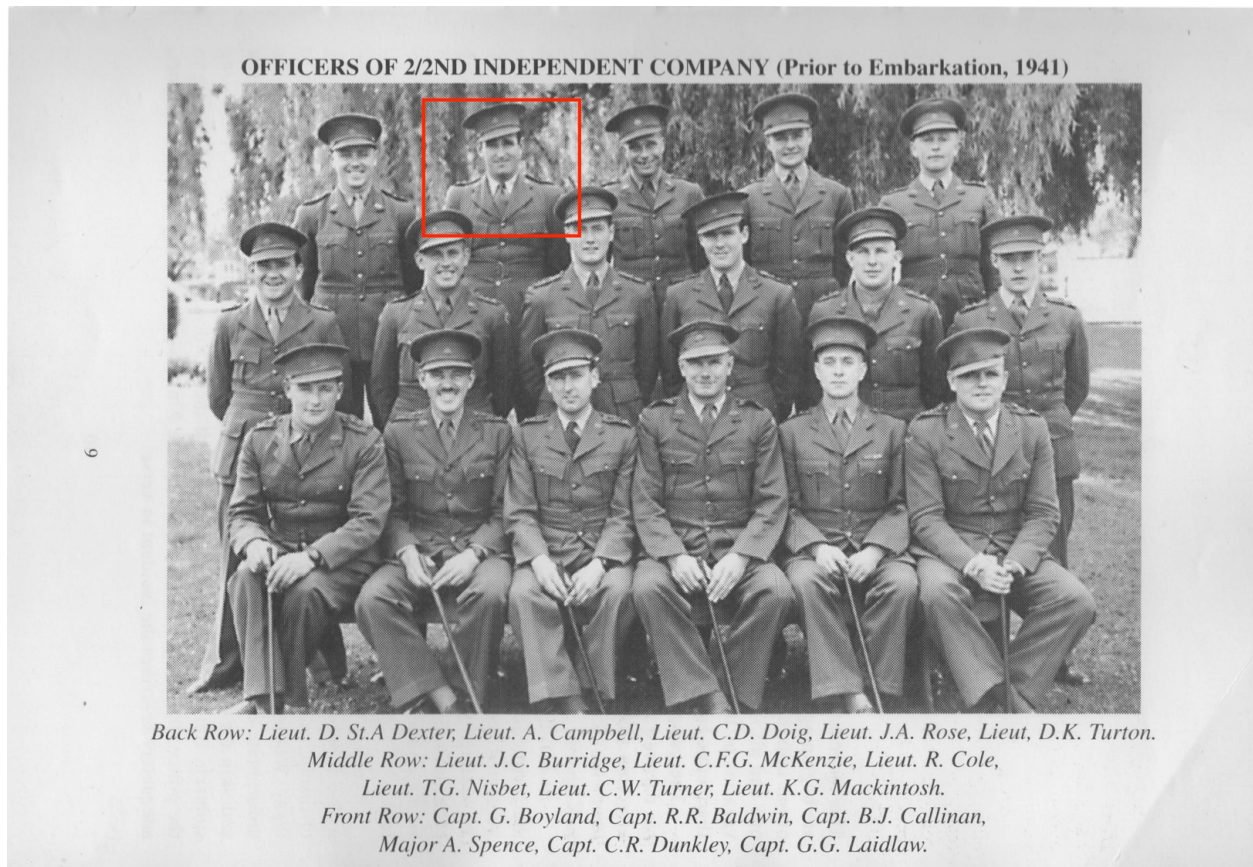


LIEUTENANT (LATER CAPTAIN) ARCHIE CAMPBELL
(WX6446) 1915-1999

OC NO. 7 SECTION C PLATOON

BIOGRAPHICAL SOURCES



Boy Menaces Women With Revolver

A boy, aged about 14, menaced two women with a revolver at a Dulwich Hill (Sydney), house during the week.

"Stand back, and don't try to follow me, or I'll put these four bullets into you," he is alleged to have said.

The boy then walked away quickly, and is believed to have boarded a tram at a nearby stopping place.

The women are Mrs. Mary Masters and Mrs. Downey, of Denison Street.

All drawers and cupboards in a home had been opened, and the contents thrown on the floors.

A boy was arrested.

In his possession was an automatic pistol, the safety catch of which was off. There was a cartridge in the barrel, and three more in the magazine.

American Seaman

An American seaman, Malley Baxter Taylor, risked his life in Sydney Harbour last week when he dived 15 feet from the bridge of a tug to rescue a drowning man.

Cecil Williams, 24, of Upper Bayview Street, Lavender Bay, was in a rowing boat which overturned after colliding with a ship being towed by the tug.

Williams was unconscious and would have lost his life but for Taylor's prompt action.

Shot Fired In Bank

A pistol shot fired by Mr. R. C. Coogan, manager of the Homebush (Sydney) branch of the Commonwealth Bank, narrowly missed

an intruder who broke into the bank premises at 2.10 a.m. one morning last week and stole money totalling about £4 and jewellery.

totalling about £4 and jewellery.

The thief was rifling the manager's room when Mrs. Coogan heard a noise. Thinking it was her son, she called out his name, and the intruder ran downstairs.

Mr. Coogan seized his pistol and followed him, firing as the thief ran through the gate and disappeared into the darkness. The bullet was afterwards found embedded in the gate.

When Men Walked Home

Mr. C. J. P. Hodges, secretary of the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria, who will retire at the end of May, was associated with motoring in Victoria in the days when men walked home.

When he joined the club in 1912, motor cars were as uncertain as horses at the barrier.

If a four-cylinder engine failed to respond to a hairpin, mum, dad, and all the kids hiked it back.

When he took over the secretaryship in 1921, membership of the club was 1900. Today it exceeds 50,000.

Painters For Army

The Deputy Director-General of Manpower, Mr. Bellemore, said the painting industry would be combed for the Army and Allied works.

"There must be no painting on hotel premises in New South Wales," he said, after his attention had been drawn to the painting of a large advertising sign on a city hotel.

Maintenance work must be reduced to a minimum. With essen-

tial services, including the Railways, complying with that policy, it would be wrong to allow maintenance painting to be done on premises not connected with the war.

Car Over Cliff

Car Over Cliff

Miss Doris Brown, 18, daughter of Mr. Justice Brown, former president of the N.S.W. Industrial Commission, and now doing im-

portant work for the Federal Government, suffered fatal head injuries when the car in which she was a passenger ran over a cliff in Liverpool Street, Rose Bay.

The driver mistook a turning in the darkness. The car crashed through a retaining wall and fell 40 feet.

Other occupants of the car were not injured.

Timor Man Married

Lieutenant Archie Campbell, prominent East Perth footballer, who led 14 members of the A.I.F. on a daring patrol near Dili, Timor, married May Pearce, one of Australia's leading women hockey players, in Perth.

The bride captained Western Australia four times and went to the United States with the Australian team in 1936.

Lieutenant John Burridge was best man.

WA Footballer Led Daring Raid On Timor

Leader of one of the most daring exploits in the history of the Australian commando occupation of Portuguese Timor, former East Perth footballer 26-year-old Lieutenant "Archie" Campbell has returned to Western Australia.

One of the earliest Australians to arrive at the tropical island, Lieut. Campbell saw the commando campaign through, took a prominent part in the fight against great odds, against tropical disease and against hardships which might well have daunted most men.

