

CHAPTER XXVIII.

DEFENCE.

§ 1. Department of Defence.

1. **Functions and Organization.**—(i) *Functions.* Subject to the authority of Cabinet, the Minister and Department of Defence are responsible for:—

- (1) The formulation and general application of a unified defence policy relating to the Defence Forces and their requirements, including:—(a) co-operation in British Commonwealth and regional defence and the defence aspect of the Charter of the United Nations; (b) the supply aspect of defence policy, including the review of production programmes and capacity; (c) the scientific aspect of defence policy; and (d) the financial requirements of defence policy, and the allocation of funds made available.
- (2) The defence aspect of armistice and peace terms, control commissions, and forces of occupation.
- (3) Matters of policy or principle and important questions having a joint Service or inter-departmental defence aspect.
- (4) The defence aspect of questions relating to the organization and machinery for:—(a) co-operation in British Commonwealth defence; (b) co-operation in regional security, including obligations under the United Nations Charter; (c) higher direction in war; and (d) higher direction of the Services.
- (5) The Commonwealth War Book, which is a summary of national plans for an emergency as developed in departmental war books.
- (6) The administration of inter-Service organizations, such as the joint intelligence machinery.
- (7) The defence aspect of:—the strength and organization of the forces, higher appointments in the Services, honours and awards.
- (8) Advice on the military aspect of civil defence.

(ii) *Organization, higher defence machinery and the control of the joint Service machinery.* The joint Service and inter-departmental advisory machinery of the Department consists of various committees headed by the Defence Committee, the Chiefs of Staff Committee, the Defence Administration Committee and the Joint War Production Committee.

The Defence Committee is a statutory body consisting of the Secretary, Department of Defence, who is Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee, the Chiefs of Staff of the three Services, the Secretary, Prime Minister's Department, the Secretary, Department of External Affairs, and the Secretary to the Treasury. Its function is to advise the Minister for Defence on—

- (a) The defence policy as a whole and also to co-ordinate military, strategic, economic, financial and external affairs aspects in framing defence programmes.
- (b) Matters of policy or principle and important questions having a joint Service or an inter-departmental defence aspect.
- (c) Such other matters having a defence aspect as are referred to the Committee by or on behalf of the Minister for Defence.

The Chiefs of Staff Committee meets regularly for the discussion of technical matters on a joint service basis, and is responsible in peace for the preparation of strategic appreciations and military plans. The functions of the Defence Administration Committee, in addition to the regular review of the progress of the Defence Programme, relate to the co-ordination and integration of Service activities and the improvement of methods and organization. The function of the Joint War Production Committee is, briefly, to examine the relation between strategic plans and their requirements to ensure that the war potential for them exists. The major committees subordinate to the Defence Committee and/or the Chiefs of Staff Committee comprise the Principal Administrative Officers Committee (Maintenance and *Matériel*), the Principal Administrative Officers Committee (*Personnel*), the Defence Research and Development Policy Committee, the Joint Planning Committee, the Joint Intelligence Committee and the Joint Administrative Planning Committee.

(iii) *Defence Business Board.* The Defence Business Board furnishes advice on business matters of common interest to the three Services, or important subjects on which the collective advice of the Board is desired from the business aspect, with a view to promoting efficiency and economy in the execution of the Defence Programme. The Board comprises businessmen who serve in a part-time honorary capacity and consists of an independent chairman and deputy chairman and the business advisers of the three Service Departments.

2. **Basis of Current Defence Policy.**—The main strategic factors affecting current defence policy may be summarized as follows:—

(i) Because of the nuclear deterrent, the outbreak of limited or local wars is more likely than a global or full-scale war.

(ii) In any likely war in the foreseeable future, Australia's interests will most likely be centred in South East Asia, which is its first line of defence.

(iii) The defence of South East Asia and Australia is to be sought through the concept of collective security. Australia attaches the greatest importance in defence policy and planning to participation in the collective defence arrangements developed in its area of strategic interest—SEATO, ANZUS and British Commonwealth arrangements for defence co-operation. Such arrangements are entirely in accord with the United Nations Charter.

3. **The Defence Programme.**—(i) *Programme.* The level of national defences must be adequate to enable Australia to meet her regional and home defence responsibilities. The proportion of national resources that can be allotted to defence is, however, affected by the concurrent demands of the programmes of national development, industrial expansion and migration, which add to our basic defence capacity. A comprehensive review of defence policy was undertaken in 1959, and a new three year defence programme to June, 1962, was approved. The new programme is designed to meet present strategic requirements and has, as its primary aim, the continual improvement of the ability of the Australian forces to act swiftly and effectively, in co-operation with allied forces, to meet limited or local war situations. Emphasis is placed in the new programme on two major points: First, to have the forces, both regular and citizen, more readily available than they have been in the past; secondly, to provide them with modern equipment, in greater quantity and more varied type. Equipment used by the Australian forces will be standard or compatible, as far as possible, with that used by United States forces, with whom they are associated in defence arrangements.

Australia has a modern and efficient Naval Force in which special emphasis is being placed on anti-submarine capabilities. The naval construction programme of four new type anti-submarine frigates is being continued, and possible new naval projects are being further examined. The operational fleet comprises an aircraft carrier, three Daring class ships, three fast anti-submarine frigates, training and survey ships and miscellaneous small craft.

Important decisions have been taken on Army organization which will improve considerably the availability and operational effectiveness of the Australian Army, both regular and citizen forces. The Army is to be composed entirely of volunteers, and the combat elements will be based on the new pentropic division, which will give greater flexibility and mobility to meet modern war conditions in tropical areas. There will be two divisions of five battle groups each, comprising two regular and eight Citizen Military Force battle groups, in addition to the regular battalion group in Malaya. Some £30 million is being provided in the programme for modern Army equipment, including the F.N. rifle, the United States 105 mm. howitzer, a general purpose machine gun and a new recoilless rifle. Other modern weapons and armoured vehicles are to be obtained, and provision is made to increase the mobility of the Army with light aircraft support (both fixed and rotary wing) and amphibious and water craft.

The R.A.A.F. has 12 operational squadrons, and the fighter squadrons are being re-armed with the Sidewinder air-to-air missile. The maritime element will be greatly strengthened by the acquisition of 12 P.2.V.7 Neptune aircraft, and the British Bloodhound surface-to-air guided weapons system will be purchased. Helicopters will be obtained for joint Army and Air Force use, and provision is also made for commencement in the programme period of the acquisition of a new fighter aircraft.

In the field of research and development, Australia is making its principal contribution through the Long Range Weapons Establishment which is a joint United Kingdom—Australian effort for the testing of guided weapons. The executive authority for this project is the Department of Supply which is also responsible for the provision of the material requirements of the forces including the manufacture and supply of munitions and aircraft.

The estimated cost of the defence programme for 1959-60 was £192.8 million.

(ii) *Financial.* Details of defence expenditure for 1958-59 and the allocation of the Defence Vote for 1959-60 are set out in the two tables which follow:—

ALLOCATION OF DEFENCE VOTE OF £192,800,000 FOR 1959-60.
(£'000.)

