

Redeployment : United States Army

FIGHTING IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The only fighting military forces engaged in while in Western Australia were brawls recorded below in which the only casualties suffered in WA occurred.

Agent Finance Office, 177th Finance Disb. Section, Office of the U.S. Army Rep., 601 Collins Street, Melbourne, registered cachet, Melbourne 2 July 1945, Melbourne 3 July, Perth 8 July

WAR DEPARTMENT

Agent Finance Office
177th Finance Disb. Section
Office of the U.S. Army Rep.,
601 Collins Street,
Melbourne, Vic.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Penalty for Private Use to Avoid
Payment of Postage, \$300

REGISTERED

NO. 17-418

32/9

REGISTERED AIR MAIL



Sanford L. Brandmarker, T/Sgt.
32084214
U.S. Army Representative,
PERTH, W.A.

Several brawls occurred between American and New Zealand servicemen early in the month and as a result two New Zealand soldiers were stabbed to death and several injured, also seven American soldiers injured. These brawls occurred only on days when hotels were opened.

War Diary, "A" Branch, 3 Aust Corps (AIF) 1 April to 30 April 1944

Redeployment : Navy

SUBMARINES

From 1942 to 1945 a total of 160 US, Dutch and British submarines operated from the Fremantle base (second only in size to Pearl Harbour).

USS Otus was submarine tender in Fremantle from 9 March 1943 to 23 June.

