Western Front

In 1917 the 3rd Division took part in the battle of Messines Ridge, it was one of the few clear-cut victories of the war.

In 1916 the 1st, 2nd and 4th Divisions won victories at Pozieres in Haig's 'Big Push' on the Somme. The cost was 24,000 Australian casualties.

On April 17, 1917 the 4th Division AIF at Bullecourt suffered 7,000 casualties in an attack supported by tanks. The tanks sank in a sea of mud. A month later the 2nd Division took Bullecourt.

In September 1917, at Ypres, Menin road and Polygon Wood Australians struggled through the mud to Passchedaele. It cost 38,000 casualties.

In March 1918, Ludendorff launched the German "Spring Offensive". It pushed the Allied line back.

The Australians were placed at the pressure point, the junction of the British and French forces, for the defence of Amiens. They took Villers-Bretonneux on April 4th and 5th, 1918, then repulsed German counter-attacks on the 24th and 25th April.

The Australian victories from 8th August 1918 caused von Ludendorff to proclaim it "the black day of the German Army". They followed the final Australian victories at Mt St Quentin, Peronne, and Monthermaur.

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Deadlines
for Listening Post Contributions
31 January for Autumn Edition
30 April for Winter Edition
31 July for Spring Edition
31 October for Summer Edition

If possible submission should be typed, doubled spaced.
Photographs can be black and white or colour glossy

This is your journal and contributions are welcome.

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State President's Message

BORN OUT OF SERVICE, WE CONTINUE TO SERVE

It is an honour to have been elected State President. Unfortunately, space does not allow thanks to all who have assisted me to reach this position yet I would be remiss were I not to mention a few:

Norm Lowe introduced me to the workings of State Congress and awakened my interest in State Executive. Time has taken its toll on Norm's health but I hope this small 'thank you' lifts his spirits somewhat.

Rolfe Nyman and Mike Hall gave me a gentle nudge along the way and our recently retired State Secretary Des Gibbs gave me valued assistance. I hope he finds his retirement enjoyable and his health improves. Lastly, immediate Past President Jim Hall who showed faith in younger veterans and encouraged them to take the reins.

With our new President, Secretary, and Vice Presidents all Vietnam veterans, this State Branch starts a new era. It is very important to our current economic climate that the League assists who who are less fortunate.

We have massive unemployment, bringing social upheaval to the community. Many young people are not able to obtain work, and others who have been employed are having difficulties finding work as they are considered "too old". This creates a cancer, resulting in their losing self respect and problems that can lead to the break up of family units. Further problems evolve where many youths are on the streets, resulting in the increase of alcohol abuse, drug taking and dependency and the ever-growing crime rate. Along with other elderly people, our own veterans, families and war widows are becoming prisoners within their own homes, frightened about adventuring too far for fear of assault or robbery.

Many are losing faith in the politicians whom they see as more interested in seeking votes and lacking in foresight and intestinal fortitude to make harsh decisions to get Australia back on track for all Australians, not only for a select group who might vote for them.

The RSL's work continues to increase in assisting our members and dependants, as well as the community. To continue efficiently means we must increase our membership. In 1992 the total of WA branch members was 11,548 yet I am aware of a potential membership of approximately 50,000 eligible people in this State.

In 1916 the League was formed "to provide for the sick and wounded and needy among those who had served, and their dependants, and to seek pensions, medical attention, homes and suitable employment." Since then, the RSL (through negotiations with Governments) caused the formation of the Department of Veterans' Affairs, obtained service pensions, disability pensions, war widows' pensions, the defence housing scheme and many other benefits. Still, we continue to hear from some: "what do I get out of joining the RSL?" The RSL has become known as a pressure group deeply involved in attempts to influence (through non-violent means) governments at national, state and local levels. In 1966 a Federal Minister claimed that the league was "the only public organisation in Australia) with direct access to Federal Cabinet, in fact the only one in the free world with this privilege."

To continue this work, started by our forefathers in 1916, we need members and we are not flush with funds. From our modest beginning we have grown into a vast welfare organisation that annually spends millions on a wide range of welfare activities.

We are aware that not all veterans can become actively involved due to health or personal problems but just imagine what the League could do if all veterans decided to join and pay their annual subscriptions.

There are elements within our society who would love to see the demise of the RSL. How wrong they are! The RSL membership consists of people who have varied thoughts on political, religious and economic issues. It dissociates itself from taking sides in industrial disputes and opposes the introduction of collectivism by violent means.

Therefore, if you know of any eligible veterans who have not joined the League, or have let their membership lapse, do urge them to become financial members. The RSL was born out of service; over the years it has served and in the years that lie ahead it will continue to serve.

LEN KEYNES
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State Secretary’s Notes

Firstly, I would like to introduce the Anzac House staff and briefly explain their duties:

Roy Isaacman is the State Accountant, assisted by Dagmar Lawton, a general accounting clerk, and Janet Perry, our Membership Clerk. Patricia Rowland is our Welfare and Pensions Officer, a role she has filled successfully for a great many years. Our two War Compensation Officers, Norman Johnson and Margaret Ponta, conduct all Veteran Review Board cases presented by the RSL. Secretarial support for the State Secretary is provided by Laureen Borlase, the Senior Secretary, for the State President by Tracey Pilbeam and for our Welfare Area by Anne Sunderland. Other staff members include Bill Parker, the Chief Commissionaire, and Mike Gibbon, the Anzac Club Manager, both of whom have key positions within Anzac House.

Secondly, I remind our readers of the RSL Handbook – a guide to the RSL, its operation, policies and past history. Answers to most of the questions asked by our members can be found in the Handbook ($7.50 available at Anzac House).

Finally, I recommend the Poppy Day Lunch at the Fremantle Sailing Club. Last year’s lunch raised approximately $3,000 for the War Veterans’ Home. Tickets ($30) from Mrs L. Fealy (364 3779) and Mrs J. Dowson (384 6712).

J. J. HANNAH

State Executive 1993

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SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
K.T. Murphy
JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT
J.L. Holman
STATE SECRETARY
J.J. Hannah, BCom

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P.J. Blekinsopp (Port Hedland Sub-branch)
C. Mills (Bunbury Sub-branch)
S.G. Robinson (Merredin Sub-branch)
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Listening Post - Spring 1993 + Page 5
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**Listening In**

**GASCOYNE TRIUMPHS**

Congratulations to President Peter Chapman, Secretary Roy Leighton and all members of the Gascoyne Sub-Branch at Carnarvon. At State Congress the Sub-Branch was presented with the Colonel Collet Cup for being the most efficient country sub-branch and the Geraldton Shield for being the most meritorious sub-branch with less than 100 members. The energy and enthusiasm of Vietnam Veterans Peter and Roy, with the co-operation of the Shire, led to the town’s 1914-18 War Memorial being renovated and fenced.

The Sub-Branch has also taken over the Shire’s pensioner units and upgraded them for occupation by RSL Members and the elderly. Not content with that, there has been fund-raising to benefit the National Flag Association, Legacy, the Carnarvon Senior High School band and town interests. The Sub-branch now has new club rooms and furniture and sends an open invitation to RSL Members visiting Carnarvon to call at the Club.

Let’s hope many more Vietnam Veterans will bring their strength and enthusiasm to our sub-branches.

**THE WESTERN FRONT**

The very words “Western Front” give me a chill. I think of my father and his occasional descriptions of the conditions there - the horses and gun carriages stuck in the mud; the Angel of Mons, the Salvation Army with a cup of tea up at “The Front”: “Wipers”, the name the Australians gave to Ypres - and, above all, his pride in being in the AIF when the Hindenburg Line was broken. This year, Poppy Day will be very special for many of us as it will be 75 years since our fathers, uncles, brothers, grandfathers came home and left horror behind.

Perhaps each Sub-Branch could see that every school principal in its area gets a copy of ‘Listening Post’ before 11 November. The cover and centre spread about the Western Front and how Villers-Bretonneux and its children have never forgotten Australia and the Australians who saved their town, would interest our school-children.

**PATRICIA BALFE**

**APOLOGY**

In the Winter issue of Listening post there was a shortage of advertising for the left hand pages. To fill those pages some stories were published at extra length, and we apologise if some members found them too long.

Please let us know if you would like any particular kinds of articles and would Korean and Vietnam Veterans please keep us supplied with anecdotes or reminiscences so we can give more space to those conflicts?

**PATRICIA BALFE Editor**

---

**Minister opens War Veterans’ Home, Mandurah**

On 10 June, the Minister for Veterans’ Affairs, the Honourable John Faulkner, officially opened the War Veterans’ Home in Mandurah.

The Mandurah 55 bed hostel was made possible by “using” some of the beds from the Mt Lawley complex as well as creating new places. The style of units are in the popular cluster home design, with five houses having 10 beds and another house having five beds. A separate administrative building is also on site. As you drive down Oakmont Avenue the only way you can tell that the complex is a hostel, is by the sign out the front! The surroundings are very pleasant with open parkland on one side and the golf course over the road.

The first residents moved in on 22 March and at the time of the opening there were 35 residents. Some had transferred from Mt Lawley and the others were drawn from the Mandurah-Murray District community.

The Department of Health, Housing, Local Government and Community Services provided capital funding of $1.5 million with other funding of $126,000 through the Hostel Development Scheme of the Department of Veterans’ Affairs. Other significant funding was made available by the State Government and the Lotteries Commission.

At the time of the opening the Minister also presented a cheque for $30,445 under the DVA Joint Venture Scheme for the purchase of a 15-seater bus which will enable residents to go to the doctor or shopping and enjoy other social outings.

The opening ceremony was attended by many distinguished guests from within the ex-service community as well as local dignitaries. The Minister unveiled a plaque which commemorates the official opening, after which people took advantage of guided tours to see the range of facilities available.

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THE MERITORIOUS MEDAL

In 1982, the National Congress of the League approved the award of the Meritorious Medal to persons already holding Life Membership, who had 30 years of continuous membership and 25 years of outstanding service to the community and their fellow man. Twenty medals were to be issued annually.

The medal is to be worn on the right breast and displayed whenever service decorations are worn, or on official RSL duties or at RSL official functions. A miniature medal and a lapel badge have also been produced. Both insignia are of gold plated silver and accompanied by a Certificate.

The first awards of the Meritorious Medal were made in September 1982, and this year we are pleased to announce that three West Australians have received the award.

ROBERT ROY BELL
City of Wanneroo Sub-Branch

Mr Bell joined the League in 1947. He has been a member continuously since then and was awarded his Life Membership in 1979. He has held numerous offices within at least four Sub-Branches where his outstanding enthusiasm, energy and leadership have been an inspiration to other members. He has been actively engaged in fostering youth activities, visiting the sick and caring for his fellow veterans and is a worthy recipient of this award.

HARRY MICHAEL NOONAN, MBE
Highgate Sub-Branch

Mr Noonan joined the league in 1943 and was awarded a Life Membership in 1984. He has served the League in many capacities both at Sub-Branch and Executive level. He has been a long term Secretary of the Highgate Sub-Branch, a Sub-Warden of the State War Memorial and an energetic member of the Honour Avenue Committee. He represented the League on the Veterans’ Children Education Board and in 1981 was awarded the MBE for services to the community and in particular for the education of children of Service personnel.

LEONARD ATHOL PREEDY
City of Subiaco Sub-Branch

Mr Preedy joined the League in 1944 and was awarded life membership in 1981. He has held every office in his Sub-Branch and has been a member of the State Executive. He has given outstanding service to the veteran community, has served as a voluntary worker at Lemnos Hospital for many years, and is well known for visiting veterans in hospital. Mr Preedy has had a long and distinguished association with the RSL Bowls Section.
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sat. 5 Nov</td>
<td>Depart Perth at 06.30am arrive in Sydney at 1.35pm. On arrival transfer to wharf to embark the Cunard Crown Monarch. Depart Sydney at 5.00pm.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Sun. 6 Nov</td>
<td>At sea</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Mon. 7 Nov</td>
<td>At sea</td>
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| 4     | Tue. 8 Nov | Noumea, New Caledonia
          Arrive 12 noon - Depart 11.00pm |
| 5     | Wed. 9 Nov | Isle of Pines, New Caledonia
          Arrive 7.00am - Depart 1.00pm |
| 6     | Thu. 10 Nov | Vila, Vanuatu
          Arrive 8.00am - Depart 5.00pm |
| 7     | Fri. 11 Nov | Our Island
          Arrive 8.00am - Depart 5.00pm |
| 8     | Sat. 12 Nov | At sea |
| 9     | Sun. 13 Nov | Honiara, Solomon Island
          Arrive 8.00am - Depart 5.00pm |
| 10    | Mon. 14 Nov | At sea |
| 11    | Tue. 15 Nov | At sea |
| 12    | Wed. 16 Nov | Arrive Cairns 8.00am disembark ship and transfer to the Radisson Plaza Hotel. |
| 13    | Thu. 17 Nov | Half day sightseeing tour of Cairns. |
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CUNARD CROWN
The State Executive is the ruling body of the RSL. It is, however, answerable to the sub-branches and their members throughout the State and must carry out their instructions as indicated by the items passed at State Congress in June of each year. It is governed by its by-laws.

The Executive is composed of the State President, two Vice-Presidents and 18 members. The State Secretary is its Executive Officer. Under the Executive, he is responsible for the day-to-day administration. Three Trustees are appointed, who attend meetings but cannot vote. They do, however, act as advisors.

The elections of President and Vice-Presidents are for a period of 12 months only. Of the 18 members, all are elected for a two-year term, nine being elected each year, so there is always an overlap of at least nine members. In every case the incumbents may be re-elected and there is no limit to the term. All are elected by the Annual Congress.

 ideally, as many sub-branches as possible should be represented. However, there is no restriction on how many members a sub-branch may nominate for election to the State Executive. The final decision is made by the delegates at the Annual Congress. members of the State Executive are not permitted to exercise individual sub-branch bias.

In addition to attending the monthly meetings of the Executive, everyone is required to serve on committees, to perform the duties of Liaison Officer to certain sub-branches and to carry out any other task that may be required, such as representing the State President at official functions to which he is invited but unable to attend. The committees are either standing or ad-hoc. The standing committees meet, usually monthly, at a time to suit members, or additionally as may be required.

CONTINUED PAGE 13

STANDING COMMITTEES July 1993 to June 1994

ANZAC CLUB BOARD
M.C. Hall, J. Dowson, J. Holman, A. Keynes, K. Morrison, L. Rasmussen, State Secretary, Club Manager
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J. Surridge, P. Balfe, J.P. Hall, M.C. Hall, J. Holman, L. Keynes, K. Murphy, K. Broadhurst (Trustee), P. Pearson (Trustee), R. Stone (Trustee), State Secretary, State Accountant

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P. White, J. Babbage, B. Cooper, M.C. Hall, Z. Kwiecinski, K. Morrison, L. Rasmussen

VETERANS' AFFAIRS
K. Murphy, B. Clinton, B. Cooper, A. Keynes, A. King, K. Littlejohn, T. Lloyd, E. Verdi

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L. Keynes, K. Murphy, J. Holman, State Secretary
FUNCTIONS
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**The State Executive cont.**

From time to time, others may be formed to cover requirements. All committees may have co-opted members. All these committees report to the State Executive, which has the final say regarding any recommendations.

The task of Liaison Officer is to act as a contact between the State Executive and his nominated sub-branches, to keep in touch with the sub-branch Secretaries, and to visit them as often as possible. At these visits he disseminates information from the State branch, gets to know the problems and the members, and takes back to the State Branch any problems he is unable to solve on the spot. These are followed up appropriately.

The various sub-branches outside the metropolitan area are divided into country areas and each country area is allotted its own Country Vice-President. These are responsible in the same way as Liaison Officers, and are full members of the State Executive. Naturally, they are NOT expected to attend meetings of the State Executive, but are made very welcome whenever they are able to do so.

Such, then, are the duties, functions and privileges of the State Executive. The strength of the League is dependent on it. The future of the League depends on the calibre of its members. Thus, every keen and capable member of the league should set his sights on serving in this capacity, particularly our younger members.

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Full details of the Programme and your personal invitation to enrol will be delivered shortly. In the meantime, please review the comments from your fellow members in the announcement regarding the Programme on page - of this issue. These are just a few of the thousands of members who are already protected and who have experienced the service and benefits offered by the Programme first hand.

We know what great value this service has been to those members who previously enrolled in the programme and we are certain it will be equally valuable to you and your family. We therefore urge you to watch your post for details, and return your Enrolment Form during this new enrolment period.

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Mr Harold Parker
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Most appealing to me “was the savings and the fact that Pensioners are looked after under Medicare, but extra cash is needed.”
Joseph R. Bellamy
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The RSL Cash Accident Programme has proven so popular with our members that we have arranged for another offer to be made — to give those who missed out an opportunity to register for this essential cover now:

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DID YOU KNOW?

Because of the incidence of vandalism during the Vietnam War and opposition from tree lovers some 20 years ago, the Kings Park Honour Avenue Committee decided to remove the plaques from the trees and place them on white posts at the base of the trees. It is pleasing to note that, since this was done, the amount of wanton damage to the plaques has been reduced considerably. The Committee believes that this is partly because many people now regard the plaques as being similar to the white crosses in war cemeteries.

However, an average of more than 50 posts is still broken each year. Some are vandalised but the majority are damaged by vehicles through injudicious parking. There are also losses through termite activity. About three years ago it was decided to use treated pine posts, as these resist termites for up to 40 years. The cost of the posts was beyond the resources of the Honour Avenue Committee and an approach was made to Bunning’s Forest Products Pty Ltd for assistance. The Committee was very pleased when the Company advised it would donate 60 treated pine posts for the Honour Avenues.

Bunnings were very much involved in World War II. A son of the founder of the Company, the late Mr G.M. [Tom] Bunning, enlisted in the 25th Light Horse Machine Gun Regiment in 1939. He transferred to the 2/4th Machine-Gun Battalion AIF when it was formed in 1940 and as a captain was captured at the fall of Singapore, after which he spent nearly four years as a POW in Changi. During that time he helped run the vegetable garden which contributed supplies to the prison camp and won the respect of his men for the unflinching way he stood up to the Japanese. A member of Highgate Sub-Branch, Tom passed away in 1991.

