

EDUCATION IN NEW ZEALAND STAFF COLLEGE.

In order to overcome a deficiency in trained staff officers a Staff College was established in October, 1941. An officer was made available from India to establish this College, and assumed the appointment of Commandant. Two courses had been completed by the end of the year.

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE OF AUSTRALIA.

There are at present twenty-six New Zealand cadets attending the Royal Military College of Australia.

TRAINING IN NEW ZEALAND: ARMoured FIGHTING VEHICLES SCHOOL.

An Armoured Fighting Vehicles School was formed with an officer of the Royal Tank Corps from the Middle East as Commandant. The instructors consist of officers and non-commissioned officers who have had actual experience of the operations of armoured fighting vehicles in modern war.

ARMY SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION.

The Army School of Instruction has continued to be of the greatest value in training non-commissioned officers for commissioned rank and in the specialist training of technical units. Instructors required for the Home Guard were given a month's intensive course of training when the Home Guard was transferred to the control of the Army.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

District Schools of Instruction have been fully employed undertaking courses for personnel of Territorial units. In addition, these schools undertook the instruction of non-commissioned officers for commissions in the Territorial Force at a stage when the capacity of the Army School in this respect was not sufficient for the number of new officers required. Courses for officers and N.C.O.s of the Home Guard cover many subjects. Between four thousand five hundred and five thousand members of the Home Guard passed through district schools during the year.

PERSONNEL RETURNED FROM NEW ZEALAND EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

The necessity for the presence of instructors with recent active-service experience has been met by the return of some three hundred members from the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. These officers and N.C.O.s have in the main been placed in staff appointments or posted as instructors in our various schools and training establishments; some, however, have been given command of formations and units in the Territorial Force. Their recent experience of modern war will undoubtedly have a marked effect on the readiness for war of the Territorial Force.

TRAINING OF NEW ZEALAND EXPEDITIONARY FORCE PERSONNEL.

Drafts of reinforcements for the New Zealand Expeditionary Force have been trained and despatched during the year in sufficient numbers to ensure that an adequate reserve of man-power is available to the New Zealand Forces overseas.

TRAINING OF MOBILIZED FORCES.

A concentration early in the year of Territorial units for manœuvres laid a sound basis for more intensive and prolonged training on mobilization.

An intensive course of one month's recruit training in which bare essentials only were taught has been tried with gratifying results. This period of one month is the absolute minimum necessary to render a civilian useful in the ranks.

TRAINING IN THE HOME GUARD.

With the availability of equipment and qualified instructors provided by the Army, training in the Home Guard has made great strides during the period since 1st August last. Every facility to the capacity available after meeting the demands of the Territorial Force has been provided at schools of instruction for training of Home Guard personnel. The Home Guard is now regarded as a most valuable part of the Army in New Zealand, and both War Office and New Zealand training manuals, pamphlets, and other publications are issued to the Home Guard on the same scale as to Territorial Force units. With the rapidly improved position as regards equipment and instruction, I feel justified in saying that the Home Guard is now an organization which will render an excellent account of itself should the war extend to these shores.

TRAINING OF CADETS.

With the maintenance of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force overseas and the mobilization, training, and equipment of forces for home defence as the main preoccupation of the Army it is natural that the attention given to the training of Cadets has of necessity been curtailed to a large extent. At the same time the efforts of the officers concerned, who are in the main masters at secondary schools, have given gratifying results. At most schools five days' continuous training in the form of barracks was carried out in the early part of the calendar year.