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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Leadership, encouragement needed

The Ancient Greeks demanded of all their citizens that they serve their country as soldiers in time of war and, in time of peace, kept themselves prepared and fit, while performing their civil activities.

Over the years, we, in Australia have, to a certain degree, sought to follow this pattern, and in varying degrees we have succeeded. The Greek soldier had no special rights because he had served his country in war. He accepted such service as part of his obligations as a citizen.

He did, however, place an overriding emphasis on his rights as a citizen, and in the great democracy which Ancient Greece produced, a citizen had very considerable rights as well as obligations. The nation took precedence over the whims and wishes of the individual and it was accepted that national interests superseded self-centred personal ones.

Patriotism, unity, the education of all, especially the young, culture and proper government were not only acceptable ideals; they were part of the daily living of the Ancient Greek community.

Australia is a young, integrated nation, but with traditions and a history which is not unlike, in a youthful and modern way, those of several thousands of years ago in the ancient world.

We have always depended for our defence on small professional sea, land, and air forces — a change required by the development of technology since Greek days, — and like the Greeks, on a traditional citizenship responsibility.

TO ASSIST AND COMPENSATE

Citizen forces have served us well in the past, and I think that most Veterans would acknowledge that succeeding Australian Governments have recognised this fact and made legislative and financial provision to assist and to compensate former members of the forces.

We, as an organisation, have, since the Great War, played a leading part in representing the needs of all ex-servicemen and women to governments, in the areas of welfare, medical, housing, pensions and re-habilititation assistance to our members.

In an atmosphere of relief and gratefulness at the cessation of world hostilities in 1945, the Australian community was anxious to see the one million or more ex-servicemen and women properly rehabilitated. We who had served then did receive, in fact, many advantages and much goodwill.

However, it is now 35 years since the end of the Second World War — the last world war in which Australia was involved.
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COUNTRY
A generation and more has grown up never knowing total war, never living in an atmosphere of a national struggle for survival, never having seen the regular daily casualty lists, nor known the national stress of waiting by families with young husbands, fathers or sons overseas engaged perhaps in an action not yet reported because of wartime censorship and lack of proper communications.

To be sure, we have had our military commitments and engagements since 1945 with their stresses and sorrows, but not a total war in the same sense as the Great War or the World War.

LOOKING FORWARD

Our members are ageing, we are in fact becoming a past generation but we must never look back, only forward, if the RSL is to continue to contribute to our national life.

This means concentrating on giving leadership and encouragement to young people.

The League must move with the times — we must adjust in our individual attitudes, looking constructively at some of our more ingrained traditions and views, and endeavour to understand the reasoning and conditioning factors behind current attitudes and decisions.

I believe the challenge facing the RSL today is to move ahead, with the times, supporting, within the community, projects and principles which will lead toward a more unified and committed concept of citizenship.

As in Ancient Greece there was complete involvement of citizen and soldier — indeed they were one and the same person — so I believe that in present day Australia, we should give greater priority to our responsibilities as a citizen, as an Australian, rather than emphasise our sectional or personal interests:

We might well remember the comment of John F. Kennedy when being sworn in as President of the United States of America: “THINK NOT OF WHAT YOUR COUNTRY CAN DO FOR YOU; BUT WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR COUNTRY."

THE POPPY: SYMBOL OF SACRIFICE

Remembrance Day is observed on November 11th each year and marks the signing of the Armistice at the conclusion of the Great War, (1914-1918).

Prior to World War II this commemoration was known as Armistice Day, but since then, throughout the World, it has become known as ‘Remembrance Day’.

It is a time when the entire population of the British Commonwealth of Nations, and those of many other countries join together and by the wearing of a simple emblem — A RED POPPY — salutes the memory of those who have sacrificed their health, their strength and even their lives, that we might live as free people in a free country.

The Red Poppy is a symbol of modern times, but legend has it that the Poppy goes back to the time of the famous Mongol leader, Genghis Khan, as the flower of sacrifice.

The legend states that on the battlefields where the soldiers were slain, Poppies grew in vast profusion.

The modern story of the Poppy is, of course, no legend. It is a page of History to which many thousands, still with us can testify.

In the years immediately following the Great War, Governments and Society had not fully accepted the responsibility for those who were incapacitated and bereft as a result of War.

In 1921, a group of widows of French veterans called at the British Legion Headquarters in London. They brought with them from France some of the Red Poppies they had made and suggested they might be sold as a means of raising money to aid distress amongst those who were incapacitated as a result of War.

These were the first Poppies sold in the streets of London on Armistice Day, 1921. The experiment was an immediate success, as the Poppy was a touching reminder of the Battlefields of Flanders where the red flowers grew. Sales were greatly assisted by the Publication of John McCrae’s beautiful poem, “IN FLANDERS FIELDS” —

“In Flanders Fields the poppies blow,
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks still bravely sing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields:

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die,
We shall not sleep, though Poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

The ‘Two Minutes Silence’ is now part of our heritage.

WHEN YOU BUY YOUR POPPY —
WEAR IT WITH PRIDE.
LISTENING POST, SPRING, 1980
Dear Member,

I have good news for you.

You will be receiving shortly a message of utmost importance to you and your family.

It's something we have been working on for some time - a new programme that I am certain will delight all our members as much as it does me.

I'm not going to write much more about it because if I'm not careful, I'll give away the "secret" before I should.

But do watch your mail for an announcement from us about a brand new service to R.S.L. members and their friends. It should arrive in about three weeks, and it's dated ... that is, you must respond before the date shown if you want to enjoy the benefits it offers.

As you know, it's not very often that your R.S.L. organisation lends its good name to a new service, so you know this one must be important.

I hope that you, and all those near and dear to you, will take as much pleasure in participating in this new programme - as I do in bringing it to you.

Cordially,

L. Phenna, M.B.E., J.P.
The week of 28th September brings great news for R.S.L. members

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As promised, here is a report on our State Conference. We were pleased to have Mrs. Kath Ross, State President of the Tasmanian Auxiliaries, as our guest during Conference. She and I caught up on all the news of each State, Kath and her Auxiliaries looked after us so well on our trip to Tassie.

Conference was well attended, it was pleasing to see delegates from the newly reformed Darling Range Auxiliary there, also to meet delegates attending their first Conference. I hope they were able to learn something of the work of the Auxiliaries and Executive.

Mrs. Lowe and Mrs. Mortimer have resigned from Executive and are holidaying in England. We welcome Mrs. McPartland and Mrs. Hall as new members on Executive and wish them well.

Mr. Phenna, State President of the League, opened our Conference, thanking the Auxiliaries for their continued support of the League.

Among our Guests were Mrs. Stockmin, our Patroness, Ray Young, Minister for Health (representing the Premier), Ron Davies, Leader of the Opposition and the Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Leahy.

It was my pleasure to present Mrs. Lowe with a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of her nine years as our first State treasurer. Our new treasurer is Mrs. Holder and we wish Maise a happy and rewarding term of office.

CUPS WINNERS

The winners of the Cups were as follows:
Country Cup, Geraldton (53 points); Geraldton Cup, Mt. Barker (38); Spoon, Northam (29); Metropolitan Cup, Wanneroo (38); Ames Shield, City of Perth (36); Spoon, Millen (33).

I had received an invitation to attend the National Congress of the League in Canberra in September and also to attend informal talks on the possible formation of a National body of the Auxiliaries.

Conference agreed that I accept the invitation and that they would finance my expenses. I am very appreciative of the honour and the confidence shown in me.

Agenda items were discussed and voted on. Guest speakers Mr. Giblett spoke to us on the League’s involvement with the chemical warfare problems of Vietnam veterans and another speaker, Mrs. Statham, told us some of her experiences as a prisoner-of-war in a Japanese Camp during the World War.

Conference ended with a visit to the Craft Exhibition at the War Veterans’ Home and Conference luncheon.

CHEQUE FOR $3,000

Executive Members, under the guidance of Mrs. Holder, catered for the League’s State Congress, where I presented my annual report and also a cheque for $3,000 a donation from the Auxiliaries to the State War Memorial Restoration Fund.

Mrs. Sullivan and I enjoyed our visit to Geraldton to attend the Sub-branch and Auxiliary Dinner on May 24, and Mrs. Minson and I spent a happy day with the Yanchep-Two Rocks Auxiliary members and their guests at their picnic day. It is good to see that Auxiliary helping in the community efforts of their district.

George and I attended the Millen Auxiliary Social night, it was a shame more people did not attend, as it was a fun evening. Those old baby photos can be so deceiving.

On June 27, members of Executive and surrounding Auxiliaries helped Mandurah Auxiliary celebrate their birthday. There was a good attendance, and it was nice to chat with the members and join in the games. I had much pleasure in presenting Life Membership to Mrs. Renfry and a Certificate of Service to Mrs. McKinna.

I attended the League Group Conference at Margaret River on May 5, and spoke to the delegates and the ladies present of the role of Auxiliaries in the League.

The Bunbury and Boyup Brook girls were there, also some ladies from Capel and Busselton, and I hope these two Sub-branches will encourage the ladies to form an Auxiliary in the near future, we need their support to help us to continue with our welfare of ex-servicemen and women, especially those in hospitals and homes.

BOWLS TROPHY NIGHT

George and I attended the bowls trophy night at the War Veterans’ home on July 18 to present the executive trophies. When the Auxiliaries donated to the bowling green fund, I am sure they did not fully realise then, that such interest would be taken by the people in the Home, that Annual trophies are given for a variety of events each year, and that a pennant team would be entered in the RWABA competition.

Bellevue Auxiliary celebrated their birthday with a lovely luncheon, members of executive and visiting Auxiliaries helped to make this a happy day. I don’t think either of the football players or the umpire will ever reach League standard.

Mrs. Holder represented me at the opening of the Women’s Service—Guild Conference and Mrs. Bettridge attended the Waroona-Hamel Auxiliary luncheon.

A life member, Mrs. Prue, passed to higher service recently and she will be remembered by the Victoria Park, Millen and Nollamara-North Perth Auxiliary members for her dedication and long service to the RSL.

Mrs. Prue was a member of State Executive for a number of years.

We lost also another dedicated and valuable member, Mrs. Gardner, who had received the Certificate of Merit from the League and was also a Life Member.

I hope the weather has been kind to our country members and they have a better season in the farming areas, though I note some districts are having problems.

Cheerio for now.

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State Secretary:
Mrs. Sullivan, 49/9th Avenue, Maylands. 6051
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KATYN FOREST: A CRIME TO REMEMBER

By George Redziejowski

With its vigorous and devastating onslaught against the Polish nation on September 1, 1939, Germany callously plunged humanity into the Second World War. The Poles were simply overwhelmed by a massive German war machine that had gained the strategic advantage with its surprise attack.

As if this German invasion was not enough for Poland to contend with, another nefarious event occurred on September 17, that did lasting damage to Polish—Soviet relations: the Russian Red Army attacked from the east.

Hitler and Stalin had made a secret agreement to destroy the Polish state and divide its territory between them.

Following the collapse of Poland late in September and the partition of the Polish state, the Soviet Union commenced immediate deportations of Polish citizens who resided in the sector under Russian control. Whole families were cruelly forced on to trains and dispatched to camps in north-eastern Russia. The total number of deportees was well over 1,200,000.

This number, however, does not include approximately 250,000 Polish Soldiers, of whom 10,000 were officers, captured by the Red Army in the eastern part of Poland.

With the destruction of the Polish State a fait accompli, the Polish Government-in-Exile, led by General Władysław Sikorski, was established in London, England. The Soviet Union refused to grant it diplomatic recognition. It was obviously too much for Stalin, in retrospect, to recognize the existence of a nation that he had just helped to destroy.

DRAMATIC CHANGE

The entire relationship between the Polish Government and Russia, however, underwent a dramatic turn about in June, 1941, when Hitler unleashed his forces against the Soviet Union. Poland and Russia were now transformed into allies in a conflict against a common enemy, Germany.

As a result of the dangerous and desperate military situation that the Russians found themselves confronted with in the summer of 1941, Stalin yielded to the importunities of the British and the Americans and agreed to grant an amnesty to all Poles incarcerated or detained throughout the Soviet Union and to permit the formation of a Polish Army on Soviet territory.

Prime Minister Sikorski appointed General Władysław Anders (an inmate of Lubianka gaol in Moscow) as Commander-in-Chief of the newly-organized Polish Army, and a steady stream of released inmates from 130 major prisons and slave labour camps across the Soviet Union arrived daily at registration points such as Buzuluk and Totskoe.

From the very start, General Anders sought officers to help with the organisation of the forces, but for some unknown reason, officers rarely appeared. It was eventually determined, after the influx of men had ceased and counts had been completed, that more than 15,000 men were missing, among them approximately 8,400 officers.

A considerable number of these officers were university professors, engineers, doctors, teachers and other leading citizens who had been mobilised as reservists. They, in short, represented a significant element of the Polish intelligentsia and obviously would have been of inestimable value in the operations against Germany.

SEARCH OFFICE

As time went by, the Polish Government naturally became more and more concerned about the fate of the missing men. A “search office” established by General Anders received thousands of letters from the families of the missing men inquiring as to their whereabouts.

Scrutiny and cross-checks of various reports eventually established, that the 15,000 missing Poles had been inmates of three camps at: Kozielsk, Starobielsk and Ostaszkow. All correspondence from those prisoners abruptly ceased in the spring of 1940.

An ominous silence had fallen upon the three camps.

Between 1941 and 1943, the Polish Government constantly intervened, both verbally and in writing, in the matter of the missing men. Soviet authorities continued to make evasive and wholly unsatisfactory replies, suggesting that the missing men had escaped to Rumania or even to Manchuria.

Then on April 13, 1943, the German Government broadcast an announcement that stunned not only the Allies but also the entire world: mass graves, containing thousands of bodies of Polish soldiers, had been found in the Katyn Forest, located about 15 kilometres west of Smolensk.

According to the German broadcast, the reason why the Polish Government had been unsuccessful in its search for the missing officers was because they had been systematically murdered by the Soviet Union in 1940.

The Germans even went so far as to publicly request the International Red Cross, to conduct an on-site investigation of the Katyn massacre.

Such an accusation against the Soviet Union was nothing short of political dynamite for, on the basis of the German statement, it appeared that one Allied Government had murdered nearly half the officer corps of another.

INVESTIGATION REQUEST

On April 17, 1943, the Polish Government—in Exile in London, requested the International Red Cross to send an investigation team to the Katyn Forest.

The Geneva-based organisation was quick to express its willingness to look into the matter, on behalf of Poland and Germany, on the condition that the third interested party, the Soviet Union, also requested such an investigation. However, no such Soviet request for an on-site investigation into the Katyn affair was ever submitted to the Red Cross.

In 1943, the tide of the war slowly began to turn against Hitler, following the German defeats at Stalingrad.

On April 26, despite Anglo-American pleas to relent, Stalin publicly announced the break in Polish-Soviet relations.

Germany decided to initiate its own inquiry into the Katyn massacre. An International Commission, composed of distinguished scholars and specialists in forensic medicine drawn from 12 countries, was invited to conduct an on-site examination. Unknown to the Germans, members of the Polish Underground Movement were part of the Polish Red Cross team that was sent to Katyn. Their task was straightforward: verify the identity of the murderers.

MASS GRAVES

In Katyn Forest, eight mass graves were found, each ranging in depth from six to 11 feet. Approximately 4,500 bodies, or one-third of the missing men, were uncovered.
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All of the bodies exhumed were those of men who had been initially imprisoned at Kozielek and all had been executed in the same manner; a single shot in the back of the head, just above the shoulders.

Many of the men had their hands tied behind their backs, while a number of bodies also had bayonet wounds, a clear indication that they had struggled with their captors to the very end.

It was observed that the wounds had been made by four-cornered bayonets, the type of weapon being used by the Soviet Red Army at the time. Microscopic analysis of the rope, used to bind the victims, also showed it to have been Soviet-made.

