



The Unit Guide

The Australian Army 1939 - 1945

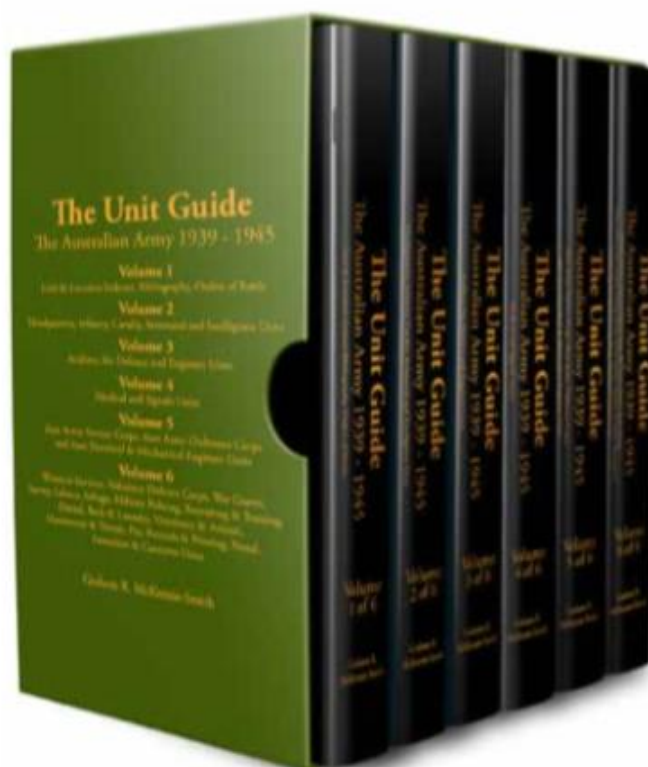
About the Book

Over 725,000 Australian men and women joined the Australian Army in World War Two and served in one or more of the 5,700 separate units which were formed in the AIF and AMF. As well as the infantry, armour and artillery there were engineer, forestry, farming, transport, workshop, medical, survey, dental, postal, records and war graves units, as well as butchers, bakers and leave train cooking sections. Only 409 (7%) of these units have any published unit history and until now the descendants of these proud servicemen and women have had nowhere to go to find out what their ancestor did during the war.

The Unit Guide, in a six volume boxed set, sets out to fill this gap with more than 5,500 profiles of units in the Australian Army during the war (which between them had over 13,700 unit names). Each profile covers what is known of the unit's formation, role, organisation, movements, operations and place in the Army's hierarchy, including references to the unit's War Diary at the Australian War Memorial and an extensive Bibliography. Further, there are ORBATS (Orders of Battle) for most of Australia's significant campaigns or locations defended by Australian troops – such as the defence of NSW (Feb 1942), the Siege of Tobruk, the 'Bird' forces captured by the Japanese, units on the Kokoda Trail, operations in Borneo, and the British Commonwealth Occupation Force (Apr 1946) which will be invaluable to military historians and researchers. It is user friendly with comprehensive indexes designed for readers without a military background.

In his Foreword, Lieutenant General Angus Campbell (Chief of Army) says, 'There is a place for The Unit Guide on the shelves of all secondary school, local and state libraries, RSLs (where people go to research their ancestors' activities during WWII), on genealogists' and military historians' shelves, and among the great history collections of this country.'

Big Sky Publishing is proud to present The Unit Guide which stands among the most committed and detailed research yet produced on the Australian Army; a reference work without peer that will assist military historians, researchers, genealogists, history buffs and most importantly the general public to navigate their way through the history of a large and complex organisation.



About the Author

Graham McKenzie-Smith is a retired Forester who has been researching Australia's military history since his early career in Papua New Guinea. The thirty five years of research behind the The Unit Guide saw Graham examine all unit War Diaries at AWM and many other sources to ensure The Unit Guide is as complete as the data allows. Graham's other books include the Australia's Forgotten Army series and books on the defence of WA and Army Engineers in WA. He is a long standing member of the Military Historical Society of Australia and a regular contributor to Sabretache and other military and forestry history publications.

Key Selling Points:

- First detailed account of Australian Units in World War Two.
- Among the most committed and detailed research yet produced on the Australian Army
- Foreword by the Chief of Army.

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