

Brian Glover:

“What an amazing production and the three of you are to be congratulated for doing such an impressive history of the RR – it will be a permanent reminder of a fantastic group of men and women who not only served Rhodesia well, but a timely reminder that Rhodesians also helped England in her many hours of need”.

Dave Matthews:

*“I have just received my copy of the above book – what an amazing tribute to all those that served with that unit and what an even greater testament to those that put it together – you guys need a medal!!!
That book preserves the legacy of a wonderful regiment and I see my two boys fighting over who will keep it after I leave this world”.*

John Pile:

*“I have recently purchased a copy of the really excellent book that you and your team have compiled on The Rhodesia Regiment.
I had not realised what a mammoth task you and the team have undertaken in compiling it and it is certainly worth the effort”.*

Kevin Seager:

“It was with great joy that I received the limited edition no 66. I have only had a chance to browse through it and can only say that this is the most fantastic book that I have ever purchased my congratulations to you both and all others involved in it making”.

Colin Grieve:

“Congratulations on this momentous record of a great regiment”.

Colin Falkenberg:

“I got home opened it and no one spoke a word to me while I was paging through and reading and with a big lump in my throat ,bring back so many memories and vivid in my mind as though we were still standing there together. You are so right LEAST WE FORGET, will never happen from any real true Rhodesian”.

Alan Doyle:

“Just arrived, and I am extremely impressed. A real treasure. It is simply excellent. The text is very well written. It has given me a number of insights into various things, and the selection of pictures is just great”.

Gen. Mike Shute:

“From my initial brief flip through, there is no doubt this is a great book. I look forward to many days of pleasurable and interesting reading. I have read the well written and informative Preface, it certainly indicates all is going to be of a high standard”.

Peter Duffy:

*“Although I have not read the book yet, but I have glanced through it, it looks outstanding and is going to be in a pride of place on the bookshelf once read.
A terrific job really”.*

Duncan Burnett:

"This is a very good, high quality addition to the many books written concerning Rhodesian military history".

Stuart Dunbar:

"Received my copy of your incredible book this morning. Emotions ran high as I paged through it and within minutes saw many familiar faces. Thank you for this - it will mean a lot to many people".

Martyn Hobrough:

"Very impressive piece of work. Congratulations to you all. Brilliant".

Rowland Knighton:

"Well done to all the guys who worked so hard on this project, excellent work".

Adrienne Smith:

"I wanted to thank you too, for all the massive amount of work that has gone into writing and producing it. What a wealth of memories and information you have".

Dudley Wall:

"You have all done an excellent job and it is a true reflection of the history of Rhodesia".

Bill Epps:

"Have now examined the book more closely and would have to say it is a fantastic effort. I can see it is going to provide many hours of pleasurable reading and a source of reference for years to come, not to mention an heirloom one day for my book loving daughter".

Vic Walker:

"A quick look at it gives a very good impression and the team are to be congratulated on a magnificent job. I anticipate many hours of enjoyable reading".

Paul Brewster:

"Although I have only had time to quickly glance through it I am very impressed and am looking forward to reading it in more detail. Once again many thanks to you and the team for producing this magnificent book".

Malcolm Roughley:

"The book arrived this morning and is a splendid production and one can understand the years of editing the sources".

Emiliano Broggi:

"Just received the book. It's a wonderful work, and it will be very useful for my studies. You did a really good work on that".

Dave Holmes:

"Hugh, I need to congratulate you and your team on what has obviously been an enormous challenge. Without such dedicated people this life defining period of our lives would be lost completely. Thank you".

Steve Lunderstedt

“This is a monumental publication. The recently published book Rhodesia Regiment 1899-1981 is an everlasting memorial not only to those who were killed or died during its existence but also to all those many thousands who fought with the Regiment and lived to tell the tales. And tales there are aplenty. From the Regiment formation for the Anglo-Boer War, to the Great War of 1914-1918, World War II, the winds of change in the 1950s and 60s, and then to the Rhodesian Bush War that changed many lives forever.

It is always the territorials or citizen force units that bear the brunt of each and every war. Regular soldiers are there to uphold the peace in “normal” times and to hold or defeat the enemy when war is initiated, but it is the territorials, or citizens of a nation, that carry the struggle through to the end no matter the outcome.

The various wars up until the Rhodesian Bush War where the Regiment served saw the country Rhodesia well represented by their territorial soldiers. Arguably the country Rhodesia, pro rata, provided more men than all other countries that fought under the banner of the British Empire and its allies. During the Rhodesian Bush War it was the territorials that provided the hard graft necessary to enable the regular soldiers to do what they did best – attack the enemy where it would hurt the most. And they did. The RAR, RLI, SAS, Selous Scouts, the Air Force, et al, have seen a plethora of publications since cessation of hostilities in 1980. They were the glory boys. Even the paramilitary BSAP have seen many publications. The majority of these books are exactly what the general reading public yearn for – action, action and more action. And they are good reads too....

This publication is a work of art and even more important, a labour of love by the authors Peter Baxter, Hugh Bomford, Gerry van Tonder, Tony Fraser, and others.

