

APPENDIX 2

2ND BATTALION, THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Battalion 'Firsts'

2 RAR has the honour of being the:

- First to be presented with Queen's and Regimental Colours, 23 Sep 55;
- First Australian troops into Malaya since World War II (Oct 55 during The Emergency); and
- First to be amalgamated with two companies from 1 RNZIR for service in Vietnam-2 RAR/NZ (ANZAC), see Chapter 1, Annex A.

Battalion Colour

The original battalion identifying colour was scarlet. 2 RAR took delivery of a set of drums on 6 Feb 52, the day of the death of HM King George VI, and in his memory the original black colour of the drums was retained instead of painting them scarlet. Later in 1952 it had become the custom with 2 RAR to blacken gaiters (as opposed to scrubbing or blanching adopted by the two other battalions at the time). It was requested that the Battalion's colour be changed and during the tour in Malaya (1955-57), approval was received for the Battalion's flag to be black. Since that time the colour for all 'second' battalions in RA INF has been designated 'black'.

Battalion Music

Battalion marches are:

- Hoop Dee Doo
- Ringo
- Back in Black (Pipes and Drums)

Company marches are:

- A Coy: 'Mickey Mouse'.
- B Coy: 'When the Saints Come Marching In'.
- C Coy: 'Lost Patrol'.
- D Coy 'Hoop Dee Doo',
- Spt Coy/Admin Coy: 'The Old Contemptible'.

Battalion Association

2 RAR has been 'taken on strength' as a life member of the Old Coldstreamer's Association in Australia.

Freedom of the City of Townsville

On 15 Oct 71, 2 RAR was granted the Freedom of the City of Townsville as a result of the close association between the citizens of Townsville and members of the Battalion.

Linking/Delinking

On 15 Aug 73, 2 RAR was linked with 4 RAR to form 2/4 RAR. It was subsequently delinked on 1 Feb 95.