

RAA LIAISON LETTER

Spring Edition

2003



**The Official Journal of the
Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery**

First Published in 1948



RAA LIAISON LETTER

Spring Edition

2003

Publication Information

- Front Cover: Medals of Major J.C. Ewen, MC, DCM, MM. Most decorated WW1 Gunner, an honour shared with Lieutenant E. Mattner.
- Published by: Deputy Head of Regiment, School of Artillery, Bridges Barracks, Puckapunyal, Victoria 3662
- Produced by: Combat Arms Doctrine and Development Section, Hopkins Barracks, Puckapunyal, Victoria 3662
- Distribution: For issues relating to content or distribution contact the SO to HOR on email stratford01@bigpond.com

Contents

Distribution	3
Editors Comment	5
Regimental Aspects	7
Representative Colonel Commandant	9
Vale	10
Land Command Artillery	11
16th Air Defence Regiment	15
1st Field Regiment	19
4th Field Regiment	22
7th Field Regiment	26
8th/12th Medium Regiment	28
23rd Field Regiment	31
7th Field Battery	32
16th Field Battery	34
131st Surveillance Target Acquisition Battery	36
School of Artillery	39
Personnel Aspects	43
Honours and Awards	45
DOCM-A	46
Retired Full-time Officers List	49
SCMA	50
Capability, Training and Doctrine	53
Capability Development	55
DMO - Projects and Fleet Synopsis	57
CATC - Trade Policy	62
CADDS	63
Articles	67
103rd Medium Battery - Rifle Company Butterworth	69
Jumping into History	71
Major J.C. Ewen, MC, DCM, MM	74
Notes for a Messing Member	76
Associations and Organisations	81
Associations and Organisations - Contact List	83
Benefactors of the RAA Regimental Fund	86
RAA Association of Tasmania Inc.	88
National Artillery Museum - North Fort	92
Notices	95
Membership Application Forms	97

DISTRIBUTION

- Colonels Commandant
- Royal Australian Artillery Association (NSW)
- Royal Australian Artillery Association (NSW) Newcastle Sub-Branch
- Royal Australian Artillery Association (ACT)
- Royal Australian Artillery Association (VIC)
- Royal Australian Artillery Association (North Queensland)
- Royal Australian Artillery Association (SA)
- Royal Australian Artillery Association (WA)
- Royal Australian Artillery Association (NT)
- Royal Australian Artillery Association (TAS)
- Miscellaneous Unit and Sub Unit Associations
- Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company
- Head of Regiment / CLCA
- DJFHQ (JOSCC)
- All COs
- All BCs of Independent Batteries
- OC P&E Establishments
- MG LC ARTY
- RMG HQ CATC
- All RSMs
- LC ARTY
- 16th Air Defence Regiment
- 1st Field Regiment
- 2nd/10th Field Regiment
- 4th Field Regiment
- 7th Field Regiment
- 8th/12th Medium Regiment
- 23rd Field Regiment
- 7th Field Battery
- 16th Field Battery
- 48th Field Battery
- 131st Surveillance and Target Acquisition Battery
- School of Artillery
- Miscellaneous Individual Gunner Officers/Warrant Officers and SNCO

Editors Comment

I would like to highlight an issue of recognition or at least the lack of it by the Gunner and wider community. I am referring to 102nd Field Battery and its involvement in Operation Toan Thang (Battle of Fire Support and Patrol Bases Coral & Balmoral). It is now 35 years since Operation Toan Thang in May / June 1968. The enemy operation and associated multiple assaults against the gunline of 102nd Field Battery on the night of 12/13 May 1968 was probably the single biggest threat to the security of an individual battery since Federation. Despite the significance there has been almost no recognition of the battery or the collective members for their bravery and tenacity during that night. Whilst I appreciate that politically in 1968 the war in South Vietnam was not popular, this should not have been allowed to detract from the event. Sadly I believe it did and hence the lack of appropriate and wider recognition. Even more disappointing and confusing was the disbandment of the battery. Of all the batteries to disband one must ask, given the history of 102nd Battery and its significance to recent Gunner history, why was the battery selected. It is beyond me.

In 1998 a decision was made to redress this situation by seeking the award of an 'Honour Title' for 102nd Field Battery to permanently mark the event in our Gunner history. A submission was made in 1999 requesting that 102nd Field Battery be allocated the honour title of 'Coral' and be known as 102nd (Coral) Battery. There has never been an honour title awarded to a battery of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery - the fact there is no precedent should not be allowed to impede the approval. Five years have passed and still a decision has not been made and the members of 102nd Field Battery from Operation Toan Thang continue not to receive the recognition they deserve. Finally the increased operational tempo of recent years should not allow us (the Gunner Community) to lose sight of the importance of our past - without recognition of our past exploits we lose the heritage of which as Gunners we claim to be so proud. Whenever you have the opportunity in Gunner and wider military forums I encourage you to raise the topic of what has happen to the submission for an honour title for 102nd Field Battery.

Finally I would like to thank all those who responded to the request for submissions for this edition. A favourite theme of mine is the Liaison Letter content is only as good as the support it receives from the Gunner community. I would like the Liaison Letter to be of interest, as well as a forum, for all Gunners serving and retired. The very worthy goal of making the Liaison Letter a forum for professional papers remains very under-subscribed despite the best intentions of some individuals. I appreciate that in a 'busy' world it is easy to justify not making a contribution due to higher priorities. All I ask is that for the next edition, which will be published in April next year, you give consideration to making a submission.



D.T. (Terry) BRENNAN
Major
Editor

Email: stratford01@bigpond.com
Telephone - 07 4651 0939
Postal - 'Stratford' BLACKALL QLD 4472

Retired or serving Gunners who would like to receive future copies of the RAA Liaison Letter should contact the editor by email (at the above address) or write c/- 'Stratford' BLACKALL, QLD 4472 with their mailing details.

Regimental Aspects

HINT 1

Success in battle is the sole object and ultimate end of all military training.

HINT 2

Battle is a severe examination in the knowledge and application of the principles of the art of war, which have been studied during peace. As in other branches of knowledge, carelessness of preparation, or misapplication of principles, means failure, but in this stern school there is seldom an opportunity for any supplementary examination.

HINT 15

Gain the confidence of your NCOs as they have, through their associations, an inside knowledge of the spirit and feeling of the men in the ranks that no officer can ever obtain.

Extracted from a copy of
'A Hundred Hints for Company Commanders'
issued originally by Lieutenant Colonel McGlinn,
BM, 4 Inf Bde AIF on 23 November 1914.

Representative Colonel Commandant

Major General J.P. Stevens, AO

Greetings Fellow Gunners,

The past year has again seen a number of operational deployments for the ADF, and again the Regiment and its members have answered many calls to undertake such service. Congratulations to all those involved for a job well done.

Congratulations too to all those in units and in command and staff appointments who did not deploy. From what I have seen and heard, Regimental standards are as high as ever, and contributions from Regimental members as valuable. This is unsung, but it is important. It is on the foundation of professionalism that the ability and reputation of the Regiment and of the ADF is built. This foundation also allows the Regiment to adapt to the demands that modern conflict will make of it.

As ever, over the past year, many will have joined the Regiment, and many will have retired from the Regulars or Reserves. A hearty welcome to all who have joined, and best wishes and good fortune to those leaving service.

In this light, I acknowledge and thank the volunteers and their families who are the lifeblood of the museums, the historical societies, and the State, local and unit Artillery Associations. Here is where our heritage is kept alive in memory of those who have served in the past, and as an example to those serving now and into the future. I have had the opportunity in the last year to visit the Museum at North Head and the historical collection and battery site in Perth. In both places the historical groups are doing great work. They, and others elsewhere, deserve our support.

I had the opportunity on a business trip to visit London just after Anzac Day to pay a courtesy call on the Head of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, General Sir Alex Harley KBE CB, the Master Gunner St James's Park. The Royal Artillery deployed substantial artillery forces to Iraq. There will be interesting lessons for us, and I look forward to an article on the British experience appearing in a future issue of the Liaison Letter.

The Royal Artillery has also established a substantial and modern museum, which goes by the name of 'Firepower', on the old arsenal site at Woolwich on the Thames River in the suburbs of London. It is very impressive and highly recommended if travel takes you that way.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Colonels Commandant for their contributions in each of the regions, and to farewell Brigadier Vince Williams from the position of Head of Regiment. Vince fulfilled a difficult role with distinction, and we wish he and Julia all the best for his next posting, which is as the Defence Attache in London.

Ubique

VALE

Major D. Quirk

*Provided by Colonel A.R. Burke
Colonel Commandant Northern Region*

Sadly, another familiar and respected name in our Gunner world has left us for the Great Stand Easy Area. On Wednesday 16 April 2003, Dave Quirk succumbed in his fight against a re-emergence of the cancer with which he had battled several years ago.

A young Dave Quirk joined A Field Battery, 1st Field Regiment RAA from the 12th National Service Battalion in the mid 1950s and served with them in Malaya from 1957 to 1959. Soon after returning to Australia, he took his discharge in the rank of bombardier. However, the smell of the cordite was in his veins and he re-enlisted in the early 1960s. Rising to sergeant, he again served with A Field Battery on active service, this time in Vietnam during 1971 and 1972. This was the era of section gun positions and as a very experienced and energetic Sergeant Operator Command Post Field (TARA Sergeant) he provided great strength and leadership. Dave was honoured by being selected, along with Al Green, for a brief respite from Vietnam to return to Australia as escort to the Queen's Banner that was presented in Sydney on 1 August 1971.

After completing the Canadian Master Gunners' Course, he returned to an Assistant Instructor-in-Gunnery posting at the School of Artillery, North Head Manly. The proof world then benefited from Dave's knowledge and experience when he became Master Gunner at the Proof and Experimental Establishment, Port Wakefield. After commissioning through the PSO system, he returned to Port Wakefield as a Proof Officer.

Major David Quirk concluded his military career as a recruiting officer in Brisbane, hanging up his spurs in the early 1990s and like so many of us, he retired in South-East Queensland.

Vale David Quirk - a soldier, officer and Gunner who will not be forgotten.

Gunner N. Smithies

*Extracted from 'The Artillery News'
Newsletter - RAA Association Tasmania*

8260830 Gunner Nick Smithies, 16th Field Battery, died of a heart attack on Monday 14th April 2003 at his home in Hobart, aged 21 years. Gunner Smithies enlisted into the General Reserve on 29 December 1998 and marched out of ARTC on 19 February 1999 and into the Royal Australian Artillery. He participated in Operation Gold for three months as a vehicle searcher for the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games. Gunner Smithies attended numerous gunnery, signals, driving and promotion courses during his posting to 16th Field Battery.

He was recently employed as a No 7 of a gun detachment, which he performed to a high standard. Gunner Smithies' attendance record was outstanding and he was one of the most reliable soldiers within the Battery. He achieved continual service in the Battery since his enlistment and passed all his BFA's with ease.

Gunner Smithies' funeral was held on 17 April 2003, which was attended by the majority of 16th Field Battery.

Land Command Artillery

*Colonel S.T. Goltz
Commander Land Command Artillery
and Head of Regiment*

The structure of Land Command Artillery has changed in 2003/2004 to reflect the change of focus and increased workload. A new Directive has been forwarded to LCAUST to retitle the position of COLARTY back to Commander Land Command Artillery.

This title and abbreviation - CLCA are in common use now. The original change to COLARTY occurred during the A21 and Restructuring of the Army days and the embedded rationale has gone so I have pursued the reversion. It is also worth noting that I assumed the appointment of Head of Regiment on 11 August 2003 from Brigadier Vince Williams. I would like to formally acknowledge the excellent contribution of Brigadier Vince and admit to feeling a little daunted by the responsibility of Head of Regiment (HOR). I feel confident, however, that with the support of the Deputy Head of Regiment Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gates and the HOR staff at the School we will continue the fine tradition.

The Branch is expanding in 2004 to include an SO1 Arty (Branch title to be decided); an additional SO2 Off Spt (held vacant in 2004); an additional SO3 Off Spt; and SO3 STA (held vacant in 2004); a SO3 GBAD (held vacant in 2004) and a WO1 STA. A number of these positions are dual hatted to support the Joint Offensive Support Coordination Centre in the Deployable Joint Force Headquarters. The 2 x SO2 OS and 2 x SO3 OS are nominated to fulfil this task. It will be practised during exercises in 2004.

Ground Based Air Defence

The reorganisation of the 16th Air Defence Regiment into its shape of the future continues. The transition from a combination of Rapier and RBS 70 to an all RBS 70 organisation will also incorporate the PSTAR radar being integrated across the Regt. In partnership with LCARTY 16th Air Defence Regiment is driving hard to gain improved numbers and quality of married quarters in the Adelaide Hills. The barracks at Woodside is also the subject of requests for minor works to cater for the more powerful unit that is now in location.

Joint Project 117 - MSAM for the ADF remains on the books but significant progress is not being made at present. The review of all acquisitions and force development issues will inform the future of this and many other projects.

Surveillance Target Acquisition

The 'Locators' are now well and truly up to their armpits in development and materiel issues as the fruits of previous years of labour are harvested. The key projects getting momentum are the Artillery Orienting System (replacing GAK/Tellurometer/Red 2L and metal tapes), Thermal Surveillance System (TSS) Type III, Unattended Ground Sensors and Uninhabited Aerial Vehicles (UAV). The upgrade to the venerable TPQ 36 Weapon Locating Radar also is well in hand. The possibilities for a STA Regiment are linked to the UAV project and the current Army initiatives for strengthening our warfighting capability.

The integration of surveillance operators from Artillery, Armour and Infantry has commenced with instruction at the School from these Corps. The employment of surveillance detachments across the battlefield demands a linked and common approach from the operations staff to ensure passage of information and the resulting intelligence product. Target Acquisition (TA) is a very essential element of this data and it needs to be timely. The UAV may provide TA data but the majority of acquisition means remain the WLR and GSR.

Field and Medium Gunnery

The ARTEP process is being maintained on a shoestring budget but is still seen as vital by formation commanders. They appreciate the rigour and value of technical evaluation and are very supportive of the independent eye. That said, the way of the future lies in using the Combat Training Centre - Live and Battle Command in the near future to integrate manoeuvre evaluation as it should be in the Combined Arms Battle. I have received great support from Colonel Mick Moon and hope to receive more of the same in the future from Colonel Dick Stanhope as the Commander in 2004. I intend to integrate the mortars into the same framework to ensure the teamwork and coordination developed already is sustained and improved.

LAND 17/18 projects are being realigned in DMO as the Systems Project Offices (SPO) are reorganised. Lieutenant Colonel Jon Hill is now firmly back in Armaments SPO and we will benefit from having DGLD, DMO and LCARTY all working together again. The Chief of Army's initiative on strengthening the Army is giving the Gunners much to think about and to work up networked outcomes. The networking of our observers, CPs and gunlines will multiply our effects and when combined with improved munitions will drive our future.

The uses of lethal, non-lethal and lower order effects munitions are also part of the future. DSTO and other firms around the world are working furiously in these areas and we intend to tap into this area.

Trade skills and categories need some attention and the employment of the new surveillance and TA devices is causing us to rethink the OP CP trade to potentially find a better method of training and employment. If we are not careful we can overburden the OP CPs and not reward them appropriately. The CATC Trade Policy team and LCARTY are cooperating on these issues now. The introduction into service of more high tech kit is forcing our hand and we need to move quickly on these issues.

Land Command Artillery Heirarchy 2004	
CLCA	COL Steve Goltz
MG	WO1 Phil Matthysen
SO1 Arty (COFS)	LTCOL Cam Gee
SO2 OS	MAJ Glenn McPhee
SO2 GBAD	MAJ Gary Down
SO3 OS	CAPT Lachlan Burg
SO3 OS DEV	CAPT Lachlan Searle
WO1 STA	WO1 Marty Gowling

*Warrant Officer Class One D.B. Callaghan
Master Gunner Land Command Artillery*

I once again look back on another very busy, but rewarding year. Since taking up the appointment as MG LCARTY in January, LCARTY has been involved in a number of projects over the year. Transafe (Detachment and Stores Modules), the replacement of the Intercom Set Gun Control and Artillery Orientating System (AOS).

Deployments

This year has seen Gunners deployed to almost every hotspot around the world doing very difficult and demanding tasks. Those members who were fortunate enough to be deployed produced very good results that others strive to emulate. I take this time to congratulate all those members on a job well done. The current Operational Tempo has given the RAA great opportunities to enhance our skills in a diverse range of activities. The wide range of tasks that the RAA has undertaken over recent years is testament to the training, professionalism and initiative of RAA soldiers, and the high regard in which the RAA is held throughout the Army. These deployments provide a valuable contribution to the knowledge base for the Regiment

Ceremonial

On the ceremonial aspects, the Regiment has provided salute support to Australia Day, Queens Birthday, swearing in of the Governor General of Australia and State Governor of Queensland, a State Funeral and a visit from the Prince of Thailand, to name a few. The Regiment has also provided support to numerous unit birthday parades etc.

2003 Ceremonial Activities			
19 Feb 03	Darwin	8/12 Mdm Regt	Bombing of Darwin
26 Jan 03	Brisbane	105 Fd Bty	Australia Day
07 Jun 03	Brisbane	105 Fd Bty	Queens Birthday
29 Jul 03	Brisbane	105 Fd Bty	Qld Governor Departure
29 Jul 03	Brisbane	105 Fd Bty	Qld Governor Swearing In
26 Jan 03	Sydney	7 Fd Regt	Australia Day
07 Jun 03	Sydney	7 Fd Regt	Queens Birthday
26 Jan 03	Perth	7 Fd Bty	Australia Day
07 Jun 03	Hobart	7 Fd Bty	Queens Birthday
08 Jun 03	Canberra	7 Fd Bty	Queens Birthday
11 Aug 03	Canberra	7 Fd Bty	Governor General Swearing In
29 Sep 03	Perth	7 Fd Bty	Queens Birthday
21 Aug 03	Canberra	48 Fd Bty	Crown Prince of Thailand
30 Aug 03	Hobart	16 Fd Bty	WW1 Digger State Funeral

Visits

Due to limited funding within the branch I have only managed to visit a limited number of units over the year. During my visits in both the field and barracks environments I have been very impressed with the standard of the WO, both Senior and Junior NCO's and the high morale of the soldiers. A soldier well trained and well led is a valuable soldier.

Monthly Sitrep

I would like to thank those units who contributed to the Sitrep thought out the year. The Sitrep is a great tool to keep the larger RAA community up to date on what is happening within the Corps.

Conclusion

For those who are being posted enjoy your new challenge. For those of you who are being promoted congratulations and enjoy the next step in a very rewarding career. May the next 12 months be as productive, successful and safe as the last, take care and good gunnery.

16th Air Defence Regiment

The 16th Air Defence Regiment has had a busy year. The unit's first significant commitment was in March with both missile batteries deploying on field training exercises (FTXs). 110th Air Defence Battery deployed to the Woomera Prohibited Area on Exercise Raptor's Run to conduct a Detachment/Troop/Battery build-up exercise to practise and establish deployment drills and procedures. Limited air commitment was provided by the RAAF, which added to the success of the activity. 111th Air Defence Battery deployed to Hunter Valley, NSW (Singleton, RAAF Williamtown, and Merriwa) on Exercise Northern Hopeful and conducted a Troop level exercise to practise deployment drills and procedures. Additional all arms training was conducted at Singleton. The RAAF provided significant air support from a full range of platforms flying out of Williamtown and Amberley. Both exercises were extremely successful.



Bombardier James Bennett, 111th Air Defence Battery, participated in attacks against RBS70 sites as a passenger in a Hawk fighter trainer.

This year the Regiment has had personnel on four operational commitments. The Ground Based Air Defence (GBAD) Troop aboard the HMAS Kanimbla on Operation Falconer performed very well, providing Air Defence to the ship, as well as a wide variety of other tasks.

The contingent of 23 personnel embarked aboard HMAS Kanimbla returned in July. Unfortunately they missed the Welcome Home Parade in Perth during June, however 19 members of the Regiment from previous contingents attended the march and appreciated the warm response they received. The unit also supported other ADF Operations with members deployed on Operation Pomelo in Ethiopia, Operation Citadel in East Timor and Operation Mazurka in the Sinai. 16th Air Defence Regiment also provided a contingent for Operation Relex, who worked out of Darwin for 3 months. Five members participated on Exercise Long Look. These personnel were based in the UK and Germany and exercised in many European countries as well as North America.

Other training opportunities have ensured that the remainder of the Regiment has been kept busy. The Regiment participated in the Command Post Exercises Silicon Brolga and Vital Prospect and had a large contingent on the Five Powers Defence Agreement FTX (Exercise Flying Fish) in Kuantan, Malaysia.

June was a significant month for the GBAD capability with the unit completing a demanding Ministerial-directed Output Evaluation and the signing of two contracts to enhance the GBAD capability. The first of these was signed by the Minister for Defence with Saab Systems for the provision of additional RBS-70 to be delivered to the Regiment from 2005. This \$83 million contract will provide four complete Troops of new RBS-70, upgrade the extant systems and provide a network enabled, digital data linked command and control systems for RBS-70. The second contract, signed on 26 June between the Commonwealth and Tenix, is in the range of \$10 million and will provide an Advanced Air Defence Simulator (commonly known as a Dome Trainer) to be built at the unit. Construction of the AADS will commence this year for delivery in 2004. This capability (originally started in 1976!) will provide a state of the art facility to practice and assess GBAD detachments in an immersive environment and is eagerly awaited by the unit.

In July, 110th Air Defence Battery undertook their annual pilgrimage to Woomera to conduct the Rapier Live Fire Exercise (LFX). Twenty missiles were fired with a success rate of 85%. The majority of these were direct hits on the towed target. The high success rates were attributed to the new tracker-trainer recently provided to the unit as part of the final upgrade of the Rapier system.

August and September brought Exercise Crocodile 03 in Shoalwater Bay Training Area. 110th Air Defence Battery conducted an area defence of the 2nd Cavalry Battle group, whilst a Troop Group from 111th Air Defence Battery provided a point defence to HMAS Kanimbla and for 3rd Brigade. Although (as usual) a long drive the exercise was a great opportunity for personnel of the Regiment to integrate closely with all elements of the ADF in the Army's major annual exercise.

The Regiment has been a popular destination this year with visits from the Foreign Minister, Minister for Defence, Land Commander, Chief of Staff Land Command and recently the Chief of Army.

The Regiment has retained its high training and operational tempo throughout the year. As the Army re-emphasises the importance of conventional operations, demand is high for the specialist skills provided by the unit and its members. All in all 16th Air Defence Regiment is in good shape and is looking forward to more challenges next year.



MEDIA RELEASE

SENATOR THE HON ROBERT HILL

Minister for Defence

Leader of the Government in the Senate

Friday, 23 May 2003

67/2003

MAJOR AIR DEFENCE BOOST FOR AUSTRALIA

The Federal Government has today signed an \$83 million contract to dramatically boost Australia's ground based air defence capability.

The contract with Saab Systems Australia is to supply short-range laser guided missile systems to the Australian Army which will effectively double Australia's ground based air defence capability operating out of Woodside 16th Air Defence Regiment in South Australia.

Minister for Defence Robert Hill said the Government has agreed to purchase additional RBS70 weapons systems and Portable Search and Target Acquisition Radars. The project will also upgrade the existing RBS70 systems and replace the Rapier systems.

"The RBS70 is the most modern man-portable Short Range Air Defence system available in the world. It offers very effective protection against low level aircraft and helicopters and its laser rangefinder and optical sighting system is immune to radar jamming," Senator Hill said.

"A version of the system has been in service with the Australian Army for 15 years. A troop of about 24 personnel is currently on operation in the Persian Gulf providing point air defence to HMAS Kanimbla and will return to Australia in July."

Saab Systems is an Adelaide-based company specialising in high technology military systems and has very good track record in a number of significant Defence projects in Australia and overseas. It currently employs about 250 people, and this contract will generate up to 10 full time additional positions.

The RBS70 weapon systems will be supplied by Saab Bofors Dynamics of Sweden. This will be integrated with surveillance and target acquisition radar supplied by Lockheed Martin in the United States. A new command and control system will be developed by Saab Systems Australia to more effectively manage and integrate Australia's ground based air defence systems.

"While the weapon launchers and radars will be manufactured overseas, the prime contract with the Adelaide-based Saab Systems will provide opportunities for local industry involvement, particularly in the production and through life support for the Command and Control System," Senator Hill said.

"This latest contract will complement other developments in air defence, including the forthcoming construction of a RBS70 simulator system at Woodside to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of soldier air defence training.

