

POLICE PERSONNEL KILLED IN DIRECT ABORIGINAL ATTACKS

Working national schedule, 1788-1934 - 34 presently identified cases

Research caution: This remains a working schedule, not an official closed casualty roll. It includes Aboriginal Native Police troopers and assistants. The 16 cases through 1870 are the same comparison set used for the flyer; 18 later cases have been added here. Several entries depend on later or incomplete records and should be primary-source audited before publication as a definitive national roll.

Date	Police personnel	Location	Circumstances of death
1827	Chief Constable William Bennett	St Peter's Pass, Tasmania	Speared during an Aboriginal attack on the home of Mr Presnell. Bennett later died from the spear wounds.
28 Oct 1834	Superintendent Theophilus Tighe Ellis	Pinjarra, Western Australia	Mortally wounded during the Pinjarra operation. Ellis was speared during the confrontation and died from his injuries on 11 November 1834.
1846	Jack Mogalwert, Aboriginal Police Assistant	Western Australia - exact site requires confirmation	Official WA Police records list Mogalwert as an Aboriginal Assistant killed by spearing.
c. 1840s-50	Unnamed Aboriginal Native Police trooper	Near Swan Hill, Victoria	Reportedly induced by two local Aboriginal men to leave the police camp on the pretext of fishing; overpowered and killed away from the camp.
1849	Unnamed Native Police trooper	Condamine/Fitzroy Downs district, then NSW, now Queensland	One of two Native Police troopers fatally injured during a violent clash/dawn attack on an Aboriginal camp undertaken by Frederick Walker's force.
1849	Unnamed Native Police trooper	Condamine/Fitzroy Downs district, then NSW, now Queensland	Second trooper fatally injured in the same confrontation.
23 Sep 1855	Unnamed Native Police trooper	Rannes, central Queensland	Killed during a night attack on the Native Police barracks by a large group of Aboriginal men. Later accounts give three troopers killed; the immediate official report initially referred to two killed and several dangerously wounded.
23 Sep 1855	Unnamed Native Police trooper	Rannes, central Queensland	Killed in the same attack on the Native Police barracks.
23 Sep 1855	Unnamed Native Police trooper	Rannes, central Queensland	Killed in the same attack. The episode followed earlier Native Police "dispersals" and disputes involving women, which should be noted when classifying the incident.
15 Apr 1858	Trooper John, Native Police	Whiteside Station / Pine River, Queensland	Lieutenant Williams and eight troopers encountered a large Aboriginal camp while responding to a complaint. The patrol was attacked; John was speared through the throat and struck by multiple spears and died immediately. Two other troopers were wounded and police returned fire.
9 Nov 1864	Inspector Frederick Kennedy Panter	La Grange Bay, Western Australia	Panter, Constable Goldwyer and civilian James Harding were exploring south of their camp when they were killed by spearing and clubbing after encounters with Karajarri people.
9 Nov 1864	Constable William Henry Goldwyer	La Grange Bay, Western Australia	Killed with Panter and Harding during the same expedition.
22 May 1865	Acting Sub-Inspector Cecil Fulford Hill	Pearl Creek, near Duaringa, Queensland	Hill arrived at Pearl Creek with three troopers and was killed in a surprise Aboriginal attack. Accounts place the killing in the context of preceding Native Police violence and describe it as a revenge attack.
1865	Constable Walter Gee	Camden Harbour, Western Australia	Speared in the shoulder when Aboriginal men attacked as Captain Sholl's exploration party came ashore. After the party's boat overturned and a difficult return to camp, the untreated wound deteriorated and Gee died.
7 Feb 1868	Constable William Griffiths	Nickol Bay / Murujuga, Western Australia	Griffiths and Aboriginal Assistant Peter had arrested Coolyerberri for allegedly stealing flour and chained him to a tree. Jaburara men attacked the camp to release him; Griffiths was speared and killed.
7 Feb 1868	Peter, Aboriginal Police Assistant	Nickol Bay / Murujuga, Western Australia	Killed in the same prisoner-rescue attack in which Griffiths and pearler George Bream were killed and Coolyerberri was freed.
POST-1870 ADDITIONS (1871-1934)			
10 Jul 1874	Tommy Moul (also Howell), Aboriginal Police Assistant	East of Geraldton / later Yalgoo district, WA	Native assistant to PC Watson. Murdered while on police work; Wanaba (Wallaby) and Wandagary were later executed for his murder. Exact locality varies in later accounts.
14 Jan 1875	Lance-Corporal William Archibald Armstrong	Tingerup Swamp, near Kojonup, WA	Murdered while on duty. Bobbinett was convicted and executed for Armstrong's murder.
