotion to CSM he was commissioned although he previously had turned down a commission in order to remain with his mates. It took a lot of talking by the battalion commander Lt Col J.L. Whitham to convince him to change his mind.

Dadson except for one spell as an instructor in England was involved in all the major battalion actions and in addition he volunteered to lead several hazardous raiding parties. Lieutenant Dadson won the Military Cross for his good work in the fighting at Bouries on the 9th April 1917. He led two platoons under heavy fire, in an attack on the enemy trenches, with great skill and determination which allowed him to capture the position with very few casualties to his own troops although he captured two machine guns and

killed a number of the enemy. His personal bravery and initiative played a major part in the success of this action.

Six days later at Lagnicourt on 15 April 1917 he earned a Bar to his Military Cross. The citation for this award follows:—

BAR TO MILITARY CROSS

At Lagnicourt on April 15, 1917, while in charge of 'B' Company in the front line, during the enemy attack, he held the line, and on the two left companies falling back, took a small party forward and formed a protecting flank, personally directing its fire. Although hard-pressed by weight of numbers, he stood his ground, and succeeded in driving the enemy back, and showed a fine example of tenacity and pluck.

In August 1918 Dadson was awarded a Second Bar to his Military Cross and General Birdwood wrote the following letter of congratulations:

Dear Dadson,

I have been informed of the award to you of a second Bar to the Military Cross, in recognition of your conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in our operations near Lihons on the 11th August last, and write to congratulate you most heartily on this well-merited distinction. You led your company with great skill and determination against Augers and Crepey Woods, which were strenuously defended with many machine-guns. You, however, carried the position with great dash and courage, and by doing this facilitated the advance of the line. In all you captured 15 machine-guns and three field guns, and inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy. Thank you for your splendid work.

Yours sincerely,

W.R. Birdwood

He was presented with the MC by King George V at Buckingham Palace and the bars by General Sir William Birdwood at Lilydale in 1920.

On the completion of the war Lieutenant Dadson returned to Tasmania and continued his military interest by serving in the 51 Infantry and 22 ALH until the disbandment of country units in 1924. Dadson was married in 1918 and continued to work on his farm at Bangor. He was appointed to inspector to the Closer Settlement Board in 1922 and was the first President of the Lilydale sub-branch of the RSL.

On the outbreak of the second world war Dadson enlisted in the VDC and served until 15 March 1943. In 1950 he retired as an inspector for the Agricultural Bank and on the 5 May 1961 he died at his home in Launceston. Fifty of his ex-servicemen comrades formed a guard of honour at his funeral.

Decorations and medals awarded Lieutenant Dadson were:

1. MC with Two bars
2. 1914-15 Star
3. British War Medal
4. Victory Medal
5. Colonial Auxiliary Forces Long Service Medal.

As CARO were unable to find a record of his VDC service, Dadson has not been awarded the 1939-45 War Medal or Australian Service Medal.

Acknowledgements:

1. The author wishes to thank Mr S.E. Dadson and Cpl John Lucy who provided the information for this article.

Captain W.J.D. LYNAS DSO, MC, MID, 16th Battalion AIF**

How many Australians have heard of "Bill" Lynas and what items relating to his service are displayed in any museum. This great Australian whom C.E.W. Bean in the Official History describes as ⁽¹⁾, 'one of the finest fighting leaders that Australia produced, a man whose name was constantly coupled with those of Harry Murray, Percy Black and Albert Jacka, who had helped so significantly in giving this brigade its especial fight-fame.'

Walter James Dalton Lynas was born in Auckland, New Zealand on 20 December 1886 and early in his life moved to Western Australia. At the outbreak of the war in 1914 Lynas was working as a prospector near Marble Bar but he was one of the first to enlist in the 16th Battalion being posted to the Signal Section.⁽²⁾ He did splendid work on Gallipoli in the days when a signallers job was one that incurred as many (if not more) chances of death than that of the purely fighting soldier.

After the evacuation he was granted a commission, and in France he was appointed Scout Officer for the battalion. In that capacity he was never happier than when he was out in No Man's Land patrolling along the enemy wire in search of scalps. While attached in England to a training Battalion he heard of the Bullecourt disaster, and took "French" leave in order to rejoin the battalion in the line. It required considerable effort on the part of his C.O. and of General Brand to save Lynas from a courtmartial for being absent without leave from his training camp in England! As a captain and company commander, "Bill" Lynas was ever an inspiration to his men, and in the final stages of the war he commanded the battalion. This wonderful soldier and leader of men was popular with all who soldiered with him, and his services were rewarded by a DSO, MC and two bars.

The citations for the incredible record of fighting awards follow:

Award of Military Cross

For conspicuous gallantry as Intelligence Officer during operations on 29-30 August 1916. He personally reconnoitered at great risk all the area to be covered by the advance, and later after the successful attacks he reconnoitered the front and kept the brigade fully informed of the situation. He was instrumental in capturing 30 unwounded prisoners.

Australian Military Order 180 of 1917.



Capt W.J. LYNAS, DSO, MC**

Award of Bar to Military Cross

For conspicuous gallantry in action. He carried out several most valuable reconnaissances under heavy fire, displaying great courage and coolness. Later he rendered valuable services in reorganising the line and leading stretcher parties.

Australian Military Order 180 of 1917

Award of Second Bar to Military Cross

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in charge of a raid on 15 June 1918. Previous to the raid he made personal reconnaissances and preparations which greatly contributed to its success. In the raid itself five prisoners and three machine guns were captured, four machine guns and several dugouts destroyed, and about fifty of the enemy were killed. He rendered most valuable service, and showed fine courage and leadership.

Australian Military Order 87 of 15/2/19

Award of the Distinguished Service Order

For remarkable courage and leadership during an attack. He supervised the placing of the men on the "jumping off" line, and though wounded in two places just before zero, he nevertheless led his company to the assault. He was then again wounded, but refused to go back until the position was taken. Of seven machine guns and four trench mortars captured by his company he took several himself, and personally inflicted many casualties on the enemy.

Australian Military Order 87 of 15/2/19

MID

AMO 262 of 31/5/19

An interesting episode in the use of tanks took place on 8 August 1918 and an account of this from the Official War History follows:

"And by immense effort, Lynas with his parties and the tank personnel had managed by 10.25 to get four tanks (passengers walking outside) to the chalk-banked road on which the 16th was assembling. The intelligence officer Lieut. Bradley, told them that the battalion was ready to move, and that the 13th were "getting a bad time" from machine-guns and snipers and had now no tanks to help them. To clear these snipers Lynas led his four tanks at once over the knuckle by "Morgan Wood" into the gully lying between the 16th and Amiens line. Shells from two German guns in the trees fringing the north bank of the Somme behind the nose of Chipilly Peninsula at once burst round them as they headed into the valley. The banging of the engines and clangour of metal inside the moving tanks was so great that Lynas could only see, not hear, the bursts. He and his officers sat by the drivers, looking through the slits and directing by touching the drivers on right or left. On reaching the hollow they were screened from fire by the riverside trees. In a sunken road here they found 70 Germans who surrendered without firing a shot. A number of others in holes and shelters, finding (as Lynas afterwards said) "that prisoners were not massacred", came out and gave themselves up. The tanks escorted

them down the valley, quickly delivering them to the outposts of the 13th on top of the Red Line spur. The tanks turned downhill again to the riverside road. To climb the hill on their right, clear of the cover of the riverside trees, with these huge underpowered machines constantly running hot and German field-guns 1,000 yards in their rear, seemed hopeless, so Lynas led them by this road towards Mericourt on the nearer outskirts of which the left of the final objective lay.

But after a third of a mile came open ground. Here, therefore, the three leaders took the risk of turning uphill, making for the Amiens line whose nearest trench was 500 yards away. Lieut. Minchin managed to get his tank to it and empty his passengers there before the machine was hit; but the tank of Lynas, who tried to follow him, was struck as it cleared the screen of trees. The shell failed to explode but the pieces of metal knocked from the inside of the machine killed two and wounded ten of its inmates, and bent the exhaust so that hot fumes filled the interior. Lynas and his driver, however, drove on and reached the Amiens line. Half-fainting, Lynas passed word at intervals for pairs of his men with their machine-guns to disembark. Presently the monster was hit again, its petrol tank being blown off. The driver therefore made for a bank on the rear slope, and there Lynas crawled round the interior to see to his men. Then for the first time he found that every one had collapsed, including those whom he had ordered to disembark. None had the strength to push open the doors. Lynas himself could only crawl out from the top of the machine. Men of the left-centre company of the 16th just then coming up helped out the inmates. Lynas could not stand; the driver had fainted. All were carried or helped to sunken ground near by where they lay for over an hour before any could move himself."

After the war Lynas went into partnership prospecting in Western Australia with Captain D. McLeod MC, 12 Battalion and in 1928 McLeod fell down a shaft and was killed. Lynas continued with prospecting until the Second World War in which he served with the 2/16 Battalion as OC of troops on draft to Egypt by sea transport. Whilst on a trip he fell from an anti aircraft gun platform and was injured, resulting in his discharge on April 8 1942. He then served with CBC Perth Cadets until 1944.

Prospecting again became his life and he returned to Nullagine where he remained until he died in 1947 being buried in the Boot Hill cemetery, Nullagine. The author was unable to locate the decorations and medals awarded Captain Lynas as they are thought to have gone to New Zealand with his wife. Members of his family, who started Lynas Motors in Perth, were unable to confirm his awards. The following should be the awards earned in two wars: 1. DSO, 2. MC with Two Bars; 3. 1914-15 Star; 4. British War Medal; 5. Victory Medal with MID emblem, 6. Africa Star; 7. 1939-45 War Medal; 8. Australian Service Medal.

There is one other Australian known to have been awarded the Military Cross and TWO Bars and that is: Captain A. King Cowper MC**⁽³⁾ who has been omitted from this article as he served with the RNAS.

NOTES:

- (1) Official History In The War Volume VI pages 588-589.
- (2) The Old Seventeenth by C. Longmore page 4.
- (3) Andrew King Cowper was born at Bingara NSW and served in the RFC during the war. All awards for RFC service.
Would any reader have any information on this gallant Australian.

SOME IMPLICATIONS OF THE NSW CONTINGENT

by

Staff Cadet Robert Strachan

The news of the death of General Gordon and the fall of Khartoum in the Soudan reached Australia on 11 Feb. 1885.⁽¹⁾ The news provoked grief and indignation in the colonies, and on 12 Feb. 1885 Sir Edward Strickland KCB, sent a letter to the Sydney Morning Herald suggesting that N.S.W. follow Canada's example of offering to send troops to the Soudan.⁽²⁾ W.B. Dalley, the acting Premier of N.S.W. briefly examined the proposal before offering the British Government a contingent of some 750 men. The offer was accepted by the British Government, and the contingent was raised, trained and later embarked on 3 Mar. 1885.

It was reported that there was a genuine outburst of enthusiasm for the expedition which was . . . "a protest and a testimony of devoted patriotism to the Motherland."⁽³⁾

The reasons for military support for the Motherland lie deeper than just patriotism, belief in the British cause in the Soudan and arguments centred around the Mahdis' threat to the Suez and thus to the link between Europe and Australia.⁽⁴⁾

During this period Australians were conscious of their defence, they were alarmed by the aggressive tendencies of European powers.⁽⁵⁾ Germany, Italy, France and Portugal were expanding and establishing colonies throughout the world indicating that British power was not unchallenged.⁽⁶⁾ French interest in the New Hebridies, Austrian plans to establish penal institutions in the Pacific and German interest in Fiji, Samoa and her disputes with Britain over the German/British New Guinea border, led to a *loss of faith in the strategic importance of isolation* and also to a fear that "Australian" interests were being jeopardised by imperial indifference and compliancy.⁽⁷⁾

In the light of such fears it seems logical to assume that the real reasons for offering help to Britain were firstly, that by doing so, the colonies were proving to the world that they were militarily and politicaly capable of such a feat. It was commonly felt that by sharing and contributing to the triumphs and glories of the empire the Australian colonies enhanced their position in the eyes of the world.⁽⁸⁾ This reason was significant in that the desired effect was achieved to a reasonable extent. Dalley

emphasised this point when he said . . . "we have lifted remote colonies to equal companionship of chivarious allies, we have fixed the admiring eyes of the whole world upon ourselves".⁽⁹⁾

Secondly, the action of N.S.W. was probably one of self interest, she needed to prove to Britain her patriotism and loyalty to empire, so that the colonies could expect imperial help if they were ever threatened. Although Dalley was a discerning imperialist,⁽¹⁰⁾ ". . . the offer to send troops was more a considered policy of self interest, quickly made but for reasons other than simple belief in the glories of empire".⁽¹¹⁾ The gesture was then something of a defensive insurance policy, rather than a desire to fight with the Mother country in a just and desperate struggle, this point is supported by the fact that with the decision to abandon Suakin, the N.S.W. Government offered to send the contingent to India, the Mediterranean or other threatened parts of the Empire.⁽¹²⁾

A third minor reason which may have prompted N.S.W. into sending a contingent and most certainly accounted for the speed of the gesture was that N.S.W. wanted to be the first Australian colony to offer help,⁽¹³⁾ whether this was in fact considered when making the offer is not certain, but in reality it certainly re-asserted N.S.W. over Victoria.⁽¹⁴⁾

The expedition was significant for various reasons, possibly the most important was that it was Australia's/N.S.W.'s first military engagement and from this engagement stemmed the formation of the defence policy that was to dominate military and political thinking up to this date. The Soudan expedition established the precedent for the Boer War, the Boxer Rebellion, the Great War, the entry of Australia into the European War in 1939 and even the Korean and Vietnam Wars. This episode was also significant in that the first anti-war movement appeared in Australia.⁽¹⁵⁾ The intervention of Australia in the Soudan as in the wars mentioned above met with certain opposition mainly from the working class,⁽¹⁶⁾ "The British incursion into the Soudan seemed as immoral as the American prescence in Vietnam particularly as in both cases no obvious threat to Australia itself existed."⁽¹⁷⁾

Another significance of the episode was that the cabinet was able to commit the colony on an important action, involving the expenditure of public money without the consent of parliament. Protests were made to the government concerning this breach of the constitution,⁽¹⁸⁾ however the government substantiated it's action by saying that it had to act before the opportunity was lost, and also a vote was taken in parliament which substantiated the cabinets decision.⁽¹⁹⁾

B.P. Penny saw the Soudan episode significant in that is epitomized in all the glory and horror some of the deepest emotions which animated Australians during this time.⁽²⁰⁾ It was noticed by many, that most of the great nation's throughout civilization had had an experience in war. Many Australians saw that this experience would raise the colonies to nationhood.⁽²¹⁾ One eye witness of the departure . . . "saw in the sunset reflected by the "Iberia" and "Australasian" an appropriate symbol, for crimson — all crimson, was the bold red blood of Australia poured forth in noble sacrifice upon the altar of the world."⁽²²⁾

Although this view of nationhood may be somewhat retrospective, certain people did recognise it's presence. Dalley for example stated that . . . "our action has immediately drawn the colonies more closely together."⁽²³⁾ The main body of the Australian Natives Association linked the contingent with the birth of Australian manhood.⁽²⁴⁾ Thus the sending of the contingent, was significant in that it drew the states together at least for a short time and that it probably fostered ideas of national as well as imperial sentiments.