The exploit which War Correspondent Marien singled out for special mention took place on June 14 last year when Lieut. Campbell led 14 men into a coffee field at Dare on the heights of Dilli.

Object of the raid was to capture a Japanese prisoner.

Heavily armed, the commando crept towards the coffee field in broad daylight. The men had to proceed through two open fields and over a road. They safely crossed two trip wires.

Soon Campbell sighted a Japanese sentry. So silently did the commando approach and so well did they conceal themselves among the coffee trees and the bush that Campbell got within a few yards of the sentry before the startled Japanese realised his danger.

QUICK WORK

The sentry turned to give the alarm to a nearby machinegun post, but Campbell fired his tommygun from the hip. The Japanese dropped dead, cut by bullets from hip to shoulder.

Campbell and former East Perth footballer Corporal Ron Dook, who was next to Campbell, then turned their guns on the machinegun post itself and killed the post's one remaining Japanese.

Then hell broke loose. The coffee trees came to life with Japanese, who opened up with everything they had—machineguns, mortars, pistols and rifles. Mortar shells burst in the trees above the commandos.

Lieut. Campbell arrived in Timor on December 12, 1941, and so was

TOLL OF ILLNESS

among the earliest to arrive on the island.

One of the worst things with which they had to contend was malaria. On the flats it was very bad, but it was not so bad on the hills.

The commandos lived on native food—rice and buffalo meat and tropical fruit. They formed friendships with the natives which stood them in good stead when the Japs attacked Dilli, capital of Portuguese Timor. Four warships bombarded the island and two transports landed troops. The Australian commandos were ready and after the Japs landed began that series of raids and that guerilla campaign which were to add another striking page to the history of Australian military achievement.

"Japanese troops changed from time to time," Lieut. Campbell said. "Gradually they learnt our methods and latterly they became harder nuts to crack.

"In certain of the occupied areas they armed the natives and the armed natives were in many instances worse than the Japanese to fight.

"Our own natives remained faithful throughout, did wonderful work for us.

"At times, malaria and dysentery proved harder to fight than the Jap. Captain C. R. Dunkley, of Fremantle, our medical officer, did grand work.

"Hard as the Australians fought, there was one stage when it looked as if our fight must end in defeat. We were menaced from all but one direction. Then for some reason which we yet cannot understand, the Japanese withdrew for a considerable distance."

The commandos were led by Major Geoff. Laidlaw, former N.S.W. junior surf champion.

TOLL OF ILLNESS

TOMORROW'S FOOTBALL.

WEST PERTH AND SOUTH.

Vital Game at Bassendean.

West Perth and South Fremantle will field their strongest teams at Leederville Oval tomorrow when they meet for the third time this season in what promises to be the match of the day.

The composition of both teams has changed considerably since the first match of the season when West Perth scraped home by three points. In the next meeting, on June 23, South Fremantle had the advantage of playing at home and West Perth, in its worst display of the year, was beaten easily by 21 points. As both teams are almost certain finalists the "conqueror" tomorrow should be in the nature of a test of strength.

Jensen was injured in the last quarter against Perth last Saturday and will not be available to West Perth, but places will have to be found for Campbell and Price and probably Craig, who is rapidly improving with training.

South Fremantle will have almost the same team that defeated Claremont last Saturday but will be further strengthened by the return of two key men in Jenkins, its brilliant centre half-back, whose duel with Sampson should be a feature of the game, and its clever rover, Marsh.

AN IMPORTANT GAME.

East Perth was beaten so easily last Saturday that the form was too bad to be true. As the captain, Rowland, will be back in the side against Swan Districts tomorrow a much improved showing can be expected, particularly as the result of the match will have an important bearing on the four. If East Perth wins it will be in a fairly strong position.

Supporters of East Perth will be pleased to see Capt Archie Campbell in the side. For a little over a year Campbell was with the commandos in Timor and is now on leave from a commando unit in New Britain. A likely type of player in Pitbeam, who is doing well in training, may be included in the team.

Swan Districts is in winning form and considers the advantage of playing at Bassendean will be sufficient to turn the scales in its favour. It defeated East Perth in the opening match of the season and lost by a small margin on June 23 as a result

of bad kicking. It is not expected that any alterations will be made in last Saturday's team except that a former player in R. Vigar may be included.

If Swan Districts wins tomorrow it will be level with East Perth on games won but its better percentage will oust East Perth from the four.

SUBIACO STRENGTHENED.

Although Subiaco does not appear to have bright prospects of defeating the strong and well-balanced East Fremantle side at Subiaco it will at least be much stronger than last week with the return of Howe (who has been troubled with boils) and Hickey. G. Smith, who was a clever rover with the 1942-43 restricted age teams and has been playing well with the successful Air Force team, is also expected to be in the side and his inclusion might prove more than useful as he plays well to the centre-forward, Cooper. Rogers, a solid type of follower from Norseman might also be given a trial.

There should be a large crowd at this match, which should be keenly contested. East Fremantle is not only out to get to the top but must win to retain second place from South Fremantle. A defeat to Subiaco would cause that team's chances of playing in the finals to fade.

PERTH'S PERCENTAGE.

If Perth is to make the four it must not only continue to win but must also improve its percentage. For this reason it will endeavour not only to defeat Claremont at the WACA but to win by a big margin. The team has struck form at the right time and will be strengthened by the inclusion of Puddey.

Claremont will again be without Caporn, Thomas and Russell, but Anderson will be back in the team after a spell in hospital and Oliver, who was a star of the 1942-43 teams, is almost certain to play. He is on leave from the Navy and has been playing with a Sydney league team.

Tomorrow's matches, which are the first series in the last qualifying round, are as follows:

Swan Districts v East Perth, at Bassendean.

South Fremantle v West Perth, at Leederville.

Perth v Claremont, at WACA.

Subiaco v East Fremantle, at Subiaco.

POSITIONS OF CLUBS.

	W	L	For	Agst	Pts
West Perth	11	3	1,337	1,089	44
E Fremantle	10	4	1,458	1,007	40
S Fremantle	9	5	1,235	1,176	36
East Perth	7	7	1,072	1,144	28
Swan Districts . . .	6	8	1,182	1,174	24
Subiaco	6	8	1,043	1,113	24
Perth	5	9	1,024	1,182	20
Claremont	2	12	949	1,413	8

CHAMPION PLAYER.

Mrs. Campbell For Sydney.

Western Australia will lose its champion woman hockey player, Mrs. A. Campbell (formerly Miss May Pearce), who is booked to leave Perth today for Sydney, where she and her husband intend to live. There has been no finer player than Mrs. Campbell in women's hockey in this State and for some years she has been an outstanding forward for Australia.

Mrs. Campbell first came into prominence in 1933 when she visited Perth with an Albany team. In 1934 she played for the State as left-inner, a position she occupied until the outbreak of war. In 1935 she first played for Australia when New Zealand won in Melbourne. Mrs. Campbell captained the West Australian team which visited Sydney in 1936 and that year was a member

Hobart a year later. It was in 1939 that Western Australia outclassed the opposition and Mrs. Campbell was chosen as captain of an Australian team to visit England. The team was actually waiting to embark at Adelaide when the trip was cancelled owing to the outbreak of war. Since 1939 there has been no interstate hockey.