Undoubtedly, the most incriminating evidence that suggested Russian responsibility for the atrocity, centred on the diaries, newspapers and letters that had been found on the bodies of the Polish officers. The most recent date listed on any of these documents was May 6, 1940.

DEAD THREE YEARS

Medical examinations performed on the corpses also provided valuable information. Decapitation of the skulls and the saponification of muscles clearly showed that the men had been dead for at least three years or, in other words, since 1940.

The work of the three commissions came to an end on June 7, 1943, when the last of the bodies were reburyed.

Their final reports maintained that all available evidence clearly indicated that the Polish officers had been shot in 1940, during which time the area was still under Russian’s control.

The fate of the prisoners from camps Starobielsk and O斯塔sków is still unknown.

When the War ended in the summer of 1945, Poland was physically moved westward, but politically it was forced into the Eastern orbit and saddled with an oppressive Communist government that had little in common with the wishes and sentiments of the Polish people.

The monument “KATYN 1940” has been erected in the grounds of DOM POLSKI CENTRE in Angas Street, Adelaide City.

The inscription on the monument carries this message: “The conscience of the world cries for truth to be witnessed in remembrance of 14,500 Polish-prisoners-of-war who disappeared in 1940 from camps at Kozielek, Starobielsk and O斯塔sków, of whom 4,500 were later identified in mass grave at Katyn near Smolensk”.

Need for youth to have Pride

MARGARET RIVER: A need to encourage the youth of today to have national pride was one of the points made at the annual conference of RSL South-West sub-branches held on July 5.

It was the first time since 1970 the conference had been held in Margaret River and sub-branches represented included Bunbury, Busselton, Donnybrook, Capel, Boyup Brook, Harvey and Margaret River.

Among those present at the conference were RSL State president L. Phenna, senior vice-president L. Turner, Veteran Affairs Department assistant deputy commissioner L. Dale, Defence Service Homes State manager J. See, State executive member Col. R.J. Nyman, women’s auxiliary State president Mrs. J. Ford, and South-West zone vice-president Ivan Manning.

Among the resolutions passed at the conference were those dealing with the need to strengthen national defence and to get a substantial increase on the Defence Service Homes allocation of $15,000 which is now considered inadequate.

PRAISE FOR RSL

The conference was officially opened by Augusta-Margaret River shire president Cr. A.P. Hillier who praised the work of the RSL in general and the local branch in particular.

He said the branch had made generous donations to the senior citizens’ homes project and the establishment of the Greek Chapel.

In recognition of the district’s 150th anniversary year the shire president presented Mr. Phenna with a bronze medallion.

In reply, Mr. Phenna said the RSL had a good relationship with both State Government and local government and he hoped this would continue.

The RSL State president presented the shire president with a framed copy of the RSL’s citizenship code which will be hung in the shire office.

During the conference, it was disclosed that while there is almost full occupancy of veteran’s homes in the metropolitan area there are eight single female vacancies.

Plans are in hand to build a further 31 units at the Pearson Village, Morley.

Delegates acknowledged there is strength in numbers and while RSL membership is on the increase attempts should be made to get younger members to take office.

OPTOMETRICAL

Benefits for R.S.L. Members

Because of the confusion introduced by the many changes to Health Care in recent times the following summary of Eye Health Care is presented for members information.

REPATRIATION PATIENTS

Eligible veterans are able to receive eye examinations by an optometrist under the Repatriation Medical Scheme. Eligible veterans may request their local medical officer (LMO) to send them to an optometrist.

PENSIONERS

Pensioners who hold a Pensioner Health Benefits card, and are not contributors to a private health fund, are entitled to receive eye examinations for themselves and their dependants at no cost. The optometrist will bulk bill on their behalf.

DISADVANTAGED’ PATIENTS

People who are ‘disadvantaged’ in certain ways may receive eye examinations at no cost to themselves.

Examples are people receiving social security benefits and newly arrived migrants and refugees.

The optometrist can choose to bulk bill for the consultation depending on the individual circumstances.

OPTOMETRY SERVICES GENERALLY

Benefits are available for consultations on vision problems. Eligible services include sight-testing procedures, examinations for eye or other health problems, diagnosis and treatment of optical or muscle defects of the eye, advice on personal eye care, and, if required, the prescription of spectacles or contact lenses.

If evidence of eye disease or other health problems is detected during the examination the optometrist will refer the patient to a general practitioner or eye surgeon as appropriate. The optometrist can issue any required notice of referral.
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ALSO MEN'S CUTS
On arrival at Ben Gurion Airport, Tel-Aviv on April 22, I was met by the representative of the British Zionist Group. I was quickly taken through Immigration Passport and Customs via the Air Crew facilities, for this I was extremely grateful after such a long and tiring trip from Bangkok to Athens (11 hours).

At 10 a.m. the next day, I called on the Australian Ambassador, Walter Handmer, who, with Eric Meadows, briefed me on proceedings for the function to be held at Gan Meir Gardens on the following day and the Anzac Service to be held at the Beersheba War Cemetery on Anzac Day.

In the afternoon, Mr. Zvi Dagan contacted me and arranged to take me on a re-visit tour of the old area of Tel-Aviv that I had last visited in 1942. Zvi Dagan, a former Major in the ‘Israel Defence Force, is currently the secretary of the Israeli War Veterans’ League.

We took a stroll down Allenby Street in an attempt to find a cafe, where some 38 years ago I had photographs taken — unfortunately our search was in vain; apparently that section of Allenby Street has been re-built twice since the War. We did, however, find many familiar landmarks and I was able to identify many of the streets etc.

The next day, Mr. Zvi Dagan picked me up at my Hotel and took me to IDF Headquarters to call upon the President of the Israel War Veterans’ League, Lt. General (Retd) Chaim Laskov. General Laskov is also the Ombudsman.

PLAQUE PRESENTED

On behalf of the National President I presented General Laskov with an RSL plaque, for which he was most grateful and apologised for not being able to present one in return, as they do not have one.

I spent a most interesting hour and a half with General Laskov and Zvi Dagan talking about our mutual interests and the welfare of Veterans. The Government of Israel accepts only the responsibility for veterans who have been wounded or disabled. They do not provide housing or any other benefits for former members of the services who leave the service medically fit.

Later in the day, we proceeded to Gan Meir Gardens for the ceremony to name a corner of the Gardens “Anzac Corner”.

The ceremony commenced with the Tel-Aviv Yafa Youth Orchestra playing a selection of Australian numbers. I bet there isn’t an Anzac anywhere that has heard ‘Mademoiselle from Armentiers’ played like these youngsters played it! It was rendered in both jazz time and disco!

After several speeches, the Australian Ambassador unveiled the plaque redesignating the corner of the Gardens as “Anzac Corner”.

It was a most moving ceremony and to hear the many speakers express their esteem and gratitude for the Australians who served in their country so many years ago made one feel very humble.

It was Anzac Day next day, and in company with the Ambassador and Mr. Meadows we left for Kibbutz Be’eri situated about 6 km east of Gaza. Here we visited the Anzac Memorial and Forest. The Forest consists of 100,000 trees, mostly eucalyptus, and is located at precisely the spot of one of the Anzac campaigns. It is, in fact, the site of the heroic battle for Gaza.

The Memorial itself is a huge stylised “A” with a lookout on top, occupied on this occasion by a detachment of Israeli soldiers, who together with two other detachments in APCs had cleared the area just prior to our arrival and remained on duty during the time we were present.

Left to right: His Excellency Mr. Walter Handmer, Australian Ambassador to Israel, Len Pheina State President W.A. Branch RSL, Mr. Eric Lucas - Jewish National Fund Representative. Anzac Day, 1980 - Anzac Memorial & Forrest - Kibbutz Be’erm near Gaza Israel (Note Patrol Vehicle in background).

Three Wreaths were laid — by the Ambassador; by Eric Lucas, (Australian Zionist Federation); and myself. This was followed by two minutes Silence and the rendition of the “ODE”.

It would appear that for many years this particular memorial was the venue for the Anzac Day Ceremony, but over the years, because of its remoteness, fewer and fewer people attended until finally the Ambassador and his staff were the only ones to attend. It was then decided to have the main ceremony and service at the Beersheba War Cemetery.

From Be’eri we travelled to Beersheba to be met at the gates of the War Cemetery by the US Ambassador who advised Mr. Handmer that he could not stay for the service as he had been summoned to the office of the Prime Minister for urgent consultations.

ABORTIVE RAID

It was at this moment that we were told of the abortive raid by the USA to free the hostages in Teheran, and from then on, security was at its tightest and even our Guard of Honour was armed.

Even so, the Ceremony and Service was most moving and representatives from many organisations were present, as were local inhabitants of the city of Beersheba.

All in all I guess there were about 100 people present; not a large gathering by our Anzac Day gatherings, but bearing in mind the small population of Australian/New Zealand and British residents, it was quite well attended.

Two days later, on the Sunday the Jewish National Fund had arranged for me to visit the Western Australian 150th Anniversary Recreation Park at Ein Zeitim, situated at Safad, not far from the Golan Heights.

It was an extraordinary trip, I would never have believed a country could change so much over the years. From what was once virtually desert country these dedicated people have
carved out farmlands and forests which I'm sure are the envy of many countries in that region.

After some three hours driving, we arrived at the Park which had been officially opened in June 1979 by the Premier of WA, Sir Charles Court.

It is indeed a magnificent project — a forest of native Australian trees growing amidst a mixture of pines and local tamarisk — and in the middle a wonderful recreation area for adults and children.

The Israel War Veterans' League had arranged for me to visit Jerusalem the next day, on this day and I was picked up at my hotel by Smuel Efrat, the Chairman of the Education and Cultural Committee of the IWWL.

GRAPHIC DISPLAY

It was a most interesting trip, highlighted by a visit to the National War Memorial and War Cemetery and then an hour and a half visit to Yad-Veshem — the Centre of Holocaust Research — a graphic museum display of the extermination and imprisonment of the Jewish race under Hitler.

This was followed by a visit to the old and new cities of Jerusalem, the Wailing Wall, new excavations that have revealed further evidence of Jewish settlement thousands of years ago.

The day concluded with a visit to the new National University now under construction and to be completed with in the next ten years — a magnificent undertaking, breathtakingly beautiful in every respect, overlooking the City and should cater for the needs of students well into the future.

On the way back to Tel-Aviv, we took an alternative route so that I could see the burnt out and damaged vehicles of war that have been left on the roadside as a permanent reminder to all who pass that way, the sacrifices made by the armed forces in three wars.

On Tuesday, I was a guest for luncheon of the Ambassador. We spent a most pleasant time over lunch and a general discussion about the world situation, the work of the RSL in general and the situation that Israel finds itself in today's troubled world.

Health and Customs procedures were carried out in a very efficient manner; security was something again. I've heard of a body search before, but have never experienced anything quite like the thorough going over we had on this occasion.

This report would be incomplete if I were not to thank, the National Executive for giving me the opportunity to represent the National President at the two important ceremonies over the period of Anzac Day. I felt extremely proud, but humble to hear so many people in Israel speak so highly of the RSL and Australians generally.

Sincere appreciation and thanks are also due to Mr. Handmer, the Zionist Federation of Australia, the Jewish National Fund, the Israel War Veterans' League, the Municipality of Tel-Aviv — Yafo, Jet Set Tours of Australia (WA) and the WA Branch of the RSL — Len Phenna (State President).

Last visit to Millen

There was a note of sadness at our June meeting when it was reported that we had made our last visit to the Edward Millen Hospital. The Victoria Park Auxiliary first visited this Hospital in 1932 and we have visited regularly every fortnight since whilst it has been a Repatriation Hospital.

We have seen many changes in the buildings, and we got to know the patients and staff well. The Carlisle Auxiliary, when it was functioning visited also and the Millen Auxiliary visited for a while too.

When we first visited it was a TB Hospital, then those patients were transferred to the Wooroloo hospital, for sometime the hospital was an Annexe of Royal Perth Hospital and then it became part of Hollywood Hospital.

Throughout the years a number of our members have been our official Visitors, our first two were Mrs. Caldwell and Mrs. Salmon and our last two were Mrs. Hockley and Mrs. Clues.

Cakes were supplied for afternoon tea on the day of the visit, but these became too expensive and had to be cancelled however we have continued to take sweets and reading matter.

Visitors have taken an interest in the type of therapy given the patients and some beautiful weaving and cane-work has been done by the men. I am still using a leather knitting bag made for me about 1954, and at one time we found them dismantling old telephones.

The staff have always been kind and helpful to our visitors and many a time we have been grateful for a cold drink after walking up the long drive on a very hot day.

With the help of our Sub Branch we have been able to make up a special gift parcel at Christmas and our visitors have enjoyed being "Mother Christmas".

Now that the Edward Millen Wing has been opened at Hollywood Hospital we will continue to visit our friends there. Our first visit in July brought a warm welcome, I think the men may have thought it too far for us to come, but Edward Millen has become part of the Victoria Park Auxiliary so that I hope we are able to visit for many more years.

It would be nice to reach our 50 years of service in 1982.

JOY FORD
President, Victoria Park Women's Auxiliary

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

The Trade Practices Act, 1974 came into force on October 1, 1974. There are important new provisions in that Act which contain strict regulations on advertising and all advertisers and advertising agents are advised to study these provisions very carefully.

It can be an offence for anyone to engage, in trade or commerce, in conduct "misleading or deceptive". In particular Section 53 contains prohibitions from doing any of the following in connection with the supply of goods or services or in connection with the promotion, by any means, of the supply or use of goods or services.

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It is not possible for this company to ensure that advertisements which are published in this magazine comply with the Act, and the responsibility must therefore be on the person, company or advertising agency submitting the advertisements for publication.

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The Story of Richard Stone

Here is the story of Mr. Richard Stone, who was born on October 13th, 1879, and died on June 10th, 1980 — after 50 years unbroken service with the R.S.L.

When Mr. Stone — Dick to all who knew him — quietly fell asleep in June, his death meant the end of a pioneer who has seen Mt. Helena emerge from a timber mill (Lion Mill) to almost a full grown town through the horse and buggy days to the steam driven locomotives and then the motor age as we know it.

Dick was born in York, on October 15th, 1879, and came to live in Mt. Helena about 1909. The Stone Family lived in a house in Keane Street, not far from the Mt. Helena Hotel, but the house was burnt down and the family shifted into a timber shack (still standing in the grounds of the present Stone home).

Mr. & Mrs. Stone had four children, a boy the first born who died of diphtheria when he was eight and three girls — Lorna, Leta and Verna.

Lorna and Leta still live in the old home which I believe, was the mill manager's house when Lion Mill was in its heyday. Verna is now Mrs. Mason and is the youngest of the girls.

ACTIVE MEMBER

Dick was a very active member of the community and played with the Mt. Helena Cricket and Football Teams, as well as taking part as president of the local Sub-Branch. He was also president of the local Progress Association, and looked after the hall when the lighting was carbide lights. Dick told me that he cut the floor boards for our local hall which was recognised as the best dance floor in the hills.

He enlisted in the Great War and tried very hard to get into the Army in the World War but he had been shot up pretty badly in the first war — Private Dick Stone No. 2493 in the 51st Battalion — so he became an Air Raid Warden and a very efficient one.

He was a life member of the R.S.L. When I got to know Dick well, I used to pay him a visit on his birthday and usually Christmas Day, or Christmas Eve, usually with a bottle of beer.

After a little prompting Dick would take me on a trip re-living the days of years gone by, down memory lane, and I used to just listen and find myself living those days with him, through the mills and the Great War.

He had a wonderful memory and I had a good imagination, and although he was more than 30 years older than me, that made no difference at all, we were on mutual ground. He wanted to talk and I wanted to listen.

When we went to pay our last respects to the memory of a man respected by everyone, well — if Dick could have seen all of those friends of bygone days and those who knew him only recently, he would have been well satisfied with the wonderful send off he had.

Those of us who were honoured to act as his last guard of honour felt we were among the select few and on top of the world.