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- (2) Shine, T. (ed) *The History of the Soudan Expedition : an historical record of events relating to the levy despatch and return of the N.S.W. Contingent*, Sydney, 1885, p9.
- (3) *Ibid*, p.6.
- (4) *Ibid*, p.7.
- (5) Penny, B. "The Age of Empire : an Australian Episode" *Historical Studies*, Vol II, (1963) p.33.
- (6) *Ibid*.
- (7) *Ibid*.
- (8) *Ibid*, p.42.
- (9) Shine, *op cit*, p.50.
- (10) Pike, D. (ed), *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Vol 4, 1851-1890, Melbourne 1972. p9.
- (11) McCarthy, *op cit*, p.23.
- (12) Penny, *op cit*, p.42.
- (13) Canada, Victoria, Queensland, SA, Fiji and the Regent of Perak in the Straits Settlement all offered help to the Imperial Government. Clark, C.D. "Suakin", 1885, *Army Journal*, No 248, (1970) p.32.
- (14) Hutchinson, F. and Myers, F. *The Australian Contingent : A History of the Patriotic Movement in N.S.W. and an account of the despatch of troops to the Assistance of the Imperial Forces in the Soudan*. Sydney 1885, p 3.
- (15) Wood, W.A. "The Soudan Contingent of 1885 and the anti-war Movement", *Labor History*, Vol 3, (1963), p 52.
- (16) *Ibid*
- (17) McCarthy, *op cit*, p.27. In general one could look at Australia's intervention in the Soudan, as in the other wars mentioned on either a short or long term basis. The anti-war movement looked at the war in a short term basis and they could see that there was no immediate threat to Australia and that the war was possibly unjust anyway; therefore Australians had no right to be there. On the other hand those who looked at the long term effect could see that by helping a powerful ally, it would be much easier to secure military aid from this ally if it was ever needed in the future.
- (18) Certain modern historians have even gone so far as to say that ". . . the controversy over its (the contingents) despatch showed up in a really lurid light the class native of bourgeois rule and its utter contempt for its own laws in a crisis." Wood, *op cit*, p. 52.
- (19) 23 M.L.A.'s voted against the expedition compared to 63 who voted in favour, however many probably voted with the cabinet only because they believed that since the commitment had been made it must be fulfilled. *Ibid*, p.62.
- (20) Penny, *op cit*, p.42.
- (21) *Ibid*
- (22) *Ibid*
- (23) Shine, *op cit*, p.57.
- (24) McCarthy, *op cit*, p. 23.

THE SIEGE OF TOBRUK – THE GARRISON

Australian

Infantry

18th Brigade: 2/9th, 2/10th, 2/12th Battalions.
20th Brigade: 2/13th, 2/15th, 2/17th Battalions.
24th Brigade: 2/28th, 2/32nd, 2/43rd Battalions.
26th Brigade: 2/23rd, 2/24th, 2/48th Battalions.

Engineers and Pioneers

2/1st Pnr. Battalion, 2/4th Field Park Coy.
2/3rd, 2/4th, 2/7th, 2/13th Field Companies.

Indian

18th Indian Cavalry Regiment (Dismounted).
1204th Indian Labour Company.

Tobruk Sub Area

4th Australian General Hospital.
2/2nd Australian Casualty Clearing Stn.

A.A.S.C.

1 and 2 Tp. Carrying Coys.
Area Tp. Coy.
No. 1 and 2 Aust. F.S.D.'s.
9th Aust. Div. Res. Tp. Coys.
7th Aust. Div. Supply Colm.
Advanced H.Q. 9 Aust. Div., Rear H.Q. 9 Aust. Div., 9th Div. Int. Sec.
"D" Sec. F.S. One PI Aust. H.Q. GD Bn., Aust. Div. Emp. Plt.

Artillery

2/12th Field Regt, 3rd Anti-Tank Regt.
16th, 20th, 24th, 26th, Anti-Tank Comp.

Medical Units

4th Australian General Hosp.
2/2nd Casualty Clearing Stn.
2/3rd, 2/4th, 2/5th, 2/8th, 2/11th Field Ambulance.
2/4th Field Hygiene Section.

Miscellaneous

9 Aust. Div. Signals.
9 Aust. Div. Pro. Coy.
9 Aust. Div. Salvage Coy.
9 Aust. Div. Postal Coy.
9 Aust Div. Fd. Cash Office.

Fortress Troops

8 Aust. Lt. A.A. Bty.
4 Line Sec. Sig.
1 Aust. Corps.

Ordnance

2/1st Army Fd. W/Shops.
No. 6 Recovery Section.
2/2nd A.F.W.
A.A.S.C.

British**Artillery**

1st, 104th, 107th, Regiments R.H.A.
51st Army Field Regt.
4th Durham Survey Regt.

Anti-Tank

3rd R.H.A.

Anti-Aircraft

4th A.A. Brigade, 51st Heavy A.A. Regt.
14th Lt A.A. Regt, 306th Searchlight Battery.

Coast

206th and 530th C.A. Batteries.

Armoured Forces

3rd Armoured Brig. 1st R.T.R. 1 Squadron, 7th R.T.R. Composite Regt. mostly
from 3rd Hussars and Kings Dragoon Guards 4th R.T.R.

Machine Gunners

1st Royal Northumberland Fusilliers.

Engineers

551st Army Troops Coy.

Miscellaneous

No. 8 Commando Coy.
A.S.C. and Port Auth Units.

Polish

The Carpathian Brig. Group (Including one Czech. Battalion).



Sergeant J.E.V.K. Ingvarson, DCM*

**1661 SERGEANT J.E.V.K. INGVARSON DCM and BAR,
44th BATTALION AIF**

by

I.C. Teague

The AIF within its ranks had many who distinguished themselves in battle but few showed the high degree of valour required to be awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal and Bar (DCM*) and be recommended for the Victoria Cross. It is often stated that the DCM indicates the recipient was recommended for a VC but missed, in some instances this may not be true however in the case of Sergeant 'Yak' Ingvarson there is no doubt he was recommended for the VC.⁽¹⁾

Jens Edvard Vandemen Karl Invarson⁽²⁾ was born in Denmark in the year 1895 and later moved to Australia where he was employed as a dairyman prior to enlisting in the AIF. He enlisted at Perth on 12 February 1916 and was allotted to the 44th Battalion, 11th Brigade. He served in the AIF for three years and 218 days of which three years and 59 days were spent on service abroad.⁽³⁾ The 'Yak', as called by his mates, through his personal examples of gallantry and leadership earned him the rank of Sergeant and the respect of all his comrades. 'Yak' served in all the engagements with the 44th Battalion and received his decorations for Hamel (July 1918) and Hindenburg Line (September 1918). The citation for the award of the DCM is as follows:

**NO 1661 SERGEANT J.E.V.K. INGVARSON, 44TH BATTALION
CITATION FOR DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL**

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as a platoon sergeant during an attack. His platoon commander having become a casualty, he led the platoon with great dash and ability, gaining the final objective, and establishing a strong point. When the enemy counter attacked, and occupied a portion of the front line trenches, he organised a bombing section to work down the trench and, at the same time, placed a Lewis gun in position to cover the party. This enterprise was most successful, as the enemy were ejected from the trenches by the bombers and cut off by the fire of the Lewis gun, suffering many casualties. This NCO showed great initiative, and set a very fine example to his men.

Australian Military Order 129 of 8 March 1919

London Gazette No 30983

The action described in the citation was part of the engagement at Hamel on 4-5 July 1918 which was an overwhelming Allied success as the trench which the Germans had retained in the original attack was taken. Six German officers and fifty other ranks were driven into the dugouts and captured together with ten machine guns and eleven Australians previously captured were freed. An American Corporal T.A. Pope 131st US

Infantry, who was in this action with Ingvarson was awarded the US Medal of Honour as well as a British DCM.

Three months later Sergeant Ingvarson was awarded a Bar to his DCM. The citation follows:

**1661 SERGEANT J.E.V.K. INGVARSON DCM 44TH BATTALION
CITATION FOR BAR TO DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL**

On the 29th September, 1918 during operations against the Hindenburg Line, south of Bony, whilst advancing with his platoon against intense enemy machine gun and artillery fire, and finding that the platoon was held up by a nest of enemy machine guns, he jumped out of the trench and rushed a distance of 100 yards in face of heavy fire, firing his rifle as he ran. He threw bombs amongst the enemy, and succeeded in killing many, captured eight machine guns and two prisoners. The splendid courage shown by him, and his prompt action, removed a dangerous obstacle to the advance of his company. Later, he did excellent work in several bombing attacks.

Australian Military Order 83 of 21 February 1920

London Gazette No 31225 of 12 Mar 1919

The unit history⁽¹⁾ describes the part taken by 'Yak' in this action, 'Sergeant J.E.V.K. ('Yak') Ingvarson DCM of 'B' Company, was recommended for the Victoria Cross on account of his dash on the first day. He rushed a machine gun which was holding up a company of Americans, killed the gunner and chased the remainder of the crew along the trench, running along the parapet snaphooting at the 'Huns' below. However the 44th, as was the case with their three previous recommendations for the fighting man's greatest honour, had no luck again, and all that 'Yak' received was a BAR for his DCM!'

After the war he returned to Perth to continue as a dairyman and was married in 1920. On the 5 August 1940 James Edward Ingvarson DCM* enlisted in the 26th Employment Company⁽⁵⁾ and served on continuous full time war service for three years 216 days⁽⁶⁾ 'Yak' tried many times without success to get overseas however he had to be content with knowing his service in Australia was making a valuable contribution to the war effort. Decorations and medals awarded Sergeant Ingvarson are: 1. Distinguished Conduct Medal with BAR, 2. British War Medal, 3. Victory Medal, 4. 1939-45 War Medal, 5. Australian Service Medal.

It is difficult to understand how those to be painted for the War Memorial were selected as no painting has been done of this greatly distinguished soldier, yet the memorial has paintings of much lesser noteables of the AIF.

Sergeant Ingvarson appeared as Celebrities of the AIF No 96 in the September 1938 issue of Revellie and the following is an extract:

' 'Yak' was irresistible, in or out of the line. Always happy care-free and laughing, in moments of crisis he was the very embodiment of all the AIF's fighting qualities, a

storm-trooper out to crush resistance or repel attack at all costs to himself and to the enemy. Physically strong, the hardships of two years in France, in every major engagement, found him just as full of vim in the last fight in October 1918, as he was the first time he went into action in a raid in front of Armentieres early in 1917. It seemed that he was one of the Vikings of old, reincarnated for the benefit of the AIF and the confusion of its enemies.

Ingvarson was born at Brede, Denmark, in 1894, and at the age of 13 went to sea. He was "in sail" and had a hearty contempt for steam and oil. He took French leave from his wheat ship at Fremantle in 1913, worked about the port for a while, and when war broke out joined the Navy, only to be kicked out when it was discovered that he was unnaturalised. So it was not until 1916 that he was able to join the AIF and leave Fremantle on the transport SUEVIC with the 1st reinforcements for the 44th Battalion on June 6 1916. He was near enough to being an original member of the 44th as the first reinforcements travelled with it to Salisbury Plain and were nearly all absorbed before it left for France in November.

'Yak' was wounded in the 44th's big raid at Armentieres on March 13th, 1917, and enjoyed three weeks in a field hospital before rejoining the unit. That was his only spell away from it, barring a spot or two of leave. At Messines in June he was wounded slightly, but carried on. In every operation in 1917 he was a prominent figure, a real inspiration to all those officers and men, with whom he came in contact.'

NOTES:

- (1) 'Eggs A Cook' by Capt C. Longmore page 177
- (2) Correct spelling of name 'Invarson'
- (3) AIF Discharge Certificate 5/96A dated 11 September 1918
- (4) Australian Official War History Volume 6 page 317
- (5) Regimental number W29362
- (6) Discharge Certificate Number 82309 dated 7 March 1944



Hat and Collar Badge Worn By Members of 44th Bn at Blackboy Camp

NO RETREAT AT LEXINGTON

by

John Duncan

Two hundred years ago, people, conditions and circumstances all moved together to eventually create the strongest nation on earth. The people, we were told, were patriots, the conditions were forced, the circumstances were unfavourable. But still the union of the 13 States came about. The colonists were not united. The Confederacy was not politically sound. The financial system was laughable. Great Britain was the strongest nation on earth and the most successful. So why a rebellion? (The rights of free men) too abstract (no taxes without representation) a mere catchcry liberty or death, I have but one life to give to my country, are the embellishments of a later age. The answer was that a third wanted to rebel, a third did not, and the final third (and by far the largest) could not have cared less.

The American people of the time were well off. Ever since the 1720's, when the Bourgeois started to become industrious and stable, the average American was better off than he is today. Like Hitler orators tended to cant on the subject of the King. He was portrayed as an overbearing despot, an ogre, the small things that added to his reputation were "public quartering" of soldiers, the cost of the seven year war, maritime dependence on England, so to the average American, his grouching could all be laid at the feet of George III. The fact that it was untrue made little difference, the average American was beginning to believe what he wanted to. So to this day, Americans hate Kings. It is one trait you can be certain still has popular prejudice. A parallel in Australia would be the average Aussies opinion of the Police Force. A trait carried in our mind by Ben Hall and Ned Kelly. No one remembers the name of the policeman who killed or caught them, but their names will live forever. Same in America. The step-dance of acts such as, the stamp act, the repeal of the stamp act, the maritime tax, the tax on glass and paint and newsprint, the English system of American goods by English ships. These were jelled together by the Boston Massacre and the Boston Tea-Party. The first being when Colonists brutally attacked seven English soldiers. The soldiers in fear of their life, fired into the crowd. In the subsequent trial, they were acquitted. They were defended by John Adams (no less), (Later U.S. President). The Boston Tea Party was when the local Boddies, thinly disguised as Indians, crept on Merchant Ships and destroyed large quantities of tea, a very pointless demonstration. There were others, of course, such as the Golden Hill Battle in New York, but it was the Boston Tea Party that forced martial law on Boston. To counteract this, of course, the War Hawkes call a Continental Congress in Philadelphia. However, the avoidance of War was still not beyond both sides, although it was popular to form secret societies and not so secret societies such as the Minute Men. This latest species were to be called at a minutes notice. So they spent

their time drilling, parading on their respective commons, and speechifying (a habit dear to the hearts of all Americans). But like the fellow who is always talking big, you can be certain he'll never fight until he unwisely goes too far and gives his opponent the wrong idea.

