

CASCABEL

Journal of the

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION
(VICTORIA) INCORPORATED

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Members of 22 Fd. Bty. and Guns in preparation for a Salute
at Princess Bridge Melbourne in the early 90's

Contents

Article	Pages
Assn Contacts, Conditions & Copyright	3
Current Postal Address of Association.....	3
The President Writes	4
Membership Report	5
Regimental Ball.....	6
Corps Shop Price List	7
Exercise Chau Pha	8
Constitution Ammendments.....	9
This Month in Military History.....	11
Test Your Memory	15
Affiliated Associations	17
Request for Help	17
My Service Career by COL Graham Farley, OAM, RFD, ED (Rtd)	18
ADI Munitions Visit.....	24
Golf Day.....	25
Parade Card	27
Changing your address ? See cut-out proforma	27

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The President Writes

Once again our service men and women in the Middle East have acquitted themselves well and are either home already or soon to be on their way home. In particular the SAS soldiers have once again proven themselves to be equal to the best. I am a little afraid that the peace may not be as easily maintained as the smooth military campaign that preceded it.

2/10 Field Regiment had a very convivial unit birthday party on Sunday 30 March. There were sports in the form of Touch Football and Tug of War in which all ranks including the Commanding Officer took part. I was invited to join in but I declined on the basis that the invitation was about thirty-five years too late. Following a fine lunch unit promotions and presentations were made. This was my opportunity to present the Whitelaw Prizes that were outstanding from last December and were listed in the last issue

The recent publication of a list of recipients of the Commonwealth Centenary Medal contained the name of our Museum Trust member, Brian Cleeman. Brian has worked very hard over the past fourteen years looking after our Collection and this award is well deserved. Congratulations Brian from all members of the Association. He remains only too happy to hear of offers of help with this important work.

On a sadder theme I note the passing of Major John Tutton on the 13th of May. John was notable AIF officer and one of those that helped the CMF get of the ground in 1948. He and Peter Turner were for many years regular visitors to Batman Avenue and Chapel Street Depot following the Anzac Day March.

Reserve Forces Day will be celebrated on Sunday 6 July this year. There will be a parade including a short march and a service at the Shrine. Assembly will be at the Queen Victoria Gardens South of Princes Bridge. Come along and help swell the numbers.

The 9th August will see the Regimental Ball to be held at Powerhouse by Albert Park Lake. This was a great function last year and I hope you will all come along again this year. I also hope to see many of the officers at the Gunner Dinner on Friday 27th June.

Best wishes

Merv Taggart



Membership Report

15th May 2003

Current Membership

Libraries	4
Life Members	221
Annual Members	80
Affiliates	46
Others (CO/CI, Messes, etc.)	11
Total	<u>362</u>

In addition to the 362 Members listed, we have 9 Life Members with whom we have lost contact:

SGT M J Butler, GNR S J Preston, GNR R G Mudge, SGT A Brian, SGT C B Gray, SSGT S P McDermott, Mrs M J Radcliffe, LT A R Maguire, MAJ M G Della Costa RFD. We now have an address in Canada for CHAP B R Brown.

Cascabel has been returned from CFN N A Jordon and GNR R K J Henshaw.

It is with regret that the passing of MAJ J.K. Tutton ED is noted. MAJ Tutton joined the Association in July 1982.

It has been about three years since a breakdown of the Membership has been done. As a point of interest the Membership file compared to 2000 now shows:

OFFRS	142	With 103 Life Members.	(148)
WO/SGTS	105	With 84 Life Members.	(115)
ORS	49	With 30 Life Members.	(55)

PLEASE NOTE

A **new proforma** showing the information required to keep the Membership file up-to-date is on the **last page below the Parade Card**, and will appear in each subsequent issue of the magazine.

It would be appreciated if you would provide the information requested so that our files can be kept up to date. This proforma should also be used to notify us of any future changes.

Neil Hamer

MAJ

Membership Co-ordinator



2003

9 Aug 03

Regimental Masquerade Ball

**Tickets only
\$60.00 each**

Ticket Price Includes:

3 Course Dinner

All Drinks for the Evening

Music by the Regimental Band

Major Raffle Draw

Lots of Prizes

For more information contact
CAPT Mike Slattery on either:

michael.slattery@defence.gov.au

or

0408 298 316

Transport to and from the Ball.



Profits to be donated
to Red Cross



Major Sponsors



Defence Reserve
Support Council



ADI Limited

RAA Association (Victoria) Inc Corps Shop

The following items may be purchased by mail, or at selected Association activities.

PRICE LIST

<p>Badges, etc</p> <p>RAA Assn (Vic), members (limit two per member) \$5.00</p> <p>RAA, tracksuit \$3.00</p> <p>RAA badge cuff links \$9.00</p> <p>Key ring, RAA badge \$4.00</p> <p>Key ring, RAA (Pewter) \$4.00</p> <p>Bar items</p> <p>Crock, blue with gold badge (name at no extra cost) \$22.00</p> <p>Coffee mug, blue, gold badge (name at no extra cost) \$6.00</p> <p>2nd/10th Medium Regiment Band</p> <p><i>Voice of the Gunners</i> recording</p> <p>cassette \$5.00</p> <p>compact disc \$5.00</p> <p>Ties</p> <p>Blue with single red gun \$30.00</p> <p>RAA Burgundy with gold gun \$43.00</p> <p>RAA Navy with gold gun \$43.00</p> <p>St Barbara Stripe \$43.00</p> <p>Books</p> <p><i>Kookaburra s Cutthroats</i> \$39.00</p> <p><i>Aust Military Equip Profiles</i> \$13.50</p> <p><i>AMEF Profile Leopard Tank</i> \$17-00</p>	<p>Stationery</p> <p>Card, RAA badge, with envelope</p> <p> Christmas message \$0.40</p> <p> blank inside \$0.40</p> <p>Stickers</p> <p> Bumper: <i>Gunners do it</i> <i>with a bigger bang</i> \$2.00</p> <p> Square: gold badge, red and blue background \$2.00</p> <p> Folders, white A4 size, 2-ring \$2.00</p> <p>ENQUIRIES:</p> <p>BRIAN CLEEMAN (03) 9560 7116</p> <p>REG MORRELL (03) 9562 9552</p> <p>ORDERS:</p> <p>Most orders will require an additional FIVE DOLLARS packing and postage, which will cover one to several small items. If in any doubt concerning this, or availability, please contact one of the enquiries numbers above.</p> <p>Cheques should be made payable to RAA Association (Victoria) Inc, and be crossed <i>Not Negotiable</i>.</p> <p>Orders to: Mr B. Cleeman 28 Samada Street Notting Hill VIC 3168</p>
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2/10 Fd. Regt. EX CHAU PHA APR 11-13 2003

EX CHAU PHA represented the first artillery Live Fire Exercise (LFX) for 2003, and the first LFX undertaken by the Regt since Sept 2003. Fitting for such an occasion, the Regt also had a considerable allocation of 105mm ammunition, comprising: 180 rounds HE, 22 rounds illuminating and 38 rounds smoke.