"They shall grow not old ..."

JACK THOMPSON
Childow — Mt. Helena Sub-Branch

THEY ARE DEAD BUT THEY DON'T KNOW IT...

Bircham Newton Aerodrome used in both World Wars is no longer used by the services, at least not by the living, and yet it is still on active service manned by earth bound spirits who still have a busy daily routine waging war against Hitler's Third Reich.

A remarkable cassette recording has come into our hands released by the British Broadcasting authorities and distributed in Australia by the Australian College of Recorded Education.

A definite collector's item it guarantees to hold you spellbound with activities of the supernatural, and certain to promote hours of refreshing new arguments and discussions at the club bar ... individual sceptics are invited to take a simple test — place the cassette into your player ... turn off all the lights ... you are permitted to look over your shoulder, but don't bother to lock the doors ... ghosts walk straight through at Bircham Newton ...

Reveille has reserved several of these cassette recording for its readers, and as a bonus to "The Haunting of Bircham Newton Aerodrome" the college will send you "The Ghost of Borley Church", the most haunted site in Great Britain. Investigated by world-famous ghost hunter Harry Price this church has been the centre of psychic phenomena for decades. The ghosts here are from another age but make their presence felt most forcibly.

The complete cassette, The Haunting of Bircham Newton Aerodrome plus The Ghost of Borley Church, is offered to readers of Reveille for the discount price of $6.95, a saving of $1 on the recommended retail price.

To obtain the cassette cut out this article, post it together with your name and address, a cheque or money order valued at $6.95 to ACRE PO Box A102, Sydney, South 2000. But hurry stocks are limited.
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Mr. Stewart with his grandchildren Louise Obrecht (9), of Morley, and Sam Perkins (9), of Queens Park.

Victoria Park "toyman," Mr. Barney Stewart, was presented with an Anzac of the Year Award by the Lord Mayor, Mr. Chaney, at Council House yesterday.

Mr. Burns "Barney" Stewart (69), a retired railwayman and ex-serviceman, is Father Christmas to hundreds of underprivileged children each year.

He restores toys and bicycles and gives second-hand clothing to these children in more than 10 charitable organisations.

Mr. Stewart served in the World War with the WA 2/16 Battalion in the Middle East and New Guinea and now lives in Victoria Park with his invalid wife.

The Anzac of the Year Award is presented annually to seven Australians for service to the community and to humanity.

The recipients need not be ex-servicemen.

Mr. Stewart's medallion features Simpson, the famous Gallipoli hero, and his donkey.

Anzac Day
in Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea wanted to commemorate a National Day. Because so much of New Guinea's history happened in September, a date during that month had a lot going for it.

KABAKAUL, the Allies' first victory in WW1, happened on 11 September 1914, LAE was re-captured on the 15th, the Surrender at CAPE WOM took place on 30th.

The Somare Government voted for 15 August, VP day, an event that took place thousands of miles to the North.

The Chan Government gave the 15 August the thumbs down and have made 25 April their National Day.

In other words, they looked reality in the face. Anzac Day was always commemorated by a large section of PNG's community so now it is official and no need to take a sickie any more on the 25th.

The Fovant Badges

The village derives its name from the Saxon FOBBAN-FUNTA which later became FOFUNTE and eventually FOVANT. It is said to mean "Fobba's Spring". It can be found midway between Salisbury and Shaftesbury on the A30 London to Exeter Road.

In WW1, this agricultural land became training camps and even today the names "hospital field" and "barrack field" are retained.

The first of twelve badges was cut in 1916, that of the London Rifle Brigade. It took three months to cut and covers about 4,000 square yards. It is not the largest.

When WW1 ended, nine badges had been cut, those of the Wiltshire Regiment, the Wiltshire Yeomanry and the Royal Corps of Signals are post-WW2 carvings.

There are maintained by local workers with Regimental Associations paying to have the work carried out. The Australian Government makes an annual subscription for work on the Rising Sun. National Headquarters also makes a donation.

As the badges are not yet 100 years old, they cannot be officially recognised as national ancient monuments which means that no governmental financial support can be made available. The Society will have to wait until 2016 before an application for support can be made.

In the meantime, the rising costs of maintenance will have to be met by the Society, Associations and friends.

The badges are, Map of Australia, Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry, Y.M.C.A., 6th City of London Rifles, Australian Imperial Force, Royal Corps of Signals, Wiltshire Regiment, London Rifle Brigade, Post Office Rifles, Devonshire Regiment, 7th City of London Regiment and the Royal Warwicks.

The Fovant Badge Society at Fovant in Salisbury, Wiltshire would be happy to receive any donation to help them in their work.

M.E. Vad Reunion

The Middle East V.A.D.'s will holding an interstate reunion in Hobart from 19-23 November 1981. This date will commemorate the 40th anniversary of their arrival in the M.E. Husbands are included.

Further details are available from Miss Phyl Damon, Flat 4, King St., Bellerive, Tasmania, 7018.

Phyl served in Palestine, Syria and Egypt with 2/7 AGH.

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The Army Museum of Western Australia, Incorporated

In recognition of the need to have expertise in many fields and willing workers for various purposes, the Army Museum is considering widening its membership to include private citizens who possess skills or knowledge which such an institution requires. These are to be designated “Affiliated Members”, who will require to be nominated and seconded by any two Committee Members and approved by a majority vote of the Committee.

Additionally, representatives of Unit and Ex-Service Associations who desire to be represented. Any such Associations interested need only nominate their representative, in writing, to the Executive Board and to re-nominate annually. All such organisations are urged strongly to take this kind of interest in their museum.

The Museum was inaugurated on 31st October 1977, so is approaching the end of its third year. During this period, a considerable amount has been accomplished. From the point of view of the general public, two points are of particular importance:

1) To visit the Museum, to make it a “family” occasion, to take friends and visitors and to tell others about it.
2) To stock the Museum. All ex-Servicemen’s homes have held some memorabilia and most do still. What the museum displays or preserves is what you give it. Why not have a look in those souvenirs drawers, boxes, cartons, cupboards and so on and see what you can find? This is our history. Left lying about it will be lost. Presented to the Museum, it will be preserved for posterity. The smallest and most unlikely item may well be the very thing needed to complete a display. Old tanks, field guns, machine guns and Bailey Bridges are required also. All will be acknowledged.

To render an item of maximum value, all possible information is required. A medal, badge, button etc. is something, but to be told that it has been worn by Sapper/General/Private/whatever at Gallipoli/Kokoda/Nui’ Dat/Mafeking gives it a far greater intrinsic value. For instance, on display is a knotty natural wood walking stick. So? The board informs that it was picked up on the beach at Anzac Cove by the late General Sir Talbot Hobbs, KCB, KCMG, VC, and carried by him right through the Gallipoli campaign and after. A gold-fringed “Stars and Stripes” is pretty. The caption states that it was presented to the late Brigadier Sir Cedric Stanton-Hicks by his counterpart in the U.S.A. Brigadier Sir Cedric Stanton-Hicks was responsible for feeding the Australian Forces and the U.S. Forces in Australia (and blue-boiler peas). This makes the exhibit much more interesting.

Photos are very interesting, but photos of who/where/why/when are much more so. Even one name in a group can lead to others.

So please help your own museum by visiting it, any Sunday afternoon between 1300 hrs. (1pm) and 1630 hrs. (4.30pm). A light afternoon tea is available and at 50 cents a head, must be the cheapest in town.

Dig out your souvenirs, write all you know about each item, and let us have them. As a matter of convenience these may be left at Anzac House, Sherwood Court, Perth. Old jeeps, howitzers, scout-cars etc. will be picked up if you let us know where.

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Financial Assistance
for Education

Each year the Services Canteens Trust Fund provides financial assistance towards the education of children of ex-service men and women who served on a full-time duty with the Australian Armed Forces between September 3, 1939 and June 30, 1947.

Education awards are $130 each with an additional loading of $30 for the year in which the child commences secondary school. Applications are being invited now from parents or guardians for 1981 awards and the closing date for applications is 15 October, 1980. Payment is made at the start of the school year.

Eligibility for awards requires an affirmative answer to three questions listed below and the child should not be already in receipt of assistance under the Soldiers’ Children Education Scheme of the Department of Veterans’ Affairs. The questions governing eligibility are:

Is the student a child of an ex-service man or woman who served on full-time duty with the Australian Armed Forces between September 3, 1939 and June 30, 1947? Overseas service is not necessary.

Will the student be at one of the required levels of education in 1981? These are:
Grade 7 (primary level) and grades 8, 9 and 10 (secondary level).

Does the gross family income (excluding War and disability pensions paid by the department of Veterans’ Affairs) for the year ending June 30, 1980 fall below the following levels for cases where there is only one dependent child?

a) double orphans (i.e. both parents deceased) single orphans and children of divorced deserted or separated parents $5,600;
b) children of aged or invalid pensioners $6,900;
c) other circumstances $5,700.

An increase of $1,020 is allowed in the gross family income for the second and each additional dependent child (e.g. a widow with three children would have an allowable gross family income of $5,600 plus $1,020, plus $1,020, a total of $7,640).

Since the establishment of the Services Canteens Trust Fund in 1947, more than 130,000 education awards have been made to eligible children and a total of over $10,000,000 has been spent on providing educational assistance.

Application forms for 1981 are available from:
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BLACKBOY HILL APPEAL

At the June meeting of the Blackboy Hill Commemorative Site Advisory Committee representatives of local groups were presented with a report on the progress of the appeal for funds to preserve and develop the Blackboy Hill Site. Committee Chairman, Mr. T. Broz, President of the Shire of Mundaring expressed delight at the success of the appeal to date and welcomed a report on the continuing works programme being undertaken jointly by the Committee and the Shire.

With better weather ahead it is hoped that further development work can be undertaken.

The Committee has approved the payment of $1,000 to the Shire Council which has matched the payment according to the agreement. Negotiations are also in hand for the extension of the agreement for a further allocation of matching money.

The Meeting also agreed to requesting the Shire to erect signs on Great Eastern Highway in Greenmount showing the location of Blackboy Hill.

The appeal had reached $2,370 on August 11th with the following acknowledgments.

Como Sub Branch $500; Rivervale Sub Branch $200; Gallipoli Legion of Anzacs $200; Tom Price Sub Branch, Claremont Sub Branch, D. Barrett Lennard, $100 each; Busselton Sub Branch, Chidlow - Mt. Helena Sub Branch, Manning Sub Branch, Glen Forrest Sub Branch, Bicton-Palmyra - Sub Branch, Wembley-Floreat Sub Branch, MIT Sub Branch, 2/28 & 24th Anti Tank Coy, $50 each; 2/16th AIF Assn, Darling Range Sub Branch, Korea and S.E. Asia Assn; Naval Assn, Shenton Park Sub Branch, Bassendean-Guildford Sub Branch, Subiaco Sub Branch $25 each; Old 16th Bn. Assn, Yilgarn Sub Branch, Returned Sisters Sub Branch $20 each; Mrs. P. Ellis, 44th Bn. Assn, R.A.R. Assn, Fremantle City Sub Branch, South Perth Sub Branch, Esperance Sub Branch, Bullsbrook Sub Branch, Margaret River Sub Branch, Collie Cardiff Sub Branch, Narembeen Sub Branch, Ravensthorpe Sub Branch $10 each; Mr & Mrs Stoman $5.

MULLEWA PRESENTATION

The Mullewa Sub-Branch of the RSL has been disbanded, but the action has resulted in the Regional War Veterans’ Home at Geraldton benefiting.

The money that the Mullewa Sub-Branch had when it disbanded - more than $561 - has been donated to the Home.

The Home committee chairman, Reg Warren, expressed appreciation of Mullewa’s kind gesture when this information was received at the June meeting of the Geraldton Sub-Branch. - B.J.B.

MT. HAWTHORN SECRETARY RESIGNS

Frank Neal resigned as secretary of the Mt. Hawthorn Sub-Branch this year and his cheery energy and forceful personality will be missed from the top table. His experience and his down-to-earth commonsense, however, will still be available to us, for Frank is not moving out - ill health has forced him to move “back”.

During his years as secretary and as a branch member, Frank has never spared himself in the interests of the Sub-Branch and the League, and our numerical and financial strength is, in part, testimony to his energy and his attention to detail. Apart from routine branch matters, Frank has made regular calls on our “oldies”, sometimes as a sick visit, sometimes for a chat - which is also therapeutic.

Since relinquishing office, “Lofty”, has been a regular attendant and an active one and has enjoyed his part in the decision-making of the meeting, without the headaches that often follow.

As a recognition of service, Frank was presented with a clock-radio by Sub-Branch president Frank Butler before a large gathering of friends and members. His reply in thanks was typical and appropriate.

Robert Muir GRIBBLE WX 1581 joined the 10th Light Horse from Albany during the Great War and now lives in single quarters at the War Veterans’ Home in Mt. Lawley. He belongs to the Mt. Hawthorn Sub-Branch and was until recently a regular, despite the fact that he was then in his mid-eighties.

One Wednesday in May, Bob was presented with a 50-year certificate in a simple, dignified, but delightfully pleasant daytime ceremony at the Home.

Eight sub-branch members attended, and a number of Bob’s good friends from the “Vets”, also Mt. Hawthorn members, came along to give Bob support, but Bob proved to be in irrepressible good spirits. Age certainly has not wearied him.

Frank Butler made the presentation and in his reply Bob said “... it is always nice to be remembered”. Col. Woodhouse remained throughout the afternoon, keeping an avuncular eye on his several charges, no doubt.

Hospitality was dispensed, and we left feeling proud and grateful that the League has recognised another of its stalwarts.

R.D. ROBINSON
(Hon. Secretary)


ANZAC PEACE AWARDS

The Returned Services League of Australia has established an Anzac Peace Award, which will be in the form of a Silver and Bronze Medallion.

AIM: To perpetuate the name of “ANZAC” and all it stands for in a contemporary and significant way.

• ANZAC PEACE AWARD
  1 only which will be presented each year for outstanding efforts in promoting international understanding as a significant contribution to world peace.

• ANZAC OF THE YEAR AWARD
  7 to be awarded annually.

To recognise service to the community and humanity in a positive and compassionate way.

• ELIGIBILITY: For both awards is extended to an Australian citizen, or one who has made application to become an Australian citizen.

• NOMINATIONS: Appropriate organisations within the community of Western Australia should submit nominations to the State Secretary, Returned Services League, W.A. Branch, Box C 128, GPO, Perth, 6001 no later than December 15, 1980.

Further information may be sought from the State Secretary.

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Big lifts in PNG for Chinooks

Two RAAF Chinooks are in Papua New Guinea lifting machinery and building materials into areas inaccessible by road.

The helicopters are operating in the Kerema, Goroka, Mount Hagen, Milne Bay and Aitape areas, lifting materials for road building, a health centre, houses and marine navigation aids.

The aid to the PNG Government will cost about $500,000, and is being provided under the Australian Government's Defence Co-operation Programme.

The Chinooks are from No. 12 Sqn Amberley Base and left on June 9 for Port Moresby.

The lifts include:
- 50,000 kilos of road-building equipment to Kanabea to Kerema. The equipment includes two bulldozers, two four-wheel drive trucks, two tractors, two trailers, a front-end loader, a rock crusher, two compressors, a portable welder, a utility truck, two portable steel workshops and equipment for maintenance and repair.
- 26,450 kilos of machinery and building materials from Kundiawa to Karimui for a road between Karimui and Salt Norman, and the building of a school at Karimui. The equipment includes a 10,450 kilo bulldozer, which will be broken down into components.
- 70,000 kilos of building materials from Mount Hagen to Mount Au for the building of a health centre and three houses.
- Towers and building materials for marine navigation aids on Bright and Adele Islands. The equipment will be lifted from a ship to the islands. A 6.5-1 metre tubular steel tower will be lifted to Bright Island and lowered on to a prepared base.
- Components for a 30-metre tower will be lifted to Adele Island. Drums of concrete, sand and aggregate also will be lifted to the island.

