



Royal Hutt River Army

1st North American Royal Guards
1st Regiment Royal Artillery
Royal School of Artillery



SOME OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

DATE OF REPORT:

26 April 2008

CONTACT OFFICER:

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ACTIVITY:

Responding to Objections for Members of Her Majesty's Royal Artillery Regiments.

In recent months, active and retired members of the British Army have discovered our various web sites and have taken objection to us on a number of issues ranging from our use of British styled insignia to our very existence. Our guiding principal in responding to their attacks has been to remain polite, professional, and accurate. Presented here is a summary of their main objections and our responses.

Objection 1.

I am very interested to find out by what right you are claiming the title Royal? I should also tell you that members of THE Royal Artillery are getting a bit upset with you and your flagrant abuse of copyright. I would imagine you should expect to hear from lawyers representing the British Army soon.
MAJ Geoffrey W Davey, MNF-I 3 SB

Our Response:

Thank you for your kind note. Our web site should not be listing our organization as "Royal Artillery" anywhere - we list it as "Royal Hutt River Artillery" for just the reasons you named. If there are any places on our web site that use the term "The Royal Artillery," please let me know and we will change it immediately.

Objection 2:

Is Hutt River a recognised nation? With a recognised monarchy? Is your use of the Royal Artillery's crest and motto approved by the Royal Artillery and the relevant agencies for use of heraldic devices? The answer to all the above is no.

MAJ Geoffrey W Davey, MNF-I 3 SB

Our Response:

As I am sure you would agree, the first step in gaining recognition for being a sovereign and independent state is to become a sovereign and independent state. No one would recognize a country that had not yet become a country. We are working diligently to gain the recognition within the community of nations for what we have already achieved and have known ourselves for over 35 years. The United Nations has provided very specific guidelines for what is required to become an independent state - we have met all of those conditions and anxiously await their ruling on the matter.

As for having a recognized monarch, we believe we have one. Prince Leonard is our recognized monarch because we consented to his rule when we gained our independence from Australia. If there is another method for a new nation to have a monarch, I have never heard of it.

Ultimately, you will believe what you wish. But, the thousands of citizens of the Principality of Hutt River firmly believe in our country and the rightness of the cause for which we succeeded and gained our independence.

Objection 3:

My late Father was a member of the Royal Regiment of Artillery in the British Army. I served [in a different area] for 30 years. I suspect he [and indeed all "Gunners" past and present] would be seriously unhappy by your misuse of a facsimile of the Royal Artillery cap-badge... Please don't borrow another Nation's "Battle Honour". "Ubique" is Latin for "Everywhere", which is why the RA do not have individual Battle Honours. Their guns are their honours ... everywhere. Please change the badge. It won't take you long, or cost much, to avoid embarrassment.

A British O-5 [retired]

Our Response:

Thank you for your kind note. Our badge, like the Royal Canadian Artillery, the Royal Australian Artillery, the Royal Malta Artillery, and other European and Asian artillery organizations that exist today or did during the past century, use a variation of the British badge with distinct changes related to our Principality (which, incidentally is not in American, but in Western Australia). We do not attempt to make ourselves look like The Royal Artillery of the UK or any of its units, nor do we use "Ubique" as that is most commonly associated with artillery units of the Commonwealth countries.

A Kind Note of Support:

I am an occasional visitor to the British Army Rumours Service Site (www.arrse.co.uk). I cannot help but notice that you are coming in for a little Flak, to use an artillery term, from there. My advice would be to ignore this for as far as I can see you are an entirely open and honourable organisation that only aims to do good for fellow citizens. My own Regiment has a very close association with the 23rd Foot in America and we have been pleased to meet their members and include them as part of our larger family.

Carl Wynne

Our Official Response Regarding the Badge of the Royal Hutt River Artillery.

We are not sure what triggered these objections, which stopped almost as quickly as they started, but we believe there was a general misperception that we were claiming to be part of the British Royal Artillery or a historical “re-enacting” group that did not clarify its position.

The British Royal Artillery badge has been adopted, with variations, by Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Malta, and other countries over the years. We do not believe we have committed any transgressions against British Royal Artillery proper. If, however, we receive any official communications from the British Royal Artillery or British Army command, we will take their concerns and comments into consideration, and will confer with our Military Command and our Royal College of Heraldry before making any changes to emblems, etc. For now, everything will remain exactly as is.