Censor cachet, US Navy 1 July 1943

*Henry W. Butecki Sr.
U. S. S. Otus % Fleet P.O.
San Francisco Calif.*



*Cecil Gould
407 Wellington St.
Perth West Australia*



*James Fowler MSM 3c
U. S. S. Orion 12014
Fleet P.O.
San Francisco
Calif.*



*Miss Lorna Harvey
36 Parliament Place
Perth,
West Aust.*

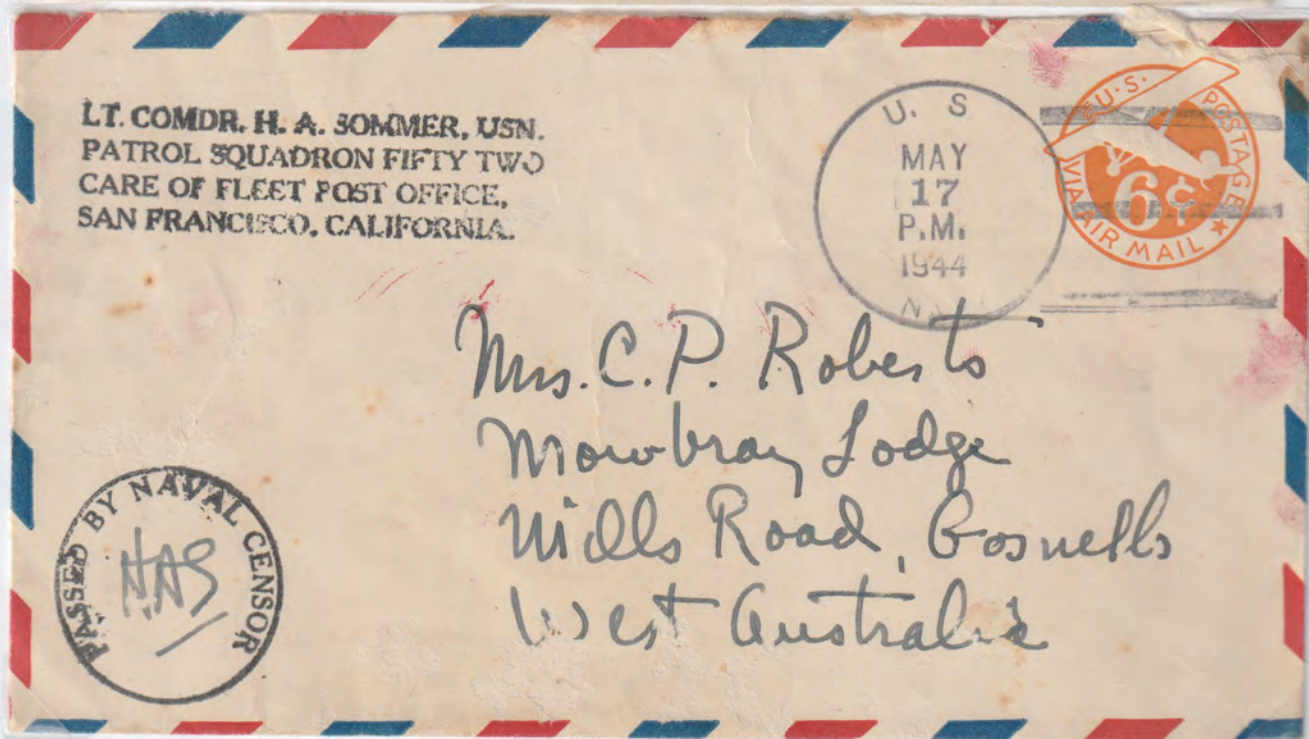


USS Orion was a submarine tender in Fremantle from 5 January 1944 to 6 August.
Censor cachet, US Navy 4 September 1944

Redeployment : Navy

UNITED STATES NAVY PO 137

USS Bonefish conducted patrols from Fremantle from 21 October 1943 to 5 September 1944. On the first patrol she sank the Suez Maru carrying British and Dutch POW. Bonefish was sunk in June 1945, the second last US submarine to be sunk in the war. Censor cachet, USN PO 137 (Fremantle) 4 September 1944



PATROL SQUADRON 52

USN Patrol Squadron 52 flying Catalinas arrived at Crawley 7 August 1943. From 13 May 1944 the Squadron was based at Hollandia, New Guinea. Censor cachet, USN PO 3115 (Hollandia) 17 May 1944

Redeployment : Air Force

R.A.A.F. 8500 PEARCE

From 1943 the role of the Air Force changed from defence to bombing attacks on Japanese positions in NEI. This resulted in increasing personnel and aircraft with construction of airfields in the north of WA. Security numbered datestamps were issued but some offices continued to use named datestamps.

RAAF 8500

1 March 1944

Line from F intersects T

Registration label

Censor cachet



RAAF 8500
17 May 1944
Line from F
between T and R
mss registration label
censor cachet
Perth
18 May
Sydney
19 May

Redeployment : Air Force

DUNREATH

Dunreath golf course was converted to a RAAF fighter base in 1943/4. QANTAS and Australian National Airways gained access because Maylands civil aerodrome was too small for the new, larger commercial aircraft. Allowance Office opened 19 September 1945 but wartime mail handled by Guildford Post Office.

Guildford
8 July 1943



R.A.A.F. PERTH

Datestamp with P.O. Unit No. erased used from mid 1943.

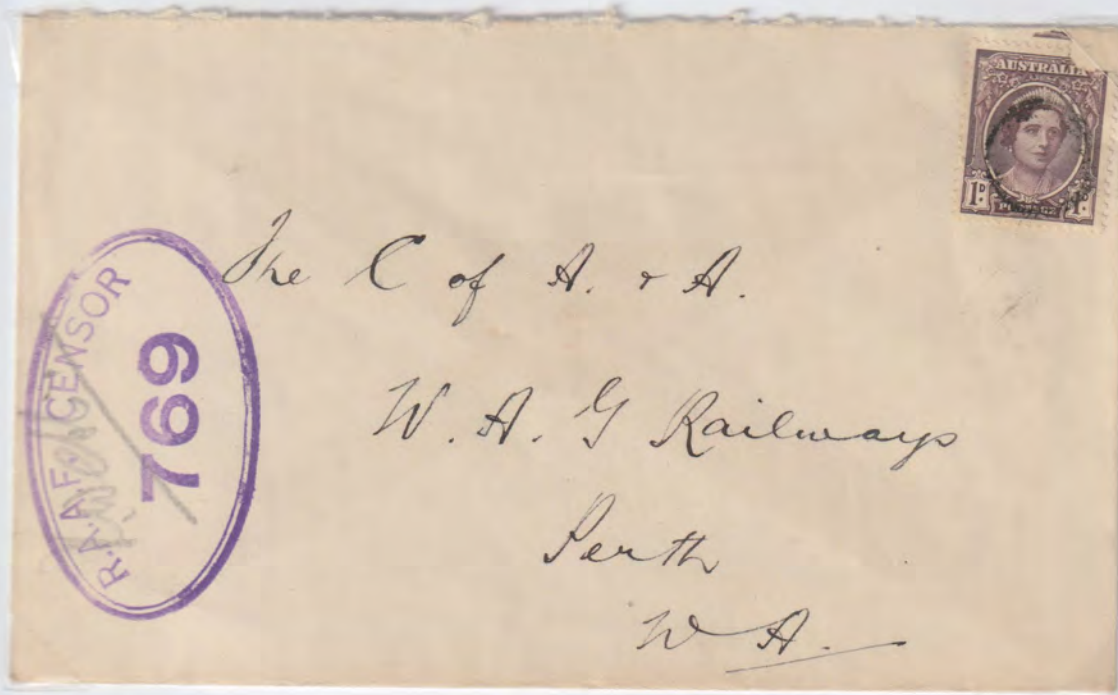
RAAF Perth 15 May 1945 (LRD), Perth 16 May, Melbourne 17 May, Hobart 17 May

