

## CHAPTER 4

### DEFENCE

#### Department of Defence

##### Functions of Department of Defence

The functions of the Department of Defence include: defence policy; joint Service matters and matters having an inter-departmental defence aspect; the financial requirements of defence policy and the allocation of the funds made available; the supply aspect of defence policy including the review of production programmes and capacity; important matters of policy or principle affecting the Defence Forces and their requirements, including the strength, organisation and disposition of the forces, higher appointments in the Services, their weapons and equipment, and defence research and development.

##### Organisation, higher defence machinery, and the control of the joint Service machinery

The joint Service and inter-departmental advisory machinery of the Department consist of various committees and joint staffs headed by the Defence Committee, the Chiefs of Staff Committee, the Defence (Administration) Committee, and the Defence (Industrial) Committee.

The *Defence Committee* is a statutory body consisting of the Secretary, Department of Defence, who is Chairman; the Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee; the Chiefs of Staff of the three Services; the Secretary, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet; the Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs; and the Secretary to the Treasury. Its function is to advise the Minister for Defence on: the defence policy as a whole and the co-ordination of military, strategic, economic, financial, and foreign affairs aspects of defence policy; matters of policy or principle and important questions having a joint Service or an inter-departmental defence aspect; and 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 military matters on a joint service basis, and is responsible in peace for the preparation of military appreciations and plans. The principal functions of the *Defence (Administration) Committee* are the regular review of the progress of the Defence Programme and overall Defence Vote control.

The *Defence (Industrial) Committee* co-ordinates and makes recommendations regarding the capabilities of Australian industry to meet the material requirements of the Services in peace and war. Members of the Defence Business Board are co-opted as necessary for specific subjects. The *Defence Business Board* is constituted to advise 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. Three of the members also serve as business advisers to the separate Service Departments.

There have been many far reaching changes in the Defence administration over the past three years. These are designed to provide the Government with the best possible advice in making decisions on defence policy by ensuring that all proposals have been thoroughly examined and that the best available military, strategic, technological, intelligence and economic advice is provided. These changes include the establishment of a Joint Staff, the strengthening of the Defence Science Organisation, the establishment of a Joint Intelligence Organisation, strengthening of the Programme Management and Defence Facilities Division, and other areas of the department to provide greater capacity, the introduction of systems analysis and the introduction of the five year rolling programme system based on the concepts of planning-programming-budgeting.

Courses at the new Australian Joint Services Staff College commenced in January 1970. Attended by senior officers of the Armed Services and appropriate civilian departments and including students from New Zealand, the six-month course extends beyond purely military matters to include studies on socio-economic-political aspects, countries to our North and modern management practices. The objective is to produce officers well equipped for higher command and staff appointments.

### Basis of current defence policy

The primary aim of Australian defence policy is to ensure the security of Australia and her Territories.

Because of the close link between Australian security and wider regional security, Australian policy stresses not only immediate direct defence, but also progress and stability in nearby countries, particularly in the south-east Asian area. In concert with our major allies and in keeping with our resources, Australia continues to make an active military contribution to collective defence arrangements in the area—SEATO, ANZUS and the Five-Power arrangements in Malaysia and Singapore—with the aim of supporting secure and stable independent nation States in south-east Asia with which Australia can establish co-operative relations.

At present Australian forces are on active overseas service in South Vietnam, together with the United States and other allies.

Australia has long-standing defence links with Malaysia and Singapore. The Australian Government, in association with the United Kingdom and New Zealand, will maintain forces of all arms in the area so long as their presence is actively desired by the two governments concerned. The presence of these forces and their participation in training and military exercises with Malaysian and Singaporean troops will aid the development of the indigenous defence capacity of the two countries as well as providing additional security while that capacity is built up.

### New Programming concept

The year 1969–70 marks the change from the period defence programme concept to a continuous 'rolling' programme. In addition, the forward view has been projected ahead for five years rather than for three years as in the previous fixed programmes.

Each year another year—the fifth year forward—will be added to the programme in conjunction with an annual review of defence plans and policies. Because of the continuity thus provided, the consideration of major defence investment proposals will progress continuously rather than in a peak of activity in either annual or triennial cycles.

At the same time proposals can be considered against the background of a five year projection of defence expenditure as a whole in relation to the pressure thus placed on financial and other resources.

### Personnel strengths

Of the Army strength some 16,000 are national servicemen. The selective national service scheme is in its sixth year of operation and continues to be essential for the maintenance of Army strength.

#### PERSONNEL STRENGTHS OF DEFENCE FORCES, JUNE 1961 TO 1971

##### NAVY

<i>Strength at June—</i>	<i>Permanent forces</i>	<i>Citizen forces</i>	<i>Emergency reserves</i>	<i>Total</i>
1961 . . . . .	10,722	7,770	..	18,492
1962 . . . . .	11,103	6,424	..	17,527
1963 . . . . .	11,663	5,433	..	17,096
1964 . . . . .	12,569	5,202	..	17,771
1965 . . . . .	13,503	3,762	443	17,708
1966 . . . . .	14,714	3,797	686	19,197
1967 . . . . .	15,893	3,931	793	20,617
1968 . . . . .	16,454	4,047	904	21,405
1969 . . . . .	16,943	3,971	1,114	22,028
1970 . . . . .	17,304	4,462	897	22,663
Estimated strength at June 1971 . . . . .	17,820	4,330	798	22,948

PERSONNEL STRENGTHS OF DEFENCE FORCES  
JUNE 1961 TO 1971—*continued*

ARMY

<i>Strength at June—</i>	<i>Permanent forces</i>				<i>Total</i>
	<i>Australian Regular Army</i>	<i>Pacific Islands Regiment</i>	<i>Citizen forces</i>	<i>Emergency reserves</i>	
1961 . . . . .	19,878	581	26,958	..	47,417
1962 . . . . .	20,985	638	30,041	..	51,664
1963 . . . . .	21,944	695	27,341	..	49,980
1964 . . . . .	22,681	812	27,505	..	50,998
1965 . . . . .	25,314	1,415	28,146	288	55,163
1966 . . . . .	32,702	1,732	32,046	662	67,142
1967 . . . . .	41,464	2,246	34,670	889	79,269
1968 . . . . .	42,944	2,406	35,762	1,031	82,143
1969 . . . . .	44,051	2,474	34,256	981	81,762
1970 . . . . .	44,533	2,434	31,397	822	79,186
Estimated strength at June 1971 . . . . .	45,200	2,560	36,000	500	84,260

