



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

(Registered at the G.P.O. Perth, for transmission by post as a periodical)
(Address All Association Correspondence to Box T1646, G.P.O., Perth)

Vol. 22. No. 206.

FEBRUARY, 1968.

Price 1 cent.

Editorial

The Great Safari

Less than two months hence the Great Safari gets under way from Perth. This will bring to fruition plans started in Perth at the 1962 Commonwealth Games Re-union.

There is not the slightest doubt that this travelling re-union will be an outstanding success. Planning in Melbourne and Sydney, the two main stop-over points, is at a high level and those who attend can be certain of fabulous entertainment plus, of course, that wonderful feeling of being able to meet our old mates once again.

On present indications the contingent from W.A. will comprise 33 males and 22 females. This is a very considerable contribution to the Safari considering that leave and other things have to be obtained.

It appears the switch to mainly rail travel has assisted in getting such a good muster from W.A. The tedium of hacking a car over such a

vast distance with the consequent troubles from re-unions, etc., was an early deterrent to quite a few but leaving the problems to the engine driver assisted many in making up their minds to be in it.

Elsewhere in this issue a letter from Jack Hartley sets out the planning position in N.S.W. The itinerary in Victoria has already been published. The overall itinerary is also republished in this issue to refresh the minds of those who are to take part.

This Great Safari Re-union can do nothing but good in holding the Association together and strengthening those bonds of friendship made so many years ago and which have held together so well despite the passing of the years.

The "Courier" wishes this Safari well and when it gets under way you will be fully informed of the events and all that goes with it.

TIMOR MEMORIAL APPEAL

This appeal is now well under way and is meeting with a good response. However, we still require a great deal of money to bring the whole thing to a successful conclusion. If you have not responded yet please forward your donations as soon as

possible as time is definitely the essence of the contract.

Since last we went to press Ray Aitken has visited Timor on our behalf and signed with the Acting Governor of Portuguese Timor a firm undertaking regarding the whole pro-

ject. Ray was most impressed with the persons mainly handling the memorial. The Director of Works and the Architect who were most enthusiastic and prepared to go to any lengths to make this a really outstanding memorial. Ray was also most impressed with the assistance received to date and what he will do in the future by the Australian Consul, Mr. Colhoun-Denvers.

Ray received absolute V.I.P. treatment on the whole of his three week tour from the Portuguese authorities and managed to see most of the area we fought and travelled over in Timor. Ray kept a diary of events and this is to be published in the "Courier" and will make interesting and nostalgic reading.

The big fly in the ointment at present is the attitude of the Commonwealth Government who do not appear to be very co-operative. Should the Government refuse to help our task will be doubly difficult and we may be forced to go to the public of Australia to fill the gap. I feel sure if we do this the generosity of the public can be relied upon to take up the slack which would be left by a Government denial of our just claim.

The present position regarding the actual erection of the Memorial is that site preparation has commenced and that foundations would have been started. The latest advise is that the wet season had well and truly set in and that it was not expected that the project would be carried beyond the foundations until the wet season ended.

The expected date of completion will not be before September, 1968. Time is on our side in our efforts to raise the necessary money to see the project through.

Could I once again reiterate the great necessity for you to contribute to this project as soon as possible and in the best possible way having regard to your financial position.

TIMOR MEMORIAL FUND

Gordon Holmes	10
Alf Hillman	100
Geo. Lewis	10
Peter Mantle	20
Don Turton	50
Ernie Bingham	5
Don Young	2
Nip Cunningham	10
Peter Campbell	20

Jack Carey	50
Dave Ritchie	5
Mark Conroy	10
Bert Burgess	50
Alfredos dos Santos	20
Gordon Stanley	10
Ron Dook	20
Tony Davidson	20
Bi'l Holstein	20
Paul Costelloe	20
Tom Crouch	50
Bill Bennett	50
Norm Thornton	50
Anonymous (2 sheep sold at Midland)	13.32
Keith Hayes	20
Eddie Craghill	10
R. G. Snowdon	20
Col. Criddle	10
W. E. C. Monk	50
Bob Smyth	100
Jerry Haire (second)	80
Frank Goddard (Doig's Friend)	2

Balance to date \$2,283.18

Heard This?

The man wandered in at 3 a.m. after an uproarious evening. In a few minutes ungodly squawks came out of the radio in the living room. His wife hurried downstairs and discovered her spouse twisting the radio dials back and forth frantically.

"G'way, G'way, and don't bother me," he yelled. "Somebody's locked in the safe and I can't remember the combination."

(Printed for the publisher by "The Swan Express", 10 Helena Street, Midland, W.A.)