20 Jan 1881	Sub-Inspector George Dyas	40 Mile Waterhole district, near Normanton, Queensland	Went missing after leaving camp. Searchers followed Aboriginal tracks and found his body; the investigating officer believed he had been speared in the back.
14 Sep 1881	Sub-Inspector Henry Pollock Kaye	Woolgar goldfields, north Queensland	Speared in the chest while Kaye, a grazier and a Native Police trooper were accompanying an Aboriginal group away from the diggings.
24 Jan 1883	Cadet Sub-Inspector Mark Beresford	Fullerton River / Selwyn Ranges, south of Cloncurry, Queensland	His Native Police patrol was attacked just before dawn. Beresford was speared in the thigh and received a fatal blow to the head; all five troopers were also wounded.
26 Jan 1883	Constable William Dwyer	Juandah Station district, near Taroom, Queensland	Killed while attempting to arrest the Aboriginal fugitive known as Wild Toby. Dwyer was struck in the head with a tomahawk during the struggle.
Jun 1888	Jack Natup, Aboriginal Assistant Policeman	East Beverley district, WA	Local heritage records describe Natup as an Aboriginal assistant policeman who was speared by Aboriginal people while serving with police.
29 Oct 1889	Senior Constable Alfred Wavell	Lawn Hill Station, Gulf country, Queensland	Shot dead during a gunfight while attempting to arrest escaped prisoner Joe Flick. QPS material describes Flick as having Aboriginal and German parentage.
Apr 1890	Jimmy Parrish, Aboriginal Police Assistant	Fraser Range / Dundas district, WA	Tracked suspected Aboriginal sheep thieves to a camp, where he was beaten with fighting and digging sticks and then strangled. Official records differ on the exact April date.
11 Sep 1893	Constable Joseph Collins	Behn River, via Wyndham, East Kimberley, WA	Killed while investigating cattle-stealing complaints from Durack Station; attacked and speared to death.
6 Sep 1894	Constable Edward Lanigan	Montalbion Creek, Herberton district, Queensland	Shot in the chest by Jacky Norman during a struggle in which Norman obtained another constable's revolver while police were attempting to arrest him.
31 Oct 1894	Constable William C. Richardson	Lilimooloora Police Post, West Kimberley, WA	Shot and killed by his Aboriginal police tracker Jandamarra (Pigeon), who then helped release Aboriginal prisoners being held at the police post.
21 Mar 1895	Rocket, Aboriginal Police Assistant	Wyndham / East Kimberley, WA	Speared and killed during a police operation involving Aboriginal assistants against people suspected of cattle killing.
22 Jun 1896	Willy, Aboriginal Police Assistant	East Kimberley, WA	Killed while on patrol with Constable Inglis; archival material records that he was speared while pursuing Aboriginal offenders. Some secondary accounts give July 1896.
1 Jul 1899	Dickey, Aboriginal Police Assistant	Durack River, East Kimberley, WA	While camped with other police assistants during a search for murder suspects, the camp was attacked; Dickey was speared through the heart and killed instantly.
19 Apr 1900	Dong, Aboriginal Police Assistant	East of Leopold Downs, WA	WA Police records list Dong as speared and killed on duty. The precise incident circumstances require further primary-source checking.
20 Sep 1902	Wallaby, Aboriginal Police Assistant	Sturt Creek, WA	WA Police records list Wallaby as murdered on duty at Sturt Creek. The precise circumstances require further primary-source checking.

Date	Police personnel	Location	Circumstances of death
1 Aug 1933	Mounted Constable Albert Stewart McColl	Woodah Island, Arnhem Land, Northern Territory	Killed while part of an Arnhem Land police patrol. His body was found with a severe chest wound and a shovel-nosed spear nearby. Tuckiar was convicted, but the High Court later quashed the conviction.

Working interpretation: The schedule contains attacks on police posts and patrols, deaths incurred during police operations, arrest attempts, prisoner-rescue violence, revenge or reprisal, insider killings and isolated confrontations. It should not be presented as 34 conventional battlefield deaths.

Source note: Original pre-1871 schedule compiled from WA Police honour-roll material, National Police Memorial material, published Native Police scholarship, Queensland police-history research and incident-specific sources. Post-1870 additions were checked against current Queensland Police Service memorial biographies, the WA Police Force Honour Roll, WA Police Legacy, the National Police Memorial, NT Police Legacy, and published historical/archival research on Jandamarra and the Kimberley. The total remains provisional.