Background To League Defence Stand

On February 20 the R.S.L. National Executive submitted to Defence Minister Paul Hasluck a document of defence submissions based on decisions made at National Congress last October.

The League case, published in full in this issue (see Page 8), was prepared by the National Defence sub-committee and endorsed by National Executive at its February meeting.

In a foreword to the document National President A. J. Lee says:

In the opinion of the R.S.L. Australia must make a much greater contribution to her own defence and to the collective security of the free world.

It seems quite clear from a study of all the relevant facts that an increase in the manpower component of the armed forces, and particularly the Army, is the most urgent requirement facing Australia.

Unless the present recruiting campaign can produce a spectacular rise in the numbers available for the Defence Forces it seems clear that some other system will have to be examined.

The Emphasis

It is for this reason that the R.S.L. has placed so much emphasis on the re-introduction of a scheme of National Service.

The League has been criticised most strongly in many places for its policies on defence. We have been accused of being militaristic and even war-mongering. However, the policy now being enunciated is the policy advocated by the League over many years. It will be remembered that in the 1930’s the R.S.L. was the strongest voice crying out for national preparedness.

This appeal grew stronger as it became more and more apparent that Hitler’s aim was world domination.

Not until the outbreak of the 1939-45 war was the League’s warning voice fully appreciated.

New Threat

Yet compared with this period the international situation now presents an even greater threat to Australia’s safety. In world Communism we have a powerful and fanatical enemy dedicated to world domination. In many areas we have explosive situations that could erupt into large-scale conflict.

Australia itself is situated in a most unstable and highly volatile part of the world. Both the lessons of history and our own sober calculations of the circumstances existing in the world today demand that we should be fully prepared for any emergency.

To this end and in support of this objective the League has, and fully committed by decision of its National Congress.

These decisions, representing the considered views of every State Branch in Australia and New Guinea, are set out in the document.


Nation-wide Response To Disaster Appeal

Pictured above is one of many letters that have arrived at Anzac House in response to the League’s Naval Disaster Appeal launched on February 11—the day after the tragic loss of H.M.A.S. Voyager.

Contributions to the nation-wide appeal had by February 21 reached a total of over £20,000, and over £3,000 has now been subscribed in this State.

The money is to be used to assist those suffering as a result of the disaster.

The appeal is still open and contributions should be addressed to the R.S.L. State Secretary, Anzac House, Perth.

At this month’s State Executive meeting Mr. Lonnie expressed his admiration for the prompt and whole-hearted manner in which the State appeal had been organised at Anzac House during his absence in Canberra for the National Executive. He had been amazed at the scene which met his eye on his return, and the “ring and give” appeal conducted by courtesy of TV Channel 7 had already brought in promises of £1,400.

Mr. Lonnie said he visualised a final Australian figure of £30,000 with a State contribution of perhaps £4,000.

Keep Strength and Service as the core by wearing the Badge in ’64
Divisional Leader Here Recently

Recently in Perth was Major-General J. S. Andersen, C.B.E., commander of the Australian Army's major fighting formation, the 1st Pentecost Division.

It was his first official visit and in his two days here he visited the 1st Special Air Service Company at Swanbourne and later watched S.A.S. troops undergoing commando training at Colli.

Born in 1912 at Samarai (Papua), Major-General Andersen attended Brisbane Church of England Grammar School and graduated from the Royal Military College, Duntroon, in December 1935.

After regimental duty with artillery units he was posted to India for further training.

On return to Australia he was adjutant of the 2nd Field Regiment at Hobart (Tasmania). At the outbreak of the World War he was an artillery instructor at the Southern Command Training School, Victoria.

During service with the 2nd Field Regiment he served with the 2/1st Field Regiment in Libya and Greece and was brigade major, Royal Artillery, 8th Division in Syria.

In 1942 he served with the New Guinea Force. He was awarded the O.R.E. for his staff work and subsequently commanded a Royal Artillery battery in the 8th Division.

In 1944 he commanded the 4th Field Regiment on Bougainville and at the end of the war was Assistant-Adjutant and Quartermaster-General, 1st Australian Division, at Rabaul.

Major-General Andersen for three years from 1947 was commander of the School of Artillery. In May, 1949, he was appointed colonel of General Staff, Eastern Command Headquarters, followed by an appointment as brigadier in charge of administration at the same headquarters, Victoria Barracks.

His next appointment was that of commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade Group until December, 1959, when he became Deputy-Adjutant-General at Army Headquarters.

In June, 1962, he became chief of staff, Eastern Command headquart'es. He was awarded the C.B.E. in 1960.

He was promoted major-general on December 1, 1962, on taking command of the Army's field force, the 1st Pentecost Division.

Help Sought

The Citizens Advice Bureau is conducting a street appeal on Friday, April 10, to raise funds for its great work of the past 12 months.

In the bureau is run a small body of voluntary workers and it would be most grateful for any help you could give. The appeal for five or more hours either in the city or suburbs.

Wishing to collect are asked to communicate with the bureau's office at 238 Hay Street, Perth (23 4507), stating the time and place desired.

Unsolicited Thanks

The State Secretary recently received from an ex-serviceman a letter in the following terms:

Dear Sir, I know you get letters from members who have a grouch to get off their minds. So I feel you deserve to get one telling you on the back, too.

Recently I was confronted with a problem large enough for me to turn to the League for a possible solution.

Although it was an unsolicited one I would like to express in writing my appreciation of the effort put in by you personally and others. Thank you for your prompt action which averted the break-up of my home.

Many new sub and attendance at meetings seem more than ever worthwhile now.

Yours sincerely.

"Ex-PM 4533."

Message For Newcomers

It was being arranged by national headquarters for an officer at Australia House, London, to distribute League pamphlets and other literature to the point of embarkation, Mr Lonne told the State Executive this month.

He said this had been announced at the National Executive meeting he had attended in Canberra recently.

At the January meeting of the State Executive Mr Clay and Mr Chell had asked if anything were being done to contact migrants on their arrival in this State.

The State President then replied that arrangements had been made with the Bicton-Palmyra sub-branch to visit the P.t. Walter migrant hostel, but that he felt that more impact might be made through contact either before or after the voyage out.

He undertook to explore the possibility of some such arrangement.
MARCH 1964
The Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance.

MARK THIS!

THE PRESENT month of March is the one in which the League takes stock of the progress that has been made in membership for the year. By the end of the month one quarter of 1964 will have passed and sub-branches should have obtained worthwhile results in a drive to establish a sound membership throughout the State.

THE LEAGUE must increase its membership in order to retain its vitality and drive for the works and responsibilities which lie ahead.

LET EVERY member become a "one-man membership committee" and help in strengthening our membership force. Without a virile membership the League cannot continue to play its part in this great country of ours. In every district there will be found ex-sericemen who, through mere thoughtlessness, have neglected to renew their subscription.

The personal approach works wonders. Try it!

Canning's Good Year

President Hambly's annual report to the Canning sub-branch told of another successful year.

Anzac Day had led the year off to a good start. Membership was good but left room for improvement.