Service or Department.	Maintenance.	Capital Material Requirements, Machinery, Plant and Equipment.	Capital Buildings, Works and Acquisition of Sites.	Total Expenditure.
Defence	1,194	42	22]	1,258
Navy	33,030	7,986	1,596	42,612
Army	52,740	8,894	3,920	65,554
Air	42,283	13,398	4,480	60,161
Supply	13,862	2,395	4,729	20,986
Other Services	1,435	84	710	2,229
Total	144,544	32,799	15,457	192,800

DEFENCE EXPENDITURE, 1958-59.
(£'000.)

Service or Department.	Maintenance.	Capital Material Requirements, Machinery, Plant and Equipment.	Capital Buildings, Works and Acquisition of Sites.	Total Expenditure.
Defence	963	14	30	1,007
Navy	32,289	7,670	1,472	41,431
Army	49,479	11,878	3,954	65,311
Air	41,764	13,127	4,632	59,523
Supply	14,569	2,373	4,019	20,961
Other Services	861	2	212	1,075
Total	139,925	35,064	14,319	189,308

(iii) *Personnel Strengths.* The personnel strengths of the Services at 31st December 1959 were:—

Category.	Navy.	Army.	Air Force.	Total.
Permanent Forces	(a) 10,578	21,843	15,320	47,741
Citizen Forces—				
Volunteers	(b) 7,670	21,923	880	30,473
National Service Personnel	33,197	33,197
<i>Total Citizen Forces</i>	(b) 7,670	55,120	880	63,670
<i>Total Permanent and Citizen Forces</i>	18,248	76,963	16,200	111,411

(a) Excludes 16 cadet midshipmen not on pay. (b) Excludes 2,672 National Service Trainees who have completed training and are held on reserve and 162 nominal reservists.

4. *Australian Forces Serving in Malaya.*—Australia has participated with the United Kingdom and New Zealand in the Commonwealth Strategic Reserve in Malaya since it was first established in 1955. At the request of the Government of the Federation of Malaya, the Strategic Reserve continues to be stationed in that country and to assist in the campaign against the communist terrorists.

5. *National Service.*—The National Service training scheme came into active operation in May, 1951 but was suspended in November, 1959. Its principal features are given below.

The liability to register extended to virtually all male persons ordinarily resident in Australia who attained the age of 18 years on or after 1st November, 1950. The only persons exempt from this liability were members of the permanent forces, aboriginal natives of Australia, and certain diplomatic personnel and officials in the service of international bodies. In all, twenty successive age-groups were called upon to register, the first in May, 1951, and he last in July, 1959. When operations were suspended, a total of 527,224 young men had registered.

All persons registered or required to register incurred the liability to render service but after registration exemption could be granted to theological students, ministers of religion, members of religious orders, conscientious objectors and registrants suffering from certain prescribed physical or mental disabilities. Registrants not entitled to exemption remained liable for call-up in one of the three Services provided they attained the required standard of medical fitness. The actual training obligation was 140 days in the Citizen Military Forces but 154 days in the Citizen Naval Forces or the Citizen Air Force. In addition, trainees were required to remain members of the Citizen Forces, Military, Naval or Air as the case may be, for five years from the date of their enlistment.

Temporary deferment of call-up could be granted to students and apprentices so as to avoid undue interruption to their studies or trade training and to registrants able to establish before a court that the rendering of service would cause exceptional hardship to themselves, their parents or dependants. In 1955, provision was made to defer the call-up of registrants living outside approved C.M.F. training centres and of rural workers engaged permanently and full-time on a rural holding in the production of food or raw materials.

In 1957, a new selection procedure was introduced in the form of a ballot conducted for each new age-group called upon to register. Registrants selected by ballot remained available for call-up subject to medical fitness and the existing rules and procedures for exemption or deferment. Those not selected were granted indefinite deferment but were given the opportunity to volunteer for training and, if accepted as volunteers, were called up in the normal way. Training, hitherto given in all three Services, was restricted to the Army and the total annual intake was reduced from 34,000 to 12,000. The active Army training obligation remained at 140 days to be carried out in one continuous period of 77 days followed by 21 days part-time training in each of the ensuing three years. The requirement to remain on the reserve of the Citizen Military Forces for five years after enlistment remained unchanged.

In all 227,021 registrants were called up for training, 6,967 in the Navy, 22,267 in the Air Force and 197,787 in the Army.

Provision was made for protection in respect of civil employment, notably with regard to reinstatement in civilian employment after completing a period of training, of registrants called up for service.

§ 2. Naval Defence.

1. **Administration.**—The Royal Australian Navy is administered, under the Naval Defence Act 1910–1952, by the Naval Board, which consists of the Minister for the Navy, four Naval Members, and the Secretary, Department of the Navy.

2. **Historical.**—Prior to 1901, naval defence systems were organized under the State Governments. Information regarding these systems is given in Official Year Book No. 2, page 1084. An outline of the development of Australian Naval policy is given in Official Year Books No. 3, page 1060, and No. 12, page 1012. An account of the building of the Australian Navy, its cost, the compact with the Imperial Government, and other details appears in Official Year Book No. 15, pages 921–23. The growth and the activities of the Royal Australian Navy during the 1939–45 War are shown in Official Year Book No. 36, pages 1023–27.

3. **Link with the Royal Navy.**—Strong links with the Royal Navy are maintained by a constant exchange of officers for extended tours of duty, and by a full exchange of information and ideas. A liaison staff is maintained by the Royal Australian Navy in London, and by the Royal Navy in Australia. Advanced training and staff courses in the United Kingdom are provided by the Royal Navy for Royal Australian Navy Officers.

4. **Strength of the Fleet.**—Ships in commission at June, 1960, were:—

H.M.A. Fleet.

- 1 Aircraft carrier.
- 3 Destroyers.
- 3 Fast Anti-submarine frigates.
- 5 Frigates.
- 7 Auxiliary vessels.

5. **Personnel.**—The authorized establishment strength of the Royal Australian Navy has been pegged at 12,800 comprising 1,430 officers and 11,370 ratings. At 31st December, 1959, the actual strength of the Naval Forces, permanent and reserves, serving full-time, was 1,251 officers and 9,008 ratings including 99 native ratings of the Papua and New Guinea Division of the Royal Australian Navy. 59 cadet midshipmen were undergoing training at the Naval College. 13 officers and 263 ratings were serving in the Women's Royal Australian Naval Service. Reserve strength comprised 1,178 officers and 9,326 ratings, serving part-time.

6. **Women's Royal Australian Naval Service.**—The established personnel strength of the W.R.A.N.S. is 14 officers and 370 ratings. They serve in the shore establishments in the following categories: Radio-operators, Regulating, Writers, Stores Assistants, Sick Berth Attendants, Motor Transport Drivers, Wrans (Radar Plot), Cooks and Stewards.

7. **Reserve Training.**—Members of the Royal Australian Naval Reserve carry out limited training at night or on Saturday afternoons, plus 13 days annual continuous training; engagements are for 3 years and pay is approximately that of the Permanent Naval Forces. Special courses and service of longer duration are available to selected members. The Royal Australian Fleet Reserve consists of former ratings of the R.A.N., R.N., or a Dominion Navy whose obligation to perform training is determined by the length of their permanent naval service.

