

The Royal Australian Artillery **LIAISON LETTER**

Spring Edition
2005



**The Official Journal of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery
Incorporating the Australian Gunner Magazine**

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RAA
LIAISON LETTER

Spring Edition

2005

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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
- Royal Australian Artillery National Museum
- Head of Regiment
- CLCA
- All COs
- All BCs of Independent Batteries
- MG LC ARTY
- RMG HQ CATC
- All RSMs
- LC ARTY
- DJFHQ (JOSCC)
- 16th Air Defence Regiment
- 1st Field Regiment
- 2nd/10th Field Regiment
- 4th Field Regiment
- 7th Field Regiment
- 8th/12th Medium Regiment
- 23 Field Regiment
- 7th Field Battery
- 16th Field Battery
- 48th Field Battery
- 131st Surveillance and Target Acquisition Battery
- School of Artillery
- Joint Proof and Experimental Unit
- 1st Ground Liaison Group
- Miscellaneous Individual Gunner Officers/Warrant Officers and SNCO

Editors Comment

Welcome to the Liaison Letter 2005 - Spring Edition. From a personal perspective this edition marks a milestone - this is the tenth edition I have had the pleasure to compile and edit. Once again I extend my appreciation to all those who have made the effort and found time to submit contributions - they are very welcome and definitely appreciated.

I am particularly encouraged by the number of professional papers I have received for this edition. On behalf of all readers I thank Lieutenant Colonel I. Lawes, Major A.M. Dunjey and Major S. Mott for their papers. The article by Major Mott and his operational experience as the Battery Commander supporting AMTG I in Iraq is particularly timely as the debate on the future role of Gunners in the Hardened and Networked Army continues. Whilst I know the adage 'The only constant within the RAA and the wider Army is change!!' given the current environment in which we find ourselves, it interesting to read the farewell comments by Lieutenant Colonel (Temporary Colonel) E.J.H. Howard, Director Royal Artillery from 15th December 1959 to 14th October 1962, in the Liaison Letter published in October 1968:

'The Regiment is at the threshold of a most exciting stage in its history. The major reorganisation of our units complete and our programme of re-equipment is well under way; the future, I believe, holds much promise for the Regiment.'

To more administrative matters, in this edition I have compiled an index of all the Liaison Letters and Australian Gunner Magazines that I am aware of ever having been published. This information was sourced from issues held by the Head of Regiment, Puckapunyal Area Library and myself. It would be appreciated if any readers, particularly those more senior, would advise me of the details any other issues whose existence I am currently not aware. My goal is to establish a complete collection of Liaison Letters and Australian Gunner Magazines on the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery website as well as hold hard copies at the Head of Regiment. To assist me with this goal if you have a copy of any edition not listed in the index it would be most appreciated if you could forward the publication to my home address and I will have it copied and returned to you.

For those of you who are avid readers of the personnel aspects published in the Liaison Letter you would have noticed the error on page 54 of the autumn edition in the list of new commanding officers for 2006 where I inadvertently listed Lieutenant Colonel Michael Kingsford as a Lieutenant. My apology to Lieutenant Colonel Kingsford for the error and I thank the readers who contacted me and highlighted the error of my ways.

Finally in the 'Editors Comment' in the last edition I sought support from units, sub-units and individuals to start developing a series on Royal Australian Artillery memorials. I have had no response to this request - therefore I would ask again if I could be sent information regarding the background / history on any memorials including photographs. At the start of some sections of this edition I have published the circumstances surrounding the death of individuals in South Vietnam whose names are on the 1st Field Regiment memorial. The genesis for compiling this information was the construction, during the period I was Battery Captain of Headquarters Battery, of a new unit memorial under the supervision of our Second In Command Major Hugh Polson. When I asked after the background to the names on the memorial there was no detailed information available. As a consequence I set about following up the background, in particular the circumstances of their death, to the names on the memorial - the final result being the information published in this Liaison Letter.

The Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery website is now established and can be found using the addresses located below my signature block. The information currently on the site is limited but will increase over the coming year. I encourage you to make a note of the site details and visit it on a regular basis. Your feedback and /or suggestions on the site are most welcome. If you feel so inclined please do not hesitate to contact the Head of Regiment staff using the contact facility on the site. For those who are serving members I would ask that that you add the details, along with your unit site, to your email signature block.

Once again thank you to everyone - serving or retired - who has supported this edition. Without your support it would be very difficult to produce an edition with appeal to a wide cross section of Gunners.



D.T. (Terry) BRENNAN
Major
Editor

Telephone: 07 4651 0939

Email: stratford01@bigpond.com

Postal: 'Stratford' BLACKALL QLD 4472

<http://www.defence.gov.au/army/RRAA>

[http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/Sites/RRAA /](http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/Sites/RRAA/)

Editor's Note: Retired or serving Gunners who would like to receive future copies of the RAA Liaison Letter should contact the editor by email or write to the address above with their mailing details. Conversely if you would like your name removed from the mailing list please advise the Editor.

Letters to the Editor

G'day Terry,

As you have my sought my assistance with the publishing of the Gunner 100 series sub unit histories, I would like to throw in a few more thoughts for consideration in the future.

Firstly the renaming of 104 Battery has had a good old pounding around the northern traps (North Queensland) some for, some against. Everyone that I spoke to felt Arthur's (Colonel A.R. Burke) article was bias to his old CMF unit 5 Field Regiment. However the most interesting reaction I get is when I tell people that we had nearly 70 Field Artillery Battery's in WW1. If you visit the website, Digger History WW1 Artillery, you can view where they served. This ... needs to be visited first, along then with the information in my letter to the editor (see page 8) listing the regiments and sub units from WW1. These articles would then put all interested readers on the one net.

Secondly we could have an article under the title of 'Where Are These Sub Units in 2005'. Once this re-education exercise of our roots was completed, it would make the job of the Regimental committee simple.

Thirdly we could endeavour where possible to move at least one sub unit back to its foundation unit, for example, 101 Bty should have never left 1 Field Regiment, and in the latest shuffle with some looking outside of the circle, 104 Bty could have returned to 4 Field Regiment. What's wrong with, '104 Operational Support Battery 4th Field Regiment RAA'. This action would have bought 104 back to its foundation in 4 FAB WW1. Sure we would have to do away with HQ Bty, what about the Headquarter Battery's, my answer is show me where I can find the history of the HQ Bty's.

Your views please,

Paddy Durnford

Reply from Editor

The Regimental Committee made the decision last year based on the research provided and the subsequent discussions at the meeting. The need to make a decision on the title was a direction by Chief of Army that sub units were not to have 'shared / combined' names.

The views you have expressed and suggestions regarding future 'historical and heritage' based

decisions are most appreciated. You would be pleased to know that at the same meeting the Regimental Committee took the decision to establish the 'RAA History Sub Committee'. In future when decisions such as the '13th / 104th Field Battery Name' have to be made the proposal will be referred to this sub committee for research / investigation prior to the proposal being put to a meeting. A member of the sub committee will be invited to brief the Regimental Committee on the findings of any investigation and the rationale for and recommendation(s).

In regard to your suggestion on publishing an article entitled 'Where Are These Sub Units in 2005' referring to the artillery sub units of World War One. I agree this would be an extremely interesting, albeit possibly time consuming exercise. Perhaps a task for the History Sub Committee!!!

As a long serving member of Headquarters Battery in 1st, 4th and 5th/11th Field Regiments I believe your suggestion regarding the preservation of the sub unit names by incorporating them in the name of Headquarters Battery shows lateral though and is well worth pursuing. My limited research over the years on the origins of Headquarters Batteries has lead me to the conclusion that they evolved in the early 1960's out of Regimental Headquarters.

The point I make is that the existence and associated traditions of Headquarters Battery is 'relatively' recent, therefore your concept of preserving the number titles of batteries would not be that big a leap to make. After all the composition and equipment of batteries has constantly changed throughout history - I say bring back 106 Operational Support Battery!!!!

In regard to where are the histories of individual Headquarters Battery? I believe the reason why there is little information available is due to the history of Headquarters Battery being closely linked the Regiment it supports. Having made this observation, during my tenure as Battery Captain I drafted a brief history of Headquarters Battery at 1st Field Regiment. Whilst it is still a draft almost 20 years later at least a history of one battery exists.

The Editor

As an ex BCA I found the Porton article by A.R. Burke most interesting and a reminder to all that

initiative should never be dampened. One can only be thankful that these stories are told. It is noted that reference to the history of the 4th is made in the bibliography and therefore begs the question of A.R. Burke who has been compiling it for many years - 'when can the publication be expected'?

On a similar note the same can be asked of WO1 D. Kelly. During the 2000 birthday celebration of 4th Field Regiment a draft of his book 'End of Mission' was passed around. This was a very useful compilation. Will Darryl be completing and publishing this book.

Sincerely

Geoff Annett WO1 Retd
8 August 2005

Reply from Colonel A.R. Burke - Colonel Commandant Northern Region

ABOUT 2010 - I was ready to move from the research to the writing stage of my book, 'Into the Breach' when the appointment of Colonel Commandant RAA - Northern Region caused my programme to be put on hold. As I will reach 65 years of age and have completed six years as Colonel Commandant by the end of 2008 it will then be mandatory for me to retire from that office. Two years have then been allowed to complete writing, proofing and publishing. In the short term, my publication '4th Field Regiment Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery - Historical Guide' provides a good overview of the history of the 4th Field Artillery. This 40 page booklet is available from the Curator, 4 Field Regiment Historical Collection, Chau Pha Lines, Lavarack Barracks, Townsville QLD 4813 for the sum of six dollars including postage. Cheques should be made payable to '4 Fd Regt RTF'.

Reply from Warrant Officer Class One Darryl Kelly - Regimental Sergeant Major Training Command - Army

We do intend to publish 'End of Mission' in the future. It is a labour of love and it is a pretty mammoth work. We are currently up around eight thousand names and our cross referencing from official records is pretty daunting. Once completed though, it will be a great source of reference for the RAA.

We will take 'End of Mission' to the end of the Vietnam War and for those who did serve on into the 70's, 80's and 90's, we will encapsulate their service within the text. We did look at including current operations in the first draft, but this is not

possible due to the Army's current operational tempo. It is planned that we will capture those later missions in a future edition.

Our greatest hurdle at the moment is getting the time to work on the manuscript. Being the RSM of Training Command - Army and with the co-writer Cammeron Simpson working full time as a contractor overseas, leaves little or no time for us to devote to the work. This is further compounded by the fact that we are each working on other projects as well. 'End of Mission' will become a reality, we're just not sure when.

We still encourage ex-gunners and members from other corps, who served with Gunner units on operations from 1946 (BCOF) through to the end of Vietnam, to submit their biographical details to us for inclusion in the text. If they contact me on 02 9532 1952, I'll gladly send them a proforma.

Dear Terry

I would like to comment on the article prepared by Colonel A. R. Burke on the *Title for a Combined 13th & 104th Field Battery*. I disagree with Arthur in his statement that 104 Field Battery has no traditional or heritage links with 1st Field Regiment. When I joined the Artillery in 1956 the Corps postings were mainly to the 1st Field Regiment at Georges Heights Sydney with A Field Battery, 103 Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery or with 104 Locating Battery. This is also listed on page 23 of the Liaison Letter 2005 - Autumn Edition under the title Locating History. *This gives 104 Battery a clear traditional link with the 1st Field Regiment*. C.E. Bean the historian tells us that during WW1 Field Regiment's as we know today were then called an Artillery Brigade. Our Field Artillery was made up of:

1st Division

- 1st Field Brigade, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Field Batteries and 101 Howitzer Bty; and
- 2nd Field Brigade, 4th, 5th, 6th Field Batteries and 102 Howitzer Bty.

2nd Division

- 4th Field Brigade, 10th, 11th, 12th Field Batteries and 104 Howitzer Bty; and
- 5th Field Brigade, 13th, 14th, 15th Field Batteries and 105 Howitzer Bty.

3rd Division

- 7th Field Brigade, 25th, 26th, 27th Field Batteries and 107 Howitzer Bty; and

- 8th Field Brigade, 29th, 30th, 31st Field Batteries and 108 Howitzer Bty.

4th Division

- 10th Field Brigade, 37th, 38th, 39th Field Batteries and 110 Howitzer Bty; and
- 11th Field Brigade, 41st, 42nd, 43rd Field Batteries and 111 Howitzer Bty.

5th Division

- 13th Field Brigade, 49th, 50th, 51st Field Batteries and 113 Howitzer Bty; and
- 14th Field Brigade, 53rd, 54th, 55th Field Batteries and 114 Howitzer Bty.

Army Brigade

- 3rd Field Brigade, 7th, 8th, 9th Field Batteries and 103 Howitzer Bty;
- 6th Field Brigade, 16th, 17th, 18th Field Batteries and 106 Howitzer Bty; and
- 12th Field Brigade, 45th, 46th, 47th Field Batteries and 112 Howitzer Bty.

I disagree that the 13th Field Battery is the last surviving battery of the 5th Field Artillery Brigade as *105 Field Battery* has continued the link with the 1st Field Regiment for many decades. Now that 13 Battery is the senior battery of the 1st Regiment along with 105 Battery it really could be called the 5th Regiment.

I wonder then if the Regimental Committee had these facts presented to them last year would they not have left 104 Battery on the Order of Battle with the 1st Field Regiment.

My Recommendation would have been [I have never served in 104 Bty] 104 Battery stay on the Order of Battle with the 1st Field Regiment RAA, or be added to the new STA Regiment as a sub unit. Since 5th Field Regiment has been removed from the Order of Battle, so should its sub units 13, 14 and 15 Batteries. So should the unit in the future be re-raised it could retain its complete identity from the WW1 period.

My approach would mean Colonel Burke still gets to have his old CMF Unit on the Order of Battle, via 105 Batteries link to the 5th FAB, in this manner we can still represent the 5th's long standing association with the part-time soldiering of south east Queensland.

You must understand also that the 5th FAB was raised along with the sub units 13,14,and 15 Batteries in NSW on the 6th of September 1915, in my view a Southern Unit by birth.

Paddy Durnford
Townsville

Reply from Editor

See Reply to First Letter to Editor.

Dear Terry

A few words to add to those of Major S.A. Jenkins on the history of 103 Field Battery, I served in the Battery from 1960 until 1968. It is worth noting that during the Battery's tour of Malaya, one of the final acts of the South East Asia Treaty Organisation (SEATO) before being disbanded was to deploy troops to Thailand. The 28th Commonwealth Brigade stationed at Malacca Malaya dispatched troops which included a large group of 2 RAR, and the BC's party commanded by Major W. Slocombe [later Director Army Aviation] to the Thai Laos boarder, and a single gun (Bravo) with a double detachment to Lop Buri.

A third section under command of Captain Mick Crawford and Sergeant Bill Gallagher ran a 28th Commonwealth Brigade transit camp in Bangkok. This deployment lasted approximately 6 weeks plus a week each way in Singapore. The Malay government refused to allow SEATO troops to deploy directly from its shores, the deploying forces had to be sent from, and return to Malaya via Singapore.

In the well studied book 'The Street Without Joy' by Bernard Fall on page 339 he comments in May 1962 in response to the threat, American, British, Australian, and New Zealand troops began to arrive in Thailand, this relates to our deployment.

My second point relates to the Battery's deployment to South Vietnam 1966/67. When a soldier steps over that line from 'doing his job' to what is classed as bravery as displayed by Lieutenant Michael Langley on the 21st of February 1967, that event should be written in bold letters, at every opportunity, such as the history published in the last issue of the Newsletter. The events of that day should be recalled with great pride by all in the Battery.

Lieutenant Michael Langley was commissioned into the Royal Australian Artillery on the 28th June 1965 as a member of 1st Field Regiment. On the 21st of February 1967 Lieutenant Langley was the Forward Observer with B Company, 5th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment during Operation Renmark. Near the village of Long My at 1411 hours, the company headquarters group became caught in an enemy minefield and at least two

mines were detonated. The whole of the command element of the company was included in the casualties, of whom nine died and a further 20 were wounded.

Placing his own party of men in a safe place Lieutenant Langley immediately moved forward into the minefield. With complete disregard for his own safety, he rendered first aid to the injured and arranged their subsequent evacuation by helicopter. He then took command of the remnants of the company, organised the local defence of their position, and successfully maintained morale and fighting spirit. He remained in command of B Company until 1107 hours on the following day when the company was able to rejoin the Battalion Headquarters.

Lieutenant Langley by his immediate action was able to steady the survivors at a critical moment and prevent further casualties occurring. His complete disregard for his own safety and care for the wounded soldiers displayed a standard of calmness and bravery that reflects great credit upon himself, his Regiment and the Australian Regular Army.

This act and similar Gunner acts of valour should appear in all briefs of unit history. Finally when we returned from Vietnam in 1967 to form as a Medium Battery ample ammunition was still available for the 25 pounder, so the Battery was equipped with 25 pounder guns, plus the 5.5-inch guns to be able to support the School of Artillery.

We also regularly sent detachments to North Head to fire the 4.2-inch mortar seawards to assist with the training of the Locating courses. This meant the detachment commanders had to be qualified on all three weapons.

Paddy Durnford
Townsville

Reply from Editor

Your feedback on the 103rd Medium Battery history is most appreciated. I support your views concerning the importance of acknowledging and highlighting at every opportunity acts of bravery by Gunners to those within and outside of the Regiment. I refer you and all readers to the articles in this edition entitled 'Acts of Bravery' by Colonel A.R. Burke and 'Troop Names for 105th Medium Battery' from the Battery Commander 105th Medium Battery. They both highlight the bravery of Bombardier Gerry Dekker and the circumstances surrounding him being awarded the Military Medal on South Vietnam.

I have made note of your recommendation and in the future will publish a series on Gunners who have been awarded bravery medals and their citation along with any other information I can locate on the circumstances. I will start with today and work backwards to World War One - this again will be long task.

Dear Major Brennan

I recently received the Autumn Edition of the RAA Liaison Letter and was most disappointed to note that the article and order forms relating to 18 Light Anti Aircraft Regiment did not appear, also that our information address on page 105 has the suburb incorrectly spelt.

However, our membership application, from previous issues did appear on page 126.

On previous occasions I have written articles for the Liaison Letter which have appeared and I wonder what happened on this occasion.

Enclosed is a copy of my letter to you dated 16/2/2005, with attachments.

You might be kind enough to drop me a line to let me know if the details provided will be included in the next liaison letter.

I look forward to your reply.

Yours faithfully

Major B.T. Lennie, RFD, ED
President
20/6/2005

Editors Comment

Your letter of 16th February 2005 would appear to have been lost or misplaced. The information you have re-sent will be published in this edition of the Liaison Letter.

Regimental Aspects

**1st Field Regiment
Regimental Memorial - South Vietnam
36205 Gunner T. Simpson**

36205 Gunner Thomas 'Tommy' Simpson died of illness in South Vietnam on Thursday 9th December 1965, aged 27 years. Gunner Simpson was a driver with the 105th Field Battery.

Gunner Simpson became ill with cerebral malaria on 6th December 1965 and died in the 93rd Evacuation Hospital (US Army), Bien Hoa, three days later. Gunner Simpson who enlisted on 5th October 1957, had served in the Regular Army for eight years. During this time he had completed two years service in Malaysia as well as his tour of South Vietnam.

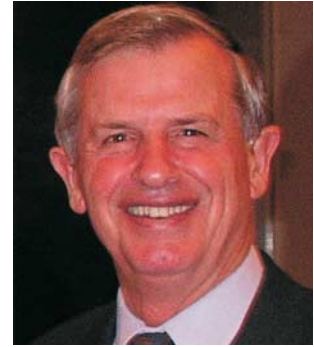
Note: At the time Gunner Simpson died, 105th Field Battery was operating independently in support of 1st Battalion Royal Australian Regiment. The 1st Australian Task Force was not deployed to South Vietnam until May 1966. 105th Field Battery became part of 1st Field Regiment, Royal Australian Artillery, when the Regiment arrived as part of the Task Force.

Representative Colonel Commandant

Major General Tim Ford, AO (Retd)

Dear Fellow Gunners,

It is now some six months since I assumed the appointment of Representative Colonel Commandant, and I continue to be amazed at the multitude of associated Gunner activities occurring around Australia and overseas. The Head of Regiment and other reports in this Liaison Letter describe much of what is happening with our Regular and Reserve Royal Australian Artillery units, but we need to be aware that there are also many other unit and regional associations and societies that publish magazines, manage web pages, and regularly conduct various meetings and activities across the nation. These activities add to the heritage of the Regiment, maintaining records and encouraging camaraderie amongst various Gunners past and present and other interested parties. It would good if we were able to loosely link all these activities to strengthen the ties between our past and the present. As I suggested in my first message in the May Liaison Letter, I envisage this network being developed over the next few years through the continuing efforts of the Royal Australian Artillery Colonel Commandants in each region.



In early June the Colonel Commandants met together with the Head of Regiment staff in Sydney to coordinate our actions and to address a number of ongoing issues, and we will meet again at the Regimental Committee Meeting in Puckapunyal on the 26th October just before the Royal Australian Artillery Conference and the Officer and Warrant Officer/Senior Non Commissioned Officer farewells. The agenda for that meeting is a full one.

One particularly exciting development is the formation of a Royal Australian Artillery History Sub-Committee that is consolidating a plan to ensure that the history of the RAA is appropriately recorded. Major General John Whitelaw has graciously accepted the role as the inaugural Chairman of the Sub-Committee and he is being assisted by a group of eminent retired Gunners from all regions representing all disciplines to compile the framework and project definitions necessary to progress this concept. Of course we are closely coordinating this review with the excellent ongoing work of the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company and the plans for the National Artillery Museum at North Fort. I encourage all to contribute where possible to this activity and to support our Gunner heritage at local and national level. In this respect I encourage all who visit Sydney to take time to go to North Head and to see the developments at North Fort.

On the occasion of the Royal Australian Artillery Day on 1st August, on your behalf I forwarded to Her Majesty, the Captain General a traditional message of loyalty, and I received the following response:

'Please convey my warm thanks to All Ranks of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery for their message of loyal greeting sent on the occasion of Royal Australian Artillery day which is being held today in this one hundred and thirty-fourth year of dedicated service by the Regiment.

As your Captain General, I much appreciate your kind words and, in return, send my best wishes to you all for a most enjoyable and successful gathering.'

ELIZABETH R
1st August, 2005

Finally may I join others in welcoming back to Australia from his overseas service, our Head of Regiment, Colonel Steve Goltz, and to thank Colonel John (JP) Smith for his great support to all of us as Acting Head of Regiment in Steve's absence. All the very best to both of you in your future activities.

I look forward to meeting with you at Royal Australian Artillery activities and to your contributions.

Good luck and good shooting to all.

Ubique

Head of Regiment – Incoming

Brigadier Gerard Fogarty, AM

Hello Colleagues,

I have just returned from studying in the United States for a year and am thrilled to be provided the opportunity to balance my day-to-day responsibilities within the Defence Personnel Executive with those associated with the position of Head of Regiment. I want to take this opportunity, on behalf of all Gunners, to thank Steve Goltz for his efforts as Head of Regiment and to wish him every success as he leaves the Army following a wonderfully successful career.



I know that the Regiment is in great shape. You hear about it regularly from all sorts of people - even in Canberra! It is widely recognised that our members are doing great things. Individually, Gunners are excelling on operations and in their day-to-day duties and collectively we are well positioned to receive major capability improvements that will enhance our ability to contribute decisively across the spectrum of conflict. My focus as Head of Regiment, therefore, is to ensure that our own views on capability development are adequately aligned with Army's developing Hardened and Networked Army construct. The annual Corps conference will provide an opportunity to confirm that alignment and establish a road map for its ongoing achievement.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as I possibly can over the coming year. Through unit visits and discussions with you I hope to learn how I can assist the Regiment seek opportunities for continued growth and success.

Ubique

Profile

Gerard Fogarty was born on 3rd December 1961 in Gosford, New South Wales. After completing his secondary education at Saint Leo's College in Sydney, he attended the Officer Cadet School, Portsea in 1980 and graduated into the Royal Australian Artillery, specializing in Air Defence. His initial appointment was as a Troop Commander in the 16th Air Defence Regiment (16 AD Regt). He further served in 16 AD Regt in 1989-2002 as the Adjutant and then Battery Commander of the Rapier Battery. His service in the Regiment culminated in his appointment in 1999 as the Commanding Officer.

From 1985 to 1986 Brigadier Fogarty served as the Staff Officer Grade Three Operations at the 5th Military District in Perth. Between 1987 and 1988 he served as an exchange instructor at the United States Air Defence Artillery School at Fort Bliss, Texas. For his service at Fort Bliss he was awarded the United States Army Meritorious Service Medal. Following his graduation from the Australian Army Command and Staff College in 1993, Brigadier Fogarty served for three years at Land Headquarters in Sydney, as the Staff Officer Grade Two Development and the Staff Officer Grade Two Operations and Plans.

Brigadier Fogarty has served in Army Headquarters in 1997 as the Staff Officer Grade One Concepts and Research, the Military Assistant to the Chief of Army in 2001, and the Director of Personnel Operations in 2003-2004. He has also served in Land Development Branch, Australian Defence Headquarters, in 1998 as the Director of Operational Requirements.

In 2002, Brigadier Fogarty served in Timor Leste as the Commander of the Australian Contingent. For this operational service, he was appointed as a Member in the Military Division of the Order of Australia.

Brigadier Fogarty assumed his current appointment as the Director General Workforce Planning, Research and Retention within the Defence Personnel Executive in July 2005.

He holds a Bachelor of Business from the University of South Australia, a Masters in Business Administration from the University of New England and a Masters of Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College.

Brigadier Fogarty and his wife Mandy have four children; Sam, Holly, Georgia and Olivia. His leisure interests include running, playing the guitar and entertaining his children.

Head of Regiment – Outgoing

Colonel Steve Goltz

Greetings Fellow Gunners,

The time of year for the Gunners to congregate at the School of Artillery is nigh and whilst we 'olds and bolds' remember North Head, Pucka is our Home and it is good to see the attendance list for the Conference and the farewells growing. A couple of notable welcomes are required in 2005: the new Representative Colonel Commandant - Major General Tim Ford, and our new Colonel Commandant - Central Region - Colonel Reg Foster. It is also time to announce that this is my last contribution as Head of Regiment and to introduce the new Head of Regiment as appointed by Chief of Army on 26th September 2005 - Brigadier Gerard Fogarty. Congratulations and heartfelt thanks for accepting the additional responsibilities that these appointments bring.



Brigadier Ash Power was promoted to Major General and assumed command of the 1st Division in July and is now our Senior Serving Gunner. Our previous Senior Serving Gunner in Major General Frank (FX) Roberts retired in mid-2005 and is to be congratulated on such a distinguished career as a Gunner and a gentleman. Congratulations to Brigadiers Paul Simon and Gerard Fogarty on their promotions to Brigadier and to Don Roach - Commander Land Command Artillery and Paul McLachlan - Chief of Staff 1st Division on their promotions to Colonel. I would also like to congratulate the Commanding Officers for 2006 - Mike Kingsford - 4th Field Regiment; Stu Bagnall - 1st Field Regiment; Cameron Gee - 1st Ground Liaison Group; Phil Swinsberg - 20th Surveillance and Target Acquisition Regiment; Schon Condon - 23 Field Regiment (in the chair); and Dean Ashton - 2nd/10th Field Regiment.

There are many rumours doing the rounds of the gun parks and messes on the likely effects of the 'Hardened and Networked Army' (HNA) but the key point here is to realise that we Gunners will have the first truly networked system when Land 17 delivers. This project will deliver the ability for Gunners to be interoperable with key Allies and utilise precision munitions and leading edge ammunition systems in order for us to match threats across the spectrum of conflict. The new networks will mitigate the nature and vulnerabilities of our current systems and afford protection and reach that have been denied to us for too long and will allow us to the fight in a relevant state. The biggest message is for all Gunners to talk with one voice after we have robustly discussed options. The strategic environment is highly competitive for funding and endorsement of projects and capabilities and we cannot afford to display any chinks in our unity.

The GBAD world is in good shape and the future is bright as it achieves two batteries of like equipment (RBS 70) and improvements in acquisition and situational awareness (PSTAR-ER). There is no time to rest here as the plethora of stand-off weapons and UAV/TUAV provide a new threat dimension to challenge our support to manoeuvre forces. The march of 20th Surveillance and Target Acquisition Regiment to a capability continues unabated and the challenge for us here is to be ready for the arrival of this force multiplier. The TUAV will be a winner and the responsibility for ensuring success lies in our attitude to getting the job done as much as in our technical performance. The surveillance and target acquisition dimension is interwoven in our future and is a key part of the offensive support package we need to sell around the ADF.

I would like to thank the band of willing and unsung stalwarts of the RAA who are keeping our Museum and regional collections in such fine order. The Army History Unit has imposed new draft policies for comment in order to shape the future and the RAA Historical Company has diligently examined the papers and provided detailed comment. There are certain aspects that we are not happy with and against

which I will continue to work to get the most favourable outcome for the Museum. I certainly appreciate the amount of effort devoted to these tasks by this dedicated group of volunteers and thank them sincerely.

Last, but definitely not least, I would like to pay tribute to the work of Major Terry Brennan in badgering, cajoling, pleading and threatening the RAA collective to get contributions to the Liaison Letter. It is an excellent example of the Gunners way of doing business and is the envy of many other Corps. Terry's persistence and sense of tradition is to be applauded and he has been an enormous help to me in my tenure as Head of Regiment.

I would like to wish all Gunners every success for the future and as I retire after 30 years of wearing a white lanyard I can reflect on the wonderful people that are part of the Gunner Tribe and know it is in good shape.

Ubique

Regimental Master Gunner

Warrant Officer Class One C.F.J. (Col) Watego

'Success bases our worth on a comparison with others. Excellence gauges our value by measuring us against our own potential.'

John Johnson

Greetings Fellow Gunners,

As we rapidly approach the end of another very busy year, one could be forgiven for assuming that the pace and the demands required of personnel within the Regiment, could or should possibly start to slow down.

From my perspective, I believe the Regiment is as busy now, if not more busy, than when the year started and I don't believe there will be a significant change to the contrary anytime in the immediate future.

To that end, I would like to encourage everyone, particularly our junior soldiers to maintain focus and remain diligent right up until the '*Last Safe-Moment*', and as Gunners we know too well, that the '*Last Safe-Moment*' for some, may not be decided until the assault has begun.

I believe that it is not always easy to maintain focus, particularly when at times without notice, the goal posts are changed, just when you believe that you are in a position to score. It appears to me that the most common reason for changing the position of the goal posts is either a decision made by someone to change the priority of tasks already allocated; or there is the requirement to undertake and complete an additional task(s) with a higher priority. This is the fluid nature of the beast that governs all of us and is not a new trend. For most of us more mature gunners the old familiar cliché comes to mind, '*Grey-coats on! Grey-coats off!*'. I am sure that our more junior Gunners of the Regiment, unfamiliar with Grey-coats, have identified a more modern cliché which adequately expresses their feelings, as they too experience the frustration of changing goal posts.

The well known quotation, '*Improvise, Adapt and Overcome*' written by James Carabatsos and used by Clint Eastwood (US Marine Gunnery Sergeant Highway), in the 1986 movie Heartbreak Ridge, ironically has been adopted by many Defence Forces around the world, for the philosophical content that underpins the definition. In essence it means, '*to conquer over adversity*'. My observations are that our Gunners not only apply this principle well, but also manage to continually produce excellent outcomes when they are challenged and the goal posts are changed. However, my experience is that during this process there is always scope for an element of frustration to be experienced, by those playing the game.

I am of the opinion that adversity is not confined only to the battlefield or indeed even the workplace. Dealing with the ongoing pressure of life's challenges finds us in the position of having to '*improvise, adapt and overcome*', more frequently than most of us would prefer. As leaders and soldiers, survival and the level of success is dependent on the ability to perform at the highest possible standard in all circumstances and all conditions. Unfortunately, we will not always be in a position to control our environment, our circumstances or what is required of us. However, I believe that we can have a positive influence on the outcomes. If we are determined to adopt a can-do, positive attitude, and view the adversity to be conquered as a challenge and an opportunity to prepare for battle, this may provide us the tools, to remain focused and diligent.

Therefore, the next time your goal posts are changed, I encourage you to use this situation to your advantage and view it as a challenging opportunity to prepare yourself for battle. It is not about what you are doing; it is about your attitude towards the task.

I extend to all members of the Royal Regiment and your families a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year. To all those personnel who have been selected and have been or will be promoted and appointed into key command positions within the Regiment in 2006, I extend to you my congratulations and best wishes in your appointments.

To our fellow Gunners and all those personnel currently representing the Royal Regiment overseas, I personally extend to you safe soldiering and speedy return to your families and to your families I extend my sincere gratitude for your personal sacrifice and support.

Good Soldiering

'I suggest to you that there's nothing better than that you look for an advantage and then dwell on it. Make that your life's message. Who knows what impact it will have.'

King Solomon (The wisest man who ever lived)

Colonel Commandant Northern Region

Provided by Colonel A.R. Burke (Retd)

Restoration has been the flavour of the year up here in Godsgown country of Queensland. There are three projects worthy of an accolade to the dedicated people who so carefully and patiently brought or are bringing these artillery relics back to life.

- *25-Pounder in Brisbane.* Don Sinclair and three other members of the A Field Battery Association (Qld) brought a rusting RSL sub-branch relic back to pristine Malaya vintage condition. All had served with A Field Battery in Malaya so the unique British forest green colour sets it apart from its contemporaries. It took pride of place behind an equally well restored Studebaker from Shane Hodby of the Historical Military Vehicles Club of Queensland leading the post Second World War Gunner contingents in the Brisbane ANZAC Day Parade this year. After 1st Field Regiment RAA's parade on 2nd July, Don and his mates formally handed their gun in trust to Commanding Officer Scott Clingan.
- *Marmon-Herrington in Townsville.* Paddy Durnford and his restoration group from the 4th Field Regiment RAA Historical Collection completed the full restoration of a 25-Pounder Marmon-Herrington gun tractor just in time for it to be proudly paraded in the VP60 celebrations in Townsville. The Marmon was used by the 2/4th Field Regiment AIF in the Middle East and it looked magnificent towing the Collection's restored desert 25-Pounder and ammunition limber. The work has taken almost a year of dedication and the truck is believed to be one of not more than four still in working condition in Australia. The Marmon, 25-Pounder and limber provided the backdrop for the annual North Queensland Gunners' Dinner which sat down 370 people and was conducted in an aircraft hanger at 5th Aviation Regiment at Garbutt.
- *No 6 Artillery Tractor on the Gold Coast.* The 'living history' Albert Battery Queensland Volunteer Artillery is currently working very hard on a unique 40-mm Bofors gun tractor on the Gold Coast. [Refer to separate article 'The Old Boy Net is Alive and Well'.]

Vale

Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Keith Bryant

*Extract of Eulogy Supplied By His Daughter Marianne
Published in the 23 Field Regiment Association Newsletter
Volume 5 Issue 2 2005*

Kevin Keith Bryant was born on 20th September 1928, the only son of Clarice Ivy and Samuel Edwin Keith Bryant. Kevin was a devoted son and loyal older brother of Rosemary. The family lived down the road in Carnation Avenue Bankstown and attended this church. Kevin dearly loved his family and his character was forged through stable and loving parents.

Kevin was a likeable lad with a cheeky sense of humour. He liked to play on words and enjoyed a ditty. He once stood up in class to recite 'The boy stood on the burning deck, his pockets full of crackers...' which didn't go down too favourably with the teacher.

Kevin Bryant, the public man, had a strong sense of social responsibility and a keen belief in mateship. He joined the Citizens Military Force soon after leaving school and his talents were soon recognised as he was promoted through the ranks to Sergeant, Officer and Battery Commander. To improve his knowledge of Army and to be better able to train his troops Kevin went to Vietnam as an observer in 1968. During the course of Kevin's Army career, he further developed his knowledge and expertise through service with other Army units. Against strong competition, Kevin was selected to proceed to Lieutenant Colonel, and soon thereafter he became the Commanding Officer of the 23 Field Regiment. Kevin was regarded as a good leader of men who never lost the common touch nor the support of his fellow officers and men.

Kevin had a strong sense of civic duty. He was a Life Member of the Liverpool Lions Club, and in his better years he performed the role of Treasurer and President. Kevin enjoyed the Lions Club for the friendships he formed, the social engagements, and the avenue through which he could contribute to the local community. His contribution was recognised in 1990 when Kevin was made an Officer of the Order of Liverpool.

Kevin was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in his early 40s. It was a dreadful shock and in his later years very debilitating. Despite this, he was never self-pitying, rather he worried about the effect it had on his wife who cared for him in a way that was ever watchful of his needs, but respectful of his desire to retain his independence. Ian remembers his strength, his fortitude, his dignity. Neil admired the way he pushed through his physical disability to cross the road to say hello to neighbours. I marvelled at the way he would muster himself together when one of us was in crisis. He was our rock.

I would like to leave you with a few of my father's words of wisdom: 'Do you have a hanky? Got your money? Do you have your keys? And don't forget your lunch.' With those few simple words each morning, my father sent us off into the world - prepared.

Captain Jim Mellor

*Provided by Major G. Laurie (Retd)
President RAA Association South Australia*

It is with regret that I advise of the passing of our long standing member, Captain Jim Mellor. In early December 2005 Jim had a stroke and, although appearing to make good progress toward recovery, he passed away just a couple of weeks later and his funeral service was held on 29th December 2005. Jim had been a regular attendee at the annual Gunner Dinner over many years, and indeed, had joined us just last October at Woodside.

1st Field Regiment

Contrary to previous years the Premier Regiment commenced 2005 with all of its personnel on the deck, including a second-in-command! The Regimental focus for the year was the development of individual military skills in a small team environment and the development of junior leaders. From the first live firing of the year at Exercise Cold Start to the final live firing at Exercise Premier Gunner 2005 (courses camp) the standard has been high and the training intensive.

During the year numerous personnel have been selected for, and deployed on operations or overseas training support tasks. These personnel have included:



Deployed

- Warrant Officer Class One Kyrwood (RSM) - OP AZURE (Sudan)
- Captain Hickey (BK 105 Mdm Bty) - AATTI -IV (Iraq)
- Captain Patterson (AOPSO) - OP CATALYST (Iraq)
- Warrant Officer Class Two Whish (BSM 105 Mdm Bty) - USMC Trg Team
- Sergeant MacMillan (105 Mdm Bty) - AATTI -IV (Iraq)
- Sergeant Foster (105 Mdm Bty) - AATTI -IV (Iraq)
- Corporal Lewis (TST) - OP CATALYST (Iraq)
- Captain Batayola (105 Mdm Bty) - OP CATALYST (Iraq)

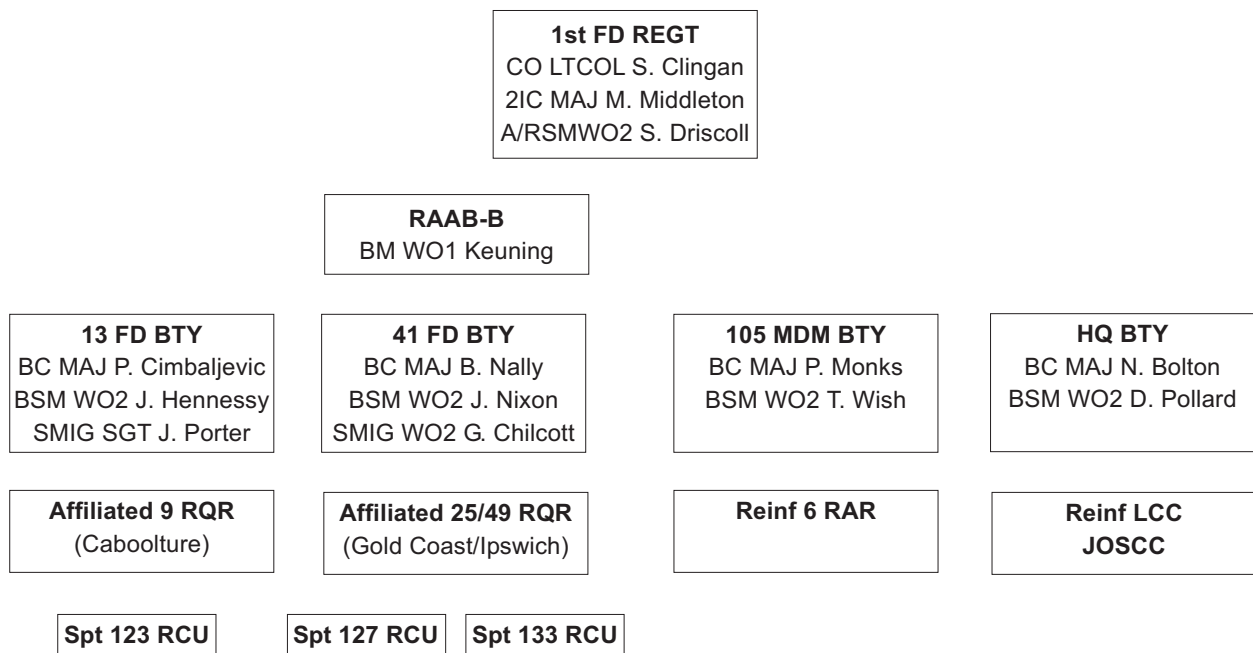
To Deploy

- Major Bolton (OPSO) - AATTI -V (Iraq)
- Captain Batayola (105 Mdm Bty) - OP CATALYST (Iraq)
- Lieutenant Cooper (105 Mdm Bty) - OP CATALYST (Iraq)
- Lieutenant Myors (105 Mdm Bty) - AATTI -V (Iraq)
- Warrant Officer Class Two Kelly (105 Mdm Bty) - AATTI -V (Iraq)
- Bombardier Watson (105 Mdm Bty) - AATTI -V (Iraq)

While this has been a bonus for those selected it would not have been possible without other unit personnel taking on additional responsibilities and tasks.