The Surf team, of which Mrs. Campbell was captain, won eight premierships in succession. Her services as a player and coach will be missed in this State. Aged 29 years, she intends to play hockey in Sydney and is likely to become the New South Wales coach.

Her husband, Archie Campbell, was a former East Perth footballer and cricketer. During the war he served with the 2/2 Commandos on Timor and attained the rank of captain.



Mrs. A. CAMPBELL.

of the Australian team which went to America. An American writer described her as the best forward in that international series.

In Brisbane in 1937 Mrs. Campbell played for Australia—she was now captain—against an Anglo-Scottish team and led Western Australia to victory in the Australian carnival in Hobart a year later. It was in 1939 that Western Australia outclassed



ARCHIE Campbell and Don Turton go over final plans for their return trip to Timor.

NOSTALGIC JOURNEY TO TIMOR

by RICHARD GRANT

THIRTY-one years ago a 12 year old boy named Barana helped an Australian officer survive against the invading Japanese forces on Timor.

Soon the two men will meet again. "It will be an emotional meeting for me," said works supervisor Mr Archie Campbell of Mt Lawley. He and Pingelly farmer, Mr Don Turton, are on a sentimental journey that will take them back to the mountains of Timor where they served during the Second World War.

"I have not seen Barana since I left the island at the end of 1942. He does not know I am coming but I should have no trouble in finding him." The two men were attached to the famous 2/2 Independent and later Commando squadron that served on the island for 14 months during 1941-42.

It is history now that the squadron of about 300 raw recruits contained 15,000 Japanese troops on the island with their hit-and-run guerilla tactics before withdrawing.

Mr Campbell said almost every man in the squadron had his own boy to guard him while he slept and carry his pack during hikes through the mountains. "With their sharp senses they were our eyes and ears in the jungle and they knew the area extremely well.

After the war Mr Turton, a former captain who was second in command of the squadron, named his farm at West Pingelly Naibilla after his boy.

He met Naibilla five years ago when he returned to Timor for the opening of a memorial to the islanders who helped Australian soldiers during the war.

The two men left Perth on Tuesday, rigged out with a self-contained living unit on the back of a utility and a boat.

They will travel up the coast, stopping at their leisure at popular fishing spots, to Darwin. They will then fly to Timor.

• **Balaa survey**

Possibilities for free days include ferry trips to Seal Rocks, an organised Old Time Dance, a further sight seeing bus tour, fishing and boating. There is much spectacular scenery within a very short distance so participants could fill in spare time travelling by private car or mini-bus by arrangement.

Editors Note: For the early planning of all members going to Cowes—Phillip Island in 1988. This event will be a feature of every issue of the Courier from hereon, so as to keep you progressively informed.

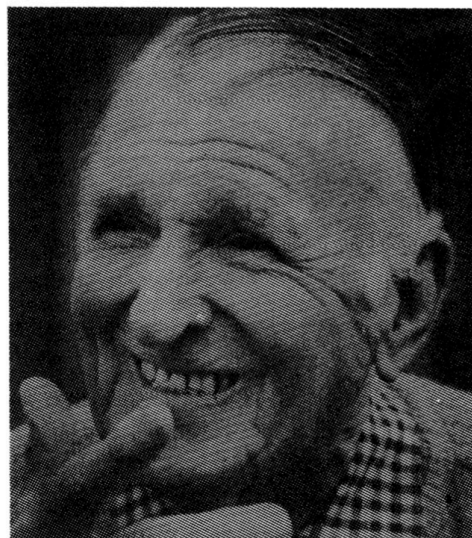
AN UPDATE ON OUR EDITOR

Some of our readers may not know that Archie hasn't been editing Courier for several weeks. He took off - some thought maybe on compassionate leave, but others knew he had been making plans to re-visit the "ancestral moors of the Clan Campbell", first to dally at the Edinburgh Games en route, and afterwards to visit friends in South Africa on his way back home. The Team had a card from Edinburgh where he enjoyed the contests and was then "roaming in the gloaming" in the far north of Scotland.

We all wish Archie luck and a successful visit to South Africa, followed by a safe return.

Because it is impossible, under normal circumstances, to convince Arch that he too is Courier "news" we grab this opportunity (while the cat's away, etc) to include this Western Mail article for our readers.

"GE-EM"



ARCHIE CAMPBELL: *The father of Legacy... all because of February 20, 1942*

'The father of Legacy looks back . . . to February 20, 1942'

**THE WESTERN MAIL, WEEKEND,
JULY 26/27**

HOW ONE DAY SPARKED A PASSION

Ambushed, for a lifetime

By David Lague

FEBRUARY 20, 1942 was the day which set the course for much of Archie Campbell's life.

The 25 year old lieutenant with the Australian Army's 2/2 Independent Company in Timor's rugged mountains was waiting for 14 young soldiers from his section to return from a day's leave in Dili.

Only one came back.

The men and two other soldiers from the unit had left on a truck that morning, unaware that a Japanese invasion force had landed at Dili and Koepang.

It was some days later—when local Timorese delivered a badly wounded survivor, Private Keith Hayes—that the young officer learnt what had happened.

Against regulations, Archie Campbell kept a diary on that Timor campaign and later expanded it to a history of the elite unit.

That history recounted how he questioned the wounded soldier.

"He was a happy, outgoing youngster with tremendous vitality and personality," he said.

"But as I drew the story out, all his boyhood had gone. He was a young old man.

"It was a dreadfully emotional talk, for I choked up nearly as much as Keith. These were lads I had trained for nigh on 12 months; young, bright-eyed, alert, full of the joys of life. Today, no more.

"Listening to Keith, swathed in bandages, wrenched my heart out.

"They were on leave, they sang in the truck, the Japanese far from their minds.

□ □ □

"It was a rough track and a noisy truck. One could not hear the sound of shells in the distance.

"The truck froze completely when they were surrounded by Japanese, their first thought to fight it out. Reg Murray even tried but they were stripped of the weapons they always carried on leave.

"Out of the truck they were ordered.

"Peter Alexander, taken off the line for interrogation, went back into the truck.

"The remainder had their hands tied behind them and were ordered into a ditch, face down.

"Keith could just remember Harvey Marriot saying: 'Oh my God,' when the fire order was given.

"His next recollection was when he came to. There were the Japanese bayonetting the boys to make sure they were dead.

"He lay doggo; next thing it was his turn. Down the bayonet flashed.

"Later he came to for a second time, overcome with a terrible weakness through loss of blood.

"He started to crawl out. To do this he had to go over the bodies. He knew they were dead.

"Slowly, in great agony, in tremendous shock, he got into the cover of a rice field. Here the Timorese natives found him."

Keith Hayes survived. The bullet had missed his jugular vein on one side and the bayonet on the other.

Peter Alexander survived Changi prison camp and the Burma Road but the brutal execution made a big impact on Archie Campbell.

□ □ □

Sitting in his Sorrento home last week, the 70-year-old widower said he had decided to join Legacy after the war as a tribute to the men he had lost in that ambush and in later campaigns.

"I felt that if I was going to do any charity work then it would be Legacy, because they were looking after the wives and families of men who lost their lives," he said.

Mr Campbell was president of Legacy in Perth in 1966 and then served as secretary for 15 years.

He and his late wife, former hockey champion May Pearce, MBE, had no children but cared for many Legacy families.

This was underlined in 1984 when Perth Legacy nominated him in the Father of the Year contest, even though he had no children of his own.