The response from members at the Street Appeal and on Poppy Day had been good and there had been a successful Melbourne Cup sweep and a splendid annual reunion.

The sum of £60 contributed by members to the Voyager appeal had been of no mean effort for this sub-branch.

Tribute was paid in the report to treasurer Tom Larsen for his excellent auditor's report, to secretary Eric Holmes and to members who had rendered special service during the year.

The following officers were elected: President "Blue" Hambly; vice-presidents, Peter Brown and Ron Duce; honorary secretary, Eric Holmes; treasurer, Tom Larsen.

Many new projects are being planned for this year and members are requested to attend monthly meetings—third Wednesday each month.

Goods Wanted for Jumble Sale

Saleable articles of all kinds are required for a Jumble Sale to be conducted by the League and the Women's Auxiliary at Anzac House on Friday, May 29 (starting at 9 a.m.).

Would donors phone Anzac House (23 2771) to arrange for pick-up of goods.

CAPITATION RETURNS: As from the April issue of "The Listening Post" sub-branches which have not rendered a monthly capitation return will be listed showing the date of the last return received by head office.

THE MEANS TEST BARRIER FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT

A League approach to the Government for liberalisation of the means test governing eligibility for the Pensioner Medical Service has brought a reply from Health Minister Wade.

The approach was based on a National Congress resolution worded:

That the Commonwealth Minister for Health be asked to amend the means test governing the issue of entitlement cards under the Pensioner Medical Service scheme so as to remove the pensionable income to the amount allowed under the means test which governs the rates of the service and service pensions.

The reply was as follows:

I refer again to your letter of December 2, 1965, addressed to me on behalf of the National Council, and to your League requesting that consideration be given to extending the income limits applying in respect of eligibility for the benefits of the Pensioner Medical Service.

The Pensioner Medical Service was introduced to provide a free medical service for persons who qualify for a pension and to extend the facilities of the medical service to persons in indifferent circumstances. At the time this service was introduced persons who qualified for a pension were regarded as coming within its provisions.

One of the conditions of the original arrangement for the provision of a free medical service for pensioners was that if the means tests applying to pensions were liberalised or abolished, the question of a pensioner's eligibility to receive the benefit of the medical service would be reviewed.

On several occasions after the service commenced in February, 1951, the pension means tests were eased and pensioners' limits were increased and it became increasingly evident that pensioners were being admitted to the service who, by their means, could not be regarded as coming within the group of indigent pensioners from whom the service was originally intended.

In fact the position was reached when it was possible for married pensioner couples who were eligible for the Pensioner Medical Service to have incomes approaching, or in excess of, those received by basic wage earners and others for whom a medical service could not be provided.

At this stage it became necessary, in order to continue the service, for the provision of the service to introduce a means test in respect of eligibility for the benefits of the Pensioner Medical Service.

As you are aware the effect of the means test which was introduced in November 1955, was to restrict eligibility for inclusion in the Pensioner Medical Service after that date to those pensioners who would have received the full-rate pension after the respective means tests operating at December 31, 1955, had been applied.

Persons who were already enrolled at October 31, 1965, were not affected by the new provisions. At December 31, 1963, the maximum permissible income for the purposes of the Social Services Pensioners' Means Test was £10 per annum, which remained as the limit for Pensioner Medical Service purposes.

The Pensioner Medical Service means test has regard only to the amount of income received by the pensioner or pensioner couple, apart from the qualifying pension.

Over the last ten years the means tests pensions have been relaxed and the rates of pension increased considerably. With this in mind the Commonwealth has been given earnest consideration to the revaluation of the means test.

However, although reviews of the Pensioner Medical Service means test have been made and will continue to be made, for the reasons already mentioned above, it has not been found possible to extend the service to include pensioners and their dependents whose income is in excess of the present limits.

REUNION OF EX-P.O.W.

A meeting of the 1963 Ex-P.O.W. Reunion Committee held at Anzac House on February 24 was poorly attended, considering that all units had been notified and only one apology was received.

Despite the fact that while good groundwork has been done—and Eastern States interest aroused—it cannot be undertaken without positive support from all units.

Another meeting was arranged for March 10, when it was hoped to discuss a proposed itinerary for the reunion of local unit delegates.

A letter has been received from the 2/40th Battalion Association in Tasmania asking for details and stating that a number of members had signified their intention of visiting Perth for the reunion.

Red Cross Role In Cyprus

Following recent disturbing events in Cyprus the Ex-P.O.W. Reunion Committee of Red Cross sent two delegates to give protection and assistance to individuals who might suffer as a result of the conflict.

A training bureau was set up to obtain from all parties concerned in the conflict the application of the Geneva Convention and of the humanitarian rules of the Red Cross.

USE BOX NUMBER FOR BUSSELTON

Correspondence for the Busselton sub-branch should be addressed to Mrs. K. O. Davis, P.O. Box 294, Busselton.
ANZAC CLUB

LEAGUE MEMBERS

Patronise your own Anzac Club—First class amenities

- Excellent Snack Bar
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- Excellent Snack Bar
- Friendly Service
- Best Beer in Perth

LOWEST PRICES

Anticipated your own Anzac Club—First class amenities

- Excellent Snack Bar
- Friendly Service
- Best Beer in Perth

Bunbury Is Making An All-Out Effort

With its annual general meeting over, the Bunbury sub-branch is now concentrating on an all-out effort to improve on its 1969 activities.

The great strides made in welding this sub-branch into a solid organisation which can now offer members and their families something in return for the help and interest displayed is noteworthy.

This refers to the pleasing efforts of all those people who have built up the sub-branch's social activities and have brought together many members and their friends to demonstrate the real meaning of comradeship.

It was not until this past June that the sub-branch of this committee became active. This year it has started as an organised body, which should ensure even greater success than that achieved in the past.

NEWCOMERS

This year's committee of management includes two newcomers, both with wide experience and proved organisational abilities. Charlie Hickmott came to Bunbury from Yealering and quite recently was accompanied by vice-president Keith Griffin and secretary Harold Birch when they arrived in Bunbury for a reunion and social evening arranged by the Yealering sub-branch to receive a presentation for his long service and good work in that area.

Already well known in Bunbury, Charlie should have little difficulty in fitting into the task.

The other new member is Phil Owens.

Phil has worked until recently in the Scout movement for many years.

Social committee chairman Doug Mills has been elected to the post of vice-president, a well-deserved honour. He is full of enthusiasm and is proud of the achievements and objects of the League.

The sub-branch endorses the ex-Dart World Champion Ted Shorty Battams as memorial warden for 1964 reflects the efforts of the sub-committee and later vice-president ''.Shorty'' has proved his reliability. Preparations for Anzac Day are well advanced and involve a few modifications. A choir of 100 Bunbury High School girls will lead the singing.

Brigadier Hugh Norman will inspect C.I.F. and cadet units at the drill hails prior to the parade, and will take the salute at the march-past.

The Bunbury City Band will take part in the ceremony.

A committee has been appointed to draw up plans for extensions to the sub-branch premises and is losing close attention to the question of an attractive front. This project is one which concerns all members.

