CANADIAN
MILITARY MEDALS
&
INSIGNIA JOURNAL

EDITOR:
ROSS W. IRWIN.

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STRENGTH OF CANADIAN FORCES AS OF SEPTEMBER 10, 1939.

R. W. Irwin

Eligibility for several long service and efficiency awards are dependant upon being members of the Canadian forces prior to September 10, 1939. The numerical values are presented below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Force</th>
<th>Officers</th>
<th>O.R.</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Royal Canadian Navy</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>1,748</td>
<td>1,893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Canadian Naval Reserve</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer R.</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>1,652</td>
<td>1,790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Canadian Naval Reserve (F.R.)</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Active Militia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Permanent Active Militia</td>
<td>7,117</td>
<td>79,193</td>
<td>86,310*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Active Air Force</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>1,930</td>
<td>2,191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary Active Air Force</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>867</td>
<td>966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve of Officers</td>
<td>156</td>
<td></td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Authorized complement, actually enrolled 50,000.

UNITED COUNTIES OF NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM
MILITIA ROLL CALL FOR 1812

Return of R. Lovekin of Clarke, a magistrate who came from Ireland in 1796 and administered the Oath of Allegiance to those who took up arms in defence of the country in 1812.

Allen, A.
Bates, F.
Burke, J.
Burk, S.
Barber, A.
Burks, D.
Boreland, M.
Bebee, W.
Brown, J.
Byrns, Sr. J.
Bedford, Jr. J.
Bowen, A.
Bebee, S.
Bowen, I.
Barden, J.
Byrns, Jr. J.
Boreland, Jr. W.

Burns, J.
Brittain, J.
Bice, P.
Bedford, D.
Bedford, H.
Bedford, S.
Carr, W.
Clark, R.
Caswell, J.
Crippen, D.
Caldwell, J.
Callendar, A.
Crippen, Dan
Crippen, Doran
Conat, J.

Davis, E.
Dingman, J.
Daly, C.
Fletcher, A.
Flannigan, J.
Grant, W.
Grant, Jr. R.
Gifford, E.
Grant, Sr. R.
Gaige, D.
Gaige, S.
Gaige, F.
Gaige, G.
Gaige, T.

Hawkins, Jr. J.
Hills, A.
Haskell, N.
Haskell, T.
Haskell, J.
Hagerman, I.
Hawkins, Sr. J.
Haskill, N.
Haskell, T.
Haskill, J.
Haskill, T.

Lee, J.
Martin, R.
Moore, D.
McNeil, L.
Munson, Wm
Munson, W.
McBridey, E.
Morse, S.
Merkley, C.
Hynis, Jr. M.
Hartwell, J.
Marsh, S.
Hays, J.
Marvin, S.
Harris, Jr. M.
Johnston, T.
Odell, Z.
Johnson, J.
Odell, J.
Kimbell, J.
Orvis, G.

Lighthouse, D.
Pickle, W.
Hartwell, T.
Lightfoot, A.
Pratt, N.
### DISTRIBUTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Colonel</th>
<th>Lt. Col.</th>
<th>Majors</th>
<th>Captains</th>
<th>Lieut's</th>
<th>Ensigns</th>
<th>Staff</th>
<th>Serg'ts</th>
<th>Corps</th>
<th>Drums</th>
<th>Privates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Present under arms</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>297</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional gunners</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In gunboats &amp; bateaux</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>120</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On duty with baggage and sick at Moravian</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>47</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sick &amp; in hospital</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL WITH REGIMENT</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>588</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At Burlington

" York 1          1          1          1          2          1          11
" Kingston 1          1          1          1          2          1          2
" Montreal 1          1          1          1          3          1          10
" Quebec 1          1          1          1          1          1          2
" Long Point 1          1          1          1          1          1          2
" Mackinac 1          1          1          1          1          1          2

Prisoners on board fleet, 10/9/1813

1

On staff employ 1 3

Prisoners & missing since start of war

1 1 2 3 52

Recruiting

With leave 1 1 2 3 52

Without leave 1 1 1 1 37

Serving with other corps 2 3 52

TOTAL 1 2 2 9 22 8 6 54 50 21 827

Attached to the division

Royal Artillery 1 24

Troop of Colonial Cavalry

1 2 3 37

Indians under Tecumseh 1 200

Losses at Moravianstadt:

Casualties 36 reported
P.O.W.'s 629 By difference
Total 716 all ranks

Troops who arrived at Burlington Heights with General Proctor:

1 General; 18 Officers; 15 Sergeants; 9 Drummers and 204 rank and file.

(Signed) J. Smith, Lt. & Adj.
41st Regiment
EXTRACT FROM STATION ROUTINE ORDERS, DATED JUNE 1, 1946.

