

Historical Officers Report From the Pages of the Camden Advertiser

9th May 1940

AIRMEN'S TOWNSHIP

Camden's Quota Set Down at 475 Men Fifty flying instructors, who will be continually in training or undergoing refresher courses, together with a staff numbering 425 will be the full establishment of the Royal Australian Air Force Central Training School now in course of construction at Macquarie Grove, Camden.

The Camden school, which will not be in full operation until July, will be equipped with all types of aircraft in use in the service

The above information was released on Saturday by the Minister for Mr. Fairbairn.

PRESENT A.I.F.

Praised by Camden Diggers

Glowing tributes to the efficiency of the 2nd A.I.F. were paid by a number of speakers at Camden ex-Servicemen's Re-union.

They predicted that the Australian and New Zealand troops in Palestine and those undergoing training in different camps prior to embarkation, would worthily fill the old Diggers and "N.Zed's" places, and uphold the great traditions associated with the name of Anzac.

"We must do our best to help these youngsters, whom, we hoped, would never have to go to war," said the president, Dr. L. B. Heath.

Mr. Rupert Downes, who won the Military Cross for distinguished action in the Great War, said there were no better soldiers in that conflict than those who will serve with the present A.I.F. "They lose nothing by a comparison with the old A.I.F.," added Mr. Roy D. Stuckey, Camden's youngest Digger, who enlisted at the age of 15 years in the last war. Now town clerk at Hunter's Hill, Mr. Stuckey holds the rank of lieutenant in the 18th (Militia) Battalion, which recently completed 90 days' training at Rutherford.

"The Second A.I.F. has inherited the characteristics of the First A.I.F.," said the Mayor of Camden, Alderman H. S. Kelloway

10th May 1940 Germany invades Holland and Belgium

All the News That's
Fit to Print.

The New York Times.

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LATE CITY EDITION
POSTSCRIPT
Fair, not much change in temper-
ture today. Tomorrow cloudy.
Temperature today—Max. 64. Min. 47.

VOL. LXXXIX, No. 80,057. Printed at 60 West Street, New York, N. Y. NEW YORK, FRIDAY, MAY 10, 1940. THREE CENTS NEW YORK CITY | FOUR CENTS Elsewhere Street and Village | 10 Cts. and 50c. Postal Rates

NAZIS INVADE HOLLAND, BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG BY LAND AND AIR; DIKES OPENED; ALLIES RUSH AID



16th May 1940

CAMDEN FLYING SCHOOL

Many Types of 'Planes

Tiger Moths, Wirraways, Avro Anson's, Fairey Battles and other types of planes will be in use at the new Royal Australian Air Force Central Flying School at Macquarie Grove, Camden.

A fall of some 1200ft. in 3 1/4 miles of winding roadway is experienced by motorists in the descent of Burragorang Mountain to the largest sunken valley in Australia. During the past 12 to 15 years Burragorang Valley has steadily increased in popularity as a holiday resort.

THE TWO "ICEBERGS"

At half past six in the early morn, the nippy air they laugh to scorn:
 And plunge in the river clear and cool.
 Down at the Chelleston's swimming pool. Their friends deserted long ago;
 They only swim in the summer's glow:
 But these two Spartans' every day Have their swim in the month of May.
 O yes it makes for robust health. More precious than your money wealth;
 For after the dip a rub brings glow. With a good appetite to breakfast go.
 One of the Icebergs

23rd May 1940

LOST BOMBER PLANE

Was on way to Camden

When this edition went to press, no trace had been found of the Avro-Anson which disappeared with its crew of four lost Thursday while on a flight from Point Cook, Victoria, to the new Central Flying School at Macquarie Grove, Camden.

The missing Anson had flown from Western Australia. It refuelled at Point Cook, and continued its journey with two other machines. Bad weather

forced them to separate, and the missing aircraft was last seen at Yea, Victoria.

The search is being continued by many planes, Bad weather and poor visibility had hampered the searchers since Friday.

On Tuesday two Lockheed-Hudson bombers covered 9,000 square miles without success in an area bounded by Canberra, Burrinjuck, Cootamundra, Yerranderie and Camden. Nineteen other aircraft searched over the wide expanses of New South Wales and Victoria.

