

CHAPTER XXVII. DEFENCE.

§ 1. Department of Defence.

1. **Introduction.**—At the outbreak of the 1939–45 War, the Department of Defence comprised the three Fighting Services and a Central Secretariat. In November, 1939, separate Departments, each with its own Minister, were created for the control and administration of the Navy, Army and Air Force. The Defence Department as then reconstituted retained responsibility for over-all defence policy and for the conduct during the war of the business of the War Cabinet, set up in September, 1939, and the Advisory War Council, set up in October, 1940. These bodies ceased to function after the war.

2. **Functions and Organization.**—(i) *The Cabinet.* The determination of defence policy is the responsibility of Cabinet.

(ii) *Functions of Department of Defence.* 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 higher defence machinery, and the control of the joint service machinery.
- (5) 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.
- (6) The Commonwealth War Book, which is a summary of national plans for an emergency as developed in Departmental War Books.
- (7) The administration of inter-service organizations, such as the joint intelligence machinery.
- (8) The defence aspect of :—the strength and organization of the Forces, higher appointments in the Services, Honours and Awards.
- (9) Advice on the military aspect of civil defence.

(iii) *Joint Service and Inter-departmental 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 and the Joint War Production Committee. The Defence Committee is a statutory body consisting of the Secretary, Department of Defence, who is Chairman, and the Chiefs of Staff of the three Services. In general, its function is to advise on defence policy as a whole, and on matters of policy or principle and important questions having a joint service or inter-

departmental-defence aspect. The main responsibility of the Chiefs of Staff Committee in peace is the preparation of strategic appreciations and military plans. 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 Materials), 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.

(iv) *Defence Business Board.* In view of the heavy defence expenditure, the Government, in July, 1953, established the Defence Business Board in the Department of Defence. The Board will deal with joint Service matters of common interest to the three Services, or important subjects on which the collective advice of the Board is desired. The Board comprises businessmen who serve in a part-time honorary capacity and consists of an independent chairman and the business advisers of the three Service Departments.

3. **Basis of Current Defence Policy.**—The principal strategic considerations influencing the Government's defence policy as described by the Minister for Defence include the following features :—

(i) *Cold War.* It is essential to check the form of aggression that has occurred in Korea and Malaya, and an adequate Australian contribution to the "cold war" is essential both to our relations with our powerful friends and to the Allied strategic starting point should war occur.

(ii) *Global War.* If there is war on a global scale, it will be won or lost outside Australia. Since no one country can win without the co-operation of all the others, Australia must, in its own and the general interest, play a full part in its allotted place in the general Allied strategy, and the employment of its forces must be planned in advance, in co-operation with these Allies.

(iii) *Local Defence.* The local security of Australia, at least during the next two decades, is likely to depend on the control of sea and air communications in the Pacific and Indian Oceans and in the seas joining them.

4. **The Defence Programme.**—(i) *Financial.* The total provision made for Defence in 1952-53, £216,000,000 (including £10,000,000 transferred to the Korean Operations Pool Trust Account), is a peace-time record for Australia. The following table gives details of the expenditure incurred against this provision :—

DEFENCE EXPENDITURE, 1952-53.

(£'000.)

Service or Department.	Maintenance.	Material Requirements, Machinery, Plant and Equipment.	Buildings, Works and Sites.	Miscellaneous Non-Programme Expenditure.	Total.
Defence	598	46	27	..	671
Navy	32,905	12,298	2,082	..	47,285
Army	(a) 70,218	14,211	6,038	1,067	91,534
Air	33,309	17,439	4,521	..	55,269
Defence Production	4,644	2,591	1,501	412	9,148
Supply	7,663	701	2,200	821	11,385
Total	149,337	47,286	16,369	2,300	215,292

(a) Includes £10,000,000 transferred to the Korean Operations Pool Trust Account.

(ii) *Personnel Strengths.* The personnel strengths of the Services at 30th June, 1953, were :—

Category.	Navy.	Army.	Air Force.	Total.
Permanent Forces	(a) 14,273	27,180	15,517	56,970
Citizen Forces—				
Volunteers	5,009	15,640	2,595	23,244
National Service Personnel	2,080	54,644	(b) 9,584	66,308
Total Citizen Forces	7,089	70,284	12,179	89,552
Total Strength	21,362	97,464	27,696	146,522

(a) Excludes 110 Cadet Midshipmen not in receipt of pay. personnel who have completed training and are on the reserve.

(b) Includes 7,118 National Service

5. *Australian Participation in Korea, Malaya and the Middle East.*—(i) *Korea.* In accordance with the resolutions of the Security Council calling on members of the United Nations to assist the Republic of Korea in resisting aggression, Australia has furnished forces as follows :—

Navy—Since 29th June, 1950, a Royal Australian Naval Force of two ships has been engaged in operations. This force has consisted from time to time either of two destroyers or a frigate and a destroyer. In addition, H.M.A.S. *Sydney* relieved H.M.S. *Glory* in October, 1951, for a period of three months.

Army—At 30th June, 1953, the forces in Korea consisted of :—

- (i) 2 and 3 Infantry Battalions, The Royal Australian Regiment.
- (ii) A proportion of a Brigade Headquarters and of the Headquarters 1st Commonwealth Division
- (iii) An element of the British Commonwealth Communications Zone.

3 Infantry Battalion, with necessary reinforcements, had been on active service in Korea since September, 1950, and during March, 1953, 2 Battalion relieved 1 Battalion, which had been in the Korean theatre since March, 1952.

Air Force—No. 91 (Composite) Wing, formed of No. 77 (Fighter) Squadron (which had been in Korea since June, 1950), and No. 36 (Transport) Squadron, together with the necessary administrative and maintenance units for their support.

Over-all operational control of the United Nations Forces in Korea is the responsibility of the American Unified Command which was established by the Security Council. The Commander-in-Chief, British Commonwealth Forces, Korea, is responsible for the non-operational control and administration of the British Commonwealth Forces in Korea, the land forces of which comprise 1st Commonwealth Division, United Nations Forces.

The number of Australian personnel serving in the Japan-Korea area at 30th June, 1953, was 5,113.

(ii) *Malaya.* No. 1 (Bomber) Squadron and No. 38 (Transport) Squadron of the R.A.A.F. were engaged in anti-bandit operations in Malaya from June, 1950. At the end of 1952 the Transport Squadron was withdrawn, but No. 1 (Bomber) Squadron is continuing operations in Malaya.

(iii) *Middle East*. In June, 1952, No. 78 (Fighter) Wing left Australia for service as part of the peace-time Air Force garrison in the Middle East.

For further details see sections relating to the respective Services.

6. **National Service Training.**—(i) *Liability*. Compulsory military training under the Defence Act was in operation from January, 1911 to November, 1929, when the Citizen Forces were re-constituted on the basis of voluntary enlistment. In March, 1951, the National Service Act was passed to enable effect to be given to the Government's policy of National Service training.

Under the National Service Scheme, every male person ordinarily resident in Australia, who attains the age of 18 years or who has attained the age of 18 years since 1st November, 1950, is required to register when called upon to do so by notice published in the *Gazette*. The only exceptions are certain officials in the service of international bodies, diplomatic personnel, men already serving in the Permanent Forces and aboriginal natives of Australia.

Every registrant who complies with the standards of fitness laid down is liable to be called up for service unless he is exempt from service. The exempt classes, apart from persons subject to prescribed physical or mental disabilities, are theological students, ministers of religion, members of religious orders and conscientious objectors. There is provision for call up of conscientious objectors for non-combatant duties only, and for deferment of call up, while the ground of deferment continues, for such cases as apprentices, students, and individual cases of exceptional hardship.

