Slang Terminology (Non-American)

1. Ammos: standard issue boots
2. Antoni: Portuguese soldier
3. Ack Ack: Term used to describe anti-aircraft fire.
5. Alleyman: British slang for a German soldier.
6. ANZAC: Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.
7. Andy McNoon: An unqualified idiot. From the Arabic 'Inta machnoon', a damned fool.
8. Arsey-Tarsy: To fall upside down.
9. Bangalore Torpedo: Explosive tube used to clear a path through a wire entanglement.
10. Bantam: Term for members of battalions between 5ft 1in and 5ft 4in.
11. Battery: A group of six guns or howitzers.
12. Big Bertha: Originally the term used to describe the German 42cm Morser but later used to identify any German artillery.
13. Billy: Australian nickname for a cooking-pot or can.
15. Blighty One: A wound bad enough for a soldier to be sent back to Britain.
17. Brass: High-ranking staff officers.
18. Bully Beef: Canned corned beef that was the principal protein ration of the British Army.
19. Boy with his boots off: A shell which bursts before the sound of its passage through the air is heard.
20. Broke to the wide: Financially embarrassed; devoid of cash.
22. Banjo: Aussie for shovel
23. Barker: sausage (thinking they were made of dog meat) also referred to a pistol.
24. Boko: a lot (from the French beaucoup)
25. Bonk: to shell with artillery fire
26. Bonzer: good, cool
27. Bung: cheese
28. Burgoo: porridge
29. Buzzer: field telephone
30. Chub: Shut up!
31. Conchie: conscientious objector
32. Case-Shot: Short-range artillery anti-personnel shell filled with pellets, chain-links, etc.
33. Chinese Attack: Term used to describe a faked attack. When a preliminary bombardment ceased, the defending troops would return to their trenches to meet the presumed attack, whereupon the artillery would start firing again and catch the defenders out of their shelters.
34. Commanding Officer: In the British Army the term CO generally referred to the lieutenant-colonel in command of an infantry battalion or cavalry regiment.
35. Coffin-Nails: A term used by British soldiers to describe cigarettes.
36. Conscription: forced military duty
37. Daisy Cutter: A shell with impact fuse to explode immediately on touching ground.
38. Duck-Board: Slatted wooden planking used for flooring trenches or muddy ground.
39. Dud: A shell that failed to explode.
40. Dugout: Shelter made in the wall of a trench, varying from a small area that could only accommodate one man (cubby hole), to a deep dugout, ten or more feet underground.
41. Dum-Dum: A soft-nosed bullet which expanded causing a terrible wound.
42. Digger: ANZAC soldier
43. Dixie: food container
44. Duck board: the boards used to line the bottom of trenches
45. Egg: hand grenade (or bomb)
46. Emma gee: machine gun (phonetic)
47. Fleabag: sleeping bag/bedroll (often referring to that of an officer)
48. Fritz: a German
49. Flak: Term used to describe anti-aircraft fire.
50. Heinie: a German
51. Hop the bags: going over the top
52. Glasshouse: Military prison or detention centre.
53. Greyback: British Army shirt.
54. Hun: Slang term for a German.
55. Igaree: Aussie for "hurry up!" (alternate spelling: Iggry)
56. Napoo: done, used up
57. Ragtime: disorderly/absurd
58. Rooti: bread
59. Rosalie: French for bayonet
60. Sammy: early name for American soldiers
61. San fairy ann: British term of resignation - "it just doesn't matter" (from the French Ca ne fait rien)
62. Stunt: an attack or raid
63. Uncle Charlie: full marching orders
64. Kiwi: Term used to describe a New Zealander.
65. Leap-Frog: System of assault in which the first wave took the first objective and the second wave pass through them to take the second objective.
66. No Man's Land: The territory between the two front lines.
68. Over the Top: To leave the front trench and attack the enemy.
70. Push: A large-scale attack on enemy positions.
71. Runner: Soldier who carried messages by hand.
72. Sandbag: Sack filled with earth from which defences were built.
73. Shell-Shock: Psychological disorder caused by prolonged exposure to combat.
74. Shrapnel: Steel balls ejected from shell upon detonation.
75. Stick-Bomb: German hand-grenade with a wooden handle, so that it could be thrown further.
76. Tommy: Slang term for British soldier.
77. Trench Foot: Fungal infection of the foot which could become gangrenous, caused
by exposure to wet and cold.