Apart from reinforcing overseas deployments significant shaping events in 2005 have been the conversion of 105th Field Battery to 105th Medium Battery, the official disbandment of 104th Field Battery, and the preparation for Operation Acolyte (2006 Commonwealth Games). The 2nd of July marked the culmination of the introduction of the medium gun capability to the Regiment with 105th Field Battery officially converting to 105th Medium Battery. Sadly the day also marked the demise once again of 104th Field Battery as the Regiment restructured to three gun batteries, a headquarters battery and a band. The current structure and key members of the Regiment (as at 1st October 2005) are detailed on the following page.

The July Regimental parade was a remarkable ceremonial feat orchestrated by the Acting Regimental Sergeant Major Warrant Officer Class Two Driscoll. Inside a week Warrant Officer Class Two Driscoll moved the venue for the parade, conducted rehearsals and pulled off a excellent mounted ceremonial activity that was kindly reviewed by a former Commanding Officer - Brigadier Paul Symon.



The latter half of the year has seen the Regiment concentrating on individual competencies and courses. Aside from numerous subject and specialist course attendances, the unit delivered 19 courses and achieved over 214 new qualifications during the courses camp - Exercise Premier Gunner 05. The unit has also begun to focus on its support to Operation Acolyte with members attending lead up courses and rehearsal exercises. Operation Acolyte will see the unit man a number of positions in the Task Force Headquarters as well as 105th Medium Battery command and man, with Headquarters Battery and 7th Combat Service Support Battery, the 7th Brigade Low Risk Search Company.

As 2005 draws to a close and the planning for 2006 is maturing a number of significant opportunities are evident. These include continuing operational deployments, a significant amount of 105 and 155 ammunition and Operation Acolyte support. Along with these opportunities a significant challenge confronts the unit and its new commanding officer due to the recently announced Hardened and Networked Army (HNA) decision which sees 7th Brigade returning to a more conventional General Reserve Brigade structure and 1st Field Regiment becoming 1st Medium Regiment in 2007 with 25 Australian Regular Army personnel.

105th Medium Battery – The Tiger Battery

As the training year commenced for 1st Field Regiment in 2005, 105th Field Battery (as it was then) was faced with the task of converting to a medium battery equipped with M198 155mm guns. Apart from the technical requirements of converting to a medium capability, the Battery also adopted a training focus of developing junior leaders and individuals in the context of providing offensive support to a Motorised Battle Group (based on 6th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment) conducting 'warfighting' operations.

Collective training for the year commenced with the Regimental live firing exercise, Exercise Cold Start at Wide Bay Training Area (WBTA) in March, followed by Exercise Tigers Rise immediately afterwards. While the Battery was still equipped with the L119, the most was made of the opportunity to familiarize new appointments with battery tactics, techniques and procedures (and improve them where appropriate), and get the new small teams at detachment, command post and joint offensive support team level accustomed to working together. While the Battery was deployed, progress was also made on the conversion front. The battery returned to Enoggera to find the first two M198's delivered and that Land Commanders Directive 20/05, authorizing the conversion and the allocation of 155mm ammunition, had been issued.

With a short interlude at Greenbank to practice infantry minor tactics and marksmanship with the rest of the Regiment, 105 Battery then turned its attention to the task of converting to M198. After moving into the old 104th Field Battery headquarters and gun bays (to give each troop a gun bay suitable for holding three M198) and conducting two M198 conversion courses, the Battery was ready to conduct Exercise Tiger Strike at WBTA in the first week of May. Apart from firing 320 155mm rounds and getting to grips with the basics of medium battery operations, 105 Battery also took the opportunity to demonstrate the medium capability to key appointments of 7th Brigade units. Headquarters Battery and 13th/41st Battery provided a L119 fire unit to complement the fire power demonstration. Our guests were suitably impressed with the weight of fire and responsiveness of the Battery, as well as the M198's accuracy and destructive power in the direct fire role.

Now that 105 Battery had demonstrated its ability to meet the basic technical requirements of M198 operations, it was time to focus on the tactical application of offensive support. In late May the Battery split, with the Tactical Group (Tac Gp) deploying to Shoal Water Bay Training Area (SWBTA) with 6th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment (6 RAR) as part of a Combat Training Centre rotation, and the Gun Group deploying to Singleton (as a L119 Bty) to support the Joint Terminal Air Controllers course. Once the 6 RAR evaluation was complete (together with plenty of valuable lessons for the Battery Commander and Forward Observer's to digest), the Tac Gp rejoined the Battery in Singleton for Exercise Tigers Prowl, where over 1600 105mm rounds were fired in conjunction with elements of A Field Battery, 131st Surveillance and Target Acquisition Battery and 3rd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment (3 RAR). Between practicing Joint Offensive Support Team fire planning with multiple assets, demanding training for gun group survivability, the management of 'real rates' for some fire plans and inculcating the newer Tigers to the delights of winter soldiering in Singleton, Exercise Tigers Prowl was judged to be largely successful by all concerned.

The first weekend in June saw 105th Field Battery formally renamed as 105th Medium Battery on the 1st Field Regiment birthday parade, this rebirth coinciding with the 50th anniversary of the Battery since being re-raised after World War Two, and the sad occasion of 104th Field Battery being marched out of the Regiment. The opportunity was taken over this weekend for today's Tigers to bond with their forebears of the 105th Field Battery Association, and to formally rename the four troops of 105th Medium Battery to reflect the Tiger's proud heritage (see separate article in this edition of the Liaison Letter).

As the Battery began to focus on the upcoming Exercise Tigers Charge at SWBTA, the opportunity arose to nominate current Tigers for operational service in Iraq with the second rotation of the Al Muthana Task Group (AMTG 2). Once it became apparent that these individuals would miss Exercise Tigers Charge and the Land Command Artillery ARTEP due to pre-deployment training, the Battery Commander and Battery Sergeant Major weren't quite so enthused. As it transpired, the junior leaders in the Battery welcomed the opportunity to step up a notch and demonstrate their ability.

Exercise Tigers Charge in early August saw 105th Medium Battery practice and demonstrate the full range of capabilities required by a medium battery. The forward observer's employed emergency close air support procedures to control F/A-18 Hornets, occupied observation posts on top of Mt Hummock and conducted fire plans for officer's commanding (OCs) and platoon commanders (Pl Comds) of 6th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment (6 RAR). The Gun Group practiced 6400 mil high and low angle shooting from Fire Support Base Elanora when not conducting all-night road moves or night moves to alternate, or deploying by LCM-8 to Townsend Island. Over 750 155mm rounds of all natures (less HERA and Copperhead) were expended. The ARTEP report, while (as always) identifying a number of points for future action, was largely complimentary and demonstrated that 105 Battery is heading in the right direction. The success of Exercise Tigers Charge would not have been possible without the assistance of 3rd Squadron RAAF, the Joint Terminal Attack Controller's of 1st Ground Liaison Group and 4th Field Regiment, the OC's and Pl Comds of 6 RAR and 70/71 Troop of 35th Water Transport Squadron.

At the time of writing, the Gun Group is preparing to deploy as opposing force for the 6 RAR, while the Battery command group is about to deploy to Melbourne to recon and plan 105th Medium Battery's next operational commitment - support to Operation Acolyte, the Melbourne Commonwealth Games in 2006.

It is anticipated that Operation Acolyte will keep the Battery occupied until April next year, when the new team of Tigers can look forward to dragging out the M198s again and getting back to our core skills.

13th Field Battery

13th Field Battery was once again re-located to Caboolture when the 104th Field Battery was officially disbanded on 2nd July this year. Manning limitations has resulted in the Battery combining resources with the 41st Field Battery for exercises in 2005 that has coined the term 'Super Battery'. This combination has proven to be a successful outcome as was evident in Exercise Cold Start, Exercise Panther's Delight and more recently in Exercise Shark Attack. The Battery has just returned from WBTA after a two week courses camp which also included a live fire component. This allowed members to be fully qualified in their respective Artillery courses.

Recruiting for the Battery, along with Army Individual Readiness Notice (AIRN), has been the focus for 13th Field Battery this year as it adjusts to the new structure. In line with this, the 'Super Battery' had a different concept in August for Exercise Shark Attack which proved a highly successful exercise for the soldiers and civilians who were involved. About 60 keen participants found their way to the Caboolture Multi-User Depot (MUD) on the Friday night and were quickly signed up and given the all clear to come along and watch the Gunners do what they do best! As the Gunners began firing in the early afternoon, participants were transported between the gun line and the hill to observe all aspects of the Artillery process. They were joined by their family and employers on the Saturday afternoon and were welcomed with a display of Artillery fire followed by a bar-b-que to quash their appetite for warfare. It is envisaged that exposure to actual live fire exercises will significantly bolster the recruiting numbers which will assist the Battery in future deployments.

The Battery Commander, Major Peter Cimbaljevic, will be retiring from the Army at the end of the year after more than 35 years service. The Officers and Soldiers of the Battery would like to congratulate Major Cimbaljevic on such a memorable and distinguished career and wish him and his family all the best in future endeavours.

Ubique



'Super Battery' firing Australia Day Salute, Roma Street Parklands, Brisbane

7th Field Regiment

This year is the Regiment's 89th Anniversary and it was celebrated with a cake cutting ceremony in the field and later at the Regimental Birthday Cocktail party at North Head.

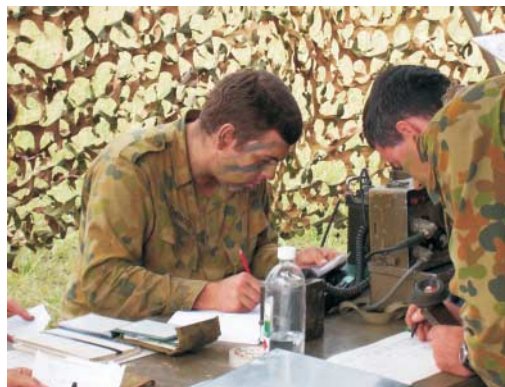
The Regiment was established on the 17th March 1916 when the 7th Field Artillery Brigade was formed in the Sydney suburb of Marrickville. In July of that year the Brigade was training in England and later deployed to the Western Front in the following December. The Brigade first went into action on the 17th January 1917 at Armentieres, taking part in the battles of Menin Road and Passchendale. The Brigade remained in action for the remainder of World War One and was removed from the order of battle in August 1919.

The Brigade was re-raised in 1921 as the VIIth Australian Field Artillery Brigade at North Sydney before moving to the Willoughby Drill Hall in 1929. In 1940 the Brigade was redesignated to 7th Field Regiment, RAA (Militia). During World War Two, the Regiment served in the Defence of Sydney and in the Defence of Australia in Western Australia where it was redesignated to 7th Field Regiment (AIF). The Regiment returned to Sydney in October 1943 where it was disbanded.

The Regiment was re-raised at Willoughby in 1948 as part of the Citizen Military Forces and since that time has undergone numerous changes in weapons and organisation. The final reorganisation was in 1976 with 28th Field Battery at Dee Why and 113th Field Battery at Adamstown. The Regimental Headquarters and then Headquarters Battery moved to Pymble in 1996. In 2006, the Regiment will celebrate its 90th Anniversary and in addition, will recognise the 50th Anniversary of the Dee Why depot.

Today, the Regiment continues to proudly serve the nation on numerous domestic and operational tasks as it has done for the past 89 years. Current and former members of the Regiment have served in East Timor (now Timor Leste) and supported Operation Relex (protecting our northern approaches from incursion), Sumatra Assist (Australian response to the 2004 Tsunami) and the multi-national Exercise Talisman Sabre. The Regiment provides soldiers and officers for the 8th Brigade, Ready Response Force (RRF), Force Protection Company Group, and is preparing to send soldiers to Malaysia in support of a Rifle Company Butterworth rotation. Closer to home, the Regiment carried out a number of domestic duties including artillery salutes for Australia Day and the Captain General's Birthday and provided support to ADF individual and collective training exercises.

Recruiting and training activities for the Regiment have focussed on re-establishing two operating and functional gun troops based on each of 28th and 113th Field Batteries. The Regiment is continuously recruiting and has been targeting Australia Regular Army (ARA) soldiers and officers transferring from the ARA as well as Reserve soldiers and officers who are currently posted against the Inactive Army Reserve. Training has focused on individuals qualifying on corps and promotion courses, individual readiness and detachment level training for guns and JOSTs.



Lieutenant Pigneguy - Lance Bombardier Thomas
113 Battery Fire a Mission

8th/12th Medium Regiment

'To provide a viable option for government' this simple statement has been the underlying mantra for the preparation and conduct of all Regimental activities throughout 2005. This vision of the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Graeme Finney, has set the training guidelines and tempo for commanders and more importantly it has given the soldiers of 8th/12th Medium Regiment a very real objective to achieve.

The tempo during 2005 has been at a level above what the Gunners of 8th/12th Medium Regiment have come to expect. With the short notice deployment of 103rd Medium Battery (2 weeks) to Malaysia and our commitments to Al Muthanna Task Group 1, the training year started (slowly) as the Regiment adapted to the change in manning of both the Regiment and of those in key appointments. Continued commitment has seen the deployment of members to Al Muthanna Task Group 2 and Australian Army Training Team - Iraq. It is important to note that with these commitments the Regiment has lost elements of the senior command structure including two battery commanders, adjutant, regimental sergeant major, battery sergeant major and a number of forward observers.

As a result many less experienced personnel have stepped into senior appointments and have performed to a very high standard. The test for these changes came in the form of Exercise Predators Gallop 05 (including the conduct of an ARTEP). Prior to Exercise Predators Gallop 05 the Regiment conducted extensive rehearsals including the conduct of command post exercises and numerous indirect fire simulation rehearsals with both the forward observers and the aviators from 161st Reconnaissance Squadron.



The benefit of these rehearsals was the extensive drilling of the command posts in both immediate neutralisation and technical missions, honing their reaction times to produce a safe and timely firing solution. Of particular interest was the training of the pilots, as their involvement was fundamental in the conduct of the advanced training practices during the field phase of Exercise Predators Gallop 05.



Exercise Predators Gallop 05 was a combined arms activity with elements from 1st Armoured Regiment, 1st Combat Engineer Regiment, 161st Reconnaissance Squadron and 1st Combat Services Support Battalion. Phase 1 of the exercise saw the initial deployment of the Regiment and the conduct of technical and tactical training for the forward observers and the gunlines. The conduct of the ARTEP occurred during Phase 2, resulting in the certification of both batteries to conduct advanced training in the form of both modified safety and danger close missions.



Phase 3a was the conduct a 'Combat Team in Defence' activity. This allowed the batteries the ability to successfully adjust danger close missions whilst the combat team was in defence. Phase 3b was the conduct of a battlegroup attack on a defended position. The feedback from the observers was that the calls for fire were responded to rapidly and the rounds fell effectively. The success of the command post, forward observers and aerial observers is testament that the preliminary rehearsals and training were highly beneficial. Of particular success was the manner in which the pilots adjusted to working with

Artillery. Their quick thinking and ability to integrate with the Regiment is indication of their dedication and professionalism.

Phase 4 saw the redeployment of the Regiment to Robertson Barracks and concluded after a week long reconstitution in preparation for redeployment. Phase 4 was constructed in such a way, that if required, the Regiment would be poised to deploy in support of any activity with a reduced notice to move.

Of particular mention is the valuable contribution made by Sergeant Waters (School of Artillery) and his meteorological team led by Bombardier Kent (4th Field Regiment). Although experiencing a number of hurdles, the meteorological team managed to provide the Regiment with accurate meteorological data throughout the exercise. The provision of this data was instrumental in allowing the Regiment to achieve its certification for advanced training in stage 5 and 6 battle runs.

Exercise Predators Gallop 05 was the culmination of a year, which to date, has been characterised by a high tempo in both operational and peacetime engagements. It demonstrated that 8th/12th Medium Regiment, as a whole is both technically and tactically at a very high standard. In addition it has rekindled our combined arms focus, to the extent that whether we are supporting another arm or service or having an external agency augmenting our capability, the Regiment can perform to a standard not otherwise expected. In closing 8th/12th Medium Regiment has proved that it can *'Provide a viable option for Government'*.

23 Field Regiment

The year saw ten new staff march in to the Regiment, this brings the total Australian Regular Army staff to 23. The current unit strength is 207 members, parading has been strong with a number of re-enlists returning to face the challenges.

Key Personnel

Commanding Officer - Lieutenant Colonel S.G. Condon (assumed command from Lieutenant Colonel D.J. Teakle on 1st August 2005);

Second-In-Command - Major D. Clarke;

Operations Officer - Captain A. Cheeseman;

Regimental Sergeant Major - Warrant Officer Class One R. Morland;

Operations Warrant Officer - Warrant Officer Class Two D. Free;

Unit Recruiting Liaison Officer - Warrant Officer Class Two D. McGarry;

Chief Clerk - Warrant Officer Class Two M. MacMinn;

Troop Commander 10A (Holsworthy) - Captain N. Ullin;

Troop Commander 10B (Canberra) - Captain P. Woulfe;

Sergeant Major Instructor in Gunnery 10th Field Battery - Warrant Officer Class Two G. O'Connell;

Battery Commander 11th Field Battery (Sutherland) - Major D. Faulks; and

Sergeant Major Instructor in Gunnery 11th Field Battery - Warrant Officer Class Two D. Theiss.

The Regiment kicked off the year with the running of the safety officers course, 20 members of the unit were either qualified or re-qualified as a safety officer or safety assistant. Mandatory and AIRN training was conducted over the weekend of 18 - 20 February 2005, the Regiment conducted a inter-Battery sports afternoon with the spoils going to 10B Troop from Canberra with Headquarters Battery a close second.

This year is an individual training year for 5th Brigade with the emphases on training of the Ready Reaction Force and the development of the Force Protection Company Group (FPCG).

23 Field Regiment conducted Exercise Mechili, a live fire exercise held at Singleton over the period 5-6 March 2005. 100 members of the Regiment attended the exercise where the training consisted of technical training for the observation post and fire and movement training for the gun line. Overall two forward observer parties, four guns and two complete command post's deployed to the field. A maintenance weekend at respective depots occurred in April. Battery's concentrated on outstanding maintenance issues, AIRN training and the continuation of mandatory training.

The officers also held their annual Julis Dinner, a dinner first held at Camp Julis during the First World War. A number of the Regiments officers attended as well as various other Royal Australian Artillery officers from within the Sydney area.

On the 16th April at Canberra Stadium members of 10th Field Battery, Canberra and Holsworthy conducted a Gun Race as half time entertainment for the Brumbies - Waratah's game, the detachments where supplied Brumbies and



Members of 10th Field Battery during the Gun Race at Canberra Stadium

Waratah's outfits to compete in. In a close finish the Holsworthy boys (representing the Waratah's) outclassed the Canberra boys by crossing the line and firing first to win the first leg of the Regiment's gun race season. Gun races throughout the year were conducted at Shark Stadium, Sutherland; Oki Stadium, Kogarah and again in Canberra for the Nation Rugby League. The year ended with all Troops equal on points, a final gun race is planned for the last weekend in November to decide the winner.

The Band has been busy as well, band camp was conducted from the 8-25 April 2005, where the Band was 'technically' assessed by the Defence School of Music. The band has performed throughout Sydney during the year including performances at:

- Annual Julis Dinner;
- Laurelbank ANZAC Service;
- 7th Field Regiment Cocktail Party held at North Fort;
- Engadine RSL Club;
- Kogarah RSL Club;
- Shark Stadium to support the Gun Race;
- Navy Dinner at HMAS Kuttabul;
- Premiers Department;
- St Stephens Church Service;
- Regimental ANZAC Day Dawn Service held at Kogarah;
- Gunners Dinner;
- Reserve Forces Day;
- VP Day March - Sydney; and
- 2nd Division 90th Anniversary Birthday Parade.

ANZAC Day saw a dawn service at Kogarah where 150 members and guests attended on a chilly Sydney morning, notable attendees were the Regimental Sergeant Major Training Command Command-Army Warrant Officer Class One Darryl Kelly and the Master Gunner Land Command Artillery Warrant Officer Class One Phil Matthysen. Once the Regiment finished the dawn service a number of members attended the march in the city. Once again the Band was extremely busy with three separate activities booked for the day. The service itself went extremely well and then it was followed up by breakfast and a few traditional games such as two-up and crown and anchor.

Exercise Borneo Bay was a small arms weekend at Majura Range conducted over the period 13-15 May where 100 members braved the Canberra weather to fire the F88, F89 weapons as well as throw grenades. Efforts paid off as the Regiment was able to qualify almost all personnel either on the F89 or grenade.

On the weekend 17 - 19 June 110 members of the Regiment deployed to Singleton to conduct Exercise Tel El Eisa. The exercise objectives were the tactical deployment and employment of joint offensive support teams (JOSTs), conduct technical shooting from the observation post and the defence of the gun position. The exercise concluded with an attack on the gun position in the early hours of Sunday morning. The Commanding Officer used the opportunity to promote some of the officers and junior non-commissioned officers whilst in the field.

The weekend of 26 - 27 May saw the Regiments Ready Reaction Force members deploy on exercise. 15 members deployed as part of the 5th Brigade Ready Reaction Force and conducted a protection of vital assets exercise at the Woranora Dam south of Sydney.

On the 17th July the Regiment celebrated its 65th Birthday. This year we celebrated with a Regimental Birthday Dinner held at the Kogarah Depot on the 23rd July. Guests included former commanding officers and regimental sergeant majors of the Regiment, the 2/3 Anti Tank Association, 23 Field Regiment Association as well as Captain Van Tilberg and the Master Gunner Land Command Artillery Warrant Officer Class One Phil Matthysen representing Commander Land Command Artillery. The night

kicked off with a tree planting ceremony in honor of the late Colonel Jack Argent the first commanding officer of the Regiment. Highlights of the night included the presentation of honour's and awards to members of the Regiment, the attendance of Mr Bert Byrant an original member of 2/3 Anti Tank Regiment, the promotion of Major Schon Condon to Lieutenant Colonel and the colourful farewell of Lieutenant Colonel Teakle.

The RAA Association (ACT) presented the Regiment a trophy for 'The Champion Battery'. The trophy will be known as the Major General J. Whitelaw Trophy.

On the 24th July 11th Field Battery located at Sutherland conducted Exercise Shark Tow. A 16 man team manhandled a gun over the grueling 11 km route from Kirrawee to Wanda Surf Life Saving Club in less than three hours for the third successive year amid cheers of thousands of spectators.

The Regiment also supplied 44 members to participate in 2nd Division's 90th Anniversary Parade held at Victoria Barracks Sydney on Saturday 30th July 2005.

The Regiment supported Victory in the Pacific (VP) Day in Sydney and Canberra, the Band provided support in Sydney and 10th Field Battery provided support in Canberra as part of the national tribute to VP Day celebrations.

The Regiment as well as elements of 7th Field Regiment and A Field Battery provided support to the forward air control course in Singleton over the period 15 - 19 August. The participants from 23 and 7th Field Regiments are laying claim to the only divisional Artillery exercise in 2005.

Over the period 16 - 18 September the officers, senior non-commissioned officers and junior non-commissioned officers deployed to Fort Wallace at Stockton in Newcastle for training. The members were deployed as a FPCG element of 5th Brigade to protect and evacuate Australian Nationals off the Island of Doddie. Over a 48-hour period members conducted vehicle check points, security of the Australian Embassy, patrols by day and night using night fighting equipment, evacuation of Australian Nationals as well as keeping the vocal local population from rioting. Overall some good lessons were learnt by all who attended.

The Regiments last live firing exercise the year was conducted at Singleton over the period 14 - 16 Oct 2005

Promotions

Congratulations to the following members of the Regiment on their recent promotions:

- Promotion to Lance Bombardier – Lance Bombardier Bryant;
- Promotion to Bombardier – Bombardier McGillion;
- Promotion to Sergeant – Sergeant T. Youngman;
- Promotion to Lieutenant – Lieutenant J. Winfield; and
- Promotion to Lieutenant Colonel – Lieutenant Colonel S.G. Condon.



Major General J. Whitelaw Trophy for Champion Battery



Members of 11th Field Battery during Exercise Shark Tow

Honours and Awards

Warrant - Warrant Officer Class Two T. Hopkins;

Warrant - Warrant Officer Class Two D. Free;

Commission - Major D. Faulks;

Defence Long Service Medal - Private N. Brown;

Defence Long Service Medal - Sergeant B. Dodd;

Reserve Force Medal Second Clasp - Warrant Officer Class Two P. Pollard;

Reserve Force Medal Second Clasp - Warrant Officer Class One J. Hurcum;

RAA 20 Year Certificates - Warrant Officer Class Two P. Pollard;

RAA 20 Year Certificates - Warrant Officer Class Two D. Thiess;

RAA 20 Year Certificates - Warrant Officer Class One R. Morland;

RAA 20 Year Certificates - Major D. Faulks;

RAA 20 Year Certificates - Major D. Clark;

RAA 20 Year Certificates - Lieutenant Colonel S.G. Condon; and

RAA 20 Year Certificates - Lieutenant Colonel D. Teakle.

7th Field Battery

The Battery started off the year with the bulk of the full-time and part-time key personnel marching in to new positions. The task of settling in was made workable because of the advice provided by a few members who remained from the previous year, particularly Warrant Officer Class Two Hodgkins, Warrant Officer Class Two Turner and Sergeant Morrow.

The first task of attending start of year conferences and mandatory training sessions went without hitch, despite the summer heat pushing towards 40 degrees for both days. A salute in Kings Park to commemorate Australia Day was the first cause for the Gunners to wipe the Christmas dust off the guns.

In late February the Battery welcomed home Bombardier Toase, Lance Bombardier Starre, Lance Corporal Dempster and Gunner Mortley from Operation Relex II. The members spent most of their days between Darwin and Christmas Island.

The first couple of months were devoted to courses. The outcome was a number of people becoming rank and trade qualified in preparation for the remainder of the training year.

In the May to July quarter the Battery conducted a dry fire exercise - Exercise Bessel-Brown at the Helena Valley depot and the first live fire exercise - Exercise Blundell at Lancelin Training Area. Both occasions allowed valuable Corps training to be done and preparation for the ARTEP in October to commence. The Battery birthday dinner was conducted on 9th July and was attended by members and partners of the Battery, the 3rd Field Regiment Association and the RAA Historical Society.

It was also during this period that Warrant Officer Class Two Col Turner passed away after a brave battle with cancer. He was in his Q store two weeks before his death, which was testament to the commitment he gave to the Army in his 32 years of service.

In August, 13th Brigade was visited by the entitlement review team. The Battery fared well and while the number of positions held by the Battery was reduced, the end product was a more functional organisation focused on capability. The efforts of Sergeant Morrow and his recruiting team in maintaining a steady stream of recruits indicated to the team that the Battery was growing. This alone was a key factor in producing a favourable outcome for the Battery.

The start of September marked the arrival of the Sergeant Major Instructor-in-Gunnery, Warrant Officer Class Two Yanner, after spending time in Iraq as a Training Adviser for the Iraqi Army. Thanks to Warrant Officer Class Two Hodgkins who filled the gap during Warrant Officer Class Two Yanner's absence. Warrant Officer Class Two Hodgkins managed to juggle full time service and his civilian business successfully and was vital in providing continuity to the Battery during his tenure.

The second of two weekend live fire exercises - Exercise Bell, VC was conducted in September. Emphasis was placed on fire planning, with two forward observer quick fire plans being shot on the Saturday. The Sunday was allocated to a dry quick action and a casualty evacuation scenario that involved exercising with the Royal Automobile Club rescue chopper. The lack of Army helicopters in the West meant that the activity was a bit different. It also added a degree of realism that made everybody switch on a little bit more.

The end of September saw the Battery firing a salute to commemorate the Queens Birthday. A respectable size crowd was at Kings Park but the majority of them thought we were firing for West Coast Eagles who were playing in the Grand Final that day.

As this article is written the Battery is preparing for our nine day annual field exercise - Exercise Hobbs which will culminate in an ARTEP.

Overall the Battery has had a successful year. It has been busy with Brigade directed activities, gunnery focused exercises and a variety of other tasks. Full credit should go to the part time blokes who juggle family life, work commitments and a significant number of Army Reserve activities.

16th Field Battery

2005 has been rather busy and productive for the Gunners of 16th Field Battery. The focus of training has been towards attaining the required standard and capability required of a General Reserve Battery. The Battery has also completed a number of courses and provided support for a number of mandated and opportunity based activities.

Personnel

There was a number changes of key personnel during 2005. Battery appointments are as follows:

- Battery Commander - Major Chris Talbot;
- Training Officer / IG - Captain Rhyl Opie;
- Battery Captain - Captain Graeme Howard;
- Gun Position Officer - Captain Alistair Chilcott;
- SMIG - Warrant Officer Class Two Shaun Graham;
- Battery Sergeant Major -Warrant Officer Class Two Susan Clarke;
- Battery Guide - Sergeant Steven Cathcart; and
- O/S Sergeant - Sergeant Craig Woodhall.

The Battery has had the first General Reserve officer postings since 2000, with the recent graduation from RMC-A of Second Lieutenant's Tim Walpole and Brett Coulson. Captain Craig Whitford also joined the Battery from 2nd/10th Field Regiment.

In the other ranks stream Sergeant Toby Organ was posted from the School of Artillery and will take up the position of O/S Sergeant in 2006. The Battery also gained Bombardier Andrew Hudson from 108th Field Battery on his recent discharge from the Australian Regular Army. The skills that both members will offer the Battery are sure to be invaluable.

Training

The training focus in 2005 has been centred on the preparing the Battery to provide the capability bricks of gun detachments, command posts and joint offensive support teams. To achieve this the Battery has conducted the Island Shake series of Exercises. The aim of these exercises has been centred on improving the individual skill sets of members and enhancing the unit's ability to conduct technical and tactical shooting. The culmination of this training will see the conduct of an ARTEP in October.

Emphasis has also been given to improving skill sets for the defence of the gunline. This has been achieved through a number of activities including small arms practices, a grenade launcher attachment course and infantry minor tactics activities.

The Battery elements involved with the 9th Brigade - Ready Reaction Force have also participated in a number of training activities. These exercises have been set in both Tasmania and South Australia. The exercises are designed to enhance skills in the conduct of low level operations.

Courses

The Battery has been hard at it during the training year in an effort to increase the number of qualified members. The Battery conducted its yearly mandated training and the annual safety course early in the year. Since that time the unit has conducted a number of Regimental courses. Additional courses have also been run in concert with a number of other 2nd Division units. These include a number of Basic Combat Communications Course conducted with 2nd/10th Field Regiment, 23 Field Regiment and 48th Field Battery. An Specialist Combat Communications Course with 7th Field Regiment and Advanced Gunner Course with 2nd/10th Field Regiment.

16th Field Battery has also qualified two new members for the Brigade Ready Reaction Force. The training course in September which was conducted by 12/40 Royal Tasmanian Regiment, enabled unit members to train for low level search operations and subsequently participate in Ready Reaction Force activities.

Support Activities

ANZAC Day proved to be busy with the Battery nearing 100% turnout for the Dawn Services in both the North and South of the Island. The Battery also supported a number of RSL sub branch services around the state. A number of the Battery members also participated in the various marches in support of the RAA and unit associations.

The Australia Day and Queens Birthday Salutes conducted at the Cenotaph in Hobart were well supported and proved to be a great success, with both activities attracting a sizeable crowd which braved the unusually hot conditions for Australia Day and bitterly cold and wet Queens Birthday to watch the Battery.

The Battery has also been very active supporting a number of local charities and organisations to raise its community profile and increase our recruiting numbers. The recruiting cell under Sergeant Jason Eddington has also been very active conducting information nights and being a regular on the Tasmanian show circuit.

History

Gunners have a very long and distinguished history in Tasmania and this has seen the profile of the Tasmanian Gunners lifted in recent times. Thanks to Major Barry Bastick, Major Chris Talbot, Sergeant Jason Eddington and Bombardier Cameron Baker, there is now a dedicated Artillery display at the Tasmanian Military Museum located at Anglesea Barracks.

Late last year saw the release of a history of Tasmania's Colonial Artillery by Lieutenant Colonel Doug Wyatt, RFD (strangely enough an RACT). It covers in great detail the history of Artillery in Tasmania from 1803 to 1903.

In early June the Governor of Tasmania His Excellency The Honourable William J.E. Cox, AC, RFD, ED (former Commanding Officer 6th Field Regiment) unveiled a memorial in Launceston commemorating the service of Gunners past and present and their contribution to the defence of Australia. The ceremony was well attended by the Gunner community, confirming that Gunnery in Tasmania is alive and well.

Over several years the unit Headquarters building at Paterson Barracks has been subject to degradation as a result of poor foundations. The pending works to rectify these faults have allowed potential scope for a complete renovation of the centre section of the building. This has enabled the unit to propose a redesign to this area, and at this stage, is to include a Battery History Room displaying existing unit memorabilia and the recently salvaged historical items from the now non-existent Oxley House (RIP May 05). All of the proposed works are subject to financial constraints.

Establishment Review

16th Field Battery was subject to an establishment review in August as part of the 9th Brigade. Overall, the unit fared well retaining its entire Australian Regular Army staff and increasing a number of General Reserve positions in key areas. At the same time, the unit was able to reduce equipment maintenance liabilities to match the new manning structure. A pleasing result considering the pressure to rationalise.

Gunner Dinner

During the evening of 20th August 2005 Tasmanian Gunners, past and present enjoyed the familiar surroundings of the Anglesea Barracks Officers Mess for the annual Gunner Dinner. Once again, Governor of Tasmania His Excellency The Honourable William J.E. Cox, AC, RFD, ED was keen to be involved with fellow Gunners and was made welcome at the function by the Colonel Commandant, Colonel M. Cameron, the Dining President, Lieutenant Colonel S. Carey and the Battery Commander alike. All 62 Gunners and their partners had an enjoyable time.

48th Field Battery

The Battery hit the ground running with Australia Day being the first activity for the training year. The Battery welcomed a number of new faces including Major Carl Sarelius taking over from Major William Kierns as the new Battery Commander. The Battery also has a new Battery Sergeant Major with Warrant Officer Class Two Russell Topperwien moving on to the 9th Brigade Recruiting Cell and Warrant Officer Class Two Shaun Leech, who transferred from full-time service last year, taking over.

Warrant Officer Class Two Tony Clark the Battery Quartermaster Sergeant has moved on to 2nd Health Support Battalion Brisbane being replaced by Warrant Officer Class Two Michael White. The Battery gained a full time operator supply, Private Geoff Harrington (Harry) who has moved down from 10th Force Supply Battalion Townsville.

Australia Day

The Australia Day Salute this year was fired in conjunction with the Australia Day Parade, with the Royal Australian Air Force providing the Quarter Guard and a fly past by an RAAF PC3 Orion. The salute this year was fired across the River Torrens and provided the local television stations with some good footage for the news bulletins.

9th Brigade Support to Operation Eyre Phoenix

11th January 2005 or 'Ash Tuesday' as it has become known in South Australia saw the lower Eyre Peninsula ravaged by bushfires with several people killed and thousands of hectares of farmland and stock lost. 9th Brigade provided a Defence Assistance to the Civil Community task force led by 3rd Field Squadron and supported by all units within 9th Brigade. 48th Field Battery had several volunteers with only Private Belinda Wozniak being deployed to Port Lincoln to assist with the clean up. The force has since returned to Adelaide.

Exercise Straight Shooter

Exercise Straight Shooter 05 saw the Battery deploy to Murray Bridge Training Area during the period 25 - 27 February to conduct an infantry minor tactics/army individual readiness notice exercise. The Battery was tested on local defence and infantry minor tactics skills.

Battery Courses Camp

The end of February saw the start of a busy period for the Battery with the commencement of the Basic Combat Communicators Course, Specialist Combat Communicators Course, Advanced Gunner and Gunner Grade 1 Module 1. One of the many objectives for the camp was to ensure the maximum number of Gunners successfully completed their Gunner Grade 1. This will enable the Battery greater flexibility.

Mount Barker Show Recruiting Drive

With the Battery always on the lookout for recruits to strengthen the Battery, the opportunity was not lost when the Recruiting Cell headed by Lance Bombardier Craig Atkins and Bombardier Matthew Stuart decided to invade Mount Barker's Annual Show with a gun and detachment looking for possible recruits. There was a lot of interest shown by all who attended the two day show including the Federal Minister Alexander Downer who was pleased that we were actively recruiting for the unit. A further recruiting information night was held at Mount Barkers Auchendarroch House on 20th April 2005 which saw three possible recruits applying to join the Battery.



The Honourable Alexander Downer
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Exercise Shot Start

Exercise Shot Start 05 saw the Battery experiment with a four-day activity. This saw the Battery travel to Cultana Training Area on Thursday night, conduct Exercise Shot Start 05 Friday and Saturday and return Sunday morning. This meant that the personnel driving back to Adelaide could get a good nights rest before commencing the six-hour return trip

Exercise Shot Start saw the Battery fire 360 105mm rounds which was almost a yearly allocation in one weekend. The Battery was very fortunate in that it had the opportunity to fire 126 illuminating rounds during the exercise provided by 2nd Division. The Gun Position Officer Peter Wirth can now lay claim that he has fired more 105 illumination than most full-time gun position officers. The view from the observation post was more than impressive. The chance was not lost in showing other units the way the Battery does business with Adelaide University Regiment visiting with the latest batch of officer cadets.

The exercise could not have been conducted without the support of 7th Field Battery from Perth including Captain Simon Hunter (IG), Captain Steve Mathers, Warrant Officer Class Two Ian Hodgkins (Safety Officer) and Bombardier D.R. Toase and his gun detachment. The appreciation of the Battery also goes to Captain Scott Calvert and Warrant Officer Class Two Russ Topperwien from Headquarters 9th Brigade. Without the support from these people the objectives for the exercise would not have been achieved.

Anzac Day

Once again the Battery had the opportunity to take part in marching through Adelaide as part of 9th Brigade and with the old diggers. This is never lost on the soldiers and for some first timers it is the biggest event they have participated in. Then it was back to the 105 Club where the afternoon was spent with the annual crown and anchor and two up games getting a fair work out. Sergeant Terry Booby made sure that the house did not profit too much offering some very juicy odds throughout the day. Some of the first timers commented they have not had the opportunity to talk one on one with retired Gunners on what they did during their time within the Battery.

Exercise Wandering Soldier

Exercise Wandering Soldier was conducted within Keswick Barracks over the weekend 20 - 21 August and was focussed primarily around technical gunnery with the key appointments taking a back seat and exposing the next generation of non commissioned officers in the roles of operator command post sergeant and gun detachment commanders. Battery Sergeant Major, Warrant Officer Class Two Shaun Leech controlled the gun line and it provided a chance for the gun sergeants to be layers for a day. The end-state was a marked improvement of fire discipline across the gun line.