The undermentioned officers and N.C.O.'s, having qualified by official posting to R.A.C. Rear Party, Torbay, Newfoundland, and having suffered the hardships and privations which accompanied the closing of said unit, e.g. sale of furniture from under them; early closing of bar without warning, stopping of laundry run to Argentia, shortage of cigars, uncertainty of pay parade, refusal of equipment section to accept equipment, misplacement of documents, unable to get M.T. runs, shortage of extra messing, lack of outside telephone lines, lack of white paint for rocks, and failure of confusion corner to bring in the ganderberry, are hereby awarded the subject medal.

RAWLINS CROSS
W-C C.E. Harris, G.O.D. F/L L. Bodgner F/S R.J. Rousseau
F/L M.R. Echlin F-O W.L. Smythe Sgt M.S. Corkum
F/L J.R. Goff F-O T.P. Sisworth Sgt R.G. Gould
F/L A.L. Greenwood WO 1 L.R. Cousins, G.O.R.D. Sgt I. Hershenkopf
F/L L.M. Halladay F/S W.J. Daigle Sgt R.B. Page
F/L H.M. Macleod F/S A.J. Pridham

1 BAR
S-L S.F. Evans
F/S W.J. Daigle
F/L J.R. Goff
Sgt R.G. Gould
F-O W.L. Smythe

2 BARS
WO 1 L.R. Cousins F/S R.J. Rousseau

3 BARS
WO 1 L.R. Cousins F/L M.R. Echlin

signed - G. Clewett F-O
For O.C. Rear Party
RCAF Torbay, Nfld.

Ribbon, blue with white central stripe.
Maple Leaf from CVSM ribbon bar
Medal from Newfoundland 20¢ coin
Bar are indicated by a numeral stamped on the
Newfoundland 5¢ coin.
Brooch at top of ribbon is a fish inscribed NEWFOUNDLAND.
Above routine order was faked to go with the home-made medals.

CARD ACCOMPANYING A POSTHUMOUS VICTORIA CROSS

I am directed, by the Honourable the Minister of Militia and Defence, to convey to you the enclosed medal for the deceased officer or soldier whose name is engraved thereon, and express to you the regrets of the Militia Council that he did not live to wear this award.

Sgnd: Maj. General
Adj. General
Canadian Militia
C7-2. Cap. In silver gilt. A shield on which are three Maple Leaves, under which is a chevron over a sword arm. The whole surmounted by an Imperial Crown. Two Maple Leaves extend from either side of the shield and the regimental number "7" underneath. A scroll inscribed HUSSARS at the bottom. 42 x 39.

C7-3. C. In brass. The regimental number "7" flanked on either side by a Maple Leaf and surmounted by an Imperial Crown. Below is a scroll inscribed HUSSARS. 33 x 26.

C7-4. Sh. In brass. The numeral "7", 21 mm high.

C7-5. Cap. In silver. Resting on a panel inscribed HUSSARS crossed swords, points up: superimposed on the swords a riband inscribed SEMPER VIGILANS: between the words the numeral "7" resting on a panel, surmounted by a crown: a spray of maple leaves on each side, Below the panel, the Coat of Arms of the Province of Quebec. GO 71, 1922.

C7-6. C. In silver. The number "7". On each side a spray of maple leaves; beneath, a riband bearing the word HUSSARS, the whole surmounted by an Imperial Crown. 26 x 34. GO 71, 1922.

C7-7. Cap. As for C7-5 except in brass.

C7-8. C. As for C7-6 except in brass.

C7-9. Sh. The word HUSSARS, convex. GO 151, 1928.

C7-10. PB. In gilt. Within two sprays of laurel, the numeral "7" resting upon a scroll inscribed HUSSARS, the ends of the scroll looped about the base of the sprays. 53 x 60. GO 125, 1932.

C7-11. HP. As for C7-10.

C7-12. WP. As for C7-10.

C7-13. Cap. Similar to C7-7 except the crossed swords have been removed.

