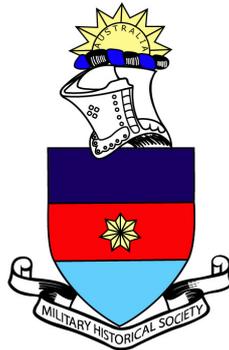


Military Historical Society of Australia
Sabretache



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

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

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

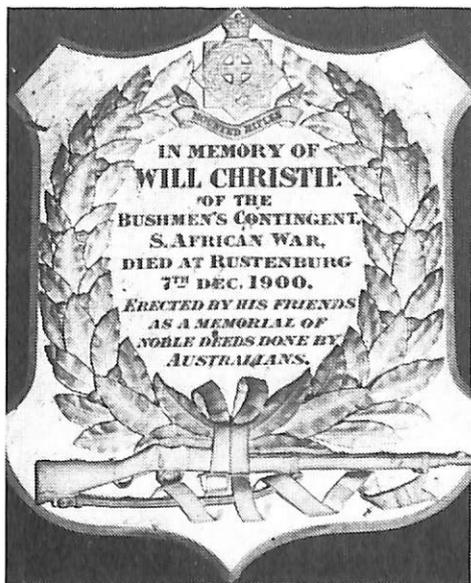
www.mhsa.org.au

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

SABRETACHE

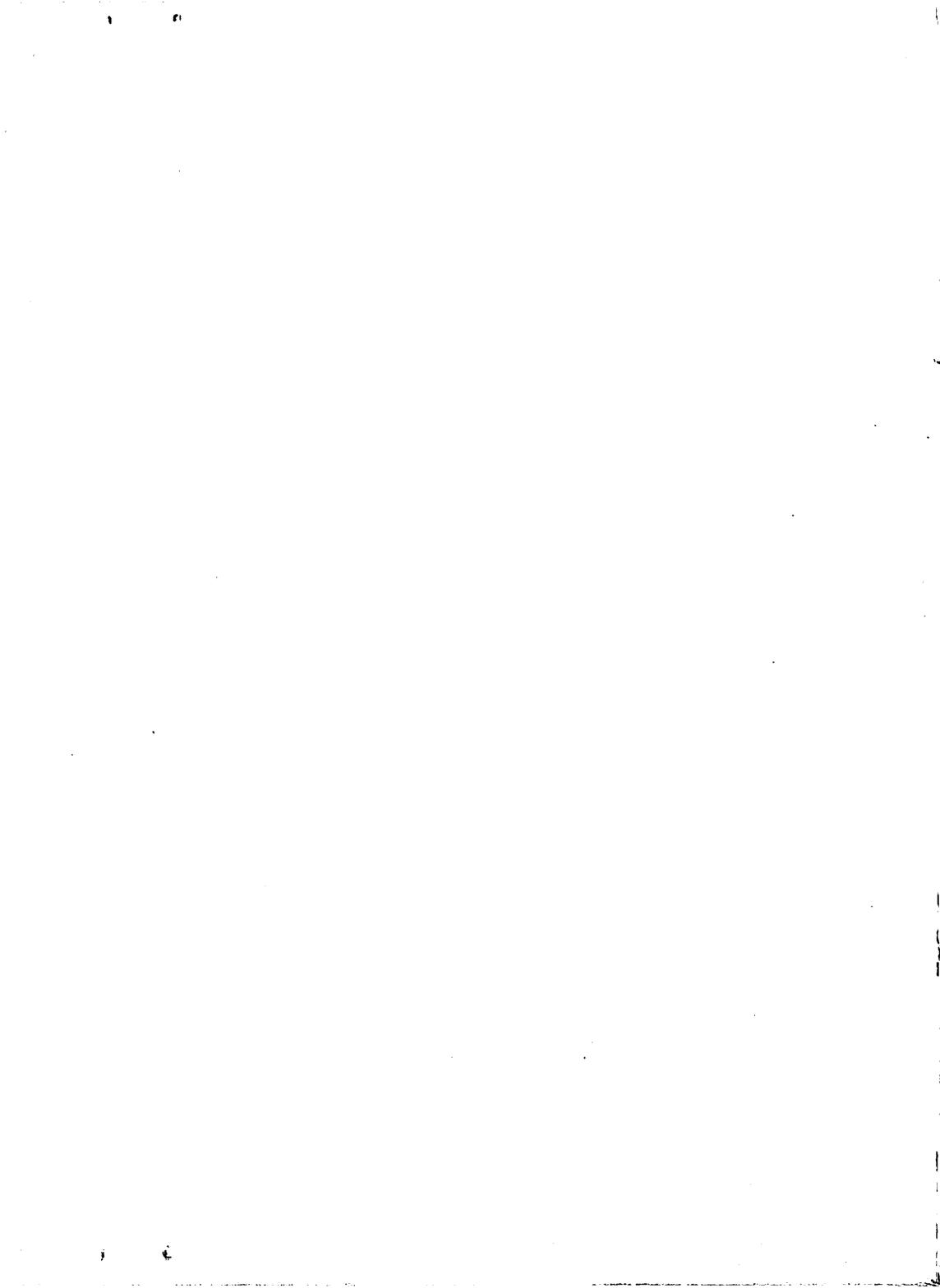
JOURNAL OF
THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF AUSTRALIA

Registered for posting as a publication Category B — Price \$3.50



JULY — SEPT 1980

Vol. XXI No. 3



"SABRETACHE"

JOURNAL AND PROCEEDINGS OF
THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF AUSTRALIA
(FOUNDED IN MELBOURNE IN 1957)



Vol XXI

July - September 1980

No 3

Unanswered Question — A Sequel

by John E. Price

3

Let the Buyer Beware

by K. R. White

14

Charge at the Nek

by M. C. Dicker

16

Badge Identification

by G. R. Vazeny

39

Book Reviews

50

Branch News

58

FRONT COVER: Will Christie's memorial tablet.

Published by authority of the Federal Council of the Military Historical Society of Australia. The views expressed in the articles in this Journal are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the Society.

ISSN 0048-8933

THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

Patron:

General Sir John Wilton, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., (R.L.)

HONORARY OFFICE-BEARERS

President:

Mr N. Foldi

Vice-President:

Major H. J. Zwillenberg E.D. (R.L.)

Secretary:

Lieutenant-Colonel T. C. Sargent (R.L.)

P.O. Box 30, Garran. A.C.T. 2605.

Treasurer:

Mr. J. M. Kennedy, J.P., A.A.S.A.

Editor:

Peter Kelly

BRANCH SECRETARIES

A.C.T. — Flt. Lt. B. Rogers, 11 Karney Street, Kambah 2902
P.O. Box 30, Garran A.C.T. 2605.

VICTORIA — Mr R. J. Kirk, 18 Osborne Court, Hawthorn, Vic. 3122.

GEELONG — Mr J. P. Maljers, 4 Stork Avenue, Belmont, Vic. 3216.

ALBURY/WODONGA — Mr R. B. Wiltshire, Creek Street, Jindera, N.S.W
2640.

QUEENSLAND — Mr S. W. Wigzell, 17 Royal Street, Alexandra Hills Qld.
4157.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA — Mr A. F. Harris, 29 Jervois Ave, Magill, 5072.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA — Branch President: Mr. P. A. Shaw,
37 Coomoora Road, Booragoon, W.A. 6154.

AN UNANSWERED QUESTION — A SEQUEL

by JOHN E PRICE

It never seemed possible whilst writing the article 'An Unanswered Question' for the October-December 1979 issue of 'Sabretache', Vol. XX, No. 4. that one day Will Christie's medal would come into my possession.

In fact few medal collectors can actually claim to have researched a person before acquiring his/her medal/s: the reverse is very much the case.

With the copy, ready for publication, in the Editor's hands and with more pressing matters upon my mind, the task of researching the Victorian dead of the Anglo-Boer War was placed, temporarily in the 'pending' basket.

One afternoon, in late August 1979, I had occasion to travel to Melbourne on business. A medal list from a South African dealer, had arrived that morning and needing something to read, on the train, I took it with me.

As is my practise I turned to the page devoted to Queen's South Africa Medals, hoping to find something in the rare clasp, or unusual Irregular unit, which might be within my budget.

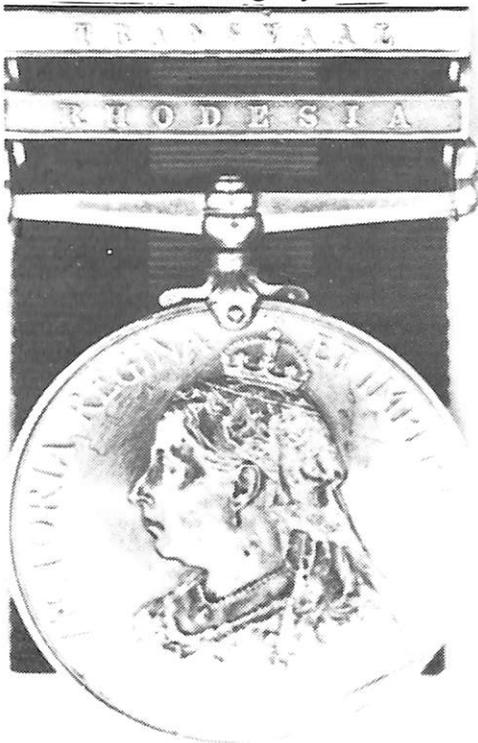
Suddenly my eyes popped for there, right at the top of the page, was Christie's medal.

It was as if a hundred-to-one-shot had paid off! Come what may I just had to have that 'gong'.

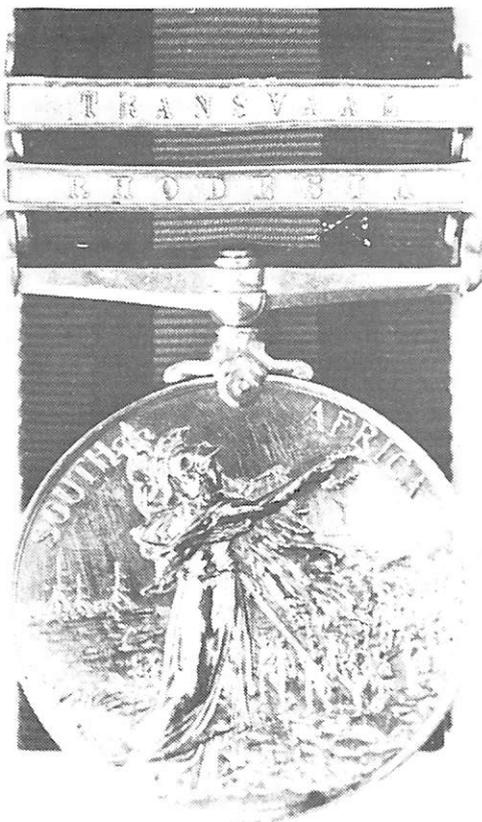
Hours later — or so it seemed — my train arrived at Flinders Street. Having

calculated the difference between Eastern Australian and South African time I hurried to the General Post Office and placed a telephone call through to the dealer.

A sleepy voice, at the other end, confirmed that the medal was mine and by the end of the day the transactions were completed. Then came the nail-biting wait for my prize to arrive. Plates 1 and 2 show it in all glory.

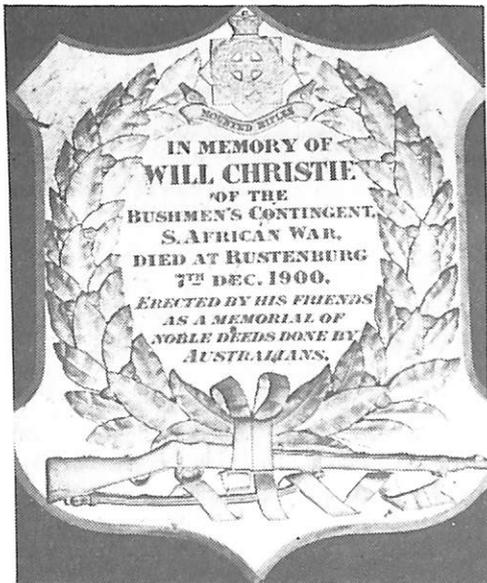


How an Australian medal came to be in a South African dealer's list remains a mystery, but then that adds to the spice of collecting, and is one question I do not mind being left unanswered.



Clem Sargent, our Federal Secretary, upon hearing of my luck, felt that the members might be sufficiently interested to read another episode in the Christie story, especially if there were some illustrations.

Plate 3 shows the marble tablet still to be seen in Old St. Matthew's Church, Cheltenham, V. Plate 4 shows the obelisk in the War Memorial section of



Cheltenham Park. Depending upon how good the reproduction proves Christie's details appear in the second and third line from the top of the column. When the Moorabbin tribute to those, of the district, who served in the South African War, was erected it was circa 1904.

The monument stood at the intersection of Point Nepean, Chesterville and Charman Roads, Cheltenham. It stands about 14 feet (approx. 4.1 metres) tall.

The base is of Malmsbury basalt and the column, polished red Scotch granite. Originally there were two bronze lamp brackets which held glass globes. Powered by gas at night the memorial provided adequate street lighting. The place where one lamp bracket was fixed can be seen, on the left hand side, at the first juncture.

At the base were drinking fountains of the 'bubble' type. A 'twin' can be seen in the South African War Memorial on

White Horse Road, Box Hill, V. When the Nepean Highway was widened, during the 1960's, the memorial was removed and lay for a while in the City of Moorabbin's Council Depot until it was placed, with three other memorials, in a secluded spot of Cheltenham Park. Two memorials commemorate those who fell in the 'War to end all Wars' and the third, the 1939-1945 continuation.



Whilst my question regarding the occupant of Christie's grave, in Rustenburg cemetery, remains unanswered I am beginning to regard Will Christie almost as a member of the family and one whom I would have been extremely proud to meet. My thanks to Mr William Dalton, of Cheltenham, who took the photographs and spent much time looking for the memorials, trying to get the right light and, more importantly, the right exposures.

DOCUMENTARY OF NEW GUINEA INVASION

The Trustees of the Australian War Memorial have agreed to award a grant of \$12,000 to Professor G. Daws, Dr H. Nelson and Mr A. Pike of the Australian National University to assist in the production of a documentary film, **The Invasion of New Guinea**, which will depict the impact of the 1939 — 45 War on the local people. Footage shot by official war cameramen showing the native peoples and their relations with Japanese, Australian and American servicemen will be used. This footage, held by the War Memorial, has not been used before by historians or film producers. New filming will show the changes brought by the War, and will include interviews with survivors.

ORAL HISTORY OF 1915 RECRUITING MARCH

The Australian War Memorial Library has acquired a cassette recording of an interview with Mr Leslie Greenleaf, believed to be the last survivor of a famous 1914-18 War recruiting march known as the "Gilgandra Snowball" or the "Cooees." The march was the first of several late in 1915. It began with about twelve men, but ended in Sydney 35 days later with 263, having been fed by local residents along the way.

KOREAN CADET'S UNIFORM

A full-dress uniform, including sword, of a Cadet of the Korean Military Academy, was presented to the War Memorial on 8 May by Colonel Ki Sung Moon, Defence Attache, Embassy of the Republic of Korea.

BLOW LADS BLOW!

The Selection Trials Undergone by Buglers for the Fifth Contingent, Victorian Mounted Rifles.

by *ALLAN L. BOX*

When it was announced that four buglers were required to accompany the contingent to South Africa, the candidates paraded on the 15th of January 1901 at Langwarrin Camp, under the eye of Garrison Sergeant Major Brenchley (1). Mr Brenchley having no fewer than thirty-eight names on his list!

After numbering off, at the word of command from Major Parnell (2), they formed a line the length of the parade ground. With Lieutenant Riley (3), Bandmaster, Parnell went slowly down the line and inspected the candidates. Mr

Riley bore a bugle in his hand, and eighteen of the men wore service uniforms of sorts — most had their bugles, two bravely carried trumpets.

The first tested by Riley were all servicemen, and each was asked to play particular military calls. If successful, then the command 'Ten paces to the front — March!' was barked. If unsatisfactory, the 'To the rear' shattered the ego.

Fifth in line stood Gavagan, late of Roberts Horse and just fifteen. He in particular, blew extremely well. Giving both Australian and South African calls with some skill. Bye and bye the uniforms

WANTED FOR PURCHASE

Threaded brass spike finial for 1900 Blue Cloth Helmet, Universal Home Pattern as defined in Plate 5 and in General Instruction 16 of Dress Regulations 1900.

2nd version BUFFS O.R's HPC (expanded title) Kipling & King 362.

9th LANCERS whitemetal Arm badge worn above chevrons (Dress Regulations 1887 onwards.)

ROYAL ENGINEERS pouch badge (QVC or KC version) as defined in Appendix 1 and in RE Full Dress Reg 479 of Dress Regulations 1900.

All offers/correspondence addressed to:

Mr R. Legge, 26 Tonbridge Street, Ramsgate, N.S.W. 2217.

stopped; the last serviceman stopped, and it was the civilians' turn. Of the score or so civilians only one proved to be a first class trumpeter — several of the candidates were unsuccessful for a variety of reasons: incorrect use of the bugle — too small of stature — one burst out laughing and wandered off saying 'It was no good!'

Finally the squad numbered thirteen. Those which survived the medical examination and riding tests held on the 16th were finally closely tested again by Riley. He selected four buglers to accompany the 'Fighting Fifth.'

After this harrowing and somewhat comical selection process, who then were the lucky four? In fact, six buglers were chosen. Their short details are as follows:—

FOOTNOTES:

1. Garrison Sergeant Major Brenchley; Staff, Victorian Permanent Artillery.
2. Major J. W. Parnell; Staff, Victorian Military Forces, late Victorian Engineers, later Colonel, CMG, Commandant Royal Military College, 1912.
3. Hon. Lieutenant T. J. Riley; Brigade Bandmaster, Inf. Bde. later Hon. Captain, 16 Inf. Bde. 1913.

REFERENCES:

The Age, Jan 1901, date unknown.
Murray, P.L. Australian Contingents in South Africa
Nominal Roll, Fifth Contingent, Victorian Mounted Rifles
Officers List, Aust. Military Forces 1911-1912.

735 Bugler H. E. Watson; late bugler Vic. Regt. R.A.A.

866 Bugler F. J. Birmingham; late trumpeter, Harbour Trust Arty.

1021 Bugler W. H. Tickell; no previous military service, and therefore the lone civilian who so impressed Lieutenant Riley.

