

QUEENSLAND—ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF DEFENCE

THE COLONY ESTABLISHMENT

(Read by Commander N. S. Pixley, M.B.E., V.R.D.,
on July 26, 1958)

On Separation from New South Wales on December 10, 1859, the responsibilities assumed by the new and sparsely populated Colony of Queensland included the defence of its long coastline of over 3,000 miles and its vast area of 670,500 square miles; an area as large as Great Britain, Ireland, France, Spain, Portugal and Italy together, or twice the area of New South Wales, but with a population of only 25,000 approximately, of which almost one third was concentrated in the towns of Brisbane and Ipswich in the far South-Eastern corner of the Colony.

The small detachment of Imperial troops in Brisbane having been withdrawn some years before, the Colony lacked even the nucleus of a defence organisation upon which to build.

Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton (afterwards Lord Lytton) Minister of State for the Colonies, had, in a letter dated April 29, 1859, informed the Governor-elect, Sir George Bowen, of his appointment and included some sound advice as to the duties and bearing of a Colonial Governor.

The letter, which is quoted by Sir George in his book "Thirty years of Colonial Government," included the following:— "You will, as soon as possible, exert all energy and persuasion to induce the Colonists to see to their self defence internally.

"Try to establish a good police: If you can then get the superior class of Colonist to assist in forming a Militia or Volunteer Corps, spare no pains to do so. It is at the commencement of the Colonies that this object can be best effected. A Colony that is once accustomed to depend on Imperial Soldiers for aid never grows up into vigorous manhood."

The new Governor evidently held the same opinion as Lytton, for, although as can be well understood, the new Colony required many pressing measures, that of Defence received his early attention for, on February 10, 1860, less than two months after Separation, a notice, published in the Colonial Secretary's office in Brisbane, announced that lists would be opened for:—

(i) Enrolment of one troop of twenty-five mounted Rifles: the volunteers to serve with their own horses as cavalry.

(ii) For the enrolment of Company No. 1 of fifty Riflemen to serve as infantry.

(iii) For the enrolment of Company No. 2 of fifty Riflemen to serve as infantry.

The Governor also requested that the bench of magistrates at Ipswich and Brisbane take immediate measures and, on February 18 he issued a Proclamation announcing the terms and conditions upon which the services of the Corps of Volunteers would be accepted on behalf of Her Majesty.

The Governor approved of the Rules and Regulations of the Brisbane Corps, which were drawn up at a meeting held on February 22 in the Colonial Secretary's office.

The Government Gazette issued on March 3, 1860, announced that His Excellency the Governor, under the provisions of the Act of Council 18 Victoria No. 8, was pleased to accept the services of the Brisbane Troop of the Queensland Mounted Rifles and had appointed the following members of the Troop to be officers thereof:—

John Bramston to be Captain; Major Edwis Lewis Burrowes to be 1st Lieutenant; Francis Robert Chester Master to be 2nd Lieutenant.

On May 18 of that year Sir George wrote to the Duke of Newcastle:— “Again, Queensland is the only Colony in the Australian Group—indeed it is the only Colony of importance in any part of the Empire—where (not to speak of defence against external aggression) the dignity of the Crown and the authority of the law are entirely deprived of the support and prestige of a detachment of Her Majesty's Troops.

“On my first assumption of office it could hardly be said that any public force whatsoever existed in Queensland.

By dint of personal exertion and influence, I have now succeeded in organising a police corps and also a body of rifle volunteers.”

In the Government Gazette of May 26, 1860, came the announcement that His Excellency had, on May 23, accepted the services of the Ipswich Troop of the Queensland Mounted Rifles and of the First, or Ipswich Company of the Queensland Rifle Brigade and had appointed the following officers:—

Cavalry:

Arthur Delves Broughton, Captain; Richard Joseph Smith, 1st Lieutenant; Louis Heite, 2nd Lieutenant.

Infantry:

Lieut.-Colonel Charles George Grey, Captain; John Kent, 1st Lieutenant; Donald Bethune, 2nd Lieutenant.

Corps:

C. J. Chubb, Secretary and Quartermaster.

On September 11, 1860, the services of volunteers enrolled to form the Brisbane Companies of the Queensland Rifle Brigade were accepted.

The Port Curtis Troop of the Queensland Mounted Rifles was established on December 1, 1860 whilst, on the last day of that year, the Rockhampton Company of the Queensland Rifle Brigade was formed, its first Captain being John Jardine, Police Magistrate at Rockhampton.

Each Company was a separate Unit, officers being elected by the unit: uniforms were of the Imperial pattern and furnished by the volunteers at their own expense.

British subjects over the age of 16 years were eligible to join and volunteers signed a declaration that they would serve for 12 months.

Snider rifles (converted Enfields), .45 calibre, black powder, were standard equipment.

The Gazette of August 25, 1860, had announced that the Honourable Maurice Charles O'Connell, M.L.C. (formerly Captain of Her Majesty's 28th Regiment) was appointed Commandant, with the rank of Lieut.-Colonel. The Gazette also announced that officers commanding the several Troops and Companies throughout the Colony will correspond direct with the Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant.

Strength of 1862 Forces

By 1862 the strength of the Volunteer Defence Forces in Queensland was as follows:—

Queensland Mounted Rifles, 10; Ipswich, 15; No. 1 Battery of Artillery, 34; Maryborough Rifles, 3; No. 1 Company Brisbane Rifles, 43; No. 2 Company Brisbane Rifles, 49; Rockhampton Rifles, 94; total, 248.

It will be seen that numbers had dwindled in certain of the units due to lack of interest in some

cases and to dissatisfaction in regard to supply of uniforms and equipment.

As the Imperial Government considered its obligations to the Colony would be discharged in the main by the Royal Navy, Queensland continued to concentrate on its land defences.

However, Sir George Bowen sailed on August 27, 1862, in H.M.S. "Pioneer" to inspect the Northern Coast of Queensland and, on his return, recommended to the Imperial Authorities the establishment of a harbour of refuge and coaling station at Port Albany, Somerset, on the Cape York Peninsula. In the following year his proposal was adopted and a detachment of Marines under Lieutenant Pascoe, with Dr. Horan as medical officer, was sent to Port Albany from England.

H.M.S. Sloop "Salamander," a wooden paddle wheel vessel, Commander the Hon. John Carnegie, visited the station once a quarter.

