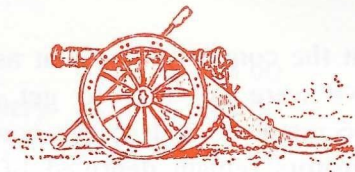


CASCABEL

Newsletter of



**THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY
ASSOCIATION (Victoria) INCORPORATED**

NUMBER 38

OCTOBER 1993

The President Writes:

In my last note I asked that you support the Artillery Ball. Last year the numbers were down and that was the reason for the change of venue to Le Chateau in Queens Road which has a smaller capacity. Well you certainly listened this time and the Ball could best be described as cosy. About two hundred attended and had a great night dancing to the house band. Our thanks to the organising committee.

During dinner we were entertained once again by our own incomparable RAA Band. They played a wide variety of numbers and concluded with a super cabaret bracket. I hope you will remember what a great night it was and support the Artillery Ball next year.

The Annual General Meeting was held at Chapel Street on the 26th August and was not as well attended as we would have liked. Only twenty

nine members were there. Are all you Batman Avenue types having trouble finding the Chapel Street Depot. The meeting was fairly routine there being no contentious matters to deal with and a fine supper was enjoyed after a tour of the depot for those who had not been there before.

Rivalling the AGM for numbers was the visit to the 2/10 Mdm Regt field firing exercise on Saturday the 28th August. We were blessed with good weather and thirty one members enjoyed a great day hosted by the Regiment.

Included were several school cadets from Braemar College with their School Principal, Colonel Graham Farley and their Cadet OC. Inherent in this kind of trip is the long ride out to the gun position. I don't remember the range (including the State Forest) being so big. We went to 38 Medium Battery gun position first. The Battery Captain, Captain Bob Mellor gave us a run down on what happens

at the command post but as is usual we were not able to get into that secret place and so the non military visitors remain deprived of the real magic of gunnery. Much more exciting was our introduction to the M198 gun by the Battery Sergeant Major.

We were able to crawl all over the gun and then stand close by during a fire mission. Next, off to the echelon area where we were treated to a fine field kitchen luncheon although the comment, "Not quite gourmet Basil" was overheard. Our last visit was to the observation post at Whitelaw Hills. Here the Battery Commander of 22 Battery, Major Steve Venn gave us a great presentation of the procedure for the preparation of a quick fire plan. Then it was into the trucks again and back to Range Control and so on to our transport home.

Our thanks to the Commanding Officer LTCOL Alkemade, the Regiment and our guide for the day Captain Paul Harris.

Look out for further functions advertised in this issue and I look forward to seeing you soon.
My best wishes

Mark Jaggard

.....ooOOoo.....

This issue commences with an article submitted by Bob Miller.

