

Calibre: .303 inch.  
 Operation: Short recoil with muzzle gas boost  
 Cyclic Rate of Fire: Approximately 500 rounds per minute  
 Feed System: 250 round fabric belt.  
 Cooling: Water.  
 Mounting: Tripod  
 Overall Length: 43 inches (1.092 metres).  
 Barrel Length: 28.4 inches (720 mm approximately).  
 Barrel Rifling & Twist: 6 groove, concentric, right hand twist.  
 Sight Graduations: Tangent aperture rear sight, to 2,900 yards.  
 Weight: Bare - 33 pounds (15 kg approximately).  
 With tripod - 84 pounds (38.2 kg approximately)



HARIM TOK TOK



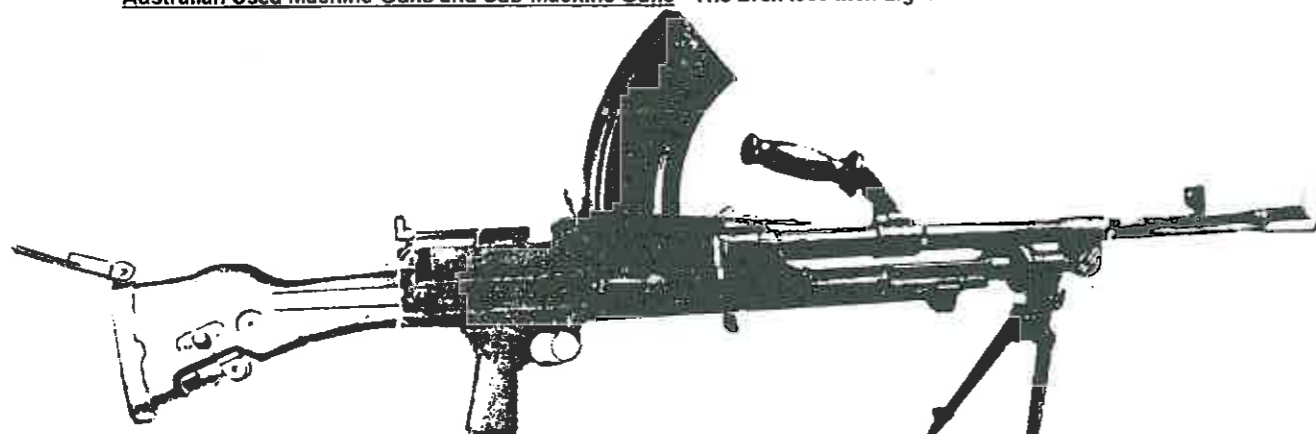
NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW GUINEA VOLUNTEER RIFLES AND PAPUA NEW GUINEA VOLUNTEER RIFLES  
 EX MEMBERS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED.

VOLUME 11

June 1998

ASSOCIATION FUNCTIONS

SPECIAL EDITION



Developed from the 7.92mm Czech Zb, the Bren was introduced into British service in 1938; production at Lithgow was commenced in 1940 with the first guns completed in 1941. The original Mark I gun features special butt fittings and folding shoulder brace, telescopic bipod legs which fold back under the gun when not required, and a drum operated backsight with the sights offset to the left. Features retained in the following Marks are a quick change barrel (by raising the latch on the left hand side), offset foresight and wooden pistol grip.

Some characteristics of the Vickers Mark XXI are:

Calibre: .303 inch.  
 Operation: Gas-piston  
 Cyclic Rate of Fire: 500 rounds per minute  
 Feed System: 30 round magazine or 100 round anti-aircraft drum  
 Cooling: Air  
 Mounting: Hand-held, bipod or tripod.  
 Overall Length: 45.25 inches (1.150 metres).  
 Barrel Length: 25 inches (635 mm approximately).  
 Barrel Rifling & Twist: 6 groove, concentric, right hand twist.  
 Sights: Aperture - drum - to 2,000 yards  
 Weight: 22 pounds 2 ounces (10 kg approximately)

The Australian-made guns may be identified by the "MA" and Lithgow marks on the right of the receiver body and many of the components. Where feeder factories have supplied certain components, they are marked with the town initial followed by "A". Some Mark II components may be fitted on Mark I guns as they were mostly interchangeable; such as the Mark II barrel, bipod, but, carrying handle and piston.

