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### A TERRITORIAL SOLDIER IN INDIA 1914-1917

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Some time ago I was fortunate enough to be given a hand-written diary of a Territorial Army soldier who, having been embodied in July 1914 whilst serving in the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, The Wiltshire Regiment, moved with his regiment to India. The diary, entitled 'Doings and Destinations as a soldier 1914-1919', was written by Sergeant B. Cooper of A Company of that battalion. Although it is of no great literary merit, it does give the observations of a typical Territorial Army soldier who had volunteered for active service and found himself, with his regiment, on duty in India, having left his home in a small Wiltshire village. The diary commences with Cooper joining the battalion for what, at that time, would have been a fourteen day annual training camp.

*July 25<sup>th</sup> 1914. On this day, Saturday, began my life as a 'soldier'. We marched from Wilton (Wiltshire) to Sling Plantation (on Salisbury Plain) for our annual camp as 'Territorials' but during that time trouble had broken out between Austria and Serbia and war had been declared.*

The 4<sup>th</sup> Wiltshire Regiment moved from their tented camp on Salisbury Plain to Plymouth but after only four days was ordered to return to Salisbury Plain area and was then accommodated at Durrington Camp. Whilst at Durrington volunteers were called for to convert to 'active service' but very few were willing. However, a few days later:

*everybody began to see the seriousness of the affair and it was no good stopping in England... so volunteers came forward in large numbers.*

The battalion was then placed under orders to proceed to India and moved to West Down South Camp to prepare for embarkation before travelling to Southampton to embark on the *HMT Kenilworth Castle*, which departed on 9 October 1914.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel the Earl of Radnor, TD, and the two Majors on the establishment were Major A Armstrong and Major H.H. Willis, VD, both of whom embarked with the battalion. The vessel then joined a convoy carrying the 1-1<sup>st</sup> Wessex Division to India. There were eleven troopships, five of which had been chartered from the Union Castle line, and an escort of two cruisers, *HMS Bucchante* and *HMS Euralius*, from Southampton to Gibraltar. The escort duty was then taken over by French cruisers for the voyage from Gibraltar to Bombay. The convoy reached Bombay on 9 November 1914 having travelled, according to Cooper's diary, a 'total mileage of 6,167'.

*Marching from the Docks was quite enough for us for the first march in the new climate. On reaching the station we were issued with blankets. The train was of course a long one ... I was lucky and travelled 2<sup>nd</sup> Class.*

The regiment travelled to its destination, Delhi, by the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway, making various stops en route. The author comments on the variety of the terrain through which the train passed and, following a stop at Muttra station, the diary continues with the following entry:

*Muttra – here we had breakfast and at the same time a troop train came in carrying the 13<sup>th</sup> Hussars to Bombay for the Front. They had come from Meerut and gave us a little impression of Delhi and our camp. We were rather upset to think we had to go under canvas and that there were no barracks. The journey was not long now to Delhi and we reached at about 1pm. G & H Coys got out at the town station and were marched to take over the [duties at the] Fort. The remainder of the Batt continued the journey of about 8 miles.*

The battalion was to be based at Kingsway Camp and, on arrival at the de-training station, it was met by the Regimental Band of the Yorkshire Regiment who accompanied the battalion to their new camp. The diary continues:

*We were soon allotted our tents and made the best of it for a good night's rest. The Yorkshire Regt whom we relieved went that night to Rawal Pindi [sic]. It took some time to get our baggage from the station and sorted out. My first impressions of the camp were not at all good. .... As soon as possible the guards – Viceroy's and Quarter – were sent to relieve the 'Yorks'. A Coy found the first Viceroy's Guard under Sgt Bard and B Coy (the) Quarter Guard under Sgt Jones. We were all glad to reach our destination after travelling 35 days.*

*Kingsway Camp is situated on the same ground as the camps of the great Delhi Durbar. Near it are large electric light works which supply [the] greater part of Delhi. The camp is about four miles by road from Delhi, and situated just off the 'Mall'. It is made up of seven lines of Indian E.P. tents, each [line] containing 12 tents. The Officers tents are situated on the West side of the camp and the Regimental Institute on the east. The Parade Ground is in the centre of the camp with the tents for the rifle[s] at one end. The tents are large and, as a rule, contain six or eight men, we were all thankful to get electric light in them. We all thought the tents very comfortable after our small Bell tents in England. Each man has a bed also a kit box which we thought was much better after keeping our clothes in long kit bags.*

*The bed was rather unique – simply the native charpoy – which is made of native rope twined across a wooden frame.... we were issued with hair from cocoa nuts and bed ties (biscuits) to put it in. This made a very comfortable bed and with two more blankets made things quite homely. We all thought ourselves very lucky to get native 'bearers' to come and do all we wanted very cheaply. ...Native barbers would come and shave you before getting out of bed.*

The battalion settled into a routine of training which took place in the area of the Durbar parade ground with the training consisting of drills, mock attacks, and outpost duties. The battalion was issued with shorts which were worn on parade and these caused some discomfort as Sergeant Cooper comments:

*The sun soon made itself felt on our bare knees, and they became very sore, but after a while became brown and hardened.*

The battalion remained at Kingsway Camp from 13 November 1914 until 23 January 1915 and during this time Cooper acted as Guard Commander at the Viceroy's Lodge on a number of occasions. Over the Christmas period there were the usual festivities with the officers and senior non-commissioned officers serving the Christmas dinner to the soldiers, followed by a 'smoking concert' in the evening

and, on Boxing Day, inter-company football matches were played. On 1 January a parade was held in Delhi:

*We all paraded and marched to Delhi. On parade were the 1-4 Wilts, W Battery, RHA, 1-1 Wilts Battery RFA, 2/9 Gurkhas, 11<sup>th</sup> (King Edward's Own) Lancers, and the 30<sup>th</sup> Punjabs [sic].... the whole Brigade marched past the Viceroy.*

*The training now became harder, full kit being worn on all parades which made us very hot and tired. Luckily at this time it came our turn [A Company] to go to the Fort so we escaped some of it. We had several nice route marches around Delhi - and through the town - this enabled us to see a little of Eastern doings - as ordinarily the town is out of bounds. Church parade was held at 9 o'clock every Sunday morning on the Durbar Polo ground - at which the two Batteries of artillery came.*

The journal continued with comments of his impressions of being stationed at Delhi Fort:

*The Fort gave us the first opportunity to see what army barrack life was like and we were all most pleased to be in buildings once more and be able to keep our things a little from the dust of the sandy Kingsway Camp. There are two lines of barracks one for the infantry regiment and the other for the R.G.A. Company - on both sides of the central green or parade ground. Our barracks were in four blocks A, B, C and D and each block is two storied [sic]. The block will hold roughly a hundred men and this gives plenty of room with separate rooms for Sergeants. There are four gates as entrances to the Fort - Lahore Gate, Delhi Gate, Selingarh [sic] Gate and the Water Gate. On entering Lahore Gate there is a bazaar and used a great deal by the soldiers, and the Supply & Transport are on the right hand side..... The soldiers' quarters then lie to the left and on the right we have the married quarters, and wireless and electric power house, Officers Mess & Station Hospital. The Selingarh Bastion is outside the Moat and the railway passes through it. [the line is part of the East India Railway network]. Here are many batteries for defence pointing across the Jumna [River]. The Fort is kept very private and civilians can only enter by showing a pass. The walls around the Fort are very high & thick and built of red sandstone. A very fine view can be obtained across the Jumna from the top of the barracks.*

Sergeant Campbell has given a clear description of the Delhi Fort as it was in early 1915 and in his journal he has drawn a 'rough sketch' of the fort. Following a short period of being accommodated in the barracks in Delhi Fort the company returned to the tented accommodation of Kingsway Camp and he goes on to describe the training undertaken in the camp:

*At this time training was becoming stern & serious. Every parade was done in full marching order with greatcoats, and as it was beginning to get warm we felt it very much. .... (we) had to go on the range and do our annual course of musketry. This was the first opportunity our newly joined men had of showing their use with the rifle. We had about 90 men to fire so it took us about 3 weeks to complete all the practices. Considering we only had the old long rifles [the long barrellled Lee Enfield .303 Rifle] the shooting was very good indeed, beside about a dozen marksmen there were very few below first class shots. At this time we had some very heavy rains and Kingsway Camp was completely flooded out and all the tents fared badly, the water was 'boot level' for days in some places and we had to use our entrenching tools to make trenches for it to find a way off. The Officers tents were as bad as ours and beds & kits were wet through, where the hard rain came through the tents, some of which were none too grand for such weather. The thunder & lightning were terrible - quite an eastern*

*storm During this month the rest of the companies were training for 'Kitchener's test' which was to take place in March.*

The 'Kitchener test' is described as being a five mile cross country run followed by shooting practice at a temporary butt that had been constructed for the competition, with each company providing a team of 25 men to take part in the test. The battalion was then ordered to march from Kingsway Camp, Delhi, to the training area at Tughlakabad Camp, which was located approximately sixteen miles south of Delhi. This took place on Sunday 27 February. The journal continues from that date:

