

HL Fcl Rept 1814

FILE

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TASMANIA

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Mr D. Toplis
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Dear Danny,

My apologies for taking so long to get back to you, however I have only recently obtained your address from Kevin Browning. Some time ago my father, Bob Glyde, the librarian of the RAAHS of Western Australia, contacted me on your behalf in relation to a request from you to use information from my RAA lineage charts that Kevin passed onto the Museum some time ago. I have no objection to that as long as you can let me know what you are using because there are some errors in them, or I have located additional information since to update them.

He also mentioned that you were trying to establish a lineage between 'B' and 'C' Batteries of the former NSW Artillery, and the 25th and 26th Field Batteries of 7th Field Regiment. I have therefore enclosed as much as I know about 7th Field Regiment and its sub-units, past and present, plus a page from some work I am doing on the post-1903 lineage of coast artillery in regard to 113th Field Battery. The best bet in regard to the lineage and details of 113 Bty would be to contact Lt.-Col. Dick Mort (RL) of Newcastle if he is still alive, as all my pre 1903 info on that battery came from him. He was a former BC of that unit.

There is something you may be able to do for me. I am looking for a copy of the DRA Liaison Letter of February 1955 which redesignates regiments of the RAA consecutively from 1-40 regardless of role. The other is information showing the designations of batteries in about June 1966, when the old P, Q, and R etc, was changed to numbered batteries. I am particularly interested in this as P and Q Batteries of 6th Field Regiment were changed to 16th and 112th Batteries. According to former members of this regiment, including its then CO, R Battery, which was not at that stage raised, was to be designated 25th Battery. This designation was used between 1966 and 1970 as a neutral battery designation for regimental camps when it was not possible to take two complete batteries away, the parochialism being so bad down here that members of the northern 16th Bty would not serve with the southern 112th Battery and vice versa (apparently when the fire support base was in vogue, the tallest and thickest barbed wire entanglements were erected between the two batteries). As '25' properly belonged to 7th Field Regiment I am interested to get more information on this.

Regards, and I hope the enclosed is of use to you,

Keith Glyde

Most of the information I have on the field batteries is for pre-1939. The period Feb. 1941 when brigades converted to regiments is pretty confused and you would really have to study the war diaries of each unit to find out exactly how the batteries were reorganized at that point of time.

25th Field Battery RAA

- 24.7.1903 **No. 1 NSW Battery, AFA**, formed by redesignation of 'B' Battery, NSW Field Artillery. GO 169/1903
- 1.7.1911 Redesignated **No. 1 Battery, AFA.** MO 57/1911
- 1.7.1912 Redesignated **1st Battery, Field Artillery.** MO 277/1912
- 1.7.1913 Redesignated **10th Battery, Field Artillery.** MO 126/1913
- 1.7.1914 Redesignated **10th Battery, AFA.** MO 313/1914
- 17.8.1918 Redesignated **20th Battery, AFA.** MO 388/1918
- 31.3.1921 20th Battery, AFA, split to form parts of the following batteries;

 19th Battery, AFA,
 25th Battery, AFA,
 54th Battery, AFA,
 55th Battery, AFA. MO 95/1921
- 31.3.1921 **25th Battery, AFA**, formed as a subunit of VII Brigade AFA from parts of the 13th¹ and 20th Batteries AFA. MO 95/1921
- 1930 Redesignated **25th Field Battery AFA.**
- 1.1.1936 Redesignated **25th Field Battery RAA(M).** AAO 12/1936
- 1.1944 Disbanded as part of a regimental disbandment.

26th Field Battery RAA(M)

- 24.7.1903 **No. 2 NSW Battery, AFA**, formed by redesignation of 'C' Battery, NSW Field Artillery. GO 169/1903
- 1.7.1911 Redesignated **No. 2 Battery, AFA.** MO 57/1911

¹ 13th Battery AFA was raised in 1912 as 18th Battery, Field Artillery, and was redesignated 13th Battery on 1.7.1913. In 1921 it provided personnel to the new 19th, 25th and 53rd Batteries.

