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*Sabretache*



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# SABRETACHE

JOURNAL OF  
THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
OF AUSTRALIA



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JULY, 1977

NO. 3

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# "SABRETACHE"

## JOURNAL AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

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**Featured on Cover:** Sister Alice Ross King, ARRC, MM, AANS, taken about 1919.  
(An article about Sister King appears on page 160)

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The aims of the Society are the encouragement 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.

Membership is open to all, subject to payment of \$10.00 annual subscription (due 1st July each year). Overseas applicants are advised that airmail delivery of Sabretache is available for an additional sum of \$4.00 (all rates in Australian currency).

All members will receive Sabretache, the journal of the Society, which is published quarterly. Contributions are welcomed from members and non-members but must further the Society's aims.

Correspondence and contributions should be addressed to the Federal Secretary, P.O. Box 67, Lyneham, A.C.T. 2602.

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## NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

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It is regrettably necessary to draw to members' attention the fairly gloomy state of the Society's finances. Due to the inflationary trend the cost of producing 'Sabretache' is no longer covered by membership subscriptions. Since the journal is the Society's lifeblood it is our aim to continue producing four issues a year, but the help of members is important. Apart from outright gifts to the Society's funds (which would be enormously appreciated at present), prompt payment of subscriptions for the 1977-78 year and recruitment of new members is very much needed. It is almost inevitable that subscription rates will rise next year (to \$15 a year) in any event. We are, nonetheless, trying to improve the magazine despite the money problem and to provide Society members with a better service. We hope present members will stay with us.

The April issue of 'Sabretache' carried a review of "The Australians at the Boer War" which was originally written for the Defence Force Journal and which was published in this journal with the permission of the Editor DFJ. We failed to acknowledge this fact at the time and offer our apologies to DFJ for the omission. Incidentally, one error which crept into the review itself concerned the fact that it was the Sixth NSW Infantry Regiment (not the Second as stated) that wore a Rising Sun design on their badges in the 1880s. Apologies to the author and publisher.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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As only one nomination for office-bearers was received, the following are elected for the ensuing year:—

President - Lieutenant-Colonel I. C. TEAGUE  
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## ADDRESS FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT

---

I am very pleased and honoured to be taking the chair as President and welcome this opportunity to address members of our Society. I look forward to a challenging and interesting term in office and trust that I will have the support of all members.

On behalf of the Society I would like to thank our outgoing President, Ian Barnes, for his sound leadership and guidance over the past three years, and more particularly for his notable contribution to Australian military history in the form of his book, "Gallant and Distinguished Service in Vietnam".

I believe our goals for the immediate future should be to increase our membership; to develop even further the rapport we have with the Defence Forces, the R.S.L., the Australian War Memorial and other such organisations; and to become more aware of the responsibilities that are entailed in preserving our proud military heritage. My request to each of you is that you continue to uphold the aims of the Society, that you give the Society all possible support.

Finally, I would like to congratulate those members of the Society whose names have appeared in awards lists since the last issue of "Sabretache", in particular our senior serving member, Major-General Whitelaw, who received an A.O. in the Queen's Birthday Honours, and the ten members who were recipients of the Silver Jubilee Medal.

*Ian Teague*

THE NEW PRESIDENT

...the day the President and ...  
...I look forward to a ...  
...will have the support of all ...  
...think our outgoing President ...  
...the last three years and more ...



(National Army Museum, London)

The Hon. Sir Gordon Sprigg, K.C.M.G., Premier of the Cape, and the Hon. C. C. Kingston, Premier of South Australia, in Fleet Street during the procession to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1897. Behind marches a contingent from the South Australian Mounted Rifles. The route is lined by Grenadier Guardsmen. Taken from an album of "Sixty Different Views from Sixty Different Points" compiled by Mr. J. A. Collins.

# THE 'SAM BROWNE' BELT

By T. H. Short

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Time and technical progress are probably the main enemies of Army equipment. It is not often that a single item withstands the onslaughts of time, progress, changing styles and patterns, radical ideas and apathy to anything traditional or having a connection with the past. It is appropriate, therefore, that something should be written on a piece of personal equipment which has stood the test of time and which, in many individual instances, has been improved in quality by the care lavished upon it by its owner(s).

Those interested in present-day warlike material such as tanks, guns and modern machines of destruction would probably derive little satisfaction from a discussion of a 'dress embellishment', but it should not be forgotten that its original purpose was to aid a one-armed officer to continue to bear arms in the service of his country. The arms he bore, a sword and perhaps a pistol, were primitive by today's standards, but they were deadly in the hands of those who mastered their use. An empire was won by officers wearing this accoutrement in the days when chivalry still had a place in military thinking, and a man's life depended more often than not on his skill and efficiency in handling his personal weapons. This familiar item of equipment, this piece of history and this honourable badge of present-day office is, of course, the "Sam Browne" Belt.

Although referred to as a 'belt' it is not correct to assume that only a belt makes up the item. Other components which make up the complete equipment are a shoulder strap (possibly two), with extension piece, a sword carrier and the insert for the carrier ('frog'), and a leather pistol-holder. It is not unlikely that a carrier for a water bottle would also have been designed. Leather is the main material used while all metal fittings were originally brass; today, members of armoured units may have chrome fittings. It is unusual today to see a belt fitted with brass rings or 'Ds' to carry both a sword and a pistol, the reason being that the belt and sword are no longer worn as field dress and other equipment has been produced for the pistol.

The dress regulations for British officers of the 2nd Punjabis after the Indian Mutiny (1857-59) required them to wear their waist belts under their tunics. Browne\* found this ungainly with his left arm missing, and devised an external belt, supported on the left hand (sword) side by a shoulder strap. The purpose for which it was designed was purely practical and that was to carry arms in the form of sword and pistol. It is doubtful if any thought would have been given to gleaming polished leather and burnished brass in the initial concept. This would have been a natural sequel because of the Army tendency towards 'spit and polish' in the days when it was designed.

It is interesting to note that there could be two straps - one over each shoulder if two weapons were carried. (It is also interesting to note that the author served with an officer of the 'Green Howards', as recently as 1959, who wore twin shoulder straps as part of his regimental tradition and dress.)

Lieutenant S. J. Browne began his service in India in April 1849 as 2 I.C. of the newly raised 2nd Regiment of Punjab Cavalry, the unit which also later took his name (22nd Sam Browne's Cavalry). His career followed the normal course within this unit, until the Indian Mutiny. Lord Roberts has recorded the following story involving Browne at this time:

"During the mutiny an officer of the Punjab Cavalry had told Sam Browne that he had taken to wearing a chain on his shoulder as a means of warding off sword cuts, and he had strongly advised Sam Browne to do the same. He gave the latter two curb chains, which he insisted on him having sewn on his coat. Some time after the officer was killed, and a day or two after his death when Sam Browne and his friends were talking together, one man said that at a sale of the officer's effects he had bought some saddlery which had belonged to him, and he said that it was a curious thing that neither of the bridles he had bought had curb chains on them.

'I know where they are,' said Sam Browne, and went to his tent and took out the two curb chains and gave them to the purchaser of the bridles."

A short time afterwards, on August 31, 1858, at Seerporah, Browne single-handedly silenced a field gun which blocked the advance but during the fighting he received two sword cuts, one on the knee from which he nearly bled to death, and the other on the left shoulder (now unprotected by chain) which cut off his arm. For this action, Browne

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\* General Sir Samuel James Browne, VC, GCB, KCSI (1824-1901), served Punjab Campaign 1848-49, and Mutiny (VC, lost an arm), and Afghan Campaign 1878-79.

was awarded the V.C.; his citation at this time gives his rank as Lieutenant-Colonel, and his unit as the 46 Punjabis. He had previously been made a C.B.

Sam Browne as a lieutenant-general commanded the Peshawar Field Force at the capture of Ali Musjid during the Afghan War. He was knighted and was promoted to General in 1888. It could be argued that he must have held a reasonably high rank and have had influential connections or been an outstanding soldier to have been retained in the service with only one arm. It could also be suggested that he must have been in a position to influence others serving at the same time as himself, otherwise the belt he designed, supposedly for his own use, would not have been acceptable either for use by himself and, as transpired, by British Army officers as a whole. Since Sir Samuel had no need for the belt before he lost his arm it can be assumed that it was designed sometime between 1858 and 1859 or very soon after.

The Sam Browne belt was not worn universally in the British Army until 1897 when units began adopting more practical field uniforms to replace the traditional dress uniforms which had previously been worn in battle. The belt was later adopted by other countries, and is now an almost universal piece of equipment.

The fact that pronged buckles are incorporated in the design also allows for adjustment to belt and strap length to suit measurement variations found in individuals. To this day no improvement has been found for this system. It is not uncommon to find that a Sam Browne Belt is worn by successive generations of officers and warrant officers. This is one of the few niceties which has survived re-organisation, changes in policies and a general change in attitudes from that of the professional soldier of yesteryear.

Any item of military apparel which is still in use after over 100 years should not be accepted as just a piece of equipment. Surely it must be something special even if only because it has been worn, at one time or other, by some dedicated and famous personages. Its long association with the history of fighting men should also warrant some lasting recognition. With the eroding of tradition in our modern Army it is desirable that some link with the past should be retained. There could be no more fitting or more military-looking piece of equipment than the "Sam Browne" Belt, which has already survived for more than a century and is still identified with, and is synonymous with, the profession of arms.

# A TRIBUTE TO AN ARMY NURSE OF TWO WARS

By Chris Coulthard-Clark

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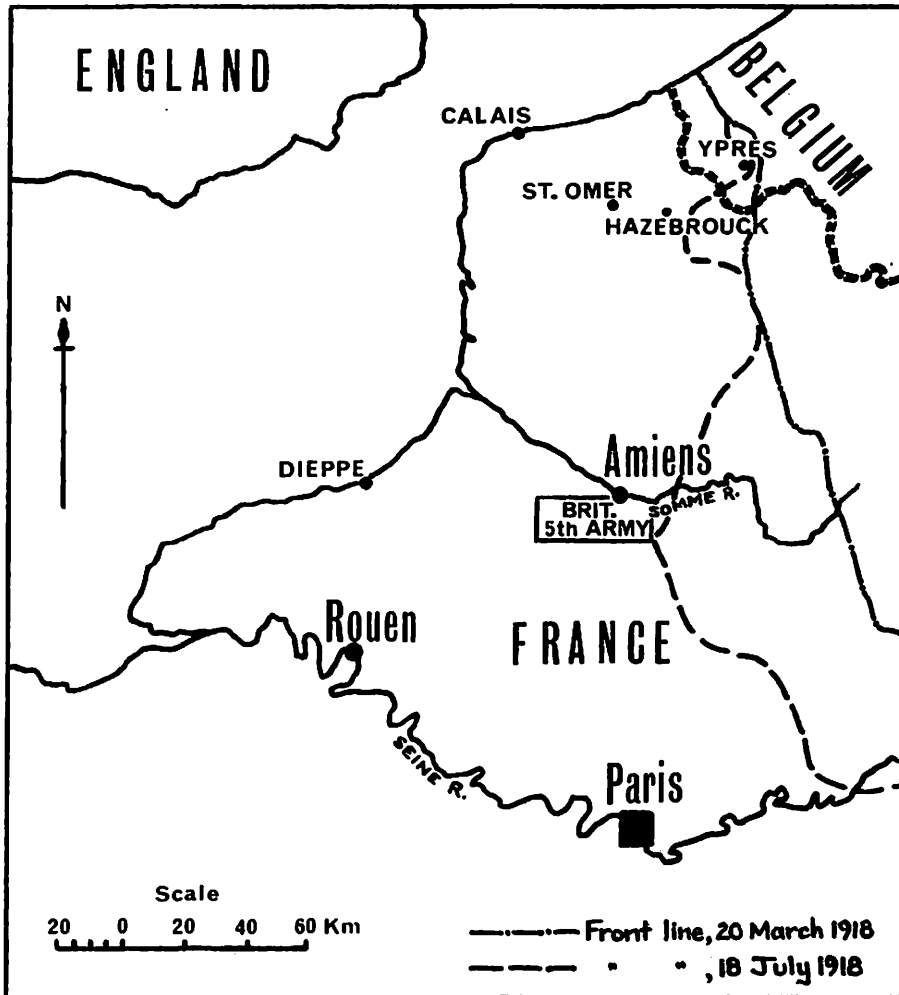
1st July 1977 marked the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the formation of the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps. One of the most distinguished army nurses with service in both the First and Second World Wars is Sister Alice Ross King, or Major Appleford as she became in 1941. She was one of only seven Australian Army nurses to win the Military Medal during World War I and was also awarded the Royal Red Cross and the Florence Nightingale Medal.

