

IN MEMORIUM

K35383 Lieutenant General Donald (Don) Stuart McIver CMG, OBE

Lieutenant General Don McIvor first saw active service as a Lieutenant in 1958 in Malaya and again later in Malaysia from 1963-65. He also served in South Vietnam, where he was appointed second in command of the Anzac Battalion serving with the 1st Australian Task Force (1 ATF) in 1971.

'The following is from "The Fighting Fourth", A pictorial record of the second tour in South Vietnam by 4 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Battalion 1971-1972 with thanks to the then co-editors, Captain Robert Sayce and Lieutenant Mike O'Neil.

The second in command, in keeping with the ANZAC spirit was New Zealander, Major D.S. McIver. He was born in 1936 at Epsom, Auckland New Zealand. After two years at Cadet School in Wirouou, he entered the Royal Military College, Duntroon. After receiving his commission in 1957, Major McIver served as Platoon Commander in the 1st Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (1 RNZIR) during the Malaysian Emergency until 1960, then he returned to New Zealand to instruct at various schools based at Wirouou until 1963. This was followed by service as a Company Second in Command and later as an Adjutant of 1 RNZIR during the Confrontation in Malaysia.

He was then posted to Wellington where he was a Staff Officer on Army Headquarters from 1965 until 1967. After attending the Royal New Zealand Command and Staff College in 1968, he was seconded to the New Zealand Defence Headquarters as a Staff Officer.

On 25 January 1971, Major McIver joined the 4th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (4 RAR) at Lavarack Barracks, Townsville. He became the Battalion Second in Command -Operations- for the remainder of the unit's pre-embarkation training including the Task Force exercise "Third Stab" and the Divisional exercise, "MONARO MALL".

He commanded the main body of the battalion into theatre aboard HMAS SYDNEY. Throughout his tour of duty he was also the Commanding Officer of the New Zealand Component which supported all New Zealand personnel within the 1 ATF.'

In 1973, he was appointed to the staff of the Australian Army Headquarters in Canberra as an exchange officer.

After a period as director of plans on the Army General Staff in Wellington, he was made Commander of the New Zealand Force (South East Asia) in 1980, based in Singapore. In 1984 he was selected to spend a year at the Royal College of Defence Studies in London.

General McIver went on to helm the New Zealand Army as Chief of General Staff from 1987 till 1989, having served previously as Deputy Chief of Defence Staff.

He was the first New Zealander to head a United Nations peacekeeping operation, running the multinational force in the Sinai from 1989 till 1991. The 11 nation force was created to verify compliance with agreements made between Egypt and Israel in connection with the signing of the Camp David Peace Accords in 1979.

In 1981 he was awarded an OBE (Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) and in 1994 he was made a CMG (The Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George).