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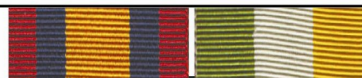
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# ARMOUR

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**SPONSORING THE NATIONAL BOER WAR MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION INC.**

1899



1902

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## The Real Breaker Morant

*by John Miles*

The death of hero or villain Breaker Morant before a British firing squad in faraway Boer War Transvaal is still the subject of bitter debate in his adopted homeland. John Miles looks at a strange life and its especial connections with Adelaide and South Australia and in the light of continued moves to clear Morant's name.



*The sun may shine the rain may fall  
And the world roll round about  
But all the king's men and king's horses all  
Can never rub one thing out.*

Harry Harbord Morant

What hasn't been rubbed out, even after approaching 110 years, is the controversy itself surrounding the man known as The Breaker – Breaker Morant.

Disgraced bastard son of a British aristocrat, legend in his own Australian lifetime for his prowess with wild bush horses and other daring-do, the argument goes on. Hero and scapegoat, or scoundrel and war criminal? Should his name be added or not to the imposing Boer War monument that stands at the entrance to Adelaide's bustling cultural boulevard North Terrace, or to anywhere else?

"The bravest, bad bastard that ever lived," said one Adelaide contemporary of Morant.

"Jolly, immensely popular, n'er do well and wild," said Lady Tennyson, the South Australian Governor's wife.

"Gambled all his life, till the cards finally ran out," said Banjo Paterson, another Morant acquaintance. "Drunkenness and disgrace," concluded Victor Newland, Boer War correspondent for Adelaide's *Register* who had also known Morant in South Australia. "Poor Breaker. On principle never paying a debt, yet would give a friend his only shirt. Gentleman, cadger, beast and brave man."

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# Coming Events



14 August 2012	Committee Meeting	Gallipoli Club 1830 hrs
9 October 2012	Committee Meeting	Gallipoli Club 1830 hrs
November 2012	Cambrai Day Function	TBA
11 December 2012	Committee Meeting	Gallipoli Club 1830 hrs

In the March edition of *Armour* it was mentioned that Noel Mc LAUGHLIN, the Interim Director of the RAAC Corporation was a member of the RAACA. This is in fact incorrect and he wishes to state that;

” I am not a member of RAACA. I am not working on a project for one ESO entity but on a dream that Ian Bryant had for the **entire RAAC membership** – both serving and former members, and to suggest otherwise is in my view, patently offensive. My position as an Interim Director requires me to maintain strict neutrality in respect of all matters related to the standing up of the Corporation and subsequent election of a substantive Board.

I am grievously concerned that any inference to the contrary, such as aligning me with RAACA as a member, when this is in fact not the case, may operate to impugn my reputation as an unbiased and neutral Interim Director, a reputation that I take very seriously.

I am requesting that you take action to publish a correction to these factual errors in the next edition of “*Armour*”.



Many thanks to those who were able to send a donation to the RAACA NSW Branch your support is much appreciated.

The quest for a veteran’s Gold Card to be issued to all our Black Hat WW11 veteran’s who did not go over seas has taken another step. We have approached a Sydney legal firm to accept the challenge of suing the Government for the discrimination it has shown against all those fine 1 Armoured Division heroes, in comparison to the Government’s treatment of all WW1 veterans who did not go over seas.

Our Disappointment of the Government continues in regard to its support for the National Boer War Memorial. Just to remind, this Project was started by the NSW Branch of the RAACA with the approval of all other RAACA Branches in 2005. We now have a site dedicated in ANZAC Parade Canberra and a design approved by the Government, but no financial support whatsoever. If we are to retain our sculptor he must be commissioned to sculpt the first mounted trooper by November this year. Therefore if any member has any experience with fund raising or can introduce someone with that expertise please give me call 0418961470.

We continue to represent you at the AVADCS National Council.

Please continue to keep your eye out for any of our atomic veterans or their widows to ensure they are aware of the changes to the law which favours them.

John Haynes, President

*(Continued from page 1)*

As a witness at Morant's execution, Newland's dichotomy echoes much that was said about a man who had been equally at home in the parlours of genteel society or the breaking yards and roughest bush pubs of Outback Australia.

Not that Morant is a precedent. General cad on the one hand, poet and ladies man on the other – but describe the likes of personalities that have perennially inhabited the Australian psyche. Bushranger, Eureka rebel, rock diva or film star, if some larrikin, anti-establishment criteria can be met, Australians have always taken such to their hearts.

Morant died in the Anglo-Boer conflict that ravaged South Africa at the turn of the 20th century when a Dutch-descent farming community defied the might of the British Empire for three years. With a force of mounted riflemen of just 35,000 at its peak, the Boers stood off a British and Dominion juggernaut 13 times that number, only succumbing when a third of their population, mostly civilians, had perished.

Morant died after being court martialled for acts today classified as war crimes. From there the argument has raged. folk icon or villain; executioner of surrendered combatants and civilians, or patsy for British wrongs against the Boers, including women and children in the world's first concentration camps?

Born in 1864 on the wrong side of the blanket, the result of a liaison between a British Admiral and a Devon work-house mistress, until age eight Morant knew the harshness of the Dickensian poorhouse system. Fortunes changed when his natural father, secretly appointed one George Whyte-Melville, Scottish military man and hunt-master who was regarded as the finest equestrian of his day, to oversee his son's upbringing

Under Melville and an ex Prussian cavalryman at exclusive Silesia College, Morant gained an education and grounding in the social graces. also there, he acquired the equine skills and reckless bravery for which he was to become famous, Even this early, however, transgressions of the kind that were to re-occur throughout his life, brought Morant undone. Dabbling with his guardian's finances, and college chambermaids, saw him packed off to colonial Australia in classic remittance style.

Disembarking at the age of 18 in Townsville in 1883, Morant joined a rodeo troupe going to Charters Towers. There a whirlwind romance led to marriage with one Daisy Bates, later famous in her own right. Yet Daisy sent Morant packing just as fast, when he defaulted on wedding expenses.

Morant spent the next 14 years in outback Queensland and New South Wales, reciting poetry, drinking hard, bare-knuckle fighting and defaulting on bills, ever moving south and west. Fearless, near-suicidal skills breaking wild station brumbies, and the wooing of young barmaids, matched an association with Will Olgilvie, Banjo Paterson and Henry Lawson to forming a popular bush balladist group published regularly in Sydney's *Bulletin*. Under the pen name of The Breaker, history and legend were on their way.