Artillery Museum Plan for Arsenal

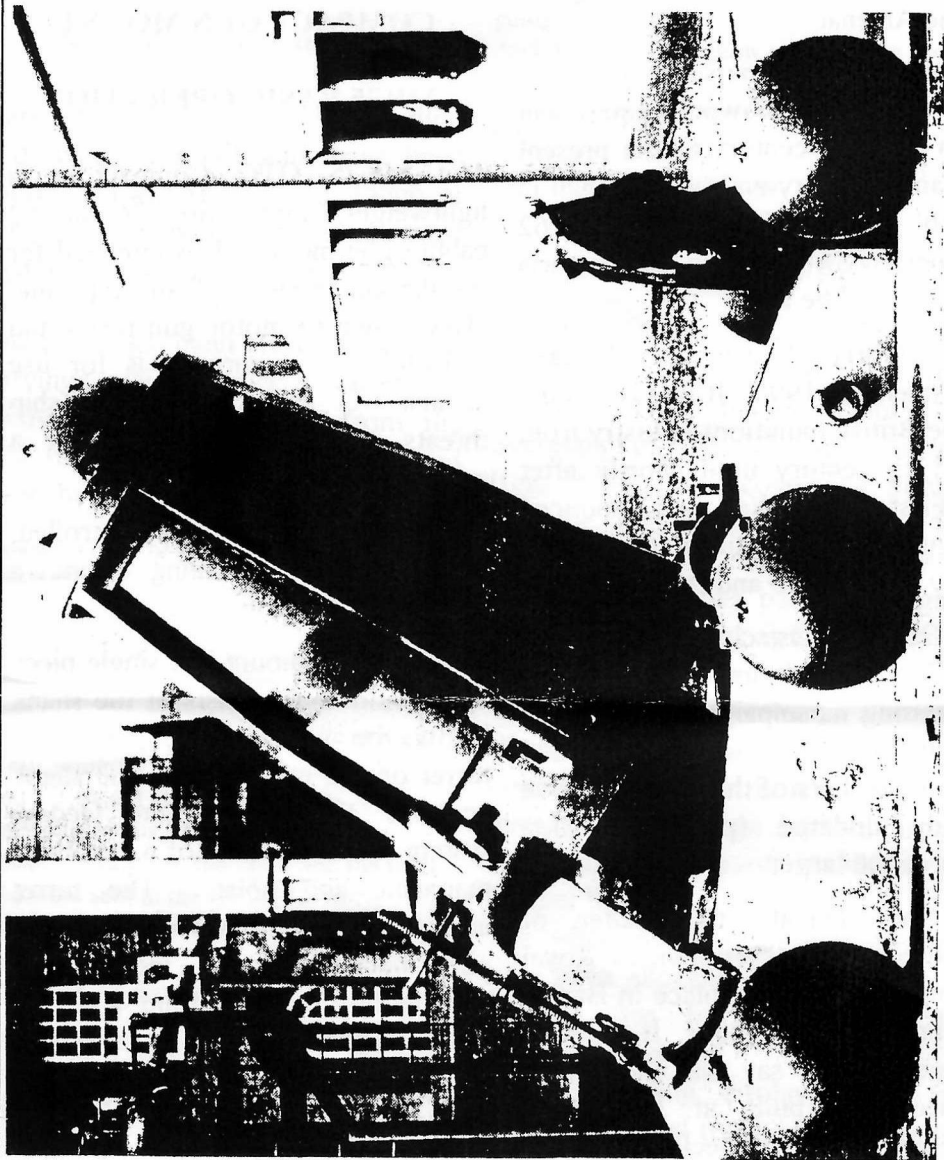
A new (pds)10 million, Royal Artillery Museum is to be created at the Woolwich Royal Arsenal site, in south London. The council of the Royal Artillery Institute has decided in principle to move to the site by the Thames.

When the museum opens in 1997, the public will be able to see for the first time a hidden "architectural jewel" with 18 buildings which are listed as being of particular architectural and historic interest.

They include the work of Sir John Vanbrugh, James Wyatt and the leading military engineers of their day, and cover a period of 300 years.

The English and London Tourist Boards regard the Royal Arsenal site as the last chance to create a major "visitor-based heritage attraction" in London.

Greenwich Borough Council has designated 15 of the 76 acres to the west of the site as a "heritage centre", where the museum will be. It is expected to occupy Banbrugh's brass foundry; the 18th century Venbruggen's House, built for the master founder; the main guardroom and Dial Square.



Mallet's Mortar, made in 1857, at the Royal Arsenal, with a calibre of 36 inches it fired shells weighing over a ton

The Royal Artillery's collection of guns, medals, uniforms, books, pictures and silver is housed in different buildings in Woolwich. The Rotunda, erected by John Nash at Carlton House to celebrate Napoleon's exile to Elba, is likely to

be moved from Woolwich Common to the Arsenal.

Proposals for the museum include a gunnery hall, showing equipment from the 14th century to the present day and a gallery and heritage hall in which the citations for the 62 Gunners who have won the Victoria Cross would be kept.

The Ministry of Defence will leave the Arsenal in 1995. It was the home of the British munitions industry from the 17th century until shortly after the First World War, and produced the guns and ammunition used by the Army at Waterloo and the Crimea.

Mr. David Evans, chief executive of the Gunner Heritage Appeal, said a fundraising campaign would be launched this month. Serving and retired members of the regiment have already donated (pds)1.4 million towards the target.

Mr. Len Duvall, the leader of Greenwich said: "Woolwich's Royal Arsenal has a unique place in British and indeed world history. It is not an exaggeration to say that the British Empire was built at the Royal Arsenal" The final decision on the project will be made in June.

The previous photograph is of Mallet's Mortar which will also be exhibited at the museum.

