

Military Historical Society of Australia
Sabretache



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SABRETACHE

The Journal and Proceedings of
**The Military Historical
Society of Australia**

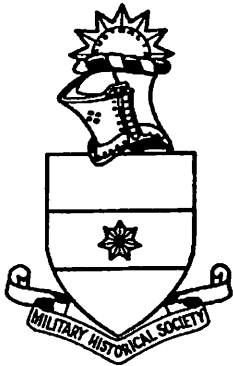
JANUARY—MARCH 1997
VOLUME XXXVIII — NUMBER 1

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Contributions in the form of articles, notes, queries or letters are always welcome. Authors of major articles are invited to submit a brief biographical note, and, where possible, submit the text of the article on floppy disk as well as hard copy. The annual subscription to the Society is \$30.

Published by authority of the Federal Council of the Military Historical Society of Australia. The views expressed in this journal are those of the relevant contributor and not necessarily those of the Society.



**The Journal and
Proceedings of The
Military Historical
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(founded 1957)**

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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 Australia is located in Canberra. The Society has branches in Brisbane, Canberra, Albury-Wodonga, Melbourne, Geelong, Adelaide and Perth. Details of meetings are available from Branch Secretaries whose names appear below.

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.

Members' notices

Society members may place, at no cost, one notice of approximately 40 words in the 'Members' notices' section of the Journal each financial year.

Queries

The Society's honorary officers cannot undertake research on behalf of members. However, queries from members received by the Secretary will be published in the 'Letters' section of the Journal.

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Australia's Civil Constructional Corps 1942-1945

John Meehan¹

The Japanese Armed Forces attempt to invade Australian territory began in early 1942. The invasion fleet was stopped not many miles offshore by USAAF and RAAF planes, some of which flew from airfields hastily constructed in North Queensland by the men of the Allied Works Council serving in the Civil Constructional Corps (CCC) (note that the correct title is Civil 'Constructional' Corps, not the usually used 'Construction' Corps).

The volunteer and conscripted members of the CCC form a group unique in Australia's history, as this is the only time that civilians have been organised into a para-military force and despatched to whatever locality the government saw fit.

The CCC is almost totally unknown to most Australians. The raising of the Corps, and particularly the conscription issue, caused some publicity at the time, even in the then strictly censored media. The end of the Corps raised no publicity whatsoever because it was not even demobilised; the remaining members were quietly transferred to the newly formed Commonwealth Department of Works and Housing.

Very little information is available publicly regarding the CCC. It was never a high profile organisation, but its tasks were seen as vitally important at the time. There is a story to be told.

Setting The Scene

During 1939-41 Australians generally presumed that, once again, we would contribute a volunteer expeditionary force, produce some munitions, and provide food and raw materials to Britain. Australia's 'phoney war' ended on 7 December 1941 when Japan attacked Malaya and Thailand, and at Pearl Harbour nearly put America out of the war before it had even joined!

1942 did not begin well. Australian territory, at Rabaul, was bombed on 4 January 1942, however the mere bombing of an outpost most Australians had only vaguely heard of did not seem too much of a worry; but the town was captured on the 23rd of January. Then on 30/31 January the last allied troops crossed the causeway on to 'Fortress Singapore'.

Britain's 'impregnable fortress' in the Far East surrendered on 15 February 1942 and thousands of soldiers from every corner of Australia became prisoners of war. Singapore's fall and the bombing of Darwin only four days later, on 19 February 1942, really did bring the war to the door of even the most disinterested Australian household.

The immediate reaction was the enormous expansion of the Armed Forces and the arrival of American servicemen in ever increasing numbers. This necessitated huge encampments, supply depots, repair centres, etc, and new airfields, roads, and defensive works over a vast area of the continent, but mainly in the almost deserted north.

¹ John Meehan is a civil engineer with over 30 years of experience in organising ever larger infrastructure projects. In the mid-1960's he served as a 2nd Lieutenant with the Royal Australian Engineers, including active service in South Vietnam, and he has worked in Papua New Guinea for most of the time since 1972. He is thus well qualified to appreciate the task of setting up the CCC and the carrying out of the innumerable projects undertaken by the Allied Works Council.

It was accepted by the Parliament and the people, virtually without question, that 'all civilian activity had to cease for the foreseeable future', and that the 'entire population' be directed to the Armed Forces and the support of those Forces.

The Allied Works Council

The vast scale of the works required, especially in the underpopulated north, and the potential for competition between Australian and US needs, led to the formation of a joint Administrative Planning Committee which was to facilitate and expedite decisions, determine broad priorities, and allocate finance. But the decisions had to be implemented; quickly.

On the day Singapore fell, Prime Minister Curtin offered the Hon E G Theodore the post of Director General, Allied Works. Theodore accepted, and the Allied Works Council was formed eleven days later upon promulgation of the National Security (Allied Works) Regulations No. 88 (26 February 1942).

Theodore was officially appointed Director General Allied Works with the power to enter into or vary contracts, to secure supplies, plant, materials, equipment, etc, and to employ such technicians, tradesmen and labourers as required.

The Hon. Edward Granville Theodore had been the ALP's Premier of Queensland and later Treasurer and Deputy Prime Minister in the Commonwealth Parliament. He had left politics in 1931, and was still feared by many in the Labor Party but was respected by most. He and his partner, one Frank Packer, had started Australian Consolidated Press. Theodore had spent most of the immediate pre-war years in Fiji starting, and then managing, the highly successful Emperor Gold Mines. It is not possible to briefly recount Ted Theodore's story. (Refs 7 & 8).

The Allied Works Council's (AWC) defence projects were to be physically carried out by the existing Federal, State or Local authorities either under contract or by direct labour. Administratively this was manageable, but to arrange the necessary labour force was a daunting task as much of the work was well away from existing population centres.

At the first meeting of the AWC Theodore discussed a proposal to form labour battalions, enlisted in the Army, but controlled by the AWC. This idea had considerable support, and some severe opposition, but the notion of compulsory service appears to have been accepted by all.

Creation Of The Civil Constructional Corps

To introduce civil conscription could not have been an easy decision for men such as John Curtin, J J Dedman or Eddie Ward, but the Labour Government approved Theodore's proposal on 9th March 1942. The Cabinet Minute reads:

- (i) A civilian labour corps is to be established from persons called up under military impressment. Service will be compulsory on the same lines as the military forces.
- (ii) The Corps will be organised as a labour force under the control and direction of the Director-General of Allied Works provided, however, that it may be brought under military control and discipline in an emergency.
- (iii) The employment of the Corps is to be restricted to works undertaken by the Allied Works Council. The construction gangs already employed on such works in Queensland are to be absorbed into the Corps.[underlining by this author]

- (iv) Members of the Corps will receive pay based on civil award rates in accordance with the principles observed for persons already employed on Allied Works in Queensland.
- (v) In the fixation of rates regard is to be had to award conditions governing: (a) deductions for rations and other issues in kind; and (b) living-away allowances.
- (vi) Personnel of the Labour Corps are to remain members of and continue to pay contributions to the unions to which they belong at present.
- (vii) Existing rights of employees, such as the right to contribute to a Provident Fund applicable to their present employment are to be preserved on their transfer to the Labour Corps.
- (viii) The adoption of civil rates of pay for the Labour Corps is approved on the distinct understanding that no Army entitlements such as sick leave, dependants' allowances and repatriation benefits will apply.

The Cabinet decision became law on the promulgation of Statutory Rule 170 of 1942 on 14 April 1942. The salient points of this slim, 3½ page, document were:

1. The Director-General may establish a Civil Construction Corps.
2. It shall consist of persons who (a) volunteer, and (b) persons who are directed to serve.
3. The Director-General may direct any person, to whom this Regulation applies, to serve in the Corps...in Australia.
4. This regulation shall apply to all men between the ages of 18 and 60 years except men in protected industries, those in the Defence Forces, or those in the Diplomatic Corps.
5. The right to join or remain in a union was protected, however, a member could not 'cease work, or refuse or fail to continue to work'[ie, they could not go on strike].
6. The Director-General may, by Order, make provision for the maintenance of good order and discipline.
7. The Director-General may authorise the issue of uniforms to members.

Australia was now really operating on a total war basis — the entire population (men, women and children) was 'registered' and could be called up and despatched to the Armed Forces, the CCC or a nominated civil occupation, certainly at any location within Australia and seemingly to the South West Pacific Area south of the equator.

Enlistment In The Civil Constructional Corps

Enlistments to 16 August 1945 totalled 77,507 men. The majority, 66,274, had been enlisted prior to 30 June 1943. The largest number serving at any time was 60,000 in November 1943. When the war ended 12,413 were still serving, but all had been discharged or transferred into the new Department of Works by December 1945.

The CCC Statutory Rules allowed only two methods of recruitment; those who volunteered and those directed to serve. However, an official CCC summary shows the following three methods of recruitment for the majority of those who served:

Volunteered	12,826	18 %
Enrolled on the job	34,031	49 %
Called-up	23,362	33 %
Total	70,219	

The term 'Enrolled on the job' was apparently the CCC's euphemism for the Cabinet Minute description (see above) 'absorbed into the Corps'. It seems that those working for civilian contractors on defence projects at the Corps' inception had the choice of volunteering or being directed to serve in the CCC. Press-ganged may also be appropriate!

'Volunteered' applied only to persons who appeared at the CCC offices to volunteer for service.

'Called-up' applied to those whose names and occupations had been forwarded to the CCC by the Manpower Directorate as being available for service. They were advised by a subsequent 'Direction to Serve' notice to present themselves for medical examination, and were classified according to Army standards as 'Fit to work anywhere', 'Fit for light work only', etc. Those classed 'Fit anywhere' were X-rayed, vaccinated and enrolled on the spot. They were allowed to return home for a few days to finalise personal affairs during which time the CCC allocated them to projects and arranged transport.

The CCC's Personnel Directorate had a Transfer Section whose special task was the relocation of men at the completion of a project. It's really special task seems to have been re-examining people in order to upgrade their classification to 'Fit Anywhere' and to arrange their transfer north.

Some Preliminary Observations And Comments

My father served in the CCC. He said that he applied to join the Army (the 'family service'), but was allocated to the CCC. It was probably a sensible decision on the part of the Authorities as fit young tradesmen were sorely needed to construct the infrastructure necessary to allow the Armed Forces to function. He never spoke about those times, except for a couple of comments made when I joined the Army in the mid 1960's:

'the CCC never received any recognition at all, and even though service was compulsory; and the CCC men missed out compared to those who served in the Army'

'I was asked to go to New Guinea about mid-war, but declined as I'd recently been married: regret that now, I should have gone there'.

Apart from knowing that he had been in the CCC I had no understanding of what CCC was about until the mid 1980's when I began to research the matter. The available information is sparse indeed, as can be seen from the short list of references given below. I had intended to thoroughly research the CCC, visit the some of the extant works, etc, and publish (or at least write up) my findings, but when I moved to Port Moresby several years ago, those plans had to be shelved.

The publicity given out recently when the Civilian Service Medal 1939-1945 was finally approved led me to write this short summary from my voluminous notes. Indeed a short article such as this really only illustrates the need for a detailed study of the CCC. I have tried to present the basic facts as I currently know them, but will make some preliminary comments and observations below.

Overseas Service

The Statutory Rules setting up the CCC state 'The Director-General ... may, in writing, direct any person to whom this regulation applies to serve in the Corps, and every person so directed shall comply with the direction, and shall serve in the Corps in Australia'. However there is no doubt that some CCC men served in Papua, and perhaps New Guinea.²

'The first members of the CCC to leave Australia for duty beyond the mainland left Sydney on 3 April 1943 for New Guinea. The party comprised 39 volunteer CCC tradesmen, cooks, and labourers, required for work on behalf of the US Forces at Port Moresby.' Source: Allied Works Council Report, 1943, pp 85/86.³

'It had never been intended that civil construction workers should be sent to operational areas, ... [but] [s]ome modest amount of work appears to have been done in New Guinea (for the Navy at Milne Bay for instance) but this was a minor deviation from the principle.' Source: Official History, 4-IV, p.152.⁴

Some of the CCC men who served in Papua may be seen in the photographs at p.32/33 of Vol 4 of the AWM's *Pictorial History of Australia at War 1939-45*.⁵ These photographs show CCC men 'who volunteered for service in New Guinea'. One shows a middle aged carpenter wearing a slouch hat with the CCC badge where the 'rising sun' was normally worn. Another photograph is captioned 'In a CCC mess in New Guinea'. All of the men are wearing the uniform overalls that it would be reasonable to expect were issued to the RAE Sappers in Papua & New Guinea.

The above references are all that I have located to date regarding the CCC's overseas service, but they do prove the service of the Corps outside mainland Australia. The Corps history,⁶ written by Corps personnel and signed on 9th December 1945 by W J White, Director of Personnel, made no reference whatsoever to New Guinea service. A fascinating exercise awaits: to track down the details of those who did serve in Papua & New Guinea. How many, for how long, and on what projects?

Service Medals

Certain civilians did qualify for WW2 service medals but not, apparently, the members of the CCC. It is true that most served in their civilian capacity and that most did not work in combat areas, however, the same may be said of many members of the Armed Forces and the VDC who qualified for the various medals issued at the time. One day of service in Port Moresby qualified members of the Armed Forces for the Pacific Star: what of the CCC who also served there ?

² Prior to the war Papua New Guinea was effectively two separate countries: broadly, the north was administered as the 'Mandated Territory of New Guinea' and the south as the 'Territory of Papua'. Under the military occupation both Territories were administered as one Military District and 'New Guinea' was the commonly used term to describe a locality in either Territory.

³ *Allied Works Council. Report for the period 26 February 1942 to 30 June 1943.*

⁴ Butlin S J. *War Economy, 1939-42 and War Economy 1942-45.* Official History of Australia in the War of 1939-45, Series 4, Civil, Vols III and IV.

