



PRO PATRIA COMMEMORATING SERVICE

Forward

Representative Colonel
Governor of South Australia
His Excellency the Honorable Hieu Van Le, AO

Colonel Commandant
The Royal South Australia Regiment
Brigadier Tim Hannah, AM

Commanding Officer
10th/27th Battalion The Royal South Australia Regiment
Lieutenant Colonel Graham Goodwin

Chapter	Title
One	Regimental lineage
Two	Colonial forces and new Federation
Three	The Great War and peace
Four	The Second World War
Five	Into a new era
Six	6th/13th Light Battery
Seven	3rd Field Squadron
Eight	The Band
Nine	For Valour
Ten	Regimental Identity
Eleven	Regimental Alliances
Twelve	Freedom of the City
Thirteen	Sites of significance
Fourteen	Figures of the Regiment
Fifteen	Scrapbook of a Regiment
Sixteen	Photos
Seventeen	Appointments
	Honorary Colonels
	Regimental Colonels
	Commanding Officers
	Regimental Sergeants Major
Nineteen	Commanding Officers Reflections 1987 – 2014

Representative Colonel His Excellency the Honorable Hieu Van Le AO

Governor of South Australia



His Excellency was born in Central Vietnam in 1954, where he attended school before studying Economics at the Dalat University in the Highlands.

Following the end of the Vietnam War, His Excellency, and his wife, Lan, left Vietnam in a boat in 1977. Travelling via Malaysia, they were one of the early groups of Vietnamese refugees to arrive in Darwin Harbour. His Excellency and Mrs Le soon settled in Adelaide, starting with three months at the Pennington Migrant Hostel.

As his Tertiary study in Vietnam was not recognised in Australia, the Governor returned to study at the University of Adelaide, where he earned a degree in Economics and Accounting within a short number of years. In 2001, His Excellency's further study earned him a Master of Business Administration from the same university.

His Excellency gained Certified Practising Accountant accreditation, and from 1991 worked at the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, where he led many high-profile matters. Upon his retirement from the Commission in March 2009, he held the position of Senior Manager – Financial Services Regulation.

His Excellency has served on many community boards and committees, in particular those relating to cultural and linguistic diversity, the arts and education.

In 1995 Mr Le was appointed a member to the SA Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission, and was appointed Deputy Chairman in 2001. When His Excellency became Chairman in 2007, he was the first person of Asian background to be Chairman. His Excellency resigned from the Commission in August 2014.

In August 2007, His Excellency was sworn in as the Lieutenant Governor of South Australia. Over the next seven years in this role, His Excellency served as the Patron or Honorary member of more than thirty organisations.

On 1 September 2014, His Excellency was sworn in as Governor of South Australia. It is understood that His Excellency is the first Vietnamese-born person who has ever been appointed to a Vice-Regal position in the world.

His Excellency was awarded the Australia Day Medal in 1996 for outstanding service to Australian Securities and Investment Commission, and has been awarded the Centenary of Federation Medal for service to the advancement of multiculturalism.

On Australia Day 2010, His Excellency was appointed as an Officer in the Order of Australia for service to the community in South Australia. He has also been awarded an Honorary Doctorate from both Adelaide University and Flinders University.

His Excellency is married to Mrs Lan Le, with whom he has two adult sons, Don and Kim.



The Representative Colonel of the Royal South Australia Regiment His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AO Governor of South Australia

It is with great pleasure, and honour, that I assume the appointment as Representative Colonel for the Royal South Australia Regiment.

I have been preceded in this duty by many remarkable people and have, through my previous appointment as the Lieutenant Governor, had the opportunity to interact with the Regiment on occasion.

This year marks the commencement of the Great War of 1914 – 18 and the raising of the 10th Battalion Australian Imperial Forces for that conflict, and their subsequent departure on the 20th October 1914 and the 50th Anniversary of the laying up of the Colours of the 27th, 43rd and 48th Battalions in 1964. As this year draws to a close, the Regiment will prepare for and undertake what will undoubtedly be most significant event in not just this State but across Australia and New Zealand with the commemorations associated with the centenary of the landing at Gallipoli on the 25th April 2015.

The history of the military presence within South Australia has been that of trials and tribulations through the 19th and 20th centuries with many significant events. The Infantry of South Australia were amongst the first to South Africa and the Boer War, the 10th Battalion Australian Imperial Forces was one of the first Battalions within the 3rd Brigade ashore at Gallipoli, and the 2/48th Battalion Australian Imperial Forces was the most decorated Battalion of the Second World War.

The Artillery and Engineers, who have recently come under command of the Regiment, have just as strong a history with both Corps playing an important role in establishing the State defences within the Colonies of Tasmania and South Australia, distinguished service at Gallipoli and the European theatres and onto the harsh conditions of the Middle East and South West Pacific during the Second World War.

While the major conflicts of the 20th Century are the most heralded, many soldiers of the Regiment have also seen service in Korea and Viet Nam through to the more recent operational environments of East Timor and Solomon Islands. These are just some of our notable achievements but it must not be forgotten that the Regiment continues to support the community by assisting in disaster relief and ceremonial activities such as Gun Salutes and the community support by the oldest military band in Australia Army. The 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment Band.

I thank the men and women of South Australia, Tasmania and New South Wales who form the Regiment for their service, and praise their efforts as they continue to uphold the customs and traditions of the Australian Army and uphold the core values of the Australian Soldier.

Pro Patria

Colonel Commandant Brigadier Tim Hanna, AM



Tim Hanna was born at Gumeracha, South Australia on 23 November 1959. After completing his secondary education at Birdwood High School, Tim entered the Royal Military College in 1977 graduating in 1980 into the Royal Australian Corps of Transport.

Tim served in a range of regimental and instructional appointments in Puckapunyal, Melbourne and Townsville before deploying to the Middle East as a military observer with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization. During this posting, Tim was appointed as the Senior Liaison Officer on the Golan Heights throughout the first Gulf War.

On his return to Australia, Tim was posted to Sydney where he completed a number of staff appointments with the Army and Navy as well as attending the Royal Australian Navy Staff College.

Tim left the Regular Army in 1999 and settled in Adelaide. After a short break from military service Tim resumed in the Army Reserve in January 2001. His subsequent instructional and command postings eventually resulted in Tim being promoted to Brigadier in January 2006 and assuming the position of Commander of the 9th Brigade and Army Area Representative-South Australia. After completing two subsequent national postings Tim transferred to the Standby Reserve in December 2010.

Since 1999, Tim has worked in various senior management roles in private industry; initially with TNT and then, for eight years, with Telstra. During this period Tim held a number of regional and national management positions. Between March 2008 and August 2012, Tim worked in the construction industry as the Commercial and Systems Manager for BMD Constructions. Then, after completing two consultancy projects for Telstra and the Department of Defence, Tim took up his current role as the Toll Group's Project Manager for the Gorgon Liquid Natural Gas project in Western Australia. He is responsible for logistics support to the project's Barrow Island operations.

As a graduate of the University of New South Wales, Tim was awarded a Bachelor of Arts in Military Studies in 1980. In 1994 Tim graduated from the Royal Australian Navy Staff College. Additionally, Tim undertook private study and completed a Master of Business Administration at the Australian Graduate School of Management, University of New South Wales in 1998.

In addition to his civilian and Army Reserve careers, Tim served for three years as the President of the Royal United Services Institute of South Australia, an organisation which seeks to promote understanding of national defence and security matters. Tim was a member of the SA Peacekeepers Sub-Branch of the Returned & Services League in South Australia for several years including as Secretary and was elected as the inaugural President of the Adelaide Sub-branch in January 2011. Tim was elected to the State Board in July 2011 and assumed the position of State President of the Returned & Services League in South Australia in July 2012.

For his contribution to the development of operational capabilities within and outstanding leadership of the Army Reserve, Tim Hanna was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in the 2009 Australia Day Honours.

Tim's leisure interests are cricket and Australian football, keeping fit, travel and military history. Tim has a 27 year-old daughter who works as a lawyer in Melbourne. Tim's partner, Suzie, works for the Department of Defence as a Finance Manager and is also an Army Reservist. Suzie's two sons are members of the Royal Australian Air Force and Army Reserve respectively.



Colonel Commandant the Royal South Australia Regiment Brigadier Tim Hanna AM

It is a great honour to have been appointed as Colonel Commandant of the Royal South Australia Regiment. While many would note that I do not have an infantry background, it is a sign of the times that the 10th/27th Battalion now comprises a diverse range of sub-units and corps.

The Australian Army has evolved since its inception in 1901 to reflect the Government's requirements for the defence of our nation. The capabilities and structure of today's 10th/27th Battalion are very different from its formative years. Vehicles, weapons, uniforms and communications equipment have all changed remarkably over the last 100 years as have tactics and procedures. Regardless, those who serve in the battalion will inevitably be called upon to serve their country and perform well. The ongoing demands of training and achieving skill proficiency at the individual and collective levels will continue.

In recent years the various sub-units which now make up the battalion have performed admirably in a variety of roles in Australia and overseas. This continues a great tradition for South Australian soldiers from the militia of the 19th century to those who served in many famous campaigns in Gallipoli, Europe, North Africa and New Guinea through to recent peacekeeping deployments in the Solomon Islands. Support tasks to major events, natural disasters and border protection have also featured prominently over the last decade.

As much as it is has ever been so, we live in uncertain times and there is no doubt that our uniformed men and women will continue to distinguish themselves with the same skill, tenacity and courage that has been the hallmark of the unit's officers and soldiers.

The Centenary of ANZAC will ensure that there is a strong focus on our history. That is a fair thing. However, the challenge is to ensure that we continue to contribute to future defence capabilities. Effective recruiting, well executed training and inspiring leadership will assist the 10th/27th Battalion to achieve its mission and maintain its fine reputation.

We are all proud to be associated with the 10th/27th Battalion of the Royal South Australia Regiment, its predecessor units and today's serving members.

Pro Patria

T.J. Hanna, AM
Brigadier
Colonel Commandant



Lieutenant Colonel Graham Goodwin
Commanding Officer
10th/27th Battalion The Royal South Australia Regiment
2013 – Present

As I write this foreword I reflect on how quickly time has passed since taking command of the Battalion in 2013.

During my time I have seen the successful conclusion of both the East Timor and Solomon Island deployments and reflect on the good work that was done in these areas. We continue to enjoy a high tempo, with deployments on Operation Resolute, Rifle Company Butterworth, internal capability generation in accordance with Plan Beersheba and the Force Generation Cycle, and numerous activities and support tasks within Defence and the wider community.

This year we also commemorate the commencement of World War One, in particular the departure from Australia of the 10th Battalion, Australian Imperial Force, on the 20th October 1914. At this time it is important to reflect on the sacrifice of those that left as well as those they left behind and its impact on a young nation. A description of the day they left is included in the book ‘The Fighting 10th’ by Cecil Bert Lovell Lock, a serving soldier of the Great War. Describing the ship’s departure from Outer Harbour;

“At 4.30 pm the Ascanius pulled out, and many of the men of the 10th looked towards the Adelaide Hills for the last time, some with feelings of hope they would eventually return; but the die in the great game had been cast, and some never returned, and on that great occasion viewed their native hills with leave-taking recollections.”

A little over 6 months later the Battalion suffered 393 casualties on the first day of the Gallipoli Campaign. It was also probably the first time that units currently under command of the Battalion today, Artillery and Engineers, fought together on the peninsula, side by side. Many did not return which continues to affect us today. However, what is clear is that those who have made a sacrifice to serve their nation, whatever their reasoning, continue to inspire us and no doubt future generations.

The Battalion of today is very different to the one that I joined. The current establishment is two infantry rifle companies with Alpha Company having a regional focus and Bravo Company located solely at Keswick. We also have 6th/13th Light Battery, Royal Australian Artillery, a light mortar battery with depots in South Australia and Tasmania, and 3rd Field Squadron, Royal Australian Engineers located at Warradale. Our regional focus remains strong with 11 depots located throughout South Australia, NSW, and Tasmania.

These additional units which came under command in January 2013 and 2014 respectively are part of Army’s Plan Beersheba, looking to consolidate units within the reserve environment into a Battle Group construct. The benefits of such are obvious from the combined arms nature of the work that we do. We constantly see this on operations past and present. This process continues to be an evolving one, but one that we will be better for, and will create significant opportunities throughout the unit.

As part of this plan we will be forming Battle Group JACKA with 4 Brigade which will in turn support 1 Brigade through the Force Generation Cycle. Again this has created significant

opportunities for all members. Most noticeably has been the working relationship with 7th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment through the numerous activities that we have undertaken. Through their assistance and mentoring, the improvements seen will continue to be positive. Similar working relationships will also be formed with allied units for both the Artillery and Engineers.

We continue to focus on the skills required to fill Battle Group JACKA and the capability that it enables. This will see the Battalion work together not only with its sub units but also other reserve and regular brigades. Again this continues to challenge us but at the same time offers significant opportunities. The same can be said of the other units within the Brigade. No longer do we train in isolation, we need the support of the Combat Service Support Battalion, 144 Signals Squadron, 3rd/9th Light Horse and the Adelaide University Regiment to name a few. Together we achieve a great deal and I thank them for their assistance.

The band also continues to serve the Battalion and wider army well. Through their program they have supported numerous military parades and functions and brought immense enjoyment to many social occasions. A highlight continues to be the valuable support they also provide to our associations and nominated charities, with a focus of assisting those less fortunate.

Recently the Regimental Sergeant Major and I attended the medal ceremony for Transit Security Element 73, a great occasion marking the excellent work the members of the Battalion had made a significant contribution to. These opportunities continue to present themselves with several members being selected for subsequent rotations. Similarly we have been busy selecting and training members for the forthcoming Rifle Company Butterworth rotation, Malaysia, leaving in October this year. Again I have been impressed with the level of commitment and standards achieved thus far. They truly are great foundations upon which we can build.

The training program also appears to be increasingly full. We continue with regular weekend and nine-day block training periods, along with personal and career development courses. There is no shortage of opportunities and depending on your work situation you can be incredibly busy. During these block periods I took the time to get a greater understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the Light Battery and Engineer Squadron. I have enjoyed the 'robust' discussions about their capabilities and this continues to impact positively on the decisions made by the Headquarters.

During the year we also farewelled Major General Neil Wilson as our Regimental Colonel. Major General Wilson was my commanding officer when I first joined the Battalion, and he has enjoyed an illustrious career. Whilst he may be absent from this position his work and positive impact will continue through the work of the Regimental Council which has and continues to assist the Battalion exceptionally well. We also farewelled our Honorary Colonel, His Excellency The Honourable Kevin Scarce on his relinquishing the post of Governor of South Australia. For seven years he has been an excellent leader within the Battalion, offering his time on many occasions to attend our activities and more importantly speak with the soldiers. This had an extremely positive effect and one that many will remember for many years to come. We wish him well in retirement, and look forward to the incoming Governor for his future support.

Our work with the various Battalion Associations has also been excellent and we have been recipients of their good work through the many BBQ's and other activities. Of note is the commemorative garden in the courtyard at Keswick which is taking shape. Also a highlight was the combined church service which marked the departure of the Battalion on the 20 October 1914. Again this was a memorable night to commemorate this important event in the history of South Australia. We continue to work with each other for the betterment of the Battalion and its members.

In November this year, we will be commemorating the embarkation of the 10th and 27th Battalions during the Great War, as well as celebrating 6th/13th Light Battery and 3rd Field Squadron coming under the command of 10/27 RSAR.

The day will commence with a combined parade with the guidons, colours and banners, followed by a gala ball at the Torrens Drill Hall. It promises to be a great event and we will also be using this event to support Ward 17 at the Repatriation General Hospital, Daw Park, which deals with Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome. It is a very worthwhile cause and one we are proud to be associated with. Earlier this year we also supported the Returned Services League 'Dogs for Diggers' Program. We continue to do good work in this area and again demonstrate our community leadership.

This year, as we do every year, will see a number of key staff members leave the Battalion on posting. I thank them all for their valued service and wish them well for their future careers wherever it may take them. In particular, I would like to personally thank the Regimental Sergeant Major, Warrant Officer Class One Adrian Hodges, and his wife Jo and family for their efforts in making the Battalion a better place.

In conclusion, I am often asked what is next for the Battalion. That is both a hard and easy question to answer. Hard because the world today is just as uncertain as it has been, even after fighting in wars over the last decade. It seems that despite the efforts of the world to restore peace we continue to be confronted with situations requiring the intervention of the military. Easy because the 'what next' is anything we are tasked to perform. There is no shortage of operational taskings, natural disasters or the requirement to support major activities. Therefore I expect there will be continued strong demand for our services. Opportunities will present, you just need to be ready to take advantage of them! I am continually impressed with the standard of our members, their desire to achieve, and overall ability to make a difference.

The work you do is important, just as those that sailed in 1914, that why you the Australian Soldier, enjoy the reputation that you do.

I joined the 10th Battalion on the 25 February 1982 as a soldier. Today I stand before you as the Commanding Officer. It is, as it always has been, a privilege to serve.

Good soldiering

Pro Patria

Prologue

The tracing of Regimental history is at best fraught with danger where multiple versions of names, places, dates and events occur; in some cases the information is not available at all or remains nothing more than a local legend.

This project initially started with the intent to produce a small handout coinciding with the “soldiers five lesson” conducted by B Company on parade nights. With the Centenary of the Great War and the subsequent departure of the 10th Australian Infantry Battalion, the looming centenary of the Landing at ANZAC and the approaching 175 years since the first raising of a Volunteer Force in South Australia; the project grew. It is not an attempt to record every facet of the Regiment and its forebears, on the contrary it is an attempt to provide young soldiers the basic history of the Regiment without the endless research, new recruits an idea of what they are inheriting and for the “old and bolds” maybe a reminder.

This project has drawn upon many resources such as the Army Museum of South Australia and in particular the Royal South Australia Regiment Historical Collection. Research has been conducted utilising the State Library of South Australia, the Australian War Memorial, various newspapers and unpublished works by former Commanding Officers LTCOLs Max Sanderson and Gratton Wheaton. Most importantly it is the help of individuals and their own recollections that have provided the detail and the human aspect; where individuals have provided submissions I have left these in their own words and writing style ie: it has not been changed to suit service writing. Although a lot of people have enabled this project, particularly in such a short timeframe, it would be remiss not to mention in particular David Laing, Robert Broadbent, Denis ‘Tex’ Ranger, Tony Chaplin, Jeff Ayles and in particular Ian Carnachan.

I have no doubt that there will be some critics questioning the accuracy and why certain things have not been included such as in chapters 13 and 14. These are designed to be a broad cross section of the history not a record of every place or everyone that should possibly be included. For in depth detail then I would suggest gaining access to the war diaries, official books, Army journals and written histories both official and commercial.

For the members of the Battalion who are badged to the Royal Australian Artillery or Engineers or serve in a support role you have a number of excellent historical sources to draw on and it must be remembered this is about the wider Regiment, past and present, and the continuing evolution.

Where possible I have attempted to conduct multiple forms of cross referencing of the subject and while the purists would expect to see referencing at every point and maybe disappointed in the outlay, etc, it must be remembered this is a journal written by an Infantry soldier.

The Regiment has a rich and colourful history unfortunately it has been poorly recorded and takes a lot of research so I would request that members past and present provide the Royal South Australia Regiment Historical Collection, or the Associations, any relevant and accurate information they have so it can be saved for a later date. A lot more is out there to expand this project and make it far more comprehensive but it was never the aim so please take it for what it is meant to be and maybe along the way take something away.

Craig Thomson

Warrant Officer Class Two

10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment

LINEAGE OF THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY

- South Australian Volunteer Militia: 1840 -1851
 - 1st and 2nd Battalions Adelaide Rifles: 1854 –1856
 - Adelaide Regiment of Volunteer Rifles: 1860 – 1866
 - The Scottish Company: 1866 – 1867
 - Prince Alfred's Rifle Volunteers: 1866–1871
 - The Scottish Company (Duke of Edinburghs Own): 1867 – 1871
 - Period of no formal infantry activity**
 - 1st Battalion The Adelaide Rifles: 1877 – 1888
 - Regiment South Australian Infantry: 1888 –1903
 - 1st Battalion (Adelaide Rifles)
 - To become the 10th Battalion, Australian Infantry Regiment
 - South Australia National Rifle Association
(Interim for the 2nd Battalion when disbanded 1878 and re-raised in 1885)
 - 2nd Battalion (Scottish Corps)
 - To become the South Australian Infantry Regiment
 - 3rd Battalion (1889 – 1895)
- Note: Each Regiment had a second Battalion initially recruited from the country areas

- 10th Battalion, Australian Infantry Regiment: 1903 – 1908
- 1st Battalion 10th Australian Infantry Regiment (Adelaide Rifles): 1908–1911
- 78th Infantry (Adelaide Rifles): 1911 –1919
- 10th Infantry Regiment (The Adelaide Rifles): 1919–1921
 - 1st – 5th Battalion
- 10th Battalion: 1921–1927
- 10th Battalion (The Adelaide Rifles): 1921 –1930
- 10th/50th Battalion: 1930–1936
- 10th Battalion (The Adelaide Rifles): 1936 –1942
- 10th/48th Battalion: 1942 – 1943
- 10th/48th Australian Infantry Battalion AIF: 1943–1945
- 10th Infantry Battalion (The Adelaide Rifles): 1948–1960

- South Australian Infantry Regiment: 1903 -1911

- South Australian Scottish Infantry: 1903 -1911
- 74th (Boothby) Infantry: 1911–1919
- 27th Infantry (Boothby Regiment) 1921 - 1938
- 27th Battalion (South Australian Scottish Regiment) 1938 – 1946
- 27th Battalion (South Australian Scottish Regiment) 1948 – 1960

1911 - 1919

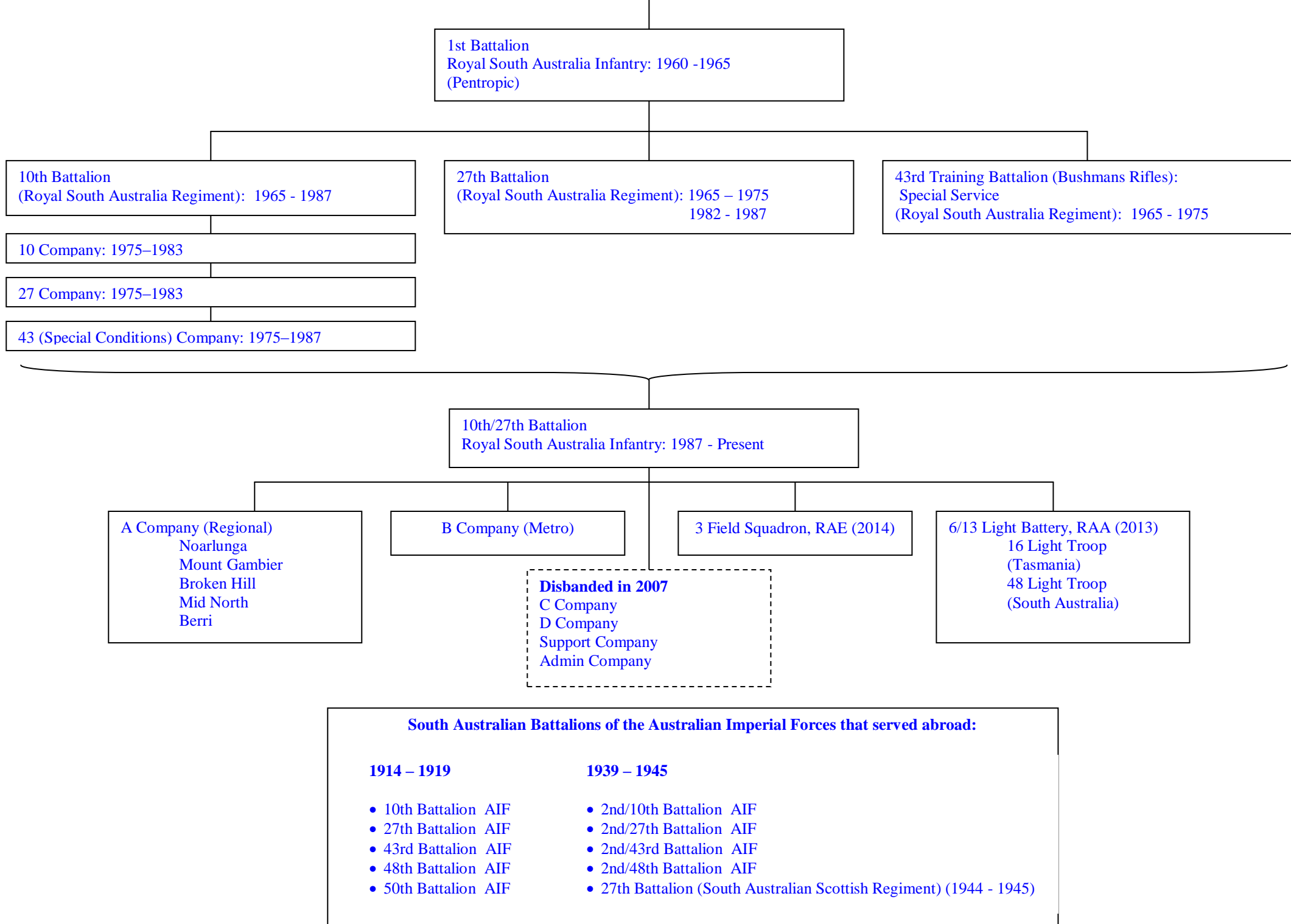
- 75th Infantry
- 77th Infantry
- 80th (Gawler) Infantry
- 82nd (Barrier) Infantry

Note: All the Battalions including the other four had a junior and senior Battalion of cadets at some point up until 1920

- 76th Infantry (Hindmarsh): 1911–1919
- 43rd Battalion: 1921–1927
- 43rd Battalion (The Hindmarsh Regiment): 1927–1930
- 43rd/48th Battalion: 1930 - 1942
- 43rd Australian Infantry Battalion: 1942 –1944
- 43rd/48th Infantry Battalion (The Hindmarsh Regiment): 1952–1960

- 79th Infantry (Torrens): 1911–1919
- 32nd Infantry Battalion (Torrens Regiment)
 - Transferred to Victoria
- 48th Battalion (Torrens Regiment): 1921 - 1930

- 81st Infantry (Wakefield): 1911–1919
- 50th Battalion (Wakefield Regiment): 1921 – 1930
 - Transferred to Tasmania in 1936



CHAPTER ONE

COLONIAL FORCES AND A NEW FEDERATION

South Australian Militia

There has been a strong military history within South Australia with many early leading figures came from military backgrounds such as Colonel William Light who had fought with Wellington in the Peninsula Campaign and the explorers Sturt, Barker and Warburton who were serving or retired officers.

The Colony of South Australia was proclaimed by Governor Hindmarsh on 28 December 1836 with Adelaide planned and sited with defence in mind. As a colony of free citizens without the security threat of a convict population, a strong British military presence was not required with only a Royal Marine detachment of HMS Buffalo established to provide initial security until withdrawn in July 1838. The Royal Marines had created an unpopular reputation due to drunkenness and negligence of duty and when they departed to help establish the short-lived settlement at Port Essington, in what is now the Northern Territory, the local population was relieved. The first volunteers in the State to fill this void were raised by Governor Gawler in February 1840 to be known as the Royal South Australian Volunteer Forces to comprise of a Troop of Lancers or Light Dragoons and some Light Infantry. The Infantry numbers enrolling grew to become a Company however, no drills (parades) were held after June 1840 and, although it was disbanded in 1851; for the final six years of its existence it had been a force that had existed on paper only.

In October 1841, a detachment of 85 men from the 96th Regiment (Manchester) arrived from Hobart, to take up duty in the State, which was the start of an association with what was to become the Kings Regiment and is now The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (King's, Lancashire and Border). A succession of company-sized detachments from a number of regiments then rotated through the colony until 1870, occupying barracks in successively Grenfell, Hinders and Topham Streets and the building now known as the Police Barracks behind the Adelaide Museum.



South Australian Volunteer Forces in 1860

The Crimean War (1853 – 1854), and the associated fears of attack by Russian warships, led to the passing of the Militia Act No. 2 of 1854 authorized the formation of a Volunteer Military Force in South Australia.

The General order published in the South Australian Government gazette dated 4 November 1854 authorised the raising of two infantry battalions being the 1st and 2nd Battalions, The Adelaide Rifles to consist of a Lieutenant Colonel, Commanding, six Captains, Lieutenants and Ensigns, with six Companies each of 50 - 60 men, with three Sergeants and Corporals. The men between 16 and 46 years of age received 36 days training returning to their civilian jobs until needed. The First Battalion mustered on 11 November 1854 at 5 p.m. and the Second Battalion a week later also at 5 p.m. and the Battalions paraded by Companies located at (First Battalion),at North Adelaide, Norwood and South Adelaide, (Second Battalion),at Glenelg, Hindmarsh, Mitcham and Port Adelaide. By the 2 August 1855 both Battalions had completed their authorized 36 days training and were ordered not to assemble again until further notice being disbanded shortly after the Crimean War when on 9 February 1856 the volunteers were ordered to 'return weapons into store'.

A Volunteer Force was again reformed in 1859 under a renewal of interest soon numbering 14 companies and a year later 45 with 70 officers and 1929 other ranks. With changes to the Act in 1860 the volunteer companies were grouped and on 26 March 1860 the Adelaide Regiment of Volunteer Rifles were formed under the command of The Honourable Travis Boyle Finnis who had previously raised and commanded the Light Infantry Company in 1840. The returns for 19 December 1860 showed the Adelaide Regiment of one Battalion with a total 669 all ranks, with the following Rifle companies: Port Rifles, First Adelaide Rifles, Glen Osmond & Mitcham Rifles, Glenelg Rifles, The Adelaide Rifles, Munno Para East Rifles, West Adelaide Rifles, Sturt & Brighton Rifles, First Gawler Rifles, The Gawler Volunteers, Salisbury Rifles, Eastern Suburban Rifles, Smithfield Rifles and Number 1 Brighton Rifles.



Militia at Mount Gambier 1895

In 1860 Britain politely declined the replacement of Imperial troops for the defence of the colonies as "foreign aggression and conflagration" did not warrant it; the impetus was now on the states to more effectively organise their defence. In 1861 the South Australian Free Rifles was raised and organised as skirmishers with a strength of 42 providing their own weapons and equipment; hence the name 'Free Rifles' as it cost the Government nothing to establish and maintain. In 1865 South Australia introduced a system of partial payment to volunteers followed by the other states and the subsequent introduction of the *Volunteer Act (1865)* which divided all military forces into active and reserve forces.

Training of the Active Volunteer Force was 36 days in each year. The Reserve Force trained a minimum of 6 days and a maximum of 12 days a year. Rates of pay varied from 15 shillings per day for a Lieutenant Colonel to 5 shillings for a drummer. Arms equipment and uniforms were provided by the Government but horses had to be supplied by the member.

Due to organisational difficulties and lack of equipment, the Adelaide Regiment of Volunteer Rifles was again disbanded in early 1866, to be reformed again in May 1866 this time with a company of expatriate Scottish immigrants forming The Scottish Company. At this time the headquarters was located in a building on North Terrace where the Museum now stands, until it was moved in 1899 to a new shed in the vicinity of the present Torrens Drill Hall. Following a visit by the Duke of Edinburgh in 1867 there was a short-lived change of name to the 'Prince Alfred Rifle Volunteers' with the Scottish Company assuming the name of 'The Duke of Edinburghs Own' on 18 November 1867. This period of volunteer service was to be short lived as waned with the Militia in South Australia being more a 'paper force' than an effective force ceasing to exist in 1871.



Three officers of the Scottish Company wearing full dress uniform

The outbreak of the Franco-Prussian War in France on 19 July 1870, led the South Australian Governor, Sir James Fergusson, to conduct a review of the colony's defences. He determined to re-organise the force into two battalions of 500–600 men, two artillery batteries, and four troops of cavalry. Some politicians felt it would help alleviate the high unemployment the colony was suffering at the time, but the majority felt the enormous cost outweighed the potential benefits. The proposals received little backing from the colonial parliament, and were rejected by newly re-elected Premier John Hart; again the issue of funding stood in the way of South Australia having an efficient and ready regular military force.

The state government had been quite unstable for the first five years of the 1870s, but settled in 1875, allowing for more stable planning where the issue of military expansion was again raised. With the outbreak of the Russo-Turkish War (1877–78) the perceived placed politicians under pressure from the press and campaign groups to expand the defensive capacity of the colony. In May 1877, the South Australian Volunteer Military Forces was reformed consisting primarily of 10 companies of the Adelaide Rifles. The success of raising those units did not stop the political arguments between Governor Sir William Jervois and Premier John Colton which temporarily suspending further development.

Despite all of the political setbacks, the Adelaide Rifles had soon grown to 21 companies, and on 4 July 1877 a second battalion was formed comprising companies from Mount Gambier, Unley, and Port Pirie together with the Duke of Edinburgh's Own of Prince Alfred Rifle Volunteers. Training intensified briefly for the duration of the Russo-Turkish War, and then resumed at normal levels, with the 2nd Battalion being amalgamated with the 1st Battalion.

In 1878 the Rifle Clubs first formed and continued under the Secretary for Defence as a reserve to the militia, along with cadets who were in training and the following year, in 1879, following the British defeat by the Zulus at Isandlwana, with South Australia offering to send a contingent of troops to aid the British response; this offer was rejected. By 1885, the second infantry battalion was again reformed (the Rifle Clubs having been an interim); consisting of the same companies as previously and in 1889 a third battalion of infantry was raised, although it was short lived and was disbanded in 1895 with its compliment absorbed into the remaining two battalions.



A Troop of the Australian Contingent raised for the protection of Johannesburg

On 3 October 1899, South Australia was able to offer Britain a contingent for the South African (Boer) War. This was the first of nine contingents, comprising of six officers and 121 other ranks of South Australian Infantry, embarking on 26 November 1899 under command of Major F.H. Howland. Although initially planned that the company would be attached to a British battalion, it was decided on arrival in Cape Town, that all of the Australian Infantry contingents would be grouped to form a battalion to be known as the Australia Regiment.

While the initial phase of the war had demanded conventional infantry, by the time the Australian colonial contingents arrived, the nature of the war had changed, making mounted infantry more appropriate. In consequence, after only one month as an infantry battalion, the Australian Regiment demonstrated its flexibility and converted in a fortnight to a mounted infantry role serving with distinction alongside the other Australian Mounted Infantry regiments as the 1st South Australian Mounted Rifles. It was for this conflict the award of South Australia's first battle honour '*South Africa*'.

It was decided around this time to increase the strength of the 1st Battalion Adelaide Rifles, from four to eight companies and as had occurred in other States a suggestion for an Irish Rifle Corps was raised. The South Australian Register, dated 13 February 1900, carried the following public notice:

"A meeting of all interested in the formation of an Irish Rifle Corps will be held on Tuesday February 20th at 8pm in the town hall".

After the meeting one hundred and fifty seven names of volunteers were taken, and after selections were to become "F" (Irish) Company 1st Battalion Adelaide Rifles later to be absorbed into the 10th Australian Infantry Regiment (Adelaide Rifles) and unlike the Scottish were never a unified element of South Australian military history again.

On formation of the Irish Company it was suggested that a green uniform be worn, but no distinctive uniform was adopted however, a shamrock worked from black braid was worn on the uniform sleeves until January 1910, and was discontinued to secure uniformity of dress with the other companies in the 10th Battalion. A green stripe one inch wide was also approved to be worn on the trouser seams, but was later disallowed. This had been the last Irish unit to be formed in Australia although a company of Irish Rifles was considered at Broken Hill NSW in April 1910.

As early as 1894, South Australia had collaborated with other colonies in discussing the form that the Australian Military Forces would take on Federation. In 1901 with Federation came change with the various colonial armed forces coming under Commonwealth control. The Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act of 1900 empowered the Commonwealth to legislate with respect to "the naval and military defence of the "Commonwealth and of the several States, and the control of the forces to execute and "maintain the laws of the Commonwealth".

Federation and a unified military system

On 31 December 1900, the day before Federation, a survey of the strength of colonial forces found that the South Australian colonial forces consisted of 135 officers and 2,797 other ranks.

The foundations for all subsequent Australian military organisation was established on 1 March 1904 that the *Defence Act 1903*, which formalised a system of permanent and citizen forces and came under the fledgling Department of Defence. Following admission to the Commonwealth of Australia, the militia forces of all states were drawn into the Australian Army and numbered by seniority. By 1903 six individual Military Districts were established along State boundaries with South Australia assuming the identity of the 4th Military District.



Advance Australia - Parade for Federation South Australia

As a result the 1st Battalion South Australian Infantry (Adelaide Rifles) was redesignated as the 10th Australian Infantry Regiment (Adelaide Rifles). The existing 2nd Battalion became the South Australian Infantry Regiment, 'G' Company became the South Australia Scottish Infantry (Mount Gambier), and 'H' Company Scottish became 'G' Company (Scottish) South Australia Infantry Regiment. Due to the provisions of the *Defence Act* which did not provide for the establishment of a regular infantry force, the notion that the Commonwealth Military Forces would be largely based on a part-time militia was set out in legislation. It was during this period that the Rifle Clubs became a reserve for the militia and the Cadets remained as an active corps.

Following a number of political and strategic scares the Prime Minister Alfred Deakin, invited Field Marshal Viscount Kitchener of Great Britain to visit Australia in 1909 to inspect the existing state of defence preparedness and provide advice on improvement. Kitchener's report, submitted in February 1910, recommended the introduction of compulsory military training to build a credible defence force that could not only defend the nation, but also possibly contribute to the Imperial defence system. The resultant Force became known as the Australian Citizen Army requiring a national service program for all young males which was called the 'Universal Training Scheme'.

As the Army expanded new brigades and battalions were raised based around the following areas:

19 Brigade:

- 74th Infantry – (Unley, Stirling, Gawler, Mount Barker, Murray Bridge, Mount Gambier, Millicent, Naracoorte)
- 75th Infantry – (Goodwood, Glenelg, Willunga)
- 76th Infantry – (Hindmarsh, West Adelaide)
- 77th Infantry – (Port Adelaide, Semaphore)
- 78th Infantry – (East Adelaide, St Peters)

20 Brigade:

- 79th Infantry – (Norwood, Magill)
- 80th Infantry – (North Adelaide, Prospect, Gawler)
- 81st Infantry – (Wallaroo, Kadina, Port Pirie)
- 82nd Infantry – (Broken Hill, Petersburg)

Each of these Battalions was responsible for the raising and administration of Cadets. Junior Cadets were those in school under the age of 14 and the Senior Cadets were those between the age of 14 and 18 who would then progress onto the Citizens Military Forces. The Battalions,



with the exception of the 76th, 77th and 78th all maintained 'three' Battalions internally with the numerical designation of a, b or c responsible for particular areas of South Australia.

With the associated restructuring, the 10th Australian Infantry Regiment (Adelaide Rifles) was redesignated the 78th Battalion and while the scheme had numerous benefits allowing citizens forces officers more experience in commanding formed bodies for the upcoming international conflict. Post

1918 not all of these battalions would survive with only some having a future in the 10th, 27th, 43rd and 48th; the remaining battalions having left no historical information.

Because the army in 1914 was largely made up of young men aged between 19 and 21 who had been enlisted under this scheme, and due to the provisions of the *Defence Act* that precluded sending conscripts overseas, upon the outbreak of the war it was necessary for the Australian government to raise a separate force, outside of the Citizens Forces organisation for service overseas on the basis of voluntary enlistment, hence the creation of the Australian Imperial Forces.

CHAPTER TWO

THE GREAT WAR AND PEACE

The Great War

As a result of growing tensions involving Colonial expansion an arms race and “sabre rattling” had been developing across Europe. This was to come to a head when the Austrian Arch Duke Franz Ferdinand was assassinated by a Yugoslav nationalist Gavrilo Princip in Sarajevo, Serbia. On 28 July, the Austro-Hungarians declared war on Serbia and subsequently invaded, Russia who was allied to Serbia mobilised in support. Germany was allied to Austria and France to Russia as such Germany intended to conduct a pre-emptive move against France and in doing so invaded through neutral Belgium and Luxembourg. Britain being allied to Belgium declared war on Germany on 4 August 1914 and Australia as part of the British Empire entered a state of war with Germany on the 5 August 1914. Following a Cabinet meeting in Melbourne the British Government was informed that Australia was prepared to place Royal Australian Navy vessels under British Admiralty Control and would raise a land force of 20,000 men; General W.T. Bridges was given the task of raising the force for overseas service.

This decision led to the creation of the Australian Imperial Forces (AIF), a force distinct from the Militia to be raised for overseas service with each state contributing. South Australia contributed two battalions, one to each of the two Divisions and these were designated the 10th and 27th Battalions AIF largely manned with volunteers from the militia.



The first men from Broken Hill to enlist, they became part of the original 10th Battalion AIF, 1914

Drawing volunteers from the local population as well as some from Broken Hill in outback New South Wales, a reformed 10th Australian Infantry Battalion was the first raised from South Australia and came into being on 17 August 1914 at the Morphettville Racecourse in Adelaide. With an establishment of 31 officers and 974 other ranks spread across eight companies, personnel received a short period of individual basic training, culminating in the presentation of the Regimental Colours on 17 September 1914 and a march past the state Parliament House four days later.

Within two months, the 10th Battalion departed on the 20th October 1914 aboard His Majesties Australian Transport Ascanius bound for the United Kingdom but diverted to Egypt arriving in December 1914 where it went into camp at Mena.

In January and February 1915, the Battalion was reorganised around the four company structure that had been adopted by the British with each company consisting of 228 men that were spread across four platoons undertaking further training and in anticipation of a yet undisclosed yet what was to be a defining moment for Australian.

The end of February saw the Battalion leave the Mena Camp embarking for Lemnos an island of Greece on board the SS Ionian where they remained for training. Towards the middle of April, the name Gallipoli became known and training was carried out in boats carrying out disembarking and landing drills and it was at Lemnos that the colour patch purple and blue, was issued to the men to sew on their tunics.

This defining moment came on 25 April 1915 at ANZAC Cove when the landing at Gallipoli commenced before dawn the 10th Battalion as part of the 3rd Brigade landed as part of the covering force including the Western Australian 11th Battalion and Tasmanian 12th Battalion. Two soldiers of the 10th Battalion, Lance Corporal Philip Robin and Private Arthur Blackburn, are believed to have penetrated further inland than any other Australians at ANZAC. Robin was killed later on 25 April and Blackburn soldiered on to be commissioned as an officer and awarded the Victoria Cross at Pozieres.

While the 10th Battalion was already on the Gallipoli Peninsular at the 27th Battalion was preparing to leave with the principle stores and equipment had already been taken on board the troopship "Geelong" at Outer Harbour. The troops were entrained from Mitcham and on arrival at Outer Harbour were greeted by a great crowd of relatives and friend to bid the lads "good bye"; after a stormy voyage the Battalion disembarked at Suez on 6 July 1915; after of two months of further training orders were received to prepare for embarkation to Gallipoli. The 27th Battalion landed at Gallipoli on the 13 September 1915 and like the 10th Battalion settled into trench warfare.



10th Battalion on HMS Prince of Wales prior to Gallipoli landing, 24 Apr 1915

Battling through a determined enemy, flies and dysentery the decision was eventually made to evacuate the Peninsular with the 10th Battalion embarking for Mudros on the ship Princess Ena at 6.am on 22 November 1915 and eventually arriving at Alexandria. The 27th Battalion would remain until the night of 12 December 1915 and with the 26th and 28th Battalions embarked back to Egypt. It was for actions at Gallipoli the 10th Battalion, earned the sobriquet 'The Fighting Tenth' and the Battle Honour 'Landing at Anzac'.

Both battalions suffered heavy casualties at Gallipoli and on return to Egypt were further depleted as they contributed to the expansion of the AIF from two to five Divisions. Towards the end of 1915 it was decided by the Australian Government to form the 3rd Australian Division for overseas commencing in 1916 with South Australia raising the 43rd Battalion at Morphettville from men in the various camps around the state undertaking training and waiting to depart.

Concurrently in Egypt the 50th Battalion was raised on 26 February 1916 from a combination of new arrivals and men from the 10th Battalion and was dubbed “Hurcombe’s Hungry Half Hundred”, after its first Commanding Officer; shortly after on 3 March 1916 the 48th Battalion was raised based around a split 16th Battalion at Tel-el-Kebir.

All were designated for service in France on the Western Front, while the two light horse divisions remained to play a major role in the eventual defeat of Turkey in the Middle East.



Troops from the 10th Battalion at Gallipoli, August 1915

While all battalions of the AIF eventually held a mixture of members from various states, there were five battalions predominantly from South Australian being the 10th, 27th, 43rd, 48th and 50th, of which the Battle Honours of the first four are held by the Royal South Australia Regiment (RSAR) carries. Over time the Divisions would serve in and out of I and II ANZAC Corp until the creation of the Australian Corps in 1917.

Distribution of the South Australian Battalions throughout the AIF

Battalion	10th	27th	43rd	48th	50th
Brigade	3rd	7th	11th	12th	13th
Division	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	4th

In 1914 the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) consisting of the regular British Army had been essentially destroyed on the retreat from Mons to the River Marne and the subsequent battles of 1915. Heavily engaged alongside the French Army the BEF had been split into five armies by the time the AIF arrived in 1916 essentially being territorials and volunteers that formed ‘Kitchener’s New Army’.

By mid 1916, the Western Front had stabilised with the line held by the British, extended from Ypres, near the North Sea, south for nearly two hundred kilometres, to the vicinity of the city of Amiens, from where the French line ran south to the Alps. The northern sector of the British line

was generally known as "Flanders" and the southern sector as "The Somme" and over the next two years, the AIF Divisions were to transfer back and forth to battles in these two sectors.

The 1st, 2nd and 4th Australian Divisions of 1 ANZAC Corps began arriving on the Flanders front in April 1916 and were given an extended settling in period, to accustom them to a different form of warfare. No such consideration was shown to the 5th Division on their arrival as they were thrust into a 'diversionary' attack at Fromelles on 19 July 1916, resulting in 5500 casualties, the heaviest loss in a day that the AIF was to suffer in the war.

Dawn of 9 June 1916 was the last day of the 43rd Battalion at Morphettville and at 9.40 am the first train left Morphettville Station for Outer Harbour. On reaching Port Adelaide the train proceeded by the old route down St Vincent Street, where a large and enthusiastic crowd assembled to bid farewell to the unit. The Battalion embarked on board the S.S "Afric" (A 19) a White Star liner.

With the arrival of fresh divisions the British Commander, Field Marshal Haig, was able to resume the offensive and I ANZAC Corps moved south to The Somme in July 1916 to join the great British offensive of that year; the Australian objective was the village of Pozieres. On 23 July 1916, the 1st Australian Division launched the opening attack and it was during this attack that Lieutenant (later Brigadier) A.S. Blackburn was awarded the Victoria Cross. The struggle for Pozieres continued for 45 days, during which the three Divisions launched a total of nineteen attacks in what is best described as savage close quarter fighting with the 48th Battalion in particular, distinguishing itself and the 27th Battalion heavily committed in the struggle for 'the Windmill'. The crowded one square mile summit of Pozieres cost the three Divisions 23000 casualties - 'a ridge more densely sown with Australian sacrifice than any other place on earth'.



View across the Pozieres plateau

On the 20th July the 43rd Battalion disembarked at Marseilles in France and then proceeded to Le Havre to board channel transport to England. Training commenced in earnest at Platoon, Company and Battalion level along with the other Battalions of the 11th Brigade. 25 November 1916 saw the 43rd Battalion entrain to Southampton for France. The weight of equipment carried by each man was far in excess of that borne on any previous occasion. In addition to full marching order of two blankets, food and water, underwear, second pair of boots, washing and shaving outfit, needles, cotton, buttons he would also carry all his little household goods in the shape of souvenirs and presents from home. So that he could fight he carried his Rifle and Bayonet with 150 rounds of ammunition, a steel helmet and gas as well as shell dressings, all making a burden in all cases exceeding 80 pounds.

By the end of 1916 all four divisions of the AIF were ready and now in France along with the New Zealand Division where during the winter of 1916/1917, the Germans staged a strategic withdrawal to a new defensive position known as the Hindenburg Line. The Germans were pursued by I ANZAC Corps where the Corps prepared to attack the village of Bullecourt, one of the bastions of the new line. The first assault by the 4th Division was to be accompanied by a dozen tanks, the first time they were to support the Australians unfortunately in blizzard conditions, the tanks failed to reach the start line where the infantry lay awaiting them in the snow at dawn. The attack was postponed until the following night when with only three tanks arriving by H Hour, the attack without artillery support went in and was initially successful in penetrating the German defences. Again the 48th Battalion distinguished itself simultaneously attacking in opposite directions against the German's counter attacks that forced the Division to abandon its hard fought gains. The position was eventually secured through a succession of assaults that involved all four Divisions and it was not until 17 May 1917 that the Germans conceded the position and the Australians eventually won acclaim for having breached the Hindenburg Line.

Meanwhile, in Flanders, II Anzac Corps was preparing to attack the salient at Messines, south of Ypres. This attack was preceded by the detonation of nineteen massive mines, dug under German trenches that when detonated were felt in London, followed by a heavy artillery bombardment. The attack by 3 Division and the second phase, spearheaded by the ubiquitous 4th Division was successful in eliminating the salient and clearing the way for the forthcoming major British offensive of 1917, known as the Third Battle of Ypres, or infamously as 'Passchendaele'.



German trench destroyed by a mine explosion

Third Ypres began on 31 July 1917 after a fortnight's heavy shelling with a subsequent attack by seventeen Divisions over a seven kilometre frontage with II Anzac Corps on the southern flank attacking from the ground, won at Messines. Coinciding with the attack were heavy rains and the battlefield turned to a morass in which, after the initial success, the advance became hopelessly bogged however Field Marshal Haig was determined to persist with the battle and it became a succession of massive pushes that achieved very small gains. All five AIF Divisions were now involved and over the next five months, were to spearhead five major attacks in which they inched forward eight kilometres, but at the cost of 38000 casualties.