AIR FORCE

<i>Strength at June—</i>	<i>Permanent forces</i>	<i>Citizen forces</i>	<i>Emergency reserves</i>	<i>Total</i>
1961 . . . . .	15,592	671	..	16,263
1962 . . . . .	15,815	765	..	16,580
1963 . . . . .	15,840	788	..	16,628
1964 . . . . .	16,564	926	..	17,490
1965 . . . . .	17,720	724	26	18,470
1966 . . . . .	19,358	865	170	20,393
1967 . . . . .	20,130	1,059	303	21,492
1968 . . . . .	21,564	907	397	22,868
1969 . . . . .	22,712	902	467	24,081
1970 . . . . .	22,642	841	668	24,151
Estimated strength at June 1971 . . . . .	22,700	950	748	24,398

### Equipment

An amount of \$184.4m was spent on equipment of a capital nature in 1969–70; this included \$31m under credit arrangements with the United States Government. An amount of \$163.3m is expected to be spent in 1970–71 of which \$49.3m will be under the credit arrangements with the United States Government.

The major equipment items received in 1969–70 by the Services included: ships (1 River Class destroyer, 1 Oberon submarine); aircraft (1 Orion, 21 Macchi, 1 HS748 navigator trainer, 1 Caribou, 1 Pilatus Porter, 1 helicopter); and a large quantity of military vehicles and equipment.

Approval was given by the Government for orders to be placed in 1970–71 for such major capital equipment items as 2 Oberon submarines, 10 Skyhawk aircraft, 2 support and training aircraft and 9 helicopters for the Navy; a logistic cargo ship and 75 helicopters for the Army; 42 helicopters, 11 helicopter gunships and 6 training aircraft for the R.A.A.F. In addition, 24 F4-E aircraft have been leased to provide an interim strike force.

### Research and development

The laboratories of the Department of Supply together with the Services' own technical establishments, have continued to work on projects and investigations in support of Service needs. A new agreement with the United Kingdom has been negotiated for the conduct of the Woomera Range and its associated technical facilities, and collaborative programmes in space tracking and other selected topics have been arranged with the United States of America.

## Defence expenditure

DEFENCE EXPENDITURE, BY DEPARTMENT OR SERVICE, 1965-66 TO 1970-71  
(\$'000)

	<i>Defence(a)</i>	<i>Navy</i>	<i>Army</i>	<i>Air</i>	<i>Supply</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>
Actual expenditure—							
1965-66 . . . . .	14,040	170,622	261,752	218,109	71,364	11,969	747,856
1966-67 . . . . .	18,081	202,607	352,837	281,011	80,312	15,240	950,088
1967-68 . . . . .	17,492	223,492	381,019	378,615	90,038	18,877	1,109,533
1968-69 . . . . .	19,077	232,327	410,621	382,559	90,482	29,631	1,164,697
1969-70—							
Total . . . . .	23,440	241,140	409,386	301,162	94,091	33,841	1,103,060
less United States credits . . . . .	..	15,807	9,781	20,798	529	..	46,915
Payments from appropriations . . . . .	23,440	225,333	399,605	280,364	93,562	33,841	1,056,145
Estimated Expenditure—							
1970-71—							
Total . . . . .	23,724	243,010	413,889	312,791	102,299	41,275	1,136,988
less United States credits . . . . .	..	26,122	11,377	39,792	339	..	77,630
Payments from appropriations . . . . .	23,724	216,888	402,512	272,999	101,960	41,275	1,059,358

(a) Includes defence aid for Malaysia and Singapore.

## Logistic arrangement with United States Government

A logistic arrangement agreed with the United States Government in respect of Australian equipment purchases continues to operate. The logistic arrangement is in effect a 'package deal' covering all the items required instead of negotiating each separate purchase as it arises, and by this method Australia has obtained more advantageous financial terms together with assurances of better delivery dates to meet our requirements. Under this arrangement, instead of paying for the equipment roughly in line with deliveries, the Government is enabled to spread payments over an extended period.

## Reserve and Citizen Forces

Citizen and Reserve Forces may be called out by proclamation for continuous full-time service in a 'Time of Defence Emergency'. The particular circumstances giving rise to the proclamation of a time of defence emergency could be varied, but would occur in a situation where the Regular Forces needed the full-time support of the Citizen and Reserve Forces in hostilities short of general war.

The three Services also have volunteer Emergency Reserves which may be called out for continuous full-time service when they are needed. These reserves provide a ready means of supplementing and reinforcing operational units.

## Australian forces serving overseas

In response to an invitation of the Government of South Vietnam Australia has provided forces since 1962 to assist in the defence of that country. The number of men involved was increased progressively reaching 8,000 in the first half of 1968, and remained at approximately that level until November 1970 when approximately 1,000 men were withdrawn. In March 1971 it was announced that a further reduction of about 1,000 men would be made over a four to six month period commencing in May 1971. This further withdrawal will reduce the total force to about 6,000 men.

In December 1970, the Australian force in Vietnam comprised:

**Navy**—a destroyer, a clearance diving team, and pilots, ground crew, and supporting personnel.

**Army**—a task force of two infantry battalions, a Centurion tank squadron, an artillery field regiment and their combat support units; a logistic support force; and a 99-man Army Training Team.

**Air Force**—a squadron of eight Canberra bombers, a squadron of sixteen Iroquois helicopters, and a squadron of six Caribou transport aircraft.

In Malaysia and Singapore progressive arrangements and redeployments of Australian forces are taking place, which will be completed by the end of 1971. The forces which Australia, together with New Zealand, will retain in the area will consist of:

Navy—two naval ships, one R.A.N. and the other R.N.Z.N., which will be present in the area at all times.

Army—in conjunction with New Zealand a ground force based on a two battalion organisation, to which Australia will contribute approximately 1,200 men, located in Singapore and with one company detached on rotation to Butterworth.

Air Force—two squadrons of Mirage fighters, from which eight aircraft will be detached to Tengah in Singapore, and the remainder based at Butterworth in Malaysia.

#### Defence support aid

In support of Australia's strategic policy of contributing to the common defence of south-east Asia, the Government provides substantial financial aid to our Asian allies. This aid is given in the forms of civil aid and technical assistance, as well as direct defence assistance to support the armed forces of these countries and to increase their defence capability.