"It will also deliver another of the Government's White Paper promises and will ensure that the Army maintains a credible short range air defence capability when the aging Rapier system reaches the end of its life from around mid 2005."

Media contacts

Sascha Meldrum

Deanna Nott

(Senator Hill)

(Defence)

08 8237 7920

0409 034 241

0417 887 040

www.defence.gov.au

Keeping the sky safe

By Pte John Wellfare

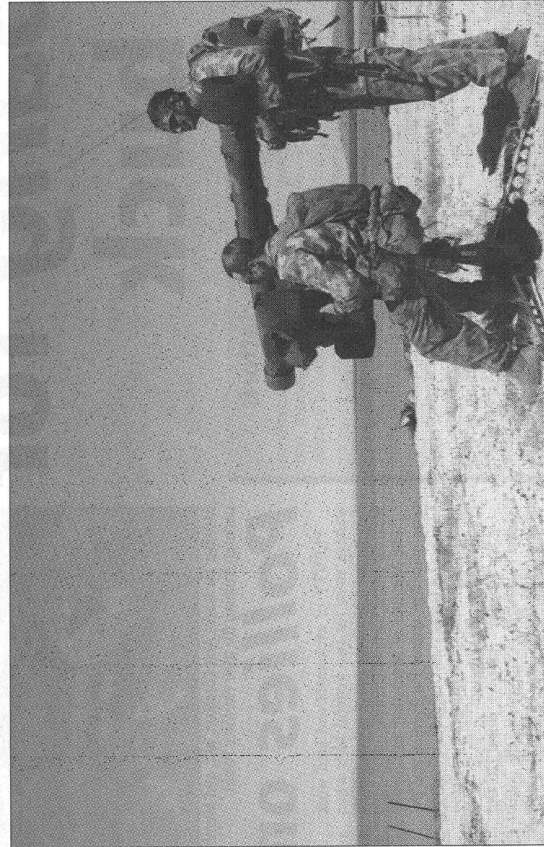
GUNNERS from 111 AD Bty made up a major portion of the air defence capacity for Croc 03, providing platforms on Navy ships, on the coast at Sabina Point and later at Williamson airfield.

With recent deployments to the Middle East on board Navy vessels and heavy participation in major regional exercises such as Ex Flying Fish earlier this year, the air defence capability is proving to be one of the Army's most deployed.

Troop SM 111 AD Bty, WO2 Brendan Fox, said the highly mobile units were regularly deployed to provide air defence for Navy vessels.

"Over the last two weeks we've been deployed on HMAS Kanimbla, providing air defence for that as we sailed with it from Townsville and we did an amphibious landing off it to Sabina Point," he said.

Following the capture of Williamson airfield, 111 AD Bty was deployed to provide air defence around the airstrip and returned home prior to the commencement of live firing.



Gnr Damien Sariks and Bdr James Bennett, 111 AD Bty, keep a lookout for hostile aircraft around Sabina Point with their RBS-70.
Photo by Pte John Wellfare, Army newspaper

1st Field Regiment

Introduction

Two operational deployments, several major exercises and the gradual implementation of medium guns; the Premier Regiment has had a busy and demanding year. Due to the gradual manning decline as a consequence of the SED Review, the emphasis was placed on multi-skilled soldiering. The beginning of 2003 saw several integral courses conducted that involved both full-time and part-time soldiers. These courses enabled many Gunners to gain ADF Driving Codes and, likewise, the non-corps soldiers were qualified on the L119 Hamel gun. This provided greater flexibility to all elements within the Regiment especially when it came to operational deployments and the countless exercises that took place throughout the year.

April saw the Regiment involved in several ANZAC Day Ceremonies at different locations as well as a Regimental Parade through the centre of Brisbane. During May the officers and soldiers conducted the annual Regimental Birthday Parade. Celebrations continued into the evening at the famous 'Gabba' Cricket Ground with a Regimental Dinner that was attended by the Deputy Chief of Army, Major General F.X. Roberts, AM. During the month of June 105th Field Battery fired a 21 Gun Salute at South Bank to commemorate our Captain General, Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II's Birthday. The event was a great success with several hundred spectators witnessing the thunder of the guns as the report echoed throughout the streets of Brisbane.



Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel S, (Don) Roach leading the Premier Regiment

Towards the end of June and early July the Regiment deployed on Exercise Premier Gunner at Shoalwater Bay Training Area (SWBTA). Numerous HE coupled with smoke, illumination and WP rounds were fired over the period of the exercise which provided excellent training for all participants. Several concurrent activities were also conducted including the 'CO's Challenge'

which consisted of a forced march, gun push, fire mission, small arms live fire exercise and river crossing.

The following months consisted of a number of significant events including the deployment of members of 105th Field Battery on Operation Citadel as part of the 6th Battalion RAR rotation. During the month of August, the Regiment was granted the Freedom of Entry to the City of Ipswich and following that, elements of 1st Field Regiment deployed on Exercise Crocodile 03. The Premier Regiment was involved in several aspects of Exercise Crocodile 03 including a select faction engaged with the DPRAC element.

As 2004 looms in the not too distant future, the Regiment will once again be tested in a number of diverse roles including the transition to a medium regiment and significant contributions towards Operation Relix. As to be expected, all members of the Regiment will hungrily embrace these challenges, as well as any other thrown at them, with their tradition, professionalism and dedication to the task at hand.

Headquarters Battery

The Regiment's only integrated (full-time and part-time) Battery has continued to provide an Operations and Training coordination function together with its role of providing all forms of combat service support to the Regiment.

The ARA staff in the Battery's diverse functional areas have performed all of their tasks to their customary high standards this year and the part-time elements have been instrumental in augmenting HQ Battery's capability both in barracks and deployed on exercises. Recruiting this year has increased and the Transport Troop has seen a significant increase in its part-time personnel numbers.

Headquarters Battery deployed the Regimental echelon and combined JOSCC/RCP on Exercise Cold Start in February and the annual Regimental Exercise, Premier Gunner 03 in July. The exercises provided excellent training for all Battery members and the Catering Troop surpassed its already high reputation with a range of culinary delights served up from its large but expertly camouflaged field kitchen.

In September 03 several elements of the Battery including the operations oell, transport, signals and Q store deployed throughout September on Exercise Crocodile 03 to provide the core group of the exercise DPRAC organisation. All performed well on this laborious yet vital task to ensure the safe running of the exercise.

Overall, the year has been another busy one but all elements, both full-time and part-time, have worked very well to achieve the Battery's mission. All are looking forward to a well-earned break over the summer leave period.

13th /104th Field Battery

This year has been one of significant change for 13th and 104th Field Batteries, due to manning limitations within their respective areas (Brisbane - Caboolture). The Batteries have combined to enhance their ability to provide fire support. The transition to one Call Sign has been made easier by the many combined activities conducted by the Batteries in recent years and the attitude of all concerned to see the Battery grow in strength. The combining of the Batteries is expected to be one of a short nature as both depots are actively recruiting new members.

The Battery, commanded by Major Matthew Wilson, has quickly settled into the busy training schedule that is the life of a reservist within 1st Field Regiment. The first activity for the year, Exercise Cold Start, saw the Battery conduct a Regimental LFX at Wide Bay Training Area (WBTA). The exercise provided the Battery an opportunity to shake out as a Call Sign and set realistic and achievable goals for the year. The Battery, has provided a JOSCC, 2 x JOSTs, a CP and 3 x Guns throughout the year allowing for realistic training. The Battery has conducted many and varied activities throughout the year ranging from providing a salute gun to commence the Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race to Adventure Training.

Overall, 13th/104th Field Battery has had a very good baptism of fire in its first year as a combined Battery. To all that helped the successful combining well done, to those who have moved onto the ARA or other field's thank you.

41st Field Battery

Major Andrew Fleming, a senior stockbroker in his civilian career, ably led 41st Field Battery for a second year. The Battery has depots located at Southport and Ipswich, and is able to draw on the population of both cities for recruiting purposes.

The Battery has had a busy year, both in terms of field firing exercises and public relations and recruiting activities. The Battery has deployed on numerous weekend firing exercises to WBTA and deployed to SWBTA for the Regiment's Annual Firing Exercise, Premier Gunner 2003. In addition to practicing the Battery's core business, the Battery has been busy fulfilling its recruiting commitments, with the Southport Depot holding an open day in April, and the Battery exercising the Freedom of the City of Ipswich, after its granting to the Regiment in August. Both activities reinforced 41st Field Battery's presence in the respective locations, and fulfilled the Battery's recruiting plan.

41st Field Battery Southport depot is ideally sited at Commercial Drive, and has conference, overnight and kitchen facilities. The 41st Field Battery Ipswich Depot is located on Milord St in the heart of Ipswich City.

105th Field Battery

This year was a very demanding year for 105th Field Battery. The year has seen competing and at times conflicting training priorities for the sub-unit, however, through constant management all training objectives are likely to be completed with a high degree of success. The significant operational preparation and training activities have been:

Operation Citadel. The Battery was required to raise, train and deploy a CIMIC organisation to provide support for 6th Battalion RAR in Timor Leste. The CIMIC Team is expected to remain in country for up to 9 months. The CIMIC Group was raised from the Battery CLOG. Training of the CIMIC Teams & the CIMIC HQ Element was conducted throughout the year in a series of exercises that culminated in Exercise Timor Dusk 03 in which the remainder of the Battery deployed to WBTA to act as role players. The CIMIC Group, lead by Major Griffith Thomas, deployed on 30 September with the remainder of the group deploying on 13 October. The officers and soldiers of the 105 CIMIC Group will rotate out of theatre, most on posting, being replaced by the succeeding Battery Commander, Major Peter Monks, and others from within the Battery.

Corps Skills and ARTEP. The Battery continued to train in our artillery corps skills with three Battery level exercises and the Regimental exercise, Exercise Premier Gunner 03. The exercises were sequenced to provide a gradual development of skill culminating in an ARTEP, conducted during Exercise Premier Gunner 03 in July.

Exercise Crocodile 03. The Battery deployed on Exercise Crocodile 03 to initially support OPFOR, this provided a rare opportunity for the gun line to work closely with the CLOG from 103rd Medium Battery. During the live fire phase elements from the Battery reinforced the 108th Field Battery gunline.

Operation Relex. 105th Field Battery is currently preparing for the deployment on Operation Relex in late January 2004.

4th Field Regiment

The year has been a very busy one for 4th Field Regiment, like most units in the 3rd Brigade we have been involved in numerous operations and multinational exercises. From individual rotations to Iraq, Bougainville and the Balkans; the continued Civil Military Cooperation (CIMIC) involvement in East Timor; the rapid deployment to the Solomon Islands and commitment to Operation Relex. Through all of this 4th Field Regiment has continued with the training objectives set for the year culminating in a reduced but committed involvement in Exercise Crocodile 03.

Operations

The Regiment has had numerous personnel deployed on operations during the year. The Battalion Joint Offensive Support Coordination Centres (JOSCCs) and Joint Offensive Support Teams (JOSTs) of 107th and 108th Field Battery's continued to support their respective Battalions by deploying in the CIMIC role. Firstly, 107th Field Battery which deployed with the 1st Battalion in its rotation to East Timor. The rapid deployment to the Solomon Islands during Operation Anode, saw 108th Field Battery once again called on to support the 2nd Battalion.

The Regiment provided personnel for individual deployments to various other operational theatres during the year. A captain was seconded to the Special Operations Group Iraq during Operation Falconer, two majors rotated through Headquarters Peace Keeping Force, East Timor and later another captain to Operation Osier in the Balkans. The Regiment deployed members in support of Operation Relex during the end of the year. Although vital to success of the respective operations the Regiment did not lose focus of our primary role, and emphasised the varied role that Artillery performs throughout the spectrum of conflict.

Exchanges

During the year 4th Field Regiment was a participant in two exchanges. Two Forward Observers deployed on Exercise Long Look to the United Kingdom. This provided an excellent opportunity to develop an understanding of British and NATO organisations. The members were also given the opportunity to deploy to the Falkland Islands on a gunnery exercise. Another JOST deployed with one of the 1st Battalion's companies on exchange to Hawaii.

Gunnery Training

Given the large number of Regimental members away on operations at any one time during the year it would have been easy to lose focus on training. However, hard work and commitment has provided the Regiment rewarding training outcomes. The Regiment started the year with Exercise Sharp Start, designed to concentrate on gunnery skills at all levels, and prepare the Regiment technically for the year.

Exercise Chau Pha conducted in May focused on warfighting. The Regiment was able to execute Entry by Air and Sea Operations into a fictitious country, this rehearsal provided the opportunity to consolidate and modify procedures as required. It gave the Regiment its first experience of advanced practices for the year, essential training given the year to come.

108th Field Battery supported the 2nd Battalion Live Fire Exercise (LFX), Exercise Black Widow, which allowed all companies from the Battalion to experience the effects of artillery in both the attack and the defence within peace time constraints, at Danger Close distances. This provided invaluable experience for both the gunline, JOST's and supported arm.

Exercise Crocodile 03 although reduced due to the political climate was again a success in developing the inter-operability between the United States and Australia. A Field Battery continued its support to the 3rd Battalion deploying five guns by parachute into Shoal Water

Bay Training Area (SWBTA). This was the largest gun parachute drop by the Battery to date. This exercise also saw several airmobile operations being conducted at short notice. Of particular note was the success of 108th Field Battery's airmobile off the HMAS Kanimbla, where Uni-mogs were flown off for the first time in many years. The successful establishment of the Brigade JOST was confirmed on this exercise, with a large proportion of the real time intelligence being provided by the two parties. Exercise Crocodile 03 culminated in a complex live fire activity. During this phase of the exercise A Field Battery and 108th Field Battery provided support to the 3rd Battalion LFX. It provided an excellent opportunity to prove the capability the Light Gun can provide to light infantry. 4th Field Regiment also fired in support of the 3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade (MEB) and was augmented by the 3 MEB guns in support of a simulated 3rd Brigade deliberate attack.

Other Military Operations Training

Conducted in March, Exercise Coral proved to be an excellent opportunity for the Regiment to focus on its infantry skills. This exercise saw trying conditions for both staff and participants, and culminated in a section level competition on the final day held at Lavarack Barracks. It can be too easy to forget that although we are Gunners by trade we are soldiers first and foremost and these skills must be trained or they will be lost.

Restructure

2003 marked the first year of the new Regimental structure. At the end of 2002 Headquarter Battery was divided into Operational Support (Ops Spt) and Combat Services Support (CSS) Battery's. The former comprising the Regimental Command Post, Operations Cell, Signals, Survey and Brigade JOSTs. CSS Battery took control of all non-Corps skills as well as the logistic planning component of the Regiment. This concept has aided the Regiment in its logistic streamlining. Conversely, the Operations cell has been able to concentrate on the planning and given the Operations Officer greater freedom of action in his ability to forward plan for the Regiment.

Sport

With the hectic pace of the Regiment this year Brigade sport suffered. The Regiment however did distinguish itself in several arenas. The Regimental AFL side played in the grand final, but unfortunately succumbed to the opposition, with over half the side either deployed overseas or on exercise. The Regimental Cricket side had better luck, winning their grand final at the start of the year.

Ceremonial

It is 2003 that marks the 60th anniversary of the airborne landing at Nadzab, by the members of the 2/4th Field Regiment. On the 11th of October the Regiment held a Family Open day to mark the occasion. During the festivities the Regiment was presented with a 25 Pounder Short, like the guns used in 1943. It is fitting that in the 60th year since the first RAA guns were dropped under parachute, that the most guns ever dropped by an RAA unit were dropped by A Field Battery during Exercise Crocodile 03.

Conclusion

With the focus clearly on warfighting scenarios the Regiment has again proven itself capable of performing its mission in support of the 3rd Brigade.

► Battery charger 4 Fd Regt in the field

By Pte John Wellfare

PROVIDING indirect fire-support to the highly-deployable light-infantry units of 3 Bde is no easy task for 4 Fd Regt, which often has to keep track of small groups of soldiers spread across a large battle-front.

Maintaining three gun batteries, 4 Fd Regt relies – much like the units it supports – on concealment and mobility to maintain its effectiveness on the battlefield.

4 Fd Regt CP signaller, LBrdr Mark Taylor, said the unit comprised three gun batteries, two of which were deployed on Croc 03.

"4 Fd Regt comprises 108 Fd Bty and A Fd Bty, which are both deployed on the exercise, as well as 107 Fd Bty, which isn't actually deployed," he said.

"A Fd Bty is situated in Sydney with 3RAR [as an element of the Parachute Battalion Group], but they are actually part of 4 Fd Regt.

"There's also CSS battery, which is

the admin, echelon and q-store, we also have Op Support Battery, which is mainly comprised of signallers and locaters."

Leading 108 Fd Bty, Battery Captain Capt Daniel Robinson, said the battery's deployment on Croc 03 was predominantly in support of 3RAR, the major light-infantry component of the exercise.

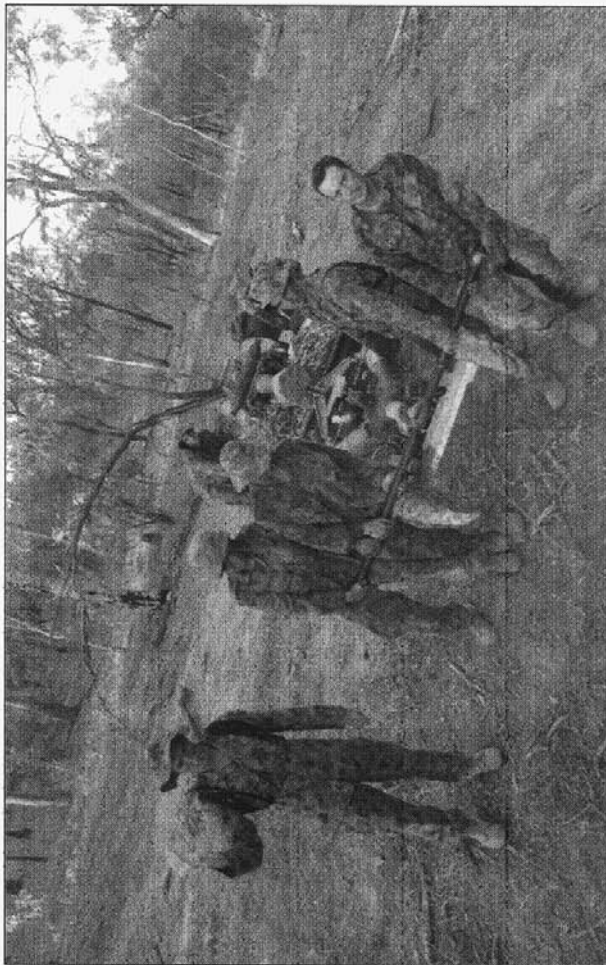
"We were air-moved from the Kamimula by Blackhawks and Chinooks into a gun position just in from the coast," he said.

"Basically, we set up there, established our perimeter and once we'd done that and gone firm on the ground, we just went on with any fire missions that were sent down to us.

"We have done some fire missions in support of the A Fd Bty FOs who were supporting 3RAR."

After the securing of Williamson Airfield, 108 Fd Bty provided fire support for both 3RAR's defensive position and 1 Bde's push south to destroy enemy positions.

The battery also took part in the live-fire exercise that concluded Croc 03.



Above: Bdr Craig Peet, 108 Fd Bty, directs a gun tractor towards his 105mm Howitzer.



Below: 108 Fd Regt Gns Andrew Pelly and Brendan Lewis take up fire positions to protect their gun tractor during a short halt.

Photos by Pte John Wellfare, Army newspaper



LBdr Craig Hartnett and Sgt Bill Thurley with the newly restored Intrepid, back better than ever at 4 Fd Regt.

Photo by Cpl Jason Weeding, 1JPAU(P)

Big bang back even better

By Sgt Bill Thurley

NO STRANGER to the deserts of the Middle East, a gun called Intrepid has been restored by 4 Fd Regt members and many other dedicated and zealous gun history buffs.

Operation Exporter was the name given to the restoration project – also the code name for the Australian-lead invasion of Syria in June 1941.

The famous 7 Div, 2AIF, including 2/4th Aust Fd Regt, undertook the operation to remove the Vichy French from controlling

the gateway to the oil fields of Persia and opening up the fields to the Germans.

Prior to the invasion of Syria the 2/4th Aust Fd Regt took on charge 24 new 25-pounders for the operation.

Ten years ago a former member of the 2/4th, Eddie Cave identified and verified one of the guns in the regiment as one of those original guns used in Syria.

The gun, until last year, had sat for over 34 years in front of the guardroom with little or no maintenance.

Unlike the other guns in the reg-

iment this one was made in England and the service date stamped on the recoil gives more weight to its authenticity, date and place of issue.

The ammunition limber was the worst for wear and required the most work. The limber had no wheels or axles fitted and the ammunition box, roof and base were badly rusted.

The 25 pounder field gun and ammunition limber was presented to 4 Fd Regt on behalf of the 2/4th Aust Fd Regt on St Barbara's day in December 2002.

7th Field Regiment

2003 has been a very busy but productive year for 7th Field Regiment. In January the unit welcomed a new Adjutant, Training Warrant Officer, Sergeant Major Instructor Gunnery 28th Field Battery, Chief Clerk and Quartermaster. This occurred in conjunction with the running of an Advance Gunners Course at Dee Why and the firing of a 21gun salute for the Australia Day celebrations from Garden Island. On 26 January, the Australia Day Council awarded Gunner Damien Jeffreys an Australia Day Medallion for dedication to his duties at 28th Field Battery.

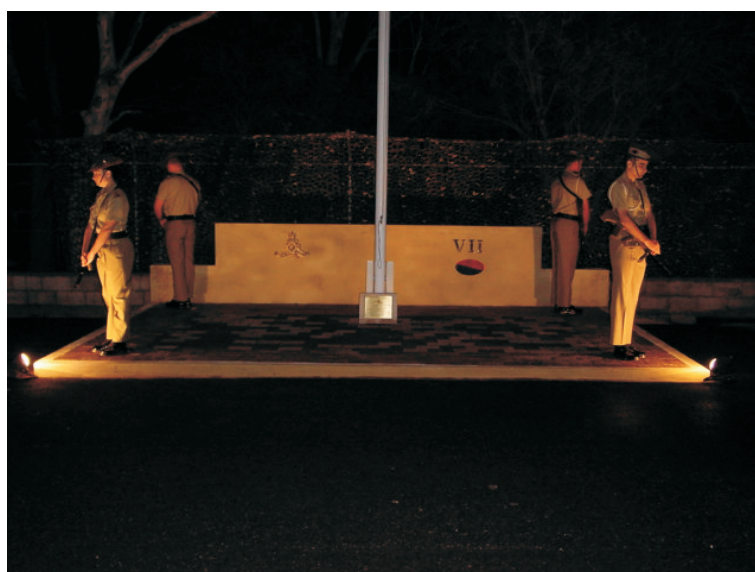
In February, the unit conducted a Gunner Module 1 and 2 course at Singleton and we qualified several personnel on an 8th Brigade run drivers course.

On 15 March, the unit held a dinner to celebrate its' 87th birthday at the Dee Why depot. The dinner was attended by Commander 2nd Division, Commander Land Command Artillery and Master Gunner Land Command. Over the course of the night, WO2 Darren Deeble was awarded a Divisional Commanders Commendation for his service as SMIG 113th Field Battery.

Since the initial courses period we transitioned into our monthly live firing schedule. Exercise Armentieres was conducted on 29 - 30 March at Singleton Range and the gunlines performance was pleasing after a relatively long hiatus since the last live round was fired in November 2002. Unfortunately, the annual support the unit traditionally provides to the Forward Air Controllers Course did not proceed due to the cancellation of the course.

The Regiment conducted its inaugural Anzac Day dawn service commemoration at 28th Field Battery in Dee Why, utilising a new memorial constructed by the SNCO's and JNCO's. Well supported by members of the Regiment, the day proved to be a great success. The unit also provided several catafalque parties over the Sydney and Newcastle regions to assist RSL clubs in the running of their dawn services.

The unit conducted a small arms weekend at Holsworthy Barracks on 3 - 4 May, including the qualification of 40 personnel on the F1 and F3 grenade. Further live fire activities, being Exercise Mericourt in May and Exercise Broodseinde in June were of real benefit in terms of consolidating the basic gunnery skills of unit personnel. By this stage in the year the unit was



Dawn Service at 28th Field Battery, Dee Why

consistently fielding three guns, a Command Post and a JOST for all of its exercises. As an adjunct to tactical training, the unit was also tasked to fire the 21 gun salute to commemorate the Queens Birthday on 7 June from North Head. An appreciative public witnessed the salute.