For every poem published, however, Morant left behind a debt, conquered serving wench or charge warrant for unpaid bills, stock and saddlery offences. Still he could rise to playing the English gent. Educated conversation and wit, with his outstanding horse skills, saw him riding to hounds or at hunt balls during the Sydney season.

By 1898, Morant had gone as far south and west as he could in staying ahead of debtors. Finding himself at the busy livestock markets near Gawler just north of Adelaide after a long cattle drive, a remarkable coincidence occurred. Hearing of a Morant family in the Renmark region of South Australia's River land some 150 miles back, he made for the town.

Soon he was known there to not one, but two noted local families – the Cutlacks as well as the Morants. The former employed him on their vast Paringa station and Morant became a valued and popular employee. Mustering and breaking by day, entertaining around the campfire or in the homestead parlour by night, he was at ease with either stockman or squatter.

Colonel Charles Morant of Renmark became interested in more than The Breaker's verse. Retired from the cavalry in the high days of the Raj, he had settled in Remark in the now heritage-listed villa called Bangalore. He was a cousin it appeared to the Admiral Morant that The Breaker claimed as his father, and the Colonel accepted Breaker's story, being well-attuned as he was to the peccadilloes of the British ruling classes. All he wanted, The Breaker said, was to return to England a prodigal son, penance done by long years in a harsh land far from home. Regardless, the two sides of The Breaker still would out.

The Renmark Hotel has had its famous Breaker Bar, since the day of a drinking session when in response to a bet,

*(Continued on page 19)*

# Technical Notes & News

## Russian Army to receive first Lynx LMVs in 2012

(Please note that the personal friendship between Putin and Berlusconi had nothing to do with these decisions!)



Photo: Suradnik13

A \$24m contract was signed with Iveco in December 2011. Tests were carried out on four vehicles previously purchased last year to check driving performance and resistance to landmines. The vehicles can be used for many military tasks, ranging from patrolling and escorting, commanding and liaison as well as for casualty evacuation operations.

The Lynx LMV M65 is a four wheel drive multirole armored vehicle designed for strategic and tactical mobility with high level protection against anti-tank and anti-personnel mines. The vehicle can carry five soldiers and be fitted with remote controlled weapons systems (RCWS) which include 12.7mm weapons and air defence missiles. The Lynx LMV's are presently being used by the armies of Italy, the UK, Spain, Croatia, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Austria and Norway for missions in Iraq, Afghanistan.

Currently the Russian Army operates the Tigr Gaz-2330 which are manufactured in the Gorkovskiy Automobile plant (GAZ) and the Arzamas Machinery Plant (AMZ)

## Italian Centauro Wheeled Tanks for the Russian Army

Under a contract signed last December in Moscow, 60 Lynx light multirole armored vehicles (LMV) are in production at the Oboronservis joint enterprise (OJSC) in Voronezh, central Russia. 57 of the vehicles are due to enter service with the Russian military forces in 2012.



Photo: Oto Melara

HITFACT 120mm turret designed for the low pressure 120mm cannon for the Centauro.

The Centauro is produced by the CIO Joint Venture established by Iveco Fiat and Oto Melara. Iveco Fiat was the design authority for the chassis and automotive systems and Oto Melara was responsible for the weapon system design and integration. Italy already has 400 Centauros in service. Russia has an established line of wheeled armored vehicles that traces back to the 8x8 BTR-60, the latest being the BTR-90 platform, which was

designed as an armored personnel carrier in the mid 1990s. The BTR-70/80 is one of the most widely fielded wheeled APC, with over 5,000 deployed in more than 30 military forces worldwide. The BTR-90 offers better power/weight ratio compared to the Centauro but is less adaptable for heavy turrets, a quality the Italian design has demonstrated for many years. The rapid integration of the 125mm cannon for the Russian test has underlined this capability and opens the market for additional export opportunities for the Italian vehicle. Assumably, if the Italian wheeled armored gun design will be selected by the Russians, it will be deployed with additional variants of the same platform (infantry carrier, command vehicle, mortar carrier, armored ambulance and recovery vehicles) to maximize commonality.



Photo: Oto Melara

The Freccia armored vehicle with the HITFIST 30mm overhead weapon system.

## THOMAS ELECTRONICS COMPLETES ASLAV TURRET PROTOTYPE



*Defence Materiel minister, Jason Clare inspects the prototype turret assembly for the ASLAV Crew Procedural Trainer simulator project.*

Sydney based aerospace & defence technology group Thomas Electronics of Australia has successfully completed the prototype turret assembly for the Australian Light Armoured Vehicle (ASLAV) Crew Procedural Trainer (CPT) simulator project. Thomas Electronics is acting as the major sub-contractor to Thales Australia on the project, which involves production of 9 ASLAV CPTs for use by the Australian Army.

William Hutchinson, Thomas Electronics' CEO said that reaching this milestone was a major achievement for the project team.

"We are delighted to have successfully delivered the prototype turret assembly, on time and budget," he said.

"Achievement of this milestone is a critical step for the project, significantly mitigating project risk.

"I am extremely pleased with how the project is progressing, and am particularly impressed with the high level of cooperation between the project's supply chain partners.

"This is a great example of what Australian industry can deliver."

The ASLAV CPTs provide a realistic training environment for ASLAV crews, and reduce the requirement to train with live ammunition in actual vehicles.

Completion of the prototype turret assembly is a major milestone for the ASLAV CPT project, as the turret assembly represents the most complex and intricate component of the CPT.

ASLAV CPT deliveries commence in early 2013 and will conclude in the second half of the same year. There are currently over 250 ASLAVs in service with the Australian Defence Force.

[Courtesy of ADMU](#)

NB: Hap Hanlon a member of the NT Branch works for this company and helps with the Boer War Memorial project.

### Photo of the month



Singleton SFX circa 2002

### Jul 1942 British Matilda Tanks Began Arriving in Australia

"The [British] War Office, however, released 140 infantry tanks Mark II Matildas, fairly early in 1942 and these began arriving in July. This generous action had far-reaching results in that the Matilda tank proved to be the only one possessed by Australia which was suitable for jungle operations"

Ref O p61

# Letter from HRH Prince Charles



CLARENCE HOUSE

2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2012

Dear Roger,

Thank you so much for finding the time to write and update me on your recent visit to the United Kingdom. I can only apologize for the pressures on my diary this year preventing me from being able to see you for a brief chat – although no-one actually told me you were in this country, as I would very much have liked to see you...

I believe that my office is currently planning our upcoming trip to Australia and I certainly hope that whilst liaising with your Federal Government arrangements can be made for some form of meeting with yourself and members of the Corps.