1.7.1912	Redesignated 2nd Battery, Field Artillery.	MO 277/1912
1.7.1913	Redesignated 11th Battery, Field Artillery.	MO 126/1913
1.7.1914	Redesignated 11th Battery, AFA.	MO 313/1914
17.8.1918	Redesignated 22nd Battery, AFA.	MO 388/1918
31.3.1921	22nd Battery, AFA, split up to form parts of the following batteries;	
	20th Battery, AFA, 26th Battery, AFA, 54th Battery, AFA.	MO 95/1921
31.3.1921	26th Battery, AFA, formed as a sub-unit of VII Brigade AFA from parts of the 22nd and 14th ² Batteries AFA. MO 95/1921	
1.7.1922	Disbanded	MO 175/1922
1.7.1939	Reformed (?)	
1.1944	Disbanded as part of a regimental disbandment.	

27th Field Battery RAA(M)

1.7.1914	12th Battery, AFA, raised as a new unit.	MO 313/1914
17.8.1918	Redesignated 25th Battery, AFA.	MO 388/1918
31.3.1921	25th Battery, AFA, split up to form parts of the following batteries;	
	21st Battery, AFA, 27th Battery, AFA, 55th Battery, AFA.	MO 95/1921
31.3.1921	27th Battery, AFA, formed as a sub-unit of VII Brigade AFA from personnel of the 25th and 15th ³ Batteries, AFA. MO 95/1921.	
1930	Redesignated 27th Field Battery, AFA.	
1.1.1936	Redesignated 27th Field Battery, RAA(M).	AAO 12/1936
2.1941	Disbanded and reorganized as a troop of 25th Field Battery (?)	
9.1941-3.1942	Reformed as a new battery (?)	

² 14th Battery AFA was originally raised on 1.7.1914. In 1921 it provided personnel to the new 20th, 26th and 54th Batteries.

³ 15th Battery AFA was raised circa mid 1920. In 1921 it provided personnel to the new 21st, 27th and 55th Batteries AFA.

1.1944 Disbanded as part of a regimental disbandment.

107th Field Battery (Howitzer) RAA(M)

16.7.1904 No. 5 NSW Battery, AFA, raised as a new unit. GO 296/1903

1.7.1911 Redesignated No. 5 Battery, AFA. MO 57/1911

1.7.1912 Redesignated 5th Battery, Field Artillery. MO 277/1912

1.7.1913 Redesignated 44th Battery (Howitzer), Field Artillery. MO 126/1913

1.7.1914 Redesignated 44th Battery (Howitzer), AFA. MO 313/1914

17.8.1918 Redesignated 48th Battery (Howitzer), AFA. MO 388/1918

31.3.1921 48th Battery (Howitzer) split up to form parts of the following batteries;

107th (Howitzer) Battery, AFA,
109th (Howitzer) Battery, AFA,
114th (Howitzer) Battery, AFA. MO 95/1921

31.3.1921 107th (Howitzer) Battery, AFA, formed as a sub-unit of VII Brigade AFA from personnel of the 48th Battery (Howitzer) AFA. MO 95/1921

1930 Redesignated 107th Field Battery (Howitzer), AFA.

1.1.1936 Redesignated 107th Field Battery (Howitzer), RAA(M). AAO 12/1936

2.1941 Disbanded and reorganized as a troop of 26th Field Battery (?)

Headquarters 7th Aust. Field Regiment, RAA

1.7.1913 Headquarters 3rd Australian Field Artillery Brigade shown as a unit yet to be raised.

1.4.1920 Headquarters 3rd Aust. Field Artillery Brigade shown in the Army List, 1920, but no staff appear to have been appointed to it.

3
31.12.1921 **Headquarters VII Brigade, AFA**, raised from HQ 3rd AFA Brigade and personnel of HQ 4th and 5th AFA Brigades. Located at Warrane St, Willoughby, comprising the 25th, 26th, 27th and 107th Batteries AFA. Formed part of the 1st Divisional Artillery.