(ii) *Conditions of Service*. Service under the National Service Scheme is with the Citizen Naval Forces, the Citizen Military Forces or the Citizen Air Force. In determining in which part of the Citizen Forces a person is to serve, effect is given as far as possible to the personal preferences indicated. No person is called up for service with the Citizen Naval Forces or the Citizen Air Force unless he has volunteered for service beyond the limits of Australia. Originally the National Service scheme provided for members of all Services to perform a total period of 176 days' training. Following a review of the scheme, changes in the periods of training were announced in September, 1953. In the Navy and Air Force, the total period is now 154 days, which is performed in one continuous period except in the case of students, who may complete their service in two periods of 77 days in successive years. In the case of the Army, the total period of training is 140 days, consisting of 98 days' continuous training and 21 days' training in camps or week-end bivouacs in each of the following two years. (See also sections dealing with the respective Services.)

(iii) *Strength*. To 30th June, 1953, 69,700 trainees had been called up for training.

§ 2. Naval Defence.

1. **State Systems.**—Information regarding naval defence systems prior to 1901 will be found in Official Year Book No. 2, p. 1084.

2. **The Present System.**—(i) *General*. (a) *Royal Australian Navy up to end of 1939-45 War*. An outline of the development of Australian Naval policy was given in Official Year Book No. 3, p. 1060 and No. 12, p. 1012. Some account of the building of the Australian Navy, the proposed and modified cost thereof, the compact with the Imperial Government, etc., appears in Official Year Book No. 15, pp. 921 *et seq.* An account of the growth and activities of the Royal Australian Navy during the 1939-45 War is given in Official Year Book No. 36, pp. 1023 *et seq.*

(b) *Post-war Programme.* The following is a summary of the Naval Programme :—

(1) Ships in Commission—The Fleet consists of :—

Carrier Force : 2 Light Fleet Carriers, 1 Cruiser, 4 Destroyers.

Escort Forces : 4 Frigates.

Surveying Duties : 2 Survey ships and their tenders.

Training Ships : 2 Frigates, 6 Ocean Minesweepers.

Auxiliary Vessels : 3 Boom Defence Vessels, 1 Ocean-going Tug, 1

Armament Store Carrier, 3 Patrol Vessels, 2 General Purpose Vessels,
5 Search and Rescue Vessels.

(2) In addition to the ships in Commission, a substantial reserve fleet will be maintained in good condition against any future emergency.

(3) Personnel—The strength of the Royal Australian Navy has been pegged at 14,550, comprising 1,400 Officers and 13,150 ratings.

(4) Reserve and National Service Training—Reserve training was resumed as from 1st January, 1950, for members of the Royal Australian Naval Reserve. Training consists of 45 two-hourly drill attendances at night or on Saturdays in naval training establishments in each of the capital cities, plus 13 days' continuous training each year in H.M.A. ships or training establishments, including special schools. In addition, payment is made for further voluntary home training up to a maximum of 12 days. Selected members may undergo special courses up to a limit of six months during the whole of their service in the Reserve, whilst up to 12 months, training or service may be performed in H.M.A. ships or establishments with similar qualifications. Engagements are for three years. Rates of pay have been aligned (with minor modifications) with those applicable to the Permanent Naval Forces. The training for members of the Royal Australian Naval Reserve (Sea-going) is normally 28 days every two years whilst members of the Royal Australian Naval Volunteer Reserve are under no training obligations.

Naval National Service personnel commenced training on 30th July, 1951. On completion of their 154 days' initial training in naval establishments and H.M.A. ships, personnel will be attached to the Naval Reserve Training Establishment in their State and will carry out annual continuous training within the next four years in a manner similar to the members of the Royal Australian Naval Reserve, in order to comply with their National Service liability of five years. The present annual intake of National Servicemen is 1,200.

Revised post-war conditions of service in the Royal Australian Fleet Reserve were introduced as from 13th December, 1950. This Reserve is comprised of two classes, viz. :—(a) former ratings who receive full benefits under the Defence Forces Benefits Act and are required to serve five years in the Royal Australian Fleet Reserve as a consideration for receipt of these benefits, and (b) former ratings who have previously served in the Permanent Naval Forces of the Royal Australian Navy, Royal Navy, or a Dominion Navy subject to a minimum period of three years' service and an absence of not more than five years. No retainer is payable to members under (a) and no training is carried out. Members under (b) receive an annual retainer of £24 subject to completing 14 days' annual training. Ratings receive pay applicable to Royal Australian Navy personnel whilst under training.

- (5) **Fleet Air Arm**—The Fleet Air Arm of the Royal Australian Navy consists of two Naval Air Stations, H.M.A.S. *Albatross* at Nowra, New South Wales and H.M.A.S. *Nirimba* at Schofields, New South Wales; and two light fleet aircraft carriers, H.M.A.S. *Sydney* and H.M.A.S. *Vengeance*. In May, 1953, H.M.A.S. *Sydney* carried the Commonwealth Coronation Contingent to the United Kingdom and was present at the Spithead Coronation Review in June, returning to Australia via the United States in August, 1953.
- (6) **Ship Construction and Repair**—Provision is made for the maintenance in Australia of a nucleus ship construction and repair industry capable of rapid expansion in time of war. The present approved programmes provide for the construction of four destroyers (three being built) and six anti-submarine frigates (work on four in progress); the conversion of five "Q" class destroyers to fast anti-submarine frigates (one completed and work on four in progress); the modernization of three "Tribal" class destroyers (one completed and work on one in progress); and an extensive refit of H.M.A.S. *Hobart*.

(c) *The Relation of New Weapons.* Careful consideration has been given to the implications of new weapons, and the decisions in regard to the Navy are based on the broad conclusions of great naval powers that these weapons should be introduced by the normal process of evolution, first into existing ships, and later perhaps into an entirely new form of fighting ship. The same authoritative opinion is of the view that there will be no rapid development which will render vessels such as carriers, cruisers and destroyers obsolete within the near future.

(ii) *Naval Board.* The Australian Navy is administered by a Board consisting of the Minister for the Navy with four Naval Members, and the Secretary, Department of the Navy; the seat of administration is at Melbourne.

(iii) *Naval College.* Sixty-four Cadet Midshipmen (including five from the Royal New Zealand Navy) entered the Naval College for training in the year commenced January, 1953. At 30th June, 1953, there were 141 Cadet Midshipmen undergoing training.

(iv) *Training Establishments.* Flinders Naval Depot, Victoria, remains the principal training establishment for ratings in the permanent forces, while several advanced training schools are established in Port Jackson, New South Wales. Air training is carried out at Nowra, New South Wales.

(v) *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 to 11° 30' South, thence west to 11° 30' South 95° 15' East.

Western—

From 11° 30' South 95° 15' East, south along this meridian to 30° South, thence west along this parallel to 80° East, thence south along this meridian.

(vi) *Foreign Service.* The R.A.N. is represented in Japan by H.M.A.S. *Commonwealth* base establishment in Kure. During the year ended June, 1953, the following ships of the R.A.N. served in Korean waters :—H.M.A. Ships, *Warramunga*, *Bataan*, *Anzac*, *Condamine* and *Culgoa*.

(vii) *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 waters adjacent thereto.

3. Ships of the Royal Australian Navy.—The following ships were in commission or in reserve in June, 1953 :—

SHIPS OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY, JUNE, 1953.