*On Sunday morning Feb 27<sup>th</sup> we were all on the move at 4.30am. All kits were packed and loaded at 6am. The kits simply consisted of a blue rug, 3 blankets with a spare suit and other necessaries just for a few days camp. At 6.30 A & B Coys marched off by the back or Ridge way to Delhi en route for Tughlakabad. We went through some of the worst and dirtiest parts of Delhi passing out of the Kabul Gate. We continued our march along the hot and dusty road passing through the ruins of Old Delhi leaving on our left the old Fort of Ferozashah [Firoz Shah] and the Ashoka Pillar, and the old Delhi Fort. About 4 miles farther we had a halt near the beautiful tomb of Humayan [sic – the correct spelling is Humayun]. The march was now beginning to get tiring and the country all round was flat and uninteresting. After about half an hours halt and refreshments we continued the march. We soon came into a long straight road and we could see for miles in front. After a few more miles men began to get tired & foot sore. However we all managed to get along through a native village and then could see our little tents. Camp was reached and jolly glad we all were. The camp was under large trees by the side of the 'Agra-Delhi Canal Bank', a delightfully quiet spot and a nice change for us all. We only had the small bivouac 160lb tents but we slept quite cosy in them. Sunday saw a good many hobbling with bad blisters but luckily I never suffered with such a thing. On Monday the Coy went out to do some field firing. Tuesday we went again – this time doing collective practices. The ranges were about 3 miles from the camp and consisted of some open and rough ground and as such it made an ideal place for field firing. This two days finished our firing for a time so we packed up and marched back to Kingsway Camp on Wednesday morning. It was a very hot day and the men found it tried them very much. We came back a different way – following the canal until nearly at Humayan's [sic] tomb and a good change it made. All were very pleased to get to Kingsway camp and have a rest. The name of the camp was Batarpur after the village near it. The railway ran along close to the camp and it seemed a shame we couldn't be spared that long march but no doubt it was part of the training...*

The next section of the journal comments on the frequency that men were required to carry out guard and fatigues and it was at this time, which was 3 March 1915, that news reached the battalion that the 5<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry of the Indian Army had mutinied at Singapore on 15 February 1915. (see *Durbar*, Volume 22, No 3, Autumn 2005, pp85-97).

*March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Owing to the camp at Tughlakabad with two companies there and two companies at the Fort it only left half the battalion at Kingsway and out of these four companies one was completing their musketry course. The remaining three had a stiff time in finding the duties and guards for about a week. Men were going on every other day and it made them sick of guards and of course they had little sleep. At the same time the Singapore Riots occurred [this was the mutiny of the 5<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry on 15 February 1915] and thinking that something akin may occur in India all troops were made to 'stand to'. All guards had a waiting guard at camp and in case [of] the alarm going these were at once to go and strengthen the ones already on guard. However thankful to say nothing happened, but all were on the alert.*

To be continued in Vol. 23, No 2, with the description of guard duties at the Imperial Secretariat, service at Simla, the Changlagali School of musketry, the return to the Delhi area and service at Chaubattia. The journal was made available to me by the late Mr and Mrs R Pride of Child Okeford, Dorset.

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## SILLADAR & GRANTEE CAMEL CORPS OF THE INDIAN ARMY

Sushil Talwar

Constant warfare in the mountainous regions of Scinde (Sind or Sindh) demanded that the troops be in such a state of readiness so that they could be launched into operations at very short notice. Movement of such large forces in short spans of time depended entirely on the Commissariat's ability quickly to hire very large numbers of animals (camels) and their drivers (sarwans) for temporary engagement. They not only needed to hire them, but also had to maintain this huge 'force'. The Afghan war of 1838 had revealed that, though the Commissariat Department was able to raise the requisite number of camels and sarwans, they were unable to keep them alive and working on the campaign trail. Unarmed and untrained, the sarwans were very easy targets for the Afghans. Losing sarwans also meant that the supply trains were affected. Unable to bear the hardships of battle, many sarwans deserted and those who remained were reportedly indifferent to the well-being of their camels. It was also noticed that the camels were usually underfed, in poor health and very often overloaded.

Sir Charles Napier saw this drawback and decided to set things right by the formation of a Camel Baggage Corps. What Napier had in mind was a Corps of regularly enlisted, trained and armed camel drivers dressed in different uniforms and functioning under officers and NCOs drawn from the regular army.

It was expected that such a body of trained soldier-drivers would look after their camels well, ably defend themselves in action and desist from desertion and pilferage. It was also expected that the Corps would have the same number of camels on its establishment as the Commissariat held on its strength during peace. These Corps would act as the nucleus around which the temporarily hired animal transport would be organised in war. This valuable proposal remained in limbo as the East India Company was not inclined to incur any additional expenditure, especially towards a Camel Corps. But as another campaign in Scinde seemed imminent, the establishment of a Corps called the Scinde Camel Baggage Corps was sanctioned in December 1845.

When raised, the Corps consisted of 1,800 enlisted men with the same number of camels. The NCOs were drawn partly from the Commissariats while Jemadars and Daffadars of camels were partly transferred from the line regiments. The status of the men of this Corps was exactly the same as of the men in the fighting arms. The Corps was divided into three divisions, each with a distinctive dress and colour. Each division comprised of three companies.

The Corps is reputed to have done commendable work in the Sikh Wars and also during the march of the Bombay troops, in 1848-49, from Karachi to Multan and then on to Peshawar.

Though generally everyone agreed on the efficiency of the Corps, the consensus opinion as voiced by Captain P Shaw, Assistant Commissary General, Bombay Commissariat Department was:

“.....the same or a greater result, commensurate with expense, would have been obtained under the same commanding officer ..... had it simply existed as an extensive permanent (civil) establishment divested of its half-military character.”

For some reason the feedback that the HEIC received from its various sources echoed the same view and this led to orders being given for the disbandment of the Corps. The orders were issued in June 1851 and the disbandment was actually completed by sometime in 1852.

It has been understood by all who came later that the significance of the Scinde Camel Baggage Corps was not in what it achieved during its existence but in the fact that it served as model in several later experiments in the organisation and management of army transport.

The treatment received by the Scinde Camel Baggage Corps emerges as an archetypal conflict situation in which forces which want an army to be in the highest state of preparedness at all times, no matter what the cost, were pitted against forces which desired maximum economy even if meant a lower state of preparedness in peace time.

The Tirah Campaign once again very clearly demonstrated that it was not enough to have a small standing reserve of animals in peacetime. There was a need to have an efficient organisation for expanding this reserve which could hire quickly the large number of animals during outbreak of war and then manage those large numbers of animals. Consequently, in 1900-1901, animal transport units called ‘Corps’ and ‘Cadres’ were raised in respect of camels and mules. The Corps were maintained at full strength of animals, even during peacetime, while the Cadres were maintained as skeleton units, which were expanded on outbreak of war into Corps.

In the beginning eleven Corps and twelve Cadres were raised. Similarly, thirteen Camel Corps, four Camel Cadres, twelve Cart Corps and two Cart Cadres were raised. Sanction was received to maintain 8,000 bullock carts. The Silladar Camel Corps were also raised and they continued to exist even during WWII. Silladar Corps, first raised in 1889, were an example of an interesting organisational structure, which stood the test of time.

The camel drivers in the Silladar Camel Corps themselves owned the camels. The term ‘Silladar’ spelt respect and social standing. A Silladar took care of three camels and at least he owned one of these three camels when he signed up. The cost of the balance of camel(s), the necessary harness and saddlery, as well as the cost of construction of the barracks, was paid by the Government to the Silladar Corps as an interest free loan. This loan was repayable after eight years.

A Silladar was on regular service for three months in a year. He was paid Rs. 9/- per month as salary for this period. For the remaining nine months, he could stay at home and engage in trade, commerce or whatever he desired to do. For this period of nine months he received Rs. 3/- per month.

Since the Silladars depended on their camels for their livelihood they looked after them well. Once the loans were repaid the camels were theirs. They were liable to be called for service at any specified place at ten days’ notice. Replacing the camels that died or got lost was the Silladar’s responsibility. In times of war the salary of the Silladar was raised to Rs. 18/- per month and the Government undertook the responsibility of replacing the camel, which was killed or incapacitated. The Silladar system made full use of the traditional skills, which had been handed down from generation to generation. Men who would eventually become Silladars learnt to tend to the camel from an early age.

In 1903 four Silladar Camel Corps were sent to assist the Expeditionary Force campaigning in Somaliland, where they performed well. Some mule corps were also sent to Somaliland and they, too, performed well. The story of Bhiwa Jayaram in this context is worth mentioning. In the campaign in Somaliland, an Indian member of what had by then been designated the Supply & Transport Corps won a gallantry award for conspicuous gallantry in Jidballi on 10 January 1904. This was the first time in the history of the Corps or that of its forerunner, the Commissariat Department, that someone had won the Indian Order of Merit. Bhiwa Jayaram was wounded in the arm but still retained the control of the panic-stricken mules carrying panniers and dressings for the Field Hospital and also prevented them from stampeding with others. The severe wounds sustained by this man rendered him unfit for service. Bhiwa Jayaram, who had enlisted in 1880, had seen active service in Chitral in 1885, in Chin Lushai in 1887, Samana and Tirah in 1897-98 and finally in Somaliland in 1903-04. Bhiwa was last known to have been employed as a watchman at the Divisional Store Depot at Poona till 1911.

#### FROM A REPORT ON THE SILLADAR CAMEL CORPS 1903<sup>1</sup>

“Up to the present from an experimental point of view, the most interesting result of the campaign has been the "proving" of the silladar corps. Every commission of inquiry that has ever sat on the transport question has always come back to the same fundamental conclusion - that the success of all animal transport, whatever its character, depends in the end on getting the right stamp of man in charge of the animal, and that, in India, at least, was always found the great difficulty. The genuine camel man could not be induced to engage under government as a horsed servant at so many rupees a month. The government camel corps were consequently manned for the most part by men who neither knew nor, with characteristic nonchalance, cared anything about the camel.

