



Records Description List

Reference Number: **2016.0061**

Collection/Series Title: **AIF MALAYAN MEMORIAL NURSING  
SCHOLARSHIP**

**Creator**

Australian Red Cross Society, National Office

**Creator's  
Activity/Occupation**

Community organisations - Charities

**Creator's Historical Note**

Note: University of Melbourne Archives holds records of the Australian Red Cross National Office and the Victorian Division of the Australian Red Cross. Records of other state Divisions are not held by the University of Melbourne.

Red Cross began in Australia on the 13th August 1914 in response to the start of the First World War nine days earlier. Modelled on the British Red Cross Society and initially established as a branch of that Society, it formed at the instigation of Lady Helen Munro Ferguson, wife of the Governor-General. Vice-regal patronage and a predominantly female membership continued to be features of the Red Cross throughout the twentieth century. The Australian society was recognised by the International Committee of the Red Cross as a national society in its own right in 1927 and was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1941.

In keeping with the international Red Cross movement of which it is a part, and the Geneva Conventions which govern and vest its wartime role, the Australian Red Cross primary objectives are to alleviate human suffering and protect life and health, especially during armed conflicts and other emergency situations. Principles of humanity, impartiality and voluntary service guide its programs, which have evolved over the years in response to international and domestic needs.

The organisations development throughout the twentieth century has been extensively documented (see references at the end of this note), however the following points may assist researchers wishing to use Red Cross records held by the University of Melbourne Archives.

The organisations initial structure, still largely in place in the early 21st century, included three tiers of administration and activity. Its National Headquarters (later known as National Office) has been based in Melbourne since 1914. Divisions were established in all states and territories, most of them within weeks of the formation of the national body, and these operated with substantial autonomy until at least the 1950s and continued to be the locus of much of the organisations emergency and social services program delivery beyond this date. A Papua New Guinea Division also operated between 1940 and 1973 and subsequently became an independent national society. The third tier of the Red Cross is the extensive network of local branches which also commenced during World War I. These have been particularly active in wartime and it is through these branches that large numbers of Australians engage with and support the work of the Red Cross.

The scope and dates of operation of some distinctive Red Cross programs are:

Voluntary Aid Detachments (VADs, later known as Voluntary Aid Service Corps or VACs) were first formed in 1915 to provide nursing and domestic services in Australian military hospitals and convalescent homes. In peacetime this largely female volunteer labour force has assisted during natural disasters and other emergencies. As an organisational entity VACs were phased out by the 1970s, however volunteer service continues to be integral to the organisations delivery of many of its programs.

Services to trace the whereabouts of missing and wounded service personnel were also first established in 1915. These services operated during both World Wars and after World War II evolved into services for tracing civilians displaced from their homelands in the aftermath of war and civil unrest. By the 1960s, with the growth of Red Cross role in disaster management, registration and enquiry services were set up to respond to inquiries about people displaced by natural disaster. The units responsible for this work and have been variously known as the Wounded and Missing Inquiry Bureau, Tracing Bureau, and the National Registration and Inquiry System. Like many Red Cross programs, administration of tracing services has gradually been centralised from state Divisions to national management. Note that Wounded and Missing Enquiry Bureau records from World War I are held by the Australian War Memorial.

Blood transfusion services were first established in 1929 in the Victorian Division and soon after in other states. These continued to be primarily state based services until 1996 although during the Second World War a level of national coordination was introduced to facilitate the supply of blood to the armed forces. In 1996, largely in response to the AIDS epidemic, the divisional services were amalgamated to form the Australian Red Cross Blood Service, a separate operating division of the Australian Red Cross.