He was reluctant to say how many families he had helped but eventually admitted to about 20.

"I have had wonderful friendships over the years with all the children and the widows," he said. "They still keep in contact."

"I always tell them the big thing I need to know is that they are well."

Mr Campbell is well-known in WA sporting circles.

Before the war he played league football with East Perth and after the war was a prominent radio sports broadcaster.

He called football, rowing, athletics and surfing and was chief announcer for the 1962 Commonwealth Games.

He was asked to serve on the East Perth board last year, when the club was struggling.

Last week he left for Edinburgh and the 1986 Commonwealth Games.

EDUCITIS THE NAME OF THE GAME! *

We are told that at last the creeping disease Educitis has been isolated, analysed and named. This disease is a curious form of gobble-de-gook that has spread through education institutions over several years.

In his message to the afflicted our translator warns—"It is felt that in the event that a potential educitis plague input, in the area of educational activity is unable to be effectively orchestrated towards guidelines for viable no-growth parameters, then each and every one of us will find ourselves in a negative linguistic environment which is non-conducive and counter-productive to the ongoing strategy of a positive scenario in the field of education.

For homework students had to describe a blackboard!! No marks for those who do not reach a sufficiently acceptable height.

Answer: A transportable, bilateral, quasi-vertical, atramentous, multi-height, visual aid!!

Lo and behold, soon after Mr Hawke returned from his last trip overseas we heard complimentary remarks indicating that he had become a more decisive leader!!! It was good news but somewhat wasted to gobble-de-gook by the Opposition Speaker telling us "only last week, as I understand it, he practically, all but near enough, almost decided to explore the feasibility of possibly thinking about setting up a sub-committee to advise on a potential, tentative overture to begin discussions about his agenda for a firm decision or not. (It was an important subject, or we thought so!! It remains undecided—wonder why!!

VICTORIAN NEWS

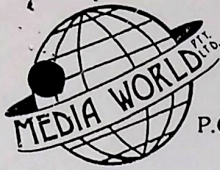
We had a very good muster at the Anzac Day March and Reunion. The weather was inclement and just as we reached the Shrine the heavens opened up and we were drenched, but it did not dampen the enthusiasm and we all stood our ground and marched through it.

INFORMATION SHEET

**AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
2/2 INDEPENDENT COMPANY
COLLECTION**

SURNAME: (Block Capitals) CAMPBELL
FORENAMES: (In Full) ARCHIBALD
ADDRESS: 4A FROBISHER AVENUE
SORRENTO - WESTERN AUSTRALIA. 6020
TELEPHONE NO: (09) 447-0364 DATE OF BIRTH 28TH MARCH 1916
DEGREES, DECORATIONS OR OTHER AWARDS
THE 1939-45 STAR - THE PACIFIC STAR
TWO SERVICE MEDALS - BRITISH - AUSTRALIAN - 1939-45
HIGHEST RANK OR RELEVANT POSITION HELD
CAPTAIN
OVERALL DATES OF SERVICE OR RELEVANT EXPERIENCE
FROM 16TH JULY 1940 TO 27TH NOVEMBER 1945

...12



MEDIA WORLD Pty. Ltd.
278 Gore Street Fitzroy Victoria Australia
P.O. Box 214 Fitzroy 3065 Phone: 417 4888

1st December, 1986

Mr A Campbell
4A Frobisher Avenue
SORRENTO W.A. 6020

Dear Mr Campbell

Your name and address was kindly passed on to me
by Mr J Carey, Hon. Secretary of the 2/2nd Commando
Association.

Media World is a television production company and
is intending to produce a Drama/Documentary of
the 2/2nd Independent Company in Timor during
WW 2. This program is being made for SBS Television,
and follows in a series of programs of Australians
overseas during the war. You may have seen our
earlier production "Flowers of Rethymnon" which
covered the experiences of Australian soldiers on
the run in Crete after the German invasion.

I have enclosed our first draft script of 'Independent
Company' for your comment and opinion. This draft
was based on published material, research at the
Australian War Memorial and with the assistance
of Sir Bernard Callinan and David Dexter. As you
would appreciate, this, the first draft, is designed
to be pulled to bits, criticised and amended. Any
contribution you may feel to make in this process
would be greatly appreciated.

I have forwarded copies for comment to:

Sir Bernard Callinan
Mr D Dexter
Mr R Baldwin
Mr A Aitken
Mr A Doig

.../2

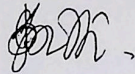
"NO TROUBLE"

. 2 .

As you may be aware we intend to accompany Sir Bernard Callinan and Mr R Baldwin to Perth for a few days around Anzac Day 1987 to film interviews with 2/2nd members for the program.

Thank you for your assistance and my best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Yours sincerely



COLIN J SOUTH
PRODUCER

"NO TROUBLE"

Mr Colin Smith,
Media World P/L,
P.O. Box 214,
Fitzroy,
Victoria. 3065.

44 Frobeskel Avenue,
Seppentia, U.A. 6020.
16th December, 1986.
#

Dear Mr Smith, Re documentary 'Independent Company'

Thank you for enclosing me in the distribution of your draft on the above, via the good offices of our then Sec. Mr Jack Carey.

The years have taken toll of the memory box, my area of keep to you if necessary, is through the book I have written but never published. I merely circulated it among family and friends. At this stage I have only one copy so it is valuable. I intend running off another fifty when time permits.

It came about because I kept a diary on time of the campaign which was fortunate, for when I put it together 32 years later I was able to make something of it from the officer selection at Murrumbidgee Camp in U.A., the formation of the Company, on Wilson's Promontory, to our being lifted from Portuguese Timor.

Our former 2/c, my good friend Dan Turton and I, went back to the island in 1973 just prior to the annexation by Indonesia. There I got quite a search we found the Creole who were used as boys while we were on Timor. It makes quite a climax to the story of the campaign and I have some very good photographs of the meeting with my boy Bahama taken and released by a third party, then White, who was a journalist on the Darwin paper at that time, but never published.

Somewhere the book got to the ears of the Canberra War Library and they have a copy of what I called, "The Double Reds of Timor".

I am quite prepared to loan my copy to you if you think it has any merit, there is quite a bit of background material, could be a better proposition than my being interviewed!! Because I have only that one copy I would be loathe to lose it, but if the Company can benefit via your documentary, then I could on your advice, send it across. Getting my copies done may not be possible by Anzac Day.

From somewhere over the years I received a number of copies passed by Publicity Censorship, Victoria, of the first release regarding the Timor story written by Bill Harrow, an official War Correspondent, another by Damien Parer

2.

Cinematographers for the Dept. of Information, there was a third member, Elisha Brown, a newspaperman. All three were landed on Timor, as mentioned in your script, page 43. These are dated 31st December, 1942 and can be available to you, if they will keep, for they are on the bases of interviews with the troops. There are a couple of pages missing.

I am making some comments on your draft which I trust will be constructive and helpful. These are attached to this letter, likewise some observations for your perusal.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to participate, and surely finally your documentary will be an excellent one.

Yours sincerely,
Arthur Campbell

Observation For Your Edification.

1. Might I make a positive statement here. I am not sure what you want of this documentary or how far you want to go?

There are many stories of interest to be told about the men involved in all sorts of actions and situations, but if you are looking at a condensed version then only you can select the format and the information you collect and collate. I think the troops deserve exposure, in short, they were the hub of the operation.