Vessel.	Description.	Displacement.
		Tons.
In Commission—		
<i>Sydney</i>	Aircraft Carrier	14,000
<i>Vengeance</i>	" "	14,000
<i>Australia</i>	Cruiser	10,000
<i>Anzac</i>	Destroyer	2,325
<i>Tobruk</i>	"	2,436
<i>Bataan</i>	"	1,870
<i>Arunta</i>	"	1,870
<i>Quadrant</i>	Frigate	1,760
<i>Shoalhaven</i>	"	1,544
<i>Culgoa</i>	"	1,420
<i>Murchison</i>	"	1,544
<i>Macquarie</i>	"	1,420
<i>Condamine</i>	"	1,420
<i>Hawkesbury</i>	"	1,420
<i>Barcoo</i> (Surveying Ship)	"	1,544
<i>Warrego</i> (Surveying Ship)	"	1,060
<i>Wagga</i>	Ocean Minesweeper	650
<i>Cootamundra</i>	"	650
<i>June</i>	"	650
<i>Fremantle</i>	"	650
<i>Gladstone</i>	"	650
<i>Mildura</i>	"	650
<i>Lachlan</i> (Surveying Ship), on loan to the New Zealand Navy	Frigate	1,420
In Reserve—		
<i>Shropshire</i>	Cruiser	9,870
<i>Quality</i>	Destroyer	1,760
<i>Barwon</i>	Frigate	1,420
<i>Burdekin</i>	"	1,420
<i>Diamantina</i>	"	1,420
<i>Gascoyne</i>	"	1,420
<i>Swan</i>	"	1,060
<i>Ararat</i>	Ocean Minesweeper	650
<i>Bunbury</i>	"	650
<i>Bowen</i>	"	650
<i>Bundaberg</i>	"	650
<i>Benalla</i>	"	650
<i>Castlemaine</i>	"	650
<i>Deloraine</i>	"	650
<i>Dubbo</i>	"	650
<i>Glenelg</i>	"	650
<i>Gympie</i>	"	650
<i>Horsham</i>	"	650
<i>Katoomba</i>	"	650
<i>Kapunda</i>	"	650
<i>Lithgow</i>	"	650

SHIPS OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY, JUNE, 1953—*continued*.

Vessel.	Description.	Displacement.
<i>In Reserve—continued.</i>		Tons.
<i>Parkes</i>	Ocean Minesweeper	650
<i>Rockhampton</i>	" "	650
<i>Strahan</i>	" "	650
<i>Shepparton</i>	" "	650
<i>Townsville</i>	" "	650
<i>Platypus</i>	Depot Ship	3,455
<i>Under Dockyard Control—</i>		
<i>Hobart</i>	Cruiser	7,100
<i>Warramunga</i>	Destroyer	1,870
<i>Queenborough</i>	"	1,760
<i>Quiberon</i>	"	1,760
<i>Quickmatch</i>	"	1,760
<i>Latrobe</i>	Ocean Minesweeper	650
<i>Colac</i>	" "	650
<i>Cowra</i>	" "	650
Miscellaneous vessels in commission and reserve—sixty-one		

4. **Strength of Royal Australian Navy.**—The serving strength of the Royal Australian Naval Forces, both permanent and reserves, at 30th June, 1953, was 1,178 officers and 12,767 ratings including 60 native ratings of the Papua and New Guinea Division of the Royal Australian Navy. In addition, ten officers and 248 ratings of the Women's Royal Australian Naval Service were serving and 180 Cadet Midshipmen were undergoing training, including 141 at the Naval College. Reserve strength comprised 1,200 Officers and 5,722 ratings.

§ 3. Military Defence.

1. **State Systems.**—A detailed historical account of the Australian defence forces prior to Federation will be found in Official Year Book No. 2, pp. 1075–1080. *See also* Official Year Book No. 12, p. 999.

The strength of the military forces of the States on 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 covers 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 relates 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 § 1, para. 6 *ante* and sub-para. (iv) (c) following).

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

(ii) *Estimated Population of Military Age, 30th June, 1952.* The following particulars show the estimated numbers of males of military age in the population of Australia as at 30th June, 1952. The total number of cadet age, 14 and over, and under 18, was 235,648; of citizen soldier age, 18 and over, and under 26, 519,130; and 26 and over, and under 35, 638,534; making a total of 1,157,664, 18 and over, and under 35, which is considered the best period for military service. In addition to the above-mentioned it was estimated that there were 1,337,775 males 35 and over, and under 60, in Australia at 30th June, 1952.

(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, 1953 being as follows:—

COMMAND ORGANIZATION.

Army Headquarters.

Northern Command	Eastern Command	Southern Command	Central Command	Western Command	Tasmania Command	Northern Territory Command
All formations and units in 1st Military District and New Guinea.	All formations and units in 2nd Military District.	All formations and units in 3rd Military District.	All formations and units in 4th Military District.	All formations and units in 5th Military District.	All formations and units in 6th Military District.	All formations and units in 7th Military District.

Military Districts conform generally to State or Territory areas, as follows:—1st Military District, Queensland; 2nd, New South Wales; 3rd, Victoria; 4th, South Australia; 5th, Western Australia; 6th, Tasmania; 7th, Northern Territory. Third Military District includes a considerable portion of Southern New South Wales, and 4th includes Broken Hill.

(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 present plan for the raising of the Australian Regular Army envisages a total of 26,000 soldiers and 5,000 civilians. The plan for the Citizen Military Force contemplates a strength of 72,000 including National Servicemen, by December, 1954.

(b) *The Australian Cadet Corps.* The Australian Cadet Corps is a voluntary organization comprised of School Cadet units and Regimental 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 an important position in the scheme of national defence. School Cadet units are raised at educational establishments in all States of the Commonwealth. 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, warrant and non-commissioned officers on an authorized establishment scale from within school units. School cadet units are not affiliated with Citizen Military Force Units.

Regimental Cadet units have been raised in close affiliation with Citizen Military Force units, whose uniform they wear with the addition of the word "Cadets" directly under the title of the parent unit. These units are manned by boys who have either left school or are students at schools where no School Cadet unit has been raised. However, Regimental Cadet units were being disbanded late in 1953.

The establishment for the whole Corps is 35,000 all ranks, and by April, 1953, comprised 272 School Cadet units with a posted strength of 32,492 all ranks and 3,067 Regimental Cadets posted to Citizen Military Force units.

(c) *National Service Training Scheme.* Under the National Service Scheme (see § 1, para. 6 above) the Army is required to train 29,250 trainees per year, effected by three intakes each of 9,750 trainees. The first intake commenced training in August, 1951.

(v) *Women's Services.* In November, 1950, approval was given for the enlistment of women into the Australian Regular Army, on a limited scale. Enlistment commenced immediately into the Australian Women's Army Corps. During June, 1950, the Australian Women's Army Corps was re-designated the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps (W.R.A.A.C.). Members are employed in establishments in direct substitution for male soldiers. The Women's Services in the Australian Regular Army now comprise two Corps only :—(a) Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps; (b) Women's Royal Australian Army Corps.

Women's Services have been incorporated in the Citizen Military Forces; it is proposed to raise sixteen companies of the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps and twelve companies of the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps, a total of 3,900 all ranks, within the C.M.F.

(vi) *Korea.* On 2nd August, 1950, the Commonwealth Government announced its decision to raise and despatch to Korea one infantry battalion as part of Australia's contribution of military assistance to the United Nations. 3 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, and on 27th September, 1950, sailed from Japan for Korea where it joined 27 British Brigade. For its gallantry on 24th and 25th April, 1951, 3 Battalion was awarded the United States Presidential Citation by the United States of America. On 4th October, 1951, the Commonwealth Government announced that a second infantry battalion would be sent to Korea to join 3 Battalion. On 3rd March, 1952, 1 Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, which had been brought up to strength at Ingleburn, New South Wales, embarked for Japan where it was equipped before moving to Korea. 1 Battalion joined 3 Battalion, under operational control of 28 British Brigade, 1st Commonwealth Division, on 1st June, 1952. 2 Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, after training at Puckapunyal, Victoria, relieved 1 Battalion in Korea on 21st March, 1953, the latter battalion returning to Australia.

