

Further to my service record, and as near as I can remember.

I left school in 1940 and started work at Beans Ltd, Perth.

During that time I enlisted in the 16th Battalion Cameron Highlanders. My father was told I was going into cadet training.

When asked my age by the recruiting officer, I told him I was 17 and would be 18 the next month, giving as an excuse for enlisting early as wishing to be with two workmates who were enlisting.

I was given a medical by Dr Pannell of Adelaide Terrace and passed as fit (medically but not necessarily as mentally). Anyhow, I was in a bus load of recruits, who were taken to South St. Hamilton Hill to the battalion camp. I was assigned to A Company under a Corporal Jack Harris. We were given "giggle" suits (army fatigues), a rifle to clean and then taken on a bush march.

Either that same day (Saturday) or the next day (more likely Saturday) my father got in touch with Army H.Q.s in Perth and had me out and home in next to no time. Dad had been told by a man working in my department at Beans. I don't know why I didn't include it on my enlistment form for the Air Force.