

# *Gunner of Renown*



Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company

## **Major General Leslie Ellis BEAVIS, CB, CBE, DSO**

**(1895-1975)**

Les Beavis graduated from RMC Duntroon in June 1915 and sailed for the Middle East with the 5th Australian Field Artillery Brigade. The Brigade arrived in France in April 1916 and Beavis was soon promoted to command a battery in another brigade.

While commanding 53rd Battery, 14th AFA Brigade, it is claimed that one of his Lewis gunners shot down the German air ace Baron von Richtofen on 21 April 1918. Beavis was awarded the DSO for his services in France and mentioned in dispatches.

After the war he became a staff officer with an interest in manufacturing and technology. He subsequently joined the staff of Lieutenant General Sir Thomas Blamey in the 2nd AIF in Egypt in WWII and was made Director of the Ordnance Services with responsibility for equipping the force.

In 1942 he returned to Australia and was promoted major general and appointed Master General of the Ordnance responsible for the logistic support of the army at home and abroad. He retired in 1952 and became High Commissioner to Pakistan.

For more information follow the link below.

<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/beavis-leslie-ellis-9464>