

2/2 COMMANDO SQUADRON ASSOCIATION

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 1.

14th September, 1947

This letter should be of interest to all our country members who were unable to visit the city for the Annual Reunion. As you will understand the month has been a very busy one, what with the usual monthly meeting on the First and the "Big Do" at Monash House.

Now to tell you something of the Annual get together. The Hall looked a picture with the tables all nicely set and the menus with the Unit Colour Patch boldly emblazoned upon them, all standing up like soldiers. The kegs were tapped at 7p.m. sharp and the lads started to roll along in singles, pairs and dozens. At eight o'clock a flash light of all present was taken and for this we are indebted to Mr. Doug Burton of the Daily News. By the way this Photo turned out beautifully and is very clear, anybody desiring a print should send a Postal Note for three shillings to the Treasurer, Ron Dook, when a print will be sent to your address. After this interlude the serious business of eating, drinking and toasting took place. The attendance was just over eighty and all voted it a cracker jack evening and, if anything an improvement on last year. I am afraid I can't tell you when this wonderful night ended as I left at midnight, all was going merrily at that hour and reports trickle in that various groups were still going strong at 3a.m. The lads I spoke to all said that this function is a permanent date with them every year, and believe me as the years go by the attendance will grow, as quite a few country folk couldn't make it this year but intend to make a moral of it next year.

I had better give you a brief resume of those present especially the Bush members. I think pride of place in the travel stakes goes to Alf Hillman, who came all the way from Broome Hill for the night. Those two hardy annuals Bernie Langridge and W. Rowan - Robinson of course were among those present. "Chook" Fowler from Wongan Hills, Tony Bowers and Jim Gallagher from Kojonup were seen renewing acquaintances with various mates. Gordon Holmes down from Cranbrook, Arthur Marshall and "Ping" Anderson from Harvey, Stan King from Boddington were among those sipping the amber fluid and swapping yarns with all and sundry. To give you a list of all the Metropolitan members present would be to go on and on and take the enormous risk of forgetting somebody and thus bringing their righteous ire down on my head. If you want to know who was present just buy one of those excellent flashlight pictures which will show you all and make an excellent souvenir.

Quite a few of the lads sent in apologies notably Clarrie Turner, who we are very sorry to say, had the misfortune to lose his father and we offer him our sincere condolences. Other apologies were received from Don Tarton, Merv Cash, Ron Sprigg, "Sparky", Norm Thornton, George Smith, Ken Mackintosh and Jack Poynton and of course all those good chaps who sent in the slip to say they could not make it.

Well boys that is about all about the Dinner but it is our intention to send menus to all those who were unable to make it for the evening, and thus give them a souvenir of a very enjoyable night.

The usual Monthly meeting was held at Monash Club on the 1st of the month, but owing to the proximity of the Dinner a very small roll up attended. Many matters of interest were discussed, notably a notice of motion by Ray Aitken re assistance to orphaned children of members of the Unit. This matter brought up quite a bit of discussion on avenues of work for the Association to do. It was decided to leave this matter over until next meeting, when it is hoped a larger attendance will deal more adequately with this most important matter. Country members are asked to send in any ideas they may have for the Association to deal with, I put it to you this way. An organisation never remains static it either goes back or forward and to go forward and truly live we must have good work to do, and not just an attendance at meetings to listen to the minutes and what have you, so lads let me know all those ideas your fertile brains can think up.

Correspondence was really heavy this month owing to the Reunion, so of course I will only be able to give you a brief resume of these letters. Firstly a letter from Don Murray, who tells us that things are quite good up his way (Waddy Forrest). From Tony Davidson, at Kalgoorlie who says that the City Dwellers just about cleaned out all the Cigarettes from the Fields. Peter Bardeh writes from Harvey, he is editor of the Local Paper and also A.B.C. Correspondent so if you hear any Harvey news on the air you will know it emanates from Peter. Ken Mackintosh writes from Karriggin to say he is OK, and hoping to see quite a few of the boys, Show Time. A letter from Jonny Moore regretting he could not make the Dinner this year but wishing all a good evening. Alf Blundy writes from Katanning that he is going well and wants his regards sent on to all the gang. Letters to hand also from B.A. Brown, G.E. Pendgrast, Stan King, Geo Timms, Reg, Harrington, Stan Payne, Pat Doyle (Kalgoorlie), Kev Millington, Gig Green, Rusty Studdy and of course scores of chaps who sent in the forms re the Dinner.

With the "Big Do" over the Association hopes now to settle down to quite a bit of other work and it is hoped that the Photographic Scheme will be put under way in the very near future. Quite a few matters are still outstanding such as the address book, for which we are still awaiting details from the Eastern States.

I have to record that Jerry Haire is in Hollywood Hospital Hospital latest reports state he is making good progress. "Huddy" also has been an inmate of Hollywood, Charlie Dodge is a proud father of Twins a pigeon pair at that !!

This letter would not be complete without a word of praise to Mick Calcutt for the excellent organisation of the Reunion, to Ray Aitken for drafting the menus and Bill Epps for the excellent job of printing he did, to Wilf March for his able assistance in decorating the Hall and also for getting the big Double Diamond painted for us.

Now a word about the next meeting to be held at Monash Club, King St, on the 5th November (Guy Fawkes Day) we want a bumper roll up at this meeting so boys make it a date to be with the gang on the 5th and as usual partake of a little of the fluid that cheers. Please don't forget those photos of the Reunion. If you want one send immediately to Rob Dook, so that we can arrange the necessary supplies.

Well enough for now,

Cheerio,

(C.D.DOIG.)
HON. EDITOR.