(vii) *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 Queenscliff, 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 30 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 1953 course were students from the United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand, India, Pakistan, the United States of America 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 Empire, liaison is maintained with other Staff Colleges; and to this end there is also a reciprocal exchange of instructors. To this extent it may be said that the Staff College is imperial in character.

(viii) *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, cadets receive pay and allowance of 14s. 1d. per day in their first year, rising to 22s. 9d. per day in their fourth. Uniform maintenance allowance of 1s. 9d. per day is additional, and a further 6d. per day is paid to cadets on attaining the age of 18 years. 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.

(ix) *The Officer Cadet School.* The Officer Cadet School was established in 1951 at Portsea, Victoria, for the purpose of speeding up the supply 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 18 and 23 years, are eligible to apply for entrance. The course is of six months' 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.

(x) *The Women's Royal Australian Army Corps School.* The W.R.A.A.C. School was established in 1952 at Mildura, Victoria. 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.

(xi) *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 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.

(xii) *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. In addition, a School of Tactics and Administration which has been established at Seymour, Victoria, provides qualifying and instructional courses in current tactical and administrative doctrine for members of all Arms and Services. 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 :—School of Tactics and Administration ; Armoured School ; School of Artillery ; School of Military Engineering ; School of Survey ; School of Signals ; School of Infantry ; Royal Australian Army Medical Corps School of Army Health ; Royal Australian Army Service Corps School ; Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps School ; Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Training Centre ; Transportation Training Centre.

(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 (which functions in an advisory capacity to the Minister and in the promotion of inter-empire and interstate rifle competitions), State Rifle Associations, District Rifle Club Unions and Rifle Clubs. When placed in recess, the efficient strength of the rifle club movement was 1,018 clubs and 36,478 members. Approximately 20 per cent. of this number served overseas and a further 60 per cent. performed home service duties during the recent war. Rifle shooting activities were resumed in 1946 and the strength of the movement as at 31st December, 1953 was 1,077 clubs and 50,000 members.

(xiv) *The Australian Battles Nomenclature Committee.* The Minister for the Army gave approval on the 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.

3. **Strength of Australian Military Forces.**—The effective strength of the Australian Military Forces at 31st December, 1953 was as follows :—Australian Regular Army, 21,327 ; Regular Army Special Reserve, 4,256 ; Citizen Military Force (including National Service Trainees), 69,928 ; Australian Cadet Corps, 29,509.

§ 4. Air Defence.

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

2. **Operations in Korea and Malaya.**—At the conclusion of the 1939-45 War, the R.A.A.F. provided part of the air component of the British Commonwealth Occupation Forces in Japan. Soon after the 38th parallel was violated by the North Koreans on 25th June, 1950, No. 77 Squadron in Japan was made available as part of the United Nations Forces opposing this aggression. Within one week from the commencement of

hostilities, No. 77 Squadron R.A.A.F. already operationally trained and equipped, had completed its first mission. From that date until 27th July, 1953, the Squadron, operating continuously from different bases in Korea, carried out 21,032 individual sorties.

The Squadron is equipped with Meteor aircraft and is based in Korea.

Australian assistance has been provided, in the form of two R.A.A.F. Squadrons (one transport and one bomber), to the Malayan authorities against Communist bandit action. The first Australian aircraft, a Dakota of No. 38 Squadron, left Darwin on 18th June, 1950. The Lincolns of No. 1 Squadron arrived in July, 1950, and both Squadrons were soon in action. On 2nd December, 1952, the transport squadron was withdrawn from Malaya. Up to this date it had flown 14,792 hours. Up till January, 1954, No. 1 Squadron had dropped more than 18,356,000 lb. of bombs during these operations. Working in close co-operation with the ground forces, this bombing was mainly on jungle hideouts frequented by the insurgents. Such bombing and strafing of bandit hideouts calls for extreme accuracy.

3. Administration and Organization.—The Department of Air is responsible for policy for 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 Personnel, Air Member for Technical Services, Air Member for Supply and Equipment, Citizen Air Force Member and the Secretary, Department of Air.

Headquarters of the Royal Australian Air Force is located at Melbourne. An Overseas Headquarters is located at London and an Air Attaché at Washington, United States of America.

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

The Commands are:—

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

Training Command.—Training Command is responsible for the command of training units, recruitment and individual training in the R.A.A.F.

Maintenance Command.—Maintenance Command is responsible for the command of supply and servicing units, and supply and servicing, including technical services, 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) Area Headquarters. There are three Area Headquarters (North Eastern, North Western and Western) responsible to Home Command for the command of units within their geographical areas.
- (b) Sub-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.
- (c) Flying Squadrons. These bomber, fighter, transport, target-towing and maritime reconnaissance squadrons undertake the operational and operational training flying commitments of the R.A.A.F.
- (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, which specialize in the aircrew and ground 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.

4. **National Service Training Scheme.**—Under the National Service Training Scheme, 3,330 personnel undergo training each year (*see also* § 1, para. 6 above).

5. **Aircraft.**—Some of the aircraft which are at present being used in the Royal Australian Air Force are : bomber squadrons—Lincoln and Canberra ; fighter squadrons—Mustang, Vampire and Meteor ; transport squadrons—Dakota ; maritime reconnaissance squadrons—Lincoln and Neptune ; tactical reconnaissance—Mustang and Auster ; training—Tiger Moth, Wirraway, Mustang, Dakota, Lincoln, Beaufighter and Winjeel.

6. **Establishment.**—The Royal Australian Air Force establishment, as proposed, comprises—(a) a Home Defence Organization, (b) Task Force elements and (c) a Training Organization, consisting in all of approximately 16,450 personnel.

7. **Strength of Royal Australian Air Force.**—At 1st January, 1954, the strength of the Royal Australian Air Force was as follows :—Permanent Air Force, 14,831 ; Active Citizen Air Force, 330 ; Active Reserve, 1,790 and General Reserve, 17,541. In addition, 3,330 National Service Trainees undergo 154 days' training each year and are then transferred to the Reserve.

§ 5. Casualties : Australian Services, 1939-45 War.

1. **General.**—This section contains revised information, in detail similar to that published in Official Year Book No. 37, on casualties to members of each of the Australian Fighting Services during the 1939-45 War. The information is dissected into nature of casualty, theatre of war and zone of operations. A separate table is devoted to each of the following classes of casualties—(i) Battle Casualties, (ii) Non-battle Casualties on Operations or in Operational Areas, and (iii) Casualties not on Operations or in Operational Areas. A summary table is also included, showing all casualties in each Service according to the nature of casualty. The figures for the respective Services are as comparable as inherent differences in the nature of the Services, their methods of operation and their systems of records will permit. The letterpress accompanying each table contains such explanation as is considered necessary to amplify or qualify the figures shown.

All casualties to servicemen and women during the 1939-45 War are included in these tables. Deaths and illnesses, etc., from natural causes are *not* included, and complete information for all Services is not available. Deaths, however, numbered 3,725 (R.A.N., 145 ; A.M.F., 3,216 ; R.A.A.F., 364) and illnesses for the A.M.F. alone numbered 1,557,651 cases.

It should be noted that while the figures for "Killed" and "Prisoners-of-war escaped, etc." refer to *persons*, those for "Wounded and injured" refer to *cases*. Thus totals represent the number of casualties, and not the number of persons who suffered therein.

2. **All Casualties, Australian Services, 1939-45 War.**—The following table is a summary of all casualties to members of the Fighting Services during the 1939-45 War.

ALL CASUALTIES : AUSTRALIAN SERVICES, 1939-45 WAR.(a)

Particulars.	Royal Australian Navy.	Australian Military Forces.	Royal Australian Air Force.	All Services.
Killed, died of wounds, injuries, etc. . .	2,077	21,929	10,277	34,283
Prisoners-of-war escaped, recovered or repatriated	263	20,746	1,255	22,264
Wounded, injured, etc. (cases)	579	177,312	3,236	181,127
Total	2,919	219,987	14,768	237,674

(a) Excludes deaths and illnesses from natural causes.