On 20 September 1917, the first of these great drives began in sunshine with 1st and 2nd Divisions attacking together, to seize the Menin Road; it was during this battle that the CO of the 10th had newspapers delivered forward during a pause for his troops to read while resting on a hillside. On the 26th September 1917 came the turn of the 4 and 5 Divisions to take Polygon Wood, followed on 3 October 1917 by the attack on Broodseinde Ridge by 1st, 2nd and 3rd Divisions and the New Zealanders.

On leaving their start line at dawn, the 1st and 2nd Divisions ran into a German force, likewise launching a counter-attack. In the melee that followed, the Australians triumphed and pushed on to their objective at last overlooking the village of Passchendaele on the opposite ridge. The rains came again and bogged down the final Australian push on 9 October 1917, after which the exhausted troops were withdrawn for a much needed rest that was to last through the winter.



Ruins of Ypres

On 21 March 1918, 'Michael', the great German offensive was launched and within days had overrun that which had been gained with such cost in the Somme and Ypres offensives of the past two years. The newly formed Australia Corps, under command of General Birdwood, was quickly taken out of reserve and flung piecemeal into the battle to stem the German advance. The 3rd and 4th Divisions were instrumental in slowing the German advance east of Amiens and again the 48th Battalion drew recognition, this time from the Germans for the coolness of their steady withdrawal from Hamel. By mid-April, 2nd and 5th Divisions were also engaged with seventeen miles of the front held by Australian Divisions in the face of the main German attack. On 25 April 1918, a brilliantly executed quick attack was launched by a Brigade from each of 4th and 5th Divisions to force the enemy back from the village of Villers Bretonneux; South Australia was represented in this battle by the 50th. Meanwhile in Flanders the detached 1st Division separated from its comrades, had been occupied successfully stopping the Germans outside Hazebrouck, a vital railway centre in what had been deep in the British rear.



French children attending the graves of Australians killed on the Western front, Adelaide cemetery, Villers-Bretonneux

When the offensive was at last played out, the British front had been savagely bent but not broken and the Germans had achieved local success but failed to break through; the Australian contribution had again been significant.

The Corps remained in the vicinity of its recent victories to the east of Amiens and on 30th May 1918 received a new commander when General Monash, originally a Militia soldier assumed command. During this time, the Australians, through their aggressive raiding, which they termed 'Peaceful Penetration', established a clear physical and moral dominance over the Germans. The most successful example of this tactic was demonstrated by the 10th Battalion outside Hazebrouck on 26 June 1918, when seizing a succession of opportunities, a patrol developed into a raid that developed into a quick attack, resulting in the capture of 500 metres of German trenches.

Capitalising on this dominance over the enemy and applying his skills in meticulous planning and coordination, General Monash launched an attack on the village of Hamel, south of the Somme on 4th July 1918. The date was deliberately chosen in honour of the Americans attached to the Corps to gain combat experience. The attack was a resounding success and was noteworthy for the innovative use and coordination of the capabilities of infantry tanks, artillery and aircraft. In this battle, the 43rd had the distinction of seizing the village of Hamel itself.



A line of artillery near Villers-Bretonneux, on the morning of the 8 August advance

Australian success had revealed German weakness, which offered opportunity on a wider scale. On 8th August 1918, this was seized with a major attack by the Australian and Canadian Corps, flanked by British and French Divisions. This, the Battle of Amiens was one of the most brilliantly planned and executed operations of the War and one of the most decisive battles in history. In eight hours the Australians advanced ten kilometres and with minimal casualties, shattering the German Divisions demonstrating conclusively that Germany no longer had any prospect of winning the War. All South Australian battalions were involved, and for the first and only time, all fought together on the same battlefield, on the same day.

With the demonstrated success of Amiens, the general offensive across the Allied front began. Alternating attacks in Flanders and the Somme saw the Germans steadily pushed back to the old Hindenburg Line. In an attack of great audacity, Mont St Quentin, the tactical high ground behind Peronne, was seized by two battalions of the 2nd Division at dawn on 31 August 1918 and the Australian Corps had closed on and penetrated the outer defences of the Hindenburg Line by 18 September 1918.

The final Australian offensive of the War, was to break through the Line where St Quentin Canal, an otherwise major obstacle flowed through a four kilometre tunnel. The attack was led by two American Divisions that quickly became disoriented, leaving hard fighting for the 3rd and 5th Divisions, who eventually prevailed and exploited by the 2nd Division in early October; the 27th Battalion was rewarded with the final South Australian Battle Honour of the war for the capture of Beaurevoir.

The exhausted Australian Corps was at last withdrawn for rest, but before it would re-enter the battle with Armistice declared on 11 November 1918. The 10th Battalion had seen its last major action at Amiens with the 27th, 43rd, 48th and 50th Battalions seeing theirs at the Hindenburg Line and by September of 1919 all the Battalions had had returned to Australia for demobilisation.

While the AIF demobilised some Australians remained to serve with the British Army in the North Russia Relief Force as part of the Allied Intervention in the Russian Civil War, such as Arthur Percy Sullivan from Chrystal Brook, South Australia. Sullivan had enlisted in the 10th Battalion on 27 April 1918. Upon arriving in Europe he was transferred to the Australian Field Artillery and was still in training in Wiltshire when the Armistice was declared. Sullivan would be awarded a Victoria Cross for his actions with the 45th Battalion, The Royal Fusiliers before returning to Australia in September of 1919.

Australia had lost over 60,000 dead over four years and many more wounded not just in body but also in spirit. With the withdrawal of the North Russia Relief Force and the completion of demobilisation Australia had met its obligations in the War to end all Wars and would settle down to peace that would unfortunately be shattered twenty years later.



Weymouth, England 1919, repatriation back to Australia

Between the Wars

The conclusion of the First World War, 'The War to end all Wars', saw the demobilisation of the AIF in 1921 and the reintroduction of Universal Training and the Citizens Military Force (CMF). Plans called for a militia of five infantry and two cavalry Divisions but to be manned to only 25% of establishment. In South Australia the battalions raised were allocated the titles of the AIF associated to the state being 10th, 27th, 43rd, 48th and 50th, rather than returning to the pre-war militia numbers. This had the advantage of perpetuating the ethos and pride that had already been accrued with many AIF veterans continuing to serve and many of the senior appointments held by veterans. The new Battalions gained their numbers by assuming the areas of responsibility of the Battalions raised under the initial Universal training Scheme. The Army still remained reliant on the volunteer however; a permanent element remained to train the CMF in the form of the Australian Staff corps and the Australian Instructional Corps.



27th Battalion Australian Infantry, Football Team, 1920

For a brief period in this era a Battalion that is rarely remembered within South Australian military history was re-formed. Raised from the 79th Infantry Battalion (Torrens Regiment) immediately after the War, the 32nd Infantry Battalion was briefly allocated to South Australia before being numerically re-allocated to Victoria to become the 32nd Battalion (Footscray Regiment); the soldiers remained as a Battalion and were re-titled as the 48th Infantry Battalion (Torrens Regiment). The 32nd Infantry Battalion of the AIF was formed on 9 August 1915 with A and B Companies made up of recruits from South Australia who trained at Mitcham, South Australia while C and D Companies were formed in Perth, Western Australia, undertaking training at the Blackboy Hill Training Camp before the Battalion came together.

The fortunes of the Battalions changed depending on economic times or the apathy of society with the number of active battalions varying during this period as either individual or merged units. In 1927, territorial titles were introduced and the 10th Battalion assumed the designation of "The Adelaide Rifles" and the motto "Pro Patria" adopted at this time. In 1930, amid the austerity of the Great Depression, following the election of the Scullin Labor government the Universal Training Scheme was suspended. With the volunteer militia dwindling to 27000 and with South Australia not being immune, the decision was made to amalgamate the 10th and 50th Battalions, to become the 10th/50th Battalion and the 43rd and 48th Battalions to create the 43rd/48th Battalion. The only Battalion to avoid any form of amalgamation during this period was the 27th Battalion.

During this period the Citizens Force was now renamed as the Militia and a new system based on a part-time voluntary basis only, was introduced. The 10th and 50th remained linked until 1936; at that time, in response to fears of a possible war in Europe following the reoccupation of the Rhineland, it was decided to expand the size of the Militia. As a result, on 1 October 1936, the 10th/50th Battalion was split with the 10th Battalion remaining in South Australia and the 50th transferred by title to Tasmania in 1936 not to re-appear on the order of battle again for South Australia. The 43rd/48th Battalion would remain linked until 1942.

Abysmally low post war military expenditure allowed only six days full time and six days part time authorised training per year and when the Army eventually motorised in 1926, funds allowed only one truck per military district, a total of six for the Army.



Officers of the 27th Battalion Australian Infantry, shooting for Officers' Shield, 1938

As the threat of war grew in the mid 1930's, interest again stirred and a recruiting drive at the time of the Munich crisis in 1938 brought the numbers up to 80000. This could not, however compensate for years of failure to re-equip and the Army was to go to war in 1939 using obsolete equipment dating back to 1918. This Second World War would see all Battalions raised separately for the new Australian Imperial Force with the Militia Battalions to initially remain as such.

CHAPTER THREE

THE SECOND WORLD WAR

Middle East

Following the outbreak of World War II, the provisions of the Defence Act (1903) precluded the deployment of the Militia and full-time Permanent Military Force (PMF) outside Australia or its territories unless they volunteered to do so. To this end the government decided to raise an all volunteer force for overseas service, known as the Second Australian Imperial Force (2nd AIF) initially with two Divisions and in the following months, grew to a commitment of four.

As in 1914, it was accepted that this force would be separate from the militia however the battalions would bear the titles of their predecessors of 1st AIF; to delineate them from both their 1st AIF and militia namesakes they would be given the prefix of 2. While the AIF provided a deployable force to overseas theatres of war the militia battalion would remain in Australia for deployment in the immediate defence of Australia and to raise, train and sustain the numbers required to maintain this and the AIF. Hence during World War Two as was the case in The Great War there was for example, an AIF 2/10th Battalion and a Militia 10th Battalion; as with the Great War South Australia raised more than one battalion

Although originally intended that one South Australian battalion would serve in each of the four divisions, a series of circumstances led them to fight the war allocated over two divisions; in view of the catastrophes suffered by the 6th and 8th Divisions, it was fortuitous that the South Australian battalions were concentrated in the 7th and 9th Divisions.

Distribution of the South Australian Battalions throughout the AIF

Battalion	2/10th	2/27th	2/43rd	2/48th
Brigade	18th	21st	24th	26th
Division	7th	7th	9th	9th

The 2/10th Battalion was raised at Wayville Showground, Adelaide, on 13 October 1939 and trained at Woodside while the 2/27th Battalion was subsequently raised at Woodside Barracks on 7 May 1940.

2/10th The Battalion was initially earmarked as part of the 18th Brigade of the 6th Australian Division and embarked for the Middle East on 5 May 1940 but was diverted to the United Kingdom after the fall of France becoming part of the 9th Australian Division. In mid June the 2/10th Battalion arrived in Scotland to rousing welcome as it disembarked from the transports anchored in the Clyde. A train journey south landed the unit at its new location, Lopcombe Corner, just outside Salisbury where further intensive training and equipping was carried out to meet the Battalions new role of being a mobile reserve to the coastal defence; whilst in this area the Battalion was spectator to some of the famous air battles fought during the Battle of Britain. It was here that the Battalion received its first battle casualty for the war, one man being hit by a bullet from a German plane during a strafing run. After a time in this location the Battalion moved north to Colchester where it had the role of manning portion of the defences on the east coast of Britain.

On the morning of Sunday 17 November 1940 31 December 1940 the 2/10th Battalion redeployed to Egypt on the liner "Strathaird" where it was to be allocated to the 7th Australian Division along with the newly arrived 2/27th Battalion that had been undertaking garrison duties in anticipation of a German offensive. Shortly after the 2/10th Battalion became the first South Australians to see action when D Company 2/10th and the 2/9th Battalions captured Giarabub, in March 1941. This was the final victory of the extraordinary Cyrenaica Campaign in which the 6th Australian Division in rapid succession had taken from the Italians Bardia, Tobruk and Benghazi; the arrival of Rommel and his panzers, however, changed the scene.



2/27th Battalion at bayonet practice in Palestine, December 1940

While the 2/10th and the 2/27th Battalions were in Egypt two further South Australian battalions the 2/43rd and the 2/48th Battalions were being raised on 19 July and 18 November 1940 respectively. The Battalion was formed at 2/48th Battalion was raised at Wayville its barracks and quarters being the car pavilion in the showgrounds with training carried out in the adjacent parkland and later moved to Woodside, away from the distractions of city life, where it settled down to serious training. At this juncture Brigadier R.L. Leane, who commanded the 48th Battalion in the Great War, presented the Battalion with a set of drums at an impressive ceremony on the Woodside parade ground.

In April 1941 the 2/27th Battalion was redirected to Palestine for the subsequent first combat assignment, the invasion of Syria and Lebanon, which began in early June. During the fighting against Vichy French forces, the 2/27th Battalion took part in the drive up the Lebanon coast, taking part in several engagements including the Battle of Adloun on 11 June, the Battle of Miye-ou-miye on 13–14 June, the capture of Sidon on 15 June and the Battle of Damour in early July. After five weeks of fighting an armistice was signed on 12 July following the surrender of Vichy forces the battalion remaining on garrison duties as part of the Allied occupation force until January 1942.

By 1941 all the battalions raised in South Australia were in the Middle East when in March 1941 the Germans attacked and what became known as the 'Benghazi Handicap' (due to the speed of the German advance) commenced with the Commonwealth forces conducting a fighting withdrawal back to Tobruk. On 7 April 1941 18 Brigade from 7th Australian Division reached Tobruk followed by the 9th Australian Division where they dug in and waited; at the same time the 6th Australian Division was landing in Greece. Initially earmarked for the Greece the 2/27th Battalion was at the last hour was transferred to Mersa Matruh to take up a defensive role in the Matruh Box which proved to be fortunate as the Greece campaign became a disaster for the ill fated 6th Australian Division.



*2/27th Infantry Battalion, Lebanon on 2 September 1941.
Major General Arthur Allen (centre), commander of the 7th Australian Division, with Lieutenant Colonel Murray Moten (centre right), commander of the 2/27th Battalion*

Major General John Lavarack, Commander of I Australian Corps, assumed command of the garrison and was ordered to hold the port for at least two months while a relieving force from Egypt was organised. The first engagement came on 10 April 1941 when an Axis force approached the port from the west but this was repelled. The following day, Tobruk was effectively placed under siege when German forces cut the supply road to its east, encircling the Allied garrison. Over the course of the next six months the 9th Australian Division and the rest of the garrison repelled repeated attempts by Rommel's forces to capture the port. The Australian defence of Tobruk was anchored on three factors: the use of the pre-existing Italian fortifications around the port, aggressive patrolling and raiding of Axis positions and the firepower of the garrison's artillery. Fighting from fixed positions, the Australian infantry successfully contained and defeated repeated German armoured and infantry attacks on the fortress. After the failure of British attempts to relieve the fortress in May and June 1941, the 9th Australian Division including 2/10th (attached), 2/43rd and 2/48th Battalions, was withdrawn in September and October 1941 upon the request of the Australian War Cabinet, with the British 70th Division assuming responsibility and the last Australians departing in December.

Following its withdrawal from Tobruk the Australian Divisions were tasked to garrison duties in Syria and Lebanon while awaiting its return to Australia. When the German Afrika Korps recommenced its offensive in 1942, Tobruk with an even stronger garrison fell within 24 hours as the combined German/Italian army swept forward to the Egyptian border. On 3 July 1942 they were met by the 9th Australian Division who had been urgently moved forward to El Alamein. Both the 2/43rd and the 2nd/48th were heavily engaged in these initial actions over the first two weeks of July 1942 in the defeat of a succession of strong German attacks. As both sides consolidated and prepared for the major battle that would decide the fate of North Africa Field Marshal Montgomery planned for pressure to be exerted by the 9th Australian Division on the northern flank to draw the German forces allowing a break through a weakened enemy in the south. The battle commenced on 23 October 1942 and over the next week, the Australians succeeded in drawing north, all the panzers and the best Italian Divisions but at an enormous cost; in the course of the battle, the 2/48th Battalion was reduced to 41 men. By 4 November 1942, the Afrika Korps was in retreat which allowed the 9th Australian Division to be released to return to Australia arriving in Queensland and reforming prior to deploying to Papua New Guinea.



Members of the 2/48th Battalion manning a defensive position around Tobruk in 1941

Asia and the South West Pacific

On 7 December 1941 the Japanese launched their infamous attack on Pearl Harbour and the invasion of Thailand, Malaya and the Philippines and by March 1942 as 6th and 7th Australian Divisions had returned to Australia.

The Japanese had conquered Singapore and in doing so the 8th Australian Division was decimated in the withdrawal through the Malayan Peninsular further seizing the Dutch East Indies with Rabaul taken as a base for the conquest of New Guinea. While Japan's naval losses in the Battle of the Coral Sea in May 1942 precluded a seaborne attack on Port Moresby, they launched the first element of a two prolonged overland attack with the landing of a strong force at Buna Gona on the north coast of Papua on 21 July 1942. This force was met by the 39th Militia Battalion and a company of the Papuan Infantry Battalion, who fought a determined withdrawal back over the Owen Stanley Range.

On 6 August 1942 they were relieved by the 21st Brigade including the 2/27th Battalion who were unable to initially stop the Japanese advance and continued to be pushed back finally stopping at Imita Ridge, a mere 43 kilometres from Port Moresby. It was here that withdrawal switched into advance on 26 September 1942, beginning a long hard push back across the Kokoda Track, to the northern beaches. Concurrently, the second prong of the Japanese drive on Port Moresby had begun on 25 August 1942 with a landing at Milne Bay on the South East tip of Papua. Here they were met by 18 Brigade, including the 2/10th Battalion and were decisively beaten, the first defeat suffered by the Japanese in the war. While two South Australian battalions of 7th Australian Division were engaged in these historic actions against the Japanese, the two South Australian battalions of the 9th Australian Division were busy undertaking intensive training in Queensland, about to be heavily committed in a battle of equal significance in North Africa.

In Papua New Guinea the Japanese finally been driven back by November 1942 into their base area in the fetid swamps on the north coast, Gona was taken on 9 December 1942 but the effect on 2/27th Battalion due to disease and the savage hand to hand fighting been reduced to seventy men. Relief came as 18th Brigade came forward to clear the enemy from Buna and Sanananda where in the ensuing five week struggle lost 96% of its strength and by the time of the final attack of the battle, the 2/10th numbered only one hundred.

The following months saw rest and retraining for both depleted Divisions, in preparation for the next offensive which was to be the most ambitious operation of the War conducted by the Australians beginning on 4 September 1943, for the recapture of central New Guinea. 9th Australian Division was launched in an amphibious assault to take Lae, while a couple of days later, 7th Australian Division began to fly into Nadzab, which had been secured by an airborne drop. This two-pronged attack on the Markam Valley was co-ordinated with a further landing by militia and the commandos on Salamua. The plan met quickly with success and 7th Australian Division was soon following up the retreating enemy through Ramu Valley and led by the 2/27th up onto Shaggy Ridge in the Finisterre Range. After hard fighting, 18th Brigade took the lead down the mountains to the coast to capture Madang in April 1944.



Soldiers from the 2/10th prepare for a patrol, Milne Bay, September 1942

The 9th Australian Division was subsequently withdrawn from Lae to launch its next amphibious assault on the Huon Peninsula 10 kilometres north of Finschhafen, this time with four battalions that included the 2/43rd. With a plan drawn rapidly, not allowing rehearsals and including faulty intelligence and so followed a savage two week battle to secure the beachhead, Scarlet Beach, against a numerically superior enemy. When the Division broke out it began the push to Sattelberg, a missionary station in the hills. The advance was then assumed by 26th Brigade and with 2/48th Battalion leading on 24 November 1943, Sergeant Tom (Diver) Derrick DCM, conducted actions that would see the award of the fourth Victoria Cross to the 2/48th Battalion. At this stage both Divisions then again returned to Australia for rest and retraining, in preparation for the final campaign of the War.

Following this period I Australian Corps, which had been established in the South West Pacific from the Mediterranean since January 1942, began the campaign by for the re-conquest of Borneo; with an amphibious assault on the east coast island of Tarakan On 1 May 1945 lead by 26th Brigade. On Tarakan, 2/48th suffered more casualties than it had in New Guinea and among them was Diver Derrick, their one and only surviving VC recipient.

In early June 1945, the remainder of 9th Australian Division landed at Brunei Bay on the south coast, to clear it for future use as a naval base. 24th Brigade was tasked with securing Labuan Island and the 2/43rd Battalion went ashore in the first wave, the Battalion was subsequently engaged in heavy fighting culminating in a brilliantly planned and executed operation, to clear the village of Beaufort. The final phase was the landing by 7th Australian Division at the oil refining centre of Balikpapan, on the south-east coast. After heavy bombardment by Royal Australian Air Force Liberators and under the cover of naval gunfire from Royal Australian

Navy cruisers, the landing was led by the 2/10th and 2/27th Battalions on either side of the 2/12th Battalion from Tasmania, just as it had been on the Menin Road, 28 years earlier. The landing was successful, but the struggle in the hinterland continued until the end of hostilities on 11 August 1945.



Tom Derrick raising the Australian flag over Sattelberg mission

While the AIF has been in the limelight of Australian action during the War the militia was also mobilised and undertook garrison duties across Australia in South Australia, New South Wales and Darwin. In 1942, the 48th Battalion was reorganised as a light anti-aircraft regiment and the 10th Battalion was amalgamated into the 10th/48th Battalion who were later gazetted as a part of the AIF. This was not the only Battalion, reorganisation was the result of personnel shortages that had come about due to an over-mobilisation of the Australian military, and resulted in the amalgamation of several Militia units. Militia battalions that had over 65% of personnel volunteer for service outside of Australia were available to be gazetted and transferred to the AIF.

The 27th Battalion (South Australian Scottish Regiment) was another such battalion who when joined with the Victorian 7th and 8th Battalions to reform the former AIF 23rd Brigade of the 8th Australian Division, reduced as its personnel were deployed elsewhere. On the 21 December 1943, 27th Battalion moved to the Atherton tablelands for intensive jungle training before departing for New Guinea arriving at Lae on the 27 May 1944 for further training in jungle fighting.

In September 1944 the 23rd Brigade became the covering force for the Americans in the Solomon Islands with the 27th Battalion and Brigade Headquarters was situated at Green Island, about 50 miles north of Bougainville. Here on Green island the 27th Battalion to provide defence of the airfield and surveillance patrols on other small adjacent islands. In March 1945 the 27th Battalion deployed to Torokina on Bougainville to relieve the 55th/53rd Battalion on the Laruma River, tasked to prevent the possibility of Japanese suicide patrols infiltrating into the perimeter. During the period of 16-18 April 1945 the 27th Battalion carried out the relief of the 31st/51st Battalion on Pearl Ridge (astride the Numa Numa Trail). At this stage the unit war diary records that "After 3 ½ years of hard training on the mainland and in the islands, the unit has at last been committed to an operational role and is fighting a live enemy".

This campaign continued till early June 1945 with the Battalion proving itself against a well equipped and determined force of Japanese. Warned out to move to North West Bougainville the 27th Battalion conducted patrols to deal with the constant infiltration and booby trapping by the Japanese; patrolling, ambushing continued in this sector till the end of hostilities. Three days after the formal surrender of the Japanese forces on Bougainville the 27th Battalion commenced to move to Torokina where its role was to provide guards for batches of Japanese prisoners arriving from the Bonis peninsular.

Following the end of the war, the AIF was disbanded 2/10th Battalion on 29 December 1945 in Balikpapan Borneo, 2/27th Battalion 18 March 1946 in Brisbane, 2/43rd Battalion in February 1946 after their final campaign in Borneo and 2/48th Battalion 25 October 1945 in Tarakan. Not all Battalions could be disbanded in Australia as numbers dwindled with long-serving men repatriated back to Australia, while others with only limited service were transferred to other units.

The 10th/48th Battalion was disbanded in August 1945, never having served outside Australia and the 27th Battalion on 1 May 1946 with some men volunteering to be transferred to the battalions of the 34th Brigade that was being formed on Morotai Island for service as part of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force in Japan.



SX31156 Private L. A. Waller, 2/27th Battalion smiles as he waits his turn to embark on USS Winchester Victory for the voyage home to Australia from Macassar, Celebes

CHAPTER FOUR

INTO A NEW ERA

Post World War II to Vietnam

Due to an over commitment of resources early in the war, the Australian economy suffered badly from manpower shortages as early as 1942 which as a result began the demobilisation process before the war was even over. Understandably, defence issues were not given a high priority as the nation tried to rebuild after the war and as such it was not until 1948 that the Citizen Military Forces (CMF) was reformed. Even before the Japanese surrender in 1945, plans were however being formulated for the shape and the role the post-war Army; a commitment to the British Commonwealth Occupational Forces (BCOF) in Japan saw the emergence of the first Australian regular infantry that would later become the Royal Australian Regiment. This would signify if not an end at least a shift in focus for Australian military planners' reliance upon citizen soldiers.

A shift in international politics as the cold war unfolded and the British Empire receded ensured that a credible defence had to be maintained and this took the shape when formally announced in 1947 the announcement to establish a Regular Army Brigade and a CMF with a combined strength of 50000. The CMF was to be established at two Infantry Divisions and an armoured brigade and again the pre-war battalions were raised, this time as 10th (Adelaide Rifles), 27th Battalions (South Australian Scottish Regiment) and a linked 43rd /48th Battalion (The Hindmarsh Regiment). With the Cold War as a focus of concern and the CMF failing to reach its target strength through volunteers, it was decided in 1950 to introduce National Service. On 1 March 1951 National Service commenced on the basis of 98 days initial full time training and 42 days with a designated CMF unit over the following 2 years. Against the backdrop of the Korean War, the first intake of South Australian youths completed their training at Woodside and reported to their battalions; generally, the programme was a success and had wide public support. The battalions came quickly to full strength and with a cadre of 2nd AIF veterans active and interesting training was provided for the young national Servicemen.



A CMF machine gun team during an exercise in 1952

While the Regular Brigade was orientated to conflict in the region, namely Korea and Malaya, the CMF Divisions trained for heightening tensions in the Middle-East and trained and equipped accordingly: khaki protective dress, 17 pounder anti-tank guns, Vickers, jeeps and 62 set radios were the equipment of the day with training at Cultana and Murray Bridge. The management and administration required the allocation of a large number of resources and personnel from the Regular Army at a time when the army Regular Army was already heavily committed in Korea and Malaya; as such the National Service obligation was first reduced to 77 days and then suspended in 1959. A major re-organisation of the Army brought new perspectives and with a

changing shift in security concerns focusing on South East Asia, coupled with the introduction of the "big battalion" Pentropic organisation, the CMF followed suit of the Regular Army.

On 1 July 1960, the Royal South Australia Regiment (RSAR) was formed and the three existing battalions were amalgamated into a single large all volunteer 1 RSAR. With it came new tropical warfare doctrine, jungle green uniforms, the SLR, M60 machine guns, 81 mm Mortars, ANPRC 10 radios and Landrovers. The Pentropic Division concept had a negative impact on the CMF that realised the reduction from 31 to 17 infantry battalions nationwide but on the reverse created a positive state based identity as regional regiments that had existed merged into six new multi-battalion state-based regiments.

The new Pentropic Battalion formed five Companies retaining a link with the originating Battalions:

- A Company (The South East Company) (from the SA Scottish Regt)
- B Company (The River Company) (from the SA Scottish Regt)
- C Company (The Mid North Company) (from the Hindmarsh Regt)
- D Company (The Adelaide Company) (from the Adelaide Rifles)
- E Company (The Port Adelaide Company) (from the Adelaide Rifles)



*1RSAR Soldiers
1963*

While the Americans dispensed with the Pentropic Divisions in 1962 Australia was not to do so until 1965 with the commitment to a number of conflicts where it was not suited, such as Confrontation and Vietnam; this was to have a positive impact on the Royal South Australia Regiment. In July 1965, 1 RSAR was divided into two battalions, 10th and 27th Battalions Royal South Australia Regiment. 10 RSAR, based at Torrens Training Depot, was responsible for Adelaide and the State, south of the River Torrens, while 27 RSAR was initially at Hampstead Barracks and subsequently at Smithfield for all north of the River Torrens.

National Service was reintroduced into Australia in 1965 essentially to expand the Regular Army and the commitment to South East Asia. Initially public support was strong for the Vietnam commitment and the battalions once again gained strength and became viable. In July 1966, the Army authorised the raising of six remote area battalions, one in each state with South Australia raising 43 RSAR, designated to cater for "special condition" volunteers opting for periods of continuous duty, rather than the conventional bivouacs and night parades.

With volunteer service in the CMF an alternative to National Service, potential conscripts were given the option to voluntarily enlist in the CMF prior to their date of birth being announced in the ballot, thus exempting them from being drafted for overseas service. As popular support for the conflict in Viet Nam declined many young men opted for this option to avoid being sent overseas by 1968 almost half of the 35,000 men in the CMF had joined in order to avoid being

drafted leading to a widespread public perception that the CMF was a refuge for "draft dodgers" with little or no motivation to fulfill their training obligations. Although this was not a universal experience, overall it affected the morale of the CMF and, coupled with the decision by the government not to activate CMF units for service in Vietnam; this led to a decline in genuine voluntary enlistment.

Vietnam into the new millennium

When the Whitlam Government came to power in late 1972, the CMF was in a very poor state. The new government moved quickly to end conscription, and this caused the CMF's strength to fall by roughly 5,000 to 23,119 by June 1973. These were the days of battle on "the jungle covered hills of Cultana", Iroquois helicopters, deployment by Caribou and familiarisation on M113 Armoured Personnel Carriers.

In 1973 a committee of inquiry into the CMF was announced, under the chairmanship of Dr. T.B Millar and the subsequent report developed from this inquiry became known as the Millar Report; some opponents predicted this would be the vehicle for the Regular Army to denigrate the CMF. This could not have been further from the truth. The report did much to highlight many of the conceptual and structural problems that the CMF was afflicted by at the time, however, the way in which the government chose to implement the recommendations, and indeed the way in which some of them were allowed to lapse, ultimately served to at least partially justify some of the cynicism voiced in certain CMF circles about the report.

The report identified that 'although it would no longer be called upon to provide the base upon which mobilisation in a time of war would be built instead it would be used to augment the Regular Army'. This was the first step in creating the concept of a total force, in which the differing virtues of the citizen soldier and the regular soldier would be used to complement each other, and in this vein the Millar Report recommended that the name be changed from the CMF to the Australian Army Reserve.



Urban operations training

The withdrawal from Viet Nam of Australian forces in 1972 and the end of National Service signalled again diminished support for the CMF with the resultant requirement in December 1974 for all three South Australian battalions to amalgamate as 10 RSAR. Furthermore as a

result of the 'Millar Report', the decision was made to abolish the old CMF divisions, as the role of the Army Reserve would no longer be to act as a skeleton force that would be filled out upon mobilisation, but rather a force that could provide individual sub-units of capability should the need arise to augment the Regular Army. With a fleeting resurgence in numbers, 27 RSAR delinked in 1982 until the two battalions were again amalgamated, this time as the 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment, on 29 November 1987.

In recent years while the battalion has had its highs and lows it has provided a significant contribution to Australian operations since 1999 through either individual round outs or group deployments; the first significant situation being with soldiers of the battalion deploying as part of the United Nations Transitional Authority East Timor. The deployment to East Timor highlighted the limits of the Australian Defence Force and the need for an Army Reserve that could effectively provide deployable capabilities and individuals to round-out to the Regular Army in times of heavy operational commitment. As such, in late 2000 the government did what many governments had previously considered since the formation of the citizen force almost a hundred years earlier. By enacting legislation that enabled the call-up of Reservists to full-time service in circumstances that fell short of a full scale defence emergency, Government was able to protect the Reservists employment and provide remuneration to employers thus enabling greater opportunity for the Army Reserve to deploy.



10/27 RSAR soldiers boarding a Caribou, Whyalla, 2009

The continuing high operational tempo of the Army after East Timor further emphasised the need to develop the capability of the Army Reserve. With the Regular Army involved in conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan while maintaining a capability in Australia, this has allowed the battalion the opportunity to deploy as a formed body to lower intensity areas, such the Solomon Islands on Operation ANODE Rotation 14, 17 and 24. Additional deployments have occurred in Aid to the Civil Power through Operation Vic Fires Assist, Operation Cyclone Yassi Assist and Operation Testament. Currently the battalion has soldiers deployed in support of Operation SOVEREIGN BORDER and an ongoing commitment to Rifle Company Butterworth in Malaysia exercising alongside military counterparts in South East Asia

The shape of the Army Reserve has changed and the battalion has had to move along or risk being swept aside. Under Plan Beersheba the Brigades of the Army Reserve are paired against an Australian Regular Army Brigade. The Battalion as part of the 9th Brigade including 12th/40th Battalion, The Royal Tasmanian Regiment is with the 4th Brigade required to provide a Battle Group to the Darwin based Australian Regular Army 1st Brigade. This is reminiscent of the Victorians and South Australians coming together with the re-raising of the 23rd Brigade of the 2nd AIF for service in the Pacific. The Battalion has a requirement to provide elements to

reinforce the 4th Brigade “Battle Group Jacka” that has moved past its embryonic stages and is being formed for Exercise HAMEL in 2016.



PTE Appelbee and PTE Woolston, Operation ANODE, Solomon Islands, 2011

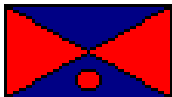
This evolution of the “paired Brigades” is the part time elements of Army fulfilling a destiny as identified in the early 1970s through the ‘Millar Report’. Under Plan Beersheba, 6/13 Light Battery, Royal Australian Artillery and 3 Field Squadron, Royal Australian Engineers have come under command of the Battalion in 2013 and 2014 respectively as part of a consolidation of some of the smaller units of the Brigade taking on a Battle Group look.



LCPL B. Healy and PTE J. Chandler, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, 2012

The Battalion has formed a closer relationship with the Edinburgh based 7th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (RAR), from the 1st Brigade. This has taken shape in the support of mentors during exercises so to draw on skills gained in the recent operational environments and infrastructure support. As a large number of the cadre staff posted into the Battalion have seen service with 7RAR this becomes reminiscent of the days when 3RAR were located at Woodside Barracks and the relationship was as strong. It is not only the infantry of the Battalion but also the Gunners of 6th/13th Light Battery who work closer now with the Woodside based 16th Air Land Regiment and the School of Artillery further developing the interaction between the Regular and Reserve soldier. .

The Battalion is seizing these opportunities to continue its development and prove its relevance in an ever evolving Australia Defence Force seeking to be more than a one dimensional Army Reserve unit. Whether a soldier of today or yesterday all will see that the changes are similar; it is the same story just a different time.



6/13 LIGHT BATTERY ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY



Until January 2013 under Plan Beersheba, 6th/13th Light Battery did not exist, it is an amalgam of the South Australia based 48 Field Battery and the Tasmanian 16 Field Battery being brought under the command of the 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment. Until recently the each was a six-gun battery utilising the United States designed M2A2 Howitzer firing 105mm ammunition, however, following the reorganisation of the Australian Army Reserve's artillery units, the combined battery now uses the 81mm mortar as its primary weapon platform. The unit maintains a number of M2A2s, however, which are reserved for ceremonial occasions such as 21gun salutes. The Battery draws on a rich history in the form of the two preceding units and the lineage they bear.

16 Field Battery, Royal Australian Artillery

With the already previously mentioned threat of foreign invasion, the Governor of Tasmania, Sir Henry Edward Fox -Young, urged Parliament in 1858 to approach the Imperial Government with a proposition for two companies of Royal Artillery personnel to be stationed at Hobart. This was refused but with an offer to keep 260 officers and men, from the colonies' existing infantry regiments, stationed in Hobart at the Tasmanian Government's expense.. The Tasmanian Government refused the offer as being too costly and in 1863 made another request for Imperial military personnel stationed; this was again refused by London who with the Second Maori War in New Zealand and was British regiments already departing Australia were already overstretched.

In December 1859, a volunteer unit, known as the Hobart Town Artillery Company (HTAC), was raised under the command of Captain A. F. Smith, formerly of the 99th (Wiltshire) Regiment. Subsequently on 6 June 1860, a meeting was held at the Launceston Hotel to discuss the formation of a group that was to be called the Launceston Citizen's Volunteer Rifle Corps. During the meeting the name was unanimously amended to the Launceston Volunteer Artillery Company (LVAC) after the secretary, Mr. George P. Hudson, read a letter from the Colonial Secretary that suggested members should be trained in the exercise of artillery as well as of the rifle. The LVAC consisted of three companies, each of 50 men, under the command of Captain R.C.D. Home with the other volunteer officers democratically elected by the men themselves. They paid an initial entrance fee of 2s. 6d, and at the beginning, before government assistance became available, they also supplied their own uniforms and then a monthly fee of 2s. to help defray incidental expenses - annual honorary membership was 2 Guineas (42 shillings) for those interested citizens who wished to be involved on a 'social' level.

When the Imperial Government completely opted out of military support for the colonies in 1870, the Tasmanian Government was unable to financially assist the volunteer units and, for the next five years, the H.T.A.C. and the L.V.A.C. diminished significantly. Without even funding to hire horses to pull their howitzers up the steep slopes of Windmill Hill, to fire the annual May

24th Salute, they hooked up their drag-ropes and man-handled them up, '*with indomitable courage and loyalty*', to honour Queen Victoria's Birthday. In 1875 the Hobart unit was ordered to disband, but the Launceston Volunteer Artillery, who had consolidated their personnel and had still continued to train and fire their salutes, was allowed to continue by virtue of the Governors solicitation to the Tasmanian Parliament; this period was known as 'The Winter of Neglect'.

In 1880, a new field artillery unit was raised in Hobart being the Southern Tasmanian Volunteer Artillery (STVA), equipped with two breech-loading 12 pounder howitzers and two 32 pounder guns on field carriages. Around this time the LVAC were providing detachments on annual camps to support the operation of the Coastal Artillery defences.

With Federation Australia's various permanent (colonial) military units now came under the control of the Commonwealth Minister of Defence and the task of organising them into a truly Australian Army was entrusted to Major General Sir Edward Hutton. The Tasmanian Permanent Artillery became the No.13 Company, Royal Australian Garrison Artillery while the LVAC provided enough personnel to form the No.1 Tasmanian Battery, Australian Field Artillery (AFA) and part of the No.2 Tasmanian Battery AFA, known as Launceston Section in accordance with a District Order published on July 31st. 1902.



9 Battery, 3rd Field Artillery Brigade, First Division, AIF, firing their 18 Pounder on 19 December 1915, the day of the final evacuation

Over the next six years the No.1 Battery was again re-organised into two field sections, each equipped with two Quick Firing (QF) 18 Pounder Mark II guns. The balance of No.2 Tasmanian Battery had been made up from the STVA, which also provided the personnel to form the No.1 Tasmanian Company, Australian Garrison Artillery, but in about 1909 the Launceston Section, No.2 Battery was re-absorbed back into No.1 Battery allowing the Hobart section to expand into a full battery in its own right. With the advent of the Universal Training Scheme in 1911, the Hobart unit was renamed 16 Battery, AFA and the Launceston unit, 15th Battery AFA.

On the outbreak of the Great War the two batteries were renamed 40th and 41st Batteries AFA respectively, and when the AIF was formed they provided many members for 9th Battery AFA raised as part of 3 Field Brigade AFA of the 1st Australian Division that took part in the

Gallipoli landings. During the evacuation from Anzac Cove in December, the last battery to report 'all clear' was 9th Battery, which, by that time, consisted of one remaining gun, under the direction of SGT. W. G. McKenzie; the gun crew had to leave this last gun for destruction. After Gallipoli the Batteries would go on to serve in France with 14 Field Brigade and other Batteries formed mainly by Tasmanians being 17th Battery, AFA as well as 106th Howitzer Battery AFA until cease of hostilities in 1918.



Australian 18 Pounder during in France

By 1921, the AIF which had been the only completely volunteer army on the Western Front in 1918, ceased to exist and the divisional organisation was applied to peacetime units to retain the traditions established in war; compulsory training was re-introduced and along came a few more name changes. The existing 14 Field Brigade was renamed 6 Field Brigade AFA with the Launceston 16th Battery being equipped with four QF 18 Pound field guns, while the unit in Hobart, after being re-named 106 (Howitzer) Battery AFA armed with four QF 4.5 inch Howitzers.

In 1927, Tasmanian artillerymen of 106 Battery were highly successful in winning the prestigious Mount Schank Trophy for being the most efficient artillery battery in Australia, and whilst the onset of the Great Depression, and the abolition of the compulsory military training scheme, in 1929, created some financial problems for the 6 Field Brigade AFA, they managed to keep their ranks full and continued training during those bleak years. Prior to 1936, the permanent gunners who formed both Field Batteries and Garrison Companies (Coastal) were the only units entitle to the title "Royal". This title was extended to militia units also forming field and garrison units in recognition of the service provided in World War by King Edward VIII, before his abdication. Edward, who had been nicknamed 'The Digger Prince' when he had seen military service during the war, valued the 'blood and guts' contribution that Australian troops had poured into the effort to ensure eventual victory and this was one way he could reward and acknowledge it; now to be known as the Royal Australian Artillery (RAA). With the title of Royal being granted 31 January 1936, all the old militia titles were replaced, and the 6 Field Brigade, Royal Australian Artillery (Militia) became the latest addition to the string of name changes for the Tasmanian artillerymen.

With the outbreak of the Second World War, Tasmanians again mobilised with the Second Australian Imperial Force (2nd AIF), transitioning from horse drawn to motorised at Brighton. 16th Battery RAA became 17th Battery RAA and the name 16th Battery was allocated to a new unit that was raised in Tasmania during May 1940 for service with the 2/8th Field Regiment raised from about half the members of the 'old' 16 Battery. For a period there were two 16th

Batteries; one with 2/8th Field Regiment and one with 6 Field Brigade. Around this time the term 'Brigade' was dispensed with and replaced by the designation 'Regiment'- so 6 Field Regiment RAA was born. Tasmanians were to also contribute to 2/5th Field Regiment RAA which would eventually become 1 Australian Anti-Tank Regiment RAA in 1940 serving in England, South Africa, Greece, Crete, Syria, as well as other South-West Pacific areas such as Dutch New Guinea, with great distinction; towards the end of the war, this regiment's troops were even used as 'infantry, to help finish off the Japanese but, they were still always 'Gunners'. The role of 6 Field Regiment RAA was to remain in home Garrison to protect the Australian continent from possible invasion from German or Italian sources, however, from 1941 onwards, with the formation of the Axis powers which now also included Japan, the Regiment was placed on full alert until the determined Japanese push was stalled in the jungles of New Guinea and at the confrontation in the Coral Sea; the Regiment was disbanded in August 1944.

2/8th Field Regiment RAA went onto serve under the command of the 2nd South African Division. Under-equipped 16 Battery R.A.A. had consisted of three troops of four guns, which included QF 18 Pounder guns and QF 4.5 inch howitzers which it had picked up when it arrived in the Middle East as part of RAA, 1st Australian Corps, but it was eventually re-equipped with 25 Pounder guns. The Battery would see action around Sidi Barrini-Sollum area before being attached to the Scots Guard Brigade, which formed 'Jock' columns along the coastal area of North Africa and later involvement at Al Alamein.



25 Pounder in action El Alamein

With threat of the Japanese 16 Battery, as part of 2/8th Field Regiment RAA, departed for Australia in 1943 for leave and re-training in the Atherton Tablelands. On 1 May 1945 the 1st Australian Corps, of which 9th Australian Division was a part, was engaged to take place in amphibious landings on Borneo, and the 2/8th Field Regiment RAA, including 16 Battery, was involved at Labuan, Brunei, Miri and Seria and were still fighting against an enemy who continued to resist until a fortnight after the war had officially ended with the Japanese surrender.

As peace became a reality, 2/8th Field Regiment RAA expired men began to gradually return to Australia on a roster basis. With the increasing mistrust between the Allied powers and rising tension on the North Korean Peninsular barely six months after hostilities had finally ceased against the Japanese, recruiting for an Interim Australian Army *officially* commenced amongst veterans, including artillerymen due for discharge, to confront the developing threats of a post war world. The post-war Australian Regular Army (ARA) was officially formed on 30 November 1947, to give Australia an army in readiness, and then the formation of the Citizens Military Forces (CMF) from existing militia units. With the outbreak of hostilities in Korea this

took on a new impetus, while the newly formed ARA was sent the, the role of the CMF and the old militia training programmes, which had never really ceased, now assumed an extra intensity and sense of urgency. 6 Anti-Tank Regiment, RAA, of two batteries, was raised and equipped with QF 17 pounder anti-tank guns, with 'P' Battery stationed in Launceston and 'Q' Battery in Hobart. On 18 October 1950 the regiment was converted back to a field regiment armed with 25 Pounder guns and a re-designation as 6 Field Regiment, RAA. With the availability of National Service man-power, an additional battery was formed (R' Battery) and stationed in Launceston but in 1959 as this was abolished the Regiment was again down-graded and re-designated as 112 Field Battery, RAA with 'A' Troop in Launceston and 'B' Troop in Hobart. This would be temporarily reverted when National service was re-introduced in 1961 and 6 Field Regiment, RAA was re-raised in 1962. The old 'P' and 'Q' Batteries were re-raised but, in 1966, they were numbered to fit in with the existing traditions and became 16th Field Battery and 112th Field Battery (the old Hobart Battery number '106' was being used by a regular army unit that had been formed in 1965).



On 6th. June 1970, the City of Launceston greatly honoured the traditions of the Launceston Volunteer Artillery, by granting 6 Field Regiment the Freedom of the City of Launceston, which was resolved by the Council on 27 April 1970. The scroll, which was presented to Lieutenant-Colonel Peter R. Patmore ED the Officers and other ranks of 6 Field Regiment RAA, by the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of Launceston reads, in part:

'.....Being sensible of the great record and glorious traditions of your most distinguished Regiment over many years to Her Majesty, the Queen.....(and) the association which is now, and has for so long, been enjoyed between our City and the Regiment in which so many of our sons have been proud to serve.....confer upon you the title, privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of our City of Launceston on all ceremonial occasions with swords drawn, bayonets fixed, drums beating, bands playing and guns on parade.'

The Regiment phased out the 25 pounders and, in 1974 as the Army went through an upgrade of equipment welcoming back the M2A2 105mm Howitzer which had briefly been equipped with in 1965 in Launceston prior to their withdrawal for use in Vietnam in 1967.

With the changes to Army post Vietnam, the Miller report, commissioned by the Government in 1975, recommended that 6 Field Regiment be again reduced to battery strength and, in 1976, 16th Field Battery, RAA was placed on the Order of Battle as an independent field battery of the Army Reserve, with detachments in Hobart and Launceston. This structure remained until amalgamation with 48 Light Troop and the formation of 6/13 light battery.

48 Field Battery, Royal Australian Artillery

The first artillery pieces arrived in South Australia aboard the Royal Navy ship HMS Buffalo, which landed two 18-pound cannons although initially there were no moves to form an artillery unit the guns were operated by Royal Engineers.

The Artillery in South Australia faced the same problems as the Infantry as the fortunes rose and faded depending on the fears of the day. Established militia artillery in South Australia can be traced back to the Militia Act of 1854 with the raising of two artillery companies, to be known as the Adelaide Artillery, along with the two battalions that made up the Adelaide Rifles. Notable officers on strength within the colony were the Surveyor General, Captain A.H. Freeling, Royal Engineers, and Captain R.R. Torrens. By 1860 these batteries had become known as the No. 1 Adelaide Company and No.2 Port Adelaide Company and continued in this vein until combined into a single corps in 1868 to be known as the South Australian Regiment of Volunteer Artillery. As enthusiasm diminished with the reduced threats to the region the batteries were reduced to half strength and by 1870 existed on paper only until 1872 when service was held in abeyance and no activity existed until the renewed Russian threat that saw the Militia re-raised. On 3 May 1877 an appeal was made and again artillery was raised to be designated as batteries; known as A Battery Field Artillery (Adelaide) and B Battery Garrison Artillery (Port Adelaide)

It was in 1877 when Coastal Artillery at Largs Bay and Semaphore commenced construction, with one intended at Glenelg that did not commence. All were connected by a military road and supported by field gun emplacements, naval elements and mobile forces against foreign threats; mainly Russian. In 1882 South Australia's first permanent military force was formed and Fort Glanville became the headquarters for the South Australian Permanent Military Force, then the state's entire standing army of one officer and eighteen other ranks; the Permanent artillery was to remain at the coastal batteries augmented by the Militia. In 1889 B Battery was posted against Fort Glanville and another Battery (C) was raised and also posted to Fort Glanville and by 1889 reassigned to Fort Largs. During this period 40 officers and men of A Battery volunteered for and saw service in South Africa during the Boer War as Mounted Infantry.



Six Inch Artillery Guns and Observation Post at Fort Largs

With a reorganisation of the Volunteer forces in 1896, the Permanent Artillery remained at the existing forts with two Batteries of Field Artillery and two of garrison Artillery also maintained in the existing structure until Federation in 1901.

After the Federation, a Regiment of Australian Artillery was formed and what had been the A Battery became No1 Battery South Australian Battery in 1901. In 1912 with the changes to Australian Defence Policy, and the introduction of the Universal Training Scheme, the Field Artillery increased and became 13th Battery, Australian Field Artillery (AFA), a short lived name as the Battery was split to form 34th and 35th Batteries of Field Artillery and the Garrison Artillery became 10th Battery Australian Garrison Artillery (AGA). These batteries would follow the same path as the remainder of the Militia throughout the Universal training Scheme and would go on to provide the bulk of their manpower to the Australian Imperial Force in 1914 and would remain in existence until the conclusion of the war.

With the advent of the Great War South Australians who volunteered for service in the Artillery were mainly recruited into the 3rd Field Artillery Brigade; a composite unit of South Australians, Tasmanians and Queenslanders to which South Australia contributed the all volunteer 18th Battery from the 34th and 35th Batteries. At the time each Australian Division had four allocated Artillery Brigades three comprising of 16 x 18 pounders and one comprising of 12 x 4.5 inch howitzers.