Members of the RAAF's Air Movements Training and Development Unit, Richmond will supervise the loading of the Chinooks.

Many of the flights will be over mountainous terrain at heights of more than 2000 metres above sea level. The country over which they will be operating is generally accepted as among the worst in the world for flying operations.

Most of the loads will be slung beneath the helicopters.

By courtesy RAAF News

Combined Servicewomen’s
Inaugural Re-union

TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTY FIVE SERVICE AND EX-SERVICEWOMEN attended the inaugural annual reunion luncheon organised by the Committee of Management, at the South Perth Civic Centre on Sunday, 17th August, 1980 from 12 noon to 4.00 p.m.

All Australian services were represented and also included women who served in British, South African and Indian services. There were two who served in World War I, namely Mr. Hilda Horne, (82) who was a dispatch rider with the Royal Flying Corps and Mrs. Marge Beddle, (84) an officer with the St. John Ambulance who was awarded the Queen's Medal for her services. Mrs. Beddle enlisted in the AWAS during World War 11 and is presently the longest living serving member in the St. John Ambulance in Western Australia.

Both promise to attend next year!

It was a great thrill to see country members from Kalgoorlie, Bruce Rock, Katanning, Waroona, Bunbury and Northam and Mother and daughter combinations: no age gap was apparent 82 to 30.

Mrs. Ellen Chambers (O'Connor) ex WRANS flew in from America two days before the reunion and was given a rousing welcome by all. Ellen who was a decoder with WRANS in Western Australia during World War 11 is married to an American and lives in Florida, where she owns a dress boutique.

The Australian Women's Land Army (AWLA) was represented at the official table by Mrs. Ethel Horan and the Women's Auxiliary National Service (WANS) by the founder in Western Australia, Mrs. Florence Hummerston (92), OBE. The Presidents representing their Associations were also seated at the official table. Behind them the various pennants were displayed.

A most interesting after luncheon address was given by the Special Guest, Mrs. Margaret Aitken, OBE, an ex-WAAF and former Chairwoman of the Women's Committee of WA's 150th Anniversary Board, who spoke on the theme Women in Service.

Any ladies interested in attending next year's reunion should contact Chairwoman, Mrs. Nancy Carlson (ex WRAAC) 467 3984 or the Secretary, Mrs. Ann Weetman (ex WRANS) or by writing to Combined Servicewomen's Committee, C/- P.O. Box 6149 Perth, Hay Street East. W.A. 6000.

NANCY CARLSON

APPRECIATION

The League is most appreciative of the work done by our Hospital Visitors. The Women’s Auxiliaries do a sterling job and at Hollywood Hospital Ron Boys, Deidre Luyer and Beryl Stone are familiar and friendly faces to the patients.

These members are tireless workers spreading cheer and a sympathetic ear where required, especially to those who for various reasons, do not have visitors of their own.

To Deidre Luyer, who has been a willing and energetic worker over a long period, we are sorry her health has not been so good lately. All the best Deidre – we hope you will be quite well again, soon.

Also Sylvia Phelps’ home visits have satisfied another need and her help is very much appreciated.

BEVERLEY SWAN
Welfare Officer

LISTENING POST, SPRING, 1980  PAGE 25
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LOCAL successes are again reported from the Albanian front where the Greeks have captured 1,000 prisoners, including a complete battalion, several guns and other equipment.

A section of Italian ski-troops was dispersed and the Italians left behind prisoners and equipment. The Italians are being gradually pushed back in the Lake Gehrda district from their positions which bar the way to Elbasan.

Gen. Kataras and King George have sent New York messages to the Army of congratulations on its achievements and of hope for 1941.

The RAF have carried out a double raid on Valona, bombing transport and troops on the march and four ships in the port, including a cruiser. One of our machines was shot down but two of the airmen were seen escaping by parachute.

The RAF also raided Naples but the weather was so bad that the results of the attack could not be observed. The RAF have also been carrying out raids on aerodromes in Libya and Eritrea.

Raid On Frankfurt

The Frankfurt district of Germany and ports and aerodromes in German occupied territory were raided last night by the RAF.

In the Western Desert, before Bardia, reinforcements of men and guns continued to arrive. Our artillery is constantly shelling the Italian defences, with only desultory fire in reply.

King George has sent a message of sympathy to the Lord Mayor of London after Sunday's indiscriminate bombing of the city, with incendiaries which resulted in the destruction of the Guildhall and several famous London churches.

Mr. Churchill visited the blackened ruins of the Guildhall where the banquet hall is open to the sky and the famous guardians of the city, the statues of Gog and Magog, have been destroyed. Some of London's most oldest and beautiful churches were amongst the public buildings destroyed, including St. Lawrence Jewry and St. Bridge's.

The Old Bailey was burned down, and St. Paul's caught fire again but only minor damage was done. The work of the civilian fire fighters was beyond praise.

The fact that our fighters went up and chased the raiders off on Sunday was commented on by Air Chief Marshall Sir Hugh Dowding in an address at Ottawa when he predicted that the sting would be taken out of night bombing before long, and that the present state of affairs would be over by spring.

There were no raids on Britain last night, which makes five quiet nights out of seven.

President Roosevelt's speech has been generally welcomed in the United States as well as in Britain. However, Senator Wheeler, one of the opponents of Roosevelt's foreign policy, has made a public reply in which he describes Roosevelt's talk of war danger to the United States as nonsense and recommends immediate peace in Europe.

Wheeler's idea of peace is that Germany should have back her frontiers as before 1918 and her colonies, and should restore independence to France, Belgium, Denmark, Holland and Norway, give amnesty to Czechoslovakia, Poland etc.

The Axis Powers are infuriated at the President's speech, Germany makes no comment, and has allowed only brief summaries of the speech to be published, but Italy has broadcast an attack on Roosevelt, suggesting that his utterances were political slanders addressed to the immigrant parties of the American people. Japan considers that the speech indicates further American assistance to China.

Reports of uneasiness in the Balkans are being received in London. Total mobilisation will be achieved by Hungary in January. ARP practices are being carried out in Bucharest.

German troops are reported to have moved to Rumanian Transylvania and towards the Rumanian-Bulgarian frontier at the same time the Bulgarian Premier has again declared Bulgaria's desire for strict neutrality. A mysterious fire has burned down the Anhalter Station in Berlin. The Bucharest Indians have sent a box of cigars for Mr. Churchill's birthday.

The Place to Stay

RSL members or ex-servicemen visiting the United Kingdom are recommended to stay at the Victory Services Club in Seymour Street, Marble Arch, London.

The Club has been in existence for 71 years and well over 1,000,000 ex-servicemen have been welcomed there.

The building has had a precarious existence, having been bombed three times in World War II. In current years, the locality has been the target for several attacks by Irish terrorists.

Despite these hazards, the Club has never failed to provide accommodation and amenities.

We found the club to be competitive in its meals and accommodation charges and below London hotel prices.

Though there is a limit set on duration of stay, this operates only in the busy holiday-season. Tourists would be able to extend their occupation during the off-season.

The Club is ideally situated for travellers. It is only three minutes from Marble Arch Tube Station, and close to Hyde Park and London's main shopping centre—Oxford Street.

A modern cafeteria provides three meals or snacks daily, and a dining room is available for lunches and dinners.

All the usual facilities are provided, including bars and lounges television and billiards room, ladies lounge and library and members are allowed to bring guests.

An Australian Bank and Thomas Cook and Son's office are about five minutes walk from the Club.

Visitors from Perth are advised to book accommodation before leaving.

The only flaw in the otherwise excellent arrangements is that overseas tourists must pay a 12-months Victory Club member's subscription. A reduced figure seems more equitable, considering that the average stay for Australian visitors would not exceed one week.

By comparison, local members can enjoy the facilities offered, apart from permanent accommodation, for the whole year.

Since World War II, the Club has bedroom accommodation for about 400 members.

Further details are available at State Headquarters, 4 Sherwood Court, Perth.

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WAR VETERANS FIND PEACE

By TUDOR LEE

The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, often referred to as the Chelsea War Veterans’ Home, was founded by King Charles II in the year 1682. It was the first known provision made for the repatriation of fighting men by royalty or Parliament in England.

Laws had been passed in the United States as far back as 1635 to give relief to war veterans and their dependants. The Hospital, designed by Christopher Wren, was originally intended as a retreat for members of the regular army who had become unfit for duty, either after 20 years service, or as a result of wounds.

The re-establishment of a permanent army 21 years earlier had made such a measure essential. King Charles had, two years before founding the Hospital, commenced building a hospital at Kilmainham near Dublin for Irish Army ex-service men.

The provision of a hostel at Chelsea instead of a system of pensions was no doubt inspired by the Hotel des Invalides in Paris founded by Louis the 14th in 1670.

The Duke of Monmouth visited this hotel twice and gave glowing reports of its excellence to his father King Charles. It was commonly believed that the King was influenced by his mistress Nell Gwynne to build the Hospital at Chelsea but evidence does not confirm this belief. The truth was that he considered only the welfare of his old soldiers.

PRIVATE DONATIONS

King Charles supported the financial burden of the Hospital to a limit of $11,000 and the balance came from private donations.

From 1847, finance has been provided by Parliamentary votes, supplemented by a small income from Hospital property.

The management of the Hospital has been controlled from its inception by a Board of Commissioners appointed directly by the Crown. The Paymaster-General has always been Chairman.

To qualify for admittance to the Hospital, former service men must have an army pension, be 65 years and over, mobile and of good character.

If the applicant is married his wife must agree to his application and she must be provided for.

In some circumstances, a man under 65 may be accepted. There are no married quarters.

Following acceptance, the pensioner surrenders his army pension and retains any other pension, plus private means. He receives board and lodging, clothing, a pint of beer daily, or tobacco in lieu, and if not in receipt of any extra income, a small cash allowance.

Among the amenities provided are billiard-rooms, comfortably appointed club, television, bowling green, library, handicraft room and allotment gardens.

The pensioners, as intended by King Charles, have always been organised on military lines, with a Governor and other officers. Military pomp and ceremony has been abandoned and parades are now restricted to those for Church and Pay.

At the time of my visit, there were 40 vacancies because of deaths in a widespread and severe influenza epidemic. However, the vacancies were quickly filled. The residents are eager to talk to visitors and a recently-promoted sergeant gave me details of life at the Royal Hospital.

HIGHEST RANK

Veterans can be promoted to Sergeant which is the highest rank attainable. The old campaigners can volunteer for administrative or hospital duties and earn promotion based on performance and responsibility. /My informant had the choice of three private homes but chose Chelsea.

The food provided is first-class and a selection of four to five varieties is available. My informant went on to say that one of the finest features of the Home is the friendliness of all residents. Elsewhere, it has been described as one of the best hotels in the world.

The sergeant and his soldier mates were impressive in their intelligent and commonsense discussions and lent support to Henry Miller’s words of 1941 - “How different the new order would be if we could consult the veteran instead of the politician.”

There are many buildings to inspect, including the Great Hall where meals are served in elegant surroundings. It is one of the finest dining halls in the world.

Visitors will find plenty to interest them at the Home, and they should not miss the Chapel, completed by Wren in 1687.

Conducted tours of the buildings take about an hour and a half. Tourists may attend chapel services on Sundays and the Parade Service at 11 a.m. When on parade, the Pensioners wear scarlet coats and ceremonial tricorn hats, a modernised version of the service dress of Marlborough’s time.

If you make your visit around the end of May, it could coincide with the Royal Flower Show, held yearly at Chelsea - a world-famous event. The entry to the show is close to the main gate of the Royal Hospital.

The Show compacts the beauty of the English countryside for the viewers’ enjoyment. The Hospital or Show is a ten minutes walk from the Sloane Square underground station.

The Royal Hospital is a confusing name to a visitor. It is more than a hospital, rather a home - steeped in history where dignified men live amicably in the sunset of their lives.

VICTORIA PARK - AGAIN

Once again we appeal to members to please attend Sub-Branch meetings. In the past three months a direct approach (per letter) produced a gain of five members to a meeting, two of whom attended the following meeting, for which we thank them. My last Listening Post article apparently fell on deaf ears for the increase in numbers attending was absolutely nil.

How much do you know about this Sub-Branch of which you are a member? Do you know whether it is in a good financial position, or whether it is on the rocks? Do you know when the Sub-Branch Charter was issued? Or who sells the poppies, wreaths and stickers on Remembrance Day, or who visits the Hospitals?

What do you know about our Women’s Auxiliary? The questions could go on and on. The scope of all RSL and Auxiliary work is endless. So we remind you again that the meeting night is the first Thursday of every month at 8 p.m.

The meeting place is 69 Hubert Street, East Victoria Park, three houses from the car park at the rear of Coles New World Store. The verandah light is always on, so you can not miss it. Brighten up our year by your presence.

GEORGE FORD

LISTENING POST, SPRING, 1980 PAGE 29
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Charles Campbell-
Born May 25, 1912
George Campbell of 2 Elgin Place, Oswald Street, Falkirk, Stirlingshire, F.K. 11 Q.N. Scotland, brother of the above mentioned, is trying to establish contact with Charles.
Charles Campbell came to Australia in 1948 and returned to Scotland in 1957 on the death of his mother. He returned to Australia in 1961.
Last-known address was C/- Carlton Hotel, Bourke Street Melbourne. He was born in Lauriston, Falkirk, Scotland, occupation was Stores Officer. He served in the Royal Corps of Signals during the World War.
Any information of the whereabouts of Charles Campbell would be appreciated.

Rethymnon
Australian Memorial

One of the recommendations from National Executive was that the Federal Government should make a contribution towards the completion of a Greek Australian War Memorial at Stravromenos near Rethymnon in Crete, and provide an allocation of money towards the upkeep of the Memorial.

Mr. Osmond pointed out that subsequently it had been decided that Australians should not be making contributions to Memorials to themselves in other countries, and the National Headquarters had then been asked to explore the possibility of renovations being made to the Memorial by Greek authorities.

The National President advised that repeated attempts to make contact with the Greek authorities concerning this matter had been unsuccessful, however, he undertook to make a further approach to the Greek Ambassador, who is very pro-Australian, and to ascertain if remedial action could be undertaken.

The matter was left in the hands of the National President to take up with the Greek Ambassador.

It was later referred to the State of Rethymnon whose reply was as follows:

"In response to your letter referring to the Memorial of Stravromenos, I got in touch personally with Mr. Markos Polioudakis. Together we visited the Memorial and it is my understanding that the work has been finished with the exception of a small plaque 1 x 3 feet that has been delayed due to the fact that the artist in charge has been sick for the past year. Mr. Polioudakis talked to me extensively about the Australian patriots who fought in Crete and his admiration towards them represents the feelings of many Cretans.

"The Monument has been financed locally, and the funds raised are sufficient to complete the work.

"Crete, myself and Mr. Polioudakis will be happy to have you here any time."

Dr. ANDREAS ATHINAIOS
Governor

Preservation of Traditions

Item 4 (viii) page 35 of the National Executive Minutes reads:

"That in order to preserve the traditions of the Australian Light Horse:
- Commonwealth and State Governments be requested to support and recognise, financially and otherwise, the formation of troops of a troop of Light Horse.
- State Branches, District Councils and Sub-Branches be encouraged to support these forms of Light Horse both financially and in the supply of equipment.
- These troops or troop be utilized to work as escorts, guards of honour, at Anzac Commemoration Services and in Anzac Day Marches both at a local and State level."

"It was further resolved that this should also include a provision for horse artillery."

The Minister for Defence, D.J. Killen, replied as follows:

"I refer to your representations concerning the resolution suggesting the formation of a cavalry unit for ceremonial purposes to preserve the traditions of the Australian Light Horse.

"Thank you for your interest in this matter. The possibility has been examined previously and it was concluded that there is no operational or ceremonial requirement for a mounted capability. Moreover, the diversion of funds from other more important projects could not be justified.