For eligible ex-service men who have not yet joined up now is the time. Every new member gained will assist the sub-branch on its way to the top.

FIELDS FUND IS INTACT

A recent statement in these columns that the Goldfields patriotic fund for World War Diggers was diminishing is denied in a recent letter from the Kalgoorlie and Boulder Districts Repatriation Local Committee, which reads:

It is not that the comments of Sir Richard Meere on the activities of this committee are incorrectly shown on Page 4 of the December issue of "The Listening Post." The amount of money made from the committee's sale to June 30, was $178,121 and of this amount $150,978 has been repaid.

The granting of new loans is made possible by the steady repayment of the amount outstanding. The amount owing to the committee as at June 30 was in excess of $25,000.

The fund is not decreasing in size, as although the rate of interest charged on these loans is very high it is adequate to offset all administration expenses.

NEW GUARDS CHAPEL

AFTER LONG WAIT

An item of interest to many ex-Guardsmen concerns the new Guards chapel at Wellington Barracks, London, which replaces the one largely destroyed by bombing during the World War.

The new chapel has been completed at a cost of $190,000.

Memories of a catastrophe once shrouded in the secrecy of war were recalled at the recent dedication service conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

No word could be printed then on April 4, 1944 on Waterloo Day, a date famous in the annals of the brigade, one of the first German flying-bomb attacks but demolished not only the original chapel of 1838 and left 121 members of the brigade and their families dead or dying in the ruins.

Field Marshal Smuts, a visitor to London, took the oath to the 24th Guards Brigade premises with the Sixth South African Armoured Division in Italy.

Their South African and Rhodesian comrades promptly raised a subscription for the restoration and the fine new bronze doors testify to this fraternal gesture.

His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, who had returned from America only four hours earlier, read the lesson at the service which was attended by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, His Royal Highness Prince Charles and Admiral of the Fleet Lord Mountbatten of Burma.

Field Marshals Lord Harding, Sir Gerald Tempest and Earl Alexander of Tunis were among those at the service in the white-walled chapel.
Finding Jobs For Tradesmen Who Leave The Services

The League was recently assured by Army Minister Dr Forbes that active steps were being taken departmentally to assist the placing of these service tradesmen returning to civilian life.

Very close liaison is maintained by my department with trade unions, through the Department of Labor and National Service.

The reasons for this are twofold. First is the welfare of the men themselves, as it is considered most important that on discharge they be properly rehabilitated into civil life. The second reason is that this liaison definitely assists in directing the extent to which it is possible to assure intending recruits that on successful completion of their civilian training they will, on discharge, be able to obtain employment as qualified tradesmen.

The Army trains its younger tradesmen (apprentices) at the Army Apprentice School at Ballaarat, in Victoria. Army-trained apprentices are automatically recognised as fully qualified tradesmen upon successful completion of their Army trade apprenticeship.

The older service-trained tradesmen are trained within units or at courses given by schools of instruction.

The instrument for the recognition of Army-trained adults is the Tradesmen's Rights Regulation Act. The final acceptance of this Act required considerable discussion.

A Little-known Service

The Red Cross welfare service is a sector of the Red Cross which receives little publicity owing to the confidential nature of its work. But hundreds of needy citizens are helped every year.

The Red Cross is frequently called upon—by Repatriation and other Government departments—for help for people in distress.

You can support this work by contributing to the Red Cross Jubilee Appeal.

Australia Day Proposal At Geraldton

The Geraldton sub-branch considers that Australia Day observances should be held throughout Western Australia. A meeting was held in a hotel at Geraldton, attended by members of the sub-branch. It was suggested that the first Friday in January each year should be set aside to commemorate the landing of the first European, Captain William Dampier, in Western Australia. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Sub-branch Committee, including the acting president, Mr A. J. Christensen, and the secretary, Mr A. E. Smith.

Death Puts End To His Plans

Mrs J. A. Henderson, of 207 William-street, East Fremantle, has written as follows:

"Just to inform you that my husband, J. A. Henderson, who died in Dunvegan, Scotland, on December 6 was buried there on December 12. It was a heart attack. He was 68 years old and had been a member of the club for over 20 years."

The sub-branch committee was asked at the February meeting to give consideration to the proposal for a memorial service on Australia Day.

Paying The Fares Of Next-of-kin

It has been a Reprisal Commission policy since 1922 to pay fares and other travelling expenses for the next-of-kin on visits to repatriation hospitals.

The commission chairman, Brigadier F. O. Chilton, said this recently in reply to a League appeal for amendment of the departmental regulations to provide for such payments.

He told the Brigadier that for the year 1954 he had been made to ensure that the sacred traditions of Anzac Day were upholding the solid support given over the year just concluded.

President Frank Gommie's typically forthright report appealed to all to maintain the tradition of the solid support given over the year just concluded. After junior vice-president Charles Chopping had declared Frank Gommie duly re-elected, he expressed the hope that the solid support given over the year just concluded would be maintained. Light refreshments would be available at the clubrooms at the conclusion of the march.
New Aimer To Keep Guns On Target

An automatic gun-pointing device that will keep tank-mounted guns on target, even though both target and tank are moving, is being developed in the United States by Goodyear Aerospace Corporation.

A working model of this device will be designed and constructed under contract to the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive Centre, Detroit Arsenal, and under administration of the Cleveland Ordnance District.

Basic theory for the device, which will now be applied to the working model, was developed and laboratory-tested by Goodyear Aerospace under a previous contract.

It involves use of an image-matcher system to direct movement of the gun. Once the tank gunner has pinpointed his target the control system takes over, "locking on" to the image and tracking it regardless of any subsequent movement of either target or tank.

When completed the working model will be mounted on a movable vehicle and tested under simulated field conditions.

Engineers said the device is expected to increase tremendously the attack capabilities of the mobile fortresses. While tanks offer more protection than other battlefield vehicles, gunfire accuracy often is low when the tank or its target is moving over rough terrain.

Visits To Sick At Geraldton

During 1963 Mr. Bill Heath of the Geraldton R.S.L., and his wife and Mrs. S. Russell of the women's auxiliary, visited more than 600 ex-service personnel in the Victoria District and Rosella hospitals.

This was disclosed by Mr. Heath at the February meeting of the sub-branch.

At the previous meeting Mr. Clem Burns reported having visited 250 ex-service men at the St. John of God Hospital during the past year.

B.J.B.

Where Is He?

Would anyone knowing the whereabouts of Ted Campbell, formerly of the Loclew-gun section of 5 Pl. B Coy., 51st Battalion please communicate with Anzac House, St. George's-Terrace, Perth.

The R.S.L. Story At Victoria Park

A Victoria Park sub-branch spokesman has supplied the following account of R.S.L. affairs in that suburb.

Increased attendance was a feature of the February general meeting and the president was pleased to welcome Messrs. Radford and Johnson.

It was also noted that the newcomers in the assembly were not afraid to have something to say.

This is what the committee looks for. Only through the views and opinions of more and more of the members can it find out what members generally think, know and want.