During the continuance of the station at Somerset (later transferred to Thursday Island, which was afterwards fortified) it was visited by several distinguished officers of the Royal Navy, who continued the surveying of Torres Straits and the coast. Commander Duke Young followed Commander Carnegie and was relieved by Sir George Nares. Other officers were, Captain Bingham, H.M.S. "Virago," and Commander Moresby in H.M.S. "Basilisk," the ship associated with so much of her Captains' work in Torres Straits and on the New Guinea coast.

Captain Blackwood, H.M.S. "Fly," had previously made an examination of the Great Barrier Reef 1842-1845.

New Barracks

On February 11, 1863, in a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Imperial Government, it was advised, had agreed to the request of the Queensland Government to surrender the old barracks and ground (on the site of the present Government Printing Office and erected in 1830 for the Foot under Captain Logan), provided that the Colony would give another site and erect the proper buildings on it for accommodation of troops according to plans approved by the Imperial authorities.

(Note: Tenders were subsequently accepted for the new Barracks in 1866 at a cost of £5,659 and a start was made that year on the construction).

In February 1863 Numbers 1 and 2 Companies of the Queensland Volunteer Rifle Brigade were amalgamated under the existing officers: Captain E. R. Drury, Lieutenant G. B. Petrie, Second Lieutenant I. I. Caesarowicz, Second Lieutenant J. Fewings.

The Queensland Volunteer Corps experienced some difficulties in 1863.

The Government Gazette of March 14 announced that the Governor had dispensed with the services of the Wide Bay Rifle Rangers and the Port Curtis Troop of Mounted Rifles, due to failure to attend parade, and the commissions of five officers were cancelled.

The following month, in the Gazette dated April 24, it was announced that, with the advice of the Executive Council, His Excellency had dispensed with the services of the Brisbane Troop of Queensland Mounted Rifles, the whole of the officers and most of the other members having resigned.

In 1864 the Gazette dated March 12 advised the formation of the Ipswich Battery of the Queensland Volunteer Artillery. The Gazette also announced the appointment in the Ipswich Troop of Mounted Rifles as Captain, of James Leith Hay.

In this year by Act of Parliament, 28 Victoria 10 of the New South Wales Defence Act was repealed and the Queensland Defence Act took its place.

On August 6, 1864, it was announced that the Queensland Mounted Rifles would, in future, be styled the "Queensland Light Horse."

It would appear that disappointments continued during 1865 as we find in the Gazette of December 29 that the Governor notified that funds provided by Parliament for volunteer purposes were exhausted and no further payments would be made. Two hundred and seventy-five uniforms had been supplied at public expense and the least the Volunteers could do was to continue. An Armourer would be paid £100 per annum to look after arms and military stores. He would also be required to give instruction and assistance to Volunteers.

Nevertheless the various units managed to keep going and by 1875 a series of annual encampments for training were inaugurated, the first being held at Toowoomba under Captain John McDonnell. Numbers had not grown to any great extent, however, as, whilst

in 1862 the strength was 248, in 1876, fourteen years later, the total number was only 415.

However, the turning point was not far away.

Scheme For Defence of Colonies

In 1877 General Sir William Jervois and Colonel Peter Scratchley, two distinguished British soldiers (the latter afterwards becoming Major-General Sir Peter Scratchley and, subsequently, Administrator of Papua) came to Australia to advise upon the defences of the Colonies. They landed at Brisbane on August 14 of that year and, during their visit, inspected the troops, Major John McDonnell being Commandant. Major Drury was in charge of Artillery, Major Snelling, Infantry, and Captain Smith, Adjutant. The Governor, Sir Arthur Kennedy, was at the saluting base during the march past.

Subsequent to the visit of Sir William Jervois and Colonel Scratchley, the Commandant, Major McDonnell made a report on the position regarding the Queensland forces for the consideration of these two officers when recommending their general scheme for defence of the Colony.

Pending the recommendations which were subsequently prepared by General Jervois for the defence of the Colonies, preliminary steps were taken.

As the main defence recommended for the Brisbane River was three lines of ground torpedoes (controlled mines) across the channel from Lytton, with covering batteries from Lytton itself, the Torpedo Corps was formed in 1878 with W. J. Cracknell, the Superintendent of Posts and Telegraphs gazetted as Captain of the Corps.

A small steamer, the "Miner," was built at the workshops of Evans, Anderson & Co. at Kangaroo Point for use by the submarine miners. The ground torpedoes referred to were containers filled with explosive; laid across the bed of the river, these were connected by an electric cable to the shore and exploded by a firing key should enemy vessels attempt to cross the field. As will be noted later, the Whitehead torpedo was being developed, which was self propelled by an engine driven by compressed air and could be set to travel on a certain course, at a given depth; the explosive was contained in a "war head" fitted to the nose of the torpedo. It was substantially the same as the torpedo of to-day in principle and became a weapon

of the navy; after its inception, the term "torpedo" was confined to it, the immobile underwater "torpedoes" being termed "mines," the responsibility for which subsequently was transferred to the Navy. Controlled minefields on similar principles to that of the "ground torpedoes" mentioned above, were used in World War II in the Brisbane River as well as in other places.

As torpedo cable, dynamite and gun cotton were unprocurable in Australia, six miles of submarine telegraph cable and four tons of blasting powder were purchased locally for the Torpedo Corps.

The Port Master was instructed to afford all assistance with men and boats when required.

Orders were placed for 200,000 rounds of Snider ball ammunition, 10 tons of cannon powder and 2,000 friction tubes. (There were 10 smooth bore 24-pounder guns).

Rifle ranges were established in Toowoomba, Maryborough, Rockhampton and Townsville.

Colonel Scratchley made periodic visits to Brisbane during this period. In his first progress report to the Government in April 1878 he mentioned that the provision of a paid Commandant not being approved by Parliament, the Commandant of the Forces should be given the rank of Lieut.-Colonel. Considering that Major McDonnell had devoted so much attention to the establishment of the Volunteer Forces, he considered that some recognition of his services would only be doing him justice.

In the Easter Encampment at Sandgate that year Lieut.-Colonel McDonnell was present as Commandant.

Lieutenant-Colonel Blaxland followed as Commandant in 1880, and Lieutenant-Colonel Drury became Acting-Commandant in 1882.

EXPANSION

The era of real development began in the year 1882.