A secret activity of Bunnings - and therefore a little known one - was their involvement with “Z Special Force” during the war. In association with Millars Timber Co. the Bunnings-Millars Causeway Shipyards was formed to build the famous “Snake” class boats for “Z Force”. The three 66-ft Seine trawlers, “River Snake”, “Grass Snake” and “Kingfisher”, were built at the yard from WAJarrah. They were camouflaged as junks and carried three masts. The crews were disguised as Asians and the ships had a range of 1,500 miles.

After the war the “Snake” boats were handed to the States and sold to returned servicemen to be used in the fishing industry. After fishing for snapper and prawns in the Shark Bay area, the “Kingfisher” moved to Lancelin as a crayfish mother-boat. She was the first boat fitted with two-way radio. This revolutionised the disposal of the catch: previously, carrier pigeons were used to advise contractors the catch was ready to be picked up.

Besides boat-building, Bunnings were involved in supplying timber for the huge munitions building in Welshpool, later to be used by Chamberlains Tractors. The Company also built the slipways at North-West Cape for use by American submarines.

All Western Australians should be proud of the war effort by WA’s largest timber company. The Honour Avenue Committee is certainly grateful for its donation of posts for the Avenues.

A. MAXWELL BRICE
Hon. Secretary
Honour Avenue Committee

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REPUBLICANISM - Who needs it?

by BRIG ALF GARLAND AM [RL]

The decision by the ALP National conference to support the motion proposed by Mr Dawkins and seconded by Dr Cheryl Saunders to replace the Constitutional Monarchy with a Republic, the Constitutional Centenary conference convened by Dr Saunders to amend the Constitution because it is badly flawed, and the call by the pop song writer and singer John Williamson for a flag of our own to replace the present Australian flag has emphasised the foundation of the Australian Republican movement and their call to replace the Constitutional Monarchy with a Republic by the year 2001. The Prime Minister has added fuel to the fire by proposing the replacement of our Constitutional Monarchy with a Republic by the year 2001 and has appointed a committee under the chair of Malcolm Turnbull to present the options. Most if not all of the committee are Republicans or fellow travellers. In defence of their actions all of those involved in the promotion of these activities to “rid” Australia of the last vestiges of Colonialism use the now familiar slogans of Australia needing to “be independent”, “standing on its own two feet”, “the Union Jack is as irrelevant as is the current British Flag”, and the “need to have an identity of our own”. In promoting their case the republicans only tell half of the story and most of what is said is disinformation.

So far the Republican Movement has not produced any acceptable evidence that there are advantages in changing from our so-called “Monarchical System” to Republicanism. Three of the most popular Republican arguments may be disposed of very briefly.

Firstly, there is the red-herring that, as Britain is about to enter the European Community, Australia should become a Republic. But Britain is not about to become a Republic; the Queen is not about to abdicate and will still be the Queen of Great Britain, in addition to being the Queen of Australia. No Constitutional change affecting Australia is involved.

Secondly, it is argued we should be seen to be “free” and “independent” as though we were still a colony or a dependency of Great Britain, or as though we were not masters of our own house. For the benefit of our republicans, the Australian Act of 1986 refers to Australia as “A SOVEREIGN, INDEPENDENT AND FEDERAL NATION”. We are not beholden to the United Kingdom but in any case the Commonwealth Government gave away a deal of our real independence when it used the external affairs powers given to it by our Constitution to sign more than 150 United Nations Conventions with various UN Agencies most to the detriment of our Sovereignty.

Thirdly, it is argued that somehow our political and Constitutional processes are deficient in modern democratic procedures because of our conscious decision to retain the Monarchy as our head of State. A Republican style of Government will give us a more democratic way of life, so the argument runs. No precise examples of our deficiencies under our present system are given. When it comes to role models for democratic Republics where do we turn? There is a Republic of Germany that produced Hitler, there was an East German model which has since collapsed which gave us Honecker; there was the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics now defunct, which gave us Stalin and the KGB; there is Iraq which has produced Saddam Hussein; we all know how democratic it is in Iraq, or maybe we should model ourselves on Iran. What about Yugoslavia or Cuba? Perhaps there is something in the glorious Republics of Asia or South East Asia such as Indonesia, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, China or the Philippines. Strangely, peoples in their thousands are leaving these peaceful, stable Republican Democracies for the apparently undemocratic Australia. Then there is the USA which has more racial, social and political problems than the Constitutional Monarchical system used in Australia.

Thomas Keneally puts forth a very simplistic view of the change from our present system to a Republic. “Very little has changed - it's only a matter of deleting references to the Queen and the Governor General and then finding a new method of appointing the Governor-General or should we say President”. What utter clap trap! Even if a case could be made for such a change, the legal and Constitutional changes required would be a nightmare for the best Constitutional lawyers in the land.

The present office and title of the Governor-General and his powers are related to his role as the Queen’s representative and in the main these are set down in the Constitution. This title would have to be abolished and a new title such as president instituted. The method of appointment would create enormous argument. Direct appointment by the Prime Minister, or the Government or even the Parliament would have to be ruled out as undemocratic and too political. Voting by all electors every five years or so would add yet another election to the political scene already overburdened with too many elections and indeed it would be too political. Who for instance would make the initial nomi-
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Republicanism cont.

nations to be included on the ballot papers? The advantage of the present system is the removal of the head of state from the current political scene, something that cannot be achieved under a republican system - and its continuity [the King is dead, long live the King]. Something not experienced in a Democratic Republic.

Contrary to most republican opinion, there would have to be a substantial re-writing of the Constitution, and who would be deputised to do that? Not the politicians; not the bureaucrats. Who could be trusted to do it fairly? Apart from the preamble there are at least 20 sections of the present Constitution referring to the Queen and her representative, the Governor-General, which would require amendment. Imagine putting that number of amendments to the electorate in the form of a referendum and getting it agreed by the majority of Australians and carried in the majority of States. It of course does not stop there; other important Acts [1986] would need to be amended. Letters patent relating to the office of the Governor-General would have to be revoked and new arrangements made. Concepts such as the Crown would have to be removed from a multitude of statutes; or would the Government only ask one question hoping to get open slather on amending the Constitution to accord with its own agenda by abolishing the Senate and State Governments and concentrating power in Canberra.

One fanciful scenario allegedly considered by the Republicans is the appointment of a Viceroy, with very special powers, rushing a bill through Parliament requesting the UK Parliament in terms of the Statute of Westminster to repeal the Commonwealth of Australia's Constitution Act which contains the 128 sections of our Constitution. The decks would then be cleared for the Republicans to write their own Charter! Fanciful but most unacceptable I believe by most if not all Australians.

More importantly, a critical question to be decided would be the power relationship between the President (if it is decided that we call him/her that) and the Prime Minister. Is the head of state to be merely a ceremonial figure head or is he to have defined executive powers? Is he/she to be a president as in France or Germany, or will he/she be a Yeltsin or a Pol Pot or a Clinton? What new checks and balances can be evolved to curb arbitrary excesses of Government on the one hand and to limit the powers of the President so that he/she does not become a dictator, as has happened in so many republics in history and in the recent past particularly in the third world countries?

Then there are the Sovereign States that make up the Commonwealth and the Constitutions of those States. Can the Commonwealth arbitrarily abolish the office of the Governor of the various States or must that amendment to a State Constitution also be put to a referendum? Are we really looking at seven referenda? Suppose a State votes against the abolition of the Governor as the Queen's Representatives; what then? Will some monarchist State secede from a Republican Australia in the same way as Croatia and Slovenia have done in Yugoslavia and the many State Republics of the Soviet Union have done. The Queen incidentally is also the Queen of the various States in addition to being the Queen of Australia. The mind boggles at the arguments of Constitutional lawyers. Will they still be known as Queens Counsels?

But it is the hidden agenda of the Republicans that is cause for real concern, the Republicans, who incidentally are not political but who include Neville Wran and Franka Aarena, are already whispering about the need to abolish State Governments and the centralisation of power in Canberra. This would make for more efficient and cheaper administration so they say! The Senate is also under attack as its representatives will merely duplicate the work of the House of Representatives or of frustrating it. We all know that the Senate is not really an elected body! Is the path to a centralised one-house parliament in Canberra, the road to a powerful autocratic one-party government with a head of State operating as a virtual dictator?

The year 2001, by which time the Republicans intend to see the substitution of the current system with a Republic, will also celebrate the Centenary of our National Flag. Significantly changing the Flag has added to the Republican agenda. If we are to be transformed into one of the lesser Republics of the Asia/Pacific Region and made an Asian Nation it would be necessary to have a nondescript, innocuous Flag that will not remind the Australia people of a heritage destroyed, or of freedoms lost. The target of the anti-British, anti-Royal propaganda is the Union Jack in the Flag, a reminder that our social, political and legal heritage came to us and emerged from Great Britain, not from Asia and certainly not from kangaroos or the sun or Ayres Rock or similar things.

Not only is the National Flag involved, there are State Flags, and those of the various Armed Services and other public institutions such as the State Police, Fire Brigade and Ambulance Services. The Republicans have their sights on all current Australian Flags, the ones over the National and State Parliaments, those flying on Capitol Hill, and on Government and other buildings. Of course come the revolution and the Republic, there are Royal Statues to knock over, city streets to be changed, Royal Societies to be banned, Honours and Awards to be handed back and a thousand and one other matters, all small in nature but of immense proportions in their totality. The Republican agenda envisages an anti-British, anti-Royal purge which will make Hitler's Nazi Germany and Stalin's Russian purges look like kindergarten exercises. The

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Republicanism cont.

petty acts of narrow minded Government Ministers and officials seems trivial but serve as a warning of the methods to be used by the Republicans in their ten-year education campaign to brain-wash the youth of the country in their efforts to denigrate all things British, our heritage, the Anzac tradition and our national identity. The Republican movement is in essence a fabian, racist anti-British group, gathering under its umbrella various dissident elements who have some axes to grind against the British. It portrays itself as pro-Australian. At present the electorate is not totally convinced, but that is not always likely to be the case if their education campaign is allowed to flourish.

It is therefore understandable that the Prime Minister and the ALP, together with the Republican movement, have embarked on their “Educations” program principally directed at schools so that the young will have the right thoughts by the year 2001.

Republicans have no real answer to the question of self-destruction, to destroy our political and cultural heritage, to tear up the Constitution, creating division, dissent, argument, confusion and social unrest on the doubtful assumption that a presidential style of Government is somehow superior to the one that has served us so well for 100 years? Why take this action during the last decade of this century when it will be a very difficult period economically for the country? This issue has such a potential to be divisive for the community which should be pulling together rather than in opposite directions.

What should we be celebrating in the year 2001? First of all we should give thanks to our Founding Fathers for giving us a sound Constitutional framework, a parliamentary system with a Monarch as Head of State within which successive generations have built a stable and ordered society. Unlike many Presidential Republics around the world there have been no revolutions, no rebellions, no civil war or bloodshed in Australia: compare that record with all other Republics which currently exist.

Of course no society is perfect. The Australian mood is for gradual change if the people can be convinced such change is necessary and beneficial. Australians will not opt for a traumatic social revolution such as change to a Republic unless they are misled. We, those who are real Australians, must support our Westminster System, with a head of State who is apolitical. We must work to ensure that in 2001 we retain our identity with a National Flag that enshrines our background and heritage, a Constitution that protects the people from the excesses of politicians and political parties and one nation all pulling together to promote Australia as one of the Great Democratic Societies of History.
THE RETURNED SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED

Application for Ordinary Membership

I HEREBY APPLY to be admitted as an Ordinary Member of the League and a member of the ................................................ Sub-Branch

**PERSONAL DETAILS**

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**SERVICE DETAILS**

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**PREVIOUS MEMBERSHIP DETAILS**

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<td>State and Sub-Branch of Previous Membership (if applicable)</td>
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**DECLARATION AND AGREEMENT**

1 DECLARE

* (i) I am an Australian citizen and am prepared to swear/affirm loyalty to the Sovereign of the Commonwealth and will uphold the Constitution of the Commonwealth.

* (ii) I am not an Australian citizen and am prepared to swear/affirm loyalty to the Sovereign of the Commonwealth and will uphold the Constitution of the Commonwealth.

* (iii) I am not an Australian citizen and request exemption from making the declaration of loyalty under the provisions of Article of Association 12.5.

* (iv) I am not a Communist nor a member of any organization whose objectives are incompatible with the objectives of the League.

(Strike out whichever two Declarations are not applicable.)

1 AGREE

To be bound by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the League, its Bylaws, to be bound by and promote its Standing Policy and to be bound by the Rules and By-Laws of the above Branch.

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT**

DATE / 19

**DECLARATION BY SUB-BRANCH SECRETARY**

1 CERTIFY that an inspection of relevant documents reveals eligibility for membership (Doubtful cases should be referred to HQ)

**SIGNATURE OF SUB-BRANCH SECRETARY**

DATE / 19
KOTT GUNNING

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Rebuttal of arguments for change of flag

by Dr Rupert Goodman, National President, Australian National Flag Association

Australia’s Flag is often confused with the New Zealand Flag.

1. Basically, Australia’s Flag has 6 prominent white stars, New Zealand has 4 predominantly red stars. Anyone who can’t tell this difference needs an eye test! Incidentally the present New Zealand flag dates back to 1896, the official promulgation in legislative form to 1902. In 1981 New Zealand published a new Flag Act, reaffirming their national flag. The New Zealand and Australian flags have existed side by side for over 80 years in war and peace, from ANZAC to ANZUK to ANZUS, even to ANZAZ. To raise confusion now is merely to create confusion where none has existed before. There is no strong demand within New Zealand to change their flag!

The Canadian changed their flag in 1965, why can’t we do the same?

2. The circumstances which existed in Canada were and are quite different from those applying in Australia.

It must be remembered that Canada was founded only after bitter wars between the British and the French, culminating in the defeat of Montcalm by Wolfe in 1759. A powerful French minority remained, especially in Quebec and Montreal, threatening to withdraw from the Confederation in the 1960s. The presence of the Union Jack in the Canadian Red Ensign which had been flown since 1867, although it was not the official national flag, was an anathema to the French. Pearson’s government decided to do what Australia had done in 1901, devise a new national flag, but they did it to appease the French. Canadians did not change their flag, it was done for them by the Pearson Government. No plebiscite was held, no opinion poll indicated the majority of people wanted a change.

When one looks at the circumstances, the motives, the methods behind the Canadian experience and the resultant bitterness and divisiveness the analogy offers no valid argument in support of changing Australia’s Flag.

When Australians go overseas, nobody recognises our flag.

3. If our flag is not recognised overseas after more than 80 years, this is a sad reflection of our promotion within the tourist trade and of overseas education systems. This lack of recognition is also a reflection of the ignorance of most people about the flags of other nations. How many Australians going overseas know the national flags of Spain, Thailand, Indonesia, Zambia, or Zimbabwe? There is more to a national flag than overseas recognition, else all that is needed is a piece of cloth with Australia printed on it! Should we ask Spain to change their flag and put a bull fighter on it!

Australia should be a republic and therefore needs a new flag.

4. This is pure conjecture about the future constitution of this country, but whatever changes might come about, this has nothing to do with the flag argument. Governments come and go, forms of state may change, but the flag flies proudly on, representing the continuity of the nation – a continuity which a young nation needs to enhance rather than destroy, as is done in all banana republics.

The colours of our flag are out of line with our national colours, therefore we should change our flag to bring it into line.

5. What a twisted argument. The traditional national colours of Australia are blue and gold, taken from our National Coat of Arms which has a wreath of royal blue and gold. In heraldry it is customary for national colours to be taken from the livery colours of the Coat of Arms. The colours for the Order of Australia are blue and gold.

There was pressure for and encouragement given to the use of green and gold as our ‘national sporting colours’. When people had been conditioned to accepting these, they were proclaimed as our ‘national colours’, but the green and gold are incorrect as they are out of line with our Coat of Arms!

We didn’t have a national flag until the Menzies Flag Act of 1953.

6. Rubbish. Our Australian National Flag was selected from those submitted by 32,000 Australians in a competition soon after Federation in 1901. At that time Australia became a new nation, a united nation, with a new identity ready to face the challenges of a new century. “One people, one destiny, one flag” was the catch cry of the times. We Australians selected it, we Australians designed it, we Australians wrote it into our history.

We Australians fought for it and under it and we in our generation have added to its traditions.

Over the years there was some confusion between the Red Ensign (to be flown at sea and never on land) and the Blue Ensign. Menzies’ Flag Act of 1953 merely clarified the position that Australia’s national flag was in fact the Blue Ensign.
GUARDIANSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION WAY OF “TAKING CARE – WHEN IT’S NEEDED”

Making decisions is part and parcel of everyday life. But for a significant number of West Australians making those everyday decisions is not so easy, and the decisions they do, or don’t, make about such matters as how and with whom they live or work, whether to seek medical treatment, or how they spend their money, may not always be in their own best interests.

As many as 20,000 people in Western Australia are estimated to be affected by conditions such as Alzheimer’s Disease, Dementia, an intellectual disability, mental illness or brain damage which may affect their ability to make reasoned decisions which ensure their own quality of life. Many of these people need some measure of care and support, not only to manage the practical aspects of their lives, but also to ensure that their disability does not place them at risk of neglect, exploitation by others.

Most people who have a decision-making disability are well cared for and supported by loved ones and other carers, but sometimes problems or conflicts arise which threaten the person’s quality of life, and sometimes someone else needs to take on the responsibility of “taking care – when it’s needed”.

A new system to ensure there is someone who can “take care” came into effect in Western Australia in October 1992. Guardianship and Administration provides a way of promoting and protecting the rights, dignity and quality of life of people who are unable to make reasoned decisions in their own best interests.

Under this new system, a substitute decision-maker can be appointed to make lifestyle or financial decisions on behalf of a person with a decision-making disability to ensure their quality of life is maintained.

Decisions about whether a Guardian or Administrator should be appointed are made by the Guardianship and Administration Board which is guided by the principle that people's right to make their own decisions should be protected wherever possible.

A Guardian or Administrator will only be appointed if it can be established conclusively that the person with a decision-making disability cannot make reasoned decisions for themselves and that their quality of life is at risk.