MARK 75 OTO MELARA COMPACT GUN MOUNT

MK75 BASIC OPERATION

The MK75 OTO Compact is a lightweight, rapid fire 76mm 62 calibre gun mount. It is intended for installation in ships of any type and class, down to motor gun boats and hydrofoil. Its purpose is for use against aircraft, missile and ship threats. The system also has a gunfire support capability.

The mount is fully remote controlled, with automatic loading from a revolving magazine.

The complete mount is a single piece installation and consists of the shank below the weather deck, and the turret on the main deck. The shank contains the ammunition feeding system which consists of a revolving magazine and hoist. The turret incorporates the elevating mass and gun loading system, including a loading tray, a feed drum and two rocking arms.

The feeding and loading systems are simple and reliable, and able to maintain a high rate of fire. Individual rounds of ammunition are hoisted and transferred to the elevating structure in a series of brief movements thus reducing acceleration of moving parts and the

round itself. The rounds are carried to the elevating structure and rammed into the chamber regardless of the angle of elevation, and independently of any training and elevating movement.

The mount is fitted with servo-systems of very light weight with plug-in modular electronics and identical training and elevating drive motors.

With remote control, the gun can be readily load onto fast moving targets and retained in elevation despite severe ship movement in all planes. The response time of the servo-system is fast and the mount is capable of very high training and elevating speeds.

Feeding and loading systems are hydraulically operated through a self-contained hydraulic power unit installed on the mount

Firing rates can be varied from single fire minimum to 80 rounds plus per minute at the maximum setting.

The gun fires fixed type ammunition; HEPD, HEIR, BL&P, HEVT & VTNF.

Training is unlimited using a slip ring for off mount connections. Tracking is continuous with the intervention of safety cut-out firing cams.

The one-piece gun mount shield is made of moulded fibreglass and is completely watertight with complete protection from nuclear fallout.

The mount operates unmanned. Reloading of the revolving magazine can be quickly accomplished by two men. The gun captain at the control console in the handling room monitors the mount operation.

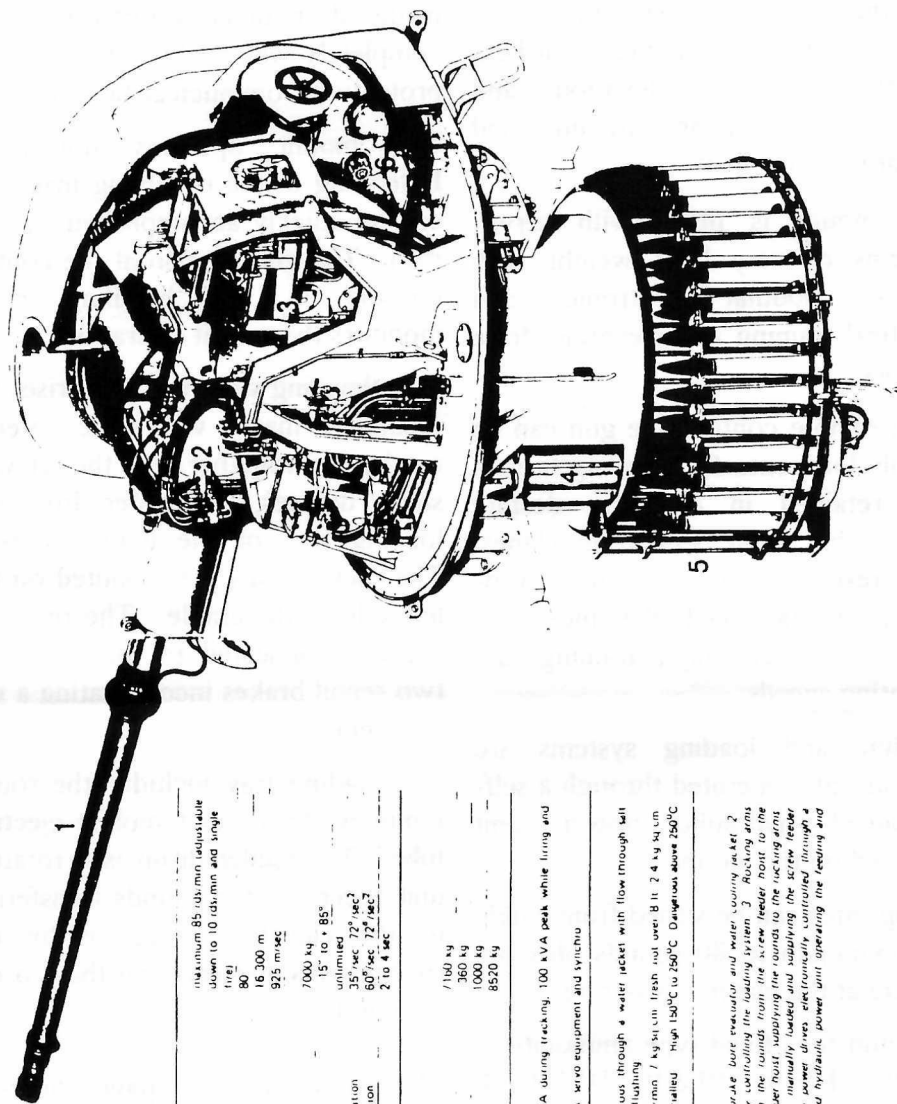
The elevating structure comprises the recoiling mass with the breech mechanism together with the relevant safety devices, the feeder drum and loading tray of the loader system. The rocker arms are mounted on the left side of the cradle. The recoiling mass is connected to the cradle by two recoil brakes incorporating a gas recuperator.