Under the SEATO Aid programme assistance to the extent of \$2,700,000 will be provided for South Vietnam, Thailand, Pakistan, and the Philippines during 1970–71. Malaysia and Singapore are also being further assisted to strengthen their defence capabilities by the extension of the aid programme commenced in 1964 under which the Australian Government has provided some \$45 million to date and will provide a further \$20 million over the period 1971–1974. Aid to Malaysia has included ammunition, military vehicles, weapons, small craft, engineer equipment, and general stores. Malaysian servicemen will continue to be trained in Australia and in the Malaysian area, and the seconding of Australian servicemen to the Malaysian armed forces will also be continued.

Australia will undertake a comprehensive programme of military, civic action, and defence support aid to South Vietnam at a cost of \$3.3 million. This aid will embrace an expansion of the Australian military training and advisory role, the establishment of an Australian-sponsored Jungle Warfare Training Centre at Nui Dat, military equipment for the South Vietnamese forces, and an expanded participation by military personnel in civic action and related activities.

Australia is providing Cambodia with items of a logistic support nature within a budgeted total aid expenditure for Cambodia in 1970–71 of about \$1.9 million. Defence support and dual-purpose items, such as land rovers, communications equipment and arms and ammunition, are being supplied under this programme at a cost of \$600,000.

### Naval defence

Prior to 1901, naval defence systems were organised under the State Governments. Information regarding these systems is given in Year Book No. 2, page 1084. An outline of the development of Australian naval policy is given in Year Books No. 3, page 1060, and No. 12, page 1012. An account appears in Year Book No. 15, pages 921–3, of the building of the Australian Navy, its costs, the compact with the Imperial Government, and other details. The growth and the activities of the Royal Australian Navy during the 1939–45 War are shown in Year Book No. 36, pages 1023–7.

Under the provisions of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act the Minister of State for the Navy administers the Department of the Navy. Under the *Naval Defence Act* 1910–1966 the Royal Australian Navy is administered by the Naval Board. The Naval Board consists of the Minister as President, four Naval Members, and the Secretary to the Department of the 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. A liaison staff is also maintained by the Royal Australian Navy in Washington, and a comprehensive exchange of information is provided by this link. Staff courses in the United States are also attended by officers of the Royal Australian Navy.

#### Ships of the Royal Australian Navy

*In commission, December 1970: Melbourne—aircraft carrier; Sydney—transport; Supply—oiler; Stalwart—destroyer tender; Perth, Hobart and Brisbane—guided missile destroyers; Vendetta, Duchess, Anzac—destroyers; Yarra, Parramatta, Stuart, Derwent, Swan, Queenborough—destroyer escorts; Hawk—coastal minesweeper; Curlew—coastal minehunter; Moresby, Paluma—surveying ships; Diamantina, Kimbla—oceanographic research ships; Oxley, Orway, Onslow, Owens—*

submarines; *Attack, Aitape, Acute, Adroit, Advance, Archer, Ardent, Arrow, Assail, Aware, Barbette, Barricade, Bayonet, Bombard, Buccaneer, Ladava, Lae, Madang, Samarai*—patrol boats; *Banks, Bass*—auxiliaries; *Jeparit*—transport.

*In reserve, December 1970: Tobruk*—destroyer; *Quiberon, Quickmatch*—destroyer escorts; *Gascoyne, Barcoo*—oceanographic research ships; *Culgoa*—barrack ship; *Teal, Gull, Snipe, Ibis*—coastal minesweepers; *Bandolier*—patrol boat; *Castlemaine*—ocean minesweeper; *Sprightly*—fleet tug; *Kara Kara*—boom gate vessel.

*On service overseas.* During the year ended December 1970 the following ships served in south-east Asian waters as units of the Commonwealth Strategic Reserve with headquarters in Singapore: *Vendetta, Parramatta, Stuart, Yarra, Duchess, Derwent*. The following ships served in support of the allied forces in South Vietnam: *Perth, Sydney, Hobart, Vendetta, Jeparit*.

The ships *Melbourne, Supply, Moresby, Teal, Ibis, Curlew, Attack, Advance, Aitape, Anzac, Stalwart, Ovens, Onslow, Oxley, Diamantina* also made overseas visits.

### Fleet Air Arm

The Fleet Air Arm of the Royal Australian Navy maintains three front line squadrons for embarkation in the operational carrier H.M.A.S. *Melbourne*. These squadrons currently consist of Skyhawk A4-G fighter/ground attack aircraft, Tracker S2-E anti-submarine aircraft, and Wessex MK. 31B submarine helicopters. Four training and support squadrons are based at the Naval Air Station H.M.A.S. *Albatross* at Nowra, New South Wales. Other aircraft operated by the Navy are the Scout helicopter in *Moresby*, Iroquois helicopter (training and search and rescue), *Dakota*, Macchi trainer and Sea Venom (target towing).

### Ship construction and repairs

There are two naval dockyards, one at Garden Island, New South Wales, and one at Williamstown, Victoria. Also, the dockyard at Cockatoo Island, which is operated by the Cockatoo Docks and Engineering Company Pty Ltd by agreement with the Commonwealth, carries out considerable naval work. All three dockyards carry out ship refitting for the Navy.

The construction of the destroyer escort H.M.A.S. *Torrens* at Cockatoo Island is proceeding and the ship will enter service in 1971. Construction of H.M.A.S. *Flinders*, a small hydrographic ship, was commenced at Williamstown Dockyard in 1970. An extended refit of the Daring Class destroyers was commenced at Williamstown Dockyard with H.M.A.S. *Vampire* in 1970.

A contract for a further two Oberon class submarines is presently under negotiation with the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (Navy). Approval has been given for the construction of a fast combat support ship and an oceanographic ship, both of which are to be built in Australia in the near future. A preliminary design for a new destroyer is currently in progress. This will serve to determine the major characteristics of the ship and will provide the basis for a detailed design.

### Personnel, training, entry, women's services, reserves

*Personnel.* The estimated strength of the Royal Australian Navy in relation to personnel borne for full-time duty for 1970–71 is 17,897. At 30 November 1970 the actual strength of personnel borne for full-time duty was 2,020 officers and 15,221 sailors, which includes 236 officers and sailors of the Citizen Naval Forces and 19 officers and sailors of the Royal Australian Navy Emergency Reserve.