⁵ Meeking, Charles. *Pictorial History of Australians at War. Vol IV,* Australian War Memorial, 1958.

⁶ *CCC/Department of Works. History of the Civil Constructional Corps,* Typescript dated 9 December 1945, held at the Australian Archives, Melbourne.

The Corps' Achievements

At the time the Corps' historians thought that the major achievement was not the vast amount of construction work completed, but works which would be of future use in Australia's development. They singled out three achievements which were thought to be important for the future:

- Sydney Graving Dock; to be sure this was an immense undertaking but its subsequent value to Australia has not proven monumental.
- Prefabrication; the factory production techniques developed enabled thousands of buildings to be economically constructed during the War. Admittedly they were of the garden shed variety (though many were quite large) but the Corps' writers would probably be amazed to see that today, in our domestic housing industry at least, the building techniques of the 1930s are still in use (only the tools and equipment have changed).
- Dehydrated Foods; the fast food forerunners seemed to think that dehydrated vegetables would form an important part of the post war diet.

Some of the Corps' many real, and lasting, achievements (which were apparently not obvious at the time) include:

- Engineering works were carried out on a grand scale for the first time in Australia. Spending on Works pre-war ran at around £2 million per year. By 1943 annual expenditure was £60 million. The education and on the job training at all levels from Director to labourer in managing large projects must rank as the Corps' greatest achievement.
- The value of the new mechanised techniques in the Civil Engineering fields of road building etc. Such an assemblage of constructional plant and equipment had never been seen before in Australia. By the standards of even the 1950's the equipment employed by the Corps may seem small time, but it was out of the war-time experience that our engineering construction and management capability grew.

This short paper attempts to provide an overview of a little known chapter in Australian history. Civil conscription to labour battalions, which in some cases included service in the overseas war zone, and the all embracing control of the male population by the National Security (Man Power) Regulations, have been forgotten (or never known) by the majority of the population and ignored by historians.

Australia had never seen construction on such a grand scale, but the usefulness of most of the infrastructure created ceased at the war's end. The effects of the Great Depression were still with us in 1939. Unemployment was still high, but the seemingly large pool of 'available workers' hid the fact that was a great lack of tradesmen and other skilled workers.

It is my belief that the rapid development which took place in Australia from the late 40s until the 1960s owed much of its success to the training provided in CCC schools (plus those of the Services), followed by the on-the-job experience gained under arduous conditions and the urgencies of wartime.

Both the straight history of the Corps, plus the resultant socio-economic consequences and their future contribution to Australia's development should be thoroughly researched (and publicised) before all of those who served in the Civil Constructional Corps have passed on. This should be their monument; though the issue of the Civilian Service Medal 1939-1945 (nearly 50 years after the event) is a most welcome recognition for the contribution to Australia's war effort by a seemingly ignored and forgotten section of the population.

References

- 1 *Allied Works Council. Report for the period 26 February 1942 to 30 June 1943.*
- 2 *Allied Works Council. Report for the period 1 July 1943 to 15 February 1945.* (Copies of these illustrated-magazine style reports are in the author's possession)
- 3 *CCC/Department of Works. History of the Civil Constructional Corps*, Typescript dated 9 December 1945, held at the Australian Archives, Melbourne.
- 4 Butlin S J. *War Economy, 1939-42 and War Economy 1942-45.* Official History of Australia in the War of 1939-45, Series 4, Civil, Vols III and IV.
- 5 Meeking, Charles. *Pictorial History of Australians at War. Vol IV*, Australian War Memorial, 1958.
- 6 Gallop, Alexa. *The Bush Engineer. Early Road Construction and Development in North & Western Queensland.* Privately published by A E & R D Gallop, 1979
- 7 I. Young. *Theodore, His Life & Times.* Alpha Books, Sydney, 1971.
- 8 *The Weekend Australian*, April 16-17, 1988. A short biographical article on E G Theodore by D D McNicoll

Australia's Trophies from the Crimean War

Bill Billett

Australia's isolation and early distribution of obsolete ordnance and war trophies into the care of local communities, or military authorities, has been a major factor in their survival. One small group of trophies from the Crimean War (1853-1856) has, I believe, all survived. These captured Russian guns can be identified by the Cyrillic lettering on their trunnions and the Russian Imperial Eagle on top of their barrels. Also, they are mounted on iron garrison carriages.

Trophies were of such importance to the British and French that on 10 July 1855, a treaty was signed at Paris by representatives from the two governments. The treaty records the agreed distribution of trophies at the conclusion of the Crimean War. Other allied participants, the Ottoman and Sardinian Governments, agreed to the terms of the treaty at London on 15 November 1855. The First article of the Treaty reads:

'1st. That flags, cannon and other articles which may be considered as captured trophies, captured by corps, or parts of corps, belonging to the land forces of the two countries, and acting in common, with or without the cooperation of the combined naval forces, shall be equally divided between the two Governments.'¹

At the end of the Crimean War a large number of trophies were shipped to Britain and distributed to cities and towns in the United Kingdom, and Colonies. An address to the House of Commons during 1863 provides a list of 1165 Russian guns taken at Sebastopol. Included on the list are 730 iron guns and 324 iron carronades.²

In 'The Trophy Tradition', Mark Clayton makes a very brief reference to the Crimean War trophies. He wrote that they, 'began arriving in the 1860s'.³ A letter from the War Office to the Colonial Office, dated 4 May 1857, confirms that the first Crimean War trophies presented to the Australian colonies were those allocated to Victoria. A Victorian resident, Mr Thomas Stubbs, wrote to the Royal Commissioners of the Patriotic Fund requesting, 'that some trophy of the late war may be presented to that colony'.⁴ Stubbs was born in New South Wales, and in 1812 went to England to enlist in the 24th Regiment.⁵ He served 11 years in India, and in 1866 he was awarded a medal for his service in Nepal 1814-15.⁶

¹ *British Parliamentary Papers (BPP)*, 1856 [2010] XXXI1, p.541.

² *BPP*, 1863 XXXIII, p.439.

³ Mark Clayton, 'The Trophy Tradition', *Sabretache*, Vol. XXXVI, Numbers 3, 1995, p.15.

⁴ Public Records Office Victoria (PROV), VPRS 1087, Despatches from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor, 1858, No. 3. The Patriotic Fund raised money for the dependants of sailors, marines, and soldiers. Thomas Stubbs was described by the Mayor of Melbourne as an ex-soldier who was 'an indefatigable raiser of funds'. See Victorian Parliamentary Papers (VPP), 1855-56, Session 1, p.360.

⁵ See *Australian Encyclopaedia*, Grolier Society, Sydney, 1963, p.334. Stubbs was not the first Australian born soldier, one of Major George Johnston's sons (Robert) is considered to have been the first.

⁶ VPRS 1087, Despatches From the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Vol. 19, 1866, at p.9 is the letter requesting the Governor of Victoria to deliver the medal to Mr Stubbs.



Cyrillic script on trophy 26028 Melbourne

In recognition of the large amount of money raised by the colony of Victoria for the Patriotic Fund, Lord Panmure, the Secretary of State for War, recommended that Victoria be presented with two guns. Lord Panmure also indicated in the same letter that he was prepared to make a similar presentation to New South Wales, but that he would wait until applications from other colonies, (whose contributions had been equally considerable) had been considered. Victoria's formal application was forwarded by the Governor, Sir Henry Barkly, to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, on behalf of the Mayor and Council of Melbourne, during April 1858.⁷

Australian colonies donated the following amounts to the Patriotic Fund:⁸

	£	s	d
New South Wales	64,916	6	6
South Australia	6,297	-	-
Tasmania	28,375	5	7
Victoria	47,711	10	3
Western Australia	818	4	2
Total	148,118	6	6

⁷ VPRS 3621, Inward Correspondence, Vol. 10, Letter From the Chief Secretary to the Mayor of Melbourne, 14 April 1858.

⁸ For full amounts donated by all the colonies see the Report to the House of Commons, *BPP*, 1857-58 (65) XXXV11, p.403



Coat of Arms of Imperial Russia

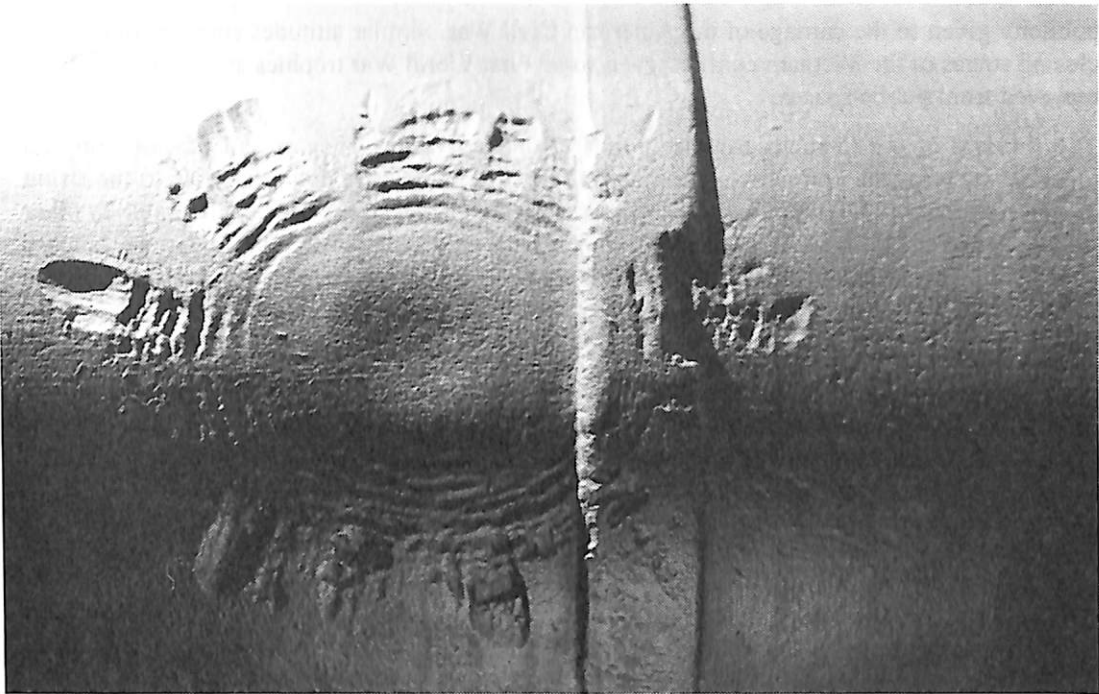
In recognition of these large contributions, each colony, except Western Australia, it seems, was awarded a pair of Russian trophy guns. Western Australia may have been awarded a trophy, but to date no list has been found detailing the complete distribution to the colonies.⁹ Queensland is not mentioned as it was part of New South Wales until 1859.

Victoria's two trophies arrived in Melbourne's Botanic Garden during December 1858. The question of their location was raised in the Victorian Legislative Assembly on 3 December 1858. Members were advised that, 'the trophies had been received'. It was suggested that such trophies were usually put in the parks at home, but here there are no parks in a condition to receive them. For the present they would be placed in the Botanical Gardens'.¹⁰ Melbourne's trophies remained in the Gardens until April 1867, when they were moved to Victoria Barracks on St Kilda Road. In his annual report for 1869, the Director of the Botanic Garden gave as his reason for their removal, 'the annihilation of the trophy guns throughout Britain suggests the propriety of removing those which occupied for some years a position in this Garden'.¹¹ If there was a change of policy towards trophies, it may explain the demise of many of the Crimean War trophies in Britain.

⁹ The Report at *BPP*, 1857-58 (65) XXXV11, p.403, only lists the 20 guns awarded to Canada, the 2 to Victoria, and mentions the offer of 2 guns to NSW.

¹⁰ *Victorian Hansard 1858-59*, Vol. IV, Fairfax, Melbourne, 1858-59, p.456. See also *The Argus*, Melbourne, 7 January 1859, p.4, col. f.

¹¹ *Victoria Parliamentary Papers (VPP)* 1869, see also, Pescott R T M, *The Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne; a History from 1845 to 1870*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 1970, p.61.



Mark left by a direct hit on 26046 Melbourne

Adelaide's two trophies were also first installed in the Botanic Gardens, during February 1859.¹² In 1867 they were used to announce the arrival of the Duke of Edinburgh. Some time later they were removed from the Gardens and 'were handed over to the military authorities, who have placed them in front of the armoury on North Terrace'.¹³ One of the guns was fired daily as the time signal at midday. In the mid-thirties the trophies were moved to their present position on Torrens Parade Ground.

New South Wales initially located its trophies flanking Governor Bourke's statue on the Domain, near the old Bent Street entrance. These two guns were relocated to Centennial Park which was set up in 1888 to mark the centenary of European settlement in Australia.¹⁴ Mounted on a rise, the trophies now flank the 'We Won' statue — popularly known as the footballer.

Tasmania's two trophies are interesting as they are different from the Russian cannons in the other States. On their trunnions they are marked as 'Pushko-Karronad' so they are either a hybrid form of carronade or gun-howitzer design. Initially these trophies may also have been placed in public parks, but now one of them adorns the main gate at Anglesea Barracks in Hobart. Therefore, the Director of the Melbourne Botanic Garden's hint of a policy change may be correct. Since most of the trophy guns were removed from the botanic gardens in the various cities and handed over to the military, at about the same time, it is possible that there was a change in attitude to trophies in the 1860s.¹⁵ Possible reasons could be revulsion following the

¹² Barbara J Best, *George William Francis first Director of the Adelaide Botanic Garden*, published by the author in conjunction with the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide, 1986, p.107.

¹³ R. Schomburgk, *Report on the Progress & Condition of the Botanic Garden 1886*, Govt. Printer, Adelaide, 1887, p.15.