The exercise commenced with an advance party deploying to Puckapunyal during the Fri, with the objective of completing a recon of the first gun position in preparation for a night direct deployment that night. Good plan, but Murphy's Law (Murphy, being the optimist he is) stepped in and the drought in North Central Victoria chose that day to break. Substantial rain and flooding of the selected gun position resulted in a change of plan on Fri night, with the regiment occupying old range control for the evening.

JOST and gun group elements deployed at first light on Sat, with the day commencing in earnest following the completion of a day direct deployment by the gun line. Given that the Regimental FO and FO Ack were not in attendance, respective BC's were presented with the opportunity to reintroduce themselves to live fire missions, acting alternatively as FO and FO Ack. Firing culminated during the afternoon with an F's quick fireplan with the CO acting as the MAC.

Following the fireplan the gun line completed a night deliberate deployment in preparation for the evenings firing. A Coordinated Illumination as well as range and lateral spread missions were successfully completed, and the response from the guns was of a high standard.

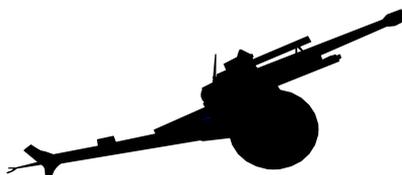
First light Sunday morning saw the FPF fired with close to real rates of fire- a grand start to the day. The live fire component of the exercise concluded with a move to alternate being undertaken by the gun line, followed by two confirmatory missions being fired by JOST signallers (if only to ensure BC's did not hog the entire ammunition allocation!)

The obligatory deployment to the tank wash, cleaning, debrief and return to depot followed.

Overall the weekend was considered a success. The skill level of all ranks was proven to be sound and concerns over the extent of skill fade as a result of the limited live firing opportunities during 2002 were alleviated.

22 Fd Bty

Doveton MUD
Dandenong South



CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

The amendments to the association Constitution which were adopted at the 2002 Annual General Meeting have been approved by the Victoria Department of Justice, Consumer Affairs Victoria.

However, it was pointed out that an instruction that the Constitution should be read in conjunction with the Associations Incorporation Act Model Rules should be added.

To fulfil this requirement it is proposed that a sentence be added under the heading on page 1.

Amendment 1.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION (VICTORIA) INCORPORATED
Registered Number: A138892 ABN: 22 850 898 908

CONSTITUTION

“To be Read in Conjunction with the Department of Justice, Consumer Affairs Victoria Associations Incorporation Act Model Rules”.

Moved: Neil Hamer Seconded: Reg Morrell

It was also noted that no method of resolving disputes as shown in the Model Rules was included in the Constitution.

To fulfil this requirement it is proposed that the following new Clause 8 be added to the Constitution, and the following Clauses be re-numbered to suit:

Amendment 2.

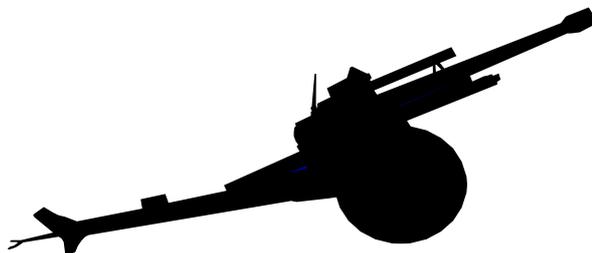
8. Disputes and Mediation

- 8.1 This grievance procedure applies to disputes and mediation under this Constitution between:
 - 8.1.1 a Member and another Member, or
 - 8.1.2 a Member and the Association.
- 8.2 The parties to the dispute must meet and discuss the matter in dispute, and, if possible, resolve the dispute within 14 days after the dispute comes to the attention of all the parties.
- 8.3 If the parties are unable to resolve the dispute at the meeting, or if a party fails to attend that meeting, the parties must, within 10 days, hold a meeting in the presence of a mediator.
- 8.4 The mediator must be:

- 8.4.1 a person chosen by agreement between the parties, or
- 8.4.2 in the absence of agreement:
 - 8.4.2.1 in the case of a dispute between a Member and another Member, a person appointed by the Committee of the Association, or
 - 8.4.2.2 in the case of a dispute between a Member and the Association, a person who is a mediator appointed or employed by the Dispute Settlement Centre or Victoria Department of Justice.
- 8.5 A Member of the Association can be a mediator.
- 8.6 The mediator cannot be a Member who is a party to the dispute.
- 8.7 The parties to the dispute must, in good faith, attempt to settle the dispute by mediation.
- 8.8 The mediator, in conducting the mediation must:
 - 8.8.1 give the parties to the mediation process every opportunity to be heard, and
 - 8.8.2 allow due consideration by all parties of any written statement submitted by any party, and
 - 8.8.3 ensure that natural justice is accorded to the parties to the dispute throughout the mediation process.
- 8.9 The mediator must not determine the dispute.
- 8.10 If the mediation process does not result in the dispute being resolved, the parties may seek to resolve the dispute in accordance with the Act otherwise at law.