"I regret that in the circumstances the proposal cannot be supported."

Defence Deficiencies

In Geraldton on June 5, a retired Air Commodore who is living in that area, David Hitchins, expressed the thought that there was a need to have a greater number of trained personnel in the interests of the defence of Australia – and not all of them, armed services personnel.

He said people interested in Australia's defence should be seeking to have young people trained in the skills that would be needed in the armed services – in such aspects as gliding, sailing, bushcraft and other skills that would be used by service personnel.

Mr. Hitchins expressed this opinion at a public meeting when asked a question about Australia's defence deficiencies.

The meeting was arranged by the Geraldton Sub-Branch so that Mr. Hitchins could report on a defence Seminar that the Department of Defence conducted at HMAS Leeuwin at Fremantle in April.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Fraser, announced on June 15 that the Government would accelerate expansion of the Army Reserve to full strength. He said the Government wanted the Army Reserve units to be at full strength of 30,000 by the middle of next year and not by 1985, as announced in February by the Defence Minister, Mr. Killen.

The decision to lift the number of Reservists from the present level of 22,000 was part of the Government's five-year defence programme presented in the wake of the Russian invasion of Afghanistan.

Mr. Fraser said the Government had decided to step up the intake because it believed that a bigger and younger nucleus of Australians trained for military service was needed.

Expansion of the reserve units could restore the force to its level at the end of the Vietnam war in the early 70s.

Mr. Fraser, speaking to the Queensland State Council of the Liberal Party, said that at a time when international uncertainties were greater than for many years, the proportion of young Australians trained for military service was at its lowest level for 30 years. – B.J.B.
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ANSWERS TO HOMES RESOLUTIONS

Ministerial comments on Defence Service Homes Resolutions contained in the 64th National Congress items Nos. 159, 161, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168 and 169 are as follows:

RESOLUTION 159:
That as so many ex-servicemen are having to change their areas of employment and because of the uncertainty of employment or ill health that the Minister for Veterans' Affairs be requested to permit them to sell their existing Defence Service Home and transfer the mortgage to another approved property at the expense of the applicant.

COMMENT:
The basic purpose of the Defence Service Homes Scheme is to assist eligible persons who, through war or defence service, have been placed at a disadvantage compared with the rest of the community in acquiring a permanent home. Successive Governments have taken the view that the disadvantage is removed when an eligible person has been assisted to acquire a home.

Under the existing arrangements there is provision for the transfer of an outstanding loan balance to a second property in special circumstances where an applicant is compelled to move from his Defence Service home for reasons beyond his control, such as a compulsory transfer in his employment or for medical reasons.

The Defence Service Homes Corporation's lending operations are funded mainly from repayments of principal by existing borrowers including amounts paid to discharge loans prematurely.

If all eligible persons, on selling their homes, were permitted to transfer their outstanding loan balance to another property instead of repaying it to the Corporation the funds available for relending would be substantially reduced.

This reduction of loanable funds would necessitate either an extension in the existing waiting period arrangements or a further call on the Budget.

RESOLUTION 161:
That the RSL again request preference in Defence Service Home Loan allocations to those who qualify because of their war service.

COMMENT:
The majority of Homes applicants seek assistance on the basis of service in the 1939-45 or subsequent warlike operations. The Government announced in August, 1977 that a measure of preference would be granted to those applicants who qualified for a loan because of war service, but it subsequently decided not to proceed with this action.

In the absence of additional funds for the Scheme, it was found that preference could have been introduced only through a substantial increase in the waiting period applying to applicants without war service.

It is hoped that it may be possible at some future date to give preference to those applicants with war service without imposing a penalty on other applicants. The Defence Service Homes Act was amended in November 1978 to permit preference of this kind.

RESOLUTION 164:
That the revenue from sale of Defence Service Homes Estates be reverted to the Defence Service Homes Account.

COMMENT:
Following the announcement of the Corporation's withdrawal from land development and home construction in August 1977, the Government decided that the proceeds from sale of the Corporation's land holdings should be paid into the Consolidated Revenue fund.

This is entirely consistent with long-standing policy on such matters. The general principle applies that, except in the case of certain business authorities run on fully commercial lines, proceeds of sales of assets and other revenues earned by Departments and Authorities are returned to the Commonwealth and are not retained by Authorities or hypothecated in any way against additional expenditure by those Departments or Authorities.

RESOLUTION 166:
That the Defence Service Homes Act be amended so as to permit that on legal separation/divorce of a husband and wife in whose joint names the loan is granted and registered the person to whom the Defence Service Home is legally granted by a Court becomes solely responsible for the payment of the loan.

COMMENT:
It has been the long-standing policy in the circumstances referred to in the Resolution not to release the transferor from the personal covenant in the mortgage on the Defence Service home. The reason for the policy has been to protect the interest of the Commonwealth in the event of any default.

The question of a possible relaxation of the policy was under review at the time the Resolution of the Congress was received.

I am now pleased to advise that, in all the circumstances, I have agreed to the present policy being relaxed so that, where consent is given by the Defence Service Homes Corporation to the transfer of an interest in a home pursuant to a Court Order, the transferor will be released from the obligations under the personal covenants in the mortgage.

RESOLUTION 167:
That necessary changes in the Family Law Act be effected in order to protect the interest of the resident partner in the Defence Service home which is jointly owned and the other partner ceases to reside in the house and brings action to effect a sale of the property.

COMMENT:
Where a successful action is brought before the Court for a division of property, the marital home is valued and the Court determines the amount due, if any, to each party.

A veteran wishing to retain the home can do so by purchasing the interest of the other party and the Corporation would normally approve the raising of a second mortgage over the property for this purpose.

Any proposal to amend the Family Law Act would be a matter for the Attorney-General and I have therefore referred the text of the resolution to him for consideration and reply direct.

RESOLUTION 168:
That the Defence Service Homes Corporation be advised that returned servicemen are being badly inconvenienced both as buyers and sellers of existing property through the unavailability of building inspectors and/or valuers especially in country areas.

COMMENT:
The Corporation has a statutory obligation to ensure that every home, in respect of which a loan is sought, represents a suitable security for advance of moneys under the Act. This necessitates an inspection and valuation of each home. Inspections for valuation purposes are carried out by the Corporation's technical staff in each capital city and in the larger provincial centres in some States.
Best Wishes to all members of the R.S.L. Statewide.

from R. & K. Overheu of

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In several States, valuations in country areas are carried out for the Corporation by valuers employed by the Taxation Office.

In other instances, the Corporation will authorise an applicant to obtain a valuation through a local registered valuer or other competent person, such as an architect or certain local government officers.

The Corporation is aware of the need at all times to ensure that property valuations are obtained quickly. Accordingly, where there is likely to be a delay in obtaining a valuation report through normal channels, or where circumstances demand a more urgent valuation, technical officers in the Corporation may be required to travel specially to the area concerned or, alternatively, the applicant is invited to obtain a valuation privately.

I would add that no evidence has been brought to the attention of the Defence Service Homes Corporation that suggests that these arrangements are causing general inconvenience to veterans in the buying and selling of their houses; as suggested by the Resolution.

Any specific examples of significant inconvenience that you bring to my attention will be examined with a view to seeking a satisfactory solution.

RESOLUTION 168:
That persons eligible by reasons of service but who own another home be given the same privilege and opportunity of insuring with the Defence Service Homes Insurance as those who have a Defence Service Home.

COMMENT:
This is a matter of Government policy which involves the major issue of involvement of Government agencies in services normally provided by private enterprise.

At this time no change in the existing arrangements is contemplated.

RESOLUTION 169:
That the Defence Service Homes Corporation be advised that long delays are being experienced by members requiring the services of an Assessor when damage to properties insured under the Defence Service Home Scheme occur.

COMMENT:
In all capital cities, and in the larger country centres in some States, inspections for assessing damage to properties insured under the Homes Insurance Scheme are carried out by the Corporation's technical officers.

Where the size of the State permits, these officers are also used in many country areas. In other cases the services of the Taxation Office, competent local government officers or private loss assessors are employed.

As with valuation inspections, the Corporation recognises the need for early inspection of damage to properties insured under the Defence Service Homes Insurance Scheme.

Every endeavour is made to ensure that prompt Inspection is made, generally, within 48 hours of the report of major damage, and within 4 to 5 days in other cases. Nevertheless, it is acknowledged that delays can occur where the property concerned is located in a remote area.

Every effort is made to keep the time taken in such cases to a minimum and, if necessary, the Corporation will engage the services of a private loss assessor if other means are not readily available.

It will be appreciated, of course, that where many properties are damaged following a natural disaster or other catastrophe it is necessary for the Corporation to make special arrangements for the assessment of the damage incurred, in such a situation, and it is not always possible to keep delays within normal acceptable limits.

The League may be assured, however, that the service provided to persons insured under the Scheme is kept under constant review by the Corporation.

EVAN ADERMANN

Council Congratulations

During the announcements from the chair at a recent meeting of the Geraldton Town Council, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Phil Cooper, extended congratulations to the Geraldton Sub-Branch of the RSL and its Women's Auxiliary on again achieving the “double” in the Statewide competitions.

He said the Sub-Branch had won the Collett Cup for the 17th time as the rural Sub-Branch with the most meritorious service of the year; and the Women's Auxiliary the Country Cup for the 18th time as the best Auxiliary of the year. — B.J.B.

AGENT ORANGE CLEARED?

A US study clearing the controversial Vietnam herbicide Agent Orange of causing birth defects and reproduction problems in males will not affect Australia's planned inquiry into the substance.

The study, reported at the weekend by the Washington Post, was greeted with scepticism yesterday by the Sydney-based Vietnam Veterans Association and by an Australian co-author of a book alleging damage through exposure to the defoliant.

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Mr. Ademann, said yesterday he doubted whether anyone in the US was conducting an inquiry as comprehensive and long term as the one to be run by the Commonwealth Institute of Health at Sydney University.

“I haven't seen the report but whatever its claims I wouldn't foresee that stopping us going ahead with our own inquiry,” he said.

The Washington Post said the National Toxicology Program, a team of federal agencies, conducted tests on 200 mice and said: “No significant increase in reproductive abnormalities in the exposed groups was observed.

“Exposure . . . did not appear to influence the foetal (infant) development or the viability of offspring sired by these mice.”

Veterans groups have sought medical compensation for health problems allegedly related to Agent Orange exposure.

NO DIFFERENCE

A spokesman for the Sydney-based Vietnam Veterans' Association, Mr. Gary Adams, said yesterday the report would make no difference to Australian veterans seeking compensation.

“We are not just looking at Agent Orange, but at least five other chemicals that were used in Vietnam,” he said.

“And we've served writs that deal with agents Blue, Green, Pink and White as well as Agent Orange.”

John Dux, a journalist and co-author of The Bitter Harvest, a book dealing with the Agent Orange controversy, said he would not accept anything except positive scientific proof before agreeing that Agent Orange was harmless.

“I haven't seen the report, which makes it very difficult to comment but I doubt very much that it provides positive scientific proof,” he said.

By courtesy of The Australian

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Best wishes to the Kojonup RSL from
Iwasaki Tourist Development Scheme, Yeppoon, Queensland

The National President, of the RSL, on April 3, made further representations to the Prime Minister concerning the subject heading and in particular the attempt to enlarge the holdings of the Iwasaki Sangyo Co. (Aust) Pty Ltd in the Yeppoon area.

The Prime Minister's reply was as follows:

"Your concern appears to be principally related to the proposal of Iwasaki Sangyo Co to enlarge the area of its tourist resort at Yeppoon. The Treasurer announced the Government's decision not to permit acquisitions of additional land for this purpose January. I am enclosing a copy of the Treasurer's press release for your information.

"I would also emphasise that my Government, as part of its policy on foreign investment in Australia, gives close and special attention to foreign purchases of real estate.

"Proposals for the acquisition of land by foreign interests, with minor exceptions, are by foreign interests, with minor exceptions, are submitted to the Foreign Investment Review Board, whose function is to advise the Government on these matters.

"The Board's examination aims to establish whether the benefits flowing to Australia from a proposal through, for example, stimulus to employment, the introduction of new technology and contributions to marketing and operational efficiencies, are sufficient to outweigh the loss of Australian ownership.

"The Board's recommendation is submitted to the Government for decision. Where appropriate, the Government seeks to have Australian participation introduced into the larger projects and may impose conditions of approval in order to protect the national interest.

"In certain cases, it would require the sale of the land to Australians when the purpose for which it had been acquired had been accomplished.

"Questions of legislation to control transfers of land to foreign persons, the setting up of registers of foreign ownership or creation of special land tenure systems would fall largely within the Constitutional responsibilities of the State Governments.

"Such systems however would seem likely to be very complex and expensive to administer, as well as creating difficulties for land owners..."

MICHAEL MACKELLAR
for the Prime Minister

Treasurer's Comments

Treasurer John Howard said:

"The Government has considered proposals by Iwasaki Sangyo Co (Aust) Pty Ltd to acquire additional land to enlarge the area of its proposed tourist resort near Yeppoon, Queensland. The land sought is outside the boundaries of the tourist resort as set out in the Franchise Agreement between the company and the Queensland Government and would increase the resort area by some 1,500 hectares to about 10,000 hectares.

"After careful examination of the company's proposals and of the advice of the Foreign Investment Review Board, the Government has decided that it would be inconsistent with its foreign investment policy to approve acquisitions or negotiations for acquisition of additional land for the project at this time.

"I have accordingly made Orders under the Foreign Takeovers Act to prohibit acquisition of the two parcels of land which fall within the scope of that Act and for which contracts have been entered into.

"In reaching this decision the Government has been mindful of the substantial area of land already reserved for the resort and the preliminary state of current development.

"The Government has concluded that, on the evidence so far available, the additional land would not appear to be necessary for the development of the resort in accordance with the concept approved by the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments.

"Specifically, it is not satisfied that the land would be needed to protect the environmental integrity of the project.

"The Government is, nevertheless, aware of the importance of this project, and wishes development to proceed. The company has been informed that the Government would be prepared to reconsider its decision when significant progress has been made with the development, and if the company is able to provide evidence that additional land is necessary to protect the environmental integrity of the project."

No to fishing consortium

The National Executive carried the following resolution item No.3 (b) (ii) Page 28 of the Minutes:

"3 (b) (ii): That this State Branch asks National Headquarters to urge the Federal Government to reject utterly any suggestion of an Australian-Soviet consortium to fish around Tasmania, or any other similar move to permit in any way the setting up of any facility in or near Australia that may result in any information or intelligence regarding Australia being made available to the USSR."

The Minister's reply was:

"I refer to your letter of April 18 concerning the resolution recently carried by your National Executive concerning Soviet fishing activity off Tasmania. Thank you for bringing this to my attention.

"In response to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan the Government decided, among other things, to suspend indefinitely fisheries co-operation with the USSR.

"In particular it decided that co-operation that might have led to a proposed feasibility study in waters off Tasmania involving a Soviet presence in Tasmania should not proceed for the time being.

"The Government has also consulted with New Zealand and with other Pacific countries concerning Soviet fishing interests in the region."

ANDREW PEACOCK

Ophthalmologists — Freedom of choice

"For some time now correspondence has been exchanged between National Headquarters, the Royal Australian College of Ophthalmologists and the Department of Veterans' Affairs. The most recent comment by the Minister is as follows:

"I refer to your letter of March 18 concerning my Department's proposal to allow Repatriation Local Medical Officers in metropolitan areas the discretion to refer eligible patients directly to local ophthalmologists in private practice.

"As you know, my Department introduced arrangements whereby LMOs may refer eligible patients to local specialists on a trial basis in the Sydney metropolitan area as from..."
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February 1. Since that time my Department has monitored these arrangements with a view to identifying any trends or variations in referral patterns throughout the metropolitan area.