8. **Fleet Air Arm.**—The Fleet Air Arm of the Royal Australian Navy maintains two front line squadrons, embarked in the operational carrier, H.M.A.S. *Melbourne*. This ship is fitted with an angled deck, steam catapult and mirror deck-landing sights. Training and support squadrons for H.M.A.S. *Melbourne's* Sea Venom jet all-weather fighter and ground attack aircraft and Gannet turbo-prop anti-submarine aircraft are based at the Naval Air Station H.M.A.S. *Albatross* at Nowra, New South Wales.

9. **Ship Construction and Repair.**—Provision is made for the maintenance in Australia of a ship construction and repair industry capable of rapid expansion in war. Under the present programme, two anti-submarine frigates are fitting out and two more of the same type are under construction.

Two general purpose vessels and one sea-air rescue craft are also under construction.

10. **Naval College.**—The Royal Australian Naval College, transferred from Jervis Bay, A.C.T., to Flinders Naval Depot in 1930, was re-established at Jervis Bay in January, 1958, and was commissioned as H.M.A.S. *Creswell*.

11. **Training Establishments.**—Flinders Naval Depot, at Crib Point, Westernport, Victoria, is the basic training establishment for ratings in the permanent forces, while several advanced training schools are established in Sydney, New South Wales. The Apprentice Training Establishment at Quaker's Hill, New South Wales, provides secondary education as well as training in trades in which the lads will be employed during their service in the Royal Australian Navy. Introduction of junior recruits training will be effected at Fremantle, Western Australia, during the latter half of 1960. A large proportion of instructional hours will be devoted to school subjects, and the remaining instructional time to basic naval training and disciplinary training, so that on leaving the junior recruits training, ratings will be ready to undergo technical and specialist courses.

12. **The Australia Naval Station.**—Defined limits of the Australia Station are as follows:—

Eastern—

From 3° 30' North, 169° East, south to 1° South, thence east to 170° East, thence south along this meridian to 30° South, thence to 45° South, 160° East, thence south along this meridian.

Northern—

From 3° 30' North, 169° East, west to 125° East, thence south to the Coast of Celebes, thence west along the Coast of Celebes to 120° East, thence south along this meridian to 10° South, thence west to 78° East.

Western—

From 10° South, 78° East, south along this meridian.

13. *Ships Service Outside Australian Waters.*—During the year ended June, 1960, H.M.A. Ships *Melbourne*, *Anzac*, *Tobruk*, *Voyager*, *Quickmatch* and *Queenborough* served on the Far East Station as units of the Commonwealth Strategic Reserve with headquarters at Singapore. H.M.A. Ships *Vampire*, *Swan* and *Gascoyne* made visits beyond the limits of the Australia Station.

14. *Papua and New Guinea Division of the Royal Australian Navy.*—A Papua and New Guinea Division of the Royal Australian Navy, consisting of native ratings, was inaugurated in July, 1951, as a separate part of the Permanent Naval Forces for employment in Papua and New Guinea and adjacent waters.

15. *Ships of the Royal Australian Navy.*—The following ships were in commission or in reserve in June, 1960:—

SHIPS OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY, JUNE, 1960.

Vessel.	Description.	Displacement.
In Commission—		Tons.
<i>Melbourne</i>	Aircraft Carrier	15,680
<i>Vampire</i>	Destroyer	2,789
<i>Vendetta</i>	"	2,789
<i>Voyager</i>	"	2,801
<i>Queenborough</i>	Frigate	2,020
<i>Quiberon</i>	"	2,020
<i>Quickmatch</i>	"	2,020
<i>Diamantina</i> (Training)	"	1,489
<i>Gascoyne</i> (Training)	"	1,489
<i>Swan</i> (Cadets Training)	"	1,060
<i>Barcoo</i> (Survey)	"	1,477
<i>Warrego</i> (Survey)	"	1,060
In Reserve—		
<i>Sydney</i>	Aircraft Carrier	15,740
<i>Hobart</i>	Cruiser	7,100
<i>Anzac</i>	Destroyer	2,436
<i>Arunta</i>	"	2,012
<i>Tobruk</i>	"	2,436
<i>Warramunga</i>	"	2,012
<i>Barwon</i>	Frigate	1,489
<i>Burdekin</i>	"	1,489
<i>Condamine</i>	"	1,537
<i>Culgoa</i>	"	1,537
<i>Hawkesbury</i>	"	1,489
<i>Macquarie</i>	"	1,553
<i>Murchison</i>	"	1,537
<i>Quadrant</i>	"	2,020
<i>Shoalhaven</i>	"	1,537
<i>Cootamundra</i>	Ocean Minesweeper	768
<i>Wagga</i> (Training)	"	768
Under Dockyard Control—		
<i>Parramatta</i> (a)	Frigate (fitting out)
<i>Yarra</i>	"
O 2	" (building)
O 5	"

(a) Commissions June, 1961.

§ 3. Military Defence.

1. *State Systems.*—A detailed historical account of the Australian defence forces prior to federation appears in Official Year Book No. 2, pages 1075-80. *See also* Official Year Book No. 12, page 999.

The strength of the military forces of the States at 31st December, 1900 (the eve of federation) was:—New South Wales, 9,338; Victoria, 6,335; Queensland, 4,028; South Australia, 2,932; Western Australia, 2,696; Tasmania, 2,024; total for Australia, 27,353. This total is exclusive of cadets, reservists and rifle club members.

2. *Commonwealth Systems.*—(i) *General.* Under the terms of the Constitution Act 1900, the Commonwealth took over control of defence matters in March, 1901. The growth of the Commonwealth Military Forces may be considered to have taken place in sixteen phases. For particulars of the phases which cover the period from the welding together of the military forces of the States into one homogeneous army in 1902 up to the decision to increase the training strength of the militia to 70,000 in the year before the 1939-45 War (phases 1-7), *see* Official Year Book No. 36, and earlier issues.

Phases 8-10, covering the period immediately prior to, and just following, the outbreak of the 1939-45 War, relate to the initial steps necessary to put the Australian Military Forces on a war-time basis, and to its organization into commands.

The eleventh phase, in January, 1942 was the division of Northern, Eastern and Southern Commands into separate commands and base headquarters to handle operational and administrative matters respectively, and the twelfth phase was the revision of the machinery for command administration of lines of communication areas. The thirteenth phase was the appointment of Lieutenant-General Sir Iven Mackay as G.O.C.-in-C. Home Forces commanding the forces in Northern, Eastern and Southern Commands. The fourteenth phase covered the period following the outbreak of war with Japan and the entry of United States of America Forces into the South-West Pacific Area, and related to the appointment of General Sir Thomas Blamey as Commander-in-Chief, Australian Military Forces, the cessation of the Military Board and the replacement of the system of commands and bases by the field army and lines of communication areas. In March, 1943, First and Second Armies took over from Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria Lines of Communication Areas the command of all coast and static anti-aircraft artillery defences and training establishments. On 16th June, 1944, Western Command was re-established and took over the combined responsibilities of Third Australian Corps and Western Australia Line of Communication Area.

The fifteenth phase was the re-introduction in March, 1946, of the Military Board and the organization of commands and military districts, and the sixteenth phase was the commencement of the National Service Training Scheme in August, 1951 (*see* para. 5 p. 1097 and sub-para. (iv.) (c) p. 1102).