Please keep the ball rolling and if you have not been along for a while please show up at the next general meeting on Friday, March 20 (5 p.m.).

Subscriptions are now due. Save the secretary extra work in having to write and post reminders.

Members are asked to formulate motions for Congress in good time. They should be in writing and should be submitted at a general meeting very soon.

Members passing the corner of Millett-street and Stepparton-road are asked to pop in and see life-member Joe Barnett, recently on the sick list.

Anzac Day arrangements are the same as for last year. The service will be held in the memorial gardens at the corner of Albany-highway and Harvey-street at 8.45 a.m. on April 25.
Peacefulness The Motif In Death March Memorial

Work has started on a £35,000 memorial garden designed to commemorate Australian and British soldiers who died on the infamous Sandakan-to-Ranau death march during the World War.

The first contracts were placed earlier this year and work has started at the site in the Bush Kundasal Valley near Sabah's best-known peak, Mount Kinabalu.

Sabah Government spokesman said that the memorial garden will be officially opened in March, or April, 1965.

According to the Government spokesman, the object of this memorial garden is to commemorate a wartime disaster and recovery of deep national significance to Australia, Britain and Borneo.

It will also symbolise the patriotism of the close bonds of friendship, mutual respect and common endeavours which have always existed between these countries.

FOCAL POINT

The World War II Memorial Garden will be the focal point of a planned National Park at the foot of Mount Kinabalu, North Borneo.

As a further practical recognition of the help given to the Borneo people by the British, it is proposed by the Government that the area surrounding the National Park be developed from its jungle state into a useful and prosperous agricultural area.

Situated near Ranau, where six survivors of 1,800 Australian and 666 British POWs ended a nightmare 150-mile trek known as the Borneo Death March, the completed memorial garden will actually consist of three separate gardens.

Sabah Chief Minister Donald Stephens is the chairman of the Kinabalu War Memorial Association which includes members of the North Borneo Government, Ex-Services Association and commercial and industrial firms—both local and overseas.

It was this association which decided that the memorial would take the form of a walled, series of gardens within a national park.

The scheme, according to Chief Minister Stephens, would endeavour to create a site for people of all races, who visit the park, an emotional feeling of peacefulness.

No attempt would be made by means of formal statuary, or in other ways to remind future generations of the horrors of war but rather to suggest, by secluded walled gardens, the beauty of flowers.

The contours of the land in the park could be untouched, but an earth dam would form a natural pond. Groups of trees, mainly blue gums and pines, would be planted. A small herd of deer would be free to roam the park while flowering trees, such as a war memorial, would be planted by the pool.

There would be no fixed paths in the park but the top of the dam in the dam form a natural route to the three gardens—which are to be walled with river stone.

The plans call for the memorial site to include a rest house designed as a tourist attraction when adequate roads are built.

Work began on the project last month and Donald Stephens headed a committee to get much-needed funds.

Early fund-raising attempts have been made by the Australian ex-servicemen's organisation. The Australian Government donated nearly £5,000.

The project was mooted in 1958 when G.S. Carter, DSO, who parachuted in Sabah with a special-forces team during World War II, made a general appeal in Sabah for funds for the memorial.

2/11th Maintain Their Cricket Supremacy

For the second successive year 2/11th Battalion cricketers proved too strong for their 2/38th rivals in their annual Labour Day encounter.

In consequence a tin of herrings in tomato sauce (better known to the troops as goldfish) will adorn the living room of 2/28th president Johnny Nutter for another 12 months as a consolation prize.

The 2/11th had first use of the bar and batting-creases and proceeded to smite the ball to all parts of the Kelmscott sports ground. Harry Mawdeley, aged 19, bowled and batted. Eight glasses of beer, and several dropped catches, enabled Ivan Walter (32) and John Williams (27) to earn no grass to grow under their feet and several others reached double figures. Roly Cantwell and John Law were the pick of the perspiring 2/28th trundlers and the innings closed with 228 runs on the board in just over two hours.

Despite a gallant knock by captain Roy Warren (51) and stout resistance by Roly Cantwell, who carried his bat for 28, 2/28th could compile only 141 in reply.

Don Glover mesmerised his opponents to finish with 6 wickets for 17. The game was played in a hushed quiet and enjoyed not only by the players but also by many people watching.

The local swimming pool was well patronised by the youngsters. It is suggested that the 2/28th president should be compelled to eat the “goldfish” in the event of another defeat next year.

R.A.N. AT SPORT

The R.A.N. has maintained Australia's sporting reputation in Singapore: two Australian warships serving with the British Commonwealth Strategic Reserve have retained the "Perth Cup" in sporting competitions against the Royal Navy and the Royal Navy of New Zealand.

The R.A.N. kept the cup when H.M.A. Ships Vendetta and Quiberon tied for first place with the Royal Navy in a series of contests in Singapore.

The R.A.N. won the "Perth Cup" in 1965 when the first competition ended during the Commonwealth Games in Perth. The cup is now contested whenever three or more British Commonwealth navies are together.

Rugby, tennis, basketball, swimming and golf featured in the contest at Singapore.

The Royal Navy was represented by teams from ships and establishments in the "Perth Cup" area, while the Frigate H.M.N.Z.S. Taranaki represented New Zealand.

The sports meeting in Singapore was one of the last events for Vendetta and Quiberon before completing their six-month tour of duty with the strategic reserve.

The two combat ships and their 500 officers and men have since returned to Australia.

THE STORY OF THE 9TH DIVISION

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R.S.L. DEFENCE SUBMISSIONS, 1964
(arising out of decisions of the 48th National Congress)

The Strategic Situation

International events of the past 12 months, viewed in the context of the anti-communist bloc-relationships, have been dominated by the growing political and diplomatic conflict between Russia and Communist China.

The natural optimism with which this conflict can only be viewed by countries of the Free World must be tempered with considerable caution. It must be clearly understood and appreciated that this clash is not so much an ideological contest of principles as it is a struggle for power. The consequences for the two nations are likely to be very great.

This procedure has led to a situation of great instability and has created a virtual vacuum in the area of international politics. In these circumstances the Viet Cong has seized the initiative and has greatly strengthened its own position. In spite of massive U.S. aid over the past 12 months, the Viet Cong is now at its greatest strength; its activities have increased enormously and there has not been one notable victory for the South Vietnamese forces. In short, the position has deteriorated greatly over the past 12 months.

In Laos an improvement might have been expected following the breach between the Pathet Lao and the communists, but what has in fact happened is that the conflict has become a war between the two groups. The conflict is now being fought by the Pathet Lao forces, who at the same time continue to succeed most successfully with a policy of civilians, who are neutralist-royalist positivions.

Burma: In Burma the situation is worse. The one party government has now been brought to a standstill. The Burmese people maintain they are non-aligned but they move more closely to complete nationalisation, but their short step into the communist camp.

The Burmese way to socialism is the basis of the country's political doctrine, is in fact pure communism. This is the national plan which is being systematically implemented.

Cambodia: In Cambodia a serious situation has been reached. It appears that the chief of state, Prince Shinanou, has agreed with Communist China which could exclude all western influence from Cambodia. In short, all of these activities represent a continuous encroachment of Communist China into the S.E. Asia.