#### References and Further Information

Melanie Oppenheimer: *The Power of Humanity: 100 Years of Australian Red Cross 1914-2014* (Sydney, Harper Collins, 2014)

Australian Red Cross web site: [www.redcross.org.au](http://www.redcross.org.au) (accessed June 2015)

Australian Red Cross Blood Service web site: <http://www.donateblood.com.au/about-us> (accessed June 2015)

Australian Red Cross has donated 100 years of archives to the University of Melbourne:

<http://www.redcross.org.au/gift-to-the-nation.aspx> (accessed June 2015)

Australian War Memorial, First World War Red Cross Wounded and Missing Files:

[https://www.awm.gov.au/people/roll-search/wounded\\_and\\_missing/](https://www.awm.gov.au/people/roll-search/wounded_and_missing/)

Australian Womens Register entry for the Australian Red Cross:

<http://www.womenaustralia.info/biogs/AWE0715b.htm> (accessed June 2015). See also Register entries for individual women prominent within the Red Cross.

<b>Date Range of Collection/Series</b>	1940-2015
<b>Size/Extent</b>	6 units (1.02m)
<b>Access Conditions</b>	Access: Open

#### Scope and Content of Collection/Series

[Red Cross Archives series reference: NO39]

This series comprises deeds of trust, amendments to the deed, minutes of the board and sub-committees, circulars, annual reports, correspondence, financial documents, terms of reference with Curtin University of Technology, historical account of the scholarship, press cuttings, newsletters, ephemera, brochures as well as publications pertaining to profiling trust fund recipients.

The AIF Malaya Memorial Nursing Scholarship established as a living memorial to the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) Malaya personnel who lost their lives during World War Two. The annual scholarship supports the education and training of Malayan and Singaporean nurses in Australia who then return to their communities to practice. Prior to 1988, this consisted of in-service hospital courses in institutions across Victoria - thereafter the scholarship has been hosted in conjunction with Curtin University of Technology, Perth. <http://www.aifredcross.com.au/a-living-memorial/> See also: Correspondence Files, National Headquarters (2015.0033)

Researchers should note that under the Geneva Conventions Act 1957 protections govern the use of the Red Cross emblem. For further information see Archives staff.

<b>Collection Category</b>	Community and Political, organisations
<b>This document dated</b>	7/04/2017