The person appointed as substitute decision-maker is usually well known and trusted by the person with a decision-making disability, but where no-one else suitable is available or there are unreconcilable conflicts between other carers, the Public Guardian may be appointed as Guardian of last resort.

By taking out an Enduring Power of Attorney, competent people can choose a person or agency they trust to make financial or legal decisions for them if they are no longer able to make those decisions for themselves. Unlike an Ordinary Power of Attorney, this decision-making authority “endures” if and when the person conferring it loses their legal capacity to make their own decisions.

For more information about Guardianship and Administration or about Enduring Power of Attorney contact: The Public Guardian’s Office, 12th Floor, 111 St George’s Terrace, Perth, phone (09) 261 7620 or 008 807 437 (toll free). Facsimile: (09) 261 7673.

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The flat doesn't reflect our multi-cultural society.

7. Another confused argument by the change-the-flag minority. Most migrants are loyal and patriotic Australians who have come here voluntarily for the freedom enshrined in our social institutions. They honour and respect the flag. No flag represents all the cultural and ethnic groups in a society. America has probably more cultural groups than any other country, but they are united behind the "Stars and Stripes". Their flag represents Americans, not Greeks, or Italians, or any other cultural group.

The duty and responsibility of new arrivals is to pledge loyalty to the Flag, to honour it, to respect it, to understand its history and traditions and what it stands for.

Aborigines cannot relate to our Flag.

8. A flag has no meaning in Aboriginal culture. In the last few years part-Aboriginals have devised an ethnic flag for political purposes, to strengthen their case for land rights. As with all ethnic groups, Aborigines are first and foremost Australians and the National Flag is the symbol of universal justice for all Australians.

It is worth noting that the Southern Cross in our Flag is of particular significance to Aborigines. In "The First Sunrise" by Charles Mountford, is a delightful story of Mululu and his four daughters, to explain the Aboriginal version of the Southern Cross.

The Union Jack in our Flag is "Somebody else's flag" and represents our dependent status on Great Britain.

9. What nonsense! The Union Jack is not only a reminder that the founders of our society came from Great Britain, but that the basic institutions of our society are part of our British heritage. It is a reminder of our Westminster system of government, hammered out over the centuries since Simon de Montfort's first Parliament in 1265AD. Then there are those aspects of our legal system - English common law, the liberty of the subject dating back to Magna Carta in 1215, trial by jury, the Habeas Corpus Act and so on - part of our priceless heritage from Britain.

It is right and proper that our national flag should reflect this national heritage.

The crosses of St George, St Andrew and St Patrick in our Flag reflect our spiritual heritage, that ours is a Christian society, even if many have ceased to observe the formal practices of Christianity.

Respect for the British cultural heritage is reflected in the flags of many countries of the world and has nothing to do with dependence on Britain. Hawaii, one of the States of the USA, proudly flies a flag with the Union jack, as does South Africa, Fiji and Tuvalu, all independent countries.

The design was imposed on us by the British.

10. Not correct. In announcing the conditions of the Flag contest in the Commonwealth Government Gazette of 29 April 1901, our first Prime Minister, Edmund Barton said:

"The award of the Board [of Judges] will be final and the prize given in accordance with their decision, even if the design be not accepted by the Imperial authorities."

Australians never went to war under the National Flag but under the Union Jack.

11. Another attempt to distort history. Our National Flag has been the rally point for both the Armed Forces and the civilian population in all wars in which Australia has participated this century.

- In the ANZAC BOOK by the famous historian C.E.W. Bean is a coloured photo of an Australian Digger standing alongside the Australian Flag at Gallipoli, 1915.

- In the Australian War Memorial are such historic photos as the Flag being raised at Pozieres (1917) and at Kokoda after re-capture from the Japanese, of Sgt. Derrick hoisting the Flag at Sattelberg (1943), of the Australian National Flag being raised in Vietnam.

CONCLUSION

No valid argument has been advanced for changing our National Flag. On the contrary there is every reason to retain the Flag in its present form, originally assessed by the College of Heralds as one of the great flags of the world for its history, heraldry, distinctiveness and beauty. It has flown proudly over this country for more than 80 years, in peace and war. It has been associated with everything worthwhile in our national heritage and truly represents our national identity.

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Page 28 – Listening Post – Spring 1993
75th Anniversary Display at Alexander Library Building
8-28 November

One of the strengths of the collections of books and other materials held in the Alexander Library building is the very large collection on military history. Some of the treasures in the collection will be put on public exhibition in a special display mounted to mark the 75th anniversary of Armistice Day. The Library and Information Service of Western Australia is proud to be able to join with the RSL in helping to make sure that the sacrifices made during World War I are never forgotten and that the lessons of the horror of war are passed on to the next generation of Australians.

For very many years the collection of materials on military history has been one of the great strengths of the collections. The reason for this was the presence on the staff of the old Perth Public Library of Colonel Herbert Brayley Collett. Collett joined the staff as a 14-year-old in 1891. After distinguished military service Collett returned to the library after the war and remained on the staff until his appointment as a Senator in 1933. From 1925 to 1933 Collett was also President of the WA branch of the Returned Sailors and Soldiers' Imperial league. This was the period when the RSL built the State war memorial in 1929 and drew up plans for headquarters at the old Anzac House. One of his contributions to the work of the Library was to assemble a very large collection of military publications and histories.

The collections rich in pre-World War I drill books and training manuals used by armies in Australia, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and even from Germany. Long backfiles of British, Australian and American service lists are held. Of particular interest in November will be the collections of photographs, the AIF embarkation rolls and the 482 Australian Casualty Lists released between 11 August 1916 and 14 June 1920. It is still horrifying to see the size of individual lists lists released in the last months of 1917 and early in 1918. The awful cost of the Allies' victory is brought home in page after page of brief notes on those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Military history has remained one of the few areas where LISWA actively tries to collect older material as well as newly-published works. One of the objectives is to hold a complete collection of Australian unit histories and to this end purchases of older material from specialist secondhand dealers occur frequently. Purchases of new works are also made but it sometimes is difficult to keep track of all the publications that are published privately by unit associations and others.

Donations of material to the collections are greatly encouraged. Letters from men 'at the front' or diaries written whilst on active duty are very keenly sought as it is important that those items (now at least 75 years old) receive proper conservation treatment before they crumble to dust. Some old photographs may also need to be transferred to another medium before they are lost. It is hoped that the display running at the Alexander Library Building from 8 to 28 November will encourage members of the public to offer some of their family treasures for safe keeping. It is certain that they will be valued and cared for in a professional and respectful way. It is certain too that Colonel Collett would have been pleased to see this co-operation between the Library and the RSL revived once more.

PATRICK MOORE
Manager, Humanities and Social Sciences Branch
The Library and Information Service of Western Australia

WINTER EDITION BOOK REVIEW

To: Sister Elizabeth Burchill,
5 Lithgow Ave, Blackburn, Vic, 3130

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KEEP THE FLAG
GRETN A, SCOTLAND

I seek information regarding a Scottish migrant, James Hogg McDonald, who enlisted in the Australian Army in Perth in October 1916, and was a sapper with the 1st Tunnelling Coy in France from 18-August 1917 to 17 April 1919 when he returned to the UK (Parkhouse). Four months later, during which time he married my mother he returned to Australia on the "Plassy". I was born about two weeks after he sailed. Tragically, my mother lost touch with him.

Seventy-three years later I am trying to find out when and where he died and if his Company was in Gretna, Scotland, where he and my mother married. The family would like to know what happened to him and, if possible, where he was buried.

MRS MARGARET PATTISON [nee McDonald]
Mine Road
Cottles Bridge Vic 3099

HMS MERMAID

Would Robert Griffin who emigrated to Australia in 1960 from Kennington Oval, London, and who served in the Royal Navy on HMS Mermaid, (or any of his relatives) please contact:

MR KEN LAWRENCE
46b Litten Road
Cockle Bay, Howick
Auckland, New Zealand

28 BATTALION AIF

Mr Frank Lee, late Private, 28 Battalion, AIF 1916-1919 who passed away in Perth 1982 aged 88. He lived at Cannington, and for many years farmed at Gnowangerup.

Mr William Charles Swepstone, late Corporal, 3 Field Artillery Brigade, AIF 1914-1918, who passed away in Perth 1961 and lived at Mt Lawley.

If anyone has further information on these two gentlemen, please contact:

BEN TREVOR
70 Illawong Way
Karana Downs Qld 4306

FORCE 136

Members who served with Captain C.G. Taylor, author of 'The Forgotten Ones of South East Asia Command and Force 136' are requested to write to him at:

43 Herm House
Eastfield Road
Enfield
Middlesex UK EN3-5XD
Phone: 001144-818055049

STALAG XVIII A

I require photographs and details of Mr Royce McFarlane who served in World War II as Pte W. Forbes with the 2/6th Aust. Inf Bn in the Middle East, was captured in Greece in 1941 and became a POW in Stalag XVIII A. He enlisted as VX11618 Pte WR Forbes in Melbourne and reverted to his real name whilst a POW.

Mr McFarlane was a member of the RSL Victorian Branch until 1954 when it is believed he moved to WA. His last address was 62 Brisbane St, Perth and he died on 14 September 1962. If anyone has any information on Mr McFarlane please contact:

G. HEAFIELD
PO Box 609
Myrtleford Vic 3737

2ND/32ND AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

We wish to locate members or relatives of the above Battalion interested in joining our Association for the purpose of either receiving our newsletter, joining in our reunions, or purchasing the just-released history of the Battalion, "Britain To Borneo".

For further particulars contact:

F.J. SMITH
184 Shaftesbury Avenue
Bedford 6052
Tel: 271 6492

C. EDMISTON
184 Shaftesbury Avenue
Balcatta 6021
Tel: 349 0799

FLYING CAN OPENERS

I am searching for two officers who served with my brother flying Hurricane 2D 'Tanks Busters' during World War II: Flight Lieutenant K.F. Varley Hudson, the Adjutant of 6 Squadron in the Western Desert during the 1942-3 period before my brother was killed, and Pilot Officer Alan J. Radcliffe, who was his friend and wrote to my family after my brother died.

B.J.M. CLARK
St. Joseph's Orchard Cottages
The Common, West Runton,
Cromer, Norfolk NR27 9QE UK

DET II MOVEMENT CONTROL; VIETNAM

Vietnam Veterans who served in Det 11 Movement Control Group are requested to contact John Webb on (02) 725 4642 or write to 41 Beemera St, Fairfield Heights, NSW 2165.

I have contacted some 62 members so far and would like to trace as many of the group as possible.

Listening Post – Spring 1993 – Page 31
On the anniversary of Armistice Day on November 11, 1992, Prime Minister Paul Keating announced the Federal Government would fund a commemorative mission to the Western Front battlefields of World War I in the August-September 1993.

The mission, involving a small party of Australian veterans and war widows, is planned to coincide with the 75th anniversary of the outstanding Australian victories at Mont St Quentin and Peronne in August-September 1918. On August 8, 1918, for the first time in the war, the five Australian divisions (120,000 men) fought together as the Australian Army Corps under the Australian command of Lieutenant General Sir John Monash. The Australian forces weakened the German defences by taking Mont St Quentin and hastened the end of the war.

The mission will be a special Australian tribute in the year of the 75th anniversary of the end of World War I and will help focus the nation on the commemorations on November 11, 1993. The veterans will leave Australia on August 27 and visit Villers Bretonneux, Pozieres, Ypres, Bullecourt, Peronne and Mont St Quentin before returning to Australia on September 4.

Another event of national significance will be the dedication of a tomb of an unknown soldier from the Western Front battlefields at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra on Remembrance Day, November 11. The tomb will be a solemn and inspirational focal point for the millions of Australians and others who visit the memorial each year, many to honour and remember the nation’s war dead.

The presence of an unknown soldier within the memorial will be a stark reminder to contemporary and future generations of Australians of the tragic impact these conflicts had on individuals and families. His tomb will provide a dramatic and arresting symbol of the devastating nature of 20th century war.

JOHN FAULKNER, MINISTER FOR VETERANS’ AFFAIRS

AUSTRALIANS ON THE WESTERN FRONT

Australians fought in many battles on the Western Front from 1916 to 1918, but some battlefields have a special place in our history.

Pozieres: On 1916, the AIF was committed to the great British offensive around the River Somme, the “big push” which was intended to break the German line and end the war. The main Australian involvement occurred around the village of Pozieres. For six weeks the 1st, 2nd and 4th Divisions pushed the British line forward in agonisingly small steps, suffering terrible casualties. Pozieres and the ridge behind blocked the main British advance, and on July 23, the 1st Division was sent to clear the German resistance from the British flank. The Australian divisions captured and held the shattered village. For a minor tactical gain, the battle had cost 24,000 Australian casualties. It was said that the area around Pozieres was “more densely sown with Australian sacrifice than any other place on the Western Front.”

Bullecourt: Towards the end of winter of 1916, the Germans retreated about 40km to stronger positions – the Hindenburg Line. The Australians pursued the Germans and, on April 11, 1917, the 4th Division launched an attack on the north end of the Hindenburg Line at Bullecourt, supported by British tanks. The tanks were late and many broke down leaving the Australians without support as they struggled through the thick belts of barbed wire. Eight hundred and fifty men were killed. A month later, the 2nd Division attacked again at Bullecourt. Other divisions were drawn into the battle and, after two weeks and a further 7000 casualties, the fortified village was captured.

The British planned another "big push" for the summer and autumn of 1917. Preparations for the offensive began in June with the capture of Messines Ridge in a well-planned battle involving the newly-arrived 3rd Australian Division. Messines Ridge overlooked the town of Ypres, from where the main offensive was launched.

Ypres: The German defences on a series of low ridges to the east of Ypres were immensely strong, with concrete “pill boxes” covered by machine-guns and artillery. The Australian divisions attacked there on the evening of October 22, 1917. In September, in the battle of the Menin Road, they advanced behind a deep “creeping barrage” into Polygon Wood, a waste of splintered and dead trees. The battle was described by Australian engineer as “just slaughter.” In October,
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Further attacks were made toward the village of Passchendaele but each bogged down in mud so deep and thick that many wounded drowned in it. Not until November did the Canadians take Passchendaele, but the offensive had clearly failed and was called off. It cost some 38,000 Australian casualties.

**Villers-Bretonneux:** Knowing that United States troops were to arrive in France, the Germans launched an offensive to separate the British and French armies on the Western Front on March 21, 1918. The British Fifth Army was driven westwards as the Germans advanced rapidly towards the vital rail junction at Amiens. By March 25, no British division stood between the town and the attackers. The Australians were among the forces directed to plug the gap.

On April 4 and 5, at Villers-Bretonneux, the Australians drove the Germans back. The enemy attacked again on April 24 and 25 but was again repulsed and Amiens was saved. The fighting at Villers-Bretonneux was recognised by the supreme Allied commander, Marshal Foch, as "astonishing valiance". It claimed 1200 Australian lives.

After the defence of Villers-Bretonneux, Monash took command of the Australian Army Corps, including No 3 Squadron of the Australian Flying Corps, on May 30. He attempted to bring all five Australian divisions together under his command but did not achieve this until August.

**Hamel:** In the summer of 1918, the British and French, reinforced by fresh troops from the United States, went on the attack. At Hamel, on July 4, Australians and some Americans under Monash advanced with tanks over 2km in a bold but carefully planned attack with relatively light losses. The methodical tactics perfected by Monash became a model for the great Allied offensive which began at Amiens on August 8. With all five Australian divisions now under Monash's command, Australian and Canadian forces repeated the success of Hamel on a large scale, capturing more than 13,000 prisoners. The battle was described by the German commander, General Erich von Ludendorff, as "the blackest day for the German Army".

**Mont St Quentin and Peronne:** The Allied advance continued, with the Australians prominently engaged. At the end of August, the Germans made a stand at Mont St Quentin, a heavily fortified position overlooking the city of Peronne. With thick wire and an extensive trench system, Mont St Quentin was also protected by long open slopes, a canal near its foot and crack German troops. The Australians knew they were outnumbered yet they responded when ordered to attack. On August 29 and 30, the 2nd Division infantry cleared the mount's approaches and on the following day attacked the slopes and summit, overrunning the German defences and capturing 2600 prisoners. The week-long battle for Mont St Quentin was one of the AIF's toughest action and cost more than 3000 casualties. By September 2 a hard fight had won Peronne and forced the defenders to retreat.
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The marines were from the 85th Garrison Unit, the infantry from the 238th and 80th Regiments. To the south, opposing the 22nd Militia Battalion's advance, was the 2nd Battalion of the 80th Regiment. The Japanese had been caught off balance by the Australian landing and were in the process of relocating their forces; however, there had been three full-strength enemy battalions directly opposing the landing right from 22 September. The documents clearly indicated that the Japanese were not merely to defend the area, but were ordered to attack and drive the Australians back into the sea.

In the light of this information, Brigadier Windeyer made a request for a second brigade to be brought into the perimeter. The 20th Brigade, after six days of bitter fighting, was extended over nine kilometres and open to enemy infiltration and attack from two full-strength Japanese regiments, together with 1,000 naval marines. Blamey (like Wootten), was sympathetic towards Windeyer's request for more troops, but General MacArthur's planners, and those at Corps headquarters, said "definitely no" to the Brigadier's request. They had more urgent and immediate use, they considered, for sea transport craft. The 20th Brigade was left to "fight it out".

The infantry knew nothing of the difference of opinions between MacArthur and Blamey on the tactical situation. They were fully engaged against obviously stiffening resistance beyond the Bumi River and on the Sattelberg Road. They also knew that communication telephone lines were being cut daily behind them by Japanese patrols, and that the enemy artillery was ranging effectively on forward positions.

The 22nd Militia Battalion advancing along the coast (together with sections of the Papuan Infantry Battalion) had detected concentrations of enemy forces at Alanka Paula Plantation. Air reconnaissance by Boomerang aircraft confirmed extensive, well-manned positions in the plantation area. The Militia troops had, at this stage of the operation, their own problems with the enemy.