The command post under the watchful eye of Captain Antoni Furman conducted technical missions throughout the weekend culminating with a number of fire plans involving the gunline. The Gun Position Officer, Lieutenant Pete Wirth, with his command post staff had the opportunity to work as a team and now are forming a well, which augers well for a successful ARTEP in October.

The weekend finished off with a general knowledge gunnery quiz with series of 'Fastball' type questions across the whole spectrum of gunnery. The quiz was conducted with Quiz Master Warrant Officer Class Two Kym O'leary and the Battery Sergeant Major as the official scorer and final judge. Some of the questions included old chestnuts like the gun position officers sequence of orders and the aim of fire discipline. These created a lot of debate between the teams and the end result was that there should be no excuse for not remembering them for future quiz's. The exception being Bombardier Joslin Smith commenting that the doctrine was wrong and we should take his version as the right way. The quiz rounded off a successful weekend, which put the Battery on the right footing for the ARTEP.

Recruiting

August saw a marked increase in activity with the units two 'Unit Recruiting Liaison Officers' Bombardier Matthew Stuart and Lance Bombardier Craig Atkins commencing a concerted campaign in targeting all Defence Force Recruiting candidates that have yet to decide what they want to be within the General Reserve.

They have also attended training on the new 'On Line Recruiting Training Tool' which being rolled out. There is also two activities planned within the next few weeks involving Flinders University and the Adelaide 36'ers Basketball Team and we should start seeing the effect of these events by November.

Future Operations

September was a big month with the Battery preparing for Exercise Extended Range, which is the Battery ARTEP exercise at the Cultana Training Area during the period 7-8 October. Support for the 9th Brigade Ready Reaction Force will reach its climax during October with a weeklong activity for the Battery Ready Reaction Force personnel somewhere within South Australia.

131st Surveillance & Target Acquisition Battery

2005 has been another hectic year that has seen the Battery focus changing from training and support to preparing for and deploying on operations. The highlight being the deployment of a Weapon Locating Radar (WLR) on operations overseas for the first time since the Vietnam war. The main focus of the Battery has been the deployment of various elements of the unit on AMTG 1, and the preparation of the second rotation for AMTG 2. This has been done whilst still maintaining the units core skills, the multitude of corporate governance requirements and preparations for the transition to 20th Surveillance and Target Acquisition Regiment (20 STA Regt).

The Battery's commitment to operations was small but well established at the start of the year with support to Australian Army Training Team - Iraq 1 (AATT-I) and AATT-2 by four members of the Battery. This six-month deployment proved to be very interesting for all involved and provided a wealth of background knowledge for the operational deployments that were to follow.

Exercise Sky High at Singleton Range was the first unit exercise and allowed Battery Troops to practice alongside A Field Battery on their live firing exercise. During Exercise Sky High the deployment of the Target Acquisition Troop and the possible deployment of the Surveillance Troop on AMTG 1 were announced. Simultaneously it was revealed that the unit would be receiving the new AMSTAR (Ground Surveillance Radar [GSR]) fast tracked to the unit (for possible deployment). As the equipment hit the ground so did the Tennex instructors and instruction to the Troop personnel began immediately. The announcement of Surveillance and Target Acquisition Cell (STAC) and WLR deployment on AMTG 1 and the possible deployment of the Surveillance Troop cut short the exercise and within a week the STAC and WLR personnel were despatched to Darwin to undergo force preparation training.



Official HO/TO of Australian and British Radar Crews AMTG 1

In March a composite STAC deployed for Exercise Silicon Brolga, a 3rd Brigade command post exercise conducted in Lavarack Barracks where they supported a minor joint task force operation (by coordinating Intelligence Surveillance & Reconnaissance (ISR) for the Brigade and providing Surveillance and Target Acquisition subject matter expertise in the planning of the operation). After working through easter, the Surveillance Troop then deployed on Operation Cranberry, a joint activity with Norforce, Australian Federal Police, Coast Watch and Customs. The Troop Headquarters operated

out of Nhulunbuy, with two detachments deploying to islands in the Wessel Island group. Each detachment was co-located with a section of soldiers from Arnhem Squadron, Norforce. This operation occurred not long after tropical cyclone Ingrid ripped through Cape York and the Northern Territory, needless to say finding shelter within the trees with leaves and branches was quite a challenge for the detachment commanders.

During this period the 1st Brigade command post exercise was conducted in Robertson Barracks where the STAC supported a minor task force operation as lead up training for Exercise Talisman Sabre 05. A Surveillance and Target Acquisition Troop consisting of one WLR and two surveillance detachments was formed for Exercise Talisman Sabre 05 in June / July and deployed in support of a minor joint task force operation as part of Exercise Talisman Sabre 05. The Surveillance and Target Acquisition Troop provided vital assets to enable a well-rounded ISR Brigade plan. This troop remained in Shoal Water Bay Training Area for approximately four weeks, providing excellent information for a myriad of users.

Soon after returning from Exercise Talisman Sabre 05, the unit was directed to prepare a STAC, a WLT, a GSR troop and a UAV troop for rotation on AMTG 2. This deployment would see 30 unit personnel deployed with AMTG 2. Given the nature of the deployment personnel from WLT, Surveillance, Artillery Meteorology and Survey and Combat Services Support have been selected for AMTG 2. The unit has been fortunate to be able to utilise the skills of a United Kingdom exchange member who had deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan in recent years. In particular his surveillance and UAV skills were of great benefit during pre-deployment training. Training for this deployment has taken place under command of Captain Damien Carroll and Warrant Officer Class Two Peter Westcott.

As the year draws to a close, we reflect on a turbulent but very rewarding year for 131st Surveillance and Target Acquisition Battery. At the end of 2005 the unit has deployed over 50% of its posted strength on operations, supported a myriad of units and conducted trials on a suite of new surveillance systems. The year has also been marked as a strange one by the sudden, mid year, resignation of the Battery Commander Major Glen Marshall, who left to take up a lucrative advisory position in 'civilian street'. The Quartermaster, Captain Darryl Lyons, has stepped up as the Battery Commander for the remainder of the year. We look forward to another busy year in 2006 under the command of Major Bernard White.

All that remains is a bit of adventure training and a lot of non-tech inspections...

School of Artillery

Fire Support Wing

FSW (as usual) leads the School of Artillery charge. Four times the number of courses, trainees and fun of other wings, but where are the staff. FSW appreciates the external instructor support provided by the Land Command units, we would not request unless necessary. While core business remains individual training the wing has been active in both training and capability development. While support to capability development has focussed on the long range mortar (LRM), the artillery orienting system (AOS) and the



indirect fire control system (IDFCS), we look forward to an increased involvement supporting the training definition for Land 17. Important tasks in the short term include the integration of NINOX with offensive support, the future of conventional survey, implementation of the mortar capability sustainment plan, and the requirements for the future observer in the Future Land Operational Concept. The remainder of the year will be challenging as the wing concurrently conducts between 5-8 courses until late November. For those posted to FSW in the new year, welcome - you will be busy.

Surveillance and Target Acquisition Wing

The deployment of a weapon locating capability, imminent UAV acquisition and deployment and the raising of 20 STA Regt have made 2005 an exciting time to be part of STA Wing. To assist in the development of appropriate trade models and training continuums, significant time and effort has been invested by all personnel within the wing. The combined arms element have been working hard to prepare for and have now commenced the introduction into service training for the AMSTAR Ground Surveillance Radar whilst providing support to trial and development activities for the Unattended Ground Sensor and Thermal Surveillance Suite Type 3.

With all of the new and 'shiny' capabilities being introduced, STA Wing has worked hard to maintain and in places increase it's focus upon the core of the trade, weapon locating and artillery intelligence. Utilising Australian and foreign experience from recent deployments to Afghanistan and Iraq STA Wing has been heavily involved in rewriting doctrine and updating training management packages.

All of this has been undertaken whilst still providing the output of trained personnel required by the RAA. As a result of the raising of 20th Surveillance and Target Acquisition Regiment the gross training requirement for STA Wing has doubled for at least the next two years. As a result of these circumstances STA Wing is looking forward to a very busy yet exciting time over the next 12 months.

Ground Based Air Defence Wing

GBAD Wing has had a busy year. The normal through put of courses has continued unabated until recently. The focus for the remainder of the year is on the conduct of individual training for the imminent introduction into service of project Land 19 Phase 6. The wing is involved in the development of training management packages, lesson packages and doctrine to support the new capability.

The support of three training activities to be held at 16th Air Defence Regiment in November and December will conclude a successful 2005. GBAD Wing will commence instruction again in February 2006 with new build standard equipment, including new state of the art simulators for the RBS-70 and a new infra-red night sight, BORC (Thermal Night Sight).

Motorised Combat Wing

Delivering 'Capability through Protected Mobility'

Motorised Combat Wing (MCW) was initially raised in January of 2004 in order to establish a training base for the introduction into service of the Bushmaster, Infantry Mobility Vehicle (IMV).

Having completed the necessary supporting documentation, the Wing was well poised to commence training instructors posted in from the beginning of this year.

During the initial training to instructional staff, MCW was tasked at short notice to deliver training in support of the deployment of IMVs to Iraq as a component of the Al Muthanna Task Group 1 (AMTG I). The requirement to deploy the IMVs to Iraq increased the challenge for the Wing to modify the delivery of training to meet the required time-line. Following the completion of this training MCW prepared for the delivery of instruction for the next full IMV continuum. During the course of this continuum MCW was again tasked with training members for the second rotation of AMTG, which caused the rescheduling of the courses in order to meet with the new requirements.

Despite the interruptions to the scheduled delivery of training and other issues including the scarce number of available IMVs, MCW achieved all tasks assigned. The efforts of the staff did not go unnoticed as on the 30th May 2005 the Wing was presented with the award of the Training Commander's Commendation for exemplary performance. To date MCW has completed four IMV Driver courses, and three each of the IMV operator and supervisor courses. Additional trailer courses were conducted in order to provide logistic support to AMTG.

The MCW also had the opportunity to provide a representative role in assisting Australian Defence Industries explore business prospects in the US by providing a customer based military view of the IMV and its unique capabilities.

Remaining focused on the training outcomes the Wing completed hasty preparations for the next iteration of courses to effect the introduction into service of the IMV during October and November.

53rd Independent Training Battery

It was a traditionally busy start to the year for 53 Battery, as we generally deployed into the field three or four days every week for the first 3 months. The remainder of our time was taken up with maintenance, administration, individual training and sport. Things started to settle during the middle months of the year, providing the Battery with a good opportunity to conduct more individual and small group training as well as infantry minor tactics and adventure training activities. The tempo will again increase for the final two months of the year as the support for courses is coming thick and fast. Overall it has been a successful and rewarding year for the Battery.

20th Surveillance & Target Acquisition Regiment

How do you raise a Regiment? For a moment, think back to any unit you have ever served in; think back to the monuments, the signs, the buildings, the pictures on the walls...

Having been given the job of raising 20th Surveillance and Target Acquisition Regiment (20 STA Regt), Lieutenant Colonel Phil Swinsburg gathered his team in mid January. Immediately he faced the prospect that one-quarter of his staff was being deployed on operations to Iraq. With the remaining team of three, the next question was 'Where do we start?' The top floor of a building in Enoggera had been secured and some furniture had been moved in. Realising what work lie ahead, the first work done went into setting up computers and white boards. Next came a very detailed Mission Analysis, which set the tone for the rest of the year.

In quick succession, a concept of operations for the Regiment, the single entitlement document, naming of batteries, and a multitude of minutes, directives and letters followed. Somewhere in all of that we found time to assist various equipment projects such as JP 129 TUAV, LAND 53 NINOX and LAND 58-3 Weapon Locating Radar Life-of-Type Extension. Then came the doctrine. We wrote and wrote and wrote. The result was LWP-CA (RISTA) 2-3-3 UAV Operations and a good start on LWP-CA (RISTA) 2-3-2 Artillery STA in Land Operations and a good set of SOPs for the conduct of UAV flying operations.

In amongst all of that, we found time to travel. One member of the team learned during a trip that his frequent flyer status had been increased to platinum. One other member of the team made so many visits to Puckapunyal, that locals did not even realise he had been posted to Brisbane, they were certain he still lived in Pucka!

Then came the Facilities Integration Exercise (FITEX)... With Hardened and Networked Army looming, folks in Army Headquarters and Brisbane realised that facilities were going to become a huge problem in Enoggera. The FITEX was the mechanism by which facility usage will be rationalised within Gallipoli Barracks. In short, for 20 STA Regt, it means that we will have a home. In 2006, 131 STA Bty and 25/49 RQR will exchange facilities. 20 STA Regt will live and grow in the 25/49's current Sanananda Lines.

As many of you now know, the batteries of 20 STA Regt will be called 131 STA Bty, 132 UAV Bty and CSS Bty. 132 Locating Battery existed in Melbourne from 1956 until 1987. After much research and consultation, it was decided to bring 132 back to life for the TUAV capability. 132 UAV Battery will be raised in January 2006. Can you believe that we actually found the memorabilia that once belonged to 132 Locating Battery?! It has resided all these years in Melbourne under the care of our friends at 2nd/10th Field Regiment and they were kind enough to find the stuff and forward it on to us. So when 132 UAV Battery parades for duty in January, there will pictures on the walls and trophies on the shelves.

One thing about raising a Regiment though, the work never seems to end. Just as you finish one enormous piece of work then the next is awaiting your attention. This struck home as we finished the UAV doctrine, the training and resource plan for the next four years beckoned. Small diversions such as assisting units to prepare for overseas operations also diverted our attention momentarily but there was always the basic requirement to raise the Regiment to re-focus our work. As we progress to the end of the year we turn our attention more and more to the preparing 131 STA Battery and its soldiers for the transition to a Regiment. This is not merely moving the Battery into 25/49's lines, this also include trade transitions with the incorporation of UAV into ECN 250 AMS and surveillance into ECN 271 WLR.

As Rome was not build in a single day, neither is a Regiment. The work to raise 20 STA Regt will continue on into 2006 with many more challenges and opportunities to face. The formal raising of 20 STA Regt is scheduled for January 2007 and there is much work to be done.

Joint Proof and Experimental Unit

The Joint Proof and Experimental Unit (JPEU) continues to consolidate as a unit in its second year of operation as part Joint Logistic Command, VCDF Group. The current Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Gary Potter will remain in Command in 2006 for a third year to continue the unit's consolidation. The Proof and Experimental Establishments, Port Wakefield and Graytown continue in their roles of proofing and testing of weapons and munitions to ensure consistency, quality and reliability for the men and women of the ADF and in particular the Gunner community.



Proof & Experimental Establishment Port Wakefield (P&EE PW)

Since our last report, the P&EE PW has successfully conducted an Open Day in November 2004 to celebrate its 75th Anniversary. The day consisted of tours, displays and live firing demonstrations. The live firing also signified the end of an era when the Senior Naval Officer - South Australia, Commander Anne Atkinson, ceremonially farewelled the 4.5" Naval Gun by firing. Other highlights included the guided tour of the world-class Environmental Test Facility, the historic photograph display, the gun displays and the array of equipment and specialist data collection capabilities of the establishment. 48th Field Battery and 16th Air Defence Regiment provided RAA displays. Thanks for your support. The success of the Open Day was highlighted by an estimated attendance of over 5,000 visitors from Adelaide and regional South Australia. A booklet titled "Celebrating 75 years of 'quiet' achievement - 1929-2004" was also produced to commemorate the anniversary. Additional copies can be obtained from the Master Gunner, Warrant Officer Class One Phil Robertson.

One area that may not be too well known to all RAA members is that P&EE PW actually maintains and operates a fleet of watercraft, amphibious vehicles and all-terrain vehicles.

The large Defence sea and land areas at Port Wakefield require a range of patrol and pursuit craft to enable timely control of unauthorised incursions into the allocated Prohibited and Restricted areas. 2005 has seen some new variations come into service with the unit now holding two hovercraft; a Hornet hovercraft and a Hoverflyer. They are also used for the recovery of fired projectiles during 'Over Water Recovery' tasks.



Hornet Hovercraft



Hoverflyer

More traditional craft include the 5-metre fibreglass boat and a soon to be delivered jet boat.



5.05m Pacific Marine Sportscraft



Jet Boat

P&EE PW also operate two Polaris All Terrain vehicles variants; one 6 x 6 and one 4 x 4. These are utilised for the patrolling of the tidal flats and surrounding land boundaries of the Range area.



Polaris 4 x 4



Polaris 6 x 6

The unit's two proof M198 155mm Howitzers are currently undergoing modifications upgrades to align them to the in-service specifications. This will allow the guns to be towed to Woomera to undertake the Medium Artillery Replacement Ammunition Project (MARAP) trials. The unit will be requesting external gunner support to undertake these trials.

The firing schedule has been consistent throughout the year and it is anticipated that the tempo will again pick up as the factories prepare for their Christmas 'shutdown period'. This will see the Range remain 'operational' until approximately 21st December 2005 and resume early in 2006.

A posting to JPEU and one of the proof ranges can be a varied, rewarding and learning opportunity to any 'Gunner'. Consideration should be given to JPEU as a posting alternative for all RAA ranks with positions ranging from ECN 162 GNR to BDR, OPAMS BDR, SPVR OS SGT, MANOPSOS WO2 and WO1 and CAPT to MAJ.



Proof and Experimental Establishment Graytown (P&EE GT)

2005 has been a challenging and extremely busy year for P&EE GT. The year commenced with trials for Bushmaster. This included the first acceptance test of Bushmaster against specifications. This task provided some interesting challenges for our staff. Our major range users continue to be Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) and Australian Defence Industries (ADI).

DSTO carried out a month long Thermobaric (fuel-air explosive) trial to an international audience. This trial was to assess the performance of fuel-air explosives in confined spaces. This included dug in field defences such as weapons pits and command posts. The results were very impressive. P&EE GT also supported the disposal of small arm munitions for Victoria Police, rail hardening and ongoing tasks for Tenix with the M113.

Amongst all these high profile trials the P&EE continued to support ongoing ADI proof of different natures of ammunition including 5.56mm, 7.62mm, .50 cal, flares and 105mm propellant just to name a few.

On average, P&EE GT is conducting five tasks a week. Other major ongoing tasks include:

- preliminary firings to prepare for 105mm propellant standardisation in 2006;
- proofs on 20mm and 25mm standard round manufacture; and
- a new turret weapon configuration for the Tenix manufactured M113.

Currently Graytown's posted strength is 50 personnel. Ten military and 41 APS staff. There is a very small RAA component of two being the Master Gunner and Gun Sergeant. In 2006, this will be bolstered with the posting in of an OPAMS.

Master Gunner - Warrant Officer Class One B.D. Singh is posted as RSM 1st Field Regiment and is replaced by Warrant Officer Class Two G. Boyce on promotion.

Gun Sergeant - Sergeant M. Johnston is posted to Communications Wing School of Armour, his replacement is currently not identified.

1st Ground Liaison Group

Ever since the Wright Brothers flew their powered flying machine in 1903, the military has been developing ways to improve the use of aircraft to shape the battlefield. The initial concept of throwing a grenade from a cockpit and hoping for the best has developed into the ability to strike with pinpoint accuracy onto almost any objective in the area of operations. Regardless of the technology involved, as soldiers from 1914 through to 2005 can attest, the sight of a friendly aircraft delivering well aimed ordnance onto a target is a relief, and in some cases decisive to the outcome of a battle.

Initially raised during World War Two, 1st Ground Liaison Group (1 GL GP) is the conduit between the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) and Army for the provision of air support. 1 GL GP's mission is to facilitate the synchronisation of air/ground operations through the creation of a Ground Liaison System consisting of a Battlefield Coordination Detachment in the Air Operations Centre and the embedding of Ground Liaison Sections in RAAF Wings and Squadrons. From its early beginnings 1 GL GP Ground Liaison Officers (GLO's) have provided advice to both Army and RAAF Commanders to bridge the 'language barrier' between the two services.

GLOs within Air Combat Group are traditionally Gunners who provide aircrew with ground briefs immediately prior to a mission so that they can deliver Offensive Air Support (OAS) in a way that will complement a land commanders Concept of Operations (CONOPS) and scheme of manoeuvre. These briefings are an essential element to 1 GL Gp's goal of preventing fratricide on the battlefield. Post-mission debriefings require the GLOs to conduct a formal conversation with the pilot with the aim of ascertaining information that a land commander needs to know to influence subsequent operations.

As the Australian Defence Force (ADF) increases its operational tempo in conjunction with coalition forces there is an ever-increasing need for Australian personnel to competently utilise the OAS options open to our coalition partners, in particular, the United States. Consequently the ADF has determined that there is a requirement for ADF Terminal Attack Control (TAC) qualifications to be internationally recognised, particularly by the United States Air Force, United States Marine Corps and Royal Air Force. The current ADF TAC courses have been modified accordingly and it is anticipated that the ADF will receive its US TAC accreditation in 2006.

Not surprisingly, the RAAF is the ADF's capability manager for TAC and have subject matter expertise in the area of Close Air Support (CAS). The primary training institution for TACs within the ADF is the Forward Air Control Development Unit (FACDU) located at RAAF Base Williamtown, near Newcastle. To ensure TAC training in the ADF meets coalition standards and competencies there is a need for TACs employed within the ADF to maintain their qualification on a six monthly basis. Due to the availability of aircraft and limited training opportunities, it has been decided that the 'Centre of Gravity' of the ADF's TAC capability will be co-located with FACDU and alongside the majority of RAAF FGA aircraft. The Land Commander and Air Commander have therefore agreed to raise the Joint Terminal Attack Control Troop (JTAC TP) within 1 GL Gp consisting of personnel from the Royal Australian Artillery (RAA), Royal Australian Infantry (RAInf) and RAAF Airfield Defence Guards.

Located at RAAF Williamtown since the start of the year, the initial elements of JTAC TP have already developed a strong working relationship with FACDU and the F/A-18 Squadrons. The ability for TACs to work on a day-to-day basis with the OAS providers ensures that the tactics and techniques employed by the Troop are reflective of both Army and RAAF procedures. JTAC TP personnel also assist with instruction at FACDU to provide a level of expertise that was previously unavailable to the RAAF. Major input this year has seen control of the 'Combat Phase' of the TAC course move to JTAC TP as the subject matter experts in ground operations. Greater instructor support from JTAC TP for the TAC course will see a higher training output and ensure the TAC capability in the ADF is increased. Using the resources and training opportunities of FACDU, providing instructional support and increased opportunities to interact with FGA pilots now places JTAC TP personnel at the forefront of the CAS capability in the ADF.

To fulfil the TAC support requirements of the ADF, JTAC TP will augment the current capabilities of units within 1st Division and Special Operations Command. The Troop will provide personnel who are experts in the control and direction of CAS and who are able to provide OAS advice to the supported arms commander. By integrating with the Joint Offensive Support Teams (JOST's) and Joint Offensive Support Coordination Centres (JOSCC's), the Troop will come under Operational Control (OPCON) of the supported unit in all respects. As each supported units training requirements are specifically moulded around their role, JTAC personnel will be trained and maintain the required skill sets to support units with specific needs such as parachute, airborne repelling and HUET skills. Next year should see the start of JTAC TP personnel regularly taking part in sub-unit, unit and battle group training.



SGT Dawson (JTAC TP) and FLTLT Hackett (FACDU) discussing a CAS training

The RAA will continue to be the OS specialists in the ADF. As such, it is preferred that JTAC TP is predominantly manned with RAA personnel. Although there is a need for some Gunner officers to retain the TAC skill, the development of NCO TACs will allow the skills to be retained in a practical environment for considerably longer. However, the cerebral demands of TAC and airspace management are high, and therefore it has been agreed that there is a need to incorporate psychological testing on candidates prior to participation in TAC training. It has been determined that prospective TACs will need to undergo an Army General Classification Test and attain a General Ability Score (GAS) of at least 8. This minimum screening would reduce the NCO failure rate by over 50% and would not have prevented any previously qualified

TACs from attending TAC courses. TACs must be able to meet the demands of controlling multiple FGA aircraft in complex environments. Spatial awareness, very good communication skills and decisive decision making are just some of the attributes required for employment as a TAC. It is imperative that RAA candidates for JTAC TP are of the highest calibre and are able to communicate effectively to advise commanders in the Army and RAAF. NCO's selected for a posting to JTAC Tp will be rewarded with a posting to a sort after location and will have the opportunity to work with state of the art equipment in a Joint environment.



SGT Dawson (JTAC TP) controlling aircraft during a CAS training mission around

Much has happened in the last couple of years to address the need to improve the synchronisation of air/ground operations and in particular the development of the ADF's TAC capability. The effectiveness of OAS incorporating CAS and Terminal Control on recent operations has highlighted the need for increased training and resources to be put towards improving this capability. The raising of JTAC TP and the increased emphasis of joint service integration will be a positive step towards improving combat effectiveness. JTAC Tp, along with the other elements of the Ground Liaison System, will ensure that OAS is, and will continue to be, a defining combat multiplier within the ADF's arsenal.

▶ Training with the 155mm howitzer

Moving up to medium size

By Lt Simone Heyer

7 BDE will get more bang for its buck with the introduction of the 155mm M198 howitzer to 105 Fd Bty. The new capability will upgrade 105 Fd Bty to a medium battery on July 2, with the battery being fully operational with the 155mm by July 1 next year.

Adjt 1 Fd Regt Capt Karl Hain said the larger gun would support future motorised elements of 7 Bde.

"The increased range, lethality and precision capability of the M198 makes it the ideal artillery system to support the Bushmaster capability being introduced to 7 Bde," he said.

On May 7, a live fire was conducted at WBTA as part of a qualifying shoot for 105 Fd Bty, general training for 1 Fd Regt's reserves at 13 and 41 Fd Bty and to showcase the firepower of the gun.

Capt Hain said the live fire provided the opportunity to show the regiment's 105mm and 155mm guns in action to commanders and junior officers of 7 Bde.

"The live fire showed a comparison of field and medium artillery effects by

engaging targets with different types of ammunition," he said.

BC 105 Fd Bty Maj Peter Monks said the live fire demonstrated the battery's ability to operate as a medium battery. He said a one-week conversion course was held on the 155mm.

"For a gunner converting from 105mm to 155mm, a long time isn't required to gain the basic individual skills," he said.

While 37 soldiers completed the course, Maj Monks said one third of his NCOs and 12 soldiers had been previously posted to 8/12 Mdm Regt and already had the competency to operate the 155mm.

"Only the minimum number of people have been qualified to maintain the capability so far," he said.

For Alpha Gun No. 1 Bdr Joe De Goede, the one-week exercise and qualification shoot exercise at WBTA allowed him to fire the 155mm gun for the first time.

"It was a good conversion course, and I prefer the 155mm gun to the 105mm," he said.

"It was the first time I'd fired a medium gun and it was excellent to fire."

With the delivery of CES, Mack trucks to tow the guns and conversion courses from Unimog to Mack, Maj Monks said the regiment was past the first hurdle of acquiring a medium battery capability. He said it was an exciting time for the people involved.

Capt Hain said that 1 Fd Regt was the only RAA unit with a dual 105mm and 155mm capability.

"While the dual artillery capability gives 7 Bde increased offensive support flexibility, there are some challenges the regiment needs to address to achieve concentration of fire and surprise as the characteristic of each weapon system result in different firing information," he said.

Capt Hain said that of the six guns 105 Mdm Bty would hold, four would be manned by ARA detachments and a reserve capability would be raised over the next 12 months to man two of the guns.

1 Fd Regt will hold a parade on July 2 at Enoggera to signify its restructure, with the disbandment of 104 Fd Bty and the renaming of 105 Fd Bty to 105 Mdm Bty.



Fire: Alpha gun detachment 105 Fd Bty fires the 155mm howitzer on exercise at WBTA. Photos by Lt Simone Heyer

Professional Papers

**1st Field Regiment
Regimental Memorial - South Vietnam
17071 Captain K.W. Bade**

17071 Captain Kenneth Wilfred Bade was killed in action in South Vietnam on Saturday 8th January 1966, aged 27 years. Captain Bade was a Forward Observer from 105th Field Battery supporting 1st Battalion Royal Australian Regiment.

Captain Bade was taking part in 'Operation Crimp', the biggest United States of America / Australian offensive in the Vietnam war to that time. The Australians had been airlifted by helicopter into the Ho Bo Forest, located approximately 40 kilometres northwest of Saigon. The Australian landing zone was almost on top of a large Viet Cong underground bunker complex which was heavily mined and booby trapped. The landing zone was surrounded on three sides by approximately 100 Viet Cong soldiers waiting in ambush for the Australians. The Australians with the assistance of artillery and offensive air support, whilst temporarily held by the enemy force, were able to force them to withdraw. Australian casualties from this initial contact were three personnel killed in action and ten wounded in action. Captain Bade was killed in this contact when a mine detonated.

Captain Bade grew up in Rosewood, Queensland and was educated at the Toowoomba Grammar School. He entered the Royal Military College, Duntroon on 9th February 1957 and graduated with a Bachelor Degree in Applied Science on 13th December 1960.

Note: At the time Captain Bade was killed, 105th Field Battery was operating independently in support of 1st Battalion Royal Australian Regiment. The 1st Australian Task Force was not deployed to South Vietnam until May 1966. 105th Field Battery became part of 1st Field Regiment, Royal Australian Artillery, when the Regiment arrived as part of the Task Force.

Land Force Air and Missile Defence

Dealing with the Complexities of Future Warfighting

Lieutenant Colonel I.S. Lawes
Commanding Officer 16th Air Defence Regiment

Introduction

The ADF Future Warfighting Concept, states that 'the challenges of complex environments reinforce our view that warfare is *multi-dimensional*.'⁽¹⁾ Because both the conventional and asymmetric air threat remains, Air and Missile Defence (AMD) will be an essential capability required to create the conditions that enable the Land Force to execute *Multi-Dimensional Manoeuvre*.

The Future Land Operating Concept (FLOC), *Complex Warfighting*, describes the contemporary operational environment. Defining characteristics such as complex physical, human and informational terrain and urban environments, increased threat diversity, diffusion and lethality, force a wider spectrum of challenges, increase unpredictability, and ultimately give rise to ambiguous and asymmetric threats, including terrorism.⁽²⁾

Airspace is the third dimension of the operational environment. When examined within the context of the FLOC, airspace too, is becoming more complex in terms of both the air threat and the demands of airspace battle management. Future adversaries are unlikely to rely exclusively on conventional air power. Using a diffuse mix of asymmetric and conventional air power, adversaries will seek to exploit real or perceived weaknesses conventionally, while selectively attempting to directly counter strengths asymmetrically. Further, as friendly airspace use intensifies, so the demands and complexity of airspace battle management increase. The paper is in two parts:

Part 1 - The Complexity of Future Airspace analyses the airspace environment of 21st century conflict and considers the Chief of Army's Development Intent (CADI) in order to establish their impact on the future Army. This consideration identifies possible future capability needs.

Part 2 - Dealing with the Future Complexity of Airspace addresses the impact identified in Part 1 by:

- providing an Overview of Land Force Air and Missile Defence System in terms of basic system attributes; and
- defining an **Operational Concept** for Land Force Air and Missile Defence.

Part 1 - The Complexity of Future Airspace

The Importance of the Third Dimension

To create the conditions for *Multi-Dimensional Manoeuvre*, the Land Force will require a significant volume of airspace that is free from interference by an adversary.⁽³⁾ Control of the air is a prerequisite to the prosecution of successful ground operations and requires Joint layered effects.

The Land Force Commander will be required to *deny* airspace to the adversary within his Tactical Area of Responsibility (TAOR) while exploiting the third dimension to *enable* his own freedom of manoeuvre. To meet these twin requirements, the Land Force will need to contribute to the generation of Joint layered effects that defeat the air threat while effectively managing friendly airspace.

The Increasing Complexity of the Air Threat

Air power, of any level of sophistication, is a significant force multiplier because it has the ability to deliver a lethal effect disproportionate to the size of the force committed. The combined use of aerial sensors, weapons and delivery platforms has the capacity to quickly overwhelm the Land Force Commander, reduce his situational awareness and inflict significant casualties.

Confronted by a technologically superior force capable of generating the conditions for air supremacy, adversaries will no longer be able to employ strictly conventional air power such as fixed and rotary wing aircraft.⁽⁴⁾ This weakness may be overcome by using adaptable strategies that seek to avoid direct confrontation and counter, rather than match, superior air power capabilities. These strategies may involve the use of terrorism, tactical ballistic missiles (TBMs), cruise missiles (CM), uninhabited aerial vehicles (UAV), air launched stand-off weapons (SOW), ground-launched precision rockets, artillery and mortars.⁽⁵⁾

Driven by the need to overcome a mismatch in capabilities and exploit the strategic defeat threshold of western powers,⁽⁶⁾ there is a clear trend towards the proliferation of uninhabited systems, in particular CM and UAVs. Cost is a further driver of this trend. For the price of a single new fighter aircraft, it is possible to obtain a significant number of CM and UAVs.⁽⁷⁾ Disturbingly, CM and UAVs are increasingly available on the world market.⁽⁸⁾ Even rudimentary versions of these systems pose a significant danger to the deployed Land Force. UAVs optimised for surveillance and target acquisition can detect Land Force operations and provide the basis for near real time targeting.⁽⁹⁾

Notwithstanding the preceding, helicopters will pose a significant threat to the Land Force. They are relatively cheap and their low level flight characteristics make them capable of evading detection by fighters and long range tactical radars. Helicopters have the ability to deliver SOW optimised for the defeat of manoeuvre platforms.

Fixed wing aircraft continue to evolve as highly capable weapon systems. But they are expensive and their cost will prevent many actors from acquiring the latest generation of fixed wing aircraft. However, the comparative low cost and abundance of second hand fixed wing aircraft means that they cannot be discounted as a threat.⁽¹⁰⁾

The Increasing Complexity of Airspace Battle Management

Effective airspace use will contribute to success in *Complex Warfighting*. Within the Land Force Commander's airspace, a high concentration of friendly weapon systems and aerial vehicles, with overlapping operating envelopes and flight profiles, must be free to realise their maximum combat effectiveness without interfering with each other. Airspace battle management (ABM) aims to maximise force effectiveness without hindering the combat power of any friendly element.⁽¹¹⁾

The ABM system consists of the control, coordination, integration, and regulation of the use of airspace of defined dimensions. It also provides for identification of all airspace users. Coordination is that degree of authority necessary to achieve effective, efficient, and flexible use of airspace. Through integration, requirements for the use of this airspace are consolidated to achieve a common objective. Through regulation, activities in this airspace are supervised to prevent real time conflicts among the various airspace users while achieving the necessary flexibility to ensure the greatest combat effectiveness. Identification ensures timely engagement of the air threat while reducing the potential of fratricide.

The term *Battlespace* recognises the inherent third dimension of modern warfare. The *Complex Warfighting* force multipliers - Versatility, Agility and Orchestration - describe the characteristics of successful combat operations.⁽¹²⁾ These three force multipliers, especially Orchestration, require airspace control and an effective ABM system.⁽¹³⁾

Orchestration is the ability to synchronise and coordinate effects to achieve precise, discriminating application of force. Orchestration occurs within the Army through battle grouping into combined arms teams. It also occurs within the ADF and with other government agencies through Joint Inter Agency Task Forces (JIATF). Orchestration with coalition partners occurs through Combined Joint Task Forces (CJTF).⁽¹⁴⁾

ABM aims to maximise the effectiveness of Joint force assets by ensuring the concurrent employment of airspace users, orchestrated in time, space, and purpose to produce maximum combat power at the

decisive point. As Armed Reconnaissance Helicopters (ARH), further Troop Lift Helicopters (TLH) and Tactical UAVs (TUAV) are delivered, the airspace below 15,000 feet will become increasingly complex as users compete for space. Surface-to-surface offensive support adds to the complexity. As friendly airspace user requirements increase and in the absence of the means of near time positive control, the Land Force Commander will find it more difficult to exploit the third dimension and orchestrate effects.

The Land Force Commander will be confronted with the need to control airspace use and need to orchestrate effects. Orchestration and control of friendly airspace use will become more complex as the Army seeks to reduce reaction time through the introduction of networked land systems.

Increasing Airspace Complexity - The Impact on Army

Within the context of the FLOC, the preceding sections have examined the third dimension of the operational environment. The key impacts defined by this examination are:

- To enable *Multi-Dimensional Manoeuvre*, the Land Force Commander will require a significant volume of airspace that is free from interference by an adversary. The impact of *Multi-Dimensional Manoeuvre* defines the need for Land Force systems that are capable of denying the adversary entry to a significant volume of airspace and enable freedom of manoeuvre.
- When faced with the condition of air supremacy, the adversary is forced to turn to a diffuse mix of asymmetric and conventional air power as a counter. Adversaries may come to rely more heavily on uninhabited air power such as CM, UAV and SOW. The relative threat posed to the Land Force by fixed and rotary wing aircraft is decreasing but does not disappear completely. The impact of an evolving air threat defines the need for the Land Force to be protected from a diverse and complex air threat this is relying more on uninhabited platforms.
- Using adaptable strategies, the adversary may seek to avoid direct confrontation and counter, rather than match, superior air power capabilities. The impact of this is a need for modular and versatile Land Force systems with agility to detect, identify and defeat air threats of varying complexity from asymmetric terrorism to conventional fixed wing aircraft.
- As friendly airspace use intensifies, so the demands and complexity of ABM increases. In order to orchestrate effects, the Land Force Commander will aim to exploit the third dimension. Further, and as importantly, he will want to deny the adversary use of the third dimension. The impact of this that a Land Force ABM system capable of near real time automated airspace control, co-ordination and integration will be needed in the very near future.

Existing Capability

By 2014, the ADF Air Defence System (AADS) will comprise interdependent elements of intelligence, long and short range surveillance sensors (including AEW&C aircraft, Tactical Air Defence and Over the Horizon Radars), fixed and mobile C2 Centres, fighter aircraft, anti-air warfare (AAW) ships and GBAD systems.

The Army's GBAD capability is the RBS-70 man packable short-range air defence weapon system.⁽¹⁵⁾ RBS-70 has a range of 8km and a maximum ceiling of 15,000 feet. RBS-70 is optimised for the defence of points against fixed wing aircraft delivering conventional unguided ordnance at low level, and helicopters.⁽¹⁶⁾ The RBS-70 capability includes organic locally networked early warning sensors, centralised control and threat assessment, weapon cueing and a night engagement capability. The RBS-70 capability is not capable of sharing target tracks or threat assessment with other elements of AADS in near real time.

Part 2 - Dealing with the Future Complexity of Airspace

Land Force Air and Missile Defence - an Overview

To deal with the complexity of future airspace this paper proposes a new capability for Army - Land Force Air and missile Defence (LFAMD). LFAMD is an evolution the existing GBAD capability. The LFAMD capability combines the elements of surveillance, identification, response, and command, control, communications, computers and intelligence (C4I).

The first order effect of the LFAMD capability is to deter or counter violation of the deployed task force, battle group or combat team's airspace. LFAMD capability second order effects include but are not limited to, contributing to three-dimensional situational awareness and friendly airspace battle management. Beyond generating these effects, the LFAMD capability will need to be an essential and integral component of the AADS and will operate independently or in conjunction with other AMD weapons. The effectiveness of the LFAMD capability is dependent on the near real time integration of surveillance, response and C4I.

LFAMD Capability Basic Attributes

Figure 1 illustrates the LFAMD capability Basic Attributes.