The loading tray includes the round ramming device and mobile ejection tube. The feeder drum is a rotating unit accepting the rounds transferred to the elevating structure by the rocker arms and carrying them o the loading tray.

The photograph overpage shows a cut-away diagram of the MK75.

This article was submitted by Ed Williams

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GUN MAIN DATA

Rate of fire	maximum 85 (10 min adjustable down to 10 (10 min and single fire)
Ready to fire rounds	80
Maximum horizontal range	18 300 m
Muzzle velocity, V ₀	925 m/sec
Average (total thrust (with muzzle brake)	7000 kg
Elevation arc	15° to + 85°
Travel etc. (with slotted)	unlimited
Elevation velocity and acceleration	35°/sec 72°/sec ²
Travel velocity and acceleration	60°/sec 72°/sec ²
Mount reaction time	2 to 4 sec

Weight	
empty (excluding off mount components)	1160 kg
off mount components	360 kg
ammunition weight	1000 kg
total weight (mount loaded)	8520 kg

Electrical power supply

400V 3 phase 60Hz 150 kVA during tracking, 100 kVA peak while firing and tracking
115V 1 phase 400Hz 150VA servo equipment and synchro

Barrel cooling

Operation: automatic, continuous through a water jacket with flow through salt water cooling and fresh water flushing
 Water requirement salt 70 l/min 7 kg/s (min fresh not over 8 ft 3.4 kg/s (min
 Barrel temperature remote signalled High 150°C to 250°C Dangerous above 250°C

GUN MAIN COMPONENTS

- 1 Gun barrel with muzzle brake bore evacuator and water cooling jacket
- 2 Bore evacuator
- 3 Recoiling arms
- 4 Recoiling mechanism
- 5 Recoiling mechanism
- 6 Recoiling mechanism
- 7 Recoiling mechanism
- 8 Recoiling mechanism
- 9 Recoiling mechanism
- 10 Recoiling mechanism

ITEMS of INTEREST

Rare Aboriginal art find

Rare Aboriginal art works, including a drawing of a tall ship, have been found in the Army's firing range at the Holsworthy base in south-west Sydney. Archaeologists described the discovery as exiting.

The paintings, hand stencils and rock carvings which depict a variety of animals and ships dating from the first European contact, are scattered over the 30,000-hectare Army range.

(I guess there wont be much argument if they claim that piece of turf. - ED)

Our Flag

Our flag bears the stars that blaze at night
in our southern sky of blue,
And a little old flag in the corner
that's part of our heritage too,
It's for the English, the Scots and the Irish
who were sent to the end of the earth,
The rogues and the schemers, the doers and
the dreamers
Who gave modern Australia it's birth.

And you who are shouting to change it
who don't seem to understand,
It's the flag of our law and our language
not the flag of a faraway land.

There are plenty of people who will tell you
that when Europe was plunged into night,
the little old flag in the corner
was their symbol of freedom and light.

It doesn't mean we owe allegiance
to a forgotten imperial dream,

We've got the stars to show where we are
going

And the old flag to show where we've been.

(Thanks to Peter Wertheimer for this anonymous poem - ED)

.....ooOOoo.....