**When in Town
Make The
DON CLOTHING CO.
Your Rendezvous For Mercery**

Meet Dave Ritchie and Say
Good-day
10% Your Way on All Purchases

**Remember:
DON CLOTHING CO.
William Street, Perth**

West Australian Whisperings

Association Activities

Since the last "Courier" there has not been much in the way of activity as this is the normal recess period.

DECEMBER MEETING

This Bucks Night took place on Tuesday, Dec. 5, at Anzac House Basement. The opportunity was taken to present the Calcutt Memorial Trophy to Bill Epps, this year's winner.

On this occasion, due to ill-health, Mr. Calcutt Snr. could not perform the task and his son Syd Calcutt came along in his stead and made the presentation. The evening from then on took the form of an indoor bowls night and proved to be a beauty. We introduced Syd Calcutt to indoor bowls for the first time (he is a prominent lawn bowls player) and he thoroughly enjoyed the performance.

WORKING BEE AT KINGS PARK

A crowd of the boys got together on Sunday, Jan. 28, to clear up the area which had got into poor shape due to bark falling and grass growing on the roadway. It took some three hours to remove all the debris which was quite considerable and when finished the area looked really excellent. Quite an oasis in the middle of a desert.

It is with regret that we are losing Len Titshall, of the Kings Park staff, who has been doing the watering for some time. Len retired from the Board on Jan. 20. We hope that his successor will afford us the same assistance. We wish him a very happy retirement.

Committee Comment

There have been two meetings of the Committee since last we published the "Courier" and these have been largely given over to affairs concerning the Timor Memorial and the Great Safari.

At the December meeting Ray Aitken who had returned from Timor only a few days previously, gave us a full account of all his dealings with the Porto authorities and read us his

most comprehensive diary of his travels throughout Timor. Out of it all emerged the fact that we were in good hands as far as the personnel in Timor were concerned.

We could not have sent a better man than Ray who still speaks Tetum very well and appears to understand the Portuguese personality and be able to come to terms with them. Ray advised that he had signed the equal of a form contract with the Acting Governor. He brought back a complete set of plans and specifications and all in all was satisfied that the Memorial could not be erected on a better site and he was sure it could be a functional thing of beauty which we hoped it would be.

Col Doig, as Organiser of the Great Safari, reported that this project had reached the stage where the plans were ready for implementation. The muster from this State was every thing he hoped for and it appeared that the Branches in the East were in a position to be ready for the tourists.

Personalities

It is with extreme regret we have to advise of the death of Sue Payne, 21 year old daughter of Stan Payne, in a car accident. Sue was a school teacher and was setting out from Nakarnie to go to Mullewa where her appointment for the year was made, when she was in the accident that brought about her death. We extend our most sincere sympathy to Stan on this tragic occurrence and hope that time, the great healer, will come to his assistance.

Jack Hasson and son Ken recently did a trip around a good portion of the State. From Perth to Augusta, to Pemberton, to Albany, to Esperance, to Kalgoorlie, and back to Perth. About 1,600 miles in all. Never struck any of the gang until they reached Kalgoorlie where they spent a couple of days seeing Steve Rogers, Jack Sheahan and Jack Spencer. They really whooped it up and Steve wrote us requesting I keep Hasson in the metropolitan area in future. They went out to see the "game" which Jack Sheahan has some "minor" interest in. They got Jack Spencer into plenty of trouble and all in all had a great time. Jack

Sheahan had just bought another small farmlet property and Jack Hasson said when they left he was down on his hands and knees praying for rain to soften up the fence post holes.

Don and Vida Turton married off daughter Maxine a few weeks ago and had a wonderful wedding. Saw Ernie Bingham and Arch Campbell there and bashed one another's ears unmercifully.

Ken Bowden has been having his fair share of success with his Flying 15 yacht, having won a couple of races and placed in others. Keep it up "Curly", we enjoy your success.

Jack Denman has been appointed to a new job with Mobil Oil. He is now manager for the North West. Congrats Jack. Sorry it interfered with your plans to attend the Safari.

Doug Fullarton has headed off on a long term working holiday to the Eastern States. Says he is now going to be a sundowner and enjoy life to the full. Look out you lads in the East, a villian is on the rampage.

Col Hodson is currently touring the Eastern States on his long service leave and hopes to be able to contact as many of the boys as possible. He will act as advance guard for the Safari.

Saw Ron Sprigg the other day. He was down in Perth to make arrangements for his trip on the Safari. Ron is looking forward to meeting the gang in the East.