It was a happy inspiration which led to a trial of the ancient silladar system in this department, a system which has obtained in India from the beginning of time; although its adaptation to government service is only of recent date, it may be said to have existed in some form or another in every state of the peninsula. Its character being essentially Indian, it is thoroughly understood by the native. The present success of the Indian camel may, in great measure, be ascribed to the direct interest the attendant has in the welfare of his camel under the system. Instead of the camel being bought outright, he is hired with his attendant at 9 rupees a month (or when working outside his own country at 18 rupees) for as long as the government may require his services. Each corps is divided into 9 troops, of which during peace time not more than 3 are kept at headquarters, in spells of 3 months on full pay, doing work for both the civil and military departments of government, while the remaining 6 troops are allowed to remain in their own districts doing private work and receiving from government the reduced scale of 3 rupees, except during the hot months when their pay is increased to 5 rupees and they are not allowed to do any work at all. A system of monthly inspections and of fines ensures the camels being kept in proper condition during the period that they are away from headquarters. If the camel falls sick on service the pay of the attendant is reduced from 18 rupees to 6 for so long as the animal is unable to carry its full load, while in the case of death, it is replaced by government, and the Chanda (or cost price) is debited to the attendant in proportion to his responsibility for the casualty.

In addition to the 4 silladar corps proper there is a corps organised on a slightly different system, which was brought out by Major Davies and Captain Alexander. It is composed of

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<sup>1</sup> Report on the Silladar Camel Corps 1903, AHQ.

upwards of 1000 Baluchi camels, hired with their sarwans from hill tribes on the far side of the frontier, and are consequently the property of men, who, although in no sense British subjects, are yet passing to and fro across the frontier at regular seasons to trade in British India.

These corps are really a modification of the enumeration system, which was based on the recommendations of the committees, which sat at Simla and Rawalpindi about the time of the Tirah campaign. By their means, it is hoped, in the event of a large war, to supplement the resources of India proper with an accretion of, say, 40,000 camels organised into 30 corps. The weak point of this as compared with the silladar system is the impossibility of doing more in time of peace than make preliminary agreements with the principal headmen across the frontier, anything in the nature of inspection or retaining fees being out of the question. For the rest, the officer has to depend on the good faith and ability of the Tumadar to fulfil on mobilisation the terms of his agreement by producing the full number of fit camels. The strong points of both systems are, first, that you get a man in charge of the camel (or rasher of every 3 camels, which is the proportion allowed) who has been brought up with the animal from childhood and thoroughly understands his nature - either the owner or the man whom the owner considers capable of looking after his interests. In the second place, the camel man, whether owner or hired attendant has, through the system of fines, a direct interest in keeping his animal fit and working order.

A more novel departure was the formation of the ekka (single horsed carriage with a flat top) trains. The camel carts, on the other hand, have not only justified their existence but have proved, on the whole, the most economical form of transport at present employed. These results are all the more satisfactory, since this is the first occasion on which camels have to any extent been used as draught animals, certainly on active service. The idea originated with Colonel Yielding, who, on his passage through Aden, noticed somewhat similar carts plying the road to the crater. The details were worked out by Captain Foulks, R.A., who is now in charge of a train of 100 more carts on a section between Baurae and Sheikh.

In order to work in seven radically different kinds of transport it was necessary to divide the lines of communication between Berbera and Kirrit into 4 sections.

Berbera to wagon's rest, which is worked by 300 ekkas, 60 buck-wagons, and about 550 Baluchi camels; wagon's rest, up the pass to upper sheikh, with 350 pack mules and 100 Baluchi camels; upper sheikh to Burao, 600 ekkas, 100 camel carts, 200 Baluchis; whilst the last stage, from Burao to Kirrit, is left to the 56<sup>th</sup>. and 57<sup>th</sup>. Silladar corps. The troops south of the advanced base - that is to say at Bohotle, Eil Dat, and adjacent stations are rationed by the 54<sup>th</sup>. Silladar and the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Somali Camel Corps.

Whatever the merits of these different forms of transport, the point to be realised is that in the absence of a light railway, or even a trolley line, the force has to depend entirely on animal transport and mainly on beasts of burden, which is well known to be in the long run the most expensive, extravagant, unrecuperative, and inelastic form of transport in existence."

## THE GRANTEE CAMEL CORPS<sup>2</sup>

In 1904, on the outer fringes of the Burala and Gugera Branches, in the Layallpur district of Punjab, an area of about 84,989 acres was held by the Government Camel Service Grantees who were bound to maintain registered camels (for government transportation) as a precondition of their tenure. These grantees were drawn from 33 Baluch jhoks (settlements formed by camel-owing graziers) who were settled in the areas being irrigated by the Burala and Gugera Branches of the Canal. Nineteen of the jhoks comprised of pure Baluch tribes (14 Jatoi, 4 Kurai and 1 Rind), the remaining 14 belonging to tribes of Jats who had acquired the name of Baluch because of their trade as camel breeders and not due to their descent. Being nomads at the Bar, many of those who received land on camel-service terms would have also ordinarily been able to get the land at the scale of half a square\* for each male child living at the time of the allotment of the land. (\* each square = 27.2 acres)

In order to compensate the Baluch tribes, the initial grant was fixed at one square for every camel registered by any grantee who would otherwise have been eligible for grant of land being a Bar nomad. For every additional camel, the eligibility was half a square a condition that was only valid for the Baluchis. It was well understood and acknowledged that it would be impossible to the maintain service conditions if the land grants were to be sub-divided on succession. Consequently, the Deputy Commissioner, in the event of the death of a grantee, was empowered to select one or more heirs on whose names the grant would continue. A grantee was expected to move and permanently settle on the estate allotted to him within six months from the date of allotment of the grant. Further, within a reasonable span of time, the grantee had to plant twice the number of trees as the acres in his estate and maintain them in good condition.

The Lambardars<sup>3</sup> of the Camel Service Estates were called ‘Camel Chowdhari’, and were bound to perform all the duties of a lambardar, as well as being responsible to ensure adherence of service conditions by the camel-service grantees in their estates. All cases of death or sickness amongst the registered camels and sarwans on the estate were to be reported by the camel-chowdhari. The most onerous duty of any camel-chowdhari was to ensure the supply of any shortfall in the number of camels or attendants caused by the fault of the grantee under their supervision. Most of the chowdharis did not provide the camels on a regular basis themselves but were usually camel-service tenants and those who were not would ultimately be so. Throughout the existence of the grantee camel-service, it was an unwritten rule that young males would be preferred as camel-service grantees so that issues of succession were postponed for a longer span of time. Consequently, some chowdharis did not hold service grants but their sons did do so in the long run. The chowdharis were entitled to one square for every ten squares held by the camel owing tenants under their supervision, subject to a maximum of three squares per chowdhari; usually there was only one chowdhari per Camel Service Estate. According to the camel-service conditions, summons, whether in writing or by word of mouth communicated by or through a chowdhari, was deemed as an authorised notice for active service. The grantees, when called out for active service, provided at their own cost an efficient pack-saddle and loading ropes for each registered camel.

In 1904, the total number of camels the grantees were required to provide when called upon to do so was 3,630.

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<sup>2</sup> See also Cliff Parrett’s article “The Grantee Camel Corps in World War 1”, *Durbar* Vol. 21, No.2, Summer 2004, pp52-56.

<sup>3</sup> Lambardars were appointed by the Colonization Officer and received five per cent of the land revenue and three per cent of the occupier’s rate, for satisfactory demand and performance of other duties. There were usually two lambardars in each village.

The Colonisation Officer himself selected the grantees and had the power to confiscate the estate and/or fine the grantee when service conditions were not satisfactorily fulfilled. The Registration Officer, head-quartered at Layallpur, passed and registered all the camels, enlisted sarwans and, in addition, inspected the camels. Only male camels aged between 6 and 14 years were registered and on reaching the latter age were cast away. The average girth measure of a camel was 7 feet 9 inches and most could carry more than five maunds, which was the weight they were required to carry when on service. The first Registration Officer, upon the inception of the Grantee Camel Corps in 1900, was Captain H.A.P. Lindsay of the S&T Corps.

In 1904, there were three whole Grantee Camel Corps, the 59<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> and 61<sup>st</sup> which were headquartered at Burala, Kanjuani and Sunari respectively. Each corps was in the charge of a Ressaïdar, assisted by a Daffadar, a Salutri (in-charge of the veterinary establishment), and a Clerk. Each of the corps were divided into 8 troops, 4 of 123 and 4 of 120 camels each, with a depot of 96 camels, totalling 1,068 in all. In addition to these three complete corps, there was one incomplete corps with 426 camels. This corps was to be completed by further allotments during the future expansions of the Gugera Branch, provided the expansions themselves were sanctioned.

In 1901, the 60<sup>th</sup> Grantee Camel Corps was sent to the Mahsud Blockade, while in 1902, the 59<sup>th</sup> GCC went to Delhi to assist in the duties preceding the Durbar of 1903, and reportedly, both acquitted themselves creditably. The corps was called out for training for 15 days in a year and on all these occasions special commandants and native officers were attached to each of the corps as the regular establishment remained at the depots.

Sometime in 1905, the number of camels in each of the corps was reduced from 1,068 to 972, with the remaining camels being formed into a half-corps with 482 camels and a depot troop of 262 camels common to all the grantee corps.

The Baluch tribes were reputed to have tried every possible excuse to avoid meeting the camel-service conditions but when enforced properly they performed satisfactorily. A fair majority of the grantees did not indulge in cultivation of land, partly because of the tribesmen being habitually lazy and partly because the money from the camel-service was good and they could now afford tenants who cultivated the land for them.