Redeployment : Air Force

AIR FORCE P.O. 50 EXMOUTH (Potshot/Erosion)

The North-West Coastal Highway was gazetted as a road in 1944 (prior to that there were only station tracks) but Exmouth was 180km to the west. Exmouth was, apart from two Japanese air raids in May 1943, a refuelling stop for aircraft between Perth and Darwin

Air Force P.O. 50
6 October 1944
Censor cachet
Perth
8 October
Melbourne
11 October



R.A.A.F. YANREY

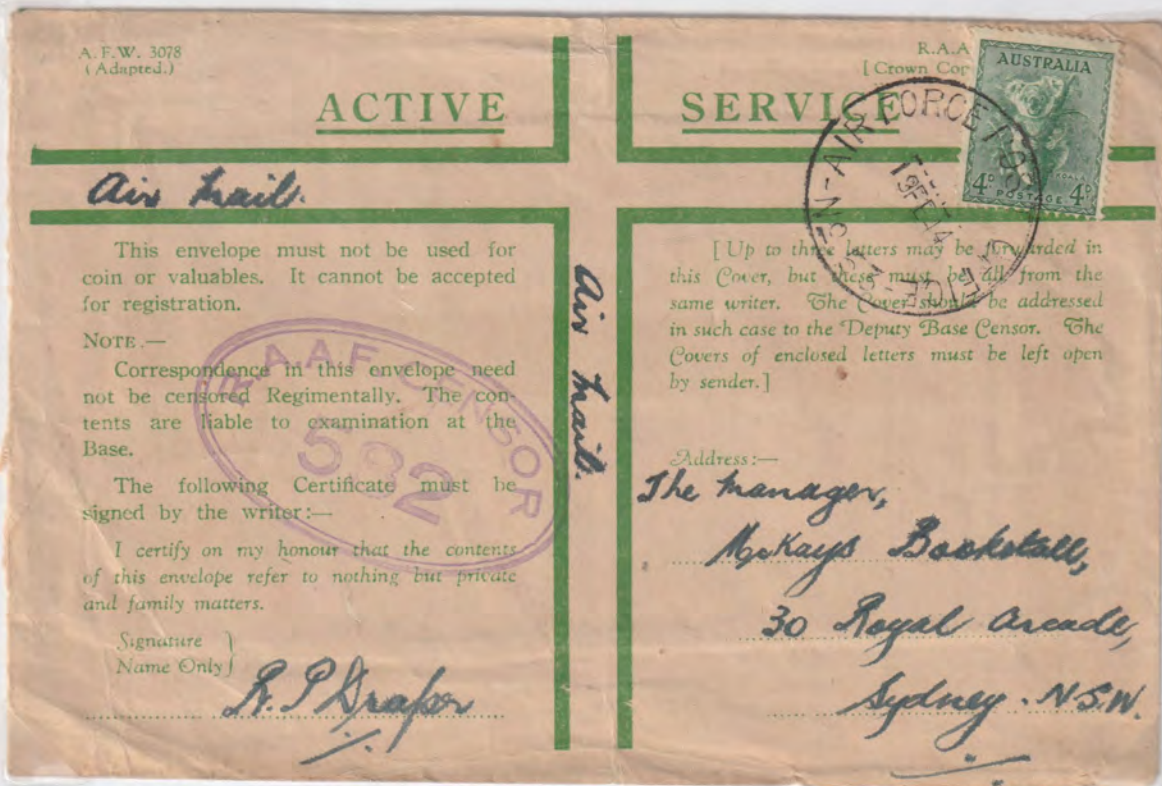
A transit base and fighter dispersal airfield 95km SW of Exmouth but no datestamp.
Mss Group 491, censor cachet, circular dumb cancel

Redeployment : Air Force

AIR FORCE P.O. 52 CORUNNA DOWNS

Opened 4 November 1943 38km south of Marble Bar railhead for Liberator bombers in transit from Cunderdin through Noonkanbah to bomb targets in NEI.