The Regiment held another Courses Camp over the period 5 - 20 July. An SCCC and Detachment Commanders course was completed at Holsworthy and was also attended by members from 23rd Field Regiment and A Field Battery. Additionally, the Regiment conducted Module 1 of the ROBC at Puckapunyal with support offered from the School of Artillery for use of their instructional facilities. This course succeeded in qualifying 12 junior officers from a broad range of 1st and 2nd Division units.



Queens Birthday Salute Fired from North Head

While acting as the Operator Supply for the ROBC, Private Graham Atkinson was given notice to deploy to IRAQ on Operation Catalyst. Private Atkinson will be deployed for a period of six months.

Exercise Menin Road was held at Singleton over the weekend 2 - 3 August. The activity was designed to provide lead up training to prepare 30 unit personnel for the forecast reinforcement of 4th Field Regiment during Exercise Crocodile 03. It is intended that the unit test the ability of its trade qualified personnel to individually reinforce ARA units as required during periods of operational deployment. If the activity proves to be successful, it is hoped the unit can continue providing soldiers for 1st Division major exercises and deployments.

After the completion of Exercise Crocodile 03 in September, the Regiment plans to conduct a live fire exercise in October, followed by an ARTEP on 28 - 30 November at Singleton. The Regiment is also providing two sections to make up elements of the 8 Brigade Reserve Reaction Force and is planning to send soldiers to assist with security tasks over the duration of the Rugby World Cup.

An often over looked area of importance when measuring the role of the GRES is that of transfers to the ARA. 7th Field Regiment has provided 38 trained soldiers that have transferred to the ARA over the last 12 months. While this affects our own operational capability, it is of particular benefit to the Corps ongoing effectiveness.

Regimental Hierarchy 2003	
LTCOL John Wilson RFD	Commanding Officer
WO1 Robert Thompson	Regimental Sergeant Major
MAJ Samuel Nicholson (RAAC)	Second In Command
CAPT Andrew Keogh	Adjutant
WO2 Glenn Ryan	TRG WO
WO2 Darren Deeble	SMIG 113 Bty
WO2 Keith Hall	SMIG 28 Bty

The end of 2003 will see a number of key personnel depart the Regiment. In January 2004, the CO, LTCOL J.V. Wilson is due to hand over to LTCOL J.H. Gunn, after two years at the helm. The RSM, WO1 R. Thompson is posted to 4th Field Regiment and will hand over to WO1 G. Metcalf.

The Regiment looks forward to future challenges in 2004.

8th/12th Medium Regiment

Foreword

2003 has been another eventful year for 8th /12th Medium Regiment. The Regiment has seen its soldiers deployed to East Timor, Rifle Company Butterworth and as part of security operations with the RAN. Along with these operational commitments we have also focussed hard on improving our individual readiness and readiness procedures.

The year has also seen significant developments in the integration of BCSS and the successful incorporation of the Sensor to Shooter system within the Regiment. This has significantly improved our offensive support capability and utility to the supported arm. This system has the capability for much wider use throughout the RAA and the Army.

The Regiment has worked very hard to ensure innovative and effective training despite ammunition shortages. Happily these shortages appear to be on the way to resolution. Some sterling work has been done on the Regiment's equipment by our Technical Support Troop and 1 CSSB, with serviceability targets being exceeded prior to our deployment on Exercise Crocodile 03.

Individual and team efforts on the sporting field were also a highlight of the year. The Regiment has built upon the successes of 2002 and established itself as a formidable force in a range of sporting events. The Regiment's teams displayed skill, teamwork, esprit-de-corps and individual accomplishments were recognised by selection of soldiers for regional and national level sporting teams.

After another busy year, culminating in the successful provision of offensive support to the 1st Brigade on Exercises Predator's Gallop 03 and Crocodile 03, the Regiment looks forward to its 30th anniversary in November and is well postured make 2004 a very successful year.

Headquarters Battery

2003 has been a year of challenges and opportunities for the soldiers of Headquarters Battery. From participating in such diverse activities as operational deployments, exercises, sporting endeavours and supporting the gun batteries, Headquarters Battery personnel have proven themselves both enthusiastic and professional.

The year commenced with a much-depleted Battery, due predominantly to personnel deployed to East Timor and Rifle Company Butterworth. Those remaining behind showed their capacity for increased workload by ensuring the expected level of support to the Regiment was achieved.

Members of the Battery, in addition to supporting the Regiment's sub-units, also provided personnel to support Brigade activities, in particular command post exercises in the provision of signallers and ACV crewmen. Throughout these exercises Headquarters Battery personnel achieved a reputation of dependability and expertise, further enhancing the high reputation of the Regiment within the Brigade.

As deployed personnel commenced their return to work, the emphasis within the Battery changed to meet the challenges of preparing for deployment to Shoalwater Bay and the buildup to participation in Exercise Crocodile 03.

Exercise Crocodile 03 proved to be a considerable success for both Headquarters Battery and the Regiment. Such success was largely attributable to the efforts of the Regimental Operations Cell, Technical Support Troop, Q Store, Transport Troop and members of the Signals Troop. Special mention goes to the Caterers for their efforts throughout.

2003 has proven a successful year for Headquarters Battery. Many members have had the opportunity to deploy on operational deployments whilst the Battery has proven itself in the

provision of support to the Regiment. All members of the Battery have worked hard throughout the year to ensure this success and should be proud of their accomplishments.

101st Medium Battery

2003 has seen 101st Medium Battery continue to grow and establish itself within the 1st Brigade. The Commanding Officer started the year with clear guidance of what he wanted to achieve: 'to have no member of the 1st Brigade deploy on exercise or operations without being given support by the 8th/12th Medium Regiment'.

The JOSTs immediately commenced work at achieving this task, developing an excellent rapport with the manoeuvre units within the Brigade. For the gunline and the CP, the beginning of the year focussed primarily on gaining weapon qualifications. A gruelling IMT exercise gave everyone a chance to qualify on the F1 grenade, 66mm, 84mm, and MAG 58. This exercise gave many of the soldiers' exposure to an assortment of weapon systems they had yet to operate.

The next major activity was a Battery LFX, giving many new soldiers, just off their M198 conversion course, the chance to see how a medium battery really works. This exercise was an excellent opportunity to develop SOP's used to good effect on subsequent activities, including the ubiquitous ARTEP.

The campaign period started off in August with a Regimental LFX and ARTEP in conjunction with the Stage 6 live fire activities of the 1st Armoured Regiment and 2nd Cavalry Regiment. At its conclusion we commenced Exercise Crocodile 03 and had the opportunity to display our professionalism and combat abilities as part of the Army's offensive manoeuvre capability.

Exercise Crocodile 03 was a success not only for the Battery but also the Regiment. The basis of our success was the many valuable lessons we had learned throughout the year. The standards set by our hierarchy were met with enthusiasm and the support from such Headquarter Battery elements as Technical Support Troop. Most important to the success of the Battery however was our soldiers, who bore the brunt of all difficulties that they faced with a smile, a quick-witted remark and an intense desire to achieve the best results in difficult circumstances. Well done Gunners and thanks for a good year.

103rd Medium Battery

The beginning of 2003 was slightly disrupted for 103rd Medium Battery. The majority of the Battery was not on deck until early June due to deployment commitments on Operation Citadel as part of AUSBATT VII and the remainder of the Battery deployed to Malaysia as Rifle Company Butterworth, Rotation 61 (RCB 61).

The members on Operation Citadel deployed on 15 October 2002 and returned to Australia on 8 and 12 May 2003. Whilst deployed the members of the Battery were employed in various roles including Civil Military Liaison and the operation of specialist surveillance and observation equipment. AUSBATT VII also commenced the progressive disengagement of the AUSBATT. This meant that the CMA Teams took on other tasks including liaison at battalion level, smaller CMA Detachments at company level and a wider range of tasks for CMA elements within companies. The deployment of AUSBATT VII was very successful and the 103 elements were praised for their involvement and commitment.

RCB 61 was composed of the remainder of the Battery as well as attachments from the remainder of the Regiment, 1st Armoured Regiment and 2nd Cavalry Regiment and was the first completely non-Infantry company to deploy. The deployment was over the period 4 February to 8 May 2003. Whilst in Malaysia, RCB 61 undertook a variety of activities including cross training with the Malaysian and Singaporean Armed Forces, survival training, counter insurgency warfare training, ANZAC Day services in Kuala Lumpur and Hell Fire Pass and sporting events with local Malaysian teams from the Butterworth area. RCB 61's deployment was very successful. The performance and conduct of the members of the Battery throughout the deployment was praised highly by both Army and RAAF elements based in Malaysia.

As the Battery returned from its deployment commitments, the focus of training changed to rebuilding RAA trade skills, due to the fact that it had been almost 10 months since the Battery last live fired. The training was very beneficial to the members of the Battery, as the majority of them were more than happy to be able to get back to gunnery.

The Battery training culminated in the deployment to SWBTA for approximately six weeks. During this period of deployment the Battery conducted lead up training in the form of an LFX early in August and a Regimental level LFX including an ARTEP. This was followed by a Brigade level activity and culminated in Exercise Crocodile 03 where the JOSTs had an opportunity to join the mobile and ever harassing OPFOR based on 2nd Cavalry Regiment.

2003 has been an important year for the Battery. The deployment opportunities in late 2002 - early 2003 allowed the Battery to build on relations with its supported arms and the exercise period in August/September provided the opportunity to demonstrate our capability to support 8th/12th Medium Regiment operations within the Brigade.

Regimental Hierarchy 2003	
CO	LTCOL P.D. McLachlan
RSM	WO1 C. Watego
BC HQ BTY / OPSO	MAJ B.A. Wood
BSM HQ BTY	WO2 D. McGarry
BC 101 MDM BTY	MAJ N. Sweeney
BSM 101 MDM BTY	WO2 R. Morland
BC 103 MDM BTY	MAJ A. Haebich
BSM 103 MDM BTY	WO2 P. Robertson

23rd Field Regiment

2003 has been a very busy training and social year for 23rd Field Regiment. In the first half of the year the Regiment conducted two Live Firing Exercises (LFX), a general training weekend, a range practice, and a regimental maintenance weekend at Singleton, Holsworthy, Majura and home locations. Additionally, the unit supported the 2nd Division's Military Skills Competition held at Holsworthy in May and has had numerous members attend the Eastern Region Courses Camp conducted in February and individual courses. The training has been designed to include indirect and direct fire shoots, small arms practices in the WTSS and on the ranges, and IMT training. All activities have well attended and offered a variety of training to the members of the Regiment.

In the current domestic and international environment, the Army Reserve is being presented with challenges and opportunities unheard of in its history, changing the Reserves focus from defence of the continent to a broader security role focussing on overseas deployment and an increasing role in the counter-terrorism capability within Australia. This has challenged the Regiment by the introduction of the Reserve Reaction Force, for which the training has become a priority, alongside maintaining Corps skills.

The main focus for the Regiment in the equally busy second half of the year was training members for the RRF, AIRN compliance, preparation and conduct of ARTEP, support to FACDU, and our annual field exercise.

Self-sacrifice is an unacknowledged condition of service within the Army Reserve. This has been exemplified by two members of the Regiment who committed the time to complete the Supervisor Offensive Support Course and one member who completed his Subject One for Warrant Officer Course at Canungra. Congratulations, WO2 Tom Hopkins, Sergeant Brad Eade and Bombardier Bazzi for your ongoing commitment to the growth of the Regiment. In addition, 17 personnel from 11th Field Battery participated in the Sutherland to Surf Fun Run manhandling a L119 over the 11km course. This is the second year the Battery has participated in this event with a view to raising the RAA and GRES profile and ensuring a strong recruiting base is established for future.

**The Regiment celebrated its 55th birthday on the 17 of July –
Happy Birthday 23rd Field Regiment!**

7th Field Battery

August 2003 saw the culmination of a two-year focus on gunnery training and build up for the Battery's major field exercise Exercise Wewak. The exercise was designed and executed around a defence of the Northern Land and Sea approaches to the Perth metropolitan area. The changes in tactical scenario dictated the Battery's requirement to remain flexible but reactive to new and diverse intelligence as the exercise unfolded. The end state saw the Battery deploy across four western region training areas, completing AIRN shoots, CPX training, convoy training, dry and live fire deployments.

The key to the exercise was the Battery's ability to deploy over relatively long distances, mostly at night, mostly on blackouts or using night vision devices and across a number of terrain types from bitumen highway to four wheel drive tracks to sand dunes. The Battery acquitted itself well throughout all deployments and the Battery Commander's 'Lobster Route' through Muchea Training Area will be remembered for its treacherous sand / bends / and the inhospitable climate that particular night for many years to come.

Unfortunately, the Battery did not get to complete its full live fire program as planned. Extreme climatic conditions experienced at Lancelin Training Area during this phase saw the cessation of all live firing and the Battery redeployed to Bindoon Military Training Area, in an attempt to move inland away from the exposed Western coast line and the ensuing storm.

Other than the less than hospitable weather, the exercise was considered, by the Battery, a great success with three guns, a BCP, a JOST, Battery Reconnaissance, JOSCC (-), Battery support elements and a Transport Section (-) from 10 Transport Company, 13 CSSB deployed.

2003 has also seen the establishment of the 7th Field Battery website. This website has seen the Battery, its history and the wider Regimental traditions and history exposed not only to the Gunner fraternity but the wider Australian and international community. The website has been a huge success, with enquires and comment not only from Australian web browsers but also from people as far a field as, Canada and the UK. Lance Bombadier David Belson has been the driving force behind the establishment and design of the website and has recently been recognised for his work and excellence with the awarding of a Soldiers Medallion.

Like all units these days, the Battery has been exceedingly busy with the usual round of artillery and all corps training requirements and exercises. As is the growing trend across Army, the pace of the Battery's training year continues to increase as training liabilities increase and we try harder and harder to meet Corps and Army requirements. This year has been no different. The Battery has seen the Training Officer deployed to Exercise Crocodile 03, and the Battery JOSCC (-) deployed to Malaysia as part of the 11/28 Bn RWAR, Battalion Group deployment to Exercise Suman Warrior 03. The Battery also has three personnel (two lance bombardiers and a gunner) deploying to Rifle Company Butterworth over the period 3 November 2003 to 4 March 2004, as part of the 16 Bn RWAR, Company Group.

Over the past 18 months, the Battery has been proactive in developing a strong and sustainable recruiting strategy that will take us forward into the future. Although still in its infancy, the implementation of the strategy has seen a significant increase in Battery recruiting figures and as we near the end of training year; the Battery is parading at strength not seen in the immediate past. This should see the Battery well poised as it enters a new era with the opening of the Multi-User Depot (MUD) at Rockingham, some 50km South of Perth. The Battery will share the new MUD facility, with Bravo Company, 11/28 Bn RWAR and 59 Regional Cadet Unit. In the immediate future, the Battery intends placing a troop of two guns and a small FT support staff component at Rockingham. This is an exciting venture which could possibly see the Battery strike a raw recruiting base that provides us with an as yet untapped resource with all the right demographics and early recruiting work and figures looking promising.

In conclusion, 7th Field Battery has had a positive, well-rounded training year, which has drawn to a close an 18 months training focus. The Battery has not paused to wait and see what is in store for the future but rather has immediately began to build on the successes of the last 18 months and developed a training plan to revisit those areas identified as weaknesses. This is an exciting time for the Battery with a number of overseas trips signalling a local change in fortune for the Brigade and the Battery.

Battery Hierarchy 2003	
BC	MAJ Scott Sullivan
Training Officer	CAPT Michael Hartas
BK	CAPT Paul Sofield
BSM/SMIG	WO2 Matthew Sullivan
BG	WO2 Ian Hogkins
BQMS	WO2 Colin Turner

'JAMAIS ARRIERA'
(Always to the Fore)

16th Field Battery

Mandated Training

A high priority is given to mandated training in terms of dramatically lifting the AIRN compliance levels within the Battery. Part of this commitment was a well executed mandated training weekend conducted from 31 January - 2 February. The attendance for this exercise was at an excellent level and the training provided had a positive impact on the safe and smooth running of the Battery.

Exercise Island Shake

During the period 21 - 23 March, the Battery conducted Exercise Island Shake. The turn out for the exercise was reasonable and the LFX was completed without any major concerns. Being the first LFX for the year, the Battery was able to identify its strong points and where to aim at improving, so that when the Battery deploys into battle for the Mount Schanck Trophy it will come out victors (hopefully).



Winners of the Direct Fire Competition

Exercise Island Rumble

On 13 April, the Battery completed its second LFX for the year, Exercise Island Rumble. The Battery could only man one gun but with 80 rounds of HE the detachment was kept busy for the first day of the exercise. After a day of live firing the members of the Battery thought they were going to get a good night's rest before the next day's activities. The Battery re-deployed to range control and was tasked to re-deploy three section size patrols to complete a search and rescue task as four fighter pilots had been reported missing. The tasking took the sections most of the night to complete and when they reached their RV in the morning the exercise wound up with a LF 3 practice to keep the Battery's members shooting skills up to a high standard.



The BC (MAJ Bastick) After a Long Day

ANZAC Commitments

The Battery supported local communities during this year's ANZAC day activities. Starting off with the traditional Gun Fire Breakfast, the Battery's northern detachment provided the catafalque party for the City of Launceston's morning service while the southern detachment deployed to provide catafalque parties for Primrose Sands and Sorell.

Adventure Training

Exercise White Rush held over the period 29 - 30 April was an adventure training activity designed to provide a challenge to participants while performing as part of a team and leading a group in an unfamiliar and challenging environment. The challenge provided the opportunity for the participants to develop teamwork and leadership qualities, which are essential for all soldiers in the Army.

The first day was spent training in basic whitewater survival skills on the Derwent River. Some of the challenges included a whitewater swim, practice rescue techniques, toppling and righting the raft and - staying warm! The second day saw four rafts negotiate the Picton River through whitewater, rapids and torrents. With the adrenaline pumping, all participating members learned the importance of teamwork and prior training - the day was a great success.

Recruitment Activities

The Battery conducted several recruitment activities during the year. The main activity was AGFEST, during the period 1-3 May. This is an annual commitment and is held at Quercus Rural Youth Park near Carrick in the north of the state. The display consisted of a fully deployed gun, CP and some of the JOST equipment. Although no new recruits were signed up on the day, the activity was successful in terms of maintaining the Battery presence within the community.

131st STA Battery

2003 has seen the 131st Battery breaking new grounds through the deployment of new capabilities while sustaining the annual regime of training and support activities.

The Battery commitment to operations commenced in the first month of the year with the deployment of a 50-man contingent on Operation Relex II. This four-month deployment proved to be very interesting for all involved, courtesy of RAAF Base Darwin and HMAS Leeuwin. While Operation Relex II consumed a significant portion of the Battery manpower, other activities continued, including supports to the Unattended Ground Sensor(UGS) and AMSTAR Ground Surveillance Radar(GSR) trials in Tully and Port Wakefield respectively. Both the UGS and the AMSTAR GSR trials allowed experienced surveillance operators to provide valued and constructive input into the ongoing development of these projects.

The tempo of training stepped up a gear in May, with BCSS operator training followed by a very compressed schedule of Troop training, combined with supports to 1st and 3rd Brigade CPXs; all designed to prepare the Battery for Exercise Raging Dragon 03 (RD03) in June and July. RD03 was the first Battery exercise in four years; therefore, back to basics was the focus to ensure the Battery was adequately prepared for the major training milestone in the year, being Exercise Crocodile 03. With 1st Field Regiment also in SWBTA, the Cracker callsign was once again controlling the guns in a range of mutually beneficial training activities.



LBDR Trent Kennedy Completes a Round of Angles during Exercise Raging Dragon 03

Much was learnt on this exercise, particularly for the new IETs who 24 hours after marching into the unit in Brisbane, found themselves conducting a night occupation with their AN/TPQ-36 detachment to the east of Mount Hummock. Such a baptism proved to be extremely beneficial for all, with the new soldiers needing to rapidly adapt to the new environment while applying their recently acquired trade skills and knowledge, while the junior commanders tackled the leadership challenge of commanding and supervising inexperienced reinforcements.

RD03 provided a solid platform for the Battery to again support DJFHQ, 1st and 3rd Brigade throughout July and August, but the culmination of this years collective training occurred in September on Exercise Crocodile 03. The majority of the Battery supported manoeuvre operations on a scale not practised for many years. Many valuable lessons were captured as the exercise allowed the Battery to practice its core warfighting functions in a complex and fluid environment. As Exercise Crocodile 03 was unfolding in SWBTA, the Battery was simultaneously involved in a very unique operation with the deployment of a UAV detachment to the Solomon Islands on Operation Anode

Operation Anode

131st STA Battery deployed, for the first time, a Uninhabited Aerial Vehicle(UAV) detachment to the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI) in August to gather imagery and assist the RAMSI police led operation to restore law and order in Solomon Islands. Four UAVs were deployed as an interim capability under the Defence Science and Technology Organisation's (DSTO) Project Nervana development program, which is analysing systems for the automation of battlefield operations.

A joint-multi-agency 15 man UAV detachment was formed around a six man contingent from the Battery (BC as the Detachment Commander and five operations staff from Surveillance Troop), an AAAvn Captain, three RAAF Imagery Analysts(IA), two DSTO scientists and three civilian UAV contractors from Aerosonde (Melbourne based company). The UAV system was based upon the Aerosonde platform with sensor packages and integration systems supplied by DSTO.

The Aerosonde UAV is a small aircraft with a 2.9m wingspan that transits at 43 knots and operates at a baseline altitude of a 1000 feet. Given the UAV was only authorised to fly in daylight hours, sorties could be planning for transits in excess of 400 nautical miles. Control of the UAV was a combination of manual and autonomous flight via waypoints. For launch the aircraft was loaded into a frame on a GS Landrover, which accelerates to 80 kph down the runway, after 500 metres the UAV separates from the frame to commence its flight under manual control. The aircraft is then handed over to the Ground Control Station(GCS) computer for autonomous flight. In flight control of the aircraft is based upon a programmed flight plan, with real time control of the sensors and the aircraft operating through a UHF link when in line of sight of the GCS or via the iridium communications network when flying beyond line of sight. Recovery of the UAV was via



Aerosonde contractor prepares a UAV for launch

manual control with the aircraft landing on its belly on the runway. The sensor package was based around a real time video feed into the GCS out to 65 km (altitude dependant) and a digital still imagery capability with a 180 image storage capacity, which are downloaded following UAV recovery.

The UAV detachment headquarters was based upon the functionality of a STA Cell (STAC or BAIO for those from the old school), and integrated into the Combined Task Force (CTF) Headquarters. This enabled the UAV to be responsive to military and police collection requirements. Furthermore, UAV imagery products could be distributed rapidly, providing timely support to operational planning while simultaneously offering situational awareness for key staff. The GCS conducted operations out of Honiara International Airport, allowing UAV sorties to be positively deconflicted with all military and civil airspace users, which was a critical requirement for UAV flight operations. Additionally, the siting of the GCS enabled easy access to the runway offering efficient launch and recovery of the UAV.

The Solomon Islands is made up of nearly 1000 islands, with few roads and remote airstrips. The lines of communication throughout the AO was based upon small boat maritime approaches for transiting between islands, while inland movement was primarily by footpads and unmarked

cross country vehicle tracks linking remote villages. The UAVs had the capability to range out to many of the RAMSI areas of interest and provide imagery that was analysed by the detachments IA to answer both military and police information requirements. The real time imagery capability was primarily employed on Guadalcanal and in support of ground operations; however, the majority of tasking was to remote areas of the AO, therefore still imagery was utilised as the norm. The detachment aimed to have analysed imagery available within 60 minutes of recovery, which fulfilled the information requirement within 24 hours of tasking by the CTF Headquarters. Even though tasking for the UAV was centrally controlled, many missions were triggered by information from other collection assets, as the UAV imagery worked best when complemented by information from other sources. This included open source material such as the Solomon Islands Lonely Planet Guide.

This deployment has proven a draft UAV concept for operations that is currently under development within 131st STA Battery. Importantly, numerous lessons have been learnt; all of which will prove valuable as the Battery continues to assist in the development of JP129 TUAV in preparation for its introduction in 2007. The next step will be to learn from this deployment by maturing the employment and deployment concepts and commence work on educating future UAV operators in critical areas such as airmanship, aircraft airworthiness, airspace management and imagery exploitation.