By 29 September the 2/13th and 2/15th Battalions began to detect that the Japanese had gone over to the defensive and were preparing to meet an attack. An Australian supply problem, however, had begun to develop, mainly owing to the weather. Engineer and Pioneer personnel were being employed to bring ammunition forward to troops along the vulnerable and slippery hill slopes. Long-range patrols at this time began encountering moving groups of 50 or more Japanese, particularly in the Sattelberg area. The only good news to come forward to the front-line troops was that the 2/43rd Battalion had begun to arrive at the beachhead. A further battalion would be a great help to Windeyer and his men. (Blamey had influenced Corps Headquarters to move in an additional battalion).

A plan was laid for the 2/13th and 2/15th Battalions to go over to the attack to break the stalemate which had developed. This attack drove the enemy from in front of Kakakog Ridge, but not before snipers and machine-gun fire had claimed many Australian victims. The battle at its height saw artillery, mortars and machine-guns of both sides engaged in heavy conflict. Even battalion headquarters' staff were brought into the fight and used in an infantry role during one enemy counter-attack, which nearly succeeded. This was fighting of the same magnitude and intensity as that experienced in the Owen Stanley Ranges, Buna, Sanananda and Gona. The battle ranged back and forth amidst bombs, shells and bayonet charges - the enemy had effectively concealed its strength. The Australians were now engaging heavy defensive positions, not detected by patrols until it was too late to reconsider the attack. The Engineers and Pioneers continued to bring ammunition forward, but now returned to the beachhead carrying casualties. The 20th Brigade troops were fighting like tigers; the Army would long be proud of these men. The Australians had not gained their objective that day, but had given the Japanese something to remember. The fighting was inconclusive to say the least, but it was to show a high degree of cohesion between militiamen and volunteers.

Lieut-Colonel O'Connor's 22nd Militia Battalion became aware of the danger facing the vastly outnumbered 20th Brigade and had accelerated its attack through the entrenched 11/80th Japanese Battalion. By late afternoon it had secured the important Dreger Harbour area. Although facilities for barge traffic into this harbour had some limiting factors, the Japanese knew now that their southern flank was wide open to exploitation by a new force of Australians, for the Militia troops were well on their way to outflank the enemy force engaging the 20th AIF Brigade. The situation experienced during the dark days of 1942, when Imperial Force units came to the aid of militiamen, had been reversed on this occasion.

By noon of 1 October, two companies of the 22nd Battalion were well north of Dreger Harbour and endeavouring to make contact with the 20th Brigade. Early the next morning, the 2/17th Battalion found signs that there was no enemy opposition. Patrols confirmed that the defensive position south of the Bumi...
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Japanese had indeed pulled back in the face of the swift Finschhafen attack. The men of the Brigade were now able to rest and relax. 

Battalions were ordered to advance toward Kakakog Ridge, with great caution, for it was thought that the Japanese might be relocating troops quickly to block the Militia threat or waiting for the Australian invaders by at least three-to-one. It can be made physical contact with the battered barge and by marching overland, and would have been readily seen from this Intelligence information just how fine a line there was between victory and defeat in the battle for Finschhafen, and ironically how significant was the initiative seized by Lieut-Colonel O'Connor in driving his Militiamen forward at the critical stage of the battle.

Brigadier Windeyer's early assessment of the strategic situation had always been correct - he undertook an assignment with one brigade, which should have been given to at least two brigades. He knew what Wellington meant when he said after the Battle of Waterloo that "it was a near run thing".

Japanese prisoners were later to reveal that, as the troops of the Japanese 20th Division moved to the Finschhafen front, they saw many groups of staggering and starving survivors from the defeated 51st Division, who were in the process of withdrawing from the Lae area. Air attacks, starvation, malaria and infected wounds had all wrought havoc upon the Japanese. The fresh troops were ordered not to assist, nor to give any rations to their miserable comrades.

The cost of the operation to capture Finschhafen - 358 casualties (73 killed) - was quite heavy. Evacuation of the sick claimed another 301 Australian victims, and the American ancillary troops suffered 50 casualties (eight killed) from enemy air raids and beach incidents.

**THE JAPANESE COUNTER ATTACK AGAINST FINschHAFEN**

General Wootten now knew that, with the capture of Finschhafen a reality, his next objective was to expel the Japanese from Sattelberg. The drive, he considered, would need more troops than one AIF brigade, supported by a lone Militia battalion, as had been used to achieve his last objective. At the same time Finschhafen fell, there was one single company from the 2/17th Battalion providing a block on the road running from the Finschhafen launch-jetty through Jivevaneng to Sattelberg. When the company was relieved by a fresh one from the newly arrived 2/43rd Battalion, the position was savagely attacked. This attack subsequently proved to be a prelude to an enemy forward thrust against all the Australian positions in the Finschhafen area.

Until March 1943, there was very little information available to Allied land forces on the organisation and strength of Japanese armies in the Pacific and Burma theatres of operation. Australian field intelligence during the earlier years of World War II was better organised and more effective than its American counterpart. Sir Winston Churchill was to state in his memoirs:

"...the efficiency of the various arms of information gathering, field and counter intelligence of the British, was one of the real telling factors of World War II."

Most of the senior men of the Australian Navy and Army Intelligence had been trained in England during the years between World War I and World War II. Their capacity and effectiveness for establishing and organising intelligence units was illustrated by the results achieved by the Coast Watchers, and in the handling of the important battle orders and other Japanese High Command documents, captured by the 47th Militia Battalion during March 1943. [Naval Intelligence had formed, and controlled, the Coast Watchers before the establishment of the Allied Intelligence Bureau in June 1942]. The Intelligence Section of the 29th Brigade had the captured battle orders, together with the rank badges of Japanese staff officers accompanying the captured documents, in the hands of Allied translators within hours. These records, when translated into English, were found to include a complete Japanese Army list, with the names of officers, units, composition, deployment and their objectives in the Burma and Pacific Theatres of War. Soon after this incident, Australian Intelligence Corps officers attended a hastily convened conference in Washington to examine a system of Allied Army Intelligence staff interchange. The meeting had also be the very important result of having Americans of Japanese descent seconded to the
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Finschhafen cont.

Australian Army, to work as on-the-spot prisoner interrogators and document translators. The seconded Americans, mostly non-commissioned officers, worked as far forward as Brigade Headquarters and one of these men showed his worth during the battle to hold Finschhafen against the Japanese counter-attack.

On 15 October a patrol from the 2/28th Battalion, moving north from Song, captured a wounded Japanese and found an officer's satchel. The briefcase contained general documents and an operation order issued just three days earlier by Lieut-General Shigeru Katagiri, the commander of the Japanese 20th Division. A translation again confirmed that a force of over 5,000 fresh enemy troops was in the Finschhafen area when the Australian 20th Brigade landed, and that units of all three Divisions of the Japanese VIIIth Army were on their way to, or were now in, the immediate area. The complete movement and relocation of this vast composite Japanese force was ordered to be completed by early October. The operation itself laid down that the 79th Infantry Regiment was to attack the Australian positions at Arndt Point, and the II/26th Battalion, with two attached companies of the 79th Battalion, was to occupy the Bonga area. After a diversionary attack by the II/26th Artillery Unit (in an infantry role), there was to be a seaborne attack by troops of the 79th Regiment, supported by a detachment from the 20th Engineer Regiment, against Finschhafen's Scarlet Beach. Australian store dumps, artillery positions, headquarters positions and moored sea craft would be the prime objectives of the invading force. The signal for "X-day" [the date to be advised] would be a bonfire, to burn for 20 minutes, to be lit on Sattelberg heights.

On receipt of this "intelligence coup", General Wootten immediately changed his plans from attack to defence. He knew that his 9th Division was to fight a heavy defensive battle to hold the Finschhafen area. Brigadier Windeyer was ordered to co-ordinate the defence of the perimeter, and to hold his captured ground at all cost. He was to defend in depth and to maintain a mobile reserve. Coast watchers, beach defenders and listening-posts were to be organised immediately. Even before Wootten had informed his other subordinates of Katagiri's intention to go over to the attack with his reinforced 20th Division, fierce fighting was developing along the Sattelberg front. The 2/43rd Battalion troops were under heavy attack. Enemy bugle calls began to be heard in all forward areas of the perimeter, and this meant only one thing to the troops of the 9th Division - out front there were large numbers of Japanese troops.

A policy of firing only at revealed targets was ordered in an effort to conserve stocks of ammunition. Windeyer knew that there had been a false dawn, and that the initiative of Lieut-Colonel O'Connor's 22nd Militia Battalion had been a very fortunate occurrence, which had temporarily upset the Japanese plans for the general counter-attack. His three battalions of the 20th Brigade were in the Langemak Bay and Mape River areas, and the attached 2/43rd Battalion was providing a block on the Sattelberg Road. The excellent 22nd Militia Battalion, now directly placed under his command, was occupied in mopping up in the Langemak Bay, Logaweng and Dreger Harbour areas. Windeyer was greatly relieved when he learned of the order from Corps Headquarters to General Wootten to deploy the whole of his 9th Division on the defence of the Finschhafen area. Up until this time, he had had reason to think that he was the only officer of general rank who appreciated the strength of the Japanese opposing the 20th Brigade advance toward Sattelberg.

The Allied naval forces and air patrols began to detect heavy Japanese barge movement along the coast of the Huon Peninsula. This traffic brought forward the decision, taken earlier by New Guinea Force Headquarters, to land troops on the Tami Islands for the purpose of installing a radar station to detect barge movement, and to give warnings of the approach of hostile aircraft towards Finschhafen, Nadzab, Lae and Buna. A company of the 29th/46th Battalion had been originally allocated the task of occupying the Islands. When the Navy and Air Force expressed the urgency of the operation, the 2/32nd Battalion was ordered to undertake immediately the invasion to install the radar, pioneer, signal and heavy machine-gun detachments. The 2/32nd put troops ashore on 2 October. The Japanese did not contest the landing, but had quietly withdrawn its 200-strong garrison in anticipation of the Australian occupation.

From a base at Morobe, American torpedo-boats were operating from sunset to dawn each day. The venomous craft were now so efficient in the detection of surface craft that Japanese barges could expect an attack either on the way to the Huon peninsula or on the return journey. At dawn General Kenny's American or Australian planes were in the air searching for the day traffic - the pilots had also become very skilled in finding the Japanese craft in spite of their elaborate camouflage and evasive tactics.

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World War II was all but over in April 1945 when POWs at Nuremberg, scene of Hitler’s biggest pre-war rallies, started on a forced march to Moosburg. Len Davies of Victoria Park, who was one of the unfortunate, has submitted a diary of that march which he sent to his mate, RAAF doctor Dick Pratt.


Il can remember the incident, having proceeded about 200 yards beyond the bridge. The planes were US Thunderbolts. They circled, then one plane dived. I saw a bomb leave the plane, and an explosion followed. The second plane started to dive to bomb but the pilot, probably realising that the men below were POWs, suddenly pulled out of the dive. Both planes then circled once or twice, then flew off.

Bivouacked in woods, near Pfifferhutte, at 1900hrs. No German rations issued today. Men ate from Red Cross parcels.

Some POWs lit fires for warmth, but the German guards ordered that the fires be put out.

April 5th Thursday: Left woods at 0800hrs. German count: 16 men missing, [2099]. Long halt round noon – ringside seat of terrific bombing of Nuremberg. Whole column confused. 1300hrs. The beginning of a long wait [Neumark] north of the town of Palling for a German ration of about 16 ozs of soup and 1/9th of a loaf of bread. Sat and waited round in the mud and rain, and marched on at 0200 hrs.

April 6th Friday: [20kms] marched all night in a very uncomfortable rainstorm. Hauptmen Falk, German Block Commander, wanted to march after 0600 hrs, but Col. Goode refused to march further in the rain so we bivouacked in woods, miserably wet, tired and cold.

10.30 hrs, on the march again – passed through the village of Mulhauser and Palletin. Arrived at the outskirts and waited for a couple of hours for ration issue of one Red Cross parcel per 2 men and 1/9th loaf of black bread. We were billeted in churches, schools and barns in this town, Berching.

April 7th Saturday: Started march at 0800 hrs; passed the village of Autmandorf [original destination 24km south]. Marched an additional 6km in order to get billeted in barns in town of Landsdorf. Very difficult march for the men today, and the column quite confused. German allotment of accommodation fell several hundred short of the number of men. No German issue of food today.

April 8th Sunday: Spent the whole day in the monastery grounds. No German issue of food today. Men would starve only for Red Cross parcel. Saw several allied aircraft. Signalled to them with large POW sign [made of toilet paper and empty Red Cross tins]. Artillery fire heard distinctly all day. Potatoes, 125lb for 1800.


April 10th Tuesday: 0830 hrs, marching south towards Ploffhauschen. 1200 hrs columns [blocks I and II] divided to Obermelsdorf. All men billeted in barns at these two villages by 1600. No German food issued today.

April 11th Wednesday: Remained in these villages. 1200 hrs aircraft passing over dropped a cluster of incendiary bombs; fell just short of Unterumelodorf. B17 Group 2. Accidental.

April 12th Thursday: Remained in villages all day. Roll call. Count today 1794. German issue of 200 loaves [1029].

April 13th Friday: 4 kms. 0900 hrs. Marching south towards Puffenhauzen again. 1100 hrs arrived Margrent. Leuthen, overnight billets in barns. 1200 hrs news of President Roosevelt’s death due to heart attack last night. Guards are becoming very struck [trigger happy]. One man shot in hip. Bread 1/9th loaf per man.

April 14th Saturday: Remained in village till Monday. German issue of 1/9th of loaf of bread. Running short of Red Cross food. A worry. 2.5 lb potatoes.

April 15th Sunday: Stayed all day and rested, 1/9th loaf.

April 16th Monday: Left 1000 hrs for Holzhansen. [11km]. One American Red Cross parcel and one French parcel between four men. 2lb potatoes and 1/9th loaf of bread. Stayed barn.

April 17th Tuesday: [8km] Left 1000 hrs, marched for Obermunchen. Very beautiful country, but hilly. Stayed in barn. No bread.
Forced march cont.

April 18th Wednesday: [8km] Stayed all day. Left 5pm for Reichensdorf. (Willenadorf) arrived 2000 hrs stayed in barn. Good spot. British Red Cross parcel, for four.

April 19th Thursday: Stayed all day. 3 days bread issue of 1/9th loaf.

April 20th Friday: [7km] Left for Moosburg. Arrived 10.00 am had bath and billets in 11A.

R PRATT (422983) RAAF

Letters to The Editor

THE GARRISON CHURCH, SYDNEY

This church has been conducting Military Church Parades since 1841 and Veterans' Commemoration services since the Boer War.

If any WA group intends organising a tour of Sydney and would like a conducted tour of the Garrison Church or a group Commemoration Service (weekdays or Sundays) I can be contacted as under:

BRIAN SEERS
Rector
50 Lower Ford Street
Millers Point NSW 2000
Ph (02) 247 2664

AUSTRALIA'S UNKNOWN SOLDIER

The Director of the Australian War Memorial in Canberra has been charged with the responsibility of entombing the remains of an Unknown Australian Soldier in the centre of the Hall of Memories at the War Memorial. There it will become the focal point of memory for all those Australian men and women from the three services who lost their lives in the service of their country in all those conflicts in which Australians have been involved.

The remains of the soldier selected will be recovered from an Australian War Cemetery in France or Belgium, the area of Australia's greatest loss of life in any conflict. The remains will be placed in a casket made from Tasmanian blackwood which, accompanied by a bearer party, will move to the Memorial at Menin Gate where it will lie in State before being flown to Canberra. The casket will then be placed on a gun carriage and escorted to King's Hall in the old Parliament House, to lie in State for three days. The funeral will take place on 11 November 1993, the 75th anniversary of the end of World War I.

Members of all Australian Ex-Service organisations have been invited to attend the funeral and to line the route of the procession with their Unit Banners. The procession will be led by Mounted Soldiers and a tri-service party of 300 at the slow march from the foot of Anzac Parade to the Parade Ground in front of the War Memorial, where the Governor General, the Prime Minister and other local and overseas dignitaries will be in attendance. The casket will be borne from the gun carriage past the Pool of Reflection and the Roll of Honour to the centre of the Hall of Memories where it will be laid to rest at 11.00 am.

The funeral will be given wide television coverage, and it is hoped that as many ex-service personnel as possible will be able to attend.

DAVE McCLELLAND
City of Perth Sub-Branch

50th ANNIVERSARY BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC

I have some newspaper cuttings about a memorable week in Merseyside last May which may be of interest to some of your readers.

The entire Battle of the Atlantic [when ships escaped from Norway, Holland, France and Belgium to fight on from Liverpool] was directed from Derby House, Liverpool, only a mile from our nine-mile-long dockland. There was more Navy 'brass' in evidence on our streets then than there was in London. Even before the USA's entry into the war, their total shipments of Lend-Lease aircraft went to Liverpool's Speke Airport for reassembly (I worked there for Lockheed Aircraft Corporation). What a target the area became for the Luftwaffe; in May 1941, we experienced seven nights of 1,000 bomber raids which was a UK first.

An invitation to attend the anniversary week was extended to personnel from the German Navy, including any U-Boat survivors. This was of special significance to my family.

In World War I my uncle, the late Capt J.A. Bellamy of Ellerman City Lines, okayed orders to heave to and abandon ship after a U-boat attack. In those days things were different at sea. Before sending the ship to the bottom by shell-fire, the commander of the U-Boat asked the men in the life-boats if they had rations, water, compass and maps. My uncle never forgot this incident and, despite seeing his first command end thus, held the German Navy in the highest esteem. He was buried at sea [which he requested] out of Freetown, Sierra Leone, in October 1934.

Copies of the newspaper cuttings about the anniversary week can be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed, business size-envelope to:

BRYAN A. O'NEILL
13/2 Wheeler Street,
Morley 6062
Tel: 275 5840

Video available from:
Worldwide International TV
21-25 St Ann's Court,
London WIV 3AW [Price $32]
RETURN TO THE WESTERN FRONT

The Federal Government funded a commemorative mission to some of the major World War I battlefields in France and Belgium in August-September 1993.

The mission commemorated all Australians who fought on the Western Front and the 75th anniversary of the end of World War I. Australian casualties in the Great War were more than 53,000 killed and 152,000 wounded.

It is estimated that fewer than 1,000 Australian World War I veterans, whose average age is about 95, are alive today. Of these, more than 230 volunteered to join the commemorative mission.