*Training.* On entry, General List officers are trained at the Royal Australian Naval College, H.M.A.S. *Creswell* at Jervis Bay. The College was established to provide trained officers for the R.A.N. Junior entry to the College is at the age of fifteen to seventeen years and senior entry at a maximum age of twenty years. In November 1970 there were 86 cadet midshipmen under training. On completion of initial training officers go to the Fleet for sea training, followed by advanced training either ashore in Australia, at universities or technical colleges, or at Royal Navy training establishments in the United Kingdom.

H.M.A.S. *Cerberus* at Westernport, Victoria, is the main training establishment for adult sailors in the permanent naval forces, while several advanced training schools are established in New South Wales. The period of initial engagement for sailors varies from six years for tradesmen to nine or twelve years, and on completion sailors may re-engage for shorter periods up to the age of fifty.

H.M.A.S. *Nirimba* at Quakers Hill, New South Wales, is the naval school for apprentices. It provides secondary education, as well as technical training in trades, to boys aged fifteen to seventeen and a half years. The school was established in 1956 to meet the R.A.N.'s increased demand for highly skilled tradesmen. In November 1970 there were 565 naval artificer apprentices under training.

H.M.A.S. *Leeuwin* at Fremantle, Western Australia, is the junior recruit training establishment. Entrants must be aged between fifteen and a half and sixteen and a half years. Training lasts one year and instruction is mainly academic, the remaining time being devoted to basic naval and disciplinary training. On completion of the course sailors are posted for a period of sea training, after which they proceed to technical and specialist courses. In November 1970 there were 694 junior recruits undergoing training.

On completion of initial training sailors join the Fleet for sea training before returning to the various training schools at H.M.A.S. *Cerberus*, H.M.A.S. *Penguin* and H.M.A.S. *Watson* at Sydney and R.A.N. Air Station at Nowra, New South Wales. Sailors who are selected for the Submarine service receive initial submarine training in the United Kingdom and a number of technical courses for certain sailors are conducted in the United States of America.

*Direct entry Officers.* To meet increasing requirements for officers, direct entries are accepted into the Royal Australian Navy. Short service commissions of seven years are granted on completion of training as seamen, supply or aircrew officers to suitable applicants who have completed their secondary schooling and who are over seventeen years of age and under twenty-four years of age. Other direct entries may be approved outside these age limits from persons with appropriate qualifications and experience.

Opportunities exist for university undergraduates studying medicine, dentistry and engineering to enter the R.A.N., and on successful completion of their studies to commence short or full-time service in the Navy. Fully qualified doctors, dentists, engineers, instructors and legal officers may also enter the R.A.N. directly if they are of the appropriate age.

*Women's Services.* The present Women's Royal Australian Naval Service was inaugurated in January 1951. The numbers serving in shore establishments in November 1970 were 32 officers and 685 Wrens. The Royal Australian Naval Nursing Service was reconstituted in November 1964, and its strength in November 1970 was 22 officers.

*Emergency Reserve.* In November 1964 approval was given to form the Royal Australian Naval Emergency Reserve to provide a readily available source of trained manpower which may be called on for continuous full-time service. The authorised establishment of this force is 2,000 officers and sailors. At 30 November 1970 the strength of the reserve available for mobilisation was 73 officers and 851 sailors, which excludes 2 officers and 17 sailors serving full-time. Members are required to complete thirteen days' training annually and are paid an annual bounty.

*Citizen Naval Forces.* The Citizen Naval Forces consist of the R.A.N. Emergency List, Royal Australian Fleet Reserve, Royal Australian Naval Reserve, Royal Australian Naval Reserve (Sea-going), Royal Australian Naval Volunteer Reserve, and Women's Royal Australian Naval Service Reserve. The authorised establishment of the combined forces is 10,000. At 30 November 1970 there were 1,266 officers and 3,376 sailors in the Citizen Naval Forces. These figures exclude 112 officers and 124 sailors serving full-time. The R.A.N.R. is the training reserve of the Citizen Naval Forces. Members carry out weekly training and thirteen days' continuous training annually; sailors engage for periods of three years. Other reserves do not normally carry out part-time training, but members may volunteer for periods of annual training and for periods of full-time service with the R.A.N. A Women's Royal Australian Naval Service Reserve consisting of ex-permanent naval forces W.R.A.N.S. officers and W.R.A.N.S. was authorised in June 1968 and enlistments commenced in mid-November 1968.

## Military defence

A detailed historical account of the Australian defence forces prior to federation appears in Year Book No. 2, pages 1075-81. See also Year Book No. 12, page 999.

### Commonwealth systems

Under the terms of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 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 a number of phases. For particulars of the phases which cover the period from the welding together of the military forces of the States into one homogenous Army in 1902 up to the re-establishment of the Military Board and the organisation of Commands after the 1939-45 War see Year Book No. 46 and earlier issues.

National Service Training was introduced in 1951 and suspended in 1959-60. In November 1964 the Government announced that National Service was to be re-introduced from June 1965. The scheme provides for a period of two years full-time duty in the Regular Army followed by three years

in the reserve. National Service registrants who are members of the Citizen Military Forces or who join prior to the ballot may elect to serve in the C.M.F. for a total of five or six years, depending on length of previous service, as an alternative to full-time continuous National Service Training. Special C.M.F. units have been formed to provide for those persons who wish to serve in the C.M.F., but who are unable to do so in normal units, because of remote location, etc.

### Organisation

Army Headquarters is responsible for the policy and control of the Australian Army. The Military Board consists of the Minister for the Army, President; the Chief of the General Staff; the Adjutant-General; the Quartermaster-General; the Master-General of the Ordnance; the Deputy Chief of the General Staff; the Citizen Military Forces Member; and the Secretary, Department of the Army. After the 1939-45 War, Command Headquarters were established to implement Army Headquarters policy and to command and administer those units placed under their authority. Command Headquarters are established in the capital cities of Australia and Papua-New Guinea. The geographic extent of Commands is as follows.

*Northern Command*—the State of Queensland.

*Eastern Command*—the State of New South Wales, less those parts included in Southern and Central Commands.

*Southern Command*—the State of Victoria and part of southern New South Wales.

*Central Command*—the State of South Australia, plus a portion of south-western New South Wales.

*Western Command*—the State of Western Australia.

*Tasmania Command*—the State of Tasmania.

*Northern Territory Command*—the Northern Territory.

