

Minute 7

MINUTES

RAAMC History Meeting 12 June 2007

held at 6pm at the

Naval, Military and Air Force Club of South Australia

Attendees:

COL B Perks, COL PD Byrne, COL D Beard, COL AD Summers, COL J Aiello (new member), COL M Jelly, LTCOL S Fletcher (guest)

Apologies:

LTCOL S Kuusk, COL V Andersons, COL T Thomas.

COL Perks welcomed COL Aiello and LTCOL Fletcher to the meeting.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

Were read and accepted

2. Business and actions arising from Minutes

- 2.1 Affiliation with The Army Museum of South Australia – COL Summers reported that she has spoken with COL Burzacott current President of the Army Museum of South Australia who clarified the requirement of an agreement with the museum. The 3rd Forward General Hospital collection is already under the umbrella of AMOSA and therefore a letter to COL Burzacott from COL Perks explaining that we wish to re-activate this collection with a name change and expressing that we understand we will be bound by the regulations and policies of AMOSA will be sufficient. COL Summers tabled a draft letter for COL Perks to send which was accepted by the committee. COL Perks will send the letter to COL Burzacott as soon as possible. The next board meeting for AMOSA in June 25th.

COL Summers also tabled the policies and constitution of AMOSA for the information of our members. COL Perks will pass on to COL Jelly then to COL Aiello before returning to COL Summers.

LTCOL Kuusk will be organising the name change and the sub-account of this group with the AMOSA. COL Perks recognised LTCOL Kuusk's contribution to AMOSA and his wealth of military knowledge and the committee agreed that we are looking forward to his continuing contribution to this history group.

- 2.2 COL Jelly's letter to ex RAAMC personnel was tabled and accepted.
- 2.3 COL Byrne reported that he had a list of WW2 RAAMC senior officers and their next of kin. He will go to the Army Museum to research WW2 junior

officers and then review the list with COL Beard who has much information about their current ability to be interviewed.

- 2.4 COL Jelly reported that he contacted Major Michael Tyquin re copies of his data who told COL Jelly that he no longer has any data from his book and that he has sent all his materiel to the museum at Bandiana. LTCOL Fletcher informed us that if the data was sent recently Major Graham Docksey the curator of the Bandiana museum may be able to retrieve it for us.
- 2.5 COL Jelly reported that he had spoken to Major Lindsay Hembrow re the RAAMC Mess silver. Major Hembrow said that some the Officer's Mess memorabilia had remained with the Medical Company at Warradale and some was now in the Area Officers Mess at Warradale. The Sgt's Mess Memorabilia was now in the all ranks area mess. There also may be some artefacts eg photos at the OR's Vivian Bullwinkle club at 3HSB. The committee felt that it was important to track down all these artefacts and catalogue them and record their location for the future. COL Jelly to do Warradale and COL Aiello to do Keswick.
- 2.6 COL Perks to bring papers provided by COL Byrne at the next meeting.
- 2.7 The liaison with COL Bill Molloy and the NSW history group is now underway and minutes will be sent to this group after approval at meetings. The group agreed that it would be appropriate to extend this to other RAAMC history group in Australia. LTCOL Fletcher reported that there was an ad hoc history group in Western Australia lead by Mick O'Sullivan. COL Perks will contact through the Honorary Colonel network.
- 2.8 Update from LTCOL Kuusk re the Boer War Memorial Committee deferred to the next meeting.
- 2.9 COL Perks reported the question of uniting Health Services Association's was on the Corps Committee agenda. LTCOL Fletcher said that the formalising of unit heritage and association falls under the role of the Head of Corps and this was starting to be addressed.
- 2.10 COL Perks again welcomed COL Judy Aiello as a new member to the group. COL Aiello asked if this group had any terms of reference for her to familiarise herself with. COL Perks explained that this group was formed to identify its role and it is expected that at the end of the first year in October we will have a strategy meeting where we will formulate terms of reference and future directions.
COL Aiello also asked for a telephone and email contact list for this group and COL Perks will send to COL Summers who will distribute to the group.
- 2.11 COL Perks reported that there was some progress on the web site but cost was becoming prohibitive. The Corps Committee was developing strategies to develop a web sit and LTCOL Fletcher would expand on this when he reported to us later in the meeting.

3. New Business

3.1 COL Perks asked LTCOL Shaun Fletcher Deputy Head of Corps to speak to matters pertinent to this committee.

- The RAAMC has a 75% mature website on the Army intranet for serving personnel access only. There is an intention to extrapolate appropriate information to an internet web site but this is only in early development stages. It is not an easy task due to security considerations. The Corps has purchased the website RAAMC.com to be managed at a National level. The intention is to have a reservist at the rank of Major to undertake this task.
- The Corps is proposing to establish a Corps managed site that all medical corps associations can link into and place appropriate information on the site. It will be a site for all Corps members past and present to access easily.
- The biggest issue is identifying all the WW2 personnel as many do not have access to computer technology and some associations are difficult to locate as they are small in numbers and the RSL does not have complete knowledge of all WW2 associations.
- LTCOL Fletcher also spoke of the Museum at Bandiana which had a small display of RAAMC memorabilia from Portsea. Much of the artefacts from Portsea have been stored the whereabouts of them are not known. This impressed upon this group that there wasn't National RAAMC museum now and it would be up to each state to ensure that artefacts were catalogued and recorded for future reference. This needs to be placed in a national computerised data base for future research and artefacts housed in museum like AMOSA under the umbrella of D-Hist Canberra.

3.2 COL Perks deferred 3.1 of the agenda till the next meeting that is the consideration of forming a RAAMC (SA) Trust to hold central command artefacts in perpetuity.

3.3 COL Perks foreshadowed that he expected Capt Jack Nicholson to attend the next meeting to talk about fund-raising

Four members and LTCOL Fletcher attended a very pleasant dinner following the meeting.

4. Next Meeting

Next Meeting 10th July 2007 at Naval Military and Air Force Club with dinner at the club to follow.

Signature of Chair

B Perks

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