1128 bugler C. J. Gavagan; late Roberts Horse (interestingly his attestation papers gave his age as 18) — invalided to Australia.

1314 Bugler G. Ellsworth; late trumpeter, Field Coy Engineers.

These then were the buglers to face the hostile Boer. I wonder if that caused as much concern as the traumatic tests prior to departure?

RELICS RECALL 1940 FLIGHT

Parts of an RAF Walrus that crashed in France in 1940 on a mission to rescue General de Gaulle's family were handed over to the Memorial at a ceremony on 25 June. The crash caused the first RAAF casualties of the War: Flight Lieutenant J.N. Bell and Sergeant C. W. Harris, of 10 Squadron. Sir Richard Kingsland, Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs and an original member of the Squadron, handed over the relics to Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Daly, Chairman of the Board of Trustees. The story of the flight was pieced together by Flight Lieutenant K. C. Baff, of the RAAF.

PERSONAL DONATIONS SOUGHT

Letters are being sent to prominent war veterans or their relatives seeking the donation of their private papers to the Australian War Memorial Library. These records are important for research into military history.

A general appeal was made through the media by the Director of the Australian War Memorial for people not to destroy or throw away relics, documents or photographs that would be of interest to the War Memorial. The appeal received wide publicity in the press and several donations were received as a direct result, one being the DCM and MM of Lieutenant C. Birtles, awarded in 1917. Other donations included newspapers of the period, letters, photographs, and personal papers.

Letters to the Editor

SIR,

I wish to confirm that the Australian War Memorial is proposing to expand its exhibition of Australian gallantry awards to include other important decorations in addition to the Victoria Crosses presently displayed.

We are proposing to allocate a gallery to exhibit these awards, together with a selection of illustrations and relics, associated with Australians who received high awards for bravery.

This gallery is presently only in the planning stage. However, we anticipate that the decorations of Warrant Officers Steele, Bateman, and Young will be incorporated in this exhibition. We are very grateful to you and your Society for assisting us to obtain these important awards.

I am aware that members of your Society have expressed a hope that the War Memorial will display whole groups of medals with gallantry awards. I can assure you that this will be done. In fact, at the present time full groups are already displayed, wherever they are available. Unfortunately we sometimes only receive a decoration without the other medals accompanying it.

Thank you for your continuing interest and support.

N. J. Flanagan
Director

FORT QUEENSCLIFF MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SIR,

Interest in the history of Fort Queenscliff — its fortifications, its armament, its role in the defence of the Colony, its personalities — has developed with renewed vigour since the formation of the Fort Queenscliff Military Historical Society. Sponsored by the Australian Staff College (which has occupied the Fort since 1947), the Society is made up of a Committee and a body of Trustees, most of whom are officers on the Directing Staff of the College. The objective of the Society is to restore Fort Queenscliff as a coastal artillery fortress representative of the period 1882 - 1900.

Work already partially completed includes the recovery from the South Channel Fort in Port Phillip Bay of an 8-inch Breech Loading Gun on a Hydro-Pneumatic Mounting, usually known as a "Disappearing Gun."

The Society is eager to communicate with any person who may wish to contribute in any way to the Society's work. Donations of militaria of a quality suitable for exhibition in the Fort's Museum would also be most welcome. Interested people are invited to correspond directly with the Chairman:

Lieutenant Colonel R. T. Frost
Australian Staff College
Fort Queenscliff

BATTLE OF BRISBANE

SIR,

The article written by Capt. C.F. Beszant, The Battle of Brisbane in the Apr-June 80 issue of "Sabretache" is referred to. His information appears to have been gleaned from some type of official reference but the opening paragraph has me bluffed.

Not as to its accuracy, but as to where he obtained it. It is part of a statement made by Pte N.S. Grant of the 814th (US) MP Coy who fired the three shots — the first accidentally when the deceased tried to take the shotgun from him, and the other two while on the ground being kicked.

The start of the incident was not an American soldier being "confronted by three, slightly under the weather Diggers." The American was with "some" Australians, including a sailor and was asked by an MP for his pass. The American, Stein, complied but the Australians attacked the MP. The MPs (2) with Stein withdrew to the PX where Stein spent the remainder of the evening acting as an MP.

Pte Grant entered the scene a half hour later with two other MPs and was attacked by about a dozen of the mob. Although the crowd was estimated at 2000-4000 one-third being Americans, a minority only were rioters.

The amazement shown at the Militia Provosts removing their armbands is not understood. They did it without notice and disappeared — except two, Sgt Canning and another of 6 Div Pro Coy, who remained on the scene assisting the police and the MPs all evening.

The Provosts were ill-disciplined, being all militia and untrained. They were later transferred, almost en masse, to other units and replaced by a better type.

The picquet did not hand their rifles over to the crowd — two or three rifles were taken by the civil police who thought the picquets were part of the mob, from their behaviour.

The civil police were not lacking in their attempts to contain the trouble. I know of at least four by name who were present throughout the evening. They did their best that night and on the following day gave evidence resulting in a number of charges being laid.

One of the things not mentioned was the presence of enemy agents spreading propaganda. At least one commando and one RAN shore patrolman were probably sympathetic to them — the soldier was court-martialled and discharged for inciting the crowd (among other things.)

The "violent brawl" in Melbourne is a myth. There was certainly a rumour that the Australians were going to "do over" the Americans. As a result, over a hundred MPs and Provosts sat in trucks around Melbourne waiting for it.

Personally, I was at Flinders Street Station carrying a rifle, pistol (both loaded) and baton, for three hours. The nett result — two drunken Americans arrested for fighting each other. There was never a "violent brawl" in Melbourne, only the normal minor skirmishes.

In case anyone should think I am biased either way, I served five years in the US MPs, and twenty-eight years in the Australian Army, including nine years in the RAA Provost Corps. I am proud of both services and pleased that the RACMP is a far cry from the 1942 1 L of C Pro Coy antics.

G. R. Vazeny

LONG SERVICE MEDALS

SIR,

the January 1978 issue of "Sabretache" featured an interesting article by Peter Burness on the Long and Meritorious Service medals awarded to the Australian Colonial and early Commonwealth Forces.

In the article Peter mentioned a variation in the ribbon used for the LSGC and the MSM. The correct ribbon was maroon with a thin dark blue stripe down the centre. The variation was a maroon ribbon with a **thick** dark blue stripe.

I have now seen three examples of this "wrong" ribbon and consider them worth recording for the interest of fellow medal collectors.

1. In the excellent museum at Victoria Barracks there is a uniform on display that was formerly the property of Warrant Officer J. Griffith of the NSW Permanent Artillery. The two medals on the uniform are the NSW Meritorious Service Medal (veiled head of Queen Victoria on the obverse) and the LSGC (Edward VII version). The MSM hangs from the "wrong" ribbon. They are worn in that order—MSM first followed by the LSGC. The LSGC has the correct maroon ribbon with thin dark blue stripe. Griffith received his MSM in 1898 and his long service medal in 1903.
2. I recently obtained a group of three medals to Hon. Lt. H.H. Mowbray. The medals — in the order they are mounted on the old ribbon bar are:—
 - (a) Queens South Africa, clasps Cape Colony, Orange Free State and Johannesburg awarded to No 2 Sgt H.H. Mowbray N.S. Wales Mounted Rifles.
 - b MSM Commonwealth of Australia version on the "wrong" ribbon awarded 29.3.04 to W.O. H.H. Mowbray, Instructional Staff.
 - c LSGS "Commonwealth of Australia" version, maroon ribbon — thin blue stripe, awarded 29.5.03 to W.O. H.H. Mowbray, Instructional Staff. Mowbray had served with the 8th Foot — The Kings Regiment — before transferring to the NSW forces. He retired with the rank of Honorary Lieutenant in 1906.
3. A further medal in my collection obtained from a family source and still on the original ribbon is a New South Wales *Long Service* Medal awarded in 1898 to Col. John James Purcell, "Staff." This medal has the maroon ribbon with **thick** blue stripe. It should be noted that the blue used in the ribbon variation tends to move towards a turquoise blue rather than the dark blue used for the DCM.

In summary it would appear that the ribbon variation with **thick** blue stripe was used by members of the NSW forces on both the LSGC and MSM circa 1898-1904.

It also appears that *Commonwealth* medals were worn from *State* ribbons circa 1904-06. I suspect that *both* Griffith and Mowbray retired around 1906 and thus never had cause to change their medals to the later ribbons — thin green stripe on maroon background (LSGC), two thin green stripes on maroon background (MSM)

Michael Downey
5 Boambillee Avenue
Vaucluse, N.S.W 2030

ON TRACK OF TRACKERS

SIR,

While recently reading 1902 issues of Melbourne *Punch* I came across an item which appeared on 16 January, to the effect that Lord Kitchener had asked Australia's Prime Minister Barton to send some trackers with the Australian contingent to the Boer War. It was not stated, however, whether aborigines or white trackers were being sought.

The item reported that Barton cabled back asking if it was trackers or trekkers who were wanted. The remainder of the piece goes on to poke fun at the foolishness of Barton's query, suggesting that if trekkers were required possibly the Prime Minister 'would send a batch of Australian politicians notorious for their ability in trekking from their promises.'

Although the item is only of passing historical interest it does raise an intriguing question as to whether aboriginal trackers were in fact sent to the war in South Africa. Does any reader know for certain or has any reader come across any evidence regarding this point?

C. D. Coulthard-Clark
138 Marconi Crescent,
KAMBAH ACT 2902

MILITARY ANTIQUES AND REFERENCE BOOKS

*We specialise in top quality items selected
especially for the serious collector and investor.*

**WE ARE ALWAYS SEEKING TO BUY FINE SINGLE ITEMS
OR COLLECTIONS OF:**

- Uniforms
- Head-dress
- Officers' Badges Buttons
- Regimental Dirks
- Military Prints
- Military Books
- Postcards
- Cigarette cards etc. etc.

Illustrated quarterly catalogue \$2.00.

Geoff White, 11 Embercourt Drive, Backwell, Bristol BS19 3HU ENGLAND.

CLEARING THE COBWEBS

SIR,

Oh what a tangled web we weave! Those attempting to read about Some Early Barracks in Australia could well be excused if they thought the article had been subject to the crafts and assaults of the devil.

To those still interested I suggest that "had to employ free labour. Even so, the price of labour" be inserted after "work" in line 5, page 4.

To cast out the remaining devils it would also be advisable to carry out the following major exorcisms.

Page 4 and 5: Transpose from the fourth paragraph (commencing "However portion of....") to the end of the quote (note 13) on page 5, to follow the second paragraph (ending "Major Kelsall") on page 7.

Page 6: Transpose the whole of page 6 to the end of the third paragraph on page 7 (ending "... in London" (10)), to follow the end of the fourth paragraph on page 4 (ending "Commander, Royal Engineers.)

Page 7: Transpose from the third paragraph (commencing "The Colonial Officer...") to the end of the third paragraph on page 9 (ending Old Port Road. (20")), to follow the last paragraph on page 5 (ending rates and assessments.")

Since there are no alterations to the section on Western Australia I would hope our members there will have mercy on the miserable sinners among the wise men from the East.

**M. Austin
Canberra.**

MEDAL MUDDLE

SIR,

I wish to comment on a statement in the article — 'Inscriptions on Medals to Australian etc' — in the Apr-June 1980 issue.

The statement is made — 'The letter 'P' after the area prefix denoted members of the P.M.F. who did not volunteer for the AIF.'

There is more to it than that. In fact, an order was issued that no applications for AIF would be accepted from members of the P.M.F. (this order was issued fairly shortly after hostilities commenced.)

The majority, to my knowledge of members of the PMF DID very soon after the commencement of hostilities, apply for A.I.F. service, but it is reasonable to assume that this fact may have influenced the 'blocking' order, for obvious reasons.

It was not until later in the war that applications from PMF were 'called' which explains the much higher VX members allotted to that section of the service.

**A. C. Lee-Archer.
VP 3728
VX 85012**

PROPOSED 1982 COMMEMORATIVE PUBLICATION REQUEST FOR MANUSCRIPTS

The Federal President, Mr N. Foldi, in his report to the Annual General Meeting of the Society on 21 July 1980 drew attention to Federal Council's proposal to publish in 1982, a book to mark the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the foundation of the Society in 1957. The book will be on an Australian military historical topic and it is hoped that it will cover as wide a range of member's interests as possible.

Members and others who have manuscripts completed or nearing completion, which they believe would be suitable and which they wish to have considered for publication by the Society, are invited to submit details of the work to the Publication Committee, through the Federal Secretary, by 31 October, 1980.

If a copy of the complete manuscript cannot be submitted the following information should be supplied:

Author, topic, proposed title; outline of the treatment of the topic, number of words in the completed work; are there index, appendixes, bibliography etc, if so, to what extent; are illustrations to be included, if so, are they line, half-tone, black and white, colour etc.; is the manuscript completed; if not, what is the expected date of completion; an estimation, if possible, of the number of copies that the author expects can be sold and the area in which these sales could be expected.

The submission should also be accompanied by at least ten pages of extracts from the manuscript to allow some assessment to be made of style and treatment.

In submitting manuscripts authors should be aware of the financial status of the Society which will require that all production costs will need to be met before any disbursement can be made to the author.

Manuscript submissions will be considered by the Publication Sub-Committee — Mr N. Foldi, Colonel D. V. Goldsmith and Mr C. Coulthard-Clark. Their selection will be final. Authors of unsuccessful submissions will be advised and the Publication Sub-committee will negotiate with the successful author on all matters associated with the publication of the work.

T. C. Sargent
Honorary Secretary MHSA.

LET THE BUYER BEWARE!

by K. R. WHITE

All badge collectors should be aware that reproduction badges have completely disrupted the market in the United Kingdom, creating havoc among collectors and dealers alike and now the practice has spread to Australia.

In the past shoulder titles of the Boer War period, and various badges made from plastic or lead have appeared in Australia without creating any real problems as they were readily identified for what they were, reproductions. However a new range of badges has recently appeared which will fool most collectors as they are made of brass and have the correct sound when bounced on a hard surface.

Two prime examples have been sighted by the author, namely the example illustrated and the other the helmet plate of the Corps of Australian Engineers. Both are perfect examples on casual inspection but when compared with the real thing show a number of imperfections Photo 1 shows the badge of the Australian Squadron of the King's Colonials. The right hand badge is a genuine badge with a light gold finish and is die struck. The left hand badge is a reproduction, has a coppery gold irregular colour and is slightly smaller being about $\frac{1}{8}$ " smaller all round than the original. It appears to be die struck but lacks the fine detail of the original. It is possible that dies have been made from a mould which has shrunk slightly causing the overall reduction in size.

Photo 2. Shows a detailed photo of part of the title and the fine detail behind the letters should be noted in comparison with the same area illustrated in Photo 3 where most of the fine detail has been lost.

In the Corps of Australian Engineers helmet plate, a close examination has not been made, other than to note that it appears to have been struck from a single die, leaving the reverse of the badge rather smooth.

The two examples sighted appeared at local disposal stores, were comparatively cheap, \$7.50 for the illustrated badge, which was marked "Rare Australian Badge". Other badges were offered including some of the more common 1930-42 Infantry badges and these appeared to be genuine. Two days after purchasing the illustrated sample another copy appeared on the board so it would appear that supplies are plentiful.

Most collectors familiar with badges will be aware of the typical colours and finishes of genuine badges but those less familiar should beware of apparently cheap badges.



Genuine Badge - right hand — Reproduction - left hand. Property of K. R. White.



Detail of genuine badge



Detail of Reproduction Badge

The Charge at the Nek

by M. C. DICKER

In early 1919, soon after the end of the First World War, a party of eight Australians, including the Official War Historian C.E.W. Bean returned to the Gallipoli Peninsula, scene of some of the most desperate fighting that the Australians were engaged in during the war (1).

The main aims of this party were to examine the old battlefields, clear up several mysteries so as to present a clearer picture of the campaign in the Official History when written and to obtain relics for inclusion in the Australian War Memorial collection (2).

Of the many places that Dr Bean and the Official War Artist, G. Lambert inspected while on Gallipoli, one particularly stood out as illustrating both the horror of war and the vicious yet heroic nature of the fighting that occurred there in 1915.

This was The Nek, a narrow causeway leading from the first ridge, inland from Anzac beach, to the second ridge — the objective of the Allied forces for much of the campaign. The Nek had had a very infamous history, for it was here, on August 7 1915, that the 3rd Light Horse Brigade while serving as dismounted infantry, made its exceedingly brave, yet to a major extent unavailing charge against the opposing Turkish trenches. While making that charge the 3rd Light Horse Brigade lost two hundred and thirty-four men killed and one hundred and thirty-eight wounded (3). All the dead lay in an area about the size of three tennis courts. Their remains were still there in 1919, and were clearly visible to Bean and Lambert.

Bean later wrote: "When shortly after our visit Hughes (head of the Australian Section of the War Graves Commission) came to bury the missing in this area he found and buried more than three hundred Australians in that strip their graves today mark the site of one of the bravest actions in the history of war." (4)

Lambert, who painted a major work of the charge (5), simply commented: "From the point of view of the artist-historian The Nek is a wonderful setting to the tragedy." (6)

Bean was later to write an excellent and highly detailed account of the charge in the Official History, yet even this account is incomplete. The true history of the charge will probably never be known. This is mainly due to the lack of survivors, either of the charge or of the ravages of time. Few personal accounts have been written and most of those that have, add little to what is already known. There is also the factor that even after sixty five years the incident remains controversial and may account for the withholding of some information.

Bean's account of the incident and certainly some of the personal papers that were written about events leading up to the Charge, the Charge itself and also its aftermath, leave an impression that there were animosities between some of the Brigade's key figures and at some levels, a distinctly lower quality of leadership than was to characterise later Australian campaigns. None of these possibilities can detract in any way from the gallantry of those officers and men who flung themselves across The Nek.

The Nek itself in 1919 was little different from the last time Bean had seen it during the campaign, apart from the addition of a small Turkish memorial. As previously mentioned, it was a narrow causeway leading from a position called Russell's Top on the first ridge to the "long hog-backed slope" called Baby 700 held by the Turks on the second ridge. (7) The Nek was about eighty yards long and a little over one hundred yards in breadth at the Russell's Top end (held by the Anzacs), narrowing to about twenty five in width beneath the heavily entrenched slopes of Baby 700 (8).