With the expansion of the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) that took place following the end of the Gallipoli campaign 48th Field Battery was formed for service at Tel el Kebir, Egypt, on 6 March 1916. Initially assigned to 12 Field Artillery Brigade (18 Pounders) of the 4th Australian Division, the battery was transferred to Europe where it saw action in France with 24 Field Artillery Brigade (4.5inch Howitzers) also of the same division. The battery saw action on the Western Front from June 1916 in locations such as Pozieres, Mouquet Farm, the Somme and Flers. In 1917, the Divisions were reduced in their Artillery complement from four down to two brigades and 48th Battery as part of 24 Field Artillery Brigade was disbanded in January 1917; in all Australia contributed 83 Field Batteries to the war.



QF 4.5 Inch Howitzer

In 1921, the battery was re-raised as a part-time field artillery unit in South Australia with the reintroduction of the Universal training Scheme. As part of a wide-scale reorganisation of Australia's part-time military forces that saw units of the Citizens Force adopt the numerical designations of the AIF, the battery was formed by splitting the already re-raised 45 Battery that had already been established. The Battery was assigned to 22 Australian Field Artillery Brigade, but attached to 13 Field Brigade for administration purposes, under the command of a former Light Horseman with service in the Artillery during the Great War, Major H.J. Copley. At this time the battery was mounted on horses and organised into two sections, each consisting of two guns, with a total strength of around 60 to 75 personnel however, with the abolition of Universal Training in 1929 recruitment into the Citizens Force became voluntary and as such declined. In

1936, Captain R.J. Harvey took over command of the Battery and in 1939 it was relocated to the Torrens Training Depot, where it was collocated with the 10th Battalion (Adelaide Rifles). Throughout this time, the Battery continued its role as horse artillery. In July 1939, Battery personnel were used to raise 51st Battery and 49th Battery, shortly after which a ne 48th Battery was formed and relocated to Keswick Barracks.

Following the outbreak of the Second World War, the battery was not to deploy however, it was to contribute a number of personnel to the Second Australian Imperial Force that was raised for overseas service and, as a result, during the early period of the war, its establishment declined. In late 1941, following Japan's entry into the war, 13 Field Artillery Regiment was raised from 2/1 Field Artillery Regiment. This regiment of the 6th Australian Division had previously seen service in the Middle East employing medium guns. During the first half of 1942 however, the battery undertook coastal defence duties in South Australia before losing its horses and re-equipping with eight Ordnance QF 25 pounder artillery pieces and moving to Frankston, Victoria before later in the year, moving again, this time to Holsworthy, New South Wales. In December 1942, the Battery, with over 65% volunteering for overseas service, was gazetted as an AIF unit, which meant that it could be sent anywhere to fight during the war. In 1943, the battery moved to Queensland before being sent to Port Moresby in New Guinea where it became part of the 13 Field Regiment a part of the 7th Australian Division including the 2/27th Battalion. They remained in New Guinea until October 1943 when the regiment was withdrawn back to Australia and reassigned to the 11th Australian Division located in the Atherton Tablelands, Queensland, until the end of the war when the regiment's personnel were demobilised and the regiment disbanded.

Following the war, Australia's part-time military force was not re-raised until 1948. At this time 13 Field Regiment was re-raised in South Australia, but it was not until June 1966 that 48 Battery returned to the order of battle when the regiment's battery designations were changed. In 1968, the battery was under the command of Captain D.J. Stoba and it was equipped with 25 pounders until 1973 when they were replaced by the Italian L5 Pack Howitzer. Two years later, 13 Field Regiment was disbanded and the battery, under the command of Major G.S. Laurie, became independent once more and in the same year received four M2A2 105mm Howitzers.

In 1988, the battery became part of the amalgamated 6th/13th Field Regiment until it is disbanded in 1997 and the Battery was again independent under the command of 9 Brigade; this remained the case until 2013 until placed under command of the 10th/27th Battalion The Royal South Australia Regiment.



Ceremonial Gun Salute, Adelaide



3 FIELD SQUADRON ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS

The early military presence in South Australia pre-Federation is predominantly that of the Royal Engineers from Great Britain in support of both the civil planning and defence of the colony. This support was as part of the Permanent Forces either through posting or on secondment for the initial development of the colony. While no significant effort was made to raise an Engineer Corps, unlike in Victoria and New South Wales, it was after Federation on the 1st March 1904 that the *Defence Act 1903* was proclaimed. As a part of this, state-based mounted units were reformed into light horse regiments, supplemented by the transfer of men from a number of superfluous infantry units, while the remaining infantry were organised into battalions of the Australian Infantry Regiment.

The existing engineer and artillery elements were organised into field companies and garrison artillery batteries with South Australia being allocated the title No.5 Field Company Australian Engineers. After the release of the “Kitchener Report” which resulted in an increase of Army numbers inspired the Universal training Scheme, Due to this increase in size, the No.5 Company Australian Engineers was reallocated, re-named and raised an additional two companies. These Companies remained until the end of the Great War in the same vein as the 74th to 81st Infantry Battalions, training the next generation of soldiers for service within the Australian Imperial Force (AIF).

With the onset of the Great War, Australia raised an additional 40 engineer units for service within the AIF with the 3rd Field Company allocated to the 1st Australian Division alongside the 10th Australian Infantry Battalion. The 3rd Field Company was raised for service taking men from Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia with the South Australians providing 1 Section. The 3rd Field Company deployed to Gallipoli, France and Belgium with the Company being disbanded at Wars end.

It was however the re-introduction of the Universal training Scheme and the raising of the Citizens Military Forces (CMF) that would re-raise the the 3rd Field Company Australian Engineers. This was a direct result of the the CMF seeking to perpetuate the history of the AIF and assumed unit identities that it could associate with. At this time 3 Field Troop, detached from 2 Field Company in Victoria provided the basis of the new Company.

During this period the Company recorded a Mister Veale requesting if he could “Join up” after watching a ferrying exercise on the Torrens River. Mister (later Brigadier) Veale MC, DCM would go on to command the Company and later the 10th Battalion amongst other prestigious appointments within the later Royal Australian Engineers.

Training during this period consisted of similar activities to those of the modern Sapper and included Bridging (both conventional and assault), Boating and Obstacle Clearance. This

training was completed mostly with out dated Great War equipment however in the late 1930s this started to change.

As with the Artillery it was on 31 January 1936 the Corps was given the assent "Royal" as extended to the militia units and as such the Australian Engineers became the Royal Australian Engineers.

After War was declared in September 1939 the Company was centred at Keswick Barracks. With space becoming a rarity as the various Barracks and Depots mobilised the necessary manpower to commit to a second AIF, the Company was moved to the Kilkenny Drill Hall. A brief interlude ensued before the Company moved to the newly established Warradale Barracks where it became the recruiting, training and equipping medium for many of the special units being raised for engineering work in South Australia and the Northern territory.

The Company would provide personnel to a detachment known as the Darwin Overland Maintenance Force (DOMFORCE) that was formed in July 1940 and remained active until July 1942 with rotations occurring every three months. The purpose of DOMFORCE was to enable construction tasks as part of the "Top End" defence of Australia in building accommodation and staging camps, causeway development and establishing permanent water supply at Banka Banka and Alice Springs.

With many of the Sappers having already transferred to the AIF, in 1942 the Company was to become 5th Australian Independent Field Squadron AIF. This could only occur if Militia units had over 65% of personnel volunteer for service outside of Australia were available to be gazetted and transferred to the AIF. Due to this requirement being fulfilled, the Squadron was attached to the armoured division being formed at Puckapunyal.

At the time of transition. the Squadron had a posted strength of 330 men and was a fully mobile unit training in support of an independent armoured brigade with A Troop eventually deploying to New Guinea in support of the 2/4th Armoured Regiment. Having been identified as unsuitable tank country the unit began to lose much of its personnel and equipment in 1944 and commenced retraining in the use of plant such as bulldozers and graders for the development of Beach Landing Sites. The Squadron was eventually retitled as 5 Mechanical Equipment Company and served in the South West Pacific until the conclusion of the War.



As with the original AIF of the Great War a parallel 3rd Field Company, known as 2/3rd Field Company, Royal Australian Engineers, was established for service abroad drawing its Sappers from South Australia, Tasmania and Western Australia. The Company was allocated to the 6th Australian Division seeing action throughout North Africa and the ill fated campaigns in Greece and Crete. In January 1942, the decision was made to withdraw the 6th Australian Division back to Australia to meet threat posed by Japanese advances in the Pacific. The 19th Brigade departed first and subsequently arrived at Fremantle on 10 March. Meanwhile, the 16th and 17th Brigades were diverted to defend Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) from the Japanese. They remained there from mid-March through to early July 1942.

The Company as part of the 6th Australian Division would see further service in the campaign in New Guinea through Wau, Salamaua, Aitape to Wewak prior to returning to Australia by November 1945 and being subsequently disbanded. While the Squadron makes no claim to the 2/3rd Field Company, there is the lineage to the original AIF which they both share as a common link.

As with the rest of the 2nd AIF and a generally war weary nation the Army went into decline until 1947 with the announcement made to establish a Regular Army Brigade and a CMF with a combined strength of 50000. The CMF was to be established at two Infantry Divisions and an armoured brigade and again, taking effect in 1948, the pre-war units were raised. With the Cold War as a focus of concern and the CMF failing to reach its target strength through volunteers, it was decided in 1950 to introduce National Service. On 1 March 1951 National Service commenced on the basis of 98 days initial full time training and 42 days with a designated CMF unit over the following 2 years.



With establishment of an Engineer capability, the Company was re-raised and renamed as 3rd Field Squadron, Royal Australian Engineers under the command of Major F.R. Charlton who, for his efforts, was personally recognised as a Member of the British Empire by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 1954. The squadron would be based at several locations including Jane Street, Kilkenny Drill Hall and finally be located at Warradale in 1956. Initial training focused on drill, infantry weapon handling and minor tactics before additional engineer equipment became available whereby shifting to corps specific training. By 1949 the Squadron was at posted strength of approximately 50 of all ranks. Like all units of the Citizen Military Force, under National Service the numbers grew between 1951 and 1959

and again in 1964 to 1972 however the periods immediately after were affected as those who did not want to be a part of the military electing to separate.

While some may assume that the Squadron has previously had very little involvement with the Infantry Battalions in South Australia this is in fact incorrect. In 1959, the Squadron was warned out that the Annual Field Exercise was to be as the enemy party for the exercising infantry battalions; over the years this would be maintained as the Engineers and Infantry worked side beside regularly, particularly when it came to the training of the Infantry Pioneer Platoons. In 1987 when the remaining two battalions of the Royal South Australia Regiment amalgamated, the Pioneer Platoon of the 27th Battalion, located in Murray Bridge, was rebadged as 2 Troop of the Squadron.

Over the course of its history the Squadron has come under command of a number of Regiments undertaking training and providing individual round outs to operational deployments. With effect 1 January 2014, the Squadron came under command of a reorganised 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment that has encompassed a number of the smaller units within 9 Brigade into a unified Battle Group.



**THE BAND OF THE 10TH/27TH BATTALION
THE ROYAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA REGIMENT**

The Advertiser 18 September 1860

VOLUNTEER MILITARY BAND

A meeting of gentlemen anxious for the formation of a band in connection with the Adelaide Rifle Regiment was held last evening at the South Australian Institute. The meeting had been called by a circular which embodied the following suggestions:

- 1. That it is desirable that a full military band should be established in connection with the Adelaide volunteer regiment.*
- 2. That a public subscription be raised to purchase the instruments, music, &c, which are to be the property of the regiment, but to be left in the custody of the Government if the regiment should be disbanded.*
- 3. That the current expenses of the band be provided for by a subscription from each company, in proportion to its strength; provided, however, that companies whose place of meeting is more than three miles from Adelaide shall be required to contribute only one half the amount of their full proportionate share.*
- 4. That all members of the band, excepting the bandmaster, be enrolled, and that the Government be requested to make the usual allowance towards their uniform.*
- 5. That the management of the band rest with a Committee, to be appointed by the several companies contributing to its maintenance, as follows: Each company numbering under 50 to elect one member of such Committee; each company numbering 50 or upwards to elect one member of such Committee for each 50 or fraction of 50.*
- 6. The band, or a portion of it, as may be arranged, to be at the service of each company contributing to its support, at its anniversary meeting or dinner; and to attend on all occasions of review or battalion drill; and to play at such places as the Committee may appoint, not oftener than once a week.*
- 7. All other details of management to be settled by the Committee.*

The call was not very enthusiastically responded to, there being only six gentlemen present, namely, Gapt. Herford, Kent Rifles, in the chair; Lieut. J. H. Clark, Messrs. F. S. Dutton, R. W. Wells, W. Ray, and Sergeant-Major Worsnop. After a short preliminary discussion, the following resolutions were agreed to:

"That each company of the Adelaide Regiment be requested to state what amount it would be willing to contribute towards the expense of a band.

"That Lieut. Clark and Sergeant-Major Worsnop form a sub-committee to ascertain whether in the event of funds being raised, for the establishment and maintenance of a band the Government would place a bandmaster on the staff.

"That Sergeant-Major Worsnop and Mr. Wells be requested to ascertain what a hired band from 12 to 20 musicians would cost per year, to play once a week, or once a fortnight."

"That an adjourned meeting of the representatives of the different companies be held at the Institute on Monday, the 8th of October, at 7 o'clock p.m."

Sergeant-Major WORSNOP informed the meeting that Captain Douglas had intimated to him that his company would not contribute anything towards the expenses of the Band.

The meeting then adjourned.

So began the humble beginning of the Band of the 10th/27th Battalion, Royal South Australia Regiment, the oldest serving Band in Australia tracing its lineage to not only the Band of 'The Adelaide Rifles' but also through the others of the South Australian Infantry Battalions.



On 7 November 1860 another way of gaining the necessary funds to establish and support the Band was conducted through the "Volunteer Rifle Match" at the South Park Lands between various members of the South Australian Volunteer Corps and as noted by the Advertiser the following day to have been:

"In order to induce a spirit of emulation and with a view also of forwarding the effort now being made to institute a volunteer military band. Lieut. Martin (1st Adelaide Rifles) gave a short Enfield rifle, with a sword bayonet attached, to be competed for; all competitors on entry to pay 5s., to go towards the fund now raising to form a volunteer military band. The conditions with which the candidates were to comply, were.-That they should use Enfield rifles, find their own ammunition, firing 10 rounds each, at 300 yards distance, standing or kneeling, at their option. There were 33 competitors on the ground, but some were compelled to retire in consequence of accidental circumstances."

At the conclusion of the firing it was announced that Mr, F. R. Burton (Sturt Rifles) was the winner.

After forming, the Band was a highlight of society, engaging in public events such as the pyrotechnics display on Montefiore Hill (now the present site of the Golf Course) on Monday 27 April 1863 where they played Military Tunes and Dance Music; this was to be and remains a typical for the Band to this day.

Raised to provide martial music to ceremonial occasions one of the significant highlights for the Band was the ceremony of presenting the new colors to the 1st Battalion Adelaide Rifles on Saturday 1 December 1901 in the afternoon at the Jubilee Oval with several thousand spectators.

One of the tasks the band undertakes is to also provide musical Cabarets as a method fund raising to support the maintenance of equipment. While this may seem a modern concept in the tightening of the fiscal belt it is in fact nothing new. In the early 20th Century this also occurred when the Government failed to maintain the upkeep of equipment which led to a strike by the Band.

With the onset of the Great War a number of Battalions were formed for service in the Australian Imperial Force and four of these being the 10th, 27th, 43rd and 48th Battalions created their own Brass bands made up of members from within the Battalion.



Members of the 43rd Battalion Band, Gawler, 1929

It was in the campaigns ensuing campaigns at Gallipoli and in Europe where the Bandsmen featured prominently as stretcher bearers in the bitter fighting that occurred; all too often appearing in the casualty lists. As to why Bandsmen should act as a stretcher bearer is contradictory. The Band provided an organisation that was well suited to performing the medical (stretcher bearer) role with the necessary numbers and rank structure to allow personnel to be distributed among the companies of an infantry battalion. They were able to train in their medical role while the rest of the unit trained in their infantry role and when in action, the band was not required to perform so they could be employed in other tasks. They had the unenviable task of recovering the wounded during and post any action often in situations exposing themselves to deadly enemy fire. In fact a number of unit commanders withdrew their bandsmen from stretcher-bearing duties because of the number of casualties and used them in roles such as mortar sections in order to keep a band.'

It was however noted by the Australian Official War Correspondent, C.E.W. Bean, that 'Until the First Battle of the Somme many battalions had used their bandsmen as stretcher-bearers. After that battle this system generally was abandoned. For one thing, after such battles the band was too badly needed for cheering up the troops! A battle like Pozieres sometimes made a clean sweep of the regimental bearers. Also, on its side, the work of the bearers was too important to be left to unselected men; they were now specially selected for 'their physique and guts'.

During the Great War Stretcher bearers would have also been drawn from the battalion infantry companies, not just the band, the numbers required as replacements would have necessitated this change anyway, but some bandsmen would continue to act as stretcher-bearers into late 1918.

Although very little has been recorded about the Bands in general during conflict, during the Second World War they were employed in much the same way as during the Great War.



Band members from the 10th/48th Battalion on parade in Darwin, September 1944

After the War as Battalions diminished into amalgamation and subsequently re-raised so did the fortunes of the Band and in 1938 the 27th Battalion also raised the Pipe Band while maintaining its Band which, evidently, was not always appreciated by its sister battalions when the brigade was in camp.

During the period between wars the 10th Battalion was to be presented Brass drums in 1936 by the citizens of Adelaide which are still proudly carried today on ceremonial parades, emblazoned with the Battle Honours of the Battalion from the Great War as well as an ornately decorated Drum Major's Staff (as seen below) that was presented in 1938 by the Manchester Regiment; both the Drums and the Staff remain in possession of the Battalion and are paraded on ceremonial occasions.



10/27 RSAR Band ANZAC Day 2010, Adelaide, Band Master CPL D. Portakiewicz

Through the 1950, 60s, and 70s the former Battalions re-raised, linked, de-linked and at one stage were all amalgamated into a singular 1st Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment in 1960 which is the birth of the Regiment as we know it today.

Since then the Band has continued to support other units and services of the military and the civil community with a wide variety of musical arrangements from classical, modern popular, jazz and vocal arrangements. In 1985 this talent and dedication was recognised with the presentation to the Band of the Advance Australia Award for Outstanding Contribution to Music; the first time this honour had been bestowed upon an Australian Defence Force Unit. This was further recognised when in 2002, the Band was invited to perform at the prestigious Edinburgh Military Tattoo as part of the Queen's Golden Jubilee and later performing in Glasgow and at the International Highland Games in Perth, Scotland.

The members of the Band have had the opportunity for Operational deployments such as Op GOLD (Sydney Olympics), Op ANODE (Solomon Islands) and Op RESOLUTE (Northern Australia). Also exercising in Queensland (Tully and Canungra), Victoria, Northern Territory and Tasmania with international exercises including PacRES (Hawaii) and TASRES (New Zealand) members of the Band have also had opportunity to undertake service at Rifle Company Butterworth (Malaysia).

Today as in the same line as their forebears the Band provides music for ceremonial and training activities conducted by the Army and other Services of the Australian Defence Force (Military Ceremonial) and ceremonial activities involving Royal, Vice-Regal and Federal, State and Local Government agencies (Government Ceremonial)

Ultimately this enhances morale and esprit de corps through the provision of entertainment to personnel in barracks and whilst deployed on operations or exercises while contributing to the attraction of quality recruits to the Army and promoting the public image of the Army through the provision of musical performance.



Staff Sergeant Grant James at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo, 2002

CHAPTER NINE

FOR VALOUR

VICTORIA CROSSES OF THE ROYAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA REGIMENT

The **Victoria Cross (VC)** is the highest military decoration awarded for valour "in the face of the enemy" to members of the armed forces of various Commonwealth countries. It is first in the order of wear in the United Kingdom honours system, and takes precedence over all other orders, decorations, and medals, except the George Cross, with which it shares equal precedence. It may be awarded to a person of any military rank in any service and to civilians under military command. The VC is usually presented to the recipient or to their next of kin by the British monarch at an investiture held at Buckingham Palace.

The VC was introduced on 29 January 1856 by Queen Victoria to honour acts of valour during the Crimean War. The traditional explanation of the source of the gunmetal from which the medals are struck is that it derives from Russian cannon captured at the Siege of Sevastopol. Recent research has thrown doubt on this story, suggesting a variety of origins for the material actually making up the medals themselves. Research has established that the gunmetal for many of the medals came from Chinese cannons that may have been captured from the Russians in 1855.

While many South Australians have displayed extreme valour, 11 have been recognised with the highest possible award; six posthumously.



Lieutenant Arthur Seaforth Blackburn, 10th Battalion, was awarded the Victoria Cross for actions on the 23 July 1916 at Pozieres, France.

Blackburn joined the 10th Battalion on 19 August 1914 and took part in the landing at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915 where historian Charles Bean noted that Blackburn, with Lance Corporal Robin, probably made it further inland than any other Australian soldiers "whose movements are known". Commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in August 1915 he went with the Battalion to France, where he took part in an attack on the Somme near Pozieres. He was to join the 9th Battalion with his company to support an advance under heavy gunfire. Blackburn with his men, many of whom were killed, made four successive bombing parties and destroyed the enemy strongpoint capturing over 350 meters of trench line. For this exploit, Lieutenant Blackburn was awarded the Victoria Cross. After the war Blackburn went back to his legal practice and was also a founding member of the

Returned Sailors', Soldiers' and Airmen's Imperial League in South Australia, where he served as president of the State branch from 1917–21. He joined the militia in 1924 and during World War 2 he served in the Middle East and in the Pacific where he was captured remaining as a prisoner until released at wars end in Manchuria. Discharged in 1946 he resumed his legal and community work. Blackburn died on 24 November 1960 at Crafers, South Australia and was buried in the Australian Imperial Force section of Adelaide's West Terrace Cemetery.



Corporal Phillip Davey, 10th Battalion, was awarded the Victoria Cross for actions on 28 June 1918 at Merris, France. Davey joined the 10th Battalion on 22 December 1914 with the first reinforcements two weeks prior to the landing at Gallipoli. He contracted enteric fever while there and was evacuated home. In June 1916 he re-embarked for France with the 18th Reinforcements, and arrived at the Battalion on 3 October 1916. He was accidentally wounded in March 1917 and gassed in October.

In January 1918 his actions saw him later receive the Military Medal for crawling into no man's land under heavy fire to rescue a badly wounded comrade; his two brothers also received the same award for separate actions. Davey was later promoted to Corporal on 24 April 1918. On 28 June 1918, while at Merris, his platoon came under heavy fire from almost point-blank range and many were killed; Davey single-handedly attacked the enemy machinegun with bombs. Returning for more bombs, he finally took the position, killing eight crew then turning the gun on the enemy; in doing so he foiled a counter-attack. For his bravery and initiative, Corporal Davey was awarded the Victoria Cross. Davey returned to South Australia where he worked in the signals and telegraph branch of the South Australian Railways and died on 21 December 1953; he was buried at the West Terrace AIF Cemetery, Adelaide, South Australia.



Private Reginald Roy Inwood, 10th Battalion, was awarded the Victoria Cross for actions on the night of the 20-21 September 1917 at Polygon Wood, east of Ypres, Belgium, during the Battle of Menin Road. On 20 October 1914, he embarked for Egypt, took part in the Landing at Gallipoli, and later served with the 10th Battalion in France.

11th Battalion had captured the first objective, 12th Battalion the second and 9th and 10th Battalions tasked with the third. Inwood went out alone to destroy an enemy strong point; instead, he captured nine prisoners, killed several others and allowed the advance to continue to the third objective. The next morning Inwood and a member of 7th Battalion went out against an enemy machinegun which was causing casualties. As they crept up behind the enemy position, they bombed the crew and captured the gun. The surviving Germans were forced to carry the gun back to Australian lines.

Inwood returned to a hero's welcome in Broken Hill in October 1918 but at an event organised in his honour gave a controversial public speech. He claimed he had "*been stoned by mongrels at the train*" when he had departed to fight and with his return "*those mongrels were the first to shake me by the hand*". He told the crowd "*I would like to be at one end of the street with a machine-gun and have them at the other end*". Inwood worked around South Australia and interstate before returning to Adelaide in 1928 until retiring in 1955. During World War II, Inwood served as a warrant officer with the Australian Militia Force. Inwood died on 23 October 1971, and was given a military funeral and buried at the West Terrace AIF Cemetery, Adelaide, South Australia.



Private Joergen Christian Jensen, 50th Battalion, was born in Loegstoer, Denmark and migrated to Australia with his family in 1909. He was to be awarded the Victoria Cross for actions on 2 April 1917 at Norieul, France.

Claiming to be a labourer, Jensen enlisted in Adelaide on 23 March 1915, and was posted to the 10th Battalion as a reinforcement. He served with the 10th Battalion on Gallipoli, and went on to serve in France. He was wounded in August 1916, and on his return to active service, was posted to 50th Battalion. At 0530, on 2 April 1917, the 50th and 51st Battalions attacked an 'Outpost Village' at Norieul. The advance on the right flank was checked by an enemy machine-gun and forty-five men in a strongpoint. The gunner at the post was shot, enabling Jensen to get close enough to bluff the enemy from that position, and another nearby, into believing they were surrounded. He then stood up on the parapet, waving his helmet

until the firing and shelling ceased; he then ordered his prisoners to Australian lines; Norieul fell the next day in heavy fighting. later worked as a marine-store dealer in the inner city of Adelaide, South Australia until his death from war related injuries in 1922. His body was carried on a horse-drawn gun carriage to the West Terrace Cemetery and he was buried with full military honours in the AIF section of the cemetery. It was reported as "one of the most impressive funerals which have passed through the gates of the West Terrace Cemetery" and "probably one of the largest military funerals ever held in Adelaide."



Private James Park Woods, 48th Battalion, was awarded his Victoria Cross for action near Le Verguier, North-west of St Quentin, on 18 September 1918. Born in Gawler, in 1891, Woods was employed as a vigneron in Caversham Western Australia at the time of his enlistment on 29 September 1916. On arrival in France he was sent to the 48th Battalion, arriving at their position on 13 September 1917.

During the attack on the Hindenberg Line his unit succeeded in capturing 480 prisoners along with the first objective. 46th Battalion fought through, and was subsequently held up on the right flank. A Company of 48th Battalion was sent to their aid, and Woods and three others conducted a reconnaissance locating a strongly held enemy position, with excellent fields of fire, Woods attacked and at least thirty enemy soldiers fled, leaving behind four heavy and two light machineguns. They held the position against a strong counter attack where Woods

lay on the parapet throwing bombs that were passed up to him; this continued until help arrived and consolidated the position. Woods later moved to Western Australia and died on 18 January 1963 in the Repatriation General Hospital, Hollywood and is buried in Karrakatta Cemetery



T/Corporal Lawrence Weathers, 43rd Battalion received his Victoria Cross for his efforts north of the French village of Peronne on 2 September, 1918. During an attack, his party was held up by a strongly held trench. Weathers went forward alone with a supply of bombs he returned once more, and with three comrades bombed the enemy while under heavy fire. Weathers eventually gained the enemy parapet, and together with his comrades, succeeded in capturing the trench, 180 enemy soldiers and three machine-guns. Due to this single action of bravery, the final objective was secured with a vastly decreased loss of life had the trench remained in enemy hands. He later received serious wounds north east of Peronne, France and died on 29 September 1918; he is buried at the Unicorn Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemetery, Vendhuile.



Sergeant Thomas Currie (Diver) Derrick, 2/48th Battalion was awarded the Victoria Cross for actions at Sattelberg, New Guinea on 24 November 1943. Derrick enlisted on 5 July 1940 and was allotted to the 2/48th Battalion. He was promoted Corporal on 11 July 1941 while serving at Tobruk, North Africa. He was awarded a DCM for actions on 20 July, 1941, for knocking out three German machine gun posts, destroying two tanks, and capturing one hundred prisoners and was promoted Sergeant eight days later. He was wounded at El Alamein, and was to rejoin his unit in the Ramu and Markham Valleys in New Guinea. It was during the advance, toward Sattelberg, about 600m from the summit, his Company was ordered to outflank a strongly held and well-sighted Japanese position. Each attempt was thwarted by the accuracy of the fire and Derrick went forward ahead of his lead section where he grenaded a Machinegun post. He ordered his second section to advance and they were held up by six more enemy posts. Derrick again went forward, throwing grenade after grenade at the enemy, causing them to flee leaving behind weapons and ammunition. Four more times, Derrick was to advance, throw grenades, and silence enemy positions. By 10.00am that morning, the Australian Flag was hoisted over Sattelberg by Derrick. Derrick was soon promoted to Lieutenant but was to die of wounds sustained on Tarakan on 24 May 1945.



Private Percival Eric Gratwick, 2/48th Battalion, was awarded the Victoria Cross for actions on the night of 25/26 October 1942 during the Battle of El Alamein. Gratwick's Company was advancing on the left flank and was forced to ground by well-directed enemy fire where the Platoon Commander, Sergeant and many others were killed. The strength of the platoon was reduced to just seven and Gratwick charged the nearest enemy position with bayonet fixed rifle and a grenade. Throwing a grenade into the pit, he jumped in, killing all of the occupants, including an entire mortar crew. He then charged through heavy machinegun fire toward a second position inflicting still more casualties where he was killed just short of the position by a burst of machine-gun fire. He was buried in Tel El Eisa cemetery on 27 October 1942, and was later reinterred at the El Alamein Commonwealth cemetery.



Private Arthur Stanley Gurney, 2/48th Battalion, was awarded his Victoria Cross for his efforts near Tel El Eisa, on 22 July 1942. Born in Western Australia, Gurney enlisted on 6 December 1940 and embarked from Fremantle for the Middle East on 6 July 1941. He was posted to 2/48th Battalion on 12 September when the Battalion was part of the Tobruk Garrison. Gurney was awarded his VC for actions during an attack at Tel El Eisa where his Company was held up by intense machinegun fire from positions 100 meters ahead, all officers either wounded or killed. Gurney, without hesitation, charged the nearest machinegun, bayoneting three crewmen, and silencing the post. He then

continued on to another post where he bayoneted a further two Germans taking the third prisoner. He was the victim of a grenade attack, but raised himself up, and charged a third position. Gurney disappeared from view, and his body was later found in one of the pits; he is buried in the El Alamein Commonwealth cemetery.



Sergeant William Henry Kibby, 2/48th Battalion, was awarded the Victoria Cross for actions during the Battles for El Alamein, Egypt, between 23/31 October, 1942. Kibby was born in Durham, England and settled with his parents in Glenelg, South Australia in 1914 and 1936, he joined the Militia, and was assigned to the 48 Field Battery, Royal Australian Artillery. Enlisting on 29 June 1940 into the AIF, Kibby was posted to 2/48th Battalion on 27 August 1940, and on 14 September 1940 was promoted Corporal. He embarked on 17 November 1941 conducting further training in Palestine before moving with the

Battalion to Derna and then into the Tobruk Garrison. After breaking his leg in June 1941, Kibby was hospitalised, only to rejoin the Battalion at Tel El Eisa in October 1942. On 23 October 1942, Kibby's Platoon Commander was killed, and he shouted for his platoon to attack an enemy machinegun. They did not hear him over the battle noise, so Kibby alone silenced the position, killing three of the enemy and capturing twelve others. On 26 October 1942, Kibby moved from section to section directing fire, and was himself several times while going out to mend communication lines to enable mortar support. On the night 30/31 October 1942, Kibby again distinguished himself. As he went out alone to silence the last remaining machinegun hampering the advance of the Battalion, and destroyed it, but not before he himself succumbed to a burst of enemy machinegun fire; he is buried in the El Alamein Commonwealth cemetery.



Private Leslie Thomas Starceвич, 2/43rd Battalion, was awarded his Victoria Cross for actions near Beaufort, British North Borneo (now Malaysia) on 28 June 1945. Starceвич (Starcey to his mates) was born in Subiaco, Western Australia on 5 November 1918. He enlisted into the AIF on 9 April 1941, embarked at Fremantle on 9 September 1941, and arrived at 2/43rd Battalion on 30 December in Palestine. After he was wounded at Tel El Eisa on 17 July 1942 during the first battle for El Alamein and returned in time for the battle of El Alamein on 23 October 1942. The 2/43rd Battalion returned to Australia in February 1943 and

left for New Guinea in September the same year. Starcey took part in the battles of Lae and Finschafen, and went with the Battalion to Beaufort in June 1945. Starceвич was a Bren gunner, and his unit was held up under heavy fire from two enemy machineguns when he assaulted each position in turn, killing five of the enemy forcing the rest to withdraw allowing the advance to continue until further machinegun fire again held them up. Starceвич, without regard for his own personal safety, rushed forward capturing the gun and killing seven of the enemy. Starceвич was actually awarded his medal on 28 August 1947 by the Governor of Western Australia, Sir James Mitchell and died in West Australia in 1989.

CHAPTER TEN

REGIMENTAL IDENTITY

The Colours

The practice of carrying symbols into battle has existed for centuries, the Eagle Standards of the Roman legions being perhaps the best known. During the 13th century, the nobility went into battle with most of their body and that of their horse covered in defensive armour. Whilst giving protection, the armour and coverings made it difficult for individual identification. This was overcome by the use of distinctive badges or crests on their equipment, including pennants or banners. It is from these banners carrying ensigns of heraldry, that Regimental Colours are directly derived.

Colours were used in the British Army originally as a means of identifying the location of the regiments' headquarters (HQ) in battle. In time, the Colours became a focal point of regimental *esprit de Corps* and there are many stories of exploits of great heroism by soldiers defending the Colours from loss. When battle honours were added to Colours, they became a record of the military achievements of a regiment and were held in even higher esteem by members of the regiment. The consecration of Colours was seen to add religious significance to them and through the Colours to the regiment, and its duties.



10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment, ANZAC Day Adelaide 25 April 2010

After 1881, Colours were no longer carried in battle because of the improving technology of weapons and the greater distances involved in warfare. However, they remained a strong focal point for a regiment and continued to be held in great esteem, and accorded great respect.

Colours have remained a focal point of the Australian Infantry and while other Corps such as the Royal Australian Artillery, Engineers and Armoured Corps do not carry them they do have either individual Corps Banners or in the case of the 'Gentlemen of Armour' Guidons. The Royal Australian Artillery holds their artillery pieces with the same reverence when they are on ceremonial duty.

When a Battalion is in possession of Colours as a result of two units being formally linked, the linked unit is to parade their respective devices together as a complete 'set' being both sets of Queen's Colours and Regimental Colours at all ceremonial parades, except for trooping the colour and if a single unit has only been granted freedom of entry.

The Colours are made of silk and come either as the old style based on the Greater Union (Union Jack) as the background or in recent time the Australian National Flag with the dimensions to be 90 cm on the pike and 113 cm on the fly, exclusive of the five cm gold fringe and the pike pocket.

The Queen's Colour is to be emblazoned with the following:

1. A numerical number of the unit
2. The Corps or regiment title; and
3. The St Edward's Crown and wreath.

The Regimental Colour is to be emblazoned with the following:

1. A numerical number of the unit
2. The Corps or regiment badge and motif
3. The St Edward's Crown and wreath; and
4. The units Battle honours that have been approved for display by the Regimental Council and approved by the reigning Monarch.

The 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment is one of the few that maintains the Colours of two linked Battalions particularly noteworthy as the Queens Colour remains with the background of the Greater Union.



Colours of the 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment

Laying up the Colours

From the early ages, Colours have been consecrated and their sacredness cannot be ignored, and must be considered when it comes time for their disposal. In view of the reverence accorded to them whilst they are in service, care has been taken to ensure that they repose in sacred buildings or other public buildings where their preservation is ensured with due regard to their symbolic significance and historic association.

There are many recorded incidents in the British Army of Colours being buried with the 'Colonel of the Regiment'. In one case, the 2nd Battalion, The Kings Regiment (8th Foot) 1816, upon disbandment, brought the Colours to the officers' mess and at the conclusion of dinner, they were stripped, cut-up which each officer having a piece and burnt. The ashes of the Colours and pikes were then buried in the centre of the parade ground and an armed sentry mounted over them through the night.

By tradition, once Colours are laid-up, they remain laid-up to disintegrate, i.e. dust to dust and are not to be reconditioned or refurbished. When Colours are laid-up, they are to be hung parallel to the floor and not at an angle. It is acceptable for them to be stored in a glass display case to preserve its life so it can be viewed by the public domain. When a disbanded unit is to be re-raised, the Colours are to be returned to service, provided they are in a suitable and presentable condition.

The Colours of the South Australian Battalions

The earliest example of Colours being presented to the South Australian Infantry was those to the Adelaide rifles in 1860 however the following excerpt from the Advertiser on 2 December 1901 regarding the replacement of the 1878 Colours in 1901 witnessed by many from the Adelaide community is typifies the community feeling of the day:

"The ceremony of presenting the new colors to the First Battalion Adelaide Rifles was successfully performed on Saturday afternoon on the, Jubilee Oval in the presence of several thousand people, and formed an interesting and impressive spectacle. There is a great deal of sentiment attached to the flag, both of a regiment and nation, and many are the records handed down in history of the gallant defence of the flag on the battle field. At the present day, however, the conspicuousness of the flag has led to the practice of carrying it into battle to be discontinued, and it has thereby been shorn of much of its former glory. In view of the cherished traditions of the past, however, and as an emblem of his regiment, the British soldier will always have an affectionate respect for that reminder of glory and prowess. The colors which the Adelaide Rifles replace on Saturday were presented to them 01 June 21, 1879, at the hands of Lady Jervois, and since then no such ceremony has taken place. The regimental colors were embroidered by the ladies of North Adelaide, as on this occasion, but the Standard obtained from England. The new colors have been worked by number of ladies, under the superintendence of Mrs A. W. Ware, including Lady Bray, Lady Symon, Mesdames G. Brookman, J. R Corpe, W. Clarke, Angas Johnson, M.B. Jenkins, A. S. Fotheringham, and Boykett, sen. The regimental flag is of dark green silk of a shade similar to the facings of the uniform. It has a Union Jack in the upper corner; while on the fly is the Southern Cross and the letters "A.R." in gold. The South Australian coat of arms appears on the foot. The crown, -which appears on the "King's" flag, is that in the cypher of the late Queen."

Like all 66 Infantry Battalions, 5 Pioneer Battalions and 13 Light Horse Regiments the Battalions of South Australian origin that served during the Great War would all in turn be granted their own Kings Colours.



Noted as a presentation of colours of the 10th Battalion Australian Imperial Force, circa 1917, this is most likely a Banner

On 15 March 1925 Lieutenant General Sir Tom Bridges, presented Kings Colours to the Battalions of the 33rd Brigade being the 10th, 27th, 43rd, 48th and 50th Battalions while they were in camp at Seacliff.

With the forming of the Royal South Australia Regiment a new set of Colours were presented on 8 March 1964 by the Governor of South Australia His Excellency Lieutenant General Sir Edric Bastyan of the design that now serves but with a Roman numeral "I" placed in the top right corner.

The original Colours presented to the Battalions were laid up with the 10th Battalion in 1961 now in Adelaide Town Hall and the 27th Battalion at Scots Church, 43rd Battalion at Saint Francis Xaviers Cathedral and the 48th Battalion at Saint Peters Cathedral after their final parade in 1964. The 50th Battalion Colours were originally laid up in Tasmania but the Regimental Colour has since been installed at Saint Peters Cathedral, Adelaide with the whereabouts of the Kings colour unknown.

Unfortunately in August 1983 the Kings Colour of the 27th Battalion (South Australian Scottish Regiment) (above) was stolen from the Scots Church and in spite of diligent efforts by the church, the police and the Regimental Associations, this act of criminal vandalism has remained unsolved. The theft has been described as a loss to South Australia of a significant part of our military history and the record of the endurance and sacrifice of the men who had served our country under the Colours.

When the Pentropic organisation was dispensed and the battalion split the Colours of the 1st Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment were renumbered with the Roman numeral "X" going to the newly formed 10th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment. On 10 March 1968 new Colours were presented to the 27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment by the Governor of South Australia His Excellency Lieutenant General Sir Edric Bastyan at the Adelaide Oval.

As the 27th Battalion was disbanded and subsequently re-raised the Colours have gone in and out of care of the 10th Battalion until the linking of the two Battalions formally in 1987. The raising of the 43rd Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment (Bushmans Rifles) in 1966 allowed the presentation of Colours which was duly done by the Governor General of Australia His Excellency Sir Paul Hasluck on 23 January 1972 at the Adelaide Oval. When the Bushmans Rifles were disbanded on 17 October 1975 the Colours were placed in the care of the 10th Battalion until being finally laid up at the Adelaide Town Hall on 16 March 1986.



27th Battalion (South Australian Scottish Regiment) - (1938—1965)

Colours of the Battalion held at Saint Peters Cathedral North Adelaide



Adelaide Rifles

The first set of Colours were presented to the Adelaide Regiment of Volunteers by Lady MacDonnell wife of the then Governor of South Australia at North Parkland on 9 November 1860 and is considered no longer extant; most likely deteriorated requiring their removal.

The second set were presented on 2 November 1867 on the occasion of the visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh (Prince Alfred) and were 12 years later handed to the Lord Mayo of Adelaide for safe keeping; there is no longer any trace of these Colours.

The third set presented to the Adelaide Rifles on the day the previous set were laid up was on 21 Jun 1879 by Lady Jervois and remained in service until 30 November 1901 when they were laid up the next day.

The fourth set was presented on the Jubilee Oval on 1 December 1901 by Lady Tennyson, wife of the Governor of South Australia and were laid up on 12 June 1932 by a Colour Party provided by the 10th/50th Battalion.

All of the Queens or Kings Colours were produced in England and shipped to Australia while the Regimental Colours had been worked by a circle of ladies within Adelaide



10th Battalion Kings Banner

In 1903 the Imperial Government allotted Kings Colours to the 35 (later 44) contingents that Australia sent to the Boer War 1899 – 1902 of which South Australia received five.

In May 1908 the Military Board notified that the King had granted the distinction “SOUTH AFRICA” to all units that been awarded a Kings colour. It further noted that it could further not be emblazoned because these were in fact Banners not Colours in that Banners were “...honourable insignia presented by the King as a special mark of favour in recognition of valuable service rendered...” The one held at Saint Pauls Cathedral bears on its pike a silver shield inscribed:

Presented by His Most Gracious Majesty The King Emperor to the 1st Battalion 10th Australian Infantry Regiment Adelaide Rifles formerly the 1st Regiment 1st and 2nd Battalions (Active Force) South Australian Infantry in recognition of service rendered to the Empire in South Africa 1899-1902.

It had been presented in Melbourne by His Excellency the Earl of Dudley, Baron Denman, on 13 December 1911 in Melbourne, and was laid up on 12 June 1932 by Lieutenant Colonel J H Hill.

The Battalion has claim to two of these with the remaining three being presented to the Light Horse Regiments however the location of the one awarded to the 1st Battalion South Australian Infantry Regiment (later 27th Battalion) is unknown; the one pictured above was awarded to the Adelaide Rifles.

The honour “SOUTH AFRICA” was emblazoned onto the Kings Colour when they were later presented.



48th Battalion Colours

The Colours of 48th Infantry Battalion were presented at Seacliff by Lieutenant General Sir Tom Bridges on 25 March 1925 and laid up in 1964 by Colonel R A (later Sir Richard) Blackburn.



50TH BATTALION COLOUR

The 50th Infantry Battalion received its King's and Regimental Colours at Seacliff from Lieutenant General Sir Tom Bridges on 25 March 1925 and these were laid up at Saint Peters Cathedral on 3 October 1937 by Major W M Fowler. With South Australia and Tasmania both having claim to the Battalion Tasmania made a submission for the Colours to be transferred to Tasmania which was approved without consultation of the Royal South Australia Regiment and effected in March 1973 when sent to St David's Cathedral, Hobart.

At this stage only the Regimental Colour was dispatched with the Kings Colour last recorded as being in the Launceston Town Hall in 1937 it was assumed by the Tasmanians that it was actually in Saint Peters Cathedral and remained there; it has since been identified as missing

With the Royal South Australia Regiment placing submissions for the Regimental Colour to be returned this occurred on 7 November 1993 where it was re-installed at Saint Peters Cathedral.

Regimental Badges

Some of the units in the pre-federation days have left no regimental history in fact some were fleeting and very much short lived. The following badges have history that is intertwined with the precedent units of the current Battalion and where the identity of this cannot be traced it is still important to acknowledge them and that they played a role in the defence of the colony.

Infantry Badges of the South Australian Colonial Volunteer Forces



South Australia Militia Infantry



South Australia Free Rifles 1861 – 1870



South Australia Volunteer Infantry



South Australia Volunteer Rifles



Australian Natives Association 1885 – 1889



South Australian Scottish Company



G Company 2nd Battalion 1901



H Company 2nd Battalion 1901

Badges worn by the Post-Federation South Australian Infantry Battalions



The Rising Sun

As currently worn on the side of the Grade One Slouch Hat Khaki Fur Felt has evolved from a pattern designed in 1902 based on a 'Trophy-of-Arms' composed of mounted cut and thrust swords and triangular Martini-Henry bayonets that were arranged in a semi-circle around the Crown. The shield was symbolic of the cooperation between the naval and military forces of the Empire.



The Royal Australian Infantry Corps

This is the Corps Badge representing the various regular and Reserve units Regiments alike first issued in 1948 with the formation of the Corps until the mid 1960s when the new Royal South Australia Regiment Badge was first issued all members of the Regiment wore this badge.

43rd Battalion (Hindmarsh) Regiment Badge



1952 -1960

48th Battalion (Torrens) Regiment Badge





South Australian Infantry Regiment 1901

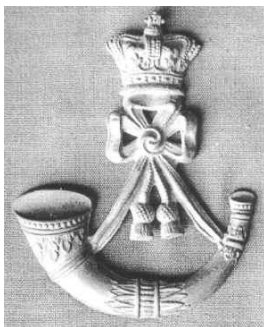
27th Battalion South Australian Scottish Regiment Badge



This badge was designed to be worn as a Sporrán and Bonnet Badge and is based on the Australian Rising Sun badge, with the stag's head of the Seaforths in the centre, and 27 between the antlers on the sun. The scroll reads, South Australian Scottish Regiment, and with the Latin phrase, Primus Inter Pares, meaning 'First among equals'.

Captain John Francis Place designed this badge and the collar badges of the 27th Battalion and submitted the designs on 22 of January, 1938; the badges were then manufactured by G A Miller & Sons Ltd. of Sydney, New South Wales; the badge is no longer in use.

Evolution from the Adelaide Rifles to the Royal South Australia Regiment Badge



Adelaide Rifles 1860



Adelaide Rifles 1890



Adelaide Rifles 1900 – 1902

The badges of the Regiment have varied as will have already been noted with many being for individual Companies within a Battalion or individual Battalions. The Badge of the Royal South Australia Regiment is however consistent in where the design has been drawn from and developed from over the last 155 years.

The original Adelaide Regiment of Volunteer Rifles Badge draws a heritage to the Rifle Regiments of the British Army; a badge still in use today in the United Kingdom.

As the Regiment elected to have something identifiable with its own identity the badge was developed along the lines of a circlet encompassing the Regimental Motto "Union is Strength" with the Queens crown above; inside the AR to identify the "Adelaide Rifles".

10th Infantry Battalion



10th Battalion 1903 - 1930



10th Battalion 1930 - 1942

Further development saw the badge become more sophisticated within the South Australian Infantry Regiment the badge develop to a circlet of a half wreath and the title “Adelaide Rifles” embossed over the top of the “Cross of Saint Andrew” which acknowledge the strong Scottish connection in South Australia and the original Scottish Company. The badge 1900 – 1902 is not the original but a modified version originally belonging to a chemist from Walkerville. He was tasked by his Officer to collect all the badges when the design changed and to destroy them; he kept his and another making them into a brooch as seen by the photo.

After Federation and with the formation of the Australian Infantry Regiment the Badge again changed to reflect the State as part of the fledgling nation. The badge was based around a circlet containing the title “The Adelaide Rifles” with the crown of the reigning Monarch at the time being King Edward the VII, placed at the apex and the new. The badge included a six pointed star commonly referred to as the “Star of David” as the centre piece representing the six separate British colonies in existence prior to Federation in 1901, South Australia being the sixth State settled in 1836. The original six pointed star can be seen on the Australian National Flag when designed in 1901, the same time the 10th Battalion Australian Infantry Regiment came into existence. The Scottish connection was maintained by the inclusion of the Cross of Saint Andrew onto the six pointed star; further annotations included “Australia” and on the scroll at the bottom” 10th Battalion AIR”.



With the formation of the Royal South Australia Regiment on 1 July 1960, all the individual Battalions were formed into one Regiment and lost their individual Regimental identities. The current badge of the Royal South Australia Regiment was based around that of the 10th Battalion, Australian Infantry Regiment and was approved on 23 Jul 1963 for wear and was first issued in the mid 1960s. In the circlet is the name of the Regiment and below on the scroll is the Regimental Motto ‘Pro Patria’ meaning ‘For Country’. The current badge retains the crown of the reigning Monarch which since the formation of the Regiment has been Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. When inspecting the crown on the badge of the 10th Battalion the difference can be seen with the Kings crown for the previous reigning Monarchs up to and including King George VI.



MacKenzie Tartan

The origin of the MacKenzie Tartan came from the raising of a Scottish infantry unit in Mount Gambier in 1900 with the South Australian Government supplying the weapons but the unit had to supply their own uniforms. Local Tailor, and Chief of the Caledonian Society, Mayor Chas MacKenzie offered to purchase and supply (at his own expense) the Kilts as long as it was the MacKenzie Tartan; this offer was accepted.

As the great depression hit Australia and military funding decreased so naturally did the available manpower with a resultant merging of many of the militia units around the nation. The 27th Infantry (Boothby Regiment) was able to avoid this and with its historical background subsequently assumed the territorial title of "South Australian Scottish Regiment" in 1938. Already holding an alliance with the Inniskilling Fusiliers, with this re-badging, the Battalion formed another Regimental alliance the Seaforth Highlanders who also wore the MacKenzie Tartan

Most of the officers and men of the Battalion came from the South East and the Tartan went with them so beginning the long association. As the Battalion has waxed and waned the custom of wearing the Tartan has been carried over into A Company, Mount Gambier, to represent the unit's Scottish heritage, and is currently worn by the Senior Non Commissioned Officers of the Company the Battalion Second in Command and the Adjutant of the Battalion.

