

## AUSTRALIAN GUNNER OBITUARY RESOURCE

### **Major General John Stewart Whitelaw CB, CBE, ADC (26 August 1894 – 21 April 1964)**

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The Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery lost a distinguished soldier with the death of former Major General Royal Artillery, Land Headquarters and later Colonel Commandant for Southern Command. General Whitelaw served in many important Gunner appointments since he was commissioned in 1914.

After regimental and staff postings in the Royal Australian Garrison Artillery, he was appointed to the General Staff at Army Headquarters in 1924. After appointments at the Artillery Schools of Instruction, and gunnery (including survey) training in the United Kingdom, he became a Chief Instructor of the School in 1931. In 1935 General Whitelaw returned to Army Headquarters as General Staff Officer Artillery, during which appointment he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in 1936.

At the outbreak of World War II promotion to Colonel and appointment to command Coastal Defences in Eastern Command led to promotion to temporary Brigadier in 1941.

In 1942 General Whitelaw was appointed Major General Royal Artillery at LHQ and promoted to Major General.

From 1940 to 1942, General Whitelaw was an ADC to the Governor General. In 1945, General Whitelaw was appointed Commander of Victoria Lines of Communication Area and in 1946 General Officer Commanding Western Command until being placed on the Retired List in 1951.

From 1955 to 1960, General Whitelaw was Colonel Commandant of the Royal Australian Artillery in Southern Command.

His death on 21st April 1964 ended a distinguished career of a Gunner Officer whose sons have all been commissioned and served in their father's Regiment.

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