

Colonel Pyara Lal, AVSM (Retd)
(Director October 1986 to November 1987)

Colonel Pyara Lal was commissioned in 2nd Worcesters in 1943, and later transferred to Maratha Light Infantry. He served as Public Relations Officer (Army) during the Burma Campaign in 1943-44, the Jammu and Kashmir operations of 1948, the Hyderabad 'Police Action' of 1948, the Sino-Indian conflict of 1962 and the Indo-Pakistan conflicts of 1965 and 1971.

He was Secretary and Editor, United Service Institution of India from Jan 1957 till Oct 1986 and later, Director and Editor from Oct 1986 to Nov 1987. He continued to run this Institution till the last, when he passed away on 23 Nov 1987. He not only worked devotedly to bring up the Institution, as its Director, Secretary and Editor, "but he was the Institution itself."

To commemorate the outstanding services rendered by Colonel Pyara Lal and his contribution in the literary field, the United Service Institution library has been appropriately named after him. Also, an annual memorial lecture in his name serves to commemorate his distinguished services to this Institution for 30 years from 1957 to 1987.