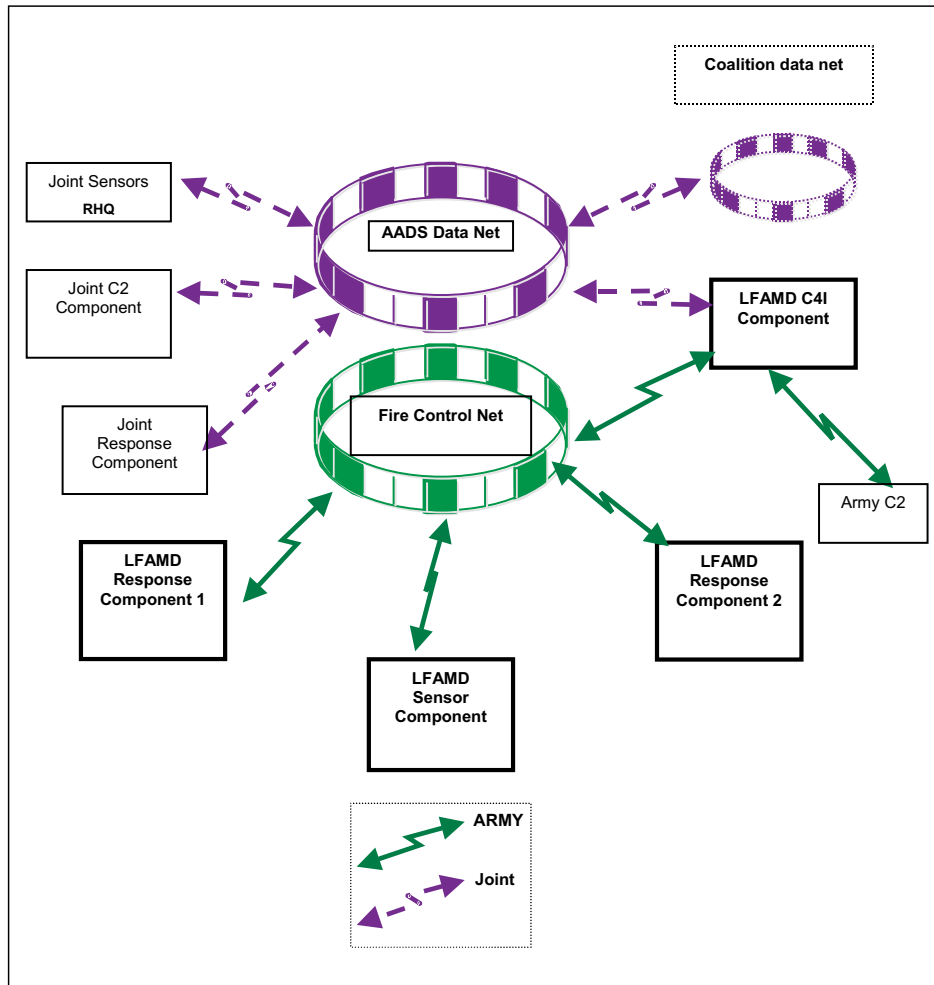


Figure 1: LFAMD capability Basic Attributes

The basic attributes of the LFAMD capability to be a fully distributed network of three functional components: C4I, sensors, and response. Each component is capable of being ‘plugged’ into the network at any point enabling the LFAMD capability to have the requisite flexibility to support the entire spectrum of operations. The backbone of the LFAMD capability will be the C4I system.

C4I

The purpose of the C4I element of the LFAMD is to integrate all of the means of defence against an identified threat in the most efficient and effective manner, while also safeguarding and providing flexibility for the movement of friendly air assets.

The C4I element of the LFAMD capability provides the airspace situational awareness that empowers the Land Component Commander to shape, control, co-ordinate airspace and set conditions for the fight. It

comprises command support, tactical data and air picture systems which fuse data from various sources to provide a near real time link between the command and control, sensor and response functions.

The C4I element will be capable of conducting positive near real time airspace battle management to control, co-ordinate and orchestrate friendly airspace users.

The critical function of the LFAMD C4I system is to effectively and efficiently coordinate a response to defeat the air threat. The C4I system controls one or more distributed networks, and is itself tied into the Joint or Coalition air defence C2 network. The C4I system will receive the recognised air picture (RAP) from the Joint or Coalition air defence C2 network and distribute it to the Land Force.

The C4I system should be capable of networking and fusing data from a number of sensors producing a localised air picture. This system is flexible and has the ability to sustain damage or loss of elements of its functionality without catastrophic loss of performance. Secure, near real-time, digital data transfer is essential to the C4I element of LFAMD.

The control function of the C4I element will evolve to allow co-operative engagements; that is, targets evaluated by sensors and target allocation systems in one area of the battlespace may be allocated to a response element in another area of the battlespace or the response element of another service and vice versa. This may include third party targeting through AEW&C or maritime assets.

The C4I element is the backbone of the requisite LFAMD system: it is the essential factor that enables network centric warfare.

Identification and target allocation will be achieved by electronic, electro-optic, electronic support, third party information or by a combination of these means. Identification solutions will include cooperative systems and non-cooperative target recognition systems such as acoustic recognition or analysis of radar signature.

Sensors

LFAMD sensors will perform specific surveillance, detection and tracking functions. LFAMD sensors will be required to detect a variety of high-speed, manoeuvring, low radar cross section and stealthy targets in all environmental extremes. LFAMD sensors will be distributed and modular in design. These sensors will be able to be elevated sufficiently to operate clear of close screening, thus enhancing deployment flexibility and aiding survivability. Use of multiple active and passive sensors will create functional redundancy, provide spectral diversity and further improve survivability. To enable beyond visual range engagements, LFAMD sensors will require three-dimensional active sensors. If missiles are used as a response option, these sensors may need to supply updated target data to the missile post-launch.

The systems architecture will be such that the LFAMD capability will have the capacity to operate as part of an integrated system. In practical terms, this means the LFAMD capability will be able to receive secure digital air and missile defence information while itself contributing to a common air defence picture. Sensors used by the LFAMD capability will operate independently, as an organic component of a response option, or a combination of both. LFAMD capability sensors will be highly mobile. Those operating in support of manoeuvre forces will have commensurate protection and mobility.

Response

The LFAMD response allows the capability to strike the air threat. The diversity of the air threat described earlier means that a single response option is unlikely to be capable of dealing with the entire threat spectrum. Separate, yet complementary, response elements are required.

An active beyond visual range response option will be required to strike air threats before they deliver SOW or conduct surveillance on the Land Force. The terminal guidance of these systems also provides an increased likelihood of defeating CM. A protected and mobile response option is also required to provide close protection to manoeuvre platforms from the late unmasking attack helicopters and the UAV threat. This response option will need to be automated to facilitate rapid engagement.

Operational Concept

The operational concept is that the LFAMD capability will be a modular and networked C4I, sensor, and response components, optimised for versatility, agility and orchestration. The LFAMD capability will be enabled by layered defence relying on employing surveillance, C2 and response systems in concentric overlapping zones, centred on the area to be protected, and focussed (whenever possible) on the direction of the threat. Each element of a layered system has its strengths and weaknesses. However, the sum of the individual elements determines the overall effectiveness of the air defence system. To achieve a coherent defence, all system elements must be appropriately integrated. The operational concept is shown in Figure 2.

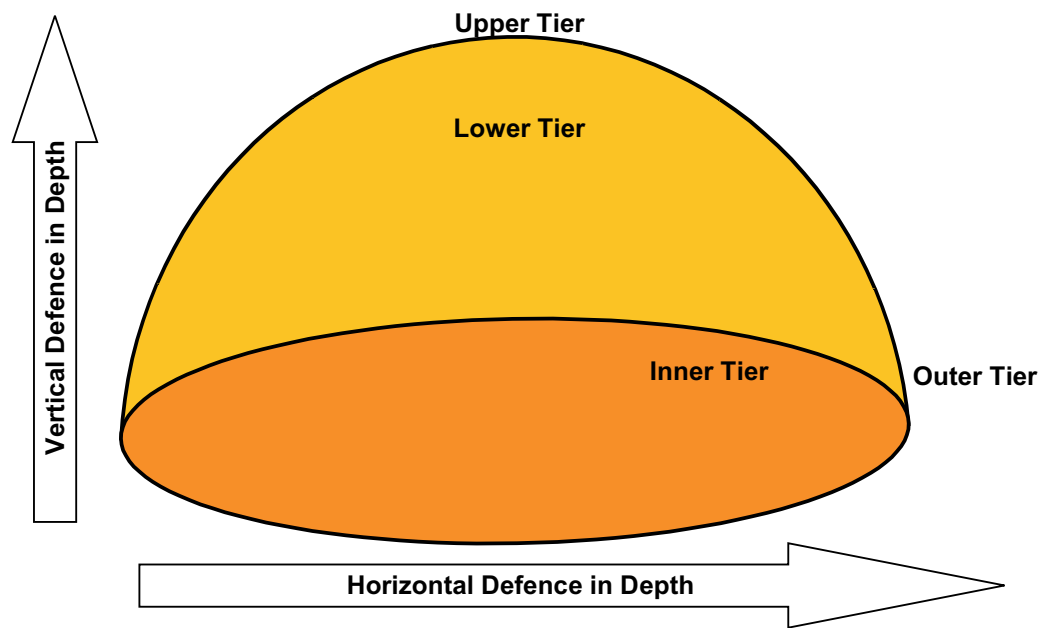


Figure 2: Operational Concept

Deployment Options

Modular and networked C4I, sensor, and response components will enable the LFAMD capability to be capable of deployment options spanning the entire conflict spectrum. Indicative deployment options are as follows:

Military operations other than conventional war (MOOCW). In MOOCW, the LFAMD capability will be deployable to deliver airspace battle management, surveillance and intelligence collection through the use of C4I and sensor components.

Protecting Sovereign Australian Territory (PSAT). In PSAT, the LFAMD capability will be deployable to provide layered AMD of vital assets through the use of C4I, sensors, and response components.

Contribution to Coalition Operations Worldwide (CCOW). Modular LFAMD capability components will have the versatility to be deployed to support Coalition operations in several combinations: airspace battle management, surveillance and response components, airspace battle management component only, surveillance component only, response component only, or any other combination. Effective realisation of these deployment options will require high levels of interoperability with ABCA armies.

Conclusion

This paper has examined the importance of the "third dimension" of the battlespace from the perspective of the Land Force Commander and argued the requirement for air and missile defence system. The paper contended that the Land Force Commander will be required to deny airspace to the adversary within his TAOR while exploiting the third dimension to enable his own freedom of manoeuvre. The paper also

analysed the air threat and concludes, that driven by the need to overcome a mismatch in capabilities and exploit the strategic defeat threshold of western powers, there is a clear trend towards the proliferation of uninhabited systems, in particular CM and UAVs.

Effective airspace use will contribute to success in Complex Warfighting. Within the Land Force Commander's airspace, a high concentration of friendly weapon systems and aerial vehicles, with overlapping operating envelopes and flight profiles, must be free to realise their maximum combat effectiveness without interfering with each other. This paper has demonstrated the Land Force Commander will be confronted with the need to control airspace use and orchestrate effects.

Orchestration and control of friendly airspace use will become more complex as the Army seeks to reduce reaction time through the introduction of networked land systems.

Endnotes

1. Australian Army, Complex Warfighting (Future Land Operational Concept), Army Headquarters, Canberra, 2003, p 8.
2. *Ibid*, p 9.
3. *The 2020 Objective Force Manoeuvre Paper* defines the battlespace as being about 250sq Km.
4. NATO defines air supremacy as the condition when the enemy *air force* is in capable of effective interference. Through the complete destruction of the *enemy air forces*, this condition is the ultimate goal of an air campaign. Under the condition of air supremacy, the air commander employs all of his *aircraft* at will (emphasis added). It should be noted that the term air supremacy does not embrace control of air threats that may be ground launched or controlled, such as, but not limited to, CM and UAVs.
5. During Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), the Coalition enjoyed air supremacy. This, however, did not prevent the Iraqi Army from launching Seersucker Anti-shipping cruise missiles against US Army and Marine ground forces. On 28 March 03 the forward elements of the 3rd ID were subjected to surveillance over-flight by ultra-light aircraft. Department of the Army, *32nd Army AMD Command (AAMDC) After Action Rreview*, 2004, pp 45-47.
6. Because *Complex Warfighting* sees a battlespace where there are numerous different actors, diversity creates asymmetry - a mismatch of capabilities, cultures, technology, objectives, or will. Asymmetry, in turn, exploits a mis-match in 'defeat threshold' - how much one must damage a force to defeat it. Western forces tend to have high tactical defeat thresholds: they are hard to defeat in actual battle. However, their strategic defeat threshold may be lower than their tactical threshold - they may be vulnerable to changes in public opinion, political will and (perceived or actual) casualty-aversion. The use of Scud TBMs against Israel is an example of this.
7. Dennis M. Gormley, *Missile Defence Myopia: Lessons from the Iraq War*, Survival, vol 45, no 4, Winter 2003/04, pp 61-86.
8. Dennis Gormley and Richard Speier, *Controlling Unmanned Air Vehicles: New Challenges*, Report by the Non-Proliferation Education Center, March 19, 2003.
9. Single and joint service experimentation conducted in 2003 demonstrated that the ADF does not have an effective counter to the UAV threat. In 2004, US Army experimentation demonstrated that the deployment of GBAD into an area of operations significantly reduced hostile UAV detection of friendly assets by 2063% (12,547 detections without GBAD deployed verses 608 detections with GBAD deployed).
10. Several aviation brokers, such as Star Avia, offer a variety of ex Eastern Block aircraft for sale. See <http://www.staravia.co.uk/aircraftsales.htm>. GobaPlaneSales.com is an Internet search engine listing over 120 used military aircraft for sale. Aircraft type range from 1977 Mirage F1 (ex Jordan) to 1992 S-70 Blackhawk. See <http://www.globalplanesearch.com>.
11. The complexity of ABM is illustrated by the US experience during Operation IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF). US Patriot systems averaged 100 tracks on each sensor system at all times for the duration of the conflict. The challenge was to separate Iraqi TMB tracks from friendly air movements. Adding this complexity, US AMD units reported an 80% failure rate on coalition aircraft Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) transponders due to system faults and masking.
12. Australian Army, Complex Warfighting (Future Land Operational Concept), Army Headquarters, Canberra, 2003, p19.
13. Airspace control should not be confused with Control of the Air. Control of the air is a role of aerospace power and is the fundamental aim of air defence. ABM, however, does not rely on control of the air. Australian Defence Force, ADDP 3.3, *Aerospace Battle Management*, Defenec Publishing Service, 2003, p1-4.
14. Australian Army, Complex Warfighting (Future Land Operational Concept), Army Headquarters, Canberra, 2003, p19.
15. The Rapier system retires in December 2005.
16. A 'point' is approximately one square kilometre.

Author's Biography

Lieutenant Colonel Inger Lawes marched out of the First Recruit Training Battalion in April 1982. He was allocated to the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery and, following initial employment training, was posted to the 16th Air Defence Regiment where he held a variety of Regimental appointments. He served as instructor at Battle Wing, Land Warfare Centre. Lieutenant Colonel Inger Lawes was commissioned in 1997 and held instructional appointments at the School of Artillery and the Royal Military College, Duntroon. He has seen operational service with United Nations in East Timor. He is a graduate of the Australian Command Staff College, holds a Master's Degree in Management, and is currently Commanding Officer 16th Air Defence Regiment.

Gunners: Supporting The Al Muthanna Task Group

*Major Steven Mott Battery
Battery Commander 101st Medium Battery*

'Regardless of how we deliver our troops to the fight and regardless of the evolution of attack helicopters and cruise missiles there will be an enduring requirement for your unique skills to win the close battle. But you must expand the range of options you deliver'

Chief of the Army, Lieutenant General P.F. Leahy
addressing the RAA Regimental Conference in 2004

Introduction

Whilst the Chief of the Army (CA) may have been referring here to the close battle, the premise that the Royal Australian Artillery (RAA) needs to expand the range of options that it delivers remains. The capability to expand the range of options we deliver currently exists within the RAA although it may not be obvious to all. Not through the delivery of a weapon but through capabilities that very little is known about throughout the remainder of the Army and through the versatility and adaptability of all ranks within the RAA.

I have had the opportunity to be able to lead a small group of Gunners that have been able to expand the range of options available to the Army in a medium threat security operation. The 15 Gunners within the Al Muthanna Task Group Headquarters (AMTG HQ) have combined trades and experiences to be able to produce an effect for the commander that far outweighed expectations, through the; provision of Weapon Locating Radar (WLR) coverage; development of the Artillery Intelligence function; coordination of all forms of aircraft; provision of an Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance (ISTAR) / Targeting function; and through the provision of an effective liaison group.

As stated, some of these capabilities already exist within the RAA, but are not widely understood or even known about across the Army, such as Artillery Intelligence. Therefore, the aim of this essay is to define the roles that the RAA group provided to the AMTG Commander and to show how these have expanded the roles the RAA can offer a commander for future, like operations.

Formation of AMTG

The Australian Governments decision to send the AMTG into Iraq in early 2005 announced the beginning of the formation of personnel from more than 50 ADF units. The 450 strong contingent was tasked to train the Iraqi Defence Force and to provide a secure environment for the Japanese to conduct their reconstruction efforts.

As the Battery Commander (BC) of the 101st Medium Battery (101 Mdm Bty), the online Battery (Bty) from within the 8th/12th Medium Regiment (8/12 Mdm Regt), I was tasked to provide a Joint Offensive Support Coordination Centre (JOSCC) and two Joint Offensive Support Teams (JOST) to the AMTG. The Bty could have provided far more in terms of conventional support or any other task as required. With a range of non-lethal effects available to a gun Bty they could have been used to provide these whilst simultaneously providing the security for Camp Smitty. This would have freed a significant portion of one of the two manoeuvre units to get out on the ground in greater numbers.

Due to the tight man cap and the requirement for additional assets, the 8/12 Mdm Regt commitment was reduced to six. The RAA group was formed with the addition of Surveillance and Target Acquisition Cell (STAC) and a WLR detachment. The total number of personnel remained at 15 with the additional nine members from the 131st Surveillance and Target Acquisition Battery (131 STAB). 8/12 Mdm Regt

provided a JOSCC with the capability to provide a JOST from within and two Joint Terminal Attack Controllers. The personnel breakdown and the other roles they fulfilled is shown in Table 1.

Serial (a)	Rank (b)	Position (c)	Other Employment (d)
1.	MAJ	BC	JTAC and ISTAR Officer
2.	CAPT	JTAC	Air Liaison Officer
3.	CAPT	Forward Observer	LO to Task Force Commander
4.	CAPT	STAC Commander	ISTAR 2IC
5.	WO2	STAC 2IC	
6.	SGT	WLR Detachment Commander	
7.	BDR	Forward Observer Assistant	Japanese LO Group
8.	BDR	WLR Detachment 2IC	
9.	CPL	WLR Mechanic	
10.	GNR	2 x Gunner Signaller	One with Japanese LO Group
11.	GNR	4 x Gunner WLR Detachment	

Table 1. Personnel Breakdown Within the RAA Group

The RAA Group was fused to provide the WLR coverage, Air Support and the Artillery Intelligence function. This was later expanded to include the ISTAR / Targeting function for not only the AMTG but also the Light Dragoon (LD) Battlegroup, which with the AMTG made up Task Force Eagle.

Provision of Weapon Locating Radar Coverage

The ANTPQ 36 is an old but reliable piece of equipment. It became pivotal in the production of Artillery Intelligence from the indirect attacks that occurred. It had the ability to quickly provide an accurate Point of Origin (POO) for indirect attacks, which were predominantly 107mm rockets. The POO obtained by the WLR were proven to be accurate. Without the information provided by the WLR there was no other way of finding the POO. Less accurate was the Point of Impact (POI) produced, however in one instance, the accuracy of the POI was sufficient to locate the crater and to carry out examination of the fragments found.

Initially the WLR was not widely recognised or understood by most members of the AMTG, nor was the requirement to have an immediate response asset linked to it. AMTG wide confidence grew over time in the WLR and the advantages to the concept of cueing it was recognised. This was achieved through a process of education and a willingness of the AMTG to have such an asset.

Provision of the Artillery Intelligence Function

It became evident early that the Artillery Intelligence function within the AMTG would soon be required. With a number of Rocket attacks against predominantly the Japanese group, there was a requirement to produce a plan that would be able to deny the suitable firing locations to the threat groups. The AMTG was a small but versatile organisation. It had an extensive AO and the range of the known threat systems was significant. How could a two sub-unit organisation dominate an area of around 500 square km (based upon the range of the 107mm Rocket and the ability to attack either Camp Smitty or Camp Samawah)? To assist, the JOSCC conducted an Intelligence Preparation of the Battlefield (IPB) concentrating on a combination of tactics, historical and technical analysis allowing the effort to be focused and optimised. This significantly reduced the area that required domination on a daily basis. It should be noted that this was not a sole capability or responsibility of the STAC. This was a RAA Group effort and through the combination of the knowledge held in both the OS and the STA streams, an effective plan was able to be developed to deny the locations required to attack coalition bases.

A comprehensive process was developed to deal with an indirect attack, which involved all members within the RAA group. When the WLR located a hostile track, an immediate intelligence picture of the attack was produced whilst the crater analysis team was deploying. This picture was based on the range of the track and the known modus operandi used by the threat groups. The crater analysis team always

received significant ASLAV support to conduct their task of examining both the POO and POI. On completion of this task an Artillery Intelligence Report would be produced on the attack, providing a statement of the facts surrounding the attack with assessments made where facts were lacking. Those most surprised by the ability of the RAA to complete this task were the AUSTINT personnel within the AMTG. These reports were well received and formed the basis of all Intelligence reporting on an attack.

The IPB was continually refined and was ultimately successful in eradicating the threat. The fact that this capability existed within the RAA was a surprise to a surprisingly large number of people. This is an example of the exposure gained here in a little known capability, expanding the options that we offer commanders on future operations.

Coordination of Aircraft

The only Offensive Support that the RAA group could offer the AMTG was through the use of Coalition Air Support. There was a significant amount of aircraft in the AO which we were able to use for currency and training, in the absence of the requirement to use them in an offensive manner. Should we have been required to use them in a conventional role, a long standing arrangement with the 2nd Cavalry Regiment (2 Cav Regt) would allow us to do this under armour. In the theme of the CA's Hardened and Networked Army (HNA), 2 Cav Regt has always retained ASLAVs for the supporting Gunners. These were available if the requirement arose to deploy to conduct such a task.

The JTACs made use of the Tornados and F16s provided, but more vital to the mission was the use of surveillance assets to monitor the likely indirect firing locations. These assets were too frequently unavailable due to the high demand in the AO but the benefits of these assets were felt by the AMTG. The use of these assets in an overwatch or Command and Control (C2) role was also planned and trialled with great success. The method of deploying JTACs on the C2 aircraft as an LO to talk ground troops onto both moving and stationary targets is extremely effective, this is due to the inclusions of these personnel in the planning process and their experience in dealing with aircraft.

The non-kinetic use of aircraft is one that normally falls in second place to the provision of Close Air Support, but this capability was provided to the AMTG by the RAA group. This expanded on the valuable contributions that the RAA made to the AMTG.

Provision of ISTAR / Targeting Function

The coordination of ISTAR assets in the filling of Information Requests (IR) and the subsequent coordination and prioritisation of assets to deliver an effect was a task of the RAA group. As the BC I headed this task up with the STAC commander as the 2IC. During the development of this function it became apparent that there is very little doctrine to support non-kinetic or 'soft' targeting. Whilst the principals remain the same, the procedure was adapted to suit the environment and the rules of engagement that we were subject to.

While the collection plan was predominantly dealt with by the All Sources Cell (ASC), the effects based targeting was coordinated by the RAA group. The aim was to fuse those tasks from the ASC into the operations of the AMTG directed by the requirement to produce an effect. We were well suited to this task and assisted in providing the AMTG with intelligence led operations. The adaptability of the group to complete this task adds to the employability of all members of the RAA on future operations.

Provision of an Effective Liaison Group

A long standing secondary task of a JOST has been to provide liaison with neighbouring units and warring factions. The RAA group had provided two separate liaison organisations for the AMTG. As indicated in Table 1, the JOST commander is otherwise utilised as the LO to the Task Force Commander - a British Colonel, whilst his assistant and a signaller bolster the Japanese linguist to form the Japanese liaison group. Our personnel are generally well suited to fill positions such as those with the Japanese. They are extremely competent signallers, have a sound understanding of operations and perform well under pressure.

This is most certainly nothing new, however the role played, particularly by the Gunners with the Japanese liaison group, give the supported commander great freedom of action as they are so employable

across a wide range of tasks. It is this type of capability that will ensure that we are tasked to support operations in the future.

Conclusion

Throughout this operation with AMTG 1, all members of the RAA group have sought to support the commander's intent. We have the required 'support' mentality to ensure that we are adaptable enough to do this, regardless of the task. By doing this, I believe that this small group of Gunners here have had a positive, disproportionate effect on the operations of the AMTG. Of less importance to the mission, but of great importance to the RAA is that I believe that some of our lesser known capabilities are now better understood by other elements of the ADF. Additionally the adaptability of the RAA group, no matter what the task has been highlighted and this supports the CA's intent that we need to expand what we deliver in all areas. It was of great assistance to our cause that the command group of AMTG are heavily subscribed to mission command. Not only do they know what it means they employ this philosophy on a daily basis!

I have no doubts that after the performance of the RAA group on AMTG 1, that we will have a role in all future operations that the ADF is involved in, regardless of what spectrum it falls within. Likewise I have no doubts that these personnel will be drawn from both the OS and STA streams to positions where they can use their relevant trades together to achieve their commander's intent.

Need for Obscurants and Illumination on the Modern Battlefield

*Major A.M. Dunjey
Battery Commander 7th Field Battery*

Introduction

This essay examines the need for battlefield obscurants and illumination, primarily focusing on their effectiveness. Additionally, it will consider the methods of delivery, training and logistical requirements on the modern battlefield. Battlefield examples employing these weapons will illustrate their historical importance and the examination will be related to recent enhancements and operational concepts. Both obscurants and illumination will be considered individually within each heading.

Effectiveness

Some specialists in the field are of the view that the need for obscurants and illumination on the modern battlefield is a forgone conclusion.¹ The use of smoke for screening purposes on the battlefield or at sea has been practiced since ancient times when the only sensors to be blocked were human eyes. Smoke aids in deceiving the enemy. It conceals maneuver and increases an army's potential force-on-force ratio, if that army's target acquisition systems can see through the smoke and the threat's cannot.²

Today, virtually every nation has access to thermal imagers (TI) and intelligence gathering surveillance systems. To counter this increasingly sophisticated sensor threat, modern day smoke generators can provide maneuver commanders the capability to control and dominate the visual through to the far infrared (IR) portions of the electromagnetic spectrum, using visual and IR obscurants (graphite flakes). IR obscurants prevent TI sights from acquiring and engaging targets.³

Work is presently underway for yet another generation of obscurants termed multi-spectral. These will defeat weapon guidance systems, radar systems and microwave directed high-energy weapons.⁴ In the close combat conflict of the future, generic target types, as is presently the case, will have certain effect requirements. Specialised targets such as observation points will require key effect options, being principally visual and IR obscuration.⁵

In recent times, smoke was employed on the Kuwaiti/Saudi Arabian border as part of the coalition's deception plan in Operation Desert Storm. Even in the close terrain of Vietnam, smoke did at times have a role. It was found to be effective in being used for blinding, screening, marking and as a navigational aid.⁶

As low intensity operations appear to becoming the most appropriate and cost effective means of achieving national goals, the use of obscurants in this type of conflict needs to be considered. Smoke will also have a use in supporting counterinsurgency operations. Smoke use can protect the force in all phases of counterinsurgency operations.⁷ In Vietnam, smoke was extensively used to screen the aerial insertion of troops.⁸

It can restrict use of airfields or facilities and conceal movement of counter-terrorism forces. Use of smoke can be made in peacetime in support of security assistance operations, show of force and peacekeeping operations. Marking smoke is particularly effective for signalling and early warning.⁹ The employment of smoke during hours of darkness and limited visibility periods (rain, fog, snow) can enhance its effectiveness. Smoke will also obscure the ambient light needed to use night-observation devices (NODs).

In military operations in urban terrain (MOUT) there is a valid argument concerning whether obscuration favours the defender or the attacker. An opposing view is the attacker could expect the enemy to have a defensive fire plan for selected breach sites, but they must be tied to a trigger. It could be said that obscuration can help delay or confuse the initiation of those triggers.¹⁰

There is certainly a continuation of the need for obscurants on the modern battlefield, however, as this weapon grows in use, commanders must understand the limitations associated with each type. Like smoke, employment of IR obscurants can be a double-edged sword.

It has generally been accepted that too much intense light in the field of view of a TI or NOD can cause the electro-optics to 'white out', blinding the user for several seconds and can cause permanent damage to eyesight.

In recent times however, the widespread fear that illumination washes out all TI and NODs appears unfounded. Present United States (US) NOD's use more up to date technology than known Russian style systems and are not susceptible to total white out. Experience during US Army live fire exercises shows that maneuver units actually fire more accurately when they use artillery or mortar illumination.¹¹ The US Army is presently trialling near-IR mortar delivered illumination rounds, which assist latest generation NVG's.¹²

It could quite reasonably be expected that the type of enemy encountered in conflicts by the Australian Army over the next ten years would not have access to the latest generation NOD's in any sizeable number. This would therefore place a more modern army at a distinct advantage at night, with this advantage being enhanced through the use of illumination.

It is known that the adjustment of indirect fire by human observation becomes unreliable at night. Darkness and the use of NOD's both degrade depth perception. Illumination offset from the observer's line of sight can be used to counter this.¹³ During the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, artillery observers, usually located on high ground, found targets and adjusted during the day. At night however, target acquisitions and engagements were difficult, so Soviet artillery units employed illumination offset from line of sight to detect unobserved targets.¹⁴

Soviet commanders also planned artillery fire in support of ground ambushes. Ground ambush planning often included artillery illumination fire on the killing zone and probable assembly areas after their withdrawal from the killing zone.¹⁵ During the Vietnam war, Australian patrols regularly made use of illumination at night in contacts with the enemy.

Illumination will continue to be used as a deception measure to draw attention to areas away from main effort during an attack. Conversely, in the defence, the use of illumination could be employed to deceive attackers.¹⁶ During night cordon and search missions, illumination will continue to play a key role. Missions of this nature were supported by illumination in Vietnam.¹⁷ With the modern battlefield also encompassing urban areas, these type of search missions will continue to play a part in operations and if conducted at night, will be enhanced through the support of illumination.

Illumination is and will also continue to be effective in the marking of boundaries through ground burst, designating objectives and signals. Should conflicts on the modern battlefield require the application of harassing fire at night, illumination will play a key role in achieving this. Illumination should always be planned for, as a non-illuminated attack plan ceases to be one with the first enemy illumination round. Battlefield commanders will need to ensure that contingency plans are made to illuminate at any point of an attack or to switch to continuous illumination.¹⁸

As illumination is effective across a range of operating spectrums, and the fact that it is a double edged weapon, there will be a continued need for the authority for the use of illumination to be centralised.

Delivery Methods

Due to the wide array of potential combat situations, obscurants can be generated using mortar and artillery rounds, naval gun support (NGS), vehicle smoke systems, pots, aviation and grenades.

On the modern battlefield, obscurants will have three applications to support combat operations: blinding, screening and marking. When smoke is needed in a blinding capacity, it will need to be delivered directly on or immediately in front of enemy positions to blind or degrade their vision, both

within and beyond their location. Artillery, mortars, NGS, rockets and grenades are generally used in delivering blinding smoke.¹⁹ To keep pace with the speed of an armoured advance, it will be necessary to support that advance with self-propelled (SP) artillery.

There will continue to be a need for screening smoke to be delivered in areas between friendly and enemy forces or in friendly operational areas, to degrade enemy ground or aerial observation or both. Delivery of screening smoke is effected through artillery, mortars, smoke generators, smoke pots and grenades.

The US Army now makes use of motorised and mechanised chemical smoke units, which operate vehicle mounted obscurant generators. These units can selectively produce visual obscurants and IR obscurants simultaneously or separately. M113 and Bradley armoured personnel carriers can be equipped with a smoke generator set and this system can provide screening support to armoured forces well forward. It is less vulnerable to small arms and indirect fire than US wheeled systems due to its armoured plating.²⁰

The employment of stationary smoke generators mounted on light trucks and trailers, allows for large smoke missions to be conducted in rear areas. There has been recent development of countermeasure systems, which detect when an armoured vehicle is being illuminated by a laser. Upon detection, it triggers the discharge of smoke or other obscurants to block the laser and projectile homing systems.²¹

Army aviation assets can deliver smoke rockets from attack helicopters to obscure enemy observation, degrade target acquisition and mark targets for close air support aircraft. This delivery capability will be soon enhanced with the Australian Army now taking delivery of the Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter.

Illumination will continue to be provided through traditional delivery systems. Artillery and mortars will provide illumination for the primary purpose of supporting an attack through exposing an enemy's first echelon, artillery fire positions and approaching reserves. Crew operated rocket launchers and aviation assets will also support offensive and defensive actions. In the defence, Russian Army doctrine shows a continued requirement for illumination posts, which are teams assigned to illuminate an area on order, using handheld flares.²²

In the past, in preparation for night offensives, artillery units sometimes moved to within 1 to 3 km of the forward edge of the battle area (FEBA). It is considered that as the battlespace of the future may not be so well defined and with the increased proliferation of SP artillery, there is no longer a need for this to occur. Illumination flares delivered by aircraft will enable ground forces out of artillery range to make use of illumination. This method was at times used by Australian patrols in Vietnam, with the aircraft dispensing flares, whilst flying a pattern overhead for a period of time.²³

Certain delivery systems should not be dismissed by commanders due to their age, as some tried and proven weapon systems can continue to meet that commanders needs. During the Falklands War, the British Army made extensive use of mortar illumination to support its attacks, which were predominantly carried out at night. As mortars are man portable, they were one of the few weapon systems able to be brought forward on the long advance to battle.

Training Requirements

In an age where Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) issues are foremost in many peoples thinking, it is not surprising then that OH&S now plays a major part in the use of obscurants and illumination in the training environment.

In the United States, the Department of Public Health and Environment stipulate that no obscurants may be initiated within 3 km of a training area boundary and smoke generation is limited to one hour in duration.²⁴ It is suspected that presently used smoke, can have health effects and continual studies are underway to find a less harmful replacement. Red phosphorous smoke is less toxic and is presently being used by the US Army.²⁵ The US Army requires that masks be worn when troops are participating in training operations that result in exposure to visual or IR obscurants.²⁶

Infantry soldiers and armoured vehicle drivers can be trained to operate in obscurants, to reduce the degradation caused by obscurants. Training reduces psychological impact such as confusion, fear and isolation on troops.²⁷ Training will enable commanders to carefully plan operations to ensure that the use of friendly obscurants in one area does not impede activities in another. The extreme impact of

obscurants on tactical operations mandates close coordination, control and planning for contingencies. Battlefield commanders and observers should train to develop an obscurant support plan to include target lists, delivery assets and, type of support required. Contingencies should be rehearsed.

The training requirements for illumination tend to match that of obscurants training. Soldiers may require more training than in the past to operate during illumination. Training will reduce any psychological impact on troops and at the same time make them familiar with operating NVG's during illumination activities. The transition phase from the cessation of illumination to normal night light will also be eased through sufficient training.

Observers skills in ensuring a commander receives the support he is seeking, are vital to the success of the illumination plan. There will continue to be a need for observers to train to ensure height of burst is correct and that wind speed and direction are taken into account. These skills will also ensure that the illumination carrier shell falls safely and is not placing friendly forces at risk.

Training will also incorporate the personnel operating the delivery systems. These personnel require training to ensure full familiarization, as operating delivery systems at night can increase the likelihood of mistakes through fatigue.

Logistics Requirements

The concept for future operations, requires effective logistic support to high-tempo, dispersed, non-linear mobile operations, underpinned by mission command and facilitated by common, near-real-time situation awareness, in a potentially hostile environment. All logistic considerations in this environment are characterized by a trade-off between the requirements to reduce the logistic footprint while guaranteeing agreed levels of obscurant and illumination responsiveness.²⁸

The wind, location and for how long a commander is willing to sustain a smoke cloud will be the key factors influencing the end logistics plan required for that support. The screening of troop movement can be very resource intensive and planners need to be aware of this to ensure that sufficient supply is made available to maintain the effectiveness of the screen. In the Vietnam War, smoke was at times used to screen troop movement across open terrain such as rice paddies. On one occasion approximately 1,200 rounds were used to screen one company.²⁹

With the addition of IR smoke material, logistical support for chemical smoke units will require special consideration. Vehicle mounted generator systems can provide 90 minutes of visual obscurant and 30 minutes of infrared obscurant without resupply. One 5-ton truck is able to resupply 3 smoke generator systems.³⁰ Planning should be based on the same factors as a tactical plan: mission, enemy situation, terrain, weather, time and distance.

The use of illumination ammunition can also at times be very intensive. In offensive operations, units do today, and will continue to require significantly larger quantities of illumination ammunition. It therefore follows that careful planning is necessary to ensure sufficient supplies of artillery and mortar illumination ammunition are available for all activities. This planning can be achieved through the completion illumination defensive fire (DF) plans. The reconnaissance of night objectives should include the location of illumination points to aid in the illumination DF plan.

The volume of ammunition required to support a night attack can be unpredictable. If an offensive becomes bogged down, the length of time illumination may be required could be far longer than was planned for. The area over which an offensive is conducted will dictate the number of fire units required and the end ammunition requirements. As with obscurants, the number of fire units and ammunition available, therefore become a limitation on a commanders plan.

Units in a night offensive must be resupplied before execution, as logistics activity is much tougher at night. This can be aided through pre-positioning supplies of ammunition forward to help support night attacks.³¹

Conclusion

This essay has examined the effectiveness of obscurants and illumination on the modern battlefield. It has shown that both of these weapons have a key role in supporting operations across the full spectrum of warfighting.

Obscurants provide battlefield commanders an additional element of combat power. Obscurant use supports battlefield deception and enhances friendly combat operations. Visual and IR obscurants in any operation can be employed to protect the force, screen friendly maneuvers, or to obscure and attack threat sensor and seekers.

With the advent of newer generation TI and NOD's, illumination can be used in a variety of operations and can have a two fold benefit in that it will most likely white out any enemy NOD's and at the same time enhance the capability of our own. Both obscurants and illumination are combat multipliers.

Provision of obscurant and illumination support, is now provided by a wide range of delivery systems, ranging from indirect fire assets, to aviation and armoured vehicles. Regular training and careful planning are required for the employment of both of obscurants and illumination to ensure that logistics needs can be met.

Authorities Consulted

Brigadier Richard Lawler, AM (Retd)

Dr Ken Smit, Defence Science and Technology Organisation

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Author's Biography

Major A.M. Dunjey enlisted in the Army Reserve as a soldier in July 1986. He graduated from the Officer Cadet Training Unit in August 1989 and was allocated to the Royal Australian Ordnance Corps and subsequently posted to 13th Field Supply Company. He Corps transferred to Royal Australian Artillery in September 1991. Following appointments as a section commander and gun position officer, he then spent two years as a troop commander in the Pilbara Regiment from May 93 to May 95, based out of Port Hedland. Upon returning to Perth, he fulfilled the positions of forward observer and battery captain. He has also held non-corps appointments at Headquarters 13th Brigade and the Western Australian University Regiment. Major Dunjey was posted to his current appointment as the Battery Commander of 7th Field Battery in January 2005. In his civilian capacity, Major Dunjey is a Business Manager for the National Australia Bank.

Personnel Aspects

1st Field Regiment
Regimental Memorial - South Vietnam
1411047 Gunner R.W. Cliff

1411047 Gunner Richard William Cliff died at the 26th Evacuation Hospital (US Army) on Monday 6th February 1967, aged 21 years. Gunner Cliff was a member of 101st Field Battery. He died of wounds received at Baria, Phuoc Tuy Province as a result of misdirected artillery fire from 161st Field Battery Royal New Zealand Artillery. At the time of his death Gunner Cliff was employed as a Signaller in a Forward Observer Party supporting the 6th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment.

