
The Corps Instructions

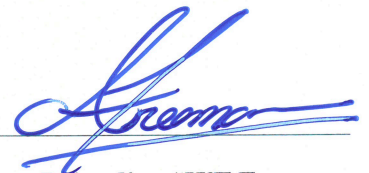
of the

Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers



Corps Instruction Seven

“The RAEME Centrepiece”



Brigadier AWF Freeman
Head of Corps
RAEME

14 October 2018

AG7971822**Corps Instruction Number 07 – The RAEME Corps Centrepiece****Introduction**

1. COL W.J. Bauert, Col Comdt 1 MD, first suggested the acquisition of a RAEME table centrepiece on 15 Nov 1977.
2. The RAEME Centrepiece is a significant sculpture in the form of a sterling silver representation of the RAEME badge, mounted on a wooden plinth featuring silver panels depicting activities of the Corps since its foundation. It is to be used as a Centrepiece at formal gatherings of Corps members to add status and focus esprit-de-corps on such occasions.

Aim

3. The aim of this instruction is to set out the rules and procedures for the use, safe transit and safe custody of the RAEME Centrepiece.

Background

4. The Corps Committee for many years discussed the possible purchase or production of an item suitable for adoption for these purposes. Discussions culminated in consideration by the Committee at its meeting in September 1980, of various proposals for a solid representation of the Corps badge, resulting in a decision that such an object of art should be commissioned at an estimated cost of \$5,000 to be found from Corps resources. The then DGEME gave his approval of a proposed design in mid-1981 and an order was then placed on the Melbourne silversmith who had developed the approved design. Delivery of the item was taken on 29 June 1982. Its final cost was \$5,500, approximately \$19,000 in 2017.
5. A suitable carrying case was then produced by the then 3 EME Group and the Centrepiece was formally presented by the Corps Committee to the DGEME for general use on 30 September 1982.

Control

6. Control of the use, custody and temporary loans of the Centrepiece are vested in the Corps Committee which by resolution may delegate responsibility for any of these functions to individual appointments.

Control of Loans

7. There will be some competing bids for use of the centrepiece, particularly at the time of the Corps Birthday celebrations. Bids for the Centrepiece's use should therefore be made for the year beginning on the next 1 November through Corps domestic channels, to the SO2 Corps Heritage. Head of Corps has the power of veto over any prior booking if circumstances necessitate such action. The SO2 Corps Heritage is responsible for the detailed management of the transportation of the Centrepiece.

Display

8. The Centrepiece is for display on RAEME occasions; only in exceptional circumstances will other displays be approved. On RAEME occasions, every opportunity

should be given for Corps members in the area, including other than those for whom the Centrepiece has been specifically provided, to see it.

9. The Centrepiece is to be displayed only under conditions where it will not suffer from damage by the environment. It should not be handled when displayed as this will inevitably lead to damage.

10. The Centrepiece is to be cleaned immediately if it is soiled in any way; following the instructions in the carrying case. In any event, after display, it is to be lightly cleaned with the cleaning cloth before stowing in its carrying case.

Custody

11. Custody of the Centrepiece is to be as for a valuable art work. The Centrepiece is to be carefully stowed in its carrying case when not in use or on specific display. When not in secure military premises where it can be under regular scrutiny on at least a day-to-day basis, it is to be kept under lock and key.

12. Before being put away after display on an occasion and before being put away for any significant period of time, the Centrepiece is to be inspected for casual soiling. Any such soiling is to be removed immediately by following the instructions within the carrying case.

13. Movement from place to place is to be by safe hand and in appropriate transport, the Centrepiece being correctly stowed in its carrying case by the despatching authority. A nominated person, or persons if the transit time, means or arrangements demands more than one, is to be made responsible for safe movement. Any person into whose care the Centrepiece is committed is to ensure that it receives security and handling commensurate with its value and significance. A proper record of persons nominated to move the Centrepiece is to be prepared by the despatching authority and will accompany it on its travels, under separate cover. It will be normal for RAEME members to be given such responsibilities but a reputable safe transit agency may be used. In such a case the Centrepiece will be handed to and received from the agency by nominated persons.

14. ALTC is responsible for ensuring adequate movement arrangements are made. In the event of a transit agency being used Corps Funds will be used for payment but it is to be reimbursed by the requesting organisations.

15. At peak usage times, such as Corps Birthday, when the Centrepiece is being moved directly between the various requesting organisations the movement cost is to be divided equally amongst them in order that remoter localities have the opportunity to use the Centrepiece without incurring disproportionate cost.

Damage

Should the Centrepiece sustain any damage the SO2 Corps Heritage, as the custodian is responsible for its repair through an appropriate silversmith.

Arte Et Marte

Annexes:

A. RAEME Corps Centrepiece - Photo



Fig 1: The RAEME Corps Centrepiece - Photo