The service conditions were good, the camels never over worked, the number of defaulters negligible - overall the system worked satisfactorily.

THE LIST OF THE CORPS AND THEIR COMPOSITION AS IN 1904

Corps	Tribe	Name of Jhok	Mauzas on the Gugera Branch
59 <sup>th</sup> Grantee Camel Corps	Jat	Bagiana	365
(Disbanded in 1922)	Jat	Kanduana	368
	Jat	Khichi	420
	Jat	Tur	422, 423, 427, 428
	Jatoi	Sarwarwali	144, 145
	Jatoi	Balakai	146, 147
	Jatoi	Kaliar	352, 459, 580
	Jatoi	Shashu	365
	Jatoi	Killianwala	366
	Jatoi	Rihana	368
	Jatoi	Pauliani	431, 433, 434, 435

	Kurai	Jagatan	362, 363
60 <sup>th</sup> . Grantee Camel Corps (Disbanded in 1921)	Jat	Gharku	391, 393
	Jat	Khaiali	392, 394
	Jat	Topki	410, 416, 419
	Jatoi	Ghumman	407, 408, 409
	Jatoi	Shahra	450
	Jatoi	Jumla	453 to 458
	Jatoi	Mukimana	498, 499, 505
	Kurai	Baryarwala	402, 404, 409
61 <sup>st</sup> . Grantee Camel Corps (Disbanded in 1922)	Jat	Rahwa Ramzan	508
	Jat	Chander Maratte	260, 261, 262
	Jat	Saglan	264
	Jat	Jani Khera	264
	Jat	Mangla	265, 268, 271
	Jatoi	Mukimana	497, 500, 512
	Jatoi	Yara	513, 515
	Kurai	Kurai	510, 511
	Rind	Gadhi	184 to 188, 194
62 <sup>nd</sup> . Grantee Camel Corps (Disbanded in 1921)	Jat	Kaliar	604
	Jatoi	Murad Shah	598, 599
	Jatoi	Karnama	601, 604
	Jatoi & Jat	Amir	595, 597
	Kurai	Jaranwala	592, 595, 596

Reference: “*Footprints and Milestones, A Story of The Army Service Corps*” by Maj. Gen. P.D.K. Kapur, VSM, published by the Director General Supply & Transport, AHQ New Delhi 1990.

## THE INDIAN ARMY POSTAL SERVICE

Trevor Kingsley-Curry

*The following extract, slightly edited, from the final issue of ‘India’s Part in the War’ is an interesting reminder of one of the essential but largely unremarked services which helped to make the soldier’s life a little more tolerable.*

As the wartime channel of communication between the soldier and his home, the Army Postal Service was, from the point of view of morale, one of the most important of the ‘Q’ services. The service came into being only when operations were undertaken, administrative postal staffs being formed and postal units raised as required by the progress of the campaign.

Postal personnel were normally provided by the Civil Post Office, officers and staff of which volunteered for war service. But this source, through no fault of its own, was 'milked' nearly dry of volunteers as early as 1942, and the I.A.P.S. had to turn to the 'open market'. An Army Postal Training School was opened at Ambala. Here recruits were required to undergo military training as well as being trained in postal procedure. By July 1945, a further 255 trainees had passed out of the school, adding to the I.A.P.S. strength of 92 officers, 186 V.C.O.s and 4,310 other ranks.

The service kept pace with the expansion of the Indian Army and provided postal facilities in Europe, Asia and Africa. The Burma operations made heavy demands upon the I.A.P.S. and its 16 Field Post Offices, one L. of C. Postal Unit and personnel for three Army/Corps Postal Units were placed at the disposal of A.L.F.S.E.A. besides sufficient personnel to man a Base Post Office.

From 1942, the Indian Army Postal Service operated a parallel postal service with the Civil Post Office in India. While depending upon civil post offices for the collection and delivery of soldiers' mails from and to civilians, the I.A.P.S. was, for the most part, able to accelerate the carriage of such first class mails by the use of air services operated by the R.A.F. and Indian National Airways.

From 'INDIA'S PART in the SIXTH YEAR of WAR'- published by the Government of India Press under the authority of the War Department, Government of India 1945

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## REBUILDING THE BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY 1857-61

Elizabeth Talbot-Rice

When, some twenty-five years ago at the Indian National Archives in Delhi, I tried to see personnel rolls of the Bengal Native Infantry in the 1860s, my applications were repeatedly ignored. I was then wanting to gauge the effect on recruiting of the transfer of the East India Company's army to the British Government. My interest in the subject was rekindled on seeing an Appendix in *Historical Record of the 'Queen's Own' Madras Sappers and Miners* naming one man who, in 1924, was the fifth generation serving in that regiment; 17 were fourth generation and 75 had both father and grandfather in the unit. In April 1857 83,103 Indian all ranks were serving in the 74 numbered regiments of Bengal Native Infantry, a figure which had varied only very slightly over the previous five years.<sup>4</sup> By February 1859 the regiments, now reduced to 28, had 27,627 Indian all ranks serving.<sup>5</sup> It was to reduce yet further as more units were disbanded, yet by 1865 all rank strength was 52,842.<sup>6</sup> How was this rebirth achieved?

General Order 844 of 13 June 1859 ordered the gradual reduction of the establishment of Bengal Native Infantry regiments to 700 sepoys in 10 companies.<sup>7</sup> However, the GGO which formed the basis of reorganisation of the old Native Army of Bengal was No. 1277 of 8 September 1859.<sup>8</sup> The preamble reads that

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<sup>4</sup> Parliamentary Papers Session 1860 House of Commons Vol. 50 paper 361 and Session 1857-8 Vol. 42 paper 201.

<sup>5</sup> Parliamentary Papers Session 1859 House of Commons Vol. 23 paper xxx.

<sup>6</sup> Budget Estimate 1865-66 L/Mil/17/5/1420

<sup>7</sup> L/Mil/17/2/364

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

‘although by far the larger portion of the Regiments have mutinied against the Government, and have ceased to exist, yet contained, as is well known, several Corps whose loyalty was proof against temptation, fanaticism, and threats, and who had throughout the late disturbances continued at the respective posts; some employed in their ordinary Military duties, and others actively engaged in conflict with the Mutineers and Rebels.’

The infantry regiments which had remained loyal were the 21st, 31st, 73rd Native Infantry and the 66th Goorkha Native Infantry. The Order goes on to praise portions of the ‘heroic Garrison who defended Lucknow’, now formed into the Lucknow Regiment; the 42nd; a few men of the 1st, 7th, 8th, 11th, 12th, 15th, 29th, 30th, 39th, 40th, 46th, 50th, 52nd and 67th Regiments. The actions of these regiments are described in greater detail and then those which had been disarmed are enumerated. Each regiment was considered individually and ‘finally dealt with as each appeared to deserve, some have received back their Arms; others have been disbanded and have dispersed quietly to their homes’ (para 25). The Right Wing of the 4th, the 33rd, 58th and 59th had been rearmed as had the 47th and 65<sup>th</sup> which had been sent to China. Faithful remnants of the 3rd, 36th and 61st are singled out as are ‘the loyal men of the 17th, 37th and 50<sup>th</sup>’ (para 26). The 32nd ‘who gave up their arms with alacrity, at the bidding of their Commanding Officer’ was to be rearmed (pars 42 and 43), as was the 43rd, disarmed ‘not because the Government had any reason to suspect it of disloyalty, but as a precaution’ (paras 45-47) and the 63<sup>rd</sup> ‘disarmed as a precautionary measure, and has behaved in an exemplary manner under the privation’ (para 50). These loyal units would now make up the first twelve regiments of Bengal Native Infantry, albeit retaining all distinctions granted to them in the past.

The army having been relieved of various civil and non-military duties, the strength of each regiment was reduced again, to 600 privates in eight companies, by GGO 400 of 3 May 1861.<sup>9</sup> Clear instructions were laid down as to reductions: those not eligible for transfer to the Pension Establishment were to be discharged with gratuities varying from three months’ pay for men with under three years’ service to 12 months’ pay for those with over eight years’ service.

The same order authorized further disbandment including the 73<sup>rd</sup>, despite the regiment having been praised for its loyalty, and confirmed that four regiments of Sikh Infantry and seven of Punjab Infantry would remain under the order of the Punjab Government whilst forming a part of the Bengal Native Army. The remaining Bengal Infantry, many of the regiments of which had been raised during the Mutiny, were considered in turn; some were to be broken up, some transferred to the police, but the greater part would be renumbered the 13<sup>th</sup> to 48<sup>th</sup> Regiments. Henceforth the orbat would be as below, with the pre-1861 title in brackets:<sup>10</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> (21<sup>st</sup>) Regiment Native Infantry  
2<sup>nd</sup> (31<sup>st</sup>)  
3<sup>rd</sup> (32<sup>nd</sup>)  
4<sup>th</sup> (33<sup>rd</sup>)  
5<sup>th</sup> (42<sup>nd</sup>)  
6<sup>th</sup> (43<sup>rd</sup>)  
7<sup>th</sup> (47<sup>th</sup>)  
8<sup>th</sup> (59<sup>th</sup>)  
9<sup>th</sup> (63<sup>rd</sup>)  
10<sup>th</sup> (65<sup>th</sup>)  
11<sup>th</sup> (66<sup>th</sup>)  
12<sup>th</sup> (70<sup>th</sup>)

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<sup>9</sup> L/Mil/17/2/366

<sup>10</sup> GO No. 400 of 3 May 1861

- 13<sup>th</sup> (Kelat-i-Ghilzie)
- 14<sup>th</sup> (Shekawatee)
- 15<sup>th</sup> (Frozepore)
- 16<sup>th</sup> (Loodianah)
- 17<sup>th</sup> (Sirmoor)
- 18<sup>th</sup> (Kemaoon)