Indications earlier of possible hostilities with Russia and, in this event, that Britain might be unable to assist the Colonies, had focussed their attention more strongly on their own defences.

At the request of the Queensland Government a memorandum, with proposals for Queensland Defence based on the general outline for Defence of Australia

recommended by Sir William Jervois was submitted by Colonel Scratchley to the Colonial Secretary on April 24, 1882.

The Government, on receiving the memorandum, took early steps in implementing its recommendations, which, as will be seen, were far reaching and stressed, in addition to the military forces, the "paramount necessity for floating defences for the protection of commerce and the seaboard of the Colony."

Here are the relevant extracts from the memorandum:—

1 GENERAL OUTLINE OF SIR W. JERVOIS' SCHEME OF DEFENCE

(i) For Brisbane and Moreton Bay

(a) The passage of hostile vessels up the river to the City of Brisbane to be prevented by a battery at Lytton and by torpedoes in the river.

(b) The anchorage at Moreton Bay to be protected by a gunboat and one or more torpedo boats, and a landing at Bramble Bay, Waterloo Bay, or elsewhere, prevented by the floating defences and a field force on land.

(ii) For Maryborough and Rockhampton

(c) The rivers leading to those towns to be obstructed by torpedoes, covered by guns mounted on barges; companies of infantry being provided on land.

(iii) For the General Defence of the Coast

(d) Additional telegraph stations to be established along the coast.

(e) A gun-vessel to be provided, which, in time of peace would be utilised for general Government purposes.

(f) Whenever small steamers were required for ordinary harbour purposes at any of the ports, they might be constructed so as to carry spare torpedoes, and thus be available for defence.

(iv) The following Naval and Military Forces to be Maintained:—

| | Officers and Men |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| (g) For Brisbane— | |
| For Battery and Torpedoes at Lytton: | |
| Artillery | 80 |
| Torpedo Corps | 50 |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| For Field Force: | |
| Artillery, Engineers and Infantry ... | 880 |
| For Naval Defences and Torpedo Boat | 50 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total | 1,060 |
| | <hr/> |
| (h) For Maryborough and Rockhampton: | |
| Infantry | 200 |
| For manning Gun Barges | 60 |
| For Torpedo Defences | 40 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 300 |
| (i) For General Staff | 10 |
| | <hr/> |
| Grand Total | 1,370 |
| | <hr/> |

2. PRESENT STATE OF AFFAIRS

- (a) As regards the defence of Brisbane, a battery at Lytton, for two 6-inch M.L.R. (chambered) and two 64-pounder M.L.R. guns, and a defensible enclosure on Signal Hill, are nearly completed, torpedo stores are being purchased by degrees for the submarine defence of Brisbane River; and a volunteer field force to operate on land has been established to resist the advance of an enemy on the Capital. No provision has been made for gun or torpedo vessels, nor has a naval brigade been formed.
- (b) At Maryborough and Rockhampton, companies of infantry have been established, but as yet nothing has been done towards providing torpedoes or guns for barges recommended by Sir William Jervois.
- (c) In addition to the foregoing, companies of infantry have been organised at Mackay and Bundaberg, and a small corps of artillery has been enrolled at Townsville.
- (d) Cadet companies are attached to the Volunteer Force at Brisbane and Toowoomba.

Sections 3 and 4 dealt with purely military matters, but section 5 concluded with the following important paragraph:—

The whole question resolves itself into one of money. Considering, therefore, that, besides the military defences, there is paramount necessity for **adequate floating defences** for the protection of com-

merce and the seaboard of the colony, the strictest economy must be exercised in order to set apart a portion of the funds, available for defence, towards organising naval defences.

3 ESTIMATED COST OF THE SEVERAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN THIS REPORT

The undermentioned expenditure will have to be incurred:—

Annually

- | | |
|---|---------|
| (1) For military purposes (as recommended by the Military Committee) | £13,000 |
| Or, if pay be increased to same rate as proposed in Victoria, say | £15,000 |
| (2) For Naval purposes, (can only be determined when a decision has been come to in regard to the Naval defences) | |

Capital or First Cost

- | | |
|--|---------|
| (1) To complete Lytton Battery, provide torpedo station, cable tank, additional barrack accommodation, etc., and to finish stockade on Signal Hill | £2,000 |
| (2) To complete equipment for torpedo defences and provide electric lights | £1,500 |
| (3) For purchase of two machine guns | £800 |
| (4) One torpedo boat of 17-knot speed | £3,300 |
| (5) Fittings for extemporised torpedo launches | £300 |
| (6) Gun vessel, as described, allowing for journey out | £31,000 |
| (7) For mounting two 64-pounders at Townsville | £250 |
| (8) For two guns of position for Townsville with equipment and ammunition | £1,600 |
| (9) For Rockhampton, or any other place requiring local protection, on the following scale:— | |
| (a) One six-inch B.L. gun—mounted on slide, with bullet-proof shield—all ready fitted for placing on a barge | £2,400 |
| (b) Two guns of position, or two field-pieces | £1,600 |
| (c) Small equipment of torpedoes | £500 |
| (d) Fittings for extemporised launches | £200 |
| | £4,700 |

On July 18, 1882, having given notice of the question on July 12, Mr. S. W. Griffith, Q.C., Member for North Brisbane (later to become Sir Samuel Griffith, the first Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia) asked the Premier, Sir Thomas McIlwraith, if it were the intention of the Government, in view of the present state of affairs in Europe to invite the immediate attention of the House to the question of the defences of the Colony.

Later the Colonial Treasurer (Hon. A. Archer) moved in the estimates for £70,000 for Defence, of which £60,000 would be allocated from surplus revenue of the 1882-83 estimates for the purchase of two gunboats, one to be stationed in the Thursday Island area and one in the Moreton Bay area.

The Premier spoke strongly in favour of the vote which was approved by the House.

THE QUEENSLAND MARINE DEFENCE FORCE

Orders were placed with Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell & Co., of Newcastle on Tyne, for two gunboats which were to be called "Gayundah" and "Paluma" (aboriginal words meaning Lightning and Thunder).

Specifications of these ships were as follows, and, for their size, the armament was formidable:—

Length, 120 feet; beam, 26 feet, draught, 9½ feet; displacement, 360 tons.

They were twin screw vessels, with horizontal direct action compound engines with a total of 400 I.H.P. to give a maximum speed of 10 knots.