Tam O'Shanter Bonnet

The Tam O'Shanter is the bonnet that was first worn throughout northwestern Europe during the 15th century with a khaki Balmoral bonnet introduced in 1915 for wear in the trenches by Scottish infantry serving on the Western Front. This came to be known as the bonnet, and is still to this day worn by the Royal Regiment of Scotland and other units with Scottish connections.

Made of wool it has a *toorie* (pom-pom) in the centre with another significant hallmark being the clan tartan woven right into its woollen threads or as a patch behind a badge in the case of the Battalion; these features distinguish it from other bonnets such as the beret. The various battalions of the Royal Regiment of Scotland identify themselves by wearing distinctive coloured hackles on their bonnets; in the case of an Allied Battalion, the 4th Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Scotland (The Highlanders) this is blue. There has also in the past been a ceremonial Tam O'Shanter.

As a form of dress the Tam O'Shanter was initially worn by the members of A Company instead of the Hat Khaki Fur Felt (Slouch Hat) however at some stage this made more formal with a deliberate delay until on completion of a soldiers Corps Training (Initial Employment Training) when on a formal parade this would be presented by the Officer Commanding. Members of A Company of the Battalion are the only members authorised to wear this headdress.

Colour Patch

The Australian Army wore colour patches from 1915 to 1950, as a means of distinguishing units. In July, 1987 it was decided to permit the wearing of colour patches again, on the puggaree of the hat khaki fur felt; the decision was influenced primarily by the need to foster the Army's heritage.

The uniquely Australian system of colour patches may have been inspired through the South African War 1899-1902 by some British Army units wearing small cloth patches in colours or tartans appropriate to their regiment on the puggarees of their pith helmets. The Australian system however, was an extension of the system of small nine inches square flags allowed by Headquarters 1st Australian Division in 1914 to mark headquarters and unit lines. Two series of Unit Colour Patches are approved for the Australian Army:

1. Series I are the patches of units of the 1st Australian Imperial Force (AIF) and the whole Army from 1921 to 1949 which were worn by units which have established their lineage and similarity of role to those earlier units; and
2. Series II, introduced in 1995, is based largely on the colour combinations of Series I which indicated headquarters, corps and some functions. Entitlement to the wearing of a Series I colour patch is subject to substantial evidence being produced as to clear and direct lineage from a World War 1 or World War 2 headquarters, unit or independent sub-unit which had an approved colour patch, and a role similar to the present day unit. Granting of the entitlement must be shown to be a factor in significantly enhancing unit esprit-de-corps and morale.

In 1921, Military Order 206/21 indicated that:

1. The new organisation Citizens Military Forces (CMF) being based on the AIF, authority has been granted to wear Regimental Colour Patches on the jacket, similar to those worn by units of corresponding designation of the AIF; and
2. The above privilege has been accorded to the CMF, but ex-members of the AIF serving in CMF will wear in addition the colour badge (in miniature) of the unit with which they last served in the AIF (to be worn 1/2 inch above the CMF colour patch).

On the outbreak of World War 2 and the raising of a 2nd AIF, it appears that 2nd AIF units may have initially adopted the colour patches of their identically numbered or designated 1st AIF forbears, in the absence of any formal instructions. However, probably in April or May 1940 and partly due to the number of battalions in brigades being reduced from four to three, an instruction was issued allocating grey background colour patches to 2nd AIF units and giving infantry battalions colour patches by shapes and upper and lower colours indicating the divisional, brigade and battalion seniority of their 2nd AIF grouping. This resulted in a significant number of battalions wearing colour patches unrelated to those of their 1st AIF forbears. Senior military police of World War 2 have affirmed, however, that the task of identifying and controlling troops in transit and on leave would have been impossible without the colour patch system.

Notwithstanding its problems, the Australian soldier became intensely attached to his unit colour patch, as evidenced by association banners on Anzac Day marches. The Australian Corps Commander in World War 1, Lieutenant General Sir John Monash, recorded in his book 'Australian Victories in France 1918' that 'the private soldier valued his battalion colour patch almost more than any other decoration.'

Identifying individual Battalions

The Headquarters 1st Brigade colour patch was a green horizontal rectangle, and its battalions (1, 2, 3 and 4) black, purple, brown and white over green divided horizontally. The same system applied to the 2nd Brigade, whose brigade colour was red, with battalions numbered 5 to 8, and to the 3rd Brigade whose brigade colour was light blue, with battalions numbered 9 to 12. Divisional Artillery was given one colour patch of crimson over royal blue in a diagonal setting with other divisional unit colour patches were introduced for the pioneer battalion machine gun companies (later battalions), ordnance, pay and veterinary maroon. The 4th Brigade raised initially as part of the Australian and New Zealand Division, was dark blue and the upper/battalion colours as for the 1st Division; because however, the black and purple of 13 and 14 Battalions over the Brigade dark blue caused confusion with the Brigade Headquarters' patch, the upper colours for these battalions were changed to light blue and yellow respectively.

DIVISION	BATTALION	BRIGADE	INFANTRY		
			Lower colour	Lower colour	Lower colour
Shape of patch	Upper colour		NEW SOUTH WALES usually GREEN	VICTORIA usually RED	QUEENSLAND TASMANIA SOUTH AUSTRALIA WEST AUSTRALIA usually LIGHT BLUE
FIRST	black 1 st Bn in Bde	1 Bde HQ	1 Bn	5 Bn	9 Bn
	purple 2 nd Bn in Bde	2 Bn	6 Bn	10 Bn	
	brown 3 rd Bn in Bde	3 Bn	7 Bn	11 Bn	
	white 4 th Bn in Bde	4 Bn	8 Bn	12 Bn	
SECOND	black 1 st Bn in Bde	5 Bde HQ	17 Bn	21 Bn	25 Bn
	purple 2 nd Bn in Bde	6 Bn	22 Bn	26 Bn	
	brown 3 rd Bn in Bde	18 Bn	23 Bn	27 Bn	
	white 4 th Bn in Bde	20 Bn	24 Bn	28 Bn	
THIRD	black 1 st Bn in Bde	9 Bde HQ	33 Bn	37 Bn	41 Bn
	purple 2 nd Bn in Bde	34 Bn	38 Bn	42 Bn	
	brown 3 rd Bn in Bde	35 Bn	39 Bn	43 Bn	
	white 4 th Bn in Bde	36 Bn	40 Bn	44 Bn	
FOURTH	light blue 1 st Bn in Bde	4 Bde HQ	NSW 13 Bn	NSW 45 Bn	49 Bn
	yellow 2 nd Bn in Bde	VIC 14 Bn	VIC 46 Bn	50 Bn	
	brown 3 rd Bn in Bde	QLD/TAS 15 Bn	QLD/TAS 47 Bn	51 Bn	
	white 4 th Bn in Bde	WA, SA 16 Bn	WA, SA 48 Bn	52 Bn	
FIFTH	black 1 st Bn in Bde	14 Bde HQ	53 Bn	57 Bn	VIC 29 Bn
	purple 2 nd Bn in Bde	54 Bn	58 Bn	NSW 30 Bn	
	brown 3 rd Bn in Bde	55 Bn	59 Bn	QLD/VIC 31 Bn	
	white 4 th Bn in Bde	56 Bn	60 Bn	WA, SA 32 Bn	
SIXTH	black 1 st Bn in Bde	16 Bde HQ	61 Bn	65 Bn	69 Bn (attached to 16 Bde)
	purple 2 nd Bn in Bde	62 Bn	66 Bn	70 Bn (attached to 17 Bde)	
	brown 3 rd Bn in Bde	63 Bn	67 Bn		

As other divisions were formed, they were allocated distinctive divisional shapes -diamond for the 2nd, horizontal oval for the 3rd, circle for the 4th and vertical rectangle for the 5th; the 6th Division, disbanded before it saw action, was to have worn a vertical an oval patch. The 4th Brigade retained its original rectangle patches although allotted to the 4th Division; other anomalies were the 12th Brigade of the 4th Division, which had a dark blue brigade colour with consequent adjustments to the colours of its first and second battalions (45 and 46), and the 8th Brigade allotted to the 5th Division which had yellow as the brigade colour; nearly 300 colour patches were authorised during World War 1.

In accordance with Army policy where amalgamation occurs then the senior of the units will retain the colour patch with the remainder retained if s subsequent de-linking or re-raising were to occur hence the colour patch of the 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment retains the colour patch of the 10th Battalion Australian Imperial Forces.

Shoulder titles

This previously adopted colour patch system remained in place until 1949, when the policy for post-war army dress adopted the British system of embroidered shoulder titles, formation signs and lanyards. From about 1960, the British system was abandoned, first by dropping formation signs, later by the partial replacement of shoulder titles with abbreviated metal corps and regimental titles worn on the epaulette. In 2011 individual corps and regimental titles were dropped in an effort to save money and replaced by the 'Australia' shoulder title however, in 2013 this was rescinded with the Army reverting to the pre 2011 accoutrement and the Battalion recovering the 'RSAR' title.

Lanyard

The earliest references to lanyards dates from 15th century France, during which the word "Lanière" was used to describe a thong or strap apparatus for securing an item later, in the French military, lanyards were used to connect a pistol, sword or whistle (for signaling) to a uniform semi-permanently where there was a good chance of losing the object; most commonly by cavalry and naval officers at sea. Lanyard of the type worn today is first mentioned in military text within the British Army's Dress Regulation of 1900, which states, that all Officers of a unit should carry a whistle attached to a silk lanyard the same colour as the coat or jacket except for the Light Infantry which will wear a lanyard of dark green.

Although not mentioned in the various Dress Manuals from Federation to the post-war period, photographs indicate that some Artillery units wore a dress lanyard as part of their formal uniform. The lanyard was generally worn looped around the left shoulder with the loose end in the breast pocket. In 1920 the position was changed to the right side to simplify retrieval of the loose end from the pocket when a bandolier was worn. The first formal mention of a lanyard in an Australian manual describes it as an item issued with a military clasp knife to enable it to be secured to the uniform and prevent loss; this type of lanyard was a simple piece of twine looped in the same fashion as a modern lanyard but coloured a natural brown or khaki.

With the creation of the regular army in 1949, changes were introduced for the new permanent force and with the formal introduction in 1952, there were only seven different coloured lanyards in total, covering the nine Corps of the day with two being used by the Royal Military College Duntroon. The number of Corps and Regiments had doubled by 1955 and many more colours were introduced; originally these not worn by the junior ranks of the army, however, within a very short period of time they were on general issue to all ranks. By 1963, the Dress Manual directed that the wearer may at his own discretion attach a whistle to the end of the lanyard that was again to be held in the top pocket a clear link with the origins of the current dress lanyard reaching back in time to the first silk lanyard used for this purpose by the British Army. Given the available evidence there can be little doubt that the humble dress lanyard started out its military service as a simple cord to neatly secure a whistle to the uniform.

The practice of wearing lanyards, of various colours, on the right shoulder, applies to all members of the Australian Army denoting Corps however the Royal Australian Infantry wear their lanyards on the left shoulder to denote the individual Regiments that make up the Corps and is only worn in ceremonial dress.

The Two colours of the Battalion Lanyard are drawn from the 10th (Garter Blue) and the 27th (Black) Battalions and are identical to the other Battalion of 9 Brigade being 12th/40th Battalion, The Royal Tasmanian Regiment.

The nine colours of Lanyards allocated to the Battalions of the Royal Australian Regiment (RAR) are in most cases, those that are also used by the remaining Battalions of the Royal Australian Infantry as listed below:

- 1 RAR – Garter Blue
- 2 RAR – Black
- 3 RAR – Rifle Green
- 4 RAR – Scarlett
- 5 RAR – Gold
- 6 RAR – Khaki
- 7 RAR – Maroon
- 8 RAR – Slate Grey
- 9 RAR – Beech Brown

With the Army Reserve the colours of unit Lanyards are derived from either the heritage such as Special Operations Command originating from 1 RAR or by either a numerical identity or seniority such as 4th/3rd Battalion, The Royal New South Wales Regiment being Scarlett/Rifle Green. The contrary to this rule is where heritage that dictates a difference such as the Regional Force Surveillance Units. The Royal South Australia Regiment Lanyards are as follows:

- 10th Battalion, Royal South Australia Regiment – Garter Blue
- 27th Battalion, Royal South Australia Regiment – Black; and
- 43rd Battalion, Royal South Australia Regiment – Rifle Green.

Hence when the 10th and 27th Battalions Royal South Australia Regiment amalgamated in 1987 the Lanyard became a braided Garter Blue and Black.

Regimental Marches

Royal South Australia Regiment	Quick – The Song of Australia Slow – Men of Harlech
10th Battalion	The Song of Australia
27th Battalion	Scotland the Brave
43rd Battalion	Waltzing Matilda
43rd/48th Battalion	Nachtlager in Canada
10th/27th Battalion	Pro Patria Song of Australia Scotland the Brave

CHAPTER ELEVEN

REGIMENTAL ALLIANCES

Alliances between Australian Army units and those of other countries began in the 1920s with many Citizens Military Force (CMF) units twinned with their British regiments, often on a highly arbitrary basis such as a common numerical designation (the 48th North Hamptonshire Regiment and 48th Infantry Battalion, for example). Most alliances had no obvious basis in shared experience, or even in commonality of purpose, there being little obviously in common between, for example, the Adelaide University Regiment and the Royal Irish Regiment, with whom they were allied. Exchanges of personnel were rare, and the main purpose appears to have been ceremonial: some militia battalions, for example, adopted the regimental marches of their longer-established 'twin'. In the regular Army the various corps are affiliated with their British Army opposites, while the battalions of the Royal Australian Regiment have individual affiliations as well as a regimental one. Such arrangements are usually based on considerations of morale and esprit de corps; there seems little obvious connection between these sorts of traditions and the military efficiency of the Australian soldier.

10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment has inherited or obtained the following Regimental Alliances:

- The Otago and Southland Regiment – 1929
-
- 4th Battalion, Royal Regiment of Scotland – 1929
- Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (King's, Lancashire and Border) – 1952
- 509 Rejimen Askar Wataniah Malaysia – 2002

Regimental Alliances no longer maintained:

Canada

- Regiment de Saint Hyacinthe – 10th Infantry Battalion

The United Kingdom

- 48th (North Hamptonshire) Regiment – 48th Infantry Battalion
- 27th Foot Inniskilling Fusiliers – 27th Battalion South Australian Scottish Regiment



The Otago and Southland Regiment

Regimental Motto: Onward

New Zealand has a military history similar to that of South Australia where the numbers rise and fall with the times, periods of inactivity and establishment. In 1911 a restructure of the colonies defences and the introduction of a Territorial system was established, similar to that introduced in Australia as the 'Universal training Scheme' that would see the nations military forces swell in anticipation of future conflict.

Having previously seen service during the Maori wars and South Africa the militia units of New Zealand were reorganised and in the case of the Otago and Southland provinces the creation of the 4th (Otago Rifles) Regiment, 10th (North Otago) Regiment, 14th (South Otago) Regiment and 8th (Southland Rifles) Regiment occurred. During the Great War, battalions worked on the same system as the British Army of regional names hence the provinces produced the Otago Regiment, which consisted of the 4th Otago, 8th Southland, 10th North Otago and 14th South Otago companies.

With the Australian 4th Brigade the New Zealanders constituted the Australian and New Zealand Division that would land at Gallipoli in 1915 and would continue to serve alongside at various times in France and Belgium at places such as The Somme, Passchendaele and the various battles alongside Australians stopping the German spring offensive in March 1918.

During the Second World War, men from Otago and Southland served in regional companies as in 1914 – 18 in the Middle East and the Pacific. From 1943, the 20th Battalion converted to tanks and fought through the Italian campaign, showing the versatility that hallmarks a nation with a small army reliant on the part time soldier drawing on and perpetuating the battle honours of the First and Second New Zealand Expeditionary Forces.

In 1948, the Otago and Southland Regiments were amalgamated to form the 1st Battalion, Otago and Southland Regiment and in 1964 the Regular and Territorial battalions were amalgamated to form the Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (RNZIR). The regular battalions assumed the senior numerical standing and the territorial battalions numbering by seniority thereafter. The 1st Battalion, Otago and Southland Regiment would become the 4th Battalion (Otago and Southland), Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment, otherwise known as 4 O South.

In 1999 saw a reorganisation in which the Territorial Force battalions split from the RNZIR to become multi-function battalion groups and the 4th Otago and Southland Battalion Group, formed with the following unit types:

- Infantry – Otago Company, Southland Company, New Zealand Scottish Company
- Medical – Field Surgical Team, Otago University Medical Company
- Logistics – Unit Supply Team
- Band

With declining numbers, in December 2012 the 4th Otago and Southland Battalion Group merged with 2nd Canterbury (Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast) Battalion Group to form 2/4 Battalion RNZIR. Just like the part-time forces on any nation Otago and Southland soldiers have served within Regular Force since the Second World War.



4th Battalion, Royal Regiment of Scotland (4 SCOTS)

Regimental motto:

"Nemo Me Impune Lacessit" (No One Provokes Me With Impunity)

The Highlanders are the descendants of four famous Scottish Regiments originally raised from the Clans and communities of the Highlands and Islands in the late 1700's. The regiment was the only one in the British Army with a Gaelic motto '*Cuidich 'n Righ*' which means 'Aid the King'.

In 2004, as part of the restructuring of the infantry of the British Army, it was announced that The Highlanders would be amalgamated with the other Scottish infantry regiments into a single large Royal Regiment of Scotland. As with the other Scottish regiments, the Highlanders were permitted to retain their former name as the new battalion's primary title, with the battalion number as a subtitle becoming The Highlanders (4 Scots) with the amalgamation officially effected on 28 March 2006.

The Battalion can trace its heritage back to 15 May 1778 and the 78th (Highland) Regiment of Foot raised in Scotland in 1757, as per the table below, to fight in the Seven Years' War (also known in the USA as the French and Indian War) with the previous amalgamation in 1994 to form the The Highlanders (Seaforth, Gordons and Camerons).

Lineage of The Highlanders (4 Scots)

The Highlanders (Seaforth, Gordons and Camerons)	The Queen's Own Highlanders (Seaforth and Camerons)	The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders	
		The Seaforth Highlanders (Ross- shire Buffs, The Duke of Albany's)	The 72nd (Duke of Albany's Own) Highlanders
			The 78th Highlanders (Ross- shire Buffs)
	The Gordon Highlanders	The 75th (Stirlingshire) Regiment of Foot	
		The 92nd (Gordon Highlanders) Regiment of Foot	

The requirements of the day have influenced the expansion and contraction of the British Army with individual regiments having had more than one battalion such as the case of the Gordon Highlanders who raised 21 Battalions for service in the Great War. The Highlanders (4 Scots) can therefore claim battle honours for America, The low Countries, The Peninsular Wars, Waterloo, Afghanistan, India, Sudan, Egypt, South Africa and various locations in during The Great War and The Second World War. Most recently the Battalion has seen service in Iraq and Afghanistan.

It is through the The Seaforth Highlanders (Ross-shire Buffs, The Duke of Albany's) that the 27th Battalion, The South Australian Scottish Regiment gained the alliance that is still valued today by the Battalion. Although now amalgamated the Royal Regiment of Scotland maintains the closest possible links to their preceding regiments 4 Scots still continues to wear the Seaforth Mackenzie Tartan when in Trews and the Gordon tartan when in kilts.



Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (King's, Lancashire and Border)

Regimental motto:

"Nec Aspera Terrent" (Difficulties be Damned)

The Regiment's formation was announced on 16 December 2004 as part of the restructuring of the infantry of the United Kingdom Armed Forces, it is simply known as 'The Lances'.

Recruiting from throughout the North-West of England since 1782, the officers and soldiers of the regiment have won 59 Victoria Crosses and 1 George Cross with a long and distinguished history tracing its lineage back to The King's Own Royal Regiment (Lancaster) raised on 13 July 1680, as the 2nd Tangier, or Earl of Plymouth's Regiment of Foot.

The Regiment has undergone many changes (see table over page) before being amalgamated with The Border Regiment into The King's Own Royal Border Regiment on 31 October 1959. Like the Highlander (4 Scots) the regiment can boast many Battle Honours going back to that gained at Namur (1695) during the War of the Augsburg League, 1688-1697. Of particular note The King's Own Royal Regiment (Lancaster) was a pioneer of Light Infantry tactics and saw action when re-formed as Marines during the Spanish war of succession and the subsequent capture of Gibraltar; 1704 - 1705. Action during the Napoleonic wars would see The 30th (Cambridgeshire) Regiment of Foot capture a French Eagle, much akin to the capture of the colours, and would later distinguish themselves again at Waterloo. Up until the Great War the various preceding regiments would see action in all the far flung corners of the British Empire and sphere of influence: Europe, America, China, India, Afghanistan, South Africa Australia (Eureka Stockade) and New Zealand.

During the Great War service through Europe and the Middle East would see action alongside the ANZACs at Gallipoli at Cape Helles and Sari Bair with a period of service after the war in Russia as part of an international force in support of the White Russians fighting the Bolsheviks.

During the Second World War the various Regiments would see action in the same locations as the Australian Imperial Forces such as Syria, Alamein, Tobruk and Singapore however; it was at Sicily that 1st Battalion, The Border Regiment would find an unfamiliar role. It was as one of the first airborne units of the British Army that they landed by Glider in July 1943 which sees the new Regiment inheriting the Glider shoulder flash. This was not the only foray into the world of airborne operations it was during the landings of D-Day that the 13th (Lancashire) Parachute Battalion, formerly 2/4th South Lancashire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's Volunteers) would drop into Normandy.

Post war has seen involvement in Korea and the various conflicts of the receding British Empire as well United Nations missions and service in Northern Ireland, a company to the Falklands war, Iraq and most recently Afghanistan.

Uniquely in the British army the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment uses the rank of *Kingsman* (Kgn) instead of Private, a tradition inherited from the King's Regiment (itself having inherited the tradition from the King's Regiment (Liverpool)). Its use has been officially sanctioned since 1951, but it was informally used prior to this for over one hundred years.

Since amalgamation on 1 July 2006, initially there were three regular battalions but due to further Defence cuts in 2007 only two remain as well as a Territorial Army Battalion ; these are:

- 1st Battalion, The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment - 1st Battalion, Queen's Lancashire Regiment
- 2nd Battalion, The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment - 1st Battalion, King's Regiment
- 4th , The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment

Having been awarded 303 Battle honours of which 13 are unique, the Regiment enjoys the distinction of being the only regiment, of any army, at any time in history to carry Battle Honours from every inhabited continent on our Colours.

The Regiment display on it Colours 43 honours on the Queens and 46 on the Regimental in addition the regimental colour will also display four emblems from the antecedents' regiments:

- Lion of England - displayed top left; from the King's Own Royal Border Regiment
- White Horse of Hanover - displayed top right; from the King's Regiment
- Red Rose charged with the Prince of Wales's feathers - displayed bottom left; from the Lancashire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Volunteers)
- Red Rose charged with the Royal Crest - displayed bottom right; from the Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire)
- In addition, the Regimental Colour also features a Sphinx to distinguish the battle honour "Egypt" and a Dragon for the honour "China".

This Alliance was further enhanced when in the Second World War when the Kings Regiment entrusted their Colours to the 10th Battalion when Singapore fell until the conclusion of the War and in gratitude the Battalion was presented the “Manchester Cup” shortly after.

This Alliance has been inherited from The Manchester Regiment.

Lineage of The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (King's, Lancashire and Border)

The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (King's, Lancashire and Border)	The King's Own Royal Border Regiment	The King's Own Royal Regiment (Lancaster)		
		The Border Regiment	The 34th (Cumberland) Regiment of Foot	
			The 55th (Westmorland) Regiment of Foot	
	The King's Regiment	The King's Regiment (Liverpool)		
		The Manchester Regiment	The 63rd (West Suffolk) Regiment of Foot	
			The 96th Regiment of Foot	
	The Queen's Lancashire Regiment	The Lancashire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Volunteers)	The East Lancashire Regiment	The 30th (Cambridgeshire) Regiment of Foot
				The 59th (2nd Nottinghamshire) Regiment of Foot
			The South Lancashire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's Volunteers)	The 40th (2nd Somersetshire) Regiment of Foot
				The 82nd Regiment of Foot (Prince of Wales's Volunteers)
		The Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire)	The 47th (Lancashire) Regiment of Foot	
			The 81st Regiment of Foot (Loyal Lincoln Volunteers)	

Rejimen 509 Askar Wataniah



Regimental motto:

Berkhidmat Untuk Negara (Serve for the Country)

The Rejimen Askar Wataniah (Territorial Army Regiment) is the military reserve force of the Malaysian Army; an equivalent formation to the Army reserve based at Kem Lebuh raya Peel, George Town, Pulau Pinang. The Battalion as part of the wider infantry Regiment is a reserve volunteers units, based in major towns and cities throughout the whole country with sixteen infantry battalions, in addition to other support and service support reserve units.

In 1861, the Penang Volunteers were formed as a volunteer army unit of the Straits Settlement. Similar units were formed in Singapore and in the other Malay States and in 1902, the Federated Malay States formed the Malay State Volunteer Rifles (MSVR) a volunteer force with the Unfederated Malay States also forming their own volunteer units. With further expansion, the formations were then known as the Federated Malay States Volunteer Force (FMSVF), Unfederated Malay States Volunteer Force (UFMSVF) and the Straits Settlement Volunteer Force.

With the outbreak of the Second World War, the volunteer units were mobilised and fought alongside the regular British and Indian and the 2nd Australian Imperial Force in the defence of Malaya and Fortress Singapore. After the fall of Singapore the Japanese Occupation of Malaya, the Chinese dominated Malayan People's Anti-Japanese Army conducted guerrilla warfare against the Japanese occupiers. As only the regular Malay Regiment led by British officers had acquitted itself well until the surrender in Singapore (February 1942), the British felt it was possible to involve Malays in the resistance against the Japanese but only with extensive training and by working in close co-operation with the stay behind British forces. The British desperately needed Malay resistance fighters to operate in Malay dominated areas. During the Japanese Occupation, a number of local Malays formed resistance groups and carried out guerrilla warfare against the Japanese. Resistance units in Pahang were called **WATANIAH**, derived from the Arabic word WATAN (state). Force 136 of the Special Operations Executive was amongst the British formations that co-ordinated the Malayan resistance (including the Wataniah movement) against the Japanese.

After the war, the volunteer units were reformed. With the start of the Malayan Emergency, the Home Guard was raised and tasked with local static defence, thus releasing regular British, Commonwealth and Malayan units for combat operations against the Communist Terrorists. In 1958, with the security situation under control and the threat from the Communist Terrorists diminished, the Home Guard was disbanded.

However, many of the members of the Home Guard wished to continue their voluntary service, and the Federation Government agreed to the formation of the Territorial Army with the passing of the Territorial Army Ordinance 1958. The Askar Wataniah was formed on 1 June 1958.

The 500 series is tasked with the same mission as the combat infantry battalions of the Royal Malay Regiment and the Royal Ranger Regiment. There are currently 16 Wataniah Regiments, each comprising 3 (nominal) infantry battalions.

CHAPTER TWELVE

FREEDOM OF ENTRY

We extend to the Commanding Officer, Men and Women of the
10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment,
Greetings

Whereas many of our citizens have served with pride in you distinguished Battalion which by its great achievements in times of peace and war, has built up honourable traditions, the mayor and councillors of the District at a meeting of the Council that,

In appreciation of the great services to our Sovereign Country and Town, Council confer upon the 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment by a Deed and perpetuity the privilege, honour and distinction of the Freedom of Entry,

With the right of entry on ceremonial occasions in full panoply with swords drawn and bayonets fixed, drums beating, band playing and Colours flying.

The Freedom of Entry is an honour bestowed by a municipality upon a valued member of the community, or upon a visiting celebrity or dignitary. Arising from the medieval practice of granting respected citizens freedom from serfdom, the tradition still lives on in countries such as the United Kingdom, Republic of Ireland, Australia, Canada and New Zealand, although today the title of "freeman" confers no special privileges. The Freedom of Entry can also be granted by municipal authorities to military units which have earned the city's trust; in this context, it is sometimes called Freedom of the City. This allows them the freedom to parade through the city, and is an affirmation of the bond between the regiment and the citizenry.

Freedom of Entry is an ancient honour granted to martial organizations, allowing them the privilege to march into the city "with drums beating, colours flying, and bayonets fixed". This honour dates back to ancient Rome which regarded the "pomerium", the boundary of the city, as sacred. Promagistrates and generals were forbidden from entering it, and resigned their *imperium* immediately upon crossing it. An exception was made for victory celebrations, during which the victorious general would be permitted to enter for one day only. Under the Republic, soldiers also lost their status when entering, becoming citizens: thus soldiers at their general's triumph wore civilian dress. Weapons were also banned inside the pomerium for religious and traditional reasons.

Similar laws were passed by other European cities throughout the Medieval era, to protect public security and civic rights, even against their own king's troops. As a result, soldiers would be forced to camp outside the walls of the city during the winter months. The Freedom of Entry was an honour granted only to troops which had earned the trust of the local populace, either through some valiant action or simply by being a familiar presence. Today, martial freedom of the city is an entirely ceremonial honour, usually bestowed upon a unit with historic ties to the area, as a token of appreciation for their long and dedicated service. The awarding of the Freedom is often accompanied by a celebratory parade through the city.

10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment has the right to exercise the following Freedoms of Entry to:

- City of Adelaide 23 April 1960
 - 10th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment
- Mount Gambier 7 July 1983
 - 27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment
- Broken Hill 10 September 1983
 - 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment
- Unley 25 September 2006
 - 27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment
- Kadina 23 April 1994

3 Field Squadron, Royal Australian Engineers

- Marion 6 July 1986



10th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment
Freedom of Entry march through Broken Hill

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

SITES OF SIGNIFICANCE

Whether it is sights, sounds or smells certain things trigger fond memories for those who have served more often than not remembered with nostalgia reflecting on halcyon days gone by; the depots that dot the state are an intrinsic part of that and the history of not only the Battalion but also the state. The various depots and Training Areas cannot all be recorded nor does a lot of the information regarding them remain with a lot lost to memory and time however, the depots have an intertwined history of all the various Corps and units that have served in South Australia.

Torrens Training depot

The area has been associated with accommodation for the military since 1859 when a barracks was constructed to accommodate the Imperial Garrison, adjacent to the Destitute Asylum, and in 1866-67 a Drill and Gun shed was erected for the volunteer military forces.

The original Parade Ground on North Terrace continued to be the mustering point for volunteer forces until during the 1870s and 1880s, with the construction of more significant public buildings along its frontage, the location of the Parade Ground became contentious. It was decided to transfer the Parade Ground from North Terrace to the site behind Government House, which had been basically wasteland until this time. The area between Government House and the Torrens River had previously been used as a quarry for stone for Government House and its wall, and also as a paddock for depasturing police horses and a dump for various road work debris. The establishment of a Parade Ground on this site was recognised as a great improvement to the area. During 1892 the laying of drains and planting of palm trees resulted in its opening on 20 June 1893.

In 1895 a decision was made to move the military buildings from the Museum forecourt to the Torrens Parade Ground when a new South Australian Defences Act was passed. However, this work was not undertaken until 1899 with the first major ceremonial activity on the new Parade Ground was the mustering and departure point for contingents of South Australian soldiers to the South African Boer War. This military activity highlighted the fact that the Drill and Gun Shed from North Terrace had not yet been transferred to the Parade Ground. The gun sheds stood between the new wing of the Museum and the Art Gallery on North Terrace, and by November of 1899 the sheds had been dismantled and removed to the Parade Ground. The former Parade Ground on North Terrace became the forecourt of the New Museum.



A Company at Torrens Training Depot

When the Federal Government of South Australia came into being at Federation in 1901, ownership of all buildings and grounds in use by the departments of the State Defence Service automatically went from the State to the Commonwealth; the new Parade Ground among other state properties and the Drill Hall located on the Parade Ground was enlarged in 1905. During World War I the Parade Ground was the main point of enlistment for volunteers during this period and continued to be the mustering point for permanent troops embarking for overseas.

Throughout the 1920s the Drill Hall was occupied by both artillery and infantry battalions including the 10th Battalion who had been stationed at the Parade Ground since its inception until transferred to Keswick Barracks in 1925 where they remained until the opening of the new building in 1936. The Parade Ground had become identified as a significant rallying point in the city, and so also served as the site for the Waterside Workers strike prior to their march through the city in 1928; this strike was part of the Australia wide protest and it also marked the beginning of a world wide depression of 1928-30.

With the modernisation and expansion of the army, a decision was made in the early 1930s to replace the 1905 Drill Hall with a new building, designed by CE Davies, in 1935-1936, at a cost of less than 20,000 pounds. This coincided with the centenary celebrations of South Australia in 1936 and was occupied by Artillery and the 43rd/48th and 10th Battalions. Taking into account the dual function of the building the hall was divided into two areas with concrete and timber floors reflecting the gun park for the artillery unit and the timber floors for the infantry. At the opening ceremony the building was formally named the Torrens Drill Hall which was the first use of the word Torrens in association with this building and site, previously it had just been known as the Military Parade Ground, or the Military Drill Hall.

All the various battalions that contribute to the history of the battalion have been involved in the rich history of the depot but it is the 10th Battalion that has a particular affection as the longest serving resident unit. The 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australian Regiment has retained this association having been the last resident Australian Defence Force unit serving their until it was handed over to the Returned Services League in 2001 when the Battalion relocated to Keswick Barracks.

The parade ground still receives its due respect with monuments related to the defence of South Australia and of Australia scattered around its fringe and remaining the sight of many ceremonial activities undertaken by the 7th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment and indeed the Battalion itself for parades or ceremonial gun salutes.



Torrens Parade Ground looking across to the Depot and the Museum

Keswick Barracks

With the Militia Act of 1854 the raised military force was based at the Mounted Police Barracks off Kintore Avenue in Adelaide and a military parade ground was located in the area now occupied by the north and east wings of the South Australian Museum. With Federation, South Australia's defence force, along with the other colonial defence forces, was taken over by the Commonwealth. As the development of a Commonwealth public works department took some time, the responsibility for constructing and maintaining Commonwealth.



Keswick Barracks Headquarters Building

Government buildings in South Australia, specifically post offices, customs and defence buildings, were initially given to the South Australian Public Works Department and in 1912, a contract was let for the construction of a Military Headquarters at Keswick in South Australia for a cost of 21990 pounds.

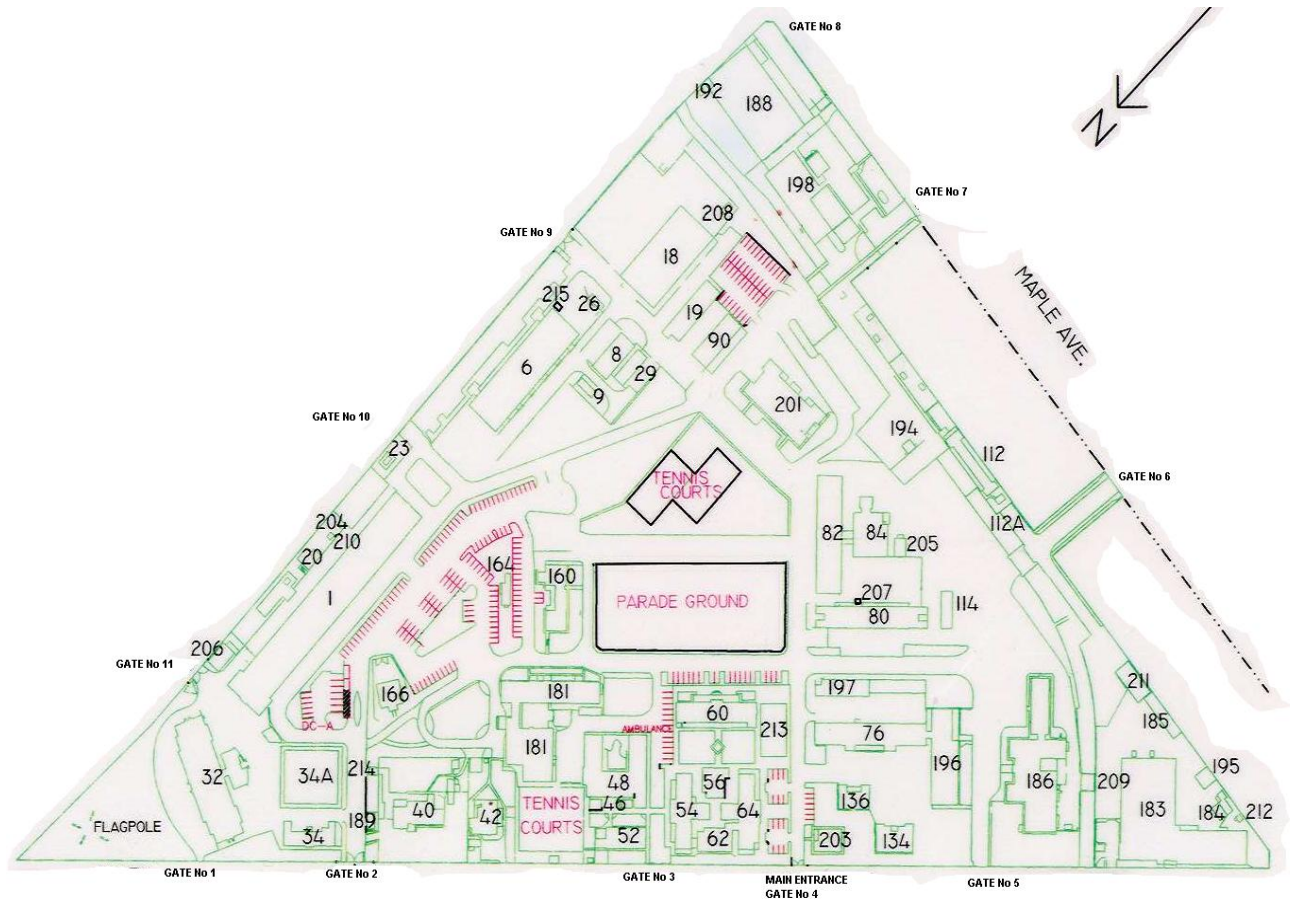
Initially two batteries were to be established in Sydney and Melbourne, but it was planned eventually to have one in each State. South Australia was to have two stables, each containing 50 horses, forage sheds, forge, pharmacy and quarters for housing non commissioned officers and men. In total the initiative was expected to cost £31,000, of which £2600 was to go to South Australia. For the year 1910-1911 South Australia's appropriation was £250 which was to be used toward site preparation.

By 1910 a 44 acre triangular section of land situated between the main eastern railway line and the Bay Road was offered for sale by the firm of Hosking and Ryan. This appeared to be a suitable site, being adjacent to the railway line and close enough to the city. Only the price was of concern. The Commonwealth government authorised a purchase price of up to £170 per acre but the South Australian government was unable to acquire the land at this price and the site was passed in at auction. However, the State government was able to take an option on a portion of the site. Eventually the Commonwealth agreed to pay the asking price of £220 per acre for 17 acres of block 9 and £200 for block 10, but limited the purchase to a total of 30 acres.

Lieutenant Colonel Edward Glennon, an architect and engineer, who was the senior Military Clerk of Works and assistant to the Commandant, was one of the people who moved into the new offices in Pirie Street. He was transferred from Melbourne to Adelaide to assist with the design and construction of the new Barracks. Keswick was used as a remount depot during the 18 months, while the planning and construction of buildings took place.

Building on the site commenced in mid-1912 and was completed by late-1913 with much of it still remaining. The General Headquarters (32) on the northernmost corner of the site was the most imposing and further to the west, along the Bay Road (now ANZAC Highway), were built a large barracks (54 & 64) with separate kitchen (56). Nearby were built a gymnasium (134), the Quartermaster's store (136), two large stables (76 & 80), a saddler and wheeler shop (114) a barn, a shoeing shed and stables for sick horses (112).

Building Numbers Keswick Barracks



The Great War

With the raising of the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) Keswick Barracks became a hive of activity. Many new buildings were erected, some of which were permanent structures, while many were of a more temporary nature with a railway siding added in 1915 to transport men and materials more effectively.

With many servicemen returning from overseas and requiring hospital treatment and rehabilitation, the barracks, (54 and 64) were converted for use as a hospital and became the 7th General Hospital. Many additional buildings were erected nearby to provide the necessary facilities. These included the building of a separate operating theatre, an isolation block, additional wards, nursing quarters, an artificial limb factory, curative workshops and an X-ray room: these were temporary structures of corrugated galvanised iron which could be erected quickly and were later replaced with more substantial buildings. With the end of hostilities the hospital became a Repatriation Hospital and continued as such until the Daws Road hospital, built for the wounded of World War II, was converted to a Repatriation Hospital.

The Curative Workshops erected by the Red Cross for the use of military patients and were handed over to the Department of Defence by Lady Galway, wife of the Governor, on 23

September 1918. The same day the Governor, Sir Henry Galway, opened the Artificial Limb Factory which was located at the rear of the Drill Hall which stood behind the main headquarters building; since dismantled. The Workshops included equipment for fitters, carpenters, boot makers and repairers, basket makers, leatherworkers and office workers where men were able to learn a trade, and many articles ranging from tables and cupboards, boots and shoes to leather handbags were manufactured.



'The Diggers Hospital' 1920. No. 4 Australian General Hospital, 4th Military District, Keswick

Most of the buildings erected during the period of World War I were temporary structures demanded by the emergency with the only ones to remain being those that were built as ordnance stores. The most significant of these include ordnance stores (Buildings 1 and 6) the armoury (Building 8) a fuse store (Building 9) and stores (Buildings 19 and 90).

Post Great War

After the war and with defence spending in decline little of significance happened at Keswick and with the depression afflicting Australia during the 1930s a dramatic reduction in defence spending, from £7,386,000 in 1927-28 to £3,160,000 in 1932-33 occurred.

As economic recovery and the situation in Europe unfolded a gradual increase in defence spending occurred with a great many other buildings were constructed. The most significant of these were associated with the development of the Repatriation Hospital the provision of permanent married quarters for senior officers and the headquarters for 49 Field Battery (82) now occupied by 48 Light Troop of 6/13 Light battery and the Sergeants' Mess (Building 160) on the opposite side of the Parade Ground.



Parade Ground looking across to 48 Light Troop, 6/13 Light Battery

Under the voluntary system units trained on different nights of the week in the Drill Hall as the numbers increased and additions were made to the wood and iron Drill Hall in the 1930s when a brick building (Building 34) was constructed on the end facing ANZAC Highway; this addition included offices downstairs and messes upstairs. A gallery at the rear of the hall was used for training Army signallers.

World War II

The extensive building programme carried out during the latter years of the 1930s meant that the Keswick Barracks had largely taken on its modern appearance, with permanent structures replacing many of the temporary buildings that had remained from the time of World War I. Most of the significant buildings were constructed prior to World War II.



Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers School, Keswick, 1924

Australia's involvement in World War II resulted in a great increase in activity at the Keswick Barracks. As well as the enlistment of many volunteers into the 2 AIF many more men with no military training enlisted and all had to receive some basic training. Wayville Showgrounds was requisitioned and used as a recruitment centre. The new troops were issued with palliasses and bedded down in the animal stalls or anywhere else that was available.

Prior to World War II there were few living quarters; probably less than 100 were accommodated in single men's quarters with a few officers elsewhere; in complete contrast to this, between 2000 to 3000 people lived in the Barracks during the war. Flagstaff House (Building 40) built in 1936 for the Commandant, was not used in the early 1940s as he chose to live in the South Australian Hotel. Instead, it was used as an officers' mess while the house next to it, on the southern side (Building 42), was the home of the Medical Superintendent of the Repatriation Hospital.

To cope with the increase in personnel on the Barracks, temporary buildings were erected on practically any spare ground until the area was filled with a conglomeration of buildings of all shapes and sizes; so many personnel were on the site that some officers lived in their working rooms. The accommodation shortage was so acute that the Army requisitioned several houses opposite the Barracks on Anzac Highway and these were used as offices and long wooden huts with a verandah, known as Sidney William huts, 20' x 60', were placed alongside the Parade

Ground. These were used for officers' quarters, for enlisted men, messes, stores and offices. Cold in winter and hot in summer they were not the most popular type of accommodation.

Temporary buildings were erected for the Garrison Battalion and later Garrison Brigade. This unit consisted of some World War I veterans and volunteers enlisted to guard vital assets such as the cable station at Grange, the radio mast at Rosewater, ammunition depots in various locations and general security duties. The Garrison Battalion also manned the guard on the gates into the Barracks. The changing of the guard at 1 pm each day was performed with some ceremony - the new guard marching to the gates accompanied by the Band.

The advent of women into the services meant that special accommodation had to be found for them and they were housed in barracks behind the hospital alongside the Parade Ground built originally in the 1930s as accommodation for the nurses (Building 60). The women worked as transport drivers, in signals and ordnance, as store clerks and performed office work. A Detail Issue Depot (DID) was situated in the southern corner of the Barracks where the Australian Army Service Corps collected and distributed all foodstuffs for all units in South Australia.

Because of these extensive projects in developing other depots and training areas in South Australia post World War 2 the demands for stores was heavy and the Barracks maintained a large range of Engineer Stores; about half of the stores required were kept at Keswick with the remainder placed in various other locations around Adelaide until moved to Warradale.



Current soldiers live in accommodation, building 64 in 1914

Post War Development

The physical development of the site has continued during the post war period with most temporary structures removed and some more permanent structures built. In January 1967 an acre of land fronting Maple Avenue was purchased for \$78,000 and a further lot purchased in 1970 for \$10,000; which now encompasses building 198 the current home of the Battalion.

The present Officers' Mess (Building 181) opened in 1959 and provided accommodation for 21 officers, increased to 42 in 1972; with extensions completed in 1977 and again modified in 1991. The present Sergeants' Mess (building 186) was opened in 1962 with further extensions in 1972 and 1992 for accommodation. A Soldiers Club (William Kibby Victoria Cross Club) is maintained as are the numerous sub units clubs of note being the Battalion Roy Inwood Victoria Cross Club and the Battery 105 Club.

Many South Australian units have identified with Keswick Barracks and while they may not exist in their original form, for every Corps certainly can trace some history.

Patterson Barracks Launceston, Tasmania

European settlement began in northern Van Diemen's Lands in 1804 under LTCOL William Paterson. Members of the 46th Regiment of Foot were responsible for the well-being of the new settlement. The exact location of the Regiment's original barracks is uncertain but it was rumoured that it may have been seriously damaged by fire at the hands of some soldiers dissatisfied with their accommodation.

The present commissariat building built in 1828 and completed by 1830 and was described at the time as the very best brick building in Van Diemen's Land remaining in ownership of the British government until 1880 when it was granted to the Colonial Government. The Commissariat Store at Paterson Barracks, which provided food and clothing for convicts and military personnel, is one of the oldest surviving buildings in Launceston and was used by the Ordnance Department and Colonial Storekeeper's Department playing an important role in the government's administration of the settlement. The buildings size and solid construction reflect its importance to the settlement during the period.

The building and the surrounding complex was renamed Paterson Barracks in 1948 after Colonel William Paterson, the first Lieutenant Governor of the north of Tasmania. Despite being badly damaged by fire in February 1970, the main building houses the 'Q' Store for 16 Light Troop Royal Australian Artillery, Defence Force Recruiting and the Australian Air Force Cadets (AAFC) plus sundry offices and Training Rooms., the Old Commissariat, remains in use today.



In 1860, the Launceston Volunteer Artillery was formed pending the withdrawal of the British Army in the 1880's, two smooth bore cannon were sent out from England and the Artillery task involved preventing Russian ships from navigating the Tamar River; the original Cannon may be seen today at the Barracks,

Paterson Barracks has played a major role in the military history of both the City of Launceston and Tasmania since its foundation. It has seen a number of distinguished volunteer units pass under its portals from Australia's involvement in the Sudan expedition of 1880 to current day military activities.

Mitcham Camp

Mitcham Camp was the main training ground for thousands of volunteers from South Australia who enlisted into the Australian Imperial Forces for the Great War 1914 – 1918 with approximately 33,000 men passing through the camp before embarkation for overseas.

The Camp was located where the Adelaide Colonel Light Gardens now stands where all that now remains is a small Cross of Remembrance where the Camp Headquarters once stood. This had previously been Grange Farm, a 300 acre property that stretched from Winnall Street to Goodwood Road and Granges Road to Springbank Road. As previously training had been conducted predominantly at Morphettville (the Racecourse) and Oaklands, the 27th Battalion became the first occupants when on 1 April 1915 they marched into the new camp. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Dollman, of the 27th Battalion would also become the last Commandant of Mitcham Camp in 1 December 1916.

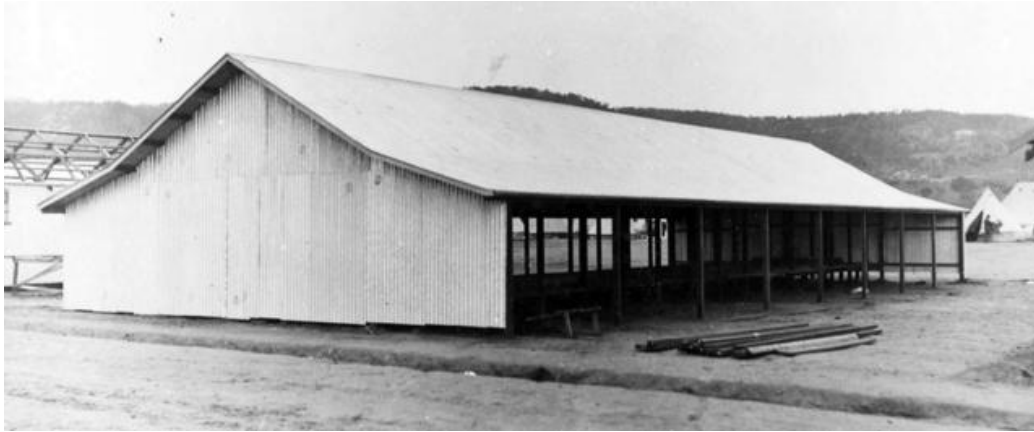


Mitcham Army Camp, circa 1915

The Camp was deemed to be suitable due to its size and that it would allow for effective land management rather than taking advantage of the goodwill extended by allowing use and damaging the ground and vegetation. This was no longer a problem when in June 1915 the Government purchased the property; the move also took care of the issue of Oaklands being unsuitable as a winter camp.