¹⁴ Edwin Wilson, *The Wishing Tree*, Kangaroo Press, Sydney, 1992, p.135.

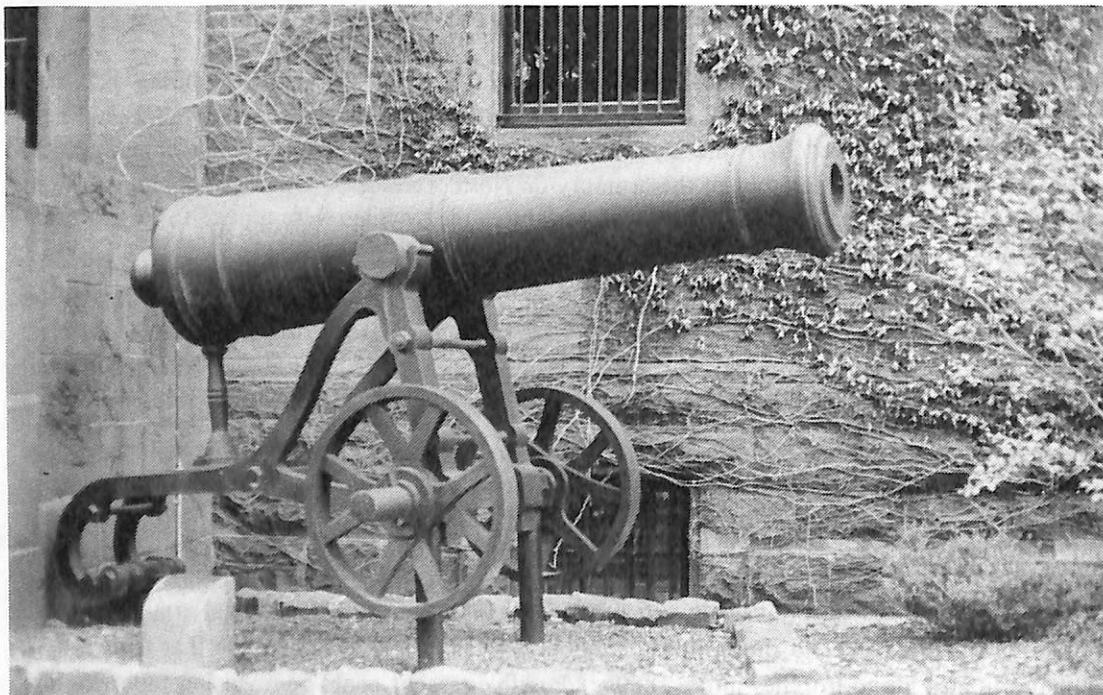
¹⁵ See note 10.

publicity given to the carnage of the American Civil War. Similar attitudes surfaced during the closing stages of the Vietnam conflict when some First World War trophies appear to have been removed from public spaces.

The survival of the Crimean trophies points to another factor. They are all of cast iron and mounted on wrought iron garrison carriages. Therefore, they were not vulnerable to the rising damp that brought about the downfall of later trophies. However, they were vulnerable to other pressures and conditions. In 1917 these guns were nearly returned to Russia. On 18 January 1917, the Prime Minister, Mr W. M. Hughes, wrote to the Governor-General requesting him to telegraph the following message to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Representations have been made that Russia would very highly appreciate the return of cannon captured during the Crimean War and now held by Commonwealth or State Governments throughout Australia. It is thought that this would be regarded as an outward and visible sign of the inward spirit of the entente with Russia which the Russian Government and people would value very greatly. Shall be glad to learn if there is any objection to proposed action.¹⁶

The Secretary of State raised no objection, but pointed out that due to a shortage of shipping tonnage, it might be difficult or undesirable to return the guns.¹⁷ To which the Prime Minister replied that there was no problem as Japanese tonnage was available to Vladivostock.¹⁸ It would appear that the October Revolution of 1917, or some other contingency intervened, as the Crimean trophies remained in Australia.



36 Pr SB gun 26028 Victoria Barracks Melbourne

¹⁶ AA (ACT) A2, 1917/3671. Attached to the memo of 18 January is the draft handwritten by the PM.

¹⁷ Ibid, 1917/3671/2.

¹⁸ Ibid, 1917/3671/3.



24 Prs on Torrens Parade Adelaide

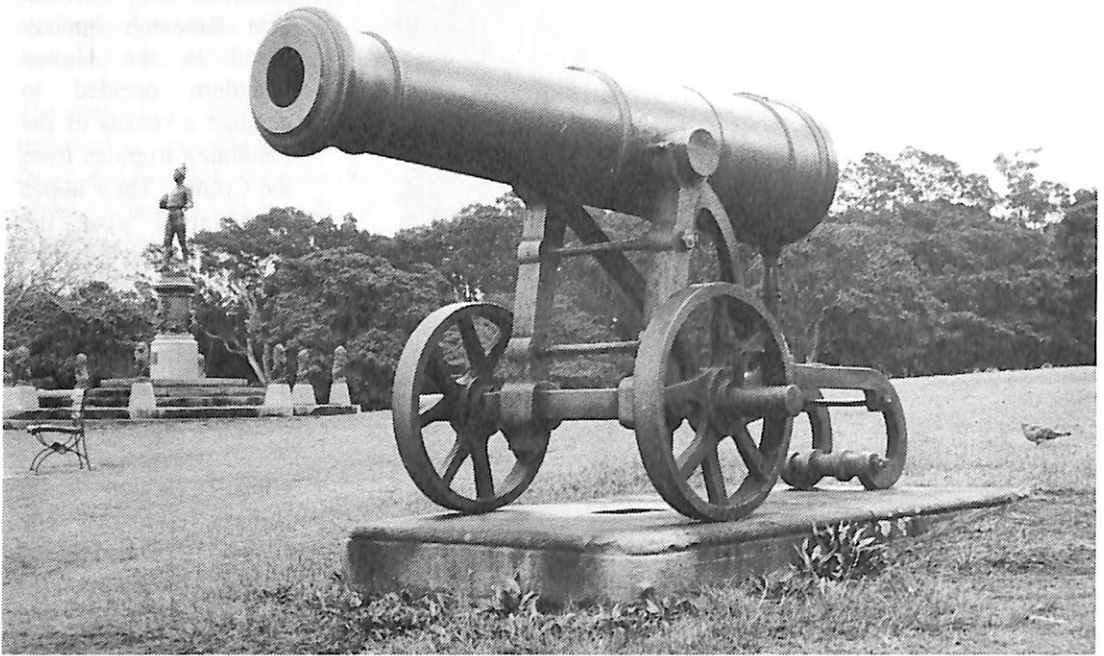
Recently the Crimean War Research Society based in the United Kingdom decided to conduct a census of the remaining trophies from the Crimea. Their hopes were raised when the editor of their journal, *The War Correspondent*, saw photographs of the two cannon outside Victoria Barracks at Melbourne in my book *Victoria's Guns*.¹⁹ Major Colin Robins, editor of *The War Correspondent*, visited Melbourne in December 1995, and I was able to take him to see Victoria's trophies and the Crimean War Veteran's graves at Drysdale. At the end of his stay he mentioned his society's census and asked if I could pass on information about any other Crimean War trophies in Australia.

From previous research I knew the location of most of the Crimean War trophies; Melbourne, Adelaide, Launceston and Hobart, but I did not know about the other cities that may have received them.²⁰ Although I had been to Sydney many times looking for cannon, I had not located the Crimean trophies. Through one of Major-General John Whitelaw's contacts, I was told that I should telephone a retired infantry colonel, Ken Thompson in Sydney. Ken knew exactly where the guns were, in Centennial Park. He very kindly sent me photographs of them.

Information required for the census included the markings on the trunnions and barrels of each gun. That sounds easy enough, but I knew from the Melbourne pair that the markings are in Cyrillic script. In order to interpret the markings, detailed photographs were required of each gun. I had photographs of the markings on the Adelaide and Melbourne pairs, so I visited Sydney, Launceston and Hobart to photograph their guns. General Whitelaw has a Russian speaking contact who kindly translated the markings on the guns.

¹⁹ Bill Billett, *Victoria's Guns: A Field Guide*, Scienceworks, Spotswood, 1994, p.38.

²⁰ In other States the trophies are displayed in pairs. Tasmania is different with one gun outside Anglesea barracks at Hobart and the other in City Park Launceston, the site of the former Government House in Northern Tasmania.



36 Pr SB Centennial Park Sydney near the 'We Won' statue



Trunnion marking on 36 Pr gun-carronade 26851 in City Park, Launceston

Russian guns have all the information about their manufacture and nature on the trunnions. On the left trunnion — from the rear of the barrel — are in descending order; the gun's number, the name of the factory where it was cast and the name of the designer. On the right trunnion; the calibre of the gun in pounds, ie the weight of the shot, below this the numbers relate to the weight of the barrel in puds - a Russian unit for mass (weight) that is equal to 36 pounds, or 16.344 kilograms, followed by the year it was made. Translation of the markings on Australia's Crimean War trophies is included in the table below. Please note that the Armstrong mentioned refers to Ivan (John) Armstrong of Scottish decent, Director of the Alexandrovski foundry, not the British arms manufacturer W G Armstrong.²¹ It should also be noted that each State has two of the same nature of gun, and that each State has different types.



Hobart's gun-carronade 30139 at Anglesea Barracks

New South Wales

Two 36-pr SB cannon with MA (Morskaya Artilleria = Marine Artillery) on plain cascables with pierced buttons. Imperial Eagle on 2nd reinforce. Iron garrison (Venglov) carriages.

Sydney Centennial Park	Left Trunnion	Right Trunnion
1	Gun number Factory Designer	36-pr ²³ = calibre 177 = weight in puds 1852 = year
2	31585 Alexandrovski Butenev	36-pr 177 barely readable unreadable

²¹ Brian Cooke, 'The Malakoff Guns', *The War Correspondent*, Journal of the Crimean War Research Society, January, 1995.

²² General Whitelaw's translator uses this spelling as does Jana Bara in 'Russian Artillery' in *Arms Collecting*, Vol. 23, No.2, p.49.

²³ See H L Blackmore, *The Armouries Of The Tower Of London: The Ordnance*, HMSO, London, 1976, pp.143-144. The markings, and dimensions, are the same on the Sydney guns and the one in the Royal Armoury's collection.

South Australia

Two 24-pr SB cannon with ring for elevating screw on moulded cascable. Imperial eagle on 2nd reinforce. Iron (Venglov) carriages. Of this pair only no. 19186 bears the MA on the cascable.

Adelaide Torrens Parade	Left Trunnion	Right Trunnion
3	19186 Alexandrovski Foullon	24-pr 120 1824
4	21112 Alexandrovski Foullon	24-pr 120 1825

Tasmania

Two 36-pr SB gun-carronades both with MA on moulded cascable and pierced button. Imperial eagle on 1st reinforce. Iron garrison (Venglov) carriages.

Launceston City Park	Left Trunnion	Right Trunnion
5	26851 Alexandrovski Armstrong	36-pr gun-carronade 142½ 1840
Hobart Anglesea Barracks 6	30139 Alexandrovski Butenev	36-pr gun-carronade 142½ 1847

Victoria

Two 36-pr SB cannon both with MA on moulded cascable and round buttons with breeching loops. Imperial Eagle on 2nd reinforce. Iron garrison (Venglov) carriages.

Melbourne Victoria Barracks	Left Trunnion	Right Trunnion
7	26046 Alexandrovski Armstrong	36-pr 168½ 1838
8	26028 Alexandrovski Armstrong	36-pr 168½ 1838

TRANSLITERATION OF RUSSIAN ALPHABET

ROMAN		ITALIC		ENGLISH	ROMAN		ITALIC		ENGLISH
Capital	Small	Capital	Small		Capital	small	Capital	Small	
А	а	<i>A</i>	<i>a</i>	a	Т	т	<i>T</i>	<i>t</i>	t
Б	б	<i>Б</i>	<i>б</i>	b	У	у	<i>У</i>	<i>у</i>	u
В	в	<i>В</i>	<i>в</i>	v	Ф	ф	<i>Ф</i>	<i>ф</i>	f
Г	г	<i>Г</i>	<i>г</i>	g	Х	х	<i>Х</i>	<i>х</i>	kh
Д	д	<i>Д</i>	<i>д</i>	d	Ц	ц	<i>Ц</i>	<i>ц</i>	ts
Е	е	<i>Е</i>	<i>е</i>	e	Ч	ч	<i>Ч</i>	<i>ч</i>	ch
Ж	ж	<i>Ж</i>	<i>ж</i>	zh	Ш	ш	<i>Ш</i>	<i>ш</i>	sh
З	з	<i>З</i>	<i>з</i>	z	Щ	щ	<i>Щ</i>	<i>щ</i>	shch
И	и	<i>И</i>	<i>и</i>	i	Ъ	ъ	<i>Ъ</i>	<i>ъ</i>	'
І	і	<i>І</i>	<i>і</i>	i	Ы	ы	<i>Ы</i>	<i>ы</i>	y
К	к	<i>К</i>	<i>к</i>	k	Ь	ь	<i>Ь</i>	<i>ь</i>	'
Л	л	<i>Л</i>	<i>л</i>	l	Ъ	ъ	<i>Ъ</i>	<i>ъ</i>	e
М	м	<i>М</i>	<i>м</i>	m	Э	э	<i>Э</i>	<i>э</i>	e
Н	н	<i>Н</i>	<i>н</i>	n	Ю	ю	<i>Ю</i>	<i>ю</i>	yu
О	о	<i>О</i>	<i>о</i>	o	Я	я	<i>Я</i>	<i>я</i>	ya
П	п	<i>П</i>	<i>п</i>	p	Ѳ	Ѳ	<i>Ѳ</i>	<i>Ѳ</i>	f
Р	р	<i>Р</i>	<i>р</i>	r	Ѵ	Ѵ	<i>Ѵ</i>	<i>Ѵ</i>	y
С	с	<i>С</i>	<i>с</i>	s	Й	й	<i>Й</i>	<i>й</i>	i

Was it for the want of dry feet that a legend was born?