7th / 11th HUSSARS
Organized April 1, 1936, GO 42, from the amalgamation of the 7th HUSSARS and the 11th HUSSARS.

Badges and Insignia

C7-14. Cap. In white metal. Within sprays of maple leaves bound with a bow knot, a shield, quarterly, in the 1st the Arabic numeral 7, in the 2nd a crouching, in the 3rd a sinister arm with the hand grasping a kukri, in the 4th the Roman numeral XI; above the shield a scroll inscribed with the motto STEADY; below the shield and across the wreath, the word HUSSARS; the whole surmounted with the Imperial Crown. 50 x 38. GO 115, 1937.
C7-15. Cap. As for C7-14 except in brass.
C7-16. C. As for C7-14 except 33 x 26. GO 115, 1937.
C7-17. C. As for C7-16 except in brass.
C7-18. Sh. The word HUSSARS in a straight line. 13 x 60. In brass.
GO 115, 1937.
C7-20. C. As for C7-17 except St. Edward's Crown. 1953.
C7-22. C. As for C7-20 except in chrome.

8th PRINCESS LOUISE NEW BRUNSWICK HUSSARS
Organized January 3, 1866 as the New Brunswick Regiment of Yeomanry Cavalry from Independent Troops. Became the 8th Regiment of Cavalry May 31, 1872 and the 8th Princess Louise New Brunswick Regiment of Cavalry July 18, 1884 and became hussars in 1892. Became the 8th Canadian Hussars January 29, 1957. Uniform blue with white facings and scarlet plume. Allied with the Yorkshire Dragoons (Queens Own).

Badges and Insignia

C8-1. HP. In gilt. The regimental number "VIII" in silver on a pebbled background, enclosed within a circular garter inscribed PRINCESS LOUISE'S N.B. REGIMENT OF CAVALRY surrounded by a wreath of maple leaves and surmounted by a Coronet of H.R.H. the Princess Louise; across the lower part of the wreath a scroll inscribed REGI PATRIAEQUE FIDELIS. GO 16, 1884.

C8-2. Sh. In brass. The numeral "8" 21 mm high.

C8-3. Cap. In gilt. With numerals in white metal. A scroll inscribed PRINCESS LOUISES N.B. HUSSARS surmounted by the coronet of H.R.H. Princess Louise. Within the scroll the numeral "VIII", the whole resting on a riband bearing the motto REGI PATRIAE QUE FIDELIS. GO 71, 1922. 54 x 42. "A scroll" changed to "An annulus" by GO 139, 1932.

C8-4. C. In gilt. The Roman numeral "VIII" surmounted by the coronet of H.R.H. Princess Louise. GO 71, 1922.

C8-5. PB. In gilt. As for C8-3. GO 94, 1932.

C8-6. Cap. In gilt with Roman numerals in silver. An annulus inscribed with the designation PRINCESS LOUISE'S N.B. HUSSARS surmounted by the coronet of H.R.H. Princess Louise. Within the annulus, the Roman numeral "VIII"; below, the annulus a scroll inscribed REGI PATRIAE QUE FIDELIS. GO 137, 1939. 47 x 33.
C8-7. C. In gilt. The Roman numeral "VIII" in silver surmounted by the coronet of H.R.H. Princess Louise. GO 137, 1939. 23 x 20.

C8-8. PB. In gilt. As for C8-6. GO 137, 1939.


C8-10. C. As for C8-7 except in brass. GO 137, 1939.

C8-11. Sh. In brass. The numeral "8" and letters PLNB above the letters HRS; the whole in an upward curve, letters 13mm.

C8-12. Cap. In brass. A garter inscribed PRINCESS LOUISE'S HUSSARS; within the garter on a solid bar the Roman numerals "VIII"; surmounted by H.R.H. Princess Louise coronet; all above a scroll inscribed REGI PATRIAQUE QVE FIDELIS. 1950. 47 x 44.

C8-13. Cap. In brass. A knotted surcingle inscribed CANADIAN HUSSARS & PRINCESS LOUISSE'S, surmounted by the Coronet of H.R.H. Princess Louise; in the centre of the surcingle the Roman numeral "VIII" on a white metal background, and below, a scroll bearing the motto REGI PATRIAQUE QVE FIDELIS. Coronet in white metal. 1957. 47 x 44.