Air Force PO 52
17 September 1944
Registration cachet
Censor cachet
RAAF Base PO
Perth
19 September
Perth
20 September
Melbourne
21 September



Air Force PO 53
19 February 1944
Censor cachet

AIR FORCE P.O. 53 NOONKANBAH

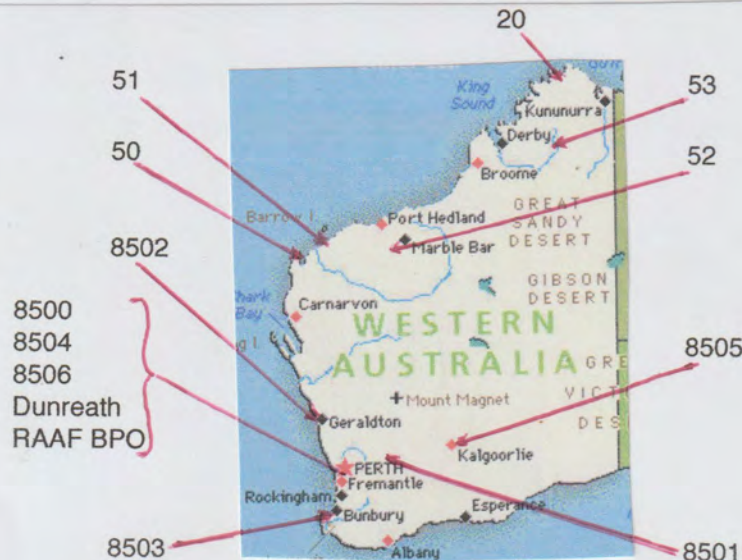
Opened 3 November 1943 96 km WSW of Fitzroy Crossing for Liberator bombers in transit from Cunderdin through Corunna Downs to bomb targets in NEI.

Redeployment : Air Force

AIR FORCE P.O. 20 TRUSCOTT

Opened 15 May 1944 40km NW of Kalumburu as refuel facility and fighter cover for bomber raids. Had the distinction of being a secret base bombed by the Japanese before construction began. Mail was carried by Tiger Moth via Darwin.

Air Force PO 20
20 November 1944
Registered cachet
Censor cachet
Melbourne
24 November
Hobart
24 November



Reference: Haynes, B. and Pope, B. (1997). *Western Australia: The Forces, Prisoner of War and Censor Mail*, Perth, Western Australia Study Group

Redeployment : Air Force

YANCHEP

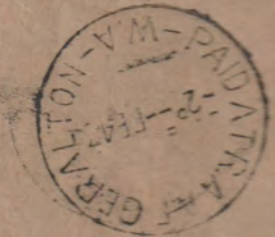
Non-official post office opened 26 March 1944 to serve No. 4 Rehabilitation Unit and RAAF Radar 227. Censored at RAAF Yanchep and forwarded to RAAF Perth

RAAF Censor 76
RAAF Perth
11 February 1944



ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE

The Comptroller of Audits & Accounts
Railway Dept
Perth
wa.



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
DEPARTMENT OF AIR
IF NOT DELIVERED RETURN TO

R.A.A.F. MAYLANDS

No. 4 Stores depot and No. 35 (Transport) Squadron were located at Maylands.
Paid Maylands 28 January 1943, reposted Paid Geraldton (sic) 2d- February, received 3 February

Redeployment: P.O.W.

P.O.W. STATIONERY

Collas (1982) recorded no POW stationery used from WA and Haynes and Pope (1997) had no record of 6d card used in WA.

Written 2 May 1944 Camp 16 Marrinup, Service of Prisoners of War cachet, Perth censor cachet, Melbourne 11 May, German censor cachet

SERVICE OF PRISONERS OF WAR.		POST CARD	
The address only to be written on this side.		Name and Surname Vor-und Zuname Nome e Cognome	<i>Fraulein Komoretz</i>
If anything else is added the postcard will be destroyed.		Street, Strasse Strada	<i>Bruchmanngasse 23</i>
Nur die Adresse ist auf diese Seite zu schreiben.		Suburb, Stadtteil Sobborgo	<i>steiermark</i>
Sollte etwas hinzugefügt werden so wird diese Postkarte Vernichtet.		City, Stadt Città	<i>Graz</i>
L'indirizzo soltanto su questa parte.		Country Land Paese	<i>Germany</i>
Se si aggiunge qualsiasi Parola La cartolina sarà distrutta.			

