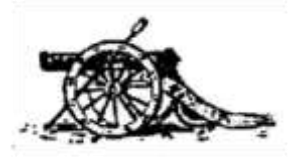
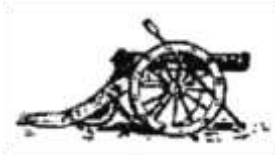


CASCABEL

Journal of the

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION
(VICTORIA) INCORPORATED

ABN 22 850 898 908



Number 102

Published Quarterly in
Victoria Australia

March 2010



**'A' Bty "digging in"
high range training area**

Bdr. B. McDowell watches as an Army Sioux chopper lands.

(c) pmg

Article	Pages
Assn Contacts, Conditions & Copyright	3
The President Writes	4
Membership Report	5
From the Colonel Commandant	6
From the CO 2/10 Fd Regt	7
Range Fuel	9
SSgt Ernie Paddon	12
First M-ATVs Deploy to Afghanistan	13
Bushmaster Infantry Mobility Vehicle	14
Mordialloc's 25 Pdrs	16
VALE Maj Ron Glew	19
2nd/10th Field Regiment 2006 - In Focus	20
A Fd Bty RAA	21
Maj M T Armstrong	28
Salutes & Victoria Cross Recipients	30
Artillery Replacement Gets Go-Ahead	31
Helmand Stories	35
Bdr Travis Whittaker	37
Celebrating the last Huey	38
Huey at Dandenong RSL	39
The Battle of Long Tan Enquiry	40
David Osborne	41
Some Other Military Reflections	42
Invitation Gunner 2010	45
RAA Association (Vic) Inc Corp Shop	46
Parade Card	47
Changing your address? See cut-out proforma	47

Current Postal Addresses

All mail for the Association, except matters concerning Cascabel, should be addressed to:

The Secretary
RAA Association (Vic) Inc.
8 Alfada Street
Caulfield South Vic. 3167

All mail for the Editor of Cascabel, including articles and letters submitted for publication, should be sent **direct to.....**

Alan Halbish
115 Kearney Drive
Aspendale Gardens Vic 3195
(H) 9587 1676
ahalbish@netspace.net.au

RAA Association (VIC) Inc Committee

President: MAJ Neil Hamer RFD
9702 2100
Vice President: Lt Col. Jason Cooke
9705 1155
Immediate Past President:
MAJ Merv Taggart RFD, ED
9773 3730
Secretary: Rachel Decker
9578 5205
Assistant Secretary: MAJ Robin Smith RFD
9435 6352
Treasurer: SSGT Reg Morrell
9562 9552
Members:
CAPT. Peter Wertheimer OAM, RFD
LT. Tom Mc Lean
WO2 Lionel Foster
SSGT Brian Cleeman
Cascabel Editor: WO2 Alan Halbish
9587 1676
Representatives: WO2 Lionel Foster
(10 Mdm Regt Assn)
Honorary
Auditor: Major David J Osborne
Shepard Webster & O'Neill Pty Ltd

MUSEUM TRUST

Curator: SSGT Brian Cleeman
9560 7116

VIC REGT CONTACTS

2/10 Fd Regt 9526 4222
8 Chapel St
St Kilda
22 Fd Bty 8710 2407
65 Princes Hwy
Dandenong South
38 Fd Bty 5221 7666
Myers St
Geelong

CONTENTS AND SUBMISSIONS

The contents of CASCABEL Journal are determined by the editor. Articles or opinions of authors & contributors are their own, and do not necessarily represent or reflect the official position of the RAA Assn (Vic) Inc, Australian Army, the committee, the editor, staff or agents.

Article style, clarity and conciseness remain the responsibility of the article owner or author. Submissions for the June 2010 issue are required no later than 23th April 2010 unless otherwise arranged with the Editor.

COPYRIGHT (C)

RAA Association (Vic) Inc -2000
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED
ISSN 1322-6282
MEMBERS & KINDRED
ORGANISATIONS ADF &
ACCREDITED RESEARCH:

Only Members, Kindred Organisations, ADF and accredited researchers, may copy without prior approval, ORIGINAL articles or items of interest, within this Journal, if the source and author are acknowledged. Based on goodwill.

Where the word "Copyright" or "(C)" appear with an article or where the material has been reproduced from a designated source, permission to copy should be sought from the Author or Source given.

COMMERCIAL USE/PRODUCTS & BOOKS

Apart from members/kindred organisations/ ADF and accredited research, no part of CASCABEL is to be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying or recording by any storage or retrieval system without written permission from the RAA Assn (Vic) Inc, the authors or the referenced source. Reproduction in any manner in whole or part in English or any other language is prohibited.



The President Writes

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held on the 5th November at the Caulfield RSL. I would like to thank the outgoing Committee for the time and effort they have put in on your behalf. The attendance at the meeting, whilst not great in number, was appreciated by the Committee and me.

The incoming Committee is: President, Maj Neil Hamer; Vice-president, LtCol Jason Cooke; Secretary, Mrs Rachel Decker; Treasurer, SSgt Reg Morrell; Members: Immediate Past President Maj Merv Taggart; Curator, SSgt Brian Cleeman; 10 Mdm Regt Assoc Contact, WO2 Lionel Foster; Maj Robin Smith, Capt Peter Wertheimer, and Lt Tom Mclean.

The Cascabel Editor, WO2 Alan Halbish will attend meetings on an as required basis.

The eighth Annual Golf Day was held at the Berwick Montuna Golf Club. Twelve players competed for the prestigious Perpetual Trophy. It was won this year by yours truly with Mike Snoxell a close runner up.

The St Barbara's Day activities were held by 2/10 at Watsonia and Monash Barracks. The Whitelaw Prizes were awarded at these two activities.

The recipients were:

GRes Officer:	LT C R Kinnane
GRes WO/SNCO	SGT M J Kennedy
GRes GNR/JNCO	GNR R G Huckel
ARA Cadre	SGT G P Gray

A great deal of very diverse "information" is being promulgated from a variety of sources regarding the future of 2/10 and artillery in Victoria. My suggestion to you is: Wait Until It Happens, as no firm decisions have been made at this stage.

A reminder that Church Parade will be held at St Georges, next to Sargood Barracks, on the 14th February 2010.

Although this issue of Cascabel is not due to be posted until 28th Feb 2010, I am, as usual, writing during the first week in December.

Therefore I wish you all a belated merry Christmas and all the very best for the coming year.

I look forward to seeing you at the next Association Function.

Regards to all

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neil Hamer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Neil Hamer
MAJ (R)

Membership Report

February 2010

Current Membership as at 8 Dec 09

Life Members	204	(204)
Annual Members	46	(44)
Senior Annual Members	19	(20)
Affiliates	35	(35)
Others (CO/CI, Messes, etc.)	12	(12)
Libraries	5	(5)
RSL's	2	<u>(1)</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>323</u>	<u>321</u>

New Members

We welcome Maj N E (Norm) White RFD ED as an Annual Member.
Caulfield RSL has requested to be added to our membership list.

Resignations

The resignation of WO2 Malcolm Bugg OAM JP was accepted at the November Committee meeting.

Vale

It is with regret that we note the passing of Lt John Frederick Melville.
Lt Melville was 91 years of age and joined the Association on the 25th Apr 87.
He served in WW2 with 2/12 Fd Regt in the Middle East, New Guinea and Borneo.

The usual reminder about the proforma on the last page below the Parade Card.

If you have not already done so, 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 changes in the future. It would also help if you could provide any information about your occupation, achievements and other service to the community.

Would you also please let me know if you have been awarded an ADM.



Editor's Note!

You have/will probably notice(d) some changes in this (bumper, I got carried away) edition.

There are now two guns in our journal heading. Throughout the journal the heading & body text fonts are different, as is the line spacing. Many of the pages are now in columns & where a new article commences in a right hand column, it is formatted with a grey background. I have also included some pictures layered to the background behind the text.

I would appreciate your comments, positive or negative, re my alterations. If I receive a nil or very poor response, I will presume you are satisfied with the new, still evolving, layout.

Alan Halbish

From the Colonel Commandant

Greetings and a New Year wishes to all, although the year will be well under way by the time you see this.

2010 seems to be a year to usher in many changes:

2/10 Fd Regt has a new Commanding Officer and Regimental Sergeant Major. We have said farewell to LTCOL Rob Crawford, who is now in Afghanistan as the Chief of Staff of the Dutch headquarters which oversees the operations of the Australian mentoring and reconstruction Task Force. WO1 Scott Driscoll is now the RSM at the School of Artillery. Both have done much for the Regiment, for which we thank them, and wish them all the best in their new appointments.

We welcome back LTCOL Jason Cooke as the new CO and welcome WO1 Paul Holstein as the new RSM.

In October I attended the Regimental Conference, which was held at the School of Artillery at Puckapunyal. It was a good opportunity to hear of the latest activities and developments, but I also discovered that a brand new set of acronyms have been developed in the few years since I retired. More interesting was the foreshadowing of the challenges ahead. It was noted that:

- Gunner detachments are now serving with the British forces in Afghanistan, but Australian Artillery has not deployed in role at sub-unit level or higher since the Vietnam War (personally interesting as I was BK of 104 Fd Bty which was the last battery to return from Vietnam in 1971).
- Partly because of this lack of an operational role, Artillery is now being challenged (again) to establish its role and prove that it is best placed to lead in the planning, control and delivery of offensive fire support on the battlefield. There are a surprising number of challengers for that role across the Army and Air Force as the introduction of technology makes these options possible.

There will be some “interesting” debates ahead.

Following the Conference, I had the opportunity to see 2/10 Fd Regt in the field as they completed the formal aspect of their conversion to 81 mm mortars. They are the first Reserve unit to complete this requirement and all involved deserve warm congratulations.

I suspect we have yet to see all the changes 2010 will bring, but I know that as Gunners, we will have the ability and flexibility to meet the resulting challenges.

Best wishes
Brig Neil Graham AM
Colonel Commandant, Southern Region
Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery.



**MESSAGE FROM
COMMANDING OFFICER
2nd/10th Field Regiment RAA**



To all Gunners

I thought it was about time there was a regular message from 2nd/10th Field Regiment, to inform all Victorian gunners about current activities, events, concerns and the like occurring within the Regiment and the Brigade.

First, let's have a quick zip through 2009. It was an extremely busy year where the Regiment saw heavy involvement in the Joint Task Force 662 VIC FIRES ASSIST - Victorian Bushfires; played a major role in the preparation and eventual certification of 4th

Brigade's force being deployed to the Solomon Islands CTF 635, and professionally executed Phase 1 FORCOMD Directive in converting 2nd Division Artillery units to Mortars. The commitment, professionalism and dedication of all members of the Regiment needs to be applauded and acknowledged as they all played a major role in the success of all of these activities. Fantastic achievements – well done!

It was with extreme pleasure and pride that I took command in October 2009, knowing that the Regiment had performed at such a high level and tempo under the command of LTCOL Rob Crawford, supported by WO1 Scott Driscoll. The amount of work required and completed to underpin the new 2nd Division Mortar capability that was constructed by Rob and the team can never be over-estimated. I would like to thank them all for creating the platform that will take the Regiment into the future. It is great to be back as CO especially in these exciting times.

The biggest event in the history of Artillery that I have seen in my 26 years of service is the conversion of all 2nd Division Artillery units from 105mm Howitzer to the 81mm Mortar. There has been much discussion about the merits, concerns and or success of this over the past couple of years, however we all agree that the success of the conversion will ensure the survivability of the Corps within the 2nd Division.

There is nothing new about Artilleryman being trained and or training others on mortars. Mortars are just another platform to deliver supportive indirect offensive fire. The message I wish to send is – we have put ourselves in the best possible position for the future.

The Regiment has designed a suite of courses for the 2nd Division artillery soldier to be proficient on the weapon but grounded in the language and art of our Corps and profession. What this means for 2/10 is more of the same, and that is, we will continue to be **“Brilliant at the Basics”**. The Regiment will continue to train with and support the Infantry units like we have done for years. Admittedly, there will be more walking than there has been for a number of years but our function has not changed.

2010 is again looking busy for the Regiment commencing with our involvement in the Australia Day celebrations at the Shrine. I will provide a full list of Regimental activities in the next publication of Cascabel. I will invite the Association and friends to an information night, at the Regiment or a convenient location, where we can discuss all topics Artillery, Reserve and service in general and I look forward to the lively discussions. Feedback and views from Association members are always welcome so please contact me on jason.cooke4@defence.gov.au if you wish to discuss anything.

I wish you all well for 2010, I hope to see you at as many functions as possible as it is extremely important for members of the Regiment to understand, meet and greet members of the Corps not currently serving. I will also encourage my soldiers to partake in wider gunner activities throughout my term as CO. I will leave you with a couple of pictures that sum up the significant events of 2009. Firstly a picture taken at Chapel Street just before the phase 1 series of Mortar courses, note the number of tubes: and secondly a picture demonstrating the new capability within the 2nd Division – an artillery mortarman ready to be deployed in support of ADF efforts offshore.

Ubique

Jason Cooke
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding Officer
2nd/10th Field Regiment



I'm still hoping for coloured photos one day!! Ed



DEFENCE OHS FACT SHEET No. 18 – November 2009

RANGE FUEL

The purpose of this Fact Sheet is to provide information on a cleaning product used in Defence in the 1970s until the 1990s. Range Fuel was a general purpose cleaning solvent used for fast degreasing of artillery pieces and other weapon parts. Some current and former Army personnel have expressed concerns about possible health impacts due to their exposure to range fuel.

WHAT IS RANGE FUEL?

Range Fuel was a product containing unleaded petrol (ULP, also known as unleaded gasoline) and commonly known as Industrial Solvent B. Its approved purpose was as a general purpose cleaning solvent suitable for fast degreasing of machinery and metal parts. There is extensive documentation of the required health and safety precautions listed in the 1984 revision to the Australian Defence Standard DEF(AUST) 475 and in an undated (but pre-1989) Australian Defence Standard DEF(AUST) 206C. There is no reference in this documentation to off spec or contaminated fuel being provided by RAAF. Range Fuel was identified in the ADF inventory as Industrial Solvent B. Its Defence Stock Numbers were: 9130-660091-937X (where the X is 2, 3, or 4 depending on the size of the container). It is understood that 9130-660091-9373 (20L size) and 9130-660091-9374 (200L size) are still listed on the ADF inventory, but that they have not been used for cleaning artillery and other weapon parts for some years.

This Fact Sheet refers only to Range Fuel/Industrial Solvent B/ULP, and not to other products such as leaded petrol or aviation fuel.

There is no specific information available on the toxicity of Range Fuel as such; however, there is extensive information on the chemistry and toxicity of ULP. Unleaded gasoline/petrol is a generic name for a complex mixture of hydrocarbons. Because gasoline/petrol is formulated to meet performance specifications, there can be wide variation in

chemical composition. There is also considerable variability in chemical composition, depending on the source of the oil stocks and the processing methods used for distillation, blending and formulation. Unleaded gasoline/petrol typically contains hydrocarbons known as paraffins or alkanes, alkenes or olefins, naphthenes or cycloparaffins, aromatics such as toluene and benzene, and saturated hydrocarbons.

In the 1980s, unleaded gasoline/petrol often contained around 5% of benzene, although the level in unleaded petrol now is less than 1%. Range Fuel tested in 1998 was estimated to contain 26.3% aromatics, including 5% benzene, 7.5% toluene, 10% xylene and 4% ethyl benzene, as well as 25.8% olefins and 47.9% saturated hydrocarbons. The available analytical information on Range Fuel indicates that it was essentially the same product as ULP. Range Fuel may also have contained small quantities of other additives.

