

THE LIGHTNING FLASH

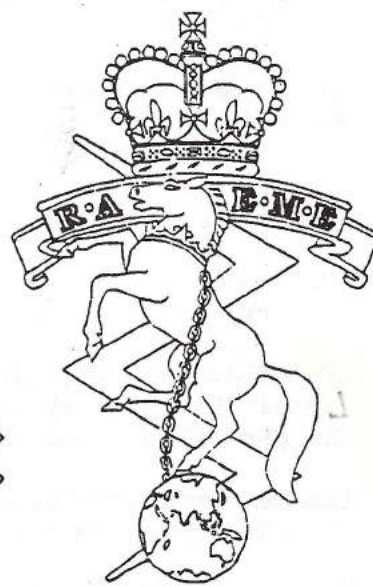
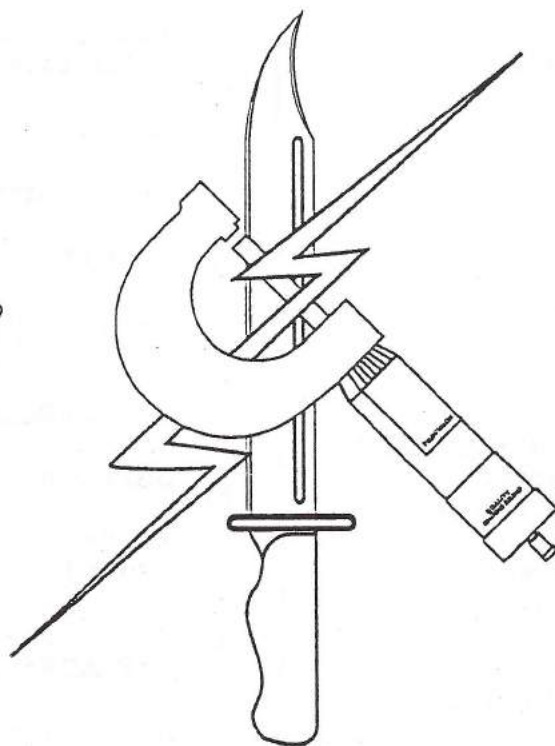
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PATRON Brig C Ermert ARMIT Msc FIEAust FAIM CPEng

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Pres Col John Lee RFD ED (Ret'd)

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Mulgrave 3170



SOLDIER
and
CRAFTSMAN

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Official Publication of the RAEME Association (Victoria) Incorporation

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SPECIAL NOTICE

RAEME Association.
(VIC) Incorporated

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OAKLEIGH BARRACKS
North Road,
OAKLEIGH SOUTH

RAEME COLONELS COMMANDANT

Corps of the Australian Army are entitled to have appointed Colonels Commandant and Representative Colonels Commandant to assist in an honorary capacity in the domestic matters of that Corps. The title of Colonel Commandant is generally adopted by a Corps in accordance with tradition. When a Corps has more than one Colonel Commandant, one of them will be appointed Representative Colonel Commandant to assist the head of Corps in the co-ordination of the Colonel Commandants of their Corps.

RAEME is authorised to appoint six Colonels Commandant. These include the Colonel Commandant 1MD, 2MD, 3MD, 4MD, 5MD, and 6MD. The Representative Colonel Commandant is appointed from one of these. A Colonel Commandant is appointed for a four-year-term, and Representative Colonel Commandant for a two-year-term. Both these terms may be extended.

Functions

The functions of the Honorary Colonel Commandant broadly concerns giving advice and assistance, as sought by Commanding Officers or Superior Commanders and Staff, or the DGEME, on matters such as:

- fostering Esprit-de-Corps in RAEME,
- general welfare of the Corps,
- maintenance of interest in the Corps by the Civil Community, and
- memorials and customs.

They contribute directly to Corps morale by visiting RAEME units in their Military Districts.

The function of the Representative Colonel Commandant is to offer advice on such matters as are referred to him by the DGEME. These include:

- controlling or advising on the administration of the Corps Fund.