Thus it is with Nations. Governor Gage is worried about the Minute Men and their stock piling of munitions. Now if he had gone out himself, called the leaders together, and said 'What in the hell are you doing' and made them see the semi-humorous side of it, the Revolution would have fallen flat. But like the man who has been scared, he makes the wrong decision. His decision, of course, was a military force of seven hundred men under Major Pitcairn, who would go to Concord and Lexington and confiscate the arms and ammunition of the colonists. So, off goes Major Pitcairn. The bally-hoo about lanterns in the church and the midnight rides of Paul Revere, Prescott and Dawes maybe likened to the stories of Drake playing bowls. It would be pretty hard to sneak up on Lexington with seven hundred men, especially marching down the main road. However, leaving the legends out, it is certain that Major Pitcairn, on the nineteenth day of April, 1775, confronted Captain John Parker and seventy Minute Men at Lexington, (can't understand why Parker was only a Captain, and not a Colonel). Pitcairn's cry of disperse ye rebels, can be laid squarely at the feet at Walt Disney types. What is certain is he was very insulting and rude and Captain Parker was put in the position of having to oppose him. The ordinary British troops, tired after a long march, probably wished Parker and Pitcairn and the Colonists to hell and thought the whole thing was a drag. But looking from the other side (as we must), they were oppressors sent personally by the King to liquidate the rights of free Americans.

No one will ever know who fired the shot heard around the world, but it is fairly certain that with disciplined and undisciplined troops confronting each other, the Americans would have to be given the best chance. Of course, whoever he was, his trigger squeeze was the catalyst than took people, conditions and circumstances to revolution.

1638 CORPORAL F.W. DAVIES DCM, 44th BATTALION AIF

by

K.R. White

Most readers would have at one time looked at a medal or medals to a First World War recipient but few would consider the sacrifice and sadness associated with the medals. In order to convey the feeling of those concerned the following documentation is published so that readers can appreciate the outstanding bravery displayed by members of the First AIF. Corporal F.W. Davies had previously (September 1917) been wounded

in the chest and left hand and his parents were sent the following cable:

'One six three eight Davies 44th Battalion, 32 Stationary Hospital, gun shot wound chest, left hand, almost convalescent'

In August 1918, just prior to the end of the war Corporal Davies was gravely wounded and after having a leg amputated was evacuated to England where he wrote the following letter to his parents:

No 1638
Corporal F.W. Davies
C/o The War Hospital
Clopton
Stratford-on-Avon
ENGLAND

Dear Mum, Dad and Family,

Just a few lines but the news is not too good. Well I have been wounded and very bad this time. I had two wounds in each leg and my left leg has been taken off above the knee, but you don't want to worry. I am still alive and kicking. They are very painful but I think I am finished with war. A fellow was lucky to come out alive.

I am in a very good hospital and I think I will be well treated here, it is a lovely place to be inside, it is a VAD. I cannot tell you much as you can guess I don't feel too much like writing. I think I will be safe here for two or three months. So cheerio, and I must close with best and fondest love.

From Fred

It's a great War, don't worry.

THE WAR HOSPITAL

Clopton, Stratford-on-Avon

Administrator
& MO

Mr George Dickinson

Hon Sec

The Hon Mrs Hodgson

RE CORPORAL F.W. DAVIES 1638 44 BN AIF

Distinguished Conduct Medalist

Dear Mr Davies,

You will have received by cable long ere this reaches you the sad tidings of the death of your dear and brave son; but I thought you might like to have a few lines from the owner and chaplain of this Hospital as well. Your brave son arrived here midnight on Friday August 30th and passed away at 6 am on Sept 5th. He arrived in a very serious condition, with one leg amputated and serious wounds in the other, and from the first

FOR KING AND COUNTRY



In Loving Memory of
CPL. FREDERICK WILLIAM DAVIES, D.C.M.
No. 1638, of the 44th Battalion.

He was the son of Mr. William and Mrs. Kate Davies, of Albany Road, Cannington. This young hero heard the call of his comrades early in 1916, and sailed on the 6th June, 1916, for Salisbury plains, where he completed his training. He saw all the heavy fighting of the war and whilst acting as Quarter-Master to his platoon, he carried food and water under heavy fire to his men, and, when his officer and platoon-sergeant were killed, he took charge and held on to an important tactical position until relieved, showing the greatest gallantry possible. For this great deed he was awarded the D.C.M. The above hero who was wounded at Bray, on 30th Aug., 1918, and died from the effects on 5th Sept., 1918, at the War Hospital, Statford-on-Avon. Before enlisting he was employed by Messrs. Bethell and Thurstan, by whom he was held in the highest esteem. He was 21 years of age, and besides his parents, leaves six brothers and two sisters to mourn his loss.



there was little hope of his recovery; tho' we hoped his fine constitution, clean life, and wonderful patience and pluck, might have enabled him to pull through – but the septic poison had laid strong hold of him; All who nursed him were struck with his cheerful endurance of much suffering – but towards the end I don't think he was in much pain, and from 2 till 6 he was unconscious. I saw him for the last time between 9 and 10 pm on the 4th and when praying with him, he repeated quite clearly the Lord's Prayer after me, and I am sure he passed beyond quite resigned to the will of God. It is terribly sad for our brave men to die like this – so much happier for them to be killed outright, if they are to make the supreme sacrifice for the Empire and the cause of liberty against tyranny – and yet suffering like this has its value – and brings those who have to endure it nearer the example of the Divine Sufferer who laid down His life for us. From what your sister, Mrs Bott, tells me you have the great comfort of knowing your dear son lived a good life and now has his reward. I have much interest in Australia – my dear father Sir Arthur Hodgson having been one of the earliest Queensland pioneers and living the best years of his life in that colony, and in Sydney New South Wales, and I therefore welcome very heartily all Australians and we have now two/three hundred in this hospital. Assuring you of our sincerest sympathy with you in the loss of your brave boy and also assuring you that all that could be done for him was done for him while he was with us and that he was lovingly nursed.

I remain,
Yours very truly,
Francis H. Hodgson

Australian Imperial Force
Base Records Office
Victoria Barracks
Melbourne 19 December 1918

Mr W. Davies,
Dear Sir,

With reference to the report of the regrettable loss of your son, the late No 1638, Corporal F.W. Davies, DCM, 44th Battalion, I am now in receipt of advice which shows that he died on 5th September 1918, at War Hospital, Stratford-on-Avon, England as the result of his wounds (gunshot would left leg, knee), and was buried on the 9th idem in Stratford-on-Avon Cemetery, Stratford-on-Avon, England, Single Grave No 978, Consecrated Ground, the Rev F.H. Hodgson officiating.

The deceased soldier was accorded a full Military Funeral. The coffin (of polished Elm) draped with the Union Jack and surmounted by several beautiful wreaths sent from friends, and comrades in hospital, was borne to the graveside, Firing Party, Bugler, and Pallbearers being in attendance.

Mrs Bott (friend) of Finchley, London, was present at the Funeral. A large party of wounded followed the remains to the cemetery, and many other Australians attended. Administrative Headquarters, Australian Imperial Force, London, were also represented.

The grave will be turfed and an oak cross erected by the AIF London.

The utmost care and attention is being devoted where possible to the graves of our soldiers. It is understood that photographs are being taken as soon as is possible and these will be transmitted to next-of-kin when available.

These additional details are furnished by direction, it being the policy of the Department to forward all information received in connection with deaths of members of the Australian Imperial Force.

Yours faithfully,

J.M. Lean Major
Officer i/c Base Records

SHORT HISTORY OF THE 1ST ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVAL BRIDGING TRAIN

By

A.F. Holland

This unit was formed early in March 1915, under the command of Lieut. Bracegirdle, with Lieut. Bond second in command.

The object was to form a unit complete with pontoons, horses and equipment to be despatched to the naval training base at Chatham England.

The unit was assembled at the Melbourne Domain gardens, now the site of the Victorian War Memorial. It consisted of about 300 men and officers complete with pontoons and approximately 470 horses mostly unbroken straight from the bush country.

Preliminary training in the use of equipment and breaking in horses lasted about three months after which it embarked on the 6000 ton troopship "Port Macquarie" the hold of which had been prepared for the transport of horses.

Events showed, however, that the conditions of travel were detrimental to the well-being of the horses and about 25% were lost crossing the Indian Ocean. Those still alive were discharged from the ship on arrival at Bombay and the ship then proceeded to Port Said, arriving there on the 17th of July.

No shore leave was allowed, as orders were changed, the unit being diverted to the Dardanelles to assist in the proposed new landing of the British Forces at Suvla Bay.

On 25th July, the ship arrived off Imbros Island and anchored there for a few days prior to the voyage to Gallipoli. The ship carrying the unit arrived at Gallipoli during the

night of 7th August, amid the deafening gunfire from the warships shelling the shore defences.

At daybreak, the unit commenced transferring the necessary equipment for piers to facilitate the landing of British Troops before sunset, the assignment given being to clear the passage for the troops to penetrate the Turkish defences and give all possible landing piers and services to keep up supplies of food, water, and military equipment to the advancing troops. The men did a wonderful job and remained on the peninsula until the evacuation, when they were transferred to the island of Mudros.

On 17th January 1916, the train was transferred to Ismalia on the Suez Canal, arriving there on the 21st. The assignment here was to take control of the many temporary military bridges spanning the canal between El Ferdon to Suez until the end of May 1917, after which time bridges were no longer required and the unit was disbanded.

The surviving members held their first annual re-union in a cafe in Swanston Street in 1930, when about ninety attended with Commander Bracegirdle as foundation President. Alex Holland, the prime mover of the re-union, was elected as foundation Secretary, and has held the secretarial position ever since. The following year the re-union was held in the then new building "Howey Court", in Collins Street. The Commander, owing to his having been appointed to a high position at Canberra, was not available for re-election; Ted Michaelson was elected President, a position which he still holds, and he has attended every re-union.

Although each year sees the number reducing, there are still about twenty survivors in attendance. The next re-union will be held at the Caulfield Branch of the R.S.L., 4 St. Georges Road, Elsternwick on the last Saturday of Show week at 8 p.m.

ALEX F. HOLLAND
Hon. Secretary

FOUR TIMES WINNER OF THE DSO

By

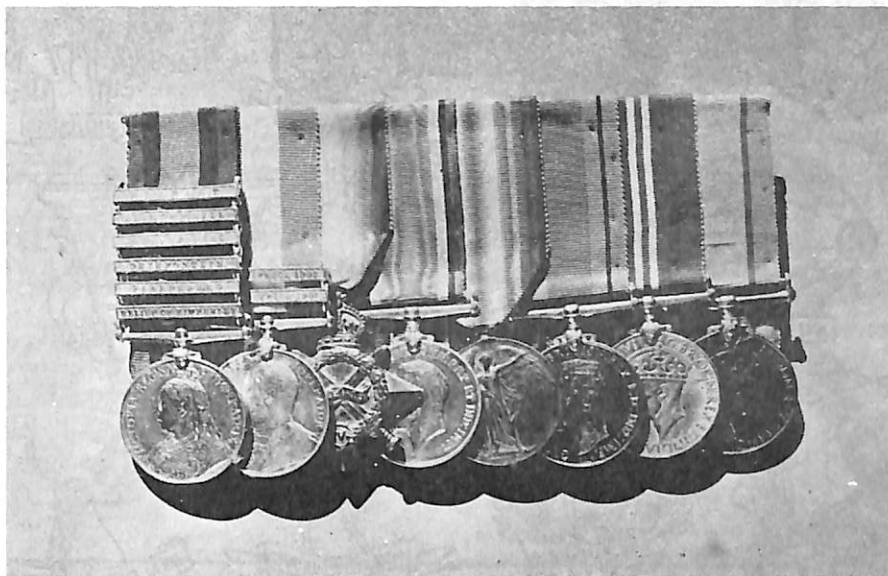
C. Falk

A small select company of men have won this high honour four times, ten in the Army, four in the RN and two in the RAF. The names of the recipients are:

Lieut-General Lord Freyberg VC; Brigadier-General E.A. Wood, King's Shropshire Light Infantry; Lieut-Colonel R.S. Knox, Royal Inniskillin Fusiliers; Lieutenant-Colonel W.A.A. Dawson, Royal West Kent Regiment; Brigadier-General W.D. Croft, Scottish Rifles; Lieut-Colonel A.N. Strode-Jackson, King's Royal Rifle Corps; Brigadier-General F.W. Lumsden VC; Lieut-Colonel A.S. Pearson, Highland Light Infantry (Parachute

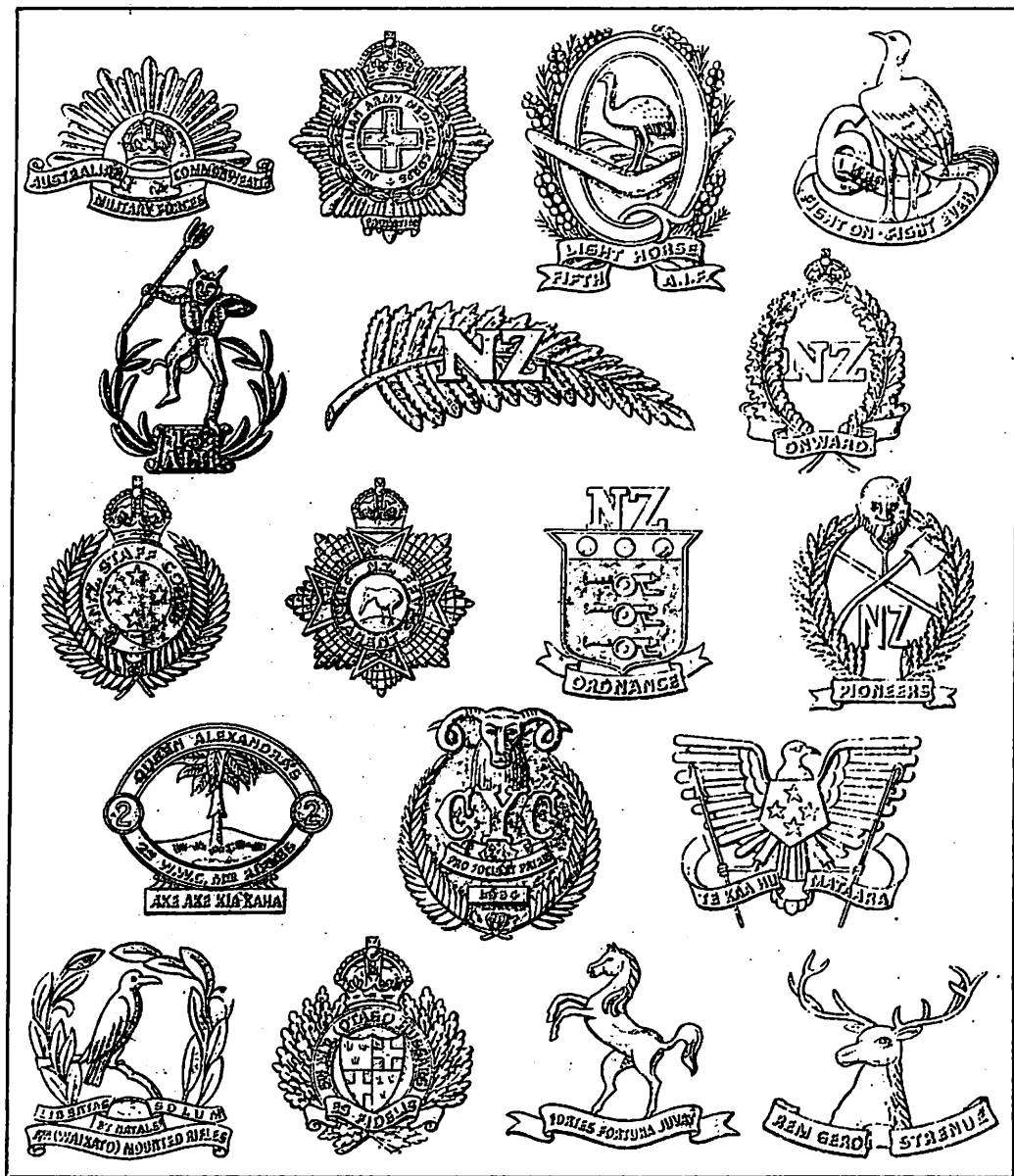
Regiment); Lieut-Colonel R.B. Mayne, Special Air Service and Brigadier D.A. Kendrew. Royal Navy; Commander E.A. Gibbs; Captain F.J. Walker, Captain R.G. Onslow and Commander A.W. Buckle RNVR. Royal Air Force: Air Marshall Sir Basil Embry and Wing-Commander J.B. Tait.