Winter of 1915 saw Mitcham turn into a muddy quagmire as the soil was loose after so much prior ploughing with rain so heavy there was 12 inches of mud and the tents could not cope with the downpour; a stark contrast to the dry dusty camp of the summer months. The conditions were basic, Bell tents accommodating eight men, latrines consisting of wooden poles over slit trenches without any cover, two long troughs with a dozen taps and no hot water. Overall this had the effect of causing health issues including cerebro-spinal meningitis, German measles, diphtheria and in some cases death of which only one, that of Private Ernest Lovely, was mentioned in the Advertiser. While Mitcham was not the only army camp to have health issues across the nation between August 1914 and June 1916 256 recruits had died while in camp out of 604 infected, five times that amongst the civil population. The more serious cases were sent to Keswick Barracks and while the authorities attempted to downplay the seriousness some had to be sent to Adelaide Hospital.

The authorities undertook a series of measures aimed to improve the situation and by February 1916 new open sheds had been constructed for accommodation with raised floorboards which was further improved on by 1916 with suitable washing and ablution facilities.



Open style hut constructed circa 1916

Daily routine was set out in a small booklet “Camp Routine – Mitcham AIF Camp” and would generally consist of Monday to Friday:

- 0600 Reveille with kit to be rolled up
- 0630 Early morning Tea or Coffee
- 0645 Parade including 30minutes of physical training
- 0800 Breakfast
- 0900 General training with ‘smoko’ at 1045
- 1200 Lunch
- 1400 Afternoon training with a 15 minute tea break
- 1730 Tea
- 1900 Evening lecture if required
- 2200 Lights out

Saturday training finished at 1200 and Sunday was a no training day but the scope existed within the training days for variation.

Meals were a standard ration as laid out in the Army regulations with an allowance per man of:

- 1 ¼ lb of bread
- 1 ½ lb of meat
- 1lb of potato or onion ½ lb of vegetable or 2lb of cheese
- Jam, tea, salt , pepper and cocoa also available

An extra allowance was made per week for rice, flour and curry powder; in most the soldiers noted that there was always a sufficient amount and in most cases bread left over.



Soldiers going through the open meal line Mitcham Camp

Training itself consisted of a 12 week syllabus broken down into a 40 ½ hour training week which had to be completed prior to embarkation; instructors were reminded that recruits had to get the full training value “exclusive of inspections”, “telling off” or other duties. Physical training was important throughout the duration with the first weeks devoted to drill and field craft until weeks 7 and 8 which were devoted entirely to musketry and week 9 to bayonet fighting with bombing in the last two weeks. As the war dragged on and casualties increased the occasionally the syllabus was changed to dispatch reinforcements; some only completing six weeks training with very little done except physical training. Some exercise occurred on a larger scale such as in October 1915 where scenarios reminiscent of Gallipoli were conducted based on the lessons learnt during that campaign such as scaling demanding terrain, joining up with other units and digging in trenches. The reporter from the ‘Register’ was full of praise for the enthusiasm and demeanour of the participants and described the events in the terms of ‘Boys Own Annual’.



Bayonet Fighting School Mitcham

In camp the Young Mans Christian Association (YMCA) had already been established and had provided relaxation facilities through a canteen, a musical program and plays as well as billiards room and reading and writing rooms. There were also guest speakers detailing their experiences overseas in the Dardanelles (Gallipoli) where they included topics such as ‘hints on the moral dangers of Egypt’; talks on general interest also occurred on big game hunting and foreign travel.

Leave was a highly valued commodity with requirements as outlined in Battalion Orders for:

- General leave at the discretion of the Officer Commanding from 1700 to 2130 within one mile of the camp; Saturdays and Sundays without distance restrictions from 1200 to 2130.
- Special leave during the week from 1700 to 2300 for 10% of the men after deducting the married men; married men would not generally take leave during the week and would reserve the weekends.

Many of the local men would take the opportunity to return home for leave however those who were not local would look for something local. At the gates on Goodwood road there were horse cabs that ran back and forward to the Torrens Arms Hotel occasionally with men hanging off the sides and most likely organised by a publican happy to help a thirsty soldier find his way; of course this came at a cost to the soldier of sixpence. Others preferred the use of the Camp facilities taking the time to relax or involving themselves in community organisations such as the

'Cheer up Society' organised to give soldiers something else than the 'Public House'. The 6 o'clock closing introduced into South Australia on 26 March 1916 did more to curtail this with the Publican of the Torrens Arms Hotel noting the decrease in trade however this was short lived as looked for alternative arrangements such as the 'Temperance Bar and Billiard room'.

Concern about soldiers and drink led to a senate committee on the topic and in March 1918 the Camp Senior Medical Officer was careful not to overstate the problem, that he 'did not regard alcohol in moderation as injurious'. Since January 1916 only 895 men had been discharged from the camp as medically unfit with only eight being drink related; more had been lost to the Army because of Venereal Disease.



To be absent from camp without a leave pass could result in arrest however the lure of social life and families led to many being late on returning. Although this was 'frowned upon' it could lead to forfeiture of pay the authorities were reluctant to be too hard. It was generally accepted that being absent for six hours meant a full days work could not be completed and a days pay would be forfeited while absence for 12 hours with six hours in each day led to a loss of two days pay.

As the War progressed and recruiting numbers dropped the size of the reinforcement's contingents was lowered; as early as October 1916 this had been noted as some of the facilities were scaled down. In 1918 the policy concerning training of recruits was amended and most was to be done overseas in Egypt and England with men dispatched as soon as a troopship became available; they were no longer recruited to a unit and would be allocated once overseas. With these changes Mitcham Camp cease advanced instruction and the Citizens Force commenced using it as the camp became more of a holding camp used for the purposes of inoculations, vaccinations and elementary training until recruits embarked.

With the signing of Armistice on 11 November 1918 the 600 officers and men remaining in the camp attended a farewell concert at the Unley Town Hall. The following day the commenced returning to civilian life and the preparations to close the camp commenced. Advertisements were placed for the disposal of items no longer required with some of the buildings being relocated around the State. With the coinciding worldwide Spanish Flu pandemic, Mitcham was considered for use as a makeshift isolation area for returning soldiers but this was dispensed with. Some use occurred for the further training of the Citizens Force however with soldiers returning from overseas the area was to be used for the new suburb of Colonel Light Gardens.

Alberton Drill Hall

Originally known as Albert Town after Prince Albert, Queen Victorias consort, Alberton was identified in with inspections for land undertaken in 1914 as a site suitable for a Military Drill Hall with a vacant lot of land particularly noted and acquired in Angas and Kent (now Sussex) Streets. It was to be of a design similar to that at Clare and Kadina to be used by F and G Companies of the 74th Infantry Battalion, Senior Cadets and for the headquarters of the 77th Infantry Battalion when raised. The Drill Hall was completed on 13 September 1916 consisting of a wood and metal construction including nine offices with sewers connected in 1919 and an indoor miniature range not long after that.

After the Great War the Drill hall was used by the 43rd/48th Infantry Battalion and the Depot Cash Office. In 1933 parade nights were conducted on Monday and Tuesday and typically comprised of:

1. Monday:
 - a. 7:30pm – 9:30pm – Miniature range
 - b. After 9:30pm – Medicine Ball, Quoits, Cards or punching Ball; and
 - c. 11:00pm – Drill Hall closed.

The object of the Miniature practice was to encourage attendance and attract new recruits.

2. Tuesday:
 - a. 7:45pm – 9:45pm – Evening training; and
 - b. After training – Cards was the only game played.

In 1943 the Depot Cash Office departed and training continued for the infantry until when in 1949 the Post-master Generals Office was given permission to use the depot over the Christmas period to deal with an abnormal quantity of mail with consideration given to training continuance. Permission was again granted in 1950 and 1951 but by 1952 this was refused as the depot was again full after the reintroduction of National Service.

A Company of first the 1st Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment and then the 10th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment continued to utilise the depot after 1960 but as on the completion of the last period of National Service in 1972 the fortunes of the Battalions faded and with them so did numbers. By 1987 the 10th and 27th Battalions, The Royal South Australia Regiment had amalgamated and while A Company continued to parade their the numbers had dwindled to a platoon finally closing the doors in 1993 and being subsequently demolished making way for housing. A plaque has been laid into the pavement to commemorate the site of the Drill Hall and acknowledge those who had passed through in service.

Mid North Drill Halls

The Clare and Kadina Training Depots, and many others in the Mid North no longer in existence, are of a similar type constructed in response to a shift in Australian defensive policies. Until 1901 Defence was the responsibility of the individual state with most initiatives in South Australia related to the defence of the port of Adelaide.

With Federation defence became the responsibility of the Commonwealth however it was some years before a significant building program was implemented across the state for the wider needs.

With the Defence Act of 1903-1904 and the introduction of the Universal training Scheme in 1910 the Minister for Defence laid down the principal that 'the cost of drill halls was to be put down to bedrock', since so many were required and would appear to be the reason for the design of wood and iron (Type 4) drill halls by the Commonwealth Public Works Branch.

While only some 50% of Australian youth registered for compulsory training in 1911 numbers had increased with the eventual need to acquire land and erect Drill Halls and between 1904 and 1916 some 30 Drill Halls were completed in South Australia; of these 18 were in rural areas including Clare, Kadina and Whyalla.



The site for the drill hall at Clare was acquired on 4 July 1914 and a corrugated galvanised iron Type 4 Drill Hall with five orderly rooms was built at a cost of 666 pounds fifteen shillings and 10 pence. The building was completed on 23 June 1915 with the wooden floor, gates and lighting completed on 31 December 1915. The railway was extended to Clare in the same year and a rifle range completed in October 1921 to the west of the drill hall. Extensions were added to the drill hall in 1937 and 1942 with the parade ground sealed in August 1969.

During its lifetime the Depot has been home to sub-units of the various Infantry Battalions of the region and also that of the Light Horse.

During the Second World War the Clare Depot was utilised for the detention of Italian Prisoners of War. These Prisoners of War could be requested by the local farmers for labour in the area from the morning, returning to the depot at night. At conclusion of the War many of the Italians returned to Italy with a few electing to move back to Australia to settle in the Clare valley when the prescribed 12 months as dictated by the Australian Government was up.



Military instruction at the Kadina Drill Hall, IRSAR

With the end of Australia's commitments in Vietnam in 1972 there was a rationalisation of training depots in South Australia; not something new as this had already been occurring with disposal by site leasing eg: Yankalilla 1921-1948 and Crystal Brook 1932-1958. By 1992 there were only eight country training depots in use, with the depot at Clare and that at Kadina being the only ones erected before 1955.

Clare Drill Hall was not used by the army from 1975-1982 following the end of the Vietnam War with the permanent married quarters leased out until finally disposed of in 1990. These two mentioned depots have strong link with the Battalion and in particular the predecessor of C Company the 27th Battalion, The Royal South Australian Regiment.



Training Depot at El Alamein Camp Cultana Training Area

Mount Gambier

James Street Training Depot



Mount Gambier provides an interesting element to the Battalions History. With a strong Scottish flavour to the region it was to raise H Company of the Second Battalion Scottish Corps and also a mounted Infantry Company in the early stages of the Colony and Federated Australian history. With the universal training Scheme as with the other regions there was the training of junior and senior Cadets with Mount Gambier being the hub of this activity. Between wars and beyond until 1951

3rd Light Horse and 3rd/9th South Australian Mounted Rifles (SAMR) were the primary users with the Infantry having no role in the area. After this period and the re-raising of the 27th Battalion, South Australian Scottish Regiment, a new life was bred into the Infantry in the area with 3rd/9th SAMR being rebadged as A Company. During the Second World War the Volunteer Defence Corps (VDC) had utilised the depot of the day at James Street however this was to now be the new home of the regions Infantry. Although it was an essentially an old tin shed, the depot had a strong parade attendance under the Citizens Military Forces. On the night of the final parade at the James street depot the Company was dismissed at 2230h and adjourned to the mess and canteen where as could be expected alcohol and stories flowed. It was during this period that the re-introduction occurred in 1965 and it seemed prophetic that a new depot (see below) would be needed to meet the requirements.

MacKenzie Army training depot



On the 3 September 1964 the minister for Defence, Dr A.J Forbes, announced that J Grove and son PTY LTD of Adelaide would build a new training depot on Shepherdson road on the western outskirts of the Mount Gambier at a cost of 80,698 pounds (\$160,000).

A construction of a solid brick and stone building commenced with the building consist of one lecture room an orderly room with four collocated office spaces and a kitchen with adjoining messing areas for various ranks on the lower area. On a second level was constructed the drill hall, Q store further up and the Ablutions; a 25 m rage was built to the rear of the complex between the drill hall and parade ground which remains but is no longer in use as it was closed 1999.

Although having moved in during 1965 the new Depot was officially opened on the 26 February 1966 by Dr. Forbes without change until 1992, when changes to the design of the compound occurred with the removal of vehicle ramps, and a tech store and armoury being added in the area of the ramps,.

In the early 1990s a number of self help tasks commenced around the depot for the messes which culminated in the completion of a beer garden in 2013, by what is now a combined mess. Mount Gambier has always had a strong Scottish flavour tracing this back to 1866 and the Scottish Company and within the Battalion it is A Company and in particular the members of the Mount Gambier Depot that hold these closest.

Broken Hill Training Depot New South Wales

The Broken Hill Training Depot of a similar design to Mount Gambier was constructed on 1 April 1956 to house 8 Army Engineer Regiment that had been raised to take advantage of the mining community skills. . Located on five acres of land the official opening of the depot was attended by about 2000 guests and spectators. Adjacent to a waste land utilised for the undertaking of plant operation tasks that suited the council as this was developed into a recreational reserve now known as Excelsior Oval however.

As a result of the “on again, off again” effects of National Service in the 1960s and 1970s, the depot was eventually closed as a permanent location and the members transferred to infantry and 43 Company (Special Conditions) as a part of the Battalion or elected to discharge.

Around the same time as the depot closed (September 1976) a locust plague (hence the Grasshopper identity) in New South Wales occurred and a commission established itself at the depot. Diminished maintenance had caused significant problems resulting in thousands of dollars expenditure to return the depot to working order hence in a 1978 in another defence review various community members and representative groups lobbied to Canberra for the depot to be re-opened this time the 10th Battalion,

The Royal South Australia Regiment which had previously had involvement in the depot and in the Broken Hill region, dating back to the early 1900s, was tasked to investigate the feasibility of this proposal. It was identified that if the depot could enlist at least 30 people then this would occur. A recruiting day on 23 Sep 1978 had 150 apply and 52 were enlisted with the depot forming 9 Platoon, C Company; this has also been the home of the Battalion Pioneer Platoon in the past. As of January 2014 3 Field Squadron Royal Australian Engineers, a sub-unit of the original occupant of the depot, has come under command of the Battalion.



Woodside Camp

Woodside Camp, now known as Woodside Barracks, was first established in 1927 on a 162 hectare site approximately 27 kilometres east of Adelaide, South Australia.

Up until the start of the Second World War it was used for the training of militia light horse and infantry units but its facilities remained minimal until the War when barracks were erected as the Australian Imperial Forces (AIF). Eventually the four battalions to be raised in South Australia being the 2/10th, 2/27th, 2/43rd and 2/48th would all undertake training there; several militia units would also continue to utilise the facilities.

As the United States was drawn into the war and needed a location in the Pacific to launch from they sought locations in which to disperse their forces. The 32nd United States Infantry Division when it first arrived in Australia in May 1942 would temporarily call Woodside home.

Use of Woodside declined after the war and in 1949 it was converted to a refugee reception camp, which at its height accommodated over 3,000 residents.

The camp returned to military service in the early 1950s as a centre for training national servicemen and has remained in operation as an army facility ever since. During the Vietnam War, Woodside was home, for varying periods, to the 3rd, 4th and 9th Battalions. The Royal Australian Regiment (RAR); the latter two battalions were raised there in February 1964, and November 1967 respectively. Returning from Vietnam in 1971, 3 RAR was based at Woodside until it relocated to Holsworthy in 1981.

Woodside Barracks is currently home to the 16th Air Land Regiment who continue to support and in turn be supported by the Battalion through the efforts of 48 Light Troop 6/13 Light Battery, Royal Australian Artillery

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

FIGURES OF THE REGIMENT

Lieutenant Colonel Boyle Travers Finniss



Lieutenant Colonel Boyle Travers Finniss a soldier, surveyor and public servant, was born at sea on 18 August 1807 off the Cape of Good Hope. He lived in Madras, India where his father was the paymaster of the 36th and 56th Regiments, before he was sent to Greenwich for his education. In 1822, Finniss entered the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst and in 1825 he was appointed ensign in the 88th Regiment. Promoted lieutenant in 1827, and recommended by Sir Lowry Cole, governor of Mauritius, he was appointed to the 56th Regiment then disembarking at Portsmouth. At his own request he was transferred to the 82nd Regiment and in August 1833 went with it to Mauritius, where he superintended the construction of one of the island's largest bridges. His regiment was then sent to Ireland, and at Dublin on 13 August 1835 he was married. On his return to London, he applied for a land grant in

New South Wales which was approved however; he turned his attention to the proposed colony at Gulf St Vincent and became a member of the South Australian Building Committee. In October he sold his army commission in order to qualify for appointment as deputy surveyor general in South Australia and sailed with his wife arriving at Kingscote on 11 September 1836.

While waiting for Colonel William Light to decide the capital site, Finniss with the help of Aborigines made a topographical survey of the neighbouring country as far as Yankalilla. On 23 January 1837, with his family he joined the main surveying party on the site of Adelaide later going on to survey the townships of Glenelg and Gawler. In 1840 he purchased a water-mill and adapted it to grind flour as well as a timber mill before he returned to the public service as commissioner of police and police magistrate. On 28 April 1847 he succeeded Captain Charles Sturt as registrar-general and treasurer, with a seat on the Executive and Legislative Councils. From December 1854 to June 1855 he was temporary administrator between the departure of Lieutenant-Governor Sir Henry Young and the arrival of Sir Richard MacDonnell later while he was still colonial secretary he became the first premier of South Australia under responsible government on 24 October 1856. In March 1864 he was appointed government Resident in the Northern Territory, later becoming special and stipendiary magistrate as well which resulted bitter dissensions with his assistants. For holding ministerial office for three years, Finniss received royal permission to bear the title of Honourable within South Australia and acted as auditor-general in 1876. He was an original member of the short lived South Australian Club in 1838-42, was a trustee of Trinity Church and also a member of the committee of the South Australian Church Society. In 1871-72 he was agent of the British Australian Telegraph Co. at Palmerston and in retirement he wrote *The Constitutional History of South Australia*, published in Adelaide in South Australia's jubilee year 1886.

In the 1840s his initiative created the 'Adelaide Marksmen', a volunteer Light Infantry Company as part of the Royal South Australian Volunteer Forces of which he was Captain. With the passing of the Militia Act of 1854 and renewed interest in the defence of the Colony he was appointed a Lieutenant Colonel of the Adelaide Regiment of Rifle Volunteers when they formed in 1860. Described as industrious, honest and self-righteous he was determined to make a name for himself; Boyle Travers Finniss died at Kensington Park, near Adelaide, on 24 December 1893 at the age of 86, and was buried in West Terrace cemetery, Adelaide.

No. 503 Warrant Officer Class One E.A. (Raggy) HOLLAND (DCM)

The various Battalions that have made the 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment have embraced, or produced, many famous characters one such is Ernest (Raggy) Holland one of the Regimental Sergeant Majors (RSM) of the 10th Battalion Australian Imperial Forces.

Ernest Alfred Holland was born at Mile End, South Australia, on 8 August 1889, and after a period in the Royal Navy he was attracted to work in the huge Broken Hill mines. When war was declared, he enlisted at Morphettville Camp (the racecourse) on 24 August 1914 as 503 Private E. A. Holland, and was posted to H Company; the ironic nick-name Raggy (looking like a rag-bag) came from the blokes ribbing him for his immaculate dress and bearing.

On arrival in the Middle East the reorganisation of battalions to a four-company system in January 1915 saw Private Holland become a member of C Company landing three months later at Gallipoli. Serving later on the Western Front, he was awarded the Medaille Militaire by the French Government for bravery at Pozieres and in July 1916, during the First Battle of The Somme. Having risen steadily through the ranks he was recognised when he received a mention in 1st Anzac Corps Routine Orders of 28 February 1917.

He assumed the role of Acting RSM 10th Battalion on 28 July 1917 when the previous RSM Ernest Stanley Lewis DCM, was commissioned; and was appointed as Warrant Officer Class I, on 7 August 1917. He was further recognised when Mentioned in Despatches, published in the London Gazette on 7 April 1918 and again when awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal; his citation is from the London Gazette, dated 3 October 1918 read:

No. 503 REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR E.A. HOLLAND

For the Distinguished Conduct Medal won at Merris, 29-30 May 1918

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in night operations against hostile posts, when he showed the greatest courage and efficiency in arranging and leading forward carrying parties to the front lines. Later he took charge of a mobile section of rifle grenadiers, and moved the party with great courage from place to place, silencing a hostile machine-gun and allowing a consolidation to be pushed on. His leadership and devotion to duty under heavy machine-gun fire and bombing was beyond praise.

He was wounded at Merris a few days later, on 2 June 1918, and did not return to the battalion for the final months of the war. After his repatriation to Australia, he married and took up dairy farming, under the Soldier Settlement Scheme, on a property at Wall Flat – along the fertile river flats on the western side of the River Murray between Mannum and Mypolonga.

He played an active part in the Murray Bridge Sub-branch of the Returned Sailors & Soldiers Imperial League of Australia (what we now know as the RSL), and would take the steam-train from Murray Bridge to Adelaide for the Anzac Day March, each year.

Raggy attempted to re-enlist for World War II, but his injuries and age prevented this. Like so many others with war service, he died relatively young, aged 51 years, on 30 November 1940. Raggy Holland: sailor, miner, soldier, dairy farmer, and good bloke, was buried under a soldiers headstone – complete with the 10th Battalion colour patch – in the military section of the Murray Bridge cemetery.

No. 2466 Private Arthur Thomas Walker



Arthur Walker was a rarity in the Australian Imperial Force (AIF). From the Ramindjeri people in South Australia with land covering the area around Encounter Bay in southern South Australia, including Victor Harbor and Port Elliot he was one of approximately 500 Aborigines who enlisted for service in the Great War.

Born in Wallaroo, South Australia, Private Arthur Walker later lived at Goolwa where he was a Labourer prior to enlisting into the AIF on 29 March 1915 aged 32. He left behind a wife and children and order for him to enlist he had to say he wasn't Aboriginal and also had to lie about being married, because of the policy of the time.

Departing with the 7th Reinforcements on A61 HMAT Kanowna, from Adelaide, on 23 June 1915 he arrived at Gallipoli on the Turkish Peninsular where he served in the 10th Infantry Battalion, AIF.

With a body of other experienced veterans from the 10th Battalion, he was posted to the newly formed 50th Infantry Battalion in 1916 as part of the reorganisation and expansion of the AIF following the Gallipoli campaign on return to Egypt. He was to go on to serve with the Battalion in France where he was initially reported as missing on 16 August 1916 but this was later revised to killed in action on 6 July 1917; his name is recorded on the Villers-Bretonneux, Picardie Memorial in France.

In the first half of the 20th Century non-Europeans were officially barred from serving in the Australian Military Forces but during the Great War Aborigines and a few Torres Strait Islanders managed to enlist. Sometimes, their skin was deemed 'white enough'. At other times (particularly after heavy losses were suffered on the Western Front) recruiting officers didn't care so much about the colour of a mans skin so long as he was willing to sign on the dotted line, thus putting his life on the line for King and Country. The precise number of Indigenous Australians who volunteered is not known because, ironically, ethnicity was not actually recorded on personnel files. In the Army, a man became a soldier irrespective of the colour of his skin and where society would shun them after the war; it was their mates from the AIF they could turn too.

Probably about a third of the Indigenous soldiers who served overseas were killed in action, died of wounds or disease or some were sent home with horrible wounds and at least three were captured. This story would be played out again during the Second World War and since through Korea, Malaya, Viet Nam, Somalia and other areas where the Australian Defence Force has continued to serve.

Lieutenant General Sir T.J. (Tom) Daly (KBE, CB, DSO)



Born in Ballarat on 19 March 1913, Daly originally planned to become a doctor; however, having failed to gain entry into the university course of his choice, he then enlisted and went to the Royal Military College, Duntroon in 1930 after Sir Harry Chauvel visited his father whom he had served with during the Great War. Graduating as top cadet and in 1933 he then in 1934 was commissioned into the 4th Light Horse Regiment and went on to serve with the British Army on India's North-West Frontier in 1938 with the 16/5 Lancers returning to Australia 1939 to be appointed as the Adjutant of the 2/10th Battalion after enlisting in the Second Australian

Imperial Force. He served in North Africa as Brigade Major of the 18th Brigade, fighting at Tobruk and in the Western Desert and attended staff school in Haifa in 1942. He was then appointed Senior Staff Officer to the 5th Australian Division, a Citizens Militia Forces (CMF) formation which saw service in New Guinea for which he was awarded the Order of the British Empire. By 1945, Daly was in command of the 2/10th Battalion, leading them in the invasion of Balikpapan in Borneo in July 1945 for which he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order, in what was described as a 'gallant feat of arms'. He emerged as, in the words of official war historian, Gavin Long, 'with full marks – the outstanding CO of the campaign'.

After the war he took various staff appointments, before attending the Joint Services Staff College in Britain. In 1952 he took the appointment as Director of Military Art at Duntroon and then as Director of Infantry before assuming command of the 28th Commonwealth Brigade in Korea. While in command of the brigade, he was credited by the Commonwealth divisional commander as having helped to create the best of the three brigades and having 'led with skill and style'; he was awarded with appointment as a Commander of the Order of the British Empire, and awarded the United States Legion of Merit in recognition.

On return to Australia in 1953 he progressed on in various appointments within Northern Command and Eastern Command assuming the rank of Major general in 1959, being recognised as a Companion of the Order of the Bath in 1965. Promoted to Lieutenant General in 1966 and assuming the appointment as the Chief of General Staff (CGS) he was knighted as a Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 1966.

As the CGS from 1966 – 1971 he was to oversee the reorganisation of the Army arguing successfully for the acquisition of heavy troop-carrying helicopters thereby improving the air mobility of infantry units. This reorganisation also saw the creation a number of functional positions and commands to replace the old geographical districts envisaging these moves as the first steps in an ongoing process of Army adopting new training methods in field operations, logistics and administration. He believed that the more the Army could mix easily with the general population the better its public image would become. To that end, he supported national service training, not only for its military worth, but also as a means of 'taking the Army into more and more houses throughout the land'.

In retirement he chaired several company directorships and devoted his time to the Australian War Memorial as chairman of the council from 1974 to 1982. He was a chief defender of the Army to its critics. His overriding concern was to ensure that Australia had a highly trained, completely professional army that, though small, could rank with any other regular army in the Western world. Along with General Sir John Wilton, Daly was regarded as the most notable of the post-war Chiefs of Staff; Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Joseph Daly died on 5 January 2004.

SX1323 Warrant Officer Class One J. (John) Percival (MBE)



John Percival is the longest serving Regimental Sergeant Major (RSM) in the history of the Battalion holding the position from 1940 – 1945 and again from 1948 – 1967. This tenure has been across the 2/10th Battalion, Australia Imperial Force (AIF), 10th Battalion, Australian Infantry, 1st Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment and the 10th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment.

His service prior to the Second World War was under the Regimental number 4251 and is largely unknown however, he enlisted into the Second AIF on 7 November 1939 and was appointed as the Regimental Sergeant Major in 1940; an appointment he held until the conclusion of the War. His active service included the Middle East and South West Pacific serving, during the Syrian campaign, alongside a young officer who would later become Lieutenant General Sir T.J. Daly.

Throughout his career was known as a very quiet and private man and a strict disciplinarian, refraining from social engagement but, when required, displayed his compassionate side if the situation had good cause. By all accounts he made a point of being a mentor to the young officers and would take the time to advise and guide seeing his role as more than just about the soldiers. One of his former Sergeants (Later Lieutenant Colonel M.W. (Max) Sanderson) noted that when he was considering a commission, after having completed an exercise as the acting platoon Commander, WO1 Percival had strongly encouraged him to undertake the process. While undertaking officer training however, the RSM would not even acknowledge him completely ignoring him as he would pass by; on completion of his training and subsequent commissioning into the Regiment the opposite was the case.

On his retirement from the Army in 1967, it was noted that he had not been awarded his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, a medal when still awarded in Australia, required that a soldier had to complete a minimum of 18 years of reckonable service; this essentially meant that he had not been charged and convicted for a serious offence. The Adjutant at the time of the 10th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment, Captain Bawden, made request to Canberra for this award which was approved at short notice; very unusual by all accounts.

Further to this the Adjutant had arranged for the Chief of General Staff (CGS), General Thomas Daly to present this award to his former RSM of the 2/10th Battalion on a special Battalion parade at Torrens Parade Ground. When the medal was pinned to his uniform (see photo) the RSM took a pace back and saluted when the medal then fell off. The CGS bent down and recovered the medal handing it to WO1 Percival who then marched away. At the conclusion of the parade the Adjutant was talking to an aide of the CGS who noted the irony that the medal had fallen off because, WO1 Percival was not actually entitled; during the qualifying period he had actually struck an Officer had been charged and convicted for the offence. While Canberra had realised the mistake but it had been decided to continue as the CGS had no wish to embarrass an old comrade.

His departure from the Army coincided with the Battalion conducting a Trooping of Colours on 22 October 1967 at the Torrens Parade Ground; although he was not entitled to such an honour, by many it was seen as being for him.

Sergeant Herbert (Herb) ASHBY (DCM, OAM)



Herbert (Herb) Hector Ashby DCM, OAM was a distinguished soldier, diligent advocate for ex-servicemen and widows, leader in the community, successful farmer, businessman and public servant, and committed family man.

Born into a farming family in Kongorong in 1922 Herb had nine siblings and worked the family farm as a child, taking a job road laying when he was 14. Herb enlisted in the Army in 1940, aged only 18, having lied about his age, stating he was 23 to overcome his underage status. He served with the 2/48th Battalion Australian Imperial Forces (AIF) in North Africa and the Middle East, notably at Tobruk, and El Alamein. In late 1941 after carrying out duties at a listing post in a perimeter area south of the Tobruk fortress, known as the Salient, Herb was returning to the relative safety of his fox hole. Just before he reached the safety of the bunkers he was hit by machine gun fire from a nearby German machine; shot in the lower leg he was evacuated to Alexandria and onto Palestine. When recovered, he return to North Africa in July 1942. He was awarded a Distinguished Conduct Medal for his courage, leadership and determination for actions on 22 July 1942 at Tel El Eisa, just west of El Alamein. His citation reads:

For courage, leadership and determination to fight on against great odds for a period of 15 hours although his Section was isolated from the remainder of the Company. At Tel el Eisa on 22nd July 1942 Private Ashby was in command of his Section, in an attack on strong German positions. The attack was commenced at 0615 hours and early in the advance the Company received heavy casualties from artillery and machine gun fire. All the Officers were killed or wounded and Private Ashby's Section became isolated from the remainder of the Company. After assaulting and subduing several enemy machine gun post the Section was held up by intense fire from the front flanks. Although at times his position appeared to be impossible he refused to consider withdrawal and insisted on fighting on. By his alertness and fire control he was able to release from capture a crew of three from a Valentine tank and two members of his Section, killing or wounding the entire enemy who had seized them. With great personal courage he sniped continuously at enemy nearby and by his leadership and dogged determination inspired his men who inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy during an engagement lasting all day – LONDON GAZETTE 24.9.1942

Herb returned home to Mount Gambier briefly in 1943 where after signing up as a member of the RSL, he returned to the war and served in the Pacific theatre until his discharge at the rank of Sergeant with war-related diseases in May 1945. Recovering in the Mount Gambier hospital, he met a nurse, Heather Hancock, whom he married later that year. He helped his uncle farm a property south of Mount Gambier until he was awarded a soldier settlement nearby which he expanded before selling up in the 1970's and gaining employment as an inspector, and later, manager, of water resources in the south east of South Australia. Herb retired in the mid 1980s. In 1996 Herb was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in recognition of his services to the welfare of veterans where he had been a pensions officer for ex-servicemen and widows. since the end of World War 2. His efforts in this sphere also included work with Legacy and the RSL. In recognition of his input into his local community and the surrounding districts the City of Mount Gambier awarded Herb the 2007 City of Mount Gambier Citizen of the Year. On the day before he died, 8 February 2009, the MacKenzie Army Training Depot in Mount Gambier dedicated its All Ranks Canteen to Herb which is now proudly known as the Herb Ashby DCM OAM All Ranks Canteen.

Major Leonard Murray OPIE (DCM, ED)



Leonard Murray Opie was born in Snowtown South Australia on 23 December 1923. and was a member of the school cadets at St Peters College in 1938. The military record for Private Opie states that he enlisted at Woodside South Australia on 6 January 1942 and deployed to New Guinea with the 2/14th Battalion, Australian Imperial Forces (AIF) in September 1943 on the TS Duntroon to Port Moresby where his service continued to Nabzab, Markham and Ramu Valleys, Kaiapit, Palliarer's Hill and Dumpu. In 1945, as a corporal, he travelled to Morotai, then Balikpapan learning Japanese while guarding prisoners of war before going on to become an interpreter at Macassa for the Japanese war trials and until the war trials finished in August 1945.

Post war he was employed with the Adelaide Steamship Company in Port Adelaide and re-enlisted as Corporal for the conflict in Korea arriving on 28 September 1950 with the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (RAR). During the night of 27 February 1951 he was part of an assault where his unselfish devotion to duty, initiative and a great courage resulted in his being awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM). He returned to Australia on 19 October 1951 returning to Korea with 3 RAR in November 1952 serving there until 3 June 1953 serving a total of 598 days in Korea. On 24 March 1954, at Government House, Adelaide, Her Majesty the Queen presented his DCM which he thought that that being presented by the Queen was 'a bit of all right'.

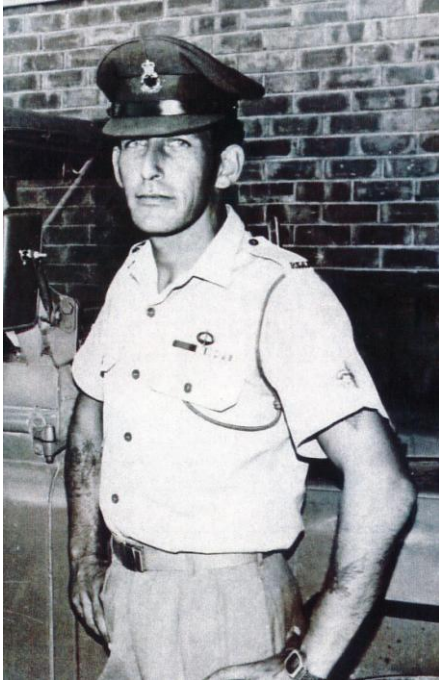
He joined the CMF and, on 14 October 1958, and was commissioned as a lieutenant in the 43rd/48th Battalion Royal South Australian Regiment and subsequently the 1st Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment in 1960 before promotion to captain on 15 September 1964.

With the Vietnam war he departed again and in May 1966 arrived with the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam initially serving with elements of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). He returned to Australia on 15 October 1968 and in less than two weeks later, on 28 October 1968, he was posted to the United Nations Military Observer Group India and Pakistan where he served in Kashmir as a military observer. Following 12 months in Kashmir, he returned to Australia and was then posted to the Jungle Training Centre at Canungra as an instructor. This was short lived and he was posted back to Vietnam in April 1970 at his own request; his service there concluding in late 1971 having spent a total of 41 months in country.

One of his quirks was his insistence in wearing the infantry corps hat badge. While fully entitled to wear the regimental 'Skippy' badge, he maintained that the RAR units that he served in were Regular Army units and that he never served in the Regular Army always AIF or Citizens Military Forces (CMF), most of the time on full-time duty. The dress of the day for daytime was jungle greens, with peak caps for officers and warrant officers. The night-time dress was polyesters with ribbon bar.

Captain Opie's CMF full-time duty service was terminated on his 50th birthday, on 23 December 1973 however, he continued to serve in the CMF being posted to 10 RSAR on 24 December 1973. Promoted to major on 31 December 1974 he was posted to Command Staff and Training Unit (4 Military District) as an instructor on 1 January 1975 until his transfer to the retired list on 23 December 1975; he passed away on 22 September 2008.

Warrant Officer Class One Edward DES FONTAINES



Warrant Officer Class One Edward (Eddy) Des Fontaines enlisted into the Australian Regular Army on 24 September 1963 where after his training he was posted to B Company of the 4th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (RAR) at Woodside in 1964. In 1965 while posted to 4RAR he deployed to Malaya and subsequently to Borneo in 1966 during confrontation with the Indonesians returning to Australia in 1967 and was posted to 3RAR. His next overseas deployment was to South Vietnam where as a corporal he was seriously wounded during a mortar attack at Fire Support Base BALMORAL. Sent through to the United States 93rd Evacuation Hospital and then onto the 1st Australian Field Hospital where he remained until rejoining 3RAR for the remainder of their tour.

On return to Australia he was posted to the 1st Recruit Training Battalion at Kapooka until his return to 3RAR at Woodside in 1970 for a second tour of South Vietnam. It was during this tour that the South Vietnamese Government

awarded him an award for gallantry for actions where after his platoon was under intense enemy fire he hoisted a gas filled balloon through the canopy of the rainforest to identify his platoon to aviation and the remainder of the company.

On 10 May 1971 he was promoted to sergeant and in October the same year returned with the Battalion to Australia remaining with 3RAR until December 1972. From 1973 to 1975 he was posted to Portsea as a Drill Instructor before going to Singleton until March 1979 when he was promoted to Warrant officer Class Two.

In March of 1979 he was posted to the 10th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment where he spent nine months in Adelaide commuting to Broken Hill as the depot had only recently re-opened at the end of 1978. In his time there he was tireless and undaunting in his efforts to make the unit a success also working relentlessly with Legacy and other service organisations as well as being a guest speaker at many local functions having established himself in the community.

On 5 August 1981 he left the Battalion for his next posting as a Company Sergeant Major in 3RAR before his next promotion and posting to 3 Training Group in 1983 as a Warrant Officer Class One. On 31 March 1985 he left the Australian Regular Army and took a job at Brisbane Boys College until his death in 1997.

Eddy Des Fontaines was instrumental in not only re-establishing the Battalion but also the Army reserve in Broken Hill and remains a well respected member of the Battalion and in particular those who remember and served with him.

Eddy Des Fontaine was known as a no nonsense character who was dedicated to getting the job done.

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

SCRAPBOOK OF A REGIMENT

It started with a CD

I was posted to the 10/27 RSAR Regimental Band as the replacement Drum Major. The band was noted to be more of concert band than marching, due to the high volume of concerts and reduced parades. Prior to 2000, the new millennium, an old soldier was buried with Battalion honors' on the former battle field in France. When the CO was overseas he visited Edinburgh and gave the tattoo committee a copy of the battalions CD. This was gratefully accepted and unbeknown to all lead us on adventure to Edinburgh in the years to come. In 2000 the Brigadier of the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo visited Adelaide. He spent some time with us prior to seeing the South Australia Police band. He was here to conduct an inspection 12 months prior to production and deployment of the Police band. During the visit he met me and we worked out a time and place as to when we could be inspected and auditioned.

It was proposed that the inspection and audition would take place mid year so I had to provide a wet weather plan. I hired, through permission of the Battalion, the centennial hall at the Wayville show grounds; the Brigadier did attend our audition that year at that location. I produced a twenty minute act as requested. He was impressed with our performance. The CO, RSM and I went for supper at the Hyde Park café, Paradise, where the Brigadier asked me, "Drummy would one like to perform in the Edinburgh Tattoo?" My reply was "yes Sir and when?" He said he would be back the following year for the final inspection of the police band.

March 2001 the following year the Brigadier arrived from Scotland and did conduct an audition. We worked out how we would prepare for the coming tattoo he wanted us to appear in the Queens Golden Jubilee Tattoo 2002. Our act was to be short but entertaining and regimental. There were many Commonwealth bands in attendance. We were to perform on our own then join up with the bands from down under New Zealand and Tonga. Plans were put place and preparation started. AABC came down to inspect the band there was some uneasy feeling with that corps however we managed to secure our spot. The Brigadier did visit Canberra to ensure our timely departure the following year; the CA approved it and we were on our way. We spent many a weekend training prior to departure to ensure we were all good to go. The rest was history in the making; the first Regimental Band of the RAINF and last to date to ever perform at that great occasion. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II did enjoy our performance and appreciated our presence in Scotland.

The very first night we performed I said to all in the band before we went through the castle gates "This is not only for us and the Battalion, this is for our comrades past and present that would have loved to had the opportunity to do this. **Let's get on with the show and show them how good we are!**"

Grant James

Freedom of the City – Jubilee 150 in 1986

The Freedom of Entry to the City of Adelaide was granted in 1960, and has been exercised on a number of occasions since that time. The Right of Entry was exercised again, on Sunday, 19 October 1986, to celebrate South Australia's Sesqui-centenary, in what was known as the *Jubilee 150* year.

If memory serves me correctly, this was the first occasion on which female members of 10 RSAR paraded under arms. There were the usual drill rehearsals at Torrens Parade Ground, on the previous day.

When the day of the parade arrived, we were bussed from Torrens to an Assembly Area at the rear of the then-new Metropolitan Fire Service HQ in Wakefield Street. The fire station had been partially emptied for the day, in order that we could march between the remaining fire appliances, to the street, once underway.

The Queen's and Regimental Colours were marched-on under a rather ominous and leaden sky. Compliments were paid to The Colours; the order to step-off given by our newly-arrived Commanding Officer (the then Lieutenant Colonel Neil Wilson RFD); our band began to play – and off we marched.

The route for the parade was west from the fire station, then north along King William Street, and King William Road, to Torrens. Soon after left-wheeling in to Wakefield Street, down came the rain – in torrents. We were in short sleeves, and everyone was drenched – in the finest tradition of the infantry – by the time we got to Victoria Square. Not a word was uttered, and not a man or woman wavered.

The Lord Mayor – whether on ANZAC Days along the old route, until it was altered in 1999, and no longer used King William Street – or when exercising Freedom of Entry – traditionally took the salute from directly in front of the Town Hall, or either above, or beneath, the balcony, during inclement weather.

The City of Adelaide standard, on its horizontal flagpole on the Town Hall balcony, was lowered to half-mast in salute, as tradition demands, as we marched past.

On this occasion – I imagine as an *additional* mark of respect to the battalion because we were soaking wet – the then Lord Mayor, Jim Jarvis, dispensed with the shelter provided by the underside of the Town Hall balcony, and stood on the roadway, in the rain, to take the salute.

His Town Clerk was nearby, under an umbrella, but the mayor would have none of it. If we were soaked in the course of our duties, then he too would be soaked, in the course of his. Along with many on that parade, I was very impressed (moved is probably a better description) by this quite unnecessary mark of respect, and solidarity with the members of his city's own regiment.

During the *Eyes-Right*, many of us broke from the customary tradition of remaining silent in the ranks, and quietly whispered, or mouthed, 'Good on you, Jim' or 'You're a good man' – while a number of others simply gave him a wink, or a discrete nod of the head, as they passed by.

Simple gestures, so well made – and so fondly remembered by so many.

Tony Chaplin

Ex-10 & 10/27 RSAR (1982–2013)

SSGT Noyce

Staff Sergeant Noyce came to the Band of 10 RSAR from the ARA, in around the mid 80's. He took the band from a social club to one of the finest bands in the Australian Army, they are one of the reasons the ARES still has bands. The culmination of his work was Edinburgh 2002; if you watch the performance you will note his acknowledgement, although he was not able to make the trip.

Contingent CO was MAJ Growden. Mike was promoted WO2 by LTCOL Wilson in 1989. I hasten to add he gave many of the unit's NCO's, senior and junior a jolly up as well.

Dennis Ranger

Felix the Ram

After the short lived Pentropic concept, in 1965 the de-linking commenced to re-raise the former Battalions that had amalgamated to create the 1st Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment. One of the Battalions re-raised was the 43rd Training Battalion RSAR. A vast number of the recruits were from the country, many being farmers sons and sons of cattle barons, etc, who elected to use the six year CMF service option over the two year full time obligation regardless of their civilian status. I overheard one soldier who had flown his private plane to camp at Cultana, and had arrived a day late because of heavy rains on his cattle station, trying to explain this to an officer who was threatening to charge him. The officer said that it cost a lot of money to run these camps and therefore the additional costs caused by late arrivals were not to be condoned, to which the soldier politely replied he had enough funds in his account to "buy the whole outfit"; it didn't help.

The congregation of soldiers had a common rural thread so while other units selected aggressive mascots like eagles and tigers, the 43rd Battalion, often referred to as the "Bushmans Rifles", selected a Ram, with which most of the NCOs and other ranks could easily relate.

Many assumed, quite wrongly, that this had a sexual connotation, that the members were like Rams in a paddock at mating time but this was not the case. The Ram was affectionately adopted as the mascot and took a proud place in the presentation of the Colours parade at Adelaide Oval in 1972. The handler, SGT Geoff Gale, a farmer from South Monarto, provided the nickname "Felix" in honour of the 2IC Major Felix Fazekas who had won the Military Cross during the war in Viet Nam.

While we kept our smiles and thoughts private, we were impressed with the reports later from SGT Gale as to the reproductive prowess of "Felix the Ram", and quietly and proudly remembered 'that was our mascot'.

A depiction of the Ram who would finish his service as LCPL Felix Bushman, wearing its coat at the colours parade is currently being installed at the Battalion HQ at Keswick Barracks, and while the Ram replica is not exactly as the one in the photograph, it gives a reminder of that auspicious day.

Rod Beames

The Commanding Officers Signaller

It concerns a time when “cams” were only worn by Special Forces, and Ration Packs were hard to come by and even harder to eat. I refer to my time with 10 Battalion from 1971 to 1977. In 1974 when the Alberton Depot was closed down, the resident A Company moved to Torrens Training Depot and become the Signals Platoon. Shortly after that I was picked to be the CO’s personal signaller, and the job had its pitfalls but also many benefits.

Some of our gear was unconventional, as were some of our weapons, the green shield patch on my right sleeve is the Sig Platoon emblem of the lightning flash. An unofficial patch, but “allowed” by the Battalion 2IC Major Felix Fazekas MM.



LTCOL Creten was Commanding Officer 10 BN, RSAR when I joined 10 RSAR at Torrens Training Depot in 1971. I have many personal memories of “The Boss” as I used to refer to him from when I was posted as the CO’s Signaler. I was a CPL in the 10 RSAR Signals Platoon and Doug was the Commanding Officer. We were paired up for nearly 2 years and there were many benefits of being beside him for sometimes weeks on end. When the CO showered, I showered. When the CO ate, I ate. When the CO went for a recce in a chopper, I went for a ride in the chopper. When the CO went to the long drop..... I waited outside!! I went virtually everywhere he went, except for one notable occasion!!!

Exercise Maiden Magpie was taking place out at Cultana (where else?) and Doug was directing a multi-Battalion attack across an escarpment on “enemy” forces from 3 RAR. We were crossing the top of a ridge line at a great pace and I was having trouble keeping up. I should add that I was carrying the ANPRC 25 radio, a full pack, my webbing and an M16 rifle. Doug was carrying a water bottle, a 9mm handgun, and the handset of the radio. The quickest route across a narrow valley was across two gigantic boulders, and this was the path that Doug chose! As he jumped between the two boulders he pulled me behind him, tethered by the cord of the radio handset, but I didn’t make the distance, being weighed down by my gear. The result was a heavy tumble down the side of the cliff, a dislocated collarbone and lots of bruises. The Boss grabbed the radio off my back and continued directing the battle on his own, whilst I had to wait for medical attention, and then endure an uncomfortable ride back to the RAP in an M113 APC.



I never found out who won the battle, but I did eventually forgive the CO for nearly dragging me to my doom. I never saw Doug after I left the Army in 1977, until a chance meeting at the Adelaide Town Hall in 2011. I recognised him instantly and introduced myself. The first thing he said was “Hey Laingy, how’s the shoulder?”

The “Boss” has now joined other mates in that big Regiment in the sky.
VALE BOSS!

David Laing - CO’s Signaler

Memories of the Green Machine 1966-72

As a Nasho back in 1966 I was as green as the uniform the Army had supplied me, my first fortnightly camp at Cultana came as a bit of a shock. In a pre-camp briefing at the weekly parade prior to camp the Company was being advised of the logistics and arrangements having been put in place for the exercise.

“Be here at 0500hrs on Saturday ready to meet the buses taking you to Cultana – any questions?” our friendly sergeant boomed out.

Not wanting to make any mistakes I thought I would clarify a couple of points so I put up my hand and politely said “Sir”

“Don’t call me Sir, call me sergeant - got it?”

“Oh, sorry - what do I need to bring to camp?”

“Everything you have been issued with” came the reply, followed by “anything else?”

“Yep, what’s 0500 mean?”

You can guess the answer from my ever caring sergeant who also explained he was not my mother. I didn’t think that was necessary because I knew my mother and had some doubt as to whether he could claim knowing his.

So, 0500hrs on Saturday finally arrived and as instructed I had packed everything I had been issued with into my backpack including greatcoat and spare AB boots. With all this loaded onto my back I staggered into Hampstead Barracks almost bent over backwards by the weight of it. By 0800hrs the “buses” arrived - a convoy of LHD Studebaker 6x6 trucks fitted with slatted seats down each side of the vehicle plus a canvas tarpaulin over the top.



“The Bus”

After what seemed an all day trip we arrived at Cultana, I had a corrugated arse thanks to the slat seats and a thumping headache courtesy of the truck exhaust fumes trapped by the tarpaulin cover.