In Australia, petrol/gasoline is not covered by the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons.

Although Range Fuel as such is not listed as a hazardous substance by the Australian Safety and Compensation Council (ASCC) in the *Approved Criteria for Classifying Hazardous Substances* [NOHSC(1008:2004)] 3rd Edition (the Approved Criteria), unleaded petrol (identified as gasoline, natural, CAS Number 8006-61-9) is listed by ASCC (see Safe Work Australia website at <http://hsis.ascc.gov.au/TheList.aspx> for guidance on hazard classification criteria). The criteria included in the Approved Criteria are adopted from European Community (EC) legislation for classifying dangerous substances.

In Australia, ASCC has set an 8-hour time-weighted average (TWA) exposure standard of 900 mg/m³ for gasoline. A short term exposure limit (STEL) standard has not been set for a workplace

environment. There is no standard for skin exposure.

HOW COULD RANGE FUEL ENTER THE BODY?

Exposure to Range Fuel can occur by inhalation of the vapour or by skin contact. Of these two possible routes, inhalation of the vapour is by far the most likely source. Personnel using Range Fuel for fast degreasing of machinery and metal parts may be exposed to the vapour. The chemical composition of the vapour differs from the liquid, because the more volatile chemicals tend to concentrate in the vapour. Little information is available on how much Range Fuel enters the body when it gets on the skin, although we know that some of the chemicals in Range Fuel, such as benzene, are likely to penetrate the skin more easily than some of the other chemicals in Range Fuel. Most of the Range Fuel vapour that is breathed in is breathed out unchanged, but some of it can rapidly enter the blood and get into other body tissues such as the liver. The liver breaks down Range Fuel chemicals into a range of substances which then travel in the blood to the kidneys, and from there leave the body in urine.

CAN RANGE FUEL BE HARMFUL?

The extent to which Range Fuel can affect health is determined by how much of it you are exposed to, how much is taken into the body, whether you are exposed for a long or a short time, the route or pathway by which you are exposed (such as breathing, eating, drinking or skin contact), and other individual characteristics such as your age, sex, nutritional status and state of health.

Varied effects can occur depending on the chemical nature of the individual components of Range Fuel. Many of the harmful effects seen after exposure to Range Fuel are due to the individual chemicals in the mixture, such as low amounts of benzene in the Range Fuel. Inhaling or swallowing large amounts of Range Fuel can cause death. High concentrations of Range Fuel vapour are irritating to the lungs when breathed in.

Exposure to Range Fuel vapour in confined or poorly ventilated areas may cause the rapid onset of unconsciousness. Inhalation of Range Fuel vapour may cause dizziness, slurred speech, excitement and incoordination, and Range Fuel vapour may be irritating to the eyes and respiratory system.

Breathing in high levels of Range Fuel vapour for short periods of time, or swallowing large amounts of Range Fuel, may cause harmful effects to the nervous system. Harmful effects on the lungs can

occur when someone swallows large amounts of Range Fuel, because when the person vomits, the Range Fuel can enter the lungs, causing chemical pneumonitis. Less serious nervous system effects may include dizziness and headaches; more serious effects may include coma, breathing difficulties and lung damage, as well as adverse effects on kidney and liver function. The more the amount breathed in or swallowed, the more serious the health effects.

Chronic or long-term exposure to high levels of Range Fuel vapour over long periods of time may also cause nervous system effects.

In laboratory experiments of continuous exposure to high levels of Range Fuel vapour, the laboratory animals developed liver and kidney tumours. However, there is no evidence that exposure to Range Fuel vapour causes cancer in humans. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has determined that there is *inadequate evidence* for the carcinogenicity in humans of gasoline; and that there is *limited evidence* for the carcinogenicity in experimental animals of unleaded automotive gasoline. The overall evaluation was that gasoline is *possibly carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B)*.

There is not enough information to determine if Range Fuel causes birth defects or affects reproduction.

If liquid Range Fuel is swallowed, it will irritate the lining of the stomach.

Prolonged skin exposure to Range Fuel may cause skin burns and is usually a result of inadequate or inappropriate use of personal protective equipment (PPE). Repeated exposure of the skin to Range Fuel may result in dermatitis. Skin exposure to Range Fuel is not thought to be a major factor in overall toxicity, based on the likelihood that the skin contamination will occur at the same time as inhalation of Range Fuel vapour, which is the main route of entry to the body. For more information on benzene, a component of Range Fuel, see DCOH Fact Sheet No. 2 on benzene. However it should be noted that the effects of benzene are reduced in proportion to the concentration or amount of benzene present in the Range Fuel mixture.

WHAT LEVELS OF RANGE FUEL WOULD CAUSE HARMFUL HEALTH EFFECTS?

The main risk to the health of exposed workers is by inhalation of vapours. Exposure to Range Fuel may also occur through skin contact.

Long-term health effects can occur from repeated exposures to Range Fuel at levels not high enough

to cause short-term effects. The minimum concentration of Range Fuel vapour needed to produce a mild effect such as a cough is about 140 parts per million in air. The level of Range Fuel vapour that can cause effects on the central nervous system is about 900 parts per million in air. At greater than about 10,000 parts per million, petrol vapour can rapidly exert an anaesthetic effect, resulting in unconsciousness. The level of Range Fuel vapour that can cause death when breathed in is about 10,000 to 20,000 parts per million. Swallowing about 355 to 500 ml of liquid Range Fuel can also cause death.

IS THERE A MEDICAL TEST TO SHOW WHETHER YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO RANGE FUEL?

There are laboratory tests to determine if you have recently been exposed to some components of Range Fuel, such as benzene, although these are **specialised tests and not usually available at a GP's surgery**. For more information on benzene, see the DCOH Fact Sheet No. 2 on benzene. For people possibly exposed many years ago, there are no specific tests available to measure past Range Fuel or benzene exposure.

WHAT PRECAUTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN WHEN USING RANGE FUEL?

The health risks involved in handling and using Range Fuel are minimal, provided that it is used in accordance with appropriate health and safety practices.

In the workplace, the most likely source of exposure is through inhalation. Skin contact can also result in inhalation as the Range Fuel evaporates from the skin.

Engineering controls such as closed systems and ventilation should be the principal method for minimising Range Fuel exposure in the workplace. Exhaust ventilation systems should be designed to capture and contain Range Fuel vapour. Ventilation equipment should be checked for adequate performance at least every 3 months. Areas containing high levels of Range Fuel should be restricted to essential workers. If feasible, these workers should avoid direct contact with Range Fuel. When there is potential for Range Fuel exposure, workers should be provided with and required to use appropriate personal protective clothing and equipment. Suitable protective equipment, including petrol-resistant gloves, should also be used when using Range Fuel for fast degreasing of machinery and metal parts in the field. Care must be taken to avoid getting Range Fuel onto the skin. Hands and skin must never be

washed with Range Fuel.

Respirators should not be used as the primary control for routine operations, but they may need to be used during situations such as implementation of engineering controls, some short-duration maintenance procedures, and emergencies.

Respirators, if worn, must be of approved design meeting the appropriate Australian Standards. A complete respiratory protection program should include regular training and medical evaluation of personnel, fit testing, periodic environmental monitoring, periodic maintenance, inspection, and cleaning of equipment, proper storage of equipment, and written standard operating procedures governing the selection and use of respirators. The program should be evaluated regularly.

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Current serving members: If you believe that you have been exposed to Range Fuel and are suffering health effects from this exposure, you should complete form AC563 (Accident or Incident Report Form) and contact your local ADF Health Service to arrange a clinical assessment and an exposure evaluation.

Current and former ADF members: You may lodge **a claim with the Department of Veterans' Affairs** if you believe that your health has been adversely affected by exposure to Range Fuel. Call 133 254 or 1300 550 461

Civilian employees: If you believe that your health has been affected by exposure to Range Fuel, you should contact the Defence Hazardous Exposure Evaluation Scheme (DHEES) (toll free line 1800 000 655) and register your personal and possible exposure details.

FIRST AID AND EMERGENCY TREATMENT

Remove the victim from the source of the exposure, making sure not to endanger the rescuer.

If the victim is not responsive, commence CPR, making sure not to breathe the fumes and not to contaminate the rescuer.

If the victim shows signs and symptoms of poisoning, ring 000 for an ambulance, and contact the National Poisons Information Service (telephone 13 11 26) for detailed guidance on handling the emergency.

Inhalation: If the victim has been poisoned by breathing Range Fuel vapour, get victim into fresh air. If possible, give 100% oxygen, and seek medical

treatment.

Eye contact: If Range Fuel contacts the eye, wash it out with copious quantities of water or saline as soon as possible, and refer for medical evaluation.

Skin and hair contact: If Range Fuel contacts the skin or hair, wash it off with soap and copious quantities of water as soon as possible.

Ingestion: If Range Fuel has been swallowed, wash material from around mouth. Do not make the victim vomit; if the victim vomits spontaneously, collect the vomited material in a labelled, sealed plastic bag and send with the victim to hospital.

Contaminated clothing should be removed and placed in a sealed plastic bag. Use plastic gloves for this task and then discard them.

Send patient for medical evaluation as soon as possible. In more severe cases the patient may need to be transported urgently by ambulance.

Further guidance should be obtained from a specialist clinical toxicologist at an early stage.

Further information

For further information see:

1. DCOH Fact Sheet No. 2 on benzene
2. International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Gasoline (Group 3b) Summary of Data Reported and Evaluation – (1998) <http://www.inchem.org/documents/iarc/vol45/45-03.html>
3. Petrol Toxicological Overview. UK Health Protection Agency. (2007) <http://www.hpa.org.uk/HPA/Topics/ChemicalsAndPoisons/CompendiumOfChemicalHazards/1190384328586/>
4. Toxicological Profile for Gasoline. US Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (June 1995) <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxprofiles/tp72.pdf>

The sponsor of this Fact Sheet is the Defence Centre for Occupational Health (DCOH) within the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Branch.

This article included by request of the COLCOMDT. (Ed)

Submitted by Ernie Paddon SSgt (Ret)

On the 9th June 2009 I was privileged to represent the company that I work for, the "Corps of Commissionaires" at their 150th anniversary in London, UK. We put on a forty six man guard of honour for Her Majesty the Queen and Prince Phillip in the throne room at St James Palace. The guard was drawn from England, Ireland, Canada, Papua New Guinea, Australia, plus five Gurkhas. The Queen inspected the guard, said good morning to each person as she passed, as well as stopping to talk to quite a few of the guard. Prince Phillip was also doing the same, and I was presented to him. We spoke for a few minutes, as Prince Phillip spent a lot more time talking to people than did the Queen. When she got to the end of the line and looked around, she noted that Prince Phillip was only about halfway down the line, at which her Majesty did an about turn, and walked back up the line and spoke to more people: this was something I have not seen done before. After the Royal couple had left the room, we were rushed round to a large staircase, where we had a photo taken with their **Majesty's (Photo enclosed)** I am in the eighth row up, third from the right. We then went into a reception, hosted by the Queen, for drinks and finger food. All in all a great day and a once in a lifetime event for the likes of myself.

As a finish to the year, I was told to report to Government House Melb. at 10am on Tuesday 24th November 2009, and was surprised to find out that I was being awarded the Commissionaire Of The Year award, by his Excellency the Governor David De Kretser. When we had finished at Government House about sixty of us attended at service at the Shrine, the area around the grave of the unknown warrior was closed off so that we could hold a short service, our Padre read a service, and I was asked to read Laurence



First M-ATVs Deploy to Afghanistan

Army News — By US Marines on September 29,
2009 at 3:50 pm

WASHINGTON: With unprecedented speed, the first of thousands of mine-resistant, ambush-protected all-terrain vehicles known as M-ATVs -- are being deployed to Afghanistan just three months after a delivery order was awarded.

Conventional MRAP vehicles feature a V-shaped hull to deflect roadside bombs, and are proven to be lifesavers on the battlefield. The procurement of the M-ATV grew from an urgent requirement to provide troops a smaller and more maneuverable vehicle that can travel off-road and navigate Afghanistan's difficult, mountainous terrain, Marine Corps Systems Command officials said.

"We have pulled out all the stops to collapse the schedule and get these vehicles into theater," said Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Michael M. Brogan,

commander of Marine Corps Systems Command and joint program executive officer of the MRAP program. "We are doing everything that's required to ensure that they are safe, that the risk assessments are complete, [and] that they're fully integrated and flown into Afghanistan."

The M-ATV supports small-unit combat operations in highly restricted rural, mountainous and urban environments that include mounted patrols, reconnaissance, security, convoy protection, communications, command and control, and combat service support. It is designed to replace the up-armored Humvee in Afghanistan. The M-ATV will carry up to five personnel: four plus a gunner.

The Defense Department has ordered more than 4,300 of the all-terrain mine-resistant trucks, and another 1,400 are planned. Oshkosh Corp. is producing the vehicles.



The first of thousands of mine-resistant, ambush-protected all-terrain vehicles known as M-ATVs -- are being deployed to Afghanistan by US Marines.

Courtesy Defence Talk/Army News

Bushmaster Infantry Mobility Vehicle, Australia

Key Data

Crew

Driver, commander and 7 crew

Hull

Monocoque all-welded steel hull

Configuration

4 x 4

Armour Protection

5.56mm and 7.62mm ball ammunition, landmine protection

Air Transportation

C-130 Hercules

Length



The Bushmaster 4x4 armoured vehicle is currently deployed in southern Iraq with the Australian Army's Al Muthanna Task Group. The Bushmaster armoured

vehicle, developed by Thales Australia (formerly ADI Limited) in Australia is in full production at Thales's engineering and manufacturing facility at Bendigo, Victoria.

The Australian Army has tested the vehicle over thousands of kilometres in the extreme climatic conditions and terrain from sub-zero mountain areas to desert and tropical conditions in north Australia. In July 2002, the Australian Army awarded a contract to ADI Limited for 300 Bushmaster infantry mobility vehicles in six variants: troop transport, ambulance, direct fire, mortar, engineer and command.



The first of 300 Bushmaster vehicles was delivered to the Australian Army in August 2004 and the vehicle was operationally deployed to Iraq in April 2005 and Afghanistan in September 2005. Deliveries completed in 2008. The 500th Bushmaster vehicle was completed in October 2008.



"The Australian Army has tested the Bushmaster armoured vehicle over thousands of kilometres in extreme conditions."

In June 2006, the first batch of 152 troop transport variants completed delivery. Delivery of the command

variant is underway.

In February 2006, ADI signed a licensing agreement with Oshkosh Truck Corporation of USA to market, manufacture and support the Bushmaster for North American customers and countries eligible for foreign military sales. In January 2007, Oshkosh was awarded a contract by the US Marine Corps for two category II mine-resistant ambush-protected (MRAP) vehicles based on the Bushmaster. The Bushmaster variant was withdrawn from the MRAP competition in August 2007.

Editor's Note: Can anyone enlighten me re why the Bushmaster was withdrawn?

In August 2006, the Royal Netherlands Army placed a contract for 25 Bushmaster vehicles, for operations in Afghanistan. For speed of deployment, the vehicles are being supplied from those already delivered to the Australian Army.