For greater detail on phases 8-14, *see* Official Year Book No. 38 and earlier issues.

(ii) *Population of Military Age, 30th June, 1959.* The following particulars show the estimated numbers of males of military age in the population of Australia as at 30th June, 1959. The total number of cadet age, 14 and under 18, was 319,968; of citizen soldier age, 18 and under 26, 535,392; and 26 and under 35, 675,309; making a total of 1,210,701 aged 18 and under 35, which is considered the best period for military service. In addition, there were 1,549,462 males 35 and under 60 in Australia at 30th June, 1959.

(iii) *Allotment of Units.* Under the Command Organization (*see* above), units are raised on a territorial basis, each State supplying its proportion of the personnel required for the fighting services.

The organization at 30th June, 1959, was as follows:—

Command Organization	..	Army Headquarters.
Northern Command	..	All formations and units in the Command.
Eastern Command	..	All formations and units in the Command.
Southern Command	..	All formations and units in the Command.
Central Command	..	All formations and units in the Command.
Western Command	..	All formations and units in the Command.
Tasmania Command	..	All formations and units in the Command.
Northern Territory Command	..	All formations and units in the Command.

Commands conform generally to state boundaries as follows:—Northern Command, Queensland; Eastern Command, New South Wales; Southern Command, Victoria; Central Command, South Australia; Western Command, Western Australia; Tasmania Command, Tasmania; and Northern Territory Command, Northern Territory; New Guinea is the responsibility of Northern Command.

(iv) *Military Training Systems. (a) General.* Particulars of the Military training systems in operation prior to the 1939–45 War, first on a compulsory basis and later voluntary, will be found in Official Year Book No. 38 and earlier issues.

The current plan for the Australian Regular Army provides for an average of 21,000 full time duty personnel, plus 4,700 civilians and a Citizen Military Force of 30,000 volunteers in peace. The A.R.A order of battle comprises an infantry brigade group, and its logistic support force, a battalion group serving in Malaya, a battalion of the Pacific Islands Regiment, and appropriate headquarters and administrative staffs, maintenance and training units. The C.M.F. order of battle is designed to provide for six infantry brigade groups with appropriate combat and logistic support elements. A further proposal designed to increase the efficiency of the Army in modern conditions is currently under consideration. This relates to a reorganization of the operational units in the order of battle both A.R.A. and C.M.F. on lines similar to the United States Army which is based on the pentomic division comprising five strong battle groups, instead of the division—brigade—battalion structure.

(b) *The Australian Cadet Corps.* The Australian Cadet Corps is a voluntary organization comprised of School Cadet units. It serves as a training ground to provide, to some extent, the future officers and non-commissioned officers of the Australian Military Forces, and, as such, occupies a foremost position in the scheme of national defence. School Cadet units are raised at educational establishments throughout the Commonwealth, except in the Northern Territory. The minimum age for enrolment is the year in which the applicant reaches the age of 14 years, and cadets, who in the large majority of schools receive a free issue of A.M.F. pattern uniform, may remain in the Cadet Corps until they cease to be pupils of the educational establishments concerned. A few units retain their own pattern school uniform and are not issued with A.M.F. pattern uniforms. Provision is made for the appointment of officers, cadet under-officers, warrant and non-commissioned officers on an authorized establishment scale from within school units. School Cadet units may be, and in many cases are, affiliated with Citizen Military Force units.

The establishment of the Corps is 33,500 all ranks, and at 30th September, 1959, comprised 279 School Cadet units with a posted strength of 32,460 all ranks.

(c) *National Service Training Scheme.* The Scheme introduced on 14th July, 1950, has been suspended and no further call up of trainees is planned. National Servicemen serving part time with Citizen Military Force units were however required to continue serving until 30th June, 1960, after which they had no further training obligation, unless they volunteered.

(v) *Women's Services.* In July, 1950, approval was given for the enlistment of women into the Australian Regular Army on a limited scale. Enlistment into the Royal Australian Army Nursing Service commenced in November, 1950, and into the Australian Women's Army Corps early in 1951. In February, 1951, the Royal Australian Army Nursing Service became a Corps and was designated the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps (R.A.A.N.C.). During June, 1951, the Australian Women's Army Corps was redesignated the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps (W.R.A.A.C.). The Women's Services in the Australian Regular Army now comprises two Corps only.—

(a) Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps.

(b) Women's Royal Australian Army Corps.

Women's Services are incorporated in the Citizen Military Forces and one company of the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps is located in each Command excluding Northern Territory Command. One Company of the Royal Australian Nursing Corps is located in each Command excluding Northern Territory Command and Tasmania Command.

(vi) *Korea*. On 2nd August, 1950, the Commonwealth Government announced its decision to raise and dispatch to Korea one infantry battalion as part of Australia's contribution of military assistance to the United Nations. 3rd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment stationed in Japan, brought up to strength by special enlistments flown to Japan from Australia, became the Special Korean Force. 3rd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, sailed from Japan on 27th September, 1950, for Korea, where it joined 27th British Brigade, later designated as 27th British Commonwealth Brigade. For its gallantry on 24th and 25th April, 1951, 3rd Battalion was awarded the United States Presidential Citation by the President of the United States of America. On the 4th October, 1951, the Commonwealth Government announced that a second infantry battalion would be sent to Korea to join 3rd Battalion. On 3rd March, 1952, 1st Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, which had been brought up to strength at Ingleburn (N.S.W.), embarked for Japan where it was equipped before moving to Korea. 1st Battalion joined 3rd Battalion now under operational control of 28th British Brigade, 1st Commonwealth Division, on 1st June, 1952. 2nd Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment, after training at Puckapunyal, Victoria, relieved 1st Battalion in Korea on 21st March, 1953, the latter battalion returning to Australia. 2nd Battalion was relieved by 1st Battalion and returned to Australia in April, 1954, while 3rd Battalion returned to Australia in November, 1954. Following a reduction in the size of the British Commonwealth contribution to the United Nations Force in Korea and the decision to close the British Commonwealth Base in Japan, 1st Battalion was withdrawn from Korea on 24th March, 1956, and the Australian Army's contribution to the theatre was reduced to 90 all ranks. During 1957, the Australian Army's component in the theatre was progressively withdrawn except for two members with the Commonwealth Liaison Mission.

(vii) *Malaya*. On 1st April, 1955, the Commonwealth Government announced its decision to dispatch troops to Malaya as an Australian component of the British Commonwealth Far East Strategic Reserve. 2nd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, and 105th Field Battery, Royal Australian Artillery, and other minor units embarked from Australia on 6th October, 1955, and disembarked at Penang on 20th October, 1955. Since then an infantry battalion group and certain other personnel with integrated units have been stationed in Malaya, and this force has been relieved every two years or so. Members of minor units, and those posted to integrated units are replaced individually as necessary. The 1st Battalion Royal Australian Regiment, and 101st Field Battery Royal Australian Artillery are at present stationed in Malaya.

(viii) *The Staff College*. Until 1938, the training of staff officers was carried out in the various Military Districts throughout Australia, except in cases where officers were selected from time to time to attend courses abroad. In 1938, an Australian Command and Staff School, located in the original Officers' Mess at Victoria Barracks, Sydney, was established. Between 1939 and 1945, the training of staff officers was carried out under varying conditions by different schools in accordance with the changing needs of the war.