- liaison between the Corps and

He also acts on behalf of the DGEME on such matters as the purchase of Corps initial and reciprocal presentations, and he chairs the RAEME Corps Committee Conferences.

Our Colonel Commandant is:-

Biographical Details



Brigadier Conrad Emert appointed Col Comdt 3MD/6MD on 24 Jan 1991. Graduated from RMC as a Lt in Dec 62. Completed a Assoc Electronic Engineering at RMIT on Full Time Duty. Served with 3 Base Wksp, 101 Wksp in 66, off to Vietnam, ADE, RAEME Trg Centre as Maj OC Elec Wing, went to Shrivenham in UK, with a Secondment to UK Defence on RAPIER Project, OC Perth Wksp Coy, CDEME 1 Div 67, DS Aust Staff College 88 - the first and still the only RAEME DS of that College, EME DIV HQLC 81, OC CARO, Col Log of 3MD, Director Tech Services, then promoted to Brigadier as DGEME.

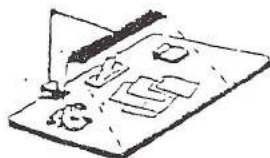
Other Colonel Commandants are:-

- 1MD - Colonel T.B. Schoeffler,
- 2MD - Brigadier R.S. Amos RFD.ED.RL.
- 4MD/7MD - Colonel J.W. Wilson
- 5MD - (To be Advised)

Col P. Tremain completed his appointment as Colonel Commandant 3/MD/6MD on 23 Jan 91. Fortunately he has agreed to continue to serve the Corps as Chairman of the Museum Board of Trustees.

Note: Because our State President

STATE SECRETARY'S CORNER



Hi! Well, what a very busy time my area of responsibility has had over the past few months.

RAEME ASSOCIATION (NSW)

You will be interested to know that we have been in touch with the RAEME Association in (NSW), and had a very productive meeting with them during the 50th Birthday Weekend at Bandiana in Nov '92. More on the Birthday Weekend shortly.

NEW MEMBERS INTRODUCTION NIGHT

In the Sept Issue of "MUFTI", an advertisement for new members appeared and from that, 22 new members were received. We then held a New Members' Night where 12 of those new members were personally welcomed by John Lee, plus a number of our Committee. Those members, and their wives, who attended that night, thought the idea of this form of Introduction was of great benefit to them in understanding what the Association stood for and what benefits they could be entitled to by being part of the Association. A light supper was supplied, on completion, and all went home smiling. I am confident we will see them all return for our Re-Union in Apr '93.

RAEME PLAQUE - OAKLEIGH BARRACKS

For those who are not aware, we were invited to supply and have mounted a RAEME Plaque in the Oakleigh Barracks. This was done at a Combined Memorial Service on 11th Nov '92, (Remembrance Day) where our Plaque and others from Engineers were mounted.

A number of members, including Life Members were in attendance and our Wreath was placed by our Life Member, Harold Chamberlain. Harold was very proud at the time of laying the Wreath at the base of our Plaque.

The only disappointing aspect of this day was that no serving RAEME personnel were in attendance. Our friends, the Royal Australian

and our thanks to the RSM Engineers, Oakleigh Barracks for his organisation of the day.

50th RAEME BIRTHDAY

Well, what a weekend. I am sure the 20 or more Victorian members who attended, not only were proud to be there, but in fact I know each and everyone had a wonderful time.

This could be contributed to RAEME and their organisation of the day, and to our Bus Company Chris's who's driver bent over backwards to help us and to see that, apart from our RAEME commitments, the rest of our time was also just as enjoyable.

You will read more about this later in the Issue. However, to those who could not be bothered to join us on this important weekend, **"You missed a milestone in life"**. Well done to Max Moore and our Social Committee. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our oldest RAEME member, Tom Mooney, on representing our Corps as their Special Guest during the Birthday celebrations. **Tom is a very young 92.** During the 3 day celebration period at Bandiana, he was chaperoned, escorted and treated like Royalty. Tom attended the Birthday Officers' Formal Dinner, the Parade, Church Parade, and is still on cloud nine as to the treatment he received from RAEME. On his return to Melbourne, he was invited to 105 Fd Wksp Craftsman's Dinner as their Special Guest also. Tom will have plenty to talk about at the Re-Union I'll bet.