In the meantime, please convey my warmest regards to all the officers and soldiers of the Royal Australian Armoured Corps, of which I remain enormously proud to be Colonel-in-Chief.

Yours most sincerely  
Charles

# Message Board



The intention of this newsletter is not only to keep members abreast of development both within the association and current RAAC units but it also provides a oral history of the all those who have served in the Armoured Corp ( and its predecessor the Light Horse) but it can only achieve this if members are willing to share their experiences and photographs. So please put pen to paper (or email) and be immortalised for posterity.

Re: WO Bobby Day

Colonel John

WO Bobby Day recently died in Melbourne and his Memorial said that he was the RSM of 4/19 PWLH in 1967/68 as a W01. That accords with the Regimental History book and the Honour Board in the Sgts Mess. However, I and many of the other old chaps cannot recall his having been the RSM; so the situation is very curious.



I can remember Bobby as a WO2 in 1957 at 4/19 as an ARA Instructor but no later recollection. I can clearly recall Ted Gason who is said to have preceded him and Percy White who is said to have succeeded him as RSM. I have tried to match with the dates of the Commanding Officers & Adjutants but that does not assist. Unfortunately, most of those are deceased, so that line of enquiry is not helpful. Most of Bobby's contemporaries –such as illy(sic) Jones and Abe Green are also deceased.,but Eddie Keogh in Darwin cannot remember him in that posting.

I was wondering if anyone else can assist because our Regimental Records must, of course, be correctly kept for the sake of posterity.

Cheers Graeme Rees-Jones

[mailto:[g.rees-jones@westnet.com.au](mailto:g.rees-jones@westnet.com.au)]

**From:** Natale Lewington [mailto:[Natale.Lewington@sjog.org.au](mailto:Natale.Lewington@sjog.org.au)]

**Subject:** Armour photo/article re Christmas in Vietnam 1968



My mother saw the photo of officers serving troops in Vietnam in Armour - I have attached two pics from the same day from different angles.

In the photo in Armour, the person to the right of Laurie O'Donnell, being served food, next to Dave Lawrence, is my Dad - Carl Lewington.

The first pic I have attached is taken from the reverse angle of the one in Armour. In that Dad is lounging at the back on the right hand side with a glass of wine in hand (I have several other photos over the years with him looking similarly comfortable).

I hope this helps.



The Hon Tony Abbott MHR  
Leader of the Opposition

5 March 2012

Col David Jamison AM (Retd)  
National President  
Defence Force Welfare Association  
PO Box 4166  
KINGSTON ACT 2603

Dear Colonel Jamison

Today I am personally recommitting the Coalition to the fair indexation of DFRB and DFRDB military superannuation pensions.

As you will be only too well aware, the Coalition announced prior to the last election our commitment to fair, just and equitable indexation of DFRB and DFRDB pensions. Under our plan, all DFRB and DFRDB superannuants aged 55 and over will have their pensions indexed in the same way as aged and service pensions. This \$100 million commitment was and remains fully funded and fully costed.

Despite narrowly losing the election, the Coalition persisted with our commitment and introduced legislation into the Senate on 18 November 2010 to deliver fair indexation. In March 2011, the Coalition opposed Labor and the Greens sending the Bill to a committee for yet another inquiry which, predictably and on party lines, opposed the legislation. On 16 June 2011, the Senate voted to defeat the Coalition's legislation in a tied vote.

Since the Senate's decision, I have repeated the Coalition's commitment to deliver this reform, including during my speech to the RSL National Conference in Melbourne last September. Today in Bendigo I have personally restated this position.

The Coalition Government that I lead will deliver this reform. You have my word.

Together with my colleagues Senator the Hon. Michael Ronaldson, Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Mr Stuart Robert MP, Shadow Minister for Defence Science, Technology and Personnel, the Coalition stands ready to deliver this reform. Our veterans and their families have waited too long. When the Government changes, my Government will deliver the fair go our veterans deserve.

Yours sincerely

TONY ABBOTT

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[www.tonyabbott.com.au](http://www.tonyabbott.com.au)

Armoured Combat and Vietnam. The recently released third volume of the official history of the Vietnam War illustrates the effectiveness of armour in combat:

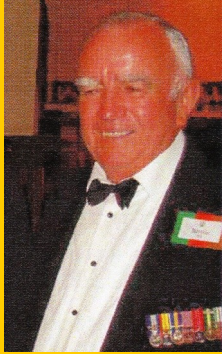
\* Ref No 142 EkinsA. & McNeill I., *Fighting To The Finish. The Australian Army and the Vietnam War 1968-1975.* Allen & Unwin with AWM, 2012, ISBN 978 1 6508 824 2

\*\* Suggested reading for all RAAC Commanders...but you will need plenty of time \$100



## VALE MAJOR BERNARD CHARLES HILL RFD ED

In 2001 when we were threatened with closing the RAACA NSW Branch, thank god that Bernie joined the Committee and helped save us.



Bernie, supported by his wonderful, wife Ros gave his all to our causes. Without his personal intervention in a number of ways we could have been in difficulty. His background knowledge and alertness proved to be extremely valuable.

All members of our Black Hat fraternity will miss Bernie very much and extend our condolences to Ros and his extended family.

John Haynes

### **Apr 2000 – 5 Apr 2002 2 Cav Regt Part of United Nations Transitional Administration East Timor (UNTAET)**

“Under the terms of the 5 May Agreements, on 19 October 1999, the Indonesian People’s Consultative Assembly (MPR) repealed the law integrating East Timor with Indonesia. On 25 October, the security Council adopted resolution 1272 by which it established the United Nations Transitional Administration East Timor (UNTAET) to administer East Timor during a two to three year period of transition to independence.

In early 2000 Australia’s commitment to East Timor was reduced to a Battalion Group and other smaller elements within UNTAET. Part of each Bn Gp was a troop of ASLAV from 2nd Cavalry Regiment.

Each Tp Gp that deployed to East Timor in support of a Bn Gp was made up of around 36 soldiers and had to be self-sufficient. The troops that deployed to Timor were structured to give support to a light infantry battalion. The ASLAV-25 were used primarily as a show of force and area domination, as well as provide additional night observation capability. The ASLAV-PCs were used to provide up to a platoon lift. The ASLAV-S provided a surveillance detachment. The ASLAV-A was to provide the BN with an ambulance and the echelon was structured to support the troop in its normal capacity.