2. One of the biggest problems caused by the make-up of our Company was that most of the troops abandoned their own areas. In most cases we never saw our mates for months on end so each man will be a bit confused in talking of the campaign in total. The section and platoon activities he would really be familiar with.

3. For instance, even Bernard Callinan had no conception of "The Dore Road". His version was nowhere near the mark and, there was a good reason for that. The full report submitted by me never reached him. What happened to it as I say in my book, remains with me, it has done ever all the years. Certainly, I do not want any excuses, but I just ask you to read, "The Dore Road", as a

guerrilla operation, you will soon see what it was all about. It was one of those stories that should be told because "Independent Company" was written as the only book to come out of Timor, and I feel our history is not complete when such a happening took place and has never been officially recorded.

The boys involved knew I submitted a report and have often asked why there has never been any mention made of such a victory. A documentary at least owes that to them as well as to the valuers are no more.

4. There are many other incidents and stories that would make good viewing, such as the rescue of Gerry Moley, a signaller who was hiding in a Thmoy village with the gaps on the doorsteps. Dr Dunkley, our medical, was in the rescue group.

This leads me to another story that is here to be told, the contribution of Dr Roger Dunkley over the full campaign. I wrote an article on him some years ago when he passed away called "There Goes A Man" which is available to you. My book gives a real indication of his surgical prowess under the heading, "Dispersal and Harassment" pages 35 to 41. And within these pages are other interesting situations.

The late Dr C. R. Dunkley of Freeman He, is one man who deserves great praise. He was revered by officers and men alike.

5. Another should be Snapper Merv (Doc) Wheatley, a kangaroo shooter, who accounted for singly quite a number of gaps. He lives here in W. A.

Maybe the perusal of another book on history, by Colin Doug, which has just been produced, could keep (my thinking in the build up area, that is along with the extensive interviews arranged with the 2/2nd members in April.

FIRST SCRIPT DRAFT.

Comments by Archie Campbell

1. The draft in italics covers the basics of the campaign from a Headquarters angle. What happened within that area is little known to many of the officers of the troops. Bernard Callinan and Keith Baldwin are the ideal people to detail this, as has occurred.
There is one other who could contribute, Ron Turlton 2/c of our company under Geoff Laidlaw - prior to that he was his Engineer officer.
2. Page 14 (para 11): Interview Sappers. Yes! But the holding troops were 2 section "A" platoon under then Lt. Gerry McKenzie M.C. Another should be Pte. Joe Poynton D.C.M. who was very active in the invasion area. They added to their decorations a "Dutch Bronze Cross".
My book in a chapter called "The Japanese Invasion Times" covers the aftermath and our withdrawal to Hataha.
3. Page 33 (para 39): Who better than Ray Atkinson to give the story of "The Singapore Tiger", along with his section Sgt. Mick Morgan. Both live here in W.A.
4. Page 35 (Notes): "Dili Raid". This was an excellent well planned raid worthy of prominence. Mick Morgan from W.A. took part, but the best man to recount it is Tam Nesbet, who lives in Victoria and well knew to Bernard Callinan. He was Laidlaw's 2/c.
5. "The August Push" in my book, pages 53 to 69 including "The Duro Raid" is documented. Many of the boys would have something to say on this facet. My own 7 section followed the jobs back on their return to Dill.
piece
6. Page 41 (para 51A): Heading interviews. Have quite an extensive one this as my own 7 section covered this landing, as did 2 section "A" platoon and one from "B" platoon. The section number is not recorded. See my book, "Relief and a Naval tragedy".
7. Page 48 (para 57): The soldier was Capt. Gerry McKenzie who had just taken over "C" platoon. Lived here in W.A.

5.

8. Page 50 (-) 2/2nd to be evacuated!

We came off in two batches. The first attempt on the 30th November, 1942, was a tragedy.

The second attempt on the 10th December, 1942, successful.

The second batch of the 2/2nd was lifted on the night 15th/16th December 1942. My book pages 91-98 "Nearing the End" covers the story pretty fully.

9. The 2/4th Company withdrawn and that of a smaller group left for observation work, would be covered by Bernard Callaghan or Roy Baldwin. We only knew they had been lifted.

Archie Campbell

16th December, 1986.

27.1.87

Mr Colin J. South,
Media World P/L,
P.O. Box 214
Fitzroy, Victoria 3065.

4A Froberker Avenue,
Sorrento W.A. 6020.

22nd January, 1987.

Dear Mr South,

Thank you for your letter of the 19th January, 1987, and your information re the production process which I am sure will establish a firm base for the documentary. So glad you received a copy of Colin Dugg's Company History.

The copy of my book, "The Scout's Reds of Timor" I am forwarding to you by registered mail for you to act on whichever way you see fit. It is my old original which has a few alterations etc., but is quite readable. I gave my previous good copies to my friends for I never envisaged publishing it, so in the long haul I was left with only this one!

When I do get it run off I will have to dust it up a little which I can arrange through a good friend of mine in the publishing business. He thinks I should make it public but I will be quite satisfied for it to be given away on a gratis basis. Been interested Mr South to see what you think of the effort!

Regarding the latter part, "Thirty Years On", if that is of any value, I think I mentioned this previously. I have some good photographs that you could use, but we can talk about that in April.

Have inserted a eulogy which I wrote on our meduo, Dr C.R. Duntley when he passed away and it will be an addendum to my book ultimately. This too is my only copy, the original with alterations etc, so would appreciate it staying with the book. He was quite a man.

Originally we were the 2nd Independent Company but when we received our Red Double Diamond on a grey background, we conformed with all A.I.F units prefaceing it with a 2, the second world war number and called it 2/2nd Independent Company. This might throw some light on why both 2nd and 2/2nd appear in our writings, we preferred 2/2nd at all times!

Be nice to meet you in April and the boys are looking forward to your visit. We have been adopted in Perth by the S.A.S.R., Special Air Services Regiment, who figure they are our modern counterparts. We are closely allied and they support us in every conceivable way. Just an aside so you will be familiar with this aspect.

Best of good luck, everyone will bend over backwards to help. Yours sincerely, Archie Campbell!!

44 Frohisher Avenue,
Sarnento W.A. 6070.

Colin J. South
Medical World
Fitzroy, Victoria,
Dear Colin,

18 JUN 1981

This is in response to your asking
for another photo of Dave Ross that would
equato with his earlier years, or on times.

Mrs Ross came up with two which
I am sending under separate covers.

(a) The small one was taken on the
beach in Aili and would be fine except
Dave being more or less side on!

(b) The larger is a photo in his much
younger days.

So much can be done in the field of
photography these days you may be able to
come up with an answer integrating the
two of them. That Colin I will leave to the
experts, suffice to say, there seems to be no
further chance! Not terribly helpful I
know but trust you can get something out
of the photos.

All the boys send kind regards to you,
Phil and Steve, that goes for me too. Good luck. Archie.



MEDIA WORLD Pty. Ltd.
278 Gore Street Fitzroy Victoria Australia
P.O. Box 214 Fitzroy 3065 Phone: 417 4888

7th September, 1987

Mr A Campbell
President
2/2 Commando Association
GPO Box T1646
PERTH W.A. 6001

Dear Mr Campbell

I thought it best to give you an updated account of progress with the production of "Independent Company", our drama/documentary for SBS Television.