A UAV being prepared as the sun rises over Honiara International Airport

Throughout the deployment, the UAV detachment completed 22 sorties over 4105 nautical miles, 106.6 hours of flight, 15.6 hours of video and captured 3005 still digital images. While many challenges were faced by the detachment, all were overcome to safely complete all sorties. In doing so, a new capability was proven to be effective for the first time on an operational deployment.

School of Artillery

Fire Support

Fire Support Wing started 2003 in the same manner as every year since 1885 when the school was founded with the usual rotation in and out of instructors, inductions and welcomes. The Wing's first courses started on 4 February which were the ROBC (FT) where 14 young officers endured 3 months of instruction from the SMIGs and tutoring from the IGs. Next door the SNCO instructors went about their normal day to day life conducting and preparing for IET courses and a Detachment Commander's Course.

Since the beginning of the year the Wing has continued to conduct a number of courses including a Manager Operations (SUBJ 4 WO) and just recently finished a Supervisor Operations (SUBJ 4 SGT), which was a 3 months course. The remainder of the year sees the Wing finish up with an ROBC (PT), GPO (PT & FT), ROGC (FT). The Target Engagement Team (TET) as usual has worked hard and has conducted three JOST courses, an RMC All Arms Call for Fire package, with one more JOST course and RMC package remaining for the year. The Support Weapons Team Infantry has completed an Advanced Course, conducted mortar evaluation of infantry battalions in LCOMD, rewritten their TMPs and doctrine, and have an OFFR/NCO Mortar course to conduct.

Surveillance and Target Acquisition

Greetings from Surveillance and Target Acquisition Wing! It is hard to believe that the year is almost over, it seems as though the year has just begun. Having said that, in writing this article a flood of memories served to highlight the activities and accomplishments of STA Wing. Perhaps the most interesting aspect of the year's activities has been the incorporation of three Armoured and three Infantry Corps' NCOs into the Wing. STA Wing has expanded by seven personnel due to the establishment of the new Surveillance Section. Six of the individuals are from the RAInf and RAAC making the Wing an all arms organisation for the first time. We are now responsible for teaching Surveillance and Target Acquisition to the entire Army and not just to the RAA.

The wider Army requirement stems from the three new capabilities coming into service next year. In short, they are the Thermal Surveillance System, the Ground Surveillance Radar and the Unattended Ground Sensor. The new Surveillance Section of the Wing has been busy working with DMO and others to ready the new capabilities for introduction into service and at the same time building the subject matter expertise required to properly instruct our soldiers. The traditional 'Locators' are now concentrated in the Target Acquisition Section and have been kept busy conducting the normal range of courses. During the year, the section has conducted the Captain STA, the supervisor and the operator courses for Weapon Location Radar and Artillery Meteorological and Survey.

In addition to instructing on 19 courses, STA Wing's work has centred on close liaison with DMO and AHQ to prepare the new STA capabilities (GSR, TSS and UGS) for introduction into service starting early next year. Other development work on the Life of Type Extension of the AN/TPQ-36 Weapon Locating Radar, JP 129 TUAV and the Artillery Orienting System (AOS). The Wing has also been working to advance the STA business with work in course development, doctrine development, and other future capabilities such as the AN/TPQ-36 WLR life of type extension and the Artillery Orienting System. As 2003 rapidly comes to a conclusion STA Wing will not have much time to rest on the successes of this year. It appears that 2004 will be even busier. We look forward to bringing the latest developments to you at that time.

Ground Based Air Defence

The last 12 months have been very busy and productive for GBAD Wing. The identification of Missile Number as a critical trade, coupled with the significant increase to 16th Air Defence Regiment manning, has seen a sharp increase in the number of trainees coming through the Wing. The effect of an increase in the number of IET being taught will see the Wing increase its training tempo as these soldiers attend future career courses.

GBAD Wing also received our new, or should we say upgraded Rapier B1M Launchers. As part of the upgrade, the Wing received a new simulation system, the Part Task Trainer. The arrival of this computer based simulation allowed the Wing, with great joy and ceremony, to retire the old 16mm film projector system which, while it had performed admirably over the years, had become the butt of many jokes from the other Wings.

This year saw the inaugural Red Barron Cup as part of the Regimental birthday celebrations. The Red Barron Cup, is awarded to the Wing which best demonstrates its ability in All Arms Air Defence (AAAD) by engaging a Remote Controlled Aerial Target. GBAD Wing was pitted against FSW, STA Wing and 53 Independent Training Battery, proving that all the time in the classroom had not been wasted. Just to rub salt into the wounds of the other Wings, GBAD Wing made a clean sweep of all the others sports contested on the day.

53 Independent Training Battery

The Battery began the year with its usual live fire exercises in support of the School and conducting its own live fire and movement exercise to prepare for the year of training. Courses started with the ROBC, involving demonstrations, dry deployments and live fire components. The Battery also supported the Combat Officer's Advanced Course (COAC formerly ROAC) during this time with a combined arms firepower demonstration, as well as computer simulation and CPX support utilising Battery JOSTs, GPOs and signallers.

The Battery has also supported RMC Duntroon with demonstrations, AACFF training and live fire battle runs involving tanks and APCs as well as supporting JOST courses, Manager and Supervisor Operations and Gun Number courses. The Battery's mortar platoon has supported three JOST courses throughout the year firing almost 2000 rounds of the newly acquired 81mm Denel ammunition and displaying an excellent standard in terms of accuracy and speed of response.

The Battery participated in and held a number of sporting and social events including the 53 Battery Cocktail Night, the Gunner dinner as well as the School of Artillery vs School of Armour AFL game. The School were the winners on the day in a hard fought game, 58-40. The Battery will conduct a two-week adventure training activity on the Mitta Mitta River at Omeo in the Victorian Alps. The activity will be arduous with members learning kayaking skills and completing a three-day paddle through some magnificent countryside. The Battery is also planning to travel to the old School of Artillery location at Manly to assist the museum curators in maintaining historic artillery pieces.

Gunners on Target at Puckapunyal

Training Command Reporter Cpl Alisha Carr explains how the School of Artillery serves the Army. "Gunners can take pride in the fact that they have been trained in a unique establishment", this is the message portrayed by the School of Artillery's CO/CI Lt-Col Peter Gates during a recent interview with Army. Lt-Col Gates says the primary role of the school is to provide combined arms individual training across a range of disciplines, including field artillery, mortars, surveillance and target acquisition and ground-based air defence.

"The courses we run - from initial employment training to courses for junior majors and senior captains - encompass the practical and theoretical range of skills required by many arms corps," he says. "It is important to note that the School of Artillery has recently become the centre for all surveillance training in the Army." Lt-Col Gates says the school ensures "quality product is delivered to Land Command by designing training packages the user has deemed necessary."

The course all young gunners must pass in order to officially enter the corps is the six-week initial employment training course, which Lt-Col Gates says generally receives positive feedback from trainees. "We are very conscious of bridging the gap between when they leave the Army Recruit Training Centre

and arrive here - we attempt to minimise disruption. We have a responsibility to complete their all-corps training so they can work effectively in their units".

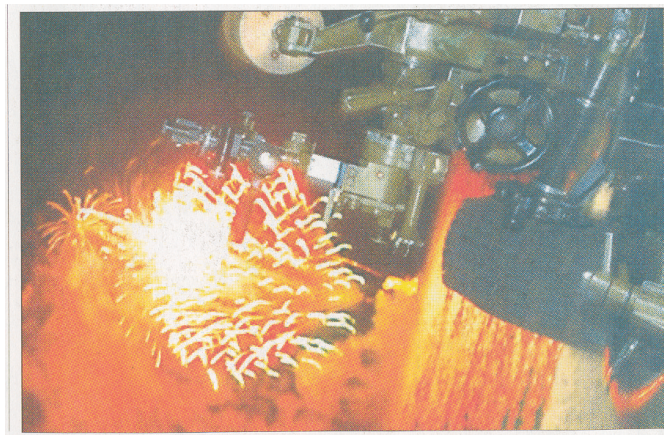
Lt-Col Gates said he anticipated the major changes the school will see in the future would be equipment-driven changes. "A range of new equipment will be coming in until about 2010. More so, the school is moving away from just being a school for gunners. It is now a school for every corps that has anything to do with air defence and surveillance and target acquisition, reflected in the fact that we train infantry and armoured corps personnel."

Major Russell Ramsey is the SI at the Surveillance and Target Acquisition Wing at the school and recently transferred to the Australian Army after having spent 25 years in the Canadian Army. "My Wing and I teach all surveillance and target acquisition subjects for the Army, which basically covers all current and new equipment coming in from Project Ninex, the Thermal Surveillance System and Ground Surveillance Radar," he says. "We run a number of courses, including Radar Maintenance, Weapon Locating Radar and courses for Artillery Meteorology Surveillance trades."

Initial employment training instructor Sgt Michael Troy says this is his second year at the School of Artillery. "The initial employment

training course should be longer than six weeks but it definitely produces a soldier capable of efficiently carrying out their job," he says. "Module One is an infantry minor tactics component and runs for two weeks - this should be covered at Kapooka. "When soldiers arrive at the school, we, as instructors, have to move away from our trade and teach basic soldier skills, including one week out bush where we cover infantry skills." He says the initial employment course also includes a communications phase and of course, the gun phase, where trainees learn the basics of their trade in artillery.

So, after gaining an insight into the School of Artillery, it seems making a good gunner involves much tenacity, endurance and substantially more than a desire to watch things explode.



A 105mm Hamel Gun looks over the beach on the Strand Park in Townsville as fireworks finalise 1RARs 57th birthday celebrations last year.

Photo by Cpl Belinda Mepham, Army Newspaper

Published in 'Army - The Soldiers Newspaper' 24 April, 2003

Personnel Aspects

HINT 24

Tactical principles can be learnt from books, but they cannot be properly understood unless they are constantly applied in the field constantly varying conditions of ground and situation.

HINT 39

Rivalry between units to excel is to be encouraged, but all are working for a common cause, and such rivalry must not be allowed to impair the spirit of helpfulness of all officers towards each other, and to their comrades of other commands.

HINT 46

Communication between the several units engaged in a combined operation is so vital to the success of the operation that it is the duty of all ranks to keep the means of communication intact; and should unavoidable interruption occur, to promptly improvise the best means to repair the interruption.

Extracted from a copy of
'A Hundred Hints for Company Commanders'
issued originally by Lieutenant Colonel McGlenn,
BM, 4 Inf Bde AIF on 23 November 1914.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Queens Birthday

Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the Military Division

Lieutenant Colonel Wayne Leonard GOODMAN, Melba ACT: For exceptional service to the Australian Army in various Army Headquarters appointments and as the Commanding Officer/Chief Instructor at the School of Artillery.

Brigadier Michael Frank PARAMOR, Duntroon ACT: For exceptional service to the Australian Defence Force and the Australian Army as Chief of Staff of Headquarters Australian Theatre, as the Commandant of the Royal Military College and as the Australian Commander of forces deployed to the Middle East.

DFC PKF hands over the reins

By Cpl Belinda Mepham

AFTER nine months of assistance to the evolving East Timor Government, Brig Justin Kelly is handing over his role as Deputy Force Commander (DFC) of the Peace Keeping Force (PKF).

Brig Kelly said being in East Timor during the past nine months has been life changing.

"It has been fascinating, particularly to watch a government gradually take up the reins of government and to learn the business of running a country," he said.

"It's rewarding to be part of the process where UN and UNMISET are passing over authority and responsibility as the government is developing a capacity and a desire to take up those issues.

"The real professional highlight was the Dili riots, we saw the PKF stretched to the limit, but it worked very well and my personal highlight was to actually deal with 29 different countries."

Brig Kelly said cultures from around the world positively effected his everyday dealings.

"The job is a cultural experience.



Brig Justin Kelly, centre left, and Brig Paul Retter, centre right at the handover.

Photo by Sgt Troy Rodgers, 1JPAU(P)

For example, when the Deputy Commander visits they are generally received in that particular force's cultural style. In a given week we'd eat at Thailand, Japan, Portugal and Singapore, for example."

The new PKF DFC is Brig Paul Retter. Brig Retter has been Director

General Preparedness and Plans for Army Headquarters, which he said developed the skillsets required for his new role even down to working with other forces.

"There, I guess you can say, I practised a number of years of preparation and training for this position," he said.

Gunner Deputy Force Commander in East Timor

DOCM-A

*Major T. Griggs
Career Advisor Artillery*

Introduction

Nearing the end of my first year As CA Arty/MPs I welcome this opportunity to provide a quick update on some RAA officer career management issues. In particular, I would like to cover some issues affecting the posting cycle and touch on general career development. I will conclude by highlighting a few of the issues I've encountered from officers in 2003.

Corps employment remains focused on Darwin, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Puckapunyal and Adelaide. Whilst a number of staff and GRES postings exist in other areas, RAA officers will serve the majority of their time in those five locations. That is the reality of the Army of today. Brisbane continues to be the most sought after posting locality, however, the number of available RAA positions is small.

Spouse employment and childrens' education continue to rank as major issues when officers develop future plans with their Commanding Officer and Careers Adviser. While DOCM-A will try, as much as possible, to meet an officer's personal desires for a posting, it must be remembered that DOCM-A has a responsibility to man the Army in accordance with the Chief of Army's priorities. When planning postings for officers the following, in order of priority, is considered the:

- needs of the service,
- developmental needs of the officer, followed by
- personal desires of the officer.

Sometimes that means 'Service Need' will be the determining factor when deciding an officer's next posting - not the officer's personal desires. The reality of Army service is that sometimes officers will not get the postings they desire, whether through 'service need' or because another officer got the job they wanted ahead of them on merit.

Overseas Postings

Most overseas postings are linked to Return to Australia (RTA) postings, with officers receiving double posting orders in most cases. This provides the officer with surety of posting action and it removes any opportunity for confusion as to where the officer is going to be posted upon RTA. Overseas postings whose circumstances have changed include: Artillery Instructor, Malaysian School of Artillery (position ceases January 2004); and IG (AUS), Larkhill (due to conclude at the end of 2005).

Long Term Schooling

Double Posting Orders will start occurring with Long Term Schooling (LTS), be it domestic or overseas. Once again, this provides the officers with surety of posting action and removes confusion. An example of this is an officer selected for ATSOC will receive a Posting Order for his ATSOC LTS as well as a Posting Order to his TSO appointment.

PARs

PARs continue to be more of a problem than they need to be. Clear guidance has been issued detailing exactly when completed PARs are required at DOCM-A. This timing is important because of the preparations required prior to the commencement of PACs. Failure to submit PARs on time will disadvantage the officer concerned. Units, and individuals, are responsible to

ensure completed PARs reach DOCM-A on time. Only completed PARs are to be sent to DOCM-A. Supplementary reports remain with the unit.

New Positions

As of 1 January 2004 a number of new Captain and Major appointments will be created following SED changes. These include:

- *JOST Observer/Trainer, CTC(L)*. This will be the only RAA appointment at CTC(L) and the incumbent will be involved in observing and conducting After Action Reviews (AARs) for JOSTs participating in sub-unit rotations through CTC(L) exercises. This is a high profile and very important RAA appointment. CTC(L) is based in Townsville.
- *LCARTY*. From 1 January 2004 CARTY will provide the JOSCC for DJFHQ. TO support this and other activities LCARTY manning will expand to include the following:
 - SO1 Arty;
 - SO2 GBAD;
 - SO2 OS (x 2);
 - IG (x 2);
 - SO3 GBAD; and
 - SO3 STA.
- *4 RAR (Cdo) JOSTs*. From January next year, four JOST commander (3 x CAPT & 1x LT) positions will exist at 4 RAR (Cdo). These four positions will continue to be filled by RAA officers in the future, and are the first priority for RAA officers who pass SF selection. For those seeking selection as an FO at 4 RAR (Cdo) in 2005, you will need to plan on completing your SFBT before your posting is confirmed.

Opportunities for Operational Deployments

Numerous opportunities exist for deployment on Op Catalyst (IRAQ) and Op Citadel (EM). All selections are keenly contested on merit, and each officer must understand that the final decision about whether he will deploy on a 6 month operation is unit clearance. The following should be noted:

- *Major*. Mix of psc and non-psc Major jobs. Security clearances and completed career development courses are major selection criteria.
- *Captain*. Mainly senior Captain positions. Once again, security clearances and completed career development courses are major selection criteria.

Low Tempo Postings

I fielded a number of requests from officers seeking low-tempo postings. Despite what some may think, low-tempo postings do not exist.

DI(A) PERS 47-1 - Career Management of Regular Army Officers

I continue to field a large number of questions from officers that they could easily answer themselves if they read DI(A) PERS 47-1. Officers are reminded that a large amount of corporate knowledge resides within each unit and they should try to answer their question in the unit first before contacting the Career Adviser. Saying that though, I will endeavour to answer your queries as quickly as possible.

New Command Appointments

The new artillery related unit command appointments for 2004 are:

- 1st Field Regiment - Lieutenant Colonel Scott Clingan.
- 4th Field Regiment - Lieutenant Colonel Greg Bilton.
- 7th Field Regiment - Lieutenant Colonel John Gunn.
- 23rd Field Regiment - Lieutenant Colonel Dominic Teakle.
- 1st Ground Liaison Group. - Lieutenant Colonel Russell Hodson.

Conclusion

I have enjoyed working with you all this year. I look forward to catching up with as many of you as possible during my Interview Tour from February-April next year.

Retired Full-time Officers List

<i>Worn Rank</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Initials</i>	<i>Final Date of Service</i>
BRIG	COX	JR	not available
BRIG	WARNER	AG	not available
COL	MURRAY	DJ	not available
LTCOL	DELANEY	KS	7-Jul-03
LTCOL	GUNN	JH	14-Mar-03
LTCOL	HARRIS	PD	27-Jan-04
LTCOL	HOLLOWAY	SR	2-Aug-03
LTCOL	MILLINGTON	RJ	13-Oct-03
LTCOL	MURPHY	PJ	7-Jul-02
LTCOL	SMITH	DJ	23-Dec-02
LTCOL	TEAKLE	DJ	14-Feb-03
LTCOL	VICKERS	WRC	2-Mar-03
MAJ	BEASLEY	KP	18-Mar-03
MAJ	BOLLARD	AM	3-Nov-02
MAJ	BOLTON	GM	27-Jan-04
MAJ	DARLINGTON	AR	7-Jan-03
MAJ	DONNELLY	SP	28-Jan-03
MAJ	GEANEY	DJ	13-Oct-03
MAJ	LANDFORD	PT	17-Feb-03
MAJ	LUN	PM	not available
MAJ	MCGUIGAN	JM	10-Feb-03
MAJ	ROHAN-JONES	SG	20-Jan-03
MAJ	TAGGART	C	3-Sep-03
MAJ	WALTON	MSTC	20-Mar-03
CAPT	ELLUL	JK	7-Jul-03
CAPT	FORD	BJE	4-Aug-03
CAPT	FRY	JV	14-Nov-03
CAPT	LAMONT	SW	14-Apr-03
CAPT	LENNON	GT	21-Oct-03
CAPT	ROBINSON	DP	9-Dec-03
CAPT	ULLIN	NS	21-Apr-03
LT	MEAKIN	PJ	22-Feb-02

SCMA

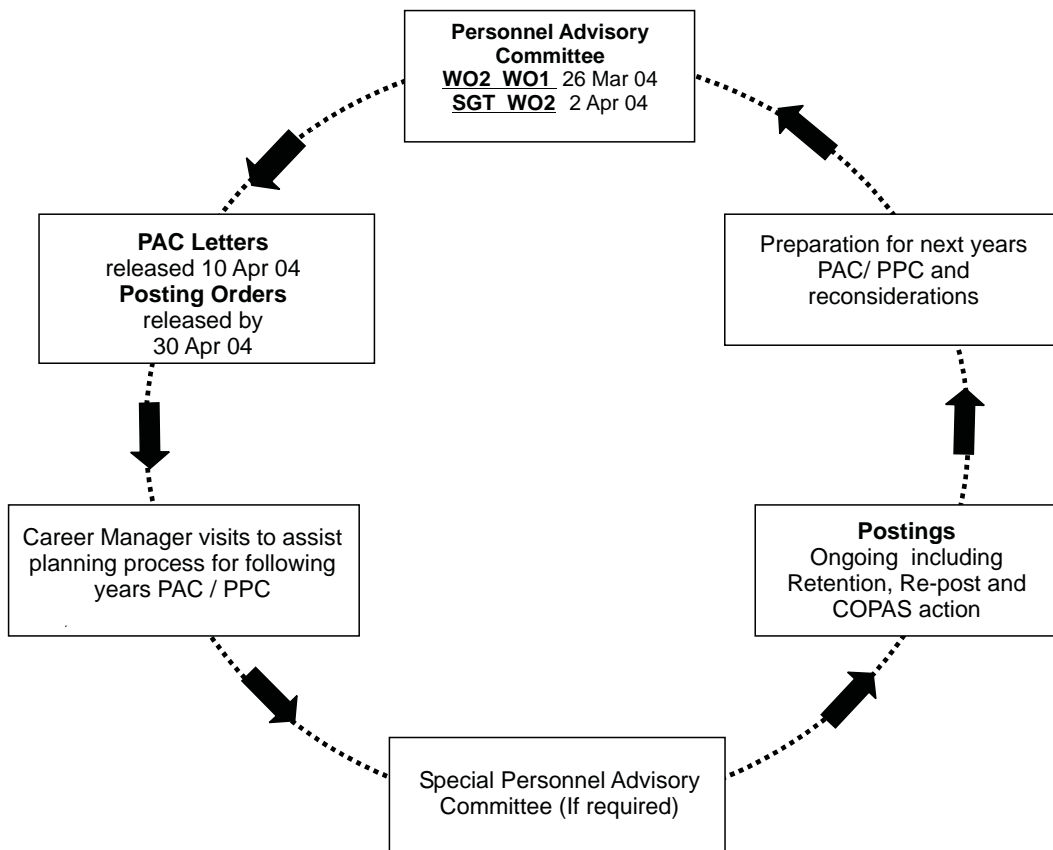
Captain A. Worsley and WO1 W. Degenaro
RAA Career Management Cell

Right Soldier, Right Position, at the Right Time

Spring is upon us and with this the finalisation of all planning, promotion and postings for 2004. Again it has been a busy year, however the hiatus created by Exercise Crocodile 03 has given us some breathing space to consolidate and plan for 2005.

Career Management Cycle

The Career Management Cycle (as outlined below) provides you the planning dates for next year. You can expect notification of your postings and promotion in accordance with this flow diagram.



Career Management Cycle

Promotion Advisory Committee (PAC)

PAC was held in early March 2003. Due to the high quality of soldiers within the Regiment a large number of soldiers were presented and subsequently cleared for promotion. Our congratulations and good luck are offered to all soldiers taking up promotion and new appointments in the new year. The table following gives a snapshot of the 2003 PAC outcomes.

RANK						
<i>Stream</i>	CPL - SGT		SGT - WO2		WO2 - WO1	
	<i>Eligible</i>	<i>Cleared</i>	<i>Eligible</i>	<i>Cleared</i>	<i>Eligible</i>	<i>Cleared</i>
RSM	-	-	-	-	14	6
STA	8	5	3	2		
GBAD	14	10	6	3	-	-
OS	20	15	38	11	-	-
Total	42	30	47	16	14	6

RSM Appointments

The PAC for RSM was conducted through April and finalised on 30 May. The following RSM/WO1's can be congratulated on their appointments:

Level Three

- 2nd Division - WO1 D. Kelly, OAM

Level Two

- Combat Arms Training Centre - WO1 W. Degenaro
- Australian Defence Force Ceremonial - WO1 R. Dunne
- Army Ceremonial - WO1 J. Hansen
- Regional Training Centre (Tasmania) - WO1 D. Jones

Level One

- Regimental Master Gunner - WO1 C. Watego
- Master Gunner Land Command Artillery - WO1 P. Matthysen
- School of Artillery - WO1 R. Van Oppen
- 1st Field Regiment - WO1 B. Kyrwood
- 4th Field Regiment - WO1 R. Thompson
- 8th/12th Medium Regiment - WO1 I. Gardiner
- 16th Air Defence Regiment - WO2 M. Clayton (on promotion)
- Battery Sergeant Major 131st Surveillance Target Acquisition Battery - WO2 D. McGinley (on promotion)
- 7th Field Regiment - WO1 G. Metcalf
- 2nd/10th Field Regiment - WO2 M. Johnson (on promotion)

WO1 Appointments

- Instructor Regional Training Centre (South Queensland) - WO1 M Tauletta
- Master Gunner Proof & Experimental Establishment, Port Wakefield - WO1 D. Callaghan
- Ground Based Air Defence Liaison Officer - WO2 G. Potter (on promotion)
- Surveillance and Target Acquisition Land Command Artillery - WO1 M. Gowling
- Senior Sergeant Major Instructor Gunnery, School of Artillery - WO2 B. Franklin (on promotion)

2004 and Beyond

2004 promises to be another challenging year for the RAA. Soldier career management will again be high on the agenda of all. As such, the following issues deserve highlighting:

- SED reviews, unit restructuring, new projects, etc. aside, the recruiting 'bubble' created in the late nineties is now firmly amongst the bombardier – sergeant rank. Soldiers generally can expect to spend greater time in rank prior to promotion - and with this will be borne a greater experience and training core within our senior soldier ranks.
- PMKeys is still in its infancy as a soldier management-processing tool. We ask that units continue to process all administrative information in order for us to maintain maximum visibility of your soldiers. Thank you for your efforts thus far.
- Positions within 4 RAR (CDO) are available, and we are continually seeking volunteers to be a part of the 'SF World'.
- Non-corps appointments will continue to raise the profile of an individual as he strives for promotion.
- Finally, the responsibility for career management lies much with you, the soldier. You are the 'masters of your own destiny' and this can either be a rocky path or a smooth highway. Accurate advice from your chain of command, an understanding of your trade/career policy (as stipulated in the RAA Employment Category Standing Orders) and thorough planning for your Annual Career Guidance Interview will best place you for a fulfilling career.