Born in Ballarat, Alice King trained at the Alfred Hospital in Melbourne and was 23\* when she left Australia on the hospital ship "Kyarra" four months after war was declared in 1914. On arrival in Egypt in January 1915 she was attached to No. 1 Australian General Hospital at Heliopolis in Cairo, and it was in Egypt that she gained her first taste of nursing in a theatre of war. She was one of a group of nurses sent to Suez to operate a clearing hospital in an evacuated French Convent orphanage during an unsuccessful Turkish drive against the Canal. It was only after the Allied landings on the Gallipoli Peninsula in April 1915, however, that large numbers of casualties began arriving in Egypt for treatment. In the latter half of 1915 Sister King returned to Australia on a transport carrying wounded and disciplinary cases, and accompanied the vessel back to Egypt with reinforcements. It was while in Egypt this second time that she met and fell in love with an Australian officer of the 52nd Battalion. They were parted when the hospital was sent to France in April 1916 and never saw each other again, as he was killed in July during the Somme Offensive of that year.

Although in uniform, the army nurses were at this stage an unmilitary lot. Sister King described in her diary the scene at the Alexandria docks as the hospital readied to sail. A young male officer was told to ensure all the nurses were ready to embark. "Not knowing the Australian Army Nursing Service (as the RAANC was then called) he told us to form a double row then 'number off'. He wanted 120. Each time he got a different number. He was terribly worried. Finally, our Commanding Officer came down the gangway to see what was the matter. In his tired voice he called out: 'Sisters! Form

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\* There is some contradiction of facts between sources concerning Sister King. Australian War Memorial records, for example, give her name as Ross-King, her year of birth as 1887, and state that the award of Royal Red Cross was, in fact, that of Associate Royal Red Cross. This article uses information provided by her two daughters.—Author's Note.



France-Belgium during the First World War.



a FAIRLY straight line. Left turn! Get on board.' 'Oh! Sir,' said Matron, 'they are not all here.' 'Then they'll be left behind,' said our C.O. Our first hard lesson! We had always been fussed over and spoilt before."

After landing at Marseilles it was decided the hospital should go to Rouen, normally an eight or ten hour journey but which took the hospital's train over three days. A six-hour stopover at Dijon provided the nurses with a further lesson in punctuality. One sister in civilian life owned the biggest and best-known private hospital in Melbourne. "She had always been cock-of-the-walk with the No. 1 Matrons, though her nursing days were over. She got to the train just as it was moving and a couple of men dragged her on board. We were all shocked to think the Colonel would dare to move off without HER. It was the best thing that could have happened."

Sister King remained with No. 1 AGH throughout the Somme Offensive, a bitter time which produced many grim sights. Even amid the ghastly she saw that the human spirit could triumph. One day she received a man who had had his lower jaw shot away. "He looks awful with his saliva dripping out over his dressing, but he is full of fun. I was doing his dressing when I sneezed twice (twice for a kiss). He wrote: 'Sneeze again Sister. There's nothing doing.'"

She also saw that the conditions which the troops endured on the Western Front were sometimes an improvement on their pre-war circumstances. To celebrate Christmas 1916 the Red Cross provided a dinner for the hospital's patients, chiefly men of the East London Regiment: turkey, ham, plum pudding, fruit, raisins, nuts, bon-bons, beer, cakes, sweets and chestnuts 'roasting and popping on the fire' in the ward. Wrote Sister King: "The men were so delighted with everything and I shall never forget the way they all lay back and went to sleep immediately they had their after dinner smoke, exhausted by the slight excitement. It was pathetic to read, in censoring the letters later, the oft repeated remark to mother or wife at home, 'I wish I could have saved some for you'. Lots of the men said quite truthfully that it was the best meal they had ever eaten in their lives."

The first months of 1917 gave the hospital its first taste of a European winter; it just happened to be the coldest in living memory, with snow and frost lasting from October 1916 to the following April. Great masses and blocks of ice floated in the Seine, and with a shortage of drinking water the nurses used the solid ice from the fire buckets to make cocoa for the patients. Sister King wrote, "We are also dreadfully short of coal. Last night I was nearly mad with the cold. The pain in my head and spine

became so intense that I did not know what to do. It sometimes seems impossible to carry on. The ink in our fountain pens freezes and many of the pens burst with the expansion."

In early April she was transferred to No. 10 Stationary Hospital at St. Omer, about 20 kilometers from the Belgian border, and on 17th July she was sent forward to a casualty clearing station close behind the trenches. She had been there only five days when the action occurred for which she received the Military Medal. It was about 10.30 p.m. when she was summoned to attend a delirious pneumonia patient in one of the wards. She followed the lantern-swinging orderly along the duckboards when a German aircraft was suddenly caught by searchlights just above the hospital. "Doesn't he look pretty, Sister," said the orderly pointing, and they walked on. It was then that they heard the whirr of a dropping bomb. "Get down, get down," someone cried, but as there was a railway line nearby which was frequently a target and the hospital had never been hit before, Sister King ran on after the orderly. The bomb fell directly ahead of her and was immediately followed by four others. Describing the incident to her diary later, she said, "The noise was so terrific and the concussion so great that I was thrown to the ground and had no idea where the damage was. I flew through the chest and abdominal wards and called out, 'Are you alright, boys?' 'Don't bother about us,' was the general cry from there." She raced along the duckboards towards the pneumonia ward. All the hospital's lights were out and there was only a faint moon, but the sky overhead was full of searchlights and fragments from the bursting anti-aircraft artillery were dropping like big rain. One piece struck the boards right in front of Sister King. She passed the cook running for an adjacent paddock, swearing hard and complaining that the bombs had put his fire out. Running on, she suddenly fell headlong into a bomb crater. "I shall never forget the awful climb on hands and feet out of that hole about five feet deep, greasy clay and blood (though I did not then know that it was blood)." The bomb had fallen directly alongside the pneumonia ward, which consisted of three marquee tents joined together. The tent had collapsed on the forty-six stretcher cases inside. "Though I shouted nobody answered me or I could hear nothing for the roar of planes and the artillery. I seemed to be the only living thing about." She ran along to the nearby operating theatre. The lights were out there too, and although she pounded on the door and shouted for help no-one came. (She later learned that the bomb-blasts had shattered every bottle in the theatre and the staff were afraid to move in the dark for fear of igniting free chloroform and ether fumes.) She raced back to the tent and was shortly joined by the badly-shaken padre who went off to get help after urging her to take cover. She ignored the advice and tried again to get into the tent. Grabbing

hold of a handle under the fly she tried to drag a stretcher free. The patient was dead and the splintered handle came away in her hand, throwing her backwards into the crater again. "I can not remember who came next or what I did except that I kept calling for the orderly to help me and thought he was funking, but the poor boy had been blown to bits. Somebody got the tent up and when I got to the delirious pneumonia patient he was crouched on the ground at the back of his stretcher. He took no notice of me when I asked him to return to bed so I leaned across the stretcher and put one arm round him and tried to lift him in. I had my right arm under a leg which I thought was his but when I lifted I found to my horror that it was a loose leg with a boot and putty on it. One of the orderly's legs which had been blown off and had landed on the patient's bed. Next day they found the trunk up a tree about twenty yards away. Over twenty men lying on stretchers on the ground were killed by concussion." For her bravery during the attack Sister King was awarded the Military Medal. General Birdwood wrote from Anzac Corps Headquarters to offer her his heartiest congratulations on winning the decoration and a month later visited the camp and presented her with the ribbon to her medal.

Although deliberate attacks on the clearing station were rare the medical staff ran a daily risk. Barely two weeks after the bombing incident, Sister King was assisting in theatre when a shell fragment came through the roof and tore through the operating table and floor. The surgeon, who had earlier been administering an anaesthetic, had just helped an orderly place the patient on a stretcher on the floor, otherwise the fragment would have caught both anaesthetist and patient in the head. Sister King told her diary, the doctor was "very shocked and had to go off duty. I wet my pants." The next day Sister King was taking a bath when the Germans began shelling an observation balloon which was tethered about two miles from the clearing station. "I could hear the whirr of a fragment. It fell six inches outside the wash-house. Will never forget how it felt, naked and shivering." On another occasion she was woken by the clamour of alarm bells and the nurses thought that the Germans had broken through the line. In fact, the wind was carrying poison gas from the front line into the hospital.

Even during off-duty hours the danger was never far absent. Deciding to visit Hazebrouck on a day off, Sister King arrived in the town about 11 a.m., not knowing that it had been under shell-fire and bomb-attack for over two hours from 8 a.m. "People down the cellars and shops closed," she told her diary, "not knowing anything was wrong, I was walking round the square quite unconcernedly while all the soldiers stared in surprise." Some weeks later she was asked to dinner at Anzac Headquarters



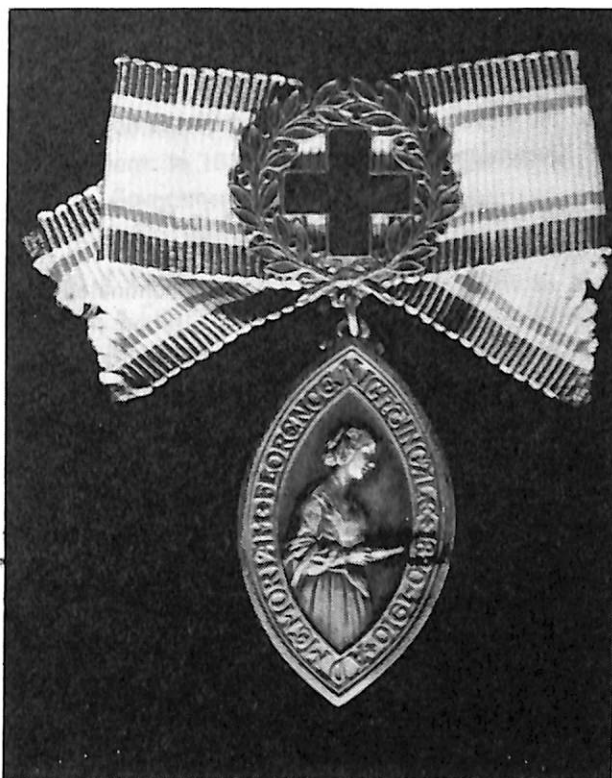
Members of the A.A.W.M.S. during the Second World War.  
(Major Appleford is second from left, front row.)

in Hazebrouck. An ambulance was her transport back to camp but the town was bombed before they got out. As she later wrote, "Bombs all the way home - one dropped immediately in front of us in one village. Very narrow escapes."