“The evaluation of the scheme is proceeding and covers assessment of the impact of the new arrangements on such factors as the Repatriation General Hospitals in total, and some special departments in particular, the economies or otherwise of the new arrangements and the possible overall effect of the standard of care provided to veterans. This is a complex evaluation and will take some time to complete.

“I would draw to your attention that in 1978 my Department introduced arrangements whereby LMOs have the discretion to refer eligible patients to optometrists. This was seen as a progressive step in eye care for veterans.

“However, any extension of the direct referral arrangements to ophthalmologists in other States must await the outcome of the review of the more general arrangements in NSW.

Evan Adermann

ALBANY SUB - BRANCH

The reunion dinner will be held on November, 1, 1980, in the RSL Scout Hall at 6.30 p.m. Price: $18.

The Pilgrimage to Mt. Clarence will be made on November 2, at 2.30 p.m.

A Memorial service will be held at Nurses Rose Gardens, Saturday afternoon at 2.30, November 1.

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Labor Party Policy

The following letter was sent to Federal Opposition Leader Mr. Hayden:

“At the recent meeting of the League’s National Executive some concern was expressed at a statement attributed to you indicating that, if returned to office, your Government would either split the Ministry controlling the Department of Veterans’ Affairs or incorporate it in other joint departments.

“It would be greatly appreciated if we could be informed of your plans for the future of the Department of Veterans’ Affairs under a Labor Government.”

This was the answer:

“Thank you for your letter of April 22, seeking clarification of statements attributed to me concerning the future arrangements for the administration of Veterans’ Affairs under a Labor Government.

“I would hasten to assure you that I have not made any statement to the effect that a Labor Government would split the Ministry controlling the Department of Veterans’ Affairs or incorporate that Department in other joint departments.

“It is the firm policy of a future Labor Government that Veterans’ Affairs should remain under the administration of a single Department specifically charged with that task.

“I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of our correspondence to my colleague Dr. Doug Everingham who, as you are no doubt aware, is the Shadow Minister for Veterans’ Affairs. — BILL HAYDEN MP.”
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Battlefields of Crete Visited

In March a party of West Australians touring the Greek Islands visited Crete. Here they called on Mr. Markos Polyondakis of Rethymnon.

This visit was to greet a man who has made a life interest in cementing war time friendships and honouring the Australian troops who fought in the defence of Crete against the German paratroop invasion at Stairomenos during May 1941 Battle of Rethymnon.

Mr. Polyondakis greeted them with the great warmth and hospitality and took them to the Australia-Greek War Memorial nearby. He was instrumental in having this erected and now maintains it in beautiful condition. The impressive tall column is backed by a fine stone wall and flanked by two Bofors guns in perfect condition. It is located on a rise back from the busy highway in an area where heavy fighting took place.

Souda Bay is not far away and here in a beautiful setting framed by huge Australian River Gums and Pines at the head of the bay is the Australian and Allies War Cemetery. The group called and paid their respects passing along the lines of Australian graves all clearly named, and beautifully maintained. The thought came that but for those who fought here the day would not have been so peaceful, sunny and free.

NOEL BEECK

MBE

Mrs. Dorothy Joan DOWSON, of Mosman Park for services to the Red Cross and to ex-servicemen and women.

Mrs. Dowson joined the Red Cross in 1937 and was presented with the Society’s Distinguished Service Award in 1978. She has been President of the Ex-Servicewomen’s Sub-Branch of the Returned Services League and a member of the State Executive.

PENSION RATES

Substantial increases in the main Repatriation pensions will apply from next November, the Minister for Veterans’ Affairs, Evan Adermann, announced recently.

The increases flow from the 5.0 per cent rise in the Consumer Price Index in the six months to June 30.

Mr. Adermann said the increases would affect more than 494,000 Repatriation pensioners and would cost an estimated $22.3 million in the 1980-81 financial year.

The pensions affected, the increases and the new weekly rates are given as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pension Type</th>
<th>Increases</th>
<th>New Rates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Rate (TPI)</td>
<td>5.85</td>
<td>122.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate Rate</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>84.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Rate (100 percent)</td>
<td>2.20</td>
<td>46.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>War and Defence Widows</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>64.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Pension:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard rate</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>64.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married couple</td>
<td>2.55</td>
<td>53.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The increases will apply from November 13.

Christmas Cheer for Chelsea

Each year, one of the State branches of the RSL in Australia provides Christmas Cheer for the Chelsea Pensioners. This year it is WA's turn.

All arrangements are made by courtesy of the Agent-General for WA in London. It is understood that our Patron, the retiring Governor, Sir Wallace Kyle, has accepted an invitation to be present.

Best wishes and Kind regards

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WELFARE ACTIVITIES
705 Contacts in six months
By Mrs. Beverley Swan

Today, Welfare has become an essential section of the community and certainly the WA Branch of the RSL has shown a steep increase in the number of ex-servicemen and women requesting assistance.

This assistance is not only financial, but that of counselling and the need to talk over personal problems with someone demonstrating empathy and understanding to the particular situation.

Isolation in the community and the home can bring loneliness and depression to all age groups. However, it is the aged who are experiencing difficulties in caring for themselves and maintaining their homes and gardens.

The League now have their own food parcels and the Women’s Auxiliary has responded magnificently to calls for clothes, blankets and other household items.

There are two distinct areas in the RSL where assistance and caring is of the utmost importance.

Firstly, there are the pensioners and, in this category, there is a large and increasing proportion of ex-servicemen and women. With inflation it is becoming more difficult for them to manage on their pension, particularly when a home has not been acquired during the working years and when perhaps he or she has been unemployed or on sickness benefits for some time prior to retirement.

Very often, these days, the aged are still accepting some responsibility for the younger generation, due to unemployment, breakdown of marriages, illness and at times just lack of responsibility which is disturbing to parents.

Secondly, our younger Vietnam veterans face problems of unemployment and health hazards which place a great strain on their marriage and personal relationships - both at home and in their job. This of course, arouses our concern for the wife and children.

Though I, the Welfare Officer, can admire the independence of many of our veterans who refrain from asking for assistance, sometimes it can be easier, for them and the League, if they would come forward and request assistance before the problem becomes insurmountable.

After all, we are a Welfare Organisation and we are here to keep them and their families.

Welfare activities between January 1 and June 30 were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Type</th>
<th>Contacts</th>
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<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
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<td>Aged Fund</td>
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<td>Alcoholics</td>
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<td>British Pension</td>
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<td>Canteen Trust Fund</td>
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<td>Defence Service Homes</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Social Security</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Housing</td>
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<td>Veterans' Affairs General</td>
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<tr>
<td>War Veterans' Home</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pensions</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A TOTAL OF – 705

Approximately 45 percent of the people contacted were 65 years old and over.

Death of man who wrote ‘Yarrawonga’

Neil McBeath, who cheered up the troops in the trenches by writing the song “Yarrawonga” in World War I, died on May 8. He was 83.

“Yarrawonga” was a hit in London in the 1920’s after Ella Shields sang it at the Palladium.

It was one of the three songs played when the Australian team marched on to the MCG at the 1956 Olympic Games.

It has been recorded by Slim Dusty and Brian May. Mr. McBeath’s daughter Emmeline said that the title came from a wounded soldier being carried out of the trenches.

Asked where he was being taken, the soldier said: “I’m going home to Yarrawonga”.

Mr. McBeath’s meeting and ensuing friendship with the Duke of Windsor started in 1924 when he returned to England after some years in Australia with a scale model of Sydney Harbour — the size of two large rooms — to present at the Wembley Exhibition.

“It was judged to be the most outstanding exhibit in the British Empire, and he was personally thanked by King George V,” Mrs. Smith said.

About the time Mr. McBeath met the Duke, he was interested in having a biography written, and coincidentally, Mr. McBeath had an author friend who was equally interested in writing a biography on the Duke.

So Mr. McBeath introduced Hector Bolitho to the Duke and what resulted was “apparently one of the most famous biographies ever done on the Duke”, according to Mrs. Smith.

Keeping up the spirits of the troops was not Mr. McBeath’s only contribution to the war effort. He was chief draughtsman to General Monash, who said that accuracy of Mr. McBeath’s maps was responsible for the success of his battles.

In World War 2, he was the RAAF’s Australian recruitment officer.

His contribution to Australia’s development is acknowledged in the recently-published book “Challenge in the Sky” by Ian Sobra.

Both men were founders of TAA.

Mr. McBeath was the airline’s publicity officer and has left his signature on its display posters.

He also did the copperplate writing on them by hand.

And he organised the first Moomba march.

He is survived by his wife, Emmeline, 80.
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SECRET WARTIME MISSION RECALLED

A secret flight to France in June, 1940, by two RAAF men (possibly the first RAAF casualties of the war), involving General de Gaulle, Winston Churchill, British Intelligence, and a daring attempt to snatch General de Gaulle’s family to safety from rapidly-approaching German Troops, was the background to a ceremony at the Australian War Memorial on Wednesday, June 25.

The story began just before the fall of France, when General de Gaulle appealed to British authorities (Churchill is mentioned as having a hand in the affair) to try to save his wife and family from a village they had reached near Brest, on the far western tip of the north coast of France, almost due south of Plymouth. German motorised troops were expected to reach the village the next day.

On the night of June 17, the British Special Operations Executive arranged for one of their officers to go to France in a Supermarine Walrus amphibian plane piloted by Flight Lieutenant John Napier Bell, with Sergeant Charles William Harris as Air Observer (both of No. 10 Squadron, RAAF, based at RAF Station, Mountbatten, Plymouth) and an RAF corporal.

The instructions were to land the British Intelligence Officer and pick up a spy and De Gaulle’s family. The plane set off before 3 a.m. on June 18, but was not heard of from, and appeared to have disappeared without trace.

A second British Intelligence Officer went to France by motor torpedo boat the next day, but found that the Germans had entered the village, and there was no trace of Mme de Gaulle. (De Gaulle’s family had managed to escape, and arrived safely in England).

It was learned later that the Walrus had crashed in fog at a village near Brest.

In 1977, Flight Lieutenant K.C. Baff, an RAAF Officer on exchange with the Canadian Air Force, began researching the wartime activities of No. 10 Squadron and came across a short reference to the flight. Bell and Harris were the first members of the Squadron killed in action.

BY CHANCE

It was only by chance that an RAAF Squadron was in England at the beginning of the war. RAAF pilots had been sent to England in July, 1939, to collect nine Sunderland Flying-boats which had been ordered by the RAAF. When war was declared in September they were ordered to remain in England.

More RAAF men were sent to England to join them and formed No. 10 Squadron. It became operational in February, 1940, on anti-submarine patrols over the south-western approaches to England, and was also called on to carry out special flights in June, 1940, during British attempts to dissuade France from surrendering.

Flight-Lieutenant Baff spent until early this year seeking details of the Walrus flight and its background. He finally learned enough to reconstruct the story.

In January, 1980 with the help of his Canadian commanding officer, he visited the French village where the Walrus crashed. Villagers said that the plane, in flames, had passed low over their houses and plunged into a field killing all four occupants.

They were buried in the local cemetery, and their graves are well tended and decorated with flowers on special occasions to this day.

PLANE RELICS

Villagers gave Flight Lieutenant Baff some relics of the plane that they had kept all these years, including a piece of engine casing and part of a wing strut. They agreed that these could be sent to the Australian War Memorial.

The relics were formally handed over on 25 June by Sir Richard Kingsland CBE, DFC, Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, a wartime Sunderland pilot, who trained with and was a friend of Flight Lieutenant Bell. Sir Richard was an original member of No. 10 Squadron.

The names of Flight Lieutenant Bell, 24, single, and Sergeant Harris, 32, married, appeared in the first RAAF list of wartime casualties.

Bell was born in Adelaide in 1916 and later moved north to Farina. He became an RAAF cadet in 1935 and was commissioned in 1936.

Harris was born in Collarenebri, northern NSW, in 1908. He lived later in the Sydney area and enlisted in December, 1939.

News from Australian War Memorial

The Victoria Cross and other medals of Warrant Officer Ray Simpson were added to the collection in VC Corner at the end of May, after new security cabinets had been installed. A greatly-expanded “gallantry gallery” is being planned to supersede VC Corner, as so to allow improved display not only of the Victoria Crosses but also other outstanding gallantry awards.

MILITARY MEDAL AND THREE BARS

The unique Military Medal and three Bars awarded to Corporal Ernest Albert Corey, a stretcher-bearer in the 1914-18 War, were donated to the War Memorial on April 24, by Mr. Corey’s son-in-law, Mr. G. Phelps. A total of 180 men have won second bars to the Military Medal, but Corporal Corey was the only man ever to have won a third.

HMAS AUSTRALIA GUN BARREL

An 8in. gun barrel from HMAS Australia was donated by the Ordinance Factory, Bendigo, and arrived on May 6. It will be displayed on a special support in the outside display area. It is an important relic of warships that were built between the two World Wars, as well as a link with the Australia, which had one of the most notable fighting records of any Australian warship, ranging from the 1930’s to the mid-fifties.

DOCUMENTARY ON NEW GUINEA INVASION

The Trustees have agreed to award a grant of $12,000 to Professor G. Daws, Dr. H. Nelson and Mr. A. Pike, of the Australian National University, to assist in the production of a documentary film, “The Invasion of New Guinea”, which will depict the impact of the 1939-45 War on the local people.

Footage shot by official war cameramen showing the native peoples and their relations with Japanese, Australian and American servicemen will be used. This footage, held by the War Memorial, has not been used before by historians or film producers. New filming will show the changes brought by the War, and will include interviews with survivors.

LISTENING POST, SPRING, 1980  PAGE 45
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30th ANNIVERSARY OF KOREAN INVASION

The 30th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War on June 25, 1950 was commemorated at the Australian War Memorial by the laying of a wreath and the opening of an exhibition “Australia in the Korean War - 1950-53”. About 70 people attended, including Korean War veterans, Services representatives and the Charge d’Affaires and the Defence Attaché of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea. The National President of the RSL, Sir William Keys, as President of the Korea and South-East Asia Forces’ Association of Australia, laid a wreath jointly with the Charge d’Affaires, Song Tack Park.

The exhibition was opened by Lt-Gen Sir Thomas Daly, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Memorial. In 1952 Sir Thomas commanded the 28th British Commonwealth Infantry Brigade in Korea.

Items on display include the battle map of the Battle of Kapyong (in which the 3rd Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment, helped to stem the Chinese offensive), weapons and equipment used by both sides, and models of ships and planes which took part.

The exhibition outlines the war in general and tells the story of the three Australian Services in Korea, using material from the Australian official history of the Korean War by Dr. Robert O’Neill. The first volume, “Strategy and Diplomacy”, will be published later this year. Volume 2, “Combat Operations”, is due for publication in mid-1982.

The War Memorial does not have an extensive collection of Korean War relics, and it is hoped that the exhibition will encourage donations from veterans or their relatives.

PLEA TO SAVE HISTORY

The Director of the Australian War Memorial, Noel Flanagan, today reinforced the recent plea by Sydney University historians for people not to throw away or destroy old photographs and documents. It was essential, he said, for these to be preserved properly before they suffered irreparable damage from poor storage or inexpert handling.

"The War Memorial’s interest includes not only war, but also their historical and social context and Australian military history in general,” he said. “However, this does not mean that we want only larger or what might be regarded as ‘more important’ items.

"It is often the small and commonplace that has the most interesting background and adds to our understanding by helping to build a detailed picture of individuals under abnormal circumstances connected with war. The War Memorial is, after all, about people."

The Memorial’s collections include personal possessions donated by thousands of ordinary men and women who fought and worked and suffered the boredom as well as the dangers of war, both at home and overseas. Relics include regimental badges and other items of old uniforms.

The War Memorial is also interested in letters, diaries, photographs (preferably with identifying captions), films and other memorabilia. Copies, either photocopied or typed, are acceptable.

Mr. Flanagan said that the War Memorial, while still seeking material connected with both World Wars, also had great interest in items from earlier and later wars, and in anything relating to the role of women.