C8-16. Sh. In brass. The letters "8 CDNHB"; 10 mm high. 1957.

C8-17. C. In brass. As for C8-12 except 33 x 30. 1950.


C8-20. C. As for C8-14 except in gold and silver.

9th MISSISSAUGA HORSE

Organized April 1, 1901 as the Toronto Mounted Rifles but renamed The Toronto Light Horse April 1, 1903 and later the same year to the 9th Toronto Light Horse. GO 92, May 1, 1907 changed the name to the 9th Mississauga Horse. On reorganization it became The Ontario Mounted Rifles, GO 26, March 15, 1920 and to The Mississauga Horse by GO 46, April 1, 1924. The Mississauga Horse amalgamated with The Governor General's Body Guard GO 199, 1936 to become The Governor General's Horse Guards. Uniform scarlet with myrtle green facings.

Badges and Insignia

C9-1. Puggaree badge. In gilt. A unicorn rampant to left gorged with a coronet composed of crosses patee and fleurs de lis, a chain affixed thereto; on each side a branch of maple leaves. Above, a band enclosing the words TORONTO LIGHT HORSE. At the base, a band or scroll with the motto IN MALOS CORNU. 70 x 68. GO52, 1903.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Royal Canadian Dragoons</th>
<th>Lord Strathcona's Horse</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Hussars</td>
<td>2nd Dragoons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Prince of Wales Dragoons</td>
<td>4th Hussars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Princess Louise Dragoon Guards</td>
<td>The Princess Louise Dragoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th Duke of York Royal Canadian Hussars</td>
<td>7th Hussars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th Princess Louise New Brunswick Hussars</td>
<td>9th Mississauga Horse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Governor General's Body Guard</td>
<td>10th Quebec Home Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th Hussars</td>
<td>12th Manitoba Dragoons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th Scottish Light Dragoons</td>
<td>14th King's Canadian Hussars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The 15th Light Horse</td>
<td>16th Mounted Rifles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The 17th Duke of York's Royal Canadian Hussars</td>
<td>18th Mounted Rifles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th Albertas Dragoons</td>
<td>The Border Horse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th Border Horse</td>
<td>The Saskatchewan Light Horse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st Albertas Hussars</td>
<td>The Alberta Mounted Rifles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd Saskatchewan Light Horse</td>
<td>23rd Mounted Rifles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th Regiment (Grey's Horse)</td>
<td>25th Brant Dragoons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th Stanstead Dragoons</td>
<td>Eastern Townships Mtd Rifle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th Light Horse</td>
<td>14th Canadian Light Horse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th N.B. Dragoons</td>
<td>New Brunswick Dragoons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th Light Horse</td>
<td>18th Canadian Light Horse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.C. Mounted Rifles</td>
<td>30th B.C.H.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Ind. Sqdn</td>
<td>31st B.C.H.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32nd Manitoba Horse</td>
<td>32nd Manitoba Horse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33rd W.S.H.</td>
<td>34th Fort Garry Horse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35th Central Alberta Horse</td>
<td>36th P.E.I. L.H.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37th P.E.I. L.H.</td>
<td>The P.E.I. L.H.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Lineage of Cavalry**

- **1900**
- **1910**
- **1920**
- **1930**
C9-2. As for C9-1 except in brass.


C9-4. C. In gilt. As for C9-3 except unicorn faces right.

C9-5. C. In brass. As for C9-3.

C9-6. C. In brass. As for C9-4.

C9-7. Cap. As for C9-1 except top scroll reads THE NINTH HORSE. In brass. 68 x 66. 1905.


C9-11. C. In bronze. A unicorn rampant with a riband beneath inscribed with the motto IN MALOS CORNU. GO 71, 1922.


C9-13. In brass. A unicorn rampant gorged with a coronet composed of crosses patee and fleur-de-lis, a chain affixed thereto. At the base a scroll with the motto IN MALU CORNU. 38 x 32. GO 33, 1925.


C9-16. HP. In brass, as for C9-13. 70 x 64. GO 127, 1932.

C9-17. PB. In brass, the letters "M H" in script entwined. 35 x 67. GO 127, 1932.

10th QUEEN'S OWN CANADIAN HUSSARS
Organized November 13, 1856 as the Queen's Own Canadian Hussars and in January 1903 became the 10th Queen's Own Canadian Hussars. The regiment was disbanded in 1913 and reconstructed in 1928 as The Queen's Own Canadian Hussars. Regiment disbanded February 15, 1936. Uniform blue with white facings.