The flood of casualties caused by the appalling Ypres Offensive of 1917 pushed the medical staffs to the limits of endurance. At one point Sister King was just going off duty when she thought to wonder what was in one of the hospital tents. She discovered fifty-three badly wounded Germans who had been forgotten for over three days. "Shall never forget the cries that greeted me," she wrote. "They had no water or food. Every one of the staff was dead-beat but at last I got a doctor to come and fix them up. We did the forty (thirteen were dead) in forty-five minutes. No waiting for chloroform - amputations and all - onto the train an hour and a half after I found them." In the face of so much carnage she found her convictions begin to falter. "The Last Post is being played nearly all day at the cemetery next door to the hospital. So many deaths. The prisoners being brought in have buckles with 'Got Mit Huns' written and our padre is always praying that 'the Right will prevail'. I'm beginning to wonder about it all." There were, however, harder times in store.

In January 1918 she was promoted Head Sister of No. 1 A.G.H. at Rouen, and in June she received a letter from Birdwood congratulating her on being awarded the Royal Red Cross. In March, however, came the last great German offensive, the ultimate failure of which ended the war. She recorded her recollections of this time in her diary. "The Germans breaking through. The 5th Army broke and have been flooding into Rouen on any trucks. They are walking into hospital with no tickets. One chap came into my ward - I said 'Where are you wounded?' He showed me a broken blister on his hand. He said, 'I'm not going to stay up there to be shot'. The sisters have orders to have a suitcase packed ready for evacuation. Things very bad." A week later she wrote, "We hear the Aussies are in action. Round the town the prisoners are very cheeky. Command has cut their rations. We had a fatigue party of prisoners making a path outside my ward. When the orderly put the tin of slush from plates and tea-dregs outside the kitchen door I saw them rush up and scoop the stuff up in their hands and eat it. They are starving but they still give cheek. They can hear the guns getting closer. I'm frightened, really."

With the end of the war Sister King embarked for Australia in February 1919 and met on board ship Dr. Sydney Appleford. They married in August that year and settled at Lang Lang in Victoria's Gippsland region where she assisted her husband in his medical practice.



Florence Nightingale Medal awarded to  
Major Appleford, A.R.R.C., M.M., in 1949.

As events in the late 1930s warned of impending war, Mrs. Appleford began and trained thirteen Volunteer Aid Detachments in Southern Gippsland. Both husband and wife began full-time military duty during the war - he as an Army medical officer and she, despite four children, as Assistant Controller of the V.A.D. in Victoria with rank of major. In 1942 the V.A.D. was expanded to become the Australian Army Women's Medical Service and Major Appleford became Senior Assistant Controller for Victoria. She was responsible for some 1,900 servicewomen, of whom 300 were accepted for overseas service. She also took a leading part in organising appeals and fund-raising for Red Cross and other causes, organised bodies of women to make toys for needy children in hospitals in both England and Australia, and arranged holidays for children of deceased soldiers. In 1945 she was a strong supporter of an A.A.N.S. appeal to raise a commemoration fund for the eleven army nurses killed on the hospital ship, 'Centaur', which was torpedoed off Queensland in May 1943.

Her work in the Second World War was recognised in May 1949 when the International Red Cross awarded her the Florence Nightingale Medal. The medal, awarded only every second year to no more than thirty-six women nominated from within all countries having a Red Cross organisation, carried in its citation the words: "No one who came in contact with Major Appleford could fail to recognise her as a leader of women. Her sense of duty, her sterling solidity of character, her humanity, sincerity, and kindness of heart set for others a very high example." She resigned from the Army in 1950 and returned to assisting her husband until his death in 1958. She died in 1968, but former members of the A.A.W.M.S. established a trust to allow the annual presentation of the Alice Appleford Memorial Award to a member of the R.A.A.N.C.

# HUBBUB IN HOBART

## An 1879 Instance of Volunteers Aiding the Civil Power

By J. Hooper

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The Tasmanian Volunteers were raised by Act of Parliament on 22nd October 1858. Numerous artillery and rifle companies were subsequently raised and disbanded, until by the late 1870s the Volunteers were active only in the southern part of the State and consisted of the Southern Tasmanian Volunteer Artillery Corps and the Tasmanian Volunteer Rifle Regiment. In 1879 the circumstances arose in Hobart Town which made it necessary for the Government to call out the Volunteers to assist the Civil Power, the only such occasion in Tasmania's history.

On 25th June a Pastor Chiniquy commenced lectures at the Hobart Town Hall; the Pastor had been a Catholic priest but had changed his religion to the Protestant faith. The opening night of his lectures produced a noisy group of Catholic Irish "barracking" his lecture, and despite requests from the organisers the police failed to control them. The following night this noisy element was much larger. The police, according to newspaper reports, were either unwilling or disinclined to take action and the meeting ended in disorder.

The following night the rowdies forced the doors of the Town Hall and took possession of the meeting. After scuffles with the police the situation became serious, and fears of a riot led to representations to the mayor, Mr. Burgess. The Colonial Secretary's Office was requested to call out the Volunteers by Proclamation. The Volunteers turned out promptly by 4 p.m. that day; the Southern Tasmanian Artillery Corps consisted of 6 officers, 14 N.C.O.'s, 120 men and a 40-man band while the Tasmanian Volunteer Rifle Regiment had 14 officers, 18 N.C.O.'s, 206 men and a 21-man band, a combined strength of 439.

The troops assembled at Anglesea Barracks, Davey Street. A detachment of the Artillery was to convey two 32-pounders and two 12-pounder Howitzers to the Barracks where three rounds of canister shot were issued for each gun. Captain Crowther was in command of the Batteries, each man of which was issued with five rounds of ball cartridge. The companies of the Rifle Regiment, under the command of Captains O'Boyle, Smith, Davies and Marsden, were also issued with five rounds of ball cartridge.





BY AUTHORITY.

THE  
**Hobart Town Gazette**  
E X T R A O R D I N A R Y.

VOL. LXIV.

FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 1879.

No. 5291.



**THE VOLUNTEER ACT, 1878.**

By His Excellency **FREDERICK ALOYSIUS WELD**, Esquire, Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of Tasmania and its Dependencies.

**A PROCLAMATION.**

**W**HEREAS by "The Volunteer Act, 1878," (42 Victoria, No. 12, Section 22), it is declared that the Governor may, at any time, by Proclamation published in the *Gazette*, call out for actual Military Service any Volunteer Corps, or any part thereof: And whereas it is expedient to call out for actual Military Service the several Batteries of the Southern Tasmanian Volunteer Artillery stationed in Hobart Town in Tasmania, and the several Companies of the Tasmanian Volunteer Rifle Regiment, also stationed in Hobart Town aforesaid: Now therefore I, **FREDERICK ALOYSIUS WELD**, Esquire, Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief as aforesaid, do, in pursuance of the provisions of "The Volunteer Act, 1878," hereby by this my Proclamation call out for actual Military Service the several Batteries of the Southern Tasmanian Volunteer Artillery stationed in Hobart Town aforesaid, and the several

Companies of the Volunteer Rifle Regiment stationed in Hobart Town aforesaid.

Given under my hand at Hobart Town, in Tasmania, this twenty-seventh day of June, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine.

**FRED. A. WELD**, Governor.

By His Excellency's Command,  
**WILLIAM LODIEWYK CROWTHER**, for the Colonial Secretary, absent.

**GOVERNMENT NOTICE.**

No. 143.

Colonial Secretary's Office, 27th June, 1879.

**T**HE Twenty-second Section of "The Volunteer Act, 1878," (42 Victoria, No. 12,) is published hereunder for the information of Volunteers and the Public:—  
*Actual Military Service.*

22. The Governor may at any time, by Proclamation published in the *Gazette*, call out for actual Military Service any Volunteer Corps, or any part thereof; and every Officer and Volunteer belonging to any Corps so called out shall be bound to assemble at such place as the Governor may direct, and shall remain on actual Military Service until released by the Governor's authority, notified by Proclamation and published in the *Gazette*.

By His Excellency's Command,  
**WILLIAM LODIEWYK CROWTHER**, Premier.

**JAMES BARNARD**, Government Printer, Tasmania.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hill St. Hill commanded the whole force. He addressed the men and told them they had been called out under the Mutiny Act and were subject to the Articles of War while the emergency lasted. Part of the force then marched to the Government Buildings about 200 yards from the Town Hall, where they remained in a locked yard. Buglers stationed at the Town Hall were to give the alarm if necessary. Matters at the Town Hall were settled amicably, however, and the troops were not actually called on. About 9.30 that night the Volunteers all reassembled at the Barracks where they were stood down.

This event appears to be unique in the history of the Volunteers in Australia, although perhaps society members know of similar occurrences.

**NEW SOUTH WALES CORPS**  
**100th, 102nd. REGIMENT OF FOOT**  
**1789 - 1818**

By R. Campbell\*

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The history of the New South Wales Corps did not stop when it left Australia as a recalcitrant regiment in 1810. The Corps was renumbered the 102nd Regiment of Foot prior to the arrival of the replacement regiment, the 73rd Regiment of Foot, under the command of Colonel Lachlan MacQuarrie.<sup>1</sup>

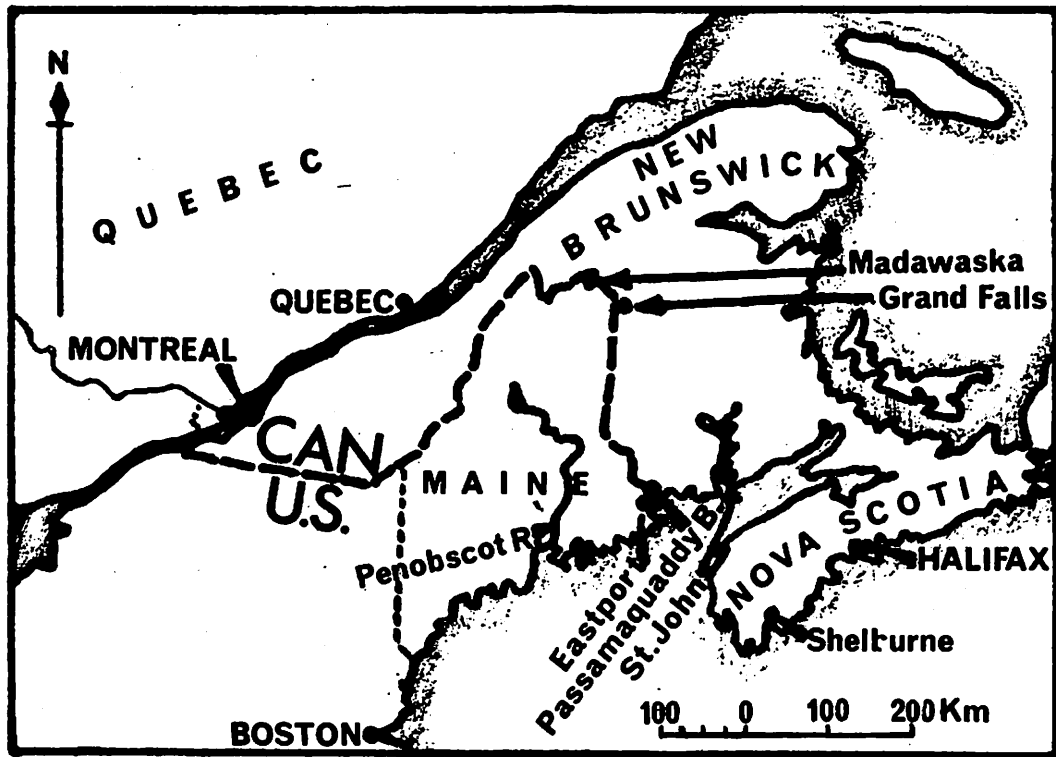
The 102nd was ordered to return to England. Prior to its departure, three hundred men or so were transferred to the 73rd, forming part of the "Royal Veterans Corps".<sup>2</sup> C. Burns<sup>3</sup> in his article, "The Army in Australia Before Waterloo", notes that the Corps was augmented by "150 lads, born in the colony of free birth and good character". In researching the War Office records I have not been able to prove or disprove this statement. If it is indeed a fact, the force which departed Sydney on 10 April 1810, under the command of Colonel Peterson, presumably included the native-born Australians.