“Right oh, dismount, form up in three ranks, turn to the right in threes, quick march, right wheel “straight up the bloody hill in front of us. While listening to the litany of all these orders I am struggling to get saddled up with my “Army Issue”. Upon arrival at the top of the hill the order

came from the friendly sergeant who had earlier denied being related to me in the following format “Right listen in, I want you all seated (on the ground) in a semi circle” when this was accomplished with much moaning and groaning he launched himself into this story with much gusto explaining why we were in the Cultana area.

It started off with, “We are here to conduct a search and destroy mission by way of patrolling at section, platoon and company level. It has been reported that members of the People’s Army of Victoria have been seen in this area, our job is to find them”. Feeling the worst for wear I listened to this explanation and all the time thinking this bastard is mad and what’s more I have another six years of this to go.

I soon caught on and adapted to “This Man’s Army” and looking back on it now I can recall many happy memories of the guys I met and worked with in that time and the friends I still have to this day from that era.

LCPL Norm Tregenza
447857
27 RSAR



Tim Hughes MM

Timothy Hughes was born in 1919 at Point Pearce Aboriginal Community on the Yorke Peninsular. A Member of the Narangga Aboriginal Community of South Australia he served from 1939 to 1945 with 9 Platoon of the 2/10th Battalion. He was a ‘Rat of Tobruk and also saw service in Libya, New Guinea and Borneo.

Tim was awarded the Military Medal for his act of conspicuous gallantry and bravery during the advance of the battalion supporting American units at the Buna Aerodrome. His citation states that he “showed remarkable bravery, exceptional coolness and initiative. His total disregard for his own safety set a fine example through the platoon and also through the Company”.

In the 1950s Tim took up a Soldier Settlers’ farm in south east South Australia, which he name Bhoodkayana; the traditional name of the Port Pearce Aboriginal Community lands where he came from.

Dennis Ranger

The Port Adelaide Platoon

Initially the platoon was sent to parade at an old gardening depot at Tea Tree Gully. It had cost about \$40,000 in those days just to prepare the building to hold and store weapons. The way they did this was to double and triple cover the whole inside of the building with wire mesh, because three sides of the building was glass, after all it had been a gardening depot. Only trouble was we never stored any weapons there. An attempt to recruit locals occurred once, with no results and after that we left for the Alberton Depot to form the independent Port Adelaide Platoon.

I had the honour of being the Platoon Sergeant of the inaugural Port Adelaide Platoon between 1982 and 1985. All up until the depot was handed over to Mortars we were there for about five years or so.

On our first night of attending we couldn't believe it. Sitting in the middle of the depot building was all of the 43rd Battalions war mementos and prizes. This included from a working MP40 Schmeisser, what was described as a knee mortar and anything else you could think of. For a short period of time, my office had German battle flags hanging from three walls. This was mainly to ensure that they didn't get damaged but also to stop the draft from the adjoining offices. One of the problems with the Alberton Depot was that you could stand at one office and see through to the end office about 20 metres away. The building was built of wooden planks, with a tin roof.

We initially had the staff for a rifle company. The OC was Captain Wayne Burns and the CSM was WO2 Jim Thomson. While there I worked with two platoon commanders, Lieutenants, "Errol" Flynn and Kerrison; both were characters in their own right.



Back row - Len and Gary Doubleday, ?, ?, ?, Greg Sharon, ?, ?, A Harrison, Randall Dart, Neil Treuel, ?, ?, ?, Bruce Waye, ?, Paul Petersen.

Front row - Brian Quinlan, Simmo, Nellie Jongeneel, WO2 Jim Thomson, CAPT Wayne Burns, LT Flynn, Penny, SGT Robert Broadbent.

I always remember doing a weekend at Murray Bridge and being on a platoon patrol. Well LT Flynn liked to smoke. Therefore every hour or so, we would stop and all the non smokers would form the outer perimeter while the smokers were in the middle. Very tactical as the outer perimeter would look in and there would be a glow emanating from what ever ditch they had chosen to hide in. Looked like aliens had landed.

Then there was the sleeping bag. For whatever reason in those days most of us had been issued the summer weight sleeping bag. If you remember them, it was made of nylon and basically any wind would go right through it. Good idea for the South Australian winter climate. Well LT

Flynn had bought his own one that was a sky blue outer and a red inner. Lets just say I never got lost, I could always find the platoon HQ thanks to that.

Now LT Kerrison was a different kettle of fish. He liked to party. That's the only way I can explain a night most members of the Port Adelaide Platoon can never forget. We had a gaming night. Well it was supposed to be a gaming night. The idea was to obtain funds to assist the mess that we now had up and running at Alberton. It started with two very beautiful women who were working with some parts of the attire missing. That's all I'm going to say about that. The raffle, due to possible legal action I will also not mention. Unfortunately I didn't win, probably lucky as I was engaged at the time. Then there was the two up. A national Australian game which may have been played that night. Trouble was we needed a playing area. Using chalk I used a piece of old tarp and drew a circle. Nothing untoward doing that. Trouble was next weekend out bush, a Mog parked next to my vehicle and on its back was a big white circle. Guess it wasn't an old piece of tarp after all.

For Corporals I had Brian Quinlan, Simmo and Paul Petersen. I still remember to this day when we were first shown the American IWISS system up at Cultana. They only had enough parts to place the sensors on the gunner and the section Corporal. Well lets say it's the first time I have seen a Corporal do fire and movement in a section attack, 25 metres behind his section. I won't mention Paul's name but every time he moved he could hear the near miss sound as the enemy took a shot at him with a blank, he ended up hiding behind a very large bullet proof tree.

Simmo was a truck driver and as result he had a large handle bar moustache. Not exactly correct dress standards. He was made the pin up boy on a recruiting poster with him running with an M60 machine gun. Very gun ho.

Brian was a mate of mine. We both worked as compositors at the old newspaper known as The News in Adelaide. As a New Zealander (you could keep them in those days) his nick name was "Kiwi," naturally. Port Adelaide Platoon was the enemy for an annual field exercise. Well we had to dye spare uniforms black. Great except Brian forgot to remove the rank on his. He was wearing WO2 crowns and everyone was calling him "Sir!" I soon fixed that.

We had two clerks in those days and the system actually worked very well. One was Penny and the other Nellie. They did an excellent job. No pay problems in those days.

Then we had numerous characters in the Platoon. Probably worth a mention is the Doubleday twins Gary and Len. To this day I could not tell them apart. There was one Annual Field Exercise back in the days we still got paid in cash and we were allowed to drink something a bit stronger than soft drink. Well naturally the Adelaide boys had a thing about the A Company guys who liked to wear bonnets. On this night after being paid one of the Doubledays had gotten in line to get his meal. Well one of those guys wearing a bonnet got behind him and started to tease the Doubleday in front of him. Unfortunately for him, behind him was the other brother, well lets just say by the time everyone went to sleep there were battles occurring everywhere. It took several deputations from both companies to sort that out. Basically a bonnet had been taken as a trophy and Port Adelaide Platoon at that time being attached to B Company, was the main cause of the Battle of Cultana for that year. By the way we didn't have the bonnet.

The good thing was when not on exercise we would all work as a team. Most weekends and parade nights we had almost 100% turn up. On more than one occasion we actually outnumbered B Company who we were usually attached too.

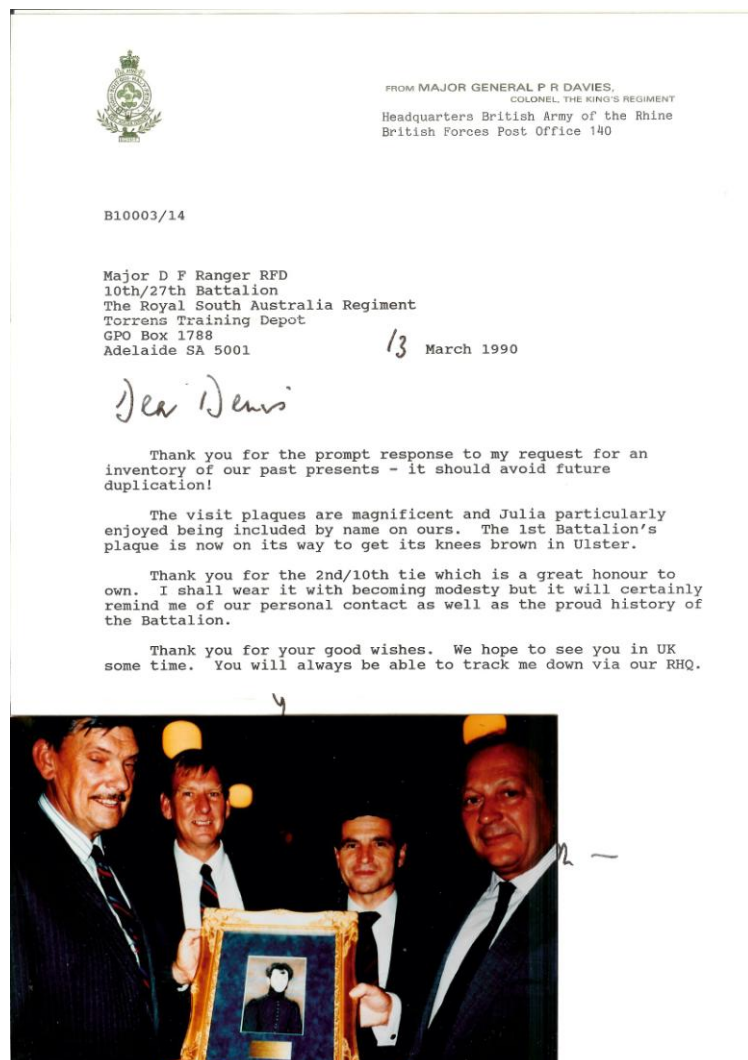
Back in those days the Dean Rifle Range was still operating. Well one summer night we had booked in to do a range shoot. Bus turned up and we were already to go. I went and made sure

the depot was locked up and when I went to get on the bus, I had the pleasure of seeing it driving off leaving me behind. I had to jump into the old Torana and meet them there. I was not impressed.

Over all, the platoon had many other characters, unfortunately we could probably write a book about all of them. We had a job to do and we did it as a team. Lots of bitching and cursing but the task got done. We used to do a lot of our training in the middle of the Port Road. We even got stopped by the police one night when they were trying to work out why all these guys in green were running around with rifles.

Robert Broadbent
10RSAR & 10/27RSAR

The Kings Regiment



In Jan 90, the Regimental Colonel of the Kings Regiment (Manchester) visited Adelaide to build relationships with their allied regiments, including 10/27RSAR. He also expressed thanks for the 10th Battalion securing their colours when Singapore fell in February 42. They had sent the Manchester Cup, which is in Battalion HQ. In the photo Regimental Colonel COL Gratton Wheaton (I.G. Wheaton, but always known as Gratton) MAJ Dennis Ranger 2IC, LTCOL Wilson CO and MAJGEN Davies, (last Comd, Signals British Army On Rhine).

Denis (Tex) Ranger

10RSAR aim for big win

BY CAPT STEVE LARKINS, 10RSAR

SOLDIERS from 10RSAR, "The Adelaide Rifles" made their mark in competitive shooting during 1985, the 125th Anniversary of their Battalion.

As accompanying photographs testify, soldiers from the Adelaide Rifles have been active in competition shooting for most of the battalion's 125 years.

Shooting teams began a successful year for 10RSAR in May when six of the unit's soldiers competed at the Australian Army Skill at Arms meeting, winning four major trophies – "The Third Brigade" pistol teams championship, "The Owen" SMG individual championship, "The Sixth Brigade" LMG falling plate and "The Nth Qld" 300m deliberate.

In October, the unit contested the prestigious Simpson Trophy, conducted among 4MD armed services units, and although pipped at the post two points behind 4 Trg Gp, three man teams from 10RSAR took out 2nd, 3rd and 7th places, averaging 210/275 in the Applied Markmanship Practice.

Two members of the unit contested the Queen's Medal competition at Singleton in November.

Recently the results of the Army Inter Unit competition were announced, with 10RSAR finishing 4th in the major unit category and 8th in the open category.

The Battalion team finished 2nd in the RSL Challenge Trophy Competition which is conducted Army-wide between ARes infantry battalions.

A similar competition conducted among 4MD Army Units, the RSL Challenge Cup, was won by 10RSAR for the second year in succession.



★ ABOVE: E Coy, 1 AIR (c "The Adelaide Rifles" were designated), with the 191 Tennyson Cup for shooting and drill. They retained the cup, having won it three years in succession, and it is still displayed with the original of this picture at 10RSAR BHQ.



★ ABOVE: 1985 was a very good year for 10RSAR's Shooting Team, and they continued the active participation in competition shooting which the unit has undertaken in its 125 year history. They captured five major trophies and were well placed in all other competitions in which they participated. Standing L/R: Cpl Brian Bone, Capt Steve Larkins (team captain), WO2 Bill McIver, Maj Dennis Ranger, Sgt Mike Hudson and Pte Wayne Brennan. Kneeling L/R: Cpl G. Cox, Capt Graham Growden, Sgt Wayne Birch and Cpl Kim Lawson.

★ BELOW: Senior NCOs of the South Australian Colours and...

MATCH 80—'THE LION TROPHY'	
Section Match	
Trophy: 6 RAR	
1st	6 RAR
2nd	10/27 RSAR

MATCH 84—'THE RAN CHALLENGE SHIELDS'	
Inter District Teams Match	
Trophy: Sydney	
1032	Sydney
975	Newcastle
952	Townsville
898	Adelaide
863	Melbourne
852	Canberra
826	Perth
822	Puckapunyal
754	Riverina
722	Brisbane
603	Maryborough
Junior Grade:	
394	Sydney
229	Maryborough

This is from the "Marksman" from AASAM 90 results of the Lion Trophy at AASAM 90 -2nd 10/27RSAR, we knocked off 2nd two years in a row and gave the RAR blokes the shifts.



Dennis Ranger with the manager of the New Zealand Army Team

Denis (Tex) Ranger

ATTACHED TO 27 RSAR – CANUNGRA 1985

An opportunity presented itself for 27 RSAR to send a company to Land Warfare Centre, Canungra (LWC), from 25 May – 9 June 1985. I was one of about a dozen lucky members of 10 RSAR who were fortunate enough to join them, and I served as a scout / rifleman for the early phases, and as a platoon signaller for last phase.

Some of the company staff were the ever-reliable Major Max Ruwoldt, the urbane Captain Max Carmichael, and WO2 Paul 'Richo' Richardson as Company Sergeant Major. Richo had a long-established reputation as a wag, and a bit of a handful – having featured in a heavily bleeped-out ABC *Four Corners* interview he was asked to give, in the field, during the Vietnam War. He had an immense capacity for both physical work and hi-jinx.

The other member of the company staff was the late Captain Bill Hatelly – a finer gentleman one could never hope to meet, and I had the pleasure of doing so on a number of occasions in later years. Bill Hatelly always reminded me, in his looks and in his manner, of Paul Cronin as the reliable father, *Dave*, in Hector Crawford's TV series *The Sullivans* – decent, measured, calm, and a true leader of men.

The predominantly Mount Gambier-based troops from 27 RSAR had two very well-trained, and highly-motivated platoons in the field – with the third platoon of the company, comprising an astoundingly determined contingent from the Adelaide University Regiment. The AUR platoon was led by Lieutenant Mack Jensen – who somehow managed to climb about the inside of the C130, to speak with his men, on the flight from RAAF Edinburgh to Coolangatta, for almost the entire trip, in what appeared hilariously like the manner of a spider monkey. His Platoon Sergeant was the rather more relaxing, and civilizing, influence that is C. P. (Peter) Moore – both of whom went on to command battalions in their own right.

It may go against the grain for someone from the battalion to say this – and wishing to take nothing from the other two platoons – but I would have to say that the third platoon, comprising

an extremely high percentage of Officer Cadets, was simply the most dynamic platoon I ever saw in over 30 years of service. They were magnificent.

On arrival at Coolangatta, we were driven to Kokoda Barracks, settled in, and were introduced to the Confidence Course, for the first of many times. Next morning, we stepped off at 0430 h to enjoy/endure the traditional climb to Stand 11.

One of the many images which come to mind is that of Private Arthur 'Splinter' Anderson – with whom I had done my recruit course at Hampstead in 1982 – as he trudged up to each of the false crests, carrying a GPMG M60. *Splint* is not a tall man, and was older than many in our platoon, but his aggressive tenacity certainly inspired us that day.

On arrival at Stand 11, we had a hotbox breakfast, and then a lecture entitled *Introduction to Close Country Operations* by the SI, Major Lynch. This lecture also included an amiable welcome, and a rather theatrical demonstration of *The Joys of the Jungle*, by the extremely funny and quite eccentric Commandant, Colonel Peter Arnison, who later became a Major General, and served as the Governor of Queensland from 1997 to 2003.

Our tucker was first-rate for the duration. The late, great WO2 Pat Gibbons was in his element cooking for the troops. The bulk of the meal drops, and resupplying, were conducted by the now also sadly-departed Corporal (later WO2) Barb Hopgood – known to many as *Mum* because of her beautiful nature – and by Lance-Corporal (later WO2) Bob Lloyd. Bob Lloyd – a tall, lanky, and laconic fellow, made a great comical impression on me then, and for many years after, with his dead-pan, Keatonesque facial expressions, and *Dad and Dave*-like manner, when he'd drawl his famous words of encouragement to exhausted troops: '*Carm orn you c@#ts – gairt f@#%en motivaated!*' Loosely translated, this is '*Come on you fine fellows – get yourselves jolly-well motivated!*'

I had the privilege of serving under Corporal Greg Kirkham, a tough-as-steel shearer, as my Section Commander. With Greg leading us, our section did well during Exercise IRON CLUB, and then came either first, or second (I don't remember which) during Exercise HYDRA – sometimes referred to as HYDRA DESPISED. Greg went on to the Regular Army, and was awarded the Star of Courage, for his rescue of fellow soldiers from a burning, ammunition-laden, Blackhawk helicopter, during the High Range Training Area disaster, in June 1996.

During the final phase – Exercise CROW FOOT – I was platoon signaller to Lieutenant Rob Gunn, of Darwin, and his Platoon Sergeant, Trevor Johnstone, a truckie and dairy farmer from Yahl. This phase was to have been in the Border Ranges Training Area, but the location was changed after a Regular Army exercise, in the same area, had to be cancelled due to high winds and falling trees. I think it was at this time that Leigh Newton suffered the misfortune of having a large Children's Python fall on to him, from a tree. There were more than a few tense moments there, as the serpent began to wrap itself around him, but it was *sorted out*, as they say.

The steepness of the terrain, the short duration of useable daylight, and the rats, were certainly new experiences for most of us. On one of the nights, I was with Gavin McClintock and Des Seidel. After dinner, I squashed the tins and wrapped them in a plastic bag in the web-pack of my webbing. This did not deter the rats – the buggers were sniffing around, and crawled over us in their maddening search for sustenance. It was quite a coincidence that my large pack had previously been issued to Des. Great days – but most relieved to now leave such adventures to a younger generation.

Tony Chaplin

Ex-10 & 10/27 RSAR (1982–2013)

The First Woman in the Regiment



I was enlisted at the Defence Force Recruiting Centre in Pirie Street ADELAIDE on the 18th of August 1976 as F425640 Recruit Mimi Kusmuk as a WRAAC in the CMF and the first female to be posted to 10 RSAR at Torrens Training Depot.

My first night at the unit was to report to the Recruiting Officer who were both young Lieutenants Genevieve and Growden, they gave me a tour of the depot and tried to figure out where to post me within the unit.

The first suggestion from them was to try out the unit Q-store and see if I liked that type of work. I wasn't convinced after one night and really didn't like it, as I was doing administration in my civvie job and wanted to try out something completely different, so I asked if I could give the Signal Platoon a go.

I was introduced to the members of the signal platoon and shown the types of equipment we were using at that time within the army. But first of all I had to be trained in basic soldier skills preparing me for my recruit course. I was then posted to Support Company as a signaller.



My first CSM was WO2 Jim Thomson and my OC was MAJ Don Hawkins. The first night I was taken to the ORs Mess, The Roy Inwood Club by my platoon members was an eye opener. On the first night as I entered the guys would yell out "Gentlemen lady present in the mess," which would give the guys the hint to watch their language. Eventually I became accepted in the mess as one of the boys, but the guys were quite polite in my presence.

The following year we were joined by two more female members to the Signal Platoon, PTE Pat BERGEMAN and PTE Beryl ROWE (now MAJ Beryl ROWE}.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time at the unit and I was eventually promoted to the rank of SGT. I am still serving with 35 years of service and I have been posted to several other units; with a short time doing full time service with AUR.

Mimi Ewens (nee Kusmuk)

SGT

AFSU

Murray Bridge range experience - the lighter side

After years of attending the Dean Rifle Range for the obligatory Range Day qualifying shoot and enduring the flooded low lying areas between the firing mounds and the always wet cold and miserable weather an important step forward was taken, the recently completed Murray Bridge Range was opened for business. How wonderful, no more having to walk between firing

positions, no more duty down the butts where inevitably one would be constantly showered by dirt sent over the top by someone firing low. Furthermore a hand grenade range, an anti tank weapon firing range, a snap (instinctive) firing area as well as the usual bayonet fighting and sundry areas were provided. One stop shopping at its best!

On one occasion I was in a detachment firing sand filled rounds out of a Carl Gustav at three targets; one close, one middle distant and one distant with the added safety barrier of a moderately high hill beyond the last target. When firing the weapon there is a slight pause between pulling the trigger and the round leaving the barrel, because of this the operator has to counter the tendency of the barrel dropping due to the increased weight as the round moves along the barrel. Fortunately I was able to manage this event with some success when my turn to fire came around however a mate was not so lucky. When he fired the barrel dropped and the sand filled round took off across the paddock bouncing as it contacted the ground reminiscent of the Dam Busters bouncing bomb. The boss wasn't happy and let him know in no uncertain manner and immediately ordered the number two reload the weapon for a second attempt. Recounting the situation later in the day my mate said that not wanting to stuff up again he decided to aim a bit higher so as to counter the expected drop of the barrel.

The order came "in your own time - fire" and off she went; sailing over and missing the close target, likewise the middle distant and distant targets and to everyone's disbelief the safety hill beyond! The Boss was not impressed and neither were the rest of us because we had to go out and recover the rounds after the shoot concluded.

Bayonet fighting practice was always a laugh because after a few have used the hay filled dummies the hole in the middle becomes so large that not only does your bayonet disappear but also the rest of your rifle and your arm. On one occasion while waiting my turn I spotted some paddy melons on the ground and decided to "despatch" them. After stabbing one and finding it wouldn't detach easily I went for another and now had two stuck on my bayonet. I and my fellow soldiers thought it quite funny but the instructor didn't share our humour so it was "with rifle at the high port, run down the road for a distance of about 200 yards and back again and see if you think it is still funny" When I got back I could hardly breath let alone laugh!

And finally, one hot Saturday the section had been working fairly constantly on various stands along a roadside when the last one for the day was a snap (instinctive) shoot. The stand consisted of two star droppers about 20 feet apart with a single piece of fencing wire joining them together. Along the length of the wire hung various objects at differing heights intended as targets. The idea was a soldier would be called forward to the firing line with the remainder of the group safely behind him. His SLR would be loaded with live ammunition and the safety catch on, with his rifle pointing forward at the 10 or 2 o'clock position (depending on he being right or left handed) the instructor would identify a target and the soldier had to disengage the safety switch, swing the rifle in the direction of the nominated target and fire. I was called up as the first of our group to undertake the exercise, as a right hander my rifle pointing at roughly 10 o'clock the instructor called out "beer cans right" I disengaged the safety swung around to look at the target and fired.

To my total amazement the round hit the supporting horizontal fencing wire resulting in the whole stand collapsing to the ground much to the joy of the section members and frustration of the instructor. As it turned out I was the only one who had to clean my weapon as a result of that particular exercise.

Norm Tregenza
447857
27 RSAR

Keswick Barracks

Females the Army

I personally joined the Civilian Military Forces (CMF) on the 30th of April 1975 parading at the Torrens Parade Ground; on that first night I was issued a set of greens, AB Boots, gators and a blue beret. At that time the 10th Battalion was an all male unit, and then came PTE Mimi Kusmuk in 1976 to Torrens Training Depot. Let's just say it was a culture shock.

We went from being able to express ourselves freely to then having to watch every word that was said under the threat of chastisement. Even in those days the "F" word was not said in front of females either military or civilian; says a lot about nowadays and how things have changed. Back in those days when not on duty, we were allowed a lot more freedom. On weekends depending on what was going on there may have been situations where persons were either in the mess or having drinks of their own bringing. This of course then meant that certain songs were also sung. None of these are printable due to some of the words put together over the years and used back then. Mimi was just the start as more women were enlisted into the Battalion regardless what ever she thinks she was always a lady and while we may have always been gentlemen around her we did and still do respect her.

R.A. Broadbent

Beating Retreat

Beating of Retreat ceremonies at Torrens Training Depot at the end of each year come to mind; they are impressive. It brings the battalion together and gives the companies and the band a chance to show what they can do and the public an opportunity appreciate and enjoy the spectacle. I have been reliably informed that about the same time another spectacle takes place within the building as I was always on parade I have never witnessed this but have been assured that it is probably for the best.

As most would know at the conclusion of the beating of retreat a lone piper stands on the roof of the depot and plays the lament. To get to the roof it is necessary to squeeze through a small manhole. In my day the lone piper was WO Jim Love who as most would know has a formidable figure. Apparently the sight from beneath the manhole as WO Love, in his kilt, squeezes his way through to the roof is also something of a spectacle. Protocol requires that if you are in the area at the time you avert your eyes.

On one occasion it was decided to add a little extra to the conclusion by mounting GPMGS on either end of the building and fire blanks on fixed interlocking arcs. The lone piper finished the lament and the guns went into action. Unfortunately on this occasion no prior announcement or warning was given about what was to occur. Needless to say a number of the assembled, startled by the gun fire fell about their chairs, ducked, children cried and so on. Appropriate warnings were provided thereafter.

Another memory was the long standing practice of firing door mats, telephone books and other items from the cannons at the entrance to the Depot across the parade ground continued with the normal results. Ah! Those lieutenants (and the more senior officers who remained lieutenants at heart). Did you fire that canon? Who, me Sir?

Mark Evans
LTCOL (Retired)

Operation SOMME COMMEMORATION – July 98

10/27 RSAR's Participation in the Commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of the WW1 Armistice. In early 1998 a French farmer whilst tilling his fields on the outskirts of Poziere unearthed the remains of Private Russell Bosisto, a member of the 27th Australian Infantry Battalion AIF who fell at the Battle of Poziere in August 1916 and whose fate had remained unknown since that time.

This chance occurrence set in train a series of events that saw 10/27 RSAR serve as Australia's principal representatives at the commemorative events held in France later that year to recognise the 80th Anniversary of the Armistice that saw the end of The Great War.

Awarded the responsibility for the task in April 98, the battalion commenced detailed planning and preparation for the near 70 soldiers who would be participating. The force, including a small contingent from 3 RAR, departed for France on Mon 29 Jun 98, arriving approximately 36 hours later in the northern French city of Arras, which was to be their home for the next 10 days.

The contingent immediately set to undertaking a demanding series of rehearsals before participating in the main ceremonial activities on 4/5 July 1998. The ceremonies conducted included the unveiling of Australian Memorials at Le Hamel and Fromelles, a joint ceremony of commemoration at Villers Brettoneux, and all culminating in the re-interring of Private Bosisto's remains at the Commonwealth War Grave at Courcellette.

The contingent then had one day to enjoy the sights of Paris before departing to return to Australia on 7 July 1998, finally touching down in Adelaide to be met by waiting camera and loved ones on 9 July 1998.

Operation Somme Commemoration served to demonstrate that 10/27 RSAR could, at short notice, raise, train and mount a force, move halfway around the world, and participate in a demanding operational task under the glare of the international media.

Lest We Forget.

Doug Strain
LTCOL (Retired)

A relaxing Officer / NCO weekend

The battalion held what promised to be a rather relaxing Officer/NCO weekend in the Wirrabara State Forest, in either 1987 or 1988. We were all looking forward to stoozing about in the bush, and practicing our navigational skills, free of the responsibility of commanding sections or platoons.

The activity comprised the exercise Command Group and sixteen syndicates of four or five personnel. I reckon the unflappable Graham Growden was the OC, but we'll remember that the equally cool-headed Ron Roberts was also part of the push – and it was to Ron that each of the syndicate signallers, of which I was one, spoke for most of the exercise.

Our group comprised Corporals Bert Richter, Kim Lawson, Danny Mace, Brian James, and myself. We set out on a Navex early on the Saturday morning, moving initially through flat, open country, with good comms maintained by all syndicates.

During the early afternoon, as many of the syndicates – including ours – began to move into the various re-entrants, and on to the high ground of the exercise area, it became increasingly difficult for many of them to maintain comms with the headquarters element.

We then put up our 10 foot antenna on the ANPRC 77 set, as did the others, but by about 1500 h, our syndicate was the last of the sixteen to have comms with the head shed. We then acted as the Relay Station between the bosses and the other fifteen syndicates, as RATEL procedure, common sense, and duty demands. It was a rather hectic, but most valuable experience for us to find out what busy radio traffic could be on a part-time, peacetime exercise. True, we were fed and watered – and no one was shooting at us – but it was an experience all the same.

As the level of relaying became ever greater, Ron gave us permission to forget about the remaining Navex legs, and move directly to our night location, in order that we could both deal with the existing traffic, and get to higher-ground in an attempt to maintain comms with the other syndicates.

By sunset, Bert, Kim, Danny, Brian, and I were on a small plateau – a cleared fell – on the highest ground in the exercise area. An electrical storm was by then in full swing from the north-west, and it became pretty damn clear, and pretty damn quickly, that our relaying role (or any other for that matter) needed to cease. We got on to Ron Roberts to explain the situation, and were granted permission to leave the net. The 77 Set was shut down, antenna packed, and battery removed in record time. We weathered the lightning, went into night routine, and re-established comms, after the storm had passed. All of us, with the exception of Berty Richter – who had served for many years by this time – had only been in the circus for half-a dozen years or so, and were probably still relative smart-arses when compared to Bert - the seasoned soldier.

That said, we should still have known better than to sleep in the open, without a hootchie. To paraphrase Bert, he warned us with similar to: *'You clowns can do what you bloody-well like – but I'm not getting wet!'* We knew better, and didn't bother – until we awoke about 0400 h to the drumming of torrential rain. We certainly got a serve from Bert for being such silly boys, later that morning. After morning routine was completed, we moved to the Concentration Area – the birds were singing, the sun was shining, and all was right with the world once more.

Tony Chaplin

Ex-10 & 10/27 RSAR (1982–2013)

Exercise AUTUMN HARVEST 1988 – Part 1

Exercise AUTUMN HARVEST, in April-May 1988, was surely one on the most varied, and most interesting exercises many of us had ever experienced. It became quite clear to all, that the then CO (Lieutenant-Colonel Neil Wilson), the 2IC (Major Denis Ranger), and the rest of the battalion staff, had left no stone unturned to plan and provide an exercise the like of which our battalion had probably not experienced since World War II.

There were battalion moves by sea, air, road (trucks and APCs), and by troop train back to Adelaide. The battalion departed Port Adelaide aboard HMAS TOBRUK on the afternoon of Saturday, 23 April 1988, bound for Whyalla. Corporal Simon 'Simmo' Simms and I were unable to sail with the battalion – he was a tanker driver with the now defunct AMPOL fuel company, and was required to transport fuel to the exercise area – and I had a commitment in Adelaide for ANZAC Day, and had been given permission to join the battalion, in Woomera, the following day.

Simmo and I wanted to see the boys off, and after a few beers at the Birkenhead Tavern, we positioned ourselves on the shore, to the north-west of the wharf. As TOBRUK sailed past, we called out ‘Good onya boys!’, ‘Go the Fighting Tenth!’, and similar nonsense – while we took turns to wave them off with a large Australian flag. No real harm done – so far so good.

A few of the B Company blokes knew of our plan, in advance – and with the surname Chaplin, I had been given the nickname Padre, by Bruce Wally Waye (now a sergeant with RAEME) soon after joining the battalion, six years previously. This nickname was about to cause a degree of embarrassment on AUTUMN HARVEST – but not, unfortunately as it transpired, for me!

Once recognized by some of the blokes on the port side of the ship, a number of them started to call out ‘Simmo – how are you mate!’ and ‘Why aren’t you lazy bastards here with us?’ – while others of a less delicate nature called-out to me ‘Padre – you c@#t!’ and ‘Padre – how are ya, you f@#%(\$g prick!’ Simmo and I thought this hilarious – until we later learned that the battalion’s actual Padre was lining the weather decks, with the rest of the battalion – but on the starboard side of TOBRUK, and therefore completely oblivious to our presence on the shore. We were to later learn that the poor fellow – recently arrived to the battalion, as he was – wondered what he could possibly have done, in such a short time, to deserve all the swearing, cat-calling, and general rudeness, which he wrongly assumed was directed at him!

Tony Chaplin

Ex-10 & 10/27 RSAR (1982–2013)

The Regimental Colonel

In 1993 I attended a course for Commanding Officers and those shortly to assume unit command. We were addressed by the Army Land Commander General Peter Arnison? Lost weapons seemed to be a popular topic at that time. During his address he made it very clear that if a unit commander lost a pistol he would ensure the CO lost his command. That evening in the Mess most, if not all, full time Commanding Officers declared that as soon as they returned to their units they were withdrawing all pistols. Not taking any career chances there. At the time I thought it was a bit rash. If we had pistols we should train with them.

Given my earlier statements I’m sure nobody would be surprised to learn that In June 1994 a pistol was “stolen” from the A Coy armoury at Mt Gambier and the various authorities, including the Land Commander, were duly informed. It didn’t take long for the war drums to start beating and I was given to understand the Land Commander thought the unit CO responsible should be court martialled or that some action of that kind should be instigated. This was cause for some concern on my part and would not reflect well on the battalion. Our Regimental Colonel at the time was Brig. Lewis, a wise officer with wide experience, who knew the Land Commander rather better than I did and as the Land Commander was coming to Adelaide in the near future Brig. Lewis invited the Commander, I and our wives to a dinner at the Naval Military and Air Force Club. We enjoyed a pleasant evening; the meal was good and conversation convivial. There was no discussion about a court martial or disciplinary action and the matter subsequently receded into the background and eventually disappeared. Well connected Regimental Colonels, like good Adjutants, can also be quite useful and I was and am most grateful to Brig. Lewis for his diplomatic intervention in what was a delicate matter. No doubt other conversations took place to which I was not privy.

Mark Evans

LTCOL (Retired)

Members of the Royal South Australia Regiment on active service

As Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War escalated in the 1960's, active consideration was given to the deployment of composite CMF Battalions to be made up from Infantry units from around Australia. This proposal had significant merit as CMF units at the time contained a good balance of young volunteers, former National Servicemen from the 1950's NS scheme, plus a sprinkling of WW2, Korea and Malaya campaign veterans. Unfortunately the Military Board at the time determined that the Australian involvement in Vietnam would involve only Regular Army units, and the Board was able to influence the Government of the day to re-introduce controversial conscription for National Service. Concerned at the snubbing of CMF units with long and gallant histories, the CMF Member of the Military Board, Major General Paul Cullen fought long and hard for the proposal of a composite CMF Battalion but was unsuccessful and ultimately settled on a deal whereby, in return for his dropping the composite Battalion proposal, the Board would allow selected volunteer CMF Officers to go to Vietnam on attachment for two to three weeks. Approximately 600 CMF Officers volunteered to undertake this hazardous duty, and it is a matter of public record that until the Veterans Entitlement Act was amended in 1986, these Officers were specifically denied any repatriation benefits or the protection of the Repatriation Act.

It should be remembered that:

- All CMF Officers who served in Vietnam were volunteers. CMF Officers served for the period of time that was decreed by Government; had this decreed time been longer they would have met this requirement.
- By their willingness to serve in Vietnam, they showed physical support for our troops in the most tangible form, at a time when those troops were being criticised, vilified and humiliated by elements of the Australian public.
- A number of Officers suffered injury during their time in Vietnam, including Capt PM Toms of 2 RNSWR who was wounded in action when on patrol attached to 5 RAR.
- The degree of risk in Vietnam was significantly higher than in later ADF deployments such as Kuwait, Somalia, or East Timor. Many of our casualties were caused by Australian anti personnel mines, which had been recovered by the Viet Cong and used against our troops in the years 1967 –1971.
- The nature of the war in Vietnam was such that there were NO safe areas. The Task Force base at Nui Dat, and the various Fire Support Bases and Night Defended Positions, were subjected to infantry, rocket and mortar attacks, and the dangers of ambush or mine incidents which faced our troops who operated outside the wire, are well known to any student of field operations in Vietnam. Danger was present from day one in Vietnam, and this is illustrated by the experience of 3 RAR who arrived in Vietnam for their second tour on 25 February 1971. The 3rd Battalion commenced "In Theatre" training on 27 February, experienced their first contact on 1 March 1971, then suffered the loss of a Platoon Commander and one soldier killed, and a further two soldiers wounded on 2 March 1971. Another Platoon Commander was killed and two soldiers wounded on 20 March 1971.
- In an interview on the ABC's "Talking Heads", aired on 2 July 2007, the former CDF General Peter Cosgrove summed up operational service in Vietnam thus:
"It was where the training wheels were taken away, there was no longer somebody to say; "now we got that wrong, lets go back and do it again". it was a really high intensity and dangerous war Vietnam".

Members of RSAR Who Served in Vietnam. (Ranks and Parent Unit plus Attached Unit as at deployment)

Capt Geoff Attenborough	10 RSAR	2 RAR/NZ
Lt Col Hugh Barnard-Brown	27 RSAR	HQ 1ATF
Maj Peter Cameron	10 RSAR	8 RAR
Capt Wally Elliott	10 RSAR	6 RAR/NZ
Maj Don Field	27 RSAR	6 RAR
Lt Don Hawking	10 RSAR	7 RAR
Capt Bill Johns	10 RSAR	3 RAR
Lt Col Ian Kennedy	27 RSAR	3 RAR
Maj John Kerr	27 RSAR	8 RAR
Capt Mark Mau	27 RSAR	3 RAR
Maj Robin Millhouse	27 RSAR	2 RAR
Lt Barry Mitchell	27 RSAR	8 RAR
Capt Grant Paltridge	27 RSAR	2 RAR
Capt Ron Pearson	27 RSAR	9 RAR
Lt Col Don Phillips	10 RSAR	7 RAR
Capt Trevor Phillips	27 RSAR	8 RAR
Maj Bruce Ridland	10 RSAR	6 RAR
Capt Max Sanderson	27 RSAR	7 RAR
Lt Col Alwyn Shepherd	27 RSAR	7 RAR
Maj Brian Silcock	10 RSAR	2 RAR
Capt Neil Solly	10 RSAR	3 RAR
Capt Jack Trenerry	27 RSAR	6 RAR
Lt Col Gratton Wheaton	10 RSAR	7 RAR

Don Hawking

Former Honorary Colonel RSAR

EXERCISE AUTUMN HARVEST 1988 – PART II

In the first part of this reminiscence, I mentioned moving to Woomera, by road, the day after ANZAC Day. We have all heard of the three tenors – well I drove to Woomera with The Four Padres. There were five, if I were to be included as a Padre.

On arrival in Woomera, I became, due to my late arrival, a supernumerary NCO – and like all supernumerary corporals at the time, I was temporarily posted to the Regimental Police (RP) Section for a few days during the Woomera phase, before moving back to B-Coy. Among the dinky-di members of the RP Section at the time were Geoff Capper; Graham Goodwin; Mick Green; and, Johnny Dart.

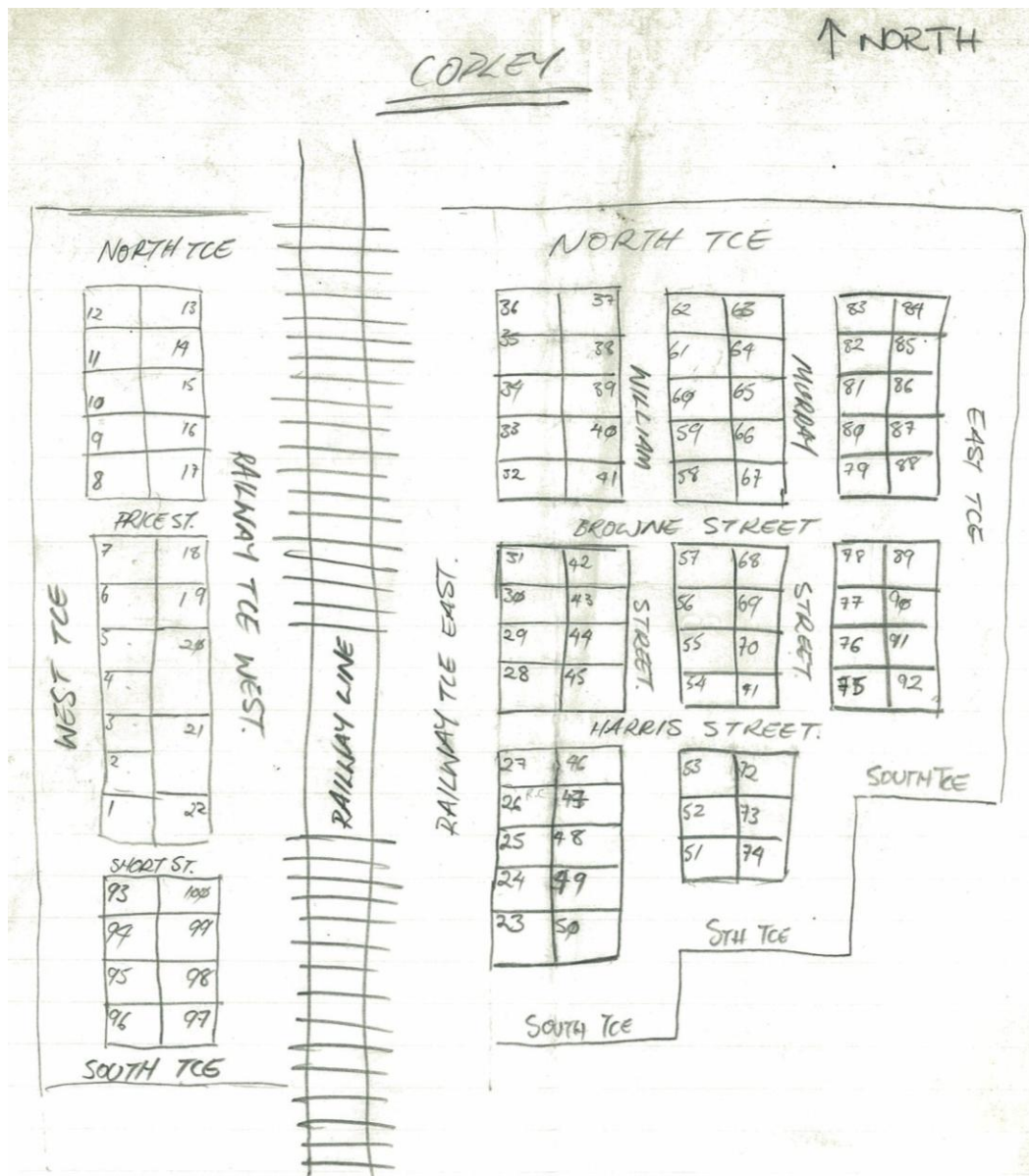
Woomera was interesting in many ways – not the least of which was when a rather unfortunate error of judgment resulted in the near-destruction of the control tower, by a taxi-ing Hercules C130. Many of us saw this unfold, and, as if in a slow-motion film, we watched in horror for the few seconds, which seemed like minutes.

This phase of the exercise was also the first time in which I realized just how cushy it must be to serve in the RAAF – we were given permission to order pizzas from the local pizzeria, and have them delivered to our home-away-from-home, in one of the disused hangers. I still recall how shamefully decadent, and how guiltily pogo-like, we B-Coy types felt, as we bit into hot, oozing mozzarella, in what could only loosely be described as *In The Field*. At the end of the Woomera phase, we were airlifted, by Hercules aircraft, to the Leigh Creek airport. Having said goodbye

to a short-lived stint as a regimental copper, I now reverted to the somewhat saner role of a B-Coy section commander.

B-Coy then moved by road (I think this was by APC, rather than by TCV) to the pleasant township of Copley, in the vicinity of which, we were told, evil-doers and other miscreants had steeled themselves to sabotage the Leigh Creek–Port Augusta railway. It was here that we were transformed from old-school infantrymen, into Vapmen – learners of the then dark art of Vital Asset Protection.

After sunset, the Company Commander, Graham Growler Growden, and his 2IC, Graham Shep Shepherd, sent an order for our Platoon Sergeant, Wally Mynyk (whose son, Adam Mynyk, later served in the battalion, and then the Regular Army), and I, to see them in the B-Coy Command Post, such as it was at the time.



Our orders were to obtain, from the local populace, a map of the town depicting streets, street names – and lot numbers if at all possible. Without such detailed information, the idea of patrols sending their locations as 6-figure grid references, in Locstats and Sitreps, would have been ridiculous – as any point in the whole town was little more than 200 metres from the Company

Playground Command Post. Better to quote a lot number, and then higher would know *exactly* where a patrol was. This, and the previous phase of the exercise, was Dry – which, for the benefit of civilian readers, meant that we were *Off the grog* – no alcoholic libations permitted!

Wally and I then moved north along Railway Terrace West, in an attempt to comply with our orders to find a suitable map. If you aren't familiar with Copley, it has a roadhouse at the Southern end, a pub in the middle, and a bakery at the other end – there are not a lot of places where one could obtain a plan-map of the town, after dark – and especially since both the roadhouse, and the bakery, had closed for the evening. You guessed it – the only place in which people congregated – the only place from which such a map might be sourced (or should that be *sauced*?) at this hour, was the pub!

We entered the pub with a mixture of self-conscious swagger and trepidation – almost expecting to find some bloke of the Provostian stripe ready to fizz us for being there. It also occurred to me that the *Black Hats* (the *Kamarians*, or *Musorians*, or whoever they were this week) may well have established themselves in the pub, to schmooze their way into the hearts and minds of the locals. This was, we felt, a risk we should take – the *Bad Guys* would soon learn of our presence in the town, if they had not already done so, and we felt certain that *Growler* and *Shep* would send in the cavalry if we did not return.

After enquiring if anyone could assist us, a local gentleman told us that he would go home and then return with the map, which Wally and I could then copy, by hand. There was only one stipulation – we were to allow his mates to buy us each a beer or two, and have a yarn, until he returned with the map. When we explained that we were under orders, and that it was a dry exercise – that we weren't able to have a beer, the tone dropped a notch or two, and our friend seemed to lose interest in our mission / plight. He asked if we were from Adelaide, or the country. When I said we were city fellas, he reminded us that country people can often take great offence when a bloke refuses to have a drink with them.

Oh dear - what a dilemma! What were we to do? We were under conflicting orders (and I hope General Wilson will not castigate me for this), but we elected to do a naughty thing – we had the beers and got the map. Present members of the battalion beware: Do not try this at home – or in the field. We then returned, quite sober, and feeling a little guilty, to the company headquarters, where the map was copied and copied until everyone who needed one, had one. It was also sent to higher, for photocopying and further dissemination, later that evening, or the next morning.

Earlier, on arrival in Copley, B-Coy HQ, and our platoon, had established their positions on the ground. We, and the CHQ, were in – and in the vicinity of – the children's playground, on the eastern side of Railway Terrace West, and west of the railway line. This location is directly opposite the Copley roadhouse and general store. Some of the other, obvious poorer, members of our and the other platoon, were hootchied-up on a fenceline on the railway line (eastern) side of the playground – about two metres from where the massive coal trains went about their beastly business, of waking us at the most inconvenient times from whatever sleep could be snatched.

These sad and unfortunate billets looked for all the world as though they had come straight from a shanty town of the Great Depression – and depressing they truly were! This was clearly the best location for the task, but the surreal nature of the location was not lost on the majority of us. Having a military force partially occupy a playground had a bit of a whimsical *Dad's Army* feel about it. The bakery was the equivalent of Walmington-on-Sea's *Anne's Pantry* and the *Marigold Tea-Rooms*; the Copley roadhouse – with its drinks and sweets – the *Novelty Rock Emporium*, and the playground as *Stone's Amusement Arcade*.

The Officers and NCOs later joked that the ideal location for a machine-gun pit would be at the bottom of the slippery-dip – thus provided both subordinates and civilians alike the spectacle and thrill of watching the manning of such a pit, change as the new gun-crew slip down the slippery slope.

As it said in the battalion book which came out after the exercise – portions of which are both unthinkable and unprintable today – there were 48 hours in one VAP day; one carried a rifle *sans* magazine for most of the time (*Halt! . . . or I shall be forced to say Halt! . . . again*); and a Law Manual and Barrister's wig for one's defence.

It never ended up as difficult as many of us imagined – all it required was a change of mindset, and was a great learning curve for us all.

The inside of the bakery, at the northern edge of the town, was out of bounds for most of the time we were there – which was quite understandable, as having a shop full of stinking, unwashed soldiers is not exactly conducive to pleasantness, and may have tended to scare away the customers.

As part of the patrolling programme, each of the five-man VAP teams patrolled certain sectors, at certain times, depending on the staggered roster. I seem to recall that a VAP team commenced a 2 hour rotation every 30 minutes. Most of us chose to travel in *Diamond Formation*, with the NCO/Team Leader, carrying the radio, towards the centre. This was new to many of us, and proved to be a very sound means of commanding what was. Ostensibly, little more than a rifle group. After touring the town for a few patrolling circuits, and hearing some of my blokes lamenting the fact that they couldn't have a lamington – or that they were pining for a pie and a pasty – it occurred to me that there may be a way to collect a fresh pasty on the way back from at least a few of our patrols.

At about 0430 h on Day 2, our duties took us past the bakery, where I saw the baker *outside* the shop. Here was our chance – I asked if, in future, would be permissible to place an order for my team, and more than enough money, in the gas or water meter (forget which), and then have the hot pies and pasties placed where the money had been prepositioned. This was agreed, and we then were able to collect them, wrapped in foil, on our way back to the playground.