*Papua-New Guinea Command*—the Territory of Papua and New Guinea.

The Army is divided into the Field Force, Forces in Papua-New Guinea, and the Australian Support Area, with both Regular and Citizen Military Forces elements in each. The basic formation of the Field Force is the division, which consists of nine infantry battalions with supporting arms and services units. Within the division three task force headquarters can command varying combinations of divisional units. The substantial parts of the combat elements of one Regular and two C.M.F. divisions have been raised, together with logistic support units. The Regular element of the Forces in Papua-New Guinea consists of two battalions of the Pacific Islands Regiment with a number of supporting units. An infantry battalion forms the major C.M.F. element. The Australian Support Area provides the training, administrative, and command structure on the mainland.

At 31 December 1970, units of the Australian Regular Army were deployed overseas as follows. In Vietnam a task force of two infantry battalions with supporting units, including aircraft support provided by the Royal Australian Air Force, was serving at the invitation of the Government of that country. In addition there was the major part of an infantry battalion group stationed in Singapore.

### Personnel, training, women's services, cadets

*Personnel.* The effective strength at 25 November 1970 was: Australian Regular Army, 46,487 (including 2,451 Pacific Islanders, 303 Citizen Military Forces on full-time duty, and 1,012 Women's Services); Citizen Military Forces, 30,511.

*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, Victoria, and redesignated the Staff College in conformity with other Commonwealth training establishments for training officers for command and staff appointments. The College was later moved to Queenscliff, Victoria, where it is at present situated. The course is held annually and is of twelve months' duration. The normal intake is seventy students, and on successfully completing the course an officer is awarded the symbol 'psc'. The course is designed to train selected officers for appointments in all branches of the staff in peace and war and to prepare them to assume, after experience, command and higher staff appointments.



Included in the 1971 course will be students from Brunei, Canada, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Thailand, United Kingdom and United States of America. 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 Commonwealth of Nations, liaison is maintained with other Staff Colleges, and to this end there is also a reciprocal exchange of instructors between the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and Australia. An instructor is also provided by New Zealand.

*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. The course is four years of military and academic studies. The first three years are primarily academic and the fourth year military. Following affiliation with the University of New South Wales a Faculty of Military Studies was introduced in 1968. Cadets who meet the requirements for admission to the Faculty may take a course, leading to the award of a degree in Military Studies by the University of New South Wales in one of the following: Arts, Applied Science or Engineering. Cadets not admitted to the Faculty take a diploma course appropriate to their educational background. 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. In 1967 one Thai cadet commenced training at the College; another Thai cadet commenced in 1970.

*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 Army, the Citizen Military Forces and civilians between the ages of eighteen and a half and twenty-two and a half are eligible to apply for entrance. A special entry provides for candidates up to twenty-four and a half years. The course lasts for forty-four weeks, and on graduation cadets are appointed second-lieutenants in the Australian Regular Army. Graduates normally proceed to further training at the Army School of the Arm and Service to which they have been allotted before being posted to regimental duties. The Officer Cadet School also trains officers on occasions for Kenya, Malaysia, New Zealand, Thailand, the Philippines, Brunei, the Pacific Islands Regiment and South Vietnam.

*Officer Training Unit.* An Officer Training Unit has been established at Scheyville, New South Wales, which is responsible for the training of National Service officers.

*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 three wings, one whose primary task is the training of officer cadets for the W.R.A.A.C., one for the training of non-commissioned officers at all levels and for other special courses, and one which is a basic training wing. The officer cadets are selected from eligible applicants, who may be serving members between nineteen and a half and thirty-two years of age, or civilians between nineteen and a half and thirty years of age. The course is of twenty-seven weeks' duration and on graduation cadets are appointed lieutenants in the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps or the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps.

*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 for the graduates. The course is open to youths between the ages of fifteen and seventeen years and provides training in a number of highly skilled trades. Most apprentices attend two years of intensive theoretical and practical work at the Apprentices' School which is followed by two years on-the-job training in an appropriate Army workshop or technical unit under the supervision of an Apprentice Master. The exceptions to this are the Radio Tradesmen who train for three years at the Apprentices' School before one year on-the-job training. Before leaving the Apprentices' School all apprentices take the Victorian Apprenticeship Commission's final grade public examination, which ensures that they will be accepted as qualified tradesmen in civilian life when they eventually leave the Army. In addition to trade and military training, the Apprentices' School provides the facility for apprentices to attain an educational standard of Victorian Technical Leaving.

*Other 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 Army and the Citizen Military Forces.

The following Army schools have been established: Jungle Training Centre, Armoured Centre, School of Artillery, School of Military Engineering, Transportation Centre, School of Military

Survey, School of Signals, Infantry Centre, Army Aviation Centre, Army Intelligence Centre, Royal Australian Army Service Corps Centre, Royal Australian Army Medical Corps School of Army Health, Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps Centre, Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers' Training Centre, Royal Australian Army Provost School, School of Music, Air Support Unit (Army Component), and Air Movement Training and Development Unit (Army Component).

*Women's Services.* In July 1950 approval was given for the enlistment of women into the Australian Regular Army on a limited scale. Enlistment commenced into the Royal Australian Army Nursing Service 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 comprise two Corps only, the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps and the 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 and Papua-New Guinea Command. Companies of the Royal Australian Nursing Corps are located in each Command excluding Northern Territory Command and Papua-New Guinea Command.

*Australian Cadet Corps.* The Australian Cadet Corps is a voluntary organisation. 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. The Australian Cadet Corps, does not, however, form part of the Australian Military Forces. School Cadet units are raised at educational establishments throughout the Commonwealth and Papua and New Guinea, except in the Northern Territory. The minimum age for enrolment is the year in which the applicant reaches the age of fourteen 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 of cadets, cadet under-officers, warrant and non-commissioned officers on an authorised 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 46,000 all ranks, and at 15 October 1970 comprised 347 School Cadet units with a posted strength of 39,910, all ranks.

## Air defence

A statement regarding the preliminary steps taken in connection with the development of air defence appears in Year Book No. 18, page 610, and one on the expansion and development and type of operations of the Royal Australian Air Force during the 1939-45 War in Year Book No. 36, page 1027. Details of the current defence policy as it affects the R.A.A.F. were outlined by the Minister for Defence in his speech in the House of Representatives on 10 March 1970.