The regiment returned to England via Cape Horn and thus became the first British regiment to circumnavigate the globe.<sup>4</sup> Many of the regiment died on the return voyage. The regiment arrived at Norfolk Island and was subsequently garrisoned at Guernsey. The regiment was knocked into shape by Sir Charles Napier.

In June of 1812, the regiment was ordered to Bermuda.<sup>5</sup> The conflict with the United States began on 18th June 1812. The regiment became part of the British garrison in North America in April of 1814, when it was transferred from Bermuda to Halifax, Nova Scotia.<sup>6</sup>

The regiment was placed under the command of Lieutenant-General Sir John Sherbrooke, Governor of Nova Scotia. On the 6th June 1814, General Sherbrooke received a communication from Lord Bathurst, the Secretary of State, to occupy a portion of the State of Maine which impeded the communication of Nova Scotia with Lower Canada.<sup>7</sup> It should be noted that in this period of Canadian history, Canada con-

\* The author is a member of MHSVA and lives in Shady Spring, West Virginia, USA.  
The print accompanying the article is by Mr. Bob Marrion of London.



sisted of Upper Canada (Ontario), Lower Canada (Quebec), and the British provinces on the Atlantic coast.

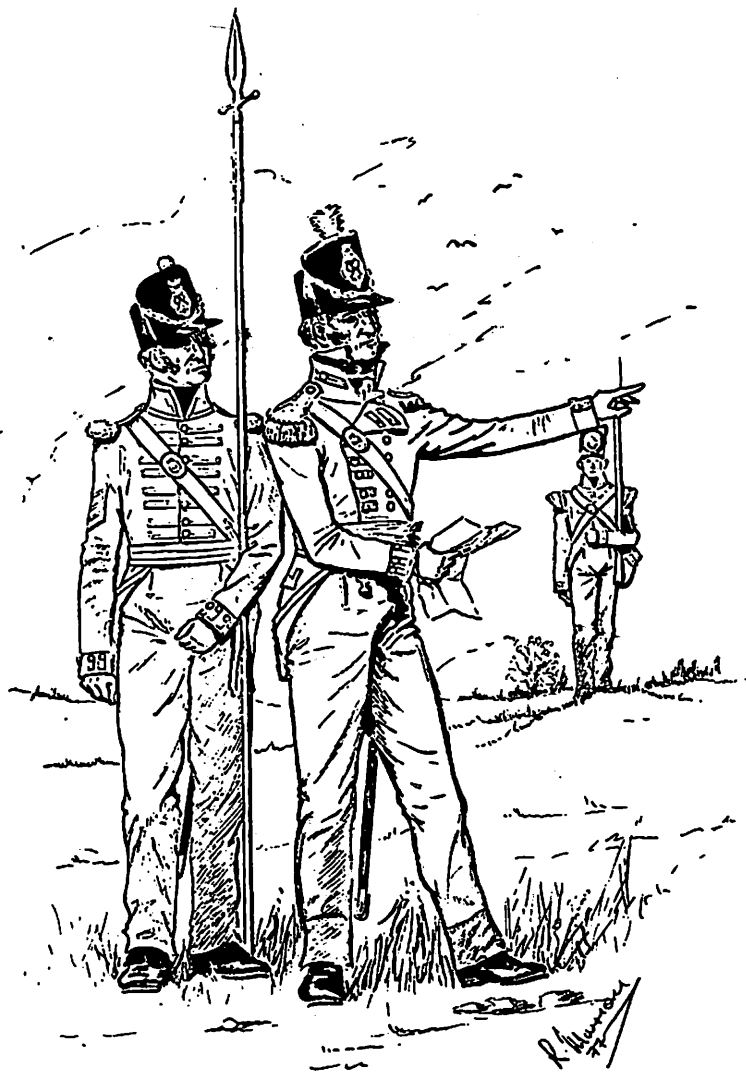
General Sherbrooke interpreted the instructions literally and looked to occupy the northern portion of Maine bordering Quebec and New Brunswick. He acquired all available information on the practicability of carrying out such a mission, and found himself confronted with geographical obstacles, very few settlements, and an unfavourable climate - all serious impediments in considering permanent occupation of the area. The commander-in-chief of the British forces in North America and Governor-General, Sir George Provost, was satisfied with stationing troops at Madawaska and strengthening the garrison at Grand Falls, New Brunswick.

General Sherbrooke proposed to occupy the region southwestwards to the Penobscot River, in the present State of Maine. In a despatch to Lord Bathurst he noted:

"I am, of course, ignorant of the intentions of His Majesty's Government respecting the Boundary line to be fixed between us and the United States, but I hope I shall not be deemed presumptuous in suggesting that if any incursion is to be made into American territory from these provinces, the most desirable plan would, in my humble opinion, be for us to occupy the Penobscot with a respectable force, and to take that river (which was the old frontier of Massachusetts) as our boundary, running a line from its source in a more westerly direction than that which at present divides us from the Americans".<sup>8</sup>

General Sherbrooke proposed to occupy a group of islands in Passamaquoddy Bay near the coast of Maine.<sup>9</sup> On 5th July a detachment of the Royal Artillery under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew Pilkington left Halifax for Shelburne, N.S., and arrived two days later.<sup>10</sup> Pilkington met Captain Thomas Hardy, one-time companion-in-arms to Lord Nelson, waiting with H.M.S. Ramillies, several small brigs, and two transports bearing the 102nd Regiment under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Heanes. Both Hardy and Pilkington agreed surprise was essential, hence the reason for meeting at Shelburne and not Saint John. Any noticeable buildup would have alerted the American militia with a concomitant buildup of the defences of the Passamaquoddy Islands.

The force left Shelburne and on the afternoon of the 11th they anchored off Moose Island near the town of Eastport. A surrender demand was made of the town and



defensive work at Fort Sullivan. Hardy and Pilkington allowing but "five minutes from the time this summons is delivered to decide an answer," otherwise, "we shall deeply lament being compelled to resort to those coercive measures which may cause destruction to the town of Eastport; but which will ensure us possession of the island."<sup>11</sup>

Major Perley Putnam, the American officer in command of the 40th Regiment, received the summons from Lt. Oates, aide-de-camp to General Sherbrooke. Major Putnam refused the summons but upon the landing of the 102nd Regiment the Americans hauled down their colours and surrendered. Six officers and eighty other ranks were captured along with four long eighteen pounders, one eighteen pounder carronade, and four field pieces.<sup>12</sup> The landing party also occupied Athens and Frederick Islands.

On the 14th, Hardy and Pilkington issued a proclamation, in the name of the Prince Regent, declaring that the municipal laws established by the American government would remain in force, and that the inhabitants would swear their allegiance to King George III, or leave the islands within seven days. About two-thirds of the inhabitants complied with this demand. Moose Island was placed in a position of defence with batteries being erected and cannon mounted.

The American populace was treated with justice and respect. On the departure of Hardy and Pilkington, they were presented with an address by the citizens of Eastport acknowledging "the liberal and honourable conduct observed by you towards them in the respect and attention paid to the persons and property of the inhabitants - the order and discipline of the Army and Navy, and the care to prevent injury by them has ensured us protection and freedom from insult in what we hold most dear, our families and domestic firesides."<sup>13</sup>

The regiment returned to Shelburne and eventually went into garrison at Halifax.<sup>14</sup> On 23rd February 1816, the regiment was renumbered the 100th Regiment of Foot.<sup>15</sup> The regiment returned to England and was disbanded at Chatham on 16th December, 1818.<sup>16</sup>

The uniform of the 12nd Regiment was the red coat with yellow facings.<sup>17</sup> The regimental lace for enlisted men was a white tape background with coloured stripes of yellow and black, set in paired loops of two yellow and two black stripes.<sup>18</sup> Officers' buttons and lace were silver. The regimental button was flat with the regimental number in relief, surmounted by a crown.<sup>19</sup>

Although the 102nd Regiment did not have a glorious military career it indeed did have an unusual one. It is most interesting and highly problematical that there may have been Australians fighting in the American War of 1812!

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2. W.O. 4/307, p. 251, letter from Palmerston to Lt. Colonel MacQuarrie, 1 March 1811. In March 1811, the Prince Regent was pleased to approve of this company being placed on the establishment of the Army as a "Veteran Company at New South Wales", and clothed as the 73rd Regiment of Foot with the exception of blue facings and it should be attached to the 73rd or any other regiment which might be stationed in the colony. The veteran company was disbanded in 1823.
3. Burns, C.: "The Army in Australia Before Waterloo", As You were - 1947. Australian War Memorial, Canberra, 1947, p. 37.
4. Bethell, L. S. and Shea, L. G.: "The Story of Port Dalrymple", Government Printer, Tasmania, in passim.  
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6. PAC C684, p. 1. Bathurst to Sherbrooke (secret), Downing Street. 28-4-1814.
7. Ibid.
8. PAC, A151, Sherbrooke to Bathurst, 18-8-1814.
9. PAC, C684, Bathurst to Sherbrooke, 12-6-1814.
10. PAC, C684, p. 144, Pilkington to Sherbrooke, Moose Island, 12-6-1814.
11. PAC, C684, p. 144. Hardy and Pilkington to the Officer Commanding the troops at Moose Island.
12. PAC, C684, p. 144, Pilkington to Bathurst, 12-6-1814.
13. PAC, New Brunswick, A151, Address of the inhabitants of Eastport to Pilkington and Hardy, 24-6-1814.
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16. W.O. 3/222, p. 214. W.O. 3 67 letter from the Prince Regent to Lt. General Sir A. Gladstone, Colonel of the 100th Regiment, 2-12-1817.
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18. Smith, Charles Hamilton: "Costumes of the Army of the British Empire". London, 1815: Rev. Percy Sumner's personal notebooks, Ann S. K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University. Providence, Rhode Island.
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Some South Australian Pre-Federation Badges in Bob Gray's Collection

## MEDALMAN

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GRANVILLE TRAIN DISASTER — The N.S.W. Government is awarding medallions, named to recipient, who gave outstanding service during the tragic accident. There is great merit in rewarding such service. However, to do so by a special medallion says little for our new system of honours and awards. Surely if an act is worthy of an award then it should be in the form of a medal which the recipient can proudly wear on appropriate occasions. If our system is not capable of giving such awards then it should be extended to incorporate a commendation-type medal.

