

AUSTRALIAN GUNNER OBITUARY RESOURCE

Major General John Strathord (Hans) Andersen, CBE.

(22 July 1912 - 6 August 1967)

Reproduced from 'Gun Fire'
Volume 7 Number 4
dated September 1967



Papua-born Major General "Hans" Andersen, who died on Sunday 6 Aug 67, was one of Australia's most distinguished soldiers. Educated at Brisbane Church of England Grammar School, he graduated from the Royal Military College, Duntroon in 1933.

He went to India for further training after regimental duty with artillery units and on his return he was adjutant of the 6th Field Brigade in Hobart, Tasmania. At the outbreak of war he was an artillery instructor at the Southern Command Training School, Victoria.

In the 2nd AIF he served with the 2/1st Field Regiment in Libya and Greece. He was Brigade Major, Royal Artillery, with the 6th Division in Syria. In 1942 he served with the New Guinea Force and was awarded the OBE for his staff work.

He became senior staff officer of Royal Artillery at Hollandia and later was Australian observer at the Battle of Luzon in the Philippines.

In 1945 he commanded the 4th Field Regiment on Bougainville and for eight months at the end of the war was Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General, 11th Australian Division at Rabaul.

For three years from 1947 he was Commandant of the School of Artillery. In May 1954 he was appointed Colonel of General Staff, Eastern Command Headquarters, and later Brigadier in Charge of Administration.

In December, 1959 he became the Deputy Adjutant General at Army Headquarters. He was awarded the CBE in 1960.

In June, 1962 he became Chief of Staff at Eastern Command Headquarters and 18 months after was promoted to Major General and appointed Commander, 1st Division.

In May 66 he was appointed Adjutant General and Second Member of the Military Board.

Acknowledgements:

- Major WC Watson ED Memorial CD-ROM
- World War II Histories and Officers Web Site by Hans Houterman & Jeroen Koppes