Regiments raised during the Mutiny

- 19<sup>th</sup> (Extra Goorkha)
- 20<sup>th</sup> (Lucknow)
- 21<sup>st</sup> (Loyal Poorbeah)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> (Alipore)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> (7<sup>th</sup> Punjab)
- 24<sup>th</sup> (8<sup>th</sup> Punjab)
- 25<sup>th</sup> (9<sup>th</sup> Punjab)
- 26<sup>th</sup> (11<sup>th</sup> Punjab)
- 27<sup>th</sup> (15<sup>th</sup> Punjab)
- 28<sup>th</sup> (16<sup>th</sup> Punjab)
- 29<sup>th</sup> (17<sup>th</sup> Punjab)
- 30<sup>th</sup> (18<sup>th</sup> Punjab)
- 31<sup>st</sup> (19<sup>th</sup> Punjab)
- 32<sup>nd</sup> (20<sup>th</sup> Punjab)
- 33<sup>rd</sup> (21<sup>st</sup> Punjab)
- 34<sup>th</sup> (22<sup>nd</sup> Punjab)
- 35<sup>th</sup> (23<sup>rd</sup> Punjab)
- 36<sup>th</sup> (24<sup>th</sup> Punjab)
- 37<sup>th</sup> (Allahabad Levy)
- 38<sup>th</sup> (Futtehgurh Levy)
- 39<sup>th</sup> (Mynpoorie Levy)
- 40<sup>th</sup> (Bareilly Levy)
- 41<sup>st</sup> (Meerut Levy)
- 42<sup>nd</sup> (Agra Levy)
- 43<sup>rd</sup> (Allyghur Levy)
- 44<sup>th</sup> (Shahjehanpore Levy)
- 45<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Gwalior)
- 46<sup>th</sup> ((1<sup>st</sup> Assam) Light Infantry)
- 47<sup>th</sup> ((2<sup>nd</sup> Assam) Light Infantry)
- 48<sup>th</sup> ((Sylhet) Light Infantry)

## RECRUITING

Unfortunately none of the regimental histories I have consulted goes into much detail as to how recruits were found. The first part of a report on 'Recruiting in India before and during the war of 1914-18' published by the Army HQ, Delhi, in 1919<sup>11</sup> considers briefly the position before the First World War. Recruiting had been entirely regimental, with little difficulty in raising the numbers required, there being no competition from industry. Ad hoc units would often be disbanded when no longer needed. In the 19<sup>th</sup> Century life service became increasingly the norm; when a man finally retired he bequeathed his place to a son or a nephew. By 1861 many regiments had a waiting list of hopeful recruits.

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<sup>11</sup> L/Mil/17/5/2152, also IOR Neg. 14643

In 1864, the author continued, there were 20 mixed regiments, 16 class company regiments and seven class regiments (Gurkhas and Sikhs), and the balance of recruiting had shifted from the east to the west with the enlistment of Sikhs and the Punjab Frontier Force.

A memorandum submitted by Charles Reid <sup>12</sup> throws rather more light on the subject.<sup>13</sup> In December 1867, when a Major General commanding at Barrackpore, he submitted a paper listing reasons for recruiting difficulties: a) the abolition of caste recruiting since high caste Brahmins and Rajputs ‘undoubtedly the best soldiers’ did not like mixing in with lower castes; b) the introduction, in order to conform with customs in the British Army, of practices which were ‘obnoxious and atrocious’ such as saluting with the left ‘defiled’ hand. He argued that native corps should be kept ‘distinct’ to introduce an esprit de corps – separation into different religions and castes introduced a system of checks and balances which disappear if the classes are intermingled. He also recommended longer postings which would reduce the expenses of the sepoy – three years at a station unless it was unhealthy in which case two years would suffice.

In 1877, every commanding officer was asked to comment on the difficulties or otherwise of obtaining good recruits.<sup>14</sup> Of the Bengal Native Infantry fifteen regiments reported that they had no difficulty (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 32<sup>nd</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup> and 43<sup>rd</sup>). The majority of the remaining commanding officers had found a problem, commenting that men did not seem to be of as good a size and build as twenty years previously (13<sup>th</sup>); that it was difficult to get men of good physique but they improved marvelously after a few months because of good and plentiful food (23<sup>rd</sup>). The CO of the 6<sup>th</sup> preferred to be under strength than to lower medical standards and that of the 4<sup>th</sup> commented that he did not think the army ‘was now as attractive as it was’. Several officers blamed the poor pay, the CO of the 29<sup>th</sup> pointing out that labour, wages and prices had increased on all sides, but not the soldiers’ pay. This was confirmed by a table detailing costs of regimental necessities between 1848 and 1875.<sup>15</sup> The 36<sup>th</sup> reported that it was possible to get good men but this took time whilst the 41<sup>st</sup> bemoaned the fact that whereas previously men had volunteered, now they had to be sought out.

In 1875, 14,157 soldiers of the Bengal Native Infantry had under six years’ service, 7,782 six to nine years, 7,614 ten to fourteen years and there were 26 men each with over 30 years’ service, the latter being the only ones to have served with the EIC.

Neither in the responses of the Commanding Officers nor elsewhere did I find any mention of an effect, either deleterious or advantageous, of the transfer of the army to the British Government, but the break-down of years served indicates that the new regime cannot have been too unpopular.

I would like to thank General Menezes for suggestions he made to clarify various points, and to the Oriental & India Office, British Library, for permission to quote from material in their collection.

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<sup>12</sup> Sir Charles Reid GCB KCB 1819-1901 served at Aliwal and Sobraon and in Burma 1852-3. He commanded the Sirmoor Battalion throughout the Mutiny. Severely wounded at the assault on Delhi.

<sup>13</sup> IOR MSS Eur D625/3b

<sup>14</sup> The organisation of the Native Army, London 1877, Copy of recent correspondence on the subject of the organisation of the Native Army presented to both Houses of Parliament, Appx E (Mss Eur/D625/4)

<sup>15</sup> Ibid Appx. D

REUNITED!

Peter Chapman

Canonisation presents itself to very few of us. I may qualify. The reunification of groups of medals is an offer denied to many of us, witness the lists of people seeking this medal or that in order to do just that.

It is many years ago since I came across Major General Thomas Smith Warden, 4<sup>th</sup> Bombay Native Infantry (of which he was to become Commandant). I bought his two medals – Punjab with the clasp Mooltan (where he was severely wounded) and IGS with clasp Persia. Both medals had an erasure after 4<sup>th</sup>, only the abbreviation Regt being visible.

But Warden, commissioned 1845, Captain 1855, Major 1864, Colonel 1875 and Major General 1877, was also due another medal; that for the Mutiny when he was 2 i/c the Gujerat Irregular Horse. This last I did not have and filled the gap with a blank, unissued, Mutiny Medal.

The years went by. Then in July 2005 there it was, a no clasp Mutiny with the same erasure. Estimate, incidentally, £350. Capt T S Warden 4<sup>th</sup> Regt.

Now I am a retiree chap. That is to say funds are not as forthcoming as once were you understand....the lady wife. Quite! So I put in my exaggerated bid via my dear friend Chris Dixon of Bridlington who later informed me of stiff bidding and my complete failure. Now, this is where the qualification for canonization comes in.

Simply because you can't do it for yourself does not mean someone else can't. And the object of the exercise is to bring things together. Be magnanimous in defeat I say. I sold up to the successful bidder.

General Warden's medals are as they should be although I do not own any one of them. And we have had a very jolly sort of Christmas. On a serious note, if you can't do it, for goodness sake let someone else do it. All is well. Maybe the General smiles down from the stars.



## DESCRIPTION OF POLICY AND PRACTICE IN THE ISSUE AND NAMING OF CAMPAIGN STARS AND MEDALS, AND COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS, AWARDED TO THE INDIAN FORCES FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1939 TO AUGUST 1947

Cliff Parrett

### INTRODUCTION

#### SCOPE OF AWARDS

The awards encompassed by this study include WW2 [World War Two] stars and medals, the GSM [General Service Medal 1918] with clasps for SE Asia 1945-46 and Palestine 1945-48, and medals given to commemorate Independence in 1947 by the independent governments of India and Pakistan.

#### INDIAN FORCES (PRIOR TO AUGUST 1947)

Included within this broad category are the Indian Army, Indian Navy, Indian Air Force, Indian State Forces, militarised police, frontier scouts, special forces, and volunteer units. Some separate reference will be made to the Burma Army, the forces of the Kingdom of Nepal, and the Brigade of Gurkhas. The term Dominion of India Forces will be used to distinguish between [British] Indian Armed Forces and those of the Dominion of India as it was between 8th August 1947 and 1st January 1948 [before it declared itself a Republic].

#### ELIGIBILITY

Broadly speaking, all officers and other ranks of the Indian Forces were eligible to qualify for WW2 stars and medals, for the GSM, and for one or other of the two Independence medals. The forces of those Princely States in India that had not acceded to the Dominion by 1st January 1948 did not qualify for the Indian Independence medal.<sup>1</sup> There were no other significant exceptions.

#### QUALIFYING SERVICE

The rules regarding qualification, which were clearly considered with great care, appear to be eminently rational and fair. But the application of the rules across a lengthy period of service, or to a less conventional wartime career, could produce some unusual outcomes in terms of medal entitlements. For example, on account of the relatively short qualifying periods for area campaign stars, it was by no means unusual for a medal group arising from extensive WW2 service to include several campaign stars but not the Defence Medal [nor, alternatively, the India Service Medal] which required a minimum qualifying service period measured in months rather than days.