On the right of this narrow causeway was the head of Monash Valley, a steep drop into a ravine, and across it, Pope's Hill and Quinn's Post, both the scene of many bloody attacks during the campaign. On the left of The Nek sheer precipices fell away down into Malone's Gully and the foothills of the Sari Bair ridge. (9).

In August, 1915 The Nek was in the firm control of the Turks with two lines of

trenches crossing it near the Anzac end. In the centre, these trenches were only twenty yards from the Australian line (one sap running from the main Anzac line came as close as twelve yards) (10) but on the flanks they were some sixty yards distant. (11) This provided a great difficulty to any attacking force. Behind these trenches were eight others which rose, "tier after tier, across it and up the face of Baby 700 beyond," (12) and which could provide heavy enfilading fire. In addition, No Man's Land between the two forces was further protected by the fire from machine guns on inaccessible spurs on both flanks, slightly towards the Turkish rear. (13).

It may thus be appreciated why Baby 700 and The Nek were the strongest parts of the enemy's line at Anzac. Indeed, General Birdwood (G.O.C. Anzac Corps) and his Chief of Staff, Brigadier Skeen, writing on July 1 1915 said: "These trenches and convergences of communications trenches require considerable strength to force. The



"The Charge of the 3rd Light Horse Brigade by G. Lambert." Courtesy Australian War Memorial. Photo No. J6164.

narrow Nek to be crossed makes an unaided attack in this direction almost hopeless." (14).

However, while this statement was certainly true it remained a fact that the control of Baby 700 was an objective of vital importance. This was because a successful attack against it would give the Australians the opportunity to break out of the Anzac position, since Baby 700 overlooked much of the nearby area. And the only direct approach to Baby 700 from Anzac lay across The Nek.

The control of The Nek had not always been in the hands of the Turks. On the first day of the battle of the landing, April 25 1915, the Australians had held for several hours, both The Nek and much of Baby 700. The fight on the latter continued for most of the day. However, by 4 p.m. the Australians, desperately needing reinforcements, were finally pushed back by the Turks across The Nek leaving nearly all of it in their control (15). Apart from minor raids there were only two other occasions when there was great activity at The Nek.

These were on May 19 during the great Turkish offensive when several attacks were beaten off, and on June 29 when a major assault by the Turkish 18th Regiment was repelled by the 8th and 9th Light Horse with heavy losses to the enemy (16).

Nevertheless, the strategic importance of The Nek and Baby 700 was such that further fighting in this area was inevitable. Thus, when the major allied offensive of the campaign was planned for early August, an assault on Baby 700

was considered a necessity. A plan for a major offensive which would break the Dardanelles deadlock had been in preparation since the end of May, and by July it had practically been finalised.

It involved a fourfold operation. First, the Anzac front was to be reinforced with four British brigades and an Indian brigade, and a "breakout assault would be launched." (17) The plan was to attack the Sari Bair ridge on the left of the Anzac position with two columns.

The right assaulting column was to advance up the nearby ravines and seize the point known as Chunuk Bair on the same ridge as Baby 700, while the left assaulting column attacked with a dual objective (18).

One half of the column would advance on the highest point of the Gallipoli area — Hill 971, while the other half would secure another position of tactical importance, Hill Q. Both these objectives were on the same ridge as Chunuk Bair and Baby 700.

Meanwhile, the right column, after securing Chunuk Bair, was to send a large force southwest along the ridge to capture Battleship Hill, immediately behind Baby 700, and threaten the latter strongpoint (19). This rather ambitious aim would be assisted by the second phase of the plan. While the right column attacked from behind, a dawn attack would be launched from Russell's Top against The Nek and Baby 700 by a brigade of the Australian Light Horse.

To assist the breakout plan, the third phase involved a landing by two British divisions at Suvla Bay, a flat section four

VC CORNER

The Victoria Cross and other medals of Warrant Officer Ray Simpson were added to the Australian War Memorial collection in VC Corner at the end of May, after new security cabinets had been installed. A greatly-expanded "gallantry gallery" is being planned to supersede VC Corner, so as to allow improved display not only of the Victoria Crosses but also other outstanding gallantry awards.

miles north of Anzac and defended by only three weak Turkish battalions (20). The landing, it was hoped, would attract the attention of a large number of enemy reinforcements and, more importantly, supplement the breakout thrust from Anzac, while joining "its own right wing to the Anzac left along the central ridge of the peninsula." (21).

Finally, British troops south at Cape Helles and the Australians at certain sections of the Anzac front (like Lone Pine) were ordered to make strong attacks in their respective zones, in order to keep the Turks occupied and to prevent reserves being sent to the more important points.

Therefore, under the plan the otherwise "hopeless" assault at The Nek would be aided by the attack on Chunuk Bair to the north. But even this was not sufficient to ensure a probable success. It was fully realised that the attack across The Nek on Baby 700 would be very difficult to carry out, particularly because the width of the Nek would only permit one hundred and fifty troops to be in each attacking wave.

Therefore, to distract the attention of the other Turks in the vicinity a simultaneous rush would be launched on August 7, 1915, the date set for the attack, by portions of the garrisons of Pope's Hill and Quinn's Post against the enemy opposite. (22) The task of capturing the enemy positions facing these two posts had been proved over and over again to be virtually impossible, "as the remains of hundreds of Australians and Turks rotting in the withered scrub testified." (23)

The nature of the Anzac position was so complicated that for these plans to be viable an assault against the German Officers' Trench would have to be made on the night prior to the attack, that is,

August 6 1915. The enemy machine guns in the German Officer's Trench swept No Man's Land between Pope's, Quinn's and The Nek. Their capture would greatly simplify the whole operation.

The troops chosen to assault The Nek and the trenches beyond were those of the 3rd Light Horse Brigade, with the 8th (Victorian) and 10th (West Australian) Regiments attacking first. Both these Regiments had arrived at Anzac soon after the Turkish offensive of May 19. They had been immediately put into the line at Walker's Ridge on the left of Anzac, a fairly quiet position, and at Russell's Top opposite The Nek. Thus the 3rd Brigade was by August, "well acquainted with the position" to be attacked (24).

However, the 3rd Brigade had seen little important fighting up until then. The 8th and 9th Regiments, as previously mentioned, defeated the Turkish attack on The Nek on June 29 and the 10th Regiment had seen action at Quinn's Post on May 28, but otherwise the Brigade's first ten weeks at Anzac had involved only trench digging and fatigue duties (25).

Their physical condition also detracted from their fighting capacity. As the Unit historian of the 10th Regiment stated: "The men, for the most part were far below their normal standard of fighting efficiency. Physically they were weakened and wasted. The intense summer, the everlasting racket of digging, the long front-line vigils with the necessary standing to arms, the contaminated fly-ridden food with its accompaniment of dysentery and diarrhoea, and the shortage of water, had left their marks on them" (26). This view is confirmed by the Regimental War Diaries. On August 2, 1915 the 10th Regiment diary states: "Sickness very

prevalent. All ranks badly want a rest and change of diet."

And on August 5, only two days before the attack: "All ranks fully forty-five percent physically below their normal standard." (27) Despite their poor condition both Regiments moved into the advance positions on Russell's Top on July 29, relieving the Wellington Mounted Rifles.

While the immense task at Anzac was undertaken in preparing new shelters, ledges and other facilities to receive the new forces for the breakout, the plans for the attack across The Nek were being completed. The attack was to be launched at 4.30 a.m. on August 7, 1915. Prior to this, commencing the previous night, there would be a bombardment of the enemy positions on both The Nek and Baby 700 by land and naval batteries with the aim of destroying the Turkish defences and thus reducing the number of Australian casualties. The Light Horse orders stated that the troops would have "the full assistance of naval guns and high explosive fire from the full strength of our howitzers and other guns." (28)

The bombardment was to continue (increasing in intensity at 4.00 a.m.) until 4.30 a.m. and immediately upon its cessation the attack was to begin." (29) The numbers of troops to be involved were six hundred, divided into four lines of one hundred and fifty. This was because, as mentioned before the narrowness of The Nek did not allow any more. The orders stated that the attack would be delivered "silently and by bayonet and bomb without fire." (30) The troops were warned that the enemy's garrison was "not light" and that machine guns in five positions commanded "the approach to The Nek and fighting might disclose others." (31).

The first wave (8th Light Horse) was to seize the two Turkish trenches on The Nek, the second (8th Light Horse) the front trenches and saps on nearby Baby 700, and the third (10th Light Horse) the trenches on the crest of the hill. The fourth wave (10th Light Horse) with picks and shovels would then follow, either to support the attack or consolidate the position. (32) Finally, the 8th Cheshire Regiment (13th English Division) would advance to assist in defending the positions won. All the attacking units were provided with small red and yellow flags to show the positions gained. The 9th Light Horse would act as a reserve. (33)

Immediately following the securing of The Nek trenches two companies of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers would advance up Monash Valley (to the right of The Nek), thereby "guarding the flank of the troops charging, and connecting with the assault of the 1st Light Horse Regiment from Pope's." (34)

This highly ambitious plan thus involved "the capture of nine lines of trenches in front and several to the flank, composing in all at least forty separate trenches and sap." (35) However, although the task was one of portentous difficulty, particularly because it would be made in daylight with the sun in the eyes of the attackers, it would be assisted by the simultaneous assaults from Quinn's, Pope's and also by the advance from Chunuk Bair. If any of these failed (including that of the previous night against the German Officers' Trench), and the attack against The Nek was merely delivered as a feint, then only the capture of the foremost trenches at best, could be expected. The possibility of this occurring may well have been the cause of the order stating that the attack would be

delivered "unless orders are given to the contrary." (36)

Having received their instructions, the Australian troops began preparing for the assault. Fire steps were cleared, recesses were cut in the forward trenches and pegs were driven in the parapets to "ensure a quick and simultaneous hop-over." (37)

The details of dress were also considered. To prevent being weighed down in attack, orders were given for the troops to stow their spare kit into their packs for storage and to discard their tunic. They were left with only a grey-flannelled undershirt with a field dressing sewn under it, breeches or shorts, boots and puttees. (38) A square of white calico was also sewn on the back on the shirt in order that the Light Horsemen could be distinguished during the fighting. Each trooper carried two sandbags with which to fortify the positions gained and the first line was to take with it, two scaling ladders which had been specially made to enable the men to get into the deep enemy trenches. (39)

In addition to their preparations the Light Horse made a demonstration on August 3, with the idea of determining the strength of the enemy in the trenches at The Nek. As expected, the line was strongly held and immediately a very heavy fire from machine guns, rifles and artillery broke forth on No Man's Land, ominously indicating the powerful opposition to be overcome.

With the troops prepared, the divisional and brigade staffs inspected the positions, paying careful attention to the enemy trenches and machine gun

positions. (40) Although enemy activity had increased recently at The Nek, the orders remained unchanged and the attack was to go ahead. A conference was held by Birdwood on August 5, explaining to the commanders the details of the forth-coming operations. Early the next day 3rd Light Horse Brigade headquarters was moved just to the rear of the advanced positions at Russell's Top for ease of access during the battle. (41)

That night a special order was released from the General Headquarters Mediterranean Expeditionary Force. It read:

"Soldiers of the old army and the new: Some of you have already won imperishable renown at our first landing, or have since built up our foothold upon the peninsula, yard by yard, with deeds of heroism and endurance. Others have arrived just in time to take part in our next great fight against Germany and Turkey, the would-be oppressors of the rest of the human race.

You, veterans, are about to add fresh lustre to your arms. Happen what may, so much at least is certain.

As to you, soldiers of the new formations, you are privileged indeed to have the chance vouchsafed you of playing a decisive part in events which may herald the birth of a new and happier world. You stand for the great cause of freedom. In the honour of trial remember this, the faith that is in you will bring you victoriously through.
Ian Hamilton, General." (42).

All those involved were ready. They had only to wait for the battle to begin.

At 4.00 p.m. on August 6, 1915 the first feint was launched at Cape Helles to the south. This was followed at 5.30 p.m., after a preliminary bombardment, by the attack against Lone Pine by the First Australian Infantry Brigade. The infantry took the Turkish trenches in a

MILITARY MEDAL AND THREE BARS

The unique Military medal and three Bars awarded to Corporal Ernest Albert Corey, a stretcher-bearer in the 1914-18 War, were donated to the War Memorial on 24 April by Mr Corey's son-in-law, Mr G. Phelps. A total of 180 men have won second bars to the Military Medal, but Corporal Corey was the only man ever to have won a third.

bayonet charge under cover of the dust created by the gunfire.

The action that followed, in the trenches covered by pine logs, in the dark and with bomb and bayonet was for the Australian soldiers the "bloodiest hand fighting of the war." (43). In time, two enemy divisions were embroiled there. For the next three days the Turks launched continuous counter attacks until they were finally resigned to the loss of the position. In this "demonstration" the Australians suffered over two thousand casualties. (44) Perhaps the most significant gain was the attraction of Turkish reserves to Lone Pine and away from the operations to the north.

The first British forces began landing at Suvla Bay at 10.30 p.m and by morning had complete control of the nearby area. A little earlier, at 8.30 p.m., the main attack towards Chunuk Bair had been launched. This was at first highly successful; the New Zealanders taking the front Turkish positions, clearing the foothills and the advancing on Chunuk Bair. However, the difficult terrain and increasing Turkish resistance caused a delay and by dawn the New Zealanders were still one thousand yards from their objective. (45)

Meanwhile, the left column, consisting of British, Indian and Australian troops (of the 4th Infantry Brigade), had also begun to advance, its objective being Hill 971. As with the right column, the advance was at first brisk but was soon checked. The precipitous terrain, enemy opposition to the right and the fact that the guides were unsure of the direction to be followed (having been unable to reconnoitre the position beforehand), were to blame. In the darkness confusion began to reign. It was not until it began to get light that the advance continued with any speed. The

Australians reached what they thought was Hill 971 and dug in. But they were mistaken.

Their position was still some three quarters of a mile from Hill 971. (46)

Although this was a major setback, in relation to The Nek the failure of the New Zealanders to capture Chunuk Bair was a much greater one. For the time had come when, unless countermanded, the assault at The Nek would be launched. And this would be without the assistance of the attack down the ridge from Chunuk Bair, which had been thought to be a prerequisite to success.

While the battle was raging to the north, in the old Anzac position at midnight the attack was launched by the 6th Infantry Battalion against the German Officers' Trench whose machine guns enfiladed No Man's Land between Pope's, Quinn's and The Nek. This was a complete failure. The attack withered under heavy Turkish machine gun fire and a repeated attempt some hours later suffered the same fate.

The 6th Battalion lost eighty killed and sixty-six wounded in the attempt. (47) It had failed chiefly because the attack at Lone Pine and the several mines which had been exploded beforehand had completely warned the Turks. (48) The only effect of this bloody repulse was to make the enemy "exceptionally alert" at dawn on 7 August. (49)

Thus, when the hour approached for the assault across The Nek, Birdwood and Skeen knew that the two conditions which were to precede the attacks on Baby 700, namely the capture of the German Officers' Trench and the advance down the ridge from Chunuk Bair, would not occur in time to help. (50) But it was known that the paramount task of seizing and holding Chunuk Bair would be "immensely simplified" if all the

enemy troops at and near the head of Monash Gully were held to their trenches by the prearranged attack. (51)

The operations from Russell's Top, Pope's and Quinn's therefore became merely feints designed to draw and hold Turkish forces. Success by the New

Zealanders was vital — Birdwood was prepared to do anything to assist the main effort, despite the knowledge that the attack across The Nek would be a desperate undertaking. The inevitable heavy losses were therefore to be incurred for the sake of the main advance to the north. (52).



"The Nek between Russell's Top and Baby 700: the trenches around the monument are those of the Turks. Beyond can be seen the Anzac trenches. The space across which the 3rd Light Horse Brigade attempted to charge lies between the two. The monument is a Turkish one, raised after the Evacuation."

Courtesy Australian War Memorial Photograph No G1874N.

References for the above article will appear in the next issue of *Sabretache*

ART ACQUISITIONS

A most important addition to the collection was the purchase of a folio of works by noted artist and designer Frank Hinder. This contains a large number of excellent drawings, watercolours, camouflage and poster designs as well as photographs, letters and memorabilia associated with the artist's war service. Of particular interest are several preliminary sketches for "Bomber Crash" and "Port Moresby", purchased by the War Memorial in 1978. A large coloured drawing, "Camp Kitchen," by Hinder was also bought.

The Brisbane artist and ex-Director of the Queensland Art Gallery, Mr James Wieneke, donated a group of drawings which had been the original artwork for his wartime book "Sixth Division Sketches: Aitape to Wewak."

Furphy's Forum

by ALLAN BOX

- THE ROYAL RED CROSS — a decoration supposedly solely instituted for award to ladies, has been awarded to at least one male — a New Zealand Infantryman for 1915-19 war service.
- QUEEN'S SOUTH AFRICA medal, with 4 clasps — one *Paardeberg* — named to the *Victorian Field Artillery*, is known in a private collection — possibly only one of two QSA's named to Vic. F.A. — how are other Australian Special Service Officers' medals named?
- Heard of the *Wellington Amazons*? They were a company of khaki clad, slouch hatted, bandolier swathed, rifle toting females raised in New Zealand during the second Boer War — perhaps the war might have ended earlier if the Amazons had been unleashed on the unsuspecting Boer?
- A World War One Military Cross in the Royal Australian Navy? Yes, an Australian was awarded a DSO and an MC during the 1915-19 conflict. He was a member of the RAN. But all is not as it would seem....
- Rarity of multiple gallantry awards etc seems to be fashionable at the moment. The RAN's multiple gallantry awards for WW1 were quite rare. There are two groups known exhibiting both the D.S.M. and Naval M.S.M. Any others known?
- What was the most number of individual fighting infantry battalions commanded by an AIF officer? Lieutenant-Colonel H.T.C. Layh, CMG, DSO 2nd BAR VD, commanded four battalions at different times during WWI. Any advances on four?
- 'Ne'er-do-wells,' 'men who neither do nor have done anything'; 'gabblers of deeds that never took place'; — these were selections of descriptions of Australian soldiers during the Boer War — attributed to a chaplain of the Australian Bushmen. HARDly the 'bronzed Aussie' image.
- Which QSA clasp is the rarest to each Australian state? It is commonly believed that the Rhodesia clasp is the rarest bar awarded to Victorian contingents — not true!.. Jo'Burg Diamond Hill and Belfast are all rarest to Victorian Contingents. But what of other states? Which clasp is the rarest to each state's contingents? There's a little research project for a QSA specialist.