Early in 1946, the Staff School (Australia) was established at Seymour in Victoria and re-designated the Staff College in conformity with other Empire training establishments for training officers for command and staff appointments. The College was later moved to Queenscliffe, Victoria, where it is at present situated. The courses are of ten months' duration and are held from January to November each year. The normal intake is 40 students and on successfully completing the course, an officer is awarded the symbol "psc". The course is designed to train selected officers for war, and in so doing to fit them for Command or Grade II. staff appointments. Each course includes, among the students, Army representatives of the United Kingdom and other Dominions and countries.

Included in the 1960 course are students from the United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand, India, Pakistan, Ceylon, United States of America, Thailand, Malaya, the Philippines and Burma. Vacancies on each course are reserved also for officers who may be nominated by the Royal Australian Navy, the Royal Australian Air Force and the Commonwealth Public Service.

In order to ensure common standards in tactical doctrine and staff and command training throughout the British Commonwealth, liaison is maintained with other Staff Colleges, and to this end, there is also a reciprocal exchange of instructors between the United Kingdom and Australia. An instructor is now also provided by New Zealand. To this extent, it may be said that the Staff College is imperial in character.

(ix) *The Royal Military College*. The Royal Military College was established in 1911 at Duntroon in the Australian Capital Territory for the purpose of providing trained officers for the Army. The conditions of entry are laid down in the Royal Military College

Regulations and provide for admission by "normal", "service", and "special" entries. The length of the "normal" course is four years; "service" entry cadets attend for three years; and "special" entries for one year.

While at the College, Staff Cadets are wholly maintained, and, in addition, are paid the following weekly rates, which include 17s. 6d. a week clothing allowance:—1st year £6 10s. 8d; 2nd year £6 19s. 5d.; 3rd year £7 15s. 2d.; 4th year £9 19s. 6d. An additional 3s. 6d. a week is payable when cadets reach 18 years of age. The course of instruction is organized into military and civil departments and the instructional staff comprises officers of the army and civilian professors. On graduation, cadets are appointed lieutenants in the Australian Regular Army. The College also trains New Zealand cadets for commissions in the New Zealand Permanent Forces under an agreement made with the Government of that Dominion.

(x) *The Officer Cadet School.* The Officer Cadet School was established in 1951 at Portsea, Victoria, for the purpose of speeding up the production of junior regimental officers for the Australian Regular Army. Serving members of the Australian Regular Army, the Citizen Military Forces, National Servicemen, and civilians between the ages of eighteen and twenty-three years are eligible to apply for entrance. The course is of 44 weeks' duration, and on graduation, cadets are appointed second-lieutenants in the Australian Regular Army. They then normally proceed to further training at the Army School of the Arm or Service to which they have been allotted before being posted to regimental duties.

(xi) *The Women's Royal Australian Army Corps School.* The W.R.A.A.C. School, established in 1952 at Mildura, Victoria, moved to Mosman, New South Wales in 1958. It has two wings, one whose primary task is the training of officer cadets for the W.R.A.A.C. the other being for the training of non-commissioned officers at all levels and for other special courses. The officer cadets are selected from eligible applicants, who may be serving members between 21 and 32 years of age, or civilians between 21 and 30 years of age. The course is of six months' duration and, on graduation, cadets are appointed lieutenants in the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps.

(xii) *The Army Apprentices' School.* The Army Apprentices' School was opened in 1948 at Balcombe, Victoria, with the aim of training youths as skilled tradesmen for the Australian Regular Army, and to form a background for an Army career with prospects of promotion. The course is open to boys between the ages of 15 and 17 years and provides training in a number of highly skilled trades. A three-year course of intensive theoretical and practical work at the Apprentices' School is followed by one year in an appropriate Army workshop or technical unit. At the end of their third year, boys are given their Army trade test and also take the Victorian Apprenticeship Commission's final grade public examinations, which ensures that they will be accepted as qualified tradesmen in civil life, when they eventually leave the Army. In addition to trade training, the Apprentices' School provides general educational facilities up to the School Leaving Standard.

(xiii) *Rifle Clubs.* The Australian Rifle Club movement, which had its origin in 1888 is provided for in the Defence Act and comprises an Australian Council of State Rifle Associations, State Rifle Associations, District Rifle Club Unions and Rifle Clubs. Prior to 1931, the administration of the organization was the responsibility of the Secretary for Defence. From that year, its control passed to the Department of the Army. This organization continued until the outbreak of the 1939–45 War. In 1941, Rifle Clubs were placed in recess, until August, 1946, when approval was given for the re-establishment of the movement on a civilian basis under the control of the Secretary, Department of the Army. Approximately 20 per cent. of the members served overseas and a further 60 per cent. performed home service duties during the 1939–45 War. Rifle shooting activities were resumed in 1946 and the strength of the movement as at 31st December, 1959, was 977 clubs and 43,115 members.

By decision of the Government, from 1st July, 1960, the Australian Rifle Club Movement was established as an independent organization outside the control of the Department of the Army and no further financial assistance will be provided for its maintenance.

(xiv) *Army Schools.* Army Schools have been established for the major Arms and Services for the purpose of training officers and other ranks in the up-to-date techniques of their own Arm or Service, to qualify them for promotion requirements, and to produce trained instructors. Courses at Army Schools are conducted for members of both the Australian Regular Army and the Citizen Military Forces.

The following Army Schools have been established:—

Jungle Training Centre.	Royal Australian Army Service Corps School.
Armoured School.	Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps School.
School of Artillery.	Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers' Training Centre.
School of Military Engineering.	Transportation Training Centre.
School of Survey.	Women's Royal Australian Army Corps School.
School of Signals.	School of Music.
Infantry Centre.	Air Support Unit.
Intelligence Centre.	School of Army Health.
Royal Australian Army Medical Corps.	

(xv) *The Australian Battles Nomenclature Committee.* The Minister for the Army gave approval on 25th July, 1947, for the formation of the Australian Battles Nomenclature Committee to tabulate and classify the operations fought in the Pacific Zones in the 1939–45 War which involved the Australian Military Forces, to define their geographical and chronological limits and to advise the United Kingdom Battles Nomenclature Committee regarding operations in zones other than the Pacific Zone in which the Australian Military Forces participated. Sub-committees were later appointed to study the various campaigns in order to classify the operations into battles, actions and engagements. In 1956, the terms of reference of the Australian Battles Nomenclature Committee were extended to cover the operations in Korea 1950–53.

Major-General Sir George F. Wooten, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., E.D., a distinguished soldier of both World Wars, was appointed by the Military Board to be Chairman of the Australian Battles Nomenclature Committee.

The final report of the United Kingdom Battles Nomenclature Committee was published in November, 1957.

3. **Strength of Australian Military Forces.**—The effective strength of the Australian Military Forces at 31st December, 1959, was as follows:—Australian Regular Army, 16,564; Regular Army Special Reserve, 3,384; other Permanent (including Women's Services, Trainees, etc.), 1,895; Citizen Military Force (including National Service Trainees), 55,120; Australian Cadet Corps, 30,073.