12 vehicles are being fitted with Thales SWARM remote-controlled weapon system and all vehicles have the Thales SOTAS M2 multimedia communication system and Thales Claire thermal imager. The vehicles were deployed to Afghanistan in October 2006. In November 2007, the Netherlands Army ordered an additional five vehicles to replace vehicles damaged in Afghanistan. 13 were ordered in June 2008, 18 in August 2008 and nine in January 2009.

In September 2006, it was announced that Australian Army Bushmaster vehicles would be fitted with a remote weapon station (RWS), for added troop protection. 44 Raven R-400 weapon stations, from Recon Optical of the USA and electro optic systems (EOS) of Australia, have been ordered and upgraded vehicles are to enter service in 2008.

In December 2006, the Australian Army ordered a further 143 vehicles. The additional vehicles are to be delivered by 2009. In August 2007, the procurement of another 250 vehicles was announced by the Australian Army and a further 293 vehicles were ordered in October 2008. Total procurement for Australia is 737 vehicles.

In May 2008, under an urgent operational requirement, the UK placed an order for 24 Bushmaster vehicles for deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan.

With a road cruise speed of 90km/h, the Bushmaster transports troops, quickly and comfortably and is suitable for deployment in complex, diffuse and lethal operational environments



such as Iraq. The Bushmaster family of vehicles provides high-level protection against anti-tank mines, improvised explosive devices, mortar fragments and small arms fire.

Bushmaster crew cabin

Bushmaster is designed to transport up to ten troops. The cabin, with 1,415mm headroom, is fitted with seven face-to-face ergonomically designed seats with full harness seat belts. There is a personal weapons storage area, mission equipment storage, a radio suite, an air-conditioning unit and a cooled water drinking system.

The cabin is fitted with four roof hatches with locking handles to provide protection against ambush and alternative escape routes

The vehicle is transportable in C-130 Hercules aircraft for rapid deployment in forward areas of operation.



In June 2008, Thales launched a utility variant, the Bushmaster Copperhead armoured combat support vehicle (ACSV). The Copperhead ACSV can carry 4000 kg load on its rear tray and has

a cruising speed of 100 km/h and maximum range of 800km. Copperhead has been down selected for the UK MoD's operational utility vehicle systems (OUVS) requirement.

"Bushmaster armoured vehicles are available in six variants: troop transport, ambulance, direct fire, mortar, engineer and command."

Driver's cabin

The driver and crew cabin areas are ergonomically designed for comfortable travel in varied terrain and harsh environments, minimising crew fatigue and allowing the crew to rest or concentrate on the mission. The engine noise level inside the cabin and crew compartment is very low.

The cabin is fitted with a large windscreen and side windows for all-round visibility. The dashboard is ergonomically arranged, with easily readable and night vision goggle compatible cockpit instrumentation. The driver can use the push-button control central tyre inflation system to adjust the tyre pressure while on the move to suit the terrain type and to keep the tyres inflated with limited punctures.

Weapons

The commander's hatch on the left is equipped with a weapon mount for a 5.56mm or 7.62mm machine gun. A light cannon can also be fitted. The ballistically protected windows can be fitted with optional shooting ports.

Lockers can be replaced with additional ammunition and arms or fuel and water tanks to extend the operational radius. The crew seating can be reconfigured to accommodate operational requirements.

44 Australian Army vehicles are being fitted with the Recon Optical / Electro Optic Systems Ltd Raven R-400 weapon station. The system is in service with the US Army, designated the M101 common remotely operated weapon station (CROWS). Raven sensors include thermal imager, CCD TV and eyesafe laser rangefinder.

Propulsion

The Bushmaster engine, a Caterpillar 3126E ATAAC turbocharged six-cylinder, produces up to 246kW (330hp) at 2,400rpm. It provides a power to weight ratio of 16kW/t, cruise speed of 110km/h and maximum speed and 120km/h. The vehicle has an extended range of more than 1,000km.

A double wishbone independent suspension system designed by Timoney in County Meath, Ireland provides good cross-country mobility across difficult terrains. The complete powerpack, (engine, automatic transmission, cooling system) can be easily replaced in the field without special tools.

Self-protection

The armour-protected chassis protects against the blast of claymore, anti-tank mines, anti-personnel mines, mortars, improvised explosive devices and Nato 5.56mm and 7.62mm ball ammunition. An upgrade armour kit provides protection against 5.56mm and 7.62mm armour-piercing rounds. The shaped hull deflects the blast from the equivalent of a 9.5kg high-explosive land mine detonated under any wheel or under the centre section of the vehicle.

Wire cutters are installed on the roof on both sides of the vehicle to protect soldiers exposed above the roofline. The fuel and hydraulic tanks are located outside the crew compartments to minimise fire risk. The fuel tanks are equipped with fire retardants to prevent explosion and inhibit deterioration of the fuel.

A 270lt drinking-water tank is installed under the floor of the crew compartment, contributing to crew safety in the event of a landmine explosion. The armour protected seating provides additional protection against spinal injuries.

Reference:

Army Technology.com/Industry Projects/Bushmaster Infantry Mobility Vehicle

Mordialloc's 25 Pounder Short Guns



25 Pounder Short Gun on display at Mordialloc, 2003. Courtesy Kingston Collection.

After the First World War the Mordialloc community financially supported the creation of two memorials to remind residents that young men from their district served and died in the bitter fighting of Gallipoli and the Western Front in France and Belgium. One, on the main street of Mordialloc, was a flagstaff mounted on a bluestone pedestal on which the names of nineteen men who sacrificed their lives were listed. After the Second World War, through the initiative of members of the Mordialloc RSL, two 25 Pounder Short Guns were placed to the north and south of this cenotaph as sentinels. These guns serve as a reminder to thinking residents and visitors that local men and women served in the conflict of the Second World War.



Mordialloc Cenotaph, c1990. Courtesy John Madge.

The British 25 Pounder first built in 1935 was used successfully by Australian troops in the hot dry desert campaign in North Africa. However, later when the Australian forces faced the advancing Japanese army in Papua New Guinea conditions were radically different. Soldiers experienced hot, steamy, humid and corroding conditions in the jungle, coupled with some of the most difficult terrain in the world. To cope with such conditions the design of the British 25 Pounder had to be re-thought. The outcome was the 25 Pounder Short Gun.

The basic differences between the two weapons were weight, and the ability of the 25 Pounder Short to be disassembled into fourteen manageable packages most,

weighing less than 300 pounds. This facilitated transportation. Savings in weight were achieved by shortening the barrel length to 1.26 m from 2.47m and creating a light weight box section gun carriage. The total weight of the 25 Pounder Short was 6471 kg compared to the weight of the standard gun of 8898kg. The redesigned gun was manufactured at Charles Ruwolt (later Vickers-Ruwolt) in Richmond with the prototype being test fired on 5 December 1942 and introduced into service in August 1943 as an adjunct to the standard gun, rather than as a replacement. It remained in service until the end of the war. Michael Cecil writes that a total of 212 Short guns were built. He noted that the gun was **not popular with its crews. He wrote, 'The absence of the shield combined with the severe back blast from the shortened barrel firing ammunition designed for the standard gun, adversely affect the crew. It was not unusual for the crew to end a lengthy fire task suffering mild concussion, even nose bleeds, as a result of the back blast.'** In addition Cecil said crews had little confidence in their accuracy as, on firing, the weapon bounced violently forcing the crew to stand clear or risk injury.

After the conclusion of the Second World War the Mordialloc RSL approached the military authorities for weapons from the war to add to the Mordialloc cenotaph. Two 25 Short Pounder Version 1 guns were provided. Both were built by Ruwolt in 1943, registration numbers A 87 and A 94. Both were placed at the cenotaph minus wheels and tyres, sighting instruments **and miscellaneous 'loose' fittings, and strangely, at least** by the late 1990s, painted battleship grey. The individual history of the guns is not known as the particular weapons could not be matched to existing military documents. One military historian believed the guns could have been used on the Kokoda Trail but this view was dismissed by Alex McPherson as being unlikely. He **suggested 'the possibility of these guns having fired any** shots in anger is limited to the fact that of the total quantity manufactured, only approximately thirteen

went to New Guinea and saw action.’ However, 25 Pound Short guns were used in Borneo, Weipa and Lae. It was the first gun to be dropped from an aircraft when in August 1943 two pieces were parachuted into Nadzab west of Lae to support the attack of the 503rd US Parachute Infantry Regiment. By 1946 the 25 Pounder Short was declared obsolete for military purposes.

Early in 2000 informal approaches were made to the Kingston Council by individuals offering to take responsibility for the two deteriorating guns at the Mordialloc cenotaph. One inquirer wanted to restore the guns and sell them on the booming market for military hardware in the United States of America, while the second inquirer was interested in seeing the guns restored and located at the military base at Puckapunyal, Victoria. The Mentone RSL also expressed interest in the future of the guns suggesting they be relocated to the park in the front of the RSL building in Mentone Parade where they could be restored over time as trophy pieces. None of these offers were taken up by council.

Bryce Raworth Pty Ltd who had undertaken the heritage study for the City of Kingston was commissioned by the council to report on the conditions of the guns. The report, noting extensive corrosion accelerated by the salt laden air of Mordialloc and the lack of regular maintenance over the years, suggested that the restoration would be extensive and probably best undertaken in stages. A second report was commissioned in March 2007 of material technologists, Peter Kerr and Ivar Nelsen, who were asked to provide some guidance in the management and maintenance of the Mordialloc guns. Their detailed report, amongst other things, drew attention to the need to remove all existing rust, restore missing elements like wheels and tyres, display the guns so that no metal part was touching the ground and repaint the guns in an appropriate colour. Extensive advice was also given on the cleaning process using high temperature, high pressure water and detergents.



Corrosion on a 25 Pounder Short Gun at Mordialloc.

Courtesy, Alex McPherson.

In 2006 a grant of \$7000 was received from the then Department of Victorian Communities to restore the guns. **The council’s commitment was an equal amount.** The task of undertaking the project was given to OEM

Engineering Pty Ltd of Braeside, Victoria, where the guns were dismantled, sand blasted, rust protection applied and spray painted. Replacement parts were sourced by Alex McPherson and Wes Scott. The overall cost of the project was \$40,000 without including the time contributed by council officers and members of the community. The restoration work was completed in November 2008.



Janice Munt, MLA, Member for Mordialloc, Cr Arthur Athanasopoulos, Mayor of Kingston and Mark Dreyfus MP Member for Isaacs in the Federal Parliament with one of the restored guns, 2009. Courtesy Kingston Collection.

The guns were replaced in their original positions at the cenotaph and on 21 April 2009 a simple ceremony took place when the Mayor of Kingston, Cr Arthur Athanasopoulos, in the presence of councillors, politicians and community members, unveiled a plaque commemorating the restoration of the guns.

People at the Mordialloc ceremony commemorating the restoration of the guns, 2009. Courtesy Kingston Collection.



They're back with both guns blazing

MORDIALLOC'S historic guns have been welcomed back to Main St after a \$35,000 makeover.

Kingston Council had feared the two 25 Pounder Short Guns, which were last year removed for restoration, might not be salvageable because of extensive rust.

But workers at Braeside's OEM Engineering soldiered on.

Caulfield RSL president John Decker, a former gunner, said the guns served as a reminder of sacrifices made in war.

"We have freedom now thanks to those diggers," Mr Decker said.



John Decker (left) and Kevin Tucker are glad to see Mordialloc's guns restored to their former glory.



Gun ho: Keith Rossi, a World War II member of the 2/2 Field Regiment, Arthur Athanopoulos and Mentone RSL president Tony Rossi at one of the restored 25-pounder guns at Mordialloc.

Picture: Gary Sissons

Author

Graham J Whitehead

References

Nelsen, I., *25 Pounder Short guns, Mordialloc, Victoria*. Conservation Statement 2007.

McPherson, Alex. *Re Mordialloc 25 Pounder 'Short' Field Guns*, 2007.

Technology in Australia 1788-1988, Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering 1988.

Weickhardt, C. G. T., *Victoria's Engineering Heritage First Hundred Years 1842-1942*. Australian War Memorial.

OEM Engineering Pty Ltd Website, *25 Pounder Short Guns Restoration*.

Chelsea Leader and Chelsea Independent Newspapers

City of Kingston Historical Site

May 2004 showing a photo of a 25-Pounder Short being handed over to the 4th Field Regiment
RAA Historical Collection in Townsville.



L-R: Arthur Burke, CO Warwick Jones, Paragunner Keith Begbie, BC A Fd Bty, rep WW2 2/4 vet 'Roos Marsden', veteran Jack Rush, rep WW2 soldier, veteran Arthur Thompson, rep WW2 soldier, veteran Mick Heffernan, rep WW2 soldier.

(Photo: A. Burke)



OBITUARY

VALE MAJOR RONALD JAMES GLEW (RETD)

Arthur Burke

COMMITMENT and passion were the two words used at Ron Glew's final farewell to describe his vibrant and full life. The very mention of these two words started heads in the chapel nodding in agreement—his Army mates, RSL and Caboolture Orchid Society members, and of course his bereaved family.

Born in Melbourne on 1 August 1944 to plumber George and his wife June Glew during the war years, it was evident from an early age that Ron would set his own agenda for life. Not wanting to follow in his father's footsteps, he joined the Victorian Railways and became a member of the Citizen Military Forces in his spare time. He was an excellent sportsman, excelling in Aussie Rules and loving golf with a passion.

The CMF provided a challenge and stimulation, something which Ron missed working for the railways so, just after his 17th birthday, he enlisted in the Regular Army and was allocated to the 111th Light Anti Aircraft Battery. His younger brother, John marvelled at the passion with which Ron cleaned his webbing equipment, polished his boots and took hours to iron his starched uniforms.

Two years later, Gunner Glew had earned two stripes and seven months after that was on overseas service at Butterworth in Malaysia. In stove pipe pants, pointed shoes and Elvis Presley hair style liberally slicked down with Brylcreem, Ron won the heart of and married Rita. He arrived back in Australia in 1966 with a new wife and a newborn son, Robbie.

He continued in the air defence world till 1968 then move on promotion to sergeant to the School of Artillery. Next it was 19th Composite then 8th Medium Regiment and 123rd Training Battery. Ron

achieved his Warrant Officer's cap in 1971 and returned to 16th LAA Regiment. He was held in high esteem by his peers as evidenced when brother John followed in his footsteps. Whilst a recruit at the School of Artillery, John was told quite plainly by his instructor, Sergeant Bluey Bellis, 'So you're Sticky Glew's brother. Well, you have big shoes to fill!'

Mind you, Ron was not always an angel. One day John and he went down to the local pub promising Rita they would be home for lunch. A very chirpy pair arrived after it was dark and sat down in front of the television with a beer. Rita ignored them and continued ironing quietly. However, Ron's comment, 'What's for dinner, love' was quickly answered by an iron hurtling through the air and the miscreants ducking for cover.

In 1971, Warrant Officer Glew was commissioned Lieutenant Glew and enjoyed periods with the 'steam' gunners of 4th Field Regiment in Townsville, the Proof & Experimental Establishment at Port Wakefield in South Australia and the 2nd/15th Field Regiment in Victoria. He returned to his beloved 16th Air Defence Regiment at Woodside, SA in 1977 as the captain quartermaster then Headquarters Battery commander.

Ron never did anything by halves and this included being a consummate host and entertainer. Together with his soul mate, Rita he created a true festive atmosphere for his brother's large family each Christmas—eating magnificent curries, fishing, lounging in the spa, picnicking at the beach. Similar repasts and treatment greeted visiting friends.