New Blood

On behalf of the RAA, thanks are due to WO1 Bill Degenaro for his efforts as Career Manager throughout 2002 and 2003. A job well done. He has added much experience and subject matter expertise to the cell and will be sorely missed. WO1 Degenaro will be taking up his new appointment as RSM CATC in 2004.

WO1 Paul Washford will be the new Career Manager in 2004. WO1 Washford is ably qualified to take up this new appointment having completed three demanding years as the RSM School of Artillery.

Finally...

The RAA Career Manager cell would like to thank all those who have provided sound advice and counsel throughout 2003. We look forward to working with the same focus in 2004.

Capability, Training and Doctrine

HINT 49

Success in modern war depends more on moral than physical qualities. Resourcefulness, energy, and end determination count for more than numbers.

HINT 50

"Half-hearted measures never attain success in war; lack of determination is the most fruitful source of defeat." This maximum written in relation to battle tactics, applies uniformly throughout the whole range of an officer's duties.

HINT 53

It is often better to act quickly, decisively, and energetically upon a provisional plan than to lose time in perfecting your plan by prolonged consideration. Any plan of action is better than none at all.

Extracted from a copy of
'A Hundred Hints for Company Commanders'
issued originally by Lieutenant Colonel McGlenn,
BM, 4 Inf Bde AIF on 23 November 1914.

Capability Development

*Major S. Ryan
Land Warfare Branch*

Introduction

2003 has been a good year for the Royal Regiment in capability terms. The stage has been set in the Defence Capability Plan for the Royal Regiment's capabilities to flourish in the next five to ten years. There are new beginnings for all facets for the Regiment's capabilities. The coming years should see major capability advancements in ground based air defence, surveillance and target acquisition, and field artillery. Advancements will be dominated by the transition from industrial age technologies to information management technologies, 24 hour all weather surveillance and detection technologies, and advancements in munitions effectiveness and accuracy. This is a short update on the major and minor capability development programs for the Royal Australian Artillery. The update will discuss the capability developments for ground based air defence, surveillance and target acquisition, and field artillery. It will highlight the bright capability future of Regiment.

Ground Based Air Defence

After two years of near continuous operational service, the 16th Air Defence Regiment has been under significant pressure to maintain the ground based air defence capability. This situation should be remedied over the coming years with new RBS 70 system acquisitions under project Land 19. The new acquisitions include the much awaited RBS-70 dome trainer, new radars and additional RBS-70 launchers. The RBS-70 dome trainer is not necessary a new concept and has been anticipated for over ten years. This simulator will provide the Air Defence Regiment a state of the art system to advance collective training and maintain the unit at a high level of preparedness. In addition to the simulator, Land 19 will acquire an air defence battle management system and additional launchers to provide additional tactical air defence to the brigades and fill some of the gap created by the disposal of the Rapier system in 2005/2006. The disposal of Rapier presents a major capability gap in the provision of area ground based air defence. This gap will be covered by joint project 117, which is in the definition phase at present. When this project receives final approval it will give the ADF a superior area ground based air defence capability.



Surveillance And Target Acquisition

The Regiment's surveillance and target acquisition capabilities have been under going significant change and technological developments. On the immediate horizon is the fielding of

the thermal surveillance sights for observation parties and ground surveillance radars. These systems should be fielded over the next 12 months. Over the horizon there are developments in the AN-TPQ 36 radars and the introduction of tactical uninhabited aerial vehicles. The developments in the AN-TPQ 36 will mean the Army will retain a modern counter fire capability until 2015. Small hiccups in the acquisition of this system have occurred but these have been remedied. Tactical uninhabited aerial vehicles or TUAV represents the major development in the Regiment's surveillance and target acquisition capability. The TUAV will provide the Regiment unprecedented tactical reach with surveillance beyond the contact battle and the capacity to respond to the deep battle and shape the battlespace. When TUAV is fielded in 2006/2007 the Regiment will have a world class surveillance and target acquisition capability.

Field Artillery

Along with the other facets of the Regiment the field artillery will go through significant change. The next five to ten years represents an opportunity to move from an industrial age to the information age. In the short term the field artillery will be improved through minor projects to improve 155mm ammunition and ballistic calculators. These capabilities should be fielded by 2007 and 2005 respectively. This will be followed in the longer term with a major program, Land 17/18. Project Land 17/18 is an opportunity for the Regiment to improve the munitions, command and control system and howitzers, if required. The project seeks improvements in accuracy, range and lethality including precision munitions to the close support artillery system. Developments in command and control will improve the agility and knowledge edge within the fire support system. The project may acquire howitzers to meet the Army's capability output if required, but the project focus is on ammunition and command and control. These new systems will take the Regiment well into the next millennium.

Conclusion

The future is bright for the Regiment with new systems to increase its capability. The advancements will be in information management and dissemination technologies, 24 hour all weather surveillance and detection technologies, and advancements in munitions effectiveness and accuracy. Developments in ground based air defence, surveillance and target acquisition, and field artillery will only serve to strengthen the Regiment and its vital role to the Army.

DMO - Project and Fleet Synopsis

*Consolidated by Major S.E. Harding,
Project Manager Indirect Fire Support Weapons*

Introduction

As you may already be aware, the Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO) brings together the acquisition of capital equipment and through life support of materiel for the Australian Defence Force. The DMO has achieved this union by integrating the acquisition (Project Management) and support (Fleet Management) elements of its business. An organisational outcome of this amalgamation has been the establishment of System Program Offices or 'SPOs'. In the case of land based capabilities, the key SPO's of interest to Gunners are found predominantly within the Land Systems Division, based almost entirely out of Victoria Barracks, Melbourne. What follows is a series of brief overviews of significant projects and fleets within the DMO that might be of particular interest to Gunners.

It should be noted that at time of writing, the structure of the two key SPO's (Armaments SPO and Ground Based Air Defence and Radar SPO) was undergoing a reorganisation. The two SPO's were basically undergoing a merge into one, retitled as Armaments and Air Defence SPO or 'AADSPO'. The reports herein therefore predominantly reflect the new terminology, but refer in part to the old terminology for ease of understanding.

Armaments and Air Defence Systems Program Office (AADSPO) H4 'East' Victoria Barracks Melbourne

Who's Who?

The following list of AADSPO key appointments is not exhaustive but instead seeks to identify those appointments that might be of most interest to Gunners.

Director

Director AADSPO and former Director ARMTSPO: Mr Garry van Ree, EL2, (03) 9282 5982

Program Managers

Program Manager IFSW / PD LAND17/18:

LTCOL Jon Hill, RAA, (03) 9282 4481

Program Manager Small Arms:

LTCOL Gary Potter, RAA, (03) 9282 6441

Program Manager JP117 GBAD Group:

LTCOL Duncan Roach, RAA, (03) 9282 5380

Program Manager DFSW / PD LAND 40:

Mr Pat Meehan, EL1, (03) 9282 7150

Program Manager SHORAD and Radar Group:

Mr Ross Erickson, EL1, (03) 9282 4425

Project Manager IFSW Minor Projects (including AOS MINCS(L) 042.15):

MAJ Shaun Harding, RAA, (03) 9282 6562

Project Manager JP117:

MAJ Marc Plummer, RAA, (03) 9282 4084

Project Manager LAND 19 Phase 6:

MAJ Chris Frew, RAE, (03) 9282 5832

Project Manager LAND 58-3:

MAJ Grant Gleeson, RACT, (03) 9282 5771

Project Manager LAND 19 Phase 2B:

MAJ Chris McCarthy, RAEME, (03) 9282 5871

Project Manager IDFCS MINCS(L) 048.36:

CAPT Geoff Williams, RAEME, (03) 9282 4599

Project Manager LAND 140 and LAND 41 Phase 6:

Mr L. Woods, (03) 9282 4527

Fleet Managers

National Fleet Manager Radar, Rapier, RBS-70 and Test Equipment Fleets:

MAJ Peter Gustafson, RAA, (03) 9282 6813

National Fleet Manager IFSW:

Ms Karen Christensen, APS6, (03) 9282 5906

Technical Advisers

Technical Adviser Hamel/M2A2:

WO2 Ian Baker, RAEME, (03) 9282 3733

Technical Adviser M198:

Mr Les Geraghty, TO3, (03) 9282 4861

Technical Adviser VLLADS:

SGT Wes Rickard, RAEME, (03) 9282 5560

Technical Adviser Rapier:

SGT Tony Griffiths, RAEME, (03) 9282 6918

Former ARMTSPO RAA Project Summary

LAND 17/18 - Artillery Enhancement Program

The current 105 and 155mm fleets reach their Life of Type (LOT) in 2010. The LAND 17/18 project will address this issue whilst at the same time adopting a holistic approach to the 'indirect fire weapon system'. A Preliminary Capability Options Document will be progressed to the Army Capability Management Committee in June/July 2003 (1st Pass Approval). The complete Acquisition Business Case including the Capability Options Document, the Operational Concept Document, the Integrated Logistic Support Concept, the Functional Performance Specification, and associated documents will be presented to the Defence Capability Investment Committee in October 2004 (2nd Pass Approval). Budget approval will occur in 2005/2006. The In-Service Date presently remains as 2008-2010. Detailed options will be presented in the final Capability Options Document and further developed during the Project Definition Phase.

POC LTCOL Jon Hill

Artillery Orienting System MINCS(L) 042.15

This project will procure an inertial based and therefore GPS independent referencing system for artillery survey use. It will replace the now much degraded GAK-1 capability and will operate reversionary to the AGLS. A Request for Tender (RFT) will be released to industry in August/September 2003 with a prototype developed in 2004 and the final capability fielded in 2005/2006.

POC MAJ Shaun Harding

Indirect Fire Computer Software MINCS(L) 042.18

This project will identify and procure an 'off-the-shelf' replacement for the current gunnery computer software (IDFCS V4.1). The Project concept paper (MINCS(L)) has been endorsed by DC-A and will be presented to the Ministerial delegates for Project Approval in the second half of 2003. Given that the software has been deemed safety critical, a replacement software (preferably based around the NABK algorithm) will be sourced ASAP. Estimated In-Service-Date is FY2004/2005 but will be dependent on the type of acquisition strategy that is developed.

POC CAPT Geoff Williams

81mm Long Range Mortar MINCS(L) 048.36

This project will be presented for endorsement by DC-A. The project intends to procure a Long Range 81mm mortar (will replace the current F2 81mm Mortar). Having purchased the Denel ammunition, Army is faced with an opportunity to exploit the range advantage it offers (with a suitable mortar system, the ammunition can be fired out to approximately 7km). The current in-service mortar cannot exploit such potential gains so a replacement will be procured when the current mortar reaches LOT (or before). The project intends to introduce a replacement capability approximately FY2005/2006.

POC TBA - PM not yet identified

Former ARMTSPO RAA Fleet Summary

Fleet Overview

The Indirect Fire Support Weapons (IFSW) fleet consists of M2A2, Hamel and M198 guns together with mortars, sighting equipment, computer fire control equipment and weapon ranges. The fleet staffs have recently taken in-service management responsibility for the Artillery Gun Laying System and Mortar Laying System, and will soon commence planning for phasing out and disposal of F2 mortars. The fleet cell has recently purchased 72 new ULAC frames and hopefully this FY (03/04) will be purchasing some complete ULACs dependant on funding priorities and identification of an Australian manufacturer. The fleet's national logistic unit is JLU(V) in Bandiana where the guns are repaired and undergo heavy maintenance. The IFSW fleet staffs are trying to resolve current problems with availability of sights for guns and with the repair process now in place should imminently see more sights become available.

In late May, IFSW fleet staffs met with users at Puckapunyal to discuss the Indirect Fire Computer (IDFC) and the way ahead for this equipment. It was agreed that the software should be rolled back to the DOS version used by the previous hardware to alleviate the problems associated with the windows shell. Mr John Muir from LEA is coordinating the remedial action required to do this and the roll back software should be available soon.

The fleet staffs currently have some problems associated with the technical integrity of F2 mortars and are working to alleviate the problems to ensure the fleet is serviceable. In addition, fleet staffs are investigating a number of RODUMS relating to damage that they believe has been caused by the new Denel ammunition.

POC Ms Karen Christensen

Hamel/M2A2 Summary

In early June 03, IFSW fleet cell was advised the M2A2s at the Australian Federation Guard were unserviceable. Six M2A2s were rotated from JLU(V) on 1 August for use in the Governor General's inauguration on 11 August 03.

The IFSW fleet cell is coordinating trials of the Hamel pullback at 4th Field Regiment, blackout lights at the School of Artillery and 1st Field Regiment and 105mm Ordnance stand at 1st Field Regiment. Information pertaining to the results of the trials and any follow on action will be available by the end of 2003.

POC WO2 Ian Baker

M198 Fleet Summary

IFSW fleet cell rotated M198s to School of Artillery and 8th/12th Medium Regiment in June to replace the guns at those units. In order to rotate the 8th/12th Medium Regiment guns, LCARTY agreed to delay issue of M198s to 1st Field Regiment. A revised issue date for the 1st Field Regiment guns has not been given by LCARTY, however JLU(V) continue to prepare guns for issue as soon as possible.

POC Mr Les Geraghty

Former GBADRSP RAA Project Summary

JP 117 - ADF Ground Based Air Defence Weapon System

JP 117 seeks to acquire a Ground Based Air Defence Weapon System (GBADWS) for the ADF.

The system is to provide an effective capability to defend operational forces and strategic assets from the current and developing air threat, including a capacity to engage stand-off weapons.

The project comprises two phases. Phase 1 is the Project Definition Study being undertaken to further refine the capability requirement and to obtain more robust figures for cost and capability required for second pass approval by government. Phase 2 is the acquisition phase of the project.

As part of Phase 1 it is planned that formal industry solicitation will commence with an Invitation to Register Interest (ITR) in early 2004. The Year of Decision (YOD) for second pass approval is currently being reconsidered as part of the ongoing review of the Defence Capability Plan. The current In Service Date (ISD) is 2009/10.

POC LTCOL Duncan Roach

LAND 19-2B - Advanced Air Defence Simulator

Project LAND 19 Phase 2B has recently signed with Tenix Systems Pty Ltd to provide an Advanced Air Defence Simulator (AADS). The project seeks to deliver an AADS under three contracts (Acquisition, Operation and Maintenance Support (O&MS) and Facilities) using Tenix Systems Pty Ltd as the single Prime Contractor. AADS will provide collective training facilities and the objective assessment of training levels. The AADS capability, introduced into service by late 2004, will enhance the operational effectiveness and skill of Ground Based Air Defence (GBAD) detachments across a range of scenarios and threat environments. Site works for the facility, located at the 16th Air Defence Regiment, will commence in September 2003. The system is based on the AAI Corporation Advanced Moving Target Simulator and is a 270 by 75 degree display with virtual displays and an instructor 'pit' located in the floor of the simulator. O&MS for the first three years will be provided as part of the overall contract price.

POC MAJ Chris McCarthy

LAND 19-6 - RBS-70 Life of Type Extension / Additional Point GBAD Weapon Systems

Merged into a single Phase in February 03, Land 19 Phase 6 aims to acquire equipment to provide an extra four RBS-70 based AD Troops to 16th Air Defence Regiment. In doing so, it will re-equip the Rapier battery with RBS-70 based, PSTAR - Extended Range (ER) and new Tactical Command and Control System (TaCCS); and equip the extant RBS-70 battery with a third Troop and new command and control system. The in-service RBS 70 will be refurbished and upgraded to extend the Expected Planned Life (EPL) to 2015, bringing the equipment up to the same build standard as the additional equipment. Due to the production schedule for the RBS 70, and the development process for TaCCS, transition into service is planned to occur from September 05, with Operational Test and Evaluation planned for April 2006.

POC MAJ Chris Frew

LAND 58-3 - Weapon Locating Radar Life of Type Extension

Land 58 Phase 3 will extend the life of type of a minimum of five ANTPQ-36 Weapon Locating Radars (WLR) from 2005 to 2015. The project's mandate is to address obsolescence and supportability issues. The project is unapproved and will be considered in the DCP in October 2003 for second pass approval. ISD is expected to be 2007.

POC MAJ Grant Gleeson

LAND 140 - Rapier Life of Type Extension

Land 140 has delivered an improved Rapier capability to 16th Air Defence Regiment. The project has been very successful, coming in on budget and on time. The project is now proceeding to closure.

POC Mr Lex Woods

LAND 41 Phase 6 - Mode 4 IFF for Rapier

Land 41.6 is seeking to deliver a Mode 4 IFF capability for Rapier. BAE Systems Australia has developed a working prototype and production of a first article for testing is expected by the end of September. Technical certification remains the biggest challenge for the project.

POC Mr Lex Woods

Former GBADRSP0 RAA Fleet Summary

Fleet Overview

The focus of fleet activities continues to be support to operations. With the return of HMAS Kanimbla this translates to fixing and replacing equipment coming back from the gulf. In addition addressing heavy grade repair of TPQ-36 and rollout of the upgraded Rapier B1M fleet are combining to keep the office busy.

POC MAJ Peter Gustafson

'Other' RAA Related DMO Areas of Interest

LAND 135 - Light Armoured Mortar System (a part of Wheeled Manoeuvre SPO)

The White Paper 2000 identified land force firepower as an area for capability enhancement within the ADF. The White Paper went on to further identify the requirement to acquire, ' up to 20 120mm mortars mounted in light armoured vehicles.' The result of this requirement was project Land 135 - LAMS.

The detailed set of requirements and acquisition documentation will be presented to the Defence Capability Investment Committee in November 2003 (2nd Pass Approval). Budget approval will occur in 2004/2005. The In-Service Date is 2006, though a more realistic date is 2007. Detailed options for the Land 135 Capability Options Document will be centred around organisational and delivery system issues.

From a delivery system perspective the key questions are turreted versus pedestal and rifled versus smoothbore. This and other decisions will come down to an analysis of cost versus capability versus risk. Regardless of the actual equipment solution, the LAMS system will comprise munitions, the mortar delivery system, C2 architecture, target acquisition (TA), CSS and training.

POC MAJ Greg Bolton

CATC - Trade Policy

*WO1 M. H. Gowling
RMG / SO2 Artillery Trade Policy*

2003 has been an extremely important year for the Artillery Trade Policy (Arty TP) Cell. As part of the Combat Arms Training Centre, the cell has finally established itself as a 'must have' adviser to any new RAA capability. The provision of advice to AHQ, TC-A and DMO on training, technical and user aspects is and will be essential in providing equipment that is user friendly, has a relevant training continuum and actually solves the capability requirement. Currently, the Artillery Trade Policy Cell is providing input into projects that will deliver the RAA:

- an improved surveillance capability (GSR, TSS and UGS);
- the enhancement (and /or replacement) of 105 / 155mm weapon platforms;
- a non GPS based survey system (for guns and radars);
- the Tactical UAV;
- enhancement of the GBAD capability; and
- the upgrade of the Weapon Locating Radar.

The Artillery Trade Policy Cell is also involved in the restructuring of all artillery courses into competency based training (CBT). This process and ongoing evaluation / validation programs are now producing relevant training (conducted both at the School of Artillery and within units) that more than ever reflect the workplace need. In addition, the cell is providing input into:

- the content of recruit training at ARTC;
- GRES training (HR, AR and RRF);
- the redesign of Subject One and Subject Three courses for soldiers;
- the RAA Other Ranks pay structure; and
- the re-introduction of signaller skills into the RAA.

2003 Manning	
Regimental Master Gunner	WO1 M Gowling
Sergeant Major Offensive Support	WO2 T Whish
Sergeant Major Surveillance Target Acquisition	WO2 J Fabri
Sergeant Major Ground Based Air Defence	WO2 G Potter
Sergeant Major Training Development	WO2 S Morse
Sergeant Training Development	SGT W Morris

Arty TP will undergo a major change in personnel next year. Posted out are WO1 Marty Gowling, WO2 Glynn 'Sherm' Potter and WO2 Joe Fabri. Posted in are MAJ Gavin Carter (SO2 Arty Tp), WO1 Col Watego (RMG), WO2 Richard 'Ando' Andersen (SM STA) and WO2 Phil Briers (SM GBAD). The Arty TP Cell wishes to express it's thanks to the Regiment for the support, advice and assistance provided throughout 2003.

CADDS

*Major G. Carter
Artillery Senior Doctrine & Development Officer*

The year has proven to be a very busy and profitable one for the RAA doctrine and development authors posted to Combat Arms Doctrine and Development Section (CADDS). The beginning of the year saw the introduction of new streamlined production processes and standards within CADDS and Doctrine Wing. These standards and processes now ensure that all doctrine that leaves CADDS for clearance and endorsement as doctrine is of the highest quality and accuracy for text, graphics and photography. You will be able to identify some of the excellent work done by the RAA authors and production staff in early 2004 when the current crop of publications are published. I will be providing a detailed doctrine brief to all attendees at this years Regimental Conference and will provide a copy of the brief to all Commanding Officers on CD to take back to the Regiments and Independent Batteries. I ask all RAA personnel from Commanding Officers to new gunners to foster a desire within themselves and their units to influence change within RAA and OS doctrine.

All RAA personnel will at some time in their careers identify an error in established doctrine or drills or see a better way to present certain information or drills being used in training. I ask you all not to keep that idea or suggested amendment under your hat but to send it to one of the three RAA doctrine officers or their assistants at CADDS via your chain of command. I am off to CATC in 2004 as the SO2 Trade Policy and am looking forward to the challenges of the job. Major Jason Ross will fill the position of senior RAA doctrine officer in CADDS in 2004. I would like to finish my part of this CADDS update by thanking my three trade Captains (Brian, Steve and Matt) and three trade WO2 (Mitchell, Clint and TJ) for their excellent work and technical advice. For the unsung heroes of the production cell who work tirelessly to turn our Army English into readable doctrine, sincere thanks goes to our two Desktop Publishers, Michelle and Cherie; our Editor, Clare; and our Graphic Artist, Lance Corporal Chris Tant. CADDS has had an excellent and very productive year in doctrine due entirely to the quality of the civilian and military personnel posted to it.



It wasn't all work and no play

Ground Based Air Defence

This year Captain Jung (DDO - GBAD) and WO2 Heine (ADDO - GBAD) have spent the year reviewing and rewriting all GBAD doctrine for the introduction of Land 19 Phase 6. *LWP-G 7-3-4, Ground Based Air Defence Range Orders* is in the process of being amended as a result of the introduction of FSB1M Rapier. In mid year, Major Carter, Captain Jung and WO2 Heine visited 16th Air Defence Regiment to discuss the future requirements for GBAD doctrine, as well as attending a Rapier LFX with 110th Air Defence Battery at Woomera Range. During the conduct of the LFX the amendments to the GBAD Range Orders were validated. GBAD doctrine section is well placed for future doctrine requirements for the introduction of the new RBS -70 fleet and the phasing out of the Rapier FSB1M.