On one of our various patrols, my VAP team was to be joined by our Platoon Commander, Greg Pattison. I think *Patto* sensed that something untoward was about to happen – or maybe it was just the rain – when he told me that he'd just changed his mind, and would stay under his hootchie. I told him something along the lines of '*Sir, the chaps are **really** looking forward to you coming out to play, and I know you'd be the last person who'd want to disappoint them.*' so he reluctantly kitted-up, and away we went, north along Railway Terrace West.

Just north of the bakery, Peter Virgin, and I think Owen Bower, in either a standard rover or an FFR, were confronted by a rather inebriated young lady, on foot. Again, I have not established this, but I'm pretty certain that Jeff Ayles and Greg Draper also witnessed this exchange of ideas, from a rover or FFR – and that it was Jeff who ordered Pete Virgin to '*Move that vehicle now!*, to get away from her.

There was another Hippy chick (showing my age here!) driving a VW kombi van, who soon drove off, but the first woman, still on foot, persisted in her rantings. It turned out that Greg Pattison's possible premonition was right after all. The woman, having seen me give various orders to my team, figured that I was the senior person – but not so – in a stroke of duck-shoving for which *Patto* still chides me, I informed the young lady, in a most polite and rather bland manner, that I was merely a humble functionary and nothing more than an insignificant cog in a

mighty military wheel. After briefly explaining that we were very busy, and that the person to whom she should address her concerns, was my boss, Patto, my patrol withdrew *At the toot* and made good speed, to catch up on lost time, while poor old Patto was left to her diatribe of incoherence.

At the end of the exercise, we had a brilliant BBQ (with authorized beers) at the rear of the pub. Many locals attended, and the main street had been blocked-off as a precautionary measure. In the late afternoon, we boarded the troop train, aboard which the bulk of the battalion and supporting elements, returned to Adelaide. This was travelling in style. We took on hotbox breakfasts at Stirling North, and were greeted by the battalion band when we arrived at the Keswick rail terminal. Autumn Harvest truly was one of those exercises that had it all.

Tony Chaplin

Ex-10 & 10/27 RSAR (1982–2013)

1,100 Miles: Digger's Jaunt to Reunion

190 Miles by Camel.
500 Miles by Motor Car.
480 Miles by Rail.

This variety of transport was availed of by Tom Tiddy on his recent journey from the Northern Territory to Adelaide to be present for the annual reunion on Sept. 14 of his old Bn.—the 10th—with which he served in "B" Co. as sergeant-major.

Tom has certainly travelled a long way for the reunion, but the trip was worth while, he says, for up where he lives beer is 5/6 a bottle, and far too expensive for any Digger to ever think of quenching a thirst.



Tom Takes Train to Town.

As in previous years, the reunion of the 10th will be held in conjunction with the 50th, and the joint secretaries, Geo. F. Edmonds and Royce Spinkston, anticipate a full muster. The troops will assemble with thirsts and appetities at the alert at the R.S.L. Club Rooms on the night of Sept 14.

Lt.-Col. W. F. J. McCann, D.S.O., M.C. (and Bar), will preside. The Governor (Sir Alexander Hore-Ruthven, V.C.) is again expected to be present to propose the toast of the Units. The toast of the Departed Comrades will be in the hands of one of the best known members of the 10th (Mr. M. M. B. Middleron), who is Mayor of Port Pirie, and president of the local Sub-branch. This toast, always an impressive one, has an extra special significance this year in view of the large number of members of the Battalion who have passed away since we met last Sept., 1931.

The only other toast—that of the R.S.S.I.L.A. and Kindred Clubs—will be moved by our other civil dignitary—the uncrowned Mayor of "Wall Flat" (E. A. "Raggy" Holland, D.C.M.).

A good musical programme has been arranged and the 10-50th Battalion (C.M.F.) will co-operate in the supplying of Buglers.

From
"Reveille"
Vol 6 No 1
1 Sep 1932

(RSL NSW's
Magazine)

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

PHOTO ALBUM



CAPT Harry Soloman Adelaide Rifles 1886



D Company 74th (Boothby) Infantry Battalion





Laying up the old 10th Battalion colours in the Adelaide town hall 1961 Lord Mayor CJ Glover places Colours on the drum head

Regimental Sergeant Major 1st Battalion The Royal South Australia Regiment WO1 J. Percival on left LT B. Le Maistre 3rd from right, circa 1960



10th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment Beating the Retreat Torrens Training Depot, 1985

Colours of the 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment, 2013





Colour Party circa 1990s. WO2 Steve Lannigan as the Senior Escort



Old Barracks from Torrens Training Depot looking North East 1909



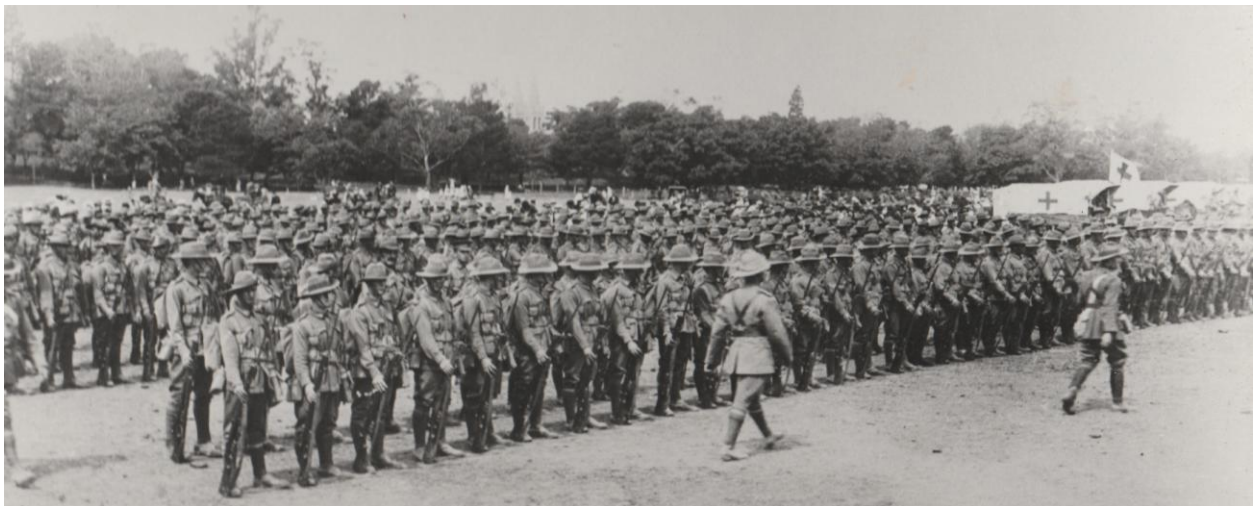
10th Battalion Colour Party Canberra 9 May 1927



10th Battalion Guard of Honour on the occasion of the visit of Lord Kitchener to Adelaide 1910



Opening of the Unley Drill Hall 1914



10th Battalion at the Torrens Training Depot 1914



Torrens Training Depot, circa 1938

L-R Light Horse, Field Artillery, Coast Artillery, Royal Australian Engineers, Royal Australian Signals, Infantry, 27th Battalion, Australian Army Service Corps, Medical Corps, Australian Army Ordnance Corps

10th Battalion at Mena Camp 25
December 1914



14th replacements
27th Battalion AIF

Machine Gun training,
Morphetville, 1914





10th Battalion Trench mortar France 1917

South Australian Militia of the 10th Battalion on parade, 1939



South Australian Militia of the 27th Battalion marching into the grounds of Government House, 1939



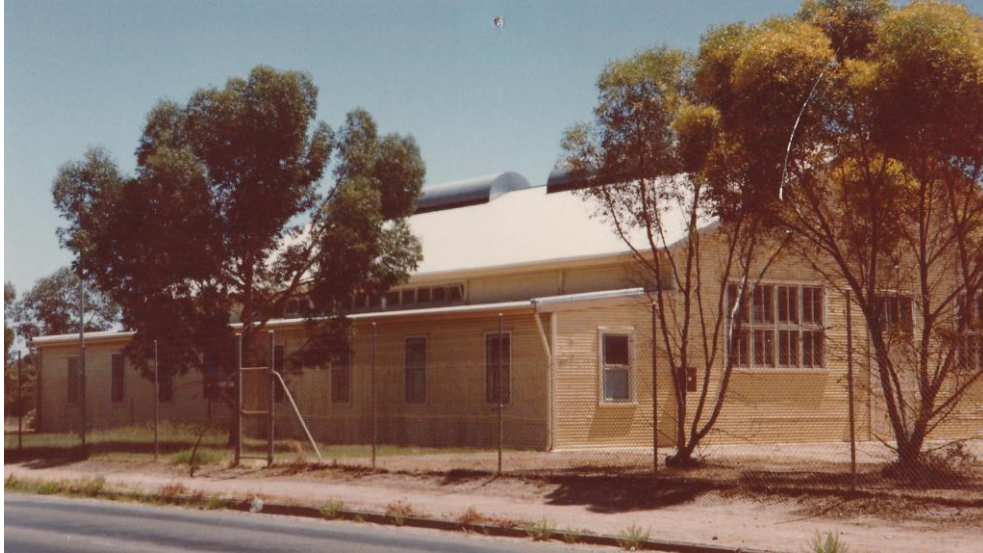
27th Battalion, The South Australian Scottish Regiment providing the Government House Guard for the Royal Tour by the Queen Mother, 1958



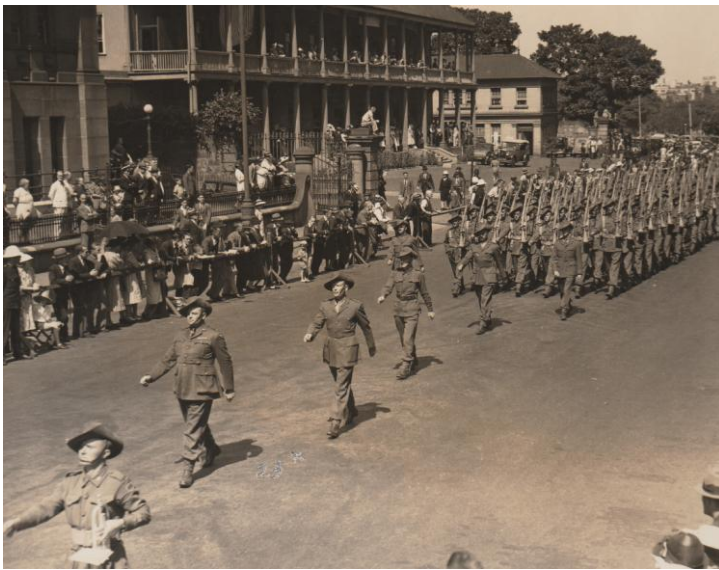
A Coy 1st Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment, Mt Gambier, circa 1960



10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment, Freedom of the City. CO Neil Wilson, MAJ Terry Moore, CAPT Bernie McGee and MAJ Tex Ranger, 19 October 1986



Kadina Drill Hall



2/10th Battalion AIF Sydney Feb 1940
LTCOL Verrier, Adjutant CAPT T. J. Daly then RSM WO1 John Percival

2/10th Battalion AIF disembarking
Morotai Borneo, June 1945





Remaining original members of the 1939 2/10th Battalion AIF, Queensland June 1945
Centre front LTCOL T.J. Daly

27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment Mortar Platoon, PTE Norm Tregenza and PTE John Fox



17 Pounder Anti-Tank gun training at Torrens Parade Ground

LCPL F. J. Morony, 16 National Service Bn, with Vickers MMG Woodside November 1957



10th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment LT Ross Lampard and PTE Giorgio Trotta Torrens Training Depot, 1966

Anti-tank lesson, A Coy Mt Gambier circa 1960's



10th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment, PTE Colin Robinson and CPL Colin Phillipson Torrens Training Depot, 1966



Pistol shoot, Dean Rifle Range, SGT Peter Salamon as the Officer in Charge, circa early 1980s

A Company Mt Gambier, location and date unknown



1st Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment, Max Sanderson Dave Russell Rod Gaskin. Cultana, 1964

10th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment, A Company Mt Gambier date and location unknown





10th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment, CPL David Laing, SSGT Barry Johnson, WO2 Ian Carnachan, CPL Denis Smith Murray Bridge Grenade Range, 1974



At time of photo, 10 RSAR IET course 1976,
L-R Standing 6th PTE Hojei, 7th Col Grey
Kneeling front left SGT Jeff Ayles, centre PTE Robert Broadbent, Bert Richter
Sitting PTE Geoff Capper, centre Col Douglas



10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment, LCPL Steve Smith and LCPL Michael Peachey with US Army Reservists during Ex Pacific Reserve, Adelaide 2003



C Company 27 Battalion SA Scottish Regiment Clare/Burra 1960



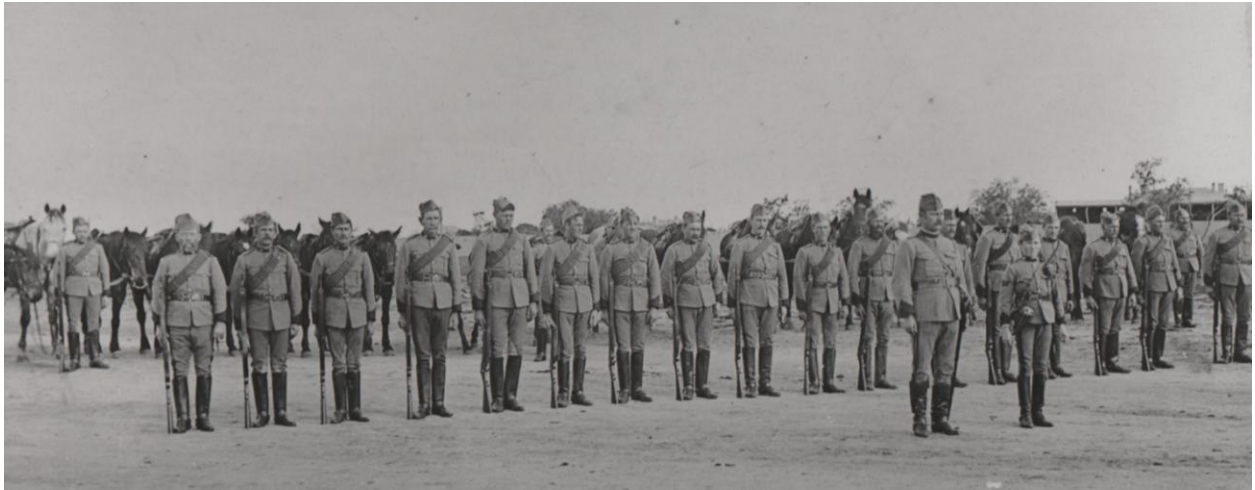
C Company 27 Battalion SA Scottish Regiment Clare Main Street
Visit by Sir Robert George, 11 May 1956



27 Battalion SA Scottish Regiment South Australia Guard Government House
Inspecting Officer Sir Barclay-Harvey, August 1939



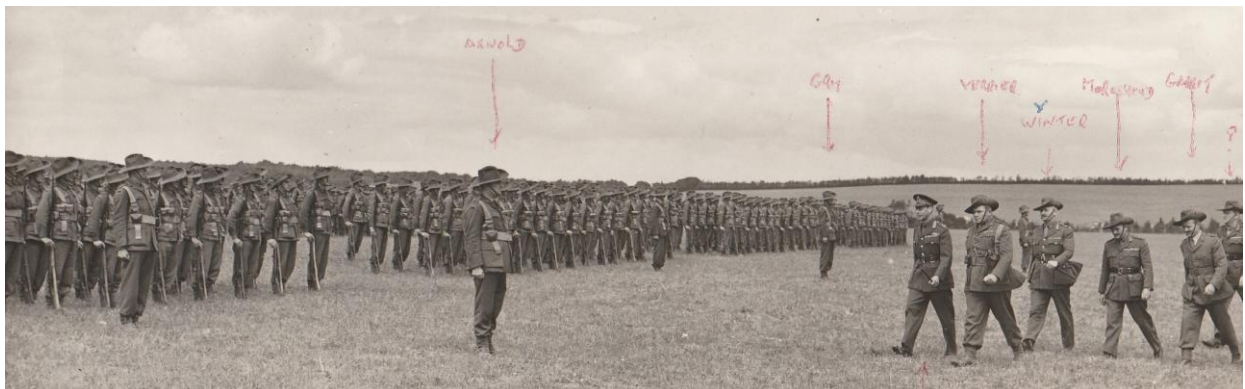
Blessing of Drums 10th Australian Infantry Battalion Torrens Training Depot, 1938



Clare Militia, 1880



10RSAR Shooting Team Winners, Simpson Trophy
 ?, SGT Hudson, MAJ Ranger, WO2 McIver, CAPT Larkin, SGT Bone
 CPL Lawson, SGT Birch, CAPT Growdon, CPL Cox



Inspection of the 10th Battalion Australian Imperial Forces by King George VI, 4 July 1940



Sergeants Mess 43rd Battalion Gawler 1928



10 RSAR Privates Blakely and Leighton Clare Training depot 1986



Support Company 10/27RSAR Ex RHINO CHARGE 1993 Cultana Training Area



Members of the 43rd Battalion Keswick Barracks, 10 January 1922



Port Pirie Boys 2/10th Battalion Australian Imperial Forces Colchester 1940



'Blue' Arthur, Gav McClintock, Dave MacDonald, Ronnie Leighton, Danny Kerwin
11 December 2004

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

REGIMENTAL APPOINTMENTS

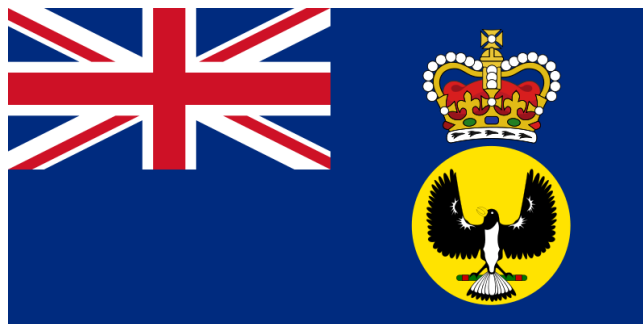
The Honorary Colonel

The position evolved in the British Army typically drawn from important local gentry or other distinguished citizens who had not necessarily served in the regiment. These men may have been given the title for financing the local militia without actual expectations of command. This practice can actually be traced back to the English Renaissance when a Colonelcy was purchased by a Lord or prominent gentleman but the actual command would fall to a Lieutenant Colonel, who would deputise for the proprietor. These became "Honorary Colonels" when they were absorbed into larger regimental families in order to distinguish them from the overall "Colonel" or "Regimental Colonel" of the family.

The position requires active involvement in the life of the host regiment, including wearing military uniforms at prescribed occasions, attending official functions, active participation on the Regimental Council and lobbying for the unit.

The 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment has been well served in the selection of Honorary Colonels and retains the lineage of those who have held the appointment for The Royal South Australia Regiment as it became from 1960. The position is no longer referred to as that of the "Honorary Colonel" but that of the "Representative Colonel" and has traditionally been held by the Governor of South Australia.

Lieutenant-General Sir Edric Bastyan KCMG KCVO KBE CB	1961 – 1968
Major-General Sir James Harrison KCMG CB CBE	1968 – 1971
Professor Sir Mark Oliphant AC KBE	1971 – 1976
Pastor Sir Douglas Nicholls KCVO OBE	1976 – 1977
Reverend Sir Keith Seaman KCVO OBE	1977 – 1982
Lieutenant-General Sir Donald Dunstan AC KBE CB	1982 – 1991
The Hon. Dame Roma Mitchell AC DBE CVO QC ¹	1991 – 1996
Sir Eric Neal AC CVO	1996 – 2001
Mrs. Marjorie Jackson-Nelson AC CVO MBE	2001 – 2007
Rear Admiral K. Scarce, AC, CSC, RAN	2007 – 2014
Mr Hieu Van Le, AO	2014 – Present



The Regimental Colonel

The title of Regimental Colonel is conferred by certain military units in Britain, Canada, New Zealand Australia and other Commonwealth nations.

By the end of 17th century in Great Britain, the position was often fulfilled by a titled person who had been given Royal Assent to raise it for service and command it in battle. As such, he was required to cover all costs of the regiment's equipment, uniforms and wages as well select its officers. Later reforms meant that the British government was to be financially responsible for the pay, clothing and equipment of the troops in the service of the British Crown. Colonels were also no longer permitted to profit directly from the sale of officer commissions in their regiments and a lieutenant-colonel was to command the regiment. By the beginning of the Napoleonic Wars, the title had become a sinecure appointment for distinguished generals and members of the royal family or British nobility. As generals were mostly on half-pay, a colonelcy was a method of providing them with extra income. However it should be noted that many colonels spent large sums of their own money on their regiments.

The ceremonial position is often conferred on retired general officers, brigadiers or colonels who have a close link to a particular regiment. When attending functions as the Regimental Colonel the title holder wears the regimental uniform with rank insignia of (full) colonel, regardless of their official rank.

The Australian Army maintains one Regimental Colonel for each individual Regiment regardless of the number of Battalions it may have.. The Regimental Colonel is expected to work closely with the various associated Regimental Associations and Councils as well as being a mentor for the Commanding Officers.

The 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment has been well served in the selection of Honorary Colonels and retains the lineage of those who have held the appointment for the 1st and 10th Battalions, The Royal South Australia Regiment.

The position is no longer referred to as that of the “Regimental Colonel” but that of the “Colonel Commandant”.

Brigadier A.F. McDougall, MC, ED	1960 – 1973
Lieutenant Colonel J.D. Gordon, MC, ED	1974 – 1978
Colonel D.J. Sandow, ED	1979
Lieutenant Colonel J.D. Chittleborough, RFD, ED	1980 – 1984
Lieutenant Colonel I.G. Wheaton, OAM, RFD, ED	1985 – 1981
Brigadier L.J. Lewis	1991 – 1995
Brigadier P.W. Beale, DSO, MC	1996 – 1999
Major D.R. Hawking, RFD	1999 – 2003
Lieutenant Colonel D. Stewart	2003 – 2010
Major General N. Wilson	2011 – 2014
Brigadier T. Hanna, AM	2014 – Present

Commanding Officers and Regimental Sergeants Major

With the history of the Battalion it is difficult to draw upon reliable information, particularly as they were raised, split, disbanded, amalgamated regularly and replicants of the time or even under an altogether different and short lived name. To this end the first battalion noted in an amalgamated Battalion or where there are multiple Battalions of a Regiment has been taken as the unit of appointment.

No mention has been made of years of appointment just the periods, as these are significant within the historical timeline. No post-nominals have been included nor whether the appointment relates to the Militia, Citizens Military Forces or the Australian Imperial Forces; this has been done on purpose to recognise service equally for the appointment they held

Commanding Officers

Volunteer Forces

1840 – 1901

LTCOL B. Finnis
COL J. Biggs
LTCOL J. Baker
MAJ F. Colton
LTCOL F. Makin
LTCOL G. Mayo
LTCOL L. Madley
LTCOL J. Higgins
LTCOL J. Lovely
LTCOL H. Fitzroy
LTCOL A. Catt
LTCOL J. Genders

10th Battalion

1901 - 1921

LTCOL J. Genders
LTCOL Castine
LTCOL J. Rowell
LTCOL S. Price Weir
LTCOL D. Coghill
COL S. Price Weir
LTCOL M. Wilder-Neligan
MAJ F. Hurcombe
MAJ G. Shaw
LTCOL M. Beevor
LTCOL J. Denton
MAJ F. Rafferty
LTCOL R. Jacob
MAJ A. Steele
CAPT G. Campbell
MAJ C. Rumball
LTCOL J. Newman
MAJ W. McCann

1921 – 1948

LTCOL W. Fowler-Brownsworth
LTCOL E. Baker
LTCOL W. Waite
LTCOL J. Hill
LTCOL H. Steele
LTCOL W. Veale
LTCOL A. Verrier
LTCOL L. Bruer
LTCOL J. Dobbs
LTCOL C. Geard
LTCOL T. Daly
LTCOL J. Hill
LTCOL Farquhar

1948 – 1960

LTCOL J. McKinna
LTCOL H. Graham-Sutton
LTCOL R. Seikman
LTCOL V. Holley
LTCOL A. McDougall

1965 - 1987

LTCOL D. Phillips
LTCOL I. Wheaton
LTCOL D. Creten
LTCOL Twible
LTCOL Creten
LTCOL Manning
LTCOL M. Jakab
LTCOL R. McLeod
LTCOL R. Williams
LTCOL N. Wilson

Commanding Officers

27th Battalion

1914 – 1918

LTCOL W. Dollman
LTCOL J. Slane
LTCOL F. Chalmers

1921 – 1948

LTCOL J. Slane
LTCOL W. Devonshire
LTCOL N. Loutit
LTCOL P. Bice
LTCOL F. Best
LTCOL L. Farquhar
LTCOL A. Pope
LTCOL M. Moten
LTCOL G. Cooper
LTCOL J. Bishop
LTCOL K. Picken

1948 – 1960

LTCOL H. Harslett
LTCOL W. Forbes
LTCOL C. Sims
LTCOL R. Johnson
LTCOL A. Shepherd

1965 - 1975

LTCOL I. Kennedy
LTCOL E. Barnard-Brown
LTCOL D. Creten

1982 - 1987

LTCOL D. Byers
LTCOL M. Sanderson

43rd Battalion

1914-1918

LTCOL D. Gordon
LTCOL J. Farrell
LTCOL C. Butler

1939 - 1945

LTCOL W. Crellin
LTCOL M. Jeanes
LTCOL R. Joshua
LTCOL N. Simpson
LTCOL W. Wain

Post 1965

LTCOL A. Shepherd
LTCOL J. Chittleborough
LTCOL B. Silcock

48th Battalion

1914 - 1918

LTCOL R. Leane
LTCOL M. Brearley
LTCOL A. Allen
LTCOL S. Perry

1921 – 1930

LTCOL G. Shaw
LTCOL W. McCann

1939 - 1945

LTCOL R. Ainslie
LTCOL H. Hammer
LTCOL W. Windeyer

43rd/48th Battalion

1952 – 1960

LTCOL S. Toms
LTCOL J. Gordon
LTCOL P. Langsford
LTCOL R. Trumans

50th Battalion

1914 - 1918

LTCOL F. Hurcombe

1921 – 1930

Unknown

1st Battalion

The Royal South Australia Regiment

1960 - 1965

BRIG R. Johnston
COL R. Blackburn

Regimental Sergeants Major

Volunteer Forces

1860 – 1903

SGT MAJ T. Worsnop

SGT MAJ T. Acraman

SGT MAJ T. Austin

WO1 G. Mitchell

10th Battalion

1903 - 1921

WO1 W. Whittbourn

WO1 G. Magenis

WO1 D. Chisholm

WO1 S. Doley

WO1 F. Mead

WO1 G. Guthrie

WO1 E. Lewis

WO1 E. Holland

WO1 E. Wilson

WO1 R. White

WO2 J. Wickham

1921 – 1948

WO2 F. Allchin

WO2 A. Pickett

WO2 B. Woylan

WO2 H. Coward

WO1 J. Couche

WO1 A. McKinna

WO2 G. Burdin

WO2 T. Schmedje

WO1 J. Percival

1948 – 1960

WO1 J. Percival

1965 - 1987

WO1 J. Percival

WO1 B. Muir

WO1 R. Evans

WO1 D. Thomson

WO1 B. Muir

WO1 A. Webber

WO1 P. Pearce

WO1 K. Burnette

WO1 D. Harris

WO1 B. Wruck

WO1 K. Dobson

27th Battalion

Pre 1939

Nil information available

1939– 1945

WO1 G. Garrett

WO1 J. Burnett

27th Battalion

1965 - 1975

WO1 I. Charlson

WO1 G. Neagle

WO1 D. Miller

1982 - 1987

WO1 G. Pope

WO1 J. Bruno

43rd Battalion

1914-1918

WO1 T.C. Evans

WO1 F.R. Brooke

WO1 D.M. Nesbit

WO1 A.H. MacDougall

1921 – 1930

Nil information available

1939 - 1945

Nil information available

Post 1965

WO1 I. Charlson

48th Battalion

1914 - 1918

Nil information available

1921 – 1930

WO1 E. H. Dunant

43rd/48th Battalion

1952 – 1960

Nil information available

50th Battalion

Nil information available

1st Battalion

The Royal South Australia Regiment

WO1 J. Percival

**Commanding officers
Regimental Sergeants Major
10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment**

**10th/27th Battalion
The Royal South Australia Regiment
1987 - Present**

LTCOL N. Wilson
LTCOL B. Edwards
LTCOL M. Evans
LTCOL D. Strain
LTCOL P. Rijken
LTCOL P. Jones
LTCOL R. Duras
LTCOL C. Moore
LTCOL W. Lausberg
LTCOL B. Gasteen
LTCOL G. Goodwin

**10th/27th Battalion
The Royal South Australia Regiment
1987 - Present**

WO1 J. Bruno
WO1 J. Cech
WO1 M. Levine
WO1 G. Smith
WO1 R. Lambert
WO1 A. Mol
WO1 G. McFarlane
WO1 R. Polson
WO1 C. Howe
WO1 M. Cockburn
WO1 C. Batty
WO1 A. Hodges

CHAPTER 18

COMMANDING OFFICERS REFLECTIONS



Lieutenant Colonel N. Wilson
Commanding Officer 1987 – 1990

JULY 86 to APRIL 1990: The Early Years

It was my privilege and honour to command the 10th and, subsequently, the 10th/27th Battalions from July 1986 to April 1990. This story starts with a brief history of the 10th Battalion in order to highlight the significant changes that occurred when 10/27 RSAR was formed.

Before the linking of the two battalions in November of 1987, the 10th and 27th Battalions were separate and independent (though fierce rivals in everything from sports competitions to war games). The 10th was headquartered in Torrens Training Depot and had country depots in Clare, Kadina, Port Pirie, Port Augusta, Whyalla and Broken Hill. The 27th had its headquarters at Unley with depots at Mount Gambier and Berri. 9 Task Force had been disbanded in the mid 1970's so neither battalion had a direct command senior headquarters and were thus placed under command of Headquarters 4th Military District.

As the commanding officer of an essentially independent rifle battalion, I experienced a degree of autonomy that is almost incomprehensible in today's environment of political correctness, risk aversion and micro-management. I wrote my own training directives, conducted my own exercises, did my own recruiting, promoted my own junior NCOs and even changed my establishment with the creation of a Reconnaissance Platoon for my best soldiers. There seemed to be no limitation on resources and man-days and yet the battalion was not wasteful of these commodities. The training program was diverse and interesting including a major firepower demonstration at Murray Bridge Range during the AFX of 1987 that attracted a large crowd from other SA based units and all four television stations.

During this period, the battalion trained in conventional operations, but the lack of a senior headquarters meant that there was very little interaction with other units and there was a definite "infantry-centric" view of the world within the battalion. When 9 Task Force went to the wall, with it went the opportunity for officers and senior NCOs to serve in staff positions on a higher headquarters and for soldiers of all ranks to serve with other arms and services in combined arms exercises.

On 19th October 1986, the battalion exercised its Freedom of the City of Adelaide by marching from the Fire Brigade Headquarters in Wakefield Street, through Victoria Square and past the Adelaide Town Hall in King William Street. Those on parade that day will clearly remember the downpour that greeted us as we swung into King William Street. The policeman on the corner, dressed in wet weather gear from top to toe, simply looked at us in polyesters and shook his head in disbelief (.....regardless of season, weather or terrain.).

Although the autonomy and independence allowed for a diversity of training activities, it is fair to say that our training was constrained, particularly at unit level, by a lack of numbers. The 27th Battalion was in a worse state and, as early as the middle of 1987, rumours started to circulate that the two battalions would be linked. As part of an on-going national review of the Army Reserve this proposal was confirmed later in 1987 and planning commenced for the linking.

The Linking Parade took place on 29th November 1987 at Torrens Parade Ground in the presence of our Honorary Colonel, the Governor of South Australia, His Excellency, Lieutenant General, Sir Donald Dunstan AC KBE CB and a large crowd of onlookers. In a very moving ceremony, both battalions marched on for the last time and, after the normal preliminaries, were inspected by the Reviewing Officer. Both battalions then marched past the Governor in quick time and then marched off into the drill hall. The unit flags of both battalions were lowered, folded and presented to the Regimental Colonel, Lieutenant Colonel Gratton Wheaton OAM RFD ED, for safe-keeping. Inside the drill hall those that were leaving were farewelled and those in the new battalion changed embellishments. (The national changes were implemented with such haste that there was not enough time to arrange for the manufacture and issue of a plaited lanyard. For the parade, and for at least a year afterwards, we wore a blue lanyard and a black lanyard stitched together.)

The newly formed 10th/27th Battalion marched back onto the parade ground and posted all four colours. The new unit flag was unfurled from the flag pole. An advance in review order and an address by the Governor completed the parade. A new battalion had been born.

The three years that followed the linking parade can only be described as frenetic. As part of the same re-organisation that resulted in the linking, the Headquarters of the 9th Brigade was re-raised on 1st February 1988 and the battalion was given a new role of Vital Asset Protection. Two months after it was formed, the brigade conducted a major exercise, Exercise Autumn Harvest, in Woomera and Leigh Creek in April 1988. The battalion played a major part in this exercise as we learned the new skills associated with VAP operations.

We sailed from Port Adelaide on HMAS Tobruk on 23rd April 1988 and arrived in Whyalla the following day. The dawn service that was conducted on the deck of HMAS Tobruk on the next day, Anzac Day, will be long remembered by all who attended. After a march through the city of Whyalla, we moved to Woomera and commenced the exercise proper. Sleep was a luxury that few enjoyed for the following week as we set about the business of identifying and securing the vital assets of the township. For many in the battalion, this was their first experience of combined arms operations and the learning curve was steep indeed.

For the second week we flew by Hercules to Leigh Creek and conducted similar operations in and around the township of Copley. A cordon and search of the township completed the exercise and we felt justifiably proud that we had made a significant contribution to the new doctrine of Vital Asset Protection. A troop train from Copley to Keswick completed the “trains, planes and automobiles” nature of Exercise Autumn Harvest that many will remember.

In addition to the exercises and training activities, the new battalion had a very busy program of ceremonial and social functions. Emotions always run high whenever there is a major change such as a closure of a depot or the disbanding of a unit or, as in our case, the linking of two units. In order to appease these concerns and to show good faith, the battalion exercised its Freedom of the City in three of the four cities where it has been given that honour; Broken Hill on 17th September 1988, Adelaide on 26th November 1988 and Mount Gambier on 20th May 1989. In addition the battalion hosted the 50th anniversary of the formation of the 7th Division in May 1988 and conducted a Beating of Retreat parade at Torrens Parade Ground on 27th November 1989.

Exercise Kangaroo 89 at RAAF Base Curtin in August 1989 was the next major milestone for the battalion. The 10th/27th Battalion was chosen by 9 Brigade as the mounting unit for its contingent to that major exercise and, with two rifle companies from the 12th/40th Battalion, flew to Curtin on 5th August 1989. The battalion adopted a defensive position around the airbase and commenced an aggressive patrolling program. Heat will be remembered by most as the biggest

“enemy” associated with this exercise. With little if any time for acclimatization, it was essential that officers and NCOs ensured that their men consumed adequate water to avoid heat related illnesses. Despite these efforts, the battalion had several casualties due to the heat, but fortunately all made a full recovery.

Exercise K89 was the first time that the Army Reserve had been used in large numbers on a major regular army exercise. All of the Reserve brigades had been tasked to provide contingents similar to that provided by 10/27 but in other locations. Although I have no official confirmation, I firmly believe that K89 was a test of the Reserve. The cost of the Reserve had been noted and the very valid question of whether we were providing capability for that investment was asked. Had the battalion and indeed the rest of the Reserve units not performed as well as they did during that exercise then I believe that the composition and profile of the Reserve would be very different today. A mid-exercise visit by the then Chief of Defence Force, General Peter Gration, reinforced this belief.

Everyone who attended this exercise will recall their favourite anecdotes and lasting impressions too numerous to mention here. Mine is a sense of enormous pride in the dedication and professionalism of the men and women who I had the privilege to lead. The current tasking, and indeed reliance on the Reserve had its genesis in this and subsequent exercises.

By way of summary, in my time as Commanding Officer of the 10th/27th Battalion, I had the extreme good fortune to command a near full battalion on two major exercises in as many years. Many regular COs don't get that opportunity.



*First Freedom of Entry, Adelaide, 26 November 1988 by the Combined 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment.
Commanding Officer LTCOL N. Wilson
To his rear are two future Commanding Officers - R. Duras (centre) and D. Strain (right)*



Lieutenant Colonel B. Edwards
Commanding Officer 1991 – 1993

The Battalion was in good shape from the previous CO, with a strong emphasis on AFX planning and appropriate weekend and Monday night training. 10/27 continued to recruit to a posted strength of just over 500 members and a regular attendance between 350 to 400 personnel. Our most frustrating issue was that the high attendance meant that training days began to run low. Fortunately, the Training Major was able to convince those units who had excess training days to let us use them so that next year everyone would receive their full allocation.

Attendance for Exercise Kangaroo 92 in Kununarra in WA consisted of 3 Rifle companies, Support Company and Administration support. The purpose of the deployment was to test our ability to work in a Vital Asset Protection role in a tropical area during the wet season. Lessons were learned early as the humidity and the heat hit hard when we unloaded from the transport aircraft on the airfield. It was night when we landed, and as we deployed to set up a defensive posture, found that the high grass around the runway had just been slashed. As a consequence, the wildlife was most upset, especially the snakes. Most of the soldiers kept well alert during the night. Next day ambushes were conducted along the Ord River where movement was heard, but not much seen. It did not take long for some soldiers to realise that crocodiles were hard to detect even when close at hand. With no time to acclimatise, the humidity was difficult to handle and the RAP was constantly rehydrating some exhausted soldiers.

A few months later, back in the Officers Mess at Torrens Training Depot, the Adjt was able to demonstrate how to open a bottle of wine using a sword. It transpired that the sword was borrowed from the silverware cabinet of AUR. Next week the Mess was found to be in darkness. All the light bulbs were missing as were many of the wall hangings. Unperturbed, a few candles were lit and the blame immediately placed upon the Sgts Mess, much to the delight of the junior officers who quickly planned revenge. The following week the RSM complained that the Moose head mounted above the bar was missing, and further still someone had bricked up the bar. Perhaps, I said, it was in retribution for the loss of the Officers Mess decorations. "No" was the reply, that was done by the AUR Officers for using their sword as a bottle opener. So the Moose head and bar were sorted, and at the request of AUR, the sword was repaired. On leaving the mess I presented a large chromed hacking knife as the new bottle opener.

Part of another AFX planned for El Alamein was a listed as series of platoon activities. We convinced the Bde Commander to allow each platoon to conduct an attack on to a feature near the artillery impact area. Somehow this activity turned into a series of live firing platoon attacks, mounted in APCs, with fire support from SFMG platoon, Mortar platoon, and artillery firing into the impact area. All in all there were 13 platoon attacks (including 12/40 Bn) after build up training over 3 days. Just prior to commencement of the platoon attacks, with some TV news teams attending, the Brigade Commander arrived and quietly said "Lets trust that this works without incident, shorty, because if it fails you and I will be for the high jump"; the soldiers performed well.

A Christmas Mess Party can be a boring event so I decided to spice it up somewhat by attending dressed as a dinosaur. On entering the Mess the PMC was rather flabbergasted, and not wanting to create a scene, ordered the dinosaur out before the CO arrived. I stood my ground, only to be wrestled to the floor, and eventually had the dinosaur head removed, much to everyone's amusement; it was one of the better Mess functions.



Lieutenant Colonel M. Evans
Commanding Officer 1993 – 1996

Lieutenant Colonel Evans enlisted in the Citizens Military Force's in April 1973 and after officer training at the Officer Cadet Training Unit (OCTU) at Hampstead Barracks, he was appointed a 2LT on 23 November 1975. On graduation from OCTU, he was allocated to the Royal Australian Artillery and posted to 48 Battery. Following relocation to Darwin with his employment in January 1976, Lieutenant Colonel Evans corps transferred to the Royal Australian Infantry and was appointed platoon commander of 1 Platoon 7 Independent rifle company (which subsequently became NORFORCE). Following relocation to Hobart with his employment Lieutenant Colonel Evans corps transferred to the Royal Australian Intelligence Corps and served with 6 Field Force Intelligence Group and on relocation to Melbourne with 2 Commando Company and 4th Brigade Headquarters. On relocation to Adelaide Lieutenant Colonel Evans corps transferred to the Royal Australian Infantry and served in a variety of regimental and instructional postings within the Royal South Australia Regiment and 4th Training Group. Lieutenant Colonel Evans was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in December 1993, and appointed Commanding Officer 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment the same month. He notes that several years earlier he was the Officer Commanding B Company and felt tremendously privileged to be appointed CO. He remembered his time at the battalion fondly.

In reflecting back on his time as CO:

As CO I remember there were always lots of conferences and meetings. Recruiting and retention were of particular importance and often challenging, particularly in light of limited man day and resource constraints that were announced shortly after my appointment.

The prime focus of our training at that time was qualification with the new Steyr rifle and Vital Asset Protection (VAP). I remember that recently commissioned officers were regularly posted to the Battalion and I often had occasion to reflect on a story I had read many years before about 1st Duke Arthur Wellesley Wellington (The Iron Duke). Apparently during the Peninsular War a detachment of energetic but inexperienced young officers arrived to strengthen Wellington's forces. Wellington, it is said, drily observed "I don't know what effect they will have upon the enemy, but by God, they frighten me." Little has changed over the years.

April 1994 saw the Battalion exercise its right of Freedom to the City of Kadina. I thought the march went well and on completion someone asked me what I thought of the proceedings. As I started to respond the adjutant sprinted across to me, reached around and behind me and switched off the live microphone that had been fitted on me for the march. JUST TO BE ON THE SAFE SIDE SIR! Hmmm yes. Thank you Adj. Useful sometimes those adjutants. I had not intended to make any colourful response but I appreciated the adjutant's initiative and prompt preventative action.

The result reminded me of my first parachute jump. As I landed the Parachute Jump Instructor assessing it came over to where I had landed and appeared to be scribbling copious notes. When he had finished he turned his notebook around for me to read. It had just one word but it was enough. "SURVIVED"

In about July/Aug 1994 WO Dix (from the Berri Water Rats) died while on a weekend exercise. His death was not as a result of the exercise but Dixie was a long serving, highly popular member of the battalion and was sorely missed.

During my appointment a VAP exercise was held in the vicinity of Iron Knob. The day had been hot but the night was freezing. Many of the soldiers had carried only light clothing and a breeze together with the very cold conditions combined to cause a high wind chill factor. As a result a number of the soldiers became severely hypothermic. These were not exercise casualties but "No Duff" casualties. The matter was serious. All members in the vicinity assisted the casualties and fortunately no permanent physical harm was done. I am advised that many of the casualties and those who assisted clearly remember the incident to this day. It provided and reinforced a number of valuable lessons to the soldiers involved. Some of those involved are very proud of the way the team pulled together as one to resolve the situation. While it is regrettable this incident occurred it served to strengthen the bonds between those involved.

A good infantry unit must be able to shoot well and resources must be devoted to achieving that aim. The Battalion shooting effort at ASSAM in 1995 was creditable but due to several factors, not least the rules and the loose interpretation of them, we did not win. We did however learn a number of valuable lessons. Following the teams return from Belmont, Sgt Lloyd, the determined team section commander, presented me with a report detailing some resources that were required if we were to be successful in 1996. Against some opposition, resources were provided to the Battalion's shooting team who demonstrated what could be done, if appropriately resourced, when they competed at the ASSAM competition in 1996. No excuses this time, they had been given the resources and used them well. They won their division as well as some others against all comers. A great effort that reflected well on the team and the Battalion.

I also remember a battalion live fire exercise held over 14-16 June 96. The purpose was to concentrate on realistic live fire battle practices. On reviewing the plan I thought it lacked imagination and was a bit on the light side. I understood the reluctance of the ARA component to push hard on live firing but I spoke with them about it and told them what I had in mind. Initially, they seemed a little taken aback. But I think they took it as a challenge. If that old bastard wants a live fire exercise we will sure give him one. The exercise was to include a section live fire attack and withdrawal, a platoon live fire attack and a company live fire defence at night. To their credit a company defensive position was developed and a very realistic live fire range weekend incorporating mechanical targets to simulate an attacking force progressively approaching the position, simulators and smoke to simulate incoming fire, fuel /air pyrotechnics, support company weapons and artillery was successfully carried out. It required a lot of planning and resources but it provided members from riflemen to company commanders with the opportunity to carry out their tasks under conditions that were as realistic as we could possibly make them.

No comment about the battalion would be complete without mentioning the band and what a great job it has done over the years; whenever you needed them they were there and performed admirably without complaint.

My abiding memory of the battalion is its geographic dispersion with its members and depots in country areas including A Coy at Mt Gambier in the Green Triangle, C Coy at Pt Pirie, Pt Augusta and Whyalla in the Iron Triangle, the River Rats at Berri in the Riverland, the pioneers in Broken Hill and B Coy Support section at Clare. All of these depots and Adelaide based elements had their characters. They ranged from privates to senior officers. These past and present characters were usually charismatic and soldiers willing followed them. They engendered and maintained the morale and esprit de corps of the battalion. They were also often the cause of some distress to their Commanding Officers but they were generally worth the distress they caused. I won't embarrass any one by going into detail but simply note that this battalion has had their fair share of and been well served by their great characters.



Lieutenant Colonel D. Strain
Commanding Officer 1996 – 1999

Exercise Rhino Charge 97 (Ex RC97) has cemented 10/27 RSAR as being the premier unit in 9 Brigade. All ranks can be justly proud of what they achieved during this testing exercise. The exercise saw over 320 members of 10/27 RSAR join together from all over South Australia and Broken Hill to undertake excellent training activities aimed at improving their individual and sub-unit capabilities.

The Battalion made a most impressive sight when we exercised our right of freedom of entry to the City of Broken Hill. It was a proud moment for all with almost 300 members of the Battalion marching in column down the main street of Broken Hill carrying all our weapons including mortars, SRAAW, 84mm and SFMG.

His Excellency the Governor of South Australia, Eric Neal (Honorary Colonel of the Royal South Australia Regiment), during his visit to the Battalion, used the opportunity to meet with many members of the Battalion. He spoke most highly of the standard of all members of the Battalion and appeared to enjoy sharing the experience with us.

His Worship Mr Peter Black, the Mayor of the City of Broken Hill, (during the exercise) presented to the Battalion's Assault Pioneer Platoon, a ceremonial doubled-edged Canadian axe which will be carried by that Platoons Sergeant on all ceremonial activities. Ex RC97 is an exercise that we should all remember with great pride. I was extremely impressed with the commitment all demonstrated to there military duties and to the willingness everyone had to for getting the job done.

It would also be remiss of me not to congratulate those members of the Battalion who so proudly represented us at the Australian Army Skill at Arms Meet held in Brisbane during and immediately after the Exercise. These ten soldiers, led by CAPT Di Lorenzo and SSGT Whelan, after a minimum of practice, established 10/27 RSAR as runners-up in the RSL Trophy.

I expect that the next six montlls will see the Battalion moving to occupy new facilities in Keswick Barracks and the establishing of a Battalion depot in the Noarlunga Region; there will also be a greater effort to increase unit personnel strength through improved retention and increased recruiting.

By the time that you will have received this Newsletter D Coy will have already deployed on Exercise Shaggy Ridge and a large number of the Battalion's number will be participating in an IET Course at 4th Training Group. Once again the Battalion will be holding a Soldier's Dinner and I hope that we can continue to break records in the number who attend it.

I look back on 1997 as a good year and look to 1998 to be an even better one.

As I reflect on the year that was, I never cease to be amazed at what we were able to achieve in 1998. The achievements are just too numerous. Some were collective, but many, many more were the personal achievements each of us made in attending a trade or promotion course, passing the various physical and skill tests that we all must, participating in any of the very many exercises undertaken by the Battalion or in support to another unit, and the list goes on. To each of you, in what was your highlight or greatest personal achievement for 1998, congratulations.

Of course, OP SOMME, the deployment of about 60 members of the Battalion to France to participate in ceremonial activities recognising the 80th anniversary of the end of the First World War, stands out amongst these. All involved in the preparation and conduct of this operation are due great praise. They proved that our Battalion is capable of deploying a force at short notice to the other side of the world and being able to stand proudly on the world stage and demonstrate a level of skill equal to, if not better than, our allies.

Of course this was at the same time as preparing a force to deploy to Hawaii on EX PACRES 98. For the first time for our Battalion, and one of the rare opportunities for a Reserve Battalion, a company undertook sub-unit training at Battle Wing Tully (BW TULLY). Once again those members of the Battalion who participated in the activity proved that 10/27 RSAR was able to match it with the best and this has been further recognised by our being selected to deploy a company back to BW TULLY in 1999.

I could go on with the 'highlights', whether they be our First Regimental Day, 'Amiens Day', our ANZAC Day involvement, the various courses conducted by our Battalion or attended by members of the Battalion, our AASAM Team's grand performance, the very many other training activities undertaken by the Battalion, the Battalion Concert and the many other fine performances conducted by our Battalion Band, the list goes on.

As I write in early January 1999, two members of the Battalion are in Malaysia as a part of the Australian Rifle Company Butterworth. Also about 200 members of the Battalion are involved in the conduct of various trade or promotion courses.

I have already mentioned that later in the year a Rifle Company is to return to BW TULLY, whilst in early 2000 a rifle company is to undertake sub-unit training at BW CANUNGRA.

Efforts are continuing to establish an alliance with the Malaysian Army's 509 Territorial Regiment. The 4th Battalion, the Royal New Zealand Regiment, has also indicated a desire to reignite our alliance with them. I am hopeful that both these will result in an exchange of personnel between these units and our Battalion. The Kokoda Track also has strong ties with our Battalion, and I am hopeful that an expedition to walk 'the track' will be undertaken later in 1999.

At this point I must offer a few personal congratulations. First, is to Corporal Darcy Rayner and his section who won for our Battalion the 9 Bde Military Skills Competition. I would also like to thank all those who are departing our Battalion. Thank you for your good work and best wishes for your future. I trust that I can look forward to your continued support to our Battalion.