Senior Officer and Regimental Sergeant Major Appointments

The Chief of Army has approved the following RAA senior officer appointments:

- MAJGEN B.A. (Ash) Power, CSC promoted to Major General to Commander 1st Division and Deployable Joint Force Headquarters wef 15 July 2005.
- BRIG M.P. (Michael) Crane, AM, CofS, Headquarters Joint Operations Command, wef 25 Jul 05.
- BRIG P.B. (Paul) Symon, AM, Commander Middle East Forces wef 17 November 2005.
- BRIG G.P. (Gerard) Fogarty, AM, DG Workplace Planning, Research & Retention, Defence Personnel Executive wef 27 Jul 05, prom BRIG, wef 27 Jul 05.
- COL B.M.L. Hall, Director Capability Management & Interoperability, wef 16 Jan 06.
- COL R.A. Parrott, CSC, Defence Attache Berlin, wef 16 Jan 06.
- COL T.D. Pickford, Deputy COS Multi National Force - Iraq, wef 10 Jun 05.
- COL J.P. Smith, Director Joint Intelligence Systems Staff, Defence Intelligence Organisation, wef 16 Jan 06.
- LTCOL P.D. (Paul) McLachlan, CofS, Deployable Joint Force Headquarters, wef 11 Feb 06, prom COL, wef 11 Feb 06.
- LTCOL S. (Don) Roach, AM, Commander Land Command Artillery, Land Headquarters, wef 16 Jan 06, prom COL (sub), wef 16 Jan 06.
- LTCOL S.P. (Shane) Amor, Director Training & Doctrine Group, Land Warfare Development Centre, wef 16 Jan 06, prom COL, wef 16 Jan 06.

Additional Unit Command Appointments

The Chief of Army has determined the following additional Commanding Officer appointments with effect January 2006:

- Lieutenant Colonel D.J.R. Ashton - 2nd/10th Field Regiment
- Lieutenant Colonel S. Condon - 23 Field Regiment (wef 1 August 2005)

Chief of Army congratulates the officers above on their appointments.

New Regimental Sergeant Major Appointments

The Chief of Army has approved the following changes to RAA Regimental Sergeant Major appointments for 2006:

- Warrant Officer Class One B.A. Franklin - 7th Field Regiment
- Warrant Officer Class One R.J. Morland - 8th/12th Medium Regiment
- Warrant Officer Class Two P.M. Simic - 23 Field Regiment
- Warrant Officer Class One D.M. McGinley - 20th Surveillance & Target Acquisition Regiment

Chief of Army congratulates the officers above on their appointments.

DOCM-A

Major M.R.C. (Mitch) Kennedy
Career Adviser Artillery

As I near the end of my first and only year as the Career Adviser for Artillery Officers, I welcome this opportunity to re-affirm some key messages relating to issues that have recurred throughout the year. I will cover officer participation in career management, attendance at career courses and officer liability following overseas training and postings.

Career Management is a Two Way Street

Career management requires active participation from both the career adviser and the officer.

As I stated during my tour this year there are a few key steps that you need to take in order to successfully plan your career. Firstly read the RAA Officer career management guide and DI (A) 47-1 *Career Management of Australian Regular Army Officers*. Both of these are available on the DOCM web page. Secondly consult with your CO/BC and Career Adviser for realistic options. Thirdly identify positions which will broaden your profile and set these as short, medium and long-term career goals. These positions should include a mix of regimental, training (instructional), staff and reserve postings - in both corps and non-corps environments. Clearly it is impossible to achieve all of the above positions, but you should aim to gain experience in two or more. Finally, be flexible and have a back up plan, plan your personal life and most of all be realistic in your expectations.

All Corps Officer Training Continuum (ACOTC)

Chief of Army has directed that promotion to the next rank will now be tied to successful completion of the respective Grade 2 or 3 course for the target cohorts from the end of 2005.

Officers panelled on courses will only be removed for compelling service reasons, such as deployment on operations or attendance at Long Term Schooling during the target year. Failure to attend courses will delay promotion and risk career detriment. Chief of Army has directed that commanders will be held accountable for releasing their officers and in preparing them for respective courses.

Completion of COAC is a pre-requisite to the Grade 2 course. In this respect it also constitutes a 'defacto' promotion course, in that failure to complete the COAC will preclude attendance on the Grade 2 course.

In order to enable unit planning DOCM has contacted CO's and individual officers who are required to attend ACOTC courses in 2006.

Please be under no illusion. If you have not completed the relevant ACOTC course in 2005 you may only be provisionally promoted - subject to course attendance in 2006. If you do not subsequently attend the relevant course, your promotion will be cancelled.

Overseas Posting Liability on Return to Australia

The Army expends considerable resources in training and developing the skills required by members to enable them to carry out their duties. It is logical therefore that most overseas postings either attract a Return of Service Obligation (ROSO) or are linked to a specific posting on Return To Australia (RTA), or both.

Army policy on ROSO is contained in DI (A) PERS 177-2. It is important to understand that *it is the responsibility of the member to complete and provide to their career management staff a ROSO form of acknowledgement before proceeding on an event attracting ROSO*. Postings that attract a ROSO have this annotated at the bottom of the posting order.

DOCM-A policy on those overseas RAA postings that are linked to RTA positions is contained in the RAA Officer Career Management guide. Those postings are:

- United States Field Artillery Advanced Course, return to Fire Support (FS) Wing, School of Artillery.
- United Kingdom Qualified Weapons Instructors' Course (Surface to Air Weapons), return to GBAD Wing, School of Artillery.
- United Kingdom Gunnery Instructors' Course (STA), return to STA Wing, School of Artillery, or 20 STA Regt.
- Integrated Air Defence System (IADS) Courses, return to a GBAD appointment.
- Royal Military College of Science - Introduction to Trials Management Course, return to command the Proof and Experimental Establishment, Port Wakefield or to the Joint Ammunition and Logistics Organisation.

There are also three longer-term postings for OS and GBAD officers at Fort Sill, Larkhill and Fort Bliss respectively. Currently these postings attract a ROSO but are not linked to RTA positions. From the 2007 posting cycle (i.e. for posting in January 2007) these postings may be linked to RTA positions at CATC and LWDC. Officers wishing to undertake these postings should consult with the Career Adviser to be absolutely clear as to their likely RTA posting prior to proceeding overseas.

Conclusion

With effect 9th October 2005 I move to the portfolio of the SO2 Post 1, DOCM-A. My replacement as Career Adviser Artillery, Major Charles Weller, will not march in until 16th January 2006 so I will be covering both desks. Your patience during this period is much appreciated.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your families all the very best for the coming Christmas season and for 2006.

SCMA

Captain Nick Wilson
Career Manager RAA

Introduction

With 2005 rapidly drawing to a close, it is interesting to reflect on what has been a very busy year for the RAA Cell at Soldier Career Management Agency (SCMA), and the Corps in general. Initially, the Personnel Advisory Committee (PAC) cleared approximately 60 RAA soldiers for promotion across all ranks and streams. Subsequently, over 200 posting orders were issued to personnel across the Corps, and some 120 new positions were established within RAA units. Notably, the Targeted Trade Transfer Scheme was initiated by SCMA to encourage soldier retention, and good results have been forthcoming. We currently have significant numbers of RAA soldiers deployed in all theatres of operations, and likewise posted to high profile appointments both within Australia and overseas. The year has indeed been frantic. Therefore, as we approach the year's end, I would like to take this opportunity to reinforce some key career management issues.

Career Management Cycle

Firstly, the following dates can be used for your planning for 2006:

- Personnel Advisory Committee (PAC):
 - RSM PAC 8 Feb - 03 Mar 06 (WO1 across Army);
 - WO1 PAC 1 Mar 06 (for target rank Regt WO1);
 - WO2 PAC 4 Mar 06 (for target rank of WO2); and
 - SGT PAC 7 Mar 06 (for target rank of SGT).
- PAC Letters - Four weeks after relevant PAC sitting;
- Postings - NLT 15 Jul 06; and
- Visits - Jul/Aug/Oct.

Key Issues

2006 promises to be equally as challenging for the RAA. The following issues deserve special mention:

- *'Empowering the Soldier'*. SCMA has tasked you, the soldier, to take ownership of your career. The responsibility for effective career management lies as much with you, the individual, as the career manager, and you must take all opportunities and support mechanisms to assist in achieving your goals. For example, use the AD148/PMKeys self-service, and be realistic in your wants. Identify suitable RAA positions and work in being competitive for them. You are the masters of your own destiny - make it so.
- *Pay/Trade*. Pay/trade problems are being resolved at a rapid rate. However, PORs are still problematic. In almost every trade stream within the RAA, soldiers require a POR to change ECN/grade after relevant experience in trade and/or time in rank. Without appropriate paperwork, pay/trade cannot conduct the appropriate transaction. Units must be vigilant, for this will soon have implications on pay. Details are contained within RAA Employment Category Standing Orders (ECSOs).
- 20 Surveillance and Target Acquisition Regiment. The SED has been loaded and personnel from within the STA stream have been posted to new positions wef 16th January 2006. Due to growth in the trade (particularly ECN 250), lateral transfers from both within and outside the RAA will be considered. However, heed this message. As yet, the 'migration' training required to change ECN without loss of rank and seniority has not been signed off (or endorsed). Therefore, SCMA cannot process trade transfers until the submission is complete. Similarly, transfers will not be approved at the expense of other trades, or to the detriment of corps capability.

- *Joint Terminal Attack Control*. Although no dates have been promulgated, SCMA will continue to canvas volunteers for JTAC. Wait out for details.
- *4th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment (Commando)*. Volunteers are still being sought for service in 4 RAR (Cdo), particularly at the soldier (GNR) level. The only pre-requisite is parachute volunteer status. There is no requirement to pass the CTC for the duration of the posting, though if interested, training will be encouraged and supported.
- *Training Command – Army*. Chief of Army (CA) is clear in his intent to ensure that TC-A units (including ARTC and SOArty) are manned to the best possible level. Although the Corps is deficient in CPL/SGT rank, it does not lessen our responsibilities in providing necessary support. As per RAA ECSOs, all personnel from BDR to WO2 should expect several Training Command – Army/non corps postings throughout their career. Be realistic in your expectations. Such postings raise your profile when striving for promotion.
- *Unrestricted Service*. It is very important that soldiers are aware of the implications of providing restricted service. Our 1 Div ARA units are in Australia's north, and TC-A/non-corps appointments are generally south. As a BDR onwards, you will be required to uplift in order to meet the needs of the Service as outlined above. If you argue that this is not possible due to a range factors (the normal ones include home ownership, wife's employment, family network, undesired locality), you are providing restricted service, and your personal needs no longer meet those of Army. At times, this creates unfavourable friction and will inevitably end with separation. Read DI (A) PERS 34-8. The nature of service in the ARA is well described.

Personnel Changeover

On return to Australia, Warrant Officer Class 1 Paul Washford will take up his new appointment as the Regimental Master Gunner at RAA Trade Policy, CATC. The new Career Manager for Gunner - Bombardier is Warrant Officer Class 1 Maurie Tauletta, currently the SSM of SGT Training Section at CS & O Wing, Canungra. Warrant Officer Class 1 Tauletta hails from an OS background and will be on deck after unit induction training (February 2006).

Conclusion

After my first year in the job, I would like to thank all those who have provided sound advice and counsel throughout 2005. Whilst covering all ranks within the Corps, I also thank you for your patience. Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a very happy festive season and look forward to a renewed focus for 2006.

Retired Full-Time Officers' List

<i>Worn Rank</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Initials</i>	<i>Final Date of Full-Time Service</i>
Major General	Roberts	F.X.	June 2005 (#)
Brigadier	Paramor	M.F.	1 April 2005 (#)
Colonel	Goltz	S.T.	January 2006 (#)
Lieutenant Colonel	Palmer	J.P.	14 February 2006 (#)
Major	Crijns	P.W.	3 September 2005 (#)
Major	Folkard	G.M.	7 March 2006 (#)
Major	Lo Schiavo	J.P.	29 August 2005
Major	McIntosh	S.A.	23 August 2005
Major	McPhee	G.E.	13 January 2006
Major	Watson	M.A.J.	7 July 2005
Major	Fry	J.V.	2 May 2005
Major	Poy	N.J.	25 April 2005
Major	Tucker	D.W.	15 January 2006
Major	Cossart	I.K.	7 November 2005 (#)
Major	Palmer	G.	2005
Captain	Greenwood	S.G.	17 January 2006
Captain	McFarlane	A.H.	13 March 2005
Captain	Parker	P.K.	31 May 2005
Captain	Simmonds	A.G.	15 January 2006
Captain	Spencer	J.M.	21 April 2006
Captain	Taylor	A.E.	17 September 2005 (*)
Captain	Corr	I.	18 November 2005

Notes:

(#) Means the officer has served 20 years or more in the full-time Army

(*) Officer has Corps transferred to Infantry

Editor's Note:

The Editor makes every effort to ensure the names and details above are correct however takes no responsibility for errors and apologises in advance for any errors of accuracy and content.

Capability, Training & Doctrine

**1st Field Regiment
Regimental Memorial - South Vietnam
235324 Lieutenant B.A. Garland**

235324 Lieutenant Bernard Anthony Garland was killed in action in Phuoc Tuy Province, South Vietnam on Wednesday 22nd April 1970, aged 23 years. Lieutenant Garland was acting as a Forward Observer from 101st Field Battery supporting A Company, 6th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment / New Zealand (ANZAC). Lieutenant Garland was taking part in 'Operation Townsville' in Phuoc Tuy Province, which was an operation against D445 Local Force Viet Cong Battalion. Lieutenant Garland was killed in action in the area of Nui Kho to the South of Xuyen Moc, when an enemy mine detonated, killing him and wounding four soldiers. It is believed that the mine was a 'Friendly' M16 (Jumping Jack) anti-personnel mine, which had been dug up and relocated by the enemy. Lieutenant Garland died on the second last day of what was the last operation of 6th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment / New Zealand (ANZAC) in South Vietnam. Lieutenant Garland was to have returned to Australia on 9th May 1970.

Lieutenant Garland grew up in Sydney, New South Wales and was educated at the Epping Boys High School. He entered the Royal Military College, Duntroon on 24th January 1964 and graduated with a Diploma of Military Studies on 12th December 1967.

Note: It should be noted that during the 101st Field Battery tour of duty in South Vietnam a rotation of Regimental Headquarters occurred, resulting in 101st Field Battery changing from 1st Field Regiment to 4th Field Regiment Royal Australian Artillery. This change over did not occur however until late on the 101st Field Battery tour. Technically Lieutenant Garland was a member of 4th Field Regiment when he was killed.

DMO

Combat Support Systems Program Office Project & Fleet Synopsis

Combat Support Systems Program Office (CSSPO) acquires and supports designated combat support weapons systems in order to optimise defence capability. Included in the Systems Program Office (SPO) organisation are the Indirect Fire Support Projects Group, the Surveillance Systems Projects Group, the Radar Projects Group and the Integrated Logistic Support Group.

This synopsis will provide an update on the status of projects and fleets managed within the SPO that are of particular interest to Gunners.

Who's Who?

Director Combat Support Systems Program Office: Colonel Michael Phelps, 03 9282 4810

Indirect Fire Support Projects Group

- Project Director Indirect Fire Support Projects / LAND 17: Lieutenant Colonel Steve Hume, 03 9282 5832
- Project Manager LAND 17: Major Shaun Harding, 03 9282 4106
- Project Manager Indirect Fire Computer Software (IDFCS): Mr Brian Horvat, 03 9282 6939
- Project Manager Medium Artillery Replacement Ammunition Project (MARAP): Major Tony Pearse, 03 9282 3870

Surveillance Projects Group

- Project Director Surveillance Projects: Mr Iain Dunn, 03 9282 6059
- Project Manager NFE: Captain Thomas Dowsett, 03 9282 5007
- Project Manager TSS: Mr Iain Dunn, 03 9282 6059
- Project Manager UGS: Ms Michelle Ager, 03 9282 6268
- Project Manager GSR: Major Paul Adams, 03 9282 6657

Radar Projects Group

- Project Director Radar Projects: Lieutenant Colonel Duncan Roach, 03 9282 5380
- Project Manager LAND 58 Phase 3: Mr Michael Cronin, 03 9282 5771
- Project Manager AOS (until Dec 05): Captain Terence 'Tug' Wilson, 03 9282 6562

Also within the radar program:

- Project Manager 81mm Long Range Mortar: Major Claire von Wald, 03 9282 7221

Integrated Logistic Support Group

- Integrated Logistic Support Group Manager: Ms Sharna Leigh-Fayle, 03 9282 4197
- ADF Logistic Manager Indirect Fire Support: Ms Karen Christensen, 03 9282 5906
- ADF Logistic Manager Surveillance: Mr Craig Taylor, 03 9282 6764
- ADF Logistic Manager Radar: Mr Jim Holland, 03 9282 6684

Indirect Fire Support Projects Group

LAND 17 - Artillery Replacement Project

The current 105 and 155mm fleets reach their Life of Type (LOT) in 2010. The LAND 17 project will address this issue whilst at the same time adopting a holistic approach to the 'indirect fire weapon system'. The Initial Business Case for Land 17 was progressed to the Defence Capability Committee on 5th October 2004. Budget approval will occur in 2005/2006 with a Request for Tender expected to be released to industry in late 2006. At this stage, there remain a number of capability options, as well as numerous materiel solution vendors, which will seek to meet the ADF future indirect fire support requirements.

POC Lieutenant Colonel Steve Hume

Indirect Fire Computer Software (IDFCS) MINCS(L) 42.18

Indirect Fire Computer Software (IDFCS) is the replacement project for the current IDFCS V4.1 software. The IDFCS project seeks to replace Army's existing ballistic calculation software with a system that is safe, upgradeable, maintainable and more accurate through the use of a four degree of freedom ballistic core. Additionally, the new software will allow the addition of new weapon, charge and fuse combinations, as required, throughout its Life of Type.

African Defence Systems (ADS) is the preferred tenderer for the supply of the replacement IDFCS. Contract Negotiations with ADS are planned for October 2005 and it is expected that the initial production unit will be delivered in December 2005 for testing and validation. Introduction into service is planned for April to June 2006.

POC Mr Brian Horvat

Medium Artillery Replacement Ammunition Project (MARAP) MINCS(L) 40.10

The MARAP Project plans to replace the existing 155mm ammunition family with a new family of 155mm conventional ammunition, with improved performance in both range and effect. The new family of ammunition is primarily intended for use with the in-service M198 Howitzer and may be suitable for use with 155mm howitzers introduced into service under Project Land 17. The complete family would require a variety of fuse combinations, a modular charge system and include the following projectile types in priority order:

- High Explosive;
- Smoke Screening;
- Whitelight Illumination;
- Dual Purpose Improved Conventional Munitions (DPICM), including DPICM Practice; and
- Smoke Marker.

The MARAP plans to tender for industry responses late in 2005. Introduction into Service is expected to commence on 2007/2008.

POC Major Tony Pearse

Surveillance Projects Group

Land 53 Phase 1B (NFE)

LAND 53 Project NINOX Phase 1B provides for the procurement of Night Fighting Equipment (NFE) to provide the Australian Defence Force individuals with the capability to observe, move and shoot by night. The Project has successfully introduced the following equipment into service, including integrated logistic support, in 2000:

- Night Vision Goggles (NVG) QTY 16821;
- Night Weapon Sight (NWS) QTY 5063; and
- Night Aiming Devices (NAD) QTY 16288.

The Sniper Night Sight (SNS) acquisition will complete the NFE suite under the current Project. The SNS will enable ADF Snipers to conduct longer range surveillance, target acquisition, and target engagement at night with the primary sniper weapons; the 7.62mm Sniper Rifle and the 12.7mm Anti-Materiel Rifle (AMR), without detriment to the existing day capability.

POC Captain Thomas Dowsett

Land 53 Phase 1F (TSS)

LAND 53 Project NINOX Phase 1F provides for the procurement of Thermal Surveillance Systems (TSS) to provide the Australian Defence Force with the capability to detect, monitor and adjust fall of shot for targets during day and night in all weather conditions.

The systems will be delivered as either TSS Type 2 or TSS Type 3. TSS Type 2 consists of a thermal imager, extended range lens, tripod, indirect view screen and power supply equipment. The TSS Type 3 system adds a laser range finder, angulation head and a control sub-system.

First delivery of the 217 systems occurred in Nov 2004 with final deliveries by the end of 2005. Operator training commenced in November 2004 and will continue throughout Introduction Into Service.

Receiving Units include SASR, 4 RAR (Cdo), 1 Cdo Regt, NORFORCE, 51 FNQR, Pilbara REGT, 131 STA Bty, 3 RAR, 1 Armd Regt, 2 Cav Regt, 8/12 Mdm Regt, 5/7 RAR, 4 Fd Regt, 1 RAR, 2 RAR, 2/14 LHR (QMI), 1 Fd Regt, 6 RAR, CATC, ALTC, and the RAAF (AFDW).

POC Mr Iain Dunn

Land 53 Phase 2B (UGS)

LAND 53 Project NINOX Phase 2B provides for the procurement of Unattended Ground Sensors (UGS) to provide the Australian Defence Force with the capability to locate, detect and recognise potential targets during the day and night, in all weather conditions prevalent in northern Australia.

An UGS system consists of the following main elements:

- The Central Monitoring Facility (CMF) which has two Central Monitoring Equipments (CME) comprising a ruggedised personal computer, printer, power adaptor, SATCOM modem, remote antenna and cables; and
- Ten Field Deployment Equipments (FDE) which consist of Optical Acoustic SATCOM Integrated Sensors (OASIS) and Miniature Intrusion Sensors (Seismic, Magnetic and Passive Infra Red (PIR)) and SATCOM.

The FDE and CME communicate via a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) Satellite Network. Seven UGS systems are scheduled for delivery in 2006/2007. Receiving Units include 2 CAV REGT, 20 STA REGT (131 STA BTY), NORFORCE, PILBARA REGT, and 2/14 LHR (QMI)

POC Ms Michelle Ager

Land 53 Phase 1E (GSR)

Land 53 Phase 1E will deliver the Ground Surveillance Radar (GSR) to the ADF. The AMSTAR GSR is a lightweight, pulsed doppler radar designed to allow the systematic surveillance of land and littoral environments, and provides the capability to detect, acquire, track and recognise multiple targets including personnel, vehicles, watercraft and low flying rotary wing aircraft at ranges up to 40km. The AMSTAR provides an all weather, detection and target recognition capability for land force elements and also provides an indirect fire adjustment, target acquisition and engagement capability. Whilst man-portable for short distances, the radar is designed to be supported by a vehicle such as the FFR LR or ASLAV-S vehicle.

RAA units scheduled to receive the AMSTAR are 131 STA Bty (December 2005), 1 Fd Regt (December 2005), 8/12 Mdm Regt (April 2006) and 4 Fd Regt (May 2006). AMSTAR Introduction Into Service Training courses have commenced at CATC. They consist of:

- *GSR Operators Course.* A three-week course to qualify soldiers to be AMSTAR operators.

- *GSR Detachment Commanders Course*. A two-week course designed to train JNCOs in the supervision of tactical GSR operations. The GSR Operators Course is a prerequisite.

POC Major Paul Adams

Radar Projects Group

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

Project LAND 58 Phase 3 seeks to extend the Life of the AN/TPQ-36 Weapon Locating Radar (WLR) to 2015 by upgrading and enhancing the components of a minimum of five of the current WLRs, and the simulator, with military proven equipment.

The project released a Request for Tender to industry in August 2005 and will be evaluating the responses between November 2005 and January 2006. Second pass approval by Government is expected in June 2006 with contract signature later the same year. The planned delivery of the first two systems to 131 STA BTY is by April 2008 with delivery of all systems planned for completion by October 2009.

POC Mr Michael Cronin

Artillery Orienting System (AOS) MINCS(L) 42.15

This project will procure an inertial based and therefore GPS independent referencing system capability for artillery survey use. The introduction into service of the AOS will allow for the GAK-1 capability to be retired from service within RAA units.

A contract has been signed with BAE Systems Australia to deliver the required systems. Technical acceptance trials for the AOS will be conducted in Adelaide over the period 14 - 28 October 2005. Upon successful completion of the technical trials, the Initial Production Unit (IPU) will be delivered to the School of Artillery for user acceptance trials commencing 9 November 2005. The user acceptance trials will be run over five days. Following successful user acceptance trials, the IPU will be delivered to 4 Fd Regt approximately January/February 2006 for support to doctrine development and training evaluation. The additional 15 systems will then be 'rolled out' to the RAA over the period August/November 2006.

POC Captain Terence Wilson



Schematics of the AOS in Remote (left) and Vehicle Mounted (right) Configurations

Integrated Logistic Support Group

Weapon Radar Fleet

Weapon Radar Fleet comprises of AN/TPQ 36 Weapon Locating Radar (WLR), WLR Simulator/Trainer, Marwin Automated Artillery Meteorological System (AAMS), Muzzle Velocity Measuring Equipment (MVME), FALCON Speed Radar Gun, Port Wakefield Range Surveillance Radar (PWSR), and, from December 2005, the Ground Surveillance Radar (GSR). These equipments provide essential capabilities including locating the firing point of hostile mortars, guns and rocket launchers and the adjustment of friendly fire, provision of meteorological data for field artillery gunnery and locating units, muzzle velocity data, range safety, speed detection and advanced warning.

Radar Fleet is working to improve the efficiency of the fleet, with various activities being progressed. These activities include:

- a new model digital radiosonde RS92 for AAMS (replacing the extant analog item);
- an 18 kVA Rapier General Service Diesel Engine (GSDE) undergoing modification to replace current ULP 15kV generator in the WLR; and
- Raven radio fit out and modification of the WLR shelter air conditioner air intakes to accommodate the GSDE.

POC Mr Jim Holland

Indirect Fire Support Weapons Fleet

Indirect Fire Support Fleet comprises the 105mm M2A2 Howitzer, 105mm Hamel, 155mm M198 Medium Howitzer, 81mm Mortar, Fire Control Computers, and associated accessories required for the operation of these equipments. These equipments provide essential capabilities to indirect fire units within the ADF. Indirect Fire Support Fleet is working towards the improvement of the availability of equipment to units.

Indirect Fire Support Fleet is currently looking at the options available to upgrade the collimators and sight control system of the M198 with new sights that do not contain Gaseous Tritium Light Sources (GTLS). The new sights are fitted with a battery operated LED system.

POC Ms Karen Christensen

Surveillance Fleet

Surveillance Fleet comprises Night Fighting Equipment (night vision goggles, night weapon sights, night aiming devices and sniper night sights), Day Optics (binoculars & telescopes), Thermal/Laser (Thermal Surveillance System, Laser Rangefinders, Laser aiming devices, Thermal Imagers) and Perimeter Surveillance (CLASSIC & UGS). These equipments provide essential capabilities including advanced warning, standoff observation, forward observer fire control and enhanced close combat fighting.

Surveillance Fleet is working to improve the security, control and accounting of NFE. This includes the imminent release of a DI(G) detailing the policy for management and control of NFE, and the introduction of an annual census. There is a large discrepancy between unit entitlements and unit holdings of NFE. Surveillance Fleet will be working closely with Army Headquarters to find ways to reduce the gap. Surveillance Fleet will also be developing a solution to the large number of NFE items awaiting depot repair.

POC Mr Craig Taylor

The following section provides a synopsis of a project outside CSSPO that is of interest to the RAA. It is hoped that future editions will provide similar updates on a greater range of non-CSSPO projects that are of interest to the RAA.

JP129 Phase 2 - Tactical UAV

The JP129 Phase 2 acquisition phase aims to acquire a Tactical Uninhabited Aerial Vehicle (TUAV) surveillance system. This will consist of air vehicles fitted with sensor payloads, a ground segment to provide control and exploitation functions, and support elements for maintenance and logistic support. This capability will enhance the ADF airborne surveillance capability for land and selected maritime

operations by providing focal area surveillance and reconnaissance in support of deployed forces in a Brigade setting.

132 TUAV Battery will be formed at Gallipoli Barracks to operate the TUAV system and will be part of 20 STA Regiment.

The project schedule is as follows:

- RFT released 27 July 2004,
- RFT closed 23 November 2005,
- Government Project Approval expected November 2005 with preferred tenderer announced shortly after,
- Contract signature early 2006, and
- In service 2008.

POC Wing Commander Mick Brown

CATC

Captain M.W. Cross, A/SO2 RAA Trade Policy

Introduction

- 2005 has seen the progression of a number of long-term projects within RAA Trade Policy. This progress has as usual been punctuated, by the usual short-notice contingencies that arise within any Headquarters.

Trade and Training Management

- A review of the STA Category Employment Group (CEG) has been conducted to assist in the establishment of 20th Surveillance & Target Acquisition Regiment. This commences the staff work required to restructure Surveillance & Target Acquisition (STA) trades to absorb DCP capabilities and roles and responsibilities attached to the STA Regiment.
- Artillery Signaller (ECN 361) was disestablished in the late 90s. This has been seen as pivotal in the decline of RAA signalling skills and general communications. RAA Trade Policy is in the process of finalising a Business Case (with a number of options) to increase the level of communications instruction given in the Full-Time Offensive Support training continuum. The Part-Time option to be developed will advocate the reintroduction of a separate trade for this area.
- Capabilities being introduced, particularly SHORAD equipment under Land 19 Phase 6 and Ground Surveillance Radar (GSR) under Land 53, have required Training Management Package (TMP) development/amendment/sessioning etc
- Ongoing maintenance of RAA Employment Category Standing Orders (ECSOs) and Manual of Army Employment (MAE) particularly as a consequence of Advanced Soldier Course and unit identified anomalies.

2006 Manning

The manning within the cell for 2006 is as follows:

- SO2 RAA Trade Policy – Major J. Webb;
- Regimental Master Gunner – Warrant Officer Class One P. Washford;
- SM OS – Warrant Officer Class Two P. Meester;
- SM STA – Warrant Officer Class Two S. Voss;
- SM GBAD – Warrant Officer Class Two M. Scheidl;
- Training Developers – Warrant Officer Class Two C. Crout; Sergeant D. Mason; and Warrant Officer Class Two S. Morse (ARes).

The Future

- Whilst the above areas are likely to keep the cell busy, there are bigger challenges on the horizon. The implications for trades and training as a consequence of Land 17 threaten to challenge our current structures. Their influence will commence to be felt in the near future.
- RAA TP information on all these issues can be found at:
<http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/Sites/CATC/>

Combat Arms Doctrine & Development Section

*Provided by Major P.K. Dover
Senior Doctrine and Development Officer*

2005 has seen CADDs primarily focussed on doctrine production to redress a general obsolescence of the RAA Doctrine. CADDs still periodically involves itself with development issues as it affords a two-fold advantage of helping CADDs staff remain current with development and enabling us to match doctrine priorities to emerging capabilities. 2005 has also seen the introduction of the CADDs Newsletter, sent to the Corps approximately every two months. The newsletter enables the RAA community to be up to date with doctrine issues and release of doctrine on ADEL. Comments received thus far will see the newsletter go forward.

The following publications have been endorsed and are pending printing and circulation:

- LWP-CA (GBAD) 6-3-2 GBAD - Duties in Action, 2005.
- LWP-CA (GBAD) 6-3-1 GBAD - Deployment, 2005.
- LWD 3-4-1 Employment of Artillery, 2005.

The following publications are being endorsed for release at the time of this report:

- LWP-CA (OS) 5-1-4 Calibration, 2005.
- LWP-CA (OS) 5-2-10 Field Artillery Communication Procedures, 2005.
- LWP-CA (OS) 5-3-4 Artillery Meteorology Survey, 2005.
- LWP-G 3-5-1 All Corps Air Defence Procedures, 2005.

The following publications are in production:

- LWP-CA (RISTA) 2-3-4 Weapon Locating Troop.
- LWP-CA (RISTA) 2-3-3 TUAV.
- LWP-CA (OS) 5-2-7 Mortar Platoon Tactical Deployment and Fire Control.
- LWP-CA (OS) 5-1-2 Ballistics and Artillery Mathematics.
- LWP-CA (OS) 5-1-8 RAA Directives (AOS Directive).
- LWP-CA (GBAD) 6-2-1 Weapon Drill - RBS 70.
- LWP-CA (RISTA) 2-2-2 Equipment Drill - AN/TPQ 36 Locating Radar.
- LWP-CA (OS) 5-2-15 Gun Drill - M198 155mm Howitzer.

There have been particular individuals who have regularly provided comment and feedback. Thank you for your input. We are always looking for validation of doctrine. Your rank should not be seen as restrictive factor in making comments. Although, we do ask junior ranks to discuss their ideas with their seniors prior to making submissions. Submissions can be made by submitting the card at the back of each publication or we can be contacted via email or on the following telephone numbers:

- Senior Doctrine and Development Officer - (03) 57356296.
- Assistant Doctrine and Development Officer (Indirect Firepower) - (03) 57356371.
- Assistant Doctrine and Development Officer (STA) - (03) 57356329.
- Assistant Doctrine and Development Officer (GBAD) - (03) 57356104.

Alternatively we are located on the ground floor of the building behind the gun, missile and radar hangar at Bridges Barracks. There is no monopoly on good ideas, let's hear yours.

RAA - GBAD, OS and STA Publication Currency List – current as at 1st October 2005

Serial	Level	No.	Title	Year	Last Amend	ADEL	Production Comments
ADFP (Australian Defence Force Publications) and ADDP (Australian Defence Doctrine Publications)							
1	ADDP	3.1	Offensive Support Procedures	2004		√*	
2	ADDP	3.1.1	Offensive Support Procedures (Supplement)	2004		√*	
3	ADDP	3-3	Aerospace Battle Management	2004		√*	
4	ADDP	3-14	Targeting	2000		√*	Supersedes ADFP 2.3 - Targeting
5	ADFP	29	Surveillance and Reconnaissance	1995		-	
TIB (Training Information Bulletins)/MISCELLANEOUS							
6	Misc	-	RAA Directives 2003 (Completed)	2003	AL1 '04	√	
7	Misc	-	History of the School of Artillery 1885 to 1996 (ISBN 0 642 25997 6)	1996		-	
8	Misc	-	Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery - Customs and Traditions (ISBN 0 642 27106 2)	1997		-	
LWD/LWP-G							
9	LWP-D	3-4-1	Employment of Artillery (GBAD, OS and STA)	2005		√	
10	LWP-G	3-5-2	All Corps Air Defence Procedures	2005		√	
11	LWP-G	7-3-4	Ground Based Air Defence - Range Orders	2001		√	Rewrite in conjunction with LAND 19 – Phase 6
12	LWP-G	7-3-3	Indirect Fire Range Orders (Replaces RAA CTN 3-13 Orders for Practice)	2004		√	
LWD/LWP-G Identified for or in Production							
13	LWP-G	3-1-3	Ground Surveillance (Part 1)	05		-	
14	LWP-G	3-1-3	Ground Surveillance (Part 2)	05		-	In production
LWP-CA Current							
15	LWP-CA (RISTA)	2-1-2	Basic Radar Theory	2004		√	Pending print release - Jun 05
16	LWP-CA (RISTA)	2-3-2	<i>Artillery Surveillance and Target Acquisition in Land Operations DEVELOPING DOCTRINE</i>	2002		-	<i>Rewrite as part of JP129 (TUAV)</i>
17	LWP-CA (OS)	5-1-1	Ammunition	2001		√	
18	LWP-CA (OS)	5-1-4	Calibration	2005		√	
19	LWP-CA (OS)	5-1-6	Survey Theory	1999		√	
20	LWP-CA (OS)	5-1-7	Meteorology Theory	2001		√	
21	LWP-ARTY	5-1-8	User Handbook HP48GX Calculator	1999		-	May be deleted with IIS of AOS and production of LWP-CA (OS) 5-2-16
22	LWP-CA (OS)	5-2-1	Artillery Orientation Procedures Note: Receipt of this publication cancels Directive 213 forthwith.	2004		√	
23	LWP-CA (OS)	5-2-2	Laser Range Finders/Designators Employment and Procedures Note Receipt of this publication cancels Directive 205 forthwith.	2004		√	Pending print release - Feb 05
24	LWP-CA (OS)	5-2-3	Indirect Fire Computer Handbook	2001		√	

Serial	Level	No.	Title	Year	Last Amend	ADEL	Production Comments
25	LWP-CA (OS)	5-2-6	Mortar 81mm F2 Handling Drills and Command Post Procedures	2004		√	
26	LWP-CA (OS)	5-2-13	Gun Drill L118, L119 105mm Howitzer	1991	AL4 '04 + Errata	√	
27	LWP-CA (OS)	5-2-19	Meteorological Equipment	2000	AL1 '04	√	
28	LWP-CA (OS)	5-3-1	Gun Group - Deployment and Routine	2001	AL1 '03	√	
29	LWP-CA (OS)	5-3-2	Target Engagement, Coordination and Prediction - Duties in Action	2003	AL1 '04	√	
30	LWP-CA (GBAD)	6-1-1	Rapier Operators Notes - Basic	1985		-	To become obsolete Dec 05
31	LWP-CA (GBAD)	6-1-2	Rapier Operators Notes - Advanced	1985		-	To become obsolete Dec 05
32	LWP-CA (GBAD)	6-1-3	RBS 70 Operators Notes	2001		√	To become obsolete 06
33	LWP-CA (GBAD)	6-2-2	Weapon Drill Rapier FS B1M	2002		-	To become obsolete Dec 05
34	LWP-CA (GBAD)	6-2-3	Operator's Manual - VACS	2000		-	To become obsolete 06
35	LWP-CA (GBAD)	6-2-4	User Handbook-Mode 4 Mk 12 IFF	1995		-	To become obsolete 05
36	LWP-CA (GBAD)	6-3-1	Ground Based Air Defence - Deployment	2005		√	
37	LWP-CA (GBAD)	6-3-2	Ground Based Air Defence - Duties in Action	2005		√	
38	LWP-CA (GBAD)	8-2-4	Simulator Drills - RBS 70	2002		-	To become obsolete 06
39	LWP-CA (Sim/Trg)	9-2-1	Operator's Manual - VACS Simulator System (in 6-2-3)	2000		-	To become obsolete 06
LWP-CA Identified for or in Production							
40	LWP-CA (C2)	1-1-1	Offensive Support Staff Guide	TBC		-	
41	LWP-CA (RISTA)	DMO	User Handbook - Australian Manportable Surveillance Target Acquisition Radar (AMSTAR)	2004/05		-	Civil contract production
42	LWP-CA (RISTA)	2-2-2	Equipment Drill AN/TPQ-36 Locating Radar	Dec 04		-	In production
43	LWP-CA (RISTA)	DMO	UGS User Handbook	2004/05		-	Civil contract production
44	LWP-CA (RISTA)	DMO	TSS User Handbook	2004/05		-	Civil contract production
45	LWP-CA (RISTA)	2-3-4	Weapon Locating Troop	Jun 05		-	In preliminary production
46	LWP-CA (OS)	5-1-2	Ballistics and Artillery Mathematics	Dec 05		-	In production
47	LWP-CA (OS)	5-1-4	Calibration	Jun 05		-	In production
48	LWP-CA (OS)	5-2-7	Mortar Platoon Tactical Employment and Fire Control	Aug 05		-	In production
49	LWP-CA (RISTA)	5-2-16	Survey Equipment (to incorporate drills for HP48GX Calculator)	Jun 05		-	In production
50	LWP-CA (OS)	5-3-3	Fire Support Planning and Coordination	Dec 05		-	In Production - requiring ADSC approval
51	LWP-CA (RISTA)	5-3-4	Employment of Artillery Meteorology Survey	Jun 05		-	In production

Serial	Level	No.	Title	Year	Last Amend	ADEL	Production Comments
MLW still Current							
52	MLW	2-1-2	Application of Fire Support	1988		✓	
MLW now Obsolete							
53	MLW	1-1-5	Fire Support	1983	AL2 '99	-	To be withdrawn from hierarchy
54	MLW	1-2-5	Air Defence	1983	AL1 '99	✓	
55	MLW	2-1-5	Planning and Control of Air Defence	1992		✓	
RAA CTN still Current							
56	CTN	1-1	Artillery Staff Duties	1984		-	
57	CTN	1-2	Artillery Intelligence Staff Duties	1991		-	Obsolete, to be incorporated into LWP-CA (RISTA) 2-3-2
58	CTN	2-3	Ballistics (UK)	1979		-	Being re-written as LWP-CA (OS) 5-1-2
59	CTN	2-4	Calibration (MYME Mk 4)	1996	AL1 '97	✓	Being rewritten as LWP-CA (OS) 5-1-4
60	CTN	2-12	Gunnery Prediction Note: Receipt of Amendment List 1 cancels Directive 208 forthwith.	1994	AL1 '04	✓	
61	CTN	3-3	Gun Regiments - Survey within the Unit	1983		-	
62	CTN	3-6	Weapon Locating Troop	1994	AL1 '96	-	To be re-written as LWP-CA (RISTA) 2-3-4 (2005)
63	CTN	3-11	Field Artillery Communications Procedures	1994		✓	To be re-written as LWP-CA (IS COMMS) 7-2-2 (2005)
64	CTN	4-2	Air Defence Artillery Units - Duties in Action	1995	AL1 '99	-	Being re-written as LWP-CA (GBAD) 6-3-2
65	CTN	5-4	Equipment Drill AN/TPQ-36 Locating Radar	1992	AL1 '03	✓	To be re-written as LWP-CA (RISTA) 2-2-2 (2005)
66	CTN	5-11	Survey Equipment	1995		-	To be re-written as LWP-CA (RISTA) 5-2-16 (2005)
67	CTN	5-14	Gun Drill M198 155 mm Howitzer	1997		-	Not being replaced
68	CTN	5-17	RBS-70 Simulator Handbook (Bofors publication)	1988		-	
69	CTN	5-18	Weapon Drill RBS-70	1993	AL4 '01	✓	Rewrite in conjunction with LAND 19 - Phase 6, LWP-CA (GBAD) 6-2-1 Weapon Drill RBS 70
70	CTN	5-21	Equipment Handbook Howitzer 105 mm M2A2 (Canada)	1960	AL1 '63	✓	Not being replaced
71	CTN	5-23	User Handbook M198 155 mm Howitzer	1985		✓	To be replaced by LWP-CA (OS) 5-2-14
72	CTN	5-30	User Handbook, Gun 105 mm Field L118/L119 on Carriage L17A1	1992	AL1 '95	-	To be re-named as LWP-CA (OS) 5-2-12 (2005)
73	CTN	5-32	Gun Drill M2A2 105 mm Howitzer	1979	AL2 '89	✓	Not being replaced

Serial	Level	No.	Title	Year	Last Amend	ADEL	Production Comments
RAA CTN now Obsolescent							
74	CTN	2-17	Artillery Basic Mathematics	1971	AL2 '82	√	To be replaced by LWP-CA (OS) 5-1-2 (2005/6)
75	CTN	3-4	Survey Troops Organisation and Deployment (ex AT Vol 3 Pam 4)	1983		-	To be replaced by LWP-CA (RISTA) 5-3-4 AMS.
76	CTN	3-5	Survey Troops Duties in Action - The Computing Centre	1986	AL1 '87	--	To be replaced by LWP-CA (RISTA) 5-3-4 AMS.
77	CTN	3-7	Sound Ranging Troop	1988		-	To be withdrawn
78	CTN	3-8	Meteorological Troops	1989		-	To be replaced by LWP-CA (RISTA) 5-3-4 AMS.
79	CTN	5-3	Equipment Drill AN/TNS-10 Sound Ranging System	1988		-	To be withdrawn
80	CTN	5-31	Field Artillery Meteorological Tables (UK)	1966		-	

RAA Extant Firing Tables							
81	L118 (105mm)	FT (61037)	Firing Tables for Gun 105 mm FD L118 (UK)	1975			Errata; AL 1,2 and 3 (UK); and AL 1 (AS)
82	L119 (105mm)	FT (61036)	Firing Tables for Gun 105 mm FD L119 (UK)	1975			Errata; AL 1 and 2 (UK); and AL 1 (AS)
83		Supplementary (AS)	Supplementary Illuminating FT, Gun 105 mm FD L119	1989			
84	M198 (155mm)	FT-155-AM-2 (US)	Firing Table (Primary)	1983			Change 1 (US) and AL 1 (AS)
85		FT-155-AO-0 (US)	Rocket Assist Projectiles	1978			Change 1 (US)
86		FT-155-AS-1 (US)	Copperhead	1990			
87	M2A2 (105mm)	FT-105-H6 (US)	Cannon 105 mm M2A1 and M2A2	1961			Changes 1, 3 and 4 (obsolete); 5, 7, 8 and 9 (US); and AL 1, 2 and 3 (AS)
88		FT-105-H6/C-2 (US)	Supplementary Firing Table	1962			
89		FT-105-H6/C-6 (US)	Supplementary Firing Table	1966			
90		FT-105-H6/No 1 (AS)	Supplementary Firing Table	1974			

Legend:

- Obsolescent Pamphlet is no longer issued but may used with discretion until replaced.
- Italic Codes Extant Doctrine that is identified for replacement - Replacement publication is in production.
- Bold Codes Text listed in bold on the table above indicates publication/latest amendment still in production/endorsement.
- * Available on website: <http://defweb.cbr.defence.gov.au/adfw/> follow links to Joint Doctrine Development Environment.