Current Location	Item Number	Title	Date Range
2016.0061 Unit 1	2016.0061.00001	Minutes signed and pasted into hardbound book	1946-1992
2016.0061 Unit 1	2016.0061.00002	Minutes - Minute Book	1992-2011
2016.0061 Unit 1	2016.0061.00003	Annual reports	1947-1976
2016.0061 Unit 1	2016.0061.00004	Annual reports	1977-2000
2016.0061 Unit 1	2016.0061.00005	AIF Patron	2006-2007
2016.0061 Unit 2	2016.0061.00006	Minutes and Correspondence	1947-1986
2016.0061 Unit 2	2016.0061.00007	Minutes and Correspondence	1987-1990
2016.0061 Unit 2	2016.0061.00008	Minutes and Correspondence	1991
2016.0061 Unit 2	2016.0061.00009	Minutes and Correspondence	1993
2016.0061 Unit 2	2016.0061.00010	Minutes and Correspondence	1994-1995
2016.0061 Unit 2	2016.0061.00011	Minutes and Correspondence	1996
2016.0061 Unit 2	2016.0061.00012	Minutes and Correspondence	1997
2016.0061 Unit 2	2016.0061.00013	Minutes and Correspondence	1998
2016.0061 Unit 2	2016.0061.00014	Minutes and Correspondence	1999
2016.0061 Unit 2	2016.0061.00015	Minutes and Correspondence	2000
	2016.0061.00016	RECORD CREATED IN ERROR	
	2016.0061.00017	RECORD CREATED IN ERROR	
2016.0061 Unit 3	2016.0061.00018	Minutes and Correspondence	2001-2002
2016.0061 Unit 3	2016.0061.00019	Minutes and Correspondence	1986-1997
2016.0061 Unit 3	2016.0061.00020	Minutes and Correspondence	1998-1999
2016.0061 Unit 3	2016.0061.00021	Minutes and Correspondence	2000-2002
2016.0061 Unit 3	2016.0061.00022	AIF Deed of Trust	1947-1985
2016.0061 Unit 3	2016.0061.00023	Trust Deed and amendments	1970-1985
2016.0061 Unit 3	2016.0061.00024	Additional papers regarding the Trust Deed	2003-2010
2016.0061 Unit 3	2016.0061.00025	Deed of Trust - correspondence	2003-2008
2016.0061 Unit 3	2016.0061.00026	Key Documents - Curtin, Terms of Reference etc.	2004-2007
2016.0061 Unit 4	2016.0061.00027	Newsletters	October 1983- November 2000
2016.0061 Unit 4	2016.0061.00028	AIF Newsletter	2005-2009
2016.0061 Unit 4	2016.0061.00029	Press cuttings - various	1945-2008
2016.0061 Unit 4	2016.0061.00030	Press cuttings - photocopies	November 1945-September 1991
2016.0061 Unit 4	2016.0061.00031	Press cuttings	1946-2008
2016.0061 Unit 4	2016.0061.00032	Items connected with 60th Anniversary	2007
2016.0061 Unit 4	2016.0061.00033	60th Reunion	2006-2007
2016.0061 Unit 4	2016.0061.00034	History of the AIF Malayan Nursing Scholarship	1990
2016.0061 Unit 4	2016.0061.00035	Liaison with Service Organisations	1983-1999
2016.0061 Unit 4	2016.0061.00036	Circulars to Board members	1981-1986
2016.0061 Unit 4	2016.0061.00037	Nomination for R W Christie (Order of Australia)	1984
2016.0061 Unit 5	2016.0061.00038	Correspondence - Singapore /Malaya	1993-2000
2016.0061 Unit 5	2016.0061.00039	AIF Board information	1996-2002
2016.0061 Unit 5	2016.0061.00040	AIF Board membership	2001-2007
2016.0061 Unit 5	2016.0061.00041	Board members visits to Singapore & Malaysia	1983-1991
2016.0061 Unit 5	2016.0061.00042	AIF Scholarship - Tax Deductibility - donations	1981-1993
2016.0061 Unit 5	2016.0061.00043	Correspondence - Malaysia including Australian High Commission	2000-2002
2016.0061 Unit 5	2016.0061.00044	Projected further training	1983-1986
2016.0061 Unit 6	2016.0061.00045	AIF Publicity and Notes	1940-1949
2016.0061 Unit 6	2016.0061.00046	History and Press Releases	1985-1992
2016.0061 Unit 6	2016.0061.00047	Brochures	1988
2016.0061 Unit 6	2016.0061.00048	Brochure	2004
2016.0061 Unit 6	2016.0061.00049	Public relations	1990-1999
2016.0061 Unit 6	2016.0061.00050	Correspondence re: history publication	1985-1991
2016.0061 Unit 6	2016.0061.00051	Certificate design	1988-1990
2016.0061 Unit 6	2016.0061.00052	Photographs	1949-1991
2016.0061 Unit 6	2016.0061.00053	List of members 8th Division AIF	1970-1979
2016.0061 Unit 6	2016.0061.00054	'The AIF Con. Depot, Selarang Barracks, POW Camp, Changi 1942'	1942

2016.0061 Unit 6	2016.0061.00055	Press releases and press cuttings	1971-1998
2016.0061 Unit 6	2016.0061.00056	AIF Future of Scholarship	1973-1987
2016.0061 Unit 6	2016.0061.00057	Correspondence - Curtin University	1992-2000
2016.0061 Unit 6	2016.0061.00058	AIF Scholarship - Summary of Donations	2004-2015
2016.0061 Unit 4	2016.0061.00059	Audio visual: Ceremonies and Dinners	ND-2009
2016.0061 Unit 4	2016.0061.00060	AIF Nursing Scholarship Fundraising Brouchure	1994

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