### Higher organisation

The Air Board is responsible to the Minister for Air for the control, organisation, and administration of the Royal Australian Air Force and is constituted as follows: Chief of the Air Staff, Air Member for Personnel, Air Member for Supply and Equipment, Air Member for Technical Services, and the Secretary, Department of Air.

The Air Board administers and controls R.A.A.F. units in Australia and its Territories through two commands, Operational Command and Support Command. The guiding principles of the command organisation within Australia are to decentralise day-to-day operating activities as far as possible and to streamline the force and make it as efficient as possible. The operational units overseas, working within the broad directives issued by the Air Board, comprise the R.A.A.F. component of the British Commonwealth Strategic Reserve located at Butterworth in Malaysia, and the R.A.A.F. component of the Australian forces in South Vietnam.

The members of the Air Board and their staffs are located at the Department of Air in Canberra. An R.A.A.F. representative is located in London, and air attachés are located in Djakarta, Saigon, Paris, and Washington. *Operational Command* is responsible for the command of operational units and the conduct of their operations within Australia and its territories. *Support Command* is responsible for the recruitment and training of personnel, and the supply and maintenance of service equipment.

### Organisation of units

*Bases.* Each command is established with the units necessary to carry out its allotted function. There is no fixed rule in relation to the number and types of units within each command, as this depends upon the nature of its present and future responsibilities. Where possible, units having similar functions or requiring similar facilities are located together, and the geographical locations are known as bases.

*Formations*—comprising 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.

*Flying squadrons*—strike reconnaissance, air defence, ground attack, medium and short range transport, helicopter, and maritime reconnaissance squadrons which undertake the operational flying and in conjunction with operational conversion units, the operational flying training commitments of the R.A.A.F.

*Operational conversion units*—specialising in operational conversion training of aircrew for the strike reconnaissance, air defence, and ground attack squadrons.

*Aircraft depots*—specialising in major overhaul, etc., of aircraft and equipment.

*Stores depots*—centrally located depots to which stores and equipment ordered by the R.A.A.F. are delivered for distribution to units.

*Airfield construction squadron*—specialising in airfield construction tasks in support of the R.A.A.F. operational component within Australia and the Territories.

*Telecommunications units*—responsible for the communications services of the R.A.A.F.

*R.A.A.F. Hospitals*—hospitals in Australia and at Butterworth providing medical services for the R.A.A.F.

*Flying and ground schools and units*—schools and units specialising in the aircrew and ground staff training required by the R.A.A.F.

*R.A.A.F. Diploma Squadron and R.A.A.F. Academy*—training units, to diploma and university degree level respectively for officer cadet entrants to the R.A.A.F.

*R.A.A.F. Staff College*—trains specially selected R.A.A.F. officers for higher staff and command posts.

### Aircraft

The R.A.A.F.'s strike reconnaissance force is equipped with Canberra and Phantom F4-E aircraft, and the air defence and ground attack squadrons are equipped with the Mirage 111-O. Transport aircraft currently in use are Hercules C130A and E, Caribou, Dakota, Mystere 20, HS748, and BAC111. The two helicopter squadrons operate the Iroquois and the two maritime squadrons operate Neptune SP2H and Orion P3-B aircraft. Aircraft used for training are the Winjeel, Macchi, HS748, Sabre, and Mirage 111-O.

### Personnel, reserve, women's services

At 30 November 1970, the authorised Permanent Air Force establishment was 24,958 and the Citizen Air Force, 1,080; the enlisted strength was Permanent Air Force 22,322 and Citizen Air Force 806, while the strength of the General Reserve was 6,403. The Permanent Air Force figures include the Women's Royal Australian Air Force, which has an establishment of 1,022 and strength of 857, and the R.A.A.F. Nursing Service with an establishment of 115 and strength of 94.

## Department of Supply

For information relating to the creation of the Department of Supply and its development up to 1959 see Year Book No. 51, page 1204, and earlier issues. On 18 December 1959 the Department assumed responsibility for the operation and management of space tracking stations in Australia on behalf of the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration. On 29 March 1962 Australia became a foundation member of the European Launcher Development Organisation, and the Department accepted responsibility for the test firing of the launching rocket for that Organisation's experimental satellite, using the facilities of the Woomera Rocket Range. The last of these ten firings at Woomera was on 12 June 1970.

On 1 May 1968 the Department took over the administration of the Antarctic Division from the Department of External Affairs.

### Functions of Department

The functions of the Department of Supply include the following.

- Defence research and development, including the operation of the Joint United Kingdom—Australia Weapons Research Project, and Australian research and development.
- Operation and management of establishments producing aircraft, guided missiles, small arms, ammunition, explosives, marine engines, clothing, and other defence goods.
- Arranging of contracts for purchasing in Australia of supplies and services required by the Armed Forces and certain other Government organisations.
- Operation and management of space tracking stations in Australia on behalf of the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
- Acquisition, maintenance, and disposal of strategic materials.
- Planning and establishment of manufacturing facilities for the production of munitions and other defence goods.
- Investigation and development of Australian sources of supply in connection with defence.
- Disposal of surplus or obsolescent Commonwealth goods on behalf of all departments.
- Provision of Commonwealth transport facilities outside the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory.
- Provision and control of stores required for or in connection with matters administered by the Department of Supply, and general storage for other Departments as required.
- Arrangements for ascertaining costs and the control and limitation of profits in connection with the production of munitions and other defence goods.
- Organise expeditions and establish and maintain stations in the Antarctic for the purposes of exploration and conducting scientific studies.

The Minister for Supply administers the *Supply and Development Act* 1939–1966, except in so far as it contains the building (*see also* the chapter Transport and Communication), repair, and maintenance of merchant ships and the building, extension, alteration, repair, and maintenance of shipyards, drydocking, and repair facilities for merchant ships.

The Minister for Supply also administers the *Antarctic Treaty Act* 1960, the *Australian Antarctic Territory Acceptance Act* 1933, the *Australian Antarctic Territory Act* 1954–1963, *Heard Island and McDonald Islands Act* 1953–1963.

### Research and Development

The Research and Development Division is responsible for research and scientific development in relation to war *matériel*, including the operation of the Joint United Kingdom—Australia Weapons Research Project and support of space research programmes for NASA. The headquarters of the Division is situated in Canberra, and the following establishments are included in the Division: (a) Weapons Research Establishment, Salisbury, South Australia; (b) Defence Standards Laboratories, Maribyrnong, Victoria; Woodville North, South Australia; and Alexandria, New South Wales; (c) Aeronautical Research Laboratories, Fishermen's Bend, Victoria; and (d) Central Studies Establishment, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory.