The mission party was made up of 14 veterans, seven war widows and two Junior Legatees.

The main focus of the commemoration ceremonies were at the memorials at Villers-Bretonneux, Ypres and Peronne. The ceremony at Peronne was the major event of the mission. It commemorated a uniquely Australian victory which was said to have so weakened the German defences that it hastened the end of the war.

The itinerary included visits to the memorials of the five Divisions of the Australian Army Corps – the 1st Division at Pozieres, the 2nd at Mont St Quentin, the 3rd at Sailly-le-Sec, the 4th at Bellenglise and the 5th at Polygon Wood.

There was an evening ceremony at the Arc de Triomphe in Paris and the rekindling of the eternal flame, but for most of the time the veterans were based at Arras which is central to the major battlefields of Belgium and France where Australian troops were engaged.

Courtesy: Department of Veterans' Affairs.

ABOVE: The Memorial to the 2nd Division at Mont St Quentin
BELOW: The Australian Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux
Defending Australia
By Harry Gelber Professor Political Science at the University of Tasmania

The ‘Nationalist’ Revival

Events in Yugoslavia, Iraq and the Soviet Union illustrate, in especially dramatic form, one of the more far-reaching and perhaps ominous developments in world politics: the demands of ethnic separatism. Its effects are almost everywhere destabilising and disruptive, both politically and economically. It has caused much bloodshed and seems certain to cause more. It is a clear almost everywhere destabilising and disruptive, reaching and perhaps ominous developments in world politics. The claims of the Baltic states, the Kurds or the Kurds or the Kurds would indeed be likely to lead to greater liberty for individual Eritreans, Tibetans, Latvians, etc. But there can be even less doubt that Ugandans and Burmans were far freer and better off under British rule than they have been since becoming ‘free’, that West Irianese were better off under the Dutch and East Timorese under Portugal than either group has been under Indonesian rule, that Cambodians were incomparably better off under a Vietnamese proconsul than they were under Pol Pot or that North Koreans had better, perhaps even freer, lives under Japanese rule than they have had under Kim II Sung.

Disputes over borders

Separatism leads to other difficulties, notably that of borders. That often involves classic problems of territory. The world is full of such unsolved problems: Kashmir, the Sino-Russia border, the Sino-Indian frontier, the demarcation line between West Irian and Papua New Guinea, control of the South China Sea. Problems of that sort have been accentuated by policies of settling certain ethnic groups in new regions by way of colonisation: French in Noumea, Russians in Latvia, Han in Sinkiang. These problems often create tension and war.

Other difficulties can have to do with refugee or migrant flows across borders. There can be no doubt that Poland and Germany are already deeply fearful of an increasing flow of refugees. Austria is under similar threat from Yugoslavia and Rumania, France from North Africa, the US from Central America and Malaysia from Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees. These flows create great potential problems, possibly the greatest since the migrations which helped to bring about the collapse of the Roman Empire. In the advanced world, the wish to help refugees, sustain human rights, and the impulse to racial equality, will increasingly clash with the wish for national self-determination, economic and social cohesion and, indeed, national security.

There are also trade-offs between the political and religious independence of ‘nations’ and their economic welfare. When the US President, Woodrow Wilson, promoted the principle of ‘self-determination’ in the settlement which followed World War I, it was one of the chief criteria for the creation of new states, in a region where it was impossible to draw ‘national’ boundaries...
Defence Issues cont.

which would precisely delimit single ethnic/national
groups and ensure that the new entity would be eco-
nomically viable. That notion has now fallen by the
wayside. The United Nations obviously includes a num-er of ‘nations’ which could not by any stretch of the
imagination be called economically viable.

Under contemporary conditions of interdependence,
viability is both harder to define and harder to attain.
Economic clout has to do with many matters, but cer-
tainly also with size. It is not by chance that Europe is
creating a huge united market or that the three
strongest economic entities in the world are Europe, the
US and Japan. Other things being equal, therefore, the
Slovenes are likely to be more deeply dependent than a
united Yugoslavia and the Baltic states more strongly
dependent than a united USSR. Ethnic or religious sepa-
ratism is apt to lead, fairly directly, to economic weak-
ness, though separatist leaders rarely say so. It is there-
certain to create more political entities which must
rely on economic aid and other benefits from outside.
That process can hardly fail to increase ‘national’ dis-
putes and resentments and, at the same time, lead to an
increasingly complex network of ‘international’ arrange-
ments as well as a burgeoning international bureaucra-
cy.

Foreign Ownership

Examples, albeit non-violent ones, of how the new
facts of international life will clash with popular nation-
alism can be found quite close to home. Consider, for
example, the issue of ‘foreign’ ownership or control,
which received much publicity in relation to the fate of
the Fairfax newspaper group. Precisely why is
‘Australian’ ownership or control more desirable than
‘foreign’? Is it that foreign owners would pay less atten-
tion to Australian national interests than Australians
would? Where is the evidence for that? Surely, if any-
thing, the opposite is true: foreign companies tend to
be more and not less punctilious about obeying
Australian rules and regulations, if only because, as for-
eigners, they are politically more vulnerable. Or do
more of the profits of foreign firms go abroad? That
does not follow, either. Foreign corporations pay taxes
and employ local labour like anyone else. Moreover, the
nationality of shareholders has no necessary connection
with the ‘nationality’ of the firm. In any case, what
should be the criteria for judging a firm’s nationality?
The location of its headquarters? The area where most
of its operations take place or from which its profits
derive? If the latter, does that mean that once over 50
per cent of BHP’s operations and profits are offshore
(which might happen quite soon) then BHP will have
ceded to be Australian? Or should the passports of the
Directors be the determining factor? Or the passports of
50 per cent of the shareholders? But who could possi-
ibly know? Imagine, quite hypothetically, that 51 per cent
of the shares of BHP were owned by three banks. One
bank’s headquarters were located in London, but 51 per
cent of its shareholders were Australians, the majority
of whom were institutions, themselves 35 per cent
owned offshore. Another bank was located in Australia,
but 60 per cent foreign-owned, and a third had its
headquarters in Australia, but 55 per cent of its opera-
tions were offshore and two-thirds of its shares were
owned by Australian institutions with majority foreign
shareholdings of various nationalities. Would BHP,
under such circumstances, have ceased to be
Australian? The idea is patently absurd.

Robert Reich has nicely illustrated the problems of
trying to assess matters in such national categories by
reference to the US purchaser of a Pontiac car, who
might pay US$20,000 for it. About $6,000 of the price
would go to South Korea for routine labour operations,
$3,500 to Japan for advanced components, nearly
$3,000 to data processing and advertising done any-
where, most of the remainder coming to rest with
‘saintists in Detroit, lawyers and bankers in New York,
lobbyists in Washington, insurance and health-care
workers all over the country and General Motors share-
holders...an increasing number of whom are foreign
nationals.”

Unfortunately, considerations of this sort will not
stop the public or the media from demanding, under
labels like popular and ‘democratic’ will or national
interest, what no one is any longer able to deliver. What
can be delivered, and what governments are delivering,
is greatly increased and more detailed controls, in prac-
tice if not in name. But they are controls of a new kind.
They are controls by administrative and political direc-
tion, by the clear threat of special or retrospective regu-
lation or legislation. Ministers are demanding conformi-
ty with the “spirit of the law” as interpreted by them-
selves - next month or next year. Together with what
has gone an increasing politicisation of the law, in all its
aspects. In other words, what governments can deliver is
a highly populist and unavoidably arbitrary government
by men, instead of government by laws. And all of mod-
ern history testifies to the threat which such govern-
ment by men offers to the liberties of the very citizens it
pretends to defend.

Courtesy: IPA Review
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INFORMATION ON RALACs
TRANSFERS TO STATES

With the increasing desire by veterans for care in their local regions, the Government decided to integrate the Repatriation Hospitals into the State health systems and to introduce the Repatriation private patient Scheme. The first transfer occurred last July when Repatriation General Hospital Hobart was transferred to Tasmania. You will know that the Repatriation General Hospital at Concord transfers to New South Wales on 1 July 1993.

The Government decision on integration was extended last year to the Repatriation Limb Centres – generally known as RALACs. The decision also applied to the Artificial Limbs Scheme, the Commonwealth scheme which provides artificial limbs to Australian residents other than veterans who need them.

Agreement on the transfer of limb centres so far has been reached with Queensland, and the Australian Capital Territory. The limb centre in Townsville is being transferred to the Northern Regional Health Authority and the limb centre located in Woden Valley Hospital in Canberra is being absorbed within Woden Valley Hospital.

It is possible that the Northern Territory and Tasmania will take over their respective limb centres in the next few months.

As part of the rationalisation of services in South Australia and Queensland, the RALACs, which are located on Repatriation General Hospital grounds, will be absorbed into those hospitals and would be integrated into the State system in due course.

These centres will continue to provide the same quality services to veteran and community patients alike as they currently do. Veterans and war widows will still be referred to those centres by LMOs and the Department for treatment. Entitlements are not changed at all by these transfers of responsibility.

TREVOR LLOYD
Veterans' Affairs Committee

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City of Perth
ANNUAL DINNER
Saturday 27 November 1993
Anzac House at 7pm
Pre-dinner drinks 6.30pm.
Price $10 pp inc. beer, house wines and soft drinks.
Members accepting, with partners, please notify Hon. Secretary
City of Perth RSL Sub-Branch

Meetings
Meetings held second Tuesday of each month (except January) in Gallipoli Room, Anzac House (6.30pm)
President M.C. (Mike) Hall Ph: 277 4091
Secretary D. McClelland Ph: 448 3812. Office open
Every Tuesday 10am-3pm. Tel: 325 9799
Caravan Park – Point Peron
Sites are available on a casual basis at the RSL Caravan Park for financial members of the League for the forthcoming season at a cost of $6 per night or $40 per week. You will require your own van. Please contact the caretaker on 527 8551 for reservations.

MABO

National HQ of the RSL has received many enquiries about Mabo. Below is league Standing Policy 17.12 and 17.13 which is relevant.

17.12 Aboriginal Land

(i) That the Aboriginal people be granted permanent tenure on selected land that meets their living requirements and protects and preserves proven sacred sites.

(ii) That every effort be made to ensure that in granting such land, a nation within a nation or a separate class of people with rights and privileges not enjoyed by all Australians, is not created.

17.13 The Australian People

That all Australians are equal and:

(i) that they are entitled as of right to the same rights, opportunities and privileges irrespective of their background, but all have the same obligations and duties to Australia and to the Australian community at large and the same requirement of allegiance to the Crown and to Australia; and

(ii) there be no discrimination between people either on the ground of their colour, race, ethnic background or sex.

PATRICIA BALFE
Editor

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REUNIONS

MIDDLE EAST VAD
To celebrate the 52nd anniversary of the arrival of the Australian Contingent of VADs in the Middle East in November 1941, the Victorian branch of the Middle East VAD Association is hosting a reunion in Melbourne from 24-28 November 1993. Members, relatives and friends from all States will take part in the celebrations and will be accommodated at the Travelodge, St Kilda Road, Melbourne.

During their service in the Middle East in World War II, VADs were attached to 2/6th and 2/7th Australian General Hospitals.

Further information: contact
TUCK FEALY
Tel: 364 3779

ATHERTON TABLELANDS
- 50 YEARS LATER
A return to the Atherton Tablelands — with 'Operation Trekback' — has been organised for 16 to 24 October.

The Atherton RSL clubrooms will be open for reasonably-priced meals between 12 and 26 October, and old-time dances are to be held each Saturday night from 9 to 30 October [incl.]. Our pianist played all around the Tablelands for dances during the war and would love to catch up again. And you will be welcome to play — day or night, wet or fine — on our unique covered lawn bowling green.

For those who were camped in the Wongabel area, the people living out there have marked and cleared many of the old places and are looking forward to taking you on a tour.

CAIRNS & ATHERTON TABLELANDS
Far North Queensland
Free call: 008 636 637

BRITISH PACIFIC AND EAST INDIES
FLEETS 1944-46
A special 50th Anniversary Memorial reunion will be held in Portsmouth, in 1995, for all those who served with the 'forgotten' British Pacific and East Indies Fleets 1944-46. They are often described as 'forgotten' as many ships returned to the UK months after the victory celebrations were over. The organisers are giving early notification of the event so that all those interested in attending can apply for full details.

All men and women who served under the commands of the Royal Navy, Royal Marines, Fleet Air Arm, Merchant Navy or the RN Shore Bases, including shipmates from the Commonwealth, will be invited.

The reunion will include a Civic Reception at the Portsmouth Guildhall on Saturday 2 September 1995, followed by a Memorial Service the next day. The following can be contacted for further information:

RN Ships: Mansel Evans, Bryn Deryn, Lon-yr-Eglwys, St Brides Major, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan, CF32 OSH, UK

Fleet Air Arm Squadrons [UK]; Dennis Gardiner, 116 Folly Lane, Stroud, Glos. GL5 1SX, UK

Merchant Navy: Frank Manning, 2E Valley Road, Kenley, Surrey, CR8 SDG, UK

Those living overseas and RAN, RNZN, RCN Ships, etc: Gerry Purnell, 164B Green Lanes, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B73 6LT, UK

THE BRITISH PACIFIC FLEET
ON VJ DAY, 15 AUGUST 1945
Australia and New Zealand Manned Ships

Cruisers:
• Achilles [New Zealand manned] Capt F.J. Butler, MBE

Destroyers:
• Quiberon [RAN] Cde G.S. Stewart, RAN
• Quickmatch [RAN] Lt Cdr O.H. Betcher, DSC, RAN
• Napier [RAN manned] Capt H.J. Buchanan, DSO, RAN
• Nepal [RAN manned] Lt Cdr C.J. Stephenson, RAN
• Nizam [RAN manned] Cdr C.H. Brooks, RAN
• Norman [RAN manned] Lt Cdr J. Flunkett-Cole, RAN
• RAN Manned Minesweepers

Ballarat
Cdr N.R. Read, RAN

Bendigo
Lt Cdr E.M. Andrewartha, RANVR

Brisbane
Lt Cdr T.J. Baker, RANVR

Goulburn
Lt Cdr J.H.P. Dixon, RAN

Maryborough
Lt Cdr M.W. Lancaster, RAN

Toowoomba
Lt H.F. Goodwin, RAN

Whyalla
Lt G.L.B. Parry, RANVR

Cessnock
Lt A.G. Chapman, RAN

Gawler
Lt Cdr J.H.P. Dixon, RAN

Geraldton
Cdr A.J. Travis, RAN

Ipswich
Lt R.H. Creasey, DSC, RANVR

Launceston
Lt Cdr E.J. Barron, RAN

Pirie
Lt C.K. MacKenzie, RANVR

Tamworth
Lt M.B. Gale, RAN

Wollongong
Lt J.H. Hare, RAN

Kalgoorlie
Lt J.S. McBryde, RANVR

Lismore
Lt K.S. Sutherland, RANVR

Cairns
Lt C.M. Callow, RANVR

Repair and Maintenance Ships:
• Arbutus [NZ manned] Lt N.D. Blair, RNZNR

Shore Establishments:
• Beaconsfield [Melbourne] Lt Cdr M. Gibbs, RNVR
• Furneaux [Brisbane] Cdr J.F. Steemson
• Woolloomooloo Cde J.D. Stevenson
• Golden Hind [Sydney] Capt H.B. Crane
• Peps [Manus] Capt H.F. Wright, OBE

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Reunions cont.

4 RAR ASSOCIATION

4 RAR, 4RAR/NZ Association will hold a 30th anniversary national reunion in Brisbane from 29 January to 6 February 1994. Lunches, dinners and tours will be included in this family-style reunion, and further details can be obtained from

4 RAR ASSOCIATION SEQ
PO BOX 269
ALDERLEY QLD 4051

Forty-five men and 21 ladies will be leaving on 26 and 27 December for the Australian Interstate National RSL Championships in Queensland.


The position of Section Captain has been deleted this year. Instead, the Match Committee comprising K Alberthsen as Chairman, Max O'Loughlin, Ian Gardner, Ken Marshall, Reg Axford will be carrying out all duties.


Royal Park Bowling Club is now officially the headquarters of the WA RSL Bowls Section.

Do not forget, if you wish to nominate teams for the various events, contact your Liaison Officer or ring the Chairman of Match Committee, Keith Alberthsen on 349 2780.

TED PHILP
Hon State Secretary
WARSL Bowls Section

THE CLUB WITH A DIFFERENCE

ANZAC HOUSE, 28 ST GEORGE'S TERRACE, PERTH
(Opposite Government House)

Drinks below hotel prices
Meals and snacks available

Financial League members are members of the club
Country members are especially welcome
Unit functions catered for

For further details contact Club Manager,
telephone (09) 325 9079

MEET YOU AT
ANZAC CLUB

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SCARBOROUGH

Inclement weather at nights recently has led to a drop in attendance at our meetings so it has been decided to alter the meeting time from 8.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. - but still on the second Monday of every month.

Treasurer John Maxwell has had to resign because of ill-health; Dudley Hocking is filling that position until the next AGM.

Our winning team in the bowling Triples comprised Keith Ireland, Allan McFarlane and Bryan Lynch, and we hope for their continuing success. The Sub-Branch-sponsored bowls will be held again - but in a slightly different format.

Cliff Pendergast was impressed by the interest shown by the children in his Anzac address when he visited the Holy Rosary Primary School.

David Watson, Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Veterans' Affairs was a guest speaker at a recent meeting. He gave an interesting account of DVA activities and said we had a good advocate in the present Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Mr John Faulkner, in Canberra. It is always interesting to hear up-to-date information about the DVA.

Sadly, Bill Mackie, a well known Sub Branch and Bowling club member passed away recently.

Joy Reed was presented with a woollen chair-cover after her recent hospitalisation.

JIM HUGILL

BELMONT

Our Club Hall is becoming popular as a meeting place for other Associations including the BCOF Association of WA, the Korea & South East Asia Forces Association of Australia, the Atomic Survivors Assn., the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps Association and the Royal Netherlands Forces Regiment Stormtroops Veterans etc. Many members of those organisations are also members of this sub branch.