Major Glew transferred to the Army Reserve in 1985 but was determined not to rest on his laurels. In 1986 he became the inaugural battery commander

of the re-raised 13th Field Battery of artillery at Kallangur on Brisbane's northern outskirts. He remained a very committed commander of this unit till 1993 when he was transferred to **Brisbane's** 7th Brigade Headquarters till he reached statutory retiring age in 1999.

But Ron was already thinking ahead and during the last decade of his service, he became passionate about the Returned and Services League of Australia. From 1991, he served as the president of the Pine Rivers Sub-Branch for nine years and was most instrumental in raising and becoming the inaugural deputy district president of the Brisbane North District of the RSL in 1998.

Mr Glew stepped up to the district presidency from 2000 till 2005 and again served a parallel executive position as a state vice president of the RSL from 2003 till 2006. For his endeavours with the RSL, he was granted Life Membership. During this time Ron also formed Air Defence Queensland, an association for former members of this facet of artillerymen. He proudly led their inaugural participation in the Brisbane ANZAC Day March in 2007. Over the last 12 months, Ron became very energetic behind the scenes of the Caboolture Orchid Society and was studying to become a judge.

Ronald James Glew, passionate air defender, retired major and RSL stalwart passed away suddenly on 8 August 2009. His final parade was held at Burpengary near Caboolture, Queensland where the chapel overflowed with his former service mates, RSL members, friends and family. His wake at the Caboolture RSL resounded with laughter from many stories of a life of commitment and passion. Gone to that Great Gun Park up above at just 65 years of age.

I am indebted to Ron's brother, John Lavery and his old RSL mate, Peter Lawler for material for this tribute.

2nd/10th Field Regiment 2006 - In Focus



2006 in Review



1812 Overture - Commonwealth Games



1812 Overture - Commonwealth Games

<http://www.army.gov.au/RRAA/Galleries.asp>

A Short History of A Field Battery RAA

Early History

Prior to 1870, each Colony in Australia was responsible for the defence of their principal ports. Towards the end of 1870 the last Imperial Garrison, Royal Garrison Artillery, withdrew from New South Wales (NSW). The NSW Government passed the Naval and Military Forces Act (1871), allowing for the raising of the first Permanent Military Force in Australia. This provided for one battery of Artillery and two companies of Infantry. The Act was important because it was the same as applied to the Imperial Forces and in the case of the Gunners, maintained the direct links to the Royal Artillery (RA). These links are a strong point in the maintenance of standard Commonwealth Gunner traditions and procedures and have been preserved to the present day.

On 1 August 1871, A Battery NSW Artillery was formed, a Unit which has existed continuously ever since although under many different designations. On the same day, the following Artillery appointments were made by the Governor of NSW:

- Captain G.J. Airey to be the First Captain of the NSW Artillery.
- Captain W.W. Spalding to be the Second Captain of the NSW Artillery.
- Lieutenants J.J.R. Russell and G.S. Lindeman
- Staff Sergeant H.T. Green, an ex-Sergeant of the Royal Horse Artillery, being the first non-commissioned man enlisted in the Permanent Forces, was allotted Regimental Number One. (Officers did not have Regimental Numbers in those refined times).

From 1872, the Battery was located at Dawes Point. The next significant event occurred in March 1881 at the outbreak of the First Boer War. Major Spalding suggested that the Battery be offered for service but this offer was politely declined.

Sudan Campaign

A few years later in February 1885, the NSW Government offered a Battery of Artillery and a Battalion of Infantry for service in the Sudan. With the offer being accepted by the British Government, A Field Battery was assembled from the NSW Artillery and was ready for embarkation within two weeks. The Battery sailed on 3 March 1885 on the transports "Iberia" and "Australasia". **The Battery landed in Suakin on 30 and 31 March 1885 but was to see**

limited action as the campaign was almost at an end. The most significant action appeared to be support for the Guards Brigade and the NSW Infantry in a minor skirmish to clear Tamai. Towards the end of this campaign, there was a suggestion that the Battery was to be transferred to Afghanistan as the Russians were making trouble on the border. This crisis was averted and the possible redeployment did not eventuate. Plans now turned the question of returning to Australia. The Imperial Government offered to transport the NSW Contingent back to Sydney free of charge. The Colonial Government in turn offered the horses (which then as now, were affected by quarantine regulations.). In response to this, the Imperial Government allowed the Battery to retain the six 9 pounder guns which had been issued earlier in the campaign. The Battery embarked on the troop ship "Arab" on 17 May 1885 for return to Australia and landed in Sydney on 12 June 1885. The Battery was commended by the Commander-in-Chief, Sudan, Lord Wolsley for its most soldier-like appearance and exemplary conduct at a review a few days previously. The Battery returned to routine duties in Sydney. There were two significant events in this time relevant to our National Heritage.

The first of these was the commissioning of Tom Roberts for a series of four paintings with military themes. The sponsor of these paintings was Major General Edward Hutton, the retiring Commander of the NSW Defence Forces. One of the paintings was of A Battery Field Artillery in action at a Practice Camp at Sugarloaf Hill near Campbelltown in 1896. On his retirement, General Hutton took three of the paintings home donating the fourth (his portrait) to **the Field Artillery Officers' Smoking Room at Victoria Barracks**. The painting of A Battery returned home when it was purchased by the Australian War Memorial in 1952.

The second event occurred on 24 August 1899 when Queen Victoria agreed to the formation of the Royal Australian Artillery (RAA). The RAA was formed from the Colonial Artilleries of NSW, Victoria and Queensland and is considered to be the first Federal Institution, occurring as it did well prior to Federation.

South African War

In 1899, when the South African War commenced, all the Colonies in Australia offered military assistance to England. These offers were accepted but only to the extent that the Colonies were initially requested to send mounted infantry, light horse and medical corps units only. After the action at Magersfontain, the early confidence and optimism of the Imperial Forces had

faded. A second offer by NSW to send a battery of Artillery to South Africa was accepted with a greater degree of urgency. A Battery RAA was formed from Officers and Men of A Battery NSW Artillery, and on 30 December 1899 the Battery embarked on the **“Warrigal” from Sydney to South Africa. Given that the Battery was only warned for service on 19 December 1899 the ability to mobilise and sail within 11 days was testimony to the Battery’s state of readiness and training.**

A week after their arrival on 5 February 1900, the Battery moved by train from Capetown to Belmont. Almost immediately, the Battery was broken up into three sections of two guns apiece. There was a fear of insurrection in the North West Cape areas and the possible effects on the lines of communication for **Lord Robert’s planned invasion of the Orange Free State.** It was decided to conduct a supporting operation to clear the Boers from the NW Cape area and this task was given to Major General H. Settle. General Settle had a total force of 1600 men assembled at short notice from available forces in the area. He arranged his Force into three columns; **A Battery was in General Settle’s own column. By 19-21 March 1900 this operation was sufficiently effective to remove the threat of insurrection. This allowed General Settle to commence widely dispersed operations around Upington and Kenhardt.**

The Centre and Left Sections were deployed with patrolling columns while the Right Section and Battery HQ were to remain in a static role in what was reputed as a miserable place called Draghoender. There is ample evidence that the Imperial Forces had failed to learn some hard lessons from the First Boer War in 1881 in that they persisted in the break-up of formed units. Critics of the Gunners often fail to appreciate that it is the role of the Artillery to provide advice and effective fire support for the plan of manoeuvre of the Supported Arm (no matter how flawed these plans are judged to be at the time and after their execution). Apparently the citizens of NSW were more aware of this than many of the Field Commanders as letters to the Sydney papers of the day show. They questioned why one of the best trained units sent from the Colonies was being so seriously misemployed.

As 1900 was drawing to a close, this already unsatisfactory situation was exacerbated as the Boers changed their tactics from fixed engagements in favour of a campaign of guerrilla warfare. In October 1900, while the Battery was concentrating at Prieska, the Left Section (commanded by a very capable officer in Lieutenant Christian) was ordered to Colesburg

which was astride the main railway line to Pretoria.

Meanwhile, the Right Section was involved in several actions around Vryburg in mid-November 1900. During one of these actions, one gun managed to get 190 rounds away while Gunner B. Gowing died of wounds sustained in this engagement.

The Left Section (as often happens in warfare) was destined to see the greater part of the action in the coming months. On 21 February 1901 the Section was in support of a Column under Lieutenant Colonel E.M.S. Crabbe. The Column consisted of the 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards and about 150 mounted **troops. Their mission was to trap De Wet’s force who were operating in the immediate area.** The Section was soon called into action in support of an attack on a ridge near Pampoenpan. The Section was able to keep pace with the attacking force (in this case, the Victorian Mounted Rifles) but was able to come into action quickly and effectively silence the enemy guns deployed on the ridge. DeWet withdrew to the East but on 22 February 1901 the Boer camp was observed at Disselfontein. The Left Section went rapidly into action and engaged the Boer guns causing them to be abandoned. During these operations, which covered a **period of three months, Christian’s Left Section showed an exemplary ability to keep pace with the leading elements of Crabbe’s force and to be decisively engaged on those occasions when a quick response was called for.** It was recorded that of all of the Artillery Sections employed in this manner, **Christian’s Section was the only one to keep up the pace throughout.** This effort came at a great cost in terms of the condition of the horses and the physical demands on the men.

In March 1901, the Left Section left Crabbe’s force and was allotted to another Column under Lieutenant Colonel H.M. Grenfell in the Graaff-Reinet area. This move was as inexplicable as it was pointless and only a month later the Section joined a new Column forming up under Lieutenant Colonel A.G. Ingouville Williams at Klerksdorp (160km SW of Johannesburg). Christian became ill and was replaced by an unknown officer from the RA who greatly improved the dress sense of the Battery but apparently was well regarded despite this. Eventually the Section was commanded by Lieutenant R.G. King who had recently arrived with 43 reinforcements from Australia.

During this period, the Right Section was engaged in garrison, patrolling and escort duties in the Vryburg area but eventually moved to the South Transvaal in April 1901 to join other forces tasked to clear that area. The remainder of the Battery (the long suffering

Centre Section and Battery HQ) joined Colonel **Rimington's Column at Standerton (150 km SE of Johannesburg)**. There was a change of command during this period with the Battery Command being assumed by Captain Antill, locally promoted to Major.

The Left Section was still in support of Ingouville **William's Column** which had the task of clearing the **Western Transvaal of De La Rey's forces** and if possible to capture De La Rey. De La Rey was considered to be one of the more effective of the Boer leaders. In early May 1901, the Column had a series of **encounters with De La Rey's forces but lacked** sufficient strength to effectively engage him. The **Column was chasing a "Phantom" enemy but did** have one small success. On 24 May 1901, Ingouville Williams attacked a laager under the command of Van Rensburg at Leewsdooins. The Left Section provided covering fire while the 2nd NSW Mounted Rifles rushed the objective capturing 28 Boers and 47 wagons and carts. After this excitement, the Column returned to Klerksdorp.

In late June 1901, Ingouville William's column was absorbed into a larger Force and committed to a clearing operation to the NW of Johannesburg. While this was happening, orders were received for the Left Section to leave this Force and concentrate with the rest of the Battery at Standerton (where one is left to assume that the majority of the Battery had been employed in a series of ineffective operations since April 1901). On the departure of the Left Section, Colonel Rimington was very appreciative of the service given by the Left Section. It was recorded that Rimington greatly valued the support of the Gunners and that of the elements of A Battery in particular. Apparently during engagements, Rimington would take station with the Section as it came into action and would observe and direct the fighting from the gun line.

In late July 1901, the Battery was recalled to Australia **and this heralded the end of the Battery's service** in the South African War. The concentration at Standerton was the first time that the Battery had been together as a complete unit in 12 months. The **Battery spent some time on "make and mend"** activities before moving to Capetown to embark on **the "Harlech Castle" in mid-August 1901** for the journey back to Sydney. The Battery arrived in Sydney on 15 September 1901 having lost one soldier in action, one who died in an accident and 45 men invalided back to Australia through illness. Despite a **frustrating series of events during the Battery's service** in the War, there is a well documented legacy to the efficiency, professionalism and the high state of

morale of the Battery in carrying out all of the tasks required of it in 18 months of operations.

Service Prior to the Great War

In 1903, the Battery was re-designated A Instructional Cadre. In 1904, A Battery was formally honoured for its service in the South African War when King Edward VII **presented A Battery with a King's Banner**. This was not a unique event for participating Australian troops (at least the NSW Lancers and the Medical Corps were accorded similar honours). However, it is believed that this honour is unique among Commonwealth Artillery units and the award has always been a great source of pride to those serving in A Field Battery. (During its tour of South Vietnam, A Field Battery celebrated its Centenary Birthday on 1 August 1971. A Banner Party was sent home to Australia for the Centenary Celebration Parade at Victoria Barracks, Sydney where His Excellency the Governor General, Sir Paul Hasluck presented the RAA with the Queen's Banner which replaced the 67 year old King's Banner. On 25 April 1972 a detachment from the Battery laid up the King's Banner at the Australian War Memorial as part of the Anzac Day Commemoration Service.)

In 1911, A Instruction Cadre was redesignated as No 1 Battery Royal Australian Field Artillery (RAFA).

The Great War

When the Great War broke out in August 1914, the then Commander of No 1 Battery RAFA, Major S.E. Christian, called a muster parade of the Battery at Victoria Barracks on the day war was declared and called for volunteers for an Australian overseas force. The Battery stepped forward as one. The Battery sailed with the first convoy on 18 October 1914 and disembarked at Egypt on 1 November 1914 with the Australian Imperial Force, destined as it was, for Gallipoli. Despite great difficulties, one gun was landed at Gallipoli on 26 April 1915 and fired some 500 rounds before being withdrawn. The Battery as a part of 1st. AFA Brigade was landed at Helles on 3 May 1915 in support of British and French formations. The Battery re-embarked and moved back to Anzac Cove in early October 1915. During this period of the Campaign, the Turks achieved a measure of effective counter-battery fire which made life very difficult for the Gunners. The Battery was withdrawn from Gallipoli on 20 December 1915 as part of the overall plan to close that part of our history.

After a brief re-organization in Egypt, the Battery embarked at Alexandria on 21 March 1916 and moved to the Western Front through the port of Marseilles. The Battery travelled north and went into the line near Fromelles on 19 May 1916. The Battery served

with distinction in France and Belgium in all the actions fought by its Divisions. It also, at various times, supported British, Canadian, French and American attacks against the Germans. The Battery fired on its last target in the Great War on 3 October 1918. The Battery was withdrawn from the line through a series of rest areas finally arriving at Mettet (SW of Namur) in mid-December 1919. The Battery quartered at Mettet until March 1919 when the remaining Battery members (now ingloriously titled Quota Number 43) embarked at Plymouth on 22 June 1919 arriving back in Sydney in September 1919.

1919 - 1939

On the occasion of the visit of the Prince of Wales to **Australia in 1919 and in appreciation of No 1 Battery's** service to himself and also to commemorate the Battery's service in the South African and Great Wars; the Prince granted No 1 Battery RAFA the privilege of wearing a white lanyard on the left shoulder. A Field Battery is the only Battery in the Royal Australian Artillery which has the distinction of wearing the lanyard on the left shoulder.

On 1 July 1927, No 1 Battery was redesignated as 1st Field Battery RAA. On 19 July 1930 it became the 1st Field Cadre RAA. When His Majesty granted the title "Royal" to Militia Units of the Australian Artillery, the Permanent Artillery became and still is "The Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery". Between 1931 and 1937, the Battery had the apparent good fortune to be commanded by Major H. B. Sewell. By all accounts, Sewell was an inspirational leader who brought out the best in those he commanded. It is recorded that nearly all of the Gunners who served under him during this period were commissioned in World War 2.