Armament: One 8in. B.L. 12-ton gun forward; one 5in. B.L. 4-ton gun aft; two 1½in. Nordenfeldt guns with mountings for two more; one .45in. 5-barrel machine gun and one 1in. 4-barrel machine gun. These smaller calibre guns were fitted for protection against torpedo attack.

Coal capacity was seventy-five tons, which gave a range of 700 to 800 miles.

"Gayundah" was launched on May 13, 1884, and "Paluma" at about the same time: Both vessels carried out trials on September 26.

Under an arrangement reached between the Queensland Government and the Admiralty on July 28, "Paluma" was fitted out for surveying duties in North Queensland waters and carried out this useful work for ten years, sailing from England with Lieutenant Richards, R.N., in command early in November,

1884. Not until her surveying duties were completed was "Paluma" fitted as one of the "floating batteries" recommended by Sir William Jervois.

"Gayundah" sailed from Newcastle on Tyne on November 13, 1884, with Captain Henry Townley Wright, R.N., as commanding officer; with him were the following officers:—

First Lieutenant, Lieutenant Hesketh, R.N. (retd.); navigator, Lieutenant Williams, R.N.; Chief Engineer, Mr. Nicholson, R.N.

"Gayundah" and "Mosquito"

On March 28, 1885, "Gayundah" arrived in Brisbane, where Captain Wright became Senior Naval Officer of the Marine Defence Force. Whilst the ship was at Malta Captain Wright underwent a Whitehead torpedo course, for this revolutionary and deadly naval weapon, named after its inventor, a British engineer, had recently developed. Lacking at that time backing in England, Whitehead was having his self-propelled torpedo manufactured at Fiume in the Adriatic.

The "Mosquito," a second class torpedo boat, launched on July 16, 1884, was the first unit of the Queensland Marine Defence Force to arrive in the Colony, having been shipped out by a B.I. steamer.

"Mosquito" had a galvanised steel hull, was of approximately thirty-five tons displacement and designed for a speed of twenty-one knots but, at her trials, attained a speed of seventeen and a half knots. No guns were carried; two sets of dropping gear for 14in. torpedoes were fitted. The dropping gear, a framework on the deck, held the torpedo clear of the ship's side in two clamps with a lever for each clamp, one man standing by each lever. "Mosquito" steamed at full speed in the direction of the target and, as the levers were operated and the torpedoes were released, stopped engines and went full astern. As the torpedoes were dropped their tripping levers released the compressed air to the engines and, by the time the torpedoes had started to gain momentum the ship had moved astern clear of them. The advent of torpedo tubes later (though the torpedo-boats of the Queensland Navy did not have them) simplified the launching process. "War-heads" containing the explosive charges were only fitted for hostilities; a practice head of identical shape and weight was used for exercises and had no explosive.

The range of the torpedo in those days was not great, so that a torpedo boat had to approach fairly close to the ship she was attacking. "Gayundah" arrived in Brisbane with a fighting top on the foremast fitted with machine guns for repelling attack by torpedo boats.

Whilst the ships were on passage from England, a meeting was held on November 29, 1884, with the object of forming a Volunteer Naval Force. Some of those present had seen service with the Royal Navy, and a committee was formed to wait upon the Premier to offer the services of those who were present at the meeting as a nucleus of a Naval Brigade.

The Government, which had already given consideration to forming such a body, took action accordingly shortly afterwards.

Lieutenant Walton Drake, R.N., at that time First Lieutenant of H.M.S. "Wolverine," was appointed as training officer for the Naval Brigade, the complement of which was to be 100 for the port of Brisbane and a further 100 apportioned between the other ports.

By March 26, 1885, the Brisbane division of the Naval Brigade proceeded to Lytton near the mouth of the Brisbane River for the Easter encampment at the fort with the military volunteers.

Russian Attack Feared

In moving the defence estimates for 1885-86 the Premier and Colonial Secretary (Sir Samuel Griffith) warned Parliament that the threat of war was no idle one and that it was well known that arrangements (including an ample supply of coal) had been made by the Russians for attacking the Australian coast.

The development of naval shore establishments now was proceeding: A Naval Staff Office in Edward Street was secured and the erection of a Naval Stores, repair and training depot at Kangaroo Point commenced. A slipway for "Mosquito" was built in the South Brisbane reach of the river behind Parliament House: The Naval establishment at Kangaroo Point, completed in 1887, consisted of two galvanised iron buildings, each of two stories, housed a gun battery for training, work shops for ship repairs, a torpedo workshop and a wharf with sheer-legs.

Training centres, with units of the Naval Brigade, were formed in Thursday Island, Cairns, Townsville,

Mackay, Rockhampton, Bundaberg and Maryborough, with an instructor at each of these ports. "Gayundah" made periodical visits to these centres to carry out sea training and gunnery exercises.

The Government steamer "Otter" was fitted as an auxiliary, as were five steam-propelled hopper barges of the Harbours and Rivers Department, each having a gun mounting forward to take a 5in. B.L. two and a half ton gun. As most of the crews of these vessels were members of the Naval Brigade, manning of the auxiliaries, when required as such, presented no problem.

A fourth unit of the Queensland Marine Defence Force, "Midge," shipped out in 1887, was a picquet boat. "Midge" had mountings for a three-pounder Nordenfeldt forward, two machine guns aft and, like "Mosquito," was fitted with two sets of dropping gear for 14in. torpedoes.

The Naval ships of the Defence Force combined with the auxiliaries in annual exercises with the Naval Brigade in Moreton Bay.

MILITARY EXPANSION

With the general re-organisation following the adoption of the recommendations of Sir W. Jervois, the Volunteer Defence Act provided for the following Military organisation which, it will be noted, included a detachment of permanent soldiers:—

Permanent Forces:

"A" Battery Q.D.F. 100 rank and file Garrison Artillery with Mining and Engineering detachment, a major as O.C., a captain, and three subalterns. The main body to be at Victoria Barracks, Brisbane, and detachments stationed at Townsville and Thursday Island.

Militia Forces:

Two Batteries Field Artillery Brisbane and Moreton (Ipswich Headquarters) Field Batteries. Four guns each 9lb. muzzle loading. One Battery Garrison Artillery Brisbane. One Battery Garrison Townsville. One Company Engineers Brisbane:—

Infantry Moreton Regiment. Headquarters Brisbane. Darling Downs Regiment Headquarters Toowoomba. Wide Bay-Burnett Regiment, headquarters Rockhampton. Kennedy Regiment, headquarters Townsville. Army Service Corps and Army Medical Corps.