As you know, our film interviews in Perth were first-rate and gave me more material than I'd imagined. It was both a rewarding and enjoyable experience, which will reflect in the completed program. I am most grateful to all in the Association for their co-operation and assistance.

Upon your return to Melbourne I held discussions with the Royal Australian Army, 3rd Military District in regard to assistance the Army is to provide during shooting of the drama sequences. These include military advisors, men for training sequences, Engineers for explosive work and the 3rd Military District Brass Band, to perform the original music score. The Army are keen to assist and I am now involved in the final organisation of details. I filmed our interview with Sir Bernard before our trip overseas.

My first stop was Portugal, where I met up with my crew who had been on another project in Spain. I had arranged to film interviews with Maria Luisa Sousa Santos, the wife of Sousa Santos who passed away late last year. Mrs Santos was a gracious woman with many fond memories of the 2/2, a vivid memory of life on East Timor before, during and after the war, and descriptive of the Portuguese conflict of assistance to the Australians. Her offer of a nip or two of 1948 Portuguese Port was too good to resist!

My second interview was to be with Dr Carlos Cal Brandao, the leader of the Portuguese group who negotiated the evacuation of Portuguese from East Timor. He unfortunately passed away before we arrived. I then made contact with Portuguese television and film institute in search of archive footage.

In England, we interviewed Mik Calvert. He was in relatively good health and spirits, despite a recent heart attack, which fortunately didn't incapacitate him in any way, just slowed him down a little. He still drives, swims every week and lives out of the smog and pace of London in Sussex. One could see through the years, with the twinkle of the eye and grin of excitement, when recounting Wilsons Promontory. He, of course, passed on his best wishes to all.

.../2

"NO TROUBLE"

Japan was far more expensive than I'd imagined. I bought two peaches at a fruitshop for \$6.50 each! A glass of fresh orange juice was \$12. 00. Thank goodness we were only there for a week otherwise scurvy would have set in! A 'blown' budget aside, the Japanese were as interested in us, as we in them. We filmed interviews, via an interpreter, with twelve veterans of Timor. Generally the response was one respect and honour towards their Australian foe. My specific quest for the withdrawal of the Japanese in August 1942 unfortunately has not been answered fully, but two sources of fact are still being investigated; research into the diaries of Col. Doi, the Japanese Commanding Officer in Dili, and the translation of two chapters of the 228 Regiment History, dealing specifically with "the Campaign against Australian Guerrilla force in East Timor".

The 228 Regiment was based in Timor from the invasion till 6th September 1942, when they were sent to Guadalcanal. They reached Timor after serving in Manchuria, Hong Kong and Ambon. The 1st and 3rd Battalions were based in the West, the 2nd in Dili. Of the 2nd only a handful survived Guadalcanal. Those who became P.O.W.'s still refuse, despite genuine encouragement, to join the 228 Regiment Association. The general consensus was the troops were withdrawn under orders to be sent to Guadalcanal with the other troops, which came from West Timor and the South coast mobilized to replace the 228 from Dili. Once each force made physical contact with one another, time had run out and the entire force moved back to Dili.

I enclose the chapter dealing with the Invasion of Timor, from the Japanese Official History. I had this translated and once I have the other material translated it should give a pretty good account of the Japanese perspective.

I was approached by the President of the 228 Regiment Association in regard to their wish to make contact with the 2/2 Commando Association. It was my suggestion, that I pass on his name and address to you. There is no doubt in my mind that this is a genuine request, with a genuine motive of friendship. Naturally, this is for your Association to ultimately decide.

His name and address:

Mr Kouichi Nakashima
President 228 Regiment Association
Mina nihishino 460 Seto City
Aichi Prefecture
JAPAN

The next stage in filming is to record the pieces of the military historian Lt. Col. David Horner, a distinguished author and head of military history at the Australian National University. I am filming him at the War memorial along with David Dexter, later this month.

The drama has been scheduled for late November, early December when the weather is warmer. The intention is to complete the program, at least to the first edit stage, in time for a screening at Phillip Island in February, 1988.

.../3

"NO TROUBLE"

. 3 .

I am anxious to contact Peter Alexander, Alan Luby and Alan Hollow, could you pass on their addresses please.

Finally, my best wishes and could you please return the enclosed photos to Mrs Ross for me with thanks.

Yours sincerely

COLIN J SOUTH
PRODUCER

"NO TROUBLE"

14 OCT 1987

810 Indep. Co. 2/2
correspondence

Colin J. Smith
Mediac World Pk.,
P.O. Box 214
Fitzroy, Vic. 3065

44 Frobergh Avenue
Sorrento, W.A. 6070
9th October, 1987

Dear Colin,

I should have responded to your letter of 17th Sept. a lot earlier but seemed to be snowed in. Thank you for your thoughtful action and the enclosure relating to the Japanese invasion of Timor, it was tremendously interesting.

You covered a lot of ground and seeing Michael Calvert and Mrs. Sandra Santos was indeed a bonus, as both were involved in the 2/2nd activities and their accounts would be telling ones.

Japan certainly rocked the pocket and your description left no doubt that going there would be an expensive exercise, but in your case, also very rewarding. Having the other side of the story gives you a whole heap of options.

Thanks for the name of the President of the 228 Regiment Association. As you so rightly suggest, only the Association can decide how we talk to, or if, the contact with this Association. On a personal basis, and I have more reason than most to ignore this introduction, one cannot live with hate and loathing otherwise you lose the real purpose in life, love of your fellowmen. We'll see what transpires but thank you for this opportunity Colin.

Your paragraph re the Japanese withdrawal in August after their push was read with interest and it may be able to help. Colin Day used Bernard Callinan's book as the basis of his writings and they are pretty accurate. My account was along similar lines but I had no access to Force plans, suffice to say, 'C' Platoon and 'I' Section were an integral part of the Same Valley operations, we had an 'on site' view of them!

The Dove Raid seemed to spark the 'August Push' as we must have been for the Japanese, uncomfortably close to Dili. This took place on 1st August '42, their push began on the 10th August '42. At that time 'I' Section were patrolling in

The Same Valley right up to the saddle. These dates were gleaned from my diary, now in book form.

On the morning of the 20th August '48 we spotted a large Japanese force counter patrolling the valley during the morning, at night the whole of the valley was like day with very lights. We went to ground for what we thought was their first night attack, and behold the next morning they were gone, not a sign of them anywhere.

Rigorously cautious 7 Section had the job of backtracking them to make contact. They had moved very quickly and all the contact with Portuguese, Chinese and Timorese pointed to the fact they had returned to Dili. We traversed the country right back to ~~Atene~~ Atene, there was no doubt where they had headed. Later we learnt the garrison had been changed. The 'August Push' had us in real bother in every area, then 'they were gone'!!

Just detailed this when to give you any lead you may be looking for. The 20th August '48 pulled down the curtain on the 'August Push'. Could not find the date in Colin's history but Bernard's book conveyed the above date. That date was instrumental in us seeing out our Timor campaign, we were at that stage, on the brink, so I will always remember that date. Trust this helps.

Give my regards, and those of all the boys, to your folks, be great if we could see your immediate version at Cowes Phillip Island. You have been in every way tremendously co-operative and our appreciation goes out to you in the way you have tackled and approached our particular part in your project. You have certainly cemented a real friendship with the 2/2nd in the process.

