

A.I.F. SPORTS AT PUCKAPUNYAL

Twelve units of the A.I.F. took part in a sports meeting at Puckapunyal yesterday, when the 2/2 Pioneers won the challenge trophy for the second time in succession.

Gunner Carson, Ellis, of the 2 Anti-Aircraft Regiment, won both the mile and the cross-country race of about two miles in which there were 48 starters. Ellis used to run professionally at Maribyrnong, White City, and Heidelberg.

The 100 yards lowever, was won by Pte. A. Maas, 2/2 Pioneers, who said he had never run in sports meetings before joining the A.I.F.

Only half an inch separated the first two men in the shot putt. Sgt. Cliff Lang, Australian Rugby International, from Footscray, and now with 2/2 Pioneers, put the shot 34ft. but along came Rdr. Colin Benjamin, who had won the event in the public school sports for Scotch, and added just half an inch to win.

Outstanding event of the day, one which aroused the expert interest of all the 3,000 troops present, was the infantry guard mounting competition. Points were allotted for inspection, equipment, drill, and evolutions, word of command, deportment, and turnout. Possible points were 400. The 2/2 Pioneers, under command of Lieut. D. Guild, received 368 points and the 2/1 Field Survey Company, under Lieut. B. P. Lambert, 363 points.

Trophies were presented by the G.O.C., Southern Command, Lieut-General E. K. Smart, who had made a tour of inspection through the camp earlier in the day. Results:—

100 Yards—Maas, 2/2 Pioneers, 1; Dorr, 2/2 Field Training Regt., 2; 2/2 L.A.A., 3. 220 Yards—Allen, 2/2 P.T.R., 1; Denner, 2 A.A., 2; 2/1 Survey Coy., 3. 440 Yards—Benton, 2/4 Field Regt., 1; Hale, 2 A.A., 2; 2/2 Pioneers, 3. 880 Yards—Burton, 2/4th, 1; Johnston, 2/2 Pioneers, 2; 2/1 Survey, 3. Mile—Ellis, 2 A.A., 1; Donald, 2/2 Pioneers, 2; 2/2 Corps Field Park, 3. Cross Country (approx. 2 miles)—Ellis, 2 A.A., 1; Hodge, 2/2 Pioneers, 2. Mile Relay—2/1 Survey, 1; 2/11 Field Regt., 2; 2/2 Pioneers, 3. High Jump—Nellis, 2/4th, 1; Edwards, 2/2 11th, 2; Robins, 2/2 P.T.R., and McKay, 2/2 Pioneers, equal, 3. Flag Race—2/2 Pioneers, 1; 2/11th, 2; 2/1 Survey, 3. Long Jump—2/11th, 1; 2/2 Pioneers, 2; 2/2 P.T.R., 3. Shot Putt—Benjamin, 2; A.A., 1; Lang, 2/2 Pioneers, 2; 2/11th, 3. Tug-of-war—2/2 Pioneers, 1; 2/11th, 2. Guard Mounting, artillery—2/11th (363 points), 1; L.A.A. (360), 2; 2/2 Artillery Training Regt. (345), 3. Guard Mounting, infantry—2/2 Pioneers (368 points), 1; 2/1 Survey Coy. (363), 2. Teams and Driving—Turnout—Stoner, 1; Crow, 2. Driving—Matthews, 1; Stoner, 2 (all A.A.S.C.). Kicking for Goal—Auld, L.A.A., 1; Dowler, 2/1 Field Survey, 2; McKeown, 2/2 P.T.R., 3. Overhead Ball—2/2 Pioneers, 1; 2/1 Survey, 2; 2/11th, 2. Throwing Cricket Ball—2/2 Corps Field Coy., 1; 2/11th, 3; 2/2 Survey Coy., 3. Cross Country (steep)—2/2 Pioneers, 1; 2/1 Survey Coy., 2; 2/11th, 3. Total Points—2/2 Pioneers (461), 1; 2/11th (371), 2; 2/1 Survey Coy. (360), 3.