Our Club is open each Wednesday 3-7pm, Friday 4-10pm, Saturday 11am-5pm and Sunday 4pm to 8pm and meetings are held on the third Sunday of the month at 10am with BBQ facilities and bar open.

One of our Past Presidents, Len Keynes, was elected unopposed as WA President of the RSL. Len and his wife Ann have greatly contributed to the success of this Sub Branch.

Secretary Harold Haimes and his wife Edna celebrated their golden wedding anniversary recently when the Sub Branch and Womens' Auxiliary organised an excellent function that included official congratulations from our new President Mitch Cadden.

Burglars recently broke into our premises and stole cigarettes, liquor etc., with all the subsequent damage, but as Churchill said "we will fight them on the beaches etc." and this hall has been converted into a fortress.

Two groups in this branch who never seem to tire are the Womens' Auxiliary and the Working Bees; without them, this Sub-Branch would not be one of the best.

After a number of functions (including the annual dinner), many members have gone north or are tripping around Australia and overseas and we hope they have an enjoyable holiday. To those in hospital and on the sick-list, we wish them a speedy recovery.

CARL E CAUBO

BUNBURY

A committee headed by Alf and Bob Mort is now keeping an eye on local Memorials and making recommendations on their preservation and maintenance. They would be pleased to hear from anyone who has information about the location and history of any small memorials in the district that may need a little TLC.

GREAT WAR VETERANS: We have only two veterans. Do you know of any others? Percy's 100th birthday party will be an important event.

MOTHERS' DAY RAFFLE: The S4 Trailer has been built and is ready to go. Ticket sellers are needed after January to repeat this year's great effort.

MEMBERSHIP: New members are always welcome and necessary for our survival. Don't forget that if anyone joins the RSL now he/she will not lose out because of the approaching end of year, but will be credited with a full membership for '94. Some members have overlooked their subs for 93. We desperately need their support and in the case of genuine difficulties will subsidise their membership to help them.

LEGACY LAUREL CLUB: We are happy to report that the RSL Hall is now "home" for the Laurel Club which meets each month.

LADIES AUXILIARY: With an active membership of approximately 40 our ladies continue their good work and took part in a very successful State Conference.

Don't forget our meetings: General on the Third Wednesday and Auxiliary on the first Wednesday of every month.

ALF MAINSTONE, Trustee.

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OSBORNE PARK

Having represented our Sub-Branch as a delegate for the past six years, I found that once again this recent Congress was full of interest. I would now like another member to take my place as a delegate for the 1994 Congress; the experience is most rewarding and gives one a good insight into how the RSL operates. So please think about it members and do not be afraid to offer your services.

At long last we have managed to sell our piece of land that was on offer; the required deposit has been paid and is held in trust by our agent, Hector Real Estate. Application for sub-division of the property has now been submitted to the appropriate authorities in order that the new title deeds can be issued. Once these are received, we will then apply to have that part of the land sold for rezoning for office purposes. I am confident that any problems connected with the application will be solved and it gives me great pleasure to report that the redevelopment of our property is actually underway.

Considering the very cold weather over the past months, it has been most encouraging to see good attendances at our meetings and I thank those members who turn up regularly.

Although our membership has remained steady over the past two years, I remind members to always keep an eye open for new members. It is important, that numbers are kept up right throughout the RSL so, by spreading the word about eligibility to join, you will be doing your part.

Monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm, so do come along; you may have some first-class input for the meeting.

WE SULLIVAN, President.

RETURNED SISTERS

The following members have recently passed away: Bertha Dora Issac [nee Cumsee] WX3362 AANS MID; Nora Clarke O'Toole WFX 17073 AANS; Iris May Johns RAANS-RAANC; Joyce Priscilla Owston [nee Howard] WFX33958 AANS; Johanna Mary McNamara W90960-WFX30343 AANS.

Alice Jean Wheatley OBE ARRC RAAFNS

Prior to commencing training at Fremantle Hospital, Jean Wheatley lived on a farm near Bridgetown where her family were pioneers of the area. On completion of training she remained on the staff of the hospital until moving to the Eastern States where she obtained certificates in Midwifery and Child Health at the Queen Victoria Hospital. Before rejoining the Fremantle Hospital as a Charge Sister.

In 1941 she enlisted in the newly-formed RAAFNS and returned to Victoria where she was appointed to the RAAF Medical Receiving Station in the Milne Bay Area. Her further appointment was that of Principal Matron in Victoria and finally as Matron In Chief of the RAAF Nursing Service which she represented in the victory march in London. She was awarded the OBE.

Miss Wheatley was greatly respected and well liked by her colleagues. The onset of Polyneuritis affected her mobility and over the years her physical condition deteriorated. She died in the Bridgetown Hospital on 24th May, 1993 near her relatives and friends in familiar surroundings.

VICTORIA HOBBS

NAREMBEEN

Gordon Draper and Hyram Lethlean are shown holding their Certificates of Service recently received from the RSL. They have been members of this Sub Branch since being demobbed after World War II. Both men are active members, have held office and have organised the Anzac Day service each year. Their certificates were presented in appreciation of services rendered as loyal dedicated members of our Sub Branch.

SOUTH PERTH

Our monthly meeting on 24th June became an historic occasion when we the Sub-Branch held a ceremony to unveil an Honour Roll and a commemorative plaque. The Honour Roll is inscribed with 17 names from World War I. Crowns indicate that four of the men listed on the roll were killed in action. When the Sub-Branch acquired the Honour Roll last year, it was in a state of disrepair, so stalwart member Jack Rigden
Sub-Branch News cont.

offered to restore it to its former glory. Jack's accomplishment is gratefully acknowledged.

The Mayor of South Perth, Mr Peter Campbell, performed the unveiling and made the point that our society needs projects like this to remind the public of the sacrifices made by men akin to those listed on the roll.

The second part of the ceremony was performed by Dr. Alan King, our Liaison Officer from Anzac House. He unveiled a plaque in memory of our well-known and respected past president James B. Walsmsley (Circus) who died recently. His widow, Jess, and their two daughters were very pleased that we had chosen to honour him in this way.

KEVIN TRENT, President.

GERALDTON

The bad news for our Sub-Branch is that we have recently lost five members - but we have gained four new ones.

Kalgoorlie Sub Branch has sent a $50 donation for our Gallipoli Flag fund, established for the stabilisation, conservation and framing of the flag brought back by the late Dave Patten of Nabawa. Sub Branches were asked at Congress to help with this project which has also benefited from donations placed in old army helmets at Birdwood House and at Northampton.

President Allan Ellis presented a Code of Membership Certificate to former navalman Don Sharp, who joined the RSL in Sydney in 1946, and an RSL badge to his ex-Army son Geoff.

A banner from the Southampton Club of the Royal British League was presented by Retired Captain FT. Conway, in return for a Geraldton banner he received during his inspection of Birdwood House in January.

A Legacy Ward is to be adopted once again, and students at Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, Mullewa, have been given material from Canberra to help them with a project involving World War II Australian servicemen.

The Women's Auxiliary members have been inundated with congratulations after retaining the Country Cup, which it has now won 26 times.

A newcomer to Geraldton is Police Inspector Lee Townsend who has transferred his membership from the North Beach Sub Branch.

THANKS FROM CAMBODIA: President Allan Ellis has received a letter of thanks from the Commander of the United Nations' Transitional Authority in Cambodia, Lt. Col. M.C. Stoddart, for the welfare package sent to soldiers in Cambodia. The Commander said reading material and video were always welcome and were convenient for distribution. As a number of female members are in the contingent, copies of the 'Australian Women's Weekly' were much appreciated. He added: "thank you for your thoughts and wishes. It is heartening to be reminded that we are not forgotten and have the support of those at home."

VALE Richard Firmin.

After a long illness, Richard Firmin, a well-known Geraldton resident who served in the permanent army of both Britain and Australia, died at his home on 12 June.

Aged 70, Dick Firmin served in an armoured British unit in the Middle East in World War II and also took part in the 1950-53 Korean campaign.

After leaving the Regular Army, he joined the CMF at Geraldton. He held several positions in our Sub Branch between 1967 and 1975 including Junior Vice President, Senior Vice President, Social Committee member and radio broadcaster.

His wife Cath was Auxiliary Secretary from 1968 to 1970.

PETER BARDEN, PRO.

COTTESLOE

Our 10 new members were welcomed at an afternoon tea on 23 June when a most interesting talk was given by member Doug Hill, Town Clerk of Cottesloe for 24 years. He spoke about the close association that has existed between the Municipal Council and Cottesloe Sub-Branch since the latter was formed in 1931.

The Mechanics Institute cultural hall, built in Cottesloe (corner Broome and Jarrad Streets) in 1903, later became Cottesloe's municipal headquarters then subsequently the first local RSL meeting place. The Sub-Branch occupied it in 1931 after the Council had moved to new brick building (now a private residence) on the same land.

The local RSL had contributed substantial funds for the conversion of parts of what was Claude DeBernales private mansion into Australia's first War Memorial Town Hall and Civic Centre in 1950. Prior to that time there was no war memorial in Cottesloe.

In a 1957 special historical issue of "Civic Centre News", it was noted: "The Town Hall and Civic Centre will always remain as a fitting memorial to the men and women who gave their lives in two World Wars".

And in a pictorial brochure on the establishment of Cottesloe's Civic Centre, it was recorded: "on the floor beneath are...a former billiards room beautifully paneled in jarrah, and an enclosed games area adjoining, have been set aside for the Cottesloe Sub-Branch of the RSL." The jarrah walls and carved jarrah ceiling panels of the lower level RSL room, undamaged by rays
Sub-Branch News cont.

from the sun, must represent the most beautiful RSL room in Australia.

If you know of anyone interested in joining us, please contact PRO and Recruiting Officer John McGuire on 385 1974.

THREE SPRINGS -

Anzac Day 1993 had one of the biggest attendances ever, with some 350-400 members of the public plus ex-service personnel, wives of deceased ex-servicemen, and a young lad from as far away as Marchagee and other people from Coorow, Carnamah and Dongara. Guest speaker was Brigadier Morgan of Sydney who talked about the landing at Gallipoli.

President Jack Thorpe thanked Brigadier Morgan and presented him with a map of Australia crafted out of talc on a talc base surmounted with the Australian Army Rising Sun Badge, crafted by Mr V Carter of Three Springs.

Among the wreaths was one from the RSL laid by Mr Ned Wells who recently had his 101st birthday.

The President and Brigadier Morgan made presentations of Certificates of Appreciation to Mrs Gloria Brennan, who for 20 years has been the organist for Anzac Day and other functions, and to Mrs Betty Newey who, with her husband, manages the Lady Brand Lodge. Mrs Newey has been our lead singer for many years on Anzac Day.

Another presentation was made by Mr Dew, District Governor of Lions District No. 201W1, to Mrs Rita Sheppard for the valuable and tireless work she has done for all organisations.

At the conclusion of the Remembrance Ceremony, all those in attendance retired to the Recreation Centre for refreshments.

Other Sub Branch activities this year have included a car rally, which raised $200 for the War Veterans' Home, and a casino-type gambling night which raised $800 for our Tourist Promotion Committee.

The Sub Branch won the Geraldton Trophy for the most meritorious small Sub Branch which we consider a great honour.

JACK THORPE, President.

NORTHAMPTON

Below are pictures from our Anzac Day Parade.

ROW RAKE, Secretary.
PO. Box 435,
Northampton WA. 6535
Our 66th Conference was officially opened by the State President, Mr J.P. Hall AM BEM JP, who thanked all Auxiliaries for their continued support and presented a Certificate of Merit and Gold Badge to Mrs M. Turner from the Mandurah Auxiliary. On behalf of all Auxiliaries, I handed Mr Hall a cheque for $5,000 for the War Veterans' Home Building Fund, plus a cheque for $3,000 towards the upkeep of the State War Memorial.

CUP COMPETITION WINNERS

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<th>Cup Type</th>
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<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Cup</td>
<td>City of Perth</td>
<td>51pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aimes Shield</td>
<td>Armadale</td>
<td>39pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tray</td>
<td>Belmont</td>
<td>35pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Country Cup</td>
<td>Geraldton</td>
<td>46pts</td>
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<td>Geraldton Shield</td>
<td>Mt Barker</td>
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<td>Tray</td>
<td>Bunbury</td>
<td>38pts</td>
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<td>Incentive Certificates</td>
<td>Bassendean/Guildford</td>
<td>28pts</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bellevue</td>
<td>25pts</td>
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<td>Kojonup</td>
<td>21pts</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bullsbrook</td>
<td>19pts</td>
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STATE EXECUTIVE FOR 1993

State President: Mrs T. Taylor, Senior Vice President: Mrs J. Southern, Junior Vice President, Mrs R. Barrell, Immediate Past State President: Mrs A. Cayler, Hon State Secretary: Mrs E. Fisher, Hon State Treasurer: Mrs C. Clarke. Committee: Mesdames G. Evans (Armadale) G. Gould (Bellevue), G. McPartland, J. Bettridge, U. Makki (Bassendean/Guildford), E. Skelly (Belmont), I Norris, W. Tarling (City of Perth), T. Chilcott (Cockburn), J. Spencer (Nollamara/Nth Perth), M. Dawe (Rivervale/Carlisle), E. Haines (Wembley/Floreat), J. Porter (Wanneroo). Patrons: Mrs V. Rowe MBE, Mrs A. Cayley.

Three of our Executive Committee members have retired after giving valuable service for many years. To Mesdames G. Rolfe BEM, H. Holder and L. Ryniker, I extend best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement.

Since my last report I have attended Auxiliary functions at Kojonup, Wanneroo, Armadale, Mandurah, Bellevue, Rivervale/Carlisle and Belmont, plus the opening of the War Veterans' Home units in Mandurah, the Ret. Ex-Service Women's Sub-Branch fashion parade and the opening of State Congress. I read my report to the delegates on the Saturday afternoon and attended an RSL official evening. With me at Congress were Mesdames Southern, Fisher, Clarke, Evans, Norris, Skelly who helped with lunches, morning and afternoon teas. Thanks to these ladies for a job well done. I hope everyone attending Congress enjoyed it as much as I did and I look forward to our 67th next year.

In conclusion, good wishes are extended to all members on the sick list.

MARGARET TAYLOR
State President

Queen and country, or republic

The July edition of 'Stand To' will be devoted to the issue of the Constitutional Monarchy and the Constitution as it affects the republican debate.

RSL Standing Policy 17.18 states “That any move to change Australia into a Republic be opposed”.

We will be publishing articles from political parties and the leading individuals involved in the debate.

The RSL is of the opinion that change for change's sake or for reasons of emotional dislike of Britain are not reason enough for embarking on such a fundamental change to the Constitution which has served Australia and its people well for close to 95 years.

The Editor,
Stand To
GPO Box 303,
Canberra ACT 25601.
BRYLCREAM EASY
By Donald Roberts, DFC
Reviewed by D. Michell

The Collection of stories under the title Brylcream Easy is an account of the war years with Bomber Command.

It is based in England but is also about Australians, New Zealanders and Canadians. They were not the glamorous heroes of popular fiction but very brave, very young men. Their story is simply told and is more moving on that account.

The writer was a rear-gunner with Bomber Command and his stories carry glints of dry humour and poignant emotion.

The opening story is an account of a brawl in an English pub which, although lamentable, has its impact.

In other stories we get to know the man who collected rubbish to drop upon German towns - not an uncommon practice [Why not?] but in this case, done in the revengeful hate which consumes Dusty. There is Kiwi, and the extremely moving account of the Canadian of German extraction who joined the crew.

We see ordinary men from different spheres of civilian life, forming a close comradeship. We feel with the rear-gunner as he sits in his lonely turret at the rear of the bomber, cold and lonely, watching the enemy plane hard on his tail and apprehensive about colliding with the too-close-plane of his own flight.

He sings improbable songs to bolster his own morale. 'No one can hear me.' And the infinite relief of the Bombs Away! Although the return journey has yet to be made, the Lancaster would not explode if hit. Or would it?

Then there is the quiet Scot who fought fiercely against the female doctor tending his wounds. 'It's noo decent.'

So, after 50 years, these men can tell of their experiences. Don Roberts tells them extremely well. Only one who shared those years could write about them with such explicit sentience. It was so long ago and they were so young.

These stories are for all Australians. Any lack of knowledge about Bomber Command is irrelevant.

I recommend Brylcream Easy to anyone who enjoys compelling stories and particularly to those interested in how ordinary young men took to arms hoping that their children would not have to 'suffer the pain, fear andlop-sided joy of having to fight a war.'

Published by The Jarrahdale Press. 525 5421. Available RAAP Aviation Museum Bullcreek, bookstores and selected newsagencies, or direct from the publisher at $11.95 + $1.95 postage.

KOKODA TRAIL
Two steps forward, three steps back
God curse this bloody slippery track
There's mud, and heat, and insect bites
And it bloody rains here, day and night.

Amongst all this, we're fightin' and dying
And we're either cursin', or fatalistically sighin'
And we're covered in mud, from boot to hat
And only the leeches are gettin' fat

Can't remember the last time my feet were dry
It's enough to make a grown man cry
With your feet so sore they start to rot
Well, it could be worse, you could get shot

And that at the moment is all too real
And too many of us know how that feels
Too many of us will feel it no more
God curse this bloody stupid War

Strewth, poor old Smithy has copped a round
Didn't even see what knocked him down
Can't help him now, so leave him there son
Just clear your eyes and look to your gun
Come on mate, just cover his face
Leave his gun and hat to mark the place
And we'll pick him up later, if we ever get back

God curse this bloody slippery track

A moment's rest, a brief respite
And we take some shelter in the fading light
But the peace is fleeting, and it doesn't last
Too soon it's shattered by mortar blast

Death comes whistlin' thru' the trees
And you can't ignore the shake in your knees
And you'd give a year's pay, just to get some sleep
But a jungle war's no place to count sheep

God, we look like ants, up and down this track
With our two steps forward, and three steps back
And some are on stretchers, all covered in blood

Medics takin' em back, strugglin' thru mud

Ah, I try understandin'
And yet, somehow I fail

God's cursed this place
Kokoda trail

I can't help thinkin' of a place called home
And the ones I love, and the friends I've known
The Book Reviews cont.