HELP THE EDITOR

Only those people who have the task of preparing copy for the printers know how difficult and time-consuming the job becomes when articles have to be heavily sub-edited because of the manner in which they have been sent in.

If it is typewritten, the material submitted should be double-spaced to allow corrections to be made in such a way that the printer can follow them easily. If handwritten, the material should be clear and legible, also double-spaced.

Please note that, following the practice adopted by most newspapers and magazines, the War of 1914-18 is usually referred to simply as the Great War, and the War of 1939-45 is known as the World War. It is not necessary to refer to them as World War 1 and World War 2.

It is also common practice to eliminate the full-stops in the abbreviations for associations, medals, honours and other distinctions etc. Please write, therefore, RSL (not R.S.L.), RAF, RAAF, VC, OBE, MM, MBE, JP and all the others.

This makes printing not only easier and quicker but also cheaper, because it cuts down on both time and space.

KINDRED ASSOCIATION

The League is pleased to add the Merchant Navy War Service Association to its list of Kindred Associations.

The MNWSA was founded earlier this year to serve two main functions:

* Where applicable, to seek aid for all-Allied War Serving Merchant Navy personnel. Their first aim is to secure a service pension for those who served in a theatre of war and have the necessary residential qualifications.

* To encourage its members to join, and take an active interest in, the RSL. In this function we are pleased to say the Association has met with a certain amount of success.

Will any league member wishing to join, or know more about this Association, please contact Mrs J. Antcliffe (Hon Sec) 5 Daly St., South Fremantle, 6162. Phone 335 6579

RAAF Diamond Jubilee

The logo above has been chosen as one of two official designs to be used during the RAAF Diamond Jubilee next year. The other one depicts aircraft past and present.

The former design was done by Mr. Samuel M. on RBAF, a graphic artist at Defence Public Relations, Sydney. The new design was designed by Mr. Hugh Bird, of HQ Support Command. Both designs will be used for Jubilee year promotions.
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CHALLENGE TO RSL

RSL State President Len Phenna said in Geraldton on May 24 that the League was facing its greatest challenge — in connection with its efforts for veterans of the Vietnam conflict and their families.

Addressing the annual reunion dinner of the Geraldton Sub-Branch, he said the League was doing all in its power to ensure that Vietnam veterans were covered for any disabilities caused by their service in Vietnam and that their families and children were also covered.

Mr. Phenna said the League was now 270,000 strong throughout Australia and was getting close to 11,000 in WA, where 12 Sub-Branches had increased their membership by 15 percent during the past year and where five new sub-branches were formed during that period.

He congratulated Geraldton on winning the Collett Cup for the 17th time as the outstanding country Sub-Branch of the year; and the Geraldton Women's Auxiliary for winning the Country Cup for the 18th time as the outstanding country Auxiliary of the year.

During the evening, Mr. Phenna presented the Merv Williams Trophy to Neil Drage, of Northampton, whose Sub-Branch raised the most money for the War Veterans' Home Fund on a membership basis during the past year.

He also presented Certificates of Service to Ernie Gleed and Fred Heath.

Ernie was President for 2½ years until he retired from office this year, he is a Past Senior Vice-president and a committeeman and is also a past President of the Regional War Veterans' Home Committee.

Mr. Phenna described Ernie as a keen and dedicated member of the Sub-Branch, and also thanked Mrs. Gleed and her daughter for their work in the Miss Crowning Glory Quest.

Fred is a former Senior Vice-President and former committeeman, and assisted with fund-raising efforts for the Veterans' Home and Birdwood House. Mr. Phenna also described Fred as a dedicated, loyal and active member, and thanked Mrs. Heath for her support.

Mr. Phenna then announced that at a later date Tom Willis would be presented with a Certificate to mark 50 years of unbroken financial membership of the RSL.

Tom was unable to be present at the reunion dinner. The toast to the State RSL was proposed by Councillor Bill Cunningham, representing the Mayor.

Other toasts included: Geraldton Sub-Branch, by Jeff Carr MLA, reply by Sub-Branch President Graham Till; visitors, by John Troode, reply by Neil Drage; younger members of the Sub-Branch (because of strong support they are giving the Sub-Branch), Air Commodore Dave Hitchins (RTD), reply by Derek Andrews; Women's Auxiliary of WA, by Peter Barden, reply by State Auxiliary President, Mrs. Joy Ford; Outside helpers, by Ron Rake, reply by Dick Brown, and Toastmaster, by John Troode, reply by Mike Driscoll.

"The Ode" was recited by an RSL Life Member Bert Lock, aged 90; liquid refreshments were served by Naval Reserve Cadets from T.S. Morrow; and a special welcome was extended to Miss Peta McConkey, Geraldton's candidate in the Girl of the Golden West Quest. — B.J.B.

Peta Marie McConkey, of 2 Catherine Street, Geraldton, entered the Quest on June 17. She is being sponsored by the Geraldton Sub-Branch and they are working hard on her behalf.

Peta works as a receptionist at the Geraldton Medical Group and recently she was "Top Receptionist" and the most courteous in Geraldton. The Rotary Club of Geraldton made this award and presented it to her.

She won a shield and is being flown to Perth by MMA and will stay a day and a night in Perth by courtesy of the Sheraton Hotel.

Her hobbies and sports are travelling, going to the beach, netball, basketball.

Her fund-raising is going well - cake stalls, a large raffle which will be drawn at the end of September, and dances every two weeks held at Birdwood House.

REMEMBERANCE

Each poppy is a young life's candle in the wind
Each war, blown out too soon - on land, at sea in sky;
Each petal is a single drop of war - split blood
Of those who, forced to fight, were also doomed to die.

Remember them, they went to fight in freedom's name
From factories and shops, from office desk and field;
Their laughter hid an anguished fear, a searing shame,
Lest those who loved and watched them, saw the dread concealed.

Remember them - the lifeless cannot rail at fate;
Remember them - the maimed, the eyes that see no more;
Remember them - the loving hearts made desolate;
Remember them - the children whom they never bore;
Remember them - the anguish of laughter and the pain;
Remember them - or have they fought - and died in vain ?

From an English Magazine
Happy Ending to Mystery of the Wounded Digger

He has seen the photograph dozens of times in films, newspapers and magazines but, until this week, chose not to reveal his identity.

"It brings back too many bad memories for me," Mr. Johnson said yesterday.

"I don't like talking about it much."

The Weekend Australian has solved the 37-year-old mystery of this tragic photo which has, for so many years, epitomised the comradeship of our countrymen at war.

This classic photograph of a bloodied Australian Digger in the jungles of New Guinea captured the stark reality of the battlefields, and is probably the best-known Australian war photograph.

This week The Weekend Australian learned of a happy ending to the mystery of the wounded soldier.

The identity of the "unknown" wounded soldier in a famous photograph from Damien Parer's wartime news films is finally revealed.

He is Mr. William Johnson who, with his wife, Isabel, decided to visit the Australian War Memorial in Canberra on Friday to see the original photograph for the first time.

His identity was drawn to the attention of museum staff, and a 37-year-old mystery came to an end.

Mr. Johnson, of Moe, Victoria, was a 21-year-old private when wounded in the head and arm by a Japanese grenade on July 13, 1943 during the assault on Salamau, New Guinea.

He was being helped through a muddy creek by Sergeant G. Ayre, also of the 58/59th Battalion, when they were filmed by the famous Australian cameraman.

Private Johnson collapsed soon after the picture was taken and had to be carried by stretcher to a military hospital. He was discharged several weeks later.

Queen's Birthday Honours

Among those mentioned in the Queen's Birthday Honours List was Maj. Gen. Sir William Rees-Jones AC, CBE, ED.

At the Battle of Bardia in 1941, the RMO of the 2/2 Fd Regt was Capt. W.D. Rees-Jones and it was during this battle that he won the first of his four mentions-in-despatches. Whilst guarding a wounded Australian officer, he held the staff of an Italian hospital at bay by wielding a rifle like a No. 4 iron.

His war-time OBE was upgraded to a CBE in 1959 and was dubbed in 1966. "Retiring" in 1976 with the rank of Major General, he has never worked harder.

His services to public health were recognised by his being created a Companion of the Order of Australia "for eminent achievement and merit of the highest degree in service to Australia" and "to humanity at large".

Also honoured was Colin Keon-Cohen CMG, OBE who has been a Barrister & Solicitor in the Supreme Court of Victoria since 1933. His war service was with 206 Sqn RAF 1940-42 (Pilot Officer) and with 77 Sqn RAAF (Fit Lt).

He was President of the Victorian State Branch from 1974-79 and has been a member of State Executive since 1946. Colin is also an accomplished pianist.

FRIDAY THE 13th

At 1 p.m. on Friday, February 13, 1942, the good ship "Eastern Prince" eased out of Bombay Harbour outside which 11 other ships were forming up in convoy. The "Australia" then joined as escort. So, 1300 hrs., Friday the 13th, 13 ships in the convoy!

With watches pointed to the sun, the amateur navigators on board agreed that the convoy was heading east, like
towards Bali. Maps “discovered” in the Orderly Room and the Units on board suggested that a headquarters was to be set up in the East Indies.

One morning Jap subs scattered the convoy which headed roughly south, “full ahead” (very).

Three and a bit weeks after leaving Bombay the convoy dropped anchor in Colombo, discharged a case of smallpox, took on victuals and headed for Fremantle, arriving there two years after having left it.

Friday the 13th hasn’t been the same since Feb of ‘42.

AGENT ORANGE

Members of the Vietnam Action Association, including Holt McMillin (president), Bill McMillan (legal advisor) and John Evans (scientific advisor), met members of the National Executive at its June meeting. Fruitful discussions took place which resulted in a special committee being formed.

This committee, comprised of National President, his Deputy, Bruce Ruxton (Vic), Sir William Reihana and the three solicitors, Messrs Lonnie (WA), McMillan (Old), Button, National Solicitor, will meet soon and later brief an extraordinary meeting of National Executive to be held on September 7 on all the ramifications - legal, scientific and medical.

The only subject listed for discussion - Agent Orange.

PILGRIMAGES TO PNG

Back in the olden days, before Independence, pilgrimages to Papua-New Guinea laid wreaths with the Pipes of the PIR playing “Flowers of the Forest” in the background and the bugle sounding “Last Post” and “Reveille” at the appropriate time.

Come progress and Independence, the local secretary cannot longer pick up a phone and request a bugler or an Honour Guard, it must be done officially.

Leaders of proposed groups to PNG are urged to contact State Branch HQ at PO Box 71, Lae Papua New Guinea in plenty of time for them to make the necessary arrangements.

DEFENCE CAPABILITIES

“Our Defences Are Down” is not Ethel Merman’s latest attempt to make the Top 40 but National Executive urging the community to bring pressure to bear on the Government and Opposition alike to strive to achieve a bi-partisan approach to defence and foreign policy issues and to devote a far greater percentage of our resources to building a defence structure that will act as an effective support to our foreign policy and in the ultimate, be capable of defending our national interest.

We must use all the means at our disposal to prevent a repetition of the disastrous policies of appeasement of the thirties that inevitably led to World War II.

ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP

National Executive has approved, in principle, the admittance as ordinary members, those who served with peace-keeping forces. That was the easy bit but no one can provide the commencement and terminating dates of the 20 odd such Forces that have been used since 1946.

The Defence Department in Canberra can provide a few dates but not all, because Australian troops took part in only a few of the peace-keeping forces.

The weekend of some base-grade clerk at UN Headquarters has probably been spoilt in the anticipation of having to wade through records going back to 1946, trying to find the answer.

So keep sending in those applications for membership, they will be dealt with as they are received.

CONTRAVENTION OF I. L. O. RULES

Did you know that the continuation of preference provisions for ex-servicemen contravenes the International Labour Organisation convention? According to the Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs it is an unacceptable form of discrimination.

Yet the Prime Minister expresses the view that there should be no lessening of his Government’s special concern for veterans who served their country.

Someone speaks with forked tongue.

A POLICEMAN’S (PNG) LOT

Native ex-servicemen in Papua-New Guinea look like getting the equivalent of a service pension, in a once only payment but excludes former policemen. Officialdom ignores the fact that during the fighting, five of them won the George Medal, one got a CBE, others got MM and US Bronze Stars.

Sgt. Maj. Yauwiga from the Sepik got a DCM whilst scouting on Bougainville. He lost a hand, one eye and 50 percent sight in the other, in the process.

Sgt. Maj. Awagu won his G.M. at Scarlet Beach near Finseh whilst protecting a wounded officer during the Landing.

Sgt. Mejrie from Port Moresby won his MM the hard way, there is no easy way to win a MM.

Yet people in high places reckon that these old warriors, and hundreds of others, are not ex-servicemen and therefore miss out on the pension payment.

DEFENCE SPENDING

The RSL welcomed the Prime Minister’s tardy announcement that Australia lacks defence preparedness and that the forecast increase from 2.7 to 3 percent of GNP is a step in the right direction.

However, it is still not enough. That this increase in expenditure be upped to 4 percent has been listed for discussion at National Congress to be held in Canberra in September.

E.S.A.S. OFFICE BEARERS

The Ex-servicemen Association of Singapore (ESAS) has advised that their office bearers for 1980-81 are:

President: Major Derrick J. Coupland OBE
Secretary: Wm Russel Solomon

On the committee is Harun bin Abdullah who visited Australia last year and is known in RSL circles.

The ESAS address is:

E6 MacDonald House,
Orchard Road, SINGAPORE. 0923.
(Tel. 361196) The cable address ANIMATO SINGAPORE.

OUR SENSE OF NATIONALISM – DO WE HAVE ONE?

If it was not for “The Sullivans”, young Australia would not be aware that any of our troops played a part in the World War.

Enrol Flynn re-captured Burma on his own, so the movie tells us, Allan Alda etc. are doing their bit in Korea and Bob Hope sings to U.S. troops who must have fought in every theatre of war, except a few like Bardia, Greece, Syria and a few others but do our kids know that the 39th were on the Kokoda Trail whilst 32 US Div were at Beaudesert recovering from that long trans-Pacific cruise?

LISTENING POST, SPRING, 1980  PAGE 51
Instead of a constant diet of Here’s Lucy, Hogan’s Heroes, Gilligan’s Island and other canned programmes of American dominance, how about some Australiana such as Legacy, Youth activities, a bit of nationalism (both in peace as well as wartime) or some other facet of League involvement? Half an hour a week would not be asking too much.

AUSTRALIA’S BI-CENTENARY

A letter has been received from the General Manager of the Australian Bi-Centenary organisation, seeking the League’s co-operation in formulating plans to commemorate the happy event in 1988.

A reply has been sent to Dr. Armstrong indicating that the RSL would support the organisation’s activities in any possible way.

DEFENCE FORCE SERVICE AWARDS

The loss of the traditional military long service awards on the introduction of the National Medal, has been a matter of concern to members of both the Regular and Reserve Forces. The announcement of the introduction of a long service award will be welcomed by all ranks of the Defence Forces.

The League has been actively advocating the restoration of such awards for sometime.

One drawback is the cost incurred in remounting a large group. One member of the RSL recently spent just on $100 in having his group of 11 nicely court-mounted and as the long service award is slightly right of centre of his group, he is wondering whether his new award is worth another $100.

Incentive Award: Colin Porteous, chairman of the Quest Joint Committee, presents Susan Newton with her $500 Incentive Award.

Miss Newton, of Princep Street, Bunbury entered the Girl of the Golden West Quest on January 15 this year.

Susan is sponsored by Torchbearers for Legacy and the Sub-Branch in Bunbury. Their support is a great help and Susan is very grateful.

She had been ill for about six weeks and was still in Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital when Mr. Porteous made the presentation.

Susan has recently conducted a raffle, and thanks to the support of her sponsors and their help while she was in hospital her raffle went well.

The Quest Committee are most appreciative of the continued support given by the Bunbury Branch and are hopeful of a successful inaugural Quest this year.