In 1937 the first Australian Instructional Corps Artillery Course was designed to produce instructors. With the Munich scare in 1938 the strength of the Battery was increased and on 1 February 1939 the Battery regained its correct title A Field Battery RAA.

World War Two

With the outbreak of World War 2 in September 1939, A Field Battery once again was volunteered for overseas service but were denied that opportunity as they were employed as the Depot Battery supporting the School of Artillery (Field, Medium and Survey) and also at Holsworthy. Their opportunity finally came on 28 July 1943 when A Field Battery was redesignated 2nd. Mountain Battery and on 1 September 1943, departed for New Guinea as a designated Artillery Unit with a special task. The Battery arrived in Port

Moresby on 19 September 1943 and undertook re-training and acclimatization activities. (The Battery was issued with four US 75mm pack howitzers in two sections of two guns). The Battery left for Lae by air on 15 November 1943 and subsequently supported operations in the Sattelburg area from 17-26 November 1943. On 14-15 December 1943, the Battery moved to Katika where it languished for some months until it was redeployed in February 1944 by sea, road then air to Dumpu. This move was to support 7 Division operations in the Shaggy Ridge/Kankiryo area. In May 1944, the Battery moved to Lae for a period of rest and re-organization. This extended until November 1944 but at this time, the Battery was warned for service on Bouganville in support of 3 Division. The Battery arrived at Torokina on 11 November 1944 and set up camp with the 136 Field Artillery Battalion (US Army). The Battery supported operations on Bouganville until early May 1945 when hostilities ceased in the Torokina sector. The Battery was then placed in support of a new operation on the Numa Numa Trail and this continued until the end of the War on 15 August 1945. The Battery returned to Torokina and remained there until September 1945. Plans were in progress not only for the return of large numbers of troops to Australia but also for a British Commonwealth Occupation Force (BCOF) to serve in Japan. This latter aspect was to have an effect on the recent history of the Battery.

BCOF and Post World War Two

It was decided that the Australian component for BCOF would be established from troops still at Balikpapan. The major formation was to be 34 Brigade with the Artillery support being provided by a newly raised 6 Field Battery RAA. The plan was for this force to concentrate at Morotai during October-November 1945 and depart for Japan on 7 December 1945. Some aspects of this order were countermanded by a message from Land Headquarters on 9 October 1945 to the effect that 2nd. Mountain Battery would provide the Artillery component of the Force. There is an opinion that this intervention preserved the continuity of A Field Battery as the greater majority of units returning to Australia were being disbanded.

2nd. Mountain Battery joined with 6 Battery on Morotai under the newly appointed Battery Commander Major T.A. Rodriguez MC during mid - November 1945. In reality, it was the Battery in name only as very few of the men from the New Guinea and Bouganville campaigns volunteered for service with BCOF.

The main body embarked on the "USS Pachaud

Victory" on 17 February 1946 and dis-embarked at Kure on 23 February 1946. On 14 March 1946, 2nd. Mountain Battery was re-designated A Field Battery RAA and carried out intensive training at Kaitaichi. In 1947, the Battery occupied permanent barracks at Hiro and were utilized performing ceremonial duties including salutes and guards of honour. In September 1948, it was decided to reduce the Australian component of BCOF to a single Battalion and orders were issued for the remainder of the troops to return to Australia. The main body of the remaining 34 Brigade component embarked on the "HMAS Kanimbla" in December 1948 and this returning force was destined to provide the nucleus of the emerging Australian Regular Army. A Field Battery moved to North Head Manly; once again becoming the Depot Battery for the School of Artillery.

On 25 May 1949, A Field Battery was incorporated as a sub-unit of 1st. Field Regiment RAA, thus losing its independent status. Even though the Battery was a sub-unit of 1st. Field Regiment, the Battery continued to act as the Depot Battery for the School of Artillery.

Shortly after this on 25 June 1950, Australia witnessed the outbreak of the Korean War. The Australian Gunners did not serve in Korea as formed units however many Australian Gunner officers served as individuals with Australian Battalions or with the RA and other formations.

In January 1950, King George VI approved of the RAA adopting the Motto of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, "*quo fas et gloria ducunt*" (Where Right and Glory Lead) instead of "*consensu stabiles*" (Strong in Agreement). On 28 November 1951, A Field Battery RAA was given custody of the King's Banner at a formal parade held at Rawson Oval, Mosman NSW.

A decision reached on 30 November 1954 meant that A Battery, because of its history, would remain as A Field Battery whilst all other Batteries of the RAA would bear a numerical designation (though for a brief period the Battery was designated 100(A) Field Battery).

Malayan Emergency

The first Australian Army units were committed to fight the Malayan Emergency in 1955. In 1957, A Field Battery was ordered to replace 105 Field Battery RAA who were coming to the end of their tour. On 1 September 1957, the Battery once again became an independent unit and on the 20 September 1957 embarked on the transport "New Australia" and disembarked at Singapore on 10 October 1957. The Battery then moved by rail to Penang. During operations in Malaya the Battery fired 77,000 rounds of 25-Pounder ammunition and 2,000 rounds of 4.2" Mortar ammunition. During its tour of Malaya, the Battery supported several Commonwealth Infantry

Battalions and was closely associated with both the 48th Field Regiment RA and the 2nd Field Regiment RA. The Battery embarked at Penang on the transport "MV Flaminia" on 1 October 1959. On returning to Sydney, the Battery once again lost its independent status and re-joined 1st. Field Regiment RAA at Holsworthy on 20 October 1959. The Battery remained at Holsworthy until 1965.

Indonesian Confrontation

In January 1965, A Field Battery equipped with 105mm L5 Pack Howitzers, prepared for its second tour to Malaya (now Malaysia) and on 23 June 1965 the Battery regained its independent status. The Battery flew to Malaysia and joined the 28th. Commonwealth Infantry Brigade at Terendak Garrison (near Malacca) on 21 October 1965. The Battery initially was a sub-unit of 45th. Light Regiment RA and then 6th. Light Regiment RA from early 1966. During its tour of Malaysia the Battery participated in frequent exercises on both the east and west coast, and assisted with security measures to guard against possible Indonesian infiltration of West Malaysia. The Battery was on the verge of a five month tour in Sarawak in August 1966 but internal events in Indonesia saw the end of direct hostilities in East Malaysia (and of Confrontation itself) just as the Battery was due to depart from Malacca. On 12 September 1967 the Battery returned to Australia by air and became A Field Battery 19th. Composite Regiment RAA at Holsworthy. In October 1969 the Battery was redesignated A Field Battery 12th. Field Regiment RAA

The Vietnam War

12th. Field Regiment was warned for service in South Vietnam in 1971 and the Regiment moved from Tobruk Lines, Holsworthy to Lavarack Barracks in Townsville in January 1970. On 26 January 1971 the Battery assembled in Sydney and on a parade at Victoria Barracks, A Field Battery in recognition of the approach of its Centenary Birthday and its long association with Sydney, was granted Freedom of the City of Sydney by the Lord Mayor. On 27 January 1971, the advance party emplaned for South Vietnam where it was joined by the main body at the 1st. Australian Task Force base at Nui Dat on 4 February 1971. A Field Battery and the rest of 12th. Field Regiment took part in operations in Phuoc Tuy Province until the withdrawal of the 1st. Australian Task Force in November 1971. On 7 June 1971 during a contact with North Vietnamese and Viet Cong forces, Second Lieutenant I. Mathers, an A Field Battery Forward Observer, received mortal wounds from enemy small arms fire. His Assistant, Bombardier P.M. Maher, was later awarded the Military Medal for his part in the contact.. In addition, 50 cartridge cases, fired by the Battery to celebrate its Centenary were presented to various persons and organisations (including the

Australian War Memorial which also holds the cartridge case of the first round fired by A Field Battery in South Africa in 1900).

Post Vietnam to the Present Day

On 29 July 1972 at a Battery Parade at Victoria Barracks, His Excellency the Governor of New South Wales, Sir Roden Cutler VC, AK, KCMG, KCVO, CBE, KStJ unveiled the A Field Battery Memorial. The Memorial is a 16-Pounder rifled muzzle-loaded gun made in England in 1878 and believed to be the oldest gun of British origin in Australia. The Unveiling concluded the Centenary Celebrations.

After the amalgamation of the Regiments, A Field Battery became a sub-unit of the 8th./12th. Medium Regiment RAA at Holsworthy in 1972.. In late 1987 after further restructuring within the Army, A Field Battery assumed the parachute role as part of the recently designated Parachute Battalion Group based on the 3rd. Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment. In 2000, A Field Battery became the third battery of the Townsville-based 4th. Field Regiment RAA, however the Battery remained at Holsworthy. The Battery deployed to East Timor in 1999, 2002 and more recently in 2006. Its personnel have also served in recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan and on non-warlike service in the Sinai.

Acknowledgements

This article has been prepared for inclusion on the Boer War Memorial website. The following references were used in compiling this Short History of A Field Battery which is intended to record a broad Battery historical overview with a special emphasis on the Battery's service in the Boer War from 1899 to 1901:

Cubis, Richmond. *"A History of 'A' Battery NSW Artillery (1871-1899), Royal Australian Artillery (1899-1971), Elizabethan Press, Sydney, 1978.*

Land Command Australian Army website "A Battery History." www.defence.gov.au/army/a_fdbty/History.htm

Tom Roberts *"A" Battery Artillery. The story behind a painting by Tom Roberts.*

Website

["home.alphalink.com.au/~logo27/standardisation/standard_modernities.htm"](http://home.alphalink.com.au/~logo27/standardisation/standard_modernities.htm)

Comments and corrections are invited and should be forwarded to Brian Armour, Lieutenant Colonel RAA (Retired) at bwmfive@bigpond.com (Via me, please. Ed.)

The Queens Banner

To celebrate the centenary of A FD BTY, a decision was taken to approach Queen Elizabeth II and seek a new Banner for the Regiment.



The request was granted and on the 1st Aug 1971 a Queens Banner was presented to the Regiment.

The Queens Banner is kept on display at the Royal Australian Artillery Officers mess unless requested by units for parades.



*Perhaps one day we may be able to print in colour.
(Ed)*

Editor's Note:
I have included the following photos as I knew the Gibson twins when they joined the CMF after completing their National Service obligations. We served together in 2 Fd Regt.
I thought the "luxurious" accommodation the BC enjoyed at Nui Dat deserved a mention, along with the entertainment.



Photos courtesy of A Fd website.

Must keep the troops entertained



bc hutchie nui dat

Major M T Armstrong

Brig Doug Perry wrote to MajGen Tim Ford AO, Representative Col Comdt and Brig Wayne Goodman.

Gentlemen,

Major M. T. Armstrong ED (Retd) (VX108) turns 100 On 17 Jan 2010.

Whilst on the surface it may appear that Max may have just been another Gunner Officer, he is a unique individual and whilst I expect he will receive the appropriate recognition of age from our Captain General, I believe he also warrants commendation in respect of his service to The Regiment.

A brief summary of his military career is as follows:

Enlisted in 2 AFA 1934.

Commissioned 1936.

Served also with 4AFA.

At outbreak of war transferred to AIF with Regt No VX108.

Posted to 2/2 Fd Regt and served in Middle East, Ceylon & New Guinea.

Served also with 2/5 Fd Regt and 13 Fd Regt.

Graduated ASC 1944.

Ceased full time war service on 28 May 1946 and continued to serve in the CMF.

Was transferred to the reserve in 1961 upon reaching the then retirement age.



Preparing to "walk on" for the Anzac Day march, circa 1985

Subsequent involvement with The Regiment and other notable highlights.

Qualified as a Boy Bugler with 4 Bde on 19 April 1927.

Rode in a mounted troop leading Melbourne ANZAC march for 22 years on the trot (no pun intended) and only ceased when Vic Police became concerned with O H & S and withdrew their equine support.

Was a member of the N & M Club for 72 years and was their oldest member. (His wife was also the first lady member of that club).

Is a life member of the RAA Assn of Vic.

Took the salute for the ANZAC parade at Frankston in 2008 (in full service dress).

Attended the 2009 parade, again in full uniform, though he felt unable to take the salute.

From my personal perspective, I well remember Max and his charming wife Jean at almost every Regimental function that I can recall over my 33 years of service.

In particular:

Max attended every Gunner Dinner that I attended up to 2007 (never seen without overalls, spurs and monocle).



Max and Jean under the 2/2 Fd Regt
Assn banner, circa 1988

Max and Jean attended every Gunner Ball until they faded as a social event in about 2001.

Max and Jean attended every Regimental Church Parade until 2006.

They attended most RAA Assn functions and I remember them driving themselves to the unveiling of the Light Horse Memorial at Seymour in 2005.

Max flew the National Flag on every day that he was at home.

Max travelled constantly and attended various commemoration events in Middle East and other battle fields.

Turned out for every major memorial function in his district (full service dress on ANZAC Day and Armistice Day), where he was often asked to speak and which he did eloquently.

In conclusion, Max is a very special person to me and many others. He and Jean are well known to all those who served with him and subsequently by most that had the privilege of serving here in the Sovereign State.

If there is one lesson to learn from Max it is to keep your Lady by your side at each and every opportunity.

It was agreed that Maj Max Armstrong should receive an acknowledgement of the occasion from the senior officers of the Royal Regiment.

Thanks to Brig Doug Perry (ret)

Ed



Salutes & Victoria Cross Recipients

There is a common misconception that recipients of the Victoria Cross are saluted; the reality is that they are not. The two Army publications that deal with the protocols of saluting are the *Drill Manual* and the *Ceremonial Manual*, and neither of these mentions the saluting of Victoria Cross recipients.

The current edition of the Army's *Drill Manual* specifies that commissioned officers are saluted and it also lays down that salutes are given during the raising and lowering of the National Flag; during the playing of the National Anthem; to Vehicles flying distinguishing pennants, personal standards or with star-plates uncovered; and as '...an act of courtesy to ... (civilian) ladies when greeting them'.

The current edition of the Army's *Ceremonial Manual* states that '...compliments are not paid to an individual as such but to either The Queen's Commission, to the office, or out of respect to the sovereignty of a foreign country'. The Manual also describes salutes as being paid to commissioned officers of the Australian Defence Force; to commissioned officers of the armed forces of any nation formally recognized by the Australian Government; and to distinguished persons listed in the relevant Chapter's Annex (and nowhere within this annex are Victoria Cross recipients mentioned).

The *Ceremonial Manual* also states that salutes are given in relation to Standards, Guidons, Colours and Banners; during the raising / breaking and lowering of both the Australian National Flag, and Royal Australian and Royal Australian Air Force Ensigns; at war cemeteries, war memorials and funerals; to armed Corps' and parties; during the playing of the Last Post and Reveille/Rouse at commemoration ceremonies; to naval ships of Australia and its allied defence forces; and the playing of national anthems. Again, no mention is made of Victoria Cross recipients.

Editor's Note:

There is indeed a tradition of a VC recipient being saluted by a Chief of Staff.

My query to members is that when/how/where did such tradition originate?

All responses will be greatly appreciated & the most appropriate published in the next issue.

Added to this is the reference in the current edition of the Army's Protocol Manual, which quite clearly lays down (within the Dignitaries Table) that Victoria Cross Recipients'...unless they are serving commissioned officers in the Armed Forces, are NOT saluted.