Badges and Insignia

C10-1. C. In the centre, a maple leaf in silver, surrounded by a scroll inscribed THE QUEEN'S OWN CANADIAN HUSSARS. The whole surmounted by an Imperial Crown. 39 x 35. GO 52, 1903.

C10-2. HP. A garter inscribed HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE within which are the letters Q O C H entwined; all mounted on a cavalry star. 1881.

C10-3. C. In gilt. As for C10-1.
11th HUSSARS

Converted from the 54th Richmond Regiment, August 1, 1903. Amalgamated with the 7th Hussars to become the 7th/11th Hussars, April 1, 1936. Uniform blue with white facings.

Badges and Insignia

C11-1. Cap. In gilt. The Coat of Arms of Lord Aylmer, a former commanding officer of the 54th who used the same device, namely, a shield argent bearing a cross sable between four Cornish crows, proper. A small shield bearing the number XI laid upon the intersection of the cross. The whole surmounted by a Baron's coronet. Underneath all a scroll inscribed STEADY. 45 x 40. GO 59, 1905.

C11-2. In brass. As for C11-1 except 37 x 30. In pairs.


C11-4. Cap. In gilt. A shield quartered bearing a cross with the Roman characters "XI" in the centre, and with a chough in each quarter, below the shield a ribbon, inscribed STEADY, the whole surmounted by a Ducal coronet. GO 71, 1922.

C11-5. C. In gilt. As for C11-4.


C11-8. PB. In gilt. As for C11-4, 45 x 38. GO 52, 1932.

C11-9. Sh. The letters HUSSARS in a downward curve, 13 mm high, in gilt. GO 157, 1928.

12th MANITOBA DRAGOONS

Organized July 1, 1903 from five squadrons of Canadian Mounted Rifles. Uniform scarlet with white facings. Allied with 12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales')

Badges and Insignia

C12-1. HP. On a cavalry star with high parts burnished, a buffalo in silver in the attitude of charging, on a mound facing left, all on a burnished background enclosed within a double oval inscribed MANITOBA DRAGOONS and surmounted by a Saxon Crown. In gilt. 126 x 110. 1907.

C12-2. Cap. In white metal. A bison in the attitude of charging, on a mound with scroll below inscribed MANITOBA DRAGOONS. 48 x 35. 1907.

C12-3. C. In white metal. As for C12-2 but no scroll. 29 x 20, 1907, in pairs.

C12-4. Sh. In brass. The numeral "12", 17 mm high. 1907.
C12-5. Cap. In bronze. A double circle inscribed MANITOBA XII DRAGOONS and surmounted by a crown. Within the circle, a buffalo standing. On either side of the circle, two maple leaves, the whole resting on a scroll inscribed UBIQUE HONOR ET EQUIS. 41 x 45. GO 71, 1922.

C12-6. C. In bronze. As for C12-5 except 33 x 35. GO 71, 1922.

C12-7. Sh. The letters "M.D.", 13 mm high. 1922.


C12-10. Sh. In bronze. Above: MANITOBA in an upward curve; below, DRAGOONS in a downward curve, between the lines, XII in 8 mm high. GO 79, 1929.


C12-12. HP. A cavalry star in brass surcharged with an annulus inscribed MANITOBA XII DRAGOONS ensign with the Imperial Crown. Within the annulus on a plain background, a buffalo charging upon a mound. Below the annulus a trefoil. 128 x 118. GO 134, 1932. Buffalo and mount in silver.

C12-13. PB. Within an annulus inscribed MANITOBA XII DRAGOONS ensign with the Imperial Crown, on a stippled background, a buffalo charging upon a mount, in silver. On the base of the annulus a trefoil. 60 x 50. GO 134, 1932.

C12-14. WP. A double circle inscribed MANITOBA - XII - DRAGOONS and surmounted by an Imperial Crown. Within the circle, a buffalo, standing. In gilt. GO 134, 1932.

C12-15. Cap. In silver. A buffalo charging on the prairie, the prairie inscribed in the centre with the Roman numeral XII; below, a scroll inscribed MANITOBA DRAGOONS. 35 x 47. GO 180, 1939.


C12-18. C. In silver. A buffalo charging on the prairie. In pairs, buffalo face inward. 19 x 29. GO 180, 1939.


