

Fact Sheet 4B

After the War



Chaplains and Huts

Troops were still stationed abroad after the war so huts and chaplains continued to be required. Troops were moving in great truck convoys, and needed refreshment wherever they stopped. To accommodate the mass numbers of returning soldiers to ports in France, alternative hut buildings were used - for example, empty steel hangers.

War Graves

The responsibility of tending war graves was amalgamated into one group - the Imperial War Graves Commission, now known as The Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Demobbed Soldiers

The Salvation Army helped soldiers returning from war. Soldiers were greeted at the dockside and telegrams were given to help soldiers contact loved ones. Sometimes telegrams were written on their behalf, to help inform loved ones about injuries that had been sustained. Accommodation was supplied, just not in hostels, but in additional buildings commissioned to support the volume of soldiers returning.

Red Shield Defence

The Salvation Army has been supporting soldiers ever since the Boer War, but the scale required for the First World War demonstrated a need for organisation and prompt response on a larger scale. This led to the creation of the Red Shield Defence, a branch of The Salvation Army which supports troops pastorally, spiritually, and with cups of tea. It is still supporting soldiers today.

Germany

Field kitchens - *gulaschkanone*, from the war were given to Die Heilsarmee to help in their work to feed the hungry in Germany.

Doughnuts

Doughnuts became a symbol of The Salvation Army in the USA. There is a National Doughnut Day, where doughnuts are handed out free in remembrance of the support given during WW1.