JAPANESE TORPEDO

One of the most spectacular deliveries to the War Memorial occurred on 21 May. An *Iroquois* helicopter from HMAS *Albatross*, Nowra, brought a propulsion unit from a Japanese torpedo that had been fired off the southern New South Wales coast in the submarine campaign of 1942 and 1943. It was "caught" by a fisherman, Mr Peter Bell, about 18 miles off Eden in late March.

SOPWITH "PUP" LOAN

A Sopwith "Pup" aircraft rebuilt recently from components of the plane flown by Australia's leading fighter pilot in the 1914-18 War, Captain R. Little, DSO, DSC, has been offered on semi-permanent loan to the War Memorial. The offer, by Mr D. Arnott, of Warbirds Museum in Britain, has been accepted. The plane will be loaned free of charge for an initial ten years.

THIS is the seventh instalment in a series of articles on the history of South Australia's defence forces, taken from a major work submitted by the author to the University of Adelaide some years ago as part fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts.

Defence Commissions — Defence Experts — Defence Schemes

by H. ZWILLENBERG

The possibility of war with Russia became apparent early in 1854. The South Australian Governor, Sir Henry Young, proceeded to appoint a commission, consisting of Major E. Moore, 11th Regiment of Foot, Captain T. Lipson, R.N., and Captain W. H. Freeling, R.E., 'to enquire and report upon certain precautionary measures of defence.... in the event of ... war.' The Commission was appointed on 17th May, under the chairmanship of B. T. Finnis and ten days later submitted its report (21) recommending that the Colony should acquire a 400-ton naval vessel.

Imperial assistance was to be requested for the selection and procurement of the ship, but the cost was to be defrayed by the Colony. The Commission also recommended the installation of semaphore stations from Cape Borda, along the northern coast of Kangaroo Island to Backstairs Passage, and from there along the eastern shore of the Gulf of St. Vincent, up to Adelaide, the port and the lightship. The regular force of Imperial troops was to be augmented by another company, or the existing force was to be made up to full strength of 100

all ranks. The fourth suggestion contained the embodiment of a militia drawn from the Port Adelaide, Alberton and Queenstown districts.

Fifthly, the Commission recommended the establishment of an artillery force. The final recommendations concerned the arrangement of coast patrols, boom defences across the Port River, and the erection of a protective battery on Torrens Island. The latter, a long term project, was felt to be more properly the consideration of the Imperial Government, and a plan for the Torrens Island battery was subsequently submitted by Colonel R. R. Torrens (21).

Actually Torrens himself did not believe in the scheme. He pointed to the high engineering costs of the project and to the time factor involved. He also stressed the tactical limitations of the scheme: the battery could not impede a landing further south on the Peninsula, by-passing the fixed defences. Torrens favoured a block vessel, and recommended that the major portion of the available funds be spent on mobile defences.

Thus, in 1854, the *First Finniss Commission* set the pattern for future defence considerations in the Colony. The first line of defence was assumed to be the responsibility of Great Britain, through the Royal Navy. The second line was the defence of coastal waters. The third/fourth lines were port and coastal land defences, in the form of properly constructed fortifications or gun emplacements, and the fifth line consisted of mobile land forces.

The first line of defence, provided by the Royal Navy, was considered indispensable for safe-guarding the approaches to Australia, and was always assumed to be guaranteed. The defence of the coastal waters, the second line, was seen by Victoria as a coastal naval problem. South Australians at first saw it as a military problem, that is as an extension or a substitute for, the third line, the fixed coastal land defences. It was only from the seventies and eighties onwards that shore defence was allied with the protection of sea approaches to the Colony. The mobile land forces, on the other hand, were always considered a *conditio sine qua* defence was inconceivable.

Every one of the numerous defence commissions convened in South Australia, and all the recommendations made by local or visiting naval and military experts, considered these five lines of defence. At first the emphasis fell on the fifth line of defence, the mobile forces. From the middle seventies to about 1890 fixed coastal defences, in conjunction with sea-going defences, were thought more important. The nineties saw the pendulum swinging back towards mobile land forces.

Few, if any, of the recommendations of the *First Finniss Commission* were implemented. New war clouds appeared on the horizon in 1858, when Britain's involvement in Italy seemed imminent.

As a result, the *Second Finniss Commission* was convened as a sub-committee of the Executive Council. Its report again stressed the need for a gun boat, which was now, somewhat naively, expected to be a Royal Navy vessel, 'permanently stationed in the Colony and removable only by order of the Governor to any other part of the Colony for the time being as might seem most expedient' (22).

The Commission also wanted the Imperial infantry changed to a force of regular artillery and recommended that the mobile forces should consist of a cavalry regiment, two field batteries and a slightly understrength regiment of infantry.

The House of Assembly was not satisfied with the report of the executive council sub-committee and in 1858 appointed its own 'select committee to take evidence and report on the question of colonial defences', which came to be known as the *First Hart Commission*, after its chairman, Captain J. Hart, a one-time merchant seaman.

The members were largely ex-service officers with low level and out-of-date naval and military experience. Their report (23) showed a preference for fixed defences. Three Martello Towers★ were recommended, for Torrens Island, Semaphore and Glenelg. The Colony was to be divided into districts and rolls were to be kept of persons eligible to serve. In other words, the report recommended the

★ Martello Towers had been designed in England as defence works against a Napoleonic invasion. They were round structures, 40' high, mounted three to four guns, and were accessible by a ladder leading to the entrance door 20' above the ground.

establishment of mechanics for implementing the *Militia Act*.

It also paid lip service to the voluntary principle, by recommending the formation and official encouragement of rifle clubs and making vague references to co-operation with Imperial naval authorities. Since the House of Assembly did not approve the Martello towers, (they were likely to be more expensive than a shallow draft gun boat) the only concrete result of the report was the placing of a sum of £4,500 on the estimates for 1859 (24).

The 1864 *scare* (disclosure of plans for an alleged Russian raid) produced two investigations. The first was submitted, on his own initiative, by J. H. Biggs, the South Australian military commandant (25). Biggs objected to fixed defences as too costly and ineffective, and advocated full reliance on troops whose mobility was to be increased by the construction of a military road.

Apparently, the government was not altogether satisfied with the Biggs report. In 1865 a full scale parliamentary enquiry was ordered, to 'inquire into and report upon the best means of defending the coast of South Australia against an attack from an enemy in vessels of war and to offer suggestions for the general protection of the Province from foreign aggression' (26). Once again John Hart was chairman.

More or less unanimously, the *Second Hart Commission* recommended the procurement from England of a number of heavy guns, a full battery of rifled field artillery, and the raising of a paid volunteer force of 700 infantry and 200 artillery men. But individual members objected to the erection of revolving cupola towers, the purchase of

field artillery or the constructions of a military road, and some were opposed to the formation of cavalry. Only one member recommended fixed artillery positions (cupola towers), together with the purchase of an armoured gun boat, with a light draught and very heavy armament, capable of speeding at 18 to 20 knots over a measured mile with a 96 hour coal capacity at full speed. Such a vessel at that time was technically not feasible.

The press was sympathetic to the *Second Hart Commission*, readily supporting its recommendations on mobile defence (27). The reason, apart from cost, was probably psychological; *mobile defence* implied reliance on the courage and skill of the individual citizen, rather than on impersonal bricks and mortar.

Soon after the Commission's report was tabled, the British sloop, *H.M.S. Falcon* paid a visit to South Australia. The House of Assembly requested the governor to invite Commander G. H. Parkin to have a look at the local defence problem and report on it (28). Parkin recommended the stationing of six gun boats at certain points, with one 100 pdr. smooth bore gun positioned immediately south of the pilot station. He also recommended round towers to cover the approaches to Adelaide, instead of revolving cupola towers, which would have been more expensive and soon rendered inoperative by flying sand from the dunes.

The report was not very well received (29). It was labelled 'gratis advice to the poor.' The scheme was too costly, since gunboats were too expensive, while the ordnance suggested by Parkin was unnecessarily heavy against troops in the open. The critics

considered a mobile field battery of 32 pdr. guns more economical, as well as more effective.

Parkin's recommendations were more or less repeated by Commodore W. F. Wiseman, senior naval officer on the Australia Station, during his visit to the Colony in April, 1866. Instead of gun boats, Wiseman suggested Martello type towers, roughly where Parkin wanted to place the field artillery (30). One or two attempts were made by the South Australian Government to implement some of the recommendations (31), but the main, and ironic, significance of the two naval reports lay in swinging official opinion towards the principle of fixed land defences. Perhaps the sailors realised that Australians were landlubbers. Australians themselves had no illusions regarding their maritime prowess (32), and later an anonymous writer in England was outspoken on the subject almost to the point of slander.

The spirit of speculation and gambling, called sport, is a far greater inducement to remain at shore.... While Britain looked on naval defence as her mainstay, Australians treated it as 'fancy sail' and Australians were seafaring people in the inverse ratio to their coastline (33).

Once again South Australians turned to the military for advice. The Freeling/Scratchley Report of 1866 (34) was the first received by the Colony from senior serving military officers, familiar with current military developments. Colonel Freeling possessed considerable local knowledge, while Major Scratchley was a fortifications expert.

The report, for the first time, clearly defined the South Australian arc of defence; it extended for nine miles north from Marino. The Report also prepared South Australian public opinion to accept the principle of fixed defences.

But in other respects the

Freeling/Scratchley Report was no better than its predecessors. The recommendations were superficial and inaccurate. They omitted maintenance costs of recommended fortifications and equipment, and underestimated capital costs, omissions which the press was quick to notice (35). Consequently, little attention was paid to the report. South Australians were then expecting a visit from Lieutenant-Colonel W. D. Jervois, — it was not to eventuate for another ten years — and preferred to await his opinion before voting moneys for the coastal installations recommended by Freeling and Scratchley.

On 22nd January, 1876, shortly before Jervois' arrival, the Governor, Sir Anthony Musgrave, appointed yet another commission, composed of ex-military and ex-naval officers, to 'enquire into the best means of securing the Colony.' It became known as the *Third Finnis Commission*, and based its recommendations on the possibility of an enemy landing by some 500 troops, from three or four vessels, and the subsequent necessity to guard against destructive shelling of the port facilities.

The coastline was to be protected by the erection of fixed defences, one at Point Malcolm and another at Largs Bay, while three gun boats were to provide floating defences. The Commission also recommended the construction of a military road. Should gunboats be unobtainable, then an additional fort was to be built near Glenelg.

All posts were to be manned by a permanent artillery force. Unfortunately there were as many minority reports as there were members. The major points of disagreement concerned the gunboats

and whether or not the force was to be paid.

Biggs, the military commandant, advocated a large mobile force and as few fixed installations as possible. Others placed their trust in fixed defences. The government reacted with indifference to a report which was little more than a collection of personal opinions, hardly a justification for the expenditure of public funds.

If South Australians seemed to have no clear grasp of the strategic principles of their own defence, they could hardly be blamed. Contradictory reports of the various commissions conflicted with advice received from itinerant British officers and local experts.

The concept of fixed coastal defences, with or without naval support, conflicted with proposals for mobile land forces. The proponents of fixed defences, sometimes referred to as the *bricks and mortar school*, had the advantage of precedents to show that attempts to conquer fortifications by purely naval means had generally proved futile in the past (37).

South Australians also watched defence developments in the sister colonies, particularly in Victoria, where similar strategic views were held and where the concept of *bricks and mortar* was extended in 1866 to include *blue water* support. In 1866, the *Victorian Legislative Assembly Committee on Colonial Defences* recommended that a minister should be sent to London to discuss the procurement of a warship, and to obtain the services of an engineer officer to advise on the erection of fortifications.

The minister was Sir Frederick Verdon. His mission caused one of the

worst outbursts of jealousy ever exhibited by the South Australian press, once it became known that the sister colony might obtain a warship from Great Britain, at practically no cost. 'Iron-clads appear to be naturally distributed by Great Britain on the same principle as the poor rates and the education grant' (38). Victorian ministers were charged with wanting to become social dignitaries of England: 'A few months ago Mr Verdon was a plain burgher of Williamstown, now he is a C.B. and a cosmopolitan celebrity', said the *Observer*. (39).

Verdon's mission was very successful, particularly financially. The old armed steamer *Victoria* had earlier been made available to Great Britain for service in New Zealand, at a cost of about £25,000. *Victoria* was now prepared to cancel this debt, provided that she was given something else. The Imperial Government agreed, and covered the colony's credit of £25,000 with £150,000 in Imperial money, which led to the purchase of *H.M.C.S. Cerberus*. The *Observer*, normally an objective newspaper, derided Verdon's obvious success.

If iron-clads and frigates can be got by the mere asking for, Mr Verdon is likely to have many imitators. His mission has been such a success that it would be strange indeed if either New South Wales, Queensland, New Zealand or South Australia should not soon find it desirable to send a representative to great Britain. They (the colonies) will practically derive no advantage, either from the presence of two war vessels in Hobson's Bay or from Mr Verdon's title of Companion of the Bath (40).

Yet the paper must have been aware of the changes in Imperial naval policy, which were initiated by the Earl of Carnarvon, and which culminated in the *Colonial Naval Defence Act of*

1865.★ Soon the South Australian press was forced to admit that Verdon had been the right man at the right moment (41).

Apart from securing the *Cerberus*, and a supply of small arms, he managed to persuade the British Government to send Lieutenant-Colonel W. D. Jervois, the Inspector of Fortifications, to report on the defences of the Australian colonies. Major Peter W. Scratchley, with his knowledge of local conditions, was seconded to the mission to assist Jervois.

It was felt, both in British Government circles and in Australia, that the advice of such competent officers would put Australia's defences on a sound footing. In exchange for the withdrawal of the physical means of protecting the colonies, Great Britain had undertaken to render every assistance to enable the colonies to protect themselves.

Lieutenant-Colonel, later Lieutenant-General, Sir William Drummond Jervois was a military engineer with extensive active and colonial service experience in Africa, England, India, the Mediterranean, and North America and also as Chief Administrator (governor) of the Straits Settlements. He belonged to that breed of English soldier-administrators who combined an extremely sound scientific *cum* technological background — Jervois was elected Fellow of the Royal Society in 1888 — with a mind not clouded by precedent and prejudice, a combination which in the 19th century led men to the governorships of colonies and dominions.

Major, later Major-General Sir Peter Scratchley had the same academic background as Jervois, but he was rather more the technologist and scientist than statesman or administrator. He was a very successful military engineer and tactician, but did not particularly distinguish himself as the first administrator of New Guinea. His was the major contribution to the planning and implementation of South Australia's fixed defences. His enthusiasm and tact ensured maximum co-operation with local authorities (42). Jervois commented: "It is indeed mainly due to his untiring zeal, combined with the exercise of great tact and discretion that so much has been done' (43).

Here, then, were two men, outstanding among their military contemporaries, men without prejudices or preconceived ideas. They saw clearly that defence was a federal rather than a colonial problem. Their advice had the strategic significance of swinging the balance of public opinion in favour of fixed defences, based on the assumption that the Royal Navy constituted the first line of defence and that large scale invasions were, therefore, unlikely.

The deliberations of Scratchley and Jervois resulted in a *Memorandum of Defence* tabled in the House of Assembly in December, 1877 (44).

After giving a thorough description of the physical features of the coastal districts, Jervois proceeded to recommend the purchase and maintenance of a 'vessel of war superior in power to any hostile cruisers that would be likely to appear in these seas'. He rejected gun boats as not powerful

★ The Colonial Naval Defence Act of 1865 will be discussed further in Chapter VI.

enough, and also rejected the floating batteries proposed by E. J. Reed, one time chief constructor of the Royal Navy (45). A war vessel, in Jervois' opinion, constituted the best defence, but the provision of certain fixed land defences was desirable 'to guard against the chance of the war vessel not being on the spot at the required moment ...'.

He also advocated local mobile defences, because their presence 'would render the war vessel more readily available for general defence'. Clearly, Jervois believed in a predominantly maritime defence, and he thought of it in *federal* terms. He proposed two gun emplacements three-four miles apart near Semaphore, the placing of electro-contact torpedoes across the Port River, the construction of a military road as far south as Marino, and a force consisting of just under 1,000 men, practically as suggested by the *Third Finniss Committee* in the previous year (46).

The capital costs of his proposals were £185,000 and the recurring annual costs of the order of £38,000.

The press was somewhat cautious. The efficacy of torpedoes was questioned; the capital costs were thought to be rather high. Since £25,000 was the maximum the Colony could afford to pay at that time, the naval side of the arrangement would have had to be dropped (47). However, the annual expenditure, if viewed in the light of an insurance policy, was considered reasonable, provided volunteers could be made to serve effectively.

We do not know Scratchley's views on the proposals submitted by Jervois. His role was more that of the technical adviser. He was the first of the experts to

apply engineering design principles to his task. The military engineer has

...not only to study the resources and necessities of the country to be defended but also to ascertain from the Government the amount that can be fairly expended for establishing and maintaining a system of defence ... organised with the resources available for the purpose at the lowest possible cost (48).

Consequently, his views differed somewhat from those expressed by Jervois. Iron-clads were too expensive and not proven. Small unarmoured gun boats were more economical and faster, but more vulnerable to small arms fire. Scratchley advocated fixed defence installations which, after the initial capital outlay, could be maintained quite cheaply with the minimum number of personnel. He advocated highly mobile volunteer forces, but not floating batteries which required a comparatively large personnel complement, unlike torpedo defences, which were initially inexpensive and could be operated with a minimum number of personnel (49).

The South Australian Government lost little time in implementing Jervois' military proposals. The Engineer-in-chief made one of his senior officers, A.B. Moncrief, available to assist Scratchley and work on the construction of Fort Glanville began almost immediately.

While the implications of the Russo-Turkish war of 1877 did have a bearing on defence activities in South Australia at that time, it was not mere patriotism which caused the government to act more promptly on this occasion than it had done previously. The government had been under pressure for some time.

In November, 1876, it had barely survived a no-confidence motion on the question of the volunteers, followed by some very awkward questions concerning two 9-in. guns, obtained two

years earlier, still lying in their packing cases at Port Adelaide (50).

In August, 1877, the government had to face another no-confidence motion. J. Wigley, the Member for Light, asserted that 'this Government was not justified in its apathetic and dilatory proceedings in defending the province' (51). Apathy disappeared and at least some of the recommendations of the Jervois report were implemented.