Surveillance Target Acquisition

This year Captain Matthew Finnerty (DDO - STA) and WO2 Howard (TJ) Hooker (ADDO - STA) have been extremely busy with the rewrite and amendment of several AMS and Weapon Locating publications as well as the writing and development/planning of several new STA publications. The STA doctrine section will be extremely busy over the next two years with the introduction of publications concerning Ground Based Surveillance, Airborne Surveillance (TUAV/ARH), Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance, Weapon Locating Radar, UGS, TSS, GSR and Survey/AMS. The STA team have had a number of amendments completed to extant pams this year including *RAA CTN 3-5, Equipment Drill ANTPQ-36 AL1* and *LWP-CA (OS) 5-1-6 Survey Theory AL1*.

Offensive Support

This year has been a busy year for the Offensive Support Section. For most of the year CAPT Mott (DDO - Offensive Support) has been deployed to Bosnia on Operation Osier with the Scottish Highlanders whilst WO2 Crout (ADDO - Offensive Support) has been working tirelessly on the following publications:

- *LWP-G 7-3-3, Indirect Fire Range Orders* - Due out first half of 2004. To replace RAA CTN 3-13, Orders For Practice, 1989.
- *RAA Directives* - Due out first half of 2004 to be simultaneously released with Indirect Fire Range Orders.
- *LWP-CA (OS) 5-3-2, Target Engagement Coordination and Prediction - Duties in Action*. To be endorsed and available on ADEL by late 2003, with hard copies in units during first quarter of 2004.
- *LWP-CA (OS) 5-2-1, Artillery Orientation Procedures, 2004*. Due for release in the first quarter of 2004 as developing doctrine to replace the Director Pam and RAA Directive 213.
- *LWP-CA (OS) 5-2-2, Laser Range Finders - Designators, 2004*. Due for release in the first quarter of 2004 as developing doctrine to replace the Laser Range Finder Pam (circa 1980) and RAA Directive 207.
- *LWP-CA (OS) 5-3-1, Gun Group Deployment and Routine, 2001*. Amendment List 1 due for release later this year.
- *RAA CTN 2-12, Gunnery Prediction, 1994. Amendment List 1* due for release first quarter of 2004.

Graphics for all new publications from the three trade sections are available upon request to the SDDO. A training brief (PPT presentation) will be released soon to all RAA units that highlights significant changes in the new Duties in Action.

CADDS RAA staff can be contacted on the following numbers:

- SDDO – MAJ Carter 03 5735 7469
- DDO (IF) – CAPT Mott 03 5735 7473
- ADDO (IF) – WO2 Crout 03 5735 7474
- DDO (STA) – CAPT Finnerty 03 5735 7475
- ADDO (STA) – WO2 Hooker 07 3332 7901
- DDO (GBAD) – CAPT Jung 03 5735 7471
- ADDO (GBAD) – WO2 Heine 03 5735 7472

Articles

HINT 60

Apart from acquiring proficiency in professional subjects, every officer must subject himself to careful training in his physical and mental attributes, such as exercising the body to be supple, to stand fatigue, and to do with less than usual food, drink and rest by improving the habit and power of observation by eye and ear both by day and night; and also developing the faculty of imagination.

HINT 61

The power of imagination is a most valuable faculty for an officer. It is a faculty which can be developed by practice. It means the capacity of rapidly constructing a definite mental picture of an event, situation or locality, the description of which is being heard or read and is a powerful aid to the understanding of the impression desired to be conveyed to the brain by the eye and ear.

HINT 68

An officer cannot fraternise with members of the rank and file without loss of status. If he does so, he cannot expect to have respect and control and will often find himself in the unenviable position as regards (a) his brother officers, (b) his duty and responsibility, (c) his position, particularly when required to administer praise, blame or punishment, impartially.

103rd Medium Battery - Rifle Company Butterworth, Rotation 61

*Major T.M. Nichols, Company Commander
WO2 P. Robertson, Company Sergeant Major*

At the beginning of the year, 103rd Medium Battery, 8th/12th Medium Regiment deployed to Malaysia as Rifle Company Butterworth, Rotation 61 (RCB 61) for the period 4 February to 8 May. The Company consisted mainly of members from 103 Medium Battery, however, due to the Battery's other deployment commitments, members from the remainder of the Regiment and 1st Armoured Regiment were attached to form the Company. Training Sergeants from 2nd and 3rd Battalions RAR provided the necessary subject matter expertise with additional support from a Reconnaissance Corporal from 2nd Cavalry Regiment.

After the hand-over was completed, it was straight down to business for RCB 61. During the first week, a series of cultural and language briefs and tours were conducted as well as training in TCPs, searching and basic patrolling techniques.

The next week saw the Company deploy to Gurun for six days to conduct its first field exercise of the rotation. This proved to be an eye opener for the members of RCB 61, as unlike Australian military training areas, the Gurun area is a number of local Palm and Rubber plantations that are made available for Military training. While the Company was conducting patrols, ambushes, attacks and re-supplies, there was an audience of local plantation workers and children from the surrounding villages, showing off some of their knowledge of military tactics and skills as the children mimicked fire and movement drills, field signals and firing positions.

Upon return to Butterworth, after some R and R in Georgetown, RCB 61 geared up to deploy to Singapore for a week to conduct MOUT and trench warfare training at the Singapore Armed Forces Training Institute (SAFTI). Also included in the seven days were military history tours of the Commonwealth Forces War Cemetery at Kranji, the Changi Memorial and other sites where Australians were deployed during the Japanese invasion of WWII. The training conducted in Singapore was invaluable to the members of RCB 61, as many of them had never been exposed to the range of diverse procedures and actions required when conducting building and trench clearances. The military history tours provided an opportunity to gain an insight and reflect on our forefather's involvement in Singapore during WWII. The final 36 hours in Singapore was provided for short leave and showed what a vibrant and exciting city Singapore is.

From Singapore, the Company deployed to the Malaysian Army Base at PULADA (Malaysia's equivalent to Canungra) for nine days. Here a variety of small arms practices, including the 66mm and 84mm SRAAW, Grenade, Claymore, Section Defence and Sneaker were conducted. Towards the end of the exercise, the company was split into two groups. The command element was given an insight to Counter Revolutionary Warfare consisting of a series of lectures on the techniques and procedures employed when engaged in a conflict against a communist force during the Malaysian 1st and 2nd Emergencies as well as the Confrontation. At the same time, the soldiers of the Company conducted jungle survival training including how to catch and prepare food that is available in the jungle, finding water and building shelters for safe sleeping.

After a limited stand-down period a relaxed and recuperated RCB 61 returned to work to begin pre-deployment training for Exercise Harringaroo, a joint exercise where RCB deploys as part of a Malaysian Infantry Battalion. After the three day block of training, the Company deployed to Kuala Lipis to participate in the two week exercise.

During Exercise Harringaroo RCB 61 was accommodated at 8th Battalion, Royal Malaysian Regiment's Base in the central mountain region north of Kuala Lumpur. The Exercise consisted of cross training with the Malaysian Armed Forces and a seven day deployment to the field to conduct a Battalion Advance To Contact. During the field phase of the exercise, the Battalion was mounted in Unimog like vehicles and conducted a 120km advance to contact. During this phase RCB 61 conducted a variety of tasks including critical point clearance, Battalion Vanguard, faint attacks and attacks at Company level. Exercise Harringaroo was RCB 61's culminating field activity providing an opportunity to view the techniques that the Malaysian Armed Forces employ when operating in the field. It also gave the Company a chance to put the infantry skills they had gained into practice and to gain an understanding of the level of training that had been reached since the beginning of the deployments to Malaysia.

After returning from Exercise Harringaroo, and another few days of short leave in Georgetown, RCB 61 focussed it's efforts on ANZAC Day. The Company had quite a few commitments for ANZAC Day, as catafalque parties were sent to participate in services at Hell Fire Pass in Thailand, and at Kuala Lumpur as well as at the Australia Forces Club, Butterworth. ANZAC Day was very successful. The catafalque parties sent abroad performed to a very high standard and maintained the renowned image of the Australian Digger, and the celebrations in the Butterworth/Georgetown area were a fitting tribute to our forefathers.

During the week at the end of April, beginning of May, RCB 61 participated in a week of sporting activities. The sports played were Cricket, Rugby, Soccer and Touch Football, and were contested against local Malaysian teams and members of the RAAF detachment in Butterworth. The sports week was very worthwhile enabling the soldiers to interact with Malaysian sporting counterparts on the field and during after match social functions and was a relaxing, informal way to round off the deployment to Malaysia prior to welcoming RCB 62.

The three months spent in Malaysia provided the members of RCB 61 with an unparalleled opportunity to witness how the Malaysian and Singaporean Armed Forces operate; how a culture completely different to their own goes about it's daily life; and to perform duties and conduct activities that they may have never done, or may never do again. It was an experience that will not be forgotten.

Jumping into History - The Paragunners of 1943

Colonel A.R. Burke

4th Field Regiment RAA proudly wears the colour patch of its forebear, the 2/4th Field Regiment AIF. When 'A' Field Battery came under command with its parachute capability, a historic link back to World War 2 was reactivated. On 5 September 1943 a light section of men and 25-Pounder Shorts from the 2/4th Field Regiment AIF parachuted into Nadzab in the Markham Valley of New Guinea.

To commemorate the 60th anniversary of this jump, a 25-Pounder Short is to be formally taken on charge in October by the 4th Field Regiment RAA Historical Collection in the presence one of the original 2/4th paragunners. This is the story of that jump into history.

Jump, you bastards, jump!

Gunner Robbie Robertson exited badly and plummeted head first downwards. Suddenly, he heard a loud crack and was wrenched upright and upwards. His 'chute snapped open and blossomed in the cool air. For only the second time in his life, this young soldier experienced the exhilaration of floating above the earth and for several minutes, it was difficult to believe that he was in the middle of a war. 'And this is my first time into action,' he mused.'

VX 50978 Gunner Ian George Robertson had just jumped into history - the history of 31 young Australian artillerymen who had just parachuted with two guns into New Guinea's Nadzab airstrip in support of the 503rd US Parachute Infantry Regiment's securing of a landing ground for the Allied advance east to capture Lae.

But this was no time to be daydreaming! Six hundred foot was not that high and now the ground was rushing up to greet the young paragonner. Stop any oscillation, grab the shrouds and turn into the wind, feet together, knees slightly bent and . . . 'Oh! What the hell were those other two points?' muttered Ian.

Then he was down, rolling, smacking the release buckle . . . lying still - it was all over! He leapt to his feet and was guided through the head - high kunai grass by Lieutenant Pearson's voice on the megaphone. Johnnie Pearson gathered his flock around the cane pannier from which they drew their weapons then allocated search arcs to find the pieces of the guns and other equipment. Only Gunner Lidgerwood had been injured in the drop, unfortunately landing in a tree and hurting his shoulder.

Sixty years ago this was the Markham Valley on Sunday, 5 September 1943. At 10.15 am, six squadrons of US Mitchell B-25 strafers led an armada of 302 aircraft. Each aircraft's eight .50-calibre machine guns swept the carpet of kunai grass ahead of their bays disgorging 60 fragmentation bombs. Six A-20s then obscured the scene with smoke and at 2000 feet 96 voices screamed, 'Stand up! Lock up! Check your equipment! Stand in the door . . . jump!' The C-47 transports spawned three battalions of US 'Sky Soldiers'. On each side of the columns of C-47s and about 1000 feet above, fighters hugged their protegeses whilst brother aircraft at 7000 feet provided an interim umbrella below the top cover boys up in the sun, staggered from fifteen to twenty thousand feet. The securing force had been launched for the 7th Australian Division's air landing.

Sergeant Wally Murnane and his detachment were the first to find a complete set of gun parts. Their squat little 'baby' 25 Pounder Short was quickly assembled and brought into action. 'Hit the ground!' somebody screamed as an ammunition box that had broken loose from its

parachute load hurtled over the detachment's heads and crashed into the grass nearby. It was 3.15 pm and two Fortresses were delivering 192 rounds to fuel the hungry guns.

It was hard to believe that less than a month ago, Lieutenant Pearson had approached Gunner Robertson, his friend from the reinforcement ship that had taken them both to join the 2/4th Field Regiment AIF in the Middle East in September 1941. 'Robbie,' he'd confided, 'There's a delicate mission coming off . . . I can't tell you about it, but would you like to volunteer?' This duo had arrived in Syria too late to see action. The months of waiting in the Brisbane Line when their unit had been recalled to Australia had whetted their appetites for 'their slice of the war'. Robbie was a good signaller and visions of a submarine drop behind enemy lines began running through his mind. 'OK!' he said, 'Count me in.'

Back at Nadzab strip, a new challenge faced the 2/4th's 'Light' Section – fire. The Americans, desiring to enlarge the airstrip quickly chose to burn the kunai grass rather than cut it by hand. Fanned by the breeze, this was soon out of control and only the bushmanship of some of the Gunners saved their position from being destroyed. In truth, the Gunners were quite disappointed that the landing had been unopposed by the Japanese and their Shorts had not been called into support.

In response to General Sir Thomas Blamey's 30 July 1943 instruction for the capture of Lae-Nadzab, Lt Gen Edmund Herring commanding New Guinea Force ordered the 9th Division to capture Lae from an amphibious landing east of Lae whilst the 7th Division was to establish itself in the Markham Valley west of Lae by an overland and airborne operation. The 503rd US Parachute Infantry Regiment was to secure Nadzab for the 7 Div's 25th Brigade to airland then advance east to Lae. On 8 August 1943, the commanding officer of the 2/4th Field Regiment, Lt Col Alan Blyth was ordered to support 25th Brigade. He approached Maj Gen George Vasey commanding 7 Div and proposed parachuting a two-gun section of the new 25 Pounder Shorts to support the 503rd Regiment. Since the Americans did not have any guns suitable for paradrops, Vasey agreed.

That first night all the paragunners gathered around Murnane's gun and stores. (The second gun's parts had been scattered about a mile away and it was not until the second day that Sergeant Jimmy Thompson and his crew brought it into action.) Ian Robertson describes the utter exhaustion by nightfall and how they 'slept like the dead in silken parachutes' after enjoying the luxury of American rations that night. Early next morning Robbie and Lieutenant Frank Ross joined a forward US company and they moved up into the hills to Gabsonkek as a blocking force against attack from the north. 'We only fired two [gun] rounds at a Japanese pill box,' Ian recalled. Lieutenant Frank Faulkner and a signaller joined the 2/2nd Pioneer Battalion protecting the southern flank.

When Gunner Robinson reported to his battery headquarters as directed by Lieutenant Pearson, he was part of a group 'coming from all directions . . . even two of the blokes from my own tent were there, but none of us had disclosed our secret orders,' Robbie remembered. The CO had selected four lieutenants (Johnnie Pearson, Frank Ross, Frank Faulkner, 'Puck' Evans) and invited them to choose about ten 'good all round men' from each of their batteries. Then began a week of tough physical training, forced marches, running along the beach, climbing ropes, tumbling. Next the men were told to parade with their gear and were spirited off in trucks. Only as they entered the lines of the 503rd US Parachute Infantry Regiment did they begin to realise what might be in store for them.

Ross and Robertson's company north of Nadzab began patrolling. Captain Don Moorhouse had arrived overland with the 2/2nd Pioneer Battalion and supplies of sig cable. Robbie was flat out laying miles of line back to the guns when a cheerful officer walking by made a remark to him about Short 25 Pounders. Ian looked straight up into the eyes of the 7 Div commander. General George Vasey told Ian he was 'doing a good job', encouraged him to 'keep it up', and then wandered off along the track, completely alone.

When Lieutenant Pearson reported to Colonel Kinsella, commander of the 503rd Regiment, the latter was amazed that the Gunners did not know their mission. He insisted on addressing them

and offered an 'out' for anyone to withdraw. 'Not one man took a pace out of the ranks,' Robbie recalls proudly. Twenty-four hours of hard training later, 33 would-be paragnners made their first jump from 1200 feet at the 30-mile airstrip outside Port Moresby. 'An horrendous feeling' crept over Gunner Robertson and he 'had to pluck up his utmost of courage' as he moved into the doorway in acknowledgment of 'Stand in the door!' yelled by the jumpmaster.

The battery commander and observer parties from 54th Battery and E Troop guns arrived on 8 September and 25th Brigade stepped off for Lae. The Light Section of paragnners did not take part in this advance but remained in support of 503rd Regiment who continued to maintain a secure perimeter around Nadzab as it built up into a major base. Lae fell to the 7th Division on 16 September 1943.

Three men, including Lieutenant Evans were injured in the one and only practice jump at the Port Moresby. Lieutenant Alan Clayton volunteered to replace Evans and jump straight into action with the other 30 'experienced' paragnners. Their journey to the intermediate Tsili Tsili airstrip on 'Z' Day was uneventful. Their frustration mounted during a two hour wait for a call forward which did not eventuate till the 2IC of the 503rd landed in his light aircraft and said, 'What are you doing still here? - GO!' The Douglas transports roared into life and during the ten-minute hop to Nadzab climbed to 600 feet.

The red light came on above the jumpmaster. 'Stand up! Lock up! Check your equipment! Stand in the door!' The light went green . . .

'Jump, you bastards, jump!'



Retired Colonel Arthur Burke is the Honorary Historian of the 4th Field Regiment RAA, today's holder of the traditions and spirit of the 2/4th Field Regiment AIF. He dedicates this article to the four officers and 27 soldiers who were the first Australian Gunners to parachute into action in the South-West Pacific theatre of World War 2 sixty years ago on 5 September 1943. It took 47 years of fighting bureaucracy before the survivors of those 31 paragnners were presented with their US Combat Jump Wings at the 50th anniversary luncheon for the formation of the 2/4th Regiment in Melbourne in 1990.



Major J.C. Ewen, MC, DCM, MM

Provided by RAA National Museum

Without question, every Gunner knows who was the highest decorated for bravery Gunner during World War II. The story of Sir Roden Cutler VC is well known. However, not the same could be said for World War I. Two Gunners shared the honour; Lieutenants John Carr Ewen and Edward Mattner, both earning the Military Cross, Distinguished Conduct Medal and Military Medal. Only seven Australians have been awarded this combination of bravery awards. Our lack of knowledge in this matter is reflected in 'The Gunners' A History of Australian Artillery by David Horner.

The medals of John Ewen were recently donated to the National Artillery Museum along with his portrait. Donated by his son Ken and daughter Betty, they are a valuable and splendid addition to the collection.

John Ewen went on to serve in World War II (Edward Mattner also joined but did not serve overseas) and was part of 53 Battery when it took the gun up the Kokoda Track. He had many qualities, apart from his bravery, and it is reflected in comments from those who served with and under him. He was an inspirational leader.

Born in Manchester, UK in 1892 he came to Australia in 1913 and enlisted in October 1915 as a Gunner with the 5th Australian Field Artillery Brigade.

He earned his Military Medal in August 1916 'For gallantry and self-sacrifice displayed during the fight of Pozieres'. During this action he mended and kept two lines of communications going although constantly under enemy fire. He was also promoted Bombardier.

Promoted to Sergeant, his Distinguished Conduct Medal was awarded March 1917 'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. After the battery officers had been wounded and many casualties sustained by heavy shell fire he took command, and by his splendid example, under very trying conditions, was able to complete the task of bringing the guns into position'.

Commissioned 2nd Lieutenant he earned the Military Cross 'At Herleville, on 23rd August, 1918, this officer was in charge of the communications of the forward observation party. The forward observing officer was killed, and he at once took his place. Throughout the day, under very heavy hostile fire, he moved about the newly-captured positions, sending back important information as to our infantry positions and bearings of



Lieutenant J.C. Ewen and Lieutenant E. Mattner

hostile batteries which were shelling our new position, and which were at once engaged. He displayed an utter disregard for personnel safety, and much information of tactical importance was received from him'.

Soon afterwards he received a grievous wound to his right side between ribs and hip. So serious was his wound that the stretcher bearers left him on the field but when the Medical Officer was informed they were immediately ordered to bring him in.

John Carr Ewen's humility is seen in letters he wrote to his future wife, from which the following are quoted. He did not tell his family in England of his award of the MM, he wrote in a letter dated late October 'I won my medal at the beginning of August and I haven't told them at home about it yet for I suppose it would give them an idea I was in a bit of danger sometimes and I tell them yarns I'm never in any; in fact they think I'm having a good holiday'.

After being wounded he wrote from hospital in London 'Well old Fritz got me this time he has had several attempts and succeeded this time but am pleased to say only very slight, just enough to give me good spell'.

John Carr married Gladys Hamson in Sydney on 30 October 1919. Twin sons Kenneth Carr and John Derek were born in July 1921 and both served as Gunner Lieutenants during World War II. Ken with 2/7th Field Regiment and Derek with 21st Field Regiment.

John Carr Ewen died on November 20, 1951



The Medals of Major J.C. Ewen, MC, DCM, MM

Notes for a Messing Member

(KOD)

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES. 3RD DIVISION

Head Quarters
Victoria Barracks
MELBOURNE.

July 1935

NOTES ON ETIQUETTE OF WINE.

In response to requests made, the following notes taken from an address by Captain L.H. LEMAIRS, H.Q., 3 Div., to officers attending the recent 3 Div. Course for Messing Officers, are forwarded. It is not practicable to reprint the whole address, and the notes consist of extract only. Two copies are being forwarded to each unit; additional copies may be applied for if desired.

N.G. BROWNE, Major,
A.A. & Q.M.G., 3rd Division.

ETIQUETTE OF WINE.

X X X X X X X X X X X

In the few minutes at my disposal, it is my intention to try and give some notes on the types of wines which might be served in messes on various occasions, and the reasons for their use.

Let us take as a basis for discussion a regulation menu, as it is impossible to lay down etiquette in cellaring unless the courses are firstly considered.

A regulation dinner, let us say, consists of hors-d'oeuvre, grape fruit or oysters; soup; fish; entree; joint; poultry or game; sweets, savoury, fruit, nuts; coffee.

Although it is generally accepted procedure in this country, no Continental gourmet would ever commence his dinner if oysters were included with whisky, gin or cocktail; sherry or Chablis are the only wines guaranteed not to solidify the oysters, and cause trouble later on in the evening.

If whisky, gin, or cocktails are included in your evening menu keep to melon grape-fruit, or hors-d'oeuvre as an opening course.

As there are so many and varied cocktails, it is not proposed to deal with them here; but I will begin with a few words on the origin of Sherry. As you may have noticed from recent press discussions, Australia has not yet produced a true sherry type, and I would strongly urge any Mess offering sherry to their guests to invest in imported Amontillado or Olorosa.

X X X X X X X X X X

Although Sherry may be served slightly iced, as in the case of all white wines, under no circumstances should ice be placed in sherry.

X X X X X X X X X X

If Chablis has been served with oysters or melon, Sherry should be continued with the soup.

The best white Hock type wines undoubtedly grow in Germany on the Rhine. Australia has produced a most excellent vintage in Yeringberg whites, which are difficult to procure; but are fine wines.

With the next course fish - white wine in the form of Hock, Moselle or Chablis should be served. These wines do not dull the palate, and are also provocative of appetite. They are readily digestible, and under no circumstances can prove up-setting.

They should be served from a cool cellar if possible, rather than ice, and should never be recorked, as recorked white wines are most unpalatable,

With the entrée a good claret can be served; but it is worth noting that red wines should never be drunk with any egg dishes, hors- d'oeuvres, or salads, owing to the sulphur the palate has absorbed making them taste bitter. They should never be drunk cold, as they have hardly any bouquet, unless a slight even warmth is present. They should be gradually allowed to take up the temperature of the room in which they are opened, and if decanted should be filtered through cotton wool into a slightly warm decanter.

A wine that throws a crust on a bottle is usually a good wine; but many excellent wines leave no deposits.

The crust contains tartaric acid or tannic impurities, which are thrown out by the wine during fermentation.

Medium class wines are often pasteurised by heating not higher than 182 deg. Fahr to kill off all foreign bacteria. This process is used quite a lot in Australia.

Claret kept for three years in the wood and three to five years in the bottle is generally in a very excellent drinking condition.

The best French wines Chateau Margaux, Chateau Lafite come from the County of Bordeaux; but there are many good wines of the Claret type in this Country.

If your Mess does not desire to go to the expense of serving the different wines enumerated, including those to follow, Burgundy and Champagne, it will be quite in order to serve a Hock or Chablis throughout the fish entree, joint and poultry courses, reducing your list to Chablis or Sherry, Hock or Claret, Port and Brandy.

A word may be in season here suggesting that the palate should be cleansed between succeeding wines by the use of bread, olives or slated almonds; unless the palate is so cleansed justice can seldom be done to good wine.