Barry Clissold

Uncle Thomas and I had gone to watch model sailboats on Lake Burley Griffin in Canberra. Across the water I can just make out the Australian War Memorial, its copper-sheathed top a crusty green, sitting dully at the base of Mount Ainslie. Idly as we watch the skimming boats I decided to ask Uncle a vexing question concerning the use of Australian troops in World War I — the decision to send them to Gallipoli.

I had expected a mild rebuke as he, on every previous occasion, had chosen to decline to discuss matters relating to World War I. For, as readers will know, he saw himself as some sort of historian on the exploits of the 9th Division of the 2nd AIF. But the question was important to me. 'Uncle,' I asked, 'how did the Australians end up at Gallipoli in April 1915 when Kitchener had pledged the Australian Government to send them to France.' An interesting question you will agree.

We all know about the landing on 25 April 1915, we know of the battles for the hinterland and its tragic consequences, and the eventual withdrawal in the same year. The campaign is now one of national pride and for some it is the foundation of our nationhood. Now I have no desire to question the validity of these attitudes nor to argue that Australians should not have fought on the Peninsula. I simply wanted to know how they got there. Uncle Thomas, adjusting his peaked, and slightly nautical-looking cap, turned toward me and with a quizzical look said he knew little about these matters for they were outside his interest. But notwithstanding he showed some interest, surprising me with a response that he had understood the first contingent of the Australians had been destined for European battlefields. He spoke of Field Marshal Kitchener and his pledge to send Australian troops to Europe to fight beside British troops when they had completed training. Shading his eyes against the sun he added that Kitchener didn't keep his promise, muttering that it did seem important to find out why, and by whom, the Australians were sent to Gallipoli.

Exactly I thought, and elated by his enthusiasm, albeit modest, I decided to unravel what for both of us appeared a confusing issue.

A point to start was the declaration of war; Great Britain declared war on Germany on 4 August 1914 and the Commonwealth of Australia did the same the next day, 5 August 1914. Several days earlier Prime Minister Cook had sought advice from Major Brudenell White, at that time Acting Chief of the General Staff, (later General Sir Brudenell White), whether consideration had been given to the despatch of forces overseas in the advent of war. White's initial reaction had been to indicate that it would be possible to despatch 12 000 in six weeks. Cook however wasn't interested in anything less than the number the Canadians were to despatch and White agreed to increase Australia's initial commitment to 20 000 to match the Canadians. Although war had not been declared White drafted the cable to advise Great Britain that Australia would despatch an expeditionary force of 20 000...to any destination desired [and] to be at the complete disposal of the Home Government [Great Britain]. A cable 'gratefully accepting' this offer was received by the Australian Government on 6 August 1914.

A mobilisation plan for the now-to-be-called Australian Imperial Force, consisting of 20 000 troops, was completed by General Bridges and Major White on 8 August 1914. It was acknowledged by its planners that the force would need extensive training before being

committed to the front. Following the forces' mobilisation it sailed from the eastern states, assembling with a New Zealand convoy off the Western Australian coast with its destination Salisbury Plains in Great Britain for training. The first convoy crossed the Indian Ocean in November and reached Alexandria on 3 December 1914. But before reaching its destination, on the night of 27 November 1914, General Bridges, travelling with the convoy, received a signal from Sir George Reid, Australian High Commissioner to Great Britain. Bridges was informed that his force would train in Egypt, form a Corps under General Birdwood, and go to Europe from there when its training had been completed. These instructions had been given to Reid by Kitchener.

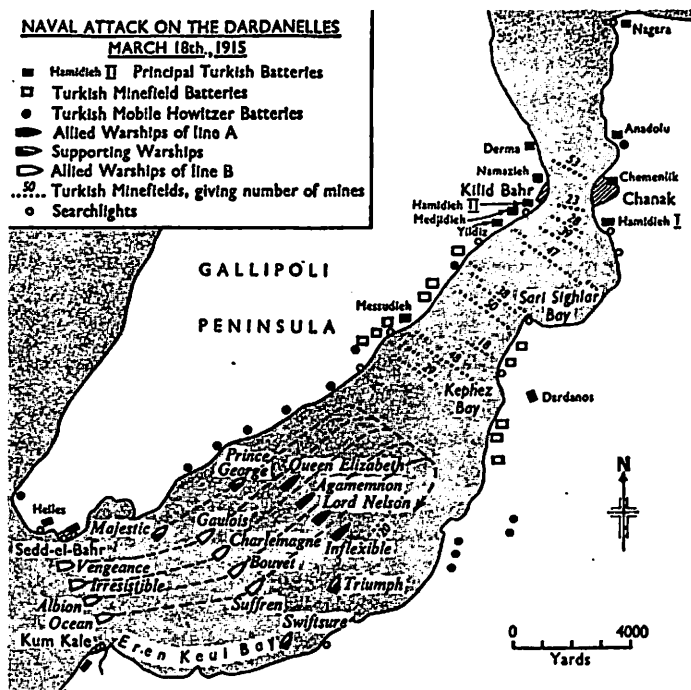
There is a division of explanation why the Australians were landed in Egypt. One, the entry of Turkey on the side of Germany placed British garrison troops in Egypt at risk and the presence of additional Australian troops in the area would act as a deterrent against the territorial aspirations of Turkey already known to be seeking wider dominion, and, two, the poor weather and limited accommodation available for the Australians at Salisbury Plains were seen as being prejudicial to their training. Both explanations are plausible with Kitchener's involvement being central to both. But it is difficult to identify the single motivating reason in Kitchener's decision to land the Australians in Egypt. We know that Reid telephoned and later saw Kitchener to explain, and to seek an alternative location from the appalling conditions the Canadians were experiencing in training at Salisbury Plains, the destination for the Australians. The area with mostly inadequate tentage was described as just one 'sea of mud', with heavy storms of wind and rain greatly hampering training. The health of the troops was also of major concern with serious outbreaks of respiratory and intestinal ailments, and, of the four thousand admissions to hospital in the fourteen weeks on Salisbury Plains there were 1249 cases of venereal disease.

At this point Uncle Thomas offered me coffee and some analytical advice. Here was a situation in which Reid was pleading with Kitchener not to send the Australians to Salisbury Plains because of the conditions there. Kitchener, in Uncle Thomas' view, was smart enough to realise that here was the perfect excuse to use the Australians in the defence of Egypt against the Turks, especially around the Suez Canal. It is revealing that later, after the Australians had commenced their training in Egypt, Kitchener told General Sir John Maxwell, Commander-in-Chief, Egypt, that he was 'considering keeping the Australians in Egypt for the defence of the country'. And although this attitude was far different from his more public, and earlier, statement that 'that there was no shortage of British troops to defend Egypt' it is perhaps nearer the truth in explaining Kitchener's ultimate decision. 'Clearly Kitchener was concerned about the situation in Egypt,' Uncle Thomas said, 'and the nearby Australians had been available.'

On balance then Kitchener appears to have succeeded in achieving both his objectives, defend Egypt and train the Australians, leaving everyone happy with the possible exception of the Canadians whose request to join the Australians to train in Egypt he turned down. Thus the Australians were to keep their feet dry and be placed closer, and more accessible, to Gallipoli and the Aegean Sea, which was now the focus of attention of the British War Council.

Much has been written about the Gallipoli Campaign with little left unsaid about its planning and execution. Suffice to say it was originally conceived as the opening of a new front; an attack on Constantinople, in possible co-operation with Greece, Bulgaria and Russia, as a means to not only defeat Turkey and bring the Balkans to Britain's side, but to open up lines of communication with Russia. Of course, as we all know, the plan failed on all counts. The fortunes of its planners ebbed and flowed as much as their theories on the composition and tactics of the attacking forces following the entry of Turkey into the war. Uncle Thomas suggested that there were perhaps three major phases in planning the campaign. The first, a plan

submitted by Lord Fisher on 3 January 1915, called for the withdrawal of all Indians and 75 000 experienced troops from Europe and to land them at Besika Bay to the south of the Dardanelles. Attempts would be made to get the Greeks to attack Gallipoli and the Bulgarians to attack Constantinople, and the Serbs and Romanians to attack Austria. The British Navy at the same time would force the Dardanelles in old battleships. The withdrawal of experienced British troops from Europe for service in this combined operation on the Gallipoli Peninsula met with vehement opposition from General French thus condemning the plan. Kitchener, also critical of Fisher's plan had told Churchill, on 2 January that '[we] have no troops to land anywhere'. But with the possibility of a stalemate on the Western Front an attack on the Gallipoli Peninsula was still attractive to the War Council.



The naval plan on the Dardanelles that failed

Thus the second plan, one long held by Churchill, of an unsupported naval attack on the Dardanelles was eagerly embraced and put into action. The plan called for the naval bombardment of the defences of the Straits and the Narrows and once the forts on either side were destroyed and secured, and the minefields cleared, the fleet would proceed up to Constantinople to accept a Turkish surrender. Australian troops, training in Egypt, had now been identified as possible garrison troops following the surrender. This second, prominently naval plan, failed

mainly because the fleet was too cautious in its attitude to the minefields in the Narrows. The attacks were called off on 23 March 1915 when Admiral de Robeck advised the Admiralty that 'the fleet could not get through without the help of the Army'. Not surprisingly that was an earlier and sustained view held by some members of the War Council who had since January been considering what troops would be necessary to support the naval attack on the Dardanelles. Ironically the decision to use Australian troops in that role had been taken on 19 February 1915 the very day the Navy, full of confidence, commenced their attack.

And it was Kitchener who had made that decision on 19 February 1915 to include Australian troops in a force totalling 128 700 for use, if necessary, to support the Navy. Three days earlier, 16 February 1915, at an informal War Council meeting it had been decided 'to include another force to be made ready, if required, from Egypt where a considerable number of troops from Australia, New Zealand and elsewhere were assembling'. Both decisions reversed an earlier

decision Kitchener had made on 13 January when he declared 'that the troops in Egypt were insufficiently trained to take the field outside of that country'. The War Council's decision was supported by General Sir John Maxwell, Commander-in-Chief, Egypt, who said 'the Australians and New Zealanders are just about fed up with Egyptian sand and training; the real thing will do them all the good in the world; they are I believe, fine fighters and shoot straight, the only question being whether their officers are good enough to keep them in hand'. Importantly it was not until 26 February that Kitchener ordered General Birdwood 'to draw upon the Australian Army Corps up to the total limit of its strength for the purpose of aiding the fleet'.

'Well there you have it', Uncle Thomas concluded, 'Kitchener correctly placed strategy before any need for dry feet', adding that the mobilisation of Australians in Egypt for Gallipoli was tactically preferable than from Salisbury Plains. I nodded my understanding, acknowledging that it had been Great Britain's decision to employ Australian troops in any 'suggested composition to any destination desired'. Kitchener had sent the Australians to Egypt and to Gallipoli, having had the prior consent of the Australian Government to do so.

But what of the other possibility that appears to have been available to the War Council, one that if taken might have resulted in Gallipoli beaches bare of Anzacs. Had it considered the use of the 31,200 strong Canadian contingent whose training on Salisbury Plains was further advanced since their arrival in October 1914. Had Kitchener considered using them on the Gallipoli Peninsula when, on 14 January 1915, he advised the War Council that the Canadians would start arriving in France in the first weeks of February 1915? I recall that he had argued several weeks earlier that he had no spare troops for any Gallipoli campaign. And there he was declaring that the Canadians were off to France at about the same time that searches were underway for troops for Gallipoli.

I decided not to test Uncle Thomas' new found interest in World War I at this stage but to return to it later. For consideration and use of Canadians, instead of Australians, at Gallipoli, and a subsequent reversal of roles in Europe, was an interesting proposition.

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Doctors and veterinarians with South Australian-South African War connections

Don W Pedlar

Doctors is all swabs' said Billy Bones the pirate, with sickbed petulance.¹ Possibly more than a few casualties of the second Boer War would have echoed his sentiments. South Australia provided several doctors and surgeons, some of whom were outstanding.

Archibald Watson, Professor of Anatomy at Adelaide University and Consulting Surgeon to the Natal Field Force remarked:

'I was surprised at the number of soldiers with hammer toes, flat feet, varicose veins, visceral phthisis, skeletal syphilis, mental aberration, hernia and defective dentition and the absence of the means of treating it.'²

However, he and others did their best.

DOCTORS

John Tressilian Toll

John Tressilian Toll MRCS England 1877, LRCP Edinburgh 1877 practised at Port Adelaide and was a Government Health Officer in 1883. He was medical attendant to the Largs Bay and Glanville Forts and to the crew of HMCS *Protector*.³ Toll volunteered to accompany South Australia's first contingent to the South African War without remuneration. The offer was accepted by the Government and he was attached to the contingent as Captain, Medical Staff. Toll was medical attendant to Surgeon Captain Hopkins.

Captain Toll was later invalided for some weeks. On recovery, he returned to the front. He wrote to his wife on the prospect of going to Pretoria and then returning home, strong in health and rich in experience. Once again invalided, he suffered an epileptic fit, which in his weakened condition proved fatal. He was buried at sea.

John Tressilian Toll is commemorated on Adelaide's Boer War Memorial with the rank of Surgeon Major.

Frederick David Jermyn

Frederick David Jermyn MBChB Melbourne 1888 was born at Port Fairy, Victoria. He was connected with 'G' Company Victorian Mounted Rifles, being Captain Medical Staff from 7 February 1890 to 26 April 1895.