The Malaysian Issue: The most serious event in the whole region in the past 12 months has been the situation arising out of Indonesia's policy of confrontation with Malaysia. It will serve no useful purpose in this paper to analyse this policy or the reasons for it. The simple fact is that Dr. Soekarno has on numerous occasions reaffirmed his intention to crush Malaysia and has brought about an inflammatory situation that blights Australia's door-step.

Indonesia, a country of 100,000,000 people, possesses an army in excess of 100,000 men, by far the largest nation outside Communist China in this part of the world.

The policy of confrontation has engendered little sympathy in countries surrounding this area, and has thus weakened the influence of Communist Bloc. The real danger to Australia lies in the fact that the Malaysian issue may well result in Indonesia entering very much closer association with Russia and Communist China.

Australia is faced with a situation that is hard to comprehend: a situation of which we must take full account. This means considering our own defence requirements and our defence capabilities.

We must continue to strive by diplomatic means for friendship with Indonesia, our closest neighbour, but it goes without saying that diplomacy can only be practised efficiently from a basis of strength.

In analysing Australia's position in S.E. Asia we must take account of this fact. It is important to note that mutual protection is a two-way process and that while we receive great benefits from our various allies we are, by the same token, subject to their equal obligations in return.

It is important, therefore, to review briefly some of Australia's defence commitments. These consist of the SEATO agreement and are summarised in four major groupings.

1. Our obligations under SEATO which we have entered into for ourselves and for the defence of Pakistan (though not against India), Thailand, South Vietnam, the Philippines and New Zealand.

2. Under ANZUS we have committed ourselves to certain circumstances to military action in conjunction with the United States in the Pacific.

3. Our obligations to develop and defend, and to bring to a state of independence, the territory of Papua New Guinea.

4. In a Government statement made by the Prime Minister on 22 September last year we have committed ourselves to the defence against aggression and subversion of the Malaysian Federation.

Since then, our defence organisation must be designed not merely to cater for Australia's immediate defence requirements but to ensure that we can make a reasonable contribution to these other International obligations.

Defence Effort

It will be seen from the foregoing analysis of international events that the free world faces a threat from two separate, yet quite closely related, sources.

The first is the existing International communist movement, centred in its present form in Red China. The second is the monstrous instability existing in so many countries, particularly those in close proximity to Australia—a state of affairs which could be exploited by International communism or, on the other hand, permit a genuine national movement to become an international menace.

In this situation the question that all Australians must ask themselves is whether they can share in the defence arrangements of the free world.

(Continued on next page)
There are many statistics that can be used to explore this question and it is fully appreciated, firstly, that to give the complete answer; and secondly, that there are facts and figures that do not take fully into account.

Probably the most accurate assessment of the country's real defence capability can be determined by examining the nation's commitments in comparison with gross national product. This, in fact, is making a comparison between defence spending on the one hand and a nation's capacity to spend on the other.

The following percentages relate to some of Australia's major commitments. The figures relate to the fiscal year 1962-63, with gross national product at $2,259,000,000.

- U.S.A.: 9.2%
- U.K.: 7.0%
- Netherlands: 7.0%
- Canada: 3.3%
- New Zealand: 2.7%
- R.A.F.: 1.8%
- R.A.A.F.: 1.8%

Australia, based on figures for 1962-63, with gross national product at $2,259,000,000, is 2.6 per cent of gross national product. Only Mexico, excluding New Zealand, is lower in this category. It is rather interesting to note that had our defence spending in relation to gross national product equalled that of Canada, we would have spent in this year $260,000,000 instead of the $255,000,000 actually spent.

The past 12 months have seen a substantial improvement in the capabilities of our Navy and Air Force, and planned expansion of these services. It is in fact that the Australian Army has become the Cinderella of the Services.

It appears that with the addition of ships and aircraft already on order both by the R.A.N. and the R.A.A.F. and the expansion of the R.A.A.F. under the Defence Act, in fact that the Australian Army has become the Cinderella of the Services.

An analysis of Australia's obligations, both now and in the future, demonstrates that the strategy for the future is to meet a variety of commitments and participate to a limited extent in overseas operations. At present, the nation has a regular army of 23,000 men with a fighting component of about 9,000 men and one other battalion. In addition to this we have a strength of 13,000 officers and general officers. The army is divided into three groups of which three are battle groups of which join with the R.A.A. to form one division, the remaining forming five battle groups in a completely C.M.F. division.

The C.M.F. is not a force that can be used for overseas commitments under cold-war conditions and if we were contemplated special legislation would be needed. At best it is a part-time group that might be used in the event of a large-scale war, as a means of reserves should the A.R.A. be committed to extensive operations under existing defence agreements.

This means that the only infantry we can call upon to meet our obligations in New Guinea, Borneo, South Vietnam, Thailand or Malaysia are four regular infantry battalions plus the Pacific Island Regiment.

The Government's present plans are to increase the strength of the A.R.A. to 35,000 by 1967 and the C.M.F. to 35,000 in the same year.

In recent months Australian troops and the Army in particular have been called to duty of strength in the Press and in public meetings and conferences.

The general consensus of opinion arising from this public analysis seems to be that the Army, as at present conceived, is not a fighting force. The number of our forces are at the present time and will continue to be under the control of the Australian government, quite inadmissible to measure up to our obligations.

The supplies, equipment, infrastructure and other factors that have been placed in the Army's control are the result of a commitment to meet the demands of the Army, as at present conceived, to have two fundamental weaknesses. The first is the inability of our forces to meet the requirements of the C.M.F. to be at the present time and will continue to be under the control of the Australian government, quite inadmissible to measure up to our obligations.

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The following recommendations are made for improving the recruiting system:

1. As already mentioned, conditions of service should be reviewed.
2. A bonus for re-enlistment after six years' service should be introduced.

An average of some 4,000 men fall to re-enlist every year between £1,000 and £1,500 to train a recruit for any of the services and it is estimated that the country between £2,000,000 and £3,000,000 a year to replace these men.

A bonus scheme, say, £100 for re-engaging would be a considerable encouragement, and it is estimated that a bonus of £100 would be retained for the services.

A further consideration should be paid to such questions as training programmes to make the best of our army and to ensure that we have a capable, trained and experienced army.

It would be difficult to do in greater detail, but it is apparent that new and improved methods of training are required.

The A.R.A.

It is fairly apparent from a review both of Australia's defence obligations and from a perusal of public comment that a healthy alarm is developing in many quarters that the A.R.A. is not being heavily committed to provide the only source of reserve for the Australian Army.

It is important that under present circumstances to imagine it being used in its own formations for active service except under total war conditions. It is clear that a force is required for both overseas and domestic commitments and, therefore, a formation could be ready for active service.

The C.M.F. remains an important component of the Australian Army. It is unquestionably a free and every form of encouragement.

In line with this the following recommendations are made:

1. That the one-armed concept of integrating the R.A.N. and the R.A.A.F. is to be discontinued and that the C.M.F. be re-organised at least into two divisions.
2. That the service pay of servicemen of the C.M.F. be increased to be free of income tax.