Moved: Neil Hamer

Seconded: Reg Morrell



This Month in Australian Military History

July

Date	Year	Title	Event
1 July	1916	First day of the battle of the Somme	This was the worst single day in the history of British arms with 60,000 men being killed or wounded. The battle of the Somme then continued for four months and resulted in more than 1,200,000 casualties on both sides.
1 July	1945	7th Division landed at Balikpapan, Borneo	The landing at Balikpapan was the largest and final Australian amphibious landing of the Second World War.
2 July	1950	No. 77 Squadron flies 1st combat mission in Korea	First combat mission flown by No. 77 Squadron in Korea. No. 77 Squadron was the first Australian unit committed to the war in Korea.
2 July	1952	Operation Blaze	A Coy. 1RAR, raids Chinese positions on Hill 227 during Operation Blaze, Korea. The objective of the operation was to capture a prisoner and destroy the Chinese position's garrison.
2 July	1993	Death of Sir Edward 'Weary' Dunlop	Sir Edward 'Weary' Dunlop gained fame for the medical services he rendered to his fellow prisoners of the Japanese on the Burma-Thailand railway during the Second World War.
3 July	1900	Leeuw Kop, South Africa	400 Imperial Bushmen in action at Leeuw Kop, South Africa.
3 July	1950	Pilots of No. 77 Squadron involved in friendly fire incident	Pilots of No. 77 Squadron accidentally destroy a train carrying American and Republic of Korea soldiers having been assured by the United States 5th Air Force Tactical Control Centre that the area under attack was in North Korean hands.
4 July	1918	Battle of Hamel, France	The Battle of Hamel was the first set-piece operation planned and conducted under Lieutenant General Sir John Monash. It came to be regarded as a model for later Western Front battles.
4 July	1918	Lance Corporal T.L. Axford, VC	Lance Corporal T.L. Axford, 16th Battalion, originally from Carrieton, South Australia, wins the Victoria Cross at Vaire and Hamel Woods, France.
4 July	1918	Private H. Dalziel, VC	Private H. Dalziel, 15th Battalion, originally from Irvinebank, Queensland, wins the Victoria Cross at Hamel Wood, France.
4 July	1941	Acting Wing Commander H. Edwards, VC.	Acting Wing Commander H. Edwards, No. 105 Squadron, Bomber Command, RAAF, originally from Fremantle, Western Australia, wins the Victoria Cross in a raid on Bremen.
5 July	1945	Death of Prime Minister Curtin	Prime Minister Curtin led Australia through the darkest period of the Second World War when the threat from Japan was at its greatest. He died in office in 1945..
6 July	1918	Corporal W.E. Brown, VC	Corporal W.E. Brown, 20th Battalion, originally from New Norfolk, Tasmania, wins the Victoria Cross at Villers-Bretonneux, France.
6 July	1941	Battle of Damour, Lebanon	This was the final battle in Lebanon against the Vichy French.
6 July	1943	Darwin bombed	Darwin was bombed 64 times during the Second World War.
7 July	1942	9th Division in action at El Alamein.	General Rommel's forces had pushed the allies back to El Alamein in June 1942, the July battles involved allied attempts to push German and Italian forces back, none of the three attempts were successful.
7 July	1942	Horn Island Bombed	Horn Island was bombed by Japanese aircraft 9 times during the Second World War.

7 July	1956	Last RAAF transports return from Korea.	The last Australian servicemen did not depart Korea until 1957.
8 July	1942	460 Squadron raids Wilhelmshaven	13 Wellingtons of no. 460 Squadron participated in a night time bombing raid on this major German port severely damaging an armour plate shop and the Deutsche Werke ship building yards.
9 July	1941	Damour taken.	Damour was the main military base and administrative centre for the Vichy French forces in Syria. The Australian victory at Damour opened the way to Beirut and led the Vichy French to seek an armistice.
9 July	1943	No. 3 and No. 450 Squadrons RAAF and 8 RAN corvettes involved in the allied invasion of Sicily.	Known as Operation Husky the invasion of Sicily was the second largest undertaken in Europe during the Second World War, Overlord being the largest. The operation involved 180,000 troops and 2,590 ships.
10 July	1911	Formation of Royal Australian Navy (RAN).	In its original form the Royal Australian Navy consisted of the battlecruiser Australia and several cruisers, destroyers and submarines. When the new fleet arrived in Australia on 4 October 1913 the day was declared a public holiday and was described in the press as the greatest day in Australia's history.
10 July	1940	Beginning of the Battle of Britain.	The Battle of Britain was an aerial battle between the Royal Air Force and the German Luftwaffe for control of the skies over southern Britain, a necessary prerequisite for the planned German invasion of the island. After some three months of intensive aerial operations both sides had lost heavily but the Germans were forced to abandon their plans for a cross-channel invasion of England.
10 July	1941	Private J.H. Gordon, VC.	Private James Gordon, 2/31st Battalion, originally from Rockingham, Western Australia, wins the Victoria Cross near Jezzine, Lebanon.
10 July	1951	Negotiations between the United Nations Command and the Communists begin at Kaesong.	Negotiations between the opposing sides in the Korean War continued for two years before an armistice was finally declared.
11 July	1941	Vichy French surrender in Syria.	The five-week long Syrian campaign represented the first occasion that the Australian 7th Division was committed to action. The campaign was based on the premise that the Vichy French forces would offer only token resistance, though this turned out not to be the case. Of the 34,000 Allied troops (Australian, British, Indian and Free French) committed to the campaign 3,900 became casualties.
12 July	1965	Last 3RAR ambush of Malayan Emergency	The last ambush conducted by the 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment was mounted from Malaysia against targets at Babang in Kalimantan.
13 July	1953	HMAS Tobruk begins a two-week patrol of the northern part of Korea's east coast.	This was the Tobruk's last patrol before the war in Korea ended in late July 1953.
14 July	1918	Fighting at Abu Tellul, Palestine.,	A heavy attack by about 1,000 men of the German Asia Corps on Australian Light Horse positions at Abu Tellul, a prominent hill on the west bank of the Jordan River, Palestine, is defeated. This was the only occasion on which the German Asia Corps was known to have carried the primary role in an attack in the Middle East during the First World War.
15 July	1940	Volunteer Defence Force (VDC) formed.	The Volunteer Defence Force (VDC), composed mainly of World War One veterans, was formed for home defence by the RSL
16 July	1940	HMA Ships Stuart and Waterhen at Bardia.	HMA Ships Stuart and Waterhen were on screen at the bombardment of Bardia.