Several Volunteer Infantry Units were also formed, the Queensland Irish, Queensland Scottish and Teachers, all in Brisbane, Cadets and Rifle Corps.

Uniforms:

Except for volunteers, uniforms were all Imperial pattern. Volunteers wore grey with distinguished facings. Mounted officers at this time used the Sabretache; the Sam Brown Belt had not yet been evolved. Martini-Henri rifles were used, .45 calibre, black powder.

All Headquarters staff officers from the Imperial Army received a step forward in rank.

The Headquarters staff consisted of Commandant, Brigade Major, Staff Officer, Artillery (he was O.C. "A" Battery) Engineers, Infantry Volunteers, and Rifle Corps.

The Staff Officers in the A.M.C. and A.S.C. were local officers.

Imperial Sergeant Major instructors were brought out for instructional purposes for each arm of the services, and were attached to Headquarters staff.

Service in South Africa

The Mounted Infantry uniform was of khaki with claret-coloured facings, "Digger" hats with emu plumes. Like the other branches, they were equipped with Martini-Henri rifles. Their pay was the same as for other military units, but each man provided his own horse and received a horse allowance. The Mounted Infantry was the first regiment to see active service in South Africa when Queensland sent three contingents and also three for the Imperial Government.

In 1883 a British Artillery Officer, Colonel French, arrived to take up his appointment as Commandant, and completed an inspection of the military units under his command without delay.

Later Colonel French was to assist in advising the Government when the Defence Act of 1884 was being prepared.

Under this Act, further details of which will be given later, the Colony was divided into two military districts called the Southern Military District and the Northern Military District.

1. Southern District, comprised the electoral districts of North Brisbane, Fortitude Valley, South Brisbane, Enoggera, Moreton, Bulimba, Oxley, Ipswich,

Bundamba, Rosewood, Fassifern, Stanley, Drayton, Toowoomba, Aubigny, Darling Downs, Warwick, Dalby, Carnarvon, Northern Downs, Balonne, Maranoa, Warrego, Maryborough, Gympie, Wide Bay and Burnett.

2. Northern District comprised the remainder of the Colony.

Within the Southern Military District, were the following Regimental Divisions:—

1. The Moreton Regional Division, embracing Brisbane, Logan, Ipswich, Rosewood, Fassifern and Stanley.

2. The Darling Downs and Western Regional Division, comprising Drayton, Toowoomba, Aubigny, Darling Downs, Warwick, Dalby, Carnarvon, Balonne, Maranoa and Warrego.

3. The Wide Bay and Burnett Regional Divisions, comprising Maryborough, Gympie, Wide Bay and Burnett.

Within the Northern Military District were:—

1. The Rockhampton Division, Rockhampton, Blackall and Port Curtis.

2. The Mackay Division, comprising the electoral division of Mackay.

3. The Kennedy Division, comprising the electoral division of Townsville and Kennedy.

4. The Cook Division, comprising the electoral division of Cook.

THE DEFENCE ACT OF 1884

After being read for the first time on August 6, 1884, a Bill entitled "A Bill to make better provision for the Defence of the Colony of Queensland" had its second reading on September 3 of that year (ref. Queensland Parliamentary Debates Vol. XLIII, 1884). Its first section repealed the Defence Act of 1878.

The Bill had a number of far-reaching clauses and the Premier, Sir Samuel Griffith, who introduced it, mentioned that the Bill was based on the Canadian Militia System, generally admitted to be the most satisfactory system, and the advice of Colonel French, who had been connected with the Militia in Canada, had been of great assistance to the Government.

The Premier stated, during the second Reading, that the Bill in the 58th section would enable the Governor to place the Defence Force, when called out for actual service under command of Her Majesty's regular forces in Queensland or in any other place

where the force is required to serve, or under the orders of any of the officers then in command of the forces of any other of the Australian Colonies. That is to say, if it is desirable, the Defence Force may march over the border of Queensland and it may be placed under the command of any officer who may be appointed for the whole of the Colonies.

The Bill proposed that all persons who enter the Police Force in future shall become members of the Defence Force and shall be liable to be attached to any corps, when ordered, in case of necessity.

Provision was also made in the Bill for a permanent force not exceeding 150 men.

The fifty-fourth section contained provision for the Governor to sanction the establishment of rifle clubs or corps and of associations for the purposes of drill, arms and ammunition, under such conditions as may be prescribed, could be provided, but such bodies would not be provided with clothing or receive any allowance therefor.

Doubtless due in some degree to the renewed interest in defence indicated by the Government's Defence Act in the preceding year and the consequent publicity, the year 1885 was one of great activity, new units being formed in the centres of Bundaberg, Cairns, Charters Towers, Gladstone, Gympie, Hughenden, Maryborough, Ravenswood, Roma, Townsville (the Naval Volunteer Artillery Corps), Bowen, Howard, Dalby and Mackay.

ANNEXATION OF NEW GUINEA

A history of Queensland Defence in the days of the Colony would be incomplete without reference to the events which led up to the annexation of the territory of New Guinea, which has become of vital importance to Australia over the years.

(Professor A. C. V. Melbourne has dealt with this at length in the Royal Australian Historical Society's Journals, Vols. XII, page 288: and Vol XIII, page 147).

The western portion of New Guinea was occupied by the Dutch up to the 141st meridian, but the eastern portion had not been claimed, up to 1867, by any European power.

In 1867 a company called the New Guinea Company was formed in Sydney and sought assistance from the N.S.W. Government, but without success. An approach to the Government of the United Kingdom

brought the reply that the Government was unwilling to become embroiled in further territorial responsibilities. An attempt in 1875 to promote a company in London received the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, but nothing further developed.

Australian interest in New Guinea had become awakened and, irked at the inaction of the U.K. Government, a public meeting was called at which a resolution was passed urging that Great Britain was the best nation to annexe and colonise the territory of New Guinea, not yet occupied by a foreign power. That this was in the interest of the whole Empire, especially in view of the recent establishment of steam communications by sea between the Colonies, the East and the Mother Country via Torres Straits.

By this time and solely as a result of the efforts of the Queensland Government, mail steamers were regularly passing through Torres Straits.