They seem to be a thousand years from here
And a thousand miles from the smell of fear
They conjure memories of more peaceful times
Where life had some reason, and rhythm and rhyme
Where the Southern Cross shone from a friendly sky
And your time wasn't spent watchin' brave men die
I've sad memories now, of those who've departed
There's far less of us now, than there was when we started
For them, Home's denied, just their spirits go back
God curse this bloody slippery track
Ah, if this were a picture, Satan painted the scene
And who would have thought Hell was painted green
Where the changes of colour, are splashes of blood
Where khaki-clad heroes lay still in the mud.
And I'm hearin' old Jack, and the noises he's makin'
Malaria's got him, and he just can't stop shakin'
And young Tommy is groanin', says his stomach's on fire
And release from the torment is all he desires
And he put his age up, just so he could be here
Ah, the blindness of youth, in the absence of fear
Now, his eyes have the look of someone much older
Not much glory here son, just mud splattered soldiers
Ah, it's started again, bullets whip thru the trees
No time to think now of those fond memories
Clear your mind and your gun, and just try to live
No good thinkin' now you've but one life to give
You just live for the moment, and you try to survive
And you pray that tomorrow you'll still be alive
But, in your heart and mind, you know some will not make it
And the feeling persists, and you just cannot shake it.
War's the ultimate gamble, and to live's the reward
For the soldier who lives and who dies by the sword
And for some, they'll survive, some will never go back
God curse this bloody slippery track
Ah, I long to go home, to that great southern land
Where there may be some answers that I'll understand
And I try understandin', and yet, somehow I fail
God already cursed this place,
This damned KOKODA TRAIL..... BY L.G. MELLET

Dedicated to my Uncle
Private Leslie Thomas Mellet
WX 28597 2nd/9th
AND TO THOSE IN THIS STORY

THE NAME'S STILL CHARLIE
By Olwyn Green
Publisher: University of Queensland Press Retail
Price $16.95

This is a remarkable story of courage and love. Charles Hercules Green left school at 13 to work on his father's farm. He joined the militia and was commissioned to the 2/2Bn of the 6th Division AIF. He saw active service in World War II in the Middle East and PNG, reaching the rank of Colonel in Command of the 2/11 Bn at the age of 25. He won the DSO in 1945 when his men (from WA) fought and won the bloody battle of Hill 710 in New Guinea.

In the regular army from 1949, he was appointed in 1950 as CO of the Australian Contingent to the Korean War - the Third Battalion of the RAR - and was killed in Korea by a piece of shrapnel.

The book, written by his wife, is a combination of personal and war history. She interviewed fellow soldiers who told their stories about the country boy who was a born leader in the bungled Greek Campaign during the escape of the 300 remnants through mountainous terrain to Turkey...then the horrors of serving in New Guinea and the privations endured by Green and his men in the icy wastes of Korea. This book is well recommended in all Australian newspaper reviews.

PATRICIA BALFE

TRAPPED ON TIMOR
By Colin Humphries
- Price $14.95

Reviewed in an earlier edition this book is available from Dymocks (Perth and suburbs), the Aviation Museum at Bull Creek or directly from the author at 33 Kent Drive, Victor Harbour, SA 5211. It has won the annual award by the SA Branch of the Fellowship of Australian Writers for the best paperback self-published between 1 July 1990 and 30 June, 1992.

PATRICIA BALFE

WHY WEAR A POPPY

"Please wear a poppy", the lady said and held one forth but I shook my head
Then I stopped and watched as she offered them there And her face was old and lined with care.
But beneath the scars the years had made There remained a smile that refused to fade.
A boy came whistling down the street, bouncing along on carefree feet,
His smile was full of joy and fun, "Lady" said he "can I have one?"

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When she pinned it on he turned to say
"Why do we wear a poppy today?"
The lady smiled in her wistful way and answered "This is
Remembrance Day and the poppy there is a symbol for
the gallant men who died in the war
And because they died, you and I are free
That's why we wear a poppy you see.
I had a boy about your size with golden hair and big
blue eyes
He loved to play and jump and shout
Free as a bird he would prance about
As the years went by he learned and grew
And became a man, as you will too.
He was fine and strong with a boyish smile
But he seemed with us such a little while.
The war broke out and he went away, I still remember his face that day
When he smiled at me and said 'goodbye,
I'll be back soon mum, so please don't cry'.
But the war went on and I had to stay, and all I could do
was wait and pray.
His letters told of the awful fight
[I can see it still in my dreams at night]
With the tanks and guns and cruel barbed wire
And the mines and bullets, the bombs and fire
Till at last, at last, the war was won
And that's why we wear a poppy my son.
The small boy turned as if to go then said "Thanks, I'm glad to know
That did sure sound like an awful fight,
But your son, did he come back all right?"
A tear rolled down each faded cheek, she shook her
head but didn't speak.
I slunk away in a sort of shame and if you were me you'd
have done the same.
For our thanks, in giving, is oft delayed, tho' our freedom
was bought and thousands paid.
And so when we see a poppy worn let us reflect on burdens born.
By those who gave their very all when asked to answer
their country's call.

RSL (WA)

Unit Associations cont. from 64

2/32ND BATTALION ASSOCIATION (WA)
President: Mr Fenton Smith, 184 Shaftesbury Ave, Bedford 6052. Tel: 271 6492. Sec/Treasurer: Mr Colin Edmiston, Unit 3, 456 Main Street, Balcatta, Tel: 349 0799.

2/43RD BATTALION ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)

7 ARMY TROOPS COY RAE ASSOCIATION
President: Mr Jack Benari, 38 Roebuck Drive, Manning 6152, Tel: 450 3876. Annual reunion last Friday of September. Past members most welcome.

11TH BATTALION AIF 13TH BGDE WW2
President: Mr V. Altrich, Mandurah 6210, Tel: 525 7291. Secretary: Mr Don Angwin, 7/6 Mt Henry Road, Como 6152, Tel: 450 1833. Reunion & other meetings called as arranged.

11TH DIVISION SIGNALS ASSOCIATION
For enquiries contact — President: Lt Col O.R. Videan, 23 Halley Street, Innaloo 6018. Tel: 446 6304. Secretary: Rob Hutchings, 21 Melbourne Way, Morley 6062. Tel: 276 3158. Regular meetings held at 150 Harbourne Street, Wembley.

11TH (1914-1918) & 2/11TH BN ASSOCIATION
President: Mr K T. Johnson, MBE ED JP, 37 Blaven Way, Ardross 6153, Tel: 364 1051. Secretary/Treasurer: Mr J C. Watson, 686 Canning Highway, Applecross 6153, Tel: 364 2126. Meetings: Third Tuesday each month (except January) 10.00 am, Gallipoli Room, Anzac House.

16TH BATTALION, THE CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF WA ASSOCIATION
President: Mr Bob Woods, 32 Marjorie Avenue, Shelley WA 6155, Tel: 457 2229. Secretary: Mr Jim Richardson, 6 Isaac Street, Melville WA 6156, Tel: 330 5405. Members advised re meetings by written letter as required.

44TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION
Committee meets when called. Annual Reunion on advice. President: R. Collins, 134 Roseberry Street, Bedford. Tel: 271 4448.

48TH & 2/48TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION
President: Mr Tom Eusom, 568 Marmion Street, Booragoon 6154, Tel: 330 7387. Secretary: Mr D A. Hamilton, 80 Stoneham Road, Attadale 6156, Tel: 330 2923. Meetings and luncheon held at the Carlton Hotel, 248 Hay Street East at 11.30 am on the third Monday of each month.

460 SQUADRON RAAF ASSOCIATION (WA)
President: W E.M. (Gerry) Bateman, DFC, 221 South Terrace, Como 6152. Tel: 367 3063. Secretary: N B. Johnson, 63 Kirwan Street, Floreat Park 6014. Tel: 387 4229. Treasurer: T R. Gallop, 19 Felstead Crescent, Hamersley 6022. Tel: 447 4037. Meetings are held four times a year.

1940 DUNKIRK VETERANS ASSOCIATION
Meets first Tuesday each month North Perth Bowling Club 1.30pm. President: R H. Duncalf, Tel: 295 1689. Secretary/Treasurer: Peter W. Hessell, Tel: 344 1756.
Last Post

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them. LEST WE FORGET.

MAY

JUNE

JULY

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UNIT ASSOCIATIONS

AUSTRALIAN EX-SERVICE ATOMIC SURVIVORS' ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
President: Mr. W.B. Plewright, 23 Kenway Way, Balga 6061. Tel: 342 6718. Secretary: Mrs D. Jackson, PO Box 411, Midland 6056. Tel: 294 1054. Treasurer: Mrs D. Thomas, 41 Parkfield Road, Kelmscott 6111. Tel: 390 5762. Meets third Monday in February, April (AGM), June, August, October, December at Belmont RSL Hall, Leake Street, Belmont, Bus 306 ex Perth Bus Station.

AUSTRALIAN LEGION OF EX-SERVICESMEN & WOMEN (INC)
State President: Mr L.C.W. Hutchings, 66 Kinsella Street, Joondanna 6060. Tel: 444 4268. State Secretary: Mr Allyn Bryant. Tel: 401 5219. Meetings: State Council meets 3rd Thursday of each month at 13th Brigade Headquarters, Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta, at 1.30 p.m.

AUSTRALIAN SPECIAL AIR SERVICE ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: Mich Ruffin, Tel: 448 1683. Secretary: Arch Foxley, Tel: 309 3004. Meets last Friday of each month at Campbell Barracks (The House) at 1800hrs. Ladies most welcome. All correspondence to Regimental Headquarters, Campbell Barracks, Swanbourne, 6010.

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S ARMY SERVICE ASSOCIATION (AWAS)
President: Mrs Alice Corry, OAM, Tel: 361 2824. Secretary: Mrs M. Harvey, 1 Bradshaw House AFME, Bullcreek Drive, Bullcreek, Tel: 332 1305. Treasurer: Ruth Franklin, 126B Basinghall St, East Victoria Park 6101, Tel: 361 5157. Meetings: 1st floor, Anzac House on the 1st Thursday of the even months, 10am - 12 noon.

BCOF ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: Mr D. Sexton, 13 Tillman Pl, Wilson 6107. Tel: 451 3982. Secretary: Mr Doug Spice, 110 Daglish St, Wembley 6014. Tel: 381 5531. Treasurer: Mr Greg Flanders, 98 Manning Rd, Manning 6152. Tel: 450 3511. Meetings: fourth Monday (If Mon holiday meets next day — Tuesday) 11.00 am from Feb to Nov at Belmont RSL Hall, cnr Great Eastern Highway and Leake St, Belmont. Bus 306 new Bus Station or stand 45 cnr Pier St and St Georges Terrace.

BLINDED SOLDIERS OF ST DUNSTANS WEST AUSTRALIA
President: Mr W.A. Walters, “RSL Retirement Village”, Third Avenue, Mandurah, 6210. Tel: 535 3602. Secretary: Mr F.C. Wooler, 2 Rhagodia Court, Heathridge, 6027. Ph: 401 8130. Treasurer: as above. Meetings: 2nd Tuesday alternate months February on at 1.45pm, Red Cross House, Murray Street, Perth.

BRITISH EX-SERVICES ASSOCIATION INC.
President: Mr D. Clarke, Tel: 309 1046. Secretary: Mr K.R. Crane, Tel: 332 4992. Treasurer: Mrs J. Turnell, Tel: 497 3812. Meetings 3rd Tuesday of the month at RSL Club, Anzac House, commencing at 1.30pm. Correspondence to: 35 Westminster Rd, Leeming 6149.

THE BURMA STAR ASSOCIATION (WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH)
President: Mr Solle Stoll, 70 Canada Street, Dianella 6062. Secretary: Mr Len Kebbell, 17 Glengarry Street, Parkwood 6147, Tel: 457 5027.
UNIT ASSOCIATIONS CONT.

CATALINA CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
President: Mr Brian Buzzard, TPI Homes, Henley Street, Como WA 6052. Tel: 313 2469. State Secretary/Treasurer: Mr Eric Carpenter, 21 Keemore Drive, Balga WA 6061. Tel: 342 2779. Members advised by Newsletter re meetings and functions.

DEFENCE RESERVES ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: Colonel Rodney Willox RFD, ED, 9 Dene St, Mt Lawley 6050. Tel: 271 7332. Secretary: L Col Colin Gunn RFD, 54 Belvedere Rd, Hamersley 6022. Tel: 448 0991. Treasurer: Cpl Helen Cope, 2/260 Scarborough Beach Rd, Doubleview 6018. Tel: 446 5574. Committee meetings held monthly — all members welcome to attend. For venue and date contact any of the above.

EX-FORTRESS ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION
President: Mr Harold Smith, 58 Napier Street, Nedlands, 6009. Tel: 386 3305. Secretary: Mr Reg Kidd, 261 Holmes Road, Forrestfield, 6058. Tel: 453 2393. Meetings: Mid-year general meeting and Christmas get together and barbeque on a date and at a venue to be decided. All enquiries to the Secretary.

EX-PRISONERS OF WAR ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: Mr J. Duncan, 40 Kennedy Street, Melville 6156. Tel: 330 2174. Secretary: Mr C.E. Ingram, Unit 3, 54 Federal Street, Tuart Hill 6060. Tel: 344 7949. Treasurer: Mr Frederick Gordon, 33 Drummond Street, Bedford 6052. Meetings first Wednesday of each month (except January) at 1.30 pm at Anzac Club, Perth.

EX-PRISONERS OF WAR ASSOCIATION OF WA — LADIES AUXILIARY
President: Mrs M. McDonald, 47 Wesley Street, Mt Lawley 6060. Tel: 328 5927. Secretary: Mrs M. Clarke, 18/84 Kitchener St, Trigg 6029. Meetings: Same time and place as men.

EX-WRANS ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: Miss Pamela Johnson, 92 Napier Street, Cottesloe, WA 6011. Tel: 384 7236. Secretary: Miss Rena Blackett, 3/93 Aurelian Street, Palmyra, 6156. Tel: 339 5030. Treasurer: Miss Amelia Travers, 6/23 Calais Road, Scarborough, WA 6019. Tel: 341 1856. Meetings: Second Monday of each month at Anzac House (unless otherwise advised).

FEDERATED TB SAILORS' SOLIDERS' & AIRMEN'S ASSOCIATION
President: Mr Frank Hamilton, 35 Clement Drive, Karrinyup 6018. Tel: 448 5204. Secretary: Mrs Grace Storer, 16 Dowell Place, Bibra Lake Tel: 417 9598. Meetings last Monday each month except January. Address for correspondence: GPO Box T1729, Perth.

FLEET AIR ARM ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
President: Hilton Devoreux, 21 Regency Drive, Thornlie WA 6108. Secretary: Theo Bushe-Jones, 26 Baltic Mews, Waikiki WA 6169. Tel: 527 9186. Meets second Wednesday of each month, 71 West Parade, East Perth. All correspondence to PO Box 3886, Stirling Street, Perth, WA 6849.

GUARDS ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: Mr Peter Mulrennan JP, (IG). Tel: 349 7591. Secretary: Mr Andy Britton (GG). Tel: 409 1144 (H) 409 9468, 31 Backhouse Rd, Kingsley, 6026. Meeting: 1st Monday of the month at Anzac House, 28 St George Tce, Perth at 7.30pm (unless otherwise advised).

HEAVY ANTI- AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION (WA)
President: Mr R.J. Linto, Unit 6-57 Point Walter Rd, Bicton 6157. Tel: (09) 339 3548. Secretary: Mr L.S. deGrussa, 43 Pitt St, Dianella 6062. Tel: (09) 276 7253. Social meetings held every month (ladies welcome). For further information please contact Secretary.

HMAS CANBERRA/HMAS SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION
President: Mr Keith Nordahl, 68 Todd Avenue, Como 6152, Tel: 367 3102. Secretary: Mr Arthur Carter, 93 Tamar Street, Palmyra 6157. Tel: 339 1483. Treasurer: Mr Alf Martin, 21 LeSouef Drive, Kardinya 6163. Tel: 331 2113. AGM November. Committee Meetings as required. Annual reunion Aug 9, other social functions about four times a year. For further information please contact any of the above.

HMAS HOBART ASSOCIATION (WA DIVISION)
President: Mr Jack London, 6/80 Homer Street, Dianella, 6062. Tel: 275 6366. Secretary: Mr Clyde Goddard, 80 Derby Road, Shenton Park, 6008. Tel: 381 8705. Treasurer: Mr Jack O'Connell, 25 Stuart Street, Maylands, 6051. Tel: 271 6787. AGM and Reunion held February and social functions held about four times each year. For further information please contact any of the above.

HMAS WARRAMUNGA VETERANS' ASSOCIATION
President: Mr K.T. (Keven) Johnson, 10 Nicholas Ave, Quinns Rocks WA 6030. Tel: 305 1573. Secretary, Mr T.E. (Tom) Oakley, 43 Strickland St, Mt Claremont WA 6010. Tel: 384 3042. Treasurer: Mrs P.D. (Pat) Ingham, 13/55 Second Avenue, Mt Lawley WA 6050. Tel: 271 1826. For any further information please contact any of the above.

KOREA & SOUTH EAST ASIA FORCES ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WA BRANCH)
State President: Mr H.D. Whitehurst, Tel: 361 9062. State Secretary: Mr A. McMorland, 10 Ridgeway Place, Mahogany Creek 6072. Tel: 295 3459. State Treasurer: Mr Harry Fowle, 11 Mira Road, Morley 6062. Tel: 276 4072. Meetings: Second Saturday in June, September and December at the Belmont Sub-Branch of the RSL, 22 Leake Street, Belmont at 1000 hrs.

LIMBLESS SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION OF WA (INC)
("Wingies and Stumpies"). President: P.R. Collins. Secretary: C.C. Brown, 80-82 Henley Street, Como, WA 6152. Tel: 450 6428 (Postal Address): Bag Lot No. 2, Post Office, Como, WA 6152. Meeting first Wednesday each month except January, 1.30pm.

MIDDLE EAST VAD ASSOCIATION WA
President: Mrs Rita Kneebone, 100 Reynolds Road, Mt Pleasant. Tel: 364 3311. Secretary: Mrs P. Payne, 11 Hurley Road, South Perth 6151. Meetings as called. Annual reunion nearest Saturday to November 23.