It quickly became evident during pre deployment training and initial operations that the troops could operate independently or in cooperation with the infantry. As a result they were more independent and often tasked directly either by the OPSO or the CO. When scouts were employed they conducted numerous dismounted OPs by day and night, dismounted patrols away from the vehicles, intercepting and searching of IDPs, building clearances by day and night and acted as the dismounted element for the TP when on standby as BN or COY QRF. The vehicles in the TP conducted show of force patrols, route reconnaissance, area domination, battalion quick reaction, company ready reaction, route clearance, route denial, VCPs, mounted OPs, supported dismounted OPs, a convoy escort and acted as firm base during a contact. On occasions the ASLAVs within the echelon were used for patrols, reaction tasks, insertions and extractions of Recon Platoon and SASR elements. The surveillance detachments were tasked to watch the coast and sea approaches for infiltration. When the priority changed to the border region the limitations of not having a mast became evident although some sites provided good electronic line of sight along a significant stretches of the border. These proved very successful initially and keyed many reactions to detected crossings.

5 Apr 2002 The last ASLAV Troop (V13) was withdrawn from East Timor.

**Reference:**RAAC Homepage Defence Intranet



**From:** zac214 [mailto:[djtinson1@bigpond.com](mailto:djtinson1@bigpond.com)]

**Subject:** photo page 8 armour issue 464

HI YA FOLKS,

YEP YOU HAVE THE GENERAL RIGHT, BUT I AM NOT TO SURE OF THE DAVE LAWRENCE BIT, BUT AS I AGE SO DOES MY EYE SIGHT. THAT LAD IN THE 1ST POSITION IS NO OTHER THAN HUNGRY GUTS CARL LEWINGTON. I FEEL SORRY FOR PAUL BUT HE MUST HAVE BEEN IN THE WRONG PLACE, AS I CAN CLEARLY REMEMBER THAT WITH 3 CAV IN THE DAT ON THE DAY WE AND THE OFFICERS DID IN FACT DO COFFEE IN THE SACK / BREAKY /LUNCH TO ALL OUR LADS AND IF ANY MISSED THEY WERE ON OPERATIONS OR ON DUTY IN CPS ETC., BUT WE GOT THEM LATER. SEEING THIS PICCIE NOW BRINGS BACK MEMORIES AS I AM SURE THIS LITTLE LADY WOULD HAVE BABY SAT MY DAUGHTERS IN 1975 & 78 TO79 WHILST I WAS SERVING IN TOWNSVILLE MY SELF.

REGARDS. ZAC

I HAVE HAD A THOUGHT THAT SECOND BLOKE COULD BE MORRIE MEACHAM (BETWEEN YOKIE & CARL )?????



### Story - Korea

**From:** "Simon Dunstan"  
<[simondunstan@mac.com](mailto:simondunstan@mac.com)>

I attach a photo of the fabled Elephant House of which there were two.

In 1952 during the tour of the 5th Inniskilling Dragoon Guards the Chinese achieved a fluke hit when a mortar bomb landed inside a Centurion with just the commander's hatch open, killing all the crew.

Working on the strange notion that lightning will strike twice in the same place, the Royal Engineers built overhead cover for the tank pit

Unfortunately they did not leave sufficient head-room so it was always difficult for the turret crew

to gain access, particularly when wearing bulky winter clothing. This particular Elephant House was on Point 187. Of particular note the man with the folded arms in the photo was a Cpl Couzens of the Royal New Zealand Armoured Corps



**From:** Richard Jones [mailto:[dickover60@hotmail.com](mailto:dickover60@hotmail.com)]

**To:** Haynes, John COL; RAACA

Hi John, last Sunday we had a special Pde for the OLD BOYS of 10 LH in Kings Pk, where wreaths were layed including a sheath of hay for the horses. Our boys also marched with the Unit. Today on the ANZAC Day Pde, we have had comments from different sources, including local police, that RAACA WA were by far the best on the Pde. One might say another feather in our cap (Black Beret).

Dick



# NATIONAL BOER WAR MEMORIAL PROGRESS



**Unveiling of the Boer War Memorial statue in King William Street, Adelaide June 6 1904**



Thursday, 31 May 2012

## 110 years since the Boer War ended

The Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs today acknowledged the 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the Boer War.

Between 1899 and 1902, around 16,500 Australians served in South Africa during the Boer War, the largest international deployment of the troops from the Australian colonies before the Australian Federation.

"Of the 16,500 men who served in South Africa, 606 were killed in action. The Australian War Memorial

records that the conditions for fighting were harsh", Senator Ronaldson said.

"Australians fighting in South Africa were doing so as part of colony-based regiments, including units such as the New South Wales Lancers and the Queensland Mounted Infantry."

"Six Australians were awarded the Victoria Cross in the Boer War, recognising their extreme valour during battle."

"On 31 May 1902 the Treaty of Vereeniging was signed, officially ending the Boer War, and today marks the 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that event."

Senator Ronaldson said many Australians were perhaps unaware that it was individual colonies which sent forces to South Africa to fight in the conflict.

"Whilst the Boer War is commemorated in many towns and cities across Australia, there is not a national memorial to the Boer War in Canberra."

"Plans have been submitted to the National Capital Authority to develop a National Boer War Memorial on ANZAC Parade. The dynamic design has been approved and work is now underway to raise funds for its installation."

"As we commemorate the memory of 600 Australians who made the ultimate sacrifice at the beginning of the last century, we pay tribute to their memory and promise never to forget."

***ED: Statistics and facts do not include the near 7000 who made their own way to South Africa or their deaths. Also more than half of the war was fought after Federation by Australian Horsed Units.***



## **Feb 1967 A Sqn 3 Cav Regt and Infantry Suffered Heavy Casualties in Attack on Bunkers Precipitating Recommendations for the Use of Tanks in SVN, Operation Bribie**

An unsuccessful and poorly conducted combined arms operation during Operation Bribie to deploy an infantry battalion by APC and air to intercept and destroy a VC raiding company as it withdrew from contact, culminated in an ill fated infantry assault on a misjudged enemy defensive position with bunkers.

Callsign 21 Bravo was hit with two 75mm RCL rounds, killing the driver, Tpr Victor Pomroy and wounding the Crew Commander, Cpl Geoff Strachan

6 RAR suffered seven of its men KIA and 26 wounded.

The recommendations of the Cav Sqn Comd, Major (Guns) Murphy, that a tank troop could have effectively dealt with all the tactical problems involved and saved lives. This was a significant step in the case for sending tanks to support infantry in South Vietnam.

This viewpoint was supported in after action reports at all levels and by Major General Vincent, Commander Australian Forces Vietnam, who recommended that a reinforced independent tank squadron of four troops of tanks be dispatched to the ATF in South Vietnam.