Articles

**1st Field Regiment
Regimental Memorial - South Vietnam
36205 Gunner T. Simpson**

36205 Gunner Thomas 'Tommy' Simpson died of illness in South Vietnam on Thursday 9th December 1965, aged 27 years. Gunner Simpson was a driver with the 105th Field Battery.

Gunner Simpson became ill with cerebral malaria on 6th December 1965 and died in the 93rd Evacuation Hospital (US Army), Bien Hoa, three days later. Gunner Simpson who enlisted on 5th October 1957, had served in the Regular Army for eight years. During this time he had completed two years service in Malaysia as well as his tour of South Vietnam.

Note: At the time Gunner Simpson died, 105th Field Battery was operating independently in support of 1st Battalion Royal Australian Regiment. The 1st Australian Task Force was not deployed to South Vietnam until May 1966. 105th Field Battery became part of 1st Field Regiment, Royal Australian Artillery, when the Regiment arrived as part of the Task Force.

March Off 104th Field Battery

*Provided by Colonel A.R. Burke (Retd)
Colonel Commandant Northern Region*

To the nostalgic tune of 'Auld Lang Syne', the 104th Field Battery drove off the 1st Field Regiment RAA parade into suspended animation on Saturday afternoon, 2nd July 2005.

The post Second World War version of the 104th was raised on 1st September 1965 as a medium battery during the expansion of the RAA for the Vietnam War. When the 107th Field Battery left 12th Field Regiment RAA for service in Malaysia, the 104th replaced it in a field role on 1st April 1967. It deployed to Vietnam with this unit in May 1968 for 12 months in direct support to 4 RAR/NZ. It returned for a second tour in 1971, but the Labor Party's election win in December that year saw it home for Christmas. The 104th was the last RAA unit to serve in the Vietnam War.

When the 8th and 12th Regiments amalgamated in November 1973, 104th Field Battery went into suspended animation. Re-raised in November 1977 as part of the 8th/12th, it acted as an infantry company in the Army force which secured Bowral (between Sydney and Canberra) for the Commonwealth Heads of State Conference following the bomb blast at the Sydney Hilton Hotel in February 1978. The Battery again went into suspended animation on 11th June 1979.

When Army Reserve Integration became the flavour of the time in the mid 1980s, the 104th emerged once again as an Army Reserve sub-unit of 1st Field Regiment RAA at Enoggera. It became part of the Ready Reserve Scheme on 18th December 1991 until that, also, was terminated in 2000. From that time, it has remained at Enoggera with progressively decreasing numbers.

An establishment review of 1st Field Regiment last year amalgamated it with 13th Field Battery and at the RAA Regimental Conference in October 2004, it was agreed that the combined sub-unit would be known as the 13th Field Battery primarily because this was the last remaining element of the once proud 5th Australian Field Artillery Brigade and later 5th Field Regiment RAA which had its home in south-east Queensland since 1921 (apart for its suspended animation 1946-54).

The 'Germs' as they proudly call themselves, were sadly once more removed from the Army's Order of Battle on 2nd July 2005.



104th Field Battery – 'The Germs' Farewell 1st Field Regiment
Photograph Courtesy Hugh Polson

Farewell to the Germs

Lieutenant Rhys Myors and Lieutenant Clinton Shiell

On a sunny Brisbane day, the 104th Field Battery was farewelled for the final time (again), after a career lasting almost 90 years of dedicated service to the nation. The 104th Field Battery had its beginnings in the town of Moascar, Egypt in 1916. Raised in order to expand the AIF's divisional artillery capabilities prior to deploying to France. Their nickname the 'Germs' comes from their motto that the germs will inherit the earth.

The Battery moved into the fight not five weeks after being raised. The battery deployed forward to relieve C Battery of 176 Brigade, Royal Field Artillery on the line south of Armentieres. Using C Battery's guns the 104th Field Battery was fighting only four weeks and four days after its initial formation.

The Battery also participated in the third battle of Ypres, supporting the 30th Division. It then moved on to support the 7th British Brigade on the line at the Battle of Hindenburg. In the two years following the Battle of Hindenburg the Battery served as a part of the 2nd Divisional Artillery on the Western Front. As a part of the Division the Battery saw 58% of the Australian Gunners sent to fight not come home.



Gunners firing during World War I

After the Allied victory on the Western Front the Battery was returned home and disbanded. It would be another 30 years until the Battery would again resurface on the Army's Orbat.

This time it would be in a different form. It would now be the 104th Locating Battery. Not one year later it would be used to form the 101st Field Battery. Again, re-raised in an offensive support role in 1965 the Battery took on the larger 5.5-inch breech loading guns becoming the 104th Medium Battery

With the outbreak of war in South East Asia the Battery found itself in Vietnam and equipped with the 'new'

M2A2 105mm Howitzers. Having served two tours of Vietnam supporting 4th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment during the periods May 1968 - May 1969 and May 1971 - December 1971, the Battery returned to Australia and was disbanded in 1973.

In the mid '80s, the 'Germs' were raised again as a General Reserve battery integrated with 1st Field Regiment and subsequently it remained in the Regiment during the Ready Reserve Scheme.



US Army CH-47 Lifting an M2A2 in Vietnam

Prior to its 'final' (or most recent) disbandment the Battery was a General Reserve battery in the 1st Field Regiment based at Gallipoli Barracks, Brisbane. The Battery was equipped with the L119 105mm Howitzer and was tasked to support the activities of 7th Brigade.

The July parade was an emotional day for current and ex-serving members of the Battery alike. However with the Battery's distinguished career spanning 89 years, including already being disbanded six times, it is more than a good chance that the 'Germs' will live up to their credo and again appear on the Army's Order of Battle.



104th Field Battery, lead by the last Battery Commander Major Mathew Wilson, drive past for the last time.

Acts of Bravery

*Provided by Colonel A.R. Burke (Retd)
Colonel Commandant Northern Region*

1200814 Bombardier Gerardus Cornelis (Gerry) Dekker was a forward observer assistant awarded the Military Medal 'in recognition of his repeated acts of bravery while serving as a Forward Observer during numerous operations in Vietnam'. He was the most highly decorated officer or soldier from 105th Field Battery's two operational tours in the Vietnam War - 1965/66 and 1969/70.

Gerry Dekker was born on 5th October 1946. Soon after his 19th birthday, he enlisted in the Australian Regular Army Supplement on 7th March 1966 and was allotted to the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery. He was posted to 1st Field Regiment RAA in Brisbane which had already completed one operational tour in Vietnam and was scheduled to return in early 1969. Gunner Dekker was allocated to the 105th Field Battery.

The good education, personal skills and determination of this soldier led him through the more technical streams to that of forward observer assistant. By mid 1968, he had earned the bombardier's stripes which were the rank of his position. He arrived in Vietnam on 4th February 1969 and moved into the position of an observer with the Australian cavalry unit.

On 6th April 1969, Bombardier Dekker with a troop of B Squadron, 3rd Cavalry Regiment was in a night ambush position when an enemy force of about twenty were engaged. Gerry brought down artillery fire close to his own position, driving the enemy into the ambushers' guns. This action significantly assisted the cavalry force in killing seven enemy and wounding a number of others.

On another occasion on 21st August 1969, he was employed as a forward observer with half of A Company 5th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment. The force was engaged on three sides by an established enemy company in a bunker system. The infantry commander was wounded and his headquarters and one platoon were pinned down by small arms and rocket propelled grenade fire. Bombardier Dekker immediately called in artillery fire. With complete disregard for his own safety, he moved forward and attempted to get the wounded infantry commander back to safety. In doing so, he exposed himself to enemy fire and received a head wound. He continued to direct the fire of the guns onto the bunker system for a further thirty minutes and was therefore able to relieve the pressure on the force, allowing it to withdraw to safety. He then assisted with the aeromedical evacuation of other wounded before finally allowing himself to be taken from the battle area.



Gerry Dekker MM presenting Captain John Batayola with the Dekker Troop citation.
Photograph courtesy of Lieutenant Arran Smith,
105th Medium Battery

Bombardier Gerry Dekker's determination and disregard for his own safety on a number of occasions during his tour in South Vietnam were an inspiration to all who knew him. His performance was a credit to himself, his Regiment and to the Australian Army. He was awarded the Military Medal in the Honours and Awards list of 2nd April 1970.

Gerry Dekker attended the 1st Field Regiment RAA parade on 2nd July 2005 and presented the citation plaque for 'Dekker Troop', the administrative grouping of the Battery Commander and Forward Observer party members of the retitled 105th Medium Battery. During the Regimental/Gunners Dinner that evening, he sat between his Vietnam forward observer, Denis Casey and a forward observer assistant from today's 105th, Bombardier Church.

105th Medium Battery – Troop Names

*Major Peter Monks
Battery Commander 105th Medium Battery*

One of my objectives throughout my time as Battery Commander 105th Field/Medium Battery has been to reinforce troop identity and give the Troop Commanders and Sergeants the opportunity to exercise autonomy as commanders. As it became apparent that 105 would indeed become a Medium Battery in 2005, and we would have the opportunity to mark the event with a formal parade, it occurred to me that this would be an ideal opportunity to rename the existing troops after significant events or individuals in the Battery history. Not only would this serve to reinforce the distinct identity of each troop, but it would also rejuvenate the links between the Battery's proud past and today's Tigers. The Battery Captain and Battery Sergeant Major were markedly less skeptical than they usually are of the Battery Commander's grand schemes - indeed, they were positively enthusiastic. How could it not be a good idea?

‘Everything is very simple in war, but the simplest thing is very difficult’

- Clausewitz, On War, 1832

And this includes coming up with names for troops within a Battery. After a few ill-considered ideas that demonstrated the collective ignorance of the Battery Captain, Battery Sergeant Major and myself we gratefully referred the problem to the Colonel Commandant of the Northern Region (and honorary historian of 105th Field/Medium Battery), Colonel A.R. Burke, and the 105th Field Battery Association. My expectation of a quick, unanimous decision were dashed as I monitored the flood of emails between interested parties, all with worthy claims, and I began to fear that come 2nd July I would be forced to name individual detachments rather than troops. Not so, however, as shortly before the appointed time it was agreed that the most appropriate combination of troop names that served to reflect the history of the Battery, and reinforce the distinct identities of each troop, would be those outlined below.

A Troop as PERAK TROOP and B Troop as KEDAH TROOP

In October 1955 105th Field Battery deployed to Malaya for the first operational deployment of an Royal Australian Artillery battery since World War 2. Shortly after arrival in Malaya A Troop and B Troop, of 4 x 25-pounders each, deployed as separate troops into Perak and Kedah States in support of 1st Royal Scots Fusiliers (later 2nd Royal Malay Regiment) and 2nd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment respectively. During the following twelve months both troops operated independently in their respective Areas of Operation, deploying in numerous base camps and temporary positions before returning to the Battery Headquarters at Butterworth in December 1956. Commemorating PERAK and KEDAH with these troop names reflects the independence and individuality of each of 105th Medium Battery's gun troops, and recognises the historical significance of 105th Field Battery's deployment to Malaysia in 1955.

Command Troop as SOMME TROOP

105 Howitzer Battery was first raised in Egypt in March 1916 as part of the 2nd Divisional Artillery, deploying to France shortly afterwards and subsequently taking part in all of the battles of 2nd Division AIF in France and Belgium. The pivotal battles of the Somme River in 1916 and in 1918 saw the Battery command post involved in days of exacting technical preparations to support multi-divisional 'creeping barrages', which required the production of firing data and gun programmes for the engagement of hundreds of targets for periods of up to five days. Likewise, the Battery Combat Service Support elements were required to dump and prepare days of ammunition, and expenditures of over 300 round per gun per day were not uncommon. The title SOMME TROOP for Command Troop, comprising the Battery Command Post and Combat Service Support Staff, commemorates the service of 105 Howitzer

Battery in the First World War as part of the 2nd Division Artillery. In particular, it reflects the efforts of 105 Howitzer Battery's Command Post and Combat Service Support staff in supporting the complex and demanding 'creeping barrage' fire plans required in this campaign.

Command, Liaison and Observation Troop as DEKKER TROOP

Throughout 1969-1970 105th Field Battery was deployed on its second tour of South Vietnam in support of 5th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment. Bombardier Gerardus Cornelius (Gerry) Dekker was serving with 105th Field Battery as a Forward Observers Assistant and took part in two significant contacts in April and August 1969 when deployed independently of his Forward Observer. In the first contact, while supporting a troop of B Squadron, 3 Cavalry Regiment he successfully engaged over 20 enemy in very close proximity to his own location with artillery fire, killing seven. On the second occasion he was supporting elements of A Company 5th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment that became engaged on three sides by a company-sized bunker system. Gerry Dekker controlled a number of artillery engagements for over thirty minutes that allowed his force to successfully extract itself, despite suffering a head wound while moving the wounded infantry commander into cover. For his actions on these occasions, Gerry Dekker was awarded the Military Medal. Renaming the Command, Observation and Liaison Group DEKKER TROOP reflects the personal courage of Gerry Dekker, the service of 105th Field Battery in Vietnam, and a proud example for future members of Joint Offensive Support Teams to emulate.

Shortly after the formal conversion of 105 Field Battery to 105th Medium Battery on the 1st Field Regiment Mounted Parade of 2nd July 2005, a short ceremony was held in the 'Tigers Lair' immediately behind the 105th Medium Battery Headquarters. Together with a rededication of the Tommy Simpson memorial by Major General T.R. Ford and Chaplain Lieutenant Colonel R. Mac Donald, the four Troops of 105th Medium Battery were formally named in the presence of members of the 105th Field Battery Association. It is hoped that these troop names serve to both inspire troop identity and esprit de corps, and to serve as a tangible link with the history of 105 for present and future members.

The Old Boy Net Is Alive and Well

*Provided by Colonel A.R. Burke (Retd)
Colonel Commandant Northern Region*

Do you remember the times when a battery commander or commanding officer would say to his Q representative, 'Do you reckon we could get this fixed without a lot of paperwork, Q?' Do you also recall that after one or two phone calls to mates, Q was able to report, 'Consider it fixed, sir.'

In these days of needing an authorised piece of paper in order to obtain a piece of paper, it was therefore very refreshing recently not only to be reacquainted with the Old Boy Net, but to find it very much alive and thriving. This is the story of how people who are endeavouring to preserve the heritage of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery can be assisted at no real cost to either man or organisation. It is a credit to the willingness of Army personnel to help one another.

It all began when the officer commanding the Albert Battery Queensland Volunteer Artillery (QVA) said, 'My dear Colonel, I have a small problem and seek your advice on a solution.' Warwick King-Martin, a former commanding officer of the Army Reserve 5th/11th Field Regiment RAA is now the battery officer of a rather unique group of patriots who restore and preserve military equipment and then re-enact with it as a benefit to the community.

The amalgamation of the 5th and 11th Regiments led to the closure of the artillery barracks in the inner Brisbane suburb of Kelvin Grove. This closure led to the disposal of two old sentinels which had maintained guard outside the Regimental Headquarters of the 5th for many years—two grey-painted 9-Pounder rifled muzzle loaders. Both were transferred to the Annerley depot of the 5th/11th Field Regiment RAA. The Annerley 9-Pounders seemed somewhat out of place and unwanted in the grounds of the 1950s era drill hall and when Lieutenant Colonel King-Martin completed his tour of commanding the 5th/11th, he and a group of like-minded people led by former Australian Army Aviation, air traffic controller, Rod Dux set about establishing a 9-Pounder circa 1896 re-enactment troop. The second gun was subsequently moved from Annerley to the Fort Lytton Historical Society. With sponsorship and encouragement from the Albert Shire Council (now part of the Gold Coast City Council), the Albert Battery QVA was raised in 1986 as an extension to the Albert Australia Day Foundation.

The gun was partially restored from drawings provided by the Royal Artillery at Woolwich, London, a limber was constructed, uniforms tailored from an original tunic courtesy of Rod Dux's military collection, Martini rifles acquired and training begun. Against many obstacles the unit later obtained horses and realised its primary goal of public displays as a mounted detachment. From this point the Albert Battery became actively involved in community events—participation which ranged from parading a mounted gun detachment and the firing of the 9-Pounder at Australia Day functions through to ceremonial dismounted roles at ANZAC and Remembrance Day services as cenotaph or honour guards depicting either the 1890s or 1940s.

The Battery's next project was to restore a 1942 40-mm Bofors anti-aircraft gun. During the Second World War, the Southport area had spawned a battalion of the Volunteer Defence Corps (VDC) and one company had been trained as anti-aircraft gunners on the Bofors and 3.7inch guns. A rusting hulk from an RSL sub-branch was obtained and such was the enthusiasm of the Battery's members that it soon assumed its original pristine condition and a detachment was completely kitted out in VDC uniforms. At a recent VP60 display at the Ipswich Railway Workshops Museum, this gun and detachment stole the show as they tracked and fired theatrical ordnance at an 'enemy' aircraft which was 'attacking' their position.

'Believe it or not', as Ripley would exclaim, there was a specialist gun tractor which towed the Bofors during the War - a No 6 Artillery Tractor which was specifically designed and produced by General

Motors. It was built on a Canadian Military Pattern chassis and motor and served in Australia and during the Pacific islands campaign. To the best of anyone's knowledge, there is not a restored or a complete example of this vehicle in Australia. A No 6 Artillery Tractor became the Battery's next challenge.

A Blitz driver's cab and chassis were located at a property near Kingaroy in Queensland and represented a rather simple recovery task. However, the only No 6 body components (crew cab, stores bins and brakeman's platform) that could be located were rusting away in a field at the Tank Museum at Narre Warren in Victoria. Warwick King-Martin's 'small problem' was how to move this couple of ton of steel to the Battery's workshop at Nerang on the Gold Coast. All the expertise and contacts within and without the unit had failed, but it was felt that this was a significantly worthy project to approach the Colonel Commandant RAA-Northern Region. If ever this was a test of the Old Boy Net, this was it. Arthur Burke contacted his fellow Gunner Godfather, Brigadier Doug Perry in Victoria and asked was it possible for either the Reserve's 2nd/10th Field Regiment RAA or (if still in existence) the Recovery Company RAEME to collect the body components as a recovery training project. As luck would have it, Doug directed the query to Captain Peter Meakin, Adjutant of the 2nd/10th which shared a multi-user depot with the 3rd Recovery Company RAEME at Doveton. He introduced Operations Warrant Officer Sean Lee who agreed that this was a worthy training task. Stage One complete-we had lift off.



C605 Cab Chassis from Kingaroy

The next part of this project was transportation to Brisbane. Fortunately, in the not so distant past, Arthur's son, Sean Burke had been the officer commanding the 26th Transport Squadron (semi-trailer) Workshop at Puckapunyal. Sean was now the civilian Senior Engineer B Vehicle Programme in the Defence Materiel Organisation in Melbourne and his contact with the 26th's officer commanding, Major Andrew Fidge was sufficient to obtain approval for the body components to be stored at Puckapunyal pending an opportunity backload on a semi-trailer to Brisbane. Stage Two complete-there was movement at the station.



No 6 Artillery Tractor Body Components from Narre Warren

Brisbane, of course, is the home of the 1st Field Regiment which has under command the last surviving element of 11th Field Regiment, the 41st Field Battery at Southport. Commanding Officer Scott Clingan was only too happy to invite Quartermaster Darryl Tripp to 'make it happen' after the body components arrived from Puckapunyal. The delivery from Brisbane to the Mudgeeraba restoration site was assessed as a good Mack truck driver crane and driving exercise. Stage Three complete - the goods would be delivered. Well, that was the plan. It worked! Without a hitch, members of the 3rd Recovery Company completed a weekend training recovery task of the body components from the field at Narre Warren to Puckapunyal. The items were stored in 26th Squadron's vehicle park until an opportunity backload had them safely delivered to 1st Field Regiment at Enoggera. From there it seemed almost too simple to arrange a working bee at the Albert Battery's restoration yard on the Gold Coast to take delivery of the parts via a Mack truck. As Hannibal in the A-Team says, 'I love it when a plan all comes together!'



No 6 Artillery Tractor circa 1942

The members of the Albert Battery are now hard at work on the restoration of their No 6 Artillery Tractor with all the care, close attention and patience that they have lavished on their other projects. They are well aware that many people have already played a key role in the acquisition process of this very unique military vehicle-an equipment which, when again serviceable, is believed to be the only one of its kind in Australia.

Let there be no doubt that the Old Boy Net is alive and well in today's Army!

Book Review

Reviewed by Major D.T. (Terry) Brennan

Pompey Elliot by Ross McMullin

ISBN 0 908011 70 9, published in 2002, Scribe Publications, Soft Cover, 36 Glossy Black and White Photographs, 718 Pages.

To quote the cover of this book - 'The last great untold story of the First World. ... Pompey Elliot has claims to being Australia's greatest general. This engrossing biography of an important but neglected Australian ranks alongside Geoffrey Serle's landmark study of John Monash.' The book cover quote is an understatement in my view. Do not be daunted by the size - if you are student of military history or for that matter a reader of biographies this book is a must read.

When this book was published in 2002 I recall reading a review in a weekend newspaper. At the time I was very impressed and purchased 'Pompey Elliot' planning to read it immediately. Unfortunately I did not read the book until this year - What a mistake!!!.

The book follows the life of Pompey Elliot - Warrior, Solicitor and Politician - from his birth and life as a young Victorian country boy to his untimely death whilst serving as a Victorian Senator in Federal Parliament and as a Major General in the active Army. In the intervening period it follows his life through his time at University of Melbourne as a law student and his membership of the University Officer Corps. Whilst at University he heeded the call from the Victorian Government for volunteers to serve in the South Africa during the Boer War. Corporal Elliot was awarded the DCM and was soon commissioned as a Lieutenant. He returned home to Australia only to volunteer to return again with a Victorian contingent. At the end of the conflict, after a three year absence, he resumed his studies and finally was accepted as a solicitor. His politic roots began to show whilst at University. During the period between the Boer War and World War One Pompey rose through the ranks of the militia to Lieutenant Colonel and appointment as a battalion commander.

With the outbreak of World War One he was soon in the thick of things at Gallipoli. He landed as part of the initial landing and was there until the end. Following Gallipoli he was appointed as a Brigade Commander and spent the remainder of World War One in Europe fighting in many of the most critical and historically well known battles of the campaign.

Throughout his period of operational command he inspired loyalty and devoted admiration from his subordinates regardless of rank. This loyalty carried beyond his Brigade and would later see him easily elected to Parliament.

His methods were often were ahead of their time an example being his policy of undertaking detailed debriefing of commanders and the writing of detailed analytical 'after action reports'. The enthusiasm and attention to detail towards documenting events can be attributed to his training as a solicitor. Whilst this may seem routine today it was not the norm during his time in Command. His approach to command was often unconventional and whilst he continually achieved outstanding results for his superiors, his methods did not always meet with their support. At times even their loyalty towards him was questionable as he was sometimes perceived as disrupting the status quo of the establishment.

He took the deaths and injuries of those who served with and under him personally, and whenever possible wrote letters to the next of kin. This burden after many years at War weighed heavily on his mind.

He always lead from the front, even as a Brigade Commander in France he positioned his headquarters well forward in the vicinity of the front trenches. He also adopted a manoeuvreist approach within the constraints imposed on him.

Pompey always felt he was denied unfairly an appointment as a Divisional Commander during the War as reward for his outstanding performance as a Brigade Commander, in particular the results he delivered

his superiors. If a difficult task had to be undertaken Pompey's Brigade was always one of the first considered. This belief haunted him for the remainder of his life, at times controlling his actions and relationships with people especially key military officer and historians of the day including C.E.W. Bean. Whilst serving during World War One he had the soul destroying news that his partner in his legal practice had forced the business into bankruptcy.

On return to Australia from the Great War after four and a half years, although outwardly displaying all the appearances of assimilating back into peacetime life readily including the re-entering legal profession and subsequently being elected to parliament - he was a changed man.

Although his military genius was recognised with promotion to Major General and appointment as a Divisional Commander, the physiological damage of many years in the front line had taken its toll. On the surface it manifested itself in his unrelenting belief that he had been personally wronged by being denied a Divisional Command in France and his constant attempts both in Parliament and in the written word to ensure the history of the War and his place and that of the units he commanded was correctly recorded.

His untimely death in his early fifties saw the sad end of a brilliant career in many fields - the cause was not discussed at the time but today we would recognise it as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). That having been said I believe after reading this book that a fair degree of his anger at his treatment was justified - at the time it was simply brushed aside.

Written in an easy to read and follow style means this book has wide appeal well beyond military history buffs. In the words of that well used Australian phrase 'Do Yourself a Favour!!!!' and if you read nothing else in the near future - take the time to read 'Pompey Elliot' you will not regret the time spent.

100 Battery Series Part Three

**1st Field Regiment
Regimental Memorial - South Vietnam
17071 Captain K.W. Bade**

17071 Captain Kenneth Wilfred Bade was killed in action in South Vietnam on Saturday 8th January 1966, aged 27 years. Captain Bade was a Forward Observer from 105th Field Battery supporting 1st Battalion Royal Australian Regiment.

Captain Bade was taking part in 'Operation Crimp', the biggest United States of America / Australian offensive in the Vietnam war to that time. The Australians had been airlifted by helicopter into the Ho Bo Forest, located approximately 40 kilometres northwest of Saigon. The Australian landing zone was almost on top of a large Viet Cong underground bunker complex which was heavily mined and booby trapped. The landing zone was surrounded on three sides by approximately 100 Viet Cong soldiers waiting in ambush for the Australians. The Australians with the assistance of artillery and offensive air support, whilst temporarily held by the enemy force, were able to force them to withdraw. Australian casualties from this initial contact were three personnel killed in action and ten wounded in action. Captain Bade was killed in this contact when a mine detonated.

Captain Bade grew up in Rosewood, Queensland and was educated at the Toowoomba Grammar School. He entered the Royal Military College, Duntroon on 9th February 1957 and graduated with a Bachelor Degree in Applied Science on 13th December 1960.

Note: At the time Captain Bade was killed 105th Field Battery was operating independently in support of 1st Battalion Royal Australian Regiment. The 1st Australian Task Force was not deployed to South Vietnam until May 1966. 105th Field Battery became part of 1st Field Regiment, Royal Australian Artillery, when the Regiment arrived as part of the Task Force.

106th Field Battery

Written by Major P.S. Sadler (Retd) circa 1976

Edited by Major D.T. Brennan 2005

'One-Oh-Six' was first raised in Egypt in 1916. Since then it has seen action in France and South Vietnam; been disbanded four times and reraised thrice; served in Singapore; and been garrisoned in Hobart, Brisbane and Townsville. In its time it has been a howitzer battery, field battery and trials unit. It has been a part of 22nd Howitzer Brigade; 6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade; 4th Field Regiment RAA; and 28th ANZUK Field Regiment.

Founding and The Western Front

106 Howitzer Battery (together with 104 and 105 Howitzer Batteries) was raised as part of 22nd Howitzer Brigade at Moascar, near Ismalia, on the Suez Canal in Egypt. 22nd Howitzer Brigade's War Diary records that the first troops arrived in March 1916; that the brigade paraded for the first time as a unit on a 2nd Division Artillery parade on 12th March, and then entrained for Alexandria on 17th March. 22nd Howitzer Brigade sailed for Marseilles on 19th March, arriving on 25th March.

2nd Division Artillery, (4th, 5th and 6th Australian Field Artillery Brigades and 22nd Howitzer Brigade), moved from Marseilles to Le Havre where new 18 pounder guns and 4.5 inch howitzers were issued on 27th March 1916. On 8th April, 2nd Division took over part of the front line south-east of Armentieres from 34th (British) Division. 22nd Howitzer Brigade took over positions from 176th Brigade Royal Field Artillery on 10th April, less than five weeks after being formed. In his 'official history of Australia in the Great War', C.E.W. Bean records that the Royal Artillery Gunners left their old, worn guns in position for 2nd Division Artillery units to take over, and took the Australians' brand new guns in Lieu!

Initially 106 Howitzer Battery occupied billets in the 1st Division area, and did not join the Brigade until 30th April. 6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade's diary records that they had 105 Howitzer Battery attached from 22nd Howitzer Brigade at least as early as 13th April. The diary entry for 29th April reads (in part) '... handed over 105 How Bty and took over 106 How Bty ...'.

Thus began 106 Howitzer Battery's long association with 6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade. It was to last, almost without interruption, for nearly 35 years. Both brigades record that 106 Howitzer Battery first fired on 5th May 1916. The 6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade diary entry gives a mildly dramatic account of 106 Battery's first shots fired in anger:

'Bois Grenier 5th May 1916. The Mobile How 106 Battery at 1am fired 18 shells at Bas Hau, Frenetic and Bas Champs. Two loud explosions were heard after firing at Bas Hau'.

The 22nd Howitzer Brigade diary records the implementation of a major reorganisation of the British and attached artillery on the Western front, where howitzer brigades were abolished and their batteries distributed to existing 18-pounder brigades:

'13th May 1916. 1200hr. 104, 105 and 106 Batteries taken over by 4, 5 and 6 FA Bdes. 19, 20 and 21 Bdes were transferred, making this the 22 FA Bde. HQ 22 How transferred to 22 FA Bde. HQ 22 How Bde transferred to 22 FA Bde. The batteries remained grouped as before for tactical work'.

6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade diary merely records:

'14 May. 1800 hr. New establishment created. 106 How Bty joins Brigade and 21 Bty going to 22 AFA Brigade.'

See C.E.W. Bean, Official History of Australia in the Great War, Volume 5, Appendix 1, which explains this and other, reorganisations affecting the Australian Artillery during World War 1.

6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade was organic to 2nd Division Artillery until the spring of 1917, when it became an 'Army Brigade' and served where, and as, required. From April to July 1916, 6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade served in Flanders, mainly around Ypres. Between July and September

1916 it was on the Somme, then back to Flanders for a fortnight. It was in Picardy from October 1916 to May 1917, then back to Flanders between July 1917 and April 1918, and on the Somme again from April to July 1918. In August 1916 the Brigade took part in the drive to the Somme River. The following month it was with Australian and American troops in the attacks on the Hindenburg Outpost line and the push to Le Catelet.

In October 1918 the rapid advance left the Brigade behind - its exhausted horses could tow the guns no further. Like most AIF troops, 6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade was not actually involved in the final fighting up to Armistice Day. During December the Brigade moved east and took up a garrison position at Boussu - Lez - Walcourt in Western Belgium, where it remained until disbandment in March 1919.

During World War 1, 106 Battery, as part of 6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade and occasionally acting independently, supported 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Australian Divisions; 32nd and 62nd British Divisions; and 27th and 30th American Divisions. The 6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade diaries record that 106 Howitzer Battery members were awarded two Military Crosses; one Distinguished Conduct Medal; seven Military Medals; one Meritorious Service Medal; one Mention In Dispatches and one Belgian Croix de Guerre. The citations for some of these awards add substance to the bland statistics of the war's progress and show the character and bravery of some of the men who made up the Battery.

The Battery's first award was a Military Cross to Lieutenant R. Collings in July 1917 for:

'...having regard to heavy shelling and the fact that all its own officers were incapacitated one by one, the continuation of the battery continually in action ... was essentially due to the character, bravery and self discipline of this officer...'

Bombardier W.J. Wilson won both the Distinguished Conduct Medal and the Military Medal, the latter in October 1918 for:

'...bravery and the delivery of dispatches through HE and gas barrages.'

Perhaps 106 Howitzer Battery's greatest day of glory was 8th August 1918 - the day Ludendorff described as 'Der Schwartz Tag' - when the 4th Army, (which included the Australian Corps), shattered the German front on the Somme. Initially positioned near Villers Bretonneux, 6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade, (supporting 5th Division), moved about 10, 000 yards during the day to Bayonvillers.

In the official History C.D.U. Bean records that 106 Howitzer Battery was caught in heavy shelling and had three guns put out of action near Hamel. The Brigade diary records that Gunner H. Holman was awarded the Military Medal during this action for:

'bravery and devotion to duty at Villers Bretonneux on 8 August 1918 when he continued firing his gun single handed when the rest of the detachment became casualties.'

The Battery Commander of 106 Howitzer Battery, Major A.M. Grainger, was Mentioned In Dispatches, in part for:

'on 8 August 1918, at Villers Bretonneux having emplaced his Battery 1200 yards from the front line, fought it with the greatest determination and at one time had four guns out of action...'

The Brigade diary does not resolve the discrepancy between Bean's statement that 106 Howitzer Battery had three guns out of action, and Grainger's citation which says that four guns were out of action, for it fails to mention this incident at all!

The diary does however record that on that morning, between 0420 hours and 0643 hours, the 4.5-inch howitzers fired 1932 rounds. 6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade spent its last few months quietly at Boussu - Lez - Walcourt. Equipment maintenance, the return of stores, education classes and local leave filled the troop' days, while Christmas Day 1918 was celebrated in a comparatively lavish manner by those who had survived the fighting. The Prince of Wales awarded medals on a parade on 2nd January 1919 and later that month the ' Early 1915 - era' were repatriated to Australia.

During February 1919 the numbers dwindled as men marched out. The last entry in the 6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade diary was made on 9th March 1919. It reads 'Boussu - Lez - Walcourt. Bde

marched out for attachment to units of the 4 AFA Bde in accordance with demob Order 15, and cease to function from this date.' Across the bottom half of the page is scrawled the final word: 'FINNISH'.

Between Wars

6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade was re-raised in Tasmania on 31st March 1921. It initially consisted of 16, 17, and 18 Field Batteries and 106 Howitzer Battery, though by 1929 it appears that only 16 Field and 106 Howitzer Batteries were still active. 106 Howitzer Battery was based in Hobart during this period. The Battery was disbanded for the second time on 29th February 1941, when 6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade was reorganised to create 6th Field Regiment RAA, consisting of the 16 and 17 Field Batteries.

The Lure of the East

106 had to wait a quarter of a century for its second resurrection. In December 1966 it was re-raised as 106 Field Battery in 4th Field Regiment at Wacol in Brisbane. During April and May 1967 the Battery moved to South Vietnam, where it served with 1st Australian Task Force until March 1968. Major E.D.M. Cape commanded the Battery until December 1967 when Major P.C. Jones assumed command. The Battery returned home to Australia in early 1968. Warrant Officers Class Two H. Iddon and D. Duggan were the Battery Sergeants Major.

106 Field Battery was the Direct Support Battery to 7th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment for most of the tour. Much of its time was spent in Phuc Tuy Province, through the Battery also operated in Bien Hoa Province during the Tet Offensive in February 1968. On three occasions the Battery acted as infantry, forming a 'fifth' company of the Battalion during cordon and search operations of villages in Phuc Tuy Province. During Operation Ballarat in August - September 1967, Lieutenant N.J. Clark, one of the Battery's Forward Observers won the Military Cross while working with A Company, 7th Battalion. During this particular action the Battery fired over 800 rounds in just over an hour. On Operation Coburg, during the Tet Offensive in February 1968, Gunner M.B. Williams won the Military Medal. He was a signaller with a Forward Observer's party supporting C Company, 7th Battalion.

The Battery returned to Wacol for a few months in March 1968, then, in July 1968, it moved to Townsville to prepare for its second tour in South Vietnam. Under the command of Major D.J. Gilroy, and with Warrant Officer Class Two A.W. Singh as Battery Sergeant Major, 106 Field Battery returned to South Vietnam in February 1970. Once again the Battery was in Direct Support of 7th Battalion for most of its tour, during which it fired about 68,000 rounds including over 1000 in one day while supporting a bunker clearing operation by D Company.