PERMIT FOR SUPPLY, DISPOSAL AND COLLECTION OF SERVICE DECORATIONS - SECTION 80B OF THE DEFENCE ACT 1903 REPEALED — The Minister for Defence, Mr. D. J. Killen, recently announced that in response to a submission from the M.H.S.A., supported by the R.S.L., the provision in the Defence Act requiring collectors to hold a permit had been repealed. It will still remain an offence for a person to unlawfully wear a service decoration, or deface or destroy a service decoration. The Government is to be commended on repealing this antiquated act which has over the years resulted in the loss of many rare items of Australianiana.

UNUSUAL AWARD TO R.A.A.F. OFFICER — An R.A.A.F. officer from Sale in Victoria was recently awarded the Fire Brigade Long Service Medal which must be an unusual award to a regular forces officer. Would any reader know of any other such award? The medal is an official award which is worn in uniform and will cause some identity problems with the forces. This award and other awards, such as the Volunteer Services Medal and St. John's Service Medal for community service, indicate that members of the armed services take a very active part in voluntary community services. The group of medals of the R.A.A.F. officer include the D.F.C. and Air Efficiency Award - an unusual or even unique group?

SENATOR H. W. YOUNG TAKES UP BATTLE ON FOREIGN AWARDS — In recent sessions of Parliament a Liberal Senator from South Australia, Mr. H. W. Young, pressed the Government to allow Australian servicemen to wear foreign awards for service in Vietnam. Readers are well aware that the M.H.S.A. and Returned Services organisations have been trying to get the Government to change their policy on foreign awards. Prior to becoming Minister for Defence, Mr. Killen indicated he favoured the acceptance and wearing of foreign awards. However, it is thought negative advice from certain senior

armed services officers has caused him to change his mind. Surely in this country there can be no justification for restrictions on any person accepting and wearing a foreign award; it can almost be argued that British awards must now be classed as foreign. All who believe in fair play will welcome Senator Young's actions and wish him every success. It is time we stopped being ashamed of the gallant and distinguished service given by our men in Vietnam.

**AUSTRALIAN V.C. IN SOTHEY'S AUCTION** — The V.C., War Medal (renamed), Victory Medal and George VI Coronation Medal awarded L. M. Keyzor for action at Lone Pine is to be auctioned at Sotheby's. Although the group is missing the 1914-15 Star and the war medal is renamed, it is thought the price will be not less than \$10,000, reflecting the rapidly rising prices for awards to Australians. It is regrettable, however, that such rare Australian items are allowed out of this country.

**QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS** — The award of an Air Force Cross (A.F.C.) to an Army flyer, Major G. R. Maughan, was one which it is hoped will set a precedent, but it was a pity that the Medals of The Order of Australia (O.A.M.) all went to Warrant Officers; in fact, only one serviceman below the rank of sergeant was given an award. This could lead the unwary to the conclusion that the Australian Army has brilliant officers and senior N.C.O.'s and lousy other ranks. If this was remotely true then involvement in a war by Australia would be a complete disaster.

**PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA—LOYAL SERVICE MEDALS** — In response to a query about the above medals, the following information is provided from official sources. The Loyal Service Medals (Civil) were of two types:

**CATEGORY 'A'** - "Given twenty-five years of unblemished and loyal service to the Administration of the Territory".

**CATEGORY 'B'** - "Rendered outstanding service to the Administration or to or in the interests of the native people of the Territory".

The inception of the Loyal Service Medal (Civil) was in 1953 and in that year 21 Category 'A' and 2 Category 'B' medals were awarded. The Category 'B' awards are extremely rare and the others are rare.

The medals were issued numbered on the reverse with the recipient's name stamped under the number. A number of specimens, some with numbers, have appeared in collections. A keen medal collector who was a Patrol Officer in P.N.G. could obtain only THREE of these medals, as they are highly prized by native recipients. The M.H.S.A. has the rolls of recipients and can verify awards.

About five years before Independence the medal was changed to gilt with a ribbon; it is understood recipients could have their silver medals changed but the number who did this is unknown. Medalman knows there must have been an earlier Military issue of this medal as photographs of natives being awarded them have been seen. Can any reader help with details of military awards of the Loyal Service Medal?

CHINA MEDAL ROLL—OMISSIONS — Medal collectors have written to point out the following omissions from the recent roll by J. J. Atkinson:

G. GREIR, A.B. Vic. Contgt.

F. C. R. GRIES, A.B. Vic. Contgt.

Collectors concerned have had both medals verified, which appear on the Admiralty Rolls. Any other omissions should be notified to the Federal Secretary for publication.

\$1,000 SUAKINS ARE HERE — The recent London auction price of \$950 for a N.S.W. Infantry Suakin confirms the long standing prediction that these medals would rise to \$1,000. Collectors can expect rises for all awards to Australians; these rises relate to the ridiculous price paid for Keyzon's V.C. Long service awards to Australians, which are much rarer than realized, remain good investments.

QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE MEDAL — Judging from reactions, many members of the armed forces were greatly annoyed, but not much surprised, to learn that the bulk of the Silver Jubilee Medals went to the multitude of officers of one star rank and above. An unusually large proportion of awards also went to those working in the personnel area and only ONE went to a Private soldier.

It was interesting to read the article in the "Canberra Times" of 4th August which commented on the pettiness of omitting Major-General Stretton and Lieutenant-Colonel Thorogood, and went on to say of the awards:

"It was distributed to Generals on the basis of one each, Major Generals got one medal between two of them, Brigadiers one in 5, Colonels one in 18, Majors one in 48, Captains one in 300. Officers got 54 per cent of the Army's allocation, one in 50 officers got a medal and one in 400 other ranks. About 70 per cent of the issue went to people in the personnel branch."

Certainly a big difference to the Royal Air Force, where two-thirds of the 2100 medals allocated went to other than officers. What has happened to the Australian Armed Services when our Defence Minister allows such an unseemly grab for the gongs by the top brass? Surely the policy governing the distribution of commemorative medals, which are not earned as are other awards, should be simply "everyone, or no-one."

# LIEUTENANT-COLONEL HECTOR ERNEST BASTIN, M.C., M.I.D.

By R. Clark

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Hector Ernest Bastin was born on 2nd July 1895 at Ballarat, Victoria. On completion of primary schooling he attended the Working Men's College (later to become the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology) and at the same time served an apprenticeship as a plumber. While still apprenticed he applied for entry to the Royal Military College, Duntroon, but failed to meet the educational standard. On 23rd December 1912 Bastin was appointed as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Militia and after the outbreak of the First World War he was seconded to the 7th Battalion, A.I.F.

The commanding officer of the 7th Battalion was Lieutenant-Colonel H. E. ('Pompey') Elliott\*, a commander loved by his men although he was outspoken, impulsive, intensely headstrong and one who worked his men to exhaustion. The battalion sailed from Melbourne on 19th October 1914 and landed at Alexandria on December 1st. The unit trained in Egypt and took part in the attack on Gallipoli Peninsula on 25th April 1915. Three days rations and 200 rounds of ammunition were carried by each man. Lieutenant Bastin was with the first members of the battalion to land at Gaba Tepe and face the fierce Turkish resistance. In a unit with many distinguished and gallant members he won the highest acclaim from all ranks for his consistent bravery and leadership in the many unit engagements including the awesome battle at Lone Pine. Lieutenant Bastin was wounded in the struggle for Jacob's Trench where Lieutenants Tubb and Symons, and Corporals Dunstan and Burton were awarded the Victoria Cross. The battalion casualties were appalling; 14 officers and 371 men were either killed or wounded. After the evacuation of Gallipoli Bastin was promoted to Captain (2 February 1916) and appointed Adjutant of the battalion which went to France on 31st March 1916. Military Order 447 of 6th October 1918 promulgated the award of the Military Cross to Captain Bastin for continuous service, conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty under most trying circumstances. Promoted to Major on 20th November 1918, Major Bastin continued to serve with the 7th Battalion until he was appointed to the Indian Army on 16th November 1918. Upon leaving the unit he was presented with a hand-written tribute signed by all members of his company. This paper became one of his most treasured possessions, as it contained the following:

\* Major-General Harold Edward Elliott, CB, CMG, DSO, DCM, VD (1878-1931); C.O. 7th Bn, AIF, 1914-16; commanded 1st Bde, AIF, February-March 1916 and 15th Bde. from March 1916; promoted Major-General 1927; Senator from Victoria 1920 until death.



Lt. Col. H. E. BASTIN, M.C.

"On the eve of your departure to take up a command in another branch of the British Army, we desire to extend to you our hearty good wishes. While holding office in our Battalion, and particularly during the period in which you have had command of this Company, we have always admired your good judgement and fairness to all, and soldierly qualities. You have at all times had the confidence of all the N.C.O.'s and men and we were satisfied to be entrusted to your care.

The rapidity of your rise to the present high rank was by merit alone, and the recognition of your ability by the higher command always gave pleasure to all who knew you. Your career will always be watched by your many friends of the 7th Battalion A.I.F.

We regret the short notice of your departure prevents us from giving more lasting and elaborate token of our esteem, but we hope that you will accept this expression of our regard in the spirit in which it is given. In conclusion we sincerely wish you a long and happy life and the very best of luck in your new sphere.

Yours obediently . . ."

Captain Bastin was posted to the Bengal Lancers and in 1919 was appointed commander of the Viceroy's Bodyguard in Calcutta; in 1921 he served as a staff officer with the Northern Army. After retirement from the Indian Army Bastin returned to Australia to become a grazier, finally settling at Challicum South, Buangor, Victoria. He was transferred to the Australian Reserve of Officers on 1st December 1924. On 23rd December 1936 Major Bastin again became an active officer, being posted to 4/19 Australian Light Horse Regiment of which he became the Commanding Officer (Lieut.-Colonel) on 1st July 1939. He remained C.O. until seconded to the Australian Imperial Force on 1st July 1940, to command the 9th Cavalry Regiment until 20th October 1942. He then commanded 2/7 Australian Cavalry (Commando) Regiment from 28th April 1943 until placed on the Reserve of Officers on 2nd March 1944.

Hector Bastin returned to his property near Ararat, where he gave much of his time to community activities; he was foundation member and former president of the Ararat Legacy Club; president of the Ararat branch of the Graziers Association and branch representative on the central executive; member of the Ararat Council and Ararat Agricultural Society; and chairman of the Church of England committee. A brilliant soldier and an energetic, public-minded citizen who was held in the highest esteem by all with whom he came in contact, he died suddenly in a private Melbourne hospital on 14th November 1959.