At present a large percentage of the pay of the C.M.F. is not in addition to their present basic pay. The C.M.F. training, it should be noted, is on a rotational basis in northern areas.
**Women’s Auxiliary Notes**

**Co-opted To Auxiliary**

A former Geraldton resident, Mr. Jim Buckle, who visited Geraldton with his wife for the annual R.S.L. reunion, has been co-opted to the State Executive of the R.S.L. Women’s Auxiliary.

Her husband was elected to the R.S.L. State Executive when they were on an overseas trip last year.

Mr. Buckle, who was a vice-president of the Geraldton auxiliary before shifting to Greenmount, has already attended a meeting of the auxiliary executive and said she was surprised at the variety of activities of the State body.

One of her first jobs in her new position was to visit Hollywood Hospital.

She said the State auxiliary, among other things, manned the canteen at the War Veterans’ Home at Mt. Lawley, and visited various such institutions as the Claremont Mental Hospital.

**Poor. Second In Defence**

For the smallest outlay (per head of population) on defence Australia was second only to New Zealand, State President Lonnie said at this month’s executive meeting.

He was reporting on proceedings at the National Executive meeting in Canberra last month.

Annual defence spending per head in the U.S.A. was $30, in the U.K. $42, in France $97, in Canada $36, in Australia $19/6, and in N.Z. $14/6, he said.

People in Australia must be conditioned into paying more for defence services.

There was only one way to get adequate defence services, and that was by paying for them.

Mr. Lonnie said that submission on national defence which had been received on (see Page 3) was one of the best yet.
R.S.L. DEFENCE SUBMISSIONS (Continued)

The R.S.L. submits that members of the C.M.F. are making a vital contribution to national defence; they are enlisted for service anywhere in the world and available for any emergency that may arise. Tax exemption would be an appropriate recognition of their service to the nation.

3. The Government take the lead in obtaining the co-operation of employers in granting leave to C.M.F. members to attend annual camps. Army authorities also to plan camps in a sufficiently flexible way to meet employment problems.

N.S. Training

It becomes increasingly obvious that if Australia is to meet its military obligations we must have a system of compulsory military service.

In the world today the vast majority of nations employ compulsory service of one form or another. As members of the most privileged country in the world the R.S.L. considers that this is the least we can expect of Australian citizens.

In terms of our overseas obligations in the SEATO and ANZUS alliance it is interesting to note that of all the countries involved Australia and Britain are the only ones not employing a compulsory service scheme.

It is generally conceded that Britain, suddenly faced with emergencies in Cyprus, in Tanganyika, and in Malaysia, will have two alternatives: (1) withdrawing troops from Germany; (2) re-introducing compulsory military service.

With her historic commitments to Europe it is unlikely that she can employ the former course of action. So, then, Australia may shortly find herself the only country in our own region of the world not possessing a compulsory military service scheme.

The League believes that, even with the best possible recruitment, Australia’s military forces cannot be employed to the full extent of our obligations, and subsequently maintained, without compulsory national service.

This view is supported by such eminent military authorities as former Chief of the General Staff, Sir Ragnar Carr.

Sir Ragnar recently stated that in his opinion the army could not expect to maintain, through voluntary service, a regular army more than 25,000 strong. He went on to suggest that if a regular-army division was envisaged it would have to be accompanied by a selective compulsory service scheme.

With this viewpoint the R.S.L. finds itself in complete accord.

R.S.L. views on defence have been strengthened by Dr T.B. Millar, of the Department of Interior, who is also the Australian National University, who recently stated at the School of Pacific Science in Canberra that it was quite unlikely that our military obligations could be met by voluntary recruiting, and that the only alternative was selective national service.

In line with the above, the League believes these and other experts the R.S.L. believes that any form of national service is desirable. However, Australia is to meet her military obligations on a national scale. There are, however, as leading political figures have pointed out, two considerations involved in the problem of one the military, factor and the other the political— the acceptability of the scheme to the people of Australia.

It is therefore interesting to note that in Gallup opinion polls taken in March 1962, and August, 1963, 67 per cent and 69 per cent respectively of the persons questioned supported a two-year full-time military-training scheme, and in a fit physical condition.

Broadly speaking two arguments have been advanced against the reintroduction of a national service scheme. The first is the shortage of officers and N.C.O.s for training purposes. In a preceding section of this paper it has been pointed out that under revised conditions and amended age regulations this could be overcome. The second has been the economic loss to Australia’s security is little beyond their point of view little enough to give. Furthermore, it has been shown conclusively in the United States and in New Zealand, and under the Reconstruction Training Scheme that the army immediately following the 1939-45 war, that a period of twelve months training, provides a valuable contribution to the maturity of young men, and the ability to cope with the demands of any career which they subsequently select.

The R.S.L. has always supported national service as a necessary down payment for the private sector for its support.

Cabinet training

Any national defence structure must be based on a long-term plan. Armies do not grow overnight. It must therefore be seen that the earlier the military indoctrination of youth into the concept of country the better it is for the nation the better its prospect of developing a sound military apparatus.

It is in this context that the Australian Cadet Corps plays such a vital role in the future of this country.

The annual per-capita cost of cadet training is £25, a tiny amount when compared with the value which can be obtained from the training received.

To sum up in a few words, this course, that here again another important factor is the availability of instructors. This is one activity in which the older officers could be used to great advantage. It may be just as well for us to expect that the teaching staff of schools should play a greater role in this important aspect of defence training.

Under the Government’s three-year defence policy now and for the last year the strength of school cadets to be increased to 40,000. While this is useful it is still not enough.

The R.S.L. makes the following recommendations:

1. That no limit should be imposed on cadet numbers and that every school that can satisfy the basic requirements should be encouraged to establish a unit.

2. That the cadet activities be extended beyond the present role of school units and that town and country units be established under similar systems to the Air Training Corps.

3. That the scheme be expanded to include all New Guineans as officers for the C.M.F. and the N.G.V.R.

It cannot be too frequently reiterated that Papua-New Guinea represents Australia’s front line. Both as a deterrent to any potential aggressor and as reassurance to the indigenous population, vastly increased emphasis must be placed on all defence measures in the Territory.

A summary of the above submissions will appear in next month’s issue.

Does Anyone Know Of This Organisation?

The League has received a letter from Mr. J.G. Slade in Germany seeking information on an organisation called the “British Free Corps.”

As a member of the Military Historical Society, I am compiling information about the history of the so-called ‘British Free Corps’, a German-sponsored organisation formed in 1943 to fight on the Russian Front.

This information in my possession it is clear that some pressure was brought to bear on a number of Australian prisoners-of-war to induce them to join. In addition to that propaganda, thousands of men in camps to bolster up recruiting. Not that many of these efforts had any instant success! However, if anyone knows of any organisation, would it be kind of you to let me have the details of the account to be written in the next issue of the account to be written.
NORTH-WEST CORNER

Marble Bar's Story
The following account of recent R.S.L. happenings at Marble Bar comes from sub-branch secretary Mrs. F. Smith.