The Victoria Cross Warrant, issued under the authority of The Sovereign, lays-down, amongst other matters, the rules and ordinances covering the award. To date there have been five warrants issued, the latest being that under the authority of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, dated 30th September 1961. If recipients were to be saluted, regardless of their rank, it would be laid-down within the Warrant; however, it is not.

In January 1991, in Australia, the award was re-designated as the Victoria Cross for Australia and brought into the Australian Honours System. Again, no mention is made of saluting recipients in the accompanying Regulations (dated 15th January 1991 and signed by Her Majesty), nor the award's determination (dated 11th November and signed by His Excellency the Governor-General).

It should also be noted that the term, stated within the Warrant, for a person who receives the Cross is 'recipient'; the term 'winner' (that is, a Victoria Cross winner) is incorrect.

Acknowledgement:

Extract from an article in RAA Liaison Letter 2009 by Christopher Jobson, former RSM Ceremonial & Protocol—Army

There is a widespread erroneous myth that it is statutory for "all ranks to salute a bearer of the Victoria Cross". There is no official requirement that appears in the official Warrant of the VC, nor in Queen's Regulations and Orders, but tradition dictates that this occurs and as such the Chiefs of Staff will salute a Private awarded a VC or GC.

http://wapedia.mobi/en/Victoria_Cross?t=4.



Australia's A\$450M-600M LAND 17 Artillery Replacement Gets Go-Ahead

01-Oct-2007 19:58 EDT



Now: M2A2 105m

In February 2006, the Australian Government gave first pass approval for the replacement of the ADF's current 105mm and 155mm artillery pieces with new, more capable, artillery systems that feature improved mobility, protection, range and accuracy. Current systems are all towed, and include the aged 105mm M2A2, the L119 Hamel 105mm Field Gun, and the M198 155mm Howitzer. Options for replacing them include a mix of self-propelled artillery systems and lightweight towed artillery systems under an A\$ 450-600 million project known as LAND 17. The project will also examine advanced high precision munitions and a networked command and fire control system.

So, how does this project fit into Australia's larger defense plans? What's the expected program timeline? And who are the declared and potential contenders? That matters even more now that the solicitation has been released. DID covers the program, and a number of the confirmed or likely competitors.

The LAND 17 Program



M198 howitzer

LAND 17 fits the combined arms group concept that forms part of the Hardened and Networked Army (HNA) initiative. It also fits with the requirements set out in Australia's Defence 2000 White Paper, by supporting the ADF's capacity to sustain a brigade deployed on operations for extended periods whilst maintaining at least a battalion group available for deployment elsewhere.

The Minister's release notes that once in service, the new artillery pieces will be used to re-equip units based in Darwin, Townsville, Brisbane and the Combined Arms Training Centre in Puckapunyal, Victoria. This translates into:

- 8/12 Medium Regiment (M198 155mm, Palmerston near Darwin)
- 4 Field Regiment (L119 105mm, Townsville)
- Field Regiment (L119 105mm, Enoggera Barracks near Brisbane)

Since all of the current contenders are 155mm systems, the 8/12's M198 howitzers will likely be devolved to other units. Based on the Minister's statement, all regular Australian Army units would then become standardized on 155mm artillery.

While no decisions have been made yet, one scenario for follow-on effects is that the 8/12 Medium Regiment's M198 howitzers would transfer to reserve units. They would supply the single battery of 3 Field Regiment plus the two independent batteries of the former 6/13 Field Regiment, replacing their vintage M2A2 guns that predate the Vietnam War. This would leave the reserve units of 7 Field Regiment and 23 Field Regiment in New South Wales operating the L119 Hamels, as the only remaining 105mm artillery in the ADF.

The Australian Department of Defence has been working closely with industry and planned to release an open Request for Tender, to identify companies that can provide artillery systems with the level of capability sought. It was expected that a formal LAND 17 Request for Tender would be released in late 2006, with in-service delivery anticipated between 2011-2013. The formal tender was not released until September 2007, however.

LAND 17: Likely Contenders



Dutch PzH-2000 howitzer headed to Afghanistan

A number of confirmed and possible contenders are listed below.

KMW & Rheinmetall's PzH-2000NL tracked self-propelled 155mm howitzer. These vehicles have been used with great effect by Dutch forces in southern Afghanistan, even fighting alongside Australian forces at times. The Dutch government has reportedly floated offers to sell about 30 of their systems, all of which are quite new; the PzH 2000 is also in service with Germany, Greece, and Italy.

Its chassis is based on the Leopard 2 main battle tank, and includes on-board ballistics computer; sensors that monitor items like muzzle temperature, velocity, et. al.; automated ammunition selection and loading; and a GPS-based inertial navigation system designed to determine positional and survey data. At 55 tonnes (about 60.5 tons), however, the PzH-2000 requires C-17 transport into theater, and heavy truck tank transporters for lengthy overland moves.



K9 & K10 ARV

South Korea's K9 Thunder tracked self-propelled 155mm howitzer. Raytheon Australia teamed with South Korea's Samsung Techwin to offer the K9 and its innovative protected K10 ammunition resupply vehicle (ARV), along with Raytheon's AFATDS command and control (C2) system. Each K10 ARV supports 2 K9 guns, using a conveyor belt to transfer rounds and bagged charges into the bustle at the rear of the K9 turret at a rate of 48 rounds & charges in 18 minutes. It carries 104 rounds, sufficient to resupply both K9 guns.

The Raytheon Australian release adds that *"In addition... we intend to offer... a Package D option for an upgrade for the in-service M198 155mm towed howitzer fleet to deliver reduced weight and a modern weapon management system (WMS)..."*

The K9 & K10 are already in production for Korea and Turkey, with over 1,100 ordered thus far. It was also named by Forecast International as **"the clear market leader"** in its category through to 2015. A typical K9 battalion (or Regiment) would consist of 18 K9s, and 18 K10s for continuous and redundant re-supply. This makes for a total of 90 troops, compared with up to 216 required by Regiment of towed howitzers. The K9's 56-ton weight will require a berth in one of Australia's 4 C-17s if it wishes to be airlifted into theater, and heavy truck transports will be needed for lengthy overland moves.



FH77 Archer

BAE Bofors FH77-BW-L52 Archer wheeled self-propelled 155mm howitzer. The Archer system is incorporated into a modified armored 6Å—6 articulated Volvo A30D truck chassis. Its secondary remote weapons system for close-in defense is an interesting feature, and the advanced electronics integrated into Archer grant it full compatibility with GPS-

guided Excalibur rounds and full autonomy on the battlefield. It is not air portable in Australia's C-130Js, however, and will require C-17s for airlift. Thus far, the system has been ordered in limited quantities by Sweden. They also plan to offer a long range towed artillery system based on the FH-77B05 gun that equips the Archer.

Australia's Tenix is partnered with BAE Bofors, per their July 2005 teaming announcement.



CAESAR System: Ammo Resupply

Nexter Ceasar 155mm wheeled self-propelled 155mm howitzer. Developed as a private venture by Giat Industries, the CAESAR system is based around a light 155mm/52 calibre howitzer, mounted on a 6Å—6 truck chassis fitted with an armored cab. Like the Archer system, it's a highly automated artillery system. Caesar systems can be set into and out of action in less than one minute. Unlike Archer, it hasn't yet been qualified with GPS-guided precision ammunition like the Raytheon/BAE Bofors GPS-guided M982 Excalibur shell. On the other hand, it can be transported by C-130J aircraft, and is suitable for rapid deployment. Caesar has been sold to France and Thailand, and a deal is underway with Saudi Arabia.

In the French Army, Caesar is integrated with the Thales Land and Joint Systems Atlas artillery C4I (command, control, communications and intelligence) system. ADI (now Thales Australia) is Nexter's partner, per the September 2004 teaming announcement.



M777: bulls-eye

The Ultra-Lightweight M777 Howitzer. The USA, Britain, and Canada all have these super-light 155mm howitzers now, which make use of titanium to drive the weapon's weight down to just 8,250 pounds (4.1 tons), about half the weight of Australia's M198s. These towed howitzers can easily be airlifted by helicopters like Australia's CH-47s, and even by medium helicopters like the EH101. They are also qualified to fire the GPS-guided M982 Excalibur shell. Titanium is a key Australian export, Canada has already used the M777 successfully in southern Afghanistan, and the USMC is beginning to deploy them as well. Will Australia add itself to the buyer's list?

M777s aren't generally self-propelled, though one has been mounted on a tracked vehicle by BAE Systems as a Future Combat Systems NLOS-C demonstrator.



Key Events

ADF M198

Oct 3/07: **Australia's DoD buys German SMArt 155 precision-guided anti-tank artillery shells, to replace the laser-guided Copperheads in its stocks. SMArt can be fired from any 155mm howitzer, so its selection will not influence the LAND 17 choice. See: "Get SMArt: Control for Aussie Artillery".**

Oct 1/07: Australia requests 250 M982 Excalibur GPS-guided shells as part of a larger order. Excalibur is not an anti-tank round, unlike the SMArt 155 shells Australia recently purchased. Its accuracy can deliver precise counter-fire at enemy artillery and mortars, however, or target a particular building in an urban environment.

According to Raytheon, 3 levels of Excalibur integration are fielded or in development. All can be integrated on any howitzer and with components from potential host country (communications, command and control, GPS, fire control and other howitzer digitization equipment. **Determining Excalibur's compatibility with each 155 gun requires analysis of gun characteristics and test firings, but a brief look at numerous of the world's 155 howitzers has not identified any insurmountable road block to Excalibur compatibility.** Fire control integration onto platforms is "a fairly simple prospect," and the accompanying PEFCS module is slightly bigger than a brief case. **Determining Excalibur's compatibility with each 155 gun requires analysis of gun characteristics and test firings, but "a brief look at numerous of the world's 155 howitzers has not identified any insurmountable road block to Excalibur compatibility."** See full DID coverage.

Sept 27/07: **Australia's DoD releases LAND 17 solicitation documents. The systems to be acquired include protected self-propelled howitzers; lightweight towed air-portable howitzers; and a digitised, networked battle management system. The battle management system includes the Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System for the command and control of joint fires, and digital terminal control systems for target acquisition. Australian DoD release.**

Feb 22/06: The LAND 17 program receives first pass funding approval from the Australian government. DoD release.

Additional Readings & Sources

Armed Forces Journal (October 2007) – The Case for Cannons. *"In May, soldiers from the Army's 1st Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, fired two XM982 Excalibur precision-guided, extended-range 155mm artillery rounds that consecutively penetrated the roof of a single house known to be a terrorist haven in the northern region of Baghdad...."*

Australian Defense Materiel Organization – LAND 17 – Artillery Replacement – 105mm & 155mm

Wikipedia – Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery

Australian DSTO TR-1662 (April 2005) – An Application of Queues to Offensive Support Indirect Fire Weapons Systems

Australian Defence Magazine (Nov-Dec 2004) – Hitting Harder: Future Army Firepower Assets

Land Warfare Conference (January 2004) – Fitting Offensive Support for Network Centric Warfare? The Impacts of Alternative Organisational Structures

Announced Contenders

Raytheon Australia (May 7/07) – Raytheon Australia announces core team for the Land 17 Artillery Replacement Program. **Their "AS-9" proposal teams with South Korea's Samsung Techwin to offer the K9 tracked self-propelled howitzer, and its fully automated K10 reloader vehicle.**

Krauss-Maffei Wegman (March 20/07) – Krauss-Maffei Wegmann and BAE Systems Australia team for LAND 17. They will offer the PzH-2000. BAE Systems Australia adds their M777 ultra-lightweight howitzers to the partnership, for a combination towed/ self propelled solution.

Army Technology – PzH 2000 155mm Self-Propelled Howitzer, Germany

DID (March 28/05) – \$834 Million for Ultra-Lightweight M777A1 Howitzers.

DID (July 6/05) – Tenix and BAE Team Up for New Artillery Tender. The partner is BAE Systems Hagglunds, via BAE worldwide. The system is the truck-mounted Archer.

Swedish FMV – Archer Artillery System 08

BAE Systems – FH77 BW L52 – Archer and the towable FH77 B05 L52. GIAT Industries (Sept 28/04) – ADI Limited and Giat Industries team with CAESAR for land 17. Giat is now known as Nexter.

Army Technology – Caesar 155mm – Self Propelled Artillery System

Potential Contenders

DID (Oct 31/05) – Singapore Unveils new Air-Portable, Semi-Mobile 155mm Pegasus Howitzers. No word on **whether they'll enter it in LAND 17 – we'll see once the requirements are out, but it is definitely a potential candidate**. Pegasus uses an interesting concept that makes it air-portable using Australia's CH-47 helicopters.

The Israeli firm SOLTAM's truck-mounted ATMOS 2000 System has been touted as a potential candidate in some circles. Its 20-ton tracked Rascal self-propelled system **may also qualify, as it's C-130 transportable**. If not, a lighter truck mounted version of Rascal exists: the SPWH 2052.

South Africa's excellent G6 system cannot be ruled out, but at this stage, its search for an Australian partner is likely to be difficult. The wheeled self-propelled version would require a C-17 for transport.

<http://www.defenseindustrydaily.com/australias-a-450m600m-land-17-artillery-replacement-gets-goahead-01928/>

Short List

This programme is trialling new systems with a view to replacement of all 155mm M198 medium guns and 105mm L119 and M2A2 field guns as well as the adoption of an integrated digital fire control network structure. The project has several hundred million dollars allocated for the purchase of new guns, through life support and maintenance, replacement infrastructure, retraining of personnel and provision of simulation and training systems. However, Land 17 does not allow for the purchase of new guns in sufficient quantity to re-equip the Army Reserve. Final short listed contenders for Land 17 gun replacement are:

SP Guns:

PzH 2000 155mm SP Gun (Germany/Netherlands).

K9 Thunder 155mm SP Gun (South Korea).

G6 155mm SP Gun (South Africa).

Bofors ARCHER 155mm SP Gun (Sweden).

Towed Gun Replacement:

M777 155mm Lightweight Medium Howitzer (USA). Has won contract¹.

Pegasus 155mm Lightweight Medium Howitzer (Singapore) - Has limited SP manoeuvrability.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Regiment_of_Australian_Artillery#Land_17_artillery_replacement

This is the current revision of this page, as edited by 210.50.60.28 (talk) at 04:59, 12 August 2009. The present address (URL) is a permanent link to this version.

1 The Minister for Defence, Senator John Faulkner, today (20/10/09) announced that the Government has given Second Pass Approval for a \$493 million project to provide the next generation artillery system for the Australian Army.

Senator Faulkner said the first phase of Land 17 (the Artillery Replacement Project) will provide the Army with four batteries of 35 M777A2 155mm Lightweight Towed Howitzers.

"The Lightweight Towed Howitzer is the most advanced towed artillery system available in the world. It is air-portable under CH-47 Chinook helicopters and can provide a weight of fire not previously available to rapidly deployed forces," Senator Faulkner said.

"The second phase of the artillery enhancement will include the procurement of a self propelled artillery system, which will be capable of providing fire support to highly mobile mechanised forces.

The artillery system will be further enhanced through the future acquisition of a digital terminal control system for the tactical control of artillery, naval and close air support fires by forward observers and joint terminal attack controllers. This element of the project will be considered by Government in the second half of 2010," said Senator Faulkner.

mediacentre@defence.gov.au

Operations

Helmand Stories

*Lieutenant Khalid Elkhaliqi
Troop Commander 105 Troop RA/RAA*

Firing rounds in anger in support of International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) patrols whilst deployed to Helmand Province, Afghanistan with the United Kingdom (UK) armed forces is proving to be an experience of a lifetime for 15 Gunners from 105th Medium Battery, 1st Field Regiment.