# THE AUSTRALIAN NAVAL CONTINENT AT THE BOXER REBELLION

By G. Prideaux

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The Boxer Rising in 1900 drew a spontaneous offer of service from the Australian Naval Forces. Four hundred officers and men were selected for service, two hundred from New South Wales and the same number from Victoria. The former were under the command of Commander Gillespie, Royal Navy; the Victorians were under Commander Tickell. I had the honour of being selected to go as Chief Armourer of the contingent. We left Melbourne in the troopship 'Salamis' in August and picked up the New South Wales contingent at Sydney.

At Hong King we saw the arrival of five new cruisers of the Koln class, Germany's latest additions to her fleet. Their arrival caused quite a stir, and also much comment in British naval circles. A prominent German statesman had just previously stated "the Nineteenth Century had belonged to Britain; the Twentieth would belong to Germany." At Wei-hai-wei\* we were able to study the strategy adopted by the Japanese in their destruction of the Chinese warships in the Sino-Japanese War (1894-95). Arriving off Taku, we found a huge armada of warships of all the great powers, Japanese predominating. Suspicion alone had brought such numbers together, each watching each other's moves.

By this time the combined forces under Admiral Seymour had captured Tientsin and then pushed on to the capital, Peking, after heavy fighting and casualties. The Boxers had torn up the railway, removing the rails for a distance of half a mile on each side of the track. We were towed in barges to Tientsin, 40 miles up the Peh Ho River. On the way up I resolved that as long as I was in China I would abstain from eating Chinese pork; pigs were devouring human bodies on the river bank which had been thrown into the water upstream during the recent heavy fighting. We were met by the reed band of the Afridi Regiment. This tribe, from the hills of India, had only been conquered in 1898 and were now in the Indian Army. They were splendid fighters.

A few days after landing we were suddenly dispatched on an expedition against forts lower down the river. Packed below decks on river barges without ventilation, we

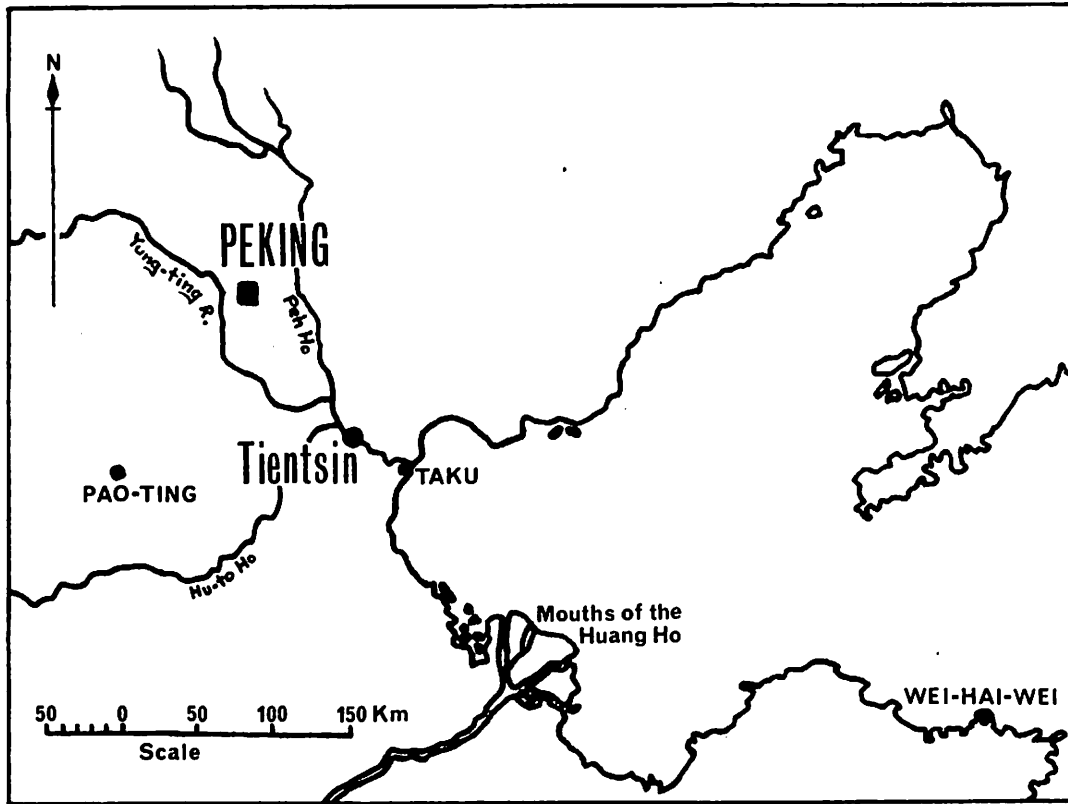
\* Wei-hai-wei was captured by the Japanese during their rapid and overwhelming defeat of China. The victor was, however, forced to give up her gains by the major European powers who themselves scrambled for the spoils. Britain acquired a lease to Wei-hai-wei in 1898.



eventually reached our rendezvous at midnight. Daylight saw us on a forced march of 19 miles to the position allotted us for the attack. Being still very green, and clad in blue serge uniform, that march took toll of our company. Of 150 men we arrived with 88, the remainder having fallen out during the last few miles. Those of us who were fit marched back in the cool of the evening and brought the rest back on stretchers. The forts were captured next day - our forces losing many men through land mines. The only Australian casualty was our doctor, who died from drinking impure water after he had impressed upon us not to drink any water that had not been sucked through our pocket filter (he being the first to do so). It was the first time I really understood what thirst was. Our tongues swelled in our mouths, due possibly to our being on the green side.

Arriving back in Tientsin we were soon hardened by work and marching. The N.S.W. Company were sent on to Peking to assist in garrisoning the capital. Numerous sorties were made by small parties against points outside the city. It was not until October that we were again on the March, this time with General Sir Lorne Campbell's Column against the walled city of Pao-Ting-Fu, 85 miles south-west of Peking. General Gasalee led a second column from Peking. A huge convoy of 72 junks accompanied the column by river, lake and canal. The Australians manned the two leading junks - the Brian-Boru and the Fagaballah - which carried the guns protecting the convoy. I had the good fortune to be in the Brian-Boru. Before leaving Australia we had secured an Australian blue ensign, which Lieutenant Burford flew from the mast of our junk. The rest of the junks had very small Union Jacks. The colonel in charge was about halfway down the long convoy. Being the leading junk, and having such a large flag, the terrified people of the towns and villages brought out peace offerings of huge cases of fruit, eggs, and crates of poultry which were intended for the colonel and his staff, and which we accepted with pleasure. What a boon that ensign was to us.

The news of the approaching columns brought consternation to the officials and population of Pao-Ting-Fu. On arrival before the city, General Gasalee was met by an official with a white flag who informed him that the gates of the city would be opened to him and that the population threw themselves upon his clemency. We occupied all the official offices and policed the city. The leading officials were tried by drumhead court martial, and those found guilty were condemned to be shot. Commander Tickell was offered the task but he, being a very gentle-hearted man, asked to be excused. They were shot on the edge of a long common grave outside the city wall. Before leaving the city the four corners of the city walls were blown down by explosives as a warning against a repetition of the murders.



The Boxer Rebellion: the area around Peking.

On the return journey information reached the Colonel that nine large armed war junks were in hiding behind a small island in a lake through which we had to pass. Four junks, our Australian armed ones leading, were sent to capture them. Masking our guns and with everyone below hatches, we approached the armed junks. They took us for ordinary trading vessels until we suddenly ran them ashore. The men below jumped over the sides and before the rebels could recover from their surprise our men were on board them. Not a shot had been fired, though every finger was on the triggers. The junks proved to be splendid vessels built for speed, quite able to show our own junks a clean pair of heels had they the chance, and on joining the flotilla they were the admiration of everyone.

Making fast to the bank for the night we lit fires and tried to pick the winner of the Melbourne Cup (it being cup eve). Tuesday November 5 by a tragic coincidence was also Guy Fawkes Day. The magazines of the heavily armed junks were emptied on the bank of the river, close to the long line of junks. Lieutenant Burford realised the danger of such a huge pile of explosives being so close to camp and had it removed to a point farther inshore. There was also a pile of other, to us, useless whatnots placed on the heap. A Sikh guard was posted to prevent accidents, as the Chinese would persist in searching among the pile for treasures. Among the arms secured was a large number of rifles of every conceivable type. I was inspecting these when I found myself on the ground. Looking up I saw bodies of men being blown through the air, and Chinese with their clothing on fire were rushing towards the river against a strong breeze. Many never reached the water. Signalling the land column for all available medical assistance we gave what relief we could to the unfortunate Chinese. Many were dispatched by the doctor's orderly, having sustained such terrible injuries that nothing could avail them. What impressed me was the stoicism with which they endured their fearful burns and injuries. Altogether 50 lives were lost, and 88 men were injured. Nothing of the Sikh guard was ever found apart from one button from a uniform.

With the injured on board we made all speed downstream to Tientsin, where the casualties were sent to hospital. We brought back from Pao-Ting-Fu the Reverend Green and his wife. A sampan towed behind our junk carried a small coffin with the remains of their infant child, which had been unable to endure the hardships it had to suffer in those fateful days when its parents were driven from place to place, befriended by friendly Chinese.

With the coming of winter we moved into larger quarters in the British Concession. The freeze occurred in the first week in December. All traffic crossed the river as the



Officers and men of the Williamstown Naval Depot, 1891,  
 on the occasion of an officer's wedding.  
 (Prideaux is at far right, centre row.)

ice reached a thickness of 20 inches, and skating and other ice sport could be indulged in. During this winter the thermometer dropped as low as minus fourteen, or forty-six degrees of frost. When Queen Victoria died in January we had cause to think the orders for the funeral were made out in India. All troops were to parade and stand to attention while 81 minute guns were fired. It was a comparatively warm day - the glass standing at 6 degrees! What an agony that service was, and imprecations were called down on everybody that had had anything to do with it. Sir Colin Campbell might have allowed us to march up and down until the time for the minute gun to be fired, but no, we had to stick it. After the last gun was fired the Dead March from Saul was to have been played by the massed bands, but the valves refused duty - they were frozen hard. It was truly a nightmare, an experience I shall never forget.

All the concessions were policed by the troops of the respective nations. The British troops were the only ones that went about not armed, and consequently they came off second best in any trouble they encountered. Life was held very cheaply. I had one occasion to go into the French concession to pay for goods received from a tinsmith. Inside the shop were some French convict troops from Africa. In pulling out a number of Mexican dollars to pay, I noticed a quick movement by some of the soldiers to reach the door behind me and so cut off my exit. I quickly got out into the street, feeling very pleased to have been able to do so. Those soldiers received sixpence weekly and the sight of such wealth was too much for them.

The city was filled with foreigners from all parts of Northern China, particularly missionaries. It was my good fortune to meet many men who have left behind them honoured names. Foremost among these was Dr. A. H. Smith, the noted author of classical books on China including "Village Life in China," "Chinese Characteristics" and "China in Convulsion." He was, by general consent, looked upon as the bishop of all the missionaries, and is one of the most remarkable men I have ever met. When he found out I was from Australia his home was thrown open to me and he and his wife made my time in Tientsin that winter a very happy one.

During the winter I also had a most interesting couple of weeks in Peking - with the thaw in March and the breaking up of the ice in the river we were able to go down stream and board the troopship 'Chingtu' for Australia and into quarantine with small-pox on board.