Good luck with your endeavours and the final outcome. The photos are being returned to Mrs Rose by Don Tuxton.

Yours sincerely,
Archie Campbell

**The
Double
Reds
of
Timor**



Archie Campbell

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Archie Campbell was born in Perth in 1916. A keen sportsman, he played for both the East Perth Cricket and East Perth Football Clubs from 1935 until he joined the AIF in 1940. He graduated from Officer Training School, and having completed special forces training in 1941, became a section commander in the newly-formed 2nd Independent Company — the “Double Reds”.

After Timor, Lieutenant Campbell returned to Australia, and married May Pearce (an outstanding sportswoman) in 1943. He developed and implemented selection and instruction courses for the Commando Training Squadron at Canungra (QLD), before returning to his old unit (renamed the 2/2nd Commando Squadron) in 1944, to serve as a captain in New Britain.

Discharged in November 1945, he moved to Australia's eastern states where he pioneered one of Melbourne's first courier services. In 1954, he returned to Perth and pursued a career in public relations and management. After 25 years service with Ampol Petroleum Limited, he retired as a works supervisor in 1981.

Post-war Mr Campbell maintained his keen interest in sport: as a radio commentator; Chief Announcer for the British Empire and Commonwealth Games (Perth, 1962); President of the WA Gymnastics Association; and — as late as 1985 — a member of the Board of Directors of the East Perth Football Club.

Despite his busy life, his dedication to Legacy, an organisation which supports the families of deceased service personnel, spans five decades. As an author, and editor of the *2/2 Commando Courier* (the Commando Association's bulletin), Mr Campbell enjoys an extremely active retirement on the coast at Sorrento in Western Australia.

**The
Double
Reds
of
Timor**

Archie Campbell

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INFORMATION SERVICE
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**



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II

VALE:

This is the eulogy I gave at the funeral of Archie Campbell who died at 1.10pm on Saturday, October 2nd, aged 83.

'Ladies and Gentlemen, Archie Campbell would be ashamed of me if he saw me reading his obituary from written notes. He himself was a good after dinner ad-lib speaker who scorned the use of notes. My excuse is that if I spoke from the heart on this particular occasion I might possibly choke up a bit.

Archie and I met at Northam camp in 1940 and have been the closest of friends ever since, for over 59 years. He wasn't just a friend but a very personal and loyal one. My eldest son is named after Arch and so is his eldest son.

Arch was a great soldier who lost nearly all his Section in a tragic event when they were slaughtered by the Japanese at the beginning of the East Timor campaign. This event scarred him deeply and he made a resolve to repay that loss by devoting much of his time after the war to helping the widows and children of ex-servicemen – in other words, Legacy. He joined Legacy in Sydney in 1947 and remained in it for 52 years. He moved to Melbourne and then back to Perth. His service to Legacy was exceptional; he never refused a job of any description; he was a Legatee who was devoted to his many 'families' and helped the widows and children with all those attendant problems that the lack of a father occasions. He was a Legatee who was involved in the whole broad spectrum of Legacy; he was Honorary Secretary for many years and became President in 1966.

Everything Archie did he did well. Playing footy for East Perth in the pre-war days he played well. Even earlier, when playing junior cricket with the Parry Street mob, he played brilliantly and with great effort and enthusiasm – at least that is what he told me! I did not know him in those days.

Quite apart from his work with Legacy he was a strong supporter and worker for our Army Unit Association – 2/2nd Commando Squadron. The big number of his comrades who are here today and who formed the guard of honour outside confirms the high regard in which he was held – particularly when we reflect that our numbers are getting less very quickly each year. Arch was Editor of the Courier for 14 years. The Courier is the Unit newsletter sent out regularly to members and friends. He was President in 1987, 1988 and 1989 and was made a Life Member in 1984. He was a very generous contributor to the Association and also to the Unit Trust Fund which has been sending and arranging humanitarian aid to the indigenous Timorese for 8 years.

Many who are here today will have read his book 'The Double Reds of Timor.' In typical Campbell fashion he arranged that half the proceeds should go to Legacy and the other half to our Association. In a preface to his book Archie paid a special tribute to his late wife May, who pre-deceased him some 18 years ago. May was one of the famous Pearce sisters of hockey renown. She was a wonderful Person and each of them was worthy of the other. Unfortunately they had no children.

Unfortunately, the last few years of Archie's life were not as rewarding or pleasant for him as the earlier years. Chronic arthritis, minor strokes, a major stroke and a massive heart attack all combined to make life very unrewarding for one who deserved much better. It was the heart attack which caused his death three days later. However, during my visits with Keith Hayes to Archie's little room at Weston Hostel Salvation Army we used to reminisce about happier times. Archie had plenty of laughter left in him. A few years back he and I had a wonderful trip to the Canadian Rockies and then a week in Alaska with a fantastic sea voyage from and back to Vancouver. It was fortunate that we had that experience as shortly afterwards his health began to decline.

I could go on a lot longer of course but have been warned that our time within this building is very restricted.

And so, all of you here knew Archie and I know you join me when I say that a very good and loyal and generous man has left us and our community is the poorer because of it. Thank you.

John BurrIDGE

Lest We Forget

The following were present at Archie's funeral service on Wednesday, 6th October – Ray Aitken, Len and Betty Bagley, Tom Bateman, Tony Bowers, John BurrIDGE, Jack and Delys Carey, John and Olive Chalwell, Dick Darrington, Ron Dook, 'Pip' Dunkley, Peter, Sue and Jess Epps, Gerry and Lal Green, Les Halse, Laurie Harrington, Roy Hanson, Keith and Val Hayes, Bill and Elvie Howell, Charlie and Paddy King, Bernie and Babs Langridge, John Lillie, Wilf and Lorraine March, Ted and Peg Monk, Nellie Mullins, Don and Ida Murray, Ray Parry, Joe and Helen Poynton and daughter Julie Ann, Steve Rogers, Les Cranfield, Bob Smyth, Eric and Twy Smyth, 'Dusty' Studdy, Clarie Turner and Don Turton. Apologies were tendered by Don May, Alby Friend, Gerry Maley, Harry Sproxtton, 'Doc' Wheatley and Stan Payne.

Footballer served country

ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL

BORN: March 26, 1915

DIED: October 2, 1999

ARCHIE CAMPBELL was a man who applied his physical fitness to football and serving his country with equal gusto.

One of seven children, he was born in Parry St, Perth.

He attended James St School and Perth Boys School, where he was highly respected for his sporting ability.

In 1936 he was selected to play football for East Perth.

Always physically fit, Mr Campbell played on a wing and as a rover.

Off the football field he combined a healthy social life with work for hosiery company Julius Kayser.

After joining the Australian Imperial Force in 1939, Mr Campbell volunteered for duties with the commandos.

He was placed in an elite unit of 250 men called the Second Seconds or Red Diamonds.

The Second Seconds trained in the harsh conditions of Wilson's Promon-

tory in southern Victoria before being sent to Timor just hours before it was invaded by the Japanese.

Mr Campbell was promoted to lieutenant and with the rest of the Second Seconds fought a vicious but successful guerilla war.

It was estimated the unit lost 40 men but killed more than 1000 Japanese.

Winston Churchill commended the unit after the war, saying it had been the only one in the Pacific not to have surrendered when the Japanese invaded.

Mr Campbell was discharged from the army in 1945 after being evacuated from Timor.