3. **Battle Casualties, Australian Services, 1939-45 War.**—The table hereunder shows particulars of battle casualties under the headings of "War against Germany" and "War against Japan". The following brief explanations are considered necessary for the sake of preciseness.

R.A.N. : "Wounded and injured" includes all cases of wounded and injured in action *and on service*. Separation into operational and non-operational areas is not practicable.

A.M.F. : Figures include 222 deaths and 34 wounded in sinking of A.H.S. *Centaur* off the east coast of Australia and 15 deaths and 138 wounded in air raids on Darwin and Port Hedland.

R.A.A.F. : Figures refer to casualties incurred in operations against the enemy.

BATTLE CASUALTIES : AUSTRALIAN SERVICES, 1939-45 WAR.(a)

Particulars.	Royal Australian Navy.	Australian Military Forces.	Royal Australian Air Force.	All Services.
WAR AGAINST GERMANY.				
Killed—				
Killed in action and missing, presumed dead	900	2,610	5,036	8,546
Died of wounds	3	700	58	761
Died of wounds while prisoner-of-war . . . . .	..	56	9	65
Died of sickness, disease and injury while prisoner-of-war . . . . .	..	95	} 14	200
Presumed died while prisoner-of-war . . . . .	..	(b) 91		
Total killed	903	3,552	5,117	9,572
Prisoners-of-war escaped, recovered or repatriated	25	6,874	1,020	7,919
Wounded and injured in action (cases)	26	8,925	529	9,480
Total	954	19,351	6,666	26,971

(a) Excludes deaths and illnesses from natural causes.

(b) Includes 79 "Killed in action".

BATTLE CASUALTIES: AUSTRALIAN SERVICES, 1939-45 WAR(a)—continued.

Particulars.	Royal Australian Navy.	Australian Military Forces.	Royal Australian Air Force.	All Services.
WAR AGAINST JAPAN.				
Killed—				
Killed in action and missing, presumed dead	840	6,294	1,140	8,274
Died of wounds	41	1,090	65	1,196
Died of wounds while prisoner-of-war	116	50	138	8,031
Died of sickness, disease and injury while prisoner-of-war		5,336		
Presumed died while prisoner-of-war		(b) 2,391		
Total killed	997	15,161	1,343	17,501
Prisoners-of-war escaped, recovered or repatriated	238	13,872	235	14,345
Wounded and injured in action (cases) ..	553	13,191	253	13,997
Total	1,788	42,224	1,831	45,843

ALL THEATRES OF WAR.

Killed—				
Killed in action and missing, presumed dead	1,740	8,904	6,176	16,820
Died of wounds	44	1,790	123	1,957
Died of wounds while prisoner-of-war	116	106	161	8,296
Died of sickness, disease and injury while prisoner-of-war		5,431		
Presumed died while prisoner-of-war		(c) 2,482		
Total killed	1,900	18,713	6,460	27,073
Prisoners-of-war escaped, recovered or repatriated	263	20,746	1,255	22,264
Wounded and injured in action (cases) ..	579	22,116	782	23,477
Total	2,742	61,575	8,497	72,814

(a) Excludes deaths and illnesses from natural causes.
(c) Includes 551 "Killed in action".

(b) Includes 472 "Killed in action".

4. Non-Battle Casualties on Operations or in Operational Areas, Australian Services, 1939-45 War.—The next table shows particulars of casualties, other than in battle, incurred on operations or in operational areas, classified according to theatre of war.

R.A.N.: "Killed, etc." represents mainly fatal accidents on service, including drownings. All personnel injured on service are included in the previous table.

A.M.F.: Figures include all casualties in operational areas other than actual battle casualties.

R.A.A.F. : Figures represent casualties in operational areas, but not directly the result of operations. They include all casualties in the United Kingdom other than those incurred in operations.

**NON-BATTLE CASUALTIES ON OPERATIONS OR IN OPERATIONAL AREAS :
AUSTRALIAN SERVICES, 1939-45 WAR.(a)**

Particulars.	Royal Australian Navy.	Australian Military Forces.	Royal Australian Air Force.	All Services.
WAR AGAINST GERMANY.				
Killed, died of injuries, etc.	42	343	1,496	1,881
Wounded, injured, etc. (cases)	..	9,196	845	10,041
Total	42	9,539	2,341	11,922
WAR AGAINST JAPAN.				
Killed, died of injuries, etc.	57	822	689	1,568
Wounded, injured, etc. (cases)	..	24,200	633	24,833
Total	57	25,022	1,322	26,401
ALL THEATRES OF WAR.				
Killed, died of injuries, etc.	99	1,165	2,185	3,449
Wounded, injured, etc. (cases)	..	33,396	1,478	34,874
Total	99	34,561	3,663	38,323

(a) Excludes deaths and illnesses from natural causes.

5. Casualties not on Operations or in Operational Areas, Australian Services, 1939-45 War.—The figures hereunder relate to all casualties other than those in paras. 3 and 4 above.

R.A.N. : "Killed, etc." represents fatal accidents mainly ashore. All personnel injured on service are included in Battle Casualties.

A.M.F. : Figures include all casualties during training and from traffic accidents, etc.

R.A.A.F. : Figures for "Australia" include all training casualties in Australia ; those for "Overseas" include all casualties incurred in Canada and Rhodesia. Only the more serious cases which were reportable to next-of-kin are represented. Figures for others are not available.

CASUALTIES NOT ON OPERATIONS OR IN OPERATIONAL AREAS : AUSTRALIAN SERVICES, 1939-45 WAR.(a)

Particulars.	Royal Australian Navy.	Australian Military Forces.	Royal Australian Air Force.	All Services.
AUSTRALIA.				
Killed, died of injuries, etc. . .	58	2,049	1,441	3,548
Wounded, injured, etc. (cases) . .	..	121,800	873	122,673
Total	58	123,849	2,314	126,221
OVERSEAS.				
Killed, died of injuries, etc. . .	20	2	168	190
Wounded, injured, etc. (cases) . .	..	..	60	60
Total	20	2	228	250
TOTAL.				
Killed, died of injuries, etc. . .	78	2,051	(b) 1,632	(b) 3,761
Wounded, injured, etc. (cases) . .	..	121,800	(c) 976	(c) 122,776
Total	78	123,851	2,608	126,537

(a) Excludes deaths and illnesses from natural causes. (b) Includes 23 members of the W.A.A.A.F. not allocated between Australia and Overseas. (c) Includes 42 members of the W.A.A.A.F. and one of the R.A.A.F.N.S. not allocated between Australia and Overseas.

§ 6. War Gratuities.

1. 1914-18 War.—Reference is made in earlier issues of the Official Year Book (*see* No. 15, p. 930) to the bonus payable in accordance with the War Gratuity Acts of 1920 as a war service gratuity to soldiers and sailors who served in the 1914-18 War. Owing to limitations of space this information cannot be repeated, but it may be noted that the gratuity was paid in Treasury Bonds, maturing not later than 31st May, 1924, and bearing interest at 5½ per cent. In necessitous cases payment was made in cash when desired by the person entitled. The first gratuities were made available about the beginning of June, 1920. The total amount paid to 30th June, 1953 was £27,515,036 and bonds amounting to £11,780 had not been redeemed at that date.

2. 1939-45 War.—Briefly the War Gratuity Act 1945-1947 provided for payment to members of the Forces of war gratuity (a) at the rate of £3 15s. per month of oversea service, subject to a qualifying period of 90 days continuous or 180 days in the aggregate in twelve months, and of certain subsequent periods in Australia, and (b) at the rate of 15s. per month of Australian service after 6th December, 1941, subject to a qualifying period of six months' service, other than that for which payment at the oversea rate was made. All members who performed oversea qualifying service were paid a minimum of twelve months' gratuity at the oversea rate, irrespective of whether the full period of twelve months had been completed or not.