## BOOK REVIEWS

CONTEMPORARY AUSTRALIA - Tony Griffiths — While this book has no direct relationship to military history in the narrow sense, its value lies in presenting a contemporary history of Australia from the outbreak of World War II up to the defeat of the Whitlam Government in November 1975.

As 35 years of history have been condensed into some 165 pages it can only present the broad picture of events, but the author has covered every major historical event in the period to one view or the other. In the light of the great number of publications relating to the events of November 1975 it is refreshing to read an unbiased record of events of the time.

As any study of military history must be considered in the light of the political and social decisions of the period this book is recommended as background reading. The comprehensive bibliography and index, plus numerous footnotes, will be of great value to the student of Australian history, both social and military.

Australian agents: Cambridge University Press (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., 96 Beaconsfield Parade, Middle Park, Vic. 3206. Recommended price \$7.95.

THE ARMY IN VICTORIAN SOCIETY, by Gwyn Harries-Jenkins, London, Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1977, 320 pp., £5.50 (U.K.)

WAR AND SOCIETY — A yearbook of Military History, Vol. 2, edited by Brian Bond and Ian Roy, London, Croom Helm, 1977, 196 pp., £8.50 (U.K.)

Both these books deal with armed forces and the societies which employ them, but use two quite different approaches. In the case of the Army in Victorian England, the author treats the reader to a study of an empire basking in the glory won by military forces while at the same time regarding the members of those forces with contemptuous dislike. Industrial and rural workers regarded a man who joined the Army as a disgrace to the family name, yet successes of arms were celebrated and glorified on a national scale. This exploration of the paradoxes in the relationship between Army and Society leads the author to the conclusion, understandably, that the Army mirrored Victorian society in both its strengths and weaknesses. This is not a book

for the militaria buff but it is recommended to readers of military history and those interested in contemporary problems of an army's relationship with its employer. One small criticism concerns the square, typewriter-like print which this reader found a trifle hard on the eyes.

The second book is, in fact, a loose collection of short studies on a range of historical subjects related to the military. There are eight articles on such topics as armies in colonial Africa, the VD problem among troops in Britain during World War I, and German air power during the Munich crisis. In addition there are four review articles, and reviews of sixteen books in the military field published in the 1974-1976 period. Again, not a book for the collector of militaria but the more general reader in the military field should certainly find something of interest. It is the sort of book which serves both as a handy work to have on the library shelf and as an update on work being done in various areas of research.

**YOUTH, EMPIRE & SOCIETY - BRITISH YOUTH MOVEMENTS 1883-1940.** By John Springhall. — The 20 years from 1890-1910 saw the British Empire at its peak and it is in this context that John Springhall has produced a record of the development of various youth groups in the United Kingdom and the ultimate decline of the same organisations with the changing social patterns following World War I and the 1930s depression.

The author has restricted his study to the Boys Brigade (in its various forms), Boy Scouts and the Army Cadet Force, with some limited regard to the equivalent girls' organisations. However, the author has by definition excluded the cadet movement of St. John Ambulance Brigade and the Y.M.C.A. In the opinion of the reviewer the omission of the former organisation, at least, leaves a gap in an otherwise fine study of the organisations concerned.

The book is very adequately researched and includes biographies of the principal organisers of each group and copious footnotes as to source material. The work covers the steps leading to the development of the various groups, objects and reasons for decline in popularity.

The problems of organisational control, the autocracy of many of the founders and inability to change in the years following World War I are fully explored. The original ideals of developing the working class youth into patriotic young men willing to serve their country were most fully realised in the slaughter of World War I. In the universal reaction of such ideals following the war, most of the groups suffered severe decline;

it was only as a result of a rethinking of the leaders that the Boy Scout movement was able to survive and continue to grow, while most other groups slowly withered away.

This book is recommended to anybody interested in youth organisations, or the study of the decline of the British Empire.

FLYING MINNOWS, by Roger Vee (Vivian Voss), Arms and Armour Press, Australian representatives Thomas C. Lothian Pty. Ltd., 4-12 Tattersall's Lane, Melbourne, Vic. 3000. Recommended Australian price \$14.50, 306 pages plus appendices and 14 photos.

The secondary title of this book is 'Memoirs of a World War I fighter pilot from training in Canada to the Western Front, 1917-1918.' First published in 1935, this reprint will be new to most readers. Voss was a South African who was at university in the United States, when he decided to join the Royal Flying Corps after reading a book about flying, written by Gustav Hæmel, an early Bleriot pilot. He 'signed on' at R.F.C. Headquarters in Toronto, and, after a period of lectures and preliminary studies, went to Camp Mohawk for his first flying training. The story then proceeds through all the hazards of training and all the usual adventures of those days, when aviation itself was an adventure, let alone flying into action. Voss finished his flying training in Scotland at the end of 1918, and went off to France, where he served in Nos. 48 and 88 squadrons until the war's end. Told unassumingly, and in a style that is not yet out of date, Voss's story is one that will grip the reader, not so much for the high adventures, but for the life that he brings to his narrative. The reader, and, particularly the reader who has ever flown a Service aircraft, can feel himself THERE, and can live again the deeds and actions of those bygone days. A most readable book, and one of the best on the First World War in the air.

BRITISH AVIATION COLOURS OF WORLD WAR II, R.A.F. Museum Series, Volume 3, General Editor: John Tanner, Director, R.A.F. Museum, Hendon, published by Arms and Armour Press, London, and Hippocrene Books, Inc., New York. Australian representatives, Thomas C. Lothian Pty. Ltd. With 56 pages, sketches, colour chips and tables. Recommended Australian price \$14.25. Secondary title: 'The Official Camouflage, Colours and Markings of R.A.F. aircraft, 1939-1945'.

Here for the first time is a collection of the actual orders that regulated the colours used on R.A.F. aircraft during the Second World War, with squadron letters, recognition markings and other details, just as they were laid down at the time. At the back of the book is found a fold-out page of colour chips, like those seen at paint-shops, showing the exact colours used in the various schemes. This is a book for the specialist student or model maker and, for authenticity in painting British model aircraft, MUST be consulted, no matter what other reference works you may have.



**TANK BATTLES IN MINIATURE 3 — A Wargamers Guide to the N.W. European Campaign 1944-45.** By Patrick Stephens. Available from Hicks Smith & Sons Pty. Ltd., 301 Kent Street, Sydney 2000. Price \$14.90.

Specially written for wargamers, this book contains all the basic information needed to recreate realistically in miniature all the battles in North-West Europe from D-Day until the collapse of Germany in 1945.

The third title in this series (the previous two covering the Western Desert and Russian campaigns, respectively), it includes eye-witness descriptions of armoured warfare in 1944-45; a brief chronology of the whole campaign, well illustrated by numerous maps; technical data on the tanks, armoured cars, self-propelled guns and other weapons and vehicles used by both sides; and detailed descriptions of Allied and German army organisation at this time.

There are sections too on amphibious assault, naval gunfire support on the invasion beaches, parachute and glider landings, tank and anti-tank gun data and ground attack and anti-aircraft fire, in all cases based closely on reality but also anchored to wargaming requirements. Thus there are playing rules allowing the realistic simulation not only of combat between tanks and other AFVs but also infantry movement and firepower, artillery support, and the use of such weapons as bazookas, flamethrowers, rockets and grenades.

Two useful appendices give points values for weapons so that balanced forces can be selected for individual battles; and a list of main suppliers of 1:300 scale micro tanks and accessories.

**ARMOUR ON WHEELS TO 1942.** By Frederick Warne. Available from Hicks Smith & Sons. Price \$12.70.

Wheeled combat vehicles have always played an important role in warfare and were by no means done away with when that fearsome land battle ship - the tank - appeared in the First World War.

Hundreds of types of armoured vehicles were made and used from the turn of this century, including scout cars, reconnaissance cars, personnel carriers, observation posts and command vehicles. This volume tells their story, in pictures with detailed captions.

Some 200 vehicles from more than 15 countries are illustrated, covering the period from the earliest days up to and including the 1939-41 Blitzkrieg.

LONGBOW. By Robert Hardy. Available from Hicks Smith & Sons. Price \$24. Robert Hardy is a highly respected name both on stage and screen, and is well established as one of the country's leading actors. Not so widely known is Mr. Hardy's deep interest in archery and its history. Having spent many enjoyable years studying the evolution of the longbow, he has now become an acknowledged expert on the weapon and how it is made.

His painstakingly researched book begins by describing the earliest known examples of the longbow from all over the world, and reveals that it was in world-wide use at least 8,000 years ago. With drama, vigour and enthusiasm, he describes the arrival of the longbow in Britain, its curious temporary disappearance, its return and gradual adoption as the most important weapon in the English military arsenal, and its coming of age at the classic battles of Crecy, Poitiers and Agincourt.

LONGBOW also describes the archers themselves, where they came from, their equipment, training, uniform, way of life and terms of service; the fact and fiction of the Robin Hood legend; the reasons why the French never took to the weapon; the devastating effects of longbow against longbow in the Wars of the Roses; and the eventual decline of the bow and Henry VIII's campaign to maintain it.

The longbow as a hunting and sporting weapon and its status in Great Britain today are also examined. In addition, Mr. Hardy includes a detailed and carefully written account of how to make a longbow from scratch, and lists all the tools and materials required. Finally, there is an extremely important technical appendix written by three well-known experts on the longbow.

Beautifully illustrated in both colour and black and white, it is a compelling story and a major contribution to the history of archery.

BRITISH MILITARY AIRCRAFT OF WORLD WAR I, R.A.F. Museum Series, Volume 4. 313 pages. Copiously illustrated with sketches and photos of 26 different aircraft. Recommended Australian price \$21.75. Secondary title: 'The Official Technical and Rigging Notes for R.F.C. and R.N.A.S. Fighting and Training aeroplanes, 1914-1918'.

This stubby little (9" x 9½") book is a collection of reprints of the original notes and sketches of such aircraft as the Avro 504, the R.E.8, the Nieuport Scout, and most other well-known aircraft of those days. From it, one could assemble and true up these aircraft from the components. For the modeller, the amount of detail of parts and measurements is superb, and the historian and student of air-fighting can judge for himself how it must have been in the first war planes.

Not a book for everyone, it will nevertheless be much sought after over the years, and the Museum must be congratulated for bringing this material to the vast and avid number of lovers of ancient aircraft.

**MILITARY MODELLING ANNUAL 3**, edited by Chris Ellis, Publisher Model and Allied Publications, Argus Books Ltd., and sold in Australia through the Australian Representatives, Thomas C. Lothian Pty. Ltd Recommended Australian price \$8.50. A card-covered magazine annual, of 128 pages, including advertisements, drawings, photos and excellent coloured plates.

It is refreshing to note that this is a case where the price this year is less than last year's edition (\$8.75)! And the quality is just as good, both as to content and reproduction. This is the annual supplement to the well-known 'MILITARY MODELLING' magazine, to be found in most reputable newsagents shelves, and a most worthwhile publication indeed. This year the subjects range from Napoleonic uniforms to Bailey Bridges, from the Boer War to the Armoured Fighting Vehicle, and from Simkins Indian Army prints to the Abwehr. Historical information, hints and instructions for modelling, and "where to get it" are all here.

You may take your choice, whether you wish to model or merely read for enjoyment - both are possible, inevitable in the case of enjoyment. Why not make the collection of this series a project, and invest annually?