However, this article seeks to address the more usual application of the rules rather than the exceptional cases. In order to avoid a surfeit of irrelevant detail, there will be no reference to the many qualifying areas in which Indian Forces did not generally serve, such as France, Germany, New Guinea, and so on.<sup>2</sup> However, qualifying service of particular relevance to the Indian Armed Forces will be examined in some detail. This is the first objective of this article.

#### ADMINISTRATION AND DISTRIBUTION

The administration of claims and the physical supply of insignia would have been a difficult task at the best of times. That it took place during the traumatic period that followed Independence and Partition made it doubly difficult to achieve a reasonably efficient outcome. For some time, everything went according to plan. But there came a point when delays and breakdowns in

administration caused the system to falter. The second objective of this article is to measure how these problems affected the actual distribution of medals.

#### OFFICIAL NAMING OF STARS AND MEDALS

With considerations of economy in mind, the United Kingdom authorities decided that all WW2 stars and medals would be manufactured in base metals. Within the rules laid down by H. M. the King in regard to eligibility and qualification, responsibility for the supply and distribution of stars and medals was left to individual governments, as also was the decision in regard to naming. In South Africa, Rhodesia and Australia, the authorities adopted the policy that stars and medals issued to their citizens would be individually impressed with the recipients' name and other relevant details. The U.K. government decided, presumably for reasons of economy as well as administrative convenience, against naming any of the stars or medals. Some issuing countries followed the U.K. lead – including Pakistan which had already separated from India by the time that medals were issued. This break with the established tradition of naming war medals hardly helped to enhance the perceived value of WW2 awards, with not a single silver medal amongst them.

There has been some confusion regarding the naming of 1939-1947 period stars and medals issued to Indian Forces personnel who became citizens of newly independent India and Pakistan. The issue is periodically raised but never adequately resolved.<sup>3</sup> Awards to such personnel for service during this period were issued by the governments of India and Pakistan. The situation in regard to Pakistan is clear: WW2 stars and medals, and post-war GSMs were issued unnamed universally, whereas Independence medals were named. By contrast a large proportion, albeit by no means all, the WW2 stars and medals, GSMs and Independence medals issued by the government of post-independence India were officially named. Who decided that the awards should be named, who paid for it, and how was the naming organised? Why were some but not all medals named? Was a universal style of naming adopted, and what information was inscribed on the medal? These are questions that need to be addressed. This is the third, albeit most challenging, objective of this article.

#### SEMI-OFFICIAL NAMING OF STARS AND MEDALS

To appease those U.K. citizens who preferred to have their stars and medals named, a temporary naming service was set up soon after the awards were first issued, using Boots the Chemist's nationwide network of high street shops which arranged for the collection and impressing of applicants' awards. The service was not free, the cost amounting to three [old] pence per letter impressed, and it was only available for a limited period.<sup>4</sup> This arrangement might be considered as semi-official in the sense that it resulted from an initiative of the U.K. government and was conducted under rules established by the issuing authority.

It is very likely that when official naming, in other words naming applied or arranged by the Calcutta Mint, came to a premature end in India, some military units tried to keep the naming service going on their own account. This resulted in a relatively small proportion of medals and stars being impressed in several unconventional and awkward styles.<sup>5</sup> It seems reasonable to describe this type of naming as semi-official, as it was evidently the result of an organised naming initiative, albeit somewhere below GHQ level.

Various examples of privately initiated naming of WW2 stars and medals to both Indian and Pakistani recipients have been recorded.<sup>6</sup> However, it is not the remit of this article to address this type of naming.

## ELIGIBILITY & QUALIFICATION FOR WW2 STARS & MEDALS

### GENERAL CONDITIONS

[i] All officers and other ranks [including women's services] of the Indian Forces were eligible to qualify for WW2 awards.

[ii] The qualifying areas and service periods for specific stars, clasps and medals are summarised in paras. 3 to 11 below. In order to avoid excessive detail, the specification of qualifying areas has been limited to those in which Indian Forces played a significant part.

[iii] Service in operational areas was counted as qualifying service for campaign stars when this was within a War Establishment of a unit or formation in an operational command.

[iv] The service period to qualify for area campaign stars [but not the 1939-45 Star] was entry into an operational land or sea area. Entry was deemed to be the first day [or part thereof] of qualifying service in the operational area for land forces, or one sortie over the operational land or sea area for aircrew, unless otherwise specified.

[v] For the purposes of assessing qualification for stars and medals, 'one month' or multiples thereof were considered to be 30 days or multiples thereof.

[vi] Visits and inspections were not counted as a qualification unless they amounted to 30 days or more, and were specifically approved as such.<sup>7</sup>

[vii] Service qualifying for the 1939-45 Star did not run concurrently with service qualifying for any other stars.<sup>8</sup>

[viii] Service that constituted qualifying service for a campaign star did not qualify for the Defence Medal or the India Service Medal, notwithstanding the fact that a campaign star may not have been earned.<sup>9</sup>

### THE 1939-45 STAR

This star was granted for 180 days' operational service between 3rd September 1939 and 2nd September 1945 on land as part of the establishment in an army operational command in any operational areas qualifying for the Africa, Pacific, Burma, or Italy Stars. Airborne troops qualified for the 1939-45 Star if they took part in an airborne operation against the enemy, subject to the completion of 60 days service in a fully operational unit. In a number of so-called 'special qualifying areas', entry for one day [or part thereof] by land forces and airborne troops, or three landings by aircrew, qualified for the 1939-45 Star. Special qualifying areas in which the Indian Forces served were:

#### *Pacific Theatre*

Hong Kong	8.12.41 - 25.12.41	enemy invasion
Malaya	8.12.41 - 15.2.42	enemy invasion
British Borneo/Brunei/ Sarawak	8.12.41 - 3.4.42	enemy invasion

#### *India*

NW Frontier	3.2.40 - 24.5.40 18.6.41 - 26.8.41	Ahmedzai Wazir Salient Tochi Valley
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	28.7.42 – 18.8.42	Datta Khel
<i>Burma</i>		
Burma	22.2.42 – 15.5.42	enemy invasion
Burma [1 <sup>st</sup> Arakan]	1.12.42 – 31.5.43	including Bengal south and east of Chittagong
Wingate's Force	7.2.43 – 15.7.43	
Special Force	15.2.44 – 27.8.44	Wingate and Letaigne
<i>Middle East</i>		
Iraq	10.4.41 – 31.5.41	
Syria	8.6.41 – 11.7.41	
Persia	25.8.41 – 28.8.41	
<i>Europe</i>		
Sicily	10.7.43 – 17.8.43	

The qualifying sea areas of main relevance to the Indian Forces were:

Indian Ocean south of 15 <sup>0</sup> S and west of 55 <sup>0</sup> E	3.9.39 – 31.5.40
The Pacific Ocean and Indian Ocean [all]	1.6.40 – 9.6.40
Anywhere at sea	10.6.40 – 8.5.45
The Pacific Ocean, including the South China Sea, and the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal	9.5.45 – 2.9.45

Service in India [except the NW Frontier region and parts of Assam and Bengal] and Ceylon was not regarded as having been in an operational area, and so did not qualify for the 1939-45 Star.

#### THE AFRICA STAR

This Star was granted for entry into operational areas in North Africa between 10 June 1940 and 12 May 1943. The qualifying areas in which the Indian Forces served were:

Abyssinia [including the attacks on Moyale, Elwak and Kassala]	10.6.40 – 27.11.41
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	10.6.40 – 27.11.41
Eritrea	10.6.40 – 27.11.41
The Somalilands	10.6.40 – 27.11.41
North Africa from the Suez Canal to the Straits of Gibraltar [troops under Allied Force HQ and ME Command excluding formations not west of the Suez Canal and Red Sea, but including medical units on the East bank of the Suez Canal at Port Fuad, El Shatt and Kantara East between Feb 41 and 12 May 43]	10.6.40 – 27.11.41

#### THE PACIFIC STAR

This star was granted for entry into operational service in the Pacific theatre between 8th December 1941 and 2nd September 1942 inclusive, and also for certain specified service in China, Hong Kong and Malaya. The qualifying land areas in which the Indian Forces served were:

Hong Kong	8.12.41 – 25.12.41
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Malaya	8.12.41 – 15.2.42
British Borneo/Brunei/Sarawak	8.12.41 – 2.9.45

The qualifying sea areas for the award of the Pacific Star were the Pacific Ocean [including the South China Sea] and the Indian Ocean east of a line running due south from Singapore round the south-east coast of Sumatra, through Christmas Island, and southwards along the meridian of 110<sup>0</sup> E.

#### THE BURMA STAR

This star was granted for operational service in the Burma Campaign between 11th December 1941 and the 2nd September 1945, and also for specified service in Hong Kong, Malaya, China and Sumatra. The qualifying land areas were:

Burma	11.12.41 - 02.09.45
Bengal & Assam	01.05.42 - 31.12.43
Bengal & Assam	01.01.44 - 02.09.45 (East of the Brahmaputra and Dihang rivers)

The qualifying sea areas for the award of the Burma Star were the Bay of Bengal, enclosed by a line running from the southern-most point of Ceylon for a distance of 300 miles southwards, thence to a point 300 miles west of the southern-most point of Sumatra and continuing east to the western side of the Sunda Strait. The Malacca Strait is included.

Service in Hong Kong on or after 26th December 1941, or in Malaya on or after 16th February 1942, was a qualification for the Burma Star [and not for the Pacific Star], although personnel from Indian Army units were not present in any numbers, if at all, during these specified periods, or in operations in China or Sumatra.