Official opinion was strongly in favour of annexation at this stage, but the Governments of New South Wales and Victoria reported adversely on the proposal.

In 1878 the boundaries of Queensland were extended to include a number of islands in Torres Straits, but did not include the mainland of New Guinea, though the Queensland Government had, in November 1877, sent Mr. H. M. Chester, the Police Magistrate at Thursday Island, to pay a visit to the coast. At that time, though not annexed, New Guinea came under the jurisdiction of the High Commissioner for the Pacific at Fiji. H.M.S. "Sappho" had visited Port Moresby in 1878.

Agitation was renewed again, but for a different reason, in December 1882, when rumours began to circulate that certain European powers were considering Colonial expansion in the Pacific; with New Guinea within 80 miles of the Queensland mainland and commanding one side of the ocean highway, the possibility of occupation by a foreign power could not be overlooked.

In February 1883 the Queensland Premier, Sir Thomas McIlwraith, through the Governor, Sir Arthur Kennedy, submitted to the Imperial Authorities that, largely as a result of the action of the Queensland Government, Torres Strait had become an important highway; telegraph communication had been established to Cooktown and Thursday Island. Regular mail services ran from Brisbane to India and Europe, a

steam mail service connected Normanton to Thursday Island, and a Queensland gunboat had been ordered to be stationed in the North. McIlwraith offered, if the Imperial Government decided upon annexation, that the Queensland Government would recommend to Parliament to grant appropriation for defraying the cost of settlement and maintaining, if necessary, an armed force for the defence of settlers. In stressing the urgency of the matter, the Premier requested that a reply be sent by cable.

(Reference. Votes and Proceedings 1883).

Vacillation and delay continued in London both in regard to a decision and a reply; therefore on March 20, 1883, Chester the Police Magistrate at Thursday Island, was ordered by the Queensland Government to proceed to New Guinea in the steamer "Pearl" and take formal possession of the territory on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen. Chester arrived on April 3 and, on the following day, took formal possession of all New Guinea and adjacent islands not in the possession of the Dutch.

The Governments of New South Wales and Victoria then signified their approval of Sir Thomas McIlwraith's action.

However, the Imperial Government would not ratify the annexation and matters remained in "status quo" until the following year, when it became quite evident that Germany was interested in the Territory of New Guinea; even so, it was not until October 1884 that Mr. H. H. Romilly, a Deputy Commissioner for the Western Pacific, was despatched in H.M.S. "Harrier" to Port Moresby, where a British Protectorate was proclaimed on October 23.

The Imperial Government had at last acted—but too late. Bismarck had already annexed the territory of North-East New Guinea, New Britain, New Ireland and the intervening islands to Germany. The territory of Papua only remained under the British flag. It is now part of the Australian Commonwealth. German New Guinea, though occupied in World War I by Australian naval and military forces and administered since by Australia, is still Mandated Territory.

CADET CORPS

The first of these was the Brisbane Grammar School Cadet Corps formed in 1878; subsequent units established were:—

1885: April 16, the Southport Cadet Corps; July 17, the Gympie Cadet Corps; September 14, the Maryborough Cadet Corps.

1886: April 2, the Roma Cadet Corps.

1887: October 6, the Woolloongabba Cadet Corps.

1888: November 14, the Cairns Cadet Corps.

1889: July 17, the Townsville Cadet Corps; September 18, Indooroopilly State School Cadet Corps; December 19, Ipswich Cadet Corps.

1890: January 16, Ipswich Grammar School Cadet Corps; Rockhampton Cadet Corps (Rockhampton Boys' Central School).

1891: August 29, Maryborough Grammar School Cadet Corps.

1892: July 14, Toowoomba Grammar School Cadet Corps; July 20, Toowoomba State School Cadet Corps.

1908: Bowen House School Naval Cadet Corps (first in Queensland, probably in Australia).

ACTIVE SERVICE

In 1885 the Soudan campaign, with the death of General Gordon, aroused patriotism in Australia to a high degree and offers of contingents were made from New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia. One contingent from New South Wales, which was equipped and ready, was accepted, but as the length of time needed to prepare units from other Colonies would preclude these from arriving in time, they were not despatched as the campaign terminated on June 23 of that year.

This was the first occasion on which Australian troops were sent overseas and the "Morning Post" in England commented:—

"At a time when many persons are puzzling their brains to devise some scheme of Imperial Federation, it is interesting to note that our Australian Colonies have recognised in a very practical form the common bond of union in which the hour of peril to the British Empire unites them to the Mother Country."

In the year 1899, when Major General Howel Gunther was Commandant Queensland volunteers for active service in the South African war were ordered into camp at Meeandah on October 19 and formed a force called "The Queensland Mounted Infantry," with the following officers:—

Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel P. R. Ricardo; Commanding 1 Company, Capt. H. G. Chauvel (afterwards to become Lieut.-General Sir Harry Chauvel, one of the brilliant cavalry leaders of World War I); Commanding 2 Company, Capt. P. W. G. Pinhock; Lieutenants: D. E. Reid, R. Dowse, C. H. Anderson-Pelham, H. Bailey, C. H. Black, R. Gordon, A. C. Adie, T. W. Glasgow (later Major-General Sir William Glasgow), C. A. Cumming, J. M. Hanly. Quartermaster: Captain Crichton.

Other units of volunteers followed as reinforcements and as the war proceeded the names of many Queenslanders appeared on the casualty lists.

The time was no approaching when the Defence Forces of Queensland were to be merged with those of the other Australian Colonies, into the Defence Forces of the Commonwealth.

In 1900 Colonel H. Finn became Commandant—and the last of the line of Commandants of the Queensland Defence Force—as he held this appointment when the Commonwealth Military Forces came into being.

The initiative taken so early by the Colony to provide for its own defences and the interest and devotion of its volunteer soldiers over a period of forty years, provided for Australia on Federation a large body of volunteers with experience and tradition.

This was evidenced by the high proportion in the first A.I.F. of generals who were Queenslanders, a greater number than from any other State. Such men as Brudenell White, Chauvel, Glasgow, Spencer Brown, Lachlan Wilson, Robertson, Grant, Coxen, Cannon, Selheim, Dods and Foote, owed their early interest and training to the Volunteer Defence Forces of Queensland.