In cases of death due to war service either overseas or in Australia, where members of the family were totally dependent on the deceased member, a minimum payment equivalent to three years' gratuity calculated at the overseas gratuity rate could be made. In respect of all other cases of death, overseas and in Australia, due to war service, gratuity at the rate accruing to the member at the date of notification of his death was continued for a further seven months.

The period of entitlement to gratuity terminated at the date of discharge or on 30th June, 1947, whichever was the earlier. The bulk of the payments were made on 3rd March, 1951, but in certain circumstances payments were made at earlier dates. Compound interest was allowed at the rate of 3.25 per cent. per annum on the yearly credit balances. For greater detail of the provisions of the Act *see* Official Year Book No. 36, pp. 1073-4.

A Registrar of War Gratuities controls the register in which are kept the accounts of all persons entitled to war gratuity. Provision was made for financing the Act by appropriation from Consolidated Revenue Fund and by borrowing. The War Gratuity Appropriation Act 1948 created a trust account for the payment of gratuities. Particulars of the operations of this fund during the years 1948-49 to 1952-53 were as follows:—

WAR (1939-45) GRATUITY TRUST FUND.
(£'000.)

Particulars.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.	1952-53.
Balance brought forward ..	..	30,051	36,751	5,934	4,545
Receipts	33,249	9,943	30,630	..	..
Expenditure	3,198	3,243	61,447	1,389	194
Balance carried forward ..	30,051	36,751	5,934	4,545	4,351

§ 7. Department of Defence Production.

1. **General.**—On 11th May, 1951, a Department of Defence Production and a Department of Supply were established by a decision of the Government. These Departments took over the functions previously undertaken by a joint Supply Department. The Department of Defence Production is responsible broadly for the production of munitions (including aircraft) required by the Services in government-operated factories and in industry under contract to the Government. It is also responsible for all those matters incidental to production, including the planning of production capacity to meet expected future Service requirements. References to previous operations of the various sections and establishments of the Department are given in Official Year Book No. 38, pp. 1200-9.

2. **Functions of the Department and Acts Administered.**—The functions of the Department of Defence Production, as defined in the Administrative Arrangements approved by the Governor-General, are:—

- (i) Manufacture, acquisition, provision and supply of munitions for the defence forces, that is to say, armaments, aircraft, arms, ammunition, weapons, machine tools, war chemicals, radar (and such other items as may be mutually agreed with the Department of Supply as falling within the definition of munitions), including the materials and plant necessary for the production of those things and all matters incidental thereto, including:—

The receipt from the Service Departments and other authorities or Departments, of orders and forecasts of requirements of munitions; appropriate liaison with the Higher Defence Machinery Service Departments and the Department of Supply to deal with Service

munitions programmes; operation and management of factories, workshops and undertakings concerned in the production of munitions; arrangements and all action necessary to secure the manufacture, processing and delivery of munitions; investigations and development of Australian sources of munitions production, including the establishment of annexes or special capacity in industry for that purpose; acquisition by the Commonwealth and the establishment of factories and workshops for the purpose of producing munitions; provision and maintenance of stocks of materials and goods for the purpose of producing munitions.

- (ii) Employment and training of technicians, workmen and others for the purpose of producing munitions.
- (iii) Formation of Industry Advisory Committees to advise the Minister for Defence Production regarding :—

The allocation to industry of production programmes of munitions; the establishing of additional munitions production facilities, including annexes and undertakings; the obtaining of appropriate details of Australian industrial capacity required by the Department of Defence Production in allocating munitions production to industry; any other matters associated with munitions production as specified by the Minister.

- (iv) Provision and control of stores, magazine and similar undertakings required in connexion with production of munitions and for other purposes as required.
- (v) Arrangements for ascertaining costs and the control and limitation of profits in connexion with the production of munitions.
- (vi) Development of inventions originating in Government factories in the interests of defence production.

The Act administered by the Department is the Supply and Development Act 1939-1948.

3. **Defence Production Planning.**—A Defence Supply Planning Branch was established in July, 1950, within the (then) Department of Supply to co-ordinate the planning of expansion of production capacity in government-owned factories and in industry. When the Department of Defence Production was created, the Branch was transferred to that Department as the Defence Production Planning Branch.

Broadly, the functions of the Branch are :—(i) to arrange production of requirements for the Defence Services on mobilization; (ii) to plan the expansion of production capacity to meet such requirements in war.

The following production and related sections exist within the Branch :—(a) Ammunition; (b) Radar and Telecommunications; (c) Materials; (d) Chemicals and Chemical Engineering; (e) Weapons and their Equipment including equipment involving optics; (f) Engineer Stores including Mobile Equipment and Small Craft; (g) Production Plant and Equipment; (h) Instruments; (i) Electrical. The production sections have a particular reference to the manufacture of defence stores and components by industry.

The Defence Production Planning Branch is the executive instrument of a Committee of the same name. The three Defence Services, the Departments of Defence, Defence Production, Supply and National Development are represented on the Committee. This enables a close liaison to be maintained with the Departments concerned directly and indirectly with defence in the formation of defence production planning policy.

4. **Munitions Factories.**—Munitions factories now in operation are :—Ammunition—Footscray, Victoria; Explosives—Maribyrnong, Victoria, Mulwala and St. Mary's, New South Wales; Ordnance—Maribyrnong, Bendigo, Echuca, Port Melbourne Marine Engine Works, all located in Victoria; Small Arms—Lithgow, New South Wales.

5. **Aircraft Production.**—(i) *General.* Matters relating to the production in Australia of military types of aircraft and aero engines and of other aircraft components required by the Royal Australian Air Force and the Royal Australian Navy are administered by the Division of Aircraft Production of the Department of Defence Production. Aircraft, repair and overhaul activities carried out for those Services in civilian establishments as distinct from Service workshops, are also the function of the Division, together with the responsibility of supplying aircraft and engine spare parts and airborne equipment generally.

(ii) *Aircraft, Engine and Other Production.* As at 1st July, 1953, the approved production programme for the major aircraft manufacturing organizations in Australia comprised Canberra jet-engined bombers, Lincoln heavy bombers and small radio-controlled jet-propelled target aircraft at the Government Aircraft Factory, Avon Sabre jet-engined fighters, C.A. 25 basic trainers and Rolls Royce Nene and Avon turbo-jet engines at Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation Pty. Ltd., and Vampire jet-trainers at De Haviland Aircraft Pty. Ltd.

Associated concurrent activities included the production and repair of retractable undercarriages at the Aircraft Engine Factory, the repair and overhaul of propellers at the Propeller Annexe and the production of heavy forgings at the Heavy Forge Annexe.

(iii) *Design and Development Projects.* Concurrently with the production programmes, projects involving original design studies in aircraft and aero engine fields were advanced during the year at the Government Aircraft Factory and at the works of Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation Pty. Ltd.

At the former, the first stage of the design and production of radio-controlled target aircraft for use at the Rocket Range, Woomera, South Australia, covering both piloted and unmanned versions of the aircraft, had been completed at 1st July, 1953, and the design and production of an improved version of the unmanned aircraft was in progress.

At the works of Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation Pty. Ltd., the design and development of a basic type of trainer aircraft and the construction of two prototypes had been successfully completed and arrangements were in hand for the manufacture of production aircraft to the same design. A light radial type aero engine—also designed and produced by the Company—for use as a power unit for the basic trainer was under test.

(iv) *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 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.