¹ *Treasure Island*, R L Stephenson

² *The Australasian Medical Gazette*, 20 August 1901, p.318

³ The source of these references is *An annotated list of registered medical practitioners — South Australia*, Dr Reece Jennings MBBS MS (Adel) (Flin) FRACGP MCIT



Captain Blair, Surgeon Toll and Lieutenant Powell

He moved to Mt Gambier, South Australia, in 1895 and was attached to the local squadron of the South Australian Mounted Rifles. Jermyn was appointed Surgeon Lieutenant to the second South Australian contingent and saw service in Cape Colony, Orange River Colony and Transvaal, with actions at Johannesburg, Pretoria and Diamond Hill.

He was invalided to England with eye trouble and spent some time in Europe convalescing and studying. On return to South Australia, he was appointed Surgeon Captain to the South Australian Section of the Australian Army Medical Corps Detachment. He received the Queen's South Africa Medal (QSA) with five clasps.

Francis John Douglas

Francis John Douglas MBChB Melbourne 1897, MBChB Adelaide 1898 was appointed Lieutenant, Medical Staff of the third South Australian Contingent (South Australian Bushmen).

In early August 1900, Lt A E Collins was badly wounded while on patrol. Lt Douglas stayed with him and both were taken prisoner. Reduced to replacing dressings with portions of their shirts, with water but little food, both must have welcomed the approach of Kitchener's Column, at which the Boers departed.

Typhoid and serious wounds were treated. Transport was by bullock wagons, the longest trek being about 100 miles, with few orderlies to help with the care of patients. Travelling at night and resting by day, the journey took 10 days. No casualty was lost.

Douglas saw service in Cape Colony, Orange River Colony, Transvaal and Rhodesia. His QSA has five clasps. He was appointed Honorary Lieutenant (Medical Staff) South Australia. At the end of his South African service he went to Britain for a holiday and hospital work.⁴

Spencer Smithson Dunn

Spencer Smithson Dunn MBCM Aberdeen 1888 was Surgeon Captain with the 4th South Australian Imperial Bushmen. Dunn was twice recommended for promotion to Major during his service by the Principal Medical Officer under whom he served. He was noted for his cool bravery under fire.

He contracted typhoid but recovered. During his convalescence he was placed in charge of a steamer in the harbour of Cape Town. On board were Boer prisoners. In March 1901 an ambulance train was sent under his direction to Pretoria to bring 300 sick and wounded soldiers to Cape Town.

He was very popular with the men of the Corps. To the sick and wounded his cheerfulness and unbounded enthusiasm were an inspiration and his hearty, 'Well, laddie, how can we help you?' gave sufferers new hope.

The 4th Imperial Bushmen returned to South Australia on 27 July 1901 aboard the troopship *Britannic*. Eleven of the South Australians were suffering from measles, while a further 80 cases were among interstate troops. The local troops were admitted to the Torrens Island quarantine station under the care of Captain Dunn.

⁴ *Counsellor, Guide and Friend*, by M S Douglas

Dunn was appointed Captain in the Medical Staff Active Forces with effect from 1 August 1901. He also served as Medical Officer for the camps of the 7th and 8th South Australian Contingents.

William Ramsey Smith

William Ramsey Smith BSc Edinburgh 1888 MBChM Edin 1892, MB Adelaide 1904, MD Edin 1913, BSc Adelaide 1903, DSc Adelaide 1904 was brought to South Australia with Dr A D L Napier by the Kingston Government to maintain services at the Adelaide Hospital when the honorary staff resigned. Intellectually and clinically superior to those they replaced, Smith and Napier were never forgiven by their contemporaries.

Smith was appointed Captain (Medical Staff) to the fifth Contingent (South Australian Bushmen) for the voyage only. Men and horses of the 5th disembarked at Port Elizabeth and were sent to Kroonstadt that night. The doctor took ship to Cape Town, but while waiting for passage, studied plague problems at Grahamstown. At Cape Town, he was appointed Principal Medical Officer (Plague Administration) and medical embarking officer advising the military authorities on the plague as it affected transport of troops on land and sea. At times 3,000 men were landed in addition to embarking time-expired men and invalids, and 1,500 Boer prisoners were sent to Ceylon, Bombay and Madras. In carrying out these duties, Smith gained an insight into the whole transport system.

The plague in Cape Town presented the same problems as in Melbourne and Adelaide regarding rats and bubonic plague. Work was carried out investigating the different forms which the plague bacillus assumed in cultivation and inoculation.

Smith rose from Lieutenant, Medical Staff (South Australia) on 11 June 1896 to Lieutenant Colonel AAMC, and to PMO (South Australia) on 15 December 1906. His QSA has two clasps.

Richard Sanders Rogers

Richard Sanders Rogers BA Adelaide 1882, MBChM Edinburgh 1887, MD Edin 1893, MD Adelaide 1897, MA Adelaide 1899, D Sc Adelaide 1936 served as a civil surgeon (voyage only) with South Australia's sixth contingent. He was on Australian Army medical Corps reserve of officers as a Major from 1 November 1909 and, as Lieutenant Colonel, directed the Keswick Base Hospital from 1914 to 1919.

Alan James Campbell⁵

Alan James Campbell MBChB Adelaide 1896, MACS LRCP London 1898 arrived in South Africa from Britain, serving aboard the Hospital Ship *Nubia*, then transferred to hospitals at Ladysmith and Howick. He was commended by Colonel Westcott CMG RAMC, PMO.

Campbell was appointed Surgeon to Steinaker's Horse. This unit operated in a dangerous malarial district during the worst of the fever season. He contracted the disease and in his own words, 'I had a liver as big as a house and a spleen half as big as London'. Upon being urged to transfer to another district, he replied that he could no more run away from his duty than if he were a fighting man. On a hospital ship with fever, overdoses of quinine produced bilious remittent fever. The food consisted of greasy beef, tea and condensed milk.

⁵ see 'Not in Murray's', *Sabretache*, Vol. XXXIV, No.2 (April-June 1993), p.23

During convalescent leave, he married Kate Durant, a niece of Lord Roberts.

Returning to duty he was again attacked by malaria and had to leave the district. Colonel Westcott secured his services for the military hospital at Harrismith from September 1901 to February 1902. He was involved in very heavy work, especially as a result of a disaster to an Imperial Yeomanry column on Christmas Eve at Tweefontein.

Continued ill health due to malaria and stress of work compelled him to resign. In February 1902 he proceeded to Pretoria with the onset of enteric fever. His strength expended, he died at Pretoria on 19 March 1902.

Rupert Walter Hornabrook

Rupert Walter Hornabrook MBChB Adelaide 1896, LRCP London MRCS England 1897 was an Adelaide man. In January 1898 he secured an appointment to study plague problems in the Bombay Presidency in India. The death rate was never lower than 72% as opposed to South Africa where it was rarely 50%.

In January 1899 Dr Hornabrook was asked to go to the Transvaal where the plague had broken out. Refusing to serve the Kruger Government, he accepted an engagement with the Johannesburg Chamber of Mines as health officer at £200 per month for nine months. When it became evidence that fighting would break out, he enlisted in the Natal Mounted Infantry. He remained with the Chamber of Mines until the end of September, when relations between the Republics and the Imperial Government became so strained that the doctor joined his company. Granted a bonus from the Chamber, he left with crowds of refugees for Natal.

A few days later, he was at Ladysmith acting as medical officer for his corps. He was present at the battle of Eland's Laagte.

Hornabrook managed to bluff 25 Boers to drop their weapons and go into camp. They were subsequently sent to Cape Town as prisoners. Shut up in Ladysmith until the relief, he went out with all the sorties. He was fortunate in being only slightly wounded in the shoulder, until January 1900, when a bullet struck his hip bone. Upon recovery, he was sent to the Officer's camp at Indombi as medical officer. Here he contracted enteric fever and was still in Ladysmith when the relief took place.

Rejoining the Natal Mounted Infantry, he went to Alleman's Nek near Majuba Hill. From there the Natal Mounted Infantry went to Vrede via Harrismith. At the end of September, they returned to Dundee and were disbanded in mid October.

After visiting several South Australians, including Drs Campbell and Watson, he went to Durban to embark for Southampton but at Port Elizabeth he was urged to proceed to the King William's Town district to report on the bubonic plague. A month later he was on board ship, 'delighted to turn my back on South Africa'.

He was mentioned in despatches in the London Gazette, received the QSA with five clasps and the KSA with two clasps. Hornabrook served in the Royal Australian Navy in World War I.

Archibald Watson

Archibald Watson LSA London 1880, MD Paris 1880, MD Adelaide aeg 1885 was a wonderful eccentric. Possibly Ramsay Smith was the only man to get the better of him. After a very successful scholastic career and colourful youth, he secured his MD (Göttingen) 1878 and at Paris (Honours) Licentiate Society of Apothecaries London 1880 and became a Member of the

Royal College of Surgeons in 1882 and Fellow in 1884. In 1885, he was appointed Elder Professor of Anatomy at the University of Adelaide.

Watson went to South Africa as a Special Service Officer in January 1900. Proceeding to Marizburg he became a volunteer civil surgeon. He was very busy dealing with wounded from Spion Kop and other severe battles. He later replaced Sir W MacCormac as Consulting Surgeon, Natal Field Force. After 11 months hard work, his health gave way and he went to the high veldt for a rest. Subsequently, he worked at Charleston Hospital near Majuba Hill.

At Pretoria, he was given an opportunity to study leprosy and horse sickness. Other diseases investigated were plague and enteric fever. He continued articles to several journals including the *British Medical Journal* and the *Intercolonial Medical Journal*.

His QSA has the bar 'Natal'.

In July 1906 he was appointed Honorary Major, Australian Army Medical Corps (Reserve). At the age of 65, he embarked for the Middle East with the 1st Australian Stationary Hospital, serving as Consulting Surgeon and Pathologist. After returning to Australia, he left the army on 7 March 1916.

VETERINARIANS

William John Bickford

William John Bickford MRCVS came to South Australia in 1888, having practised in Devon, England for 30 years. He had served in the 26th Devon Volunteers. In March 1898, he joined the South Australian Military Forces as Veterinarian Lieutenant and was placed on the staff of the Mounted Rifles.

He was appointed Veterinarian Lieutenant to the 2nd South Australian Contingent for the voyage only. While in camp in Adelaide a horse gave the farrier a very trying time, so Bickford chloroformed the animal. The shoes were fitted and the horse recovered.

He next appears on the list of non-combatant Officers of the 4th Contingent (South Australian Imperial Bushmen) as Veterinarian Lieutenant with the option of returning after safely landing the horsemen on South African soil.

The Contingent had a fairly good passage to Beira. Of the 537 horses on board, only 9 died, with pneumonia being the main cause.

Owing to blockages on the railway inland, Sir Frederick Carrington ordered the Contingent to proceed to Durban to disembark. They were then sent to Port Elizabeth from whence they proceeded to Bloemfontein.

Bickford praised Lt Col Rowell and Major Hawker on his return to Adelaide on 30 July 1900.

R H McRaith

R H McRaith was listed in *The Observer* of 7 April 1900 as Veterinarian Lieutenant. Although his portrait sketch appears with those of other officers of the 4th South Australian Contingent, no biographical details are given and his name does not appear again.

Jerome Lawrence Burns

Jerome Lawrence Burns MRCVS was born in 1867 at Blarney Castle, County Cork, Ireland. He was the son of Jerome Burns, Engineer in Chief of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway. He studied at the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, Edinburgh and spent 3½ years at the Melbourne College.

He practised for seven years in Adelaide. In 1896 he was gazetted to issue certificates of health for South Australian stock for export.

Burns had two uncles, both veterinary surgeons, on the staff of the British Army in India.

Recommended by the Committee of the South Australian Bushmen's Corps, Burns was appointed Veterinary Lieutenant. The Bushmen left on the *Maplemore* in March 1900. Writing from Fremantle, Lt Burns stated:

'The South Australian horses compare favourably with those of New South Wales and Queensland. I am the only vet on the ship and have the entire charge of all the horses, which keeps me from getting lazy. We have another 100 to put on board at Fremantle so you will see I have a nice little practice to start with. One of the South Australian horses, belonging to Trooper Churches, died on Saturday. He would not eat and got very weak. With over 400 on board, the losses amount to less than one percent. The Queensland horses are in poor condition and two have died since coming on board.'

Lieutenant Burns carried with him a letter from the Selection Committee giving him the option of returning home after his arrival in South Africa, but the military authorities would not recognise this and he carried out his duties until Marandellas was reached. There he was seized with malarial fever and was sent to Cape Town on the order of Dr Ingleby of the Western Australian Contingent. Burns had been attached to the New South Wales Contingent and had the care of 1,100 horses and mules. During two weeks, 100 horses and 250 mules were lost to horse sickness. He carried out about 60 post mortem examinations and found that in every case, the lungs had been affected.

Recovering from the fever at Cape Town, he applied for employment until the *Australasian* left. He was engaged at the remount depot when glanders broke out and large numbers of horses had to be destroyed.

Arriving in Adelaide on 27 June 1900, Lt Burns stated his delight to be back in South Australia. Expressing a view that he was to repeat, he said, 'Africa is no place for an Australian'.

In the *Chronicle* of 6 December 1900, when Burns was asked his opinion as to the utility of Australian horses for Army purposes, he said that horses for Army purposes must have breeding as well as substance. Half of the horses in Australia may safely be placed under the heading of weeds. It was next to impossible to get a thoroughly sound, well educated horse in Adelaide at the time. The reason for the degeneracy is that breeders think that any stallion will do so long as it has won a five furlong race with six stone up. The race horse is bred for speed and substance is sacrificed. There was great trouble in getting horses, 120 in all, for the Bushmen's Corps.