17 - 18 July	1918	Lieutenant A.C. Borella, VC.	Lieutenant A.C. Borella, 26th Battalion, originally from Borung, Victoria, wins the Victoria Cross at Villers-Bretonneux, France. AT 36 Borella was the oldest member of the 1st AIF to receive this award.
19 July	1916	Battle of Fromelles.	5,533 Australians were killed or wounded in this battle, most on the night of 19-20 July. Fromelles was the first battle for the Australians on the Western Front.
19 July	1940	HMAS Sydney sinks the Bartolomeo Colleoni	HMAS Sydney sinks the Italian cruiser Bartolomeo Colleoni in the battle of Cape Spada off Crete.
20 July	1943	HMAS Hobart torpedoed.	HMAS Hobart torpedoed off San Cristobal, Solomon Islands. Seven officers and six ratings were killed in the attack. Though badly damaged the Hobart was able to reach Espiritu Santo the next day.
21 July	1942	Japanese forces land at Buna and Gona.	Buna, Gona and Sanananda were to become the scenes of heavy fighting over the period November 1942 - January 1943 when the Japanese withdrawal from the Kokoda trail enabled the allies to plan the encirclement of these important Japanese positions. Gona was the first to fall to the Allies and Buna was the second after weeks of heavy fighting.
22 July	1917	Four members of the Australian Army Nursing Service win the Military Medal.	Four members of the Australian Army Nursing Service, Sisters Cawood, Deacon and Ross-King and Staff Nurse Derrer, won Military Medals for rescuing patients trapped in a burning Casualty Clearing Station at Trois Arbes, France. These were the first bravery awards won by Australian nurses in action.
22 July	1938	Australian National War Memorial opened at Villers-Bretonneux, France.	Opening of the Australian National War Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux, France. This Memorial lists the names of 11,000 Australian missing from the fighting around Villers-Bretonneux.
22 July	1942	Beginning of the battle of the Kokoda Track, New Guinea.	Having been stopped in their attempt to reach Port Moresby by sea at the Battle of the Coral Sea, the Japanese were forced to try and take the town by land. The only route open to them was over the Owen Stanley Ranges via the Kokoda Track which became the scene of heavy fighting.
22 July	1942	Private A.S. Gurney, VC.	Private A.S. Gurney, 2/48th Battalion, originally from Dayawn, Western Australia, wins the Victoria Cross at Tel el Eisa, Egypt.
23 July	1916	Battle of Pozieres begins.	Pozieres was the first protracted battle for the Australians on the Western Front. Part of the Somme battlefield Pozieres was the scene of several major attacks by the Australians between 23 July and 5 August 1916. More than 12,000 Australians became casualties in the fighting at Pozieres.
23 July	1916	Lieutenant A.S. Blackburn, VC.	Lieutenant A.S. Blackburn, 10th Battalion, originally from Woodville, South Australia, wins the Victoria Cross at Pozieres, France.
23 July	1916	Private J. Leak, VC.	Private J. Leak, 9th Battalion, originally from Portsmouth, United Kingdom, wins the Victoria Cross at Pozieres, France.
24 July	1900	Captain N.R. Howse, VC.	Captain N.R. Howse, New South Wales Army Medical Corps, originally from Somerset, United Kingdom, wins the Victoria Cross at Vredefort, Orange Free State. Howse's was the first Victoria Cross awarded to an Australian and remains the only Australian medical officer to win this award.
24 July	1945	Private F. J. Partridge, VC.	Private F. J. Partridge, 8th Battalion, originally from Grafton, New South Wales, wins the Victoria Cross on the Bonis Peninsula, Bougainville.

24 - 25 July	1916	Private T. Cooke, VC.	Private T. Cooke, 8th Battalion, originally from Kaikora, New Zealand, wins the Victoria Cross at Pozieres, France.
26 July	1940	Formation of the Royal Australian Air Force Nursing Service (RAAFNS)	The RAAFNS was established in response to the need for a greater number of nursing personnel as the RAAF underwent a rapid expansion early in the war. Membership of the RAAFNS expanded from 45 in December 1940 to 616 in December 1945. The service was disbanded at the end of the war, but in 1948 a peace-time service was formed.
26 July	1942	Darwin bombed by Japanese aircraft.	Darwin was bombed 64 times during the war.
26 July	1945	Japan issued with ultimatum to surrender.	Towards the end of the Second World War the Japanese Government was divided between those who wanted their country to fight to the finish and those who advocated surrender on the terms set out in the Allied ultimatum that was put forward at the Potsdam conference. With the Government unable to resolve the deadlock the matter was left in the hands of the Emperor who surrendered on 15 August 1945.
26 July	1950	Australian troops committed to Korea.	Acting Prime Minister Fadden announces the commitment of Australian ground forces for service in Korea.
27 July	1942	Formation of the Australian Women's Land Army.	With many male agricultural workers leaving their farms to enlist Australia required rural labour to produce food and other raw materials for the war effort. Women's organisations responded by setting up 'land armies' in each state and many of these women were later absorbed into the Australian Women's Land Army. It was open to all women who were British subjects or 'friendly aliens' between the ages of 18 and 50 not already engaged in rural work.
27 July	1942	Japanese capture Kokoda.	Having been stopped in their attempt to reach Port Moresby by sea at the Battle of the Coral Sea, the Japanese were forced to try and take the town by land. The only route open to them was over the Owen Stanley Ranges via the Kokoda Track which became the scene of heavy fighting.
27 July	1942	Fighting at Ruin Ridge.	2/28th Battalion in disastrous action against German troops at Ruin Ridge, western Egypt.
27 July	1953	Fighting in Korea ends.	Cease Fire signed in Panmunjon, Korea, bringing hostilities to an end.
28 July	1916	Sergeant C. Castleton, VC.	Sergeant C. Castleton, 5th Machine Gun Company, originally from Suffolk, United Kingdom, wins the Victoria Cross at Pozieres, France.
28 - 19 July	1942	Australians involved in heavy fighting at Kokoda.	Having been stopped in their attempt to reach Port Moresby by sea at the Battle of the Coral Sea, the Japanese were forced to try and take the town by land. The only route open to them was over the Owen Stanley Ranges via the Kokoda Track which became the scene of heavy fighting.
28 July	1942	Townsville bombed by Japanese aircraft.	Townsville was bombed 4 times during the war..
29 July	1942	Townsville bombed by Japanese aircraft.	Townsville was bombed 4 times during the war..
30 July	1942	Port Headland, Darwin and Horn Island bombed by Japanese aircraft.	Many towns and airfields in northern Australia came under Japanese aerial attack during 1942-1943. Darwin was the most heavily bombed Australian city in the war.
31 July	1900	Victorian naval contingent departs Melbourne on SS Salmis for China.	With many Australian soldiers fighting in South Africa, Australia's commitment to the Boxer Rebellion in China was a naval one.