The crew of the missing plane comprises: Flying Officer A. A. Daniel, of Western Australia, pilot.

Corporal I. I. Stowder, wireless operator. Corporal F. E. Hyland, fitter. Corporal H. F. Sasi, fitter.

CENTRAL FLYING SCHOOL

Operations Commence at Camden

On Saturday last the Central Flying School officially commenced operations at Macquarie Grove, Camden, an advance party arrived last week and now the instructors' unit, which had been stationed at Point Cook (Victoria) since last September, has moved in. The personnel today numbers about 200 officers and men. The full establishment will be 435, instead of 475 as previously announced in these columns.

The commanding officer of the school is Squadron-Leader E. C. Bates, an Australian on exchange from the Royal Air Force, and formerly attached to the central flying school of the R.A.F. in England. He has been in Australia since last March.

An amazing amount of work has been performed at the "Airmen's City" in the short space of five weeks: Countless hundreds of trees have been removed, depressions filled, hills levelled, roads and footpaths constructed, electricity extended from the township, likewise water and sewerage; and most of the buildings.

The buildings, which will number 70, will include sleeping huts, lecture rooms, two canteens, parachute store, link trainer rooms, messes and kitchens.

Six huge hangars have yet to be built, and the two existing hangars, formerly used by the Macquarie Grove Flying and Gliding School, will be taken over.

The Central Flying School at Camden will be the centre for training flying instructors for duty throughout the Commonwealth, and for the periodical testing of Flying instructors and pupils at all the flying training schools in Australia.

It will also be responsible for flying tests on new types of aircraft, and for standardisation of flying methods and flying instruction on all types.

Here will be trained men who will teach Australia's young manhood to fly. The instructors are being drawn from existing Australian Air Force units and from the ranks of experienced civil pilots who have enlisted since the war.

Each course, which 50 men will undergo at the same time, will last 12 weeks. The newly-qualified instructors will then be allotted to flying training schools throughout the Commonwealth.

26th May Evacuation of Dunkirk



30th May 1940

CAMDEN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Appeal for Recruiting for the A.I.F.

At the request of the General Officer Commanding the Australian Military Forces, Lt.-Col. V. A. H. Sturdee, the Camden Municipal Council has decided to co-operate with the Recruiting Area Officers in permitting the Council's Office organisation to be used in connection with the enlistment of Recruits for the 7th Division of the A.I.F.

Forms, "Application to Enlist for Service in Australian or Abroad," and full details of Terms and Conditions for Enlistment may be had on application to the undersigned. The minimum height for Recruits is 5 feet, and the age limits, rank and file, 20-40 years (45 years if certain prescribed technical qualifications are possessed by the Recruit).

AUSTRALIA NEEDS YOU!

Town Hall, Camden

26/5/1940.

K. B. WILSON,

Town Clerk.

RALLY TO EMPIRE

Patriotic Local Spirit

Aroused by War News

Inspired by the heroic stand of the Allied Forces in France against terrific attack, by the German military machine, the loyal spirit of every local citizen has been aroused. From almost every centre in the local area served by this newspaper, came report of the eager willingness of residents to serve their empire in this anxious time.

We have been unable to complete the list of local men who have this week journeyed to Sydney to enlist. At least six residents in the Rossmore – Bringelly district have enlisted, while a large number of Camden and Campbelltown men have answered the call.

"Orangeville's War Effort" is the wording on a business paper to be discussed at a Parents and Citizens' Association meeting to be held at 8 p.m. on Wednesday next at the Orangeville.

The Women's Voluntary Services will meet at Camden Town Hall at 3 p.m. on this Thursday to consider ways and means of forwarding additional comfort to the A.I.F.

All residents willing to undertake knitting and sewing are asked to attend today's meeting, or to contact Miss E. h. G. Moore, of "Ellensville" Camden. The hospital lecture to V.A.D. members set down for today has been postponed.

A message from a Camden reader suggests that a public farewell should be tendered to every local airman, sailor and soldier, who enlists for service abroad.

Ray Herbert

Historical Officer