Pictured is Rhonda Robinson, of Sawyers Valley. Rhonda is 24 years of age and is an entrant in this year’s “Girl of the Golden West” Quest (To Aid Legacy and the War Veterans’ Homes). Rhonda has been sponsored by the Chidlow Mt. Helena sub branch of the R.S.L.

State President Len Phenna presents the League’s prize to the winner, Midshipman M.T. Boast, a member of the No. 108 Pilots’ Course, which graduated in May.
He was president of Cottesloe Sub-Branch from 1971 to 1976, and Publicity Officer for ten years.

He is Immediate Past President of the Swanbourne Bowling Club and currently Treasurer.

Bill was Welfare Officer on the State Branch from 1977 to 1980. He serves on the Defence, Listening Post and Public Relations, Repatriation Committees.

Ron Robinson, a new member of the State Executive, is ex-RAAF and ex-AIF. He was connected with the high school cadets in the 1950s and 1960s.

Ron is retired and is currently Secretary of Mt. Hawthorn Sub-Branch and serves on the membership, Welfare, Functions and AD HOC Committees of the State branch.

He has been a member of the RSL since 1946, with a break in the 1950s, and has belonged to Mt. Hawthorn, Scarborough, Northam, Bunbury, Murray, Corrigin, York and Moore Sub-Branches during his working years.

Photo Courtesy South West Times.

Ron Robinson is a new member of the State Executive, having been elected after State Congress in May. He is ex-AIF, and has been a member of the RSL since 1968.

W.B. (Bill) Melvin is a new member of State Executive, having been elected after State Congress in May. He is ex-AIF, and has been a member of the RSL since 1968.

LINHAM, H. 17257 RAAF, Gosnells
LYNCH, D.B. 126844 RAAF, Wembley
MATSEN, V.O. 3377 RAN. Bicton-Palmyra
MITCHELL, F.R. 436086 RAAF Claremont
MEALL, R.J. 3539 44th Bn. Albany
OXENHAM, J. 3540 16th Bn. Como
O'SULLIVAN, A.L. WX1214 2/1 RAE. Mt. Hawthorn
PELL, A.J. 14564 2 L.H. F.A. Albany
PHEASE, J.W. WX14812 2/16 Bn. Collie
PRICE, F.H. WX29037 11 Div. Sigs. Mt. Hawthorn
ROBERTS, E.G. 16372 RAAF. South Perth
RYAN, D. Mc. 3233 10 L.H. Perth
RYAN, W.G. WX8251 2/16 Bn. Gloucester Park
SMITH, A.E. WX39509 381 Aust.
STONEMAN, C.E. 30468 8 T.N.B. West Perth
TAYLOR, J.A. WX4986 2/4 M.G. Bn. Canning
THOMPSON, K.W.G. WX11491 2/43 Bn. Albany
VINCENT, A.J. WX28736 110 A.G.H. Mandurah
VQST, J. WX19214 Amb. Corps. M.T.T.
WAKEFIELD, E.B. WX6614 7th Aust. Div. N.E. Fremantle
WESTON, L.E. WX27500 2/28 Dw. Midland Junc.

May, 1980
ALDERSEA J.M. WX17284 5th Lt. F.D. AMB. Boulder
BAGSHAW A.E. F3486 R.A.N. Mt. Lawley
BARBER G.S. WX3168 2/28th Cannng
BICKFORD V.T. WX25519 RAAF, Maylands.

LISTENING POST, SPRING, 1980 PAGE 53
ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICEMEN

460 SQUADRON RAADF ASSOC. (W.A.)

GALLIPOLI LEGION OF ANZACS
Meets in the Visitors Room, Anzac House, on the third Tuesday of the months of February, May, August and December, at 2.15 pm. Secretary: G.D. Shaw, 4/66 Broadway Nedlands; 6009. Treasurer: J. Anderson, P.O. Box 164, Claremont, 6010.

16TH BATTALION AND 4TH BRIGADE ASSOCIATION
Committee meets first Monday at 2pm at PBS, 95 William Street, President: C. Sladdon, 69A Henry St East Cannington. Tel. 458 5573. Secretary: H. Ganson, 11 Fothergill St, Fremantle. Tel. 335 2458, Women's Auxiliary meets same time same place.

2/16TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION

44TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION
Meets on Wednesdays. Secretary: Roy Collins, 134 Rosebery St, Bedford (271 4448).

EX-POW ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: T.W. Scott, 250 Corinthian Rd, Riverton, Secretary: W.H.P. Hood, 93 Guildford Rd, Mt. Lawley, 6050. Tel. 271 5245, Meetings 1st Wednesday each month in Visitors Room, Anzac House, Perth.

2/4TH M.G. BATTALION AIF ASSOCIATION
President: E.W. Wallin, 69 Constance St, Nollamara, 6061. Tel. 349 1409. Secretary: C.J. McPherson, 34 Harold St, Dianella 6062. Tel: 276 2313. Treasurer: R.D. Hampson, 7 View St, Dianella 6062, Tel. 276 9715, Meetings Anzac House 3rd Tues E/M 8pm.

THIRTY-NINERS ASSOCIATION
Meets Anzac House Bi-Monthly, on the 4th Wed. Further information contact either J.P. Hall, President, 173 The Esplanade, Mt. Pleasant. Tel. 384 7776; Secretary, V.B. Monti 115 Douglas Ave, 5th, Perth. Tel. 367 6053; Treasurer, J.P. Hall, 173 The Esplanade, Mt. Pleasant. Tel. 367 7776.

11TH & 2/11TH AIF BNS ASSOCIATION
President: W.T. Scott, 250 Corinthian Rd, Riverton. Tel. 457 4902 or 335 4311. Secretary: C. Wragg, 18 Hubert Rd, Maylands. 6051. Tel. 271 3423. Committee meets 3rd Wednesday every month Anzac Club. (4 Sherwood Ctr) Annual Reunion to be advised.

WILSON, C.J. 2984, 5th M.G. BN, Central
WILSON, T.D.L. 235132 RPC Central
WOOD, H.E. 2021, 51st BN, Nollamara North Perth
WOODS, J.A. WX5172, 2/16th BN, Perth
XAVIER, J.W. 1546 R.Eng. Burma Aux, Belmont

MIDDLE EAST VAD ASSOCIATION WA
President: Mrs. L. Cody, 138a Karrinyup Rd, Karrinyup. 6018, Secretary: Mrs. Peg Payne, 11 Hurlingham Road, South Perth 6151. Tel. 367 1305. Meetings as called. Annual Reunion nearest Saturday to November 23.

RAE ASSOCIATION
Meets 2nd Sunday March, June, September and November at WACA ground. Secretary: T.R. Beard. Tel. 450 3951.

10TH LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION AIF
Meets Fourth Friday in March, August and November at 2.00 pm Anzac Club. President: R. Gaborn, F1ot 10, W.V.H. 51 Alexander Drive, Mt. Lawley. Tel. 271 7049. Secretary & Treasurer: R.W. Byrne, 2 Birdwood Rd, Melville, 6156. Tel. 330 2595; Jack Syme, 28 Marquis St, Bentley. Tel. 4582846.

48TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION
President: D. MacLean, 75 RiveryTerrace, Mt. Pleasant, 6153, Tel. 364 1153. Secretary: S.G. Power, 113b "Wandana" Subiaco, 6008. Tel. 381 6208 Asst and Soc Secretary: J.H. Eason, 5 Lanark St, Mt. Lawley 6060. Tel. 271 2929. Meetings held imperial Hotel, Wellington St, Perth when called.

2/28TH BATTALION – 24TH ANTI-TANK COY
President: F.J. Moss, 16 Oxcliffe St, Doubleble 6018. Tel. 446 1560. Annual Reunion Show Week. Secretary: W.A. Carlton 190 Coode St, Como 6152. Tel. 367 4016.

LIMBLESS SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION
(“Wingies and Stumpies”), President: E.P. (Pat) Ogders. Secretary: C.C. Brown, Room 36, 1095 Hay St, West Perth. Tel. 321 5888. Meetings first Thursday each month except January.

28TH BATTALION AIF ASSOCIATION
Meets Anzac Club (Visitors Room) Meetings 2.00 p.m. President E. Waller 27 Beagle St, Mosman Pk. 6012, Secretary R.T. Boyes, 84 ‘Crossleigh’ 31 Williams Rd, Hollywood, 6009. 386 7022.

NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC. (WA SECTION) CITY OF PERTH SUB-SECTION
Meets fourth Tuesday of each month. No. 4 Brisbane Place, Perth. President: B. Edmondson, Tel. 322 1671; Past President J. Wallace Tel. 387 4528; vice presidents: V. Gibson Tel. 364 4277; K. Nordahl Tel. 367 3102; G. Ramsay Tel. 361 1930 Secretary Roy Ward Tel. 271 2451.

NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WESTERN AUSTRALIAN SECTION) INC. STATE COUNCIL
State President: F. Metcalfe, JP, 2402 Albany Hwy, Gosnells. Tel. 398 2340. State Secretary: W.J. Skinner, 28 Wilberforce St, North Beach. Tel. 447 3148 or 444 5611.

WRAAC ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: Mrs. Nancy Carison, 24 Iveston Rd, Lynwood, 6155. Tel. 457 3984. Secretary: Mrs. T. Leedham, 2 Adelina Crt, Kelmscott. Tel. 390 7551.
"Z" SPECIAL FORCE ASSOCIATION OF WA
Meetings as arranged. Secretary: B. Wakeford, 875 Beaumont St, Inglewood, 6052. Phone 271 3802. Liaison Officer, E.W. Dubberlin, 17 Hotham St, Meltham, 6053. Phone 271 1406.

1940 DUNKIRK VETERANS ASSOCIATION
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH
Meetings first Tuesday each month at Anzac House, 7.30 pm. Secretary: E.R. Benesh, 54 Moira Ave, Forrestfield. Tel. 453 9966.

PARTIALLY BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA * WA BRANCH INC.
General meetings held at Anzac House, 4 Sherwood Court, Perth at 2pm first Monday each month, except January. President: W.H. Grant, B.E.M., C.D., Tel. 367 4471. Secretary: D.J. Symes, 15 Siddeley Place, Dianella. Tel. 276 9950.

2/32ND BATTALION ASSOCIATION (WA)

FEDERATION TB SAILORS, SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN'S ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
2nd Floor, Wellington Building, 158 William St, Perth, last Monday, President: Ian Fraser. Tel. 444 7469. Secretary: R. Ross. Tel. 321 5086.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOC. (WA)
Meetings third Monday at Anzac House at 8pm. President: Peter Kemmis, 697 Hay St, Wembley 6014. Tel. 381 3348 Secretary: John Quinn, 23 Douglas Ave, Mt. Yokine. 6060. Tel. 349 1374.

51ST BATTALION AIF ASSOCIATION
President: H. Bowra, "7" Highland Rd, Nth. Perth. Tel. 444 2585. Secretary: G.K. Barron-Hay, 24 Stanley St, Nedlands 386 1554. Committee meetings held quarterly at 4 Sherwood Court (RSL H.Q.) 2 p.m. on Monday, 1st December, 1980.

BRITISH EX-SERVICES ASSOCIATION (INC)

GUILD OF SIGNAL UNITS ASSOCIATION IN W.A.
Meetings second each month at 8.00pm Lord St, Drill Hall, Perth. President: Doug Harvey, 150 Lansdown Rd, Kensington, 6151. Tel. 367 4339. Secretary: Dick Koch, 42 Parkside Ave, Mt. Pleasant 9653. Tel. 364 4828.

KOREA & SOUTH EAST ASIA FORCES ASSOCIATION OF WA BRANCH
Meetings second Monday in January, April and July at T/Anzac House, 4 Sherwood Court, Perth. Members notified by mail of October A.G.M. State President, Mr. Jack Gerke, 1 Gerald St, Como, 6152. State Secretary: M. Caddell, 53 Wicca St, Kewdale, 6106. Tel. 277 3681. Executive Committee meets when required.

TOTA LLY & PERMANENTLY DISABLED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION
- TPI Memorial House, 88 Colin St, West Perth 6006. Tel. 321 5457. President: P.G. Maley. Tel. 349 4530. Secretary: J.H. Smart, Tel. 460 5056. General Meetings, monthly second Tuesday at 1.30 pm.

REGULAR DEFENCE FORCES WELFARE ASSOCIATION
(WA BRANCH)
For all enquiries contact President: W/Cmdr. D.T. Coughlin, 114 Empire Avenue, Wembley Downs 341 2383, or Secretary Lieutenant E.V. Lunn-Garnier, R.A. Davies Crescent, Kalamunda. Phone 293 1409.

RATS OF TOBRUK ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: J. Lethean, 208 McDonald St, Joondanna. 6060. Tel. 444 3431. Secretary: E.L. Holmes, 46 Gregory St, Wembley. 6014. Tel. 381 1024. The committee meets 2nd Tuesday each month.

SUBMARINE OLD CAMRADES ASSOCIATION
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
President: Mr. C. Costeur, 107 Gildercliff St, Scarborough, 6019. Secretary: Mr. J.W. Appleton, 9 Thorley Way, Lockridge 6054. Tel. 279 1638. Meets in Anzac House, second Saturday of every month, 8pm (December excepted).

POLISH EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION,
SUB-BRANCH NO. 9
President: George Redziejowski MC Tel. 361 6294. Hon. Secretary: S. Zalewski Tel. 274 2303. All correspondence to: P.O. Box J692 GPO, Perth, WA 6001.

FLEET AIR ARM ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (INC)
Meets at Riverton Sub-branch RSL Hall, High Road, Riverton. Second Wednesday each month. 8pm. Secretary: N.E.F. Roper, Private Flat, 95 William St, Perth. 321 5676.

ROYAL AIR FORCES ASSOCIATION
(BRANCH 1210 WA)
President: Adrian Bell, 158 Nollamara Avenue, Nollamara 6060. Tel. 349 1446. Secretary: Audrey Brown. Meetings fortnightly, Tuesday nights at 8pm. 131 James St, Guildford, WA. Dances held every Saturday night. Bingo Thursday nights.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
Meets 2nd Wednesday every month (excepting January). Cameron Barracks, Canning Highway, Victoria Park, President W. Smith. Tel. 407 5430. Secretary: K. Trent Tel. 367 7794. All correspondence to Cameron Barracks.

GUARDS ASSOCIATION OF W.A. (INC)
Meets in Visitors Room, Anzac House, on third Tuesday each month at 8.00pm. President: Mr. D. Cross. Tel. 2763495. Secretary Mr. T.W. (Bill) Scott. Tel. 457 4902.

Z SPECIAL FORCE

AUSTRALIAN LEGION OF EX-SERVICEMEN & WOMEN
(INC) W.A. BRANCH
State President: Mr. J.T. Bastow, 120 Lawrence St, Bedford. Tel. 271 8509. State Secretary: Mrs. E.A. Bastow, 120 Lawrence St, Bedford. 271 8509. Details of Sub-branch Meetings, please phone 339 1470.

NETHERLANDS EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
OF AUSTRALIA
President, J.B.C.P.M. Desertine, 61 Milton St, Yokine. Tel. 444 2167. Secretary: J.D. Van Der Moezel, 31 Jackson Ave, Karrinyup, Tel. 341 1798. Meets 4th Wednesday e/m Druids Hall 8pm. All correspondence to Box 87 P.O. Wembley 6014.

PEGASUS ASSOCIATION OF W.A.
(Ex Paratroopers, Glider Pilots, and Airborne Forces)
For details of meetings and social events, contact the President J. Mail, 139 Howes Crescent, Dianella Tel. 276 6721 or Secretary: P. Toomer, 40 Jervois St, Dianella Tel. 276 8545.

2/2ND COMMANDO ASSOCIATION
Meetings 1st Tuesday e/m Anzac Club 8pm. President: Mr. Gerry McKenzie, Alfreda Ave, Morley. Secretary: A. Wares, 16 Waverley St, Dianella Tel. 276 4304.
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