**Units Involved** A Sqn 3 Cav Regt, 6 Bn RAR

Reference: RAAC Homepage Defence Intranet

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## **2May 1968 C Sqn 1 Armd Regt Tanks Arrived at FSB Coral South Vietnam.**

C Sqn 1 Armd Regt arrived at FSB Coral at 1430hrs after dealing with the challenges, particularly old unsuitable bridges, associated with the 150km (sic) road run from Nui Dat. The 1 and 3 (Composite) Troop tanks commanded by Lt Gerry Mc Cormack were placed in the 1 RAR perimeter and 2 Tp, commanded by 2Lt Mick Butler, were warned for a move to FSB Balmoral to support 3 RAR operations. By dusk the tanks were deployed defensively around FSB Coral.

Comment: Lt Col Bruce Cameron MC (Retd) Email 22 May 08

"This is the story re the "Composite" troop. Prior to going to Coral, Badman was aware that he could form a third troop from the two SHQ tanks and the two dozers...12 tanks headed off to Coral.

One of the dozers hit a mine (ARN 169106) and the other broke down. Once repaired, they both remained at Long Binh throughout the operation. Badman now had 10 tanks. Rather than employing three troops of three tanks each, he employed two troops of four tanks and held the two SHQ tanks as spares (C/S 0D and 0E).

Both sgts he had available to appoint as troop sgt of a composite troop were at Long Binh. On 30 May he promoted Phil Reeves (CC of 0D). On 2 June, he tasked 2Lt John Wilson to form a Composite Troop and investigate the area where 1 Troop had previously had a contact. (Wilson presumably obtained a third tank from either 1 or 2 Troops.) This was the first employment of a third troop (although it was designated as 'Composite', not 3 Troop).

Prior to 2 June, the term 'SHQ tanks' should be used. The term 'Composite Troop' applies on 2 June and after (while at Coral). ...

Another point:-when 2 Troop arrived at Balmoral they were flat out establishing themselves on the perimeter. Day positions were adopted on 26 May. Also...the contact on 25 May resulted in the first confirmed enemy KIA as a result of action by Australian tanks since the Second World War

RAAC Related Units Involved: SHQ, 1, 2 3 (Composite) and Special Equipment Troops, C Sqn 1 Armd Regt.

(Uncertainty exists as to whether 3 Troop was formed before or after they arrived at Coral) Elements of 1 Armd Sqn Wksp

Reference: RAAC Defence Intranet

8 May 1942 All ALH Units Transferred to Australian Armoured Corps  
(AAC)



Final parade Walgrove circa 1942— 6LHR, C Squadron march past

**1891 QMI Originate the Practice of Wearing Emu Feathers**

As the Shearers' Strike (1890-91) wore on, the men of the QMI were out on patrol for up to 5 months.

“On the plains of Western Queensland, emu were plentiful and the men could not resist the excitement of riding after a quarry that could give them a chase at speed. Emu feathers, tucked into the men's felt hats began to appear and soon became widespread among the soldiers. Bill Lieshman of the Gympie Mounted Rifles claimed to be with the group who started the practice. Writing many years later Bill said:

*I was in a patrol under Lieutenant Vivian Tozer of the Gympie Mounted Infantry, at Coreena Woolshed. On the way we met another Gympie Mounted Infantry patrol under Captain W. Shanahan and they were chasing an emu, which came toward us. When it was shot, some of us dismounted and Terry Rogers and myself were the first to pull the tail feathers out and place them in our hats. Then all in the patrols got the feathers and placed them in their hats.*

When they returned home the Queensland Government allowed the Mounted Infantry to wear the emu plume in recognition of its service during the strike. At first it was solely a Queensland decoration, but in 1903 the privilege was extended to Tasmanian and South Australian regiments and finally, in 1915, to all regiments of the Light Horse.

RAAC Homepage Defence Intranet

**HEARTY WELCOME TO THESE NEW MEMBERS  
SINCE OUR LAST ISSUE**

Young R.G. (Roy) (12/16 HRL)  
Camilleri J. (Joe) (4/19th PWLH)  
Kendall E.G. (Edward) (7/21 ALH)  
MAJ Whiteman C. (Craig)

## Lest we Forget We regret to advise the passing of the following

MAJ Hill B.C. (Bernie)  
West E  
Sherwood R  
Hicks T  
Fraser R.A.  
Fieldus R.P.  
Brown D.J  
Kavanagh J.  
Sweetman N.R

Ross H.R.  
McDonald J (Joan)  
Keevers S.  
Tilston R.E. (Ron)  
Murphy L. (Lionel)  
Hunter J  
Brown D.J.

## We are extremely grateful for the following individuals and associations for their donations to the National Boer War Memorial project between October 2011 to January 2012

J. Haynes	C. Bond	B. Flowers	E. Pitfield
M.Dorney	J&J Borrett	E.S. Mead	J.G. Hitchen
P. Fenwick	N&S Harriss	C. Robson	RAACA (NSW)
K.A. Bovill	P. Watson	Brocken Hill RSL Sub Branch	B.T. Dorney
Vic League of Com Friendship	S.K. Denyer	NBWMA (Vic)	L.A. Wright
Vietnam Vets (Far Nth Coast)	R. Gemmill	J. Fox	B. Castellari
P. Watson	P. Cameron	P.D.Morrow	B.Page
Bondi Jnct RSL Sub Branch	J. Ross-Fraser	Glen Innes Dist Historical Soc	BRIG D. Leece
J. Lee	I.B. Faull	C.M.I. Pearson	J.S. Hardy
COL Lee T Long	N.A. Stewart	Kaniva RSL Sub Branch	P.R. Brand
Jonadab Lodge No 771	R.J. Mercer	P.C.M. Wilson	National Servicemens Assoc
J. Cook	Lady Currie	T.G. Tait	V.F. Roe
COL P.D. Byrne	A. Teasdale	E.H. Mathews	S. Collins
J. Looney	Cape Banks Historical Soc	C.W. Robinson	R&K Fry
P. Jarratt	RSL Westpac Branch	P.A. Thompson	Dr. I.W. Fitzpatrick
B.B. Kerr	H. McDonagh	E.L. Jackson	V.L. Jack
I.A. Haylen	A. Reichel	M. Connell	M.I. Higham
National Servicemens (Vic)	G.N. Purvis	N.P. King	Burnside Retirement Village
Berwick Baltona Lodge	G.J. Plummer	RSL Corrimal Sub Branch	M.G. Mills
S. Lewis	BA. Rodan	P.S. Talbot	K. Gibson
A.G. Scott	P. Sandilands	M. Grant	I. Siddle
H. Cook	R. Coglan	C. Squires	J. Harrison
G. White	T. Carter	Tewantin Noosa RSL Branch	Richmond RSL Branch
R. Howell	M. Moncrieff	G. Griffiths	J. Pollard
N. Bradshaw	J. Jeans	B.O. Harriss	B&M Guthrie
J. Dekenah	D. Mountain	Alan Herbst	W.C. Beale
B. Giersch	H. Ewart	D. Sheekey	T. Bendall
C&B Rosengrant	H. Toyne	A. O'Loughlan	D. Ramsay
C. Beonarczyk	W.L. Hanlon	A. Edwards	S. Ellis
P. Crampton	P. Evans	S. Teague	G. Martin
S.H. Goodall	J.Belling	T. Hunt	K. Trent
S.W. David	B&K Goodall	K&L Buck	M.P. Snodgrass
F.J. Nile	Memorial Hall Trust	Retusa Pty Ltd	W. Hickman
V. Lindsay	G. Brown	Benalla Scout Group	Army Assoc of Victoria