On a personal note, I shall be leaving our Battalion in early July 1999. Major Paul Rijken shall be returning to our Battalion to assume command and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my many friends in the Battalion for their support during my period of command. In closing may I wish you all the very best for the future and beseech you continue your good work.

This article has been respectfully abbreviated from the original Pro Patria text



Lieutenant Colonel P. Rijken
Commanding Officer 1999 – 2001

I was reading the September issue of the *Khamseen Kronicle*, the official Journal of the 2/48 Battalion which included a paragraph in which Field Marshall, Viscount Wavell was to have said something about The Infantryman. 'Let me be clear about three facts: First of all, battles and wars are won in the end by the Infantryman. Secondly, the Infantryman always bears the brunt. His casualties are heavier; he suffers greater extremes of discomfort and fatigue than other arms. Thirdly, the art of the Infantryman is less stereotyped and far harder to acquire in modern war

than that of any other arm. The Infantryman has to use initiative and intelligence in almost every step he moves, every action he takes on the battlefield. We must therefore put our men of best intelligence and endurance into Infantry'. Naturally, he was speaking of and acknowledging the soldiers of his time. We are very fortunate to have strong links with the Battalion Associations and the very men Wavell acknowledged.

In September, I was very privileged as your Commanding Officer to have been present at the funeral of the late Howard Pope. He was also a great soldier and he will be sadly missed, but fondly remembered by many in the Battalion, particularly those who were part of Op SOMME.

It has been some six years since I last served in the Battalion and it is has been great to see so many 'old hands' still soldiering. It struck me quite early into my command that the level of commitment, dedication and loyalty by all members is exceptional. As we finish a millennium and enter the next we will certainly face new challenges which we have not had to face before. Our current ADF commitment to East Timor has already made an impact on the Battalion, with individuals being posted to units preparing for the next rotation.

Clearly, in September next year the world's attention will be on the Sydney Olympics. Our part in this will be crucial as we contribute to the security and success of these games; this will be our major focus and will provide a new dimension to our role as Infanteers. We must however, look beyond the Olympics and prepare now for other activities, and be the first to put up our hand for deployments to Butterworth, Canungra or Battle Wing Tully.

At the end of each year we need to farewell members as their postings are completed. I would like to farewell our Regimental Colonel, Brigadier Pat Beale DSO MC (Retd), who has been a strong supporter of the Battalion, and his contribution has been outstanding.

The year 2000 started in great anticipation. As we returned from block leave we launched straight into Exercise Rhino Charge 2000 in early February. All ranks were required to achieve these competencies in order to deploy to the Sydney Olympics. We completed the standard lessons in building, vehicle and area search. Teams of five were established consisting a team leader and four searchers. Soon enough teams were conducting their training in building and area search as well as vehicle check points. The first week concluded with a three-day course for team leaders and some challenging exercises for the remainder conducted by OC D Coy.

The major Brigade directed exercise consisted of a deployment by the operational search battalion based on 10/27 RSAR. The exercise was conducted during the hours of darkness in two shifts. Wayville showgrounds, Mile End bus depot, Morphettville Racecourse and Football Park were the venues searched. This was coordinated in conjunction with the SA Police. We completed all tasks successfully and were well prepared for our eventual deployment to Sydney.

In April, the battalion officers, warrant officers and sergeants attended the annual TEWT; an excellent opportunity for the conduct of the new military appreciation process (MAP), which we do not get to practice that often.

ANZAC Day was again an outstanding success with a large turn out from the battalion this time equally as important for the Band as they performed their audition in front of the CEO of the Edinburgh Tattoo, BRIG N Jameson. He was delighted with the performance of the band and he was very keen to include us in the Tattoo in 2002.

May and June focussed on the preparation for the eventual deployment of a composite 9 BDE rifle coy to Butterworth, Malaysia sponsored and coordinated by 10/27 RSAR. The RSM and I had the opportunity to visit the troops in the field and we were naturally very proud when the Malaysian Army officials mentioned to us how well trained and professional our soldiers were. They did not believe that we were Reserve soldiers. Ex DHORA DHORA was again keenly contested by all BDE units where LCPL Angove and his team represented the unit; their performance a great credit to the team and the unit.

The deployment to Sydney commenced on the 4th of August "OP Gold" was our main effort for the year. Some 175 officers and soldiers were to deploy for the full duration of 3 months and The Sydney Olympics were a great success I am convinced that our support was a major factor in this.

The unit continues to support our battalion associations and this year we provided a guard and colours to the 2/27th Bn 60th anniversary celebrations and commemorative service. This was again followed by our support to the 2/ 10th Bn commemorative service at Woodside in early November.

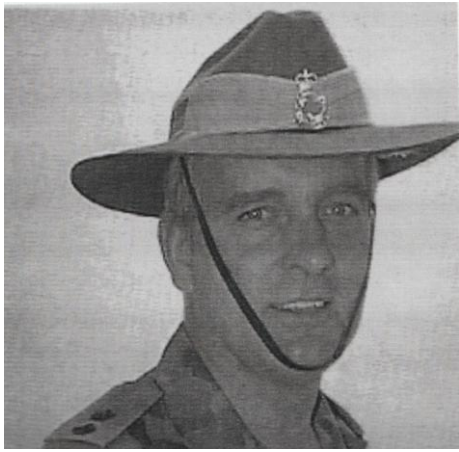
Next year will again be a major challenge. Recruiting new members will be a major priority including a focus on our corps infantry skills A warning order has already been released for another deployment to Malaysia in November 2001. This time it will be a full 3 month rotation with a full rifle company. At the end of the year, we again bid farewell to a number of officers and soldiers as they are posted to new units. I would like to extend my gratitude and best wishes

On 4th September 2001, I formally handed over command of 10th/27th Battalion, RSAR to LTCOL Peter Jones. Periods of command are now just two year and technically my tenure finished on 1 July 2001.

The battalion has some major challenges ahead. Recruiting has been a major focus for well over a year now. I am confident that you can turn the downward trend around and see some positive results in the not too distant future. Your corps infantry skills must remain a priority. Don't ever lose sight that you are infantrymen. The RSAR has a distinguished and proud history. This is lived each day not just by those who are currently serving in the battalion, but all those who have served at some time or other in one of the battalions. We must do our utmost to keep these traditions alive and well.

To every member of the battalion, I am indebted to you for your commitment and dedication. Your service and loyalty to your unit, your Corps and the Army was exemplary. To your families, I extend my sincere gratitude, for without their support we could not have been successful in our tasks this year. I take this opportunity to thank you for your unstinting support and wish you all the very best in the future. Look after the battalion.

This article has been respectfully abbreviated from the original Pro Patria text



Lieutenant Colonel P. Jones
Commanding Officer 2001 – 2002

As I write this in my office after less than 3 months in the chair, I am struck by the Battalion's recent achievements and of the challenges ahead of us. I intend to take this opportunity to communicate some of these to you. As a newcomer to the Battalion, I think it also important to provide an insight into my command philosophy.

There have been many achievements over the past year, both at an individual level and as a Battalion. In making mention of some, it in no way diminishes the importance of others. Firstly, on a magnificent autumn day in March, as part of the Centenary of Federation Celebrations, the Battalion proudly marched the Colours through the city streets of Adelaide in patrol order. Its salute was returned by the Chief of Army and the Commander 2nd Division as part of the Centenary of Army Celebration.

In July the Battalion was conferred the Freedom of Entry into the City of Mt Gambier. It was the first time the composite Battalion had been given the honour by the Mayor and peoples of Mt Gambier. It was a huge success and was widely reported by regional media.

Three things that I wanted observers to note about the Battalion over the coming years. These were our ability to train hard, train smart and to have fun. These underlying characteristics are important for us all. If we can demonstrate them then our numbers will grow and our unit cohesion strengthen. As a newcomer to the Battalion, it's important that all members and friends of the Battalion understand my command philosophy. While a philosophy of command can be uniquely personal,

It nevertheless provides me with a reference point from which to assess junior commanders: Set a good example in everything you do. Be firm and fair in your treatment of others. Demonstrate integrity. Do as you say. Identify a vision of what you want to achieve and go for it. This requires ongoing communication and focus. I intend to introduce a number of particular initiatives in this area in 2002 In September, the Regimental Sergeant Major, WO 1 Alex Mol departed for East Trmor for six months. I have been fortunate to have WO2 Grant McFarlane act in the role in the meantime.

In October we said farewell to a very special and historical link with the Battalion's heritage, Torrens Training Depot. TID', as it was affectionately known, was the forming-up place prior to embarkation for the 10th and 27th Battalions in both World Wars. The Battalion had maintained an unbroken presence in the Depot since it was completed and handed-over by the people of South Australia to the 10th Battalion's predecessor, The Adelaide Rifles, in the 1870s. TTD was very much the 'home' of the Battalion, and more recently to the officers and SNCOs, Support Company and Bravo Company. As a consequence of the closure of the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes at TTD, both Messes have been suspended until a permanent and suitable home can be found.

In the same month, and partly as a consequence of TTD's closure, the first elements of the Battalion moved into new premises in Building 198 within Keswick Barracks. This building will become the new home of Battalion Headquarters and most of the metropolitan Companies.

As October drew to a close we sadly farewelled our Honorary Colonel of more than five years, Sir Eric Neal the Governor of South Australia on the occasion of his retirement from office. Sir Eric had been a remarkable and invaluable Honorary Colonel for the Battalion. Not only did he

take a genuine and close interest in the Battalion and its affairs, he also took every opportunity to raise our profile and intercede where appropriate on our behalf. We wish he and Lady Neal a long and healthy retirement in North Adelaide where they now reside.

In November we joined many families to farewell 70 of the Battalion's finest to Rifle Company Butterworth. Under the Command of Major Peter Moore, the contingent will spend three months training in Malaysia and in Singapore. This deployment is significant as it demonstrates that a sizeable force of Reserve soldiers is capable of preparing for deployment and doing so over a protracted period. The soldiers will return with valuable skills that can be applied across the Battalion.

When I took over command from Lt Col Rijken at Torrens Training Depot at the beginning of September, I said there were things to give direction but without the resources and skills needed we risk wasting time and frustrating others. I will be doing everything I can to see that you get the tools and leadership you need for the Battalion to prosper. Acquire knowledge and continually communicate it to others. Our soldiers are intelligent and sharp. We need to keep each other in the loop, provide feedback and share, celebrate and learn from our successes. Many will recognise that these principles apply equally to the civilian environment as it does in the military.

Having a philosophy of command is one thing; making it work is another. Having a clear focus and direction is a key ingredient. Our direction over the coming year is twofold: recruiting and retention. Without increased numbers, we cannot provide our junior leaders/NCOs with opportunities to exercise leadership and command. Recruiting will become the responsibility of everyone in the Battalion; everyone will become involved. The sooner we get our strength up to acceptable levels, the sooner we can deliver efficient and effective training to every sub-unit. Retention is equally if not more important. For every member we lose it is an additional soldier to recruit; but worse, it's also a loss of valuable military skill and knowledge that has been painfully acquired, often at considerable public expense and human effort. As the year draws to a close, we take the opportunity to farewell those who have made a significant contribution to the Battalion. The future of the Battalion is bright. Collectively we can transform 10/27 into the best Reserve Battalion in the Australian Army. We are well on the way but have some way to go.

This article has been respectfully abbreviated from the original Pro Patria text



Lieutenant Colonel R. Duras
Commanding Officer 2003 – 2004

With a sense of honour, pride and privilege, I took command of the Battalion on the 1st of January 2003 from LtCol Peter Jones and have been in the Commanding Officers chair 12 months; but it seems like only a month. Peter Jones left the Battalion for the call of the service on promotion as The Director of the Army Personnel Agency - Adelaide. Peter worked hard at recruiting and left the battalion in good shape, with a clear operational focus. What has struck me on return to the battalion, after ten years, is the professionalism and the high standard of training of the soldiers within the battalion.

The battalion has again had a busy year in 2003, though these matters are not reported in this number of Pro Patria. It began with hosting the 100th Battalion from Guam at Cultana Training Area in July and sending a detachment to Hawaii with our sister battalion 12th/40th RTR from Tasmania during PACRES03.

The role for the Army Reserve seems to be firming with the major focus now being the provision of Force Protection and Response Forces. In response to the government request, in its war against terrorism, the Brigade was directed to raise a Reserve Response Force by December. The battalion was able to raise, train and test the response company in conjunction with others units in the Bde with the culmination of a large exercise at the Torrens Island Power Station. The battalion's role is now to maintain and develop this capability for defence in SA and at the same time, work towards developing a force protection capability. I believe we have our work cut out for us.

I would like to take the opportunity to farewell the Regimental Colonel, Don Hawking from the Regiment. I would like to personally thank him for his efforts, in particular, his commitment in getting the Band to Edinburgh. Don left us in September and I wish him well. He will be missed. At the same time I would like to welcome the new Regimental Colonel, Don Stewart, who has a long standing association with both the regular and reserve Army in South Australia. I look forward to working with him this year.

One of my pleasures this year was to meet and dine with some of the members of the regimental associations on Association Day prior to Anzac Day. It was good to share the memories with some of the past members of the Regiment and was amused how some things in service life don't change with the passing of time. This has motivated me in trying to put life back into the regimental collection and history and to have it displayed within the Battalion as well as trying to maintain the battalion's current history. I would like to thank Jeff Ayles in his efforts in displaying the Battalion Collection. I would like to expand the photograph collections and appeal to those who may be hoarding old photographs in cupboards and albums to come forward so that we can take electronic copies. I would also like to build on the collection of current photographs on the unit's recent history.

The battalion faces a few challenges in the future, in particular the commitment required of its reservists. We seem to say this every year but we are still able to rise to these challenges I would like to farewell those who made a major contribution to the battalion over the past two years.

This article has been respectfully abbreviated from the original Pro Patria text



Lieutenant Colonel C.P. (Peter) Moore
Commanding Officer 2005 – 2007

The past three years have seen incredible change in the Battalion and the life of the Reserve soldier. I have been privileged to have held the mantle of CO during a period that would see our soldiers deployed on operations in the Solomon Islands and East Timor. Others would serve on Operations in Australia and the near north of Australia. We have had many soldiers participate in training in Malaysia and New Zealand and on exercise with the US forces on EX Talisman Sabre.

During the period the role of the unit has changed from training for the defence of Australia as a doctrinal Infantry Battalion to provide specified individuals and other collective FE capabilities, as round out; and reinforcement and rotation elements in order to support ADF operations. Due to Project Focus major changes have occurred in our Unit establishment and the sad loss of the Support and Admin Company positions. The unit structure is now two fully manned rifle companies and a HQ Company.

The HRR is a scheme that requires 9 BDE to raise and maintain a Combat Team, ready for deployment on operations overseas. The members of this combat team must possess the same qualifications and competencies as their Full Time counterparts. I would like to congratulate Major Richard Bennett (OC B) on his appointment as the first HRR Combat Team OC and Captain Dan O'Neil as his 2IC; and the many members of the unit have volunteered for this role. We have been able to achieve our role in providing individuals or groups for operations. Currently we have 49 men and women on international operations in the Solomon Islands and East Timor. We also have soldiers supporting operations domestically on northern border security operations and in outback Australia.

No unit can exist with out external support mechanisms and I would like to thank the following for their support: Regimental Colonel - Lieutenant Colonel Don Stewart for his support, guidance and advice. Regimental Council – for their enthusiasm to support the unit and desire to keep the history and traditions I am very pleased to see that the RSAR association has got up and going again in the metro area emulating the wonderful work of the South East branch; Major Brenton Gasteen on his imminent promotion to Lieutenant Colonel and Major Graham Goodwin who has for the last two years served the Battalion in his tireless enthusiasm and efficiency.

I would like to thank all of the Cadre staff who served in the unit over the last three years. Your contributions have been invaluable and you have really made an impact on the soldiers you have trained. This year will see a number of key staff leave the unit, many without replacement and I wish them all the very best in their future careers. I would like to congratulate Lieutenant Colonel Werner Lausberg on his appointment as the next Commanding Officer and leave the unit in his capable hands.

I am proud to have served in this Battalion. I am in awe of what it has achieved in the past and inspired by what the soldiers can achieve today. I leave knowing that the members of the Battalion are as proud of their unit and have a desire to serve their country today as they ever have. There are few things in life that can compare to the privilege to have been the Commanding Officer of the Tenth Twenty Seventh Battalion, and I have been afforded that rare honour. Thank you.

This article has been respectfully abbreviated from the original Pro Patria text



Lieutenant Colonel Werner Lausberg
Commanding Officer 2008 – 2009

After an absence of six years, which included postings to BDE HQ and Land Warfare Centre (Hampstead Barracks), it was an honour to be posted back to the Battalion (BN) as the Commanding Officer for 2008. I reflected on what had been six years earlier and wondered how much had changed and who would still be parading. Reality cleared a lot of the unknowns even before I set foot back at BHQ. The Battalion had just been through a major review (Project Focus) and Administration, Support, Charlie and Delta COYs no longer existed. Support would now be provided by the BDE Operational Support COY (BOSC). I was also informed that almost all of the senior commanders would be changed for 2008. It would be an understatement to state that quite a challenge lay ahead.

We all know that the Battalion had been through far worse than this, both in war and peace. Look at the Battle honours and that will spell it out loud and clear. Restructures... this wasn't the first, nor will it be the last. My task was clear – roll up the sleeves and get going. I knew that there are many fine soldiers in the Battalion who would stand alongside me and do whatever was needed to ensure that our Unit was capable of achieving its tasks.

Not having any preconceived ideas or previous reputations enabled rapid headway in establishing networks and individual contacts in setting up new procedures and processes.

I noted, during my initial visual orientations, that the physical state of the buildings, which housed BHQ and the Armoury, required to be improved. While I appreciated the major relocations that occurred during 2007, the appearance of these areas were comparable to a rented accommodation where the previous tenants had left in a hurry leaving unwanted belongings for someone else to clean up. The decision was made to relocate B COY to building 188 and give the place a good clean. The other change which was implemented by mid-2008 was the change of locations of the BOSC, BHQ and Training PL. Besides the impact of Project Focus, our real task was preparing and deploying soldiers for operational deployments.

During the first part of 2008, the Battalion had already deployed members on ANODE 13 and had a PL deployed in the Solomon Islands for ANODE 14. We also had soldiers committed for RESOLUTE (Border protection with the RAN), TESTAMENT (Popes visit to Sydney), RCB Butterworth and one deployment to MAZURKA (UN peacekeeping in the Sinai). This kept our focus on ensuring that soldier skills were recorded and kept up to so that shortfalls could be addressed to enable soldiers to be deployed. It was just as well that we did this for 9 BDE was going to be the mounting HQ for ANODE 17 which was to commence in Oct 2008.

Another highlight of 2008 was ANZAC Day celebrated in Adelaide and our country Depots. As usual, we provided Catafalque parties to all major Dawn Services as well as taking part in the main ANZAC March. On a sad note, the RSM and I attended the final gathering of the 2/27BN Association as membership had been steadily declining. The ABC also approached us to be part of a documentary involving World War One and the role of the Regiment. The successful film was shown on ANZAC day itself and showed a proud CO describing and explaining our involvement. I had the fortune of watching our Band perform in the Prom at the Adelaide Town Hall and I was most impressed with the individual talents of our Band members and their range of music played on the night. Alpha COY does great work in supporting local community events and, in turn, receives invaluable support from key enterprises. One such event involved a Mt Gambier catafalque party providing support for the rededication of the Lucindale RSL memorial.

What was surprising was the attendance of General Peter Cosgrove, former CDF, who had served with a local RSL member. Our soldiers took every opportunity to have their photos taken with him with some even having him sign his autobiography!

The Battalion started to thin out from October with around 37 soldiers preparing for the ANODE 17 deployment. Given that we were the mounting BDE, it fell to the BN to supply a large number of members to support the Mission Rehearsal Exercise (MRE) in Townsville. During the



deployment of ANODE 17, the BN provided the OPSO, ADJT and RSM from Nov 2008 to Apr 2009. It was fortunate that we had capable staff that could step up and fill these positions during their absence. To finish a very busy first year as the CO, I very much enjoyed both the BN ball at Keswick as well as the Mt Gambier Cabaret; I appreciated the fine efforts of both organizing committees in providing highly successful functions.

The first part of this calendar year passed quickly with another successful ANZAC day and regular weekend training. CATA also took considerable effort leading to planned improvements for 2010. It was also good to have all of our soldiers return to the BN by the end of April from ANODE 17.

I also took the opportunity to focus on two key components of us being Infantry soldiers. These being that we have a shooting capability and that we maintain a high fitness state. With Shooting, I appointed our resident 'gun nut', MAJ Daryl Lenkic as the BN Shooting Officer. I tasked him to plan a training regime to develop a two team shooting capability to win the Simpson Trophy. The second was to conduct a Combat Fitness Assessment during the City-Bay 'Fun run'. Under the guidance of MAJ Lenkic, two teams were eventually selected after a series of shooting events to identify our most capable shooters. While only ten made up the final teams, we could have easily entered two more teams. I was more than happy with our shooting potential.

To give support to the shooting team development, I also participated and, with MAJ Lenkic, made the second team. To our surprise during the competition, the second team won the Simpson Trophy with our first team placing second, well ahead of the distant third team. We completed the CFA with five minutes to spare no major incidents and good media coverage. A most pleasing personal and team result.

My personal ambition, during my tenure as the CO, was to walk the Kokoda Track. I wanted to do this to appreciate and understand what the soldiers of the 2/10 and 2/27 BNs went through in their battles in New Guinea. As my time as CO grows to a close, I reflect on how much the BN has become part of my life. There isn't a single day that I am not involved in some aspect of the BN, whether that be actually or thinking and planning. While it is time consuming, and at times challenging, it is most rewarding. I believe that it is every CO's objective to leave their BN or unit in a better state than they found it. I believe that I have achieved this. Therefore, I wish LTCOL Brenton Gasteen the best of luck in assuming command from 2010. I also state that it has been an honour and privilege to have served with you for the last two years, thank you all for your outstanding contribution and wish you the very best for the future.

This article has been respectfully abbreviated from the original Pro Patria text



Lieutenant Colonel B. Gasteen
Commanding Officer 2010 – 2012

It was with the mixed emotions of pride and humility that I commenced my command tenure of 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment in January 2010. Pride at having been selected to command this fine battalion with its long and proud history; humility upon reflecting on that history and its place in the development of the army, our State and Country.

January 2010 saw significant change in the battalion's command and leadership team with the CO, OPSO, ADJT and RSM all changing. Of the senior appointments within BHQ, only the Bn 2IC, MAJ Leigh Newton carried over from 2009 and his corporate knowledge was invaluable in ensuring a seamless transition of command.

Upon assuming command I was quick to impress on all the principal tenet of my Command Philosophy, namely an Operational Focus and my supporting vision that 10/27 RSAR be the *"most ready and operationally capable unit within 9 Bde"*. When combined with a training programme that focussed on being "brilliant at the basics" at the individual level, the Battalion was able to build a solid foundation upon which to conduct effective, challenging and rewarding collective training.

In these endeavours I was ably supported by an outstanding group of senior staff and commanders whose commitment was second to none. So too was that of the soldiers. Their ongoing willingness to step up to the mark for major field training exercises, support to other units or for operations has made 10/27 RSAR the "go to" unit in South Australia on more than one occasion for HQ 9 Bde.

Our achievements over the past three years include an increase in strength by about a platoon and a half with an equal number progressing through the recruiting continuum. We have continued to train and promote a highly capable group of junior NCOs. At time of writing, the Battalion is staffing a proposal to raise a second metropolitan rifle company. In line with our operational focus, the battalion has successfully deployed three contingents to Solomon Islands and indeed was the Mounting Unit for the most recent. I am pleased to say that the focus on readiness, preparedness and solid skillsets at the section and platoon level has meant that the preparation and quality of soldiers and officers we have been able to send on operations has been second to none.

But what of the future? PLAN BEERSHEBA will see a significant reorganisation of ARES units and close partnering of paired ARES Bdes with an ARA Bde. 10/27 RSAR is set to grow as it absorbs other 9 Bde units in this re-structure. With strong metropolitan numbers, my attention is focussed on strengthening our regional depots and it is my hope that we will see greater recruiting generally and transition from our regionally fostered cadet units into the battalion. In addition, the battalion is planning to implement a modified training model for regional depots which will focus on a nine day continuous training period in lieu of some Tuesday night and weekend parades. For a comparable expenditure in resources the battalion will achieve a far greater training outcome in terms of effectiveness and efficiency. It is proposed to trial this in early 2013 and I look forward to the results of this initiative.

It should be noted that I am leaving command of 10/27 RSAR six months early to assume the appointment of Commander Combined Task Force 635, the combined Australian, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Tongan force in Solomon Islands. Whilst I am sad to be leaving the

battalion early, the opportunity to command soldiers on operations is a great honour and an outstanding way to culminate my command of this fine battalion.

In closing, allow me to reiterate my request to all members of the battalion at my dining out.

*Take note of the Colours and the Battle Honours emblazoned thereon. Understand that you are the current holder of a position within the battalion held by a forebear who helped win those Battle Honours. Honour that former soldier of the battalion and take full **ownership** of the position that he once held and that has now been entrusted to you. Strive to do the best job you can and then aim to do better. Try and make it impossible for your successor to do a better job.*

Pro Patria

Members of the 10th/27th Battalion, The Royal South Australia Regiment
With effect 4 August 2014

EID	Rank Worn	Initials	Surname	Service	Service Type	Corps	SubUnit
8235826	LTCOL	G.M.	GOODWIN	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	BHQ
8233584	MAJ	R.R.J.	BENNETT	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	BHQ
8241673	MAJ	S.H.	BENVENISTE	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8270607	MAJ	M.	DILORENZO	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8218411	MAJ	J.R.	KMET	ARMY	ARA	RAINF	BHQ
8238508	MAJ	P.R.	MALE	Army	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8267543	MAJ	P.J.	WIRTH	ARMY	AGR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8233036	CAPT	A.J.	BEAUMONT	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8215349	CAPT	C.S.	CUDSI	ARMY	CFTS	RAAPC	BHQ
8226708	CAPT	J.O.	EDDINGTON	ARMY	AGR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8436279	CAPT	J.R.	FIELD	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8220565	CAPT	B.L.	FLINK	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	B Coy
8441990	CAPT	N.J.	GRANDIN	ARMY	AGR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8510264	CAPT	A.J.	HARVEY	ARMY	ARA	RAE	3 FD SQN
8516176	CAPT	D.A.	HAUPT	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8251863	CAPT	M.V.	LEE	ARMY	AGR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8271850	CAPT	R.M.	LOVE	ARMY	AGR	RAA	3 FD SQN
8549762	CAPT	T.D.	MOORE	ARMY	ARA	RAINF	BHQ
8530887	CAPT	C.J.D.	SOANE	ARMY	ARA	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8293079	CAPT	M.W.	STEVENS	ARMY	AGR	RAANC	BHQ
8552204	LT	L.R.O.	CLYNE	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8546098	LT	V.J.S.	DUVAL	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8560979	LT	R.L.	EAVES	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8521490	LT	M.J.	FELL	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8592204	LT	P.G.	KWITKO	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8576568	LT	A.L.	PENINGTON	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8245891	WO1	A.G.	HODGES	ARMY	ARA	RAINF	BHQ
8222044	WO2	R.T.	DART	ARMY	CFTS	RACT	BHQ
8238890	WO2	E.	DIXON	ARMY	AGR	RAAOC	BHQ
8213236	WO2	C.M.	FORESTIER	ARMY	ARA	RAINF	BHQ
8265525	WO2	M.C.	HOVINGTON	ARMY	ARA	RAINF	A Coy
8213262	WO2	M.C.	MEREDITH	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	B Coy
8249312	WO2	L.M.	MEULENGRAAF	ARMY	ARA	RAINF	BHQ
8271824	WO2	D.G.	NAGLE	ARMY	CFTS	RAINF	BHQ
8241144	WO2	L.J.	PHILLIPS	ARMY	ARA	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8222226	WO2	C.S.	THOMSON	ARMY	ARA	RAINF	B Coy
8243193	WO2	R.	TURNER	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8238173	WO2	K.R.	WITT	ARMY	AGR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8236311	SSGT	G.	JAMES BARNACLE-	ARMY	AGR	AABC	BHQ
8254857	SGT	T.	WATTS	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	B Coy
8221089	SGT	R.A.	BROADBENT	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	BHQ
8214370	SGT	R.	CHARMAN	ARMY	ARA	RAINF	A Coy
8222188	SGT	J.R.	CONWAY	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8240312	SGT	B.	CURTIS	ARMY	CFTS	RAINF	HQ COY
8245099	SGT	J.R.	DUNCAN	ARMY	ARA	RAINF	A Coy
8219468	SGT	N.A.	GOEDINGS	ARMY	ARA	RAAOC	BHQ
8230687	SGT	I.G.	GREENE	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	BHQ
8265920	SGT	M.J.	HALL	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8240043	SGT	W.A.	HORSLEN	ARMY	AGR	RAAOC	BHQ
8224478	SGT	S.G.	KENNY	ARMY	AGR	RAAMC	BHQ
8264130	SGT	S.A.	KREUSLER	ARMY	ARA	RAINF	BHQ
8220053	SGT	B.	LICUL	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8261333	SGT	D.J.	MACDONALD	ARMY	ARA	RAINF	A Coy
8249095	SGT	S.G.	MCGUIRE	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8268132	SGT	T.W.	OAKES	ARMY	AGR	RAEME	BHQ

EID	Rank Worn	Initials	Surname	Service	Service Type	Corps	SubUnit
8216482	SGT	B.R.J.	PAYNE	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8248416	SGT	M.K.	PROSSER	ARMY	AGR	RAAOC	A Coy
8254273	SGT	R.A.	SHARMAN	ARMY	AGR	RAAOC	6/13 Lt BTY
8248571	SGT	A.C.	SMITH	ARMY	AGR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8229637	SGT	M.J.	SWEENEY	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8223157	SGT	M.D.	WOODS	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8502856	CPL	R.J.	ANDERSON	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8258020	CPL	G.	BAXTER	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8238313	CPL	S.M.	BERG	ARMY	AGR	RAAOC	BHQ
8521429	CPL	M.A.	BLONDELL	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8263519	CPL	C.I.	BOURNE	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	BHQ
8263247	CPL	G.R.	CADDY	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8229383	BDR	A.G.	CAMPBELL	ARMY	AGR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8216119	CPL	P.M.	CENTOFANTI	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	BHQ
8215040	BDR	L.N.	COOPER	ARMY	AGR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8248319	CPL	S.R.J.	FERGUSON	ARMY	AGR	AABC	BHQ
8487795	CPL	J.S.	FOALE	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8244502	BDR	S.J.	FORMOSA	ARMY	AGR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8244038	CPL	J.A.	GORMAN	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8273068	BDR	P.S.	HANNON	ARMY	AGR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8216918	CPL	F.	HASANCEVIC	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8219633	CPL	B.C.	HIGGINS	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8375648	CPL	D.A.	HORBENKO	ARMY	RES-HRR	RA INF	BHQ
8270121	CPL	J.H.	IRVINE	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8220127	BDR	J.F.	JAY	ARMY	AGR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8222408	BDR	T.J.	KNAPPSTEIN	ARMY	AGR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8231880	CPL	R.D.	LEIGHTON	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8226124	CPL	A.	LI	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	B Coy
8256832	CPL	J.F.	MACARTNEY	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	BHQ
8232534	CPL	B.J.	MALIC	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8259689	CPL	O.K.	MARTIN	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8272854	CPL	J.G.	MICKAN	ARMY	ARA	RAE	3 FD SQN
8540760	BDR	B.J.	MOON	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8248885	CPL	S.D.	NIGHTINGALE	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8299187	BDR	M.A.	O'DONNELL	ARMY	AGR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8243411	CPL	N.D.	PACE	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8526135	CPL	M.D.	PAULSEN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8531885	CPL	R.C.	PEARCE	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8223189	CPL	M.J.	PERRY	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	BHQ
8215738	CPL	A.M.	PORTAKIEWICZ	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	BHQ
8269544	CPL	D.P.	PORTAKIEWICZ	ARMY	AGR	AABC	BHQ
8216175	CPL	A.B.A.	PREVETT	ARMY	AGR	RAAOC	A Coy
8225892	CPL	J.J.	RANCE	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	B Coy
8498728	CPL	M.J.	ROBINSON	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	B Coy
8267698	CPL	N.D.	ROWELL	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8218288	CPL	C.M.	SMALING	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8213669	CPL	J.A.	SNIEDZE	ARMY	AGR	AABC	BHQ
8485311	CPL	A.L.	SPANTON	ARMY	AGR	RAAOC	6/13 Lt BTY
8225406	CPL	W.M.	SPENCER	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8443192	CPL	S.J.	TAYLOR	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8484747	CPL	K.R.	THORPE	ARMY	AGR	RAAMC	BHQ
8503480	CPL	A.L.	VAN ROOSMALEN	ARMY	AAR	RAAMC	BHQ
8258088	CPL	S.P.	WILLIAMS	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8215725	CPL	K.W.	WROBEL	ARMY	AGR	RAAOC	BHQ
8499852	LBDR	L.C.G.	ALLEN	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8542328	LCPL	B.A.	FREEMAN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8225115	LCPL	E.J.	BROWN	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8552435	LCPL	A.K.J.	BURNS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8249528	LCPL	R.D.	CARR	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN

EID	Rank Worn	Initials	Surname	Service	Service Type	Corps	SubUnit
8560084	LCPL	J.C.	CASS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8521143	LCPL	N.M.	CHYE	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8262467	LCPL	D.S.	CONELLY	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8235014	LCPL	K.A.	CONNELL	ARMY	AGR	RAAMC	A Coy
8493331	LCPL	T.R.	DALY	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	B Coy
8435592	LCPL	T.P.	DUNNING	ARMY	RES-HRR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8534287	LCPL	M.D.	EASTON	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8244843	LCPL	R.J.	ELLIOTT	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8248457	LCPL	I.J.	FLOTTMAN	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8261075	LCPL	P.G.	GEORGE	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8534522	LBDR	S.R.L.	GIBSON	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8526455	LCPL	J.A.	GILLESPIE	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8443445	LCPL	P.J.	GLASTONBURY	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8218981	LCPL	R.P.	HALE	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8222225	LCPL	D.A.	HAMILTON	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8506916	LBDR	B.R.	HOOVER	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8441304	LBDR	J.I.	HUGHES	ARMY	AGR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8548849	LCPL	L.M.	JACKSON	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8531609	LCPL	A.S.	MOL	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8241775	LCPL	S.D.	O'NEILL	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8245257	LCPL	P.G.	PEARCE	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	BHQ
8224588	LCPL	M.J.	REID	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8519470	LCPL	A.E.	SANDERS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8236005	LCPL	K.M.	SCHNEIDER	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8296437	LCPL	N.R.	SHEPHERD	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	B Coy
8503131	LCPL	A.N.D.	SMITH	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8494276	LBDR	M.E.	STAPLES	ARMY	AGR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8526333	LCPL	K.L.	TAYLOR	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8525863	LCPL	T.N.	THOMAS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8214526	LCPL	N.	TURVEY	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8534297	LCPL	A.V.	WOOLSTON	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8225430	LCPL	R.A.	YOUNG	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8549060	PTE(P)	W.A.	ABAREH	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8509534	PTE(P)	M.F.	ABRAHAM	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8506138	PTE(P)	T.J.	APPELBEE	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8588487	SPR	B.J.	ARMAN	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8554761	PTE(P)	S.R.	BAMFORD	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8372349	MUSN	M.K.	BAMPTON	ARMY	AGR	AABC	BHQ
8565495	PTE(P)	N.J.	BASTIAN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8495934	PTE(P)	J.P.J.	BATES	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	B Coy
8519228	PTE(P)	J.D.	BAYLEY	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8537306	PTE(P)	S.G.	BEAMES	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8549057	PTE(P)	S.M.	BLAKE	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8566412	PTE(P)	P.A.	BOVA	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8500457	PTE(P)	R.P.	BRAS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8559498	PTE	M.J.	BRETON	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8529200	PTE(P)	F.R.	BROOKE	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8535615	SPR(P)	I.D.	BROOKS	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8552690	PTE(P)	R.	BROPHY	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8522995	PTE(P)	B.A.	BUETHKE	ARMY	AAR	RAAMC	BHQ
8552725	SPR(P)	G.	BURRELL	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8555207	PTE	S.S.	BUTLER	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8591600	PTE	J.A.	CALLADO	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8559499	PTE(P)	A.N.	CARBONE	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8586311	SPR	T.K.	CARPENTER	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8246948	SPR(P)	J.V.L.	CAVE	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8571271	SPR	A.R.	CHADWICK	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8535456	PTE(P)	D.B.	CHAMBERLAIN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8565038	SPR	G.W.	COLLOM	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8560771	GNR(P)	O.G.	COMANDARI	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY

EID	Rank Worn	Initials	Surname	Service	Service Type	Corps	Sub Unit
8542515	SPR	T.S.	CORRELL	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8551306	GNR(P)	G.E.H.	CUMMINGS	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8269826	PTE(P)	T.J.	DAWSON	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	BHQ
8441307	PTE(P)	P.N.	DEAN	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8559512	PTE(P)	N.C.	DEMASI	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8525279	SPR(P)	G.A.	DIAZ	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8512750	GNR(P)	B.J.	DORAN	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8580983	PTE	S.A.R.	ELLISS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8589355	PTE	J.J.	FAUNT	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8589359	PTE	A.R.	FISHER	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8539760	PTE(P)	S.J.	FLEMING	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8532099	SPR(P)	S.N.	FLETT	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8591584	PTE	M.A.	FLIPPANCE	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8587818	SPR	J.L.	FORBES	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8580984	SPR	M.W.	FORD	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8232473	PTE(P)	N.	FORTUNE	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	BHQ
8233113	PTE(P)	M.	FRANZE	ARMY	AGR	RAAOC	A Coy
8534295	PTE(P)	S.J.	FREEMAN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8489109	PTE	E.T.	GALLAGHER	ARMY	AGR	RAAOC	BHQ
8559682	SPR(P)	S.M.J.	GALLASCH	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8555407	GNR(P)	A.I.	GARDINER	ARMY	AAR	RAA	A Coy
8578795	PTE	E.B.	GELLIE	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8547968	MUSN	R.J.	GOEDECKE	ARMY	AAR	AABC	BHQ
8557705	SPR	J.R.	GREENHALGH	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8568327	PTE	J.A.	GRIFFITHS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8533421	PTE(P)	A.M.	HALIKIAS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8558601	SPR(P)	T.J.	HARRAL	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8495086	PTE(P)	B.J.	HARRIS	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8539016	PTE(P)	L.M.	HARRIS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8589365	PTE	C.J.	HARRISON	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8596124	PTE	A.	HARRLAND	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8564832	PTE(P)	T.P.	HARTMAN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8565966	SPR	T.J.	HEALEY	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8225400	PTE	B.J.	HEFEZ	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	B Coy
8443169	SPR(P)	C.W.	HENNESSY	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8587686	SPR	P.J.	HERR	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8253930	MUSN(P)	E.J.	HEWITT	ARMY	AGR	AABC	BHQ
8584399	SPR	M.T.	HILL	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8567864	GNR	R.J.W.	HOFFMANN	ARMY	AAR	RAA	BHQ
8565041	PTE	J.I.	HOWARD	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8560260	SPR	J.P.	HUF	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8554766	PTE(P)	J.A.	HUMPHRYS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8565738	SPR	M.	HUNTER	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8242321	SPR(P)	A.C.	IRVINE	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8237347	PTE(P)	A.P.	JALOSHIN	ARMY	AGR	RAAOC	BHQ
8217903	SPR(P)	W.H.	JAMES-MARTIN	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8255823	GNR(P)	T.R.	JAMIESON	ARMY	AGR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8529204	PTE(P)	J.P.J.	JANTTI	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8585235	PTE	S.M.	JARRAD	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8579305	PTE	L.J.M.P.	JONES	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8531238	SPR(P)	M.J.	JOSEPH	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8560495	PTE	Z.D.	KATIS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8565963	PTE	J.M.	KAY	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	3 FD SQN
8588663	PTE	J.L.	KELLOGG	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8525911	GNR(P)	G.R.	KENT	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8502549	PTE	J.	KNIGHT	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8514993	MUSN	J.D.	KOOP	ARMY	AAR	AABC	BHQ
8256510	PTE(P)	D.J.	LAUBE	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	6/13 Lt BTY
8590647	PTE	J.W.	LEWIS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8554994	SPR(P)	J.A.	LITTMAN	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN

EID	Rank Worn	Initials	Surname	Service	Service Type	Corps	Sub Unit
8574524	PTE	A.C.	LLOYD	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8548848	SPR(P)	M.D.	LOHMEYER	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8536395	PTE(P)	R.A.	LOVEKIN	ARMY	ARA	RAAMC	BHQ
8577974	GNR	E.T.	LUTTRELL	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8502447	PTE(P)	A.P.J.	MARKS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8560682	PTE(P)	J.I.	MARSH	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8230301	MUSN(P)	F.G.	MARTIN	ARMY	AGR	AABC	BHQ
8590637	PTE	S.S.	MCCLYMONT	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8575449	PTE	J.J.G.	MCLACHLAN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8599488	PTE	S.T.	MCMAHON	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8551426	PTE(P)	T.C.	MCMAHON	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8544598	SPR(P)	D.C.	MERCURIO	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8243190	PTE	N.R.	MILLER	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	B Coy
8540054	GNR(P)	S.J.	MITCHELL	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8559260	PTE	J.L.	MORRIS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8232564	PTE(P)	J.M.	MORTON	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	B Coy
8580201	PTE	J.	MOSCHIS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8587684	SPR	R.C.	MOYNE	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8584402	PTE	C.J.	MUCHA	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8580696	GNR	M.J.	MULHALL	ARMY	AAR	RAA	BHQ
8571265	PTE	J.J.	MURCHLAND	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8555172	GNR(P)	N.W.	NANKERVIS	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8554542	PTE(P)	T.J.	NEILSON	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8591835	PTE	S.B.	NOBLE	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8513045	PTE(P)	S.A.	NORMAN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8554945	SPR(P)	J.J.	NORTON	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8553478	SPR(P)	J.R.	NOYCE	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8554784	GNR(P)	C.A.	NUER	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8567323	PTE	R.T.	O'DALY	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8216942	PTE(P)	S.P.	O'DEA	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8555406	PTE	C.	ONPHUTHORN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8238809	PTE(P)	W.F.	O'ROURKE	ARMY	AGR	RAAOC	BHQ
8495561	PTE(P)	B.D.	ORR	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8528125	PTE(P)	D.L.	OTTERBURN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8590654	PTE	J.C.	PARK	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8571267	SPR	M.D.	PATTERSON	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8266237	PTE(P)	D.W.	PEAKE	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	BHQ
8588719	PTE	M.	PEDUTO	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8545582	PTE(P)	C.D.	PETERS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8577175	PTE	N.M.	PETRAKIS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8270040	PTE(P)	D.J.	PRENDERGAST	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	B Coy
8532968	PTE(P)	A.Z.	PRICE	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8551125	PTE(P)	C.D.	PROVAN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8591585	PTE	T.J.	PULFORD	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8265340	PTE(P)	L.G.	PURDY	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8536316	PTE(P)	R.B.	RIACH	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8236650	PTE(P)	D.W.P.	RICHARDSON	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	BHQ
8542181	PTE(P)	J.C.	ROBERTS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8567634	SPR	A.	ROBINS	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8244168	SPR(P)	D.S.	ROMALDI	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8591599	PTE	C.L.	RUSSELL	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8489590	PTE	A.M.	SAILES	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	B Coy
8532095	PTE(P)	A.P.	SALANDRA	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8567913	PTE	D.V.	SALOUKVADZE	ARMY	ASR	RAINF	B Coy
8555556	GNR(P)	M.K.	SCHIRK	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8490274	PTE(P)	B.M.	SCHUTZ	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8573922	PTE	R.M.	SCOTT	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8504655	PTE(P)	N.T.	SCOWN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8563534	PTE	L.T.	SHANKS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8577177	SPR	R.C.	SHARP	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN

EID	Rank Worn	Initials	Surname	Service	Service Type	Corps	Sub Unit
8564472	PTE(P)	K.F.	SHEEHAN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8555846	GNR(P)	K.B.	SKIPWORTH	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8236003	MUSN(P)	I.C.	SLATER	ARMY	AGR	AABC	BHQ
8300219	MUSN(P)	K.J.	SLATTERY	ARMY	AGR	AABC	BHQ
8270790	PTE(P)	M.P.	SMALING	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8436444	PTE(P)	K.M.	SMITH	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8582282	GNR	R.E.	SMITH	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8222344	SPR(P)	J.J.	SPICER	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8567866	PTE	C.S.	STAKER	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8583028	GNR	A.J.	STEVENS	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8582279	PTE	D.A.P.	SWALLOWE	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8550724	PTE(P)	D.P.	TAHENY	ARMY	AAR	RAAOC	BHQ
8531206	PTE(P)	M.P.	TAMLIN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8267639	SPR(P)	B.D.	TATTERSALL	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8257308	SPR(P)	D.T.	THOMAS	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8552986	SPR(P)	M.P.	THOMAS	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8245321	SPR(P)	S.K.	THOMPSON	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8591943	SPR	J.P.	TIPPING	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8554201	PTE	K.S.D.	TODD	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8557860	PTE(P)	T.K.	TOLOTTA	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8540742	PTE(P)	A.M.	TOUBIA	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8572553	SPR(P)	M.	TOUBIA	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8217107	PTE(P)	A.M.D.	TUCKER	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	BHQ
8083691	MUSN(P)	B.M.	TUCKER	ARMY	AGR	AABC	BHQ
8541390	PTE(P)	D.G.	TURCI	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8540253	GNR(P)	C.S.	TURNER	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8267913	PTE(P)	G.C.	TURNER	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8527711	PTE(P)	M.D.	VAN ZYL	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8585545	GNR	E.L.	VATOVEC	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8526484	PTE(P)	J.E.	VIRGO	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8544666	PTE(P)	T.R.	WALKER	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8542975	GNR(P)	P.J.	WALTON	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8555634	GNR	J.	WARD	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8262717	PTE(P)	M.L.	WATTERS	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8090303	PTE(P)	R.B.	WEWER	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8589360	PTE	D.E.	WILLIAMS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8579299	SPR	B.K.R.	WILSON	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8252643	SPR(P)	B.S.	WILSON	ARMY	AGR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8555854	PTE(P)	N.K.	WINTER	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8540747	PTE(P)	N.J.	WOODBIDGE	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8551423	GNR(P)	T.	WOODS	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8524718	SPR(P)	C.I.	YATES	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8484936	PTE(P)	P.J.	ZUROMSKI	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	B Coy
8581370	PTE TRN	N.S.	ALEXANDRIDES	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8590118	PTE TRN	N.P.	BELFIELD	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8598435	PTE TRN	W.K.	CAMPBELL	ARMY	AAR	AABC	BHQ
8569177	PTE TRN	M.	CANNADINE	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8603663	PTE TRN	J.L.	CHAPLIN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8597688	PTE TRN	E.G.	COTTON	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8582538	PTE TRN	S.B.M.	DAVIS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8585538	PTE TRN	C.J.	DEACON	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8590577	PTE TRN	P.R.	DUGGAN	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8590123	PTE TRN	D.J.	EDDY	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8597161	PTE TRN	D.L.	FRANKS	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8580214	PTE TRN	A.L.	FRUIN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8582520	PTE TRN	C.J.	GREEN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8586853	PTE TRN	M.	HAMMOND	ARMY	AAR	RAA	BHQ
8590737	PTE TRN	B.C.	HEDLEY	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8589705	PTE TRN	R.T.	HISSEY	ARMY	AAR	RAA	BHQ
8582519	PTE TRN	J.S.	HUNTER	ARMY	AAR	RAA	BHQ

EID	Rank Worn	Initials	Surname	Service	Service Type	Corps	Sub Unit
8598254	PTE TRN	J.A.	JOHINKE-MILICH	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8333277	PTE TRN	A.M.	KING	ARMY	AGR	RAINF	A Coy
8556501	PTE TRN	S.	KRASEVSKIS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8600041	PTE TRN	B.	MCIVOR	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8597160	PTE TRN	R.C.	MEYER	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8588246	PTE TRN	A.J.	MLACO	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8582474	PTE TRN	A.S.T.	NANDAN	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8593629	PTE TRN	J.	PANFILO	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8590648	PTE TRN	J.A.	PAVAN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8585241	PTE TRN	D.W.	PROBERT	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8575842	PTE TRN	R.J.	PROVAN	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8585543	PTE TRN	R.J.	ROYLANCE	ARMY	AAR	RAA	BHQ
8589799	PTE TRN	J.T.	SEM CZUK	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8586288	PTE TRN	N.C.	SOMES	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8591583	PTE TRN	A.	SPANGLER	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8585554	PTE TRN	L.M.	SUCKLING	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8589798	PTE TRN	J.A.	TERTIPIIS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8571357	PTE TRN	J.L.	TOJINO	ARMY	AAR	RAA	6/13 Lt BTY
8580699	PTE TRN	A.D.	TONON	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8565969	PTE TRN	S.S.	TURTLE	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8590780	PTE TRN	A.A.	VIRJEE	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8591608	PTE TRN	L.M.	WARD	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8601693	PTE TRN	N.B.	WEEPERS	ARMY	AAR	AABC	BHQ
8605520	PTE REC	R.A.R.	BURNETT	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8588594	PTE REC	J.E.	BURNS	ARMY	AAR	RAA	BHQ
8605572	PTE REC	A.F.	CARBONE	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	B Coy
8605528	PTE REC	M.M.	COLEMAN	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8597690	PTE REC	J.E.	GRAHAM	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8605523	PTE REC	H.W.	HARDS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8590116	PTE REC	A.L.	MACDONALD	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8589981	PTE REC	M.J.	NIXON	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8593602	PTE REC	R.J.	ROCHFORD	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8605830	PTE REC	C.L.	STAURT	ARMY	AAR	RAE	3 FD SQN
8605530	PTE REC	A.	VERMA	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	BHQ
8582522	PTE REC	D.K.	WILLIAMS	ARMY	AAR	RAINF	A Coy
8594278	APS	T.J.	WARNECKE	CIVI	APS		HQ COY