It is with deep regret that we notify the passing of Lieutenant Colonel Chevalier Antoine Pace Bonello MBE GC OCC, at the age of 93, on the 8th of October, 2014.

At the outbreak of war Antoine Pace Bonello was commissioned into the Royal Malta Artillery. He became Battery Commander of 8 S/L (Searchlight) RMA, performing a critical if often underestimated role in conjunction with the AA guns and night fighters. Post-war he became commander of 3rd/11th Regiment Royal Malta Artillery.
OBITUARY

Thursday, October 9, 2014

Antoine Pace Bonello

René Grixti, President, 3/11 Regiment RMA(T) Association, writes:

The death of Antoine Pace Bonello came as a shock to his many friends in so many circles. His long and impressive career in the Maltese armies left the imprint not only of his wonderful character but also of his military knowledge and management skills.

Antoine, as he was known to his many friends, was a person with whom nobody could ever enter into conflict or contrast. He was kindness and good manners personified. To all his subalterns, he always managed to put over the notion that there is never any real problem on this earth that with calm, a studied approach and a lot of patience, cannot be solved.

These attributes he carried with him and used enthusiastically in the many public-spirited involvements he set his heart into, even after retirement from active service. He was active in many associations and circles.

For his last regiment, the 3/11 Regiment RMA(T), he retained a fond love and attachment. When we first formed our veterans association, way back in 1972, he encouraged and supported us in many ways, and we retained and appreciated his multifaceted support very much, even to the point of unanimously electing him as Honorary President.

Antoine was a prominent member of the George Cross Island Association, the British Legion (Malta Branch), the Royal Malta Artillery Association and the 3/11 Regiment RMA(T) Association. Everywhere he helped others and, in Sliema, he was a highly respected member of his parish community.

May the Good Lord grant him eternal rest.

We extend our deepest condolences to the members of his family.