The soldiers from RAA Troop Afghanistan - Three have deployed to Helmand Province with 40 Regiment (The Lowland Gunners) Royal Artillery after completing six months pre-deployment training in the UK. The majority of the soldiers belong to the 4th gun troop of 40 Regiment, which is a composite troop from across the regiment and has been named 105th Troop Royal Artillery / Royal Australian Artillery (105 Tp RA/RAA) in honour of the 'Aussie Gunners'. The only member of the contingent not with 105 Tp RA/RAA is Captain Trevor Watson who is the joint fires and ISTAR cell commander and occasional forward observer for BG (NW). Throughout the pre-deployment training and the operational deployment 105 Tp RA/RAA has been commanded by Lieutenant Elkhaliqi with the Troop Sergeant Major being Warrant Officer Class Two Shaun Graham.

The threat of enemy action against the troop is very real and is always present as the FOB is only 200 m from the Green zone...

In late March 2009, the troop conducted its final preparations in Northern Ireland before departing on a civilian chartered flight to Minhad Air Base, Saudi Arabia, then boarding a C17 direct to Camp Bastion, Helmand Province. A thorough Reception, Staging, Onwards Movement & Integration (RSO & I) package was conducted, which consisted of range practices, operational briefs, improvised

explosive device (IED) clearance practice, medical revision and electronic counter measures revision. The troop then departed Camp Bastion on two Chinooks and arrived 14 minutes later at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Armadillo in Battle Group Centre on 1st April 2009. The relief in place with the previous troop from 29 Commando Regiment RA was completed smoothly in one day as Lieutenant Elkhaliqi and Warrant Officer Class Two Graham had arrived a few days earlier to sign for the equipment and take over command of the position.



105 Troop RA/RAA Flag

The FOB is commanded by a Danish infantry company headquarters as they are the largest manoeuvre arm in the FOB. Residents of the FOB include the attached UK assets to support the company and other call signs within the Danish BG. This includes a UK Royal Engineers detachment, a UK Guided Multi Launch Rocket System (GMLRS), a UK Light Counter Mortar Radar (LCMR) detachment and UK signals detachment and the occasional visit by the Danish tank troop.

Immediately on arrival the troop commenced work resighting and reinforcing defensive positions, reorganising gun platforms and improving accommodation. After the internal positions were improved, Warrant Officer Class Two Graham conducted a recon patrol in the dead ground in front of the troop's sector perimeter to assess our

vulnerabilities, check our wiring gaps and claymore sighting. Weekly patrols have been conducted on a regular basis to continue to improve and resight our field defences. Ground dominating patrols by day and night have also been conducted to deter and observe local nationals, identify support to the Taliban and identify depth firing points used by the Taliban to engage the FOB from their maximum range. During all of these patrols, the IED clearance technique called Operation Barma, has been utilised, seeing our Gunners clear vulnerable points and routes with UK mine detectors with no assistance from other arms.

During the initial week a solid FOB routine was established, which was vital as the troop operates independently from the Regiment in almost every way, except for resupply. We are responsible for our own excrement burning, cooking, cleaning and

...the troop had engaged on 41 fire missions, and had laid on numerous others totalling 999 rounds fired in anger...

defence of our sector of the FOB. The troop is responsible to fully man the strong point in its sector and reports directly to company headquarters. The threat of enemy action against the troop is very real and is always present as the FOB is only 200 m from the Green zone and the troop's sector and strong point is located on the closest corner to the Green zone. The soldiers do however get to enjoy the spectacular views towards the Helmand River, with the mountains of Kandahar in the background when they are on gun piquet.

Every week a small arms range practice is conducted outside the wire on the desert side of the FOB to ensure that all section and troop weapons are thoroughly checked. SA80 ranges are also conducted which have progressed in complexity up to live fire fighting withdrawals.

The soldiers have made life as comfortable as they can in their accommodation, even though they have been sleeping on stretcher beds and mosquito domes in low ceiling Hesco houses under their guns for the past four months. Food at the gun position is basic; consisting of travel cereal packs with powdered milk for breakfast, a US MRE for lunch and a cooked UK ten man ration pack meal for dinner. The meals are now becoming very creative as the soldiers are using field ovens made from ammo boxes to make bread and cakes. The troop also maintains its high level of fitness with a troop gym and regular PT sessions.

The troop is near guaranteed fire missions on every occasion that the Danish infantry platoons conduct active patrolling in the Green zone. This at times is up to five days per week. They frequently get in contact with the enemy and always use the guns as their primary fire support. As at late July the troop had engaged on 41 fire missions, and had laid on numerous others totaling 999 rounds fired in anger in support of Danish and UK infantry callsigns.

All contacts have been between 900 m to 2000 m from the FOB which means that the troop can observe its fall of shot, watch air support engage with 500 lb bombs, see A10 Warthogs conduct strafing runs and Danish tanks engage with 120 mm rounds from the desert into the Green zone. The other result of the contacts being so close to the FOB is the high threat of ricochet and 'spill over' rounds coming over the wall from the contacts. The gun detachments always wear body armour and helmet when manning the guns, due to this threat and the fact that the gun platforms are raised leaving the detachments exposed above the Hesco perimeter walls. The raised gun platforms are required due to the Hesco walls presenting local crests to the guns when we engage at minimum ranges.

Some highlights of the tour include the troop's involvement in an incident which required the FOB to launch a hasty multinational quick reaction force (QRF) commanded by elements of 105 Troop to assist a UK Operational Mentor and Liaison Team (OMLT)

All contacts have been between 900 m to 2000 m from the FOB which means that the troop can observe its fall of shot...

patrol under heavy accurate sustained fire. The QRF consisted of elements from all callsigns within the FOB and utilised Danish vehicles for transport and fire support.

FOB Armadillo has also recently received its first enemy stand off attack. The troop received sustained small arms fire from around the gun position from 5 different firing points as well as coordinated Taliban indirect fires (IDF). This fire, including RPGs, detonated behind and within the walls of the FOB. During the contact the Troop received a counter battery fire mission on the IDF point of origin provided by the LCMR detachment. The IDF point was silenced after 14 high explosive

The troop received sustained small arms fire from around the gun position from 5 different firing points as well as coordinated Taliban indirect fires...

During a large Danish operation to clear the Taliban Forward Line of Enemy Troops (FLET) further away from the FOB, a high value target was identified and engaged with high explosive rounds from our troop, 500 lb bombs from FI 5's and 120 mm rounds from Danish Leopard 2 tanks simultaneously. The combined engagement of this target was very exciting to be a part of. The day was then topped off when the troop fired a 60 round smoke screen to allow the tank troop to disengage from the contact.

It has been an extremely rewarding experience working as a combined troop supporting Danish and UK infantry in an international FOB. The troop has learnt so much and has been constantly praised by the Danes for providing first class fire support to them on the ground. There is an enormous trust and respect for the life saving, combat multiplying capability that gun troops can provide. This same capability is present in the RAA today.



There will always be an alternative way to transport a gun!!



Home and honed: Commander 1 Div Maj-Gen Michael Slater presents Bdr Travis Whittaker with his medals on November 2 for participation in Operation Herrick.

Photo and article by Tpr Michael Franchi

A YEAR with the British Artillery has given soldiers from 1 Fd Regt the chance to try out new techniques and a different personal weapon.

The Brisbane-based artillery men were welcomed home from a 12-month deployment with the British Royal Artillery's (RA) 40th Regiment at Gallipoli Barracks on November 1.

The Australians worked alongside the British troops on Operation Herrick in Afghanistan.

Detachment commander Bdr Travis Whittaker said the lead-up training and deployment with the RA was a great experience,

"We undertook a lot of different exercises and training drills over the months of training in Northern Ireland and England " Bdr Whittaker said.

"Their drills were a little bit different to ours, so we had to modify some of our techniques to work together with them.

"We also used the SA80 rifle. It's a good weapon and didn't have many stoppages."

After completing the training, the soldiers deployed to forward operating base Armadillo in Afghanistan for six months.

"We had three guns in our troop and all guns were mixed with Australian and British soldiers." Bdr Whittaker said.

"We provided vital fire support to the International Security Assistance force and Afghan National Army troops in the green zone that required it." Bdr Whittaker said that besides doing his job for real, he met a lot of good friends and established some great friendships for the rest of his life.

Celebrating the Last Huey

Courtesy of



A retirement ceremony took place Friday, October 2, 2009, at Summerall Field, Fort Myer, Virginia. The subject of this honour was the venerable UH-1. To fully understand the relationship between man and this marvellous machine, one would need to go back to 1952. That was when the Army identified their requirement for a new helicopter that would serve as a medical evacuation (MEDEVAC), instrument trainer, and general utility aircraft.

In early 1955, the Army selected Bell to build three copies of its Model 204 for evaluation, designating it the XH-40. The XH-40 first flew on October 20, 1956. Two more prototypes were later built. Then in March 1960, the Army awarded Bell a production contract for 100 aircraft. The helicopter was designated as HU-1. **The official name was “Iroquois.” For those who wonder where the affectionate nickname “Huey” came from, take another look at the designation and think of the “1” as an “I.”**

The service history of the Huey began with the 101st Airborne Division, the 82nd Airborne Division, and the 57th Medical Detachment, which arrived in Vietnam in March 1962. During the Vietnam War, the Huey went through several upgrades, each improving performance and load-carrying capabilities.

More than 7,000 Hueys saw action in Vietnam. Of these, more than 3,300 were destroyed, and more than 2,700 American crewmembers and passengers lost their lives. It should be noted that during its time of service, an untold number of men and women owed their lives to this magnificent machine.

Though the sky was overcast, and a brisk breeze skipped across Summerall Field, no one seemed to mind. **The Huey’s rotors belted out the familiar “wop-wop-wop” sound that has been a trademark of the UH-1 — a sound welcomed by so many of our fellow countrymen in battle, and feared by this nation’s enemies.**



As she lifted skyward and headed out of sight, many in the crowd saluted and bid her a fond farewell.

THE DANDENONG HUEY and the VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL OF VICTORIA

Dandenong RSL Sub-branch, Clow Street / Stud Road, Dandenong

This installation is unique. There is no similar memorial anywhere in the world. It is of enormous significance to all Australians, commemorating those who served and linking with the mainstream ex-service community those Vietnamese ex-servicemen who had to leave their country and who have now become Australian citizens.



'Huey on a Stick', Dandenong RSL, September 2005 2 tonnes in weight, 15 metres long

The first stage was the 'Huey Project'. In March 2001 the Dandenong RSL Sub-branch Committee had the idea of obtaining an Iroquois 'Huey' helicopter from the Vietnam War. A suitable UH-1V helicopter was found in North Little Rock, Arkansas, in September 2002.

The UH-1V is the casualty -evacuation **'Dustoff' version of the UH-1H** used by Australian forces in South Vietnam. This particular machine, 73-21763, had an expired-hours airframe and had been operated by the 172nd Air Ambulance Company of the US Army Reserve.

The US Tank and Automotive Command donated the US\$1.4 million helicopter to the Dandenong RSL.

The 'Huey' (the servicemen's nickname for the Iroquois passed quickly into the language) went by road from Little Rock to Savannah, Georgia, where it was loaded onto the MV *Jens Maersk*, leaving its base on May 23 and arriving in Melbourne on 21 June 2003. Dandenong's 3 Recovery Company, RAEME, provided local transport and storage, then took our Huey to the Dandenong Campus of Chisholm TAFE, for repainting and restoration by the automotive engineering team, led by Ben Raulin.

It was repainted in the original olive-drab colour, including the red cross symbols of a Casevac helicopter, but the symbols were altered to suit the helicopter's new role. On the port side it was given its original US markings, and a small New Zealand flag on the pilot's door. On the starboard side it carries the markings of the RAAF (the tail number A2-767 commemorates a RAAF UH-1H shot down in Vietnam) and a small Republic of Vietnam flag on the co-pilot's door.

3 Recovery Company RAEME then lifted Huey onto his six metre pylon, on a 25-tonne concrete base. This was on Sunday, 16 November 2003 and a dedication was conducted by Maj-Gen (Ret) David McLachlan, AO, on Sunday 30 November. The USA was represented by David Hopper, US Consul-General, and New Zealand was represented by Wing Commander Malcolm Parkes, Air Advisor to the New Zealand High Commissioner. The original Vietnamese forces were represented by 'Dai Uy' An Nguyen and a large contingent of South Vietnamese ex-servicemen.

RELEASE OF INQUIRY INTO UNRESOLVED RECOGNITION ISSUES FOR THE BATTLE OF LONG TAN

The Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Support, the Hon Dr Mike Kelly AM MP, today announced that the Government has accepted the recommendations of the independent Defence Honours and Awards Tribunal Inquiry into Unresolved Recognition Issues for the Battle of Long Tan.

The Report recommended that:

1. Flight Lieutenant Cliff Dohle be awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, the contemporary equivalent award to the Distinguished Flying Cross, the original award for which he was properly recommended in 1966 by all levels of Australian command in Vietnam;
2. No other individual awards be made to participants in the Battle of Long Tan; and
3. Delta Company, 6th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (RAR), be awarded the Unit Citation for Gallantry for its performance at the Battle of Long Tan in August 1966.

The Battle of Long Tan was fought on 18 August 1966 when Delta Company, 6 RAR came into contact with a much larger enemy force while patrolling outside the 1st Australian Task Force at Nui Dat in Phuoc Tuy Province, South Vietnam. Seventeen members of Delta Company were killed during the battle, and another 21 were wounded.

“The release of the findings fulfils a Rudd Labour Government election commitment. The Government has accepted the Tribunal’s findings, and I have directed Defence to implement the recommendations,” said Dr Kelly.

“I am delighted that the Tribunal has recommended the award of an Australian Unit Citation for Gallantry to the men of Delta Company 6 RAR. This ensures that all are recognised for what was in effect a magnificent team effort. It has only been in recent years that we have come to appreciate the full significance of the battle in the context of the conflict.”

“For the South Vietnamese Government at the time it meant that the Phuoc Tuy Province was effectively neutralised as a concern. For the US it

contributed to the overall effort in that it enabled resources to be focused elsewhere. For Australia it was significant because we now know that this was a planned and determined effort to annihilate the Australian Task Force before it had settled in.”

“The result of the action was not only that the enemy was prevented from achieving this objective but was never able to mount such an effort again in Phuoc Tuy Province for the remainder of the Australian presence.”

“I also commend the Tribunal for upholding the recommendation made in 1966 by RAAF command in Vietnam to award Flight Lieutenant Cliff Dohle the Distinguished Flying Cross,” said Dr Kelly.

“I would also like to thank the Tribunal for its work on this and the other matters it has dealt with or is continuing to deal with. I believe all members of the Tribunal have undertaken their work diligently, fairly and with an open mind. I continue to have complete confidence in the Tribunal.”

“The release of the Tribunal’s report and the acceptance of the recommendations clearly demonstrate the Government’s commitment to the independent review of long-standing Defence honours and awards issues.”