Lincoln aircraft were repaired and extensively modified at the Government Aircraft Factory. Mustang and Wirraway aircraft and single and twin-row Wasp radial engines and Rolls Royce Nene turbo-jet engines were overhauled by Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation Pty. Ltd. in Melbourne, while Rolls Royce Merlin engines from the R.A.A.F. and Rolls Royce Griffon and Bristol Centaurus engines from the R.A.N. were overhauled at the Aircraft Engine Factory in Sydney.

At De Haviland Aircraft Pty. Ltd., Vampire, Mosquito and Tiger Moth aircraft and Gipsy Major engines were repaired and overhauled and at the Government workshops at Parafield, South Australia, Dakota transport and Wirraway aircraft were repaired and overhauled.

(v) *Naval Aircraft.* The repair and overhaul of carrier-based Fairey "Firefly" and Hawker "Sea Fury" aircraft operated by the R.A.N. were handled by the Fairey-Aviation Company of Australasia Ltd., in Sydney.

6. **Finance and Accounts.**—The expenditure on munitions, munitions factories, aircraft production, etc., during 1951–52 is shown in the following table :—

DEFENCE PRODUCTION : TOTAL EXPENDITURE, 1951–52.
(£'000.)

Particulars.	Expenditure.
Parliamentary Appropriations	(a) 7,140
Trust Fund Accounts—	
Government Factories and Establishments	13,762
Manufacture of Munitions	6,782
Munition Materials	88
Defence Production Materials	345
Aircraft	12,036
 Total Trust Fund Accounts	 33,013
 Total Expenditure	 40,153

(a) Includes contribution under Superannuation Act.

§ 8. Department of Supply.

1. **General.**—Reference to the creation of the Department of Supply is contained in Official Year Book No. 39, p. 1257.

2. **Functions of the Department and Acts Administered.**—The functions of the Department include (a) the manufacture, acquisition, provision and supply of services and goods other than “munitions” (that is to say foodstuffs, textiles, clothing, hardware, boots and other like supplies) required by Service and other authorities; (b) research and scientific development in relation to war *matériel*, including the operation of the Long Range Weapons and other defence science establishments; (c) design and associated technical development and inspection of war *matériel*; (d) planning for and procurement of strategic materials; (e) planning and establishment of manufacturing facilities for production of goods other than munitions; (f) formation of industry advisory committees in respect of production and procurement matters; (g) arranging contracts for supply of goods and performance of services; (h) acquisition, maintenance and disposal of stocks; (i) sale or disposal of surplus or unserviceable property (except buildings or land); (j) provision of Commonwealth transport facilities (k) security service for Supply and Defence Production Departments; (l) arrangements for ascertaining costs and control and limitation of profits on production contracts; (m) co-ordinating estimates, allocation and commitment of resources for Defence Supply needs (including munitions) and liaison with the National Security Resources Board; (n) provision and control of stores required for or in connexion with matters administered by the Department of Supply; general storage for other Departments as required and to the extent facilities are available.

Acts administered by the Minister for Supply are the Aluminium Industry Act 1944–1952; Atomic Energy Act 1953; Supply and Development Act 1939–1948.

3. **Research and Development Branch.**—(i) *General.* Considerable success has been achieved in all fields of research undertaken by Research and Development Establishments. A number of new projects have been commenced and others are being planned. Progress has also been made in other directions of defence science. Considerable benefit continues to accrue from the Scientific Trainee Scheme adopted by this Department with the object of providing experienced and capable scientific and experimental personnel.

(ii) *Long Range Weapons Establishments, South Australia.* At Salisbury, work on missiles has proceeded in accordance with programmes agreed with the United Kingdom Government. The recruitment of scientific and technical staff is being pressed forward

urgently. A twice-monthly Hastings Ferry Aircraft Service between the United Kingdom and Australia has been introduced by the United Kingdom Ministry of Supply to facilitate the carriage of personnel and freight for the Project, and a radio-teleprinter link has been opened for communication between the two countries. Several United Kingdom industrial firms under contract to the Australian Government have established subsidiary sections at Salisbury for the purpose of assembling rounds preparatory to trials at the Range and reporting to their parent organizations in the United Kingdom regarding trials, results, etc.

Trials are being conducted at Woomera at regular and frequent intervals and the ranges are in constant use. An important stage will shortly be reached when trials of prototype weapons will commence. In addition the rate of firings will increase considerably. The construction of housing accommodation is almost completed and the majority of houses planned for the Village are occupied.

The Long Range Weapons Air Component, Mallala, continues to operate from the R.A.A.F. Station at Mallala but satisfactory progress is being made on the construction of the new airfield at Salisbury and the Air Component will ultimately be transferred to this new location.

(iii) *Aeronautical Research Laboratories and Defence Standards Laboratories (formerly Defence Research Laboratories)*. The Aeronautical Research Laboratories at Fishermen's Bend have continued investigations according to their approved programme with particular attention to defence problems. In addition these laboratories collaborate with the United Kingdom on aeronautical matters of mutual interest.

The title of Defence Research Laboratories, Maribyrnong has been altered to Defence Standards Laboratories. The broad function is the application of scientific knowledge and research to the problems arising in design, development, manufacture, inspection, storage, and use of war material. Research is done on the development of new and improved materials, methods and equipment of known or potential interest.

(iv) *Electronics Research, Propulsion Research, and High Speed Aerodynamics Laboratories, Salisbury*. These newly-established laboratories now have a small staff of experienced scientific and experimental personnel and recruitment of additional staff is proceeding. The necessary equipment is being progressively installed to enable these laboratories to carry out their specialized functions, and they have now embarked actively on defence science investigations and are available for advice to the other laboratories in the Defence Group.

4. **Design and Inspection Branch.**—Since the previous issue of the Official Year Book the title of "Army Branch" has been changed to "Design and Inspection Branch". The word design is used here in the wider sense of a design authority. For instance, armament production in Australia is based on British designs, but it is necessary to have in Australia a design authority to which the production agencies can refer problems arising out of differences in British and Australian manufacturing practices, techniques, skills, materials and tooling. A high percentage of Army stores is of commercial or near-commercial pattern. Examples of these are trucks, earth-moving equipment, electrical and general engineering equipment, and general stores. In many of these items the amount of design may be small, or may be carried out by their manufacturers, but selection of types, makes and models, and their variation if necessary, calls for the existence of a design authority with facilities for testing, reporting and making recommendations to guide selection. In each field different problems arise for the design authority. For example, radio development for the Army is carried out by the trade, but a design authority is required as an executive link between the users and the designers and manufacturers.

To meet its responsibilities as a design authority, the Design and Inspection Branch is gradually setting up a design establishment with the following elements:—

Four design sections to deal with design problems relating to the selection and the manufacture of armaments, vehicles, signal equipment, and general engineering plant and equipment.

Common facilities for dealing with defects, standards, rationalization and standardization, production drawings, specifications, publications, testing of components and complete electrical and mechanical units, and the construction of mock-ups and models.

The ultimate objective of the design authority is to ensure, on mobilization, that selection has been made of each one of the many thousands of types of armament, vehicles, telecommunications equipment, general engineering equipment, general stores, and clothing and that up-to-date specifications, drawings or sealed samples of each type are always available to the Army to support its demands and orders on mobilization and so allow production to start without delay.

To meet its inspection responsibilities the Design and Inspection Branch includes an Inspection Service. This Inspection Service whilst primarily intended for the inspection of supplies for the Army, also undertakes inspection on behalf of other Departments—notably Air, Labour and National Service and External Affairs (inspection of items supplied under the Colombo Plan). It also undertakes all proof of armament stores on behalf of the three Services.

The Inspection Service is divided into three main Groups for Engineering, Ammunition and Small Arms. and General Stores and Clothing inspection. A Proof and Experimental Group and an Equipment Information Section are also included. The latter holds and issues a complete range of Army drawings and specifications and many others including United Kingdom and Australian Joint Service Specifications. It provides the data on which production is based.

