

Sir Eric Woodward KCMG CB CBE DSO

The degree of Doctor of Letters (*honoris causa*) was conferred upon Sir Eric Woodward KCMG CB CBE DSO, the Governor of New South Wales, at a special meeting of Senate held on 29 April 1959 in the Great Hall.

Report

Sir Eric Woodward graduated from the Royal Military College, Duntroon and was commissioned in December, 1920. Following the outbreak of World War II, he joined the Australian Imperial Force on its formation in 1939, and left for the Middle East with the 6th Australian Division. He took part in the Battle of El Alamein, and for his services was made a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order. He had previously been made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire for his services with the 6th Division at the Battle of Bardia.

Following his return to Australia in 1943, he served as Brigadier General Staff Northern Territory Force, and then in senior staff appointments at Australian Army Headquarters. When the Pacific War ended he was serving at Morotai in the Netherlands East Indies. After the war he served on the staff of Army Headquarters till the end of 1947.

1948 was spent at the Imperial Defence College, and 1949 as Australian Army Representative in the United Kingdom. He returned to Army Headquarters, and in 1951 became Deputy Chief of the General Staff. Later that year he became Adjutant-General and Second Military Member of the Military Board, while in December, 1953, he was promoted Lieutenant-General and appointed General Officer Commanding Eastern Command.

His sincerity and the interest he always showed in the troops and in their welfare won for him the highest respect of all soldiers in the command. In 1957 Her Majesty appointed him her representative in New South Wales.

From the Senate Report to the NSW Government for 1959