Much of the latter part of the tour was spent at the 'Horseshoe' Fire Support Base, though one gun from the battery was deployed on the coast near Long Phuoc Hai at an infantry 'Night Defence Position' called 'Brigid'. The following members of 106 Field Battery were Mentioned In Dispatches for their service on that tour: Major D.J. Gilroy; Captain B.J. Campbell; Sergeant B.J. Ruddock; and Sergeant M. O'Sullivan (AACC). The second tour of South Vietnam finished in January 1971 and the Battery returned to Townsville. The new Battery Commander was Major N. De La Hunty however his tenure was cut short with an appointment as the Second-in-Command of 28th ANZUK Field Regiment in Singapore. As a consequence he handed over command of the Battery to Major J.H. Townley.

In December 1971 the Battery moved to Nee Soon Barracks, Singapore to become part of 28th ANZUK Field Regiment, under the command of Major J.H. Townley, with Warrant Officer Class Two W.J. Gallagher as Battery Sergeant Major. 106 Field Battery ended its tour in Singapore in November 1973, and on the 9th January 1974 the Battery rear party returned to Australia signalling the disbandment of the Battery for the third time.

Of Trials and Turtles

In October 1975, 106 Battery was re-raised for the third time, rejoining 4th Field Regiment in Townsville. Captain R.J. Collins was acting Battery Commander until Major P.S. Sadler assumed command in January 1976. Warrant Officer Class Two E.B.N. Hamson was the first Battery Sergeant Major, followed in May 1976 by Warrant Officer Class Two L.W. McMullin.

After taking its place for a few months as 4th Field Regiment's 'Senior Gun Battery', 106 Field Battery became the core of the RAA Trials Unit. From August 1976 to 1977 the Trials Unit evaluated the XM204 105mm Field Howitzer; XM198; FE-70 155mm Medium Howitzer; and a number of associated gun tractors. Trials were carried out at Lavarack Barracks; High Range Training Area; Tropical Trials Establishment (Cowley Beach and Tully); and in the Hughenden area. In November 1977, 106 Battery disbanded for the fourth time, having finished its Trials commitments.

Some of its members moved to Holsworthy shortly afterwards, to join 104th Field Battery, which was being reraised in 8th/12th Medium Regiment. This was not without significance to 106th Field Battery. 104, 105 and 106 Howitzer Batteries were raised together as part of 22nd Howitzer Brigade in March 1916, but on the re-organisation of May 1916, 104 Battery became part of 4th Australian Field Artillery Brigade. It was into this Brigade that the last elements of 6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade (including 106 Howitzer Battery) were absorbed when it disbanded in March 1919.

Prior to its first tour in South Vietnam the Battery acquired the nickname 'The Turtles', which members of 106 regarded with affection. Shortly before the disbandment of the Battery for the fourth time, Department of Defence (Army Office) approved a battery crest design showing a Green Turtle on a gold field, surrounded by a brown border. The gold is for the sands of Egypt, the brown for France's agricultural land and the green for the jungles of Vietnam. This crest was displayed publicly for the first time on the Battery guns and vehicles during the final parade of 106 Battery at Lavarack Barracks on 3rd November 1977.

107th Field Battery

Written by Lieutenant J.P. Abundo

Beginnings

107th Battery traces its origins to 1915 as the 28th Battery, which was based in Sydney. The Battery's initial armaments consisted of four 18 pounder guns but it was re-equipped and renamed to match British artillery prior to the Western Front campaign. The Battery was redesignated 107 Howitzer Battery and was equipped with six 4.5 inch howitzers to support 7th Brigade, which at the time was refitting in England, prior to deploying later that year.

World War I

The Battery first saw action in early 1917 near Armentieres and supported various units in Flanders, at Ypres, Ploegsteert, Zonnebeke, Passchendale, Hell Fire Corner, Messines and Menin Gate in the ensuing months. Although attached to 7th Brigade, 107 Battery regularly found itself firing in support of Australian, British, Canadian, American and French troops throughout the war.

The total casualties sustained by 107 Battery by the end of the war were eighteen killed in action, thirteen died from wounds or illness, one hundred and nineteen wounded and forty-one gased. By May 1919 repatriation to Australia commenced. Men returned to their jobs and homes, and 107 Battery was maintained by militia Gunners in North Sydney, later to be relocated to Willoughby. The number of manned guns was reduced to four, and was organised in the following manner:

- four 4.5 inch howitzers;
- six-horse team for hauling each gun;
- 10 gun numbers (No 1 - Sergeant and No 10 - Bombardier rode in single mounts); and
- separate ammunition wagons.

World War II

After the declaration of the Second World War, the transition from a horse to vehicle drawn Battery was made. In 1942 the 4.5 inch howitzers were replaced by 25 pounders, and the Battery title was changed to 107 Field Battery. The Battery itself, as part of the 7th Field Regiment, was attached to the 8th Brigade Group, aiding in the Homeland Defence. It was disbanded in November 1943.

Reborn - Vietnam

During the Vietnam Conflict, the Commanding Officer of 1st Field Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel R. Curbis, believed it to be necessary to raise an additional battery, and so requested the authority from Commander Divisional Artillery in July 1963. The Battery itself was raised officially on the 1st August 1965 and its ranks were full by 1st September. The first Battery Commander (BC) of 107th Field Battery was Captain P.J. Badcoe. The Battery conducted its first exercise at Tianjara and fired its first round on 8th of August 1965. Following that, national servicemen from the 1965 intake joined the Battery and the training was focused for future deployments to Vietnam. Unfortunately, 1st Field Regiment would deploy without 107 Battery, the general feeling being that due to their new status, they would not be ready for overseas operations. The unit's eligible soldiers were also transferred to 103rd Field Battery and by mid year 1966, the Battery would only comprise of one officer and 20 other ranks.

In the following year the Battery took part in demonstrations for the Staff College and continued to form and bond through exercises during April and May. This period was marked with sadness at the loss of Major Badcoe. Major Badcoe (who had transferred to Infantry Corps) was killed in action with the Australian Army Training Team in South Vietnam on the 7th April 1967. For his gallant actions during the attack, Major Badcoe was awarded a posthumous Victoria Cross.

Some of the lesser-known traditions of 107th Field Battery today commenced in 1967. Unbeknown to most, the 'Battery Commander's Sam Browne Belt and Sword' were once in the possession of Major Marfell DSO, the Battery Commander of 107 Battery in France during 1917. It was presented to the Battery by Geoff Johnson in June 1967 and has been passed on to the succeeding Battery Commanders for safekeeping. The Black Sheep Cup was presented to the Battery at the same time by the Australian Imperial Forces Association. The Cup was originally a trophy won in a competition in France in 1917, and is presented to either the champion section of the Battery from competitions ranging from sporting events to gunnery drills.

On 16th September 1967 the Battery deployed to Malaysia to relieve A Battery at Terendak Camp, Malacca. During their time in South East Asia, 107 Battery exercised in Brunei, Vietnam, and the eastern coast of Malaya. 1969 was marred by a series of costly accidents involving air operations. During one night operation, the reconnaissance vehicle was dropped into the jungle, never to be found. Its replacement was dropped onto a field from 400 ft. During a helicopter sortie over the Malacca Straits, parts of the disassembled Delta gun fell into the sea. On return to Australia in 1969, 107 Battery relocated to Townsville to join with 4th Field Regiment.

Under command of Major G.T. Salmon, 107th Field Battery deployed to South Vietnam to relieve 101st Field Battery on 7th May 1970. Operating out of Nui Dat and equipped with the M2A2, the Battery supported the 2nd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment through the use of Fire Support and Patrol Bases (FSPBs). The Battery saw a variety of operations and was regularly reinforced by other units from other nations, 106th Field Battery, 161st Field Battery Royal New Zealand Artillery, American self-propelled guns and with Naval Gunfire Support. On completion from its tour, 107th Field Battery returned to 4th Field Regiment in Townsville in May 1971.

Post Vietnam

Throughout the seventies, 107th Field Battery training involved a shift from the FSPB tactical mentality to fire and movement with an emphasis on quick deployments. The return to the use of the L5 howitzer from the M2A2 gave the Battery opportunities to experiment with various configurations, including deployment in the low position and the carriage of disassembled guns within armoured personnel carriers (APCs). At the end of the decade, the 4th Field Regiment became part of the Operational Deployment Force, which placed the Regiment at 28 days notice to move and a single Battery at 14 days notice. This further increased the Battery's familiarity with airborne operations, with much of the training focusing on the rapid deployment.

The 1980's began with the Battery practicing alternate methods of transporting guns around the battlefield. The command post became replaced by man portable systems and the guns were deployed by air, towed, manhandled or carried in APCs and gun tractors. In June of 1980, a small contingent from 107th Field Battery visited Hawaii in support of Exercise Tropic Lightning. The following two years involved numerous field exercises that included digging in FSPBs throughout the High Range Training Area. In 1983 the Battery participated in Exercise Tasman Exchange where they deployed to New Zealand, operating in a conventional warfare role, hides during the day, movement at night and culminated with a fire plan in support of a company of the 2/7 Ghurkha Rifles. On return to Australia that year, the Battery yet again dug another FSPB during Exercise Ad Astra. In 1985 the Battery saw the introduction of the Hamel gun and became responsible for towing trials with various vehicles. The Battery also hosted 30 Canadian Gunners from the 2nd Royal Canadian Horse Artillery in an exchange program as part of Exercise Auscan Bond. The last large exercise for the Battery during the eighties was Kangaroo 1989.

The start of the ninety's marked the 25th anniversary of the Battery since being reformed in 1965. The highlight for 107th Field Battery in 1990 was another overseas exercise in Hawaii, participating in Exercise Pac Bond. In 1992 soldiers from the Battery were sent to Cambodia as part of a force in support of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC). Personnel served a minimum of 8 months, with some serving close to a year before returning late November 1993.

The first operational deployment since Vietnam would occur for 107th Field Battery during the stand-down period between 1992 and 1993. Operation Solace required members from the 4th Field Regiment to deploy to Somalia. As the online Battery, members from 107 were recalled from leave to

undertake pre-deployment administration. The Battery Commander, Major R.H. Stanthorpe, left Australia on New Years Eve to arrive in Mogadishu on 5th January 1993. The Battery's perception of their role 'in country' shifted on arrival, liaising with non-government organisations, providing training and re-establishment of a judicial system and improving civilian and military relations. Back in Australia, the Battery continued training and during Exercise Woolly Bully, a 500 lb unexploded bomb was unearthed by 107th Battery whilst occupying FSPB Myrtle. The following exercise in Shoalwater Bay was host to a great 107th Field Battery feat where Alpha gun fired 10 rounds in 42.63 seconds.

East Timor - Today

In 1999, the mistreatment of the East Timorese by Indonesian militia sparked a response from the Australian Government. As part of the Ready Battalion Group (RBG), 107th Field Battery prepared for deployment in support of 1st Battalion Royal Australian Regiment. However, as the annual rotation of the RBG changed from 1st Battalion to the 2nd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment, 108th Field Battery would deploy to East Timor in 107th Field Battery's place. When the Battery resumed online responsibilities in 2000, the members of the Command Liaison Observer Group (CLOG) deployed to East Timor under the command of Major T. Griggs in support of Operation Tanager.

2002 was marred by a serious accident. During the first live fire exercise of the year, Bravo gun experienced a round prematurely detonating within the bore. Although detachment members were seriously injured from the incident, there were no fatalities. The Battery's responsive actions to the accident ensured the safety of the casualties. The suspected cause was faulty ammunition, as a result from mishandling, although some conjecture has arisen from this evaluation from the members of the Battery. For the remainder of the year, no firing would occur until the ammunition was recalled, checked and investigations were completed.

The 107th Field Battery CLOG deployed to East Timor in 2003 under the command of Major M. Kennedy. The Joint Offensive Support Teams (JOSTs) attached to 1st Battalion Royal Australian Regiment, supported each company in a variety of responsibilities predominantly focused on 'hearts and minds' activities. Members of the Battery returned to Australia by mid November of that year.

Recently, members of 107th Field Battery have served overseas to facilitate the training of the new Iraqi Army, with several members currently undertaking pre-deployment training prior to taking part in the Australian Army Training Team Iraq. The Battery currently serves under Major Richard Vagg as the Battery Commander and Warrant Officer Class Two Brett Armstrong as the Battery Sergeant Major.

Editors Note:

I recall the L5 being re-issued to the Battery in 1980 (not the 1970's). During my first exercise as a Section Commander in 1980 I witnessed one of the guns in my section fire its first round since being re-issued. When the gun fired it recoiled but did not 'run out', instead the breech ended up buried in the ground between the trails.

108th Field Battery

Written by Lieutenant M. Cook

Introduction

108th Field Battery is the third battery of 4th Field Regiment. The Battery is located in Townsville at Lavarack Barracks with the majority of the Regiment. 108th Battery is a 105mm L119 Hamel gun battery with six guns. The Battery has a relatively young gunline that is full of enthusiasm and desire to serve the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery as best it can. 108th Field Battery has recently taken on the online role and it would seem that in light of this it would be a good time to explore our roots.

Origins

The origins of 108th Field Battery lie deep within the history of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery. The sub-unit has been disbanded and re-raised on a number of occasions. The home of 108th Field Battery has also changed over time however the spirit of camaraderie and dedication to the Regiment has not. 108 Battery has over time existed as three separate entities. They include:

- 108 Howitzer Battery AFA 1916 -1919;
- 108 Howitzer Battery AFA 1921 - 1943 - CMF; and
- 108 Field Battery RAA 1965 - Extant ARA.

World War One

108 Howitzer Battery was raised in Melbourne in 1916. The Battery arrived in England on 20th July 1916 ready to serve despite not having any guns or formal training as yet. The Battery was stationed at Lark Hill whilst the English and Australian Armies re-organised their artillery units. In the reshuffle 108 became part of the 3rd Division Australian Artillery. By 31st December the Battery was in France ready to fight in the war, an inspection by the King of England serves as a highlight of this period.

During the war the battery served in crucial areas such as Ypres, Paschendale and Hellfire Corner. Another link to historical fame is the fact that a Lewis Gunner from an Australian Field Battery supposedly shot down Baron Von Richtofen, the infamous Red Baron. Further to the success of the Battery as part of Australia's Artillery in World War One was the motto of the British and American soldiers - 'You can lay your back up against an Australian Barrage'. In 1919 the Battery was disbanded knowing that the lives of many an infantryman was owed to the Gunners of 108 and the accuracy of their guns.

Citizens Military Forces Period and World War Two

The Battery was re-raised circa 1921 when the Citizens Military Forces (CMF) units were re-organised and re-designated on 31st March that year. The origins of the new 108 Howitzer Battery owed its origins more to the Hastings Battery of the Victorian Park Rangers rather than that of the World War One battery.

In May of 1942 the Battery was re-designated again this time attached to 3rd Division and embarked for Queensland. The Battery was constantly reshuffled and re-designated amongst the II Corps artillery units and as a result never got to see any operational service in World War Two. On 6th August 1943 the 108 Howitzer Battery, now a part of the AIF was disbanded.

Risen Again 1965 - Extant

The present 108th Field Battery that is known and loved by the Gunners of today was raised in Wacol in September 1965. This is where the Battery was established as part of 4th Field Regiment. The Battery manned the L5 Pack Howitzer and was commanded by Captain D.W. Moore with Warrant Officer Class Two Hacord serving as the Battery Sergeant Major.

Vietnam

On 9th July 1967 108th Field Battery deployed to Vietnam as part of the Australian commitment to that conflict. Here the 108 replaced 101st Field Battery at Nui Dat. 108 established its long history with 2nd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment in Vietnam by providing them with fire support. This was the last deployment on which 108th Field Battery has fired artillery guns in anger. Whilst in Vietnam the Battery developed a spirit that would create a 108 identity for the next 40 years.

During the tour of Vietnam the Battery took part in all of the following major operations; Paddington, Kenmore and Santa Fe. It was during Santa Fe that Gunner 'Bluey' Tregear was killed by claymores set up inside the Battery's defensive perimeter. Other members such as Second Lieutenant Lynch were lucky to survive the attack and only did so due to the fact that the mine that killed Bluey Tregear cut the wire banked with other Claymores. As a testament to Bluey Tregear, 108th Field Battery has established the Battery history room and Archive in his name. The Tregear Room is on the top level of the Battery building at Lavarack Barracks.

Despite the tragedy of Tregear's death 108 Battery's deployment to Vietnam was seen as a success for the Royal Regiment. The reputation of the Battery was built upon the response of the guns. Many veterans of the time believe this to be a result of the dedication by the Gun Position Officer, Lieutenant W. Richie, to training and professionalism. The rigorous training regime the Gun Position Officer imposed on the Battery 'in country' ensured that the Battery went one year without firing a single mistake. Considering the Battery fired 68,169 rounds, the most for any Australian Battery in Vietnam, this is quite an achievement. The speed of the Australian guns' response was so highly regarded that an American pilot acting as an air OP asked the Battery Commander, Maj Jenvey, if he had automatic guns in his Battery.

In May 1968 the Battery returned from Vietnam with the Battery Commander being awarded an MBE and Bombardier G. Webster receiving a Mentioned In Despatches for courageous conduct during Operation Santa Fe. 108 Battery showed to the rest of the Royal Regiment what being a professional Gunner on operations meant.

'HOT STUFF' 108's Favourite Son

108th Field Battery owes the origins of its mascot cartoon strip character 'Hot Stuff', to its deployment to Vietnam. The mascot is a devil and commonly appears riding a HE round from a 105 mm. Bombardier H.R. Smith and Gunner J. Fong-Kay designed this motif. The legend of 'Hot Stuff' has led to the establishment of the Devil's Den, a Battery recreation area. A number of awards to be presented to members of the Battery at Den functions have also been raised in 'Hot Stuff's' honour.

The Townsville Era

After the return from Vietnam the Battery joined the rest of the Regiment in Townsville. Here the Battery was re-issued with the L5 Pack Howitzer. On the move to Townsville 108th Field Battery was also notably the first Royal Australian Artillery Battery to fire at the High Range Training Area in 1968. It may not be seen as a prestigious achievement however it does demonstrate 108's ability to lead the way.

In 1969 Major R.N. Gair took command as the Battery Commander and took the Battery to a posting in Singapore. The Battery participated in many Brigade level exercises and historical tours before returning to Townsville in 1971 just in time for Cyclone Althea.

East Timor and the Solomon Islands

On 21st September 1999 108th Field Battery was one the first INTERFET units to deploy to East Timor. 108 served in Timor as infantrymen for four and a half months. Whilst there members of 108 were utilised to patrol, search for illegal weapons, detain suspect personnel and maintain some communications for the force commanders. In fact the reputation of the signals capability of the Royal Australian Artillery was greatly increased due to the professionalism of the 108 soldiers. The signallers attached to Forward Observers and other Battery signallers were at times the only members of the entire force who maintained communications in a way that could keep the hierarchy informed. The end of 108 Battery's rotation to East Timor marked a successful deployment for the Battery as they had proven that Gunners are a flexible and professional type of soldier who prides themselves on the standards they

maintain. Some members of the Battery were given a second deployment to East Timor as part of the Command Liaison Observer Group in 2001.

In 2004 the Battery also deployed members to the Solomon Islands in support of the Australian Federal Police led RAMSI. Whilst in the Solomon's members of 108 served in such diverse roles as signallers, linguists and liaison officers. The fact that Gunners from 108 were requested shows the reputation 108 has built over recent years. Both the RAMSI and INTERFET operations have proven the flexibility of Gunners as soldiers. In the changing climate of world affairs it has been proven that the Gunners need to be experts at gunnery as well as professionally developed soldiers capable of performing many roles.

As I write...

Today members of the Battery are serving overseas to facilitate the training of the new Iraqi Army, with several members currently undertaking pre-deployment training prior to taking part in the Australian Army Training Team Iraq. Other members of the Battery are serving as instructors in the United States as subject matter experts. As of 12th August 108th Field Battery became part of the 2nd Battalion RBG. As part of the online team 108th Field Battery excelled in the presentation of its administration and its performance in the field on the CABW Exercise Every Ready Black.

Major Dave Edwards is currently at the helm of 108 with Warrant Officer Class Two Tom Byrne serving as Battery Sergeant Major.

In Summary

In summary, 108th Field Battery has had a very long history in the Australian military steeped in operational service and excellence. The fire support provided by the Battery on operations has shown the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery that Gunners can perform to the highest standards in the worst situations. The Gunners of 108 have also deployed in other roles to Cambodia, East Timor, the Solomon Islands, and Iraq proving the flexibility of the Royal Australian Artillery.

Associations & Organisations

**1st Field Regiment
Regimental Memorial - South Vietnam
1411047 Gunner R.W. Cliff**

1411047 Gunner Richard William Cliff died at the 26th Evacuation Hospital (US Army) on Monday 6th February 1967, aged 21 years. Gunner Cliff was a member of 101st Field Battery. He died of wounds received at Baria, Phuoc Tuy Province as a result of misdirected artillery fire from 161st Field Battery Royal New Zealand Artillery. At the time of his death Gunner Cliff was employed as a Signaller in a Forward Observer Party supporting the 6th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment.

**1st Field Regiment
Regimental Memorial - South Vietnam
235324 Lieutenant B.A. Garland**

235324 Lieutenant Bernard Anthony Garland was killed in action in Phuoc Tuy Province, South Vietnam on Wednesday 22nd April 1970, aged 23 years. Lieutenant Garland was acting as a Forward Observer from 101st Field Battery supporting A Company, 6th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment / New Zealand (ANZAC). Lieutenant Garland was taking part in 'Operation Townsville' in Phuoc Tuy Province, which was an operation against D445 Local Force Viet Cong Battalion. Lieutenant Garland was killed in action in the area of Nui Kho to South of Xuyen Moc, when an enemy mine detonated, killing him and wounding four soldiers. It is believed that the mine was a 'Friendly' M16 (Jumping Jack) anti-personnel mine, which had been dug up and relocated by the enemy. Lieutenant Garland died on the second last day of what was the last operation of 6th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment / New Zealand (ANZAC) in South Vietnam. Lieutenant Garland was to have returned to Australia on 9th May 1970.

Lieutenant Garland grew up in Sydney, New South Wales and was educated at the Epping Boys High School. He entered the Royal Military College, Duntroon on 24th January 1964 and graduated with a Diploma of Military Studies on 12th December 1967.

Note: It should be noted that during the 101st Field Battery tour of duty in South Vietnam a rotation of Regimental Headquarters occurred, resulting in 101st Field Battery changing from 1st Field Regiment to 4th Field Regiment Royal Australian Artillery. This change over did not occur however until late on the 101st Field Battery tour. Technically Lieutenant Garland was a member of 4th Field Regiment when he was killed.

Associations and Organisations Contact List

RAA Regimental Fund

SO2 HOR School of Artillery
Bridges Barracks, Puckapunyal, VIC 3662

RAA Historical Company & North Fort Museum

PO Box 1042, Manly, NSW 1655
Phone: (02) 9976 6102 or (02) 9976 3855
Email: northfort@ozemail.com.au
Website: www.northfort.org.au
[Membership Form See Page 148]

Cannonball (Official Journal)

RAA Historical Society WA (Inc)

President - Bruce Campbell
Phone: (08) 9221 2494 (Bus)
Secretary - Tom Arnautovic, OAM
P O Box 881, Claremont, WA 6910
Email: info@artillerywa.org.au
Phone: 0419 923 584 (mob)
Website: www.artillerywa.org.au

Take Post (Quarterly Newsletter)

3 Field Regiment Association

President - Peter Rowles
PO Box 881, Claremont, WA 6910
Phone: 0408 926 913 (mob)
Email: rowles@highway1.com.au
Website: www.artillerywa.org.au

4 Field Regiment (Vietnam) Association

R.J. (Gabby) Hayes
36 Ravel Street, Burpengary, QLD 4505
Email: gabbyhayes@ozemail.com.au

7 Field Regiment Association

P O Box 206
Frenchs Forest NSW 2086

10 Medium Regiment Association Inc

P O Box 1915, Geelong, VIC 3220

The Big Gun (Newsletter)

12 Field Regiment Association

To Be Advised. Inquiries to the Editor.

The Tannoy (Quarterly Newsletter)

23 Field Regiment Association

President - Graham Williams
Phone: (02) 4294 2039
Email: eggs_e@optusnet.com.au
Secretary - Deenel Park
15 Boundary Road, Oatley, NSW 2223
Phone: (02) 9570 1079
Email: the23fdassoc@yahoo.com.au
Website: www.23fd-regt-raa-association.org

A Field Battery Association Inc

President - Ron (Tex) Bassan
Secretary - Clare Bassan
6 Harveys Road,
Beaconsfield, QLD 4740
Email: texbassan@yahoo.com.au
Email: bonniebassan@yahoo.co.uk
Telephone: (07) 4942 5433
[Membership Form See Page 141]

A Field Battery National Newsletter
(Incorporating Shelldrake & Roadrunner)

101 Battery

Secretary - Jim Booth
8 Calliston Court, Cashmere QLD 4500
Phone: 07 3882 0218
Email: jsbooth@tpg.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
Email: John.Sullivan@hpa.com.au

105 Battery

Secretary - Greg West
14 Marral Street, The Gap, QLD 4061
Phone: (07) 3300 5303
Email: gwest105@tpg.com.au
[Membership Form See Page 146]

Tiger Rag (Newsletter)

Editor - Arthur Burke
7 Aspley Court, Aspley, QLD 4034
Phone & Fax: (07) 3263 6025
Email: arthurburke@bigpond.com
Website: www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au/105/

106 Battery

Peter J. Tibbett
PO Box 677, Cooroy, QLD 4563
Phone: (07) 5483 7591
Email: tibbs1@tpg.com.au
Ian Clyne
2 Harland Square, Wantirna, VIC 3152

107 Battery

Warren D. Feakes
23 Harbison Cres, Wanniasa, ACT 2903
Phone: (02) 6231 8369
Email: wfeakes@netspeed.com.au
The Black Sheep (Newsletter)
Editor - Bill Jones
Email: bejay16@bigpond.com.au
Website: www.http://geocities.com/bejay162002

108 Battery

John Wells
PO Box 407, Guys Hill, VIC 3807
Phone: (03) 5944 3157 (H) (03) 9799 1216 (W)
Email: jewells@ozmail.com.au

RAA Association - Nth Qld

President - Eldon Bryant
Phone: (07) 477 56579
Secretary - Ken Borgges
18 Bainbridge Street, Heatley, QLD 4814
Phone: (07) 477 96430
Email: kenborgges@bigpond.com
Gunners Gossip (Newsletter)
Email: kenborgges@bigpond.com
Website: www.st.net.au/~dunn/raa-nqld.htm

RAA Association (NSW) Inc

President - Phil Easton
Secretary - Chris Hogan
GPO Box 576, Sydney, NSW 2001
Email: pjeaston@optusnet.com.au
[Membership Form See Page 142]
'Gunfire' (Magazine)
Editor - P O Box 1034, West Cessnock, NSW 2325
Email: gunfire@hn.ozemail.com.au

RAA Association (NSW) Newcastle Sub-Branch

Secretary
PO Box 918, Charlestown, NSW 2290
Email: Secretary@raaanewcastle.com
Website: www.raaanewcastle.com

RAA Association (ACT)

Secretary - Major Mathew Taylor
Email: mathew.taylor@defence.gov.au
[Membership Form See Page 145]

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, Langwarrin, VIC 3910
Email: jlpritchard@bigpond.com

RAA Association (SA)

President - Geoff Laurie
12 Chatsworth Grove, Toorak Gardens, S.A. 5065
Phone: (08) 8332 4485
Email: gunnersa@chariot.net.au

RAA Association (WA) Inc

President - Bruce Campbell
Phone: (08) 9221 2494 (Bus)
Email: info@artillerywa.org.au
Secretary - Tom Arnautovic, OAM
P O Box 881, Claremont, WA 6910
Email: info@artillerywa.org.au
Phone: 0419 923 584 (mob)
Website: www.artillerywa.org.au

Artillery WA (On-line Newsletter)

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: forfar@gmail.com
<http://raaassoc.tas.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 - Major Allan Harrison, RFD
PO Box W43, Abbotsford, NSW 2046
Phone: (02) 9719 2252 or 0412 021665 (M)
Email: allan@harrisonsolution.com.au
Vice President - Major Joe Kaplun
6 Apex Avenue
Picnic Point, NSW 2213
Phone: (02) 9339 3000
Email: joe.kaplun@defence.gov.au
Secretary - Dianne Wood
6 Apex Avenue
Picnic Point, NSW 2213
Email: dianne.wood@defence.gov.au
Website: www.locatingartillery.org
[Membership Form See Page 144]

18 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment Association

President - Bevan Lennie
PO Box 536, Gympie NSW 2227
Phone/Fax: (02) 9524 5524 (H)
[Membership Form See Page 143]

41 Battery / 11 Field Regiment RAA Association Inc

President - Graeme Fitzpatrick
25 Manakin Ave, Burleigh Waters QLD 4220
Phone: (07) 5535 1211 (H)
Email: graemefitz@dodo.com.au
[Membership Form See Page 147]

Gunner Ear (Newsletter)

Fort Lytton Historical Association Inc

President - Maurice McGuire
P O Box 293, Wynnum QLD 4178
Phone: (07) 3399 3198
Email: guides@bigpond.net.au

Australian Gunner's Old Comrades

Website: <http://tibbsau.com/theguns.html>

The Guns (On-line Newsletter)

RA Association

Website: www.raa.uk.com

The Gunner Magazine (RA Publication)

Website: www.gunnermag.com

RAA Unit Websites

Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery and other unit websites maybe accessed via the Australian Army website.

<http://www.defence.gov.au/army/RRAA>

<http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/Sites/RRAA/>

Editors Note: This list is only as good as the feedback I receive. If you are aware of more current information than that published, could you advise me to enable the timely amendment of these records. I would appreciate the contact details of any other *Gunner* organisation not listed. As a 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.

Benefactors of the Royal Australian Artillery Regimental Fund

Correct as at 17th October 2005

LTGEN D.M. Mueller

MAJGEN J.E. Barry

MAJGEN P.J. Dunn

MAJGEN T.R. Ford ^(see note)

MAJGEN S.N. Gower

MAJGEN B.A. Power

MAJGEN J.P. Stevens

MAJGEN J.D. Stevenson ^(see note)

MAJGEN J. Whitelaw

BRIG M.G. Boyle

BRIG J.R. Cox

BRIG M.P. Crane

BRIG R.K. Fullford

BRIG A.G. Hanson

BRIG J.A.R. Jansen

BRIG P.R. Kilpatrick

BRIG R.A. Lawler

BRIG R.Q. Macarthur- Stranham

BRIG T.J. McKenna

BRIG K.B.J. Mellor

BRIG D. I. Perry

BRIG K.V. Rossi

BRIG G.T. Salmon

BRIG J.R. Salmon

BRIG W.M. Silverstone

BRIG G.B. Standish

BRIG R.Q. Stanham

BRIG R.A. Sunderland

BRIG P.B. Symon

BRIG P.J. Tys

BRIG A.G. Warner

BRIG V.H. Williams

COL B.M. Armstrong

COL R.V. Brown

COL D.L. Byrne

COL D.P. Coghlan

COL S.T. Goltz

COL E.D. Hirst

COL J.H. Humphrey

COL C.B.J. Hogan

COL W.T. Kendall

COL J.C. Kirkwood

COL M.G. Lovell

COL I.A. Lynch

COL R.M. Manton

COL R.B. Mitchell

COL D. J. Murray

COL P.R. Patmore

COL J.C. Platt

COL G.M. Salom

COL B.J. Stark

COL D.M. Tait

COL A.D. Watt

COL P.D. Winter

LTCOL R.M. Baguley

LTCOL A.R. Burke

LTCOL M.A. Cameron

LTCOL J.H. Catchlove

LTCOL I.D.S. Caverswall

LTCOL S.E. Clingan

LTCOL L.D. Ensor
LTCOL E. Esmonde
LTCOL J. Findlay
LTCOL G.W. Finney ^(see note)
LTCOL R.J. Foster
LTCOL R.G. Gibson
LTCOL C. D. Furini
LTCOL K.R. Hall
LTCOL M. Harvey (RNZA)
LTCOL P.L. Hodge
LTCOL S.F. Landherr
LTCOL K.W. McKenzie
LTCOL D.M. Murphy
LTCOL S.W. Nicolls
LTCOL P.L. Overstead
LTCOL G.G. Potter
LTCOL G.F.B. Rickards
LTCOL S.M. Saddington
LTCOL C. Taggart
LTCOL W.R.C. Vickers
MAJ D.T. Brennan
MAJ C.T. Connolly
MAJ R.J. Crawford
MAJ M. Dutton
MAJ A.O. Fleming
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 V.J. Ray
MAJ S.G. Rohan-Jones
MAJ L.J. Simmons
MAJ A.E.R. Straume
MAJ M. Taggart
MAJ T.W. Vercoe

MAJ M.St C. Walton
MAJ C.V. Wardrop
CAPT W.J. Francis
CAPT J. Kelly
CAPT K.F. Schoene
WO1 D.W. Bowman
WO1 M.A. Pasteur
WO2 A. Palovich

Deceased Benefactors

Sir Roden Cutler
MAJGEN T. Cape
MAJGEN G.D. Carter
MAJGEN P. Falkland
MAJGEN R. G. Fay
LTCOL R. Harvey
LTCOL G.W. Tippetts

Note:

MAJGEN J.D. Stevenson, MAJGEN T.R. FORD and LTCOL G.W. Finney have paid two life subscriptions.

Associations

RAA Association (North Queensland)
105th Field Battery Association
Fort Lytton Historical Association

Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company

Chairman's Report to the Annual General Meeting

By Lieutenant Colonel John L. Macpherson (Retd)

Introduction

The 2004/5 year has again been successful in providing support to the National Artillery Museum. The modest financial surplus is pleasing notwithstanding expenditure on the Cutler display, and a Defence restriction placed on the conduct of some fundraising activities.

The major activity was the unveiling of the Cutler Display by the Governor of NSW. This was preceded earlier in the day by the launch of Peter Oppenheim's book, 'The Fragile Forts' by Mr Tony Abbott, the Federal Member for Warringah and a very staunch ally of the Museum.

A serious matter which occupied the attention of the Board for some time is the proposal by the Army History Unit (AHU) to co-locate Corps museum with Corps schools. This would mean, in time, that the National Artillery Museum would move to Puckapunyal. The reaction from members and others was unanimous for retention at North Fort given the history of Gunners' involvement in the Defence of Port Jackson since first settlement, the more recent links between the Coastal Garrison and School of Artillery with Manly, and the location of the Gunners' museum in a pre-eminent and historic fortification.

The AHU assertion that Corps Museums should be co-located with Corps schools ignores, in our case, that effective heritage and historical support to the School at Puckapunyal has been provided by displays, and visits by unit detachments to North Fort. Similarly, support from the large volunteer body extant in Sydney (approximately 80) would disappear as would access to a local tourism market of 4 million plus if relocation occurred.

Your Board remains confident that the 'Gunners' museum will be at North Fort for the foreseeable future, and we are very grateful for the strong support expressed by members and others when the proposal was first aired.

Indeed, the need to retain North Fort was emphasised in the speech given by Major General Richard Wilson, deputising for the Chief of Army, who said just prior to the launch of Peter Oppenheim's book;

'... changes in strategy and technology ... (that) have rendered the ...traditional fixed defence structure obsolete (and) made it more difficult for modern generations to understand why such places as North Fort were built and why it is important that we keep them as part of our heritage. They are important for more than just their architectural interest. They remain the physical manifestation of an approach to national defence that was dominant in Australia for more than one hundred years.'

Cutler Display

The events of 23rd February 2005 were outstanding. The unveiling of the Sir Roden Cutler Display by Her Excellency the Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir was a signal occasion. A large contingent of the late Sir Roden's family was present, as were representatives of his former Regiment, 2/5th Field Regiment RAA, and other organisations with which Sir Roden was associated. A highlight was the presentation of copies of 'The Fragile Forts' and Brigadier Ken Fulford's 'We Stood and Waited' to the Governor and Major General Wilson by the School Captains of Manly Village Public School and Sydney Boys High School respectively, the schools which Sir Roden attended.

The Company is particularly grateful for the very strong support of Lady Joan Cutler and members of the Cutler family in the creation of this auspicious display. It has become a highlight of guided tours; and when seen in concert with the John Carr Ewen display, adds greatly to the personal history component of the Museum. The display was prepared and mounted by Kevin Browning, Graeme Hall, Bill Knight and John Saltwell with expert assistance from Peter Oppenheim and several external artisans. Major General John Stevenson kindly lent his Mameluke sword; while Sir Roden's ceremonial belt and sword knot are on loan from the Australian War Memorial. I also acknowledge the financial and administrative assistance given by AHU in mounting the day's activities.

A framed poem written by M.M. English of Manly when Sir Roden arrived home was presented to the Museum by David Cutler just prior to the unveiling and will be added to the Display.

Memorial Walk

This very impressive part of the fabric of North Fort continues to attract support from a wide cross section of the community. Paving and edging is complete as is the construction of a sandstone clad block at the entrance. Cladding and the laying of a Rising Sun badge appropriate to each period has been completed on the Colonial and WW1 monuments. At 30th June 2005, 29 large pavers had been laid together with 1554 engraved pavers; over 470 funded in this financial year. The reaction to the solitude and ambience of the Walk by visitors has been rewarding as has been the number of paver donors visiting the Walk. We appreciate the work undertaken by Alan Lark and Terry Waters on the Walk. The Company remains alert for the support of potential sponsors and others for additional funding to complete the Walk.

Major pavers laid this year were provided by the following:

- 2nd/1st Survey Regiment;
- 18th Field Regiment Association;
- 1st Survey Regiment;
- 35th Infantry Battalion (Newcastle);
- National Servicemen's Association; and
- Locating Artillery Association.

Air OP Display

The Air OP Display being developed by former Air OP pilot Lieutenant Colonel Dick Knight is close to completion. A large number of photographs have been collected and are being reviewed. We hope the display will be mounted by the end of 2005.

Corps of Guides

The Corps of Guides continues to be the mainstay of public Museum operations. The Corps' strength has been maintained at about last year's level, losses being replaced at about par. The additional demands of monthly tours with the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust have been met satisfactorily. The red and blue tabards and white hats provided by the Company have given members of the Corps a more uniform look.

Attracting Visitors

The number of visitors has levelled this year when compared to earlier years. Several attempts to attract large numbers by mounting specific events were frustrated; one event (Jazz Festival) by bad weather. Others were limited by a Defence embargo on use of the site while a very large activity that could attract several hundreds of visitors over a four week period was deferred to ensure that all appropriate OH&S and commercial requirements were met. The Manly Explorer exercise did not succeed due to low external patronage. Publicity in local media continued and the number of school groups continues to grow. A random survey of visitors demonstrated that presentation of the Museum by guides was consistently 'excellent'. The challenge remains to get more visitors to come to North Fort.

Volunteers

The role played by Volunteers in ALL areas is essential to the continuing success of the Museum. The amount and nature of work done by our willing volunteers continues to increase viz. For the period January to September 2003, 5104 recorded voluntary hours were provided. This averaged at about 567 hours per month. For the financial year July 2003 to June 2004, 8302 voluntary hours were recorded, averaging at 692 hours per month. This year the volunteer effort amounted to 9471 hours, averaging 789 hours per month, many of which were spent as guides, but also in the ARMCO where the refurbishment of several guns and the 90cm searchlight occurred, and in the library where a small number attend to an increasing number of enquiries. Several are involved in the refurbishment of a 25pr gun given to Manly Council, while the 18th LAA Regiment and Locating Associations lend their weight freely. Without the singular or combined efforts of all of our volunteers, North Fort would not function effectively. Members are asked to consider joining the volunteers. Like the Engineers, 'there are never enough!'

Board

The Board met on 12 occasions. By invitation, the Business Manager attends most Board meetings, while the Museum Manager has a standing invitation to attend.