C12-22. Sh. In bronze. MANITOBA in an upward curve above DRAGOONS in a downward curve, between the words, the Roman numeral XII. Letters and numeral 8 mm. GO 180, 1939.

UNIT NAMING ON MEDALS TO THE ROYAL ARTILLERY

V.G. Potter

When I commenced collecting medals to the Royal Artillery I was puzzled by the various unit designations shown on the medals, e.g. "1 Bn.", "13th.Bde.", "5/11 R.A.", "G/4 R.A.", "A/B, R.H.A.", "10 W.D. R.G.A."

I presume that many collectors, especially those who do not specialize, may also wonder why there were so many types of unit designation to the R.A. Therefore, I decided to check through the history of the R.A. as it applies to the period most collectors are interested in, that is, 1800 - 1950.

By Royal Warrant, May 26, 1716, George I authorized the formation of two companies of Artillery. In 1722 the establishment was 4 companies, 2 at home and 2 abroad. It was named "The Royal Regiment of Artillery". The 'company' system continued until the Napoleonic War when the R.A. was divided into numbered battalions sub-divided into companies. In 1815 there were 10 battalions of 10 companies each. These were reduced to 9 battalions of 9 companies after the war.

The Royal Horse Artillery was formed in 1793 and was divided into troops designated by letters. The C.O.'s name was frequently used to differentiate between troops also.

The drivers for the Foot Artillery were formed into the "Drivers Corps" in 1794 and were renamed the Corps of Gunner-Driver in 1801. This unit was again renamed in 1806, becoming the Corps of Artillery Drivers. It was disbanded in 1822. Thereafter all men enlisted in the R.A. as "Gunner & Driver".

The M.G.S. and Waterloo medals are named to the R.A. as follows: "R.Arty.", "R.Foot Arty.", R.Horse Arty.", "Horse Arty.", "Arty. Drivers", and "Rocket Troop".

The M.G.S. Roll will often show the battalion number for the Foot Arty. and the C.O.'s name for the R.H.A. troops.

I am unable to find a reference to R.A. units being present during the campaigns which resulted in the award of the Army of India medal, or medals for the 1st Afghan, 1st China or 1st & 2nd Sikh wars. However, artillery of the Bengal, Bombay and Madras Presidencies participated in these campaigns and will be covered later.

R.A. units were present in the South Africa 1853 campaigns but I believe the only medal designation is "Royal Arty."

During the Crimean War many units of the R.A. were employed and medals are found impressed as follows: R.Arty.", 1st Batn.R.A.", 11th Batt.R.A.", "R.Horse Arty."

In 1859 the "Battalion" system was replaced by the "Brigade" system. The 10 Troops of Horse Arty. were formed into the "Horse Brigade", and were renamed "Batteries". The 112 Companies were renamed Batteries and were formed into 6 Field Brigades and 8 Garrison Brigades.
In 1861 the artillery of the Indian Presidencies were absorbed into the Royal Regiment of Artillery. This required further reorganization into 6 Horse Brigades lettered A to F, 9 Field Brigades, 13 Garrison Brigades, and 3 Mixed Brigades (29 Batteries of Horse Artillery, 73 Batteries of Field Artillery, and 88 Batteries of Garrison Artillery.) A Coast Brigade was also formed from the old "Invalid Battalion" to maintain the armament of the coastal defence forts.

The three styles of organization from 1859 to 1861 produced several forms of naming on Indian Mutiny medals. Thus: "F Troop, R.H.A.", "12th Bn.R.A.", "13th Bde.R.A.", "44th Bn.R.A."; it will be noticed both the old Battalion and new Brigade designations are found.

The I.G.S. 1854 medal with bar PERSIA is found named "D Bty. 19th Bde. R.A.", whilst the N.W. FRONTIER shows "2Co. 4th Bn.R.A." and "2 Tp. 1st Bde. R.H.A.", the latter not seeming to fit any of the organizational systems.

I presume that as the medals were issued sometime after the campaigns, the medal roll was made up by persons using the old and the new style as at the time of the Mutiny and Persia campaigns, all foot artillery units were officially Battalions.


From 1861 the system continued, with modifications, to 1889 with the R.H.A. batteries being designated by letters and the Brigades being lettered A to F inclusive. Thus, A/B R.H.A. indicated "A" Battery of "B" Brigade. About 1880 the R.H.A. was re-brigaded into "A" Brigade with batteries A to K and K to N (J was omitted), and "B" Brigade with batteries as for "A" Brigade.