4. **Design and Inspection Branch.**—The control of this Branch reverted to the Department of the Army from the Department of Supply as from 12th March, 1959.

§ 4. Air Defence.

1. **General.**—A statement regarding the preliminary steps taken in connexion with the development of air defence appears in Official Year Book No. 18, page 610, and one on the expansion and development and zones and operations of the Royal Australian Air Force during the 1939–45 War in Official Year Book No. 36, page 1027.

2. **Administration and Organization.**—The Department of Air is responsible for policy for the organization and control of the Royal Australian Air Force. The Air Board is responsible, subject to approved policy, for the control and administration of the Royal Australian Air Force, and is constituted as follows:—Chief of the Air Staff, Air Member for Technical Services, Air Member for Personnel, Air Member for Supply and Equipment, Citizen Air Force Member and the Secretary, Department of Air.

Headquarters of the Royal Australian Air Force is in the process of moving from Melbourne to Canberra. A R.A.A.F. Representative is located at London and an Air Attache at Washington.

The units of the Royal Australian Air Force are organized in two functional Commands throughout Australia and its Territories.

The Commands are:—

Operational Command.—Operational Command is responsible for the command of operational units and the conduct of their operations within Australia and its territories.

Support Command.—Support Command is responsible for the command of training units, supply and servicing units; recruitment and individual training in the R.A.A.F., and supply and servicing including technical servicing of the R.A.A.F. in Australia.

The organization of the Royal Australian Air Force includes the following types of formations and units:—

- (a) *Formations.* These comprise a headquarters unit to control the activities of a number of units at one location. Each formation has a base squadron which provides common services to all units at the location.
- (b) *Flying Squadrons.* These bomber, fighter, transport and maritime reconnaissance squadrons undertake the operational and, in conjunction with operational conversion units, the operational training flying commitments of the R.A.A.F.
- (c) *Operational Conversion Units.* These units specialize in operational conversion training of aircrew for the bomber and fighter squadrons.
- (d) *Aircraft Depots.* These units specialize in major overhauls, etc., of aircraft and equipment and relieve flying unit ground staff of these commitments.
- (e) *Stores Depots.* Stores and equipment ordered by the R.A.A.F. are delivered to these centrally located depots for distribution to units.
- (f) *Flying Training, Ground Training, Navigation, Radio and Air Armament Training Units.* These units specialize in the aircrew and ground staff training required by the R.A.A.F.
- (g) *Airfield Construction Squadrons.* These units specialize in the construction of R.A.A.F. aerodromes and associated buildings and works services.
- (h) *Royal Australian Air Force College.* This unit is the training college for officer cadet entrants to the R.A.A.F.
- (i) *Telecommunications Units.* These units are responsible for the communications services of the R.A.A.F.
- (j) *R.A.A.F. Staff College.* This college trains specially selected R.A.A.F. officers for higher staff and command posts.

3. Aircraft.—Some of the aircraft which are at present being used in the Royal Australian Air Force are: bomber squadrons—Canberra; fighter squadrons—Vampire and Avon Sabre; transport squadrons—Metropolitan Hercules and Dakota; maritime reconnaissance squadrons—Lincoln and Neptune; air observation post—Cessna; training—Dakota, Canberra, Winjeel, Vampire, Meteor and Avon Sabre.

4. Establishment.—The Royal Australian Air Force establishment, as proposed, comprises an operational element and a support element consisting in all of approximately 16,328 personnel. The operational element consists of (a) Field Operational Force, (b) Operational Force, (c) Home Defence Force. The support element comprises the remainder of the R.A.A.F., and includes headquarters and administrative staffs and the organization for training, supply and maintenance.

5. Strength of Royal Australian Air Force.—At 1st March, 1960, the strength of the Royal Australian Air Force was as follows:—Permanent Air Force, 14,886; Active Citizen Air Force, 578; Active Reserve, 274 and General Reserve, 13,493.

6. Women's Royal Australian Air Force.—At 1st March, 1960, the Women's Royal Australian Air Force had an establishment of 890, with an enlisted strength of 715 (not included in the R.A.A.F. strength in para. 5, above). There are 28 musterings, excluding members of the W.R.A.A.F. in training. Details of enlistment and service in the W.R.A.A.F. are given in Official Year Book No. 44, page 1058.

7. Operations in Korea and Malaya.—Reference to R.A.A.F. participation in operations in Korea is contained in Official Year Book No. 40, pages 1112–13.

Australian assistance in the form of one transport squadron provided to the Malayan authorities is detailed in Official Year Book No. 40, page 1113.

One bomber squadron was provided for operations in Malaya. No. 1 (Bomber) Squadron, equipped with Lincolns and operating from a Royal Air Force base on Singapore Island, served in this capacity from July, 1950, until withdrawn in July, 1958. During this period, the squadron dropped approximately 35 million lb. of bombs during operations against communist bandits.

Subsequent to the withdrawal of No. 1 (Bomber) Squadron, the R.A.A.F. component of the British Commonwealth Strategic Reserve was deployed to the R.A.A.F. base at Butterworth, Malaya. The force includes No. 2 (Bomber) Squadron, No. 3 (Fighter) Squadron and No. 77 (Fighter) Squadron. Deployment was completed in March, 1959.

§ 5. War Gratuities.

Reference is made in earlier issues of the Official Year Book to the payments made under the provisions of the War Gratuity Acts 1920 (*see* No. 15, p. 930) and the War Gratuity Act 1945-1947 (*see* No. 41, p. 999).

§ 6. Department of Supply.

1. **General.**—Reference to the creation of the Department of Supply is contained in Official Year Book No. 39, page 1257. On 24th April, 1958, the Department of Defence Production was abolished and the functions previously undertaken by that Department were transferred to the Department of Supply. References to those functions and to the activities of the various branches and establishments of the former Department of Defence Production are contained in Official Year Book No. 44, pages 1059-61.

2. **Functions of the Department**—The functions of the Department of Supply include—

- (i) Defence research and development, including the operation of the Joint United Kingdom—Australia Long Range Weapons Project, and Australian research and development through the Weapons Research Establishment, the Aeronautical Research Laboratories, the Defence Standards Laboratories and associated establishments;
- (ii) Manufacture, acquisition, provision and supply of munitions (including aircraft) and miscellaneous goods and services required by the defence forces;
- (iii) Arrangement of contracts for the supply of goods and the performance of services;
- (iv) Operation and management of factories, workshops and undertakings concerned in the production of munitions (including aircraft), clothing, canvasware and other defence goods;
- (v) Acquisition, maintenance and disposal of strategic materials;
- (vi) Planning and establishment of manufacturing facilities for the production of munitions and other defence goods;
- (vii) Investigation and development of Australian sources of supply in connexion with defence;
- (viii) Sale or disposal of surplus Commonwealth property other than land or buildings;
- (ix) Provision of Commonwealth transport facilities outside the Australian Capital Territory;
- (x) Provision and control of stores required for or in connexion with matters administered by the Department of Supply, and general storage for other Departments as required;
- (xi) Provision of security services within the Department;
- (xii) Arrangements for ascertaining costs and the control and limitation of profits in connexion with the production of munitions and other defence goods.