### Weapons Research Establishment

The establishment has four main sections, namely the Trials Wing, the Applied Physics Wing, the Weapons Research and Development Wing, and the Engineering Wing. The Trials Wing is concerned with the operation, development, and instrumentation of the Woomera Range, and the planning, execution, and assessment of trials. The Applied Physics Wing conducts research and development on behalf of the Australian Services and in support of the United Kingdom—Australia Joint Project.

The Weapons Research and Development Wing is concerned primarily with Australian initiated defence research and development. The Engineering Wing provides engineering design and development and support facilities for other Weapons Research Establishment wings and research establishments and undertakes tasks for the Australian Services.

### United States space projects

Agreements have been signed by the Australian and United States Governments for a co-operative programme for the establishment and operation in Australia for space vehicle tracking stations. The agencies for the Australian and American Governments are the Department of Supply and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) respectively.

As part of the world-wide network supporting NASA's space programme the stations are designed to track spacecraft in their orbits around the earth or on their journey into space, to receive telemetered data from the vehicle, and to issue radio commands controlling the vehicle's manoeuvres. The Department of Supply is responsible for managing, staffing and operating the stations on behalf of NASA. The stations which are now in operation are at:

Island Lagoon near Woomera (deep space probes and optical tracking of scientific satellites);  
Carnarvon in Western Australia (manned space flights and scientific satellites);  
Tidbinbilla in the A.C.T. (deep space probes and manned space flights);  
Orroral Valley in the A.C.T. (scientific satellites);  
Honeysuckle Creek in the A.C.T. (manned space flights, particularly the 'man on the moon' Apollo project);  
Work has commenced on the construction of a 210 ft tracking antenna at Tidbinbilla, A.C.T.

An extensive communications system links the tracking stations with the control centres in the United States. At all five stations the responsibility is vested in a station director who is a senior officer of the Department of Supply. Tidbinbilla, Honeysuckle Creek and Carnarvon, play an important part in the communications network during the Apollo moon-landing missions.

Under the Australian Government's policy of using the resources of private industry wherever possible, contracts for operation and maintenance services at the stations have been let as follows: Amalgamated Wireless (A'asia) Ltd, (Carnarvon and Orroral Valley, Tidbinbilla and Island Lagoon), and Standard Telephones and Cables Pty Ltd (Honeysuckle Creek).

NASA space projects requiring Australian participation are as follows.

*Manned space flights.* Project Apollo—landing of men on moon and their return to earth.

*Scientific and applications satellites.* Large multiple experiment scientific satellites (Orbiting Geophysical Observatories; Orbiting Astronomical Observatories, etc.). Operations satellites for meteorology (Tiros).

*Deep space probes.* Mariner—probes to Mars, Venus, etc. Pioneer—interplanetary investigations.

#### **Defence Standards Laboratories**

This establishment provides a scientific service to the Defence Services, Department of Supply factories and other authorities generally within the field of chemistry, physics, metallurgy and engineering and to a limited extent, in the fields of biochemistry and physiology. It also undertakes background research appropriate to its responsibilities and of significance to the defence requirements of Australia.

#### **Aeronautical Research Laboratories**

In the aeronautical field this establishment undertakes research and development work on specific defence projects, acts as consultant and conducts investigations for the Services, Government Departments or industries engaged on defence work. Background research related to the execution of its responsibilities and of significance to the defence requirements of Australia is also undertaken.

#### **Central Studies Establishment**

This establishment began its activities in Canberra during 1969. Its role is to complement operational analysis studies being undertaken in other Supply establishments for the Defence and Service Departments.

#### **Production of munitions**

The Department is responsible for the production of a wide range of munitions required by the Armed Services. Production is carried out substantially in Government factories, although some orders, mainly for components, are placed with private industry.

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

The Ammunition Factory produces the complete round of small arms ammunition and also components for larger calibre gun ammunition, including empty cartridge cases, electronic and mechanical fuses, and primers. The Explosives Factories produce the various types of explosive compositions and propellants required for gun ammunition, rockets, and guided missiles. The Filling Factory at St Marys fills and assembles into bombs and complete rounds of ammunition (other than small arms ammunition) the empty components and materials supplied by the other munitions factories and by private industry.

The Ordnance Factories at Maribyrnong and Bendigo are equipped to produce heavy ordnance equipment, such as naval guns and gun mountings; large turbine gears; steel shell and bomb bodies; empty rocket motors for guided missiles; trailers and tank transporters; and other items requiring heavy engineering capacity. As well as work for the Services, the Bendigo Factory produces components for marine diesel engines for Australian shipping and large heavy engineering items for the coal, cement, and steel industries.

The Port Melbourne Factory builds and services large marine diesel engines for the Australian shipbuilding industry. Major forgings and fabrications for these engines are produced at the Ordnance Factories at Maribyrnong and Bendigo. The Small Arms Factory is equipped to produce the rifles and other small arms required by the Services. Current production is the 7.62-mm automatic rifle, for which orders have also been received from overseas, and the 9-mm carbine which serves as the infantry light machine gun. The Clothing Factories make uniforms and clothing for the three Services, the Postmaster-General's Department and some other Commonwealth authorities.

#### **Production of aircraft and guided weapons**

Production both in Government factories and in industry 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. Planning of capacity and the negotiation of contractual arrangements concerning aircraft modification, repair and overhaul, and for the supply of spare parts and airborne equipment for the R.A.A.F., the R.A.N., and the Army are also functions of the Department.

The following factories are operated by the Department: The Government Aircraft Factory at Fishermen's Bend and the Final Assembly Workshops and Test Airfield at Avalon, Victoria, and the Machine Shop at Northfield, South Australia. During 1968 the French Mirage supersonic fighter aircraft production programme for the R.A.A.F. was completed. The current aircraft production programme comprises the Jindivik radio-controlled target aircraft, which has been or is being supplied to Britain, Sweden, and the United States, as well as to the Weapons Research Establishment and the Royal Australian Navy. Apart from the Government Aircraft Factory, the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation Pty Ltd is the only major aircraft manufacturer in Victoria. The Corporation is the prime contractor for the Australian production for the R.A.A.F. of the Italian Macchi jet trainer and for the production of the British Viper engine that powers this aircraft. Hawker de Havilland Australia Pty Ltd, at Bankstown and Lidcombe, New South Wales, is the major sub-contractor for the Macchi.