31 July	1914	Labor leader Andrew Fisher declares Australians will defend Britain 'to our last man and our last shilling'.	The extent Australia's sacrifice in the First World War could not have been imagined when Fisher made his famous commitment.
July	1962	Team leader of the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam arrives in South Vietnam.	The arrival of the Australian Army Training Team, Vietnam, in South Vietnam signalled the beginning of a decade long Australian involvement in the Vietnam War.

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Australians At War

This Month In History

TEST YOUR MEMORY

This is a test mainly for the more experienced (older) Members of the Association.

1. The Phonetic Alphabet is a system in which words are used to designate letters. Of course you knew this. I am also quite sure that most Members of the Association can recite the Phonetic Alphabet which commences:

Alpha, Bravo, Charlie.-----?

But what about the one that commences:

Able, Baker, Charlie,-----?

2. What did the CPO cause to happen when he ordered "Window" and why did he order it?
3. What was a "Switches Artillery"?
4. When using an Artillery Board to obtain bearing and distance to a target, we used to set the board up on a "Zero Line". This was later changed to a "Centre of Arc Bearing".
What is the main difference between the two systems?

The answers (or the writers interpretation) shall be given in the next issue of *Cascabel* and any discussion will be gladly entered into.

Please address all correspondence to the Editor.

AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS

So far this Association has had only one response to the proposals or suggestions put forward for your consideration in the last copy of *Cascabel*.

In particular, the points raised were related to Anzac Day. To enable the co-ordination of any activities related to Anzac Day 2004 to be carried out, this Association would appreciate a reply to our suggestions in the near future.

Even if your Association feels that we cannot assist you in any way with Anzac Day, or any other activity, it would be appreciated if you could let us know.

Our contacts are:

Merv Taggart 5 Faulkner Street HAMPTON 3188
9598 8452 0438 042 426
mervnmina@ozemail.com.au

Robin Smith 101 Warralong Avenue GREENSBOROUGH 3088
9435 6352 0417 328 252
rasmith@melbpc.org.au

Neil Hamer 12 Marida Court BERWICK 3806
9702 2100 0419 533 214
nhamer@lexicon.net

REQUEST FOR HELP

Captain William Dunn RAEME

We have had a request for any information on CAPT William DUNN, then of Brunswick, who served in the CMF around 1961, possibly with RAEME. An old friend is trying to track him down.

Any information would be appreciated, and may be sent to Robin Smith (Secretary) at 101 Warralong Avenue, Greensborough, 3088, or by email to rasmith@melbpc.org.au

Ham & Beef Battery Hastings

Dr Bruce Bennett is preparing a history of the Hastings ("Ham and Beef Battery") 40 Pounder Battery. The Battery was formed in 1889 and disbanded in 1907.

If any one has any information about the Battery or those who served in it could they please contact him at 200 Auburn Road Hawthorn Vic. 3122 ph 9818 7818

MY SERVICE CAREER

By COL Graham Farley, OAM, RFD, ED (Rtd)

34/69 Senior Officers Tactics (CMF) Course, Canungra 1969

The CSTU Coaching Phase

I am not sure as to which periods in my CMF career were the most enjoyable. The year in the UK had been one, as was my period as Colonel (Artillery) later on. This period with CSTU had also to rate highly.

The parades were in Melbourne in a leased building in Chapel Street, Prahran, not far from the present 2/15 Fd Regt, RAA, headquarters. I think it was in a church hall. There was no hall in which to parade, but there were more than adequate administrative and class rooms.

I used to travel up to Melbourne from Geelong with LTCOL Gil Bryant, RAEME. I would pick Gil up at the gates of the Shell Oil refinery in North Geelong (Corio). In this we both had company. Gil had already qualified for "half-colonel" and was in the administration team. Sadly he died in 2002.

About once a month there was a weekend .in the field.. Our base was the hotel at Yarra Glen. Over the years, the army must have helped to keep that institution solvent. We were always looked after very well. The tactics .problems. would be set against the terrain in the surrounding district. It is probably an exaggeration but we always felt that we were advancing or attacking up the Steels Creek road. Along this road there was a distinctive scrub covered "pimple". I do not think that we had access to the ground, but over the years that feature was attacked and defended, shelled, strafed and generally ill-treated well, in theory at least. Years later when driving in the district, I was surprised and disappointed to see that it had been cleared of the scrub and now resembled a bald head. But I hardly think that this feature has disappeared from the problems that are still set. Readers can identify it on a 1:50 000 YARRA GLEN map (Edition 1 Series R 754) at grid reference 563356.

I will come to the personalities in a moment, but I associate three things with those weekends. We always seemed to have fine weather and the emerald green of the paddocks against the white fleecy clouds and blue skies were very acceptable.

Then there were the light aircraft forever-flying overhead, adding a rather unnatural flavour to the "setting of the problem." If one was told that air support was three fighter sorties and a candidate called for them, the light Piper Cub that arrived right on time did not quite resemble the "state of the art" fighter-bomber that was expected.

Then there were the pairs of (boy) Scouts fulfilling (in those days) the requirement for their First Class Badge to undertake an overnight journey of at least 14 miles. It was well known to the Directing Staff (DS) that I was very active in Scouting perhaps too much so for some of them. Once again, having been told that the Phantasians (or whatever name the enemy had in 1968/9) were thick on the ground ahead, it was a bit disconcerting to behold two variably uniformed Scouts walking towards us from the enemy's lines. Were they enemy in disguise? After all, we all believed in the story about parachutists dressed as nuns. Inevitably the DS and my fellow students would draw my attention to the two lads. My first inclination was to go and get them to wear their uniforms correctly so that they would be an example. But I never did. The lads would just hike on, wondering why this group of green uniformed people always made a fuss of them, whereas the rest of the community did not.

I think I have already made comment that in previous army TEWTs I have "pooled my ignorance" during the time that one has to consider a problem, but for this course, the mid-week lectures,

together with the pamphlets and other training material, enabled us to build up a degree of expertise

Inevitably, we students dealt with the four stages of war – advance, attack, defence and withdrawal. Equally inevitable would be that the “appreciation” would be the key to our assessment. To assist in remembering the various factors that had to be considered, most of us used “see-through” plastic covers, under which we placed pro-formae for the various phases of war, using chinagraph pencils to write on the plastic.

After one or two of these weekends, I compiled an “aide-memoire” (the army has always been keen on these) of what I needed, such as wet weather gear, something upon which to sit, a ruler, compass, protractor, binoculars and the like. I checked this list at the start and end of each problem on these weekends.