**Method of Operation.** After fitting a filled magazine, the bolt handle on the right side is pulled to the rear to cock the gun and then pushed forward again and locked down (the Mark I has a folding cocking handle). The change lever on the left side has three settings, "A" for automatic, "S" for safe, and "R" for repetition; this should then be set. Upon pulling the trigger and firing the first cartridge, the gas vent near the front of the barrel bleeds off gas to act upon the piston (the usual gas regulator setting is No. 2 and there are four different port sizes) and moves the piston rearwards, acting on the piston post and breech block. These are driven to the rear, extracting and ejecting the fired case. A spring in the butt then returns the mechanism, picking up a fresh cartridge and chambering it.



Mark I Bipod and Barrel - Note Extendable Bipod Legs

Adapted by the Editor "MID" from "100 Years of Australian Service Machine Guns" by I.D.Skennerton, and available from VBHS-B, Inc., shop.

July						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

On the 1 July 1995, NGVR Member Jack Goad, unveiled a plaque in the Shrine of Memories, Anzac Square, in memory of those members of the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles who lost their lives as Prisoners of War whilst en route to Japan from Rabaul.

At 0230 hours on the 1 July 1942 off the Luzon coast in the Philippines, the Japanese naval prison ship, "Montevideo Maru" was sunk by war action with the loss of all 1035 allied and civilian personnel on board. According to Australian and Japanese war records, some 80 members of the NGVR were among those prisoners of war lost.

Each year, former members of the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles, Papua New Guinea Volunteer Rifles and guests honour the memory of those who gave their lives in the defence of Papua New Guinea and Australia.

LEST WE FORGET

WEDNESDAY 1 JULY 1998

N.G.V.R. MEMORIAL SERVICE  
 "Montevideo Maru"

DATE: Wednesday 1 July 1998

TIME: 10.30 am Assemble  
 11.45 am Memorial Service  
 11.15 am Comradeship  
 Old Stock Exchange Hotel  
 131 Edward Street  
 BYO (Buy your own - no function fee)

DRESS: Anzac Day Dress with full medals

Function Co-ordinator: Norm Mundy  
 Ph: 07 5424 1492

MEMBERS & GUESTS MOST WELCOME

NB As part of "Reserve Forces Day" (see next page) there will be a wreath laying ceremony at the Shrine in Anzac Square at 12.00 noon Wednesday 1 July 1998.

Next Issue

\* Anzac Day report

\* Visit to Gallipoli report

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 EVERTON PARK Brisbane Q 4053  
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 E-Mail: pngvr@one.net.au

**A** celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the raising of the Citizens Military Forces/Army Reserve and volunteer service in the Nation's Reserve Forces will take the form of a Parade through the capital cities of each State and the Northern Territory on Wednesday the 1 July 1998 (Brisbane March Sunday 5 July 1998) involving -

- \* Serving Reserve members and past CMF/Reserve members of the RAN, Army and RAAF
- \* Members of the Militia
- \* Regular force members who served in the CMF/Reserve
- \* National Servicemen who completed their 2 years training with the CMF/Reserve.

It will be a public event giving the community an opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge the contribution and value of Reserve service to the Nation.

Brisbane Reserve Forces Day chairman, Lt.Colonel George Hulse (Retd) said that 'although the anniversary commemorates the raising of the CMF, it celebrates the contribution of all servicemen and servicewomen in the Defence of Australia. The history of the CMF is based on the militia. Our militia dates its service to the early 1800's. The RAN, Army and RAAF and National Servicemen will join the parade with uniformed personnel, weapons, vehicles and equipment.'