Air Marshall Sir Basil Embry has a country property in Western Australia. Of interest Brigadier Kendrew won three of his DSOs in a period of eight months during the Second World War and his fourth for Korea.



Medals Awarded J. Durham

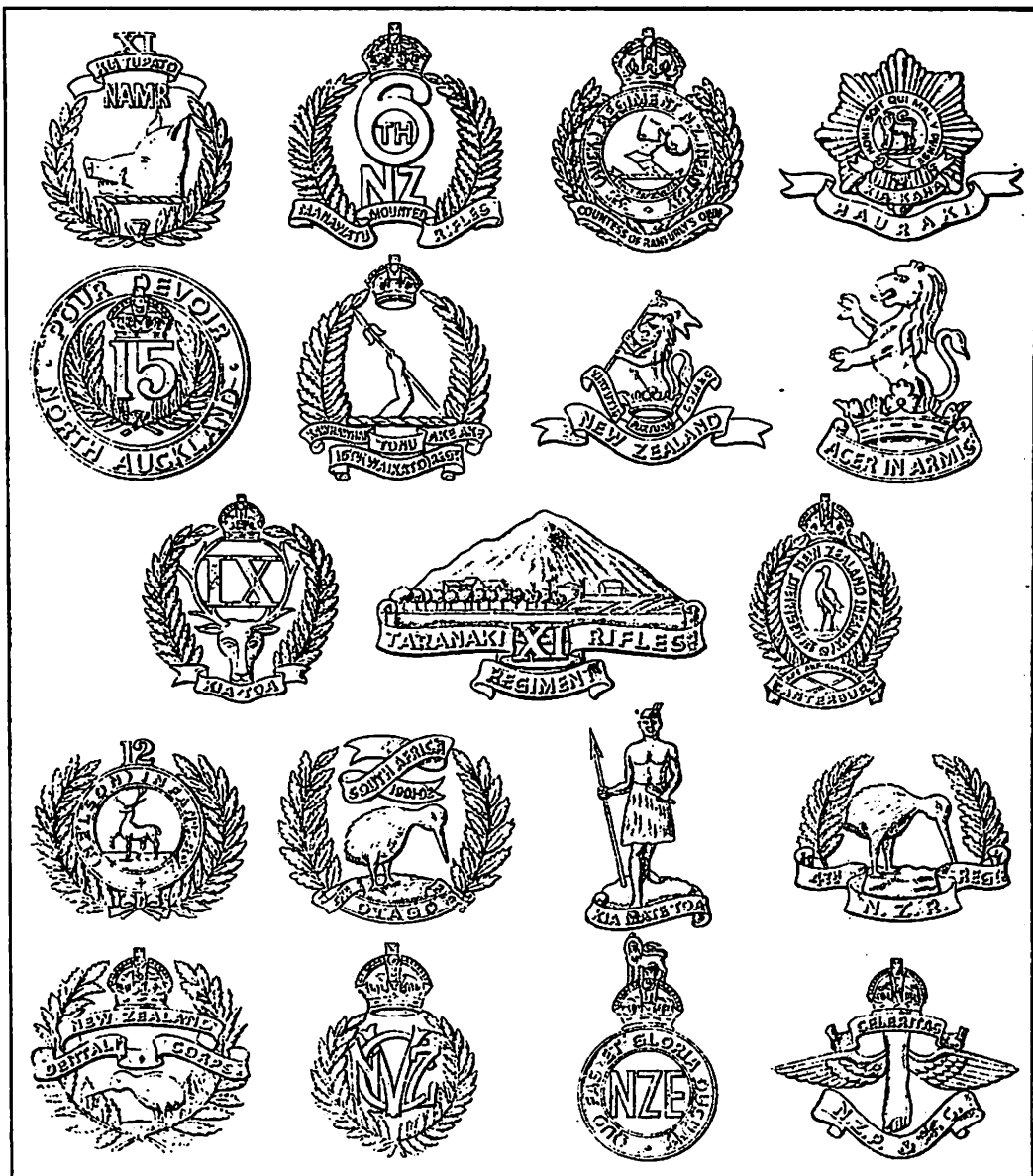
FIRST WORLD WAR BADGES



OVERSEAN BADGES—SIXTH SERIES

Specially drawn.

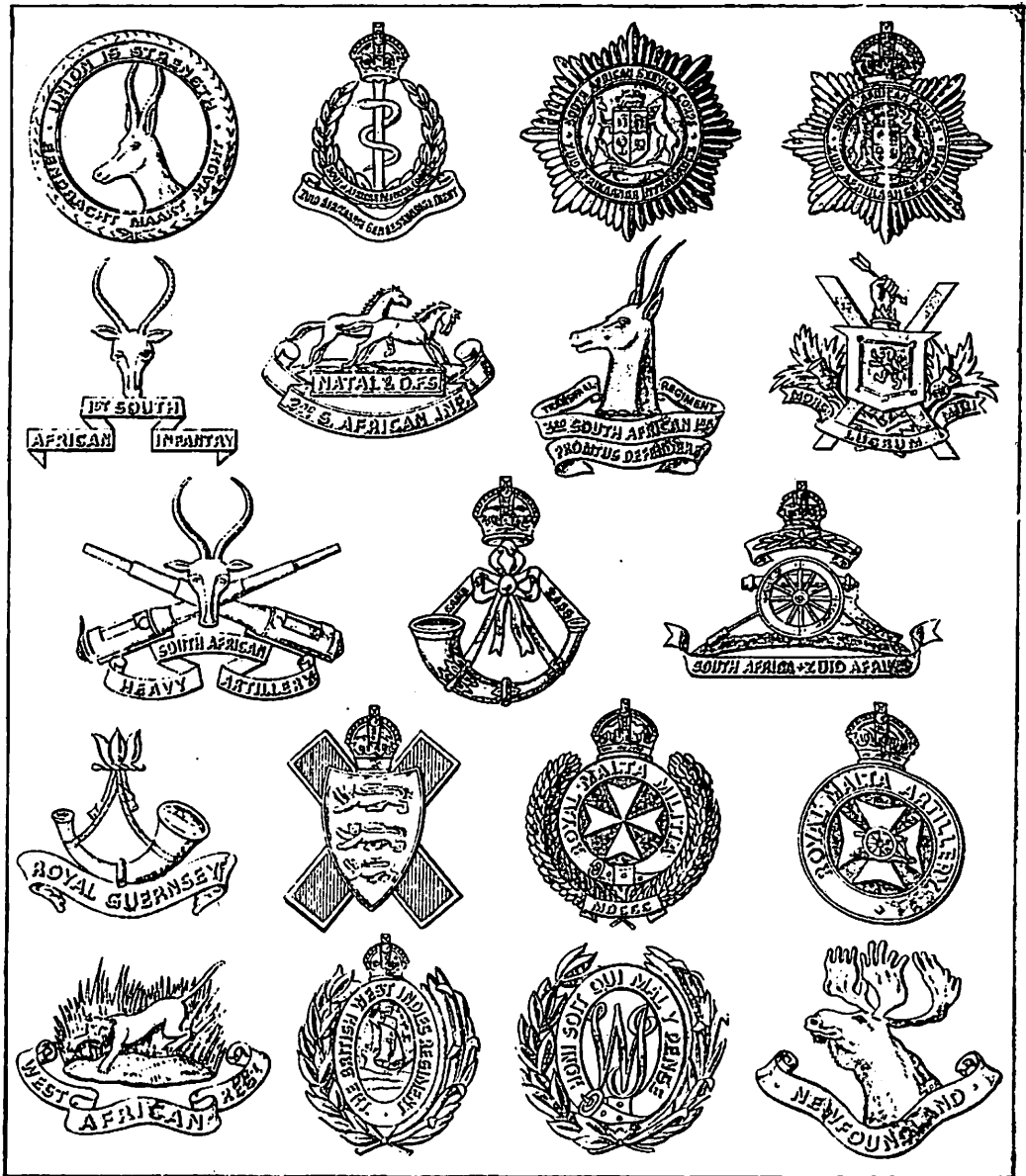
The badges shown in this plate are those of Australian and New Zealand formations. From left to right, the top row first: 1—Australian General Service; 2—Aus. Army Medical Corps; 3—5th Aus. Light Horse; 4—6th Aus. Light Horse; 5—13th Aus. Light Horse; 6—New Zealand General Service; 7—Ditto; 8—N.Z. Staff Corps; 9—N.Z. Permanent Staff; 10—N.Z. Army Ordnance Corps; 11—N.Z. Pioneers; 12—2nd Queen Alexandra's Wellington West Coast Mounted Rifles; 13—Canterbury Yeomanry Cavalry; 14—Auckland Mounted Rifles; 15—4th Waikato Mounted Rifles; 16—5th M.R. Otago Hussars; 17—Wellington East Coast Mounted Rifles; 18—Nelson-Marlborough Mounted Rifles.



OVERSEAS BADGES - SEVENTH SERIES

Specially drawn.

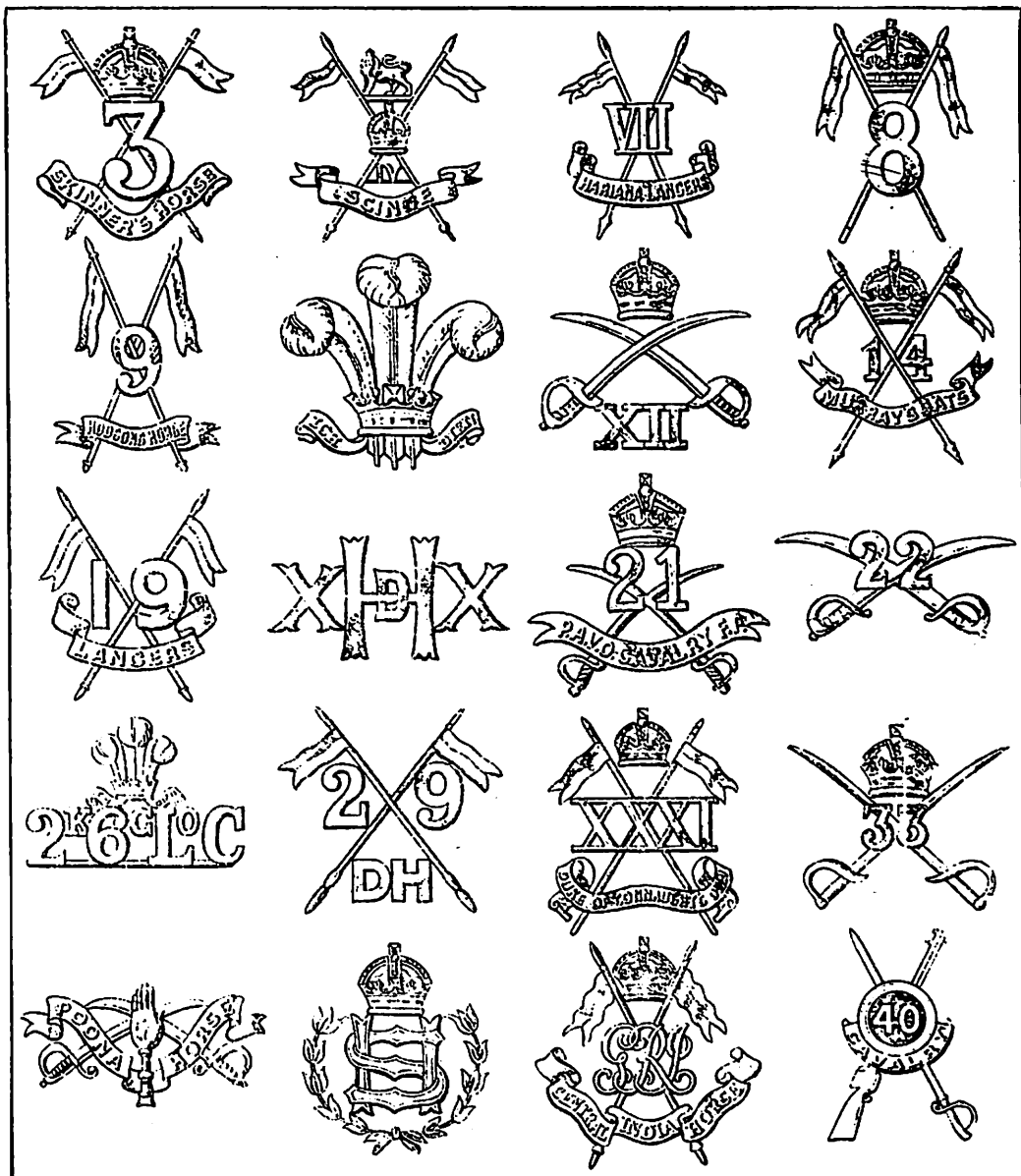
All the above badges are those of New Zealand formations. From left to right, beginning at the top, they represent: 1 - North Auckland Mounted Rifles. 2 - Manawatu Mounted Rifles. 3 - The Auckland Regt. 4 - The Hauraki Regt. 5 - The North Auckland Regt. 6 - The Waikato Regt. 7 - The Wellington Regt. 8 - The Wellington West Coast Regt. 9 - The Hawke's Bay Regt. 10 - The Taranaki Regt. 11 - The Canterbury Regt. 12 - The Nelson, Marlborough, and West Coast Regt. 13 - The Otago Regt. 14 - The Southland Regt. 15 - The 4th New Zealand Rifle Regt. 16 - New Zealand Dental Corps. 17 - N.Z. Veterinary Corps. 18 - N.Z. Engineers. 19 - N.Z. Corps of Signals.