3. **Act Administered.**—The Minister for Supply administers the Supply and Development Act 1939–1948, except insofar as it concerns the building, repair and maintenance of merchant ships and the building, extension, operation, repair and maintenance of shipyards, drydocking and repair facilities for merchant ships.

4. **Research and Development Branch.**—(i) *General.* The Research and Development Branch, which is under the control of the Chief Scientist, is responsible for research and scientific development in relation to war *matériel* including the operation of the Joint United Kingdom—Australia Long Range Weapons Organization. The Chief Scientist is also the Chairman of the Board of Management for Research and Development, which is responsible for the efficient and economical conduct of research and development undertakings. The headquarters of the Branch is situated at 339 Swanston-street, Melbourne, and the following establishments are included in the Branch:—Weapons Research Establishment, Salisbury, South Australia; Defence Standards Laboratories, Maribyrnong, Victoria; Aeronautical Research Laboratories, Fishermen's Bend, Victoria.

(ii) *Weapons Research Establishment, Salisbury, South Australia.* This Establishment has three main sections, namely, the Trials and Instrumentation Wing, the Weapons Research and Development Wing and the Engineering Wing.

The Trials and Instrumentation Wing is concerned with the Joint United Kingdom—Australia Long Range Weapons Project and is responsible for the testing of guided missiles developed in the United Kingdom. The Weapons Research and Development Wing is engaged chiefly on Australian-initiated research but also provides a supporting research service for the Joint Project. The Engineering Wing designs the technical features of new installations on the range and operates the engineering facilities of the Establishment.

The headquarters of Weapons Research Establishment consisting of the main laboratory workshop and administrative services, is located at Salisbury.

Accommodation has been provided in the area for a number of United Kingdom firms which are developing guided weapons under contract to the British Ministry of Supply.

A modern airfield (Edinburgh Field) has been established adjacent to the Headquarters at Salisbury to meet the flying requirements of the establishment, the flying effort being provided by the R.A.A.F.

Testing ranges have been provided at Woomera, which is approximately 280 miles north-west of Salisbury and 9 miles north of Pimba, which is on the trans-continental railway line. A number of these testing ranges are now in operation. A modern township of 500 houses and extensive barracks accommodation has been built, complete with community store, hospital, school and all amenities usually found in an Australian country town.

(iii) *Defence Standards Laboratories.* The Defence Standards Laboratories at Maribyrnong continue to give comprehensive service to industry, the armed services and to other Commonwealth and State Departments.

The broad function of these laboratories is the application of scientific knowledge and research to the problems arising in design, development, manufacture, inspection, storage, and use of war *matériel*. Research is also carried out in connexion with the development of new and improved materials, methods and equipment of known or potential interest.

(iv) *Aeronautical Research Laboratories.* The broad function of the Aeronautical Research Laboratories is the application of scientific knowledge in the field of aeronautics to the operational and technical problems of the armed Services and industry, and to the development of new weapons and military equipment. More specifically, the Laboratories conduct investigations in aerodynamics, structures, materials, and power plants with particular attention to aeronautical defence problems, especially those of missile design and operational effectiveness. These Laboratories also collaborate with the United Kingdom on aeronautical research matters of mutual interest.

5. **Production.**—(i) *Munitions.* The Department is responsible for the production in Australia of munitions (other than specialized Navy requirements) for the Armed Services. The production is undertaken both in government-operated factories and in industry. Broadly this production is allocated as follows:—

(a) Some processes are undertaken entirely by the government factories in peace and war because of special requirements.

- (b) Some classes of equipment and components are produced entirely by industry in peace and war.
- (c) Production techniques of advanced equipment and components, which may be mass-produced by industry in war, are developed in the government factories in peace.
- (d) Requirements of standard equipment and components produced by the government factories in limited quantities in peace are, in war, produced on a mass production basis in industry.

The following government factories are currently in operation:—Ammunition—Footscray, Victoria; Explosives and Filling—Albion and Maribyrnong, Victoria; Mulwala and St. Mary's, New South Wales; Ordnance—Maribyrnong, Bendigo and Port Melbourne, all in Victoria; Small Arms—Lithgow, New South Wales; Clothing—Victoria.

With the exception of the Clothing Factory, these factories are complementary to each other in the manufacture of a range of basic munitions. The Ammunition Factory makes the brass and non-ferrous components of gun ammunition, including melting and rolling and these components are then passed to the Filling Factories for filling with explosives. However, the factory makes the complete round for small arms ammunition, the propellant being supplied by the Explosives Factories. The Ordnance Factories make guns principally. In addition, steel shell bodies are produced by these establishments and passed to the Filling Factories to be filled with explosives and assembled with the brass and other components received from the Ammunition Factory.

The Bendigo factory is specially equipped to produce also main propulsion gearing for Naval destroyers and frigates. The Port Melbourne works produces marine engines.

The Explosives Factories make the propellant and high explosives for the brass components produced at the Ammunition Factory and for the steel components made at the Ordnance Factory. The Explosives Factories also assemble the gun ammunition.

The Small Arms Factory is equipped to make the rifles and other small arms for which the Ammunition Factory makes the ammunition. The factory is currently producing the F.N. 7.62 mm. automatic rifle for the Australian Army to replace the .303 Lee Enfield rifle. Orders for the new rifle have also been received from the Ghana and New Zealand Governments.

Production of munitions is also a joint effort between the Government factories and private contractors in industry. In peace, industry produces many components for ammunition and other stores plus complete units such as electronic equipment and motor vehicles for the Services. In war, industry would provide the major capacity for mass production not only of these and many other new items, but also of equipment and components using engineering techniques developed in peacetime in the Government factories.

(ii) *Aircraft. (a) General.* The production in Australia of military types of aircraft and aero engines and of other aircraft components required by the Royal Australian Air Force is administered by the Department of Supply. The planning of capacity and the negotiation of contractual arrangements in connexion with aircraft repair and overhaul activities carried out for the Services in civilian establishments, as distinct from Service workshops, are also functions of the Department, together with the responsibility for the supply of certain aircraft and engine spare parts and airborne equipment.

(b) *Aircraft, Engine and Other Production.* The approved production programmes for the major aircraft manufacturing organizations in Australia comprised Jindivik radio-controlled jet-propelled target aircraft and the Malkara guided missile at the Government Aircraft Factory, Melbourne; Avon-Sabre jet-engined fighters and Rolls-Royce Avon Turbo-jet engines at Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation Pty. Ltd., Melbourne; and Vampire jet-trainers at De Havilland Aircraft Pty. Ltd., Sydney.

Production activities included the manufacture of engine parts at the Aircraft Engine Factory, Sydney, of aircraft pressed metal parts at Chrysler Australia Ltd., Adelaide, and of turbine and compressor blades for jet engines at National Forge Pty. Ltd., Melbourne.

(c) *Repair and Overhaul.* During the year, the broad policy was continued by the R.A.A.F. of returning to the factories in which they were produced all Australian-made aircraft and aero engines requiring major overhaul and the incorporation of modifications. Repair and overhaul of R.A.A.F. aircraft of certain other types and of carrier-based aircraft operated by the R.A.N. were undertaken by civilian personnel in the aircraft factories or in the works of contractors specially equipped to handle this type of work.