## **MEDIA RELEASE BY DEFENCE RESERVES ASSOCIATION (DRA) CONCERNING THE DISMISSAL OF THE CHARGES AGAINST THE RESERVE COMMANDOS**

The Judge Advocate's decision to dismiss the charges at the first opportunity is not surprising and reflects the fundamentally flawed basis of the prosecution. The prosecution had no sensible explanation as to how a soldier could owe a duty to take reasonable care when in close combat with the enemy. The soldiers were very highly trained reservists who volunteered to serve their country in Afghanistan.

The prosecution was unable to say what the soldiers should have done instead of what they did. No one believed the soldiers had any other option than to defend their mates and themselves against an enemy who was trying to kill them. The soldiers were charged concerning decisions made during 30 seconds of mortal combat at night.

The soldiers, their families, the Australian Defence Force and the Australian public were entitled to think that the decision to bring such serious charges was very carefully considered.

In view of the early dismissal of the charges at a preliminary stage, serious questions now need to be asked as to why the charges were preferred at all when they had so little substance. Why have reserve members and their families been put to so much unnecessary distress and humiliation?

DRA is concerned that the defence leadership and its media organisation did not oversight what was being done or protect reservists who were being vilified.

It stands for DRA and the defence community to support reservists on active service. This is an ongoing need. Particularly objectionable is the frequent comment that because soldiers are reservists they seem to lack in training or expertise.

It should not be assumed that because a unit leaves Australia predominately manned by members of the Army Reserve it is less trained, less prepared or less competent than a Regular Army unit. All Australian Defence Force units deploying overseas are subjected to rigorous pre-deployment training and have to be certified as competent for the assigned operation. Reserve units may be as well or better trained, as reservists do bring additional life skills and experience.

### **Contact:**

Major General J E (Jim) Barry AM MBE RFD ED (Retd)

National President, Defence Reserves Association

Mobile – 0407 175 010  
In her first public comments since being appointed last July, Brigadier McDade described the treatment of Hicks as "abominable". "I don't care what he's done or alleged to have done," she told *The Sydney Morning Herald*. "I think he's entitled to a trial and a fair one and he's entitled to be charged and dealt with as quickly as is possible. As is anybody." Mr Ruddock said Brigadier McDade's comment "reflects the government's position." "The fact that a trial has not yet occurred frustrates us and we have been arguing very strongly with the United States that these issues need to be resolved quickly," he said. "We believe the delay is very unreasonable and inappropriate and that's why we've been arguing that it needs to be dealt with as quickly as possible." But Terry Hicks accused the government of doing nothing to speed up his son's trial and said a military commission would not give him a fair trial. He said Australia should have followed the British government which secured the release of four of its citizens from Guantanamo Bay in 2002. "The Australian government is the hold-up," Mr Hicks said. "If they had the guts, they would have done what the British did and said 'our citizens are not putting up with this, we want them back'." - AAP

Members would be aware of the DVA concerns over mental health.

We have received a supply of DVA booklets titled "Mental Health after Service.". If any one would like a copy please ring the office

# Lost Souls

**If anyone knows the whereabouts of the following members would they please contact the RAACA Office**

NAME	LAST ADDRESS
Mr. Corby B.W.	5/27 Moad St., Orange, NSW 2800
Mr. Cottle, A	31 Dalhouse St., Haberfield NSW 2045
Mr. Dengate, C	34 Bowman Av., Camden NSW 2570
Mr. Edgar, G.W.	17 Byng St., Orange NSW 2800
Mr. Hancock, P	46 Barrington Dve., Woongarra NSW 2259
Mr. Hickey, K	1 Allawah Ave., Sefton NSW 2162
Mr.. Kennedy, J	30 Osbourne St., Umina NSW 2257
Mr. Rodd, M.H.	27/17 Oaks Villiage, Tarraganda Ln., Bega NSW 2550
Mr. Thorncraft, A.F.	18 Casuarina Dve., Orange NSW 2800

## Change of Address

To change your mailing address, please fill in the new address below and return **the complete page** to: RAACA (NSW Branch) Membership Officer, Building 96, Victoria Barracks, Paddington NSW 2021

Name: .....

Address: .....

..... Post Code:.....

Mobile No.: .....

Phone No.: .....

Email:.....

**PLEASE USE BLOCK LETTERS FOR ALL EXCEPT FOR EMAIL**

Members are thanked for their response to the request to receive  
Armour by email.

Due to that response with this issue we have sent Armour by  
email to all email addresses we hold.

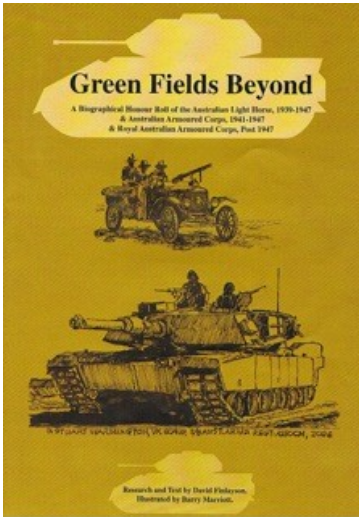
If this doesn't suit anyone please contact the office and we will cross  
you off the email list and send a paper copy.



# The Green Fields Beyond

*A Biographical Honour Roll  
of the  
Australian Light Horse 1939-47.  
The Australian Armoured Corps 1941-47  
and the  
Royal Australian Armoured Corps 1947-*

***The Green Fields Beyond*** is a biographical honour roll of members of the Australian Light Horse and Armoured Corps who have died on service since 1939.



