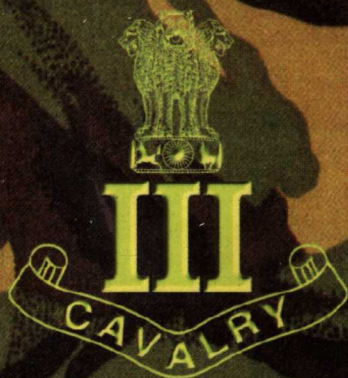


INDIAN ARMY

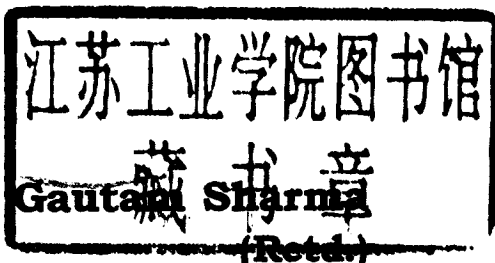
(A Reference Manual)



Lt. Col. Gautam Sharma
(Retd.)

INDIAN ARMY

(A Reference Manual)



Lt. Col.

Gautam Sharma

(Retd.)



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CHAPTER 1

PRESIDENT'S BODYGUARD



Colonels

Maj. Gen. B. Chatterjee	Jun 1948 to Jan 1950
Maj. Gen. Yadunath Singh, MVC	Jan 1955 to Jun 1957
Maj. Gen. Sardar Harnarayan Singh	Jul 1957 to Mar 1963
Maj. Gen D.G.R. Rajwade	Mar 1963 to May 1965
Maj Gen. G.S. Gill	May 1965 to Jan 1969
Maj. Gen. Amrik Singh	Jan 1969 to Apr 1971
Maj. Gen. G.S. Jamwal	Dec 1978 to Mar 1981
Lt. Gen. P.S. Menon	Mar 1981 to Jun 1983
Air Marshal R.S. Naidu	Jul 1983 to Apr 1986
Maj. Gen. K.K. Sood	Apr 1986 to Dec 1989
Rear Adm S. Ramsagar AVSM, VrC, NM	Jan 1990 to Oct 1992
Maj. Gen. D.R. Sehgal	Oct 1992 to Sep 1994
Maj. Gen. A.V. Sathe	Oct 1994 to Nov 1994
Lt. Gen. C.R. Sampath Kumar AVSM, VSM	Nov 1994 to Nov 1997
Maj. Gen. Bhopinder Singh	Nov 1997 to

Motto

Bharat mata ki jai

Badge

The national emblem - Ashoka lions held aloft on an open parachute supported by crossed lances signifying its cavalry and airborne role.

History

President's Bodyguard traces its origin to 1773 when Warren Hastings, Governor of Bengal raised a body of troopers at Benares (Kashi). Of this 50 picked horsemen were to be used by Hastings as his personal

guard in peace and to accompany the Commander in Chief on campaigns. The official designation of the corps earlier was -The Governor General's Troop of Moghuls and after a few changes - The Governor General's Bodyguard. Since 1950 it has been designated - President's Bodyguard

As the senior-most unit it takes precedence over all others and is positioned on the right of the line on all ceremonial occasions and parades. In the beginning the Bodyguard was employed on operations in India and even abroad. It also escorted the Governor General on his tours in the country.

During World War I it was converted into a remount training centre. Its personnel also served overseas in the Middle East and Mesopotamia. Later the personnel were trained as paratroopers and formed a part of the Indian airborne division. They were equipped with armoured cars to begin with and were employed on various internal security duties also during disturbances in Delhi area. From Daimler and Humber armoured cars the Bodyguard has now graduated to BTR 60 armoured vehicles

Its class composition in the pre-1947 period consisted of Jat Sikhs and Punjabi Muslims in equal proportion. Since the transfer of Muslims to Pakistan it is composed of Jats, Sikhs and Rajputs in equal proportion including 14 junior commissioned officers. Officers are seconded from other armoured corps regiments.

Besides ceremonial duties Bodyguard have been employed on operational tasks also. During the 1962 war its armoured cars were airlifted to Chushul and in 1965 the personnel were on the western front as also on the snowy heights of Siachen. Bodyguard personnel have been on UN missions also - to Angola and Somalia and were with the IPKF in Sri Lanka.