I can admit now that my mind has never been flexible enough to meet the needs of the military appreciation. I was glad of the sub-headings and I got to know the sort of answers (almost clichés) that one could give without “drawing the crabs”. The “cries” were most important. I had learnt bitterly on the major’s course that one should never deviate from the accepted jargon.

I had been in a bit of amateur dramatics and there was a great call for a good act when giving a presentation. If one had a poor answer, then one stood well to the front and was like the school student in the classroom, for ever raising his hand and pleading, “Miss, Miss, I know &c”. If one was confident, then a position further to the back of the group could be adopted. The thing that had to be avoided was to become the “class clown,” the person who was called upon to give their solution because everyone knew it would be: original, expressed in non-military language, and tactically unworkable. “Let’s hear it from Farley,” would be the phrase that I could not afford to hear as the rallying cry. Fortunately it never came to that. Others filled that role.

It was also important to be able to stage manage when solutions were required. It always impressed if the student moved everybody, or asked someone to identify the key features for the problem. Once the DS has said, “No, there will be no need to do that,” then the student is already gaining points and moving out of danger. Above all, one learnt to speak with authority, even if you were skidding on thin ice and had missed a salient factor. All being well, no one else might notice if your tanks were in the trees without adequate infantry support or your map was upside down!

A situation like this could be covered with a very confident set of words such as, “The enemy has anti-tank guns. These are sited here and here (no pointing remember – but refer to your map which is like a blackboard to which you use a pointer – a broken car aerial is excellent). THEREFORE (and this word should always be pronounced as if it was in upper case) I have deployed my tanks so that they are not in the arc of fire from the enemy and will move on my command once the attack has been developed”. The next step is to eye both the DS and the nearby students with a steely eye, which says, “I dare you to contradict me or I will rip your own solution to threads as you have not considered the MMGs, the ground or the phases of the attack”.

The essence of a good appreciation was to come up with a “trace” from the map of your plan. One got to know that if there was a minefield, it had to be covered with both observation and fire. Woe betided the student who just laid a green set of little circles with stalks coming out of them without providing for both of these crucial factors.

In a previous piece, I believe I have explained that if asked for a mark out of ten to assess a fellow student’s solution, never go above eight or below four. To go outside these boundaries will require substantiation. No one can be that good to get 9 or 10. No one wants to see the morale of a student destroyed if he has his nose rubbed in it, even if his solution was pathetic. I had learned that one some years before when I demolished a solution, only to have the “pack” turned on to me!

The personalities and experience of the directing staff made the course even more memorable and even enjoyable.

LTCOL¹ Finlay Patrick, who was the solicitor general for the Anglican Church, had already had considerable success in preparing officers from Victoria. For three years, Victorian students had topped the assessment course and/or come second at Canungra.



Majors David Bullard (later OBE) and MacDowall in 1965, Neale Bavington and Mike Vincent in 1966, and Jim Potter (later AM) and Neil Body in 1967. All these officers from 3rd Military District went on to command regiments or battalions in the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and most became Colonel or higher in later postings. LTCOL Finlay was not to know it, but a student from our course would be top in 1969, and for those many successes he would be recommended for an OBE. He was also appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the Australia Day honours list in January, 1983.

LTCOL Finlay brought to our training the incisive legal mind. He had been CO of the Victorian Scottish Regiment and would wear his kilt on every occasion possible. He tended to re-cycle problems that had been successful in the past. The setting out of the problem did not always reflect the standard that most of us had come to expect. However, it was not the problem but the way the students reacted to it was the key matter.

LT COL Finlay's team were officers representing particular corps. LTCOL Howard Taylor was from RA Inf. If he said to us the phrase, "When you get to Canungra," he must have said it a thousand times. It became almost his theme song. LTCOL Howard clearly enjoyed the cut and thrust of the solution part of the exercise. He appeared to have no better enjoyment than to discover that two students had diametrically based plans and would set them on to each other, watching the fir and feathers fly.

One of LTCOL Howard's best comments arose when, in a solution, a student had two platoons attacking a hill. For some reason, the student had split his forces and the two units were coming up the hill from opposite sides. Eventually, as Howard pointed out, they would come face to face with each other, their rifles blazing away. As he then muttered, "Well, that would keep their minds of sex for some time"!



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LTCOL Laurie Newell AM, June 1989) was a gunner officer. He tended to be better known in the community for his role as the senior police commissioner when he was the person on the TV at the time that Prime Minister Harold Holt went missing off Point Nepean, presumed drowned. Laurie was required to appear on TV almost on the hour with the latest information on the progress of the search. As the search continued to prove fruitless, Laurie had to use every ounce of his knowledge and ability to both keep up the morale and hopes of the community and to be original at the same time. He went on to be chairman of the CFA in a later appointment.

LTCOL Brian Clendinnen, (later AM), was the RAAC officer. Again, he had a distinctive style, which included a degree of irony. Armour in tactics has a number of anticipated characteristics. Tanks precede the infantry in open country, but are protected by them in timber or jungle. Armour must never be used in 'penny packets'. The number of tanks in a troop tended to vary from three to four over the years. Terms like, "hull down," had to be used. "Harbours" and "leaguers" were others.

¹ Most of the DS staff were later promoted or retired in the rank of full Colonel.



LTCOL Gil Smith

LTCOL Gil Smith was from RAEME. He was the quietest member of the team but just as clear in his mind as to what might be on and what was not feasible. MAJ John Campbell was the administration officer.

For much of the tutoring period, the officer in command was COL Jock McNeill from Geelong. Jock went on to be CRA and then GOC 3 Inf Div as MAJGEN. He completed his career as the senior CMF officer in the army. The current title is CRES, but then it might have been CMF member on the army board.

The author in his diary has recorded that about seven weekends were spent in the Yarra Glen area. The common threads were that students gathered at Chapel Street and boarded buses that took them to the site of the first problem. Lunch was a cut one supplied by the students. With the cessation of the hearing of problems for the day, the party would move to the Yarra Glen hotel where the equivalent of a formal mess, complete with claret and port, would be held. Depending on the conviviality of the meal, there would be night lectures or tutoring.

On the Sunday, "mine host" would provide a cut lunch and the students would have more problems to tackle, until the buses arrived to take them back to Melbourne.

As already suggested, the problems took the form of exercises in the four phases of war but in a CRW (counter revolutionary warfare) setting. In retrospect, we might have been encouraged to act with more vigour and in quick time to the presence of the enemy. Most of us were used to preparing a set attack, one that might not go in until "first light". As we were to find when we got to Canungra (as LTCOL Howard might have said), CRW required a response, the speed of which was previously unheard of. The Yarra Glen exercise solutions tended to be based on more regular timings of conventional warfare.