OVERSEAS BADGES—EIGHTH SERIES

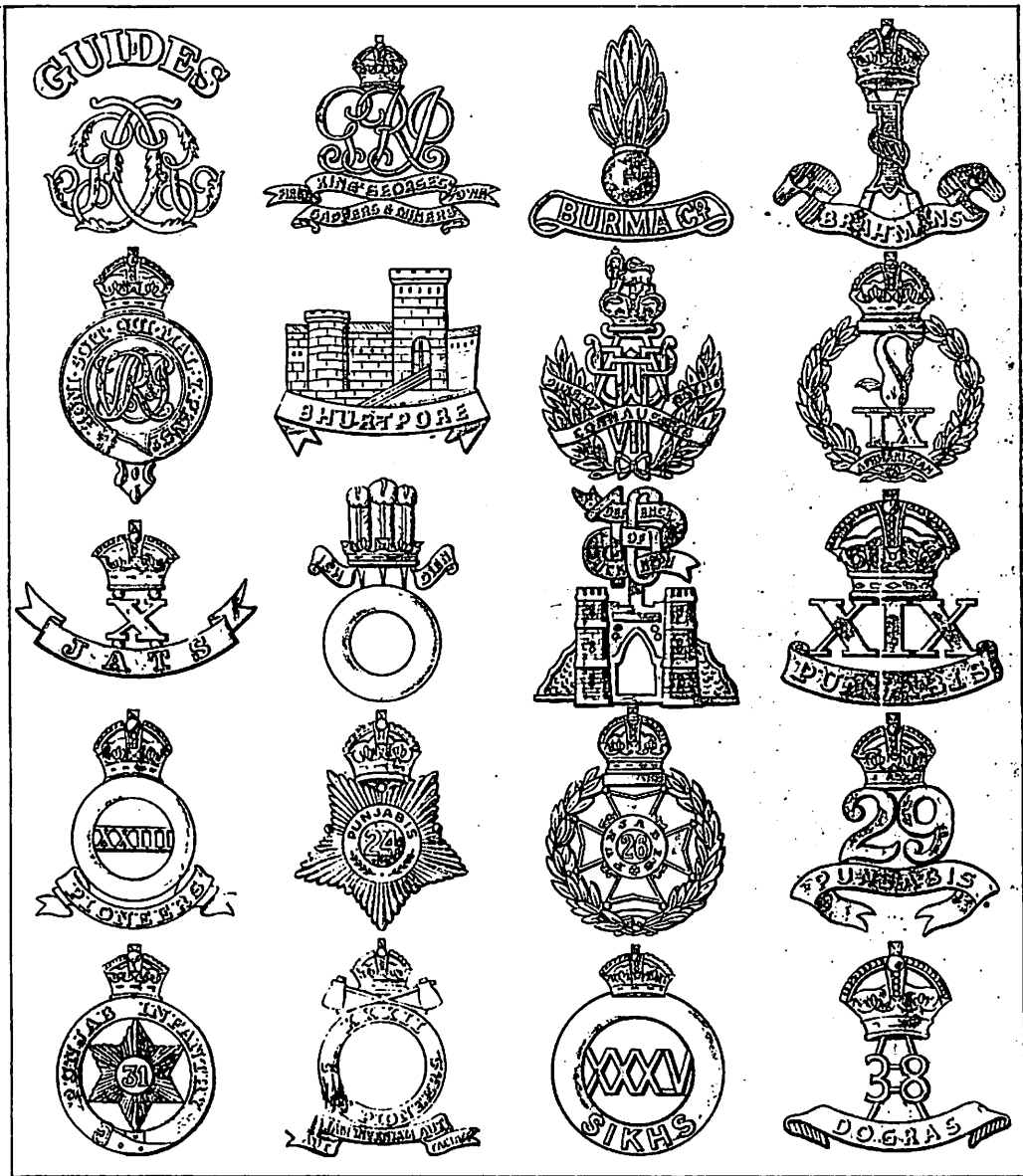
Specially drawn.

The above plate depicts badges from various parts of the Empire. From left to right, beginning at the top, the titles are: 1—South African General Service. 2—S.A. Medical Corps. 3—S.A. Service Corps. 4—S.A. Police. 5—1st S.A. Infantry (Cape of Good Hope). 6—2nd S.A. Infantry (Natal and Orange Free State). 7—3rd N.A. Infantry (Transvaal and Rhodesia). 8—4th S.A. Infantry (South African Scottish). 9—S.A. Heavy Artillery. 10—S.A. Mounted Rifles. 11—S.A. Artillery. 12—Royal Guernsey Light Infantry. 13—Royal Jersey Light Infantry. 14—Royal Malta Militia. 15—Royal Malta Artillery. 16—West Africa Regt. 17—British West Indies Regt. 18—West India Regt. 19—Newfoundland General Service.



OVERSEAS BADGES--NINTH SERIES

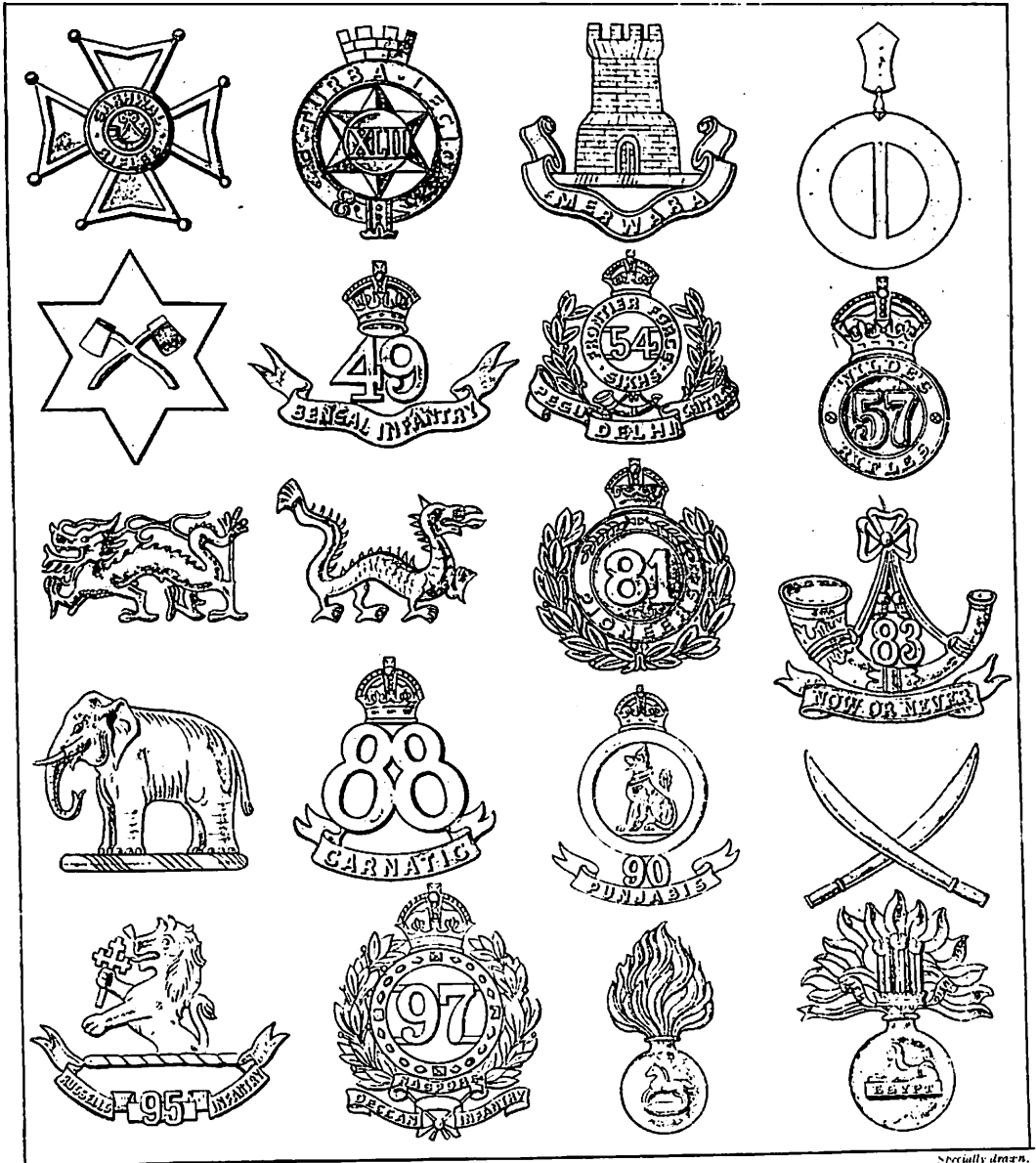
Indian Badges - selected, as will be future series, from those worn on head-dress, collar, or belt are featured on this page, and, from left to right, beginning at the top, represent the following units: 1 - 3rd Skinner's Horse, 2 - 4th Cavalry, 3 - 7th Maratha Lancers, 4 - 5th Cavalry, 5 - 9th Hodson's Horse, 6 - 11th King Edward's Own Lancers (Princess's Horse), 7 - 12th Cavalry, 8 - 14th Murray's Jat Lancers, 9 - 19th Lancers (Feroz's Horse), 10 - 20th Decatur Horse, 11 - 21st Prince Albert Victor's Cavalry (Frontier Force, Dal's Horse), 12 - 22nd Sam Browne's Cavalry (Frontier Force), 13 - 24th King George's Own Light Cavalry, 14 - 29th Lancers (Deccan Horse), 15 - 31st Duke of Connaught's Own Lancers, 16 - 33rd Queen Victoria's Own Light Cavalry, 17 - 34th Poona Horse, 18 - 35th Scinde Horse, 19 - 38th King George's Own Central India Horse, 20 - 49th Cavalry.



Specially drawn.

OVERSEAS BADGES - TENTH SERIES

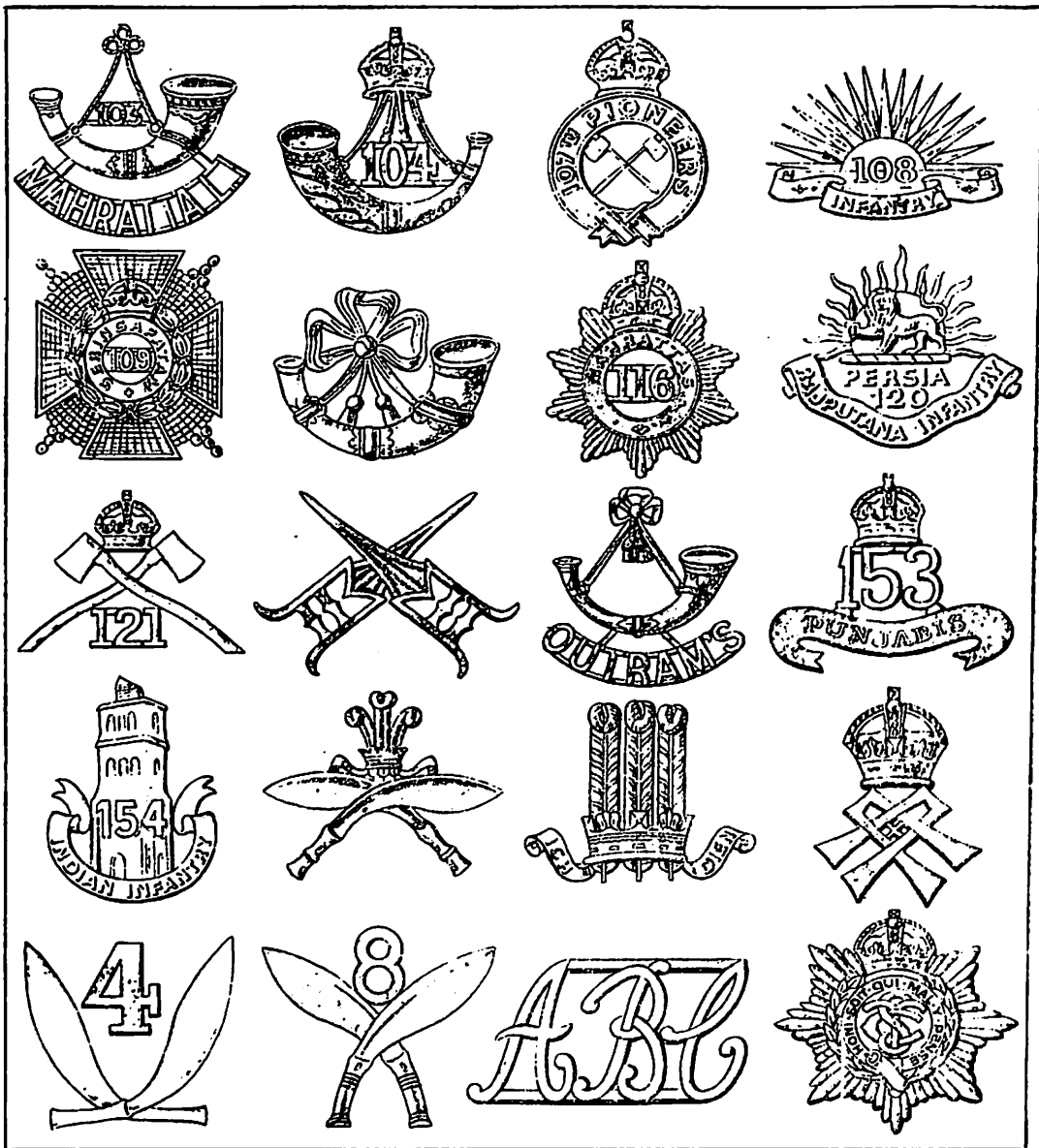
Indian badges once more fill the bill as, indeed, they will continue to do until the close, now approaching, of this extensive series. In the usual order the above badges represent: 1- Queen Victoria's Own Corps of Guides (Frontier Force). 2- 1st King George's Own Sappers and Miners. 3- Burma Company, and Queen Victoria's Own Sappers and Miners. 4- 1st Brahatmans. 5- 2nd Queen Victoria's Own Rajput Light Infantry. 6- 3rd Brahatmans. 7- 7th (Duke of Connaught's Own Rajput) Bengal Infantry. 8- 9th Bhopal Infantry. 9- 10th Jats. 10- 14th King's Own Ferozepore Sikhs. 11- 16th Rajputa (The Lucknow Regiment). 12- 19th Punjabis. 13- 24th Sikh Pioneers. 14- 24th Punjabis. 15- 26th Punjabis. 16- 29th Punjabis. 17- 31st Punjabis. 18- 32nd Sikh Pioneers. 19- 35th Sikhs. 20- 38th Dogras.