50th BIRTHDAY PARADE VIDEO

A video covering the full Birthday Parade will be available for sale early this year.

50th BIRTHDAY CORPS BOOK

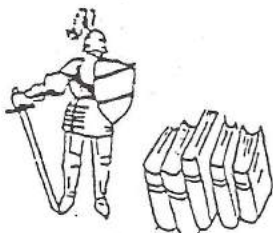
"**CRAFTSMAN OF RAEME**" is also now available, order through me. Also I have a current Price List and details of products available from the RAEME Corps Shop, Bandiana.

CORRESPONDENCE

Briefly, I have had correspondence from our Sister Association in S.A., W.A., Qls, NSW, plus WO's & Senr NCO's Association and RAEME Vietnam Association about our Newsletter **THE 'LIGHTNING FLASH'**.

See you on 24th Apr '93 at our Re-Union Night.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE's REPORT



As Chairman of our Historical Committee, I am seeking the help of all members who may have in their possession snippings, photographs, Unit Parade Cards, reminiscences of their old ARes units that would be helpful in compiling a History of the RAEME ARes units in Victoria - History of RAEME ARes Trg Depots and of unit personalities.

Material can be posted to:

The Chairman
RAEME Association (VIC) Incorp.
C/- 13 Erica Avenue,
GLEN IRIS VIC 3146

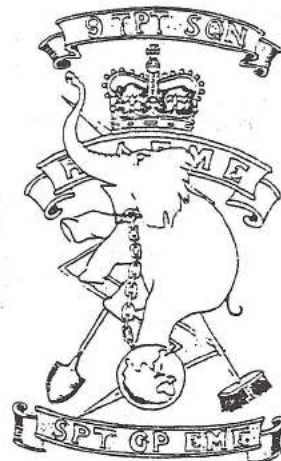
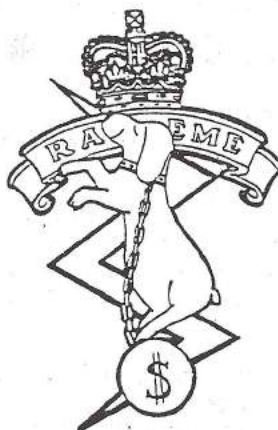
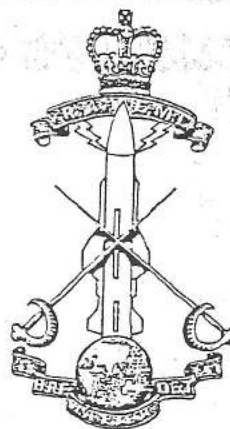
Do You Remember? . . .

Let's take a wander down memory lane for a moment.

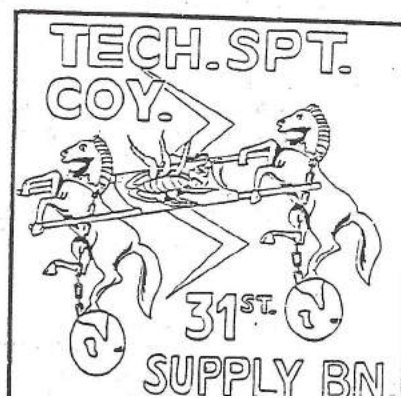
Over the years of your service with different RAEME units, how many of you remember how units use to take licence with our Corps Hat Badge and devise variations of unit identification which incorporated the horse or superimposed other images onto the Lightning Flash?

On your right is illustrated a few that just come to hand that could possible jog your memory. If you can recall any similar designs, it would be much appreciated for the compilation as part of our Corps history.

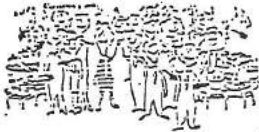
JACK WESTERNHAGEN, CHAIRMAN



SEND IT TO US
THE LIGHTNING FLASH
NEEDS ARTICLES AND
PICTURES



SOCIAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT



Planning Social Functions is relevantly easy to do for any Social Committee to do, ensuring that our members will support and attend these proposed functions is a constant headache and leads to disillusion on the part of any Committee through the apathy and non-committment of that organization's membership.