Having been on two voyages to Calcutta, Burns had a good idea of the class of horse required. The *Observer* of 16 November 1901 stated:

'Mr J L Burns, veterinary surgeon, who has made 4 trips from Australia to South Africa with remounts for the Imperial Government returned to Adelaide recently. He left Brisbane on the last occasion on 16 August on the *Sussex* with nearly 1,000 horses,



Veterinary Lieutenant J L Burns

the voyage was made via Torres Straits. It was a successful trip and only a few losses occurred. He expects to leave on his fifth visit to the Cape early next month.'

Writing from Albany on 28 December 1901, Burns said:

'I arrived here last night on the steamer *Norfolk* with 750 horses on board for South Africa. We left Newcastle, NSW on December 18. Up to the present we have had luck with the horses, only a few being lost so far. I hope to be back in Adelaide some time in March next.'

The *Observer* of 8 March 1902 stated:

'Veterinary Surgeon Captain J L Burns of Eastwood, whose services have been so largely utilised by the War Office returned to South Australia on Tuesday. He arrived at Hobart by the steamer *Gothic* on February 26 and came straight on to Adelaide.'

In the *Chronicle* of 29 March 1902, Burns stated:

'My last voyage was on the steamer *Norfolk*. The condition of the horses landed at Durban was considered so good by the military authorities that they marked their appreciation by awarding me a nice bonus, the first paid to any veterinary officer in charge of Government remounts from these colonies. I have heard of Lord Kitchener's complaints in respect to remounts from Australia and I agree with him as to the very disgraceful condition of a percentage of these horses. It must be remembered, however, that a great number of the animals were private shipments and these were selected anyhow and sent over on the chance of being sold when they arrived, which they often were owing to the great scarcity of horses to carry on the war. But I believe horses selected and passed by the Government Remount Commission in Australia were as good as could be got at the price paid. No doubt they were often put on board not in the best condition and in some instances not suitable for the purposes required. But when perhaps as many as 1,000 horses have to be got together in a few weeks, it is not to be wondered at that they were not all perfect.

'Out horses have not in the vast majority of cases received the merest rudiments of an education for any purpose whatever and are simply in a wild state, unbroken and not handled unless putting a saddle and a bridle on them once can be called 'breaking them in'.

'When at Durban two months ago I saw at the remount depot 800 Russian horses. For downright ugliness they beat everything I ever saw by way of horses. I singled out what I took to be a few of the most typical and photographed them to bring back examples which I shall show anybody who takes an interest in these matters.

'Ninety thousand horses from all parts had been landed at Port Natal up to the time of my visit a few weeks ago. I could not find out how many may have come by way of East London, Port Elizabeth and Cape Town. It takes a good horse to last six months in South Africa. The greater number die long before that. Everything is against them. The long sea voyage does them no good and the conditions they are surrounded by from the moment they land all tend to destroy them. It has been an expensive war in horseflesh.

'I spent nine days in Durban this time, four days in East London and a week in Cape Town. Adderley Street, Cape Town contains all nations at present and they are nearly every colour of the rainbow. A more busy city would be hard to find. The hotels are all

full up. When I landed from the *Norfolk* I could not get a bed at any price and as a last resort, had to sleep on the ship that night.

'The war has been a godsend to Cape Town or to the hotel and boarding house keepers. There is absolutely no comfort to be had there. Expenses are very heavy and ruinous to a poor man and the prospects of obtaining work are not bright. I hear that wages in Natal are coming down. When it is remembered that Europe, Asia and America, not to mention Australia are all in Africa after good billets, it is not surprising that the supply of hands is greater than the demand. Out of nearly 90 men on the *Norfolk* who came in attendance on the horses, not more than six could get a job of any sort in Durban in a private capacity and the remainder had to join the various corps at 5 shillings per day or leave the colony.

'I have now been five voyages to South Africa and have visited every port from Biera to the Cape, besides being as far as Johannesburg and Ladysmith inland and I say again to those in Australia who sometimes feel dissatisfied with their lot, 'Have sense and remain where you are and do not be so short sighted and foolish as to leave a white for a blackman's country'. The old song says, 'There is a happy land far, far, away'. South Africa is certainly not that land.'

J L Burns was awarded the QSA with one clasp. He was appointed Honorary Veterinary Lieutenant in the Citizen Military Forces, with effect from 28 February 1900.

John Desmond

Faulding's Medical Journal of October 1899 stated:

'The recently appointed Government Veterinary Surgeon and Chief inspector of Cattle has commenced his duties in Adelaide. Mr Desmond who had the largest cattle practice in Australia is a gentleman possessed of high scientific attainments and for some time was lecturer on Bacteriology and Microscopical Technology and other scientific subjects at the Melbourne Veterinary College.'

Appointed Veterinary Lieutenant to the 5th South Australian Contingent, Desmond is listed as 'voyage only'. He must have seen some service in Africa as he was awarded the QSA with one clasp. The *Observer* of 18 May 1901 stated: Veterinary Lieutenant Desmond who went with the fifth contingent on the *Ormazan*, reached Melbourne on Saturday by the steamer *Salamis* from South Africa.

Desmond became Lieutenant Australian Army Veterinary Corps on 18 September 1900, promoted to Captain on 29 May 1903, and then Major (and Principal Veterinary Officer, 4th Military District) on 5 April 1909.

Norman William Sterling

Norman William Sterling was appointed Veterinary Lieutenant to the 6th South Australian Contingent (Imperial Bushmen) and saw service with this unit. He returned to South Australia on 6 or 7 May 1902. He was appointed Honorary Lieutenant with effect from 28 March 1901. His QSA has four clasps.

Stanley Fletcher

A South African Army Order dated 1 June 1901 notified the following appointment in Overseas Colonial Corps:

'Sixth South Australian Imperial Bushmen. Subject to approval of the South Australian and Victorian Governments—Veterinary Lieutenant S Fletcher, third Victorian contingent to be Vet Captain 8 May 1901. Transferred to South Australian Imperial Bushmen.'⁶

Harvey Pym Finlayson

Harvey Pym Finlayson, the son of Mr H J Finlayson, was educated at Prince Alfred College, Adelaide. At the age of twenty he went to Natal as a veterinary surgeon, after which he joined the Cape Mounted Police.

Towards the end of April 1900 Harvey travelled from Cape Town to Kimberley. On his arrival there, he received a telegram from the Army authorities at the Cape directing him to take up his duties on the Veterinary Staff with the rank of captain.

In a letter dated 27 May that Harvey wrote from Droogfontein, he states:

'As instructed by wire, I went first to Warrenton, arriving there on May 3. I then found I had to take horse and work back to Riverton, calling on the way at Waldsorton, commandeering rebel cattle and valuing same. Started the same morning at 8 am with my own horse brought from the Cape and a pack horse and black boy. About midday was taken prisoner by the Boers who took everything including black boy. Was kept with them, moving from place to place, continually within hearing of the fighting. Was absolutely starved for four days, living after that on dry maize, not ground, and bad water.

'In the twenty days I was with them was taken out to be shot twenty times, each time something happening to put off the fatal moment. I used to have to stand in a small circle amidst smelling, grinning Boers, who insulted me as much as possible. Five Boers with Mausers would stand by, waiting for the word to fire. Once one fired before the word was given, seemingly to the satisfaction of the others and the bullet grazed my arm. Whether they really meant to shoot me I don't know, but it was bad enough. The last incident was the news of Mafeking which we got on Tuesday, May 22. On the following day I managed to escape.

'Am now fulfilling my duties between Kimberley and Riverton at a farm called Droogfontein. Our house which serves as dining room, sitting room and bedroom is a wagon captured from the Boers with a large awning stretched over the top. On Thursday night a great wind came suddenly and carried away the roof and immediately after a very heavy rain set in. Unfortunately in the darkness we could not find the missing shelter, so had to sleep under the wagon and all the rations got wet and spoiled. In the morning we discovered our roof nearly half a mile away comfortably over a bush.

'All around us are trenches made by the Boers to fall back upon in case of need when they were besieging Kimberley.

⁶ Murray's *Records of Australian Contingents*, p.241

'Working hours, from 5am to 7pm; food, tinned beef and damper. Today rations arrived and I see on the first box of tinned meat, 'L Conrad, Adelaide, SA', so we have something to remind us of the old place.

'Today I got a kick in the leg from a horse which has made me a little stiff and I have had to knock off work for a few hours, otherwise I don't know when I should have been able to write.

'The bad time I had with the Boers has made a slight difference to me. Indeed I don't think you would recognise me if you saw me in the street. My hair has turned quite grey. My face has fallen right in and I look about fifty. They say it was the agony of being taken out to be shot which made me piebald.'

Having transferred to the Cape Mounted Police in October 1900, Lt Finlayson was in charge of the detachment at Modder River.

At 7:30am on 25 October, four natives brought news that Jacobsdal, garrisoned by Cape Town Highlanders, had been surprised by Boers and the market square was occupied by the enemy.⁷ Findlayson recorded:

'I immediately ordered all my men to saddle up although we had been out all night and then ordered 40 footmen to parade, fully armed and equipped, as soon as possible. We started in skirmishing order. We got about half way when I saw a great number of Boer galloping in the direction of Jacobsdal.

'We had arranged that I and four Cape Artillerymen should take the right flank, the rest of my men the left flank and the footmen the centre, but the footmen delayed so long that I asked the artillerymen if they were prepared to rush to town. They all agreed willingly so we galloped the remaining distance. Not a shot was fired until we got into the market square, when fire opened from each of the four sides, and it was very hot for a little time. Of course, we did not know where our fellows were.

'Seeing some Boers ride off towards Koffyfontein, we gave chase. Unfortunately, their horses were much more fresh than ours and they easily outdistanced us. We then charged the town from a different direction. The Boers were beginning to disperse, so we dismounted and commenced arresting men from whose houses the firing had come. We (five men) relived Jacobsdal at 2:50pm.'

Findlayson's further military service was in South Australia with the volunteer force in the Automobile Corps with the rank of Lieutenant, dating from 29 January 1910.

⁷ The Officer of the Cape Town Highlanders had quartered his men in tents in the market square, surrounded by houses. The casualties were 12 killed or died of wounds and 17 wounded from the Cape Town Highlanders.

Abbreviations

aeg	ad eundem gradum (to the same degree)	MB	Bachelor of Medicine
BA	Bachelor of Arts	MBChB	Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery
BSc	Bachelor of Science		
DSc	Doctor of Science	MBChM	Bachelor of Medicine, Master of Surgery
LRCP	Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians	MD	Doctor of Medicine
LRCS	Licentiate of the Royal College of Surgeons	MRCS	Member of the Royal College of Surgeons
LSA	Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries	MRCVS	Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons
MA	Master of Arts		

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Acknowledgments

Advertiser Newspapers Ltd for permission to quote from various contemporary papers

Dr Reece Jennings for permission to use quote and refer to his *Annotated list of Registered Medical Practitioners*

Mr David Vivian for review and assistance

Mr A F Harris

Mr George Newbury

Mr Tony Rudd

Mr Keven Draper

Staff of the Bray Reference and Mortlock Libraries

State records (South Australia)

Captain S A White — soldier and conservationist

Trevor Turner

In the summer of 1968 I was enjoying a pleasant holiday at my grandmothers house in rural South Australia. Whilst exploring an old abandoned farmhouse nearby I made an interesting and fortunate discovery. Scattered across the floor in a crumbling bedroom were strewn the contents of a drawer. When gathered together these weathered and stained papers revealed numerous documents relating to the service in South Africa during the Boer War of Captain Samuel Albert White, formerly of the South Australian Imperial Bushmen. I discovered, from my grandmother, that the house had belonged to his son and that 'old' Captain White had been a famous authority on Australian birds.

Among the rescued documents were many individual private and official papers. These included such numerous and diverse items as business and personal calling cards, military intelligence summaries, railway tickets, bills, receipts, personal correspondence, official and semi-official correspondence of all natures, souvenir menus, and private letters etc. The condition of the documents vary greatly, but all are damaged to some degree. They had spent many years lying loose and rotting on the floor of the old house. Many could not be saved and many more had been lost forever.

However, perhaps the most interesting among Captain White's salvaged papers were several that related to each other and dealt, in sequence of sorts, to an operation in the field against the Boers. The first items in this series of events, regarding the sighting of the Boer leader Oudendal and his men, are two large (A5) carbon copies of Operational Orders, signed by Captain White, for an operation in the field. They are directed to Lieutenant Fincham, Officer Commanding No 4 Troop, and Lieutenant Alfred Knight, Officer Commanding No 3 Troop, Albert District Mounted Troops. Both these original documents are hand-written and in places are very hard to read. Though not dated they were clearly written just prior to 3 April, 1902. They are reproduced as written.

'Lieut. Fincham

No 4 Troop, DMT

You will proceed with every available man of your troop to LIMOEN KLOOF moving by the farms of Bospes laagte, Broeden Bank across PLAAT KOP DRIFT, Marshals KRAAL, across the main road from Aliwal to Jamestown passed ZOORVLARTE to LIMOEN KLOOF. You will time your march in order to reach Limoen Kloof by day light on the 3rd April.

Great caution must be taken from Marshals KRAAL to your destination and Homesteads on the way must be searched.

It is known that a small party of the enemy is hiding in the hills between DAMFONTEIN, EZELS KLIPP and PATRIOTSKAM — probably near the spot where you were with me above EZELS KLIPP FARM on the morning of the 12 March.

Captain Cawood is moving out from Aliwal with 25 men and is timing his march to be at DAMFONTEIN when you are at Limoen KLOOF.

Lieut Knight and McGregor with 25 men are moving from Burghersdorp via POOTJE.

Should arrive at PATRIOTSKAM when you are at LIMOEN KLOOF.

You will with Lt Knight therefore block the outlet of EZELS KLIPP pass.'

The second surviving operational order for the same action issued to Lt Knight, is as follows;

'Lieutenant Knight

No 3 Troop Albert DMT

You will proceed with your Troop and Lieut. McGregor and every available man of his Troop to take up a position barring the outlet of EZELS KLIPP Pass.