*This project is being published by the Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association, Victorian Branch, with the assistance of the Head of Corps, Royal Australian Armoured Corps.*

*It follows the style of memorial books that were published after the Great War. Each soldier has a small biography that covers family background and their service and death.*

*The Green Fields Beyond encompasses the final evolutions of the Australian Light Horse as it made the transition from horses to armoured vehicles. Armoured, Divisional Cavalry, Motor and Cavalry (Commando) Regiments are all included. Armoured units and formations from their inception in 1941 to current era show the history of Australian Armour.*

*The Green Fields Beyond establishes each historical period with a short explanation of developments and the role of different types of units. Barry Marriot has also selected a rich range of photos to provide visual record of the life and times of Light Horse and Armoured Regiments since 1939. Sources such as the Australian War Memorial, the Army Tank Museum, RAAC Head of Corps Historical Collection and private collections have provided a wide selection of images many of which have not been published before*

*The book is arranged in alphabetical order within units, with each section starting with a brief unit history and honour rolls. Annexes provide consolidated honour rolls for each period and Corps.*

***The Green Field Beyond has used a broad range of official materials from organizations such as Central Army Records Office, The Australian Archives, the Australian War Memorial and the Commonwealth War Graves Office. Sources such as unit and official histories have also been consulted.***

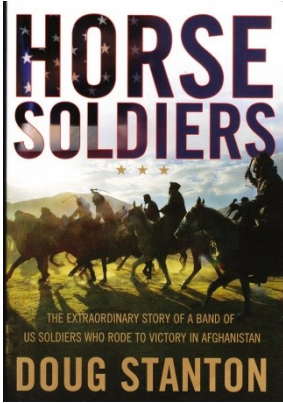
***All proceeds of Green Fields Beyond will be used for RAAC Heritage and Commemorative projects.***

***Green Fields Beyond will be a hardback of 350 pages and will be available early 2012.***

***The Green Fields Beyond will be of value to anyone with an interest in Australia's mounted and mechanized forces***

***Copies can be purchased from this office  
Cost is \$50 plus postage and packaging***

***It is intended to recommend at the RAAC Congress in October 2012 that a commemoration project could be in the form of dedicating a RAAC plaque at the Australian War Memorial***



“What better example of the old proverb that those who do not learn from the mistakes of the past are condemned to repeat them” but to find an effective method to deal with the conflicts that are increasingly spring up world wide and then ignore it is politically and militarily unforgivable.

In the recent past the sentiments expressed in this book apply equally well to almost all our recent conflicts whether they be Vietnam, Iraq or now Afghanistan.

*Well worth reading! - Editor*

*The following is the Author's summary of the initial success of the Northern Alliance and its subsequent fall*

*By late 2003 and the victory in Mazar and the Battle of Qala-i-Janghi combat operations were winding down.*

*The Taliban were beaten and the Northern Alliance was in control.*

*Conventional US Army and Marine forces soon arrived in large numbers and began a long term effort to secure the country and hunt down Osama bin Laden and Al Qaeda.*

The success of the “Horse soldiers” as they were dubbed was stunning by both historical and contemporary standards. The campaign should be a template for the way present and future wars should be fought. Instead of large scale occupation we should rely on small units of Special Forces who are able to work with the countries soldiers and citizens.

In all about 350 Special Forces soldiers, 100 CIA officers and 15,000 Afghan troops succeeded where the British in the nineteenth century and the Soviets in the 1980's had failed. The political victory proved just as overwhelming as the military one. "To this day Al Qaeda still considers the campaign their largest, most destructive defeat," Dean explained. American military planners and Afghan leaders like General Dostum and General Atta had taken great pains to make sure that the war remained the Afghans war, and not one of American occupation.

The success of the mission was "about as perfect an execution of guerrilla force as could be studied," reflected the commander of US. Special Forces at Fort Bragg, Major General Geoffrey Lambert. Unfortunately, said Lambert, It may never be repeated". His words would prove prescient.

Then in May 2007, Ambassador Paul Bremer, the director of reconstruction and humanitarian assistance in Iraq, "fired" Iraqi National Army by disbanding it. This decision eventually lead to the Americans being seen as an occupying army and gave the extremists a major political victory among the populous.. Similarly the US lost credibility with the Afghans when they moved in in force and took control of the war effort. It was no longer an Afghani war against the Taliban but another American war .

Wars, as the earlier military thinker Carl von Clausewitz pointed out, are not fought to kill people; they are fought to effect political change. They are violent, expensive, and represent one of the universe's great rifts in the social contract. To study peace, then, is, de facto, to study war. Any political or social movement, of any stripe, that does not grasp the degree to which these opposites are actually twins is fruitless.

Because the Horse Soldiers were so under equipped when they deployed, and because, in fact, the United States was not prepared at all to fight a war in Afghanistan, these warriors landed in Afghanistan and comported themselves with the awareness of anthropologists, diplomats, and social workers. They had realized that their deployment was historic. Indeed, Special Forces, and America, had never fought a war in just this way. These soldiers were loath to offend any customs of local people or to appear as hegemonic imperialists

Now both in Iraq and Afghanistan, America would be perceived by the local population to be the invader, the heavy-handed imperialist. Prior to the build up in Afghanistan, the Taliban, especially the "foreign" Taliban soldiers, bore this unlucky distinction. Millions of dollars of aid poured into the country, yet the funds remained bottled up in Kabul, a city now teeming with nongovernment workers and diplomats afraid of Taliban attack in the countryside. This is unfortunate, because the rural and remote regions are often where the goods and services are needed most. Car bombings, kidnappings, ambushes, all tools from the war in Iraq, are now endemic in Afghanistan.

In early 2009, the Taliban once again control large portions of Afghanistan, and to subdue them, the U.S. government has promised to commit greater forces in the entire country. At the same time, Pakistan is becoming less politically stable, a development that affects both Afghanistan and America's ability to defeat the Taliban.

(Continued from page 3)



Morant rode his horse into the hotel and up the stairs. Despite such high jinx being oft repeated around the town, Morant was still able to gain references from both the Cutlacks and the Colonel, and armed with them he made plans for colonial high society Adelaide.

With strange co-incidence again, however, it was October 1899, and news of a war in far-off South Africa was across Australia like bushfire, with the call going out for sons of empire, Britannia's cubs, to rally to her defense. With their mounts and kit then, Morant and other Renmark 'glory boys' as he was to dub them, went by paddle steamer to the railhead at Morgan. From

there it was down to the capital where all enlisted in the South Australian Mounted Rifles, a body of standing in the colony.