Baskets should be kept for the serving of wines, and the bottle should be uncorked at the angle of the basket to prevent sediment getting into it. The inside of the neck of the bottle should also be very carefully wiped for the same reason.

With the joint a heavier type of red wine, Burgundy, should be served. The best Burgundies are of course French - Clos Vougeot, Chambertin, Conti, Pommard and Beaune, which contain much iron and fire and keep up to thirty years.

With the poultry and game Champagne may be served, and of course the best imported brands are undoubtedly Clicquot, Moet, Perrier, Jouet, and Roedarer and Goulet.

The cost of Champagne is in the selection and treatment, which are long and involved.

By Champagne is meant a manufactured, fortified, blended and standardised Sparkling wine. It is manufactured, in the sense that it is not sparkling in its natural state; but the effervescence is due to the sugar being added after the grape sugar in the must has been converted into alcohol.

It is fortified, in the sense that cognac diluted with old wine, in which more cane sugar has been dissolved, is added prior to the final bottling.

The best Champagne comes from the Champagne District where the soil is poor and Chalky, and due to insufficient sunshine and devastating rains; vintages often prove disastrous.

X X X X X X X X X X X X

Australia produces quite an excellent Champagne - the Great Western Reserve - which in the opinion of connoisseurs compares favourably with some imported brands.

Port is the next wine, which is to be served with Dessert.

X X X X X X X X X X X X

Port should be readily drinkable in ten years. Alcohol is added and sets up a chemical reaction, which takes 15 to 20 years to

finally deposit impurities on the sides and bottom, making the wine dear and gouty.

X X X X X X X X X X X X

Although there are many and varied liquers - Brandy undoubtedly is the aristocrat of spirits, passing through the most dignified stage of being in before being distilled into brandy. Brandy from cognac district stands alone.

You will of course realise the difficulty in recommending any particular brands of wine, as the act immediately leaves one open to question of partisanship.

Probably one of the best authorities in Melbourne in the choice of wine is Mr Senior of Matthew Lang & Co., and his judgement is very highly regarded.

Personally, from my own experience, I believe that the following are probably amongst the best brands:

SHERRY:	Imported Pedro Domecq or Byaz, Seppelts Solar
CHABLIS:	Buring & Sobels Quelthaler or Matthew Lang & Co.
CLARET:	Buring & Sobels San Tarlos or Burgoyne.
HOCK:	Penfolds, Trameah 1923, White Heritage Yeringberg.
BURGUNDY:	Matthew Lang & Co.
CHAMPAGNE:	Great Western
SPARKLING HOCK:	Great Western or Penfolds.
PORT:	Dukes, Walter Smiths Yalumba or Matthew Lang & Co.,
BRANDY:	Established brands imported liquer over 30 years.

In conclusion I note a little rhyme that may be of assistance;

Drink Sherry always with your soup
 And Chablis with your fish,
 And Claret if the entrée's red
 What more could a palate wish!
 But if the entrée should be white
 Use Chablis once again
 With poultry you have sparkling Hock,
 or possibly Champagne
 With game comes bottled Burgundy,
 And you'll feel fine and dandy
 When Port you've taken with dessert,
 And with your coffee Brandy.

Associations and Organisations

HINT 77

Soldierly comradeship is marked by self-denial, mutual help, mutual forbearance, loyalty, unselfishness and consideration. Such qualities do not evolve spontaneously (especially among men thrown together for the first time), but must be sedulously fostered under all circumstances. Good comradeship means effective cooperation in time of stress.

HINT 86

Abstain from drinking water on the march; a clean pebble carried in the mouth will be found an aid to stave off thirst. All water should first be examined by a medical officer, and if doubtful should be boiled before being used. A picquet should be placed on the water carts to prevent them being rushed, and the water wasted.

Extracted from a copy of
'A Hundred Hints for Company Commanders'
issued originally by Lieutenant Colonel McGlenn,
BM, 4 Inf Bde AIF on 23 November 1914.

Associations and Organisations - Contact List

RAA Regimental Fund

Adjutant School of Artillery
Bridges Barracks, Puckapunyal Vic 3662
[Subscription Form See Page 87]

RAA Historical Company

PO Box 1042, Manly NSW 1655
Email: northfort@ozemail.com.au
[Membership Form See Page ?]

RAA Historical Society WA (Inc)

President, Bruce Campbell
or
Secretary, Tom Arnautovic, OAM
P O Box 881, Claremont WA 6910
Email: info@artillerywa.org.au
Phone: (08) 9332 3309
Website: www.artillerywa.org.au

Take Post (Quarterly Newsletter)

3 Field Regiment Association

President, Peter Rowles
Email: rowles@highway1.com.au
Website: www.artillerywa.org.au

4 Field Regiment (Vietnam) Association

R.J. (Gabby) Hayes
74 Carmelia Ave, Everton Hills Qld 4053
Email: gabbyhayes@ozemail.com.au

10 Medium Regiment Association Inc

P O Box 1915, Geelong 3220
The Big Gun (Newsletter)

12 Field Regiment & 8/12 Medium Regiment Association

President: John Sullivan
90 Rooty Hill Road,
South Rooty Hill, NSW, 2766
Phone: 02 9937 0637
Email: john.sullivan@ca.com

The Tannoy (Quarterly Newsletter)

(Editor: The Association is looking for members. Membership is FREE.)

23 Field Regiment Association

President
15 Boundary Road, Oatley NSW 2223

A Field Battery Association Inc (Qld Branch)

President, Ron (Tex) Bassan
6 Harveys Road,
Beaconsfield, Mackay, Qld 4740
Email: bonniebassan@yahoo.co.uk
Telephone: (07) 4942 5433

A Field Battery Association (NSW Branch)

President, John Smith
29 Western Ave, Blaxland NSW 2774
Email: afdbyassocnsw@tsn.cc

101 Battery

Secretary, Jim Booth
8 Calliston Court, Cashmere Qld 4500
Phone: 07 3882 0218
Email: jbooth@powerup.com.au

102 Battery

Don Tait
C/- RAA Historical Company (see this list)
Email: dmt63@ozemail.com.au

103 Battery

Doug Heazlewood
10 Tarhood Road, Warrnambool Vic 3280
Phone: 03 5561 4370
Email: heazlewd@standard.net.au

104 Battery

John Sullivan
90 Rooty Hill Road,
South Rooty Hill, NSW, 2766
Phone: 02 9937 0637
Email: john.sullivan@ca.com

105 Battery

Secretary, Greg West
14 Marral Street, The Gap Qld 4061
Phone 07 3300 5303
Email: gwest@eastwind.com.au
[Membership Form See Page 98]

Tiger Rag (Newsletter)

Editor, Arthur Burke
7 Aspley Court, Aspley Qld 4034
Phone & Fax: 07 3263 6025
Email: arthurburke@bigpond.com

106 Battery

Peter J. Tibbett
PO Box 677, Cooroy Qld 4563
Phone: (07) 5442 6314
Email: tibbs@tpg.com.au
or
Ian Clyne
2 Harland Square, Wantirna Vic 3152

107 Battery

Warren Feakes
23 Harbison Cres, Wanniasa, ACT 2903
Email: wfeakes@netspeed.com.au

108 Battery

John Wells
PO Box 407, Guys Hill Vic 3807
Phone: (H) 03 5944 3157 (W) 03 9799 1216

RAA Association - Nth Qld

Secretary Ken Borgges
18 Bainbridge Street, Heatley Qld 4814
Email: kenborgges@bigpond.com.au
Gunners Gossip (Newsletter)
Email: ebryant@coastguard.com.au
www.st.net.au/~dunn/raa-nqld.htm

RAA Association (NSW) Inc

The Secretary
GPO Box 576, Sydney NSW 2001
Email: pjeaston@optusnet.com.au
[Membership Form See Page 97]

'Gunfire' (Magazine)

Email: gunfire@hn.ozemail.com.au

RAA Association (NSW) Newcastle Sub-Branch

Secretary
PO Box 1129, Newcastle NSW 2300

RAA Association (ACT)

Secretary, Major Sean Ryan
Email: sean.ryan@defence.gov.au

Shot Over (Newsletter)

RAA Association (Vic) Inc

Secretary: Major R.A.W. Smith RFD
101 Warralong Avenue, Greensborough Vic 3088

'Cascabel' (Magazine)

The Editor 'Cascabel'
35 Hornsby Drive, Longwarrin Vic 3910
Email: lpritchard@bigpond.com

RAA Association (SA)

President, Geoff Laurie
12 Chatsworth Grove, Toorak Gardens, S.A. 5065
Email: laurie.geoff@saugov.sa.gov.au

RAA Association (WA)

President, Bruce Campbell
Email: info@artillerywa.org.au

or

Secretary, Tim Arnautovic, OAM
P O Box 881, Claremont WA 6910

Email: tomglenda@git.com.au

Phone: (08) 9332 3309

Website: www.artillerywa.org.au RAA
Association (NT)

The Secretary
GPO Box 3220, Darwin NT 0801

RAA Association (TAS) Inc

Honorary Secretary Norm Andrews
Tara Room, 24 Robin Street, Newstead Tas 7250

Email: mussellroe@bigpond.com

<http://raaassoctas.topcities.com/>

The Artillery News (Newsletter)

Editor, Graeme Petterwood
P O Box 10, Raveswood, Tas. 7250

Email: pwood@vision.net.au

Locating Artillery Association

President, John Posener
PO Box 1042, Manly NSW 1655

Phone: (H) 02 9982 4471 (W) 02 8374 6666

Email: jposener@tpg.com.au

www.locatingartillery.org

18 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment Association

Bevan Lennie
PO Box 536, Gympes NSW 2227

Phone/Fax: (H) 02 9526 2855

4th Anti-Tank Association

Secretary
3/213 Nepean Highway, Seaford Vic 3198

RA Association

Website: www.raa.uk.com

The Gunner Magazine (RA Publication)

Website: www.gunnermag.com

Editors Note:

The currency of this contact list is only as good as the feedback I am provided. Therefore if you are aware of more current information than that published could you advise me to enable the timely amendment of records. I would also appreciate the contact details of any other Gunner organisation not listed. As an additional means of assisting me in keeping current on what is happening around the Gunner community it is requested that units and associations forward me copies of newsletters etc. This will also enhance the passage of information.

Benefactors of the Royal Australian Artillery Regimental Fund

Correct as at 10th October 2003

LTGEN D.M. Mueller	COL W.T. Kendall
MAJGEN J.E. Barry	COL J.C. Kirkwood
MAJGEN T. Cape	COL M.G. Lovell
MAJGEN P.J. Dunn	COL I.A. Lynch
MAJGEN T.R. Ford	COL R.B. Mitchell
MAJGEN S.N. Gower	COL D. J. Murray
MAJGEN J.P. Stevens	COL P.R. Patmore
MAJGEN J.D. Stevenson ⁽²⁾	COL J.C. Platt
MAJGEN J. Whitelaw	COL G.M. Salom
BRIG M.G. Boyle	COL B.J. Stark
BRIG J.R. Cox	COL P.B. Symon
BRIG M.P. Crane	COL A.D. Watt
BRIG R.K. Fullford	COL P.D. Winter
BRIG A.G. Hanson	LTCOL R.M. Baguley
BRIG J.A.R. Jansen	LTCOL A.R. Burke
BRIG P.R. Kilpatrick	LTCOL M.A. Cameron
BRIG R.A. Lawler	LTCOL J.H. Catchlove
BRIG R.Q. Macarthur- Stranham	LTCOL I.D.S. Caverswall
BRIG T.J. McKenna	LTCOL S.E. Clingan
BRIG K.B.J. Mellor	LTCOL D.P. Coghlan
BRIG D. Perry	LTCOL L.D. Ensor
BRIG B.A. Power	LTCOL E. Esmonde
BRIG K.V. Rossi	LTCOL J. Findlay
BRIG G.T. Salmon	LTCOL R.J. Foster
BRIG J.R. Salmon	LTCOL R.G. Gibson
BRIG W.M. Silverstone	LTCOL K.R. Hall
BRIG G.B. Standish	LTCOL M. Harvey (RNZA)
BRIG R.Q. Stanham	LTCOL P.L. Hodge
BRIG R.A. Sunderland	LTCOL S.F. Landherr
BRIG P.J. Tys	LTCOL R.M. Manton
BRIG A.G. Warner	LTCOL K.W. McKenzie
BRIG V.H. Williams	LTCOL D.M. Murphy
COL B.M. Armstrong	LTCOL S.W. Nicolls
COL R.V. Brown	LTCOL P.L. Overstead
COL D.L. Byrne	LTCOL G.F.B. Rickards
COL S.T. Goltz	LTCOL W.R.C. Vickers
COL E.D. Hirst	MAJ D.T. Brennan
COL C.B.J. Hogan	MAJ C.T. Connolly

MAJ R.J. Crawford
 MAJ M. Dutton
 MAJ G.W. Finney
 MAJ A.O. Fleming
 MAJ C. D. Furini
 MAJ T.J. Gibbings
 MAJ L.P. Hindmarsh
 MAJ D.A. Jenkins
 MAJ J.H. McDonagh
 MAJ R.S. McDonagh
 MAJ M.W. Middleton
 MAJ G.K. Milic
 MAJ D.R. Morgan
 MAJ P.J. Prewett
 MAJ S.G. Rohan-Jones
 MAJ S.M. Saddington
 MAJ L.J. Simmons
 MAJ C. Taggart
 MAJ M. Taggart
 MAJ T.W. Vercoe
 MAJ M.St C. Walton
 WO1 D.W. Bowman
 WO1 M.A. Pasteur
 WO1 K.F. Schoene
 WO2 A. Palovich

Deceased Benefactors

Sir Roden Cutler
 MAJGEN G.D. Carter
 MAJGEN P. Falkland
 MAJGEN R. G. Fay
 COL J.H. Humphrey
 LTCOL R. Harvey
 LTCOL G.W. Tippetts

RAA REGIMENTAL FUND ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION			
Please return to: Adjutant School of Artillery Bridges Barracks PUCKAPUNYAL VIC 3662			
<input type="checkbox"/> Please find enclosed my/our contribution to the RAA Regiment Fund. (Life membership costs \$120.00.) <input type="checkbox"/> A receipt is required.			
Name			Block Letters Please
Unit/Association/Individual			
Address			Postcode
Life Membership means you will never be asked to subscribe again and your name will be published annually in the list of Benefactors.			

Royal Australian Artillery Association of Tasmania Inc.

Major J.V. Anderson (Retd)
President

It is with pleasure that I present the 3rd Annual Report of the RAA Association of Tasmania.

Membership

During the year 16 applications for membership were approved and we received 2 resignations, giving us a total of 132 members.

Honours and Awards

Congratulations to our Patron, Lieutenant Colonel the Honourable W.J.E. Cox AC, KSJ, RFD, ED on his promotion to Knight of Grace in the Order of St John.

Honorary Life Membership

At the last AGM (2002) the members unanimously agreed to confer Honorary Life Membership of the Association on Colonel Peter R Patmore AM, RFD, ED for his outstanding support to the RAA Association of Tasmania and Artillery in general. Congratulations Colonel Patmore.

Financial Position

The Association is in a sound financial position thanks to our Treasurer Lieutenant Alistair Chilcott, who has managed our affairs in a very competent and professional manner. As at the 30 June 2003, the Association has \$3200 held in trust from the former Launceston Artillery Old Comrades, which is preserved in an investment account. \$5000 from the life member's subscriptions has also been placed in an investment account and we have \$3000 in our operating account. Well done Alistair and thank you for your support.

Sub-Committees

The following sub-committees have contributed to the activities of the Association.

Strategic Planning

The convenor of this committee is Lieutenant Colonel M.A.Cameron the Colonel Commandant Tasmania Region. This most important committee has, as its primary focus, the celebrations surrounding the sesquicentenary of Artillery in Tasmania to be conducted during the period December 2009 to June 2010.

As a result of this committee's discussion paper tabled at the last AGM, the Association now has a position on Oxley House. This committee has co-opted Mr. Adrian Howard, a PhD candidate with the History Department of the University of Tasmania, to research the History of Artillery in Tasmania. This committee is also exploring the feasibility of an Artillery Memorial in the vicinity of the Queen's Domain in Hobart. The work of this committee is so important to the aims of this association that a more detailed report, titled Major Projects has been included as an attachment to this Annual Report.

Launceston Artillery Old Comrades

Social Activities. This committee under the leadership of Des Salter conducted a function celebrating St Barbara's Day at the Paterson Barracks Sergeants' Mess. The function was

attended by 27 people and raised \$58.00 with their Gun Crew Whiskey Raffle. They raised a further \$136.00 following a Dining In Night conducted by 16th Field Battery to celebrate the 143rd birthday of the Launceston Volunteer Artillery. This total of \$194.00 will be forwarded to the Regimental Fund.

Anzac Day 2003. Members marched with the Artillery group in the Launceston Anzac Day Parade and afterwards joined other gunners at the Paterson Barracks Sergeants' Mess for a social gathering and lunch.

Vietnam Veterans Day. The Association was represented at a service conducted at the Launceston Cenotaph by Joe Ferguson.

Artillery League Activities

Major Milton Cunningham is the convenor of this sub-committee, which operates in the south of the state.

Ladies Luncheon. The annual Ladies Luncheon this year was to be held in conjunction with the 16th Field Battery presentation of the Mount Schank Trophy, but non-arrival of the trophy resulted in cancellation of this function.

Anzac Day 2003. The Artillery contingent was led by two guns, a 25pdr gun howitzer and a 105mm howitzer, followed by the Derwent and Scottish Pipe Band. Then came the Gunner and EME personnel, followed by Colonel Patmore and our oldest veteran Les Gabriel. The surviving members from the 2nd 8th Australian Field Regiment marched five abreast in the front row of the main body. It was the best roll-up of veterans for many years. The New Sydney Hotel was the venue for our members to congregate, including those who attended services in outlying areas and the members of the Derwent and Scottish Pipe Band.

General

Financial Life Members Fund

During the year the committee discussed the need to preserve the money paid as subscriptions by the Financial Life Members. The committee was conscious of the fact that this money was a once only subscription and therefore should be preserved, in part, to meet future commitments of the Association. On the 9th of November 2002, it was unanimously agreed that this money should be set aside in a special account with Tasmanian Trustees and the interest only be drawn each year for ongoing expenses of the Association. On the 22nd of February 2003, the committee decided that the amount to be set aside from the existing Life Members monies be \$5000.

Gunner Dinner

The 2003 Gunner Dinner was held on the 2nd of August at the Anglesea Barracks Officers Mess in the presence of our Patron the Lieutenant-Governor of Tasmania Lieutenant Colonel the Honourable W.J.E. Cox AC, KSJ, RFD, ED. The Dinner was hosted by the Colonel Commandant Lieutenant Colonel Mark Cameron and organized by the Battery Commander 16th Field Battery Major Barry Bastick, the Dining President was Lieutenant Colonel Steve Carey and the Australian Army Band (Tasmania) provided the music. Mr. Phillip Young again provided an excellent display of Artillery uniforms and memorabilia in the anti-room. The Association congratulates the organizers of this excellent function.

Soldier of the Year Award 2002

The Association presents this award annually for the best soldier up to the rank of bombardier in 16th Field Battery. Lance Bombardier Leigh Jay Kite, who won the award, was presented with a copy of David Horner's book *The Gunners*. We congratulate Lance Bombardier Kite who is a Gun Detachment Commander with 16th Field Battery.

El Alamein Day

A service to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the battle of El Alamein was held at the Hobart Cenotaph on the 23rd October 2002. The Association was well represented at this function. Numbers were boosted by a contingent from the North of the state who travelled to the service in a bus provided by the Army, at no cost to the members. The Service was organized by the Historical Arms & Military Society Shooting Club Inc. and was an outstanding success. The society provided a restored 25pdr in WW2 desert colours, which fired a salute to indicate the period of one minute's silence. I had the privilege of representing our association and laying a wreath during this very important service. At the conclusion of the service our members joined other guests for a luncheon at the Waratah Hotel.

Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery

The Association has become a corporate member of the Friends of the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, as of the 1st January 2003. The decision to seek corporate membership was made in view of the Museum's interest in the preservation of Artillery memorabilia.

Mad Harry Book Launch

The Secretary along with members of the Association and 16th Field Battery represented us at the book launch on 15 April 2003. The book records the military life of Lieutenant Colonel Henry William Murray VC, CMG, DSO (twice), DCM, Croix de Guerre - Australia's most decorated soldier. The book is of interest to Tasmanian Gunners as Lieutenant Colonel Murray received his early military instruction in the Launceston Artillery. The Association has purchased a number of copies of the book for use as presentations for soldier of the year awards and for sale to members.

Membership Officers

Jason Eddington and Robin Fitzpatrick have agreed to assist the committee as membership officers, with the tasks of active recruitment and pursuing the renewal of annual memberships. They are currently working on membership cards and a discount scheme with local businesses. Thank you gentlemen.

Appreciation

In addition to those members previously mentioned, I wish to acknowledge the contribution of the Colonel Commandant Lieutenant Colonel M.A.Cameron and the Battery Commander 16th Field Battery Major B.H.Bastick for their continued support throughout the year. In accordance with our constitution both gentlemen are ex-officio members of the committee and have made a major contribution to the work of the Association. I wish to thank our Vice-Presidents Major Milton Cunningham, Mr. Des Salter and committee members Mr. Toby Edwards, Mr. Joe Ferguson and Mr. Wayne Boon, who have all made their own distinctive contribution to the work of the Association. Finally, a special thank you to our Secretary and Public Officer, Mr. Norman Andrews who has worked tirelessly for our association.

Major Projects

*Lieutenant Colonel M.A.Cameron, RFD
Colonel Commandant, Tasmania*

Introduction

The primary focus of the Strategic Planning Sub-committee remains on the celebrations surrounding the sesquicentenary of Artillery in Tasmania (Hobart December 1859 and Launceston June 1860). This provides an activities period from December 2009 to June 2010 for commemorative events. Three major projects were under active consideration during the reporting period.

Oxley House Memorabilia

As reported last year, considerable attention has been paid to the future of the Oxley House building at the Stony Head live firing range. Two broad options were canvassed, either to relocate the building to the Inveresk community land in Launceston as an Association facility and museum or join with the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery project to display Artillery memorabilia (including selected material from Oxley House) at its Inveresk site. Following the circulation of a discussion paper within the Gunner community in Tasmania and consideration of member's comments, the Association adopted the paper's recommendation. In essence this was to concentrate the efforts and resources of the Association on the enhancement of the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery's Artillery display at the Inveresk site. To this end the Association has become a Corporate Member of the Friends of the Museum and remains an active contributor to the Museum's Community History strategy.

History of Tasmanian Artillery

At present there is no official history of Artillery in Tasmania. During the year Mr Adrian Howard BA (Hons) Hist, was co-opted to the committee to research the 150 years from a Tasmanian perspective. Mr Howard has undertaken consultancy work in military history in Tasmania and is a PhD candidate with the History Department at the University of Tasmania. His doctorate thesis is 'Tasmanian Soldiers in the Great War'.

It is proposed that Mr Howard's research will lead to two publications. The major work is to be a formal academic history of Artillery in Tasmania and the contribution by Tasmanians to the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery. The other work will be a lighter publication recalling the stories and anecdotes of prominent Tasmanian gunners to be published at the commencement of the sesquicentenary activities.

The sub-committee is most appreciative of Mr Howard's willingness to provide this major contribution to the project.

Artillery Memorial

Following a suggestion from Lieutenant Colonel Peter Hodge, discussions have been held with the 'Friends of Soldiers' walk. This group has an interest in the trees on the Queens Domain in Hobart commemorating those who fell in World War 1. Although a number of the trees have been lost to development, the group is active in the continuation and extension of the Domain's memorial theme with the inclusion of Corps/Unit memorials.

As the cenotaph area on the Domain is the site of one of the original batteries in the defences of Hobart and the area is used to the present day as a saluting base for ceremonial occasions, the feasibility of a memorial in that vicinity is now being investigated.

A meeting was convened by the Colonel Commandant with the Hobart City Council's Chair of Parks and Reserves Committee (Ald Peter Sexton) and included the President of the Friends of Soldiers Walk and Battery Commander 16 Field Battery. Dr Sexton is very supportive of the proposal and a formal submission to Council is now being developed.

Future Priorities

As the concepts and specifications for the sesquicentenary projects become clearer, the financial implications can now be assessed. A major activity for the sub-committee in the year ahead will be to finalise specifications and determine costs for the projects detailed above. This will then lead to a major effort for project sponsorship.

With less than six years to the commencement of the sesquicentenary activities, there is still a massive amount of work to be done on these projects and the ancillary projects surrounding the celebrations.