You must proceed by the farms of GROEN VLEY, MOOI PLATZ and POORTJE.

You must be in position before daylight on April 3rd.

You should not have less than 20 men with you — no Transport is to be taken and everyone should have a greatcoat — and 2 days rations.

Lieut. Fincham will arrive at LIMOEN KLOOF with his Troop when you are at POORTJE.

You should not communicate with him until you receive orders or you find the enemy is breaking through.

Captain Cawood with 25 men will be near the Homestead of EZELS KLIPP.

A small party of Boers are in the hills opposite to the ridge which you lined with your men overlooking EZELLS KLIPP pass on the morning of March 1st.

Captain Cawood will endeavour to drive these onto you and Lieut. Fincham — You must proceed with great caution and conceal your men as much as possible in a good position before daylight.

You should not send anyone into the pass or make your presence known until you receive orders.

The success of the move depends on the way you lead the men and on the vigilance and caution you take.

The Farm of POORTJE should be searched and no one permitted to leave until the operation is over.

You should take a reliable guide — a farmer if possible, and obtain Freemantles assistance.

You must be careful not to lose touch at night and your men must be kept together. Frequent halts should be made to see that no one is missing.'

Both these documents are in poor condition being badly stained and having suffered from exposure and dampness.

Also among White's numerous papers is an Intelligence Summary, dated Aliwal North, 30 April 1902. It states:

' ... J C Debruin and Adrian Vinter with 18 men were camped at Waaikraal Hill 18 miles East of Burghersdorp on the night of the 30th April, came to the Homestead on the morning of May 1st and stayed all day and camped on the mountain South of Homestead that night. The party reported at Wirkop yesterday were under Odendaal not Ber...haut and they were mostly dressed in Khaki.'

The second part to this series of events, and perhaps physically the most interesting, not least in that it has survived in almost pristine condition, is a small flimsy page torn from a field message note book. It was written in the field, in some haste in pencil, by Lt C A Mc Donald, Lovats Scouts. This original relic states:

'O.C.

KRAAI RIVER BRIDGE

OUDENDAL with 30 men was just South of BRAMSPRUIT at 8.p.m. last night 25th inst. Am holding from SERVITUDE and ELANDS KLOOF right round via WELTEVREDEN and PLATKOPJE DRIFT to LIMOENFONTEIN. As soon as everyone is in position I shall drive straight north to the ORANGE RIVER.

Could you see that in the earlier stages of the drive that the Boers do not break over line of Kopjes S.W. of your post — and in the latter stage of the drive that they do not break from the BOSHURG between your post and ALIWAL. Any information I shall be glad to receive.

C A MacDonald, Lieut
& Adj for OC
Lovats Scouts

WELTEVREEDEN

9.15 am 26.4.02'

This original, flimsy ephemeral relic from the veldt alone was an exciting discovery. However, the next document in the series is a poorly typewritten transcript of a telephone message taken at KRAAI BRIDGE. It states:

'TELEPHONE MESSAGE.

from Lt Hearn
Kraai Bridge
To Capt White, O.C. C.C.F

Received dispatch from O.C. Lovats Scouts.

Informing me that Oudendal with 30 men was South of Grand Spruit at 8 p.m. last night. Asking me to hold Kopjes south of my post and to see that Boers do not break through between my post and Aliwal.

Waiting your orders.'

Obviously a relay of the field message sent by Lt McDonald, note that Lt Hearn has mistakenly copied Grandspruit instead of Bramspruit as written in McDonalds note. In fact both are incorrect, it is per the map, Brandspruit. A contemporary map of this area reveals that the town of Wit Kop (not Wir Kop) to be 18 miles south east of Burghersdorp. Burghersdorp is also only some 30 miles South of Aliwal North. The small town of Brandspruit (not Bramspruit) is also Some fifteen miles on the main road between Aliwal North and Burghersdorp.

In the more mundane stream of daily administration from the White collection comes the following. On 26 May 1902 Capt Stockwell requests of Capt White, by memo:

‘Kindly detail an escort for 24 Ox Wagons to Lemoenfontein. The wagons should be at KRAAI Bridge on the night of the 25th and with the escort they will leave on the 26th. Please pass this onto OC Supplies.’

Again the contemporary map of this area reveals that the KRAAI River wends its way South east from Aliwal North. Although no bridge is marked on this map the crossing may have been before it broke off into a number of smaller tributaries. Just to the East of the Kraai River, some fifteen miles from Aliwal North lies Marshalls Kraal and still, some twelve miles further south west lies Patriots Klip. This entire area is indicated by the map to be very hilly with numerous valleys, re-entrants and many small streams. This would appear to be a safe and natural environment for men well versed in fieldcraft. It is also only several hours ride from major settled areas, and would seem to be an ideal area for the Boers to be operating from. Not least for the many sympathetic Boer farms and families in this isolated area.

Also of interest on the map is the location of *Odendaal Stroom*, marked only 20 miles North-west of Aliwal North. Is it possible that the Boer leader referred to by Lt McDonald was a local man with a family presence of long standing in the area?

These few original documents are surely only fragmentary examples of the many documents that must have been raised by a number of people in regards this operation and operations against the Boers in this area in general. These few documents related here may not be historically significant, but as surviving sequential relics of this period, must place them in the rare if not unique, category. It is not known what became of the Boer Oudendal or indeed the outcome of the above field operations.

Less fortunately there are only several surviving personal letters written by Captain White with the collection. It is also unfortunate that none of these letters are complete as all are missing pages. The following is a transcript of part of one such letter written by White, sadly it contains only four surviving pages — pages five to eight inclusive. Though written in a continuous flowing style with little punctuation, it does paint a picture of the times and provides a brief insight into the man. Rubber stamped in the top left corner of page five is ‘Office of the OC Cape Colonial Forces, No 11 Area, Colesburg’. It is possible that this descriptive letter of Captain White’s may have been included in the official files, less the personal pages, as some sort of intelligence or inspection report. These few remaining pages are in very poor condition. They are torn, heavily stained and have suffered severely from exposure to the elements.

White’s narrative, which for us starts on page five of his letter, begins with his description of his arrival at Aliwal North. It seems that he had probably begun this journey from Colesburg. This letter then describes his return journey with his ‘Chief’. From Aliwal North it is some 30 miles or more southward to Burghersdorp. From here he travels North-west to the Orange River again at Bethulie Bridge, a distance of some 40 miles. Less than four miles further on is the town of Bethulie. He then travels the remaining 40 miles to Springfontein. From Burghersdorp to Springfontein it is almost a direct train ride of some 70 miles. At Springfontein they turn south again and travel some 35 miles to Norvals Pont Station, again crossing the Orange River. From Norvals Pont Station it is another twenty miles to return home to Colesburg. The letter is presented as written.

‘... This country sloping down to the river is very nice mostly grassy downs & I should think very good sheep country but I saw but little stock, a few goats the property of Kaffirs & a few Ostriches to be seen. Just at dusk we reached the end of

this branch line at the pretty little town of Aliwal North. We had our luggage conveyed to the usual dirty little place called an hotel where we had a tough bit of meat and a cup of tanning called tea. Then my Chief & I called on Capt. Robertson who is quartered here. Capt Robertson was out in Queensland as Instructor in Musketry. Next morning my Chief and I rose at daylight and walked towards the river & standing on the South bank we faced the Orange River Colony with the big bridge called the Freer Bridge, after Sir Bertie Freer (Frere). On our left we cast our eyes up the deep & steep banks away as far as the eye can search, strong blockhouses keep watch over the river like R We crossed the river into the Orange River Colony. I took some snap shots in the camp on the North bank, then walked back through the town. Aliwal North is well situated & is laid out well, nice broad streets & lots of trees — in fact on the river bank we walked up an avenue of Red gums, (Queensland?) Blue Gums and Blackwoods which are all doing remarkably well & only that one caught a glimpse through the trees of the barren, rocky Kopjes beyond I would almost have thought I was in an avenue in dear old Australia. When I see the dear old trees I feel sad for them & often find myself saying 'poor old trees' & wonder if you pine like me for the dear old land from whence we both came. I noticed that the Red gum was doing very well at Aliwal N and I told all I meet to plant plenty of them & told them of the good quality of the wood of which they are ... nicely planted a square in the centre of the town which puts me very much in mind of the B... Park in Pretoria & here we find many species of gums growing very well.

Have call[ed] on Major Stone. I attended Chief Inspector of Colonial Forces on parade & Inspection. Have then called on the General (Sir Fitzroy Heart) he is the finest little man I ever met & puts me in mind of the ... French Pirates two hundred years ago, but he is a charming man to meet, a most polished gentleman & he received my Chief and me as nicely. This is the General who spoke and wrote so complimentary about me & he made me feel quite uncomfortable, he gave me such praise for work done. There is one thing he agrees with thoroughly in that more can be done by a kind heart & patience than by bullying & Severity, the General asked us to call after lunch.

We lunched with Capt Robertson & Mrs R then went down to the General again, where we met Lord Lovat of 'Lovats Scouts' who are operating in this district. We spent a very pleasant time with the General & then caught a goods train to Burghersdorp. We rode down in a shaky old brake van (I said goodbye to the Chief Inspector of Colonial Forces in Aliwal North till he comes on his wander again of inspection). We reached Burghersdorp at 11.30 pm & had to roll up on the ground till 4 am when the Pt Elizabeth Mail came along & we were soon steaming for Bethulie. We reached the bridge at 7 am & passage over the muddy stream called the Orange River into the colony of that name & and passing Bethulie Station I saw the town of Bethulie rustling away between the South Kopjes & the sea of white canvas beyond indicate(s) the huge refugee camps of Bethulie, where there are 9,000 refugees under canvas. The line from here takes another move North & passes through the same baron and bleak looking country till Springfontein is reached & as we wait outside the station our attention is drawn to the huge cemetery & the men hard at work digging graves — just a sea of white crosses, as they dig dozens are added to the number for the ... ent ... is in full swing here, it makes our thoughts full. After having breakfasted my Chief & I walked over to the huge refugee Camps, we did not go far but stopped to watch the antics of the women in the barb wire enclosure, these prisons made of barb wire, are made for the unruly & disobedient women & it is great shame to watch these dirty

wretches more like wild animals than anything else. We head back to the station and our special engine & trucks come up for us & we are soon travelling at a great pace towards the river again. This train is often put at our disposal. It consists of an engine then an open truck on which 25 armed men form part of our guard, then a van which is filled up & in which we live, then an open truck with armoured sides in which 25 armed men complete our guard & more than once have had a fight with patrols of the enemy near the line but we keep low & pop at them as we go along & our placed van becomes a good ... [LETTER IS CREASED AND UNREADABLE] ... now & at 2 pm Norvals Point Bridge comes in sight & we cross the Orange River again into C.C. Stationary at Norvals Point for some lunch an we go again. I reach Colesburg Junction at 5 pm. Our cart is awaiting us & it soon takes us home again, I say home for it is our Headquarters, we occupy between us one large room which was once a surgery & a small room we use as a bathroom & my skinning room. On the walls of our bedroom are two skins of the buck rams I shoot from time to time, then there are native tomahawks, bows & arrows, Assegais, Waddus, bead ornaments, tortise shells two feet long, as big as the ... skins and guns etc all hanging on the walls and the bottles upon bottles of reptiles on the tables, also nuts & eggs makes it look like a museum. Boxes of books, papers, my ... [LETTER CREASED AND UNREADABLE] ... material all lying about. My poor chief does not know where to put his clothes at times. Back to the office again. Piles of work. The staff, my clerks put before me telegrams to answer which are a load & that I am ... & that I have to give a lecture on the 18th.'

Though these pages are undated it would appear that this letter was written while still a staff officer at Colesberg, before he took up the position OC Cape Colonial Forces No 12 Area based at Aliwal North.

However, the bulk of the White Collection is in the way of daily administrative correspondence such as a memo from the previously mentioned Lieut. Knight, enquiring into such matters as 'whether the native troops are entitled to fresh meat daily', Lieut. Knight also writes to White asking permission to be granted several days leave to visit Burghersdorp, as he has several matters to discuss with White relating to the DMT. There is also correspondence dealing with the requirement to acquire extra store rooms. Capt White writes to his superior Headquarters and received a reply that 'the General agrees with your selection but leaves the matter of rent to you'. This response must have been of great assistance to White!

Many of the papers deal with such matters as granting of leave to troopers and officers or dealing with the local social events such as the Gymkhana committee, of which White was a member. Many more are personal items such as Bank Statements, rail tickets and many empty envelopes. Still some routine correspondence can be of interest. On 1 May, 1902, Capt White received the following letter from a Staff Officer, Lieut Nelson. It states:

'With attached papers I am sending you scout De Jongen. You will see that he was on the intelligence staff of Colonel Pilcher, but he now desires to have himself enrolled in one of the local Corps. He states that he is acquainted with the surrounding country & will thus be a useful man to you'.

De Jongens enlistment was eventually approved by Major F. G. Stone.

Yet another letter from a Staff Officer, 1 Div, Cape Town dated 8 May, 1902 states:

'I am directed by Col Lukin to request you to be good enough to instruct the OC DMT Kraai Bridge & Lady Grey to provide the necessary scouts between Kraai Bridge &

Drizzly Hill to Lieut. Lock our Signalling officer No 1 Div and signallers. Lieut. Lock will report to you in person in uniform and of the dates the scouts will be required'

There is also a letter dated 12 April 1902 from Lieut. William Sutton requesting permission to resign his commission as adjutant of the Burghersdorp Town Guard 'owing to present state of my health ... combined with my civil work'. Captain White states that 'I wish to keep such a good man as he is, in that position', and asks if Mr Sutton could see his way clear to remain in the position.

