**The Intelligence Corps Virtual Memorial Wall**

**(Burial & Commemorative Database)**

**Explanatory Notes**

**Introduction**

1. In September 2011 the Intelligence Corps Memorial Wall at Chicksands was re-dedicated by the Colonel Commandant, Lt Gen Sir James Hockenhull KBE, and the Corps Padre, Padre Clive Larrett. The Memorial Wall allows us to commemorate all of those serving Corps personnel, including those from the Commonwealth, who have given their lives in the service of their countries from World War Two onwards.
2. Conscious that not everyone has access to Chicksands, it was decided to create a ‘Virtual Memorial Wall’ and to use the space that technology affords to expand it. This has now been completed and the result is a wider Intelligence Corps Commemorative Database aimed at providing a single, definitive record of the final resting place (or memorial where no grave is known) of each badged member of the Intelligence Corps, including, as far as records allow, from the First World War, and sister Corps from the Commonwealth and former Colonies, who died during their service. It also includes details of Intelligence Corps Veterans who have died since leaving the Army. Those listed from Commonwealth Intelligence Corps died as a result of hostilities; it has not been possible to include details of their deceased Veterans.

**Overview**

1. The main database has been arranged to include all those organisations which came under direct British command during their existence (Intelligence Corps, Intelligence Corps (India), Burma Intelligence Corps, East African Intelligence Department (WW1), East African Intelligence Corps and West African Intelligence Corps), while those that had their own national chain of command (Australian, Canadian and South African)[[1]](#footnote-1) are listed individually.
2. The main database contains 2,731 names, which includes all those fatalities notified through official War Office or MOD channels, ICA or other official sources (including the Rose & Laurel). In addition, the subsidiary lists contain: 36 Australians, 14 Canadians and 17 South Africans, all from WW2.

**Information Fields**

5. The database contains 10 fields of information, as follows:

a. Surname.

b. First name only, in full, with any secondary initials. This field also contains any ‘pre-nominals’ such as aristocratic, religious or academic titles (Lord, Sir, Dr, Revd, Prof, etc).

c. Rank: the last rank held during service. It has not been possible, in every case, to determine whether the rank shown was substantive, acting, temporary or local.

d. Post-Nominals: Corps personnel have been awarded a significant number of honours and awards over the years, many of them foreign. In addition, many have gone on to gather academic degrees or other professional qualifications in their post-service careers. Although the main British awards and degrees are recognisable from their initials/acronyms, many of the foreign ones are not, and many have no formal shorthand version. At the moment, only British honours and awards are included. However, details of all foreign awards made to members of the Corps are included in the ‘Honours & Awards’ database held in the Military Intelligence Museum.

e. Date of death.

f. Category of death.

g. Age at death.

h. Country of death.

i. Precis of known service career (where known).

j. Cemetery/Grave/Memorial location, with grave/memorial panel references (where known). Where such information is not held, attempts have been made, where possible, to cross-reference the name and date of death with district death registration records, in order to establish a particular geographical area where the committal is likely to have taken place, hopefully narrowing-down the search area. However, in many cases there has been no corresponding registration to the given date of death, indicating that there may be an inaccuracy in the name/date-of-death combination. In some cases where the exact date of death is unknown (especially in cases where the individual’s obituary was written one or more years after the death) the base information reflects the year of the Rose & Laurel entry. This may not accurately the date of death.

k. County/region/country location of cemetery/memorial. This has been placed in a separate column to allow for retrieval of entries based on geographical area (this is useful if individuals/groups wanted to research Intelligence Corps personnel on a geographical basis).

l. Relevant additional information or comments of interest.

m. It will be noted that many fields are blank or contain question-marks. This is where information has not been available and will require further research.

**Death Category Abbreviations**

6. Abbreviations used in the database are as follows:

1. KIA - Killed in action
2. DOW - Died of Wounds
3. DOAS(NC) - Died on Active Service (Natural Causes)
4. DOAS(A) - Died on Active Service (Accident)
5. DOAS(ED) - Died on Active Service (Endemic Disease)
6. DOAS(S) - Died on Active Service (Suicide)
7. DIS(NC) - Died in Service (Natural Causes)
8. DIS(A) - Died in Service (Accident)
9. DIS(S) - Died in Service (Suicide)
10. DPOW(NC) - Died as Prisoner of War (Natural Causes)
11. DPOW(A) - Died as Prisoner of War (Accident)
12. DPOW(ED) - Died as Prisoner of War (Endemic Disease)
13. DPOW(Neg) - Died as Prisoner of War (Neglect)
14. DPOW(EX) - Died as Prisoner of War (Executed)
15. Retd - Retired – all causes

**Errors and Omissions**

1. The Intelligence Corps has served world-wide in virtually all campaigns and operations since its initial formation in 1914. Corps personnel often served in small teams, or sometimes alone, frequently under command of national or international staffs or formations (rather than an Intelligence Corps unit) or were seconded to other services and agencies. Additionally, many served in a variety of special duties, out of sight or reach of a chain of command when they died. For these reasons, and other factors, there are inevitably errors and omissions in the database.
2. I am indebted to John Condon, who has not only voluntarily compiled this database, but who has also conducted considerable additional research to fill as many gaps as possible and correct historical errors. It is hoped that ICA members will assist this effort through individual or group research; however, it is vital that the process of adding additional information or correcting errors is tightly controlled in order to maintain the integrity of the record and ensure there is a ‘single version of the truth’. To this end, anyone who has information, be it to fill a gap or correct a perceived error, is asked to submit it to HQ ICA with the title of the correspondence as Memorial Database, to: ica\_hq@roseandlaurel.uk
3. Any information provided must be accompanied with clear evidence before any changes will be made. Should it be necessary (e.g. where there are conflicting facts) cases can be raised HA ICA, FAO Secretary of the Corps’ History and Heritage Steering Group for a decision. The database will be (re) published on the R&L website a maximum of twice per annum, therefore changes submitted may not be immediately visible.

**Wider Use**

1. This database was designed primarily as a means to enable the remote commemoration of those in the Intelligence Corps, and sister Corps from the Commonwealth and former Colonies, who died during their service, and Intelligence Corps Veterans who have died since leaving the Army. However, it also reflects many aspects of the Corps’ history and it is hoped that it will prove to be of interest and use to individuals or groups, whether serving or veteran, who wish to research specific elements of the Corps’ history or Corps personnel.

*Nick Fox*

**Nick Fox OBE**

**Colonel (Retired)**

**Deputy Colonel Commandant**

1. No records have been found of members of the New Zealand Intelligence Corps who may have died during hostilities. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)