"N" CLASS DESTROYER ASSOCIATION
President: Mr P. Rumble, 19 Cachucha Court, Duncraig 6023. Tel: 448 6639. Secretary/Treasurer: Mrs D. Higgins, 69 Spigl Way, Bateman 6150. Tel: 332 5723. Details of venue and times of meeting please contact Peter Rumble on 448 6639.
UNIT ASSOCIATIONS CONT.

NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, CITY OF FREMANTLE SUB-SECTION
President/Secretary: Mr A.D. Needham, 16 Warragoon Crescent, Attadale. Tel: 330 3411. Treasurer: Mr S.G. Thomas, 91 Coleman Crescent, Melville, 6156. Tel: 330 3427. Meetings: 1130hrs last Monday of each month at the Navy Club, Marine Terrace, Fremantle. Tel: 335 3015.

NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, CITY OF PERTH SUB-SECTION
President: Mr B. Edmondson, 3 Moness Place, Shelley WA 6156 Tel: 457 5620. Secretary: Mr D.J. McCelland, 38B Hilarion Road, Duncraig WA 6023 Tel: 448 3812. Meets fourth Tuesday of each month commencing at 8.00pm at 71 West Parade, East Perth. All correspondence to the Secretary please at the above address.

NAVY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WESTERN AUSTRALIAN SECTION) INC.
President: Mr Jack Appleby, 143 McDonald Street, Joondanna 6060. Tel: 448 3598. Secretary: Mr Tom Oakley, 43 Strickland Street, Mt Claremont 6010. Tel: 384 3042. All correspondence to Hon. State Secretary, PO Box 8289, Stirling St, Perth 6849.

NORTH WESTERN VETERANS' ASSOCIATION
President: Mr J.E. Mayers, 15 Finlay Court, Rivervale, WA 6103. Tel: 478 2071. Secretary: Mr R. Bruce, 2/159 Fitzroy Road, Rivervale, WA 6103. Tel: 362 3597. Meetings to be held on 1st Tuesday each month at Anzac House at 11.00am.

PARTIALLY BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WA BRANCH) INC.
General meeting held at Anzac House at 1.00pm, first Tuesday each month, except January. Secretary: Mr Maurice John Rinaldi (Maurie), 35 Weaponess Road, Scarborough 6019, Tel: 341 6151.

PEGASUS (AIRBORNE FORCES) ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INC)
President: Ken Barnes. Secretary: Bert Harris, 54 362 2224. General meetings held at the Riverton RSL first Sunday in Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov at 1.00pm. Committee Meetings held at Anzac Club first Tues of Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct & Dec at 7.00pm. Luncheons held on the first Wed monthly Anzac Club, 12 noon. Ladies welcome.

PELICAN AIR FORCE BRANCH
President: Ken Haines, Tel: 405 3567. Secretary: Ray Allan, Tel: 321 5576/320 8791. Meetings held on the 4th Monday of each month in the Eve Nicholls Room at the Air Force Association, Bull Creek Drive, Bull Creek.

POLISH EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
SUB-BRANCH No. 9
President: Dr W. Gorski, Tel: 332 4324. Hon. Secretary: S. Zalewski, Tel: 274 6280. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs I. Redziejowska, Tel: 390 9616. All correspondence to 33 Eighth Avenue, Maylands WA 6051.

RAAF ASSOCIATION MANDURAH BRANCH
President: Mr Alex Rose, Tel: 535 3307. Secretary: Mr John Gabriel, Tel: 535 4314. Clubrooms: Tel: 535 8217 0900-1200hrs, Mon to Fri. Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month at 133 Mandurah Terrace, Mandurah at 1330 hrs. Address for correspondence: PO Box 1015, Mandurah 6210.

RAAF 467-463 LANCASTER SQUADRONS ASSOCIATION WESTERN AUSTRALIA
President: A.C. (Gus) Belford DSO, 59 Sulman Road, Wembley Downs, 6018. Tel: 341 5484. Secretary/Treasurer: Mr Jim Quinn, 9 Redcourt Road, Attadale, 6156. Tel: 330 4151. Meetings: Four times a year at the Royal Australian Air Force Association, Bull Creek.

RAEME VIETNAM ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: Mr Don Horsley, 11 Celestine Street, Wembley 6016. Secretary: Mr Garry Whykes, 33 Kaniabinda Way, Morley 6062. Tel: 276 1920. Meetings: Held as required at 113 Fd Wksp Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta.

RATS OF TOBRUK ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: Kevin Scott, 24 Wilberforce St, Mt Hawthorn 6016. Tel: 444 4655. Secretary: W.C. (Bill) Mahar, 272 Marmion St, Palmyra 6157. Tel: 339 2187. Committee meets second Tuesday each month, 1.00pm Anzac Club. Note: Invitations to attend Tobruk Sundays are limited to Associates who participated in the Tobruk Seige.

REGULAR DEFENCE FORCES WELFARE ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)

ROYAL AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION (BRANCH 1210 WA)
President: Mr Frank Jones, 41 Fordham Cres, Swan View 6056, Tel: 294 2249. Secretary: Mr Mike Kiff, 126 Airlunya Ave, Clevedale 6105, Tel: 277 7713. Meetings are monthly. Please phone Chairman for details, Tel: 401 5839.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION
Eight branches and seven affiliated groups meet monthly at the Air Force Memorial Estate, Bull Creek Drive, Bull Creek, where a fully licensed club is open to members daily. Further information from State Secretary. Telephone 332 4444.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMOURED CORPS ASSOCIATION
President: Mr W. Rippin, Villa 120/52 Liege St, Woodlands WA 6018, Tel: 446 7624. Secretary/Treasurer: Mr R.J. McMahon, Unit 6/52 Keymer St, Belmont 6104. Tel: 478 2598.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY NURSING CORPS ASSOCIATION WA BRANCH
President: Mrs Irene England, 18 Connaught Street, Forrestfield 6058, Tel: 453 6499. Secretary: Mrs Olga Greig, 9 Napier Road, Morley 6062, Tel: 276 3493.
Unit Associations cont.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS ASSOCIATION
President: Lt Col F.V. Hayes, 24 Shelldrake Way, Willerton, 6155. Tel: 457 4588. Secretary: Mr R.B. Campbell: 108 West Road, Bassendean, 6054. Tel: 279 3502.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION (WA)
President: Mr J.A.T. Hobbs, 10 Edgar Way, Mt Pleasant 6153. Tel: 364 3588. Secretary/Welfare officer: Mr H.A. Mofflin, Unit 5, No. 1 Hilda St, Shenton Park 6008. Tel: 325 4366. Treasurer: Mr R.J. Shurman, 41 Hayes Ave, Yokine. Tel: 349 1843. Meet on the third Monday each month at 10.00am at Anzac Club. Meetings are open to all members, and members of affiliated Associations.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: Mr M.J. Ryan OAM, Tel: (Bus) 481 0205 (A/H) 307 2385. Secretary: Mr T.R. Beard, Tel: 367 3002. Meetings: Second Sunday in February, April, June, August and October at 10.30am at 13 Fd Sqn RAE Sappers Way, Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY CORVETTES ASSOCIATION (WA)
State President: A.E. Reed, 88 Matheson Road, Applecross WA 6153. Tel: 364 5302. State Secretary: J. Shephard, Unit 45, Ocean Gardens, 60 Kalinda Drive, City Beach. Tel: 365 8400. State Treasurer: M. Corry, 4 Nottingham Street, East Victoria Park. Tel: 361 2824. Meetings: February, May, August, November.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN SIGNALS ASSOCIATION WA (INC)
President: Mr Peter Lofdahl, 7 Danaher Mews, Clarkson 6020, Tel: 305 1303. Secretary: Mr Harry Davey, 4 Charleston Way, Eden Hill 6054, Tel: 279 9317. Treasurer: Mr Bruce Jellis, Tel: 447 8270. Meetings: Anzac House, first Thursday of each month at 7.00 p.m., except January.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN SURVEY CORPS ASSOCIATION (WESTERN AUSTRALIA) INC.
President: Mr R. Sargeant, 10 Paris Way, Karrinyup 6018. Tel: 445 3995. Secretary/Treasurer: Mr B. Parker, 75 Simpson Drive, Padbury 6025, Tel: 401 3857. Meetings: Anzac Day, Corps Birthday (July) and Christmas.

ROYAL REGIMENT OF FUSILIERS ASSOCIATION
Chairman: Mr P. Norris, 72 James Street, Gosnells, 6110. Tel: 398 4508. Secretary: Mr S. Kent, Unit 2199 O'Wram Road, Armadale, 6112. Tel: 339 7375. Meets second Wednesday of each month, 7.30pm at Anzac House.

SUBMARINE OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
President: Mr Steve Dyer, 17 Glenburn Road, Glen Forest 6071. Tel: 298 8249. Secretary: M.M.E. (Michael) Pearson, 8-106 Terrace Road, Perth 6000. Tel: 221 1037. Meetings: Leederville Bowling Club, second Wednesday of every month at 7.30 p.m. (except December).

THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF TOTALLY & PERMANENTLY INCAPACITATED EX-SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN LIMITED WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH INC.
TP1 Memorial Estate, Bag Lot 2, Post Office, Como 6152. President: Mr Eric J. Ahern OAM. Secretary: Mr Peter Lofdahl, 80 Henley St, Como 6152, Tel: 450 1893 or 450 1921. Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month (except January) commencing at 10.30 am. Lunches available weekdays and weekends by booking one day prior.

THE AUSTRALIAN WATER TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION, WA BRANCH
President: Mr Jack Patterson, 15A Greville Way, Girrawheen, Tel: 342 0142. Secretary: B. Thomas, 9 Queens Road, Mt Pleasant 6153. Tel: 364 3008. Meetings first Monday each month (except January) of the Anzac Club 1130, when Monday is a public holiday the first Tuesday. All ex Water Transport welcome.

THE BURMA STAR ASSOCIATION WANNEROO BRANCH
President: Major Rupert Plateil (Retd), 49 Banksia St, Joondanna 6060, Tel: 444 4914. Secretary: Ben Colquhoun, 5 Oakland Avenue, Cloverdale 6105, Tel: 277 4814. Meetings the second Tuesday each month at the Nollamara Autumn Centre, Sylvia Street, Nollamara.

THE BURMA STAR ASSOCIATION (WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH)
President: Mr Solle Stoll, 70 Canada Street, Dianella 6062. Tel: 276 7633. Secretary: Mr J.R. Hamilton, Unit 2, No. 1 Kemp Place, Rivervale 6103. Tel: 479 1286. Meetings are arranged for six times in the year on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Contact either of the above for more information.

THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: Ken Barrington. Tel: 446 4227. Secretary: Kevin Trent. Tel: (h) 367 7794 (o) 323 4485. All correspondence c/- 3 Broadway Street, Kensington, WA 6151. Meets second Wednesday of each month (except January) — Contact the Secretary for details of venue and timing.

THE ROYAL MARINES ASSOCIATION WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH
President: Mr Pat Trevis, 10 Perseus Cres, Rockingham 6168. Tel: 527 6088. Secretary: Mr Scott MacBain, 20 Manders Way, Singleton 6175. Tel: 537 1186. Meetings: Committee meets at Navy Club Inc, 26 Marine Terrace Fremantle, 1900 hrs second Monday of each month. General Meeting at 2000 hrs, last Monday of each month, same place.

THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION PERTH (WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH)
Chairman: Mr Ivan Hunter, 9 Derwent Place, Rockingham 6168, Tel: 526 1612. Secretary: Mr David Lea, 13 Harcourt Place, Bellevue 6056, Tel: 274 4847. Postal Address: PO Box 1692, Midland 6056. Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of each month at Anzac House at 7.00 p.m.

THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION (ROCKINGHAM & DISTRICTS) BRANCH
Chairman: Mr David Wiseman, 7 Andros Road, Safety Bay 6169, Tel: 592 1458. Hon Secretary: Ms Dorothy V. Rawe, 20 Elmslie St, Orelia 6167, Tel: 419 4749. Treasurer: Mr Ted Haines, Lot 32 Mallee Drive, Amarillo, Karnup 6176, Tel: 537 1599. Meetings: First Tuesday each month (except January) at TS Anzac, Point Peron Road, 7.30pm.
THIRTYNINERS’ ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
Meeting dates: Gallipoli Room, Anzac House, 4th Wednesday March, May, July, September and November. All enquiries to the Secretary. State President: Mr J. P. Hall, AM BEM JP, Unit A/3 Hellam Grove, Booraagoon 6154. Tel: 364 7776. State Secretary: Mrs F. E. Johnson, 38 Renwick Street, South Perth. Tel: 367 5949.

V.A. & A.A.M.W.S. (A)
President: Mrs Glyn Cody, 138A Karrinyup Road, Karrinyup 6018, Tel: 341 3323. Secretary: Mrs Ena McGinn OAM, 9 Castile Street, Wembley Downs 6019, Tel: 446 3742. Meetings: Arranged monthly at members homes. Contact Secretary for information.

VIETNAM LOGISTICAL SUPPORT VETERANS’ ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (INC.)
President: Mr Ric Gilling, 137 Waterford Dve, Hillarys 6025, Tel: 401 9304. Secretary: Mr Gary Watson, 3 Symon Close, Bull Creek 6149, Tel: (H) 332 6481 (B) 434 2255. Meetings: Bi-monthly at a venue to be announced.

VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA WA BRANCH INC
PO Box 21, Maylands 6051. Office: 219 Railway Parade, Maylands, Tel: 370 3011. Fax: 332 4964. President: Mr Rob Cox, Tel: 332 4964. Secretary: Mr Keith Jones, Tel: 443 1530. Welfare Officer: Mr Joe Cox, Tel: 332 4984. Meetings: Held three monthly, Peninsula Hotel Building — 219 Railway Parade, Maylands.

WA RSL BOWLS SECTION
Management Committee meet every third Monday at the Kitchener Park Bowling Club at 10.00am. President: Mr Dudley Docking, Tel: 341 1795. Hon. State Secretary: Mr Ted Philp, Tel: 450 4033.

WRAAC ASSOCIATION (WESTERN AUSTRALIA)
President: Mr May Tomich, 2 Ludlams Street, Morley 6062, Tel: 276 8616. Secretary: Mrs Nancy Carlson, 24 Iveton Road, Lynwood 6147, Tel: 457 3984. Address all correspondence to Box 6149, East Perth 6892.

WRAAF BRANCH — RAAF ASSOCIATION
President: Mrs E. Southern, 31 Lurriossa Road, Willetton 6155, 457 8628. Secretary: Mrs J. Bland, 2 Graphic Court, Beldon 6025, 401 8296. Meetings held at 8.00pm on the first Tuesday of each month in the Meg Olive Room at the Air Force Memorial Estate at Bull Creek.

Z SPECIAL UNIT ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

Z SPECIAL UNIT INTERNATIONAL (INC.)
PO Box 490, Kalamunda 6067. Chairman: Jack Sue, Tel: 274 6619. Secretary: Cec Anderson, Tel: 401 6682. Treasurer: Barry Sue, Tel: 309 5353.

1ST AUSTRALIAN PARACHUTE BATTALION
President: Mr Bill Rose, 19 Jukes Way, Wembley Gardens WA 6016. Tel: 444 6858. Secretary: Mr Ron Waters, 5 Gatesby Street, City Beach, WA 6015. Tel: 385 9140.

2BN MALAYA MERDEKA VETERANS (WA)
President: Mr F. Day, Tel: 361 6029. Secretary: Mr J Wimbridge, Tel: 383 4670. Treasurer: Mr A. Didcoo, Tel: 444 2349. Meetings: last Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm, Anzac House.

2/1—2/2 PIONEERS W.A.
Chairman: L.A. Preedy, 152 Keightley Rd, Shenton Park 6008. Tel: 381 6294. Meetings to be held at Anzac House on the third Friday in March, July and November in Anzac Club.

2/2ND COMMANDO ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
President: Mr W. Monk, 173 The Strand, Bedford 6052, Tel: 271 5118. Secretary: Mr J.W. Carey, 13 Stoddart Way, Bateman 6155, Tel: 332 7050. Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month at 10.00 am at Anzac Club. (Previously meetings began at 10.30 am).

2/3 FIELD REGIMENT ASSOCIATION W.A.
President: Mr Hugh Ferrier, Tel: 384 5573. Secretary: Mr M. Davison, Tel: 330 3033. Treasurer: K. (Sandy) Leek, Tel: 337 1908. Address for correspondence: PO Box 198, Palmyra 6157. Meets second Wednesday each month, 11.00am Anzac House.

2/3D MACHINE GUN BATTALION ASSOCIATION
Committee meets when necessary. President: K.E. Eckermann, 31 Tranquil Road, Balcatta 6021. Tel: 350 4672. Secretary: J.F. (Banjo) Binstead, 101 Star Street, Carlisle 6101. Tel: 361 8762.

2/4TH MACHINE GUN BATTALION AIF ASSOCIATION
President: Mr E.W. Wallin, 69 Constance St, Nollamara 6061, Tel: 349 1409. Secretary: Mr C.J. McPherson, 24 Rosemead Avenue, Beechboro 6063, Tel: 377 5838. Meetings: Third Tuesday each month, Anzac House, 10.00 am.

2/7TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
President: Mr Peter Landon, 1 Pinnafore Ct., Duncraig WA 6023, Tel: 448 0845. Secretary: Mr Bill Woods, 4/2 Lewington Gdns, Bibra Lake WA 6163, Tel: 417 3989. Meets in the Pure Steel Room, Gloucester Park at 11.00am the first Tuesday of each month except January.

2/13TH FIELD AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION
President: A. Jamieson, 53 Valencia Avenue, Churchlands. Tel: 446 4591. Secretary: L. McCarthy, 31 Marradong Street, Coolinbia. Tel: 444 1927. Details of meetings — contact Secretary.

2/16TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION A.I.F. ASSOCIATION

2/28TH BATTALION AND 24TH ANTI-TANK COY. ASSOCIATION
President: E. Harrod, 13 Hadley St, Safety Bay 6169. Tel: 527 6833. Secretary: W. Carlton, 190 Coode St, Como 6152. Tel: 367 4016. Annual re-union to be advised.
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