



From: Brigadier Archie Miller-Bakewell  
Private Secretary to H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

24th May, 2017

*Dear Brigadier McGahey,*

I have much pleasure in enclosing herewith The Duke of Edinburgh's signed message for the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, to be read out on 1st December this year, to mark the 75th anniversary of the Corps.

This letter comes with the Colonel-in-Chief's best wishes.

*Yours sincerely,*

*Archie Miller-Bakewell*

Brigadier D. F. McGahey, CSC (Ret'd)  
Representative Colonel Commandant,  
Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers





When historians write about battles, they describe composition of the opposing armies, their tactical manoeuvring, the relative casualties and the outcome. What they seldom, if ever, mention are the people who equip, arm, feed, clothe and generally make it possible for the armies to fight each other at all. With developing technology, the tasks of the supporting services have become ever more complicated and demanding.

In modern warfare, of all the supporting services, none are more vital to the outcome of the battle than the engineers who manage and maintain the fighting equipment. For the last 75 years, this task has been performed for the Australian Army by the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. Its work may not hit the headlines but it is quite certain that, without its services, the Australian Army would not have been able to perform its allotted tasks, and it would have no hope of winning any future battles, let alone get to the battlefield adequately armed and equipped.

I hope that these 75th anniversary celebrations will help to demonstrate to the general public, and to the rest of the Army for that matter, just what a vital contribution the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers have made, and continue to make, to the potential and to the efficiency of the Australian Army.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be "Philip", is centered on the page. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'P'.

Colonel-in-Chief  
Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