He wrote a book about his wartime experiences called *The Double Red of Timor*.

In 1943 he married May Pearce from Lake Grace.

She was later captain of the Australian women's hockey team.

Mr Campbell's experiences in Timor led him to take a deep interest in Legacy.

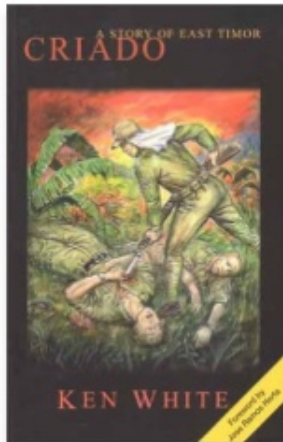
He remained a prominent member until his death.

He leaves a brother and sister.



Archie Campbell

● If you know of somebody who has died recently and would make an interesting subject for our obituary column, write to Candice Silverman at *The Sunday Times*, 34 Stirling St, Perth, WA 6000.



Want to Read

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Criado: A Story of East Timor

by Ken White

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Jose Ramos Horta's foreword sets this story of East Timor in context of the suffering of the East Timorese leading up to their independence. The story of Archie Campbell and his criado, Barana, recall the strong ties between Australia and East Timor, forged in a war over 50 years ago.

Paperback, 175 pages

Published November 30th 2002 by Indra Publishing

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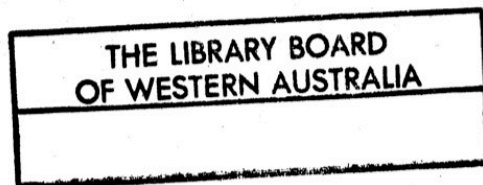
KEN WHITE

Foreword by
Jose Ramos Horta

Criado – A Story of East Timor

Ken White

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Author's Note

In 1942, fighting in the mountains of East Timor and plagued by hunger and disease, a group of Australian commandos, fewer than 400 in number, pinned down more than 20,000 Japanese troops with ambushes and hit-and-run tactics, at times inflicting heavy losses on them. It later prompted Winston Churchill to remark, 'Little known but great in significance are the men of the 2/2nd Independent Company in Timor; they alone of all the troops in the [region] did not surrender.'

During that campaign, in a little-known tragedy, fourteen members of 7 Section, 'C' Platoon, and two from Army headquarters, their average age twenty-three, were stopped while going on leave by a Japanese patrol, lined up, shot and bayoneted. Miraculously two survived, but the bodies of their mates were never found. By a quirk of fate, their commanding officer, Lieutenant Archie Campbell, was not with them at the time.

Thirty-one years later, Campbell and his life-long friend, Don Turton, who was second-in-charge of the 2/2, returned to East Timor to try and find their 'black angels' – the young Timorese who were their constant companions (called *criados*) during the campaign and to whom they owed their lives. I met the two former commandos in Dili, the capital, before they set out on their search and together with my wife, was invited to join them. After he returned to Australia, Campbell gave me a copy of his wartime memoirs and diary and for more than a quarter of a century they have been lying in my bookcase with other military works.

What happened in East Timor during the war haunted Campbell long after it ended. It is on his memoirs and his search for his criado, as well as my own experiences as a journalist, that this book is based. However, it is essentially Campbell's story and the anguish he suffered in the rugged terrain of that blighted country.

Ken White, Melbourne, 2002

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• Perth Labor MP John Hyde inspects his uncle's captured Japanese sword, on display at the WA Museum.
 Photo by Matthew Dwyer

Debt of honour on display

by DAVID BELL

A JAPANESE officer's sword captured by John Hyde's uncle in World War II has been put on display at the WA Museum.

Archie Campbell was a member of the elite 2/2 Independent Company, the outfit known as the spiritual predecessor of Australia's SAS.

In 1942 around 300 Australian commandos from the 2/2 harried up to 15,000 Japanese troops as they marched on Timor.

The 2/2 was the only unit in the area not to surrender, launching guerrilla-style attacks against convoys. They were so effective the Japanese suspected their foes numbered in the thousands.

Mr Hyde recalls his uncle's faith helped him heal after the war. "He was a man of great Christian faith," the Perth state Labor MP says. When the war ended Mr Campbell made friends with the children of a Japanese soldier who'd died in the fighting. The 2/2 was known for its close

friendships with the "Criados", Timorese youths who helped soldiers by providing intelligence and carrying equipment.

"They were so good, the Criados," one soldier is quoted as saying at the exhibition. "They risked their lives all the time for us. It shamed you, really."

Exhibition curator James Dexter says part of the good relations stemmed from strict rules imposed on Australian troops. The command made very clear there was to be no harassment of locals, and soldiers were required to pay for everything. It was common for soldiers to write home saying, "send more .45 ammo, and some money".

Thirty years after the war ended, Mr Campbell tracked down his Criado, Barana—who'd survived the Japanese, only to die during Indonesia's invasion of the tiny nation.

"I think many [2/2 veterans] felt absolutely distraught that Australia hadn't been more active in supporting East Timor when Indonesia invaded," Mr Hyde said.

"For a couple of years later for Barana to be killed, it was a double kick in the guts."

Vincent councillor John Carey's dad Jack Carey OAM was a tommy-gunner for the 2/2, and continued to support Timor by organising welfare packages and lobbying prime ministers from Gough Whitlam onwards to do more for the country.

Mr Carey, who died last year, once said: "But for the Timorese we would not have lasted a month. It was a big advantage to know where the Japanese were, where they were coming from. The Timorese would relay information from hill to hill. You could get quite close to the Japs and be reasonably safe because you knew you would not be betrayed."

Mr Hyde says his uncle was pretty open about his war experiences but he never heard the story behind how he came across the sword.

• **Debt of Honour: Australia's First Commandos and East Timor is on display at the WA Museum until May 20.**

Students invent a life saver

by STEPHEN POLLOCK

A NEW phone app developed by Edith Cowan University students could help save lives.

The app turns a smart phone into an emergency beacon at the push of a button, transmitting GPS co-ordinates to search and rescue services.

It will enable emergency services to pinpoint the exact location of a lost bushwalker or someone stranded at sea.

The app also acts as a light source, which can be detected by night-vision equipment in police helicopters up to 4km away.

It was developed by four ECU students studying computer science, and the WA Police Air Wing.

ECU students became guinea pigs when they tested the app in bushland near Jandakot airport. They were located by police within minutes of the app sending out a distress signal.

Computer science student Laurence Da Luz says the app was developed because police need more accurate information.

"Almost everybody has access to a smartphone in today's society and GPS programs on phones are

relatively common," Mr Da Luz said.

"The WA police have great resources to rescue someone once they know their location—the problem is getting that location to police."

"This application bridges the gap, sending an automated GPS location to rescuers, giving them the best chance at finding survivors and saving lives."

Air Wing officer Ian Davidson, says the software will help search operations.

"Using the onboard navigation system, the police were able to locate students within a matter of minutes, with the app visible at three to four kilometres from the police helicopter," he said.

The app uses the smartphone's 3G connection and is designed to be used in bushland near cities and near-shore locations.

It is not intended as a replacement for marine radios nor full-blown emergency radio beacons.

The software has been nominated as a finalist at the 2012 WA Information Technology and Telecommunications Awards and will be released as a free android app (iPhone users are on their own).

Ruddy awesome

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Compiled by Ed Willis
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