It is unique. I cannot recall any book on military history that deals with the history of a territorial unit in such detail throughout its existence. There are many publications of South African territorial units such as the Imperial Light Horse, the Kimberley Regiment, the Cape Town Highlanders, the Kaffrarian Rifles, etc, that tell their own story, but they all pale into significance when compared with this history of the Rhodesia Regiment.

Read the small print we are always advised. Well, in this book the small print is in big lettering. It is not just the history of a regiment and its battles – there are the stories sent in by over 400 contributors that give it that personal feel. There are detailed lists of those who fell in the various wars, and especially so during the Bush War. Details of how and when that soldier died are all included. It was a heart sore read going through the roll of honour, recognising and remembering many of those that fell so tragically.

Do not think that the book is just another to fill your shelf – it is not.

Apart from the Roll of Honour the book includes hundreds of photographs, black and white as well as colour. There are 19 chapters. It has sections about the honours and awards won by these territorials, the uniforms worn over the decades, the various badges, lists of the various battalion commanders, 2-i-c’s, and RSMs, lists of the commanding officers, 2-i-c’s and RSMs of the Independent Companies. And so much more. It is also indexed.

It is mind boggling in the sheer volume of the stories and information provided, and is as close to a definitive history that anyone can get, and that is something that the authors can certainly be proud.

The book is massive, some 618 pages, A4 hard cover with a fine colour jacket. The price (in South Africa rand) appears prohibitive, but it is not – it works out to be R2 per page, and that is an absolute bargain buy.

No matter what the regular soldiers say, and yes, they were good, nay brilliant, they could not have done what they did without the territorial soldier of the Rhodesia Regiment. It says it all that the Regiment began before all bar the paramilitary BSAP, and they stayed until the end of cessations.

The authors have done a magnificent job in producing this truly wonderful book.

Are there any criticisms?

Yes, petty criticisms but nothing at all that can take away from this truly well produced and written book. The years of hard work and research have paid off – the authors can be most proud as it is the most detailed book of any territorial regiment world-wide that I have ever read.

A must for all those who are interested in Rhodesian history, a must for all who served in the Rhodesia Regiment, and a must for any person interested in military history.

Well done to all concerned”.

John Edmond:

“This is a very belated congrats on the RR Book - absolutely splendid publication. I am promoting it wherever I go.

You and your team have created a magnificent publication with the RR book. I am so proud to have been able to be a small part of it. I promote it wherever I go. Congrats!

Keep up the great work you are doing”.

Malcolm Roughley:

“I have taken a cursory read through the Rhodesia Regiment and of course it is very impressive with the detail. I like the many black and white photos. Reminds me of some of the pictures in Fireforce.

There are excerpts of seemingly minor events which are germane to the whole story which is superb.

The book is clearly a labour of love and has to be recommended to expats and military historians. I am sure that some libraries will purchase a copy for reference. I shall continue to read and browse and look out for names long gone from my memory”.

John Knight:

“I am delighted and very pleased to have it I am sure that everyone who reads it will enjoy this chronicle of a great part of our history. What a herculean undertaking a great effort on the behalf of you all”.

Bob Chorley:

“Congratulations for such a fantastic publication. It certainly is a ‘must have’ especially for those amongst us who served with the Rhodesia Regiment”.

Andy Barrett:

“You guys gob-slap me, such an immaculate piece of history, all so well researched and pieced together”.

Mike Patterson:

“I congratulate you, Peter and Gerry on your fine book on the Rhodesia Regiment ; yet another book chronicling the exploits of a great body of Rhodesians. My 82 year old Dad, Bernie, himself a member of 5 RR from 1961 had a lump in his throat when seeing the photographs of all his old mates”.

Jan Britton:

“Thank you very much for the book. I am extremely pleased with my purchase, as you said I would be. As well as being a great record, it is also superbly well written - not always the case with regimental histories!

And to really make my day, I think you have given me something I have searched for a decade and spent hundreds of pounds on people searching for in archives: a picture of my father in uniform.

Also I must say thank you. This picture is something my family have wanted to see for ever - particularly my son who wants to follow his grandfather into the army”.

Charles Wilcox:

“I must congratulate you and your team for an amazing production. I cannot imagine the effort and the research that has gone into this project. Rhodesians worldwide owe you a debt of gratitude and you should be immensely proud of the result”.

George Stewart:

“You are all to be congratulated with this magnificent effort. Not only the history being recorded important, the technical production is a masterpiece. The bookmark in the regimental colours is a delightful touch. Thank you for your dedication and efforts, It is much appreciated”.

John Milne:

“Have just received the book. I had a quick browse through it when it arrived. It has certainly surpassed my wildest expectations, undoubtedly my most valuable book”.

Bill Knott:

“Terrific! I feel like Christmas in the early 50s when the Boys Scout Annual used to come as my one prezzie”

Major Paddy Talbot-King RA:

“It gives me much pleasure to let you know that the book has arrived safe and sound; and it was well worth waiting for! What a superb publication and you should all feel justifiably proud of your fantastic efforts”.

Dave Holmes:

“A great effort. Your combined efforts are applauded”

Major Andrew Banks (currently serving with the Directorate of Planning (Manpower) British Army):

“I have now had a chance to have a detailed look at the book.

The text, pictures and illustrations, combine into a volume that is now a benchmark for regimental histories.

A superb achievement; everyone involved in the production of the volume must take their share of credit for a project that has been extremely well done.”