On 12th February, the writer was taken on one side and given a "rocket," which was the language for such matters in those days. The author was told that he was spending too much of his time on other activities, such as Scouting, and he should make a decision as to which one he was going to pursue. He was told that he was not taking the course seriously enough and that when he did not know the answer he tended to make a joke of it. I really cannot believe that this could have been said of me!

It was interesting then that the write'.s father wrote his son a letter of advice in which he explained that an Englishma'.s sense of humour is often misinterpreted as being directed at someone. He suggested that the writer keep his humour for "after dinner jokes," for which humour is clearly expected! Good advice, but has the writer always heeded it? But I was on my best behaviour when I got to Canungra.

A fortnight later, BRIG Vial told the students that all had been selected to go to Canungra. The first weekend of March was devoted to CRW. The final weekend before heading north was on 22/23 Mar 69. The formal mess took on an "end of course" nature with speeches from Finlay and others. Howard Taylor confided to the author that even he would pass (wait for it), when "he got up to Canungra".



Evening mess for the Tac 5 students at the Yarra Glen Hotel. Officers (rank ignored) from L to R are: Left hand photo Laurie Newell, Don Ellis, Gil Smith, Bill Kirkham, David Stewart, Finlay Patrick, Any McGalliard, Brian Clendinnen, John Snow, Barry Nunn and John Campbell; Right hand photo John Snow, Barry Nunn, John Campbell, Howard Taylor, Don Ansell, Gil Smith, Bill Kirkham and David Stewart. As photos were taken from either end there is some repetition.

It is the soldier, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press.

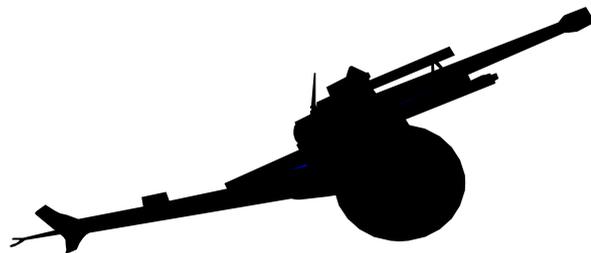
It is the soldier, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the soldier, not the campus organiser, who has given us the freedom to demonstrate.

It is the soldier, not the lawyer, who has given us the right to a fair trial.

It is the soldier, who salutes the flag, who serves under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows the protester to burn the flag

Philip Steele
Gulf War Veteran



VISIT TO ADI MUNITIONS FACTORY BENALLA 21 MAY 03

It was a chilly morning reminiscent of the sort that preceded early moves on the Pucka Range that many will remember. Some sixteen members of the Association and six of their friends and colleagues from the RAE Association assembled at the Monash University Regiment Depot from where we traveled by bus to Benalla. Two country members joined us at ADI in the persons of Bob Freeland and Bernie Pearson.

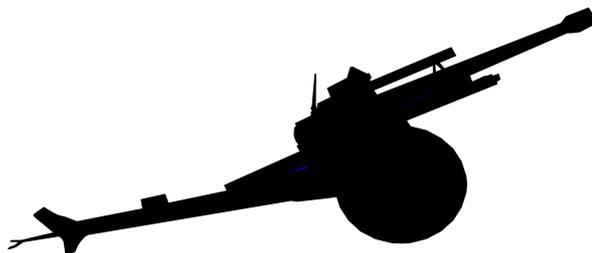
The visit was very professionally hosted by (Captain) Geoff Addison (a former member of 2/15 Field Regiment). Geoff introduced an excellent corporate video that explained ADI's objectives, tasks and organization structure. He described the amalgam of several individual ammunition manufacturing plants into today's compact single facility which makes products for all three services and for sale overseas.

In two groups we were guided through the various departments of the plant to observe the manufacture of 105 mm shell and cases, 50 cal machine gun ammunition, 5.56 mm rifle ammunition aerial bombs and other munitions. Particularly impressive features of the manufacturing processes were the extensive use of advanced robotics and the stringent quality control standards.

After a hearty lunch in the staff canteen we were taken to the 300 metre underground range used for proving the vast range of munitions made at Benalla. It is actually a concrete tunnel covered with earth and sound proofed at the user end.

The visit concluded with a bus (windscreen) tour of the grounds of ADI which included safe burning areas, a number of magazines suitably bunkered and well separated from each other and the explosive filling buildings. Not surprisingly conscientious attention was given to the safety of visitors with the issue of individual ID's, visitors' coats (bright orange) and safety glasses. The President conveyed our thanks to Geoff for what all agreed was an extremely informative and enjoyable visit to a facility so critical to Australia's defence effort. Our thanks also go to Robin Smith, the convening officer for the function and Reg. Morrell who assisted.

Graeme Standish



RAA ASSOCIATION (VIC) INC

MIXED SOCIAL GOLF DAY

To be held at the Berwick Montuna Golf Club
Beaconsfield-Emerald Road, Guy's Hill

(Melways 212 C4)

On the Friday 24th Oct 2003

Tee Time 0845 Hrs

WHO CAN PLAY? Golfers at **ALL** levels of expertise are invited to attend, including wives, husbands, partners, relatives and friends (**ASSISTED BY** caddies, observers, coaches and encouragers.)

Hire clubs, buggies and motorised carts are available from the Golf-Shop. These items should be booked directly with the Golf shop on 9707 5226 at least ten days prior. Photo ID and a deposit will be required for clubs and carts.

THE COST for golfers is \$25.00 which covers green fees for 18 holes and trophies.

LUNCH will be available in the Clubhouse at very reasonable prices.

THE COMPETITION OF THE DAY will be a stableford competition for handicap golfers, and a stroke competition for non-handicap golfers. This means that you count all your strokes.

Some **Special Local Rules** will be made for non-handicap golfers.

A SEPARATE COMPETITION for handicap and non-handicap golfers will be held if there are sufficient numbers in each field. If not, the non-handicap golfers will be given a stableford score calculated by the Match Committee.

NON-HANDICAP golfers will be given a handicap at the end of the competition (by a very complicated and involved system called the Calloway System) so that all golfers have a fair chance of winning their competition. This Calloway handicap will be used to calculate the stableford points (if required). Stableford competition allocates points per hole according to handicap. This will be calculated by the Match Committee.