National Artillery Museum - North Fort

Situated on North Head at the entrance to Sydney Harbour, the Museum occupies a small section of the area known as North Fort and includes the 9.2 inch Coastal Fortification (gun emplacements, tunnels, engine room), the old Locating Wing Building (formerly workshops for the Fort), two married quarters (now the Fort Café and Administration Buildings) and a number of temporary buildings). It also contains the Sydney Australia Remembers Monument, a viewing platform and is the site of the Memorial Walk. The area commands some of the best views of Sydney Harbour and its entrance. Also on the Head is the former School of Artillery (North Head Barracks, Quarantine Station, Police College and National parks lands. For the past two years the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust have been preparing plans for the area.

On 3 September 2003 the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Dr David Kemp, signed off on a plan that will revitalise seven historic Sydney Harbour landmarks. Dr Kemp said the plan, backed with a commitment of \$115.5 million from the Government, would progressively transform the Harbour Trust's seven sites into foreshore parks and places for the people of Sydney over the next eight years. These are the former School of Artillery on North Head, former Defence lands at Middle Head-Georges Heights-Chowder Bay in Mosman, Woolwich Dock and Parklands, Cockatoo and Snapper Islands, Macquarie Lightstation and the former Marine Biological Station at Watsons Bay.

The plan has taken two years to prepare and involved extensive consultation between the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust and the Sydney community to reach broad consensus on the future use of these magnificent lands.

North Head Artillery School

North Head contains delicate and precious flora and fauna. Its history is as a place of Aboriginal ceremony, for quarantining ships' passengers and defending Sydney. North Head is a place of retreat, contemplation and reflection at the entrance to Sydney Harbour. It has the potential to become an ecological sanctuary where native wildlife, habitats and plant communities are managed sustainably by all landholders. Institutional buildings at the School of Artillery lend themselves to uses for research and education, a health retreat, visitor accommodation or conference/ function centre.

Museum

The Plan for North Head will affect the site of the Museum but we are confident it will not restrict our own requirements. The trust has been advised throughout the process of the requirements of the Museum and we will work together to achieve both aims. The Trust area does not include the Museum area and hence no funding is expected from the Trust.

Meanwhile, the Museum Staff, Army History Unit, with the support of the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company have been busy building the collection and improving the displays. They have been ably assisted by Community Service personnel, Locating Artillery Association, RAA Associations and others to continue the work that has to be done. Support from units has also been very helpful with members of 7th Field Regiment and 53rd Training Battery being prominent. The support of the Regiments is pleasing and appears to be increasing. We appreciate just how busy everyone is in the present environment your support has allowed a number of activities to be progressed.

The number of visitors to the Museum have been steadily increasing during the year and it is pleasing to note the increase in the number of Schools that are using a visit to the Museum as a part of their education programmes.

Other Collections

Apart from the Museum at North Fort, we have been busy assisting other collections throughout the year:

- *School of Artillery.* The CO/CI School of Artillery has requested a display be placed at the School in Puckapunyal and items have been identified and forwarded. Although minor in the size of the overall collection it will allow the visitors to the School to appreciate the history of our Regiment and also see the technology changes.
- *4th Field Regiment.* Support to the 4th Field Regiment collection continues and this year their dreams came true. For several years they have been after a Short 25 Gun. We were able to secure one for them from the Army Museum at Bandiana and forward it to Townsville where it will form a centre piece. It is significant that this was achieved this year, the 60th anniversary of the jump into Nadzab by members of the 2/4th Field Regiment.
- *Infantry Museum.* Benefit has been a two way story with the Infantry Museum at Singleton. We have been able to assist them with a number of items excess to our collection and which they were in search. To our benefit they transferred a number of sensor equipments to our collection. These items were used by the Detachment 131st Divisional Locating Battery during part of its time in South Vietnam. They are the forerunners of the present Surveillance equipment.

Acquisitions

A number of items continue to be donated/traded into the collection. Professor Bromley, lecturer in Applied Mathematics at Sydney University has bequeathed the Museum a number of items from his extensive collection. Over the years he collected a wide range of items that were mechanical means of solving complex mathematical problems. The equipments are too numerous to list here but of particular interest are a number of Anti-Aircraft Predictors.

Last year we were given a brass 6 pounder Smooth Bore Muzzle Loading barrel. It was missing its trunnions and thanks to Trevor Boyle from Austral Brass the trunnions were replaced. WO2 Steve Crawford, Curator of the Museum has been instrumental in this project and has just taken delivery of a replica carriage for this gun. Some work is still required but we have a very significant addition to our gun technology collection. A gun similar to this was used by the Royal Artillery at Lambing Flats Gold Riots in the 1860s.

Perhaps our most significant addition to the collection this year has been the donation of the medals, artifacts and portrait of Major John Ewen, MC, DCM, MM. Along with Lieutenant Edward Mattner, MC, DCM, MM they were the two highest decorated for bravery Gunners of World War I. Only seven Australians have been awarded this combination of bravery awards. John Ewen was selected as the 'typical gunner' when official portraits were painted in the 1920's of World War I diggers. He agreed on the proviso that the artist painted two portraits. One is in the Australian War Memorial and now the other is part of your collection. We are indebted to Ken Ewen and his sister Betty for there generosity.

Memorial Walk

Thanks to the untiring efforts of the project task master, Terry Waters, work on the Memorial Walk has been ongoing throughout the year. The pathway pavers have all been laid and thanks to the completion of a bridge, visitors can now walk the entire length of the Memorial Walk. In April, Major General Tim Ford, AM opened the Peacekeeping Monument. Over 600 engraved pavers are included in the path as well as some 12 sponsor pavers. As more donations are received, engraved pavers will be placed in the path and the funds will allow us to complete the

other monuments for Colonial wars, World War I, World War II and Post World War II Conflicts. Visitors to the site have been very impressed with the results. Pavers can be purchased by everyone and are a lasting memorial to those who have supported the project.

[Editor's note: see Pages 101 & 102 for information on The Walk]

Displays

A photographic display 'My Vietnam' has been on loan to the Museum since April. They represent some of the photos from a book of the same name which was released last year and show the story of the people involved.

A number of the equipments have been refurbished, ensuring their continued safe keeping. A 155mm Long Tom, 155mm GC5 (captured during the Iraq/Kuwait conflict), static 3.7-inch AA gun are nearing completion of restoration.

Plans are well underway to upgrade the Sir Roden Cutler VC display. A mannequin is being obtained to allow us to display the Blues Uniform he wore whilst Governor of New South Wales. A photographic display of his career of service to the nation will accompany the upgrade. We are grateful for Lady Cutler's support.

Thanks

To all our supporters, including the units, volunteers, and others who have assisted us during the past year, thank you. Our Museum Manager, Major Mike Laurence, Curator WO2 Steve Crawford, Chairman RAAHC, John Macpherson have appreciated your help. From those involved in the Museum we particularly thank the Curator for his untiring efforts during the year. Apart from his work as Curator, Steve has been a terrific bower bird and 'volunteer' slave and also found time to do other Army History Unit work in Timor.

From us all we thank you, wish you well in your Service and hope you all have a very Merry Christmas and Happy and Prosperous New Year. **[Editor's note: See Page 99 for a Membership Form for the RAA Historical Company]**



Major General T.R. Ford, AM opening the Peacekeeping Monument

NOTICES

Seeking Former Battery Commanders and Battery Sergeants Major

The Battery Commander of 101 Battery (Major Neil Sweeney) would like to locate all surviving former Battery Commanders and Battery Sergeants Major of the Battery. The theme of this undertaking is 'Getting the Story Straight'.

The concept is to ask each person to write their recollections and impressions (long or short) of the Battery during their time including any major events, people they remember, funny and/or particularly sad incidents as well as provide a photograph of themselves from their time with the Battery.

The information provided will be placed in the Battery museum.

Contact Details for Major Neil Sweeney:

Address: 8/12 Medium Regiment, Robertson Barracks,
Palmerston NT 0803

Telephone: 08 - 8935 3833

Email: neil.sweeney@defence.gov.au

Military Author Seeks Assistance

The *Gunners Gossip* – Newsletter of the RAA Association Nth Qld have received a letter from Gary McKay, the author of books such as *Delta Four*, *Sleeping With Your Eyes Open* and *Jungle Tracks*. He is in the process of writing a book on Gunners in Borneo, Malaya and Vietnam and needs contributions from people who served there. The full range of activities will be covered and anyone interested in producing material for inclusion in the book can contact Gary on (07) 5446 3833 or email garymckay@bigpond.com.

Suggested subject headings for inclusion in articles are: *Training for war*, *Deploying to war*, *First impressions*, *Operations*, *Fire Support Bases*, *FO Parties*, *Wet/Dry seasons*, *Sad times*, *Toughest time*, *Mine incidents*, *R&C and R&R*, *The Enemy and Anything else*. Gary would appreciate any input offered.

NOTICES

RAA Association NSW

Sunday 7th December

St Barbara's Day Church Service
Garrison Church,
The Rocks Sydney
at 1100 hours.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION (NSW) Inc

The Royal Australian Artillery Association (NSW) Inc needs your support. The association undertakes a number of activities on for Gunners of all ranks, full and part time, currently serving or retired. It's journal Gunfire is published three times a year and aims to keep members up to date with issues in the Gunner world.

The AIMS of the association are:

- Peak Gunner Organisation in NSW;
- To foster esprit-de-corps, Gunner traditions and comradeship amongst all Gunner ranks;
- To communicate with the Gunner fraternity; and
- To represent and make representations on behalf of Gunners.

A number of strategies have been determined in relation to each of those aims.

So, if you wish to be involved in traditional activities of the Regiment such as the Annual Gunner Dinner, maintain social contact with gunner mates through the Anzac Day reunion or sporting activities or just want to support your corps, join the association now. The cost is only \$25 in the first year which includes an enamel lapel badge and \$15 per annum thereafter.

An application form is on the following page.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION (NSW) INC.

The Honorary Secretary
RAA Association (NSW) Inc.
G.P.O. Box 576
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Date:

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Dear Secretary,

I hereby apply to become a member of the Royal Australian Artillery Association (NSW) Incorporated. Upon my admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the rules of the Association in force for the time being.

Surname:

Given Names:

Service Rank:

Decorations:

Permanent
Address for all
Correspondence:

Postcode

Email Address:

Preferred Title on Correspondence (Our policy is to address all as Mr or Ms)

Artillery Unit(s) and approximate dates you served:

Birth Date

Enlistment Date

- Annual membership subscription currently \$15.00.
 - RAA Association lapel badge currently \$10.00
- I enclose cheque/s for \$25.00 to cover subscription and badge.

Applicant's Signature:

Proposer's Signature:

Proposer's Name:

Date:

If you can't find a member to propose you, a member of the Committee will propose after your eligibility is verified.

**105TH FIELD BATTERY ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY
ASSOCIATION INC.**

- APPLICATION: Please accept me as a yearly/life subscriber to the association
or
 RENEWAL: Please renew my yearly membership of the association from 1 January to
31 December.

I enclose cheque / cash / money order for \$ _____ (\$10 Annual/\$105 Life)

Details

Full name:			
Preferred/known name:			
Address:			Postcode:
Phone:	Home:	Business:	

Service Details

Regimental No:	Dates with Battery:
Rank:	Postings:

Other Details

Wife/Partner's name:			
NOK name:		Relationship:	
Address:			Postcode:

Are you in receipt of a DVA pension? Yes / No

I **give / do not** give permission for my contact details to be given to other members of the association only.

Can we be of any immediate assistance to you? Yes / No

Details:

Signature:	Date:
------------	-------

Post to:
The Secretary,
105th Field Battery RAA Association Inc,
14 Marral Street, The Gap, Qld, 4061

North Fort

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY HISTORICAL COMPANY										
ACN: 084 470 539 ABN: 66 084 470 539										
Title		Surname					Given Names			
Decorations										
Private										
Address							Postcode			
Telephone				Fax				Email		
Business										
Address							Postcode			
Telephone				Fax				Email		
Your Occupation										
Your area of interest in the museum		<input type="checkbox"/>	Tour Guide	<input type="checkbox"/>	Museum Displays	<input type="checkbox"/>	Library	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Workshops	<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Business	<input type="checkbox"/>	Training			
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Computing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coffee Shop	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administration			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I hereby apply to become a member of the RAA Historical Company (registered under the Corporations Law of NSW on 24 September 1998). • In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the Constitution of the Company. • I enclose my annual membership fee of \$20.00 (includes quarterly copy of 'Cannonball' journal). 										
Your signature							Date			
Send your completed application form along with payment to:					Contact the Registrar on					
RAA Historical Company P O Box 1042 MANLY NSW 1655					(02) 99763855 Tel. (02) 99772607 Fax. Email - NorthFort@ozemail.com.au					
OFFICE USE										
Receipt no.		Amount \$		Entered on computer		<input type="checkbox"/>				
				Entered on roll		<input type="checkbox"/>				

North Fort

North Fort was completed in 1938 and is testimony to the ingenuity of the builders and the dedication of the gunners that served at North Fort from the outbreak of World War II continuously to the early 1960's. Although not firing a shot in anger during World War II, the guns were a significant deterrent to any potential attack on Sydney Harbour by a Naval Force.

The Fort consisted of two 9.2 inch coastal guns which could rotate 360 degrees and had a range of 27 km. The guns were supported by 2 searchlight elements, three 40mm Bofors anti-aircraft guns. In addition to the artillery and fortress engineer personnel, North Fort was manned by a Company of the 7th Volunteer Defence Corps and C Company, 2nd Garrison Battalion, a total of over 250 servicemen and women.

In 1960, after 25 years of being fully manned and armed, North Fort was declared non-operational and the guns and most of their supporting infrastructure were removed.



Now listed in the Australian Heritage Register, the entire complex is undergoing extensive restoration by a devoted band of volunteers and professionals who are dedicated to restoring the underground tunnel complex including the magazines, pump rooms, power station and medical dressing station to their original condition. A major project for the future is the acquisition of a 9.2 inch gun and its re-installation into one of the gun positions as the centrepiece of North Fort.

Adding to this impressive fortification is its unique location with sweeping views out over the ocean and around to the harbour, all nestled amongst the natural flora and fauna of North Head and the Sydney Harbour National Park.

Exhibits are fully accessible to visitors and regular tours are conducted by expert guides who will help you relive the excitement of this rare military installation and museum.

We're home to the Royal Australian Artillery National Museum

North Fort is the home of The Royal Australian Artillery National Museum and contains the history of Australian Gunners, not only in their role in the many conflicts and peace keeping operations that have involved Australia but also their contribution as nation builders.

The history of artillery in Australia commenced in 1788 with the cannons taken from the ships of the First Fleet being used for local defence. In the 1850's and 60's, as the new colonies of New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania were settled, volunteer units were raised to defend them.

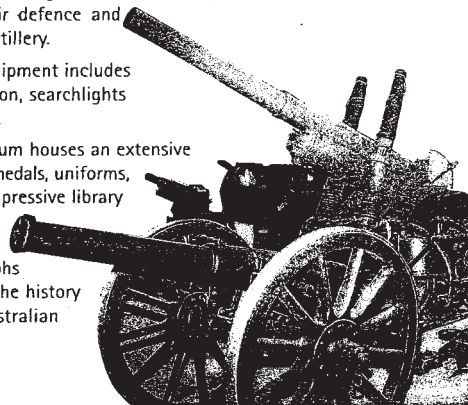
By 1880, all of the Australian Colonies had formed permanent and part-time artillery units and in August 1899, the eastern Australian colonies combined the units to form the Royal Australian Artillery (RAA). With Federation in 1901, the remaining States joined the RAA which exists to this day.

The history of Australian Artillery is on display at North Fort in a variety of military buildings and accessible outdoor displays.

There is an extensive range of guns from the Colonial days to today, including medium to heavy field artillery, anti-tank, mortar, air defence and coastal artillery.

Other equipment includes ammunition, searchlights and radar.

The Museum houses an extensive range of medals, uniforms, and an impressive library of books, maps and photographs covering the history of the Australian Artillery.



Getting to North Fort is no secret.

North Fort is located at North Head, Manly, amongst the natural bushland of the Sydney Harbour National Park. Simply follow Darley Road past Manly Hospital onto North Head Scenic Drive and follow the signs to North Fort Road.

Come and experience this unique location and re-live the excitement of this once highly restricted military base.

North Fort consists of several individual attractions:

- North Fort underground Tunnels & Fortifications
- Coffee Shop
- Royal Australian Artillery National Museum
- Memorial Walk
- Artillery Hall
- Defence of Sydney 1939-45 Monument
- Barbecue Circle
- Restoration Workshops
- Function Park

Admission:

Adults \$6.00 • Concession \$4.00 • Children \$3.00 • Family \$12.00
Parking is available to visitors within the North Fort grounds.

Enquiries & bookings: (02) 9976 3855

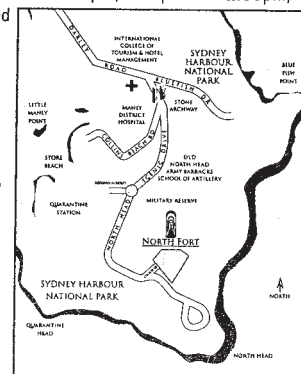
Facsimile: (02) 9977 2607

Email: NorthFort@ozemail.com.au

Opening times for North Fort, Coffee Shop & Picnic Area are: Wednesday, weekends and Public Holidays from 11am to 4.00pm. (Except Anzac Day, Good Friday, Christmas Day and Boxing Day)

Guided Tours: 1 1/2 - 2 hours at 12.30pm, 1.30pm and 2.30pm, during opening times listed above. Group and School Guided Tours can be arranged by appointment.

Special thanks to: Jean-Paul Ferrero/Auscapse for the wonderful cover picture and the Northmead Camera Club for detail photographs.



Sydney's best kept secret since 1938.

North Fort

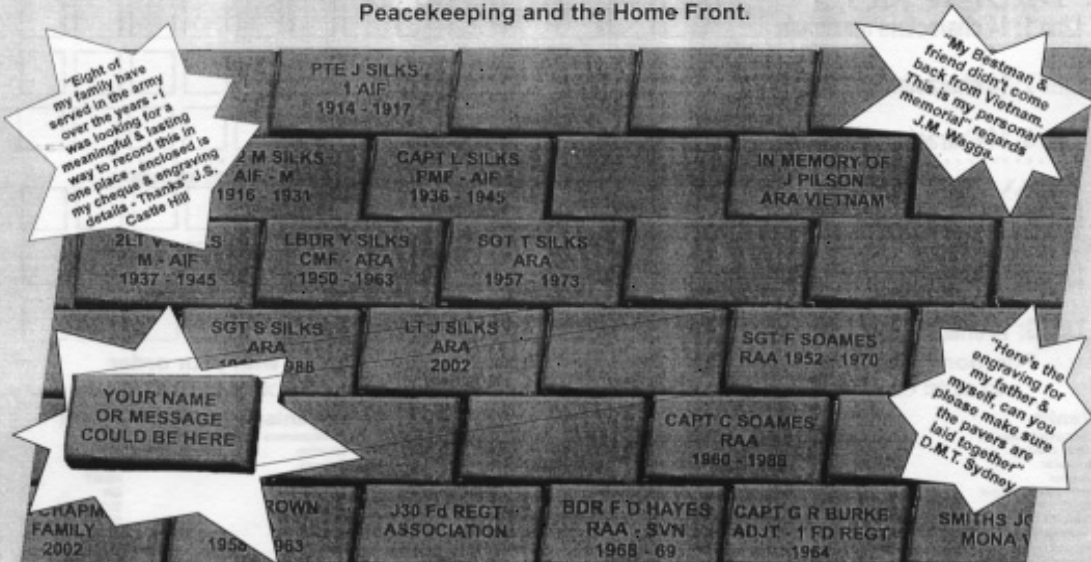


Invites You to be part of our "Memorial Walk". A History of Australia & Australians at War.

You are invited to participate in this unique opportunity to have your name or message as a permanent part of **Historic North Fort, North Head, Manly.**

For a tax deductible donation of \$50.00 your name or message will be engraved into a paver which will then be laid permanently in our **North Fort "Memorial Walk"**

The walkway & five memorials are dedicated to the Australians who served in the Colonial Wars, World War I, World War II, Post 1945; Peacekeeping and the Home Front.



All proceeds go towards completing the Memorial Walk & Memorials and restoring our heritage listed site for the education of present and future generations in the role the Australian Army played in the history of our country.

To order your paver please complete and return the order form on reverse.



Become a major sponsor.

For \$1,500.00 your unit badge, club emblem or organization logo will be engraved onto a centre piece paver measuring 400mm X 400mm.

Each of your individual members can then donate only \$40.00 for their personal paver which will be laid in the same bay as your centre piece paver.

Phone Jeff Evans (02)9976 3855 for further information regarding major sponsorship package.

North Fort


Order Early
Avoid disappointment.
Offer is limited by
space available
within the walkway.

~ ORDER FORM ~

FOR MEMORIAL WALK PAVERS

Please complete the details of the name or message you would like engraved in your paver/s in the template provided below.

Please print clearly. Each letter, number, punctuation mark or space represents one character.



NORTH FORT
Home To The Royal
Australian Artillery
National Museum

PAVER NO.1
Line 1: 14 characters maximum

Line 2: 14 characters maximum

Line 3: 14 characters Maximum

PAVER NO.2
Line 1: 14 characters maximum

Line 2: 14 characters maximum

Line 3: 14 characters Maximum

PAVER NO.3
Line 1: 14 characters maximum

Line 2: 14 characters maximum

Line 3: 14 characters Maximum

Please print clearly. Each letter, number, punctuation mark or space represents one character.

Please print clearly. Each letter, number, punctuation mark or space represents one character.

Please print clearly. Each letter, number, punctuation mark or space represents one character.

For more than three pavers, please photocopy this page & return it with your order
To assist complete your engraving details here are some common abbreviations:

<p>Ranks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lieutenant General Major General Brigadier Colonel Lieutenant Colonel Major Captain Lieutenant Second Lieutenant Warrant Officer First Class Warrant Officer Second Class Staff Sergeant 	<p>ABBR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LT GEN MAJ GEN BRIG COL LT COL MAJ CAPT LT 2 LT WO1 WO2 SSGT 	<p>Ranks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sergeant Bombardier Corporal Lance Corporal Lance Bombardier Gunner Private <p>Appointments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commanding Officer Second in Command Adjutant Regimental Sergeant Major 	<p>ABBR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SGT BDR CPL LCPL LBDR GNR PTE <p>ABBR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CO 2IC ADJT RSM 	<p>Organisations/Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Headquarters Division Brigade Regiment Battalion Battery Company Association <p>ABBR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HQ DIV SDE REGT BN BTY COY ASSN
---	--	---	--	---

Name: Day Phone:

Address: Post Code:

Simply complete the following details and return with your donation of \$50.00. For additional pavers donate only \$40.00 each. See table below.

Payment Authorisation: Cheques should be made payable to:
Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company

One paver	\$50.00
Two pavers	\$90.00
Three pavers	\$130.00
Four pavers	\$170.00

Please tick: Cash Cheque Credit Card Money Order

Please debit my (tick): Bankcard MasterCard Visa

Card No.:

Card Holders Name: Signature: Date:/...../.....

Phone, Fax or Mail your complete order form with full payment to:

Phone: Commercial Business Manager
(02) 9976 3855

North Fort
P.O. Box 1042
Manly NSW 1655

Fax:
(02) 9977 2607

Thank you for your support

NORTH FORT

NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

The Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company
Needs Your Help to Support the Ongoing Development
of the RAA National Museum

■ How Can You Assist?

- * Become a member of the RAA Historical Company.
 - * Annual Cost - \$20.00.
 - * All gunners are invited to join.

■ What Do You Get In Return?

- * Four issues of Cannonball (quarterly journal).
- * Free access to the RAA National Museum, most other Australian Army Corp museums and free use of the RAA National Museum's Library resources.
- * The satisfaction of assisting with the ongoing enhancement of a magnificent facility that preserves our gunner heritage.
- * 10% discount on books and merchandise purchased from the Museum shop.

■ How Does The Company Benefit?

- * They can add your weight to the membership numbers when seeking grants and other assistance from public and non-public sources.
- * Your subscription assists with ongoing administration costs, including the publication of Cannonball.

■ How Do You Join?

- * A membership form can be found in this publication.
- * Submit a form and start supporting a very worthwhile cause - you will not regret it.

NORTH FORT
THANKS YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