MORE ABOUT THE QUEENSLAND MARINE DEFENCE CORPS

In August 1884 the Earl of Northbrook, First Lord of the Admiralty, had refused to allow the White Ensign to be flown by Victorian men-of-war, stating that, whilst no slur was intended, the Blue Ensign was considered the proper flag for Colonial men-of-war. With this precedent, therefore, "Gayundah," commissioned under the Blue Ensign with badge of the Colony thereon, for which Admiralty approval was granted.

With the object of obviating idle periods for "Gayundah" and gaining for the personnel the advantages of training and discipline by being attached to the Australian Squadron, the Queensland Government on October 23, 1884, whilst the ship was preparing to sail for Queensland, had offered her for service under the Admiral commanding the Australian Station, with the understanding that she would be detached from time to time for local and special service in the Colony.

The Premier, Hon. S. W. Griffith, made it clear that, in this offer "Gayundah" should be fully manned, equipped and maintained at the sole expense of the Colony. He stated that "the proposal, in effect, is that the Colony should, to the extent indicated, contribute to the expense of Australian defence." "Paluma" had at this stage already been placed at the disposition of the Admiralty for surveying duties.

On July 21, 1885, the Secretary of State for Colonies advised that the Queen by and with the consent of her Privy Council had authorised the Admiralty to accept the offer made to place at Her Majesty's disposal "Gayundah" and the men and officers serving therein. Finally in September 1886, Admiral Tryon enclosed copy of orders from the Admiralty and Warrant, authorising "Gayundah" to "wear the White Ensign and Pendant of Her Majesty's Fleet." She thus became the first ship of the Colonial Navies to have the honour of wearing the White Ensign, an event of some significance, which indicated the broad outlook on Empire defence by Queensland, in the naval as well as the military sphere.

In 1895 "Paluma," after completing her term of surveying duties with the Royal Navy in the Barrier Reef area, many of her charts of which are in use to-day, reverted to the Queensland Government and paid off; "Gayundah" had also paid off in 1893. Both ships had care and maintenance parties on board, but were manned as required for training the Naval Brigade. In 1898 "Gayundah" re-commissioned under the Blue Ensign of the Queensland Government, her armament being altered in 1899, a 4.7 Q.F. gun replacing the 6in. quarter deck gun and two 12-pounder Q.F. 12 cwt. guns substituted for the Nordenfeldts on the forecastle. Two extra 12-pounders intended to be fitted were diverted to South Africa as the Boer War had commenced.

“Paluma” had two 5in. B.L. 2½-ton guns forward substituted for her 8in. gun.

The end of the Colonial Navies was now approaching with Federation near, but, as the new Commonwealth found the taking over of all Defence, Customs and Postal Departments a tremendous task, the transfer took place progressively, so that it was not until 1902 that all arrangements were completed and the Navy of the Commonwealth really began.

Queensland's Initiative

Here again, Queensland showed its initiative in Australian defence when, at the suggestion of its Premier, a conference of Naval Officers was held in Melbourne on August 5, 1899, to consider the question of Naval Defence of Australia, to provide a concerted scheme for the formation of a Royal Naval Reserve, and to forward its recommendations to the Minister for Defence, Victoria. Those at the conference were as follows:—

President, Captain Frances Hixson, R.N.; Captain R. M. Collins, R.N., Secretary; Captain W. R. Cresswell, Naval Commandant, South Australia; Commander Walton Drake, Naval Commandant, Queensland; Commander F. Tickell, Victorian Navy, Commanding Victorian Naval Forces.

At that time, the Naval Force of 1,545 men in Australia, was distributed as follows:—

New South Wales 573, Victoria 300, Queensland 512, South Australia 160.

Queensland's part in the foundation of the Royal Australian Navy was no small one as, apart from her ships and establishments, it will be noted by the Commonwealth Navy List of 1904, that of a total of 135 officers on the active and unattached list, officers of the late Queensland Marine Defence Force totalled sixty-six.

After Federation “Gayundah,” “Paluma,” “Midge” and “Mosquito” remained stationed in Queensland for some years and were used mainly for training of the Naval Brigade; with universal training introduced in 1911 they were of value in training of the large influx of Naval Reservists.

“Paluma” was sold out of the Service, but her memory was honoured in 1958 by the naming of an R.A.N. survey ship “Paluma.”

“Gayundah,” which in 1903 made history by being the first Australian war ship to use wireless telegraphy, finished her Naval career after service in World War I.

Commander Drake was relieved as Naval Commandant in 1900 by Captain W. R. Creswell, who became subsequently Australia’s first Chief of the Naval Staff.

THE TURN OF THE CENTURY — AND FEDERATION

Whilst the contribution of men and material by Queensland to the combined defence resources of Australia on Federation was substantial, it is well to recall also, before turning the page, the broad outlook on defence evidenced by the Colony in:—

(a) Its offer to defray the cost of settlement and to maintain, if necessary, an armed force for the defence of settlers in New Guinea, together with its subsequent action in regard to annexation.

(b) The provision, in the 58th section of the Defence Act of 1884, to enable the Defence Force, when called out for actual service, to serve in any place where the force was required or under the orders of any officers then in command of the forces of any other of the Australian Colonies, i.e., “that if necessary it could be marched over the border of Queensland and placed under the command of any officer who may be appointed for the whole of the Colonies.”

(c) The offer of “Gayundah,” fully-manned, equipped and maintained at the sole expense of the Colony” for service under the Admiral the Australian Squadron, which was accepted in 1885.

QUEENSLAND THE STATE

It is relatively simple to outline events as to how the Colony, by its own decisions and efforts, built up and controlled its own defences, but with the State no longer a separate entity as regards defence, which, since Federation has been the responsibility of the Commonwealth, it is more difficult to describe her part during the sixty years which complete the centenary now being celebrated.

We know that Queenslanders have maintained the flow of volunteers for the services in high proportion to the population, and that they have acquitted themselves well and served in many parts of the world.

During World War I Australia was spared from hostile attack, save from one or two minefields laid by raiders off the southern coast.

It was in World War II, however, that Queensland rose to the occasion, as one might expect, with her defence history.

After over two years of war in theatres overseas, the morning of December 7, 1941, brought ominous tidings of the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbour and their landing at Khota Bharu in Malaya — Australia was at war with Japan.