Specially drawn.

OVERSEAS BADGES—ELEVENTH SERIES

From left to right, beginning at the top row, the Indian badges here illustrated represent the following units: 1 39th Garhwal Rifles. 2 42nd Deolali Regt. (Cavalry and Infantry). 3-44th Merwar Infantry. 4-45th Rattray's Sikhs. 5 48th Pioneers. 6 49th Bengal Infantry. 7-54th Sikhs (Frontier Force). 8-57th Wilde's Rifles (Frontier Force). 9 66th Punjabis. 10 74th Punjabis. 11 81st Pioneers. 12 83rd Wallajahabad Infantry. 13 84th Punjabis. 14-88th Carnatic Infantry. 15-90th Punjabis. 16 91st Punjabis (Light Infantry). 17 95th Russell's Light Infantry. 18 97th Deccan Infantry. 19 101st Grenadiers. 20 102nd King Edward's Own Grenadiers.



OVERSEAS BADGES. TWELFTH SERIES

Spacially drawn.

From left to right, the top row first, the badges are those of: 1—103rd Mahratta Light Infantry. 2—104th Wellesley's Rifles. 3—107th Pioneers. 4—108th Infantry. 5—109th Infantry. 6—110th Mahratta Light Infantry. 7—116th Mahrattas. 8—120th Rajputana Infantry. 9—121st Pioneers. 10—122nd Rajputana Infantry. 11—123rd Outram's Rifles. 12—153rd Punjabs. 13—154th Indian Infantry. 14—1st King George's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Malani Regiment). 15—2nd King Edward's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles). 16—3rd Queen Alexandra's Own Gurkha Rifles. 17—4th Gurkha Rifles. 18—8th Gurkha Rifles. 19—Army Bearer Corps. 20—Supply and Transport Corps.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Grand Cross of Valour (G.C.V.) | } | For conspicuous valour by members of the Security Forces in combat. This is the highest award for gallantry and as such will head the order of precedence. Recipients will have the right to wear the ribbon of the award in their buttonhole. |
| 2. Conspicuous Gallantry Decoration (C.G.D.) | } | For acts of the highest gallantry and brave conduct of an outstanding order in a non-combatant capacity. This award may be made to civilians and members of the Security Forces and as the second highest award for gallantry will rank next to the Grand Cross of Valour in the order of precedence. |
| 3. Grand Commander of the Legion of Merit (G.C.L.M.) (Military Division) | } | For outstanding service to Rhodesia. On formal occasions a sash, badge and gold star will be worn. |
| 4. Grand Officer of the Legion of Merit (G.L.M.) | } | For outstanding service to Rhodesia. A silver star and neck badge to be worn on formal occasions. |
| 5. Grand Officer of the Legion of Merit (G.L.M.) (Military Division) | } | For persons who played a notable and significant part before or at the time of, or immediately succeeding the Declaration of Independence. |
| 6. Independence Decoration (I.D.) | } | For persons who have rendered valuable service to Rhodesia up to the 2nd March, 1970. This award and that of the Independence Decoration will be worn on the breast. |
| 7. Independence Commemorative Decoration (I.C.D.) | } | For distinguished service to Rhodesia. A neck-badge will be worn on formal occasions. |
| 8. Commander of the Legion of Merit (C.L.M.) | } | For distinguished service to Rhodesia. This award will be worn on the breast. |
| 9. Commander of the Legion of Merit (C.L.M.) (Military Div.) | } | For distinguished service to Rhodesia. This award will also be worn on the breast. |
| 10. Police Cross for Conspicuous Gallantry (P.C.G.) | } | For gallantry |
| 11. Silver Cross of Rhodesia (S.C.R.) | } | For gallantry |
| 12. Prison Cross for Gallantry (R.P.C.) | } | For gallantry |
| 13. Officer of the Legion of Merit (O.L.M.) | } | For gallantry |
| 14. Officer of the Legion of Merit (O.L.M.) (Military Division) | } | For gallantry |
| 15. Member of the Legion of Merit (M.L.M.) | } | For gallantry |
| 16. Member of the Legion of Merit (M.L.M.) (Military Division) | } | For gallantry |
| 17. Police Decoration for Gallantry (P.D.G.) | } | For gallantry |
| 18. Bronze Cross of Rhodesia (B.C.R.) (Army) | } | For gallantry |
| 19. Bronze Cross of Rhodesia (B.C.R.) (Air Force) | } | For gallantry |

RHODESIAN HONOURS AND AWARDS



1



2



3



4



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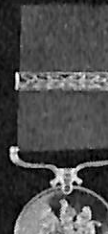
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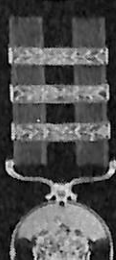
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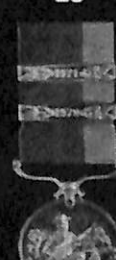
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- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 20. Police Cross for Distinguished Service (P.C.D.) | } | For distinguished service. |
| 21. Prison Cross for Distinguished Service (P.S.C.) | | |
| 22. Meritorious Conduct Medal (M.C.M.) | | For brave and gallant conduct over and above the call of duty in a non-combatant capacity. The award may be made to both civilians and members of the Security Forces. |
| 23. Prison Medal for Gallantry (R.P.M.) | | For gallantry. |
| 24. Medal for Meritorious Service (M.S.M.) | | For resource and devotion to duty or exemplary voluntary service to the community. Two divisions: (a) civil division and (b) Security Forces division. Used only for Territorial Force or Reserves. |
| 25. Police Medal for Meritorious Service (P.M.M.) | } | For meritorious service. |
| 26. Defence Forces' Medal for Meritorious Service (D.M.M.) | | |
| 27. Prison Medal for Meritorious Service (P.M.S.) | | |
| 28. President's Medals for Chiefs | | For Chiefs who have rendered conspicuous service in the interests of their people. |
| 29. President's Medal for Headmen | | For Headmen who have rendered conspicuous service to their communities over and above the call of duty. |
| 30. General Service Medal | | For service on operations undertaken for the purposes of combating terrorist or enemy incursions into Rhodesia. |
| 31. Prison Service Medal | | For the part played in maintaining law and order. |
| 32. Police Long Service Medal | } | For long and exemplary service. |
| 33. Exemplary Service Medal | | |
| 34. Prison Long Service Medal | | |
| 35. Police Reserve Long Service Medal | | The basic qualification for this medal will be nine years' voluntary service in the "A" Reserve, or fifteen years' service in the field reserve. |
| 36. Medal for Territorial or Reserve Service | | For long service in the Territorial, Volunteer and Reserve Forces. The basic qualification for this medal is twelve years' service, with a bar for a further six years' service. Service in a reserve unit other than the Volunteer Reserve of the Air Force will count as half qualifying service. |
| 37. Fire Brigade Long Service and Good Conduct Medal | | For long service in a Fire Brigade. |
| 38. Rhodesia Badge of Honour | | For long service and devotion to duty in Government, Municipal or private service. |
| 39. President's Medal for Shooting | | To be awarded to the champion shot of the Security Forces. |
| 40. Military Forces' Commendation (As shown on 30). | | A silver or bronze pick emblem to denote an act of bravery, distinguished service, or continuous devotion to duty in the operational or non-operational sphere. This emblem will either be displayed on the ribbon of the appropriate General Service or Campaign Medal or will be sewn on the tunic immediately following other awards. Otherwise it will be displayed in a central position on the left breast where a ribbon would be worn. |

41. Commissioner's Special Commendation and Commissioner's Commendation (Police)

Will be marked respectively by a silver or bronze truncheon emblem to denote acts above the call of duty under operational or non-operational conditions. Will be worn on the top of the left pocket flap below medal ribbons.

42. Director's Commendation (Prisons). (As shown on 31).

To be marked by a bronze key emblem worn in the manner of the Military Forces Commendation.

NOTES.— 1. The official order of precedence for all honours and awards shall be as follows:

- (i) Rhodesian orders, decorations and medals.
 - (ii) Foreign orders, decorations and medals in this order and by date of their award.
2. Bars may be awarded where appropriate and will be attached to the ribbon when the medal is worn. When ribbons only are worn a bar will be indicated by a small silver rosette attached to the centre of the ribbon or by a miniature replica of the award where applicable.
3. The following coloured rosettes will be worn in the centre of the undermentioned ribbons in order to distinguish them from the other ribbons of the same pattern:
I.D. - - Green to distinguish this award from the I.C.D. On ribbon only.
G.C.L.M. - - Green to distinguish this award from other classes of the Legion of Merit.
On ribbon only.
C.L.M. (Military) -- Red for combat distinction. } Worn on full size and
O.L.M. (Military) -- Silver for combat distinction. } miniature medals and
M.L.M. (Military) -- Bronze for combat distinction. } ribbon bar.
4. Where the initial letters of awards are shown in this order of precedence, they may be used after the name of the recipient.

ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

1. Grand Cross of Valour (G.C.V.)
2. Conspicuous Gallantry Decoration (C.G.D.)
3. Grand Commander of the Legion of Merit (G.C.L.M.)
4. Grand Officer of the Legion of Merit (G.L.M.)
5. Independence Commemorative Decoration (I.D.)
6. Independence Commemorative Decoration (I.C.D.)
7. Commander of the Legion of Merit (C.L.M.)
8. Police Cross for Conspicuous Gallantry (P.C.G.), Silver Cross of Rhodesia (S.C.R.) and Prison Cross for Gallantry (R.P.C.), which shall rank equally
9. Officer of the Legion of Merit (O.L.M.)
10. Member of the Legion of Merit (M.L.M.)
11. Police Decoration for Gallantry (P.D.G.) and Bronze Cross of Rhodesia (B.C.R.), which shall rank equally
12. Police Cross for Distinguished Service (P.C.D.) and Prison Cross for Distinguished Service (P.S.C.) which shall rank equally.
13. Meritorious Conduct Medal (M.C.M.)
14. Prison Medal for Gallantry (R.P.M.)
15. Meritorious Service Medal (M.S.M.), Police Medal for Meritorious Service (P.M.M.), Defence Medal for Meritorious Service (D.M.M.) and Prison Medal for Meritorious Service (P.M.S.), which shall rank equally.
16. President's Medal for Chiefs.
17. President's Medal for Headmen.
18. General Service Medal
19. Prison Service Medal
20. Police Long Service Medal, Exemplary Service Medal and Prison Long Service Medal, which shall rank equally.
21. Police Reserve Long Service Medal, Medal for Territorial or Reserve Service and Fire Brigade Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, which shall rank equally.
22. Rhodesia Badge of Honour and Certificate.
23. President's Medal for Shooting.

MEDALMAN

What Chance Does A Collector Have?

After reading about the 'Two Fighting Greats' in the last edition of Sabretache it made me think how would a collector in years to come ever realize the group of medals belonged to one man. Who would associate loose medals named to McCall and Bateman being for different wars ever being part of the same group. Incidentally the DCM awarded to McCALL was named McCOLL. Is it any wonder that those collectors with the best intent have mistakenly passed on medals that were in fact part of a group.

What Are The Rarest Medals?

After reading the 1976 price supplement for medals to Australians it made me think what really are the rarest medals. Is the VC really the top, if taken on numbers awarded, which must be one of the major means of determining rarity, then it is far from the rarest. It is my opinion that multiple gallantry awards are far more rarer than a VC only group. How many Australians were awarded DCM and Bar, MM; DCM, MM and Bar, MSM; MC, DCM, MM and Bar; DSO, MC and Bar, DCM. Surely for the collector of gallantry awards any of the groups mentioned must be more desirable than a VC only group. I would like to see the multiple gallantry groups be accorded the value they deserve. What do you think?

Once Awarded Never Taken Back

With the exception of the VC, British awards could be described as 'Indian Given'; that is the recipient must keep to a standard or lose his award. Surely if a man earns a decoration or medal then it is his efforts for that particular action or service that earned the award and anything he may do at a later date has nothing to do with awards previously given. It is time warrants for all awards were amended to ensure a recipient when given a medal is given it for all time and not at the pleasure of the giver. This applies to service medals as the present ridiculous situation exists where a member of the armed services if dishonourably discharged loses service awards earned for gallant and distinguished service. Such war medals could have been awarded for service 40 years previously. How can gallant or distinguished service once displayed and awarded be deemed as not having taken place. I would like to hear the service legal point of view on this matter.

Wearing of Foreign Decorations

In a previous issue of Sabretache mention was made on the precedence for wearing the new Australian awards and as a result a number of suggestions have been put forward. It would appear that most favour wearing decorations and medals in the following order –

- a. Australian decorations, followed by British decorations, followed by decorations of foreign countries in accordance with date of award.
- b. Australian/British war medals.
- c. Foreign war medals.
- d. Commemorative/Coronation awards.

e. Long service awards.

It seems logical that all decorations should be worn before service and other medals as no doubt National pride must be hurt when one sees his country's top honour being worn after a medal awarded for handing out band aids.

First World War Honours To Kiwis

The honours and awards gained by members of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force were as follows:

Victoria Cross 11; KCB 2; CB 12; KCMG 2; CMG 46; CBE 23; OBE 60; MBE 44; DSO 139; Bars to DSO 8; MC 531; Bars to MC 25; RRC (1st Class) 14; Bars to RRC (1st Class) 1; RRC (2nd Class) 72; DCM 392; Bars to DCM 4; MM 2066; Bars to MM 62; MSM 321; Mentioned in Despatches 1437; Foreign Decorations 252.

How C.L. Bateman Became T.H. McCall

In answer to a query on the change of name used by that great fighting soldier C.L. Bateman DCM, MM and Bar, MSM (See December 1975 Edition of Sabretache) Major Clark provided the following information.

'On the 6 October 1914 Bateman and two others applied for leave to go to Tamworth. The leave was not granted but the applicants went anyway. At that time there was rumour but nothing definite on the overseas movement of the battalion, however when Bateman and friends returned three days later they found the camp struck and the troops departed for war. They also learnt that their places in the battalion had been filled so they went to Sydney and joined up at Victoria Barracks. Thinking the authorities would recognise their names it was decided to change them. Names were placed in a hat and Bateman drew out Thomas Henry McCall and under that name he enlisted being allotted to the first reinforcements of the 2nd Battalion.'