#### THE ITALY STAR

This star was granted for entry into operational service in Sicily, Italy and Greece from the capture of Pantellaria on 11th June 1943 until 8th May 1945 inclusive. The qualifying land areas in which the Indian Forces served were:

Sicily	11.06.43	17.08.43
Italy	11.06.43	08.05.45
Greece	11.06.43	08.05.45

The qualifying sea areas for the award of the Italy Star were the Mediterranean Command, the Aegean, and Albanian and Cretan waters

The Italy Star was also granted for certain land operations in Sardinia, Corsica, Elba, Yugoslavia, the Aegean and Dodecanese, although Indian Forces were not present in any numbers, if at all, in these operations.

## CAMPAIGN CLASPS

### “8<sup>TH</sup> ARMY” [FOR WEAR ON AFRICA STAR RIBBON]

This clasp was granted for service between 23rd October and 12th May either  
[a] on the posted strength of, or attached for duty to, a formation or unit which appeared on the Order of Battle of the Eighth Army, or  
[b] as a reinforcement in a forward camp in the Eighth Army, or  
[c] with the Eighth Army on duty from a unit or formation not appearing on the Order of Battle, as a guard or escort on convoys or on the staff of hospital trains running to the railhead. <sup>10</sup>

### “BURMA” [FOR WEAR ON PACIFIC STAR RIBBON]

### “PACIFIC” [FOR WEAR ON BURMA STAR RIBBON]

The Pacific Star and Burma Star were alternative awards. Personnel whose service qualified for both the Pacific and the Burma Stars were awarded only the campaign star for which they first qualified. They were however awarded a clasp to show that they rendered service that qualified for the second star. A silver rose emblem, denoting the award of the clasp, is worn on the ribbon of the campaign star awarded when the star itself is not worn.

## THE DEFENCE MEDAL 1939-45

This medal was granted for one years' [360 days] service overseas from or outside the country of residence in a non-operational area during the period 3rd September 1939 to 2nd September 1945 inclusive. Service was reckonable from the date of embarkation, the voyage to the non-operational area counting at its full rate. However, in those non-operational areas which were subject to air attack or closely threatened, the qualification period was reduced to six months [180 days], and transit from port of embarkation to the threatened area was counted at half the actual time of the voyage. The territories classified as non-operational areas subject to air attack or closely threatened, in which the Indian Forces served, were:

### *Mediterranean Area*

Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	3.9.39 – 9.6.40
Egypt	3.9.39 – 9.6.40
	13.5.43 – 8.5.45
Syria & Lebanon	3.9.39 – 7.6.41
	12.7.41 – 8.5.45
Palestine	3.9.39 – 8.5.45
Sinai	3.9.39 – 8.5.45
North Africa	13.5.43 – 8.5.45
Sicily	18.8.43 – 8.5.45

### *Indian Ocean*

Iraq	3.9.39 – 9.4.41
	1.6.41 – 8.5.45

Persia	3.9.39 – 24.8.41
	29.8.41 – 8.5.45
Andaman Islands	3.9.39 – 22.3.42
Nicobar Islands	3.9.39 – 22.3.42
Aden	3.9.39 – 8.5.45
Seychelles	3.9.39 – 8.5.45
Ceylon	3.9.39 – 8.5.45
Maldive Islands	3.9.39 – 8.5.45
Mauritius	3.9.39 – 8.5.45
Rodriguez Islands	3.9.39 – 2.9.45
Cocos/Keeling Islands	3.9.39 – 2.9.45
Bengal and Assam (West of the Brahmaputra)	1.1.44 – 2.9.45

*Pacific Area*

Brunei	3.9.39 – 7.12.41
Hong Kong	3.9.39 – 7.12.41
Malaya	3.9.39 – 7.12.41
Sarawak	3.9.39 – 7.12.41
British North Borneo	3.9.39 – 30.12.41

Personnel of the Indian Forces were not permitted to count service in India for the Defence Medal as such service qualified for the India Service Medal [see below]

THE WAR MEDAL 1939-45

This medal was granted for full time service in the Armed Forces and Merchant Navy during the period 3rd September 1939 to 2nd September 1942 inclusive. The qualification period for the Indian Forces was 28 days' service, wherever rendered. However, the qualifying period of 28 days was waived when a campaign star had been awarded.

THE INDIA SERVICE MEDAL 1939-45

This medal was granted to commemorate three years non-operational service on the authorised establishment of a unit or formation of the Indian Forces, including the Indian Civil Defence Service, in India or elsewhere during the period 3rd September 1939 to 2nd September 1945 inclusive.

Service in non-operational areas other than India, which was in itself insufficient to qualify for the Defence medal, could be aggregated with non-operational service in India to qualify for the India Service Medal. The India Service Medal was not granted to anyone eligible for the Defence Medal.

The personnel eligible to qualify for the India Service medal were

- [a] British officers on the Active List,
- [b] Viceroy's Commissioned officers,
- [c] Regular British other ranks, Indian warrant officers and Indian other ranks of the:
  - Indian Navy,
  - Indian Air Force,
  - Indian Army,
- India Unattached List [permanent cadre only],
- Special Unemployed List.

British officers on the Active List and regular British other ranks in categories [a] and [c] were only eligible if India was officially regarded as their country of residence, or provided their appointments were made prior to 3rd January 1939 and they had arrived in India before that date.

[d] Officers, other ranks and members of the

- Auxiliary Forces [India] [when embodied or attached to the Indian Regular Forces],
- Indian Territorial Forces [when embodied or attached to the Indian Regular Forces],
- Indian State Forces [serving under the Crown],
- Indian Military Nursing Service, Auxiliary Nursing Service [India], Auxiliary Nursing Service [Reserve],
- Women's Auxiliary Corps [India].

[e] Enrolled non-combatants and civilians in Military employ who were uniformed, or enrolled in specified military units/formations, or liable for general service and formed part of the authorised war establishment.

[f] Emergency commissioned officers and British other ranks of either the British or Indian Army who, before being commissioned or enlisted, were resident in India prior to 3rd September 1939 and commissioned or recruited in India <sup>11</sup>

[g] Statutory Indians, including Europeans domiciled in India and Anglo-Indians whose country of residence was India, who rendered service with the British Military Forces or Indian Forces in India, or elsewhere, and who are not eligible for the Defence Medal.

The following personnel, other than those specified as being eligible to qualify in categories [a] to [g] above, were not eligible for the India Service Medal:

[h] All ranks of the United Kingdom Forces in India including those stationed in India before 3rd September 1939

[i] Emergency commissioned officers recruited from the United Kingdom subsequent to 2nd September 1939

[j] British other ranks in the Indian Army recruited from outside India subsequent to 2nd September 1939

#### SPECIAL AWARDS OF WW2 STARS AND MEDALS <sup>12</sup>

[i] Where service qualifying for a particular star or medal had been rewarded with a personal honour or award <sup>13</sup>, or had been brought to an end by death, wounds or other disability due to service <sup>14</sup>, the normal qualifying conditions for such stars and medals were waived. Under these circumstances, either:

- the 1939-45 Star was immediately granted together with the campaign star appropriate to the operational area in which the service had been rendered, or
- the Defence Medal was immediately granted for service in the non-operational area <sup>15</sup>, or
- the India Service Medal was immediately granted for service in India. <sup>16</sup>

[ii] Time spent as a prisoner of war in consequence of capture in operations, and time spent escaping from captivity, counted towards the qualifying period for the 1939-45 Star, and also counted towards the qualifying period for the appropriate area campaign stars *if such service was deemed by the War Office to be similar to operational service against the enemy.*

[iii] The grant of a personal honour or decoration <sup>17</sup> for service in captivity or for escaping did not entitle the recipient to the special award of the 1939-45 Star. However, the recipient was granted the special award of the 1939-45 Star and the appropriate area campaign star *if the service for which the*

*honour or decoration was granted was deemed by the War Office to be similar to operational service against the enemy.*

[iv] Time spent as a POW did not count as qualifying service for the Defence Medal.

#### ELIGIBILITY AND QUALIFICATION FOR THE GSM CLASP "S.E. ASIA 1945-46"<sup>18</sup>

The Pacific Star and 1939-45 War Medal were not granted for service after 2nd September 1945. In view of this cut-off, the Committee on the Grants of Honours, Decorations and Medals concluded that there was a need for the recognition of certain post-war services including specified operations in South East Asia. Consideration was given to the creation of a new General Service Medal but this idea was rejected on the basis that it would come too closely on the heels of the new WW2 stars and medals. The outcome was that approval was given by the King for specified clasps to the existing General Service Medal.

All officers and other ranks [including women's services] of the Indian Forces were eligible to qualify for the GSM S.E. Asia clasp to the General Service Medal.

The qualifying land areas were Java and Sumatra from 3rd September to 30th November 1945 inclusive, and French Indo-China from 3rd September 1945 to 28th January 1946 inclusive. Although the French assume command in Indo-China from 1st January 1946, British and Indian Army troops remained operational under French overall command. On 28th January 1946, Major-General Gracey, GOC 20th Indian Division, handed over command to Brigadier Maunsell, by which time British forces in Indo-China had been largely transferred.

Qualifying army service for the medal and/or clasp was entry [for one day or part thereof] into service in operations in the South East Asia Command.

For aircrew, qualifying service was one operational sortie over the qualifying land areas.

For naval forces, the qualifying service period was 28 days in close support of Army operations in qualifying land areas.<sup>19</sup>

Official visits and inspections in the operational land areas were not counted as a qualification unless they amounted to one week or more.