We held our annual general meeting on January 26 and just to show that nothing really changes around here the membership-turn-up for the meeting was disappointingly small.

Nevertheless a lively meeting was held and after the president's report of last year's activities and the secretary-treasurer's dry recital of the financial position (which could be better, but had been worse) it was time to elect new office-bearers for 1964.

To cut a long story short, all office bearers were elected for a further year. (I mentioned before that nothing changes around here.) Our members of last year are slowly coming forward with their membership fees. Membership for the first two months of the year is particularly forthcoming, with that for the same period of last year's returns.

It has been decided that whatever we may not be able to afford, we will not cut down on our support of the War Veterans' Home.

It may also be mentioned here that since the Tin Helmet arrived—in the first week in May, 1962—we have had two clearances and altogether sent back to headquarters £11 3s—admittedly not a great sum in itself, but we are a small community so we feel that in proportion we are not doing so badly.

Last week we held our monthly meeting and besides the usual customary business paid tribute to those lost in the Voyager disaster and also voted the amount of help we could give to dependants.

We discussed the way our Anzac Day service will be held this year, and the secretary has been instructed to go ahead with preliminaries and report back at the next meeting.

We hope to make it the best ever service and the best ever get-together in the evening.

SERVICE: Fifty years of service to those in need, both at home and overseas; that is the record of the Australian Red Cross Society.

Spontaneous Response in Appeal

At the annual reunion of the Geraldton sub-branch president W. J. (Tug) Wilson thanked Geraldton people for their spontaneous response to the Voyager appeal.

Some people, he said, had expressed the opinion that the compensation of dependants of the men who had lost their lives was a matter for the Government, but the contributors to the appeal had felt they were entitled to some little extra.

Former sub-branch secretary Jim Buckle, now of Greenmount, said that although members of the State Executive had been pleasantly surprised to hear that Geraldton had sent £70 in the appeal it had come as no surprise to him because of his past associations.

The Mayors Mrs. C. S. Eardon-Clarke urged sub-branch members to support their officers to the full.

The R.S.L. had a fundamental job to do at present in the face of extreme sparsity by many people, he said.

A survivor of the Voyager disaster, cook Brian Dunn, of Drummonds' Cove, was a guest at the reunion.

UNIT ASSOCIATIONS

11th & 2/11th Battalion

At the annual general meeting of this association, membership was conferred on energetic president Ern MacLeod, and if ever a man thoroughly deserved this rarely bestowed honour it is the indefatigable "Mac".

It is mainly due to his efforts that this association is now stronger than ever before in its history.

Archie Jackson says farewell to Tanganikika for the last time in April and is expected to arrive in July aboard S. Marconi about the middle of May. This will be the first time that Archie has been out of uniform permanently since 1939.

Members are reminded that Anzac Day is coming very quickly and no permits to travel should be given out to marchers for this year.

There will also be the usual enjoyable get-together immediately after the completion of the march.

Approximately 250 adults and children were present at this year's annual picnic which was held at Yanchep for the first time.

2/4th A.F.W.

The 11th Recovery Section of the R.I.F. Field Workshop held its annual reunion on February 21 in the Anzac House visitors' room. Time set each year for this function is the Friday night nearest February 19, on which date Darwin was bombed.

Many newcomers to the function were welcomed, including Bill Cutmore of Bridgetown, along with the regular stalwarts and office-bearers whose untiring efforts keep this unit association active and the members in touch with each other.

Names are required for volunteers to attend the dedication of the Unit's memorial at Albany to pay tribute to members of the unit whose names are inscribed. Volunteers can also make it requested to advise Taffy Edwards, honorary secretary Jack Barley or president Ron Duke.

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UNIT ASSOCIATIONS

16th Battalion

Preliminary arrangements for Anzac Day were made at the February committee meeting. With the Saturday observance this year the Sub-branch is hopeful of an average roll-up.

Usually committee meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month, but for the months of April and May they will be held on the second Wednesday.

Metal colour patches will be placed on the trees in Honour Avenue, King's Park, prior to the parade. It is hoped that they will be a fixture and that it will not be necessary to replace them each year.

Joe Oxenham—many friends will be pleased to hear that he is getting well and is now, after recently he seemed much better than his old self.

Recently association members combined with Claremont side in a bowls match against the Sub-branch. The match ended in a draw.

The sympathy of the association is extended to Mr Harry Leake on the sad loss of his wife. South Australian 16th Battalion secretary C. J. W. Williamson honours the name of the battalion as being classed as "Man of the Year" at Prospect.

2/7th Battalion

The 7th Aust. Inf. Battalion Association is compiling a war history covering the period of its existence—October 39 to January 1946.

Although the unit was originally raised in Victoria as part of the famous 17th Aust. Inf. Brigade, by the end of the war it comprised members from every Australian State.

The association has a strong membership in Victoria and at present wishes to contact as many more former members as possible in order to be able to keep them in the history.

Ex-members of the unit who are interested are asked to contact acting-secretary Norman E. Burrell, 40 Bowen-street, Chadstone, Victoria.
A Tribute To The Men Of Singapore

The annual Singapore Commemoration Service, held in King's Park on Sunday, February 16 at 11 a.m., was conducted by Brig. C. Bautovich of the Salvation Army, who said:

"Today is a day of memories; some we should never forget. Remembrance is one of our treasures. We are brought together to reflect on the personal privations and frustrations of men confined in prison." In those times of dire trouble, men were drawn together in the spirit of friendship and brotherhood.

"We remember, too, the kindness family spirit of those at home, sharing the anxiety and uncertainty for the safety of loved ones. Finally we remember those who died or were killed during those diabolical times. "We must ask ourselves if our tribute is just an annual one or a passing gesture. The greatest tribute should not be in words but in what we are doing every day, not just today."

Following the service wreaths were laid on the memorial by representatives of the Ex-P.O.W. and Relatives' Association, 2/4th M.G. Battalion, 2/4th Postal Company, 4th M.T. and Army Nurses' Association.

The sounding of the Last Post added to the solemnity of the occasion.

Help For Three
-Or 300,000

Whether a disaster strikes three people or three hundred thousand, it is a personal catastrophe to each one of them, and to each the help of the Red Cross comes, equally and without discrimination.

THE TIME: Now is the time for all good men—and women—to come to the aid of the Cross Society's Golden Jubilee Appeal. Contributions may be sent to Red Cross House, Murray-street, Perth.

Swanbourne Barbecue Was Outstanding

A barbecue conducted by the Swanbourne sub-branch at the home of Arch Tickie recently was one of the best outdoor events it has held.

Everything went off as expected, and a policy of self-sufficiency in liquid refreshments worked well.

The entertainment included music, some nouse-house and a screening of slides of San Francisco, Los Angeles and Honolulu and Wheeling.

The sub-branch owes a debt of gratitude to Glad and Arch for the trouble they went to make everybody happy.

There were 40 members in attendance and the net result for the sub-branch funds.

More important still was the obvious enjoyment of all who participated.

For the sub-branch sports facilities have been made available for rifle-shooting, tennis, quoits and darts.