THE MUSEUM AND MEMORABILIA FUND

Recently, like in April and May, the Vice President, Dave Osborne, received two books from the Secretary of the 2/1 Aust Survey Regt Assoc. and copies of photos and the registration details of the zone covered by the gun section in Sir William Dargies' painting hanging in the Officers Mess at Chapel Street, from John Anderson.

To both of these gentlemen a sincere thank you from the museum committee. These articles will be maintained and when suitable display cases are purchased, exhibited at Chapel Street.

The Museum Trust Committee have now been allocated a secure area in which items for display can be curated and stored.

Before building display cases, the committee need to know what items, other than current holdings, may be available for display. If you have any items to donate or loan to the Museum, would you please contact any member of the committee. Your museum committee for 1993/94 are:

Pres.	Maj Roger Dalton	499 6775
V/Pres.	Maj Brian Jackson	749 5453
Sec.	WO2 Craig Cook	890 2117
Mbrs.	SSgt Brian Cleeman	560 7116
	Bdr Tom Hayward	813 1087

.....ooOOoo.....

ACTIVITIES REPORT

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

You will find enclosed a copy of the Programme of events for the year 93-94. Please keep it handy and attend as many of the functions as you can. As a reminder, look up the dates of the Happy Hour, St Barbara's Day and the Church Parade. Details of the St Babs Day function and Church Parade will be circulated later. The Happy Hour will commence at 1800 hrs

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PAST ACTIVITIES

Back to the Regiment Night

Another 'Back to the Regiment' night was held at the Sergeant's Mess at Chapel Street Depot on the 24th September.

The night was a great success due to the excellent company combined with a suburb meal. Total attendance was 101 which included several wives/lady friends.

Looking forward to a great night next year.

.....ooOOoo.....

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Since the last issue we have accepted one new member and I issue him a warm welcome:

Lt F.A. Roberts.

At the AGM, the membership subscription was set at \$10 for annual members and to take up life membership, \$100.

Those members who are in arrears, since subs are paid up to 30th June, will find a separate renewal notice in this issue. Any annual members who are in advance or life members will therefore not find a notice to pay. If you are now required to renew could I ask that you attend to this promptly.

Thank you to those members who have taken the trouble to let me know of the new addresses of 'lost' members in the past. I still need a new address for SSgt S. Mc Dermott whose mail is being returned.

If you are about to move, or know the whereabouts of the lost member, could you drop me a line at the following address.

David Osborne

Membership Secretary and Vice President.
PO Box 309 FRANKSTON 3199 or phone me at work on 781 2633 or at home on 787 7852.

.....ooOOoo.....

ITEMS OF INTEREST (Part 2)

Cuff Links \$8.00
Port - Artillery \$8.00
Plus \$2.00 postage

Contact Brian Cleeman on 560 7116.

.....ooOOoo.....

= From the Editor's Desk =

In the museum fund report mention was made of the future display in the Chapel street depot of memorabilia donated to that committee

As you know, I receive many articles for use in CASCABEL. I would like it known that those articles dealing with Artillery history or of defence interest etc. will also be passed on to the museum for safekeeping.

I have included an insert from Peter Evans asking for help to locate members of the 8th FAB and other questions. Please put the thinking caps on and reply direct to him.

Editor:
Major Ross Peterken RFD
2 Milan St.
WANTIRNA 3152

Phone:
720 1757 AH
632 4055 BH
632 4079 FAX

Et Ad Ultimus:

Korman's conclusion:

The trouble with resisting temptation is.....