Letter From WO2 G.R. Vazenery

It is nice to know that a member of Central Army Records reads Sabretache and even nicer to get a letter promoting his points of view. As a civilian I am not bound to support any service policy so I hope my views have been and will continue to be objective. It may be best to publish relevant sections of the letter for readers to make their own observations and comments. Part of WO2 Vazenery's letter reads:—

"After WWII, there was wide publicity throughout Australia regarding the subject of medals for that war. It was notified that medals were available on request. As a result, medals were inscribed and filed in order of Army number awaiting replies from the individuals. In 1960s (late) there was still a large number of medals remaining unclaimed. The actual number was never assessed, but it was large enough to fill a number of tea chests. They were eventually returned to Ordnance for disposal (which is another story)."

[Medalman's Comments]

I am sure all readers would be interested in 'another story' on what happened to all the unclaimed medals.

"The medals were not forwarded to the individuals automatically, without request, due to the impossible job of finding where they all were. When the soldier was discharged his address, at that time, was recorded, but the Army cannot possibly keep track of the changes of address of each of the 800,000 men involved, unless the man corresponded with the Army on a particular subject."

[Medalman's Comments]

No one seriously expected the Army to keep all the addresses of those who served but surely the address at the time of discharge would have allowed a large percentage of individuals to have been forwarded their medals.

"How would they ever know they were entitled to medals? This question is a bit silly – every soldier knows what medals he is entitled to, particularly in the case of WWII, where the subject was widely publicised."

[Medalman's Comments]

This is a ridiculous statement as there have been many hundreds of enquiries regarding medal entitlements and even today such queries are still being dealt with, particularly by RSL Sub-Branches and other Ex-Service Organisations. Further, one has only to look at the medals worn by ex-servicemen on Anzac Day to know that they obviously are not wearing their full entitlement. A classic example is the non wearing of the Australian Service Medal which was not struck until 1948.

"As regards the issue of medals to the parents of those who were killed in Vietnam, apparently your 'Medalman' does not know the law regarding this subject. The parents are not necessarily the next-of-kin of a soldier. In fact, in many cases, the identity of the parents is not known to the Army. Take the case of the soldier who came from a divided family. If the mother and the father are not speaking to each other, which one gets the medals? It is the soldier's right to nominate his next-of-kin, and that person automatically becomes entitled to the whole of his estate, unless he specifically provides in his will that someone other than the next-of-kin is to get his medals. In any case, any soldier, or next-of-kin, who thinks that they are entitled to medals has only to write to CARO and request an issue of medals. CARO will then sort out entitlements."

[Medalman's Comments]

Maybe two percent of those killed in Vietnam had problems on next-of-kin, and in any case the next-of-kin should be recorded for every serviceman. Even though WO Vazenery has explained the great problems placed upon CARO when mothers and fathers don't speak to each other it is in no way an excuse for not giving the next-of-kin of those killed the satisfaction of at least knowing someone within the Army was interested. It cannot be seriously suggested that the mother or wife who has lost a loved one should have to write and request medals. It would be surprising if the views of WO2 Vazenery are the official views of CARO and The Military authorities.

To save legal embarrassment to WO2 Vazenery portion of his letter is not being published, however, we thank him for the profound news that Keith Payne was not a Captain in the Australian Army (don't know where he gained that impression from) and also for the news that recipients of American decorations don't use post nominals.

However, Sabretache thanks him for his letter and hopes that he will continue to put forward euidite views on material by medalman. Regarding the identity of medalman if anyone can't live without knowing then forward a donation of \$100 to the Federal Secretary and the name or names you seek will be given.

Clasp 'Dhofar' for British General Service Medal

The October 1975 issue of 'Soldier' mentions that the Queen had approved proposals for the grant of the GSM 1962 with clasp 'Dhofar'. No details on qualification is mentioned.

Awards To Australian Sailors For Zeebrugge Raid

The following awards were made to sailors at that time serving in the RAN.

DSC — Artificer Engineer W.H.H. EDGAR

DSM — Leading Seaman, G.J. BUSH*; D.J.O. RUDD; G.E. STAPLES.

Mentioned in Despatches — Able Seaman, H.J. GILLARD*; L.T. NEWLAND;
Stoker N.J. McRORY.

* Are thought to have been members of the RN serving with RAN. It is hard to distinguish RN members whilst serving with RAN as they were given RAN numbers.

Orders, Decorations and Medals Awarded Sir Winston Churchill

In answer to a member's query Sir Winston Churchill's orders and decorations are as follows:—

BRITISH ORDERS: Order of Merit; Order of the Companions of Honour.

FOREIGN ORDERS: Knight Grand Cross of the Order of Leopold (Belgium); Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Netherlands Lion (Holland); Grand Cross of the Grand-Ducal Order of the Oak Crown (Luxemburg); Grand Cross with Chain of the Order of St Olav (Norway); Chevalier of the Order of the Elephant (Denmark).

SERVICE MEDALS: India General Service (Punjab Frontier) 1895; Sudan 1896-97; Queen's South Africa 1899-1902 with six Bars (Cape Colony, Tugela Heights, Orange Free State, Relief of Ladysmith, Johannesburg, Diamond Hill); 1914-15 Star; General Service Medal 1914-18; Allied Victory Medal 1918; 1939-45 Star; Africa Star; Italy Star; France and Germany Star; Defence Medal.; War Medal 1939-45.

COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS: King George V's Coronation Medal 1911; King George V's Silver Jubilee Medal 1935; King George VI's Coronation Medal 1937; Queen Elizabeth II Coronation Medal.

BRITISH DECORATIONS: Territorial Decoration.

FOREIGN MEDALS AND DECORATIONS: Spanish Order of Military Merit 1st Class; Cuban Medal; Distinguished Service Medal (USA); Khedive's Sudan Medal; Belgian Croix-de-Guerre 1915 and Palm; Luxemburg War Medal 1940; Danish

Liberation Medal; Medaille Militaire (France 1st Class); French Croix-de-Guerre 1940 and Palm; USAAC Pilot's Wings.

Sir Winston Churchill limited himself to wearing his medals (25 on the one bar), the Order of Merit, Companion of Honour and one foreign decoration at a time, depending on the kind of function and the country he was visiting.

'Ocker' Awards

The new system of Australian honours are being referred to as 'Ocker' Awards because of unfavourable comment on their design. It has even been suggested that the 'Ocker' awards be given for 'undistinguished' service and the British awards for 'distinguished service'. If we continue with both British and Australian awards then there is no doubt the 'Ocker' awards will become a 'second best'. If we are to accept the Australian awards then let us try and give them some standing by making them the only awards available to Australians.

Some members of the Armed Services have expressed disgust at the 'National Medal' and Reserve Forces are fighting to keep their existing awards for long service. It has also been expressed that most regular other ranks would prefer to retain their existing long and meritorious service awards. It may be that the photographs of the Australian awards do not do them justice, let us hope so as refusal to accept them by recipients will not enhance their standing.

Papua New Guinea Independence Medal



Obverse



Reverse

The PNG Independence Medal will soon be issued to those who meet the qualifications which in outline is service of eighteen months in PNG up to and including the date of Independence. There will be a second list of recipients which will be known as the 'Prime

Ministers' List and will include dignitaries whom the Nation wishes to honour but may not meet the qualifications regarding time etc.

The medal was designed by Major R. Clark with the art work being done by Major L.G. Halls. It is hoped that the Society will produce a publication on the PNG Independence Medal which will include a list of all recipients.

BADGEMAN

To the Badgeman.

Dear Sir,

Would it please be possible for you to write up an article for publication in "Sabretache" which would give a list of units who wore their own regimental badge prior to 1903? This is of course Australian units. I feel sure members of the MHS of Aust. would be very pleased to see such a list and I for one would be.

Yours faithfully,
Bob. Gray

Would readers like to submit lists of what badges they know were worn prior to 1903. Badgeman will then consolidate the lists and publish in Sabretache.

New Warrant Officer Class One Badges – A Bungle

There have been a number of problems with the manufacture of the new WO1 rank badges which have led to the following comments:

All are shoddy in appearance, none were the same – except shoddy; The Coat of Arms – a conglomerate of coloured cotton representing – what? A word which could be 'Australia' fitted into the bottom of the mess mentioned; Kangaroos with none, one and two eyes; Emus with tongues sticking out; cotton and edges fraying. The quality control should be congratulated on these badges as it is understood the first lot manufactured at a rumoured cost of \$28,000 had to be all rejected. It would appear that the aim of production control is to wait until an order is completed thus ensuring the maximum number of rejects. Those not issued with the new badges may wear the old badges until satisfactory new badges are manufactured.

Shortages of Some Current Badges

Financial restrictions have extended into the insignia field and a number of regimental badges are now out of stock. In addition it is not expected that any of the new badges will be made until later in the year when it is hoped money will become available.



The 'New' Badges — Photo from Defence Public Relations

MODELMAN

This month I would like to mention models of military vehicles. For many years Dinky Toy models have been available in this country, generally in OO scale. Bearing in mind that they have been produced particularly for the toy market the standard has been high.

Before 1939 the following military vehicle sets were available in Australia:

- Royal Tank Corps
 - Vickers Light Tank *
 - Austin 7 Tourer with driver *
 - Reconnaissance Car *
- Royal Tank Corps
 - Vickers Medium Tank *
 - 3 Ton Truck *
 - Field Cooker *
 - Water Trailer
- Royal Artillery
 - 18 pdr Field Gun * – with pneumatic tyres
 - Limber
 - Tractor
- Royal Artillery
 - 3.7" AA Gun on mobile platform
 - 3 Ton Truck *

and two sets of figures

- No 150 Royal Tank Corps *
- No ? Royal Artillery *

I have examples of the models marked * but the boxes and box details have long since vanished. I would welcome any information on set numbers and descriptions of the vehicles. I think that the Light Tank is Mark VII and the Medium Mark II but I cannot be sure. The 3 ton truck seems to be an early model, perhaps a 1918 Crossley and the gun tractor was possibly a Carden-Lloyd Dragon. The reconnaissance car is a 6 wheel, canvas hood tourer and has me intrigued. But my guesses could be far out.

My second point comes from a member's query. He has asked for information and reference sources in regard to Formation and Tactical Signs used on Australian military vehicles of all types between 1939 and 1945. Dig into your libraries and memories. If enough authenticated information can be assembled it will be published in Sabretache.

Modelman

BOOK REVIEWS

By

B.J. Videon

"WARGAMING, Ancient and Medieval Periods" by Donald F. Featherstone. Published by David and Charles, London. Publications Date 29 January 1976. English Price 3 pounds 95 pence (\$8.90). Hard covers and attractive dustjacket. 143 pages including Index.

In this book, Donald Featherstone continues to instruct and enthrall the student of wargaming with some fascinating material on a number of old battles, dating from the Battle of Kadesh (1288 BC) to The First Battle of St. Albans (1455). For the Briton, Stamford Bridge, Bannockburn and Shrewsbury will be of interest, as many will have been on the sites of these Battles.

Maps and useful appendices make this a valuable book, able to be enjoyed and used by the beginner and the advanced player alike. The list of manufacturers of wargame figures will interest the Australian reader, who probably has more bother than most, in getting his material together.

"MILITARY SMALLARMS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY" by Ian Hogg and John Weeks. Published by Arms and Armour Press, and available in Australia through Thomas C. Lothian Pty. Ltd. 4-12 Tattersalls Lane, Melbourne. Australian price \$19.50.

This is quite a large book (11½" x 8¾") of about 1¼" thickness including cover. The pages are not numbered normally, and the grouping of weapons in the book may appear strange at first sight, but this attractive book, which is the 2nd Revised edition of this work, is a mine of information. There are 600 photographs of over 800 weapons, and descriptions of the handguns, sub machine guns and rifles (both bolt and automatic actions) likely to be found around the world. Sketches show how actions work, and in each case all the vital statistics are given for the edification of the weapons collector and enthusiast. Recommended as a worthy addition to the bookshelf of anyone interested in firearms.

"SWORDS OF THE BRITISH ARMY" (The Regulation Patterns, 1788-1914) by Brian Robson. Published by Arms and Armour Press, and available in Australia through Thomas C. Lothian. Australian price \$21.95.

For the edged-weapon enthusiast, this is akin to the above book for the firearms specialist! A magnificent book, it tells clearly how the various patterns of swords were developed in the British Army, and provides clear and delightful illustrations of hilts and other useful details. The page size, 10" x 7½", is just right, and there are 208 of them, including Appendices and Index. If you don't know much about sword, you will need this book. If you do know about them, you will want to have it! A first-class reference work.

“DREADNOUGHT, A History of the Modern Battleship”, by Richard Hough, with an introduction by C.S. Forester (of Hornblower fame). Publisher: Patrick Stevens, Cambridge, U.K., and available in Australia through Hicks Smith & Sons Pty. Ltd., 301 Kent St., SYDNEY. Australian price \$24.30. Size 11” x 8½”, 268 pages with index and specifications of the dreadnoughts of the world.

Who would have thought that the story of the Dreadnought would have made such fascinating reading? Here is told the story of the conception and delivery of the first “DREADNOUGHT” to the Royal Navy, and its effect on subsequent naval ship development.

Born amid political birthpangs, with numerous technical problems to be overcome, this first of the modern battleships set the pace for the navies of the world, who entered upon a competition to see who could afford the biggest, the strongest, the most heavily armed, and the fastest ships afloat. At first the rivalry seemed mainly between England and Germany, but the United States, the smaller European countries, Japan, South America and even Australia, became involved.

Photos, sketches and diagrams illustrate the majority of these battleships and battle-cruisers, from Dreadnought herself, 1906, to the American and Japanese battleships that saw the final stages of the Second World War. It is probable that no one realises now that Brazil at one stage was a contender for the honour of having the world’s biggest battleship! Nor that some countries were constrained to keep the size of their ships down to the sizes of the waterways through which they must pass!

Here for the lover of the sea and warships is a feast of first rate enjoyment, in a book that will grace anyone’s bookshelves.

“THE KURUKSHETRA WAR” by Major P. Sensarma. Published by Dhiren Roy, Darbari Udjog, Jessore Road, Ganganagar, India. Distributor: Naya Prokash, 206 Bidham Sarani, Calcutta-6, India. 187 pages, Price unknown.

Throughout recorded history soldiers seeking to extend their military education have studied ancient campaigns to gain an insight into strategic and tactical principles. In most cases these studies have centred on events in the Mediterranean area. Major Sensarma has opened a new vista with his examination of a campaign which lasted only 18 days, resulted in a casualty rate which makes the Somme battles seem a minor skirmish and which was chronicled some 3000 years ago in the Indian Epic, the Mahabharata.