Northampton Elects A New Leader

At the annual general meeting of the Northampton sub-branch 25 members were present to elect Mr. Les Ash president for 1964. Senior vice-president is Mr. E. A. Magee, junior vice-president, Mr. W. Ewan and the secretary, Mr. R. Charlton.

The memorial was now floodlit thanks to the co-operation of Messrs. Ford, W. Burnley and the Northampton Shire Council, and improvements to the hall grounds had been carried out by the council.

Financially the sub-branch was in very satisfactory position and it was hoped that 1964 would bring extensions to the hall.

The sub-branch had donated £10 towards the "Voyager" Disaster Fund instituted by National Executive.

The W.A. branch would be asked to take up with the Federal Government the granting of pensions and other assistance to dependants of servicemen killed during peace-time at wartime rates.

OLD BUILDING MORE THAN PAYS FOR NEW

The new headquarters building at Cameron Street, cost £65,000, the State President told this month's executive meeting.

The cost had been met from the proceeds of sale of the old building, listed Cross Hall balance of £13,000 on the deal.
Achievement At Bicton

The Bicton-Palmyra newsletter reveals the many activities of this excellent sub-branch and the drive which has made it one of the best in W.A.

The final 1963 membership figure was just on 300. A target of 300 has been set for 1964 and every effort will be made to obtain this goal.

The sub-branch secretary has been in attendance at Edinburgh Hall between 10 and 11 a.m. on most Sundays for the collection of membership subscriptions.

State Headquarters require the following information when fees are paid: Address, regimental number, badge number and unit.

An Anzac Day issue of Roll Call will be published about the middle of April. Contributions having a war interest are accepted and may be posted to the publicity officer. War-time humour or special articles are welcome.

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SOUTH AFRICAN AND IMPERIAL VETERANS ASSOCIATION—Anzac House, 3rd Floor, 168 Macleod-street, Perth. Meetings held on the second Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. President, A. Glasier; Secretary, G. A. McDonald.

ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION—Anzac House. Notice of meetings to be given three weeks in advance. Meetings held on the first Monday of each month. President, G. B. Bower.

16TH BATTALION A.I.P. ASSOCIATION—President, R. Wiseman, 59 Alderbury-street, Floreat. Secretary, W. J. Leake.

KOREAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION—President, R. J. Reardon, 157 William-street, North Fremantle. Meetings held on the first Saturday of each month at 2 p.m. Secretary, J. A. Williams.

2/28TH BATTALION ANTI-TANK COY. ASSOCIATION—President, E. MacLeod, 55 MacLeod-street, Applecross. Meetings held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.30 p.m. Secretary, T. J. Nutter.

32ND BATTALION (1ST ANZAC) ASSOCIATION—President, William J. Smith, 117 South Terrace, Perth. Meetings held on the third Thursday of each month at 7.30 p.m. Secretary, R. H. Godfrey.

MAMED AND LIMBUSIEND FOR FREMANTLE War Veterans' Association—President, R. J. Alderman, 39 McKenzie-street, Fremantle. Meetings held on the third Thursday of each month at 7.30 p.m. Secretary, I. G. McKenzie.

EASTERN GOLDFIELD GREEK-CRETAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION—President, G. D. Shaw. Meetings held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Criterion Hotel, Kalgoorlie. Secretary, J. A. McKenzie.

COUNCIL OF UNIT ASSOCIATIONS—President, E. MacLeod, 55 MacLeod-street, Applecross. Meetings held on the third Thursday of each month at 7.30 p.m. Secretary, R. H. Godfrey.

GALLIPOLI LEGION OF ANZACS—Meets in Y.A.L. Rooms, Perth, as notified. President, R. H. Godfrey. Meetings held on the second Saturday of each month at 7.30 p.m. Treasurer, G. D. Shaw.

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Plan To Assist In A Service To Widows

The League will shortly ask sub-branches to cooperate with the League in caring for aged war-widows. This was decided by the State Executive at its meeting on March 5 following a report by State President Lonnie on an appeal by Legacy on the question.

Mr Lonnie said that the work performed by Legacy on behalf of aged war-widows in town and country was one of the less publicised parts of its activity.

It had been felt that many R.S.L. sub-branches would be only too glad to co-operate in the services performed for these people.

A sub-branch might accept responsibility for keeping an eye on two or three widows and draw up a roster of members accordingly.

The proposed undertaking should serve to draw the bonds between the League and Legacy even closer, Mr Lonnie said.

Will Britain's N-Power Be Taken Seriously?

In London early last month Air-Vice-Marshal D. N. K. Blair-Oliphant, O.B.E., said that the nuclear deterrent had prevented outbreaks of nuclear and conventional war for the past 20 years but that its effectiveness depended largely on "the strength and steel of national character."

He was speaking at a luncheon organised by the Women of the Hour Association, which aims to promote integrity and high standards in the home, profession and nation.

Qualities of national character, he said, not only won wars but often stopped them starting. In the Cuban crisis, resolution would have made nuclear dete rrent had checked aggressive expansion and attempts to upset the balance of power.

The "credibility" of a deterrent force—that is, whether the possible enemy would take it seriously—depended on its power to survive the first attack and to retaliate with damage acceptable to the aggressor.

SECOND STRIKE

Such a system was known as a second-strike system. Its means of launching retaliation, either from land, sub-marines or air, must be as indetectable as possible.

But equal to all those factors in creating "credibility" is the national will to win, and the length to which the nation would go in support of what it believed in and loved.

Air-Vice-Marshal Blair-Oliphant said that German Hitler of 25 and 30 years ago had misjudged Britain's national character because of things said and the way the people lived.

They had decided that Britain would not honour its pledges.

If their mistake were not to be repeated by potential modern aggressors with far worse consequences Britain must demonstrate a national character adequate to its deterrent, the air vice-marshal said.

Medical Officer Had Fine War Record

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The death on February 7 of Colonel Rowland Anderson, M.C., E.D., at the age of 48 years has come as a great shock to many of his ex-Army colleagues.

The late Dr Anderson had a most distinguished war career. He enlisted in November, 1939, and saw service in the Middle East as R.M.O. of the 2/8th Battalion in the first Libyan push, when he was associated with the 2/7th (W.A.) Field Ambulance.

He continued gallantry in the field and devotion to duty in the face of the enemy was recognised by the award of the Military Cross for action during the Battle of Vele Pass, in Greece,— on April 12, 1941, when his company was cut off and coolness while under heavy fire inspired the successful withdrawal of wounded and prevented them falling into German hands.

After his return from the Middle-East he saw service in New Guinea with 2/8th H.G. at Port Moresby and Jacquinot Bay, and was for a period in command of the 55th C.C.S.

After demobilisation in 1946 he served at the Royal Perth Hospital as Medical Superintendent, a post he held for 14 years and was concurrently D.D.M.S., Western Command, between 1954 and 1961.

He resigned from the hospital some three years ago to enter private practice in Shenton Park. He is survived by a widow and two sons aged 10 and 14 years.

Keep Strength and Service as the core by wearing the Badge in '64