ASSOCIATION OF PRISONERS OF WAR

6d AUSTRALIA AIR MAIL FEE

PRISONERS OF WAR

SERVICE OF PRISONERS OF WAR			
THIS PAGE MUST BE USED FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY			
DIESE SEITE DARF NUR FUER DIE ADRESSE BENUTZT WERDEN			
QUI SI SCRIVE SOLO L'INDIRIZZO			
Name and Surname Vor-und Zuname Nome e Cognome	<i>Samuetti Primo</i>		
Street Strasse Strada	<i>Via Dollo N. 45</i>		
Suburb Stadtteil Sobborgo	<i>Gardone Riviera</i>		
City Stadt Città	<i>Brescia</i>	Country Land Paese	<i>Italia.</i>

1d AUSTRALIA AIR MAIL FEE

Written 30 July 1946 Northam Camp, Brescia 21 August

Redeployment : P.O.W.

No. 16 PRISONER OF WAR CAMP MARRINUP

In the absence of a threat of invasion, Italian POW were transferred from India to Marrinup which opened in August 1943. From there Italian POW were allocated to Hostels or Control Centres to do agricultural work. PWCC were supervised by 7 Army personnel. German POW were held at Marrinup under 8th Australian POW Guard Company. Rottnest 11 December 1945, reuse label HQ Marrinup PW Camp cachet, Pinjarra 19 December

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
If not delivered within 7 days return to
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY



~~C.O.~~
~~16. P. W. Camp.~~
~~Marrinup~~

PERTH 9 30 PM 16 MAY 1945
DX 33 S/Sg
P.O.W. Centre
W. 12.
Maree

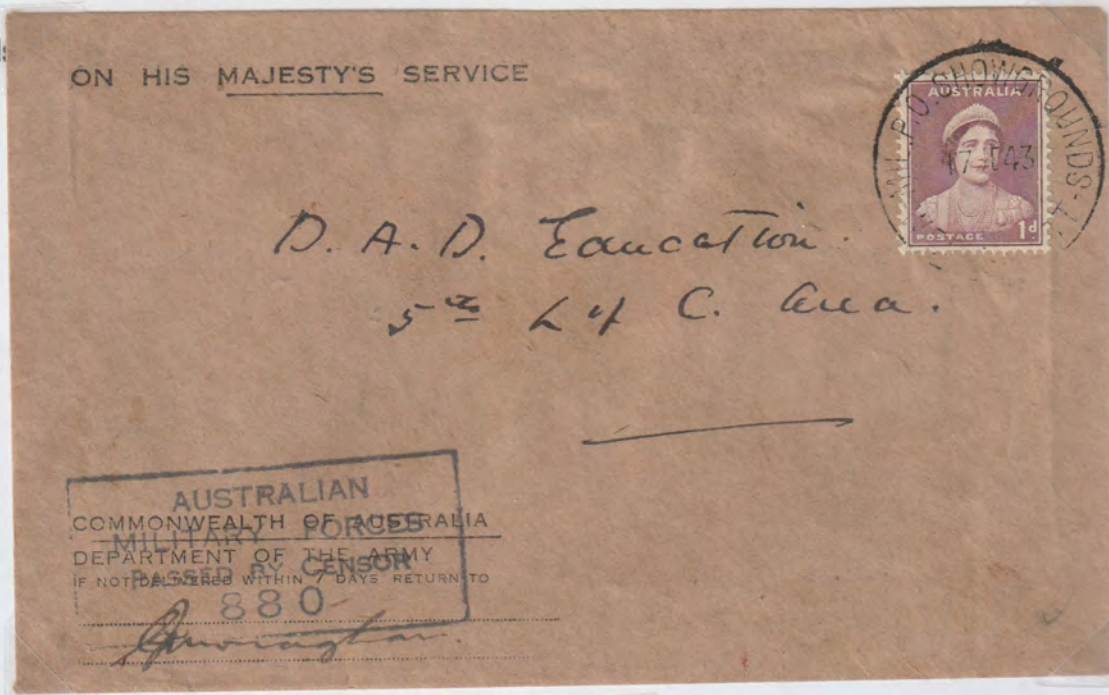


O.H.M.S.
TO AUST ARMY
CANTEENS
BOX R1259. GPO. PERTH
ORIG. No. T.O.O.
D.R.L.S. L.L. MARRINUP P.W. CAMP
Army Post
Authorising D.N.L.S.