#### ELIGIBILITY AND QUALIFICATION FOR THE INDIAN INDEPENDENCE MEDAL<sup>20</sup>

In October 1949 it was announced<sup>21</sup> that HM George VI had approved the institution of a medal by the Dominion of India commemorating the constitutional change which resulted in Independence on 15th August 1947. The Indian Independence Medal was granted to *inter alios*:

[i] Indian nationals on the strength of a unit or formation of the Dominion of India's Armed Forces on Independence Day, 15th August 1947;

[ii] Officers and men serving on 15th August 1947 with the Armed Forces of Indian States which had acceded to the Dominion of India by 1st January 1948;

[iii] British officers and other ranks serving with the Dominion of India Armed Forces on 1st January 1948

[iv] British officers and other ranks who proceeded on leave before 1st January 1948 pending retirement, but had volunteered and were serving with the Indian Armed Forces between 15th August 1947 and 1st January 1948.

In the wake of Independence, the Indian Army began to introduce wide-ranging changes to its ceremonial and customs. In this context, it is significant that on 26th January 1950 India took a long constitutional stride away from the past by declaring herself a Sovereign Democratic republic. From this moment, British gallantry awards, decorations and medals were subordinated to the awards of the new Republic. Prefixes such as “royal” and the like were dropped from the titles of regiments and corps, and the Government of India directed that the King’s Colours in the possession of various Indian Army regiments be laid up. The ceremony marking this final act in the separation of Indian forces from the Crown took place at the Military Wing of the Indian National Defence Academy at Dehra Dun on 23rd November 1950.

#### ELIGIBILITY AND QUALIFICATION FOR THE PAKISTAN INDEPENDENCE MEDAL <sup>22</sup>

In December 1951 it was announced that HM George VI had approved the institution of a medal by the Dominion of Pakistan commemorating the constitutional change which resulted in Independence on 15th August 1947. The Pakistan Independence Medal was awarded to *inter alios*:

[i] All those who were on the strength of units or formations of the Indian Armed Forces in Pakistan , India, or any other country on 15th August 1947 who opted for service in Pakistan and subsequently became members of the Armed Forces of Pakistan;

[ii] The Ruling Princes and members of the Bahawalpur States Forces who were continuously serving on full time engagement on the day of the accession of Bahawalpur State to Pakistan;

[iii] Boys [enrolled] of the Royal Indian Navy or Indian Army who were serving on 15th August 1947 in either Pakistan or India and subsequently served in the Armed Forces of Pakistan, provided they were 16 years of age or over on that date;

[iv] British officers and other ranks who on 1st January 1948 were serving in the Armed Forces of Pakistan or India and who volunteered for, and were accepted for, and subsequently served with the Armed Forces of Pakistan;

[v] Full time members of the Police Forces of provinces of Pakistan and the capital of Pakistan, the Frontier Constabulary, the Civil Armed Forces and the East Pakistan Rifles who were serving on 15th August 1947 and subsequently served in those forces in Pakistan.

Following the Partition of India and Pakistan, six of the old Indian Army cavalry regiments and eight infantry regiments were allocated to Pakistan, along with a proportion of Corps units. There appeared to have been relatively less urgency in Pakistan to change unit titles in principle. However, substantial change was necessary to build a self-standing structure for Pakistan’s Armed Forces, and so there were inevitably a lot of changes in titles. Then, in 23rd March 1956, Pakistan ceased to be a Dominion of Great Britain and became an Islamic Republic. As in India, British gallantry awards, decorations and medals were subordinated to the awards of the new Republic, and the names and titles of British royalty were set aside. <sup>23</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Ribbons & Medals*; Capt. H. Taprell Dorling DSO RN; Philip; London 1974.

<sup>2</sup> Conditions applying to the grant of WW2 awards are laid out in full detail in *WO Code No.1911* [June 1948]. This seventy-page pamphlet “is based upon and amplifies for army requirements the qualifying conditions laid down in White Paper Command 6833 and subsequent amendments thereto.” Two subsequent publications are also taken into account, these being *WO Code No.1911-1* [1954] and *WO Code No. 1911-2* [1955] which give all amendments made up to February 1955.

<sup>3</sup> “[An] issue was raised by a collector of Indian medals, who has noticed in dealers’ lists gallantry medals for World War II being offered with unnamed World War II campaign medals, despite the fact, he says, that most Indian medals of this period were issued named. Clearly, in these cases, someone has put the group together at some time, and collectors of these items should beware in case the recipient was not entitled to all the added medals.” *From the Editor’s desk of Medal News*, April 1999.

<sup>4</sup> *The Journal of The Orders & Medals Research Society, Autumn 1979*; Volume 18, No.3, p.210 [letter from M.E.Taylor]

<sup>5</sup> Vide: group of eleven named medals to Subadar Major Ram Singh, Sikh Light Infantry, including

[a] Indian Independence Medal named in conventional impressed Republic of India style;

[b] 1939-45 Star, Burma Stars, War Medal, India Service Medals named in large, unevenly impressed seraph capitals to: 62 CHM RAM SINGH [no unit given] [Sushil Talwar collection]

<sup>6</sup> Vide: group of five named medals including

[a] Pakistan Independence Medal officially named in conventional impressed Republic of Pakistan style to: P-9761 HAV. MOHD ENAYAT, P SIGNALS;

[b] 1939-45 Star, Burma Star, War Medal, India Service Medal unofficially named in very small impressed capitals to: 9761 SIGM MOHD ENAYAT “B” SIGNALS. *Chris Peterson Collection*. See also *Durbar. The Journal of the Indian Military Collectors Society, Spring 1993*; Volume 10, No.1, p.29

<sup>7</sup> Approval was required by the War Office, Admiralty or Air Ministry. Service of less than 30 days could be counted under very special circumstances if it was of unusual importance to, and in the fire zone, of actual operations.

<sup>8</sup> There were two exceptions:

[i] service in ‘special qualifying areas’ in the Pacific, as defined in para.3, qualified for the Pacific Star in addition to the 1939-45 Star [*WO 1911 para.32 [b]*].

[ii] service in ‘special qualifying areas’ in Burma, as defined in para.3, qualified for the Burma Star in addition to the 1939-45 Star [*WO 1911 para.38 [b]*].

<sup>9</sup> *OMRS Summer 1999*, Vol. 38, No. 2, p.122. Article by David Haller [quoting from unidentified document provided by Personnel Management Agency, RAF Innsworth]

<sup>10</sup> *WO 1911 para. 30 [d]* gives full map references for Eighth Army’s rear boundary during the qualifying period.

<sup>11</sup> There is evidence to suggest that such claimants were given the option of choosing between the Defence Medal and the India Service Medal. The latter was often preferred [personal recollection of Major Alan Harfield, Royal Signals Rtd, who was serving in India and Pakistan during the period when claims were made].

<sup>12</sup> Not applicable to the War Medal 1939-45

<sup>13</sup> “Honours or decorations” means a British personal award conferred by HM the King, including Mention in Despatches or King’s Commendation for brave conduct, which had been published in the *London Gazette*. Exceptionally for the India Service Medal, it may have been published in the *London Gazette*, the *Gazette of India*, or the *Burma Gazette*.

<sup>14</sup> The disability must have been of sufficient gravity to cause evacuation beyond a regimental aid post, or in the case of base troops, admission to hospital, or in the case of sea going personnel, discharge to shore. Wounded personnel who were captured and thereby prevented from being evacuated in the normal manner were regarded as qualifying for the appropriate special award.

<sup>15</sup> The conditions applied to the Defence Medal required that service had been brought to an end either due to death specifically from enemy action or by injuries giving entitlement to a wound stripe.

<sup>16</sup> The special award conditions arising from death, wounds or disability did not apply to the India Service Medal.

<sup>17</sup> See note 13 above

<sup>18</sup> Details of the background to the ‘SE Asia 1945-46’ clasp, and of eligibility and qualification, have been taken from *House of Commons White Paper*, Cmd 7035, February 1947

<sup>19</sup> RIN personnel were eligible for the Naval General Service Medal 1918 with clasp ‘SE Asia 1945-46’

<sup>20</sup> Summary of eligibility from *Ribbons & Medals*; H. Taprell Dorling, Seaby, London, 1974 edition, p.181

<sup>20</sup> “*Durbar*” [Journal of the Indian Military Historical Society] Vol.14 No.3 1997. In his article entitled “*Medals Commemorating Independence*”, Tony McClenaghan quotes Army Instruction 13/490 as the authorising order.

<sup>21</sup> Summary of eligibility from “*Durbar*” Vol.14 No.3 “*Medals Commemorating Independence*”, Tony McClenaghan

<sup>22</sup> *Sons of John Company, The Indian and Pakistan Armies 1903 – 1991*; John Gaylor, Spellmount, Tunbridge Wells, 1992; page 298

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OBITUARY

It is with much personal regret that I announce the passing of William F Spengler of Colorado Springs, USA. Bill was an authority on the coins of the Mughal Empire, Afghanistan, Deccan Sultanates, Kashmir and other aspects of India, as well as the Ottoman Empire. He and I shared an interest in the medals of the Indian Princely States and we enjoyed many an interesting meeting in London, Cambridgeshire or Colorado Springs where his knowledge, and his willingness to share that knowledge, helped me greatly in the early days of my own interest in the subject as well as in later years. Bill had served in the US Diplomatic Service and had ended his service in Pakistan, a posting that gave him ample opportunity to develop his knowledge as well as his contacts. In retirement he was a prolific author and renowned speaker as well as devoting time to community interests in Colorado Springs and, of course, to his family.

Tony McClenaghan