

APPENDIX 7

SOME STATISTICS

EMBARKATION FOR SERVICE OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA

It is impossible to give an accurate answer to the question: How many Australian service men and women served outside Australia in the war? Many thousands embarked for oversea service more than once. Many departures by air were not recorded. Some men enlisted more than once. However, Central Army Records Office arrived at an approximate figure by adding to the numbers of "Returned from Active Service" badges issued the numbers of those who died overseas, and making other adjustments.

In this way the following totals were arrived at:

Served outside Australia	
Army . . .	396,661
Navy . . .	37,061
Air Force . . .	124,077
Total . . .	557,799

In the army total allowance has been made for the estimated numbers of those who died in Australia after service overseas and for those discharged for reasons that involved forfeiture of the badge. No such adjustment has been made to the navy and air force totals. On the other hand a number of persons who qualified for the badge by service at Darwin have been included. It is impossible to make any useful estimate of the number of Australians who were serving in British forces when war broke out—there were some 450 aircrew in the R.A.F. alone—or who were in Britain when war began and enlisted there, or who later proceeded to Britain and enlisted. Random perusal of school honour rolls and the like suggests that, in this war as in 1914-18, there may have been several thousands of these, including students, nurses, men gaining oversea experience in professions and trades, tourists, employees of oversea branches of Australian firms and so on.

In 1914-18 the number who embarked for army service overseas, including service in the Australian Flying Corps, was 331,781, among whom were some individuals who embarked more than once. In 1918 the number of Australians in the R.A.N. was 4,225, and some 600 other R.A.N. or R.A.N. Brigade men served at sea.

BATTLE CASUALTIES: AUSTRALIAN SERVICES, WAR OF 1939-45.

Particulars	Royal Australian Navy	Australian Army	Royal Australian Air Force	All Services
WAR AGAINST GERMANY				
Killed—				
Killed in action and missing, presumed dead	900	2,610	5,036	8,546
Died of wounds	3	700	58	761
Died of wounds while prisoner of war		56	9	65
Died of sickness, disease and injury while prisoner of war		95		
Presumed died while prisoner of war		91	14	200
Total killed	903	3,552	5,117	9,572
Prisoners of war escaped, recovered or repatriated	25	6,874	1,020	7,919
Wounded and injured in action (cases)	26	8,925	529	9,480
Total	954	19,351	6,666	26,971

BATTLE CASUALTIES: AUSTRALIAN SERVICES, WAR OF 1939-45.—*continued*

Particulars	Royal Australian Navy	Australian Army	Royal Australian Air Force	All Services
WAR AGAINST JAPAN				
Killed—				
Killed in action and missing, presumed dead	840	6,294	1,140	8,274
Died of wounds	41	1,090	65	1,196
Died of wounds while prisoner of war	116	50 5,336 2,391	138	8,031
Died of sickness, disease and injury while prisoner of war				
Presumed died while prisoner of war				
Total killed	997	15,161	1,343	17,501
Prisoners of war escaped, recovered or repatriated	238	13,872	235	14,345
Wounded and injured in action (cases)	553	13,191	253	13,997
Total	1,788	42,224	1,831	45,843

ALL THEATRES OF WAR

Killed—				
Killed in action and missing, presumed dead	1,740	8,904	6,176	16,820
Died of wounds	44	1,790	123	1,957
Died of wounds while prisoner of war	116	106 5,431 2,482	161	8,296
Died of sickness, disease and injury while prisoner of war				
Presumed died while prisoner of war				
Total killed	1,900	18,713	6,460	27,073
Prisoners of war escaped, recovered or repatriated	263	20,746	1,255	22,264
Wounded and injured in action (cases)	579	22,116	782	23,477
Total	2,742	61,575	8,497	72,814

These tables do not include deaths and illnesses from natural causes. The army casualties do not include 85 Papuan and New Guinea soldiers or members of the Royal Papuan Constabulary killed in action and 201 wounded.

Casualties other than in battle suffered by the army in operational areas were:

Killed, died of injuries etc.	1,165
Wounded, injured etc. (cases)	33,396
Total	34,561

Similar casualties suffered in non-operational areas were:

Killed, died of injuries etc.	2,051
Wounded, injured etc. (cases)	121,800
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Total	123,851

These figures exclude deaths and illnesses from natural causes.

Non-battle casualties suffered by the navy totalled 177 and by the air force 6,271.

The above figures are derived from tables published in the Commonwealth Year Book. The reader interested in the R.A.A.F. figures is referred to the differently organised and dissected tables of casualties published in Appendix 3 of the final volume of the Air Force series of this history.

AUSTRALIAN ARMY CASUALTIES IN THE SOUTH-WEST PACIFIC FROM 1ST JULY 1944 TO THE END OF THE WAR

	Killed in action and died of wounds	Wounded	Died of Illness	Accidentally Killed
New Guinea	489	1,243	76	154
New Britain	48	134	8	35
Solomons	515	1,577	13	53
Borneo	567	1,530	45	69
Elsewhere in S.W.P.A.	69	1	—	1
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Total	1,688	4,485	142	312

GROSS ARMY ENLISTMENTS BY STATES

	Gross enlistments to 29/9/45	Population in 1940 000's	Percentage of enlistments to population
Queensland	104,340	1,029	10.13
New South Wales	276,741	2,801	9.87
Victoria	205,758	1,918	10.72
South Australia	54,660	598	9.14
Western Australia	61,575	468	13.15
Tasmania	22,420	243	9.22
Northern Territory	1,049	8	13.11
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	726,543	7,065	10.28

PHYSIQUE OF RECRUITS

Second Echelon, A.H.Q., examined the records of more than 25,000 men of the army with the object of discovering their average height, weight and chest measurement on enlistment. It found that the averages for men who were 21, for example, on enlistment were: height, 5 feet 7.6 inches; weight, 147 pounds; chest, 36.8 inches. The average height for various age-groups ranged from 5 feet 7 inches to 5 feet 8.4 inches (the latter for a relatively small sampling of men aged 44).

SOME STATISTICS

SOME COMPARATIVE FIGURES OF ARMY STRENGTHS
AND CASUALTIES

1914-1918 WAR WITH 1939-1945 WAR

Casualty	1914-1918 War	1939-1945 War
Gross strength of force on continuous full time war service	416,809	727,703
Total number of personnel who served beyond the mainland of Australia	331,781	396,661
Killed in action and missing presumed dead	39,880	8,904
Died of wounds	13,393	1,790
Died of wounds while prisoner of war	288	106
Died of sickness, disease, and injuries while prisoner of war	109	7,913
Died of gas poisoning	323	—
Total battle casualty deaths	53,993	18,713
Wounded in action	137,013	22,116
Gassed	16,496	—
Shell-shock wounds	1,624	—
Prisoners of war (escaped, recovered or repatriated)	3,647	20,746
Total battle casualties	212,773	61,575
Non-battle casualty deaths from illness and other causes (a)	6,291	6,038
Sick beyond the mainland of Australia	393,155	433,587
Accidental injuries, etc. beyond the mainland of Australia	4,387	33,396
Over-all total of casualties (b)	616,606	534,596
Mortality all causes	60,284	24,751

NOTES:

(a) Includes deaths in Australia: 1914-18—1,431; 1939-45—2,658.

(b) 1914-18 War figures taken from the *Official History of the Australian Army Medical Services 1914-1918*, Vol III, Table Nos. 26 and 27.

Compiled at Central Army Records Office, MELBOURNE.