The Tribunal’s full report is available at www.defence-honours-tribunal.gov.au. Further information on Defence honours and awards is available at: www.defence.gov.au/medals/

Media contacts:

Mark Sjolander (Dr Mike Kelly): 02 6277 4840 or 0407 102 220

Defence Media Liaison: 02 6127 1999 or 0408 498 664

THE HON. DR MIKE KELLY MP

Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Support



David Osborne

Senior Partner, Shepard Webster & O'Neill Pty Ltd



Frankston South resident David Osborne has worked over 30 years locally with the oldest and largest accounting practice on the Peninsula – **Shepard Webster & O'Neill.**



David also generously gives his time to a number of volunteer projects and applies his professional expertise to support community groups and organisations. He is an active Board member of local business councils, the Peninsula School, Rotary Club of Frankston Long Island and Monash University Peninsula Campus Faculty of Business & Economics. He has also **contributed 20 years' service in the Army Reserve, where he recently retired with the rank of Major.**

David takes very seriously his role as the elected appointed independent Chairman of Frankston City Council's Audit Committee. This Committee monitors, reviews and advises Council on its financial activities, risk management, ethical and statutory compliance. David's current industry experience is essential in this role.

"The Audit Committee acts like an insurance policy," David explained. "It provides a 'checks and balances' role that can help identify any potential issues early."

"We compare our operations with other councils and ensure Council's accounting and risk management activities are best practice."

"One of the achievements of the Committee is to increase the importance of risk management in its widest sense at Council. There are a number of tools used to achieve this – internal audit, external audit, risk reviews, proactive management actions, and maintaining effective internal controls on systems.

"Council is one of the most diverse types of businesses around, so it's always interesting. Two Councillors also sit on the Audit Committee along with three independent members – and there is an open invitation to any Councillor to attend meetings. They always give a fresh perspective and can raise issues in-confidence."

"I believe the Committee is doing as much as is humanly possible to reduce Council's risk and Frankston City is definitely on a path of continual improvement," David said.

Information of any of our members - suitable for publication - would be greatly appreciated. I would like to include a new profile each issue.

Please assist.

Ed.

SOME OTHER MILITARY REFLECTIONS

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

6. Examinations and rank types (Part 1)

General

To gain a higher rank in the CMF one had to sit for and qualify at examinations. Having received promotion, I could, tongue in cheek, say that you held on to your posting providing you made sure: (a) the mess books for all messes were audited; (b) the **Q store records were right with frequent "attractive stores" checks; and (c) the unit pay sheets were above reproach.** You could then devote time to training your troops; but in that order!

Speaking only from my experience in the CMF and then the Army Reserve from January 1954 onwards, substantive rank could only be obtained by qualifying at the appropriate rank level with its examinations. And substantive rank counted. Courts martial were/are required for substantive rank reduction.

Much of the following is based upon how I experienced the army promotion system.

Acting, temporary, substantive & c

The first two of these forms of rank are somewhat similar and are appointments that commanders can make within their units against establishment without having any long term affect on the **individual's career path. In general, if a person was** carrying out the task of a specified rank, there was no reason why they should not be given the rank chevrons and the pay that went with the posting.

There are other forms of rank prefix, such as **"honorary" and "brevet."** I assume **"Colonel Commandant" attracts an honorary rank if the** individual is not already a colonel or more senior.

When I transferred to command the Warragul battery in 1963 I was already a substantive major. As the high and technical schools shared a cadet unit, it was suggested that I serve also as an officer of cadets. Owing to establishment vacancies, the best that could be offered to me was that of captain but as an honorary major. I was paid as an Officer of Cadets captain.

During the Second World War a number of officers of the pre-war staff corps carried very senior acting ranks, even as generals, but many were still only substantive in their pre-war rank. Many were reverted to substantive rank or slightly higher at the end of hostilities

National Service

So, let me start with my experience in National Service in the first intake for 1954 in the 15th National Service Battalion at Puckapunyal.

National Service personnel could reach either the rank of lance corporal or corporal. After so many weeks after the 90-days training had started, **selected "private, recruit, minors" were offered the** chance to seek promotion. They were then removed from the normal training program and given special NCO coaching. Promotion to the ranks indicated depended on how they shone at this course. My friend and adjoining bed mate, Tony Delves, was promoted to corporal.

Another course was held after a few weeks. Then there was to be a third course and I was nominated for this. But it was never held. These ranks were **clearly "acting" ones, as they were cancelled when the "privates" were posted to their CMF units.**

Nowadays, in the Cadet Corps, cadets at the officer **rank are termed "cadet under officers."** But there was a time when they were commissioned as second lieutenants. There was no consistent policy as to whether such officers had to resign their commissions on joining the Second AIF, CMF units or the post World War II national service scheme units. Many retained their commissions.

MUR as an NCO

Prior to receiving my first appointment in the probationary rank of an officer, I was in turn promoted corporal and then sergeant. I did not sit for any particular examinations to secure these ranks but attended two twenty-day courses conducted by MUR following the university examinations in November. For two successive years I entered January camp wearing the wrong rank chevrons as I had not spotted in routine orders that I had been promoted corporal the first time and appointed a probationary officer the second.

In 1955 in the rank of corporal I applied to attend the various coaching courses and sit the examinations for officer rank. Sometime into that year I found that the routine orders had made me a sergeant. I attended all the courses that I could, not that my military knowledge was all that well developed.

There were some five or six examinations in the CMF with alphabetical letters as titles, from Subject A through to Subject F (or higher). For a commission with the Royal Australian Infantry, candidates had to qualify in only three of these. **Subjects D to F were “special to arm” for the various non-infantry corps or regiments.**

Memory is that Subject A was administration; Subject B was tactics; and Subject C was military law. Further, the nomenclature was that the examinations would consist of a series of **“problems,” not questions.**

Subject A

Discussing this subject will be easy, as I cannot remember it at all! It was probably examined in the former MUR depot when it was in the university grounds. This is all that my diary has to say about it other than I was ill prepared for it. But I qualified!

Subject B

This was in the field, but as I think about it, it was hardly involved with tactics, mainly weapons. The location was north of Melbourne, termed Eden Park, in an area that I had journeyed to with the Economic Geography students to study soil erosion.

At the end of the day, I had the distinct impression that the army had required MUR to produce as many officers as it could to help with the ever-enlarging CMF units consequent to national servicemen completed their ninety days full-time training.

In later years I saw the film, *The Court Jester*, which starred Danny Kaye. At one stage in the film it was a requirement for Kaye to be made a knight, but first he had to pass the examination. In the series of tests, such as shooting with an arrow, he was clearly **assisted by persons “off stage.” When he had to shoot a bird flying overhead, two birds and two arrows fell at his feet!**

It was all rather like this on that day at Eden Park. For instance I was faced with a 3-in mortar and asked to name ten parts of the equipment. Having replied that I had never seen one before, the examiner asked me whether I thought this might be the barrel as he placed his hand on the long supported cylinder. I suggested that it might be, whereupon I was told that I had one out of ten in my favour. This procedure went through the entire mortar and I marched out of that particular test with good marks! The question on sword drill was much the same. I qualified in Subject B for first appointment.

In defence of the generous policy at the time, it was presumed that students, having enrolled for the university, might possess a degree of intelligence that could be harnessed by the military. In this they were probably right in the majority of cases!

Subject C

The weekly lectures to prepare us for the army law examination were taken by LTCOL Brock. He introduced me to a thick volume of Australian Manual of Regulations and Orders [sic] (AMR&O) and the even thicker ones that had all the amendments duly pasted in.

Brock was perhaps more interested in all the exceptions to the book than with the straight forward understanding of military law. However, the examination took place in due course. I sat this Subject C examination in the home of the local CMF commander in the town of Maryborough where I was completing a teacher training round in my Diploma of Education year.

Conversion to artillery

My first teaching appointment was to Mirboo North High School in Gippsland. All the nearby units were artillery. I would be required to convert to RAA. It was most fortunate that at the previous MUR 20-day course, I had been allocated to the artillery troop of its Support Company and had some fundamental gunnery skills and knowledge pumped into me.

I now had to undertake three “special to arm” examinations while parading at Korumburra. The first two clashed with other engagements. I attended these examinations and left as soon as I

felt I had completed enough of them to qualify. But **I failed “to qualify” in Subject E. However I must** have qualified at my second attempt and could then proudly wear the gunner cap badge with its rotating wheel.

For Captain

For some reason the military used the base of 1,000 marks rather than the more common 100% in its examinations. My “duty” then was to make the system work for me. **“Examination technique” is a valid and moral way of doing one’s best.** For instance, at university it consisted of going through old examination papers and listing the number of times when certain topics were examined. If **“wheat” consistently appeared in Economic Geography I, then study it by all means and have a handful of useful statistics to incorporate into one’s answer!**

I completed the examinations for captain in 1958. A single page in the diary tells me that Subjects B, C, and D had to be passed. The indoor ones were held in the Dandenong depot, ie., C and D. Subject B was on a Sunday not far from Dandenong with the Brighton Scout Camp in view. I recall having to hand-crank the car to get it going that morning in Mirboo North. **I had my “wet weather gear” but some** officer candidates misread the forecast, shivered and got wet!

Prior to that examination day, my BC, MAJ Lloyd Baxter, of 15 Fd Regt, RAA, took several of us for a day’s coaching. **Lloyd was an expert in “exam-man-ship.” Firstly he could predict the general contents** of the paper; namely map reading, deployment and giving orders. Consequently my map board was neatly covered with all the drills and memo points for those matters.

When it came to the examination day, heavy mist shrouded the area for the map reading question, so the order of the problems was varied. When the mist had lifted, I was given a grid reference and asked to say what I could see at this spot. I could not see anything of interest. In exasperation I said **that two fences intersected. “That’s correct, Lieutenant Farley”!** I suppose I was looking for the inevitable **“red-roofed house.”** I was delighted to find that I had qualified on all three examinations and was duly promoted to substantive captain the following year.

For Major

By now 15 Fd Regt, RAA, was using the hotel and environs of Walhalla for TEWTs and it would be inevitable that Subject B for Major would be taken at that location. Walhalla was all hills and valleys, with plenty of blackberry thrown in. But it did mean **that 15’s officers had a head start on the other two regiments through familiarity with the “ground.”**

In July 1960, I **“fronted up” for Subject B, which, as** expected, was held at Walhalla. I recall a cold trip up and an equally cold sleepless night. I wore all the clothes to bed that I had brought and finally got to sleep.

I have always been irritated with the often unnecessary length of time that candidates were given for considering a problem. But because I had been on several Walhalla weekends and had been well coached I apparently pleased the DS and was one of only two officers to qualify in the subject that day. Another officer qualified the next day.

Subject D, Technical to Arm, was passed with some **very last minute “cramming.” Once again, LTCOL Brock** coached us for Subject C at the training depot in Miles Street, South Melbourne, then the **Command and Staff Training Unit’s HQ.**

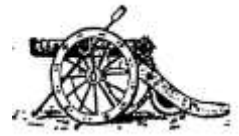
At this level, the Army asked its aspiring officers to undertake as well as the others, two additional examinations. One was Subject E, Military History. Military History was concerned with the Burma campaign and essential reading was *Bill Slim’s Defeat into Victory*.

The other was a tactics one. This would be a **fortnight’s course in which the first week was** coaching and the second week was the assessment. Taking its name from the Defence Act, it was known **colloquially as doing one’s “DA 21(a).” It was quite** a hurdle – well, for me, anyway!

In the written technical examination I was glad that I **had read something about “Movement Light” or the** use of searchlights to reflect light off the cloud base. It was an option and I took it and subsequently passed. In the next chapter I will discuss how I fared on the DA 21 (a) and Tac 5 courses.



INVITATION Gunner Dinner 2010



The President and Committee of the RAA Association (Vic) extend to you, your partners and guests a warm invitation to attend the 2010 All Ranks Gunner Dinner.

The Dinner will be held at the Caulfield RSL, 4 St Georges Road, Elsternwick
on Friday 25th June, 2010 at 1900 for 1930 hrs.

Dress is Mess Dress, Black Tie with Miniatures, Lounge Suit, or Jacket and Tie.
Serving members may wear polyesters.

The Banner of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will be paraded, if it is available to us on this date.

The Band of the 2/10 FD REGT will provide music.

Entrée is \$60 per person and includes pre-dinner drinks, hors d'oeuvres, three courses,
table wines, port, coffee and cheese.

After dinner drinks will be available at bar prices.

Please return the form below, together with a cheque made payable to the RAA Assoc (Vic)
not later than Wednesday 1st June 2010.

The Association looks forward to your support for this year's Gunner Dinner.

Any member who requires assistance with transport should contact Lt Col Jason Cooke on
Home: 03 9705 1155. Work: 03 9282 6900. e-mail: jason.cooke@defence.gov.au

Carers are also welcome to attend, but the entrée must be paid.

Enquires and return address: Ssgt Reg Morrell 6 Melissa Street, Mount Waverley 3149
Phone: 9562 9552 Email: morrells@morrell.org



GUNNER DINNER 2010

Rank _____ Name _____

Address _____

I accept your invitation to attend the 2010 Gunner Dinner.

Enclosed is a cheque for \$ _____ which includes entrée for my guests:

Rank _____ Name _____

Rank _____ Name _____

Special dietary requirements _____

If possible I wish to seated near _____

RAA Association (Victoria) Inc Corps Shop

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

PRICE LIST

Badges, etc		Stationery	
RAA Assn (Vic), members	\$5.00	Card, RAA badge, with envelope Christmas message	\$0.20
RAA badge cuff links	\$9.00	Blank inside	\$0.20
Key ring, RAA badge	\$4.00	Stickers	
Key ring, RAA (Pewter)	\$4.00	Bumper: <i>Gunners do it with a bigger bang</i>	\$2.00
		Square: gold badge, red and blue background	\$2.00
Ties		ORDERS: 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. Cheques should be made payable to RAA Association (Victoria) Inc, and be crossed <i>Not Negotiable</i> . Orders to: Mr B. Cleeman 28 Samada Street Notting Hill VIC 3168	
Blue with single red gun	\$30.00		
RAA Burgundy with gold gun	\$43.00		
RAA Navy with gold gun	\$43.00		
St Barbara Stripe	\$43.00		
Books			
<i>Kookaburra's Cutthroats</i>	\$39.00		
<i>Aust Military Equip Profiles</i>	\$13.50		
<i>AMEF Profile - Leopard Tank</i>	\$17.00		
ENQUIRIES:			
BRIAN CLEEMAN	(03) 9560 7116		
REG MORRELL	(03) 9562 9552		

Parade Card
(as at 8 December 2009)

Jan 2011	May 2010	Sep 2010
	25 Committee	28 Committee
	31 Cascabel 103 Posted	
Feb 2011	Jun 2010	Oct 2010
13 Church Parade	22 Committee	26 Committee
22 Committee	25 Gunner Dinner	29 Cascabel 105 Posted
25 Cascabel 102 Posted		
Mar 2010	Jul 2010	Nov 2010
23 Committee	27 Committee	04 AGM
?? Visit HMAS Cerberus		05 Golf Day
		23 Committee
Apr 2010	Aug 2010	Dec 2010
25 Anzac Day	15 Cascabel 104 Posted	04 St Barbara's Day
27 Committee	24 Committee	09 Committee

CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND DETAILS UP-DATE

<p><i>Please forward to:</i> RAA Association (Vic) Inc. 8 Alfada Street Caulfield South Vic. 3167</p>		
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

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION (VIC) INC
101 Warralong Ave GREENSBOROUGH VIC 3088
Reg No A13889Z

Print Post Approved
PP 320418/00029

**PRINT
POST**

PP 320418/00029

**POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA**