Morant's time in Adelaide was to surpass all expectations. By frank admission to the Cutlack's and the Renmark Morants, he saw the South African war as a way of aiding his return to England. Thus when the SAMR realised his horse skills and leadership qualities and made him an NCO, things were working well.

Also, Adelaide society took to the chiseled and witty balladeer with the piercing eyes and horseman's measured gait, to the extent that he became de rigueur at soirees and balls. Even the Governor and his wife, Lord and Lady Tennyson, were not above Morant's charms. Invitations both private and official to their summer residence Marble Hill, were extended. There Morant was both entertained and entertaining. In dinner suit or uniform, with port glass in one hand and Byron's or his own verse in the other, he charmed all with his rich recitation, flashing eyes and cavalryman's stance.

On one warm summer evening the picture was complete when, riding up the long winding road to Marble Hill with his unit, 2nd Contingent SAMR, The Breaker was officially wished God speed and safe return.

Though always, there were the other angels of his nature. "He will leave when his ticket is tendered, with unpaid tradesmen left standing," Olgilvie penned of Morant's time in Adelaide. One such was the proprietor of Gresham Studios, where the iconic portrait of Morant resplendent in khaki, slouch hat and bandoleer, was taken. And all the while The Breaker had kept Renmark informed of his time in Adelaide.

Backhanders for those who had welcomed him in Adelaide, ditties and musings about "The Adelaidies" too indelicate for the younger ears of the Cutlack and Morant families, were penned off in exuberant style.

Eventually Morant and his contingent set sail, but to a war that those Adelaidies, with others around the world, were early seeing as being far from righteous. "Britannia's war for trade and Empire," cried placard-waving marching wives, mothers and sisters of the men of a total of nine contingents that were raised in South Australia. "Human manure for those accursed fields!" "England's war for gold and diamonds!" "Jobbery!"

Upon arrival in South Africa the contingent went straight into service, joining in the relief of Kimberly in one of the last great cavalry charges on a date that was to be adopted as the SAMR's, – later South Australia's own 3rd 9th Armoured Regiment – birthday. British cavalry, including Morant and the Renmark boys, were first into the diamond town after a two mile dash equal to Beersheba's.

Again Morant's equine skills were recognized, and he was made a dispatch rider and scout for remounts. Roaming the countryside virtually at will, he bedded army nurses at field hospitals, had official eyes turned to the theft of civilian horse-flesh, and drank his fill at civilian hostelries without paying.

So went Morant's war until October 1900 and the expiry of his 12 month SAMR enlistment. Importantly, crucially I feel to any case, he did not rejoin the SAMR, thus ceasing any Australian connection. Instead he accepted a commission in the South African Constabulary, a British constituted force. With approved six months deferment, Morant sailed eagerly for England as the Soldier of the Queen he had dreamed of.

But a father's denial remained, and instead Morant resorted to what he did best again – riding to hounds and stag hunts for the Devon winter season, and the wooing of a fresh crop of young ladies. It was all heaven as he could know it.

"A whole open season, well carried, and I would not growl of a broken neck at the end of it," he wrote to a fellow officer back in South Africa. When again time to move on, he did so in form, leaving behind another string of creditors and the broken-hearted daughter of a leading Devon

(Continued on page 20)

(Continued from page 19)



family.

Back in South Africa, Morant heard of a telling new outfit. They were a loose, regiment-sized body of the British Army entitled The Bushveldt Carbineers (BVC), who were to be comprised largely of hard Australian Outback horsemen, including the Renmark boys that had ridden with Morant in the SAMR. Volunteering for the unit, Morant was accepted with his Constabulary rank of lieutenant.

To the time of the BVC, the Boers had resisted seemingly overwhelming odds. Their morale had remained high and they had proved the most mobile, crack-shot fighting force that warfare had seen. By contrast, British

commanders had stumbled about, winning when they did, by default of numbers. At the bloody battle of the demi-mountain of Spion Kop for example, the Boers broke off a days-long engagement after becoming sickened with the slaughter they were able to impose on the British troops, maneuvered about before Boer long-range Mausers as but cutouts on an officer's diorama.

Then a new commander named Kitchener, brought a different war. No set-piecing and rule-playing like Spion Kop. Block-houses, barbed wire, searchlights and trenches, foreshadowed wars of the 20th century to come.

Boer farmhouses and crops were torched, livestock slaughtered and wells poisoned. Women and children were herded into what the British themselves termed concentration camps. There disease and malnutrition ran rife as the Boer men fought on, now as ragged and hungry bands holding out in the remotest regions.

The main area was the Northern Transvaal, and there the Carbineers were sent. As a free-ranging force outside all regular command structures, their tactics went from bad to worse. A reign of terror fell over the region as Boer "hands-uppers" and non combatants alike were summarily shot, until mounting protests from officers and enlisted men in regular British units, forced Kitchener's hand. Pressured, he disbanded the Carbineers, after first attempting to quiet matters by the laying of charges.

The time from Morant's joining the Carbineers to his execution has been extensively dealt with. No fewer than five books and a major film have focused on this aspect of his life. He and other Carbineers arraigned at the time admitted to shooting Boers, prisoners or otherwise. One victim was reported to be a 14-year-old youth found concealed in a grain wagon, racked with fever.

Morant and his co-defendants said they had been following orders, with Morant's famous retort to the prosecution saying it all. "Was it like that? Oh no, it was not quite so handsome. We were told no Redbook for fighting the Boers. No rules but one. We got them and we shot them under Rule 303." Not that this was to remain a singular remark – "Polishing of the Dutchmen," Morant was also to term matters, in a last poem.

At Morant's execution Victor Newland prepared a commentary for his editor in Adelaide, with a pattern of incongruity and contradiction like that of so many who had known The Breaker. "Days of wine and women; drunkenness and disgrace."

After near a 110 years now of argument and counter-argument, perhaps what might best be remembered, is that at the crucial time, Harry Harbord Morant was a Briton serving in a British unit – not an Australian, nor even a Briton, serving in an Australian unit. As well, that he was the tragic scapegoat not of Empire and politics, but of his own poetic, cavalier, conflicting character.

That last poem was penned by The Breaker in his prison cell as he awaited dawn and the grimly ironic 303s of his executioners. Sent to *The Bulletin* by a sympathiser, it was in trademark laconic style and concluded:

*Let's toss a bumper down our throat  
Before we pass to Heaven  
And toast the trim-set petticoats  
We leave behind in Devon.*

***Adelaide's The Independent Weekly is acknowledged for the original 2007 publication of this article, as is the author for his pro bono publico provision of it in 2011 for use by the National Boer War Memorial Committee and the Army Museum of South Australia.***