#### **A MUST FOR EVERY MILITARY LIBRARY**

**AUSTRALIAN SERVICE LONG ARMS** - I. D. Skennerton. — The complete history of all Service Long Arms used in Australia from 1st Fleet to the present day. Price \$12.50.

**AUSTRALIAN SERVICE BAYONETS** - I. D. Skennerton. — A companion volume to Australian Service Long Arms, covering the same period. Price \$11.50.

**LIST OF CHANGES IN BRITISH WAR MATERIAL**, Vol. II, 1886-1900. Compiled by I. D. Skennerton. — A must for all modellers, militaria and weapon collectors. Detailed information on weapons, ammunition and accoutrements. Price \$12.50. This is the first published volume of a four-volume series covering equipment changes from 1860 to 1920.

**THE BOXER CARTRIDGE IN THE BRITISH SERVICE** - R. A. Temple. — Covers all Boxer cartridges used in British and Colonial Service, 1866-1930. Price \$14.50.

ALL AVAILABLE FROM FEDERAL SECRETARY  
(Please note postage is 50c per volume)

BRITISH CAMPAIGN MEDALS - Showcase Reproductions Ltd., Project House, Glossop, Derbyshire, England. — The above company has produced a set of 8 fine art prints, 20" x 15", each showing five campaign medals covering various wars. The series of 8 covers the Indian Mutiny, Gunda Din (the Afghan Wars), Kabul to Kandahar, African Campaign Medals, Boer War, World War I and World War II; the eighth plate, For Valour, illustrates four gallantry medals including the V.C.

The prints are in the form of colour photographs, larger than the actual medals, and are offered in three stages of mounting: print alone, mounted in an attractive brown card frame, or fully mounted, framed and glazed. The prints come complete with a brief history of each medal and represent a very fine decorative device for a den or study.

Australian prices have not been fully ascertained due to problems of customs duty, but would range from approximately \$6 for single prints through to approximately \$25-\$30 for fully framed prints.

Any member interested in these fine art works should write to the Federal Secretary for full details. If sufficient enquiries are received the Society will arrange to purchase a quantity for distribution.

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## LETTERS TO EDITOR

Dear Sir,—I would like to comment on two statements made by the author (Lt. Col. I. C. Teague) in the article on "Lieutenant J. P. Greene, MC and Bar", contained in your journal, Volume XVIII No. 2 of April 1977.

In the second paragraph, it is stated that Greene was "posted to the Royal Military College (RMC)"; and that "He was soon sent to RMC where he graduated from the 2nd Course as a Lieutenant." Despite a detailed search of College records of appointments/postings in the years 1911 to 1917 inclusive no evidence can be found of Greene's posting to the College. Is it possible that there is confusion here with his attendance at a course at the College?

In this latter regard, and to the general reader, the sentence in the text referring to the course, could be interpreted to mean that Greene attended the College as a member of the Corps of Staff Cadets, ultimately graduating with the second batch of entrants, into the Australian Staff Corps. This was not so. It is suspected that Greene may have attended any one of a number of special courses conducted under the aegis of the College and held at the Officers Training School, between September 1914 and July 1917, for candidates for commission in the AIF. Initially these courses were of two weeks duration, but were later extended to two months.

Unfortunately, the College's annual reports only record the names of those students who attended courses held between September 1914 and June 1916. Greene's name does not appear on any of these. Later courses were referred to by the course number and the number of students participating.

— L. H. R. FUHRMAN, Colonel (RL), Archivist, Royal Military College, Duntroon.

Dear Sir,—I am preparing a book on the Tasmanian Military Forces and am seeking details of Boer War uniforms worn by the Tasmanian Mounted Infantry. Can you put me on to someone who can provide me with a clear photo of the back of the Boer War tunic as worn by the Tasmanian Imperial Bushmen. A photo I have is of the front only, and shows what appears to be a black belt (possibly canvas) supporting two large pouches. Was there anything else on the belt? I am also seeking a clear photo of the bayonet and frog as issued to the T.I.B. (perhaps someone could send me one to sketch).

Can any reader of "Sabretache" provide me with the loan of a Boer War forage cap until I can sketch it and make photos? Alternatively, they could give me a complete diagram with colour details of one. I suspect that the cap had red piping and/or red insert at the top. I also need details as to the colour of leggings (khaki cloth?) and boots (black or brown?).

— R. L. WHITE, P.O. Box 57, Latrobe, Tas. 7307.

Dear Sir,—Accompanying the interesting article on Major Dooley in "Sabretache", Vol. XVIII, 2, is a photograph of the New South Wales Lancers' colour party which in 1904 (not 1902) received the King's Banner for South African War services at a parade in Melbourne on 14 November. The N.C.O. on the left of the picture is not Sergeant Houston, but Regimental Sergeant-Major G. E. Morris, D.C.M.

George Edward Morris was a highly respected member of the regimental staff and eventually became the Adjutant. He was born on 2 December, 1857, the second son of Sergeant-Major Morris, formerly of 60th King's Royal Rifles and later of 31st Foot and the South Durham Militia. The family resided in Scar Cottage, at Barnard Castle in Durham. When he (George Edward) was 17 years he joined the volunteer artillery at Whitley, Yorkshire, with whom he served for about two years. He then went to London and took a position there, but then enlisted in the 2nd Dragoon Guards. After some training he was promoted to corporal and was placed on the regimental staff as an instructor. He related (Hawkesbury Herald, 7.11.02) that he served ten months with the Regiment, purchased his discharge and volunteered for service in Zululand, but was not allowed to go. Disheartened and disgusted, he came to Sydney in 1880 and obtained a position in a store. He married in 1882.

On 15 June, 1889, he was appointed a Sergeant Instructor on the Permanent Staff of the New South Wales Military Forces (General Order No. 118) and was allotted for duty with the Cavalry (Cavalry Brigade Order No. 163). The Cavalry Brigade Reserves were re-organised as the N.S.W. Cavalry Regiment in 1889 and re-designated the New South Wales Lancers in 1895.

He was a member of the detachment of the New South Wales Lancers which attended Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations in England in 1897. In 1900 he went to South Africa on active service in Captain Nicholson's draft of reinforcements for the N.S.W. Lancers squadron serving there. His dash and bravery won him a Distinguished Conduct Medal at Ermelo on 18 September, 1900, and he was mentioned in despatches (London Gazette, 27.9.01).

Before the war he had been attached to the Northern Rivers Squadron (Casino and Lismore). After his return from South Africa he was allotted to the newly formed Hawkesbury Squadron (Richmond and Windsor). He was held in high esteem by the members of both squadrons, and from each in turn he received an illuminated address as a token of appreciation of the extent to which he had helped them. It was said that "as a man and a friend he was all it was possible to be." It is interesting to recall

that his sobriquet in the Regiment was "Gentleman George", a sincere tribute to his attitude to fellow soldiers, whatever their rank, and an attitude which, it was said, was rather unlike that of many other ex-Imperial staff instructors.

His appointment as Warrant Officer Class I was dated 1 July, 1904, and on 1 April, 1913, he was promoted to Honorary Lieutenant (Quartermaster), on the Administrative and Instructional Staff. He then filled the position of adjutant of the Regiment. Unfortunately his career was cut short by his sudden death on 9 August, 1914, at Fairfield, near Parramatta.

His medals, which are held in the Royal New South Wales Lancers Memorial Museum at Lancer Barracks, Parramatta, are:

Jubilee Medal, 1897.

Distinguished Conduct Medal.

Queen's South Africa Medal with 5 clasps.

Meritorious Service Medal, 20.7.12.

Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, 26.5.05.

Returning to Major Dooley, the former article states that he joined the Berry Half-Squadron in 1885. However, that half-squadron was not formed until 1896 following the disbanding in August of that year of the Wollongong Half-Squadron. To say that in 1912 he was seconded to the 28th Australian Light Horse Regiment indicates a misunderstanding. What happened was that, in the re-organisation of 1912, Nos. 3 and 5 Squadrons of the Lancers (1 A.L.H. Regt.) and a half-squadron of the Mounted Rifles (2 A.L.H. Regt.) were taken as a nucleus for the new (additional) regiment, the 28th, so Dooley, with all the other personnel of No. 3 Squadron, was transferred. It should be noted that the correct designation of the 28th, on its formation, was 28th Light Horse, the words 'Australian' and 'Regiment' being dropped from the titles of all the regiments in 1912.

— P. V. VERNON, 2 Reid Street, Lindfield, N.S.W. 2770.



**INSIGNIA AND AWARDS OF THE LEGION OF  
FRONTIERSMEN  
AUSTRALIAN COMMAND**

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In response to requests from authorised collectors the M.H.S.A. requested the Legion Of Frontiersmen to allow members of the M.H.S.A. to purchase their insignia and awards. The Legion has agreed to the request and made available a LIMITED number of the following items:

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**K. R. WHITE, P.O. BOX 68, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602**

### **STOLEN DECORATION**

A VICTORIAN MEMBER, Mr. Andrew Ray, has advised that an Efficiency Decoration has been stolen. Members are advised to contact Mr. Ray, 116 Kooyong Road, Armadale, Vic. 3143 should the medal be offered for sale. Details are:

VX 253 — H/Maj. J. C. Champion De Cresigny

### **WANTED TO BUY**

BUTTONS, AUSTRALIAN (early) and British, excepting anodized and general service patterns. Some buttons, mainly British, available for exchange; officers mounted QVC's, etc. Belt buckles and badges also wanted as well as copy of Major H. G. Parkyn's "Shoulder-belt plates and buttons" (Gale and Polden 1956).

**Contact — R. MAMO, 138 FRANKLIN STREET, MATRAVILLE, N.S.W.**

### **FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE**

SMALL COLLECTION of pre-Federation and early Commonwealth period badges for sale or exchange for early New Zealand items.

**Contact — Sqn. Ldr. J. HAMMOND, P.O. BOX 1289, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND.**

### **WANTED**

WANTED: 1914-15 STAR, British War Medal, and Victory Medal, awarded to 1406 Sgt. Sydney W. M. Hillman, 12/Aust. Infantry.

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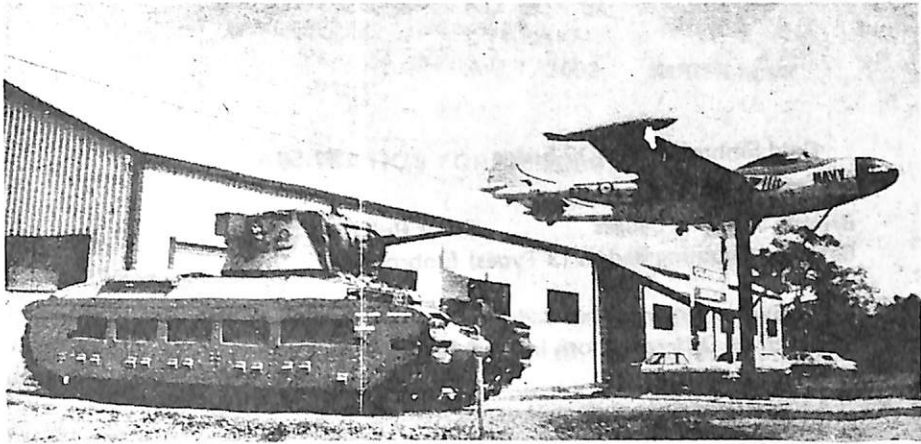
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