But this is not merely another campaign history. Major Sensarma has examined what he sees to be the principles and ethics of war employed by the combatants, the organisation of the armies involved, the tactics employed and equipment used. The reader familiar with Clausewitz will appreciate this fresh approach.

On the other hand, the style of writing requires a willingness to concentrate and the lack of a table of contents or an index is particularly noticed.

Neville Foldi

BOOK REVIEWS

by

K.R. White

Australian & Imperial Defence 1819-39

A Study in Air & Sea Power by John McCarthy

Published by Queensland University Press, Price \$9.95

Dr McCarthy, who is Senior Lecturer in History at the Royal Military College, Duntroon, has written a well researched study into the between-wars development of Australia's defence policy.

In his study, Dr McCarthy, has shown the dependence which Australian political leaders placed on the ability of Britain to defend Australia, despite the obvious problems of fighting a two front war in Europe and Asia.

The inability of Britain to complete the Singapore base, the whole basis of the plan for such a base, the virtual stranglehold of British interests on Australia's industrial capacity the intrigues to keep U.S. interests out of any defence planning, particularly in the small aircraft industry, are all fully explored. From the vast amount of material researched by the author, the story of the problems in developing an Australian defence policy are fully explained and one can but wonder at the frustrations confronting such men as Air Marshall Sir Richard Williams in their efforts to develop a truly Australian defence policy which placed Australia first and Imperial interests second.

If one can offer a criticism it is the copious use of notes to supplement the main text. The constant reference to these notes which cover some 40 pages out of a total of 227 was distracting to say the least and one can but wonder at the necessity of 190 notes in 36 pages of text as shown in Chapter 5.

The work includes a most comprehensive bibliography and index which will serve as a most useful aid for some future writer on the later development of Australia's defence planning.

To say the least this book should be compulsory reading for all politicians with any pretensions to an interest in defence and also for those responsible for doing the actual planning. If a lesson can be learned from this study it is surely that Australia must stand on its own feet in both defence planning and in developing its own defence industrial capacity.

Desert Rats at War by George Forty

Published by Ian Allan Ltd, Price \$14.70

This is a well produced book describing the service of the Armoured Division from its formation in 1939 to the end of the North African campaign in May 1943.

The story is told in both text and photographs of the development of this fine formation from its formation, through the runs up and back along the North African battlefields until the ultimate victory in Trinisia. The text amply describes the various campaigns, the victories and defeats, and the many photographs bring out all the good and bad moments of the campaign.

While the emphasis is necessarily on the fighting arms of the Division, the Services are by no means forgotten and no branch is forgotten in the overall coverage, even down to NAAFI. The photographs will be a boon to modellers as they cover the entire range of AFV's used by the Division, including many adaptations.

Recommended to all who are interested in the North African campaign, modellers and a must for any military library.

'The Battle For Cassino' by E.D. Smith, distributed in Australia by the Cambridge University Press. Obtainable from the Federal Secretary for \$11.50.

A battle of the First World War fought with the weapons of the Second. Brigadier E.D. Smith, who took part in the battle as a young officer in the Gurkhas, provides a detailed professional analysis of one of the bloodiest encounters in the last war. Although many books have been written on this battle this one is of particular interest to the wargamer.

Destination Berchtesgaden by J.R. Turner and R. Jackson. Distributed by Cambridge University Press and obtainable from the Federal Secretary for \$13.00.

The history of the American Seventh Army in the Second World War following the movement of General Patch's magnificent soldiers from their initial landings in Sicily and the Riviera, through France and Alsace, and then across the Rhine, deep into Germany to the bitter war's end at Hitler's blazing mountain eyrie.

Of interest to the student of American military history.

The first of a planned two-volume history of the Australian Intelligence Corps was recently completed by Society member Lieutenant Chris Couthard-Clark and is being published by the MMSA. Entitled **THE CITIZEN GENERAL STAFF**, the book embraces army intelligence from colonial times to 1939, concentrating on the AIC's existence between 1907-1914, and shows that the corps as constituted was intended to be a militia substitute for a General Staff. It explains how this concept gradually changed to the extent that the corps was disbanded in 1914, even though Australia had become involved in the First World War.

The book, which carries a foreword by Major-General C.H. Finlay, the Honorary Colonel of the corps, is recommended to any past or present member of the corps as well as the collector of militaria. Well illustrated with photographs — many not previously published before (and including a photograph of the very elusive badge of the period) —

the book includes annexes which all the members of the corps 1907-1914 and provide useful reference material on medals won and the uniform of the corps. The text is fully referenced and indexed.

The book is presently with the printer and the finished product is expected by mid-May. Only a limited edition is planned (500 soft-cover, 200 hard-bound) and to enhance the collecting value the whole edition will be serially numbered. Price will be \$5 for soft-cover, \$10 for hard bound. Pre publication orders are invited and will ensure that any unanticipated increases in costs are not passed on to those who order early. (see Order Form).

This book caters for the historian, badge collector, medal collector and even the uniform enthusiast and as such is a MUST for all members.

Australian Dictionary of Biography (ADB) – Armed Services Entries

The selection of Armed Services entries for the ADB is nearing completion and authors for A to C entries, with the exception of last minute changes have also been selected. If you have been selected to be a contributing author to this most important work then may I suggest early attention to your writing as A to C biographies should be submitted by not later than July 1976. If an author has any queries regarding the ADB don't hesitate to contact me at home or work (Canberra 662932).

The standard of biographies written by our members will enhance the standing of the Society as the ADB will acknowledge each author.

Rex Clark
Member Armed Services Working Party
Australian Dictionary of Biography.

BRANCH NOTES

Queensland Branch

President: Mr J.H. Irwin

Secretary: Mr S.W. Wigzell

17 Royal St., CAPALABA, Qld. 4157. Phone: 3901060

The Queensland Branch meets monthly (except January) in the Theatrette of 20 CRE (COM Z) at the Kelvin Grove Army Barracks, on the first Wednesday of the month. The usual style of meeting includes an address by a member on some aspect of military history or militaria. Every so often an auction is held to enable members to prune or enlarge their collections. At every meeting an opportunity is provided, through "Members Forum", to exhibit, give information on and often to gain information about, interesting acquisitions. Needless to say, a lot of "horse trading" goes on at meetings and we feel this is a good thing.

The Branch produces a Monthly Newsletter which gives details of coming events, interesting (we hope) snippets of militaria and the latest information on books available in Brisbane bookstores. Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the Monthly Newsletter may do so by writing to the Secretary enclosing a stamped, self addressed envelope.

The Branch mounted recently a highly successful and rewarding exhibit in the Arms Collectors' Guild of Queensland Second Annual Arms and Militaria Exhibition on the 5th, 6th and 7th March. Individual members also mounted displays which no doubt contributed to the outstanding success of the Exhibition.

The Branch membership is approximately 30, drawn mainly from the Brisbane area. Any Corresponding Branch members who wish to join the Branch should contact the Federal Secretary or Syd Wigzell.

Any Society members visiting Brisbane should get in touch with Syd regarding attendance at Branch meetings or being put in touch with Brisbane members with similar collecting or military history interests.



IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED



The colour patch shown appears on a uniform in the collection of the Australian War Memorial. The uniform is of 2nd World War vintage, AIF Officer Pattern. The sketch shown above is approximately full size and is believed to have been worn by an Australian P.O.W. on his return to Australia.

If you can help with any identification then please advise:

THE FEDERAL SECRETARY,
P.O. BOX 67,
LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602



CAN ANY READER IDENTIFY THE ABOVE VETERAN

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Editor,
"Sabretache"

Dear Sir,

UPPER CLARENCE LIGHT HORSE

Referring to Mr P.J. Chauvel's letter on Page 154 of "Sabretache", Vol. XVII, No. 2, in the interests of accuracy and in order that readers may not be confused or misled, I think it should be pointed out that the Upper Clarence Light Horse was formed, not in 1855, but in 1885.

Permission to raise two troops was given to Captain C.H.E. Chauvel in, I understand, December, 1885. The swearing-in of the first men to join took place on 1 January, 1886. This is stated in a letter by the late Sir Harry Chauvel, of which I have a copy, and is supported by entries in a Muster Roll Book of the Cavalry Brigade which is in my possession.

Yours faithfully,

P.V. Vernon.

Editors Note:

We thank Colonel Vernon for pointing out this discrepancy in dates. I must confess that it was overlooked in proof reading.

Pte. R. Humberstone DCM

Pte. R. Humberstone was listed in the December 1975 Sabretache as one of the first Australians to earn the DCM, having been awarded this on the 25th April 1915. He also received a MID for Gallipoli.

Although his DCM shows his name as Humberston, his other medals have the spelling as Humberstone. His medals are:

DCM 3/Aust. I.B. NSW; QSA bar CC DEOVR; KSA bars SAO1, SAO2 DEOVR; Natal Bar 1906 Natal Carbineers; 1914-15 Star, 3BN; WM, 3BN; VM with MID, 3BN.

Both the DCM and the MID were awarded for service on Gallipoli. The citation for the DCM reads:—

"On the 25th April 1915 and subsequently during operations near Gaba Tepe for conspicuous coolness and bravery in volunteering on many occasions for dangerous missions and for judgment in carrying them out."

He enlisted on 29-8-1914 and is included in the No. 12 casualty list. (Casualties up to August 1915) returned to Australia 4.2.16, discharged on the 22.5.16 and died 29.5.17 at the age of 41 and is buried at Waverley.

BARRETT J. CARR

Dear Editor,

The following pages might be suitable and of interest for the "Sabretache". Please use your discretion to include it or not.

UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT OF THE BRITISH ARMY IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Ever since the start of the crisis situation in Ulster there has been wide coverage of the events occurring there by the press but an interesting facet of the conflict there has not been well covered and that is the uniforms and equipment of the British Security Forces.

The uniform of the British soldier consists, oddly enough, of the combat dress designed for the European battle scenario. The uniform consists of a combat camouflage tunic, black DMS boots, puttees (short), 58 pattern web equipment. Certain additions to this uniform are the Flak jacket and steel helmet with Makrolon visor. The Flak jacket is useful for protection against stones, bottles etc., but is useless against high velocity rounds.

Whilst on street patrol the steel helmet is replaced by the ubiquitous beret. In my opinion the wearing of a camouflage suit in an urban scenario is completely wrong and steps should have been taken to issue suitable dress than is issued at the moment.

The main weapon carried by the troops is the standard NATO SLR. This weapon, according to many opinions is unsuitable for the role it is being used for. The other firearm used is the Sterling 9 millimetre sub-machine gun. This weapon can only be described as being of little value. In many cases it has been found that the terrorist is better armed than the security forces.

Riot control equipment consists of the Makolon polycarbonate shield which is light and tough at the same time. The matching "implement" is a two and a half foot truncheon, most useful for clearing crowds. Other weapons used, which are more notorious than the previous two; are the Webley-Scherruly anti-riot gun firing the 1.5 inch rubber bullets and C.S. gas grenades. These two weapons are not considered suitable on the number of injuries and side effects carried.

Other weapons of interest are the water cannon firing a jet of high pressure water and more interesting is the proposed use of equipment called "squawk boxes". The instruments emit various frequencies of sound causing some nasty side effects. Also being considered is the use of flashing lights combined with the "squawk box" to control crowds. This method is very effective but the risk of serious side effects has postponed use of such a weapon.

GRAHAM TURNER
39/36-42 Osborne Rd.,
Manly, Sydney, 2095

Dear Editor,

AUTHORS CORRECTION

**Reference Richthofen Article In December 1975
Edition of Sabretache.**

The gunner who shot him down was 'SOWERBUTTS' not 'TOWERBUTTS'. The pilot that the Baron was chasing was W.R. MAY RAF not BROWN.

Charlie McIntosh.

MILITARY MEDAL

Since its inception in 1916 the Military Medal for Bravery has been awarded to more than 200,000 men and women.

An Englishman, William Carrigan, of Sussex, is intrigued by its history and is writing a book on the subject.

"The story of the Military Medal is long overdue. I would like to hear from Australian winners giving me personal accounts of their war and how they won the MM." he said.

Official sources give only limited information.

People who can help should write to William Carrigan at 61 Sydney Road, Eastbourne, Sussex, UK.

17 Anderson Road,
HAWTHORN, Vic. 3123
Jan 17th 1976

Dear Mr White,

In August 1914 my company KEEP BROS & WOOD of Franklin Street, Melbourne, received contracts from the Defence Dept for the supply of General Service Waggon, Field Telegraph Waggon, Ambulances and a number of "Maltese Carts". I have clear photographs of the first three but no information on the Maltese Cart nor can I obtain information about them in Melbourne.

Has your Society records that could tell me what they were like and what was their use?

I also enclose a photo of what I believe were Limber Service Waggon but again I cannot find anyone who can recognise them or say what they were for. Would they have been for transporting pontoon boats? (The photo enclosed was of Travelling Trunnions for Siege Guns, used for carrying barrells to and from coastal positions).

Several other companies received contracts during the 1914 war, one or two in each state, for the supply of vehicles. Perhaps you have records is so I should like to see them

next time I am in Canberra if that were possible. If not would you be interested in the information I have here?

Are there any examples of horsedrawn military vehicles in the War Museum?

Please do not go to too much trouble over these queries, but I would like my records as complete and as accurate as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Douglas P. Keep.

NOTE: Those who can help contact Mr Keep.



NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

The Trade Practices Act, 1974 came into force on October 1, 1974. There are important new provisions in that Act which contain strict regulations on advertising and all advertisers and advertising agents are advised to study those provisions very carefully.

It can be an offence for anyone to engage, in trade or commerce, in conduct "misleading or deceptive". In particular Section 53 contains prohibitions from doing any of the following in connection with the supply of goods or services or in connection with the promotion, by any means, of the supply or use of goods or services:

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- (c) Represent that goods or services have sponsorship, approval, performance, characteristics, accessories, uses or benefits they do not have.
- (d) Represent that he or it has a sponsorship, approval or affiliation he or it does not have.
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It is not possible for this Society to ensure that advertisements which are published in this magazine comply with the Act and the responsibility must therefore be on the person, company or advertising agency submitting the advertisements for publication.

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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.

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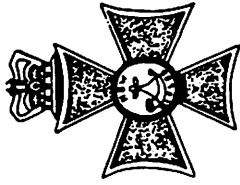
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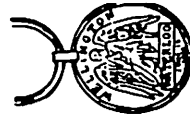
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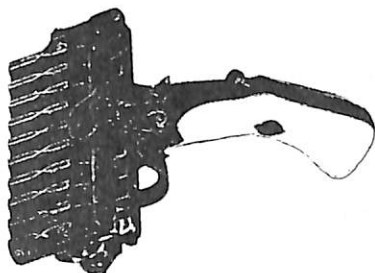
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