In 1873 there were 23 Brigades of Field and Garrison Artillery. Field batteries were lettered and Garrison batteries were numbered. In 1883 there were 4 Brigades of Field Artillery numbered 1 to 4; the 1st Bde. having 24 Batteries lettered A to X; the 2nd Bde. 19 Batteries A to S; the 3rd Bde. and 4th Bde. 18 Batteries lettered A to R. Thus, E/4 R.A. indicated E Battery, 4th Brigade, R.F.A. The Garrison Artillery was formed of numbered Brigades sub-divided into numbered Batteries. Thus, "5/11 R.A." indicated 5th Battery, 11th Brigade, R.G.A.

About 1880 the Garrison Artillery was divided into 11 Divisions (Northern, Southern, Eastern, Western, London, Cinque Ports, Scottish, North Irish, South Irish, Lancashire and Welsh). Each Division had a Brigade subdivided into 8 or 9 Batteries and a Depot. The other Brigades in each Division were formed by local Militia Artillery.


An offshoot of Garrison Artillery are the Mountain Batteries which were part of R.G.A. until 1889 when they formed a separate permanent branch. There were 10 Mountain Batteries in 1892, 8 in India or Burma, 1 in Natal, 1 in Newport, Wales. Medals for Hazara 1891, N.W.F. 1895-98 show: "No. 3 Mtn. By. R.A.", "9 M.B.R.A.", "No. 9 Mtn. By. R.A.", "No. 2 Mtn. By.".
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R.H.A. Batteries were lettered A to T in 1889 plus a Depot with A and B Depot Batteries and a Riding Establishment.

The R.F.A. was formed into 80 numbered Batteries plus a Depot with No.1 and 2 Batteries each in No.1 and 2 Divisions at Woolwich.

The R.G.A. was formed into 3 Divisions (Southern, Eastern, Western) with the batteries becoming Companies. In 1892 Eastern Div. had 23 Coys. Southern had 29 and Western had 20 Companies. Each was numbered from 1. The Brigade system was abolished in 1889.

In 1899, 15 Field Batteries and 11 Garrison Batteries were added to the establishment. In 1900 the R.H.A. was again Brigaded into 14 Brigade Divisions of 2 Batteries each; the Batteries being lettered A to Z plus AA and BB. The R.F.A. was divided into 50 Brigade Divisions of 3 Batteries each; the Batteries being numbered 1 to 151 inclusive (1 Battery being unbrigaded). The allotment of R.H.A. and R.F.A. Batteries to Brigade Divisions was based on which area the Battery was posted to and does not appear to be a permanent grouping. The R.G.A. continued in the former Divisions (3) of from 32 to 42 Companies each.

Medals for the Boer War 1899-1902 to the R.A. are usually named:
R.H.A.; R.F.A.; R.G.A.; but a number are found: 69B, R.F.A.; 21st Bty.R.F.A.; 20th Bty.R.F.A.; 0 Bty.R.H.A.; 10W.D.,R.G.A. Where there is a pair (QSA,KSA), it appears that only the QSA has the specific unit shown, whilst the KSA medal shows R.F.A., etc.


Medals awarded the Indian Artillery for campaigns prior to 1861 are usually distinguished from R.A. by the naming not including "R","Ry" or "Royal" before "Arty". Punjab medal to "4 Coy. 6th Bty. H Arty." was Bengal Arty; a Kabul 1842 medal to "3rd Tp. 2nd Bde. H Arty." was Bengal Arty; whilst an Army of India medal for Mahodipoo to "H Arty." was to the Madras Horse Arty.

The medals for these early Indian campaigns are usually to British recipients but it doesn't mean they are R.A., as the H.E.I.C. Arty. was manned by British or European gunners with Indian native drivers. Also, Indian Native Mountain Batteries from 1880 were officered by R.A. personnel seconded for service although the gunners and drivers were Indian. Medals to these Mountain Batteries show: "No.5 Bo.Mtn.Bty.", this was No. 5 Bombay Mountain Bty.

SOURCES: "250 Years of the Royal Artillery, 1717-1966"; "Hats Army List for 1873, 1883, 1892, 1898"; Official Monthly Army List, July 1901".