Your Social Committee has adopted the theme "Let's Get Together and Have Fun". It can only be fun if we have the full co-operation and tireless support of our members by patronising proposed functions as a means of Fund Raising to cover the costs and to be able to financially support our Association.

DANCE CANCELLATION - Due to a total lack of support by members. Maybe the concept fell between the members who are too old and the young members who have never been to a Ball.

Your Association's Social Committee is proposing certain functions to take place in the 1993 Association's Social Calendar which we hope will attract our members to attend - please make a note of these proposed events.

CONFIRMED DATES

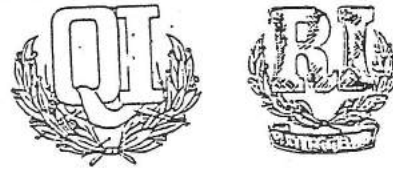
- A. SAT 24th APRIL '93
7.00PM sharp.
ASSOCIATION'S RE-UNION
OAKLEIGH BARRACKS
- B. SUN 25TH APRIL '93
ANZAC DAY AFTER THE MARCH
OAKLEIGH BARRACKS

PROPOSED DATES

- C. SAT 24th JULY '93
CANDLE LIGHT DINNER
OAKLEIGH BARRACKS
- D. SAT 2nd OCT '93
A RETURN TO CHAPEL STREET
TRAINING DEPOT - LUNCHEON
- E. SAT 27th NOV '93
51st RAEME BIRTHDAY
COCKTAIL PARTY

Full details will be made known to you and published in the "FLASH" as soon as Dates and Venues are confirmed - MEANWHILE, KEEP THE

BADGE AWARDED



Experienced Instructors at 1RTB now wear a badge of office following introduction of the Recruit Instructor's Badge (RIB).

The badge was introduced to provide recognition for soldiers who have proven they possess the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to instruct ARA and ARes Recruits.

Based on the Qualified Instructor's Badge, the new badge has the letters "RI" replacing "QI", with the 1RTB incorporated in a scroll.

The RIB is worn by Corporals and Sergeants who have completed a 12 months posting at 1RTB, satisfactorily completed an RISC and 6 months effective service as a 1RTB Instructor, been recommended by their OC and approved by the CI 1RTB for the award.

Historically, the RIB dates back to pre-WW2 when the Australian Army established an Instructional Corps, whose members wore a cloth badge on their right sleeve that proclaimed the wearers as Army Instructors.

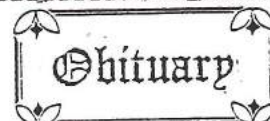
(Extract Army Newspaper, 3 DEC 1992)

Footnote: To the best of my knowledge, there were only two ex-ARA members who, on joining the CMF in the late 1950s at Chapel Street Trg Depot wore the old "QI" badge:-

4/19 PWLH LAD - WO1 Bill Booker (ex - RAEME Trg Centre Bandiana, Trade Instructor), and

106 Inf Wksp - Sgt Jack Westernhagen (ex- 20 NS Trg Bn, Puckapunyal Regt Duty NCO).

JACK WESTERNHAGEN
HISTORICAL COMMITTEE



KOFOED, Bruce on 29 Nov, 1992

We regret to advise all members of the sudden passing of our esteemed colleague and friend.

We extend our deepest sympathy to

RAEME RECOGNITION OF SERVICE CERTIFICATE

(by Maj G. POLKINGHORNE)

In 1980 the RAEME Corps Committee approved the introduction of the RAEME Recognition of Service Certificate (shown opposite). The Certificate is designed to recognise 20 years or more loyal and dedicated service to the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. Both military and civilian personnel are eligible to receive the Certificate.

Award Criteria

Military

ARA - The recipient must be a RAEME officer or soldier who has completed 20 years or more service and who has elected discharge.