- 1.7.1922 Reduced to 25th, 27th and 107th Batteries as a result of changes to the training establishment of infantry divisional artillery brigades.
- 1930 Redesignated **Headquarters 7th Field Brigade, AFA.**
- 1.1.1936 Redesignated **Headquarters 7th Field Brigade, RAA(M).** AAO 12/1936
- 2.1941 Redesignated **Headquarters 7th Field Regiment RAA(M)** upon a change to regimental establishment, which also saw subunits reduced to two eight-gun batteries.
- 1.9.1941 Mobilised for full time duty.
- 5.1942 Redesignated **Headquarters 7th Aust. Field Regiment.** Expanded to three gun batteries. GRO 54/1942
- 9.1942 To Western Australia as part of 2nd Aust. Division.
- 1.1.1943 Redesignated **Headquarters 7th Aust. Field Regiment (A.I.F.).**
GRO 1/1943
- 9.1943 To NSW by rail.
- 1.1944 Disbanded.
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113th Coast Battery RAA

- 27.7.1903 **No. 3 New South Wales Company, A.G.A.** raised at Newcastle by redesignation of No. 5 Company, NSW Garrison Artillery. GO 169/1903.
- 4.2.1911 Redesignated **No. 3 Company, A.G.A.** MO 57/1911.
- 1.7.1912 Redesignated **3rd Garrison Artillery.** MO 277/1912.
- 1.7.1914 Redesignated **3rd Australian Garrison Artillery.** MO 313/1914.
- 15.12.1921 Redesignated **13th Battery, A.G.A.**, located at Fort Scratchley, Newcastle, as part of 1st Coast Artillery Brigade, A.G.A. MO 582/1921.
- 1.1.1927 Redesignated **13th Coast Battery, A.G.A.** AAO 157/1927. See note A.
- 1.7.1927 Redesignated **13th Heavy Battery, A.G.A.** AAO 357/1927.
- 31.1.1936 Redesignated **13th Heavy Battery, R.A.A.(M).** Formed part of 5th Heavy Brigade, R.A.A.(M). AAO 12/1936. See note B.
- 1.1.1939 Redesignated **113th Heavy Battery, R.A.A.(M).** AAO 32/1939.
- 1941 Absorbed by Heavy Artillery, Newcastle Fixed Defences, and ceased to maintain a separate identity.
- 5.1952 Reformed at Fort Scratchley, Newcastle, as **13th Medium Coast Battery, R.A.A.**, forming part of 25th Coast Regiment, RAA. Eastern Command Location Statement No. 1, 30.9.1952.
- 31.5.1955 Redesignated **113th Medium Coast Battery, R.A.A.** DRA Liaison Letter, February 1955.
- 1.7.1960 Redesignated **113th Coast Battery, R.A.A.**
- 26.10.1962 Reorganized and redesignated as **113th Light Anti-Aircraft Battery, R.A.A.**, continued to be located at Fort Scratchley.
- 9.12.1972 Relocated to Adamstown with no change of title.
- 1.7.1975 Reorganized and redesignated as **113th Field Battery, R.A.A.**, remaining at Adamstown. Served as an independent battery until 1.10.1976 when it came under command of 7th Field Regiment RAA, with which it currently remains. 24/75. 193-5-1 of 26.6.1975, and 16/76. A342-29-6 of 10.8.1976.

PART I/1

COAST ARTILLERY

1. Units of the Citizen Military Forces, 1903 to 1962

Note A: Although authority was not promulgated for this change in designation until 26.3.1927, it would appear that usage of the term 'Coast' for batteries had actually commenced in late 1925 as a result of the formation of Medium and Survey units of the A.G.A. *The Officers List of the Australian Military Forces, 1.1.1926*, refers to 'Coast Artillery', while correspondence with Lt-Col. R.S. Mort (RL) to myself in 1983 advises that his former unit, 13th Battery, AGA, became the 13th Coast Battery, AGA, on 1.12.1925.

Note B: This change in designation was consequent on the granting of the title 'Royal' to the Australian Artillery (Militia) by H.M. King Edward VIII notified by AAO 12/1936. The term 'Australian Garrison Artillery' ceased to be used.