TROPHIES for the Best Score and Nearest the Pin (2) in both competitions will be given. Trophies will be awarded in the Clubhouse during lunch.

SO THAT tee times and a number for lunch can be booked for this very busy time of the year, would you please indicate if you would like to attend, and the number of people in your group, by telephone, mail or e-mail to:

Maj Neil Hamer, 12 Marida Court, Berwick 3806;

Telephone, 9702 2100; or

E-mail, nhamer@lexicon.net

as soon as possible.

Additional Information

Markers: AGU players, WHITE. WGA players, RED. Non-handicap players, RED.

Please replace and fill all divots, and repair all plug marks on the greens.

Special Local Rules for non-handicap players:

1. "Fresh Air" strokes will not be counted.
2. A maximum of 10 strokes per hole is allowed. The ball is then picked up and the card marked 10+.
3. If a ball is hit into any water hazard, the next stroke may be played from the other side of the water hazard in line with the point of entry. A penalty stroke is counted.
4. If a ball in a bunker is not hit out after 2 attempts, the ball may be placed outside the bunker not nearer the hole. The strokes made in the bunker are counted (Total 3).

Dress Code. Berwick Montuna Golf Club is a private club and may have slightly different rules about dress. The following information is to avoid any misunderstanding and applies to everybody whether they are players or spectators on the course, or just attending the lunch.

YES

All dress must be neat and clean.

Shirt with collar and sleeves (short or long).

Long pants (slacks) or shorts to just above the knee.

Long socks or short sports socks (predominately white) must be worn with shorts.

Golf shoes (not in the clubhouse) or ordinary flat shoes.

NO

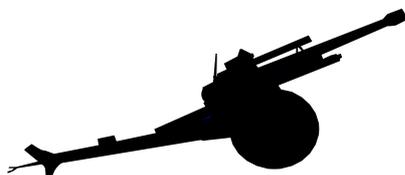
Tracksuit tops or bottoms.

Singlets or shirts without collar or sleeves.

Clothing with offensive pictures, slogans or comments. If in doubt don't wear it.

Football shorts, board shorts or other 'short' shorts. Sandals, thongs or bare feet.

Hats must not be worn in the clubhouse.



Parade Card
(as at 31 May 2003)

JUL 2003

06 Res Forces Day
17 Committee

OCT 2003

16 Committee
24 Golf Day
26 A G M

JAN 2004

APR 2004

15 Committee
25 ANZAC Day

AUG 2003

9 Regimental Ball
21 Committee
30 DRA National Conf

NOV 2003

?? RSL Remembrance
20 Committee

FEB 2004

01 Church Parade
19 Committee

MAY 2004

20 Committee
25 Gunner Dinner

SEP 2003

?? Battle for Aust Com'n
18 Committee

DEC 2003

?? St Barbara's Day
04 Committee

MAR 2004

18 Committee

JUN 2004

17 Committee

CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND DETAILS UP-DATE

Please forward to:
RAA Association (Vic) Inc.
101 Warralong Ave
GREENSBOROUGH VIC 3088

Rank _____ First Names _____ DOB _____

Surname and Post Nominals _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Phone (Home, Mobile, Work) _____

Fax and/or E-mail _____

Do you wish to receive Association information by E-mail Y/N _____

Serving Y/N _____ If so, Unit _____

Awards, Decorations, Medals, Etc. _____

Brief Service History _____

Additional Information (Committee, Unit Rep, Etc) _____

Please Use Additional Blank Sheets if Space Insufficient

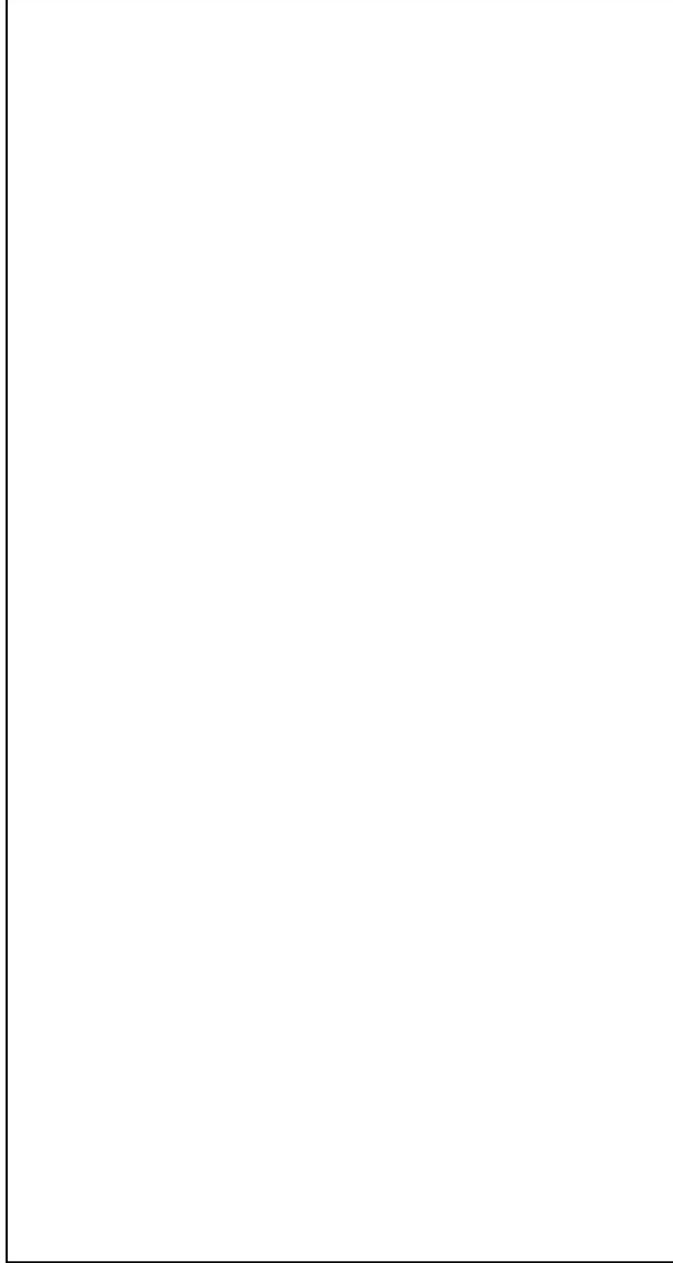
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