

60th Regiment of Foot 1st Battalion at the Cape 1810-1819



Introduction

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officers. The total regiment consisted of 101 officers, 240 non-commissioned officers and 4,160 enlisted men. The battalions were raised on Governors Island, New York. The regiment was renumbered the 60th (Royal American) Regiment in February 1757 when the 50th (Shirley's) and 51st (Pepperel's) foot regiments were removed from the British Army roll after their surrender at Fort Oswego.

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Napoleonic Wars 18 May 1803 – 20 November 1815

During the Napoleonic Wars the regiment saw action in the Peninsular War. The first four battalions had been raised as regular line battalions, but in 1797 a 5th battalion had been raised at Cowes on the Isle of Wight and equipped entirely with the Baker rifle, and wore green jackets with red facings. The mixing of rifle troops and muskets proved so effective that eventually line battalion light companies were replaced with rifle companies. The line battalions found themselves in several different theatres, including the West Indies. The rifle battalion was soon joined by a second, and these found themselves in the Peninsula with Wellington's army, serving along with the 95th Rifles, and the King's German Legion rifle units. A 7th battalion was eventually raised as a rifle battalion specifically for service in the American War of 1812.

1st Battalion 1810-1819

The 1st Battalion was transferred from Jamaica in April 1810 to Cowes on the Isle of Wight, where it was refilled with a conscription of foreign troops. Thereafter the 1st Battalion was transferred to the Cape Colony in September 1811 where they fought in the the 4th Xhosa War until 1812. Thereafter they protected the boundaries of the Cape Colony until they were disbanded in 1819. was transferred from Jamaica in April 1810 to Cowes on the Isle of Wight, where it was refilled with a conscription of foreign troops. Thereafter the 1st Battalion was transferred to the Cape Colony in September 1811 where they fought in the the 4th Xhosa War until 1812. Thereafter they protected the boundaries of the Cape Colony until they were disbanded in 1819.

Dolker, John	2562	Lamant, Willem
Delhagan, John	89	Denys, Charles
Daugh, Coenraad	91	Dale
Denham, John	2637	Daphne
Dyball, Thomas	39	Dixon, John

Coenraad Daugh 2591

The caption above is part of a list of known soldiers of the 60th regiment of Foot, 1st Battalion who were issued with a colonial pass to remain in the Cape Colony after their discharge from the Regiment, having served their contracts. Discharges began in 1816 and ended in 1819. Everyone that was issued with a colonial pass did not necessarily remain in the colony for the rest of their lives.

History of the 1809-1810 enrolment

The following statement and document (above) come from records found on NAAIRS (SA National Archives):

"Die Pruisiese soldate wat in diens geneem is te Cowes op die eiland "Isle of Wight", Engeland is vermoedelik gevangene geneem deur die Engelse nadat die Engelse die Hollandse dorp Flushing (Vlissingen) verower het in 1809. Die dorp was verdedig deur Napoleon se Pruisiese Regiment, 2de en 3de bataljonne wat saamgestel is in November en Desember 1806 te Leipzig uit Pruisiese soldate wat weer op hul beurt deur Napoleon gevange geneem was.

15 Augustus 1809 Flushing (Vlissingen)

Om twee uur des nachts hield het bombardement op. Binnen een uur werd er gekapituleerd, Het hele garnizoen van Vlissingen, vijfduizend man, werd krijgsgevangen gemaakt en naar Engeland verscheept

Het aantal gesneuvelde Franse soldaten is niet bekend; wel dat er na de capitulatie op 15 augustus 3,773 als krijgsgevangenen door de Engelsen werden afgevoerd."

This is the main issue which had to be overcome during the research on the Dauth connection. Records from the Archives in the UK provides indication that Coenraad Johan DAUGHT did indeed move from England to the Cape.



Example 1811 Transport'

1811 September 18 Arrival ship Portsea with troops from Spithead at the Cape.

The only ship known to have arrived at the Cape with troops, which coincides with the movement of the 1st Division from Cowes, was on 18 September 1811.

Ship: Portsea, Captain: H Roberts, English India Transport, departed from Spithead, Arrive Caap, with troops onboard Source: [Ship building p102 1840 Calcutta By John Phipps (of the Master Attendant's Office, Calcutta.)]