To honour the fallen, there will be an official wreath laying ceremony at the Shrine, Anzac Square, Brisbane at 12.00 noon Wednesday 1 July 1998. All members are invited to attend this event.

President Colonel Harry Green, MBE., ED., EM (Retd) requests that as many members of our Association as possible make parade and ensure that the NGVR/PNGVR is well and truly represented.

**RESERVE FORCES DAY  
50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE NATION  
1948 - 1998**

**SUNDAY 5 JULY 1998**

**RESERVE FORCES DAY  
50th Anniversary Parade  
Brisbane  
1948 - 1998**

**DATE:** Sunday 5 July 1998 (Brisbane)

**TIME:** Assemble from 0930 Hours  
March Commences 1000 Hours  
(Assemble George Street)

**MARCH FORMAT:**  
Same as for Anzac Day. March proceeds along Adelaide Street with "Eyes Right" at King George Square. March ends in Creek Street. Those members who require "transport" MUST give their names to Col Gould ASAP for the Parade Committee. Further information will be provided by the Parade Committee in June.

**DRESS:** Anzac Day Dress with full Medals preferred or suit/jacket with full medals & head gear.

**RECEPTION:**  
The Organising Committee of Reserve Forces Day has invited all marches to proceed to the Botanical Gardens for refreshments, military displays and band recitals.

**ENQUIRIES:** Col Gould  
Ph: 07 3355 3382 (ah)  
E-Mail: pngvr@one.net.au

**NB:** A Reserve Forces wreath laying ceremony will be held - Anzac Square Wednesday 1 July at 12.00 noon.

**I**n response to members suggestions your Committee proposed to host its first Regimental Mixed Dinner Reunion to enable as many members and their guests as possible to come together for a relaxed and enjoyable evening of NGVR and PNGVR comradeship.

For those members who have not experienced a formal Army dining in night, then this our first such function offers you the opportunity to visit the Victoria Barracks Officers Mess



and participate in an enjoyable evening in a military environment of Mess silver, uniformed staff and formal proceedings

Since our first notice to members the Army has been required to change the way it operates its Messes for external functions. The planning Sub-Committee have spent considerable time in negotiation to obtain the best possible menu and costs. The cost to members will be at the same price levied by the Mess.

Like any function, we must have a minimum number of bookings to proceed. PLEASE SUPPORT THIS FUNCTION. It is open to all members, their family and guests

**PHONE OUR SECRETARY NOW  
Bookings/money by 20 June**

**FRIDAY 10 JULY 1998**

**REGIMENTAL MIXED DINNER  
REUNION**

**DATE:** Friday 10 July 1998

**VENUE:** Officers Mess Victoria Barracks Brisbane.

**TIME:** 1900 Hours Assemble in Foyer  
1930 Hours Dinner

**DRESS:** Mess Dress with miniatures  
Anzac Day Dress with miniatures  
Suit/Jacket with miniatures

**FORMAT:** Formal Mess Dining in program

**COST:** \$35 per person incl 3 course dinner  
Sherry, Port and Table Wines.

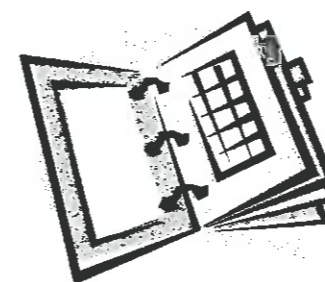
**BOOKINGS:** Essential  
Col Gould  
Payment no later than 20 June  
Cheques: NGVR/PNGVR Association



Ph: 3355 3382 (after hours)  
Fax: 3355 3382  
E-Mail: pngvr@one.net.au

*For your Diary.....*

**1998 FRANGIPANI BALL**



- \* **PROPOSED DATE:** Saturday 19 September 1998
- \* **HOST:** Australia-PNG Society & Qld-PNG Business Assn.
- \* **DRESS:** Mess Dress      Anzac Day Dress      Suit/Jacket

**NGVR/PNGVR 1998 Annual General Meeting  
Date and Venue to be advised.**