As the only equestrian unit, besides 61 Cavalry in the army it has excelled itself in such sports and won renown in national and international meets.

It is the cynosure of all eyes on the Republic Day parades each year and while escorting the President and other visiting dignitaries on ceremonial occasions. It has another distinction. It is the only unit to carry the national colour and regimental standard on ceremonial occasions. It also enjoys the honour to carry the President's silver trumpet and trumpet banner.

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CHAPTER 2

1 HORSE



Colonels

Brig. R. M. Bilimoria	Dec 1949 to Sep 1962
Lt. Gen. Gurbachan Singh, PVSM	Jul 1966 to Jul 1981
Lt. Gen. G.S. Grewal, PVSM	Jul 1981 to Jul 1992
Maj. Gen. S.S. Grewal, AVSM	Aug 1992 to Oct 1994
Brig. Ajay Sood, VSM	Nov 1994 to

Battle Honours

Pre-1947

Ghuzne, Afghanistan, Khelat, Khandhar 1842, Afghanistan 1979-80, Kandhar 1880, Pekin, France and Flanders, North West Frontier India, Baluchistan, Afghanistan 1919, Agordat, Keren, Amba Alagi, Abyssinia, Senio Flood Bank, Italy

Post-1947:

Harar Kalan, Punjab 1971*

Motto

Himmat-e-mardan, madad-e- khuda (Bravery of man is by the grace of God)

Badge

The badge consists of two crossed lances, a horse in between the lances, white rose at the junction of the lancers and a scroll at the base. Initially it had a sowar mounted on a horseback with the regimental motto - *Himmat-e-mardan, madad-e-khuda*. The white horse is the symbol of the House of York. In 1927 the horseman was replaced by the British crown and then reverted to the horseman in 1962.

History

Skinner's Horse traces its origin to 1803 when after the battle of

Delhi the defeated French trained soldiers of Scindhia transferred their loyalty to the British under their commander- an Anglo-Indian named James Skinner who had led them in many battles before. On his refusal to fight against the British he had been dismissed by the Scindhia. Disbanded soon after, the unit was re-raised in 1809 and employed in various campaigns in India and abroad.

In 1912 the 1st and 3rd Bengal Cavalry regiments were amalgamated and came to be known as -1st Duke of York's Own Skinner's Horse and then Skinner's Horse, 1st Duke of York's Own Cavalry.

During World War I it was in France and Flanders and later in Afghanistan.

Becoming motorised in the early stages of World War II it was equipped with armoured cars and served as a reccee regiment in Eritrea, Abyssinia., Persia and later in Italy right up to Senio.

By 1947 its class composition was - Rajputs, Jats and Ranghar Muslims. On the transfer of the Ranghars to Pakistan the third squadron was composed of Sikhs..

The regiment was in Hyderabad Police Action in 1948. Having received Churchill and then Sherman tanks it participated in the battle of Dograi during the 1965 war. In 1971 it operated with T-55 tanks in Shakargarh area. The regiment now holds T-72 tanks.

The affiliation of Skinner's Horse with 13th /18th Royal Hussars, since designated Light Dragoons dates back to the hard fought battles in France and Flanders during World War I. The bonds forged on the field of battle with blood, though they existed all these years, were put on a firm footing recently (1994) and recognized by Army Headquarters..

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Haynes, Lt Col E.G. *The Last Days of Horsed Cavalry, An Account of Skinner's Horse between the Wars*,

Rothero, Christopher, *Skinner's Horse*, Staples Printers, Katterring for Almark Publishing Co. Ltd New Malden, Surrey, 1979

Skinner Lt. Col. M.A.R, *Sworn to Die*, Lancers International, New Delhi, 1984.

CHAPTER 3

2 LANCERS



Colonels

Gen. M. Rajendrasinhji, DSO	Jan 1948 to Jan 1961
Brig. D. Chaudhuri	Feb 1961 to Mar 1971
Lt. Gen. H. Kaul, PVSM, AVSM, ADC	Apr 1971 to Sep 1986
Lt. Gen. R. Sharma, PVSM, AVSM	Oct 1986 to Mar 1994
Lt. Gen. S. K. Sharma, PVSM, AVSM	Apr 1994 to
Brig. M.P. Singh, AVSM	