It may never come your way again!

~~~~~

On a happy note, I would like to announce the arrival of a daughter, Samantha, to Terry and Jenny Diggines, born on 22 July and weighing in at 7lb.

Similarly, my own first grandchild, Grandaughter Kasey Leigh, born on 24 Aug at around 7lb 15ozs.

(The Regt will have to wait another 17 years however to capitalise on those ones)

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## BOOTS, BOOTS,BOOTS

The standard US army combat boot is sufficiently durable to survive eight years of peacetime use, but only six months of war. The chief reason is the inability to properly dry out boots in the field.

.....ooOOoo.....

## THE ASSOCIATION SHOP

The following items are for sale to members:

|                         |         |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Book on the 25 Pdr      | \$13.50 |
| Book - Bren Gun Carrier | "       |
| Caps - RAA              | \$7.00  |
| Badge - Track Suit      | \$3.00  |
| Bumper Sticker          | \$2.00  |
| Car sticker             | \$1.50  |
| Sweater Blue            | \$45.00 |
| Stubby Holder           | \$5.00  |
| Tie - RAA               | \$22.00 |

# VALE

**It is with regret, that we advise of the death of Major Price Stewart (Norman) Whitelaw ED on Oct 9 1993.**

**You will all know that Norman led this Association as President and Benefactor for many years, with that quiet, understanding and dignified manner that signified Norman's' nature.**

**His family, his many friends, the Corps and the Association has lost a man that can best be described in the real meaning of the phrase -**

**“ an Officer and Gentlemen”.**

**So Mote in Be**

As indicated in the main report, please contact Peter G. Evans, 37 Charles Street, CHELTENHAM, VIC. 3192 (03) 584 2765 if you have any information on the following:.

#### Query 1.

In a WW1 field notebook is an interesting message preserved in duplicate copy dated 21 Sep 1918. The notebook also has some other messages and annotations. The message in question was to "3rd D.A.H.Q." (3rd Divisional Artillery Head Quarters). It was signed by someone with the title "a/D.T.M.O.". In the body of the message the abbreviation "D.A.D.O.S." appeared, in the context of "All guns were handed over to the D.A.D.O.S." The message related to the capture of some German Guns.

I have been informed that the D.A.D.O.S. stands for Deputy Assistant Director Ordnance Services. I am interested in a reference to this designation.

It is known that when the 3rd Div Arty was being formed in England in 1916, Lt Col H.W. Grimwade requested an officer with experience in trench mortars. The position was to be known as D.T.M.O. I assume that this stood for Divisional Trench Mortar Officer. In the above mentioned passage, does the abbreviation stand for Director Transport and Movement Organisation? I am interested in any reference to the abbreviation D.T.M.O. Also, who was the D.T.M.O. and the a/D.T.M.O. on this date/

#### 8th Australian Field Brigade

ALLSOP, William Gillian. Presumed born in Clifton, Derbyshire in 1873/74. Lived in

South Brisbane before WW1. In the 1st Brigade as Captain in Brisbane. Went to Gallipoli with 12th Bty as Major. As Lt Col with the 8th FAB. Returned to Australia in 1919. Neither Unit Association records, trade directories etc. have provided any clues to his family, circumstances or descendants. Information is required for a forthcoming publication on the 8th FAB.

Information on the following is also required. Ranks and assignments are indicative.

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| CHURCHES, W. Major   | OC 29th Bty    |
| BRAKE, J. Lt         | 30th Bty HQ    |
| ROWE, S.G. Major     | OC 31st Bty    |
| SANDFORD, A.B. Major | OC 108th Bty   |
| SLANEY, T.B. Major   |                |
| SWALLOW, T.K. Major  | OC 30th Bty    |
| WALKER, S.J. Major   | OC 30th Bty    |
| AUDSLEY, W.A. Capt   | 108th Bty      |
| PENNY, G.F.C. Lt     | 30th Bty       |
| MILLER, C.L. 2/Lt    | 30th Bty       |
| ALLWORTH, P.R. 2/Lt  | 30th Bty       |
| GRIFFITH/S, E. Lt    | 30,31st Bty HQ |
| TURNER, J.W. Lt      | 30th Bty       |
| OWEN, G.B. Capt      | 30th Bty       |
| SAUNDERS, P.K. 2/Lt  | 30th Bty       |
| FERRIER, G.G.D. Capt | 31st Bty       |
| SOLLING, F.P.M. Capt | RMO            |
| HAYLOCK, W.G. Capt   | 30th Bty       |
| WOODS, E.V. Lt       | 30th Bty       |
| JOHNSON, E.R. Lt     | 30th Bty       |
| WARNOCK, W.H. Lt     | 30th Bty       |
| INGLIS, J. Lt        | 30th Bty       |
| GUNN, A.D. Lt        | ADJT           |
| LIPP, R.J.G. Lt      | 30th Bty       |
| MOORE, T.E. Lt       | 30th Bty       |
| McMILLAN, A.W. Lt    | 30th Bty       |
| NEYLAN, E.M. Major   | 30th Bty       |