1st Battalion, 60th Regiment of Foot at the Cape Colony

The fourth Kafir war

The following sources were used to describe the role of the 60th Regiment of Foot at the Cape Colony:

<https://archive.org/stream/recordscapecolo07offigoog#page/n443/mode/2up>

<https://archive.org/stream/recordscapecolo07offigoog#page/n445/mode/2up>

<https://archive.org/stream/recordscapecolo07offigoog#page/n445/mode/2up>

<https://archive.org/stream/recordscapecolo07offigoog#page/n167/mode/2up>

<https://archive.org/stream/recordscapecolo07offigoog#page/n325/mode/2up>

https://archive.org/stream/recordsofcapecol00thea_11#page/186/mode/2up

Vol 10 p 429

*A reinforcement of two hundred men of the first battalion of the 60th regiment, which had **arrived in the colony in September 1811**, having been sent to Colonel Graham's aid...*

Vol 10 p 430

By the beginning of March, the fourth Kaffir war was over, and it had ended-as neither the second nor the third had - favourably for the Europeans. At its close there were in the field eight hundred burghers and twelve hundred and fifty-two soldiers, including the Hottentot regiment. The Xosas driven over the Fish River numbered in all about twenty thousand souls.

Vol 10 p 431

Most of the European troops who had taken part in the war were recalled to Cape Town, but others were sent to the front, and at the close of the year the line of defence was occupied, in addition to the burghers, by 59 dragoons, 427 men of the 60th, and the Hottentot regiment.

Prelude to Discharges

Vol 10 p155

[Letter from Lord Charles Somerset to Lieutenant Colonel Torrens.]

Cape of Good Hope,

Government House, August 7th 1814.

Weighing therefore all these circumstances together with that of **986 men** of the 1st Battalion of the 60th Regiment out of **992 being for limited service**

Vol 10 p311

[Letter from Lord Charles Somerset to Earl Bathurst.]

Government House

Cape of Good Hope, 19th June 1815.

The only Corps of Infantry remaining being the first Battalion of the 60th Regiment, a part of which is employed in the Interior of this Settlement (500 miles from this place), and this Regiment being composed of Foreigners, a description of Soldier which I understand has not been considered eligible for the Indian Service.

Vol 11 p186

Letter from Lord Charles Somerset to Earl Bathurst.

Cape of Good Hope, September 19th 1816.

I have been under the necessity of saying that the detachments of the 83rd Regiment " must " be relieved by the 72nd Foot, in order that I might explain to your Lordship that it became at a former period expedient to remove the 60th Regiment from those duties which from their scattered nature required men of the steadiest character. The men of the Battalion in question are all foreigners except 14 deserters from other armies. Restless in their characters, anxious to return to their own countries or at any rate to be removed from the sameness of this distant establishment, men so circumstanced, looking so wistfully for change, without attachment to the Government which supports them, appear to be ill calculated for associating with the lower class of inhabitants of a recently acquired country, whose principles are not yet by any means fixed, and the inconvenience has been sensibly felt and remarked.

But, my Lord, supposing the 1st Battalion of the 60th Regiment was not composed of the description of men I have alluded to, still the removal of the 83rd Regiment will leave this place with a Force inadequate to the duties, as your Lordship will perceive from the enclosed detailed returns, and that Force will be daily diminished from the nature of the enlistment of the men of the 60th Regiment. The present strength of the Battalion is 951, of which 217 become entitled to their discharges in the course of the present year (1816), and 541 more in the course of the next (1817), when the Battalion will of course be reduced to 193 rank and file,

End of the War

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Main source for this study:

From SAF Registers: Coenraad Johan Daught member of the 60th Regiment of the British Army, received permission on 1 April 1819 to remain in the Cape Colony, X 3 June 1821 Elsje Magdalena FRITS - SOUTH AFRICAN GENEALOGIES VOLUME 1. Compiled by J.A. Heese, D.Ed. Edited by R.T. Lombard D.Litt. et Phil. Pretoria Human Science Research Council 1986. Reprinted by Genealogical Institute of South Africa Stellenbosch 2007.