Battle Honours

Pre-1947

Arakan, Sobraon, Punjab, Mooltan , Afghanistan 1879-80, Tel-el-Kabir, Egypt, La Basse, Givenchy, Neuve Chapelle, Festubert, Somme, Cambrai, France and Flanders, Egypt, Megiddo, Sharon, Damascus, Palestine, Tigris, North Africa, Mesopotamia, Afghanistan, El Mechili, Point 171 (Bir Hachim)

Post-1947

Punjab 1965

War Memorial

Zojila

War Cry

Jai Bhawani & Jai Bhagwan Jat Balwan

History

Lt. Col. Gardner's Corps of Irregular Horse, later abbreviated to Gardner's Horse was raised in 1809. Gardner had earlier served the Scindhia and was dismissed for his refusal to fight his co-religionists. The irregular corps participated in the Nepal War which came soon after, then against the Marathas, in the North West Frontier Province, Burma and other campaigns. 4th Cavalry earlier the 6th Regiment of Bengal Irregular Cavalry and later amalgamated with Gardner's Horse also had a distinguished record. During World War I Daffadar Govind Singh was awarded the VC in France. Albert medal, a peace-time honour equivalent to the VC was awarded to Trumpeter Mangal Sain. By 1903 the regiment was named 2nd Lancers (Gardner's Horse). 4th Cavalry and 2nd Lancers were amalgamated in 1922 to form 2nd Lancers (Gardner's Horse).

The regiment which by 1935 had become 2nd Royal Lancers (Gardner's Horse) was mechanised and joined the Lorried Brigade during World War II. Moving into Egypt in 1940 it tried its best to hold Rommel's Panzer Divisions, move across North Africa and was more or less decimated. Reconstituted in Cairo in 1941 it moved to Syria and was then back into Egypt for the same role - blocking the advance of the Germans. More reverses followed in the face of overwhelming odds. The regiment was then equipped with Daimler, Humber and General Motors armoured cars.

The class composition in 1947 consisted of Rajputs, Jats and Muslims. With the Muslims going over to Pakistan the Rajput squadrons of 18 Cavalry joined the regiment. Changing over to up-gunned Sherman tanks it went into the 1965 War in Phillora-Chawinda area where fierce tank battles took place. Equipped with Vijayanta tanks after the war the regiment was in Punjab in the 1971 war. It was later equipped with T-72 tanks.

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Whitworth, Capt D.E., MC, *A History of 2nd Lancers (Gardner's Horse) From 1809 to 1922*, Sifton Praed & Co. Ltd. London, 1924

Vaughan, Brig E.W.D., CB, DSO, MC *A History of the 2nd Royal Lancers (Gardner's Horse)*, Printed by the Harrow Observer, Harrow, London, 1951.

CHAPTER 4

3 CAVALRY



Colonels

Lt. Gen. K.P. Dhargalkar, MBE	Apr 1949 to Jun 1961
Maj. Gen. RK Ranjit Singh, PVSM	Jun 1961 to Nov 1972
Maj. Gen. C. R. R. Naidu	Jan 1973 to Mar 1981
Maj. Gen. B. K. Mahapatra, AVSM	Jun 1981 to Jun 1990
Brig. D.S. Vasudev, SM	Jun 1990 to Apr 1993
Brig. K.A. Hai	Sep 1994 to

Battle Honours

Pre- 1947 :

Mooltan, Punjab, Afghanistan, Mesopotamia, North Malaya, Central Malaya, Malaya 1941-42 *

Post-1947 :

Asal Uttar, Punjab 1965 *, Shehjna 1971, Punjab 1971 *

Motto

Kirti aur vivek

War Cry

Har Maidan Fateh

Regimental March

Dover Castle

Regimental Days

Asal Uttar- 9 Sep

Shehjna - 5 Dec

History

Raised after the First Afghan War in 1841 the regiment was earlier designated - 5th Bengal Cavalry. It operated in Bhutan, Abyssinia and Mesopotamia as 5th Bengal Cavalry during World War I. In 1922 it was amalgamated with 8th Bengal Lancers and came to be known as 5th / 8th Cavalry and subsequently as 3rd Cavalry which title it still carries.

Mechanised in 1939 with Vickers light tanks and some carriers, during World War II it was in Iraq, Middle East and then in Iran. It had Stuarts and then Churchill tanks and lastly Crocodile flame throwers after the war. In 1946 the regiment was trained as an airborne reconnaissance regiment.