Other major activities carried out in the Government factories or by various private contractors are the manufacture of airframe and engine spare parts; the overhaul, repair, and modification of military aircraft and engines currently in service with the R.A.A.F., R.A.N., and Army; and the reconditioning and servicing of aircraft instruments and other ancillary equipment.

The production of the Ikara anti-submarine missile is continuing at the Government Aircraft Factory at Fishermen's Bend. Production of the complete Ikara system, covering broadly the missile, motor, propellants, guidance equipment, launcher, and magazine handling equipment, is a combined effort by departmental establishments and industry, directed and co-ordinated by the Department.

At St Marys, New South Wales, a Guided Weapons and Electronics Support Facility has been established to repair and maintain the Tartar surface-to-air missile supplied by the United States for Australia's new missile destroyers. Later, the facility will be expanded to cater for other service missiles.

#### **Electronics supply**

The Department is responsible for the technical aspects of production and procurement from Australian industry of telecommunications and electronic equipment for the Australian Services, for Commonwealth authorities such as Directorate of Civil Defence and for foreign aid programmes administered by the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Some of the more important projects handled for the Services have included a ground-to-air high-frequency communications system for Air, high-frequency transmitters for Army, high-frequency transmitters and antennae for long-range Navy shore to ship communications, portable shelters for communications equipment for Air and medium-speed data transmission equipment for Army, Navy and Air.

A large contract is in existence for the domestic development of micro-electronic devices. Other contracts have also been arranged to establish the reliability of Australian-made electronic equipment and components.

### Contract Board

The Contract Board, constituted under the *Supply and Development Act 1939-1966*, arranges for the performances of services and the purchase of supplies for the Naval, Military and Air Forces of the Commonwealth and for the Department of Supply. Upon request, the Board also arranges contracts on behalf of other Commonwealth departments and authorities. It also arranges disposal—by means of public tender, auction or otherwise—of all surplus or unserviceable Commonwealth-owned goods.

The Board comprises representatives of three Service Departments and of the Department of Supply. In each State there is a District Contract Board similarly constituted, which is authorised to exercise the functions of the Contract Board within specified financial limitations. The Contract Board has no attached contracting staff of its own, and while all contracts are arranged in the Board's name, its role is to decide the award of contracts in those cases where the value exceeds the delegated authority of District Contract Boards.

The Board's policies and procedures are administered by the Contracts Branch of the Department of Supply in Canberra.

**CONTRACT BOARD ORGANISATION: PURCHASES AND REALISATIONS  
FROM DISPOSALS, 1968-69 AND 1969-70  
(\$'000)**

<i>District Contract Board</i>	<i>Purchases</i>		<i>Realisations from disposals</i>	
	<i>1968-69</i>	<i>1969-70</i>	<i>1968-69</i>	<i>1969-70</i>
New South Wales . . . . .	48,393	44,939	2,956	3,595
Victoria . . . . .	143,218	125,788	2,517	3,726
Queensland . . . . .	7,024	7,078	1,007	1,048
South Australia . . . . .	6,916	9,406	1,395	1,472
Western Australia . . . . .	1,804	1,327	443	521
Tasmania . . . . .	216	287	192	148
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>207,571</b>	<b>188,825</b>	<b>8,510</b>	<b>10,510</b>

### Defence supply planning

The central planning authority of the Department is the Production Planning Branch, whose principal functions are:

- to study manufacturing capacity available for the Services' requirements in peace and war;
- to plan for and assist in the development of additional production capacity;
- to provide and administer reserve stock of materials and reserve pools of plant, equipment and other requirements needed for rapid expansion in the event of war;
- to prepare submissions on defence production preparedness to the higher defence machinery;
- to plan the organisation of industrial resources for defence production in war;
- to receive and allocate to appropriate departmental divisions all orders and procurement demands placed on the Department;
- to inform Service and other customers on all matters of price, delivery, and expenditure phasing of requirements allocated for satisfaction by the production divisions;
- to monitor achievement against departmental master delivery programmes;
- to provide advisory services in the field of materials supply and utilisation of Government factories and contractors engaged in the production of munitions requirements;
- to administer the national stockpile of strategic materials, equipment, tooling and components;
- to administer overseas aid programmes allocated to the Department;
- to develop commercial outlets for departmental products, and plans for the full use of production capacity, exploitation of inventions and protection of patents;
- to undertake commercial sales;
- to administer the Board of Management for Production; and
- to provide administrative services to the Industry Advisory Committees.

A series of Industry Advisory Committees has been established to advise the Minister and the Department of the ability of industry to meet the Services' *materiel* requirements for mobilisation in war. The Committees are: Aircraft and Guided Weapons; Chemical; Electronics and Telecommunications; Leather and Footwear; Machine Tools and Gauges; Mechanical Engineering; Rubber; and Textiles and Clothing. Members of the Committees include industrialists of wide experience and the highest ability in their chosen fields.

#### **Stores and Transport Branch**

This Branch functions as the central storage and transport authority for most Commonwealth Departments. It is the authority for the arrangement of furniture removals at departmental expense in all States, but not in the Northern Territory. It has agents in Darwin. It also operates a shipping and customs section and the England-Australia bulk air freight scheme for Commonwealth Departments.

On 30 June 1970 the Branch had under its control land, buildings, and works, vehicles, plant, and equipment valued at \$28,387,896; 4,698 motor vehicles and 3,240,000 sq ft of storage space as well as storage facilities for large quantities of chemicals, bulk liquids, and explosives.

#### **Finance Branch**

The total expenditure on Department of Supply activities in 1969-70 was \$200,410,000, comprising \$96,005,000 from Parliamentary appropriations and \$104,405,000 from Trust Fund accounts. The latter included expenditure of \$18,218,000 for storage and transport, \$66,785,000 in Government Munitions and Aircraft Factories, and Industry, and \$18,423,000 on projects for other Governments and international bodies. Cafeteria expenditure totalled \$978,402.

In addition, transactions under the United States-Australian logistics arrangement in 1969-70 amounted to \$529,000, comprising \$68,000 relating to Parliamentary appropriations and \$461,000 relating to Trust Fund accounts.