The net result was that the strategic frame of South Australia's defence was settled for the ensuing decade, and later variations were only shifts in emphasis on individual aspects. South Australia's defence was based on naval protection of the coastal waters, and on the protection of the Adelaide beaches by fixed defences, supported by a land force, whose task it was to prevent an enemy from out-flanking the fixed installations.

Consequently, steps were taken to purchase a warship, to construct the fortifications at Glanville and Largs, and to reorganise the land forces so that they would be capable of fulfilling their aforementioned role.

The *blue water* school had triumphed, ironically due to the efforts of *military* officers. Their opinions were generally confirmed, subsequently by visiting high ranking naval officers, although certain differences did become apparent. Rear Admiral Sir George Tryon in 1886 disapproved of the forts (52).

He recommended ships and more ships, suggesting that, in case of a bombardment; the inhabitants should retire out of range of hostile naval guns and let the enemy expend his ammunition. Meanwhile the local naval forces would appear on the scene and deal with the aggressor. Inhabitants, whose property was damaged by the bombardment should then be compensated from a common fund established by the colonies for that purpose.

A similar suggestion came from Brigadier General J.F. Owens, the military commandant at the time. In his opinion, any bombardment could only be of a short duration and should be accepted, with adequate arrangements for accommodating people out of range being provided. Tryon's successor, Rear Admiral Sir John Fairfax, took a different view, one which was more popular in South Australia. He placed the emphasis on fortifications, rather than on purely naval protection, and strongly advocated the construction of the proposed fort at Glenelg (53).

It seems strange that the defence schemes of the late eighties should have been recommended solely by outsiders, with no apparent participation by South Australians. Perhaps the colonists were over-awed by the high-ranking British naval and military officers, or possibly, South Australians felt that the Jervois-Scratchley schemes should be given a

WANTED: Insignia for certain RAAC units post-1948 (beret & collar badges, titles, cloth flashes), esp. woven 4 Cav badge. Also, wish to buy both vol.s Festberg's hat badges books, or photocopies. Please write to M. J. May, 68 Davey St, Parkdale, Vic. 3195.

EXCHANGE: 1930-42 6LH W/M hat badge for any two of the following 1930-42 brass hat badges in excellent condition. 25, 35, 44, 49 Bn. Solid type, 8 Bn brass or oxidised. J. E. Pryor, 21 Crawford St, Tamworth. 2340.

chance to come to fruition, particularly since they were implemented with South Australian money, South Australian engineering resources and locally produced material.

And it is understandable that local military authorities should have been reluctant to openly ignore the pearls of wisdom shed by visiting naval and military celebrities. Nevertheless, after due deliberation, the naval and military commandants in South Australia produced a memorandum (which soon found its way to the Colonial Office) in which, as early as 1887, they anticipated the move towards federation by considering all forms of defence, except the protection of sea-going commerce, as a federal task to be shared by all the colonies.

This task would include the defence of naval stations and anchorages of potential strategic importance to an enemy. The memorandum stated explicitly what Sir Edward Hutton ★ was to emphasise fifteen years later: federally organised troops should be trained, both for local protection tasks, and for strategic purposes in the Pacific, wherever required not only by Australian, but also by Imperial interests (54).

The colonists, however, evinced little interest in federal defence. What mattered was local defence, and since local defence should be mobile, there was a noticeable lay reaction against the *brick and mortar* school from 1887 onwards. Mobile defence was more appropriate to the citizen soldier. Fortifications and warships required professional expertise,

to be found only among regular soldiers and regular soldiers were politically suspect. South Australian *citizens* decided to look into the matter themselves. Yet another commission was appointed, under the chairmanship of J.W. Castine in 1887.

The terms of reference for the *Select Committee on Defence Forces* showed that the professional military emphasis on fixed defences was not shared by the people's representatives. The Committee was to enquire into the war preparedness, the strength and means of command of the mobile forces in case of an emergency, and into means of popularising the *mobile forces*. ★★ (55).

The *Castine Committee* report indicated where the priorities lay: of 14 resolutions, only one made reference to fixed defences, by recommending 'that in order to complete the defences of Adelaide and its suburbs, plans be prepared for the proposed fort at Glenelg' (56). The divergence from professional military opinion forced the legislature to seek in 1888 further explanation from its naval and military commandants (57).

Commander John Walcott, the naval commandant, belonged to the *brick and mortar and blue water school*. In his opinion, the protection of Adelaide would be assured by three forts, with iron-clads as coastal defence to prevent an enemy from landing out of the range of the coastal guns. On the other hand, unless the armament at Glanville was modernised, the new fort at Glenelg would lose its effectiveness because overlapping arcs of fire could not be guaranteed.

★ Vide Chapter XI, reference (2).

★★ Author's Italics.

Any other form of protection was completely unnecessary. It is interesting to note that Walcott made no suggestion for modernising and/or extending the naval forces of the Colony, as recommended by Tryon a year earlier. Perhaps he did not wish to influence the debate on the Australian Naval Agreement 1887, which, as we shall see in Chapter VIII, was interpreted in South Australia as a means of reducing the naval expenditure of the Colony.

Ten years after the Jervis report, South Australia ceased to think in terms of *blue water* defence and the naval commandant concentrated on the *bricks and mortar* aspect of Jervis' defence philosophy. Walcott apparently disregarded the improvements in naval armament which would have enabled a hostile fleet to remain out of range of the forts, and to silence not only the forts themselves, but also to destroy the Protector.★

In 1888, it was left to Major-General Downes, on his second tour of duty in South Australia as military commandant, the South Australian Government to knock the props from under the policy of fixed defences, which the former did on military considerations and the latter, on the basis of parish pump politics. The only system of fixed defences considered by Downes as at all effective would have had to extend south to Marino, would have had to be permanently manned and would have also required a mobile land force to fight an enemy who might have come ashore at night, or under cover of superior naval guns.

Furthermore, the forts would have had to have sufficient armament to cover the coastal roads leading to the City. By virtue of their geographical position, Sydney and Melbourne could be made secure by fortifying the heads and the channels. The fortifications which existed in the Adelaide area could not guarantee this protection.

South Australia had two alternatives: either the local navy had to be increased to include a number of modern ships on constant stand-by, or a sufficiently large, well armed and well trained citizen force had to be made available in the Adelaide area, supplemented by mobile field artillery and equipped with ordnance of the latest design. Downes reminded the parliamentarians that Admiral Aslanbegoff had been able, in 1882, to appear off Glenelg undetected. 'Had this been war, men not forts would then have been required.' (58).

The end of the blue water cum brick and mortar school was also the end of public participation in deciding the strategic concepts of defence in South Australia. The era of expertise had begun, ushering in the federal concept of defence. In June, 1889, the premier indicated to his parliament that a high-ranking Imperial, Major-General Edward, was shortly expected to examine South Australia's defences (59).

Major-General J. Bevan Edwards, C.B. General Officer Commanding in China and the Straits Settlements, arrived in South Australia on 13th August, 1889. He was accorded a guard of honour, stayed at Government House as the guest of the Governor, the Earl of

★ For discussion of South Australia's naval forces (H.M.C.S. Protector) see Chapter VI

Kintore, and made the usual social rounds, culminating in a mayoral ball.

He was very careful in his comments to the press, but stressed the main theme of his report: colonial defence forces and defence schemes were of little use, unless the colonies were militarily federated, and unless their legislation provided for one colony coming to the assistance of another, which only Queensland and South Australia could do at the time. He visited the forts and other installations and watched rifle practices. He inspected the South Australian police force, congratulating the Commissioner, J. Peterswald, on 'the remarkably fine body of men' paraded before him (60).

The inspection report was published in October, 1889 (61). Edwards discounted the necessity for a fort at Glenelg, recommended that the mobile force should include two batteries of field artillery and a company of engineers, and that the general military organisation should follow the lines adopted by Victoria and New South Wales whose forces he considered superior to South Australia's. He also suggested that uniforms in South Australia should be of a more uniform colour to discourage

parochial attitudes, and he likewise recommended that the rifle clubs should be supported by the government.

Taken aback, parliament acted on only two of the recommendations, those concerned with the supply of uniforms and the organisation of the rifle clubs (62). The press was more perceptive. It agreed with Edwards that too much money had been wasted in the past on schemes which, by virtue of their colonial rather than federal orientation, were at best fragmentary.

The *Observer* pointed out that, if a fort at Glenelg was considered unnecessary the other two forts not equally useless? Edwards disappointed many by making hardly any reference to naval defence. He was accused of prejudice against the efficacy of the second and third lines of defence, the coastal naval force and the fortifications: "He is bound to trust in soldiers rather than the naval and coast defences, and preparations for battles rather than safeguard against attack" (63).

The *Observer* apparently forgot that earlier proposals for defence were made by soldiers of the same corps to which Edwards belonged, but that the naval and fixed defences which Jervois and

KOREAN WAR COMMEMORATION

On 25 June, the 30th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War, the National President of the RSL, Sir William Keys, as President of the Korea and South East Asia Forces Association of Australia, and the Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea, Mr Song Tuck Park, laid a wreath at the War Memorial. This was followed by the opening of an exhibition, **Australia in the Korean War — 1950-53**, by Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Daly, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Memorial. In 1952 Sir Thomas commanded the 28th British Commonwealth Infantry Brigade in Korea. Many Korean War veterans attended.

The exhibition tells the separate stories of the three Australian Services in Korea, as well as outlining the war in general, using excerpts from the Australian official history of the Korean War by Dr. Robert O'Neill, which will be published soon under the auspices of the War Memorial. The actual map of the Battle of Kapyong (23-24 April 1951), one of the key engagements of the war, is featured. The exhibition is in front of the diorama of the battle, depicting the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, helping to stem the Chinese offensive.

Also displayed are weapons and equipment used by Australian and enemy forces (including the fully-dressed figure of a North Korean soldier), medals, a UN flag and models of ships and planes including a Tribal Class destroyer, a Mustang, a Meteor VIII and a MiG 15.

Scratchley advocated in 1870 had, a decade later, become both more expensive and less effective due to considerable advances in naval ordnance design.

The Edwards report brought about the first inter-colonial conference of military commandants, in November and December, 1889. Indirectly, it paved the way for the *Local Defence Council*, set up in 1895, for which the original idea had come from the *Colonial Defence Committee* in 1886 (64) and which had also been recommended by the *Castine Committee* in 1887 (65). The Council comprised the chief-secretary, the naval and military commandants, the commissioner of police, the engineer-in-chief and the surveyor-general. It held only two meetings during its lifetime, and delegated its functions to a smaller body, the *Local Defence Committee*, which, in turn, was responsible, in 1894, for the formulation of *Marine Board Regulations in Time of War* and for the

submission to the government of a *Defence Scheme of South Australia* (66).

The scheme brought local defence thinking up to date clearly defining the respective responsibilities of naval and military authorities. The naval Commandant was to be responsible for the signal and lookout stations and for the outer anchorage. The naval officer commanding the inner anchorage and the Port River was to be answerable to the naval command in matters affecting rations, discipline and quarters, but operationally he would be under the control of the fortress district commander.

The Colony was divided into five districts, the first of which, the *Harbour Fortress District*, consisted of Fort Largs, Fort Glanville, and the inner and outer anchorages, commanded by the officer-in-charge of artillery forces. The senior infantry officer was responsible for the second district, the *Adelaide Littoral District*, which consisted of the Grange,

Specialist Research

*Australian and British Medal, Military,
Naval and Biographical Research Service
Member, Military Historical Society
of Australia.*

- ★ Reasonable fees
- ★ Prompt service
- ★ No fee for no result
- ★ Officers a speciality.

Allan Box, 20 Hillview Ave, Mt. Waverley, Victoria 3149.

Middle and Glenelg sections, with headquarters at Keswick camp.

The *Port Pirie* and *Walleroo Districts* had their headquarters in these towns. The last district was called the *Movable Column*.

It was based in the South Parklands camp and constituted the mobile reserve and the South Australian component of an Australian Federal brigade.

The scheme set the pattern which the defence organisation in South Australia was to follow, essentially without alteration, for the next forty years. It was based on the technical fact that populated South Australian shore areas were now within the range of modern naval artillery

fire from deep water. It implied that coastal defence was a military rather than a naval problem and that, although fixed defences might be outranged, they were still necessary to prevent transports from landing hostile raiding parties. It also implied that a mobile force was required, to oppose landings taking place out of range of the fixed defences, and to contribute to federal defence in case of large scale attacks elsewhere.

In the actual implementation of its defence schemes, South Australia depended, in no small measure, on material assistance freely given by Great Britain, and was strongly influenced by changes and developments in British military doctrine.

REFERENCES

21. B. T. Finnis, op cit.: GD/p/15/1854
22. PP 35/1858
23. H.A. 18.11.1858; PP 89/1858
24. H.A. 21.1.1859
25. PP 211/1864
26. PP 29/1865
27. O.1.4.1865
28. PP 32/1865; O 13.5.1865
29. O. 29.7.1865
30. PP 19/1866
31. GD /0/36, 46, 99/1867
32. O. 26.5.1866
33. U.S. Mag. 5 (NS) January, 1892, p 438
34. PP 43/1866
35. O. 1.9.1866
36. PP 95/1876
37. Naval Review 53 (1965) pp 32-42
38. O. 2.2.1876
39. Ibid
40. Ibid
41. O. 23.7.1876
42. CSC/1/1072/1878
43. GD/0/sep. 1881; CO 13/130
44. PP 240/1877; H.A. 12.12.1877
45. PP 169a/1877
46. PP 95/1876
47. 0.29.12.1877
48. C.K. Cooke, Australian Defence and New Guinea... the Papers of Sir Peter Scratchley, London, 1887, p48.
49. Ibid., pp 40-51
50. H.A. 7.11.; 8.11.1876
51. H.A. 1.8.1877
52. O. 6.5. 1886
53. CO 13/144 — Admiralty to Colonial Office 2319.1887
54. CO 13/144 — Adj. Gen. to Colonial Office 16.5.1887
55. H.A. 27.10.1887
56. PP 112/1887
57. PP 88/1888
58. Ibid
59. H.A. 13.6.1889
60. O. 17.8.1889
61. J.B. Edwards, op. cit., p 3 ff; O. 19.10.1889
62. H.A. 21.11.1889
63. O. 19.10.1889
64. CSC/1/2240/1886 - C.D.C. circ. 1.11.1886
65. PP 112/1887
66. CSC/1/53/1895

HMAS AUSTRALIA GUN BARREL

An 8" gun barrel from HMAS *Australia* was donated by the Ordnance Factory, Bendigo, and arrived on 6 May. It will be displayed on a special support in the outside display area. It is an important relic of warships that were built between the two World Wars, as well as a link with the *Australia*, which had one of the most notable fighting records of any Australian warship, ranging from the 1930's to the mid-fifties.

Submarine Hulks in Port Phillip Bay, Victoria

by *DAVID LEGG*

Several hulks of RAN "J" class submarines still survive in Port Phillip Bay after over 50 years of service as breakwaters. The "J" class submarines were the only triple screwed British submarines built and when completed for the RN in 1916-17 were the fastest submarines afloat. Shortly after World War 1 the British Government offered as a gift to the Australian Government the six surviving "J" class submarines (J1-5, 7) from the RN.

The submarines left Portsmouth in April 1919 and arrived in Sydney in June and July where they were refitted at Garden Island Dockyard. In 1920 the vessels moved to Geelong in Victoria where a submarine base was established.

During their service with the RAN the submarines spent little time at sea, taking part in local exercises from time to time and visiting Tasmania in 1921. In 1922 the Government decided to pay the submarines off owing to the great expense involved in maintaining the flotilla and the worsening economic conditions of the period. J1, J2, J3, J4 and J5 were sold in 1924 and after being stripped of fittings and equipment the hulks were scuttled in Port Phillip Bay and off Barwon Heads. J7 lasted longer, being used as an auxiliary power plant at Flinders Naval Depot until 1929, when she also too was scrapped.

The hulks of two of these submarines, J3 and J7, can still be seen today in Port Phillip Bay, Victoria. The J3 after being dismantled in 1926, was used as a breakwater at Swan Island.

Unfortunately the J3 can only be seen from the sea as it lies just off Department of Defence land at Swan Island which is inaccessible to the public. The other vessel, J7, was sunk as a breakwater at Hampton and can easily be visited as it now lies exposed under the boat marina at Sandringham Yacht Club. Both hulks are heavily rusted and only J3 still retains remnants of her conning tower.

Brief specifications of the RAN "J" class submarines are as follows: J1-5 (and J6 which was sunk in error in the North Sea while in RN service in 1918) 1210 tons surface, 1820 tons submerged; J7 1760 tons submerged; length 275 ft; beam 22 ft; draught 14 ft; machinery diesel engines, triple screws; speed 19 knots, submerged 9½ knots; complement 44; range 4000 miles at 12 knots; armament six 18" torpedo tubes and one 4" gun. During RAN service J7 differed in appearance from the other vessels in that her conning tower was placed further aft and the 4" gun mounted in a lower position.

References: Australias Ships of War by J. Bastok, 1975, Angus and Robertson, Sydney.

Explanation of plate:

A. Submarine J3 at Swan Island, 1980.

B. H.M.A. Submarine J3 sailing from Portsmouth, April 1919.

C. Submarine J7 at Sandringham Yacht Club, 1980.

D. H.M.A. Submarine J7, 1918.

Badge Identification — Part 3

by G. R. VAZENRY

Light Horse, Cavalry and Armoured Unit Numerical Titles

Prior to Federation each Colony had mounted units in their military forces. No attempt has been made to include these units in this article as the number of units involved would require another article. This may make it appear that the units shown herein suddenly appeared, which is unfortunate, but the badge collector who is fortunate enough to obtain pre-Federation badges may, from this series of articles, have sufficient information for identification.

On the formation of the Commonwealth Military Forces the mounted units were formed into numbered regiments titled "Australian Light Horse" (ALH). In 1912 the "Australian" was deleted, the regiments being known simply as "Light Horse" (LH) until World War II.

In the following pages are shown the various numerical titles used by the mounted units and units of the RAAC from 1903 to 1979, with notes.

There has recently been some controversy over the placing of the apostrophe in the territorial title of the 4/19 PWLH. In this title, it is, and always has been, considered that the unit's title was the possession of the Prince of Wales. The correct placing of the apostrophe is after the "s" in Wales, followed by a second "s", i.e. "Wales's". The authorities for this are:

- a. The Army List (British), any edition, and
- b. Modern English Grammar by J. C. Nesfield, M.A., verified by the Army Historian (Australian.)