Once again Naval establishments were set up in northern seaports: in Townsville in 1941, in anticipation of hostilities with Japan, then early in 1942 in Cairns and Thursday Island, but our northern coast lacked fortifications and weapons of defence.

Troops and refugees, evacuating before the Japanese advance, crossed the Coral Sea in all manner of craft, coming from New Guinea, New Britain, and the islands, arrived in various parts of the North Queensland coast, where they were cared for and sent south. These included the survivors from the Tol Plantation massacre in New Britain.

Large numbers of women and children were evacuated south from our northern seaports and near areas and were compulsorily evacuated from Thursday Island, the first time this had happened in Australia's history.

The garrison and population at Darwin were in a serious plight following the destruction of shipping and damage from Japanese air attacks; from early in 1942 for some months six small ships sailing regularly from Cairns kept Darwin's only supply line open. With the shortage of larger ships the risk of losing these could not be accepted, hence the little ships braved the hazards of air and submarine attack in their long trips to and from Darwin.

The Coast Watchers

The Coast Watchers, a small, devoted band of Australians, had now been installed in New Guinea, New Britain and the Solomon Islands behind the enemy lines to watch and report. They had been organised earlier and were controlled from Townsville by a Queenslander, Commander Eric Feldt, O.B.E., one of the first group of naval cadets to enter the Royal Australian Naval College, who had, after leaving the Navy,

lived in New Guinea for many years. The work of the Coast-Watchers should be remembered always. The 19th and 20th squadrons of R.A.A.F. Catalinas were operating from Cairns from early in 1942, patrolling, making offensive sorties as far as Rabaul, and dropping supplies to the Coast-Watchers by "storepedo."

Through Grafton Passage in the Barrier Reef transports and escorts from Townsville and Cairns carried the troops to Port Moresby and Milne Bay, who were to administer the first defeat to the Japanese.

The Torres Straits Pilots carried on in the best traditions of the Merchant Navy, their work extending to New Guinea—new waters to many of the pilots.

Civil airline pilots included in their many flights from the north the flying out of refugees from Mt. Hagen and the landing of Australian troops at Wau whilst the Japanese were on the perimeter of the airstrip.

From the northern seaports of Queensland came and went the surveying ships of the Royal Australian Navy which were surveying the New Guinea waters off enemy-held territory so that the great armadas, which were later to sail from Queensland, could advance.

Shipyards in Maryborough (which had built merchant ships in World War I) and Brisbane turned out vessels for the Navy in increasing numbers and many barges and landing craft were built at seaports from Cairns to Brisbane.

Airfields were under construction from early in 1942 in a chain stretching from Horn Island off the tip of Cape York Peninsula, Mareeba, on the Atherton Tableland, Townsville and other centres inland down to the Darling Downs and Brisbane. The transport alone of material, equipment, housing and provisions for the huge numbers of the Civil Construction Corps engaged in the task was a major undertaking. Mareeba aerodrome was constructed in a matter of days and from here and from the aerodrome at Charters Towers the Flying Fortresses flew their sorties in the Coral Sea Battle.

Queensland as Advance Base

With garrisons at Thursday Island and ports south and the return of the 2nd A.I.F., which proceeded to the Atherton Tableland to train in preparation for the New Guinea offensive, it might well have been

thought that the resources of the State were taxed to the utmost, but, in addition, 2,000,000 American troops were to pass through Queensland. General Blamey arrived in Brisbane in March 1942, and General Macarthur in July. It should be realised that for some months the whole of the enormous sea, land and air forces for the South West Pacific offensive, with their bases, supplies and equipment, were concentrated in this State, which had to cope—and did—with enormous problems of transport by rail (e.g., fifty-one trains passed through the northern city of Charters Towers in one day), road construction, food, and here thousands of beef cattle from the Gulf country and the Northern Territory supplied this need.

Huge quantities of Queensland timber were used in the war effort and, from the far North to Brisbane on the coast, barges and landing craft were constructed to supplement the luggers of the pearling fleet and small craft which were commandeered to supply the smaller outposts. Plans had been laid for the destruction of all small craft when it was learnt how the Japanese had made use in Malaya and other places of any craft which would float, from launches to canoes, but fortunately this necessity did not arise, so our small craft were spared for a very useful purpose and most of them went on to help later in New Guinea.

The University of Queensland, fortunately, had the only School of Tropical Medicine in Australia, and it was here that many medical officers from the Australian and United States forces were trained and went forth to fight their battles against the diseases of the tropics. The value in maintaining the health and fighting efficiency of the forces needs no stressing.

A Little Known Epic

An interesting and little known epic had its beginning in Cairns during 1942 where a small band from the three services headed by a young Scot, Major Lyon, trained in secret for some months in the use of limpet mines.

When ready, they transferred in Darwin to a small craft, rather like a sampan, in which they travelled to Singapore, through Japanese patrolled waters. On arrival at night they entered the harbour in collapsible canoes, affixed their limpet mines to ships in the harbour, sank 40,000 tons of shipping and returned

to Australia. Later, in an endeavour to repeat the effort, they were captured at Singapore and, including Major Lyon, were beheaded.

With the first defeat of the Japanese at Milne Bay and the outcome of the Coral Sea Battle fought so close to the shores of North Queensland, the tide which had threatened Australia began to turn and an endless stream of ships flowed through Grafton Passage in the Barrier Reef, taking tens of thousands of troops from Queensland where they had trained for the beginning of the great offensive which was now at hand. From the North also went the planes in increasing numbers as more and more airfields came into being in New Guinea.

The final victory, which culminated in the surrender at Tokio, had been hastened by the use of nuclear weapons, which, since the conclusion of World War II have posed grave problems and revolutionised ideas of defence amongst the nations of the world.

In addition to the age-old race between what we are now pleased to call conventional weapons and the counter measures against them—and the cold war—we have the measure and counter-measure of the nuclear threat.

Whilst we have in the past relied on having time to organise our forces and have had a reputation for losing every battle but the last, it is possible that next time the first battle could be the last.

New Guinea is still of vital importance to Queensland and, of course, to Australia: Certain claims—which are termed “traditional” claims—are being made to West New Guinea and have received favourable comment from Russia.

Queensland throughout her existence has been vitally interested in defence, though no longer is it possible for a small colony, state or country, to bear the full burden of the stupendous defence costs of to-day.

Nevertheless, there is little doubt that, as in the first 100 years, Queensland will stoutly bear her full share of defence in the future.