Until 1947 the regiment was composed of Rajputs, Jats and Muslims. After the Muslims had left the third squadron was composed of Sikhs.

In the wake of the partition of the country the regiment was in Junagadh and then in the Hyderabad police action.

Equipped with Centurions it was engaged in some fierce tank battles in Asal Uttar area which came to be known as the graveyard of Patton tanks, during the 1965 war. In the 1971 war it was once again in the advance in Shakargarh area and fought a series of actions in the area.

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CHAPTER 5

4 HORSE



Colonels

Maj. Gen. Sir Guy Beatty	1940 to 1947
Lt. Gen. Daulat Singh	Jan 1951 to Nov 1963
Brig. Pritpal Singh	Nov 1963 to Aug 1972
Maj. Gen. R. D. R. Anand, PVSM	Aug 1972 to Jul 1980
Lt. Gen. Gurinder Singh, PVSM, AVSM	Jul 1980 to Sep 1991
Maj. Gen. Himmat Singh Gill, AVSM, VSM	Mar 1992 to Jan 1993
Lt. Gen. N.S. Malik PVSM	Apr 1993 to Feb 1998
Brig. B.S. Butalia	

Battle Honours

Pre-1947:

Delhi, Lucknow, Abyssinia, Afghanistan, Suakin, Chitral, Punjab Frontier, Givenchy, Somme, Bazentine, Flers Courceleite, Cambrai, France and Flanders, Megiddo, Sharon, Damascus, Palestine, Khan Baghdadi, Mesopotamia

Post-1947:

Butur Dograndi, Phillora, Punjab 1965 *, Basantar River 1971, Punjab 1971* Butur Dograndi.

Motto

Tayar bar tayar

Regimental March

Scopio

History

The regiment was raised in 1857 from irregular horse units of the Sikh and Muslim nobility which had helped the British in the 1857 during the fighting at Delhi. This regiment is associated with the person of a dubious fame - Hodson who had obtained the surrender of the last

Mughal Emperor - Badadur Shah Zafar and then cutting down the young royal princes and members of the retinue.

The regiment was initially designated 9th Bengal Lancers (Hodson's Horse). Though it carried the title Hodson's Horse the name has been dropped and now it is just - 4 Horse.

After 1857 it participated in various campaigns. During World War I it was in France and Flanders most of the time. The regiment also operated in Syria, Palestine and Mesopotamia.

Mechanisation commenced in 1939 and it was issued with Vickers tanks to begin with and then armoured cars, Stuarts, Shermans, Churchills until it became a flame thrower regiment

During World War II it was in Iraq, Iran, and the 10th Army in the Middle East.

Its composition has remained the same as before - two squadrons of Sikhs and one of Dogras.

During the post independence period it was in Junagadh operations and was involved in some fierce fighting during the 1965 war in Phillora area. During the next war (1971) it spear-headed the advance in the Shakargarh sector.

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CHAPTER 6

7 CAVALRY



Colonels

Gen. Sir R.A. Cassels, GCB, GCSI, DSO	1934 to 1949
Maj. Gen. Tara Singh Bal	Apr 1949 to Jul 1959
Maj. Gen. Rajinder Singh, MVC & Bar	Jul 1959 to Jul 1969
Brig. J.S. Jind	Oct 1969 to Sep 1977
Maj. Gen. B.S. Irani	Jun 1980 to Apr 1983
Maj. Gen. later Lt. Gen. K.S. Randhawa	
PVSM, AVSM	May 1983 to Jun 1989
Brig. R. D. Law, VrC	Dec 1989 to May 1993
Lt. Gen. Kamaljit Singh, VSM	May 1993 to

Honorary Colonel

Gen. J.N. Chaudhuri, OBE

Battle Honours

Pre-1947:

Mysore, Seringapatam, Meheidpoor, Merv, Persia, Afghanistan, Burma 1942-45*, Imphal, Kyaukmyaung, Mandalay, Meiktila, Rangoon Road

Post-1947 :

Srinagar, Naushera, Jhangar, Zoji la, Jammu & Kashmir 1947-48*, Punjab 1965*, Punjab 1971*, East Pakistan 1971*, Mian Bazar

Motto

We Lead

Regimental March

Light Cavalry Overtone until replaced by *Sare Jahan Se Achha Hindustan Hamara*

Regimental Day

Zoji la -1 November