A further note on the 4/19 PWLH is that their badge has been worn in South Vietnam by 1 APC Tp which had been formed by A Sqn 4/19 PWLH (ARA). The unit was referred to by the American units to which they were attached as the "Prince of Wales Light Horse," (the placing of the apostrophe is uncertain).

Australian Light Horse, Royal Australian Armoured Corps.

In 1916 an armoured car section of two officers and twelve other ranks was formed in Victoria (MO 213 of 16th May 1916), while an armoured car section served in the Middle East during that war.

About 1930, the Australian Tank Corps was formed with sections in NSW and Victoria, these sections being attached to the AASC (P) (S&T).

During World War 2 many Light Horse units were converted to armoured or motor regiments. On 8 May 1942 all the existing armoured and light horse units were transferred to the newly formed Australian Armoured Corps (ALHQ A08 of 1942), which in 1948 was granted the prefix title "Royal."

Units of the Light Horse and Australian Armoured Corps that existed during and shortly after, World War 2 are shown on the following pages under the following headings:

Tank Units

Light Horse Units — usually pre-war units.

Cavalry Units — usually mechanised

Motor Regiments — motorized/mechanized infantry

Reconnaissance units — usually mechanized some horsed.

Machine Gun Units — some horsed, mostly mechanized. (Note that Light Horse

Machine Gun units were regiments. Machine Gun Battalions were infantry.)

Armoured Car units.

Those units shown in the following pages with an asterisk (★) after their title were Australian Armoured Corps. The remainder were Light Horse.

Cavalry Commando units were Light Horse, but as they originated from Independent Companies (Infantry), they are listed under the heading of Infantry. Headquarters of Cavalry Commando Regiments had always been Cavalry and are therefore listed under the heading of Light Horse.

The main difference between Cavalry and Light Horse is shown below, although the two terms are usually used randomly.

CAVALRY — these were the mounted units allotted to Infantry divisions to carry out a reconnaissance role.

LIGHT HORSE — usually mounted infantry.

In addition, there were Lancers, Hussars, Dragoons, etc. These have not been used in the Australian Army since Federation. They were the mounted assault units, their title indicating their role.

Privates in Light Horse and armoured units are designated Troopers.

Changes in Light Horse unit designations

1903/12	Became in 1912	1912	Raised from 1903/12 unit
1 ALH	7 & 28 LH	1 LH	13 & 15 ALH
2 ALH	9 & 28 LH	2 LH	13 ALH
3 ALH	11 LH	3 LH	14 ALH
4 ALH	6 LH	4 LH	5 ALH
5 ALH	4 LH	5 LH	6 ALH
6 ALH	5 LH	6 LH	4 ALH
7 ALH	15 LH	7 LH	1 ALH
8 ALH	16 LH	8 LH	new unit
9 ALH	19 & 20 LH	9 LH	2 & 28 ALH
10 ALH	13 & 29 LH	10 LH	new unit
11 ALH	20 & 29 LH	11 LH	3 ALH
12 ALH	26 LH	12 LH	new unit
13 ALH	1 & 2 LH	13 LH	10 ALH
14 ALH	3 LH	14 LH	new unit
15 ALH	1 & 27 LH	15 LH	7 ALH
16 ALH	22 & 23 LH	16 LH	8 ALH
17 ALH	22, 23 & 24 LH	17 LH	19 ALH

18 ALH 25 LH
 19 ALH 17 LH
 28 ALH 9 LH

NOTE — 28 ALH was a
 new unit.

18 LH new unit
 19 LH 9 ALH
 20 LH 9 & 11 ALH
 21 LH new unit
 22 LH 16 & 17 ALH
 23 LH 16 & 17 ALH
 24 LH 17 ALH
 25 LH 18 ALH
 26 LH 12 ALH
 27 LH 15 ALH
 28 LH 1 ALH
 29 LH 10 & 11 ALH

1912/18	Became in 1918
1 LH	5 LH
2 LH	2 LH
3 LH	11 LH
4 LH	15 LH
5 LH	12 LH
6 LH	16 LH
7 LH	1 LH
8 LH	22 LH (NR)
9 LH	6 LH
10 LH	24 LH (NR)
11 LH	7 LH
12 LH	25 LH (NR)
13 LH	13 LH
14 LH	27 LH
15 LH	20 LH
16 LH	8 LH
17 LH	17 LH
18 LH	18 LH
19 LH	19 LH
20 LH	4 LH
21 LH	21 LH
22 LH	3 LH
23 LH	23 LH
24 LH	9 LH
25 LH	10 LH
26 LH	26 LH
27 LH	14 LH

1918	Raised from 1912/18 unit
1 LH	7 LH
2 LH	2 LH
3 LH	22 LH
4 LH	20 LH
5 LH	1 LH
6 LH	9 LH
7 LH	11 LH
8 LH	16 LH
9 LH	24 LH
10 LH	25 LH
11 LH	3 LH
12 LH	5 LH
13 LH	13 LH
14 LH	27 LH
15 LH	4 LH
16 LH	6 LH
17 LH	17 LH
18 LH	18 LH
19 LH	19 LH
20 LH	15 LH
21 LH	21 LH
22 LH	8 LH
23 LH	23 LH
24 LH	10 LH
25 LH	12 LH
26 LH	26 LH
27 LH	14 LH

28 LH	28 LH	28 LH	27 LH
29 LH	29 LH	29 LH	29 LH
	30 LH (new unit)	30 LH	new unit

NR — unit not raised.

Changes in armoured/light horse unit designations

1918/21	Became in 1921	1921	Raised from 1918/21 unit
1 LH	1 & 6 LH	1 LH	1 & % 6 LH
2 LH	2 & 14 LH	2 LH	2 LH, 5/9 & 2/52 Inf
3 LH	3 & 18 LH	3 LH	3 & 30 LH
4 LH	4 LH	4 LH	4 LH
5 LH	5 LH	5 LH	5 LH
6 LH	1, 6, 7 & 21 LH	6 LH	6 LH
7 LH	7 LH	7 LH	6 & 7 LH
8 LH	8 LH	8 LH	8 LH
9 LH	9 LH	9 LH	9 LH
10 LH	10 LH	10 LH	10 LH
11 LH	11 LH	11 LH	11 LH
12 LH	12 LH	12 LH	12 LH
13 LH	13 LH	13 LH	13 LH & % 2/3 Pnr
14 LH	14 LH	14 LH	2 LH
15 LH	15 LH	15 LH	15 LH
16 LH	16 LH	16 LH	16 LH
17 LH	17 LH	17 LH	17 LH
18 LH	18 LH	18 LH	3, 23 & 30 LH
19 LH	19 LH	19 LH	19 & 29 LH & 6 Fd Amb
20 LH	20 LH	20 LH	20 LH
21 LH	21 LH	21 LH	6 & 28 LH
21 LH	21 LH	22 LH	26 LH
22 LH	never raised	23 LH	23 LH
23 LH	18 & 23 LH	24 LH	new unit 1936
24 LH	never raised	25 LH	new unit after 1936
25 LH	never raised	26 LH	new unit after 1936
26 LH	22 LH		
27 LH	31 Inf		
28 LH	21 LH		
29 LH	19 LH & Inf units		
30 LH	3 & 18 LH		

In addition to the above changes, during World War 2, all light horse units went through various further changes in designation (see later), most becoming motor

regiments, some armoured regiments, and one, 20 LH, a pioneer regiment. Prior to this War, two new units were formed —

1. 19 LH linked with 17 LH as 17/19 LH in 1929, becoming 19 LH (Armoured Car) Regt in 1933. In 1934 this unit became 1 Armd Car Regt (Wimmera Regt), no relation to 1 Armd Car Sqn (BCOF).
2. 2 Armd Car Regt raised 1939.

Further units raised during World War 2 were —

1. 1 Aust Indep LH Sqn (Dec 42 to Feb 44);
2. New Guinea Indep LH Tp (later became a pack transport company).

WORLD WAR II

The majority of units in this War were classed as Light Horse but Serials 3 to 25 inclusive, 104 and 130 were units of the Australian Armoured Corps. For ease of reference, unit title have been serially numbered. Most of the information has been verified from official records; in other cases certain authoritative records were missing and supplementary records had to be used. However, all information is believed to be accurate.

The information given for this war is, of course, of no use in the identification of badges as only the General Service Badge was worn. However, it is necessary to include it for continuity of unit lineage.

Tank Corps

	State	Formed	Remarks
1 2/1 Indep Lt Tk Sqn	NSW	Jan 42	Became Serial 100 in Apr 42.
2 2/2 Indep Lt Tk Sqn	Vic/SA WA/TAS	Dec 41	Became Serial 101 in Mar 42 from pers of Serial 17
3 1 Army Tk Bn	* NSW	June 42	Became Serial 6 in Aug 43. From Serial 75.
4 2 Army Tk Bn	* NSW/ SA	May 42	Raised from Serial 11, became Serial 7 in Aug 43.
5 3 Army Tk Bn	* NSW	Jun 42	Became Serial 8 in Aug 43. From Serial 23.
6 1 Tk Bn	*	Aug 43	Raised from Serial 3, became Serial 10. Disb Jun 44.
7 2 Tk Bn	* NSW	Aug 43	Raised from Serial 4. Disb Apr 44.
8 3 Tk Bn	* NSW	Aug 43	Raised from Serial 5, Disb Feb 44.
9 1 Armd Regt (ARA)	* -	Jul 49	Raised from Serial 130
10 1 Armd Regt	* NSW	Jun 44	Raised from Serial 6. Disb in 46. See Serial 25.

11 2 Armd Regt	* NSW/ SA	Oct 41	Raised from Serial 132. Became Serial 4, Apr 42.
12 2/4 Armd Regt	*	Oct 42	Pers from Serials 100 and 101. Disb Apr 46.
13 2/5 Armd Regt	* QLD	Aug 41	Disb Mar 46.
14 2/6 Armd Regt	* NSW	Aug 41	Disb Mar 46.
15 2/7 Armd Regt	* NSW	Oct 41	Disb Jun 44.
16 2/8 Armd Regt	* VIC	Jul 41	Disb Jun 44
17 2/9 Armd Regt	* SA	Aug 41	Disb Mar 46.
18 2/10 Armd Regt	* WA	Dec 41	Disb Oct 44.
19 12 Armd Regt	* SA	Jun 42	Raised from pers of Serials 88 & 104. Disb Oct 43.
20 13 Armd Regt	* VIC	Jun 42	Raised from Serial 83. Disb Apr 44.
21 14 Armd Regt	* VIC	Jul 42	Raised from Serial 95. Disb Jul 43.
22 1 Amph Armd Sqn	* NSW	Nov 44	From a det of Serial 10 Nov 44. Disb Dec 45.
23 3 Armd Regt	* NSW	Sep 41	Became Serial 5
24 4 Armd Regt	* VIC	Mar 41	Became Serial 95 on 12 Mar 42
25 1 Armd Regt	* VIC	Oct 41	From Serial 131. To Serial 94. See Serial 10.

LIGHT HORSE UNITS

26 1 Indep LH Sqn		Dec 42	Disb Feb 44. Raised by Serial 56
27 NG Force Indep LH Tp			In NG for recce & rescue work. Became 7 Pack Tpt Coy AASC
28 2 LH (Moreton LH) (QMI)	Qld	Aug 40	From 2/4 LH. To Serial 102A Dec 41
29 3 LH (SAMR)	SA		Pre war. To Serial 80 Dec 41
30 4 (Corangamite) LH	Vic		Pre war. To Serial 76 Mar 42.
31 5 LH Regt (Wide Bay) and Burnett LH(QMI)	Qld		Pre war. To Serial 77 Dec 41
32 6 LH (NSWMR)	NSW		Pre war. To Serial 78 Dec 41
33 7 LH (AH)	NSW		Pre war. To Serial 79 Mar 42
34 8 LH (Indi LH)	Vic		Pre war. To Serial 105, Dec 41

35 9 LH (Flinders LH)	SA		Of pre war 9/23 LH. To Serial 80 Dec 41.
36 10 LH (WAMI)	WA		Pre war. To Serial 106, Dec 41. See Serial 106.
37 11 LH Regt	Qld		Pre war. To Serial 81, Dec 41.
38 12 (NELH) Regt	NSW		Pre war. To Serial 82, Mar 42
39 13 LH Regt	Vic	Jul 41	Of pre war 13/19 LH. To Serial 83 Mar 42.
40 14 (W Moreton) (LH) (QMI)	Qld		Of pre war 2/14 LH. To Serial 112 Aug 40.
41 15 LH Regt (NRL)	NSW		Pre war. To Serial 85, Dec 41.
42 19 LH Regt	Vic		Of pre war 13/19 LH. To Serial 120 Aug 40
43 20 LH (VMR)	Vic		Pre war. To Serial 89, Dec 41.
44 21 LH Regt (Riverina Horse)	NSW		Pre war. To Serial 107, Dec 41.
45 22 LH (TMI)	Tas		Pre war. To Serial 90, Dec 41.
46 23 LH	SA		Of pre war 9/23 LH. To Serial 108, Dec 41.
47 24 LH (Gwydir LH)	NSW		Pre war. To Serial 91, Mar 42.
48 26 LH (MG) Regt (49 to 54 Reserved)	Vic		Pre war. To Serial 124, Dec 41.
55 2 Div Cav Regt	Qld	Jul 42	From Serial 102, Feb 42. To Serial 56, Nov 42.
56 2 Cav Regt.	Qld	Nov 42	From Serial 55 Jan 43. Disb Jul 43.
57 8 Div Cav Regt (Indi LH)	Vic	Jul 42	From Serial 105. To Serial 58, Oct 42.
58 8 Cav Regt	Vic	Oct 42	From Serial 57. Disb May 44
59 21 Div Cav Regt (Riverina Horse)	NSW	Jul 42	From Serial 107. To Serial 60, Jun 43.
60 21 Cav Regt	NSW	Jun 43	From Serial 59.
61 25 Div Cav Regt		Jul 42	From Serial 109. Disb Oct 43.
62 25 Cav Regt		42	From Serial 61. Disb Sep 42
63 6 Div Recce Regt	All	Oct 39	Became
6 Div Cav Regt		Jun 40	Became
2/6 Cav Cdo Regt		Apr 44	See Infantry (Commando)

64 7 Div Cav Regt	All	May 40	Became
2/7 Cav Cdo Regt		Jul 43	See Infantry (Commando)
65 8 Div Cav Regt	All	Jul 40	Redesig Serial 66 and sent to ME. (Note that 8 Div did not have a Cav unit, although an Armd car sect was formed in Malaya on an 'ad hoc' basis)
66 9 Div Cav Regt	All	Mar 41	From Serial 65. Became
2/9 Cav Cdo Regt		Apr 44	See Infantry (Commando)
(67 to 74 Reserved)			

MOTOR REGTS

75 1 Motor Regt (RNSWL) NSW		Mar 42	From Serial 111. To Serial 3, May 42. (See also Serial 94)
76 4 Motor Regt (Corang- amite LH)	Vic	Mar 42	From Serial 30. Disb Jun 40
77 5 Motor Regt (Wide Bay Qld & Burnett LH) (QMI)		Dec 41	From Serial 31. Disb Jul 43.
78 6 Motor Regt (NSWMR) NSW		Dec 41	From Serial 32. To Serial 133, Jan 43.
79 7 Motor Regt (AH)	NSW	Mar 42	From Serial 33. Disb Nov 42.
80 9 Motor Regt (Flinders LH)	SA	Dec 41	From Serial 29. Disb Jun 43.
81 11 Motor Regt (Darling Downs LH) (QMI)	Qld	Dec 41	From Serial 37. Disb Jul 43, Pers to 2/10 Bn
82 12 Motor Regt (NELH)	NSW	Mar 42	From Serial 38. To Serial 136, Sep 42.
83 13 Motor Regt (Gippsland LH)	Vic	Mar 42	From Serial 39. To Serial 20, Jun 42.
84 14 Motor Regt	Qld	Mar 42	From Serial 113. Absorbed by AASC 3 Army Tk Bde, May 42
85 15 Motor Regt (NRL)	NSW	Dec 41	From Serial 41. Disb Oct 44
86 16 Motor Regt (HRL)	NSW	Mar 42	From Serial 115. Disb Jul 43.
87 17 Motor Regt (POWLH)	Vic	Mar 42	From Serial 117. Disb Feb 43.
88 18 Motor Regt (Adelaide Lancers)	SA	Mar 42	From Serial 119. To Serial 19 May 42.
89 20 Motor Regt (VMR)	Vic	Dec 41	From Serial 43. Became 20 Pnr Bn (Infantry) Feb 45.
90 22 Motor Regt (TMI)	Tas	Dec 41	From Serial 45. Disb. Apr 43.

91 24 Motor Regt (Gwydir Regt)	NSW	Mar 42	From Serial 47. Absorbed by AASC 1 Motor Div May 42.
92 25 Motor Regt	WA	Mar 42	From Serial 123. To Serial 109, May 42.
93 26 Motor Regt	Vic	Mar 42	From Serial 124. Disb. Aug 44
94 101 Motor Regt (Wimmera Regt)	Vic	Mar 42	From Serial 25, Feb 42. Disb Aug 44. Known as 1 (Armd) Motor Regt in Feb 42.
95 104 Motor Regt	Vic	Mar 42	Became Serial 21, May 42, from Serial 24 on 12 Mar 42.

RECCE UNITS

99 2/1 Armd Bde Recce Sqn		Oct 43	From 1 Armd Bde pers. Disb Sep 45.
100 2/1 Armd Bde Recce SqnNSW		Apr 42	From Serial 1. Disbanded Mar 46. Pers to Serial 12.
101 2/2 Armd Bde Recce SqnVic/SA WA/Tas		Mar 42	From Serial 2. Disb. Jan 43. Pers to Serial 12.
102 2 Recce Bn (Moreton LH Qld Qld QMI)		May 42	From Serial 102 A. To Serial 55, Jul 42.
102A N. Comd Recce Regt		Dec 41	From Serial 28, To Serial 102.
103 8 Recce Coy (SAMR)	SA	Dec 41	From Serial 29. To Serial 104, May 42.
104 3 Recce Sqn	* SA	May 42	From Serial 103. Disb Feb 43
105 8 Recce Bn	Vic	Dec 41	From Serial 34. To Serial 57, Jul 42. (Also known as 3 Div Recce Bn)
106 10 Recce Bn (WAMI) (W Comd Recce Bn)	WA	Dec 41	From Serial 36. Again became Serial 36 in May 42, disb Apr 44.
107 21 Recce Bn	NSW	Dec 41	From Serial 44. To Serial 59, Jul 42.
108 23 Recce Coy	SA	Dec 41	From Serial 46. Disb. May 42.
109 25 Recce Bn	WA	May 42	From Serial 92. To Serial 61, Jul 42.