Canberra bomber and Jindivik target aircraft were repaired and modified at the Government Aircraft Factory. Avon-Sabre fighter aircraft were repaired and modified and Rolls-Royce Nene and Avon turbo-jet engines were overhauled by Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation Pty. Ltd., Melbourne. Pratt and Whitney Twin Row Wasp engines from the R.A.A.F., Armstrong-Siddeley Double Mamba turbo-prop engines from the R.A.N., and Rover Meteor tank engines from the Department of the Army were overhauled at the Aircraft Engine Factory, Sydney. Propellers from the R.A.A.F. and R.A.N. were overhauled at the Propeller Annexe, Alexandria, N.S.W. Wright turbo-compound engines from R.A.A.F. Neptune aircraft were overhauled by Qantas Empire Airways Ltd., Sydney.

Carrier-based Sea Venom aircraft, Vampire fighters and trainers, together with Ghost turbo-jet engines from Sea Venoms and Goblin turbo-jet engines from Vampire trainers were repaired and overhauled at De Havilland Aircraft Pty. Ltd. Dakota transport and other miscellaneous aircraft were reconditioned and serviced at the Government workshops at Parafield, South Australia.

The repair and overhaul of carrier-based Fairey "Gannet" aircraft for the R.A.N. and the erection of "Meteor" target aircraft for the Woomera Rocket Range were handled by the Fairey Aviation Company of Australasia Ltd., Sydney.

Sycamore helicopter aircraft, Bristol freighter aircraft, Alvis Leonides and Bristol Hercules engines were repaired and overhauled by Bristol Aviation Services, also in Sydney.

The reconditioning and servicing of aircraft instruments, electrical, electronic and other ancillary equipment and airframe components were carried out by various contractors.

(d) *Avalon Test Field.* The final assembly, fitting out and flight testing of military aircraft built, overhauled or modified at the Melbourne aircraft factories was continued during the year at the Avalon Airfield, near Geelong, Victoria. The airfield was also used for the training of civil flight crews on Boeing jet-aircraft operated by Qantas Empire Airways Ltd. and on other civil airliners operated by Trans-Australia Airlines and Ansett-A.N.A.

(e) *Rationalization of Aircraft Industry.* Certain proposals for the rationalization of the aircraft industry in New South Wales were approved by the Government during the year, involving—

- (i) the termination of the arrangement under which the Lidcombe engine factory had been managed as an annexe by the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation Pty. Ltd. and the leasing of the factory to De Havilland Aircraft Pty. Ltd.
- (ii) the closing down of the propeller annexe, formerly managed by the De Havilland Company on behalf of the Commonwealth.
- (iii) the transfer to the Lidcombe factory of engine and propeller overhaul activities from the De Havilland Bankstown works and the propeller annexe respectively.

(f) *Telecommunications.* Developmental and production orders were placed with industry for new and improved types of Service telecommunications equipment.

6. *Contract Board.*—(i) *General.* Under the Supply and Development Act 1939–1948, the Contract Board is the authority responsible for purchasing supplies and arranging services for the Military, Naval and Air Forces of the Commonwealth, as well as for the Department of Supply. It is also responsible for the sale or disposal of all surplus or unserviceable war *matériel* and other goods approved for disposal. In addition, the Board purchases and arranges disposals on behalf of other Commonwealth Government departments and authorities which have no public contract organization of their own, e.g., Immigration, National Development and External Affairs (Colombo Plan supplies).

(ii) *The Board and its Administrative Organization.* The Contract Board meets in Melbourne, and comprises representatives of the Departments of Supply, Navy, Army and Air. The Board's administrative organization is the Directorate of Contracts. In each State other than Victoria, there is a District Contract Board with an administrative organization similar to the Directorate of Contracts. The table following shows, in respect of the Contract Board organization, the purchases and realizations from disposals for the years 1957–58 and 1958–59.

CONTRACT BOARD ORGANIZATION : PURCHASES AND REALIZATIONS FROM DISPOSALS.

(£.)

State.	Purchases.		Realizations from Disposals.	
	1957-58.	1958-59.	1957-58.	1958-59.
Contract Board, Victoria	18,358,263	31,756,415	1,619,495	1,343,623
District Contract Board—				
New South Wales	5,315,790	4,906,385	1,472,657	1,432,395
Queensland	1,006,079	868,149	420,508	458,951
South Australia	845,181	1,242,548	376,970	382,450
Western Australia	370,607	363,775	159,503	224,761
Tasmania	81,288	91,339	34,749	35,673
Total	25,977,208	39,228,611	4,083,882	3,877,853

7. **Defence Supply Planning.**—The central planning authority of the Department is the Planning Branch, the principal functions of which are—

- (i) to plan for and to assist in the development of additional production capacity to meet the Services' munitions requirements for mobilization and war;
- (ii) to provide and administer stockpiles of relevant materials and reserve pools of plant and equipment considered essential for expansion of production in the event of war;
- (iii) to prepare and progress co-ordinated production programmes against Service orders and to analyse and interpret achievement against these programmes for the information of the Department and the Services;
- (iv) to provide advisory service in the field of instrumentation and inspection to Government factories and contractors engaged in the production of munitions requirements; and
- (v) to carry out surveys of production capacity and to indicate steps necessary to augment capacity in the event of war.

Attached to the Planning Branch is the Defence Supply Planning Committee which acts as a reviewing body in defence production matters for submission to the Higher Defence Machinery. Its membership includes representatives of the three Services and the Departments of Defence, Supply and Trade.

A series of Industry Advisory Committees has been established to advise the Minister and the Department in the development of industrial mobilization plans to meet the Services *matériel* requirements for mobilization and war. The Committees are: Ammunition; Electrical; Explosives and Chemicals; Machine Tools and Gauges and Munitions Factory Equipment; Materials; Military Vehicles; Radar and Telecommunications; Weapons and their Equipment; Hard Fibres; Raw Cotton; and Rubber and Allied Materials.

Members of the Committees include industrialists of wide experience and the highest ability in their chosen fields.

8. **Stores and Transport Branch.**—This Branch, administered by a Board of Management and working under the direction of a General Manager, functions as the Central Storage Authority and the Central Transport Authority for all Commonwealth Departments. It is the authority for the arrangement of furniture removals at departmental expense in all States but not in the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory. It has agents in Canberra and Darwin. It also operates a Shipping and Customs Section and the England-Australia Bulk Air Freight Scheme for Commonwealth Departments.

On 30th June, 1959, it had under its control land, buildings and works, vehicles, plant and equipment valued at £8,705,852 and 3,397,373 sq. ft. of storage space as well as storage facilities for large quantities of chemicals, bulk liquids and explosives.

9. Finance Branch.—The expenditure on Department of Supply activities during the year 1958–59 is shown in the following table:—

SUPPLY : TOTAL EXPENDITURE.
(£'000.)

Particulars.	Expenditure 1958–59.
Parliamentary Appropriations	20,961
Trust Fund Accounts—	
Stores and Transport	4,680
Government Factories and Establishments	15,161
Munitions Production	10,009
Defence Production Materials	54
Aircraft Production	8,676
<i>Total Trust Accounts</i>	38,580
Total Expenditure	59,541