An item almost certainly relating to Captain White's previous service with the South Australians is a very flimsy ration indent, hand written in the field literally on a piece of scrap paper in pencil. Its exact relevance to any particular activity will never be known, but it is a relic of the veldt no less. It states:

'Ration Indent, Kopjes, 28 July 1900

Required rations and forage for undermentioned.

details	officers	men	horses
Cavalry details	0	52	54
Imp Australian Contingent	2	8	11
Yeomanry	1	2	3

CFS P..., Capt
Comd,ing Details'

Strangely there is very little in regards to purely Australian affairs among Captain White's papers. Though one very prominent item is a very large copy of 'Camp Standing Orders for South Australian Military Forces'. These printed orders detail the daily routine and administration for troops of the South Australian forces when in camp.

Among White's interesting souvenir menus is one for the farewell dinner for Major F G Stone, an Imperial officer and Administrator of Aliwal North. He was later Brigadier General F G Stone, CMG. This menu is attractively engraved with a list of guests printed on the reverse. This dinner was held at the Hotel Balmoral at Aliwal North on 20 May 1902. Major Stone's young son, R G W H Stone, later Lieutenant General, CB, DSO, MC, as a 12 year old had enlisted as Trooper Stone in the Aliwal North District Mounted Troops, presumably with his father's sanction. For this service Trooper Stone received the QSA without clasps. However, due to his age, this award caused some controversy and was later rescinded, but young Stone was permitted to keep the medal.

For those interested in rifle shooting competitions the following may be of interest. On 20 April 1902 Captain White received the following letter from the OC CCF No XI Area at Naauwpoort.

'I am anxious to arrange a shooting match between the following teams. Burghersdorp Town Guard, Steynsburg Town Guard, Naauwpoort Town Guard, Naauwpoort DMT, Aliwal North DMT. Match to be held at Steynsburg on Saturday 3rd May.

The Aliwal DMT should leave at 7.30 AM on Friday 2nd and the Burghersdorp Town Guard meet the same train. The match can begin at 10 am on Saturday 3rd May.

This will enable the Aliwal and Burghersdorp men to have a short practice on Friday afternoon.

I hope you will be able to come and if possible Lieut. Richardson. Steynsburg is a very accurate and good range also good accommodation. Ammunition will be provided.

Railway warrants should be issued by OC's Areas. The teams can return on Sunday morning.

Conditions.

Teams of 6 (Officers, NCO's, men)

Distances 200, 500 & 600 yards.

Bisely Targets.

7 shots and one sighter at each range.

I trust you will be able to let your men come. Please let me know as soon as possible.'

Captain White reluctantly declined this offer.

A further interesting personal souvenir kept by Capt White is a single A4 size printed page from the *Northern Post* newspaper, dated Thursday, 5th June 1902. The headline is 'TERMS OF PEACE', followed by an article on this matter in detail. An obvious topic of great interest to all at the time.

Lastly, of some interest, with White's papers is a small black bordered envelope marked 'On His Majesty's Service', This envelope is marked in pencil, 'Table Mt, July, 1901'. Inside are two dried leaves, brown and felt like in appearance. Obviously a more personal souvenir of Capt White's and probably obtained while still with the South Australians.

There are still dozens of papers remaining in the White collection. Those items presented here are only representative of the many contained in the collection.

Samuel Albert White, a prominent orthnologist and conservationist, was born at Fulham in Adelaide in 1870. His parents were Samuel and Martha Elsie White (formerly Taylor). Young Samuel was educated at private schools and at Christian Brothers College. He was a devout catholic. At an early age, due to his fathers influence, he developed a passion for the study of the bird life of South Australia and became a recognised world expert on such matters. He was also a keen and moderately successful race horse owner, an interest his own son pursued. Samuel secured his living from inherited money and he also received income from rents.

When the Boer War in South Africa erupted, he enlisted with the South Australian Imperial Bushmen, 4th Contingent, in April 1900 and was appointed a substantive lieutenant. The 4th Contingent left Port Adelaide aboard the *Manhattan* on 1 May 1900 and disembarked at Port Elizabeth on 19 June. His service is described as operations in the Transvaal and Orange River Colony. His adventures were exciting, if not always flattering, as R L Wallace states in his book *Australians At The Boer War*.

'On the evening of 5 June 1901 Colonel De Lisle sent Major J R F Sladen, of the East Yorkshire Regiment, with 100 Mounted Infantry and 100 South Australian Imperial Bushmen ahead of his main column to intercept a Boer convoy in the vicinity of Reitz, well west of Kroonstad in the Orange Free State. Following a night march, the convoy the convoy was captured in the morning of the 6th. Forty prisoners were taken after only a slight resistance. Sladen then sent a party of 40 of his men back to De Lisle. Until the arrival of the main column he took up a position with the captured wagons close to a Kraal on Graspan Farm. Five miles away Generals De Wet and De La Rey on the way to the Transvaal were interrupted at breakfast by a galloper bearing the news of the capture of the convoy by a small detachment. The Boer leaders decided to

attempt to recapture the convoy. As they neared Graspan they were met by Lieutenant Samuel White of the South Australian Bushmen. It was an instance of mistaken identity. White had been sent forward because in the distance the approaching riders were thought to be Bethune's Mounted Infantry. The unfortunate Lieutenant White soon found himself stripped of his uniform. Clad only in shirt, he got away and ran six miles to warn De Lisle of Sladens impending danger.'

At the end of his term with the South Australians, Samuel White took an Imperial appointment, and promotion to temporary captain, as a Staff Officer to the Commandant of No 12 Area, Aliwal North from 1901-02. He was later appointed Officer Commanding Aliwal North. After the war, and for the remainder of his life, he used, and was universally known by the title of 'Captain'.

For his war service with the South Australians, Samuel White received the QSA with the clasps *Orange Free State* and *Transvaal*. His Imperial appointment earned him the additional clasp *Cape Colony*. By war's end his length of service had also earned him the KSA with clasps *South Africa 1901* and *South Africa 1902*. He did not receive the clasp *Wittebergen*, to which only a small number of 4th South Australians Imperial Bushmen were entitled.

The last document in the White collection is a neatly typed letter from the Headquarters No 1 Division, Cape Colonial Forces, Queenstown. It is dated 8 June 1902 and states:

'Capt. S. A. White,

O.C., Cape Colonial Forces No. 12 Area

ALIWAL NORTH

I am directed by the O.C., No 1 Division to inform you that your services will no longer be required from and after the 30th Instant, from which date all Colonial Forces in the Aliwal North and Albert Area will be controlled direct from this office.

Please inform all Unit Commanders under your Command.

Signed [Illegible], Major'

With the end of the war, and his military career brought to a halt, Samuel White decided to stay for a short time and explore Africa. In 1903, he led an expedition along the east coast of Africa collecting scientific specimens. However, among his papers is a letter from a London company detailing the prices they were willing to pay for the heads of certain 'exotic' African animals. He then returned home.

In Adelaide, in 1906, he married Ethel Toms, it was a happy marriage but unfortunately, after 20 years of marriage, Ethel died in 1926. There were no children.

Samuel White wrote a number of books, his most important being in collaboration with G M Mathews on *The Birds Of Australia* (London, 1910-27). Perhaps his most outstanding achievement was his completing an ornithological survey of the whole of South Australia and a good deal of the Northern Territory. His other books included, *The Gawler Ranges*, 1913, *Into the Dead Heart*, 1914, and *The Life Of Samuel White*, 1920, a biography of his father. He was also associated with the Boy Scout movement for many years

In 1927, Samuel married 22 year old Muriel Fisher in Sydney. They had a son and a daughter. Samuel White died on 19 January, 1954 at his home in Fulham Gardens in Adelaide and was buried in the Morphet Vale cemetery.

Samuel White was described as a short, wiry man, with a handlebar moustache, and was quite a celebrity in South Australia. My grandmother has clear memories of listening to Captain White speaking passionately about Australian birds on the wireless during the 1930s.

Soon after his death in 1954, his widow came to live with their son, John, in the house near my grandmother's. John White was a farmer and had inherited his father's passion for horses. John was a moderately successful race horse owner and trainer, who achieved some success with a horse called 'Cygnet Rambler'. I suspect that the documents were left behind by his son when he left for the south-east of South Australia to pursue other rural interests.

The quantity and variety of the White papers allow a fascinating insight into the day to day life of a Staff officer during a war now lost from the memory of living historians. It is, perhaps, unfortunate that few of the documents relate to the Australian forces during this period. They are almost exclusively from the period of White's imperial appointment at Aliwal North. Clearly Captain White regarded himself as an 'Englishman', as did most Australians at that time, and was justifiably proud of his service. Though why such a prominent man as himself should have kept so much common and incidental correspondence as he did, is a mystery. I am pleased he did. I am also pleased that a 13 year old country school boy saw some reason to collect and preserve these fragile relics so long ago.

Sources

Journal *OMRS* Vol 3, Winter 1974, No 4.

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Australian Dictionary of Biography.

Mr Anthony Rudd, Melbourne, 1983.

The Australians at The Boer War by R L Wallace, p.327.

The Forgotten War by L M Field.

Personal papers of Samuel Albert White.

Members notices

Missing medals

John Meyers, PO Box 33 Tiaro, Qld 4650 seeks assistance in locating the following medals that would complete sets that he has. John can be contacted on (071) 29 2477 or (071) 23 5800 (ah).

Medal	Awarded to or in respect of	Medal	Awarded to or in respect of
1914/15 Star BWM Death plaque	Lt H P Barton, 2 Bn AIF Harold Pryor Barton	BWM Death plaque	Frederick Charles Kiellerup
WW1 Trio	269514 H B Broomhead, CERA	WW1 Trio 1914/15 Star Death plaque	52 L Cpl J Loth, 3 Fd Amb AIF 1585 Pte H McKelvie, 11 Bn AIF Henry McKelvie
1914/15 Star BWM Death plaque	1931, Pte L G Cox, 13 Bn AIF Leslie George Cox	Death plaque	Robert McKenzie
1914/15 Star BWM Death plaque	1737, Pte A B Edgeley, 3 Bn AIF Adolphus Bertie Edgeley	1914/15 Star Death plaque	2454A, Pte H C Milton, 10 Bn AIF William George Moren
Death plaque	George Edward Emelhain	BWM Victory Medal Death plaque	1494 Pte J P Moseley, 13 Bn AIF John Percy Moseley
BWM	Brig Gen J K Forsyth, AIF	1914/15 Star Victory Medal CAFD (EVII) CAFLSM (EVII)	Lt Col C E Nicholson, Sea Trans AIF Lt Col C E Nicholson, AIF Maj C E Nicholson HRL 25 Feb 1911 Maj C E Nicholson HRL 2 Oct 1909
WW1 Trio	2670, Pte C W H Fowler, 15 Bn AIF	Death plaque	Oswald Robert Rowe
BWM	13, Cpl A R Freeman, 3 Pnr Bn AIF	Death plaque	Leonard James Senden
1914/15 Star Victory Medal	379, Sgt F Gawler, 22 Bn AIF Lt F Gawler, AIF	Victory Medal Death plaque	Capt F G Sims, AIF Frederick George Sims
BWM Victory Medal	1135 Pte R Gemmell, 9 Bn AIF	1914/15 Star BMW	J M Smith, 2 DSC AIF Lt J M Smith, AIF
BWM Victory Medal	2130, Pte R Harrison, 4 Pnr Bn AIF	Victory Medal War Medal ASM	Lt Col W J Smith AIF W J Smith AIF
Death Plaque	David Lawson Hood	Death plaque	Richard Snowdon
Death Plaque	William Hovenden	Death plaque	Arthur Cecil Trevett
Death Plaque	Frederick Hovenden	Death plaque	Thomas Varley
1914/15 Star BWM Death Plaque	488, Cpl B L Hudson, 3 Bn AIF Bertram Lennox Hudson	1914/15 Star BWM	1017 Pte F Grant, 10 LHR AIF
BWM Victory Medal	?, Pte, F J Dearing, 35 Bn AIF	MM (GV)	1331, Pte J W Towers, 59 Bn AIF
WW1 Trio Death plaque	2250, Pte A S Atridge, 14 Bn AIF Arthur Sydney Atridge	WW1 Trio	248, Cpl A White, 10 Bn AIF
Death plaque	John Jeffrey		
1914/15 Star	1047 Pte F C Kiellerup		

Notes from the Editor on contributions to *Sabretache*

While the following are merely guidelines, it certainly helps the Editor in preparing copy for publication if these guidelines are followed. Nevertheless, potential contributors should not be deterred by them if, for example, you do not have access to computers or typewriters. Handwritten articles are always welcome, although, if publication deadlines are tight, they might not be published until the next issue.

Typewritten submissions are preferred. Material should be double spaced with a margin. If your article is prepared on a computer please send a copy on either a 3.5' or 5.25' disk (together with a paper copy).

Please write dates in the form 11 June 1993, without punctuation. Ranks, initials and decorations should be without full-stops, eg, Capt B J R Brown MC MM.

Please feel free to use footnotes, which should be grouped at the end of the article (however, when published in *Sabretache* they will appear at the foot of the relevant page). As well as references cited, footnotes should be used for asides that are not central to the article.

Photos to illustrate the article are welcomed and encouraged. However, if you can, forward copies of photos rather than originals.

Articles, preferably, should be in the range of 2,000-2,500 words (approx 4 typeset pages) or 5,000-7,000 words (approx 10 typeset pages) for major feature articles.

Articles should be submitted in accordance with the time limits indicated on page 2. Recently, lateness in receiving articles has meant that the Journal has been delayed in publication. Nevertheless, where an article is of particular importance, but is received late, the Editor will endeavour to publish the article if possible and space permitting.

Elizabeth Topperwien
Editor



.....

Application for Membership

I/*We
(Name/Rank etc.)

Of (Address)

.....

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My main interests are

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