Inspection and proof activities increased during 1951-52 owing to large Service orders for equipment being placed under the expanded Defence Programme. Orders for stores to the value of £39,900,000 were received for the attention of the Army Inspection Service during this period, representing an increase of £25,147,000 over the orders placed in the previous year. Examination staff increased from 445 to 650.

5. **Contract Board**—(i) *General.* The Contract Board and its State Organization under the Supply and Development Act 1939-1948 and Regulations is the authority responsible for purchasing supplies or arranging services for the Military, Naval and Air Forces of the Commonwealth. Under this Act and Regulations it is also charged with the responsibility of arranging for the sale or disposal on behalf of Commonwealth Departments of all surplus or unserviceable war matériel, goods and services approved for disposal.

(ii) *The Board and its Administrative Organization.* The Contract Board meets in Melbourne, and comprises representatives of the Departments of Supply, Defence Production, 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 1950-51 and 1951-52.

CONTRACT BOARD ORGANIZATION: PURCHASES AND REALIZATIONS FROM DISPOSALS.

(£.)

State.	Purchases.		Realizations from Disposals.	
	1950-51.	1951-52.	1950-51.	1951-52.
Contract Board, Victoria	40,514,989	44,908,560	1,106,299	781,520
District Contract Board—				
New South Wales	5,546,928	10,957,545	467,496	708,278
Queensland	751,613	1,962,003	169,118	103,632
South Australia	1,303,990	2,166,286	99,082	102,906
Western Australia	671,855	1,228,132	81,695	70,864
Tasmania	86,473	101,172	23,262	12,441
Total	48,875,848	61,323,698	1,946,952	1,779,641

6. **Tinplate.**—An account of this Section was given in Official Year Book No. 39, pp. 1259–60. Since then the services of the Tinplate Advisory Committee have been retained but the appointment of a Controller of Tinplate has been terminated.

Australia's tinplate supplies are drawn from the United Kingdom and the United States of America, but the system of country-wise allocation was discontinued by both sources early in 1953. During the ten years ended 30th June, 1952, Australian consumption of tinplate averaged 112,000 tons per annum.

7. **Stores and Transport Branch.**—This Branch now functions as the central authority which is responsible for providing all storage and transport facilities necessary to meet the official requirements of Commonwealth Departments and authorities. It has branches in all States and agents in Canberra and Darwin.

At the 30th June, 1952, it had under its control land, buildings, plant and machinery valued at over £5,030,000 and 4,500,000 square feet of storage space, of which 4,000,000 square feet was Government-owned and the balance held under tenancy.

8. **Finance Branch.**—The expenditure for Department of Supply activities during the year 1951–52 is shown in the following table. Expenditure for previous years appearing in Year Book No. 39, p. 1257 covered both the Department of Defence Production and the Department of Supply.

SUPPLY : TOTAL EXPENDITURE, 1951–52.
(£'000.)

Particulars.	Expenditure.
Parliamentary Appropriations	(a) 19,915
Trust Fund Accounts—	
Aluminium Production	2,710
Minerals Production	141
Government Factory (Clothing)	1,306
Stores and Transport	4,279
Strategic Stores and Equipment Reserve	7,830
Total Trust Fund Accounts	16,266
Other	91
Total Expenditure	36,272

(a) Includes amount appropriated for Strategic Stores and Equipment Reserve Trust Account, and audit, superannuation and debt charges.

9. **Australian Aluminium Production Commission.**—Basic plans for the manufacture of aluminium ingot in Australia were approved by the Commonwealth Government in April, 1941 as a defence measure designed to make this country independent of overseas supplies. In April, 1944 an agreement was made between the Commonwealth and Tasmanian Governments for the establishment of the industry in Tasmania. The Australian Aluminium Production Commission, consisting of representatives of each of the two Governments, was constituted on 1st May, 1945. By legislation passed in 1952, the original fund of £3,000,000 to finance the undertaking was increased to £7,250,000 of which the Commonwealth Government will contribute £5,750,000 and the Tasmanian Government £1,500,000.

Workable deposits of bauxite (aluminium ore) have been proved in New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania. The largest deposits are located in the Inverell district of northern New South Wales, where reserves exceeding 8,000,000 tons have been brought under Commission control. In the Wessel Islands, off the coast of Arnhem Land, the recent discovery of bauxite led to the proving of approximately 10,000,000 tons of ore of good grade, and extensive bauxite areas have been found on the Northern Territory mainland. Sufficient local reserves for the establishment of a permanent aluminium industry are now assured. The combined Bayer-Hall alumina and reduction plant being erected at Bell Bay, Northern Tasmania, will be supplied with power from a new

generating station at Trevallyn, near Launceston. The main portions of the works have now been erected, and installation of plant is proceeding with the object of bringing the project into production in 1954. The design capacity of the plant is 13,000 tons of aluminium ingot annually.

§ 9. Australian Atomic Energy Commission.

In November, 1952, a Commission of three members was appointed to control the Commonwealth's activities in relation to uranium and atomic energy, and in April, 1953, upon the enactment of the Atomic Energy Act 1953, the Commission was established as a statutory authority, with powers and functions as defined in the Act. The Commission is a corporate and autonomous body, controlling its own service. It functions under the direction of the Minister for Supply.

Commonwealth arrangements for securing collective advice on atomic energy matters date from 1949, when the Industrial Atomic Energy Policy Committee was established to study possible industrial applications of atomic energy, and to recommend a programme of development. This committee functioned until 1952, when it was disbanded at its own suggestion and succeeded by the Atomic Energy Policy Committee, a re-constituted body with enlarged terms of reference. In the light of recommendations by the 1952 Committee, and scientific and organizational developments overseas in relation to atomic energy, the Government decided on the establishment of the Commission, and legislation was enacted in 1953 to give effect to this decision.

The functions of the Commission are broadly as follows:—Firstly, it is responsible for promoting the search for and production of uranium, and it has wide powers to take action to this end. Secondly, it is given authority to develop the practical uses of atomic energy, by constructing and operating plant for this purpose, carrying out research, and generally fostering the advancement of atomic energy technology. These powers and functions are set out in detail in Part II. of the 1953 Act. In general, and subject to the Commonwealth's defence powers and particular provisions of the Act, they are to be exercised in or in relation to the Territories of the Commonwealth. The development of the uranium resources of the States is a State matter, and it is likewise open to the States to take such action as they wish to develop the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

On the mining side of its activities the Commission has the co-operation of the Bureau of Mineral Resources of the Department of National Development, and under these arrangements the Bureau is carrying out a vigorous programme of exploration in the Northern Territory. The object of this programme, which is being carried out by geophysical, geological and radiometric surveys, is to distinguish the areas in which there are indications of the presence of uranium ores, with a view to making these areas available for development by private enterprise. One large ore deposit at Rum Jungle, discovered by a private prospector in 1949, is already being worked, finance for the project having been provided by the Combined Development Agency, a joint United States-United Kingdom authority operating from Washington. While this is a governmental project, the Commission's objective is to interest private capital in developing other prospects which have been located elsewhere in the Territory. The response of private enterprise has been active and is growing rapidly, and there are good grounds for the hope that the industry will grow to large dimensions.

As regards developmental work on the scientific side, the Commission has been carrying out investigations overseas, and is laying the foundations of a research and development programme. As part of this programme a group of Australian scientists who have been doing research at the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell is being taken on to the Commission's staff, and research groups who have been working in Australia are likewise being recruited. Arrangements for having research carried out by universities and other institutions are also envisaged. The general object in view is a full participation by Australia in the advancement of atomic energy technology, in order that it may be possible to take advantage of the expected practical uses of this new source of power as soon as they are realizable.