MACHINE GUN UNITS

110 1 LH (MG) Regt (RNSWL)	NSW		Pre war. To Serial 111, Mar 42
111 1 MG Regt (RNSWL)	NSW	Mar 42	From Serial 110. To Serial 75, Mar 42.

112 14 LH (MG) Regt	Qld	Aug 40	From Serial 40. To Serial 113, Mar 42.
113 14 MG Regt	Qld	Dec 41	From Serial 112. To Serial 84, Mar 42.
114 16 LH (MG) Regt (HRL)NSW			Pre war. To Serial 115, Dec 41.
115 16 MG Regt (HRL)	NSW	Dec 41	From Serial 114. To Serial 86, Mar 42.
116 17 LH (MG) Regt (POWLH)	Vic		Pre war. To Serial 117, Dec 41.
117 17 MG Regt (POWLH)	Vic	Dec 41	From Serial 116. To Serial 87, Mar 42.
118 18 LH (MG) Regt (Adelaide Lancers)	SA		Pre war. To Serial 119, Dec 41.
119 18 (MG) Regt (Adelaide Lancers)	SA	Dec 41	From Serial 118. To Serial 88, Mar 42.
120 19 LH (MG) Regt (Yarrowee LH)	Vic		Pre war. To Serial 121, Dec 41.
121 19 MG Regt (Yarrowee LH)	Vic	Dec 41	From Serial 120. Became 19 Mg Regt (Infantry), Aug 42.
122 25 LH (MG) Regt	WA		Pre war. To Serial 123, Dec 41.
123 25 MG Regt	WA	Dec 41	From Serial 122. To Serial 92 Mar 42.
124 26 LH (MG) Regt	Vic	Dec 41	From Serial 48. To Serial 93, Mar 42.

ARMoured CAR UNITS

130 1 Armd Car Sqn (ARA) *		Jan 46	Raised from volunteers of the old 4 Armd Bde. Became the present 1 Armd Regt, Serial 9, Jul 49.
131 1 Armd Car Regt (Wimmera)	Vic		Pre war. To Serial 25.
132 2 Armd Car Regt	NSW		Pre war, became Serial 11
133 6 Armd Car Regt	NSW	Jan 43	From Serial 78. Disb Feb 43.
134 2/11 Armd Car Regt	NSW	Jul 41	Disb. Feb 45.
135 2/12 Armd Car Regt	NSW	Oct 41	Disb. May 44.
136 12 Armd Car Regt	NSW	Sep 42	From Serial 82. Disb. Nov 43.

UNITS RERAISED AFTER WORLD WAR II

1. 1 RNSWL
2. 15 NRL Later linked as 1/15 RNSWL
3. 2/14 QMI, now A Sqn 2/14 QMI
4. 3/9 SAMR, now A Sqn 3/9 SAMR
5. 4/19 PWLH
6. 8/13 VMR, now A Sqn 8/13 VMR
7. 12/16 HRL
8. 6 NSWMR — became RA Inf in 1956
9. 7/21 AH — disbanded 1957
10. 10 WAMI — became 10 LH, now A Sqn 10 LH
11. 1 Armd Regt — see Serials 130 and 9 of previous section
12. 1 Forward Delivery Tp (Special) — raised 1960, disbanded 1965. Detachment reraised Nov 67, disbanded in South Vietnam 21 Jul 71.
13. 2 Cav Regt
14. 3 Cav Regt, now B Sqn 3 Cav Regt. Originally formed from Serial 17.
15. 4 Cav Regt
16. 1 APC Tp — became Serial 17, 1 Apr 66
17. 1 APC Sqn (-) became A Sqn of Serial 14, 16 Jan 67

NOTE: In 1960, A Sqns of 2/14 QMI and 4/19 PWLH became ARA.

In 1965 they became, respectively, B and A Sqns of 1 Cav Regt.

Serial 16 was raised in 1965 at Puckapunyal from personnel of A Sqn 4/19 PWLH and Serial 12.

ENGLAND-AUSTRALIA FLIGHT RECALLED

A 1918 DH9 fighter-bomber belonging to the War Memorial was exhibited in Canberra's central shopping mall on 1 and 2 August, the latter being the 60th anniversary of its landing at Darwin after a flight from England which began on 8 January, seven months earlier. The aircraft was flown and navigated by Lieutenant Ray Parer, accompanied by Lieutenant John McIntosh, both of the Australian Flying Corps. The DH9 is being restored by members of the Australian Society for Aero-Historical Preservation.

WAR PICTURE "COMES TO LIFE"

The subject of one of the most famous Australian pictures of the Pacific War, of a wounded Digger being helped across a stream by one of his comrades, visited the War Memorial in July. He is Mr William Johnson, of Moe, Victoria. As a 21-year old private he was wounded in the head and arm by a Japanese grenade during the assault on Salamau, New Guinea, and was immortalised by the famous Australian cameraman, Damien Parer. The filmed scene and the still picture from it have been used repeatedly since then in films and publications.

BOOK REVIEWS

AUSTRALIANS AND EGYPT 1914-1919, Suzanne Brugger, Melbourne University Press, 1980. Recommended price \$17.60.

'Australian historical writing on the Great War,' Dr Brugger writes in her introduction, 'has tended to stress the good that may come out of conflict, the self-sacrifice, the courage, and the strength of comradeship between man and man. I have dealt with War as the destroyer of "delicacy, sympathy and rational thinking." It is the other side of the coin.' In pursuing the book's aim of presenting a continuous narrative of relations between Australian troops and Egyptian civilians in the period 1914-1919, thereby opening new perspectives on the more familiar accounts of Australia's participation in the First World War, she admits the book includes much that some people will find objectionable, believing it to be a deliberate attempt to besmirch the memory of brave men. But, the authoress says, she did not set out to debunk but she 'probably ended up de-glamourizing.'

There is no disputing that the reputation of Australians during the war undergoes a substantial downward revision in the course of Dr Brugger's analysis. It may seem rather harsh to characterise the A.I.F. in Egypt as that biblical country's 'latter-day plague' but it is, regrettably, an image that rings true. That Australians behaved appallingly there can be no escaping. Their conduct in a foreign, nominally host, country was marked by displays of 'boorishness, bad manners and brutality,' with native Egyptians frequently made the butt of jokes 'generally crude, and sometimes cruel.' The racist attitudes of Australians, and fearful ignorance as to whose country Egypt actually was which caused some to question why the English allowed the '..... niggers' in the country, is a sorry tale which says much about Australia's national identity at the time.

The real thrust of the book is, however, that Australians played a significant and not particularly creditable part in bringing Egyptian nationalist fervour to boiling point in 1919 and then displayed undue harshness in suppressing the rebellion when it occurred. If love of fair-play and sympathy for the under-dog are held to be typical traits of Australians, these considerations did not extend to the efforts of a subject people striving to achieve their independence from the British, who unashamedly 'squeezed' the country in support of the war effort. Not that Australians were solely the cause of rebellion by any means. The authoress leaves no doubt that the duplicity of British foreign policy towards Egypt contained the seed of trouble: the hooligan behaviour of Australians in Cairo and elsewhere only contributed ill-will and brought home in a particularly repugnant fashion that Egypt, was an occupied country. Not that Australians were uniquely guilty in the street disturbances but they were a large component of the forces 'dumped' on Egypt, and they were conspicuous.

There was considerable irony in the violent unrest which swept Egypt in 1919, for the achievements of the Australian Light Horse in Sinai and Palestine would have been impossible but for the 300,000 Egyptians who served in the Egyptian Labour Corps and the Egyptian Transport Corps. Yet the relationship here again suffered

from a cultural gap and the brutality of Australians and lack of sympathy towards their supporting Egyptian troops actually created recruitment problems for the E.L.C. and E.T.C. The contemptuous attitude towards Egyptians developed at this time caused Australians to treat the 1919 uprising with levity and led to some outrageously provocative behaviour in a very tense situation. One can, moreover, well imagine that the way the Light Horse dealt with the local population during the emergency was, as Brugger shows, influenced by frustration they felt at their repatriation being deferred owing to the unrest.

This is not a long book — only 147 pages of text — but it makes fascinating reading, not least because it makes use of available Arab sources as well as containing views of Australians held by native Egyptians. Though it had its origins as a Ph.D. thesis its academic paraphernalia is not burdensome and the story is lively. If any criticism is to be made of the book it is the fact that, because a thesis is intended to pursue and develop a defined theme, the reader is given a view of events rather like looking down a telescope. Although Dr Brugger insists she is not “gunning” for the Australians who abused the Arabs and suppressed a legitimate nationalist revolution, the reader does sometime gain this impression. This does not really matter, for the evidence is there and the case is convincingly put.

C. D. COULTHARD-CLARK

AUSTRALIAN CHURCHES AT WAR, Michael McKernan. Published by the Catholic Theological Faculty, St. Patrick's College, Manly, N.S.W. and the Australian War Memorial, Studies in the Christian Movement No. 6. Price \$15.00, 207 pages with photographs.

This study of the activities and attitudes of the major churches in Australia during the Great War is a valuable insight into Australian society at that time. Its theme will interest military historians who are prepared to consider the influence of factors other than strategy, tactics, weapons.

While the major part is devoted to the role of the various church leaders and institutions there are numerous accounts of padres and their relations with the men of the AIF. Success and failure are both recorded.

The bitterness engendered by the conscription referenda of 1916 and 1917 is dealt with in an admirably concise manner, the author making it clear that the positions taken on this issue should be seen against the attitudes to the war expressed by the churches since August 1914. McKernan concludes that the clergy in general missed an opportunity during those tragic years to speak to the Australian people on important matters. The quickening of interest in religion evident in 1914 soon evaporated and by November 1918 the message of the churches was largely irrelevant.

My interest in the book diminished somewhat when I found eight unprinted pages in the review copy.

NEVILLE FOLDI

THE TWENTY THOUSAND THIEVES — by Eric Lambert Published by Frederick Muller Ltd, London — 318 pages.

I faintly remember the events of 1941 and 1942 but this book rings true as a record of the thoughts and attitudes of members of the second AIF. Eminent historians have described the series of battles that ranged back and forth across Cyrenaica and Egypt and the defence of Tobruk. Much has been written of the tactics, weapons and equipment employed, the standard of generalship and the nightmares of the quartermasters. But, to convey an accurate picture of the life of an infantry soldier requires the deft touch of a novelist — such as Eric Lambert. I recommend *The Twenty Thousand Thieves* to all with an interest in the personal side of Australian military history.

THE PICTORIAL HISTORY OF AIR WARFARE by Chris Chant. Published by Octopus Books. Distributed by MacMillan. Hard bound. 190 pages. Price \$11.95.

From airships to modern-day fighters, the development of air weaponry and tactics is a fascinating subject. Do not mistake this book for another of those glossy coffee-table books that relies heavily on large colour plates and the minimum of explanations. Chant has included many new photographs, clearly understood diagrams and a wealth of historically accurate information.

For those who prefer the more intimate style of history which revolves around personalities, this remains the right book. Such tales as that of Major W. G. Barker VC who, under attack by up to sixty German aircraft, managed to account for three enemy aircraft despite being severely wounded in a terribly one-sided fracas. A lucky escape from a crash-landing enabled him to receive the Victoria Cross from King George V for his valiant efforts.

The chapters on the Korean and Vietnam wars highlight the positive contribution to the overall war effort by the allied air elements and makes particularly interesting reading.

Some readers may take offence as did Lt. Gen. I. C. Eaker (Commander 8th USAAF 1944) who wrote the foreword, when the author interprets a tactical error and its results as a defeat. I found the detached, unbiased approach refreshing. In any historical work such as this such an honest approach is essential

Chris Chant and Octopus Books provide value for money in this book. "Aerial Warfare" is recommended reading for those who need an authoritative reference book on the subject of air combat and its tactics. As general reading, it is particularly absorbing.

BRIAN ROGERS.

INTERESTING PUBLICATIONS

One of the Australian War Memorial Library's most under-estimated resources is its collection of magazines, newsletters, journals and newspapers published by service units and returned services organisations. The collection includes complete runs of many titles which appeared only briefly, for instance the duration of a single troopship voyage. There are also good holdings of overseas titles. During the past months, the Library has added to the collection issues of *The Heavie* and *The Third Battallon Magazine*, a set of the British magazine *The War Illustrated* published during the Second World War and, from the Australian Embassy in Paris, a complete run of the Paris-based *Le Miroir*.

CITY UNDER FIRE : THE BRISTOL RIOTS AND AFTERMATH by Geoffrey Amey, Lutterworth, London, 1979, 223pp.

The social scene in England after the Napoleonic Wars was characterised not by anticipated prosperity but by widespread distress, followed by a long severe economic depression. One panacea proposed by the Radicals was parliamentary reform. Eruptions of violence at Spa Fields in 1816 and overaction by venous magistrates at St. Peter's Field three years later form part of the background leading up to the introduction and defeat of the First and Second Reform Bills in 1831. Within three weeks Sir Charles Wetherall, ultra-Tory, a staunch opponent of Reform, late Attorney-General in Wellington's Ministry, one of the two members returned by an electorate of forty-eight voters, Recorder of Bristol, rode into Bristol for the assizes.

Such is the background to the Bristol Riots, graphically described in detail as events unfolded over the next few days. Wetherall was forced to flee the city leaving its fortunes to the complete lack of understanding between the Major of forty-three days standing, Charles Pinney, and the local military commander Colonel Brereton.

Brereton had comparatively few troops to maintain law and order — a squadron of 14th Light Dragoons and a troop of 3rd Dragoon Guards, but appears to have been completely overawed by the mob seemingly more interested in drunken arson and pillage than Reform. Although on active service at the Cape during Peterloo he must surely have had these events in mind. Normally amiable and mild-mannered he believed the presence of troops provocative and withdrew them from the focus of action at the critical time allowing the rioters a free hand. The result was frightening — many killed, more injured, public buildings destroyed, homes and businesses gutted, and prisoners released from the city prisons.

The Mayor and his fellow aldermen contributed little other than indecision and inactivity. It was perhaps these riots which led the *United Services Magazine* to state nine years later that Borough magistrates were the worst of God's creatures. What was required in the irksome and excessively disagreeable duty of putting down disturbances was a magistrate who would not stand idle biting his fingernails while he wondered what he should do.

Finally the dragoons were recalled and used, although not by Brereton, and an uneasy calm ensued. Thirty-one rioters were sentenced to death, although only four were launched into eternity. Altogether twenty-seven were transported to Tasmania — their subsequent history is related in an Appendix.

Brereton paid a severe price for his attempts to temporize with the mob, committing suicide during the course of his court martial.

This case history of the events in Bristol in October 1831 is important to all those who could become involved in assisting the civil power to suppress 'disturbances.' The police forces have developed considerably over the past 150 years but human nature has changed little, and it is not inconceivable, in a world where extremists attempt to enforce their will by armed action, that a similar situation could arise in Australia.

In summary, an expensive (\$30.50), objective, readable and competently researched book on an important, but fortunately rare aspect of military duty.

M. AUSTIN

CASTLES: Charles W. C. Oman, Beckman House, New York, 1978, 220 mm x 285 mm, hard cover, 227 pages, index, illustrations, review copy by ANZ Book Co. Ltd. Recommended price \$16.50

With the growing interest in the early military history of Britain it is interesting to find on the market an American reprint of Professor Oman's "tour" of some castles of Southern England and Wales in 1924-25. The book starts with a few pages to define a castle, discusses some of the general types and then proceeds to examine in from one to five pages, the story of some 70 odd castles, illustrating each with full page black and white photographs, sketches and plans.

The text makes the story of each castle come alive. It is a book which should be browsed over at leisure, and perhaps with no real determination to complete the reading. An enjoyable book and at this price well worth adding to the book shelves of anyone with an interest in mediaeval British history or castles.

CLEM SARGENT.

ARMIES OF THE NAPOLEONIC ERA: Otto von Pivka; David and Charles, Newton Abbot, 1979; 180 mm x 250 mm, 272 pages, appendix, select bibliography, black and white illustrations, review copy by ANZ Book Co. Ltd. Recommended price \$24.50.

It is too much to expect that a book of 272 pages can describe in detail the weapons, equipment and tactics of the principal armies of the Napoleonic period and then also deal with organisation and uniforms of 41 countries and princely states, from France and Britain to such lesser known states like Reuss. There is nevertheless a great deal of useful information and the book would be most helpful to someone starting to develop any interest in this period. The author is well known for his work on the Osprey "Men At Arms" series. This book appears to be a summary of that series. Useful for the starting modeller or war gamer but attempting to cover too much ground for the more serious student of the period.

CLEM SARGENT.

WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT OF THE NAPOLEONIC WARS: P. J. Haythornthwaite, Blandford, Poole, 1979, 195 mm x 250 mm, hard cover, 190 pages, glossary, index, bibliography, black and white half-tone and line illustrations. Review copy by ANZ Book Co. Pty. Ltd. Recommended price \$29.50.

A companion to 'Weapons and Equipment of the Victorian Soldier' by Donald Featherstone, this book covers in 190 pages the same field attempted in 75 pages in 'Armies of the Napoleonic Era' with, naturally, much more attention to detail. Line drawings are used lavishly to illustrate the detail and the reproductions of contemporary prints are generally pertinent to the adjoining section of text.

In addition to the expected coverage of weapons, tactics, uniforms and equipment the book covers such little known activities as the French use of balloons for aerial observation in 1794 and there is an interesting section on bands and military music of the period. This book is a useful source of information and is recommended for the Napoleonic enthusiast.

CLEM SARGENT

'WINGS OVER THE SEA' A History of Naval Aviation. Author David Wragg. David and Charles (Publishers) Ltd. Newton Abbot. 224pp illustrated. Recommended price \$24.50.

I was surprised, as I began to read this book, that the text included both Naval and Air Forces. Hitherto, it had always been my understanding that Naval Aviation was done by naval persons proceeding about their own Naval occasions.

As I progressed into the book, I became increasingly disappointed and frustrated by the mounting tally of errors and inaccuracies, arising from obvious errors of fact, poor proof-reading, imprecise statements, and incorrectly labelled photographs.