Board attendance is shown below:

Name	Meetings	Attended	Comment
Brian Armour	6	6	Resigned December 2004
Kevin Browning	12	11	Leave of absence (overseas)
Michael Crawford	12	10	
Kel Crozier	4	1	Resigned November 2004
Robert Dick	3	2	Filled casual vacancy April 2005
Cliff Dodds	12	10	Leave of absence (overseas)
Gary Down	3	0	Resigned October 2004
Nick Durrant	12	8	Leave granted
Graeme Hall	12	11	
Richard Hogge	12	9	Leave granted
Arthur Kennedy	12	10	
John Macpherson	12	10	Leave of absence (illness)
Craig Taggart	3	3	Filled casual vacancy April 2005
Note: Major Arnaud Ng attended 2 meetings as an observer vice Major Gary Down			

I again express my appreciation to Board members for their involvement and support, and their performance of duties that at times goes well beyond the norms of corporate governance. In particular, I thank Cliff Dodds as Chief Tour Guide, Nick Durrant for the very good job done in the marketing and publicity and Mick Crawford for his part in drafting the plaques yet to mounted on the remaining monuments on the Memorial Walk. Brian Armour and Kel Crozier resigned from the Board in November

and December respectively while the Board welcomed new members Robert Dick and Craig Taggart, both having appropriate service and commercial experience. Major Arnuad Ng replaced Gary Down as the nominee of the Commander Land Command Artillery. I wish to acknowledge the work done by Brian Armour and latterly Richard Hogge for their work as Company Secretary and Graeme Hall for his work as Treasurer. Brian Armour's work in updating some of the Company's corporate governance and administrative procedures is particularly appreciated.

And on behalf of the Company I record our sincere congratulations to Arthur Kennedy on his being awarded a Medal in the Order of Australia. This award recognised his lengthy and outstanding service to Museum since its formation in the Manly Training Depot 24 years ago.

Following the retirement of Dennis Sherris, the position of Commercial Business Manager was assumed by David Leyshon. I record here the Company's appreciation to both for the manner in which they undertook their many and varied tasks. David has been instrumental in introducing new 'not-for-profit' computer software which will vastly improve the Company's membership data base and communication with members.

The Company continues to have the benefit of honorary legal advice through the good offices of Colin Dunston, while Jeff Madden and John Elliott retain their appointment as Honorary Consultants to the Company in the fields of Architecture and Engineering respectively.

Cannonball

Our quarterly journal continues under the new editorship of Alan Smith who took over from Kevin Browning in mid year. Cannonball remains at the forefront of Gunner journals in Australia.

Publicity and Marketing

The levelling out of visitor numbers was disappointing given the attention to publicity by Nick Durrant in this vital important field. A new visitor assessment form will be introduced later in the year to better judge our marketing endeavours. Self guiding has been restricted due to gun park floors being concreted and rearrangement of major equipments. This should be remedied by October 2005. In April 2005, we obtained free publicity as part of the National Trust of NSW Heritage Week. You will have also noted a second new sign just inside the Parkhill Driveway entrance.

Acquisitions

On 23rd October 2004, the Museum received a WWI Artillery Banner from the Gunner Signallers Club in Brisbane; a group of former 1950s National Servicemen who had been looking after the Banner for many years. 15 of their number travelled to North Fort for the presentation which took place after the 2004 AGM.

On 23rd February 2005, at the close of the launch of Peter Oppenheim's book, Major General John Whitelaw presented to the Company a framed display of the ribbons of medals and decorations which he and members of the Whitelaw family had received. This adds to the significant number of gifts and loans that General Whitelaw has placed in the care of the Museum.

North Fort Café

The Cafe remains the most scenic place for coffee on the Harbour. Under Kerry Read's management it is a critical part of the North Fort's operations. We need more volunteers to help in the Cafe, but the Company continues to value the work done by Kerry and her team.

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

The rapport developed between the Company and the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust continues through the conduct of tours on a monthly basis. The future development of facilities and the creation of the North Head Sanctuary remains a key interest of the Board.

The Future

North Fort remains a site that is unequalled in its relevance and importance to Australian artillery heritage. The continued operation of the National Artillery Museum at North Head must be an imperative in the minds of all gunners.

Finally, I acknowledge the work undertaken by the staff of the Museum, in particular the efforts made in improving the infrastructure within the Museum and their assistance in several Company activities. The Board recognised the retirement on 30th June 2005 of Museum Director Major Mike Laurence by presenting him with a Certificate of Appreciation.

In conclusion, I thank all who give so much of their time and effort to running North Fort - Home of The National Artillery Museum.

23 Field Regiment Association

Provided by Graham Williams President

I had the honour of being elected President of the Association at the last annual general meeting and have a very big act to follow after Barry's nineteen years, well done Barry. I would like to congratulate the new committee who were elected and all the members of the outgoing committee for their good work.

I also congratulate Lieutenant Colonel Schon Condon as the new Commanding Officer of 23 Field Regiment, and wish the retiring Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Dominic Teakle all the best for the future. On the 23rd July 2005, seven members of the Association Committee were invited to the Regimental Birthday Dining-In night and a great night was had by all.

The year 2005 saw the Association marching at the Anzac Day march with approximately eighty members present, together with some of the 233 Regional Cadet Unit St George and members of the 23 Field Regiment. This year was exceptionally good, marching as the Artillery Corp combination. Some members stayed in town whilst the remainder went back to Kingsgrove RSL to talk and laugh the afternoon away.

The trip to Canberra for the Canberra Reserve Forces Day march was again a success, thanks to Pat O'Dea for his organisation. The bus trip was again amusing with the many tales told and much laughter from start to finish. After the march was over, it was off to the Canberra Club for the Reserve Forces Day celebrations. We met many members of the RAAF Reserve, drank sufficient fluids and ate lots of food. We bussed back to the motel changed into more comfortable cloths and then visited the Traders Club.

The Sunday morning saw us back at the War Memorial for the now annual wreath lying at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Barry Willoughby laid the wreath on behalf of the Association and the whole of the ceremony was very dignified and moving. This is to be now an annual event with the War Memorial. The bus trip home was a much more sedate trip with everyone having a great time.

On Sunday 3rd July 2005 saw the Association again formed up and ready to march in the Sydney Reserve Forces Day march. Unfortunately, there was only about thirty members fronted, which was disappointing. The day was great, just to see the Coo-ees marching through the ranks of the Reserve soldiers.

This year we must join forces to maintain the maintenance days at the Depot, on the historical guns. There is not much we can do if only a couple of people turn up each time. Please allow yourself a little time to assist us in bringing these guns back to a state of preservation.

Immediate Past President Message

Provided by Barry Willoughby

It is my pleasure that I write to you as the immediate past President and reminisce on the past twenty-three years of the Association's existence. It was on the 21st July 1982 that the inaugural meeting was held at Belmore Training Depot to form the 23 Field Regiment RAA Association.

Prior to this, 11th Field Battery (Flintstones Battery) had held a number of yearly reunions at the Revesby Workers Club, and at times just about every member of the Battery attended the functions. It was decided to up the ante and include Headquarters and 10th Field Batteries to provide a stronger camaraderie amongst the regiment. This was the first inkling or embryo of the birth of our Association.

Eleven people with six apologies attended the first meeting at Belmore on the 21st July 1982, just to formalise a constitution. Just two amendments were added to the draft constitution with the resolution of a General Meeting to be held on the 8th September 1982. A large number of the Regiment attended with

the constitution accepted and the Association formally announced. A committee was formed under Major Stewart Staziker and I was elected as the Assistant Secretary.

We held yearly reunions at the Belmore, Ingleburn and Belfield RSL's, Belmore and Kogarah Depots, with the numbers averaging around one hundred each function. These functions were really something with the occasional special guest to speak on military matters. Our most memorable reunion was the 'Back to Belmore' on Saturday 29th July 1995, where the Regimental Sergeant Major, Warrant Officer Class One Alan Renwick together with (Sergeant) Bob Lloyd presented the Kamikaze plane propeller blade back to the HMAS Australia Veterans Association.

The Association has grown in strength, with the help of a number of people over the years, with special thanks to Keith Ollerenshaw whom always made sure the Association had enough money in the bank to pay our bills and had more for a rainy day. For a number of years, my wife Pat and I together with Keith actually ran the Association. We started the 'Newsletters' about 1993/1994 and were actually typed, printed, folded etc placed in envelopes, stamped and posted all from home. Today we have the luxury of email, fax and postage.

The Association started to march in the Anzac Day march behind our own Banner, which certainly makes one proud on this particular day. Since 1998, the Association also participates in the Reserve Forces Day march, which also gives one goose bumps marching in the streets of Sydney. Our trips to Canberra, for the Canberra based Reserve Forces Day march and War Memorial wreath laying ceremony is now part of our yearly itinerary.

Since 1982, I have served the Association in every executive position and committee since its inception, and have ensured the Association has stood firm and functional. This year I have stood down from the Presidency and handed the reins over to Graham Williams for personal reasons.

Both Graham and I are now working at Kogarah depot during weekdays to restore the historical guns. I hope we can maintain this momentum to enable the other members of the Association to continue on the maintenance days.

We have already started dialogue with 2/3rd Anti Tank Regiment to affiliate both Associations' name and enable us to carry on their name in the future. We are also gearing up to organise the de-dedication of the 2/3rd plaque at Warwick Farm and re-dedicate it at Kogarah depot, with the help of the Regiment sometime in November.

After 19 years out of 23 years as your President, I promise you I will be continuing to help and assist Graham, the Committee and Wally Reed with the Unit History. It was my intention that we have the history ready for publication approximately September 2007, during our 25th Anniversary celebrations.

May I please say thank you to all the Committees who have worked with me over the years, and also to the members of the Association who have shown confidence in me to allow me to preside over your Association. I wish Graham and the in-coming committee all the best for 2005/2006 and may the Association prosper.

Ubique

Locating Artillery Association

*Extracted from LOCREP June 2005
Newsletter of the Locating Artillery Association*

Presidents Message

I (Allan Harrison) have had news from the Commanding Officer elect of 20th Surveillance and Target Acquisition Regiment (Lieutenant Colonel Phil Swinsburg) informing the Association of the official formation of the new Regiment.

Similarly I have had an from Danny McGinley (Battery Sergeant Major 131 STA Bty and acting Captain McGinley, Officer Commanding Detachment 131 STA Bty in Iraq) indicating the 131 Boys have settled in well.

I recently attended the second Hunter Valley Locators Re-union at the Maitland Ex-Services Bowling Club. A top day well organised by Kev Maker and Wheels Campbell.

The last museum working bee was a mammoth effort and saw the Air Defence and Locating Displays prior to concreting operations. During the day we were able to take a moment to visit the Memorial Walkway and inspect the Association Paver which is now in place, surrounded by individual Locators' pavers. It is a magnificent piece, well worth the wait. Lots of complimentary comments about the paver, which does look very good.

History of Locating

The book 'Tracks of the Dragon - A History of Locating Artillery in Australia' is now readily available. A copy of the order form is available on the Association website at www.locatingartillery.org or contact Keith Ayliffe 07 5443 7102 or John Posener 02 9982 4471 who will take your order.

Association Trophy

The Association Committee had been giving consideration to donating a trophy to 131 Bty to recognise a particular achievement by a soldier. In the light of the emergence of 20th STA Regiment, we feel, as does Lieutenant Colonel Swinsburg, that this would be best left until the Regiment get son its feet. We will nevertheless get on with the job of determining the style of the trophy, its title and the nature of the achievement which it will recognise.

ANZAC Day 2005 - Sydney

The Sydney ANZAC Day march attracted our biggest rollup of Locators in recent times with seven ranks, ten abreast, seventy all up. Last years ill-conceived attempt to mass Corps Banners ahead of massed marchers was abandoned this year and we marched proudly behind the Association and Detachment 131 South Vietnam Banners. By all accounts we got good coverage at one stage during the March. The Gunner contingent was led by former Locator Major General Tim Ford who visited the assembled Locators before the March. Post-march waterholes were well attended, the Gunners taking over the Sporters Bar at the Menzies.

ANZAC Day 2005 - Brisbane

Several ex-131 members joined the Battery for a Dawn Service at Enoggera Barracks and our thanks to the Battery Commander and Battery Sergeant Major for making us welcome. A moving ceremony was accompanied by one of the large bands playing oin another Regimental area. After the service the excellent turnout of members and their families retired to the Menz Club for breakfast.

Before the March over 20 former members congregated in George Street before some departed to march with other units they also served with. Twelve veterans and two sons of veterans, including Ken Boaler and David Bremner who carried the banner, marched behind the Artillery Association and for the first time the locators lead the Artillery units (we are usually down the tail behind 108 Battery). We received

good live coverage ABC TV and after the march retired to the Theodore Club only a block from the dispersal area to sample a few cold ones and watch the rest of the March on TV while catching up with a few other former members.

On returning the banner to the Battery at Enoggera, son Ken and I (Ron Boaler) were hosted by some Battery members soon to depart for Iraq and I thank them for their hospitality. Among those attending on the day were Blair Sheppard, Pete Bremner, TC White. Pete Revelje and Dave Dodds.

National Museum

The last working bee saw the clearing of the hanger housing the Air Defence and Locating displays, in preparation for the concreting of the floor and apron. The display items are in temporary storage until the floors cure and are sealed. The displays will then be returned to their present locations until such time as a complete revamp of both hangars is undertaken.

The assembled Air Defence and Locating volunteers were addressed prior to lunch by the Curator (Warrant Officer Class Two Steve Crawford), Manager (Major Mike Laurence) and Consultant (Dr Peter Oppenheim) on the long term plans for the Museum. The plans provide for an historic chronology of Artillery in one hangar, and a series of technical displays in the other. The chronology display will feature Locating equipments as appropriate to each period and the technical display will feature specific Locating items in a dedicated display.

Work on the (Wedderburn) No3 Mk 7 Radar is still on hold pending its examination by Army History Unit evaluators, to assess work safety issues. It is unclear when work will commence on restoration, however, the depiction of the dual use of that set in its Air Defence and Locating roles is under consideration.

Projects such as these require considerable effort by volunteers and we would greatly appreciate the assistance of anyone available to work on Locating projects at the Museum especially mid week. Please contact Joe Kaplun on 02 9774 1473 if you can assist.

RAA Association (SA) Inc

Provided by Major Geoff Laurie (Retd) President

Historical Collection

President reported that Sergeant Nield had earlier expressed concern to the Committee regarding the apparent lack of care by members of 48th Field Battery when removing the Collection from the room as part of the recent major restoration within the building. It seemed that no effort had been made to carefully pack and store the items, or to ensure some sort of record of contents prior to moving the items. Efforts had since been made by the President and Sergeant Nield to address this issue with the Battery Commander, but the concerns were yet to be fully satisfied.

The President again re-iterated that the creation of the Collection had been a joint venture between 48th Field Battery (Major Scott James was BC at the time) and the Association, and, although the Committee recognized that the Battery could do what it chose with the Depot, involvement of the Association in regard to the Collection was necessary. The Committee also recognized that the change over of key personnel in the Battery made it difficult, but nevertheless essential to maintain the frequent liaison between the Battery and the Association. He would seek out the new Battery Commander (when known) and establish better communications with the view of resolving this issue.

Lieutenant Colonel Brook added his concern in regard to the ownership of items in the collection, and suggested that if no progress was made to resolve the above issue, that the Committee consider transferring the Collection to the Army Museum next door. The President agreed to keep this suggestion in mind.

Warrant Officer Class Two Korsten suggested that, in order to give some weight to our position, consideration be given to the creation of the position of Curator for the Collection. The President noted the suggestion, but advised that the Army Museum Unit had very clear parameters in relation to such positions, and any process by the Association to create such a position would need to comply with those parameters. Nevertheless the Committee would consider the idea if it appeared to add value to our position.

Captain Newman commented that the Association needs to identify and record the ownership of the items in the Collection - the President replied that this is precisely what Sergeant Nield had been attempting to achieve, and he would pursue that further on his return from traveling around Australia (his return was expected any day).

Warrant Officer Class Two Millard enquired in regard to the Unit Peace Diary - the President replied that the Battery was maintaining it, but Sergeant Tanzer felt that no action had been taken for some time to keep it up to date. The President would follow this up with the new Battery Commander.

Use of Email

The President reminded all present of the Association's e-mail address (gunnersa@chariot.net.au); he also advised that he had just retired from the SA Public Service and therefore all future electronic mail would be from this address. The Colonel Commandant advised that efforts were being made to establish a record of all Associations' e-mail addresses on the School of Artillery's website in order to facilitate better communication.

The President mentioned that he often received e-mail from other Artillery associations, including their regular newsletter. In future he would assess the volume and complexity of information (in terms of the amount of IT storage space required during transmission) and make every effort to forward the information to members.

Life Membership

The Treasurer, Major Rex Jones, was nominated and duly elected as a Life Member in recognition of his consistently sound performance over several years as Treasurer. On behalf of all members present the President extended sincere congratulations to Major Jones.

Future of the Association

The President outlined the Committee's consideration of the Association's future, and suggested that as matters stand at present, it is possible that within ten years it will not be feasible for the Association to continue. It was agreed that most associations were experiencing similar loss of interest by people who were eligible to be members, in our case, the younger serving members of RAA units. He mentioned that the Committee had decided to take a planned approach to reducing the Association funds over the next decade, essentially by subsidizing member's attendance at the key functions, especially the Gunner Dinner.

The President stated that, irrespective of what happened to the Association, he would endeavor to arrange a 'Gunner Dinner' each year for as long as he was able to do so.

Lieutenant Colonel Landherr suggested that whilst reducing the Association's funds, the Committee still consider allocating some funds to both 16th Air Defence Regiment and 48th Field Battery - the President confirmed that we were continuing to support both unit's in the form of annual awards, but would assess the allocation of further funds in future years.

18 Light Anti Aircraft Regiment Association

Provided by Major Bevan Lennie, RFD, ED (Retd) President

18 Light Anti Aircraft Regiment Association is moving from strength to strength, thanks to the hard work of our Secretary, Alan Lark, also Ray Samuel who has been some three years researching and writing the Regimental history, which form a most important part of the history of the Royal Regiment.

18 Light Anti Aircraft Regiment was formed in 1951 to provide ongoing training for those called up for National Service and moved from the training hall in Montgomery Street Kogarah, to the depot established in Beech Bakery Chandler Street Kogarah in 1952.

Ray asked me when he commenced the project, how many men I thought had been trained from the establishment of the Regiment in 1951 until its removal from the Order of Battle in 1974, I said I thought about 4 000, Ray has, through his research, listed the names of over 3 800 people, so my guess was pretty near the mark, though Ray says there may be a few he has been unable to trace.

The book is called 'Take Post' - a History of the 18 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Australian Artillery 1952-1974. The cost is \$39.00, it has 204 pages with 60 black & white photographs & 28 coloured photographs. An order form for those wishing to order a copy or copies of the book is included in this Liaison Letter (see page 137).

A number of members of the Regimental Association are working at the National Artillery Museum at North Fort, Sydney, performing maintenance and repair work on 40 mm guns and other museum equipment, Dahl Arndell, Graeme Hall, Alan Lark, Laurie Manning, Malcom Rankin, Don Sutherland and until recently George Laudenback who unfortunately suffered a stroke late last year, have been going to North Fort one or two days per week for some two years and have greatly assisted the Museum to upgrade and enhance its weapons displays and equipment repairs.

The National Artillery Museum is indeed fortunate to have these men, together with Field Gunners and Locators all volunteers and all working hard to maintain the excellence of the displays, many also act as tour guides when the Museum is open to the public.

Alan Lark has also for some time taken over responsibility for the Memorial Walkway, developed at North Fort, where Memorial Pavers have been laid to represent past and present members of the Services and past and present Service Units.

18 Light Anti Aircraft Regiment has laid a Regimental Paver and many members have laid Individual Pavers adjacent to it, a fitting tribute to both the Regiment and those who served in it and a Permanent feature of the National Artillery Museum which continues to attract ever increasing numbers of visitors.

Also enclosed in this Liaison Letter is an Application for Membership of this Association, which charges no fees, relying on member donations to fund its activities.

Our Association Parades our Regimental Banner in the Sydney Parades on ANZAC Day, Reserve Forces Day, at the Gunner Dinner and on Saint Barbara's Day, where our members attend in large numbers to support these activities.

To assist in our fund raising the Association actively markets various items and an order form is included in this Liaison Letter affording those interested to obtain high quality products for their collections (see page 138).

A Field Battery Association (Inc)

Provided by Ron (Tex) Bassan President

On Saturday 10th September the Annual General Meeting of A Field Battery Association Inc., was held at the Maroochy River Coach House, Maroochydore, Queensland, and at this meeting it was put to the members that we form one Association to cover all of Australia. The motion was carried unanimously. It was also moved and carried at this meeting that we increase the Committee by one vice president and two ordinary committee members. The new Committee of A Field Battery Association Inc is outlined below.

At this meeting we had John Smith and Rex Martin representing the New South Wales Branch and ten of their members. The Battery Commander Major David Kelly and the Battery Guide Warrant Officer Class Two David Nutini were also in attendance. John read his final President's report, which is to be published in the national newsletter. After the annual general meeting, a general meeting was convened to formalise the Association.

At this general meeting it was moved that we have one Association to represent the whole of Australia and as it is already incorporated in Queensland, it is to be called 'A Field Battery Inc'. The only restrictions are that the secretary must reside in Queensland or live within 50 kilometres of the border and that accounts must be kept in Queensland. All other committee positions can be anywhere in Australia. This motion was carried.

It was also moved by Rex Martin that the newsletter be renamed 'A Field Battery National Newsletter' incorporating 'Sheldrake and the Roadrunner'. This motion was seconded and carried.

At the annual general meeting it was passed that annual fees be increased to \$15.00, also there is an offer to all members of life membership for \$100.00.

I believe that the decisions taken at these meetings held on the 10th September are a giant leap forward for the Association and I hope that everyone will embrace these decisions in the spirit that they are intended to move A Field Battery Association Inc, forward into the future.

18 Light Anti Aircraft Regiment Association

P O Box 536, GYMEA, NSW 2227

Phone/Fax (02) 9524 5524

'TAKE POST' HISTORY OF 18 LIGHT ANTI AIRCRAFT REGIMENT ORDER FORM

When ordering please calculate postage per book
@QLD/TAS \$11.00, NSW/ACT \$8.00, VIC/SA \$10.00, WA/NT \$12.00
and add the appropriate postage to your payment.

I wish to purchase _____ copies of 'Take Post' @\$39.00 each, plus postage of \$_____ per copy.

I wish to pay in full now, for _____ (copies) @\$39.00 each, plus postage of \$_____ per copy.

OR

I wish to purchase _____ copies of 'Take Post' @\$39.00 each

I wish to pay a DEPOSIT now of \$15.00 per copy, with the balance payable when publication is available.

DEPOSIT ONLY: Quantity _____ @\$15.00 each = \$ _____

BALANCE DUE: Quantity _____ @\$24.00 each = \$ _____

Plus postage of \$ _____ per copy TOTAL DUE \$ _____

Enclosed is my cheque/money order for the amount of \$ _____

All payments are to be made in favour of 18 LAA Regt Association and forwarded to:
18 LAA Regt Association, P O Box 536, Gymea, NSW, 2227.

OR

I commit to purchase _____ copies of 'Take Post' when available @\$39.00 each plus postage of \$ _____.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR COMMITMENT UNDERTAKING TO THE ASSOCIATION.

Name: _____ (Please Print)

Address: _____ (Please Print)

_____ P/Code: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Contact Phone No: _____

18 Light Anti Aircraft Regiment Association

P O Box 536, GYMEA, NSW 2227
Phone/Fax (02) 9524 5524

MEMORABILIA ORDER FORM

RAA Caps: \$20.00 each plus \$5.00 postage per cap Qty _____
(Blue material, embroidered with gun and crown in gold and red)

RAA Pockets: \$20.00 each plus \$3.00 postage per item Qty _____
(Blue material, embroidered with gun and crown in gold and red)

Display Weapons: Five items each @ \$375.00 each plus \$25.00 postage, registration and insurance per item:

- 303 Rifle Qty _____
- M 16 Qty _____
- SLR Qty _____
- AK 47 Qty _____
- OWEN GUN Qty _____

Note: All items are half profiles, totally life like, professionally manufactured in full detail and attractively mounted for wall hanging.

ALSO

40 MM Bofors shell cases, AP @ \$45.00 each, HE @ \$55.00 each, plus \$25.00 postage, registration and insurance per item.

Enclosed is my cheque/money order for the amount of \$_____.

All payments to be made in favour of 18 LAA Regt Association and forwarded to: 18 LAA Regt Association, P O Box 536, Gynea NSW 2227

Name: _____ (Please Print)

Address: _____ (Please Print)

_____ **P/Code:** _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Contact Phone No: _____

TASMANIAN COLONIAL ARTILLERY



1803 - 1903

A Chronological Diary of the Formation and Development of the Tasmanian Volunteer and Permanent Artillery from 1803 to 1903

(124 Pages, 70 Photographs, sketches and maps)

ISBN 0-646-43765-8

Douglas Morris Wyatt, RFD

Complete the order form below, include cheque or money order and mail to:

**D. M. Wyatt,
9 Morris Ave.,
TAROONA 7053**

Please send me the following copies of *'Tasmanian Colonial Artillery, 1803-1903'* as detailed below:

- ____ copies of a self starting CD which includes the text in pdf format as well as MS PowerPoint Slide Presentation at \$15 each. = \$
- ____ copies of a bound copy, printed in black & white at \$24 each. = \$
- Plus \$5 pack & post (per single copy). = \$

TOTAL \$

Your Postal Address:

Name:

Street or PO Box:

Town:Post Code:

Telephone Contact Number:



Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery REGIMENTAL SHOP

NEW STOCK just arrived including the latest field equipment
from Platypus Tactical

Check out all the latest deals on the SOARTY web page

- **Field Equipment**

- * Lite Weight Sleeping Bags
- * Surefire Torch Systems
- * Customised Field Packs, Day Packs and Webbing
- * Bivvy Bags
- * Nomex Field Gloves (DPCU)
- * Leatherman Knives
- * Silva Compasses

- **Plaques and Presentational Items**

- * RAA Regimental
- * School of Artillery
- * RAA Cyphers
- * Prints and Artwork
- * Statuettes and Action Figures
- * Desk Sets

- **Things to Wear**

- * Jewelry (Including Cuff Links, Tie Pins, Lapel Pins)
- * Polofleece Casual Jackets (with RAA Regiment embroidered badge)
- * Regimental Ties

- **Models** - L119 and M198 resin kits and assembled kits available

For Information and Orders:

SGT Andrew Sackley - School of Artillery, Bridges Barracks - Andrew.Sackley@defence.gov.au

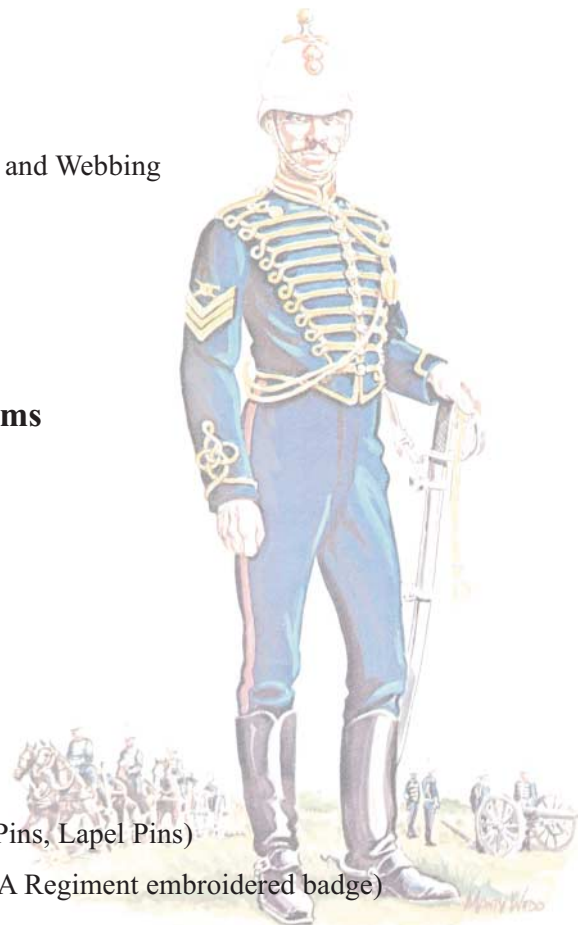
SGT Michael Heinrick - School of Artillery, Bridges Barracks Michael.Heinrick@defence.gov.au

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SCHOOL OF ARTILLERY

Puckapunyal - Victoria - Australia



SERGEANT, VICTORIAN HORSE ARTILLERY 1890

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION (NSW) INC.

The Royal Australian Artillery Association (NSW) Inc. needs your support. The association undertakes a number of activities 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:

- ◆ be the peak Gunner organisation in NSW;
- ◆ foster esprit-de-corps, Gunner traditions and comradeship amongst all Gunner ranks;
- ◆ communicate with the Gunner fraternity; and
- ◆ 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 page 142.

A Field Battery Association Inc.

Application for Membership/Renewal of Membership

I _____ (full name)		Nick Name
of _____ (street name and no.)		Town/City
State	P/Code	State Periods in A Bty
Telephone		Email
Annual Membership Fee \$15.00 Life Membership \$100.00		Associate Member? YES / NO
I hereby submit application for membership of the A Field Battery Association Inc. and agree to abide by the rules laid down in the constitution. Send application form and payment to Treasurer c/- 4/17 Duet Street, Mermaid Waters Qld 4218		
Signature		Date

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.

18 Light Anti Aircraft Regiment Association

The Honorary Secretary
18 LAA Regiment Association
P O Box 536
GyMEA NSW 2227

Date:

Application for Membership

Surname:

Given Names:

Service Rank:

Decorations:

Permanent Address For All Correspondence:

Email Address:

Details of your service with
the Regiment:

Date of Birth:

Date of Enlistment:

Period of Service:

Applicant's Signature:

Date:

There Are No Membership Fees

Committee Use Only

Membership accepted:

Date:

Particulars registered:

Date:

Member Advised:

Date:



LOCATING ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

Application For Membership

I hereby apply to become a member of the Locating Artillery Association and agree to abide by the rules of the Association in force from time to time.

Surname			
Given Names			
Address			
		State	Postcode
Telephone		Mobile	
Email			
Signature			
Joining Fee – \$5.00		Annual Membership – \$10.00 Total on Joining – \$15.00	
Please make cheques payable to ‘Locating Artillery Association’ and post to: Locating Artillery Association PO Box 1042 Manly NSW 1655			
Brief outline of Service (voluntary information)			
Year enlisted:		Year discharged:	
Rank Attained:		Unit(s):	

Royal Australian Artillery Association (ACT)

- Application:** Please accept me as a yearly/life subscriber to the RAA Association of the ACT.
- Renewal:** Please renew my yearly membership of the association from 1st April 2005 to 31 March 2006.
- I enclose cheque/cash/money order for \$ _____
(\$15 Annual/\$25 Bi-annual/\$125 Life Membership).
-

My current details are (for new members or renewing members with changes):

Name: _____

Surname: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Postcode: _____

Tel (H): _____ Fax: _____

Tel (W): _____ Email: _____

What is your preferred method of communication? (Please tick one)

Telephone Fax Email Mail

Please return membership application forms to the Association Secretary:

Major Matt Taylor

R1-3-A045

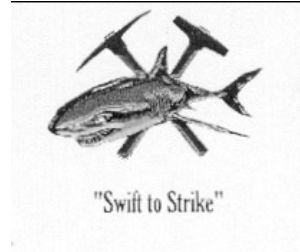
Russell Offices

CANBERRA ACT 2600

Tel (02) 6265 4820

Email: mathew.taylor@defence.gov.au

105TH FIELD BATTERY ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION INC.			
<input type="checkbox"/> APPLICATION: Please accept me as a yearly/life subscriber to the association or <input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL: Please renew my yearly membership of the association from 1 January to 31 December.			
<input type="checkbox"/> 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:
Send to Treasurer 105th Field Battery Association C/- R28 Endeavour Caravan Park, Deception Bay, QLD 4508.			



41 BATTERY, 11 FIELD REGIMENT RAA ASSOCIATION INC.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP (Please Print)

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ **P/Code:** _____

Postal Address (if different): _____

_____ **P/Code:** _____

Telephone: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

(Signature of Applicant)

(Date)

Membership Fees

Annual \$15.00 Life Subscription: \$150.00

(Please make cheques payable to '41 Battery Association'
and send to address shown below.)



ABN: 31 863 855 040

C/- 25 Manakin Ave,
Burleigh Waters Qld 4220.

Telephone: (07) 5535 1211





**APPLICATION FOR ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP
of the
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY HISTORICAL
COMPANY (RAAHC)**

The Company Secretary (Registrar)
RAAHC
PO Box 1042
Manly NSW 1655

phone 02 9976 6102
Fax 02 9977 2607
e-mail northfort@bigpond.com

I apply to become an Ordinary (Active) member of the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company (RAAHC) and agree, subject to my admission, to abide by the Company's Constitution and its By-Laws.

Rank/Title.....Surname.....

Given Names.....

Post nominals/decorations/qualifications.....

Address for mailing and contact details:

No & Street.....

Suburb.....StateP/ Code.....

Phone ()..... Fax ().....

e-mail.....

I enclose my cheque (Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company) /cash for \$25 (Annual Membership Fee)

.....

(Signature)

(Date)

CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE RAAHC

- * *Four issues of Cannonball per annum*
- * *Free access to the RAA National Museum at North Fort, and most of the other museums in the Army Museum Network*
- * *Free use of the RAA National Museum Library*
- * *10% discount on books and merchandise purchased from the North Fort Café*
- * *Associate membership of the North Fort Mess*

To offer your services as a North Fort Volunteer please complete the additional information on the next page.....

OFFER TO SERVE AS A NORTH FORT VOLUNTEER

- I wish to offer my services to the Company as a Volunteer.
- I agree to conform to any instructions issued by Defence and notified to me by officers of the Company.

Next of Kin (required for use only in case of an emergency).

Full name..... Relationship.....

No & Street.....

Suburb..... State P/Code.....

Preferred phone number in an emergency ().....

Alternative emergency contact.....

Interests and capabilities

.....
.....
.....

Please indicate (tick) those areas in which you can be of assistance; or list below any other areas of expertise that might be useful to the Museum.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accessioning | <input type="checkbox"/> Administration (Office) | <input type="checkbox"/> Computers, IT (website) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Displays & models | <input type="checkbox"/> Editorial Cannonball | <input type="checkbox"/> Editorial newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Lecturing and Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Library administration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library research & cataloguing | <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance and repairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing and Promotion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medals and Uniforms | <input type="checkbox"/> North Fort Cafe | <input type="checkbox"/> Project Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publications | <input type="checkbox"/> Sound & AV | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tour Guide (training required) | <input type="checkbox"/> Workshops and refurbishment | |

Other areas of expertise

.....
.....
.....

Please note that any personal information provided in this application and offer will not be used for purposes other than those applicable to the proper functioning of the Company in its support for the RAA National Museum.

Approved by the Board of Directors on : (Date)

Office Use Only

Receipt No: Amount:

Entered Membership Roll: (August 2005)

North Fort



THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY HISTORICAL COMPANY

Invites YOU to be part of our "Memorial Walk"

at

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 men & women of the Armed Forces of Australia & her allies, & people who served in the Civilian Services & Volunteer organisations from Australia's Colonial past through to the present.



All proceeds go towards completing the Memorial Walk & Memorials and restoring our National Heritage listed site for the education of present and future generations. The Five Memorials will be dedicated to the Colonial Wars, WWI, WWII, Post 1945 Conflicts & Peace Keeping Operations.

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 organisation logo will be engraved onto a centre piece paver measuring 460mm x 460mm.

Phone (02) 9976 6102 for further information regarding major sponsorship package.



~ 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.

PAVER NO. 1
Line 1: 14 characters maximum

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

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Line 2: 14 characters maximum

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Line 3: 14 characters Maximum

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PAVER NO. 2
Line 1: 14 characters maximum

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Line 2: 14 characters maximum

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Line 3: 14 characters Maximum

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PAVER NO. 3
Line 1: 14 characters maximum

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Line 2: 14 characters maximum

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Line 3: 14 characters Maximum

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

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

Ranks Lieutenant General Major General Brigadier Colonel Lieutenant Colonel Major Squadron Leader Lieutenant Commander Captain Lieutenant Second Lieutenant	ABBR LT GEN MAJ GEN BRIG COL LT COL MAJ SQNDR LTCDR CAPT LT 2 LT	Ranks Warrant Officer First Class Warrant Officer Second Class Staff Sergeant Sergeant Bombardier Corporal Lance Corporal Lance Bombardier Gunner Private Trooper	ABBR WO1 WO2 SSGT SGT BDR CPL LCPL LBDR GNR PTE TPR	Organisations/Other Headquarters Division Brigade Regiment Battalion Battery Company Association Squadron Flight	ABBR HQ DIV BDE REGT BN BTY COY ASSN SQN FLT
---	--	---	---	---	---

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.: Expiry Date:/.....

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

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

North Fort
P.O. Box 1042
Manly NSW 1655

Phone: (02) 9976 6102
Fax: (02) 9977 2607

Thank you for your support

Regimental Publications Index

Liaison Letter

<i>Ser</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1	Director Royal Artillery Technical Liaison Letter 1/48	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
2	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 3 June 1954	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
3	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 18 October 1954	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
4	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 24 November 1954	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
5	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – February 1955	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
6	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 31 May 1955	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
7	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 30 September 1955	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
8	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 20 January 1956	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
9	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 18 June 1956	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
10	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 26 November 1956	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
12	Director Royal Australia Artillery Liaison Letter – 24 February 1957	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
13	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 26 November 1957	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
14	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 30 April 1958	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
15	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 28 November 1958	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
16	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 17 June 1959	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
17	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – January 1960	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
18	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 29 July 1960	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
19	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 17 February 1961	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
20	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – 6 November 1961	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
21	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – July 1962	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
22	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – October 1962	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
23	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – February 1971	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
24	Director Royal Artillery Liaison Letter – September 1972	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library

<i>Ser</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
25	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – February 1973	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
26	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – September 1973	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
27	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – March 1974	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
28	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – September 1974	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
29	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – March 1975	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
30	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – September 1975	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
31	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – March 1976	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
32	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – September 1976	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
33	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – March 1977	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
34	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – September 1977	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
35	Royal Australian Artillery Personnel Notes – October 1977	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
36	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – May 1978	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
37	Royal Australian Artillery Personnel Notes – 1978	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
38	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – 1986 (Issue One)	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
39	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – 1986 (Issue Two) dated 4 November 1986	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
40	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Issue One – 1987 dated 18 June 1987	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
41	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Issue Two – 1987 dated 11 November 1987	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
42	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Edition 1 – 1988 – dated 23 June 1988	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
43	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Edition 2 – 1988 dated 14 November 1988	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
44	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Edition 1 – 1989	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
45	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Edition 2 – 1989	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
46	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Edition 1 – 1990	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
47	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Edition 2 – 1990	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
48	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Edition 1 – 1991	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library

<i>Ser</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
49	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – 1992 – First Edition	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
50	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – 1992 – Second Edition	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
51	Royal Australian Artillery – August 1993 – Liaison Letter	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
52	Royal Australian Artillery – 1996 – Liaison Letter – 1996 – First Edition	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
53	Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – 1996 – Second Edition	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
54	1997 – Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
55	1998–99 RAA Liaison Letter	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
56	RAA Liaison Letter – 2000	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
57	RAA Liaison Letter – 2001	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
58	RAA Liaison Letter – 2002	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
59	RAA Liaison Letter – 2003 – Autumn Edition	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
60	RAA Liaison Letter – Spring Edition – 2003	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
61	The Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Autumn Edition – 2004	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
62	The Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Spring Edition – 2004	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery
63	The Royal Australian Artillery Liaison Letter – Autumn Edition – 2005	Copy held by HOR at School of Artillery

Australian Gunner Magazine

<i>Ser</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1	Australian Gunner – Vol. 1 No. 1	Copy held by SO to HOR
2	Australian Gunner – Vol. 1.No. 2	Copy held by SO to HOR
3	Australian Gunner – Vol. 2 No.1 – September 1979	Copy held by SO to HOR
4	Australian Gunner – March 1980	Copy held by SO to HOR
5	Australian Gunner – December 1980	Copy held by SO to HOR
6	Australian Gunner – May 81	Copy held by SO to HOR
7	Australian Gunner – November 81	Copy held by SO to HOR
8	Australian Gunner – The Official Journal of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery – March 1997	Copy held by SO to HOR

Miscellaneous Regimental Publications

<i>Ser</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1	DARTY Personnel Notes – December 1969	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library
2	Royal Australian Artillery Personnel Notes – 1978	Copy held by Puckapunyal Area Library

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