ARes - The recipient must be an officer or soldier who has completed a total of 20 years or more efficient service in RAEME and who has elected discharge. Discontinuous service is not to exceed 12 months and recipients must be certified for each year of service. Previous ARA service in RAEME may be aggregated towards the award.

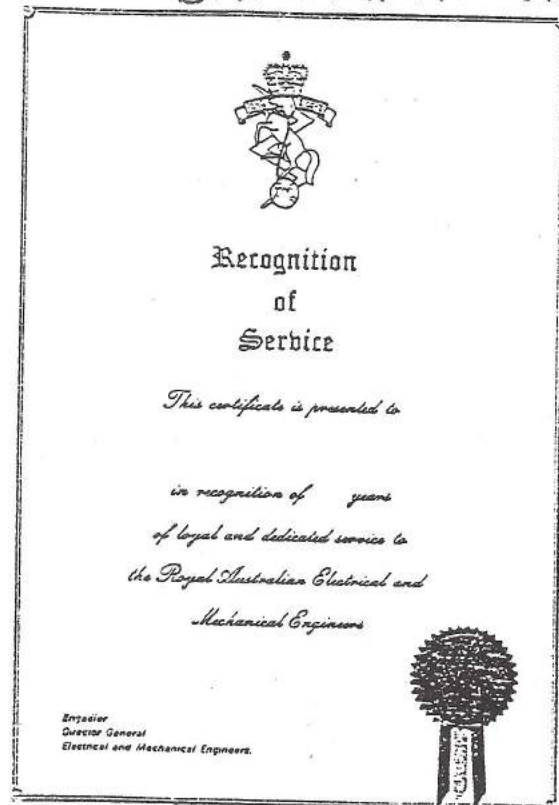
Civilian

The recipient must be a member of the Australian Public Service who is about to retire and:

- (1) has completed at least 20 years service in RAEME units, or
- (2) has served a total of 20 combined years of service as:
 - (a) an officer or soldier in the ARA or Full-Time Duty in the ARA as a member of RAEME; and
 - (b) a member of the Australian Public Service employed in RAEME units.

Eligible Service

Eligible service can also be aggregated in a number of other ways including service with other countries EME Corps equivalent,



former members of WRAAC allotted to RAEME in 1983, personnel transferred to RAEME as a consequence of the 1973 re-organisation and personnel who served with other Australian Armed Services.

Nomination Procedure

To gain a certificate nominations should be in the format shown in Annex A of RAEME Corps Instruction Number 18 - The RAEME Recognition of Service Certificate, Issue 1, Sep 87. Nominations should reach DGEME 40 days prior to the member's date of discharge or retirement.

- * **ARA** - The member's unit should nominate to DGEME.
- * **ARes** - The Senior RAEME Rep with the member's ARA unit should verify eligibility with the ARA Records Cell, Career Management Agency 360 St Kilda Road, Melbourne VIC 3004 then forward details to DGEME.

Military and civilian members who are eligible but have not received a certificate should request issue through the last RAEME unit in which they served or directly to DGEME (for attention:

RAEME Corps Secretary

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The Editor,
THE 'LIGHTNING FLASH'
RAEME Association
(VIC) Incorporation
C/- 128 Alexander Avenue,
Melbourne VIC 3150

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TEAMWORK



It ain't the guns or armament,
Nor the tune the band can play,
But it's close co-operation
That makes us win the day;
It ain't the individual
Nor the Army as a whole,
But the combination of all members



Application for Membership of RAEME Association of Vic Incorp.

I,
(Full Name of Applicant)

of Ph: Home Bus
(Address)

..... desire to become a Member
(Occupation) of the RAEME Association.

Last Serving Unit Service No

Medals and Decorations

In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the
Rules of the Association for the time being in force.

..... /..... /.....
(Signature of Applicant) (Date)

I, a Member of the Association,
(Name) Nominate the Applicant, who is personally known to me, for membership
of the Association.

..... / /
(Signature of Proposer) (Date)

I, a Member of the Association
(Name) Seconded the nomination of the Applicant, who is personally known to me,
for membership of the Association.

..... / /
(Signature of Seconder) (Date)

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