Space precludes a detailed list of these errors I was able to discover but some should be mentioned. On page 150 the author discusses the mirror deck-landing system, and described its operation. The description was so inaccurate that no reader could possibly form an understanding of the system, and raised a doubt, in my mind, whether the author had ever actually seen the system, or observed carrier deck-landing operations at all.

On another occasion, the Air Force of one country was discussed (its title was mis-spelt) but no mention was made of its Naval Air Arm.

As would be expected from an English writer a disproportionate amount of space was devoted to the Hawker Siddeley Harrier. On page 186 the author discussed the use of vectored thrust — 'viffing' — and stated that an experienced Harrier pilot using vectored thrust could outmatch a Mach 2.2 Phantom fighter in a low level dog fight. This it may well be able to do, and such a capability would have been a decided advantage in the dog fights between gun-armed aircraft of bygone days. In the missile eras of the recent past, present and future to suggest that 'viffing' could offer any immunity or survivability is living in fantasy.

In order to cover the subject, the author has selected key points only, and then apparently at random so that, without an intimate knowledge of the subject, a reader would not be able to accurately trace the development of Naval Aviation to its present form. Nevertheless, throughout the text one is able to trace the decline of capabilities, due to financial limitations common to democratic countries between wars.

The same thread also shows the increasing difficulty involved in re-building neglected capabilities in time to meet developing situations. Therefore, the Armed Services of any democratic country must always expect to enter any armed conflict ill-prepared, under-manned and using obsolescent equipment in accordance with doctrines, inappropriate to the needs of the situation.

The book is profusely illustrated with photographs, many of them striking, and which are all appropriate to the text on the same page. Readers are not required to flip back and forth between text and illustration, a feature which often marring some books of this nature.

In summary, I consider that the credibility of this book to be such that at best, it would be seriously misleading or, at the worst, worthless to any student of Naval Aviation History. In my opinion it is not, therefore, worth the suggested retail price of \$24.50.

Cdr. E. BELL

PENINSULAR GENERAL — Sir Thomas Picton 1758-1815, Frederick Myatt, David and Charles, London, 1980, 165 mm x 240 mm, hard cover, 228 pages, bibliography, index, maps. Review copy from ANZ Book Co. Pty. Ltd. recommended price \$30.95.

Of all Wellington's subordinate commanders in Portugal, Spain, the south of France and eventually at Waterloo, the most colourful was Sir Thomas Picton, a dour Welshman whose voice had 'the power of twenty trumpets' and a vocabulary to match. Picton died at Waterloo, at the culmination of a military career which started at the age of thirteen but which only came to fruition in the period from 1809 to 1815 when he commanded a British division in the Peninsula and at Waterloo.

In common with Britain's Peninsula and Waterloo heroes he had his biographer — H. B. Robinson published the 'Memoirs' in 1836 some 21 years after Picton's death. Now Major F. Myatt, MC has undertaken a modern reappraisal, less influenced by nearness to the subject than Robinson was. Unfortunately, although Picton was a literate man who wrote his share of letters, some to his regret, he was a bachelor and very little of his correspondence has survived. Nevertheless Major Myatt has produced a more balanced picture of Picton, more of the warts than were apparent in Robinson's volumes have appeared, and he has given a very clear outline of the actions in which Picton led his troops both in Spain and at Waterloo.

Major Myatt is well qualified to have undertaken this book, both as a soldier and a writer with several books on military history and arms to his credit. Robinson's two volumes on Picton are now difficult to find and the price is in excess of \$100. This new biography is strongly recommended to the reader interested in this period of military history and it presents good value for the price. My only criticism is the lack of detailed references, although the in-text references to sources and the bibliography do offset this to a large extent.

T. C. SARGENT.

BOER WAR D.C.M. AND BUGLE DONATED

The D.C.M. won by Bugler A. E. Forbes in South Africa on 22 July 1900 was presented to the War Memorial by his daughter, Mrs E. L. Charlesworth, of Melbourne, on 17 July, together with the bugle he used. Bugler Forbes had braved enemy fire on several occasions to obtain ammunition from the packs of dead horses. The donation also included the Efficiency Decoration and medals awarded to Forbes, who subsequently served as a Chaplain in both World Wars. His story and a picture of his medals appeared in "Sabretache" Vol XXI, No.1

ALEX KAPLAN & SON (PTY) LTD

**P.O. Box 132,
Germiston 1400
South Africa**

- LIST of medals for sale — posted free by air mail mail on request.
- WE want to buy or trade any British campaign medals, especially those to South African units.

ARMIES IN EUROPE, by John Gooch, Routledge and Kegan Paul 1980, Recommended UK retail price £10.50. Our copy from the publisher.

The book attempts to put the development of armies in Europe into a sociological context rather than stress the military and international power-political aspects. The story of the book is a kaleidoscopic within a period from country to country.

The emphasis is on the Prussia/Germany, France, Russia and to a lesser degree on Britain. Some attention is given to Austria and Italy, in the earlier parts, but this fades out by the time the first world war is discussed.

The author relied almost exclusively on secondary sources, which for the most part are English. To bring so vast a subject into one cover is a formidable undertaking and the author succeeded in doing this quite skilfully. The book is an overview of army development, that is, it is useful for anybody who is looking for general background information rather than knowledge in depth. The scarcity of footnotes is not a detraction, in fact when they do appear the reader is left with the impression that they were inserted for appearance sake rather than for any other reason.

Some of the factual errors are irritating. For instance Hitler invaded Poland on 1 September, 1939 and not, as the book says on 3 September (p 227) or his reference to a state of emergency in Germany on 9 November 1923 which lasted, according to Gooch, till 1 March 1925 with the executive power handed over to von Seck (p 198), this is simply not true. There are other equally inexcusable blemishes.

The price of £10.50 or say \$21.00 in Australia (at least) is too high for what amounts to be only a marginal advancement over an undergraduate reference book.

H. J. ZWILLENBERG.

REGAL COIN COMPANY PTY LTD.

P.O. Box 1896R, G.P.O. Melbourne

Suppliers of Numismatic items
Coins, Tokens, Medals, Medallions, Books and
Accessories

**SHOP 9 EMBANK ARCADE,
325 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE, C.1
VICTORIA.**

Phone (03) 62-1182

Wide Range of Medals available. Regular Medal List.

Write now for your copy.

**Constantly seeking medals for stock —
Let's know what you have for sale.**

BRANCH COMMITTEES

The following Branches have conducted their Annual General Meetings and the members shown have been elected to Branch Committees:

QUEENSLAND:

President	Mr Don Wright
Vice President	Mr G. Snelgrove
Secretary	Mr S. Wigzell
Treasurer	Mr J. Irwin (Federal Councillor)
Committee	Mr P. Newton
	Mr J. Duncan

A.C.T.

President	R. Towns
Secretary/Treasurer	Flt Lt B. Rogers
Committee	I. Jenkins
	R. Courtney (Federal Councillor)

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

President	Mr A. Prince
Secretary	Mr G. Walters
Treasurer	Mr K. Stanley

Annual General Meeting of the Military Historical Society of Australia

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at RSL Headquarters, Constitution Avenue, Canberra at 8.15 pm on Monday 21 July 1980. Nineteen members were present.

Unconfirmed Minutes of the meeting have been distributed to Branch Committees.

The Report by the Federal President, Mr N. Foldi, follows:

The Society Balance Sheet was presented by the retiring Treasurer Mr M. Kennedy and adopted by the meeting. The Balance Sheet is published in this edition of Sabretache.

The following members were elected to Federal Council:

President	: Mr N. Foldi
Vice President	: Maj H. Zwillenberg ED (RL)
Hon Secretary	: Lt Col T. C. Sargent (RL)
Hon Treasurer	: Sqn Ldr R. Webster

Copies of the minutes of the meeting have been forwarded to all Branch Committees.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1980

Attached is the audited financial statement for the year ended 30th June, 1980.

As disclosed in the Income and Expenditure Account for amount of \$1058 was paid during the year to Mrs Brownell in final settlement of the amount advanced to assist in the publication of "From Khaki to Blue". This finalises any liability the society had relating to the publication of the book and all future amounts received from sales will be for the benefit of the society. A small surplus is anticipated when sales are concluded.

The amount of \$3640.33 disclosed as a balance in the Income and Expenditure Account includes:—

a. The following payments made to the Society during the 1979/80 financial year but which are in respect of the 1980/81 and future years;

	\$
Subscriptions in advance	362.67
Advertising in advance	205.59
Donations to Publication Fund	<u>65.00</u>
	633.26

b. The following estimated outstanding amounts in respect of the 1979/80 financial year which are yet to be received for payment;

Publication of March/June edition of Sabretache	950.00
Postage of Sabretache	60.00
General Postage/Stationery expenses	<u>30.00</u>
	1040.00

The final estimated surplus of \$1967 is a satisfactory result.

(J. M. KENNEDY, JP. AASA)
Honorary Treasurer
1st July, 1980

CASH BOOK SUMMARY FOR YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1980

Balance brought forward from 1979	2128.36
ADD amounts credited	<u>6110.15</u>
	8238.51
LESS amount debited	<u>4598.18</u>
Balance carried forward 30th June, 1980	<u><u>3640.33</u></u>

BANK RECONCILIATION AS AT 30th JUNE, 1980

Balance as per bank statement	<u>3640.33</u>
Balance as per cash book	<u><u>3640.33</u></u>

(J. M. KENNEDY, JP. AASA)
Honorary Treasurer
1st July, 1980

I have examined the financial records of the Military Historical Society of Australia and in so doing have accepted the written statement provided by the responsible person regarding the stock on hand valuation and the sales in progress valuation for the "Khaki to Blue" account. In my opinion these financial statements are a true record of the financial transactions of the Society.

(E. OLSEN)
Honorary Auditor
July 1980

**THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA
FEDERAL COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1980.
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30th JUNE, 1980**

1978/79	INCOME	1979/80	1978/79	EXPENDITURE	1979/80
7135.55	Balance B/F				
	Subscriptions	2128.36			
3146.82	1978/79	15.00	3644.00	Publication of Sabretache	2754.00
632.17	1979/80	3845.67	469.46	Postage	375.95
	1980/81	<u>362.67</u>	168.46	Stationery	184.03
		4223.34	24.50	Rental of Post Box	16.00
	LESS capitation fees retained by branches		2.00	Bank Charges	5.00
402.50	Commission on Auction	129.80		Book payments to M.H.S.A. (ACT Branch)	75.20
657.20	Donations	5.00			
540.36	Advertising	180.59			
	Advertising paid in advance (1980/81).	205.59			
58.60	Sales of Sabretache and books.	137.15			
59.70	Postage	-			
37.87	Bank Interest	122.14			
	Publication fund donations	65.00			
	Publication of From Khaki to Blue.			Repayment of advance by Mrs Brownell against cost of publication of "From Khaki to Blue"	1058.00
159.00	Sales to 30.6.78	159.00			
2132.19	Sales to 30.6.79	2132.19			
	Sales to 30.6.80	1171.34	1171.34	Adjustment:	
446.81	Sales in progress	280.00		Cheque No 837660 (Postage 1978/79).	.20
<u>1200.00</u>	Stock at valuation	<u>126.00</u>			
3938.00		3868.53		Balance	<u>3640.33</u>
	LESS cost of Publication				
300.00	Editing	300.00			
<u>3240.00</u>	Printing	<u>3240.00</u>			
398.00	Project surplus	328.53			
			<u>8108.71</u>		<u>8108.71</u>

• Guess the 1st A.I.F. Personality:

Born in Birkenhead UK in 1873; Won a DCM with Lumsden's Horse during the South African War of 1899-1902, Won a D.S.O at Gallipoli with the 2nd Inf. Bde., and later an M.C. in France. Hint: His son wrote Vol. VI of the 1939-45 Official History.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Once again I welcome the opportunity to report to members on the activities of Federal Council, taking the opportunity not only to review the past but also to glance ahead.

Since the last Annual General Meeting on 15 October 1979 Federal Council has met on four occasions. These meetings were necessary to deal with the business of the Society, particularly relating to Society property — more of which later. I extend my thanks to the Secretary and other Councillors for their efforts during this period.

I also extend my congratulations to the Geelong Branch on the successful staging of the National Militaria Exposition over Easter 1980. Although events such as this entail some hard work they repay the effort by stimulating the interests of members and encourage new members, of which we cannot recruit too many.

And now to property. In recent years some uniforms and a large number of medals were acquired by Federal Council by donation or loan. Records kept at that time do not always clearly differentiate between those two categories. The situation was also clouded by a police investigation into the activities of a late member of Council.

Federal Council has closely examined the position and is of the opinion the Council is not an appropriate body to hold such property. Consequently, and at the request of the donors, the uniforms have been handed to the Australian War Memorial where they can be properly preserved and displayed. It has not been so easy to deal with the medals. This has been complicated by both inadequacies in documentation and by arrangements made some three years ago for a number of items to be exhibited at the Caloundra Military Museum.

Most of the medals have been returned to the donors or lenders and arrangements are being made to return several more. We understand that some donors are making arrangements with the Australian War Memorial for display of the medals in the planned Gallantry Gallery. The items displayed at Caloundra are being returned to Council and on receipt these will be dealt with in the same way.

As part of planning for the twenty fifth anniversary of the Society in 1982 Council has formed a Sub-Committee to examine the feasibility of publishing a book to mark the occasion. Such a book should deal with a significant aspect of Australian military history on which little has already been written. It should also contain material of interest to a wide range of members, such as uniforms, badges, medals and weapons. Should any members have manuscripts completed or in preparation I urge them to contact the Secretary.

• Stumbled across a photograph of about fifteen gentlemen surmounting a caption which read: 'Australia's gallant defenders at Mafeking.' Unfortunately no names. Does anyone know of the names of Australians at the Defence of Mafeking?

Several Branches have indicated interest in undertaking activities to mark the anniversary. Council looks forward to the development and implementation of these plans and urges the full participation of members.

On a more serious note I must again refer to the need to increase membership. The number of members at the end of June 1980 is insufficient to finance four issues of *Sabretache* at current standards, let alone improvements that could be made. Council does not favour any increase in subscriptions and would not wish to see the size of the journal reduced, but without more members there may be no alternative. The answer lies with each Branch and each member. We are also anxious to increase the scope of *Sabretache* to meet the interests of members, particularly collectors, but unless suitable articles are submitted to the Editor this cannot be achieved.

Finally, particular thanks to Martin Kennedy who is retiring as Treasurer. Martin's efforts have been of great benefit to the Society and are greatly appreciated. I would also like to draw attention to the untiring work of Peter Kelly, Editor of *Sabretache*. Without his contribution the standard and timely production of the journal would suffer.

My best wishes for the coming year to all Branch Committees and to members in Australia and overseas.

NEVILLE FOLDI.

JAPANESE PRESENTATION

Two mementoes of the goodwill towards Australia of a Japanese mother, whose son was killed in the midget submarine attack on Sydney Harbour in 1942, were presented to the War Memorial Director, Mr N. J. Flanagan, in August. The items are a book on the life of Mrs Matsuo and her son, Lieutenant Keiu Matsuo, and a square of material ("furoshiki") on which is a poem by Mrs Matsuo about her son's love and patriotism and her sadness at his loss. The mementoes were presented by Mr Voriyoshi Morinaka, leader of a Japanese House of Representatives special committee visiting Australia. Mrs Matsuo died earlier this year, aged 95.

In 1968 she was invited to visit Australia and came to the War Memorial to see the remains of her son's submarine. She was presented with Lieutenant Matsuo's haramaki (body belt) which had been in the War Memorial's collection.

Also in August, two Japanese television representatives called at the War Memorial during their research for a program about Lieutenant Matsuo's death and events following it.

D.C. 3 AIRCRAFT PRESENTED

In July the R.A.A.F. presented one of its last D.C. 3 aircraft to the War Memorial. The plane is being held at R.A.A.F. Fairbairn, A.C.T., pending repainting in the wartime colours of No. 37 Squadron, to which it was originally assigned in 1945.

P. J. DOWNIE

Coin, Banknote and Medal Auctioneer

Monthly Sales with profusely illustrated catalogue. Sample Catalogue \$2

Subscription until the end of 1980, \$12.

94 Elizabeth St, Melbourne. 3000

(03) 63-2503

THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

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

ORGANISATION

The Federal Council of the Society is located in Canberra.

The Military Historical Society of Australia has branches in Brisbane, Canberra, Albury-Wodonga, Melbourne, Geelong, Adelaide and Perth.

Details of meetings are available from Branch Secretaries whose names and addresses appear on page 2.

SABRETACHE

The Federal Council is responsible for the publication quarterly of the Society Journal, "Sabretache," which is scheduled to be mailed to each member of the Society in the last week of the final month of each issue.

Publication and mailing schedule dates are:

January—March edition mailed in the last week of March.

April—June edition mailed in the last week of June.

July—September edition mailed in the last week of September.

October—December edition mailed in the last week of December.

ADVERTISING

Society members may place, at no cost, one advertisement of approximately 50 words in the "Members Sales and Wants" section of each edition of the Journal.

Commercial rates of advertising are available on request from the Honorary Secretary.

Advertising material must reach the Secretary by the following dates:

1 January for January—March edition.

1 April for April—June edition.

1 July for July—September edition.

1 October for October—December edition.

QUERIES

The Society's honorary officers cannot undertake research on behalf of members.

However, queries received by the Secretary will be published in the "Queries and Notes" section of the Journal.

SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

Society publications advertised in "Sabretache" are available from:

Mr K. White,

P.O. Box 67,

Lyneham, A.C.T. 2602.

Orders and remittances should be forwarded to this address.

THE MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE

THE FEDERAL SECRETARY

P.O. Box 30

GARRAN

A.C.T. 2605 AUSTRALIA

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I/We of
(Name, Rank, etc.) (Address)

hereby apply for membership of the MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY of AUSTRALIA. I/We agree to abide by the Rules, etc., of Society and wish to be admitted as a Branch member of the
Branch, Corresponding Member,
Subscriber to Sabretache.

(Strike out non applicable alternatives.)

My main interests are
.....

I/We enclose My/Our remittance for \$15.00 (Aust), being annual subscription, due 1st July each year.

.....
Applicant's Signature

N.B. (1) Regular Branch meetings are held in Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Geelong, Adelaide and Perth.

(2) Overseas Applicants are advised that subscription is \$15.00 Australian. Airmail delivery of Sabretache available for additional sum of \$10.00 Australian.