EDUCATION

By November 1944 all units, other than HQ Western Command, HQ Fremantle Fortress and 10th Garrison Battalion, had either been redeployed or disbanded. From 1944, Western Command conducted an active education program and its advisory committee was headed by the Director General of the Education Department of WA. Programs of music appreciation, dressmaking and suchlike were part of a general education program. Advice and skills programs were offered as a transition to the Reconstruction efforts of the Government. Many men, surplus to Army requirements, were discharged to help with the widespread manpower shortage in the Australian economy.

AMF censor cachet
Mil. P.O. Showground
17 June 1943



Major Fred Alexander, D.A.D Education, had been part of the Australian Delegation to the Versailles Peace Treaty talks and was head of the History Department, University of WA.

Demobilisation : Post-war support

ARMY REHABILITATION

Army Rehabilitation (1945, p. 11) "Subsequent to your discharge, it is necessary for you to advise the Army Post Office at RR and GDD of your address for the re-direction of any mail that may arrive after you have been discharged. In the absence of an authority from you as to re-direction of such mail, it will be returned to the sender."

(P. 12) "Irrespective of the amount of leave due on discharge, members may purchase from the RR and GDD Canteen up to twenty-four day's supply of tobacco and cigarettes."

RR and GDD = Recruit Reception and General Details Depot

A.A. Book 84

Revised March, 1945

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ARMY REHABILITATION



*Advice to Army Personnel Awaiting
Discharge*

1945

By Authority,
Brown, Prior, Anderson Pty. Ltd.,
430 Little Bourke Street,
Melbourne, C.1

Demobilisation : Post-war support

DISCHARGE

Not all followed the instructions re mail.

Perth 13 July 1945, redirected to Karrakatta, boxed Not with GDD Karrakatta, initialled circle P 23, RR & GDD Western Command dated 21/9 struck out, mss Discharged from Army, Dead Letter Office Perth 25 October, RTS label to C R Paterson, Mount Lawley




WFX

Army No. 34970 Pay Book No. **C** 412395

Surname EDGEWER

Christian Names CHARA

AUSTRALIAN  MILITARY FORCES

SOLDIER'S PAY BOOK
CONTINUATION

Demobilisation : Post-war support

WAR SERVICE HOMES

Army Rehabilitation, (1945, p. 14) "the purpose of the War Service Homes Act is to enable ex-members of the Forces, who were enlisted or appointed for or employed on active service outside Australia, to secure loans for the provision of homes.... The maximum loan is 950 pounds, and repayment by monthly instalments may be granted up to ... 50 years at 4% interest." Those who only served in WA were not eligible. Repayments were made at the Post Office.

South Fremantle 2 June 1948 (ERD)

file 56753

Ac. 30.
Book

1603

Name SHAW A.P

3870/1/47-1M. Bks. *1/18

Monthly Rate of Payment £3. 17. 5

(Surname first—block letters.)

Address 215 Ashfield St. He

Date.	Amount in Words.	Amounts Repaid.	Officer's Initials.	Office Date Stamp.
1948	Two thousand & forty three pounds 3/11	1043 3 11	AKB	South Fremantle 2 JUN 1948
June 2	Three Pnds 17/5	3 17 5	AKB	South Fremantle 2 JUN 1948
July 3	Four Pnds 4/11	4 4 11	AKB	South Fremantle 3 JUL 1948
	Three Pnds 17/5	3 17 5	AKB	South Fremantle 3 JUL 1948
3 SEP 1948	Three Pnds 17/5	3 17 5	AKB	South Fremantle 3 SEP 1948
- 1 OCT 1948	Three Pnds 17/5	3 17 5	AKB	South Fremantle 1 OCT 1948
- 4 NOV 1948	Three Pnds 17/5	3 17 5	AKB	South Fremantle 4 NOV 1948
- 1 DEC 1948	Three Pnds 17/5	3 17 5	AKB	South Fremantle 1 DEC 1948
- 4 JAN 1949	Three Pnds 17/5	3 17 5	AKB	South Fremantle 4 JAN 1949
- 7 FEB 1949	Three pnds 17/5	3 17 5	AKB	South Fremantle 7 FEB 1949
- 3 FEB 1950	Seven pnds & five	3 17 5 05	AKB	South Fremantle 3 FEB 1950