Clarrie Varian has been on the sick list for some time with a minor heart attack. He is improving rapidly and has lost a lot of weight which he thinks will be a good thing. We wish you a speedy recovery.

Heard This?

"There we were in the jungle," said the explorer, "every drop of whisky had gone, and we were parched with thirst."

"Wasn't there any water?"

"Sure, but we had no time to think of cleanliness."

* * *

"Dad, why is a man not allowed to have more than one wife?"

"My son, when you are older you will realise that the law protects those who are incapable of protecting themselves."

The Great Safari

ITINERARY FOR RAIL TRAVEL

April 6: Leave Perth 6.20 p.m.

April 7: Arrive Kalgoorlie 7.45 a.m.

April 8: Dep. Kalgoorlie 8.30 a.m.

April 9: Ar. Adelaide 5.17 p.m.

April 12: Dep. Adelaide 7 p.m.

April 13 (Easter Saturday): Arrive Melbourne 8.35 a.m. Morning and afternoon free for participants to go to football, races, etc., as their fancy suits them. Evening to be a social either a barbecue at a private home or held in a hall with dancing, etc.

April 14 (Sunday): Visit to Tidal River, Wilsons Promontory by buses.

April 15 (Monday): Free day. Evening to be Annual Re-Union, bucks night. Women will be catered for at a theatre night or some such evening.

April 16 (Tuesday): a completely free day as this will be the first occasion on which the Melbourne shops will be open and will allow visitors a chance to see around Melbourne.

April 17: Dep. Melbourne 8.40 a.m.

April 17: Ar. Canberra 6.15 p.m.

April 19: Dep. Canberra for the Snowy River 7 a.m.

April 21: Arrive back at Canberra ex Snowy River 7.30 p.m.

April 22: Dep. Canberra 5.2 p.m.

April 22: Ar. Sydney 10.5 p.m.

April 23: An informal dinner and evening will be arranged at the Cabravale Diggers Club.

April 24: A "do as you please" day for resting, cleaning up, shopping, etc.

April 25: Usual arrangements for Anzac Day followed by a day of entertainment at Arncliffe R.S.L.

April 26: Open for visits to the city buildings, art gallery, museum, zoo, etc.

April 27: Picnic at Warragamba Dam followed by a visit to General MacArthur-Onslow's Rotolac Dairy at Camden.

April 28: Yatching picnic on Sydney Harbour.

The itinerary for the road travellers will include all these outings and stop-overs excepting that they will leave Perth a couple of days previously so as to join up with the rail travellers at Adelaide.

Random Harvest

PETER BARDEN, of 6GN, Geraldton, W.A., writes:—

Double-red-diamond types at Geraldton recently had the pleasure of renewing the acquaintance of "Dutchy" Holland who was on holiday from Perth with his wife and family. They stayed at one of Bill Drage's beach cottages and no doubt experienced an enjoyable visit because Dragie arranged a fishing trip. (They tell me it was a beautie that got away, Dutchy!)

The Smyth family has been in the news again. Eric's daughter, Erica, who is a student of the Geraldton High School, won a Commonwealth Scholarship worth \$400 and then got eight subjects in her Junior examination.

Eric Weller's son Anthony, also won one of these Scholarships (he attends St. Pat's College, Geraldton) and then got seven subjects in his Junior.

Well, we've just had our R.S.L. annual general meeting and "Yours Truly" has been re-elected Publicity Officer. One of my first jobs will be to compile the Sub-Branch entry in the Collett Cup competition, in an endeavour to win the award for the outstanding country Sub-Branch of the year, for the eighth occasion.

There is a great spirit of co-operation between our R.S.L. officers and we never experience difficulty in filling positions, as exemplified by the fact that a Gallipolli veteran, Artie Milford, has entered his 35th term as Repatriation Officer.

Our fair town of Geraldton, "The Gateway to the North", continues to make great progress. Building permits for undertakings worth more than \$3½ million were issued last year. They included 256 new houses. The town itself now has about 3,800 houses and a population of more than 14,000. In addition 6½ million bushels of wheat from the new harvest has already been handled at Geraldton.

Well, I must be away for now, as duty calls. Kind regards to all the boys.

JACK HARTLEY, of 19 Elva St., Cabramatta, N.S.W., writes:—

I'm sure you must be wondering when I'm going to come good with some details of our plans for your

visit and I can only apologise for the long delay. Actually we had mapped out a programme a long time ago and I intended sending it over for your approval but after a lot of thought and kicking around at our monthly meetings we decided that some of our plans would be far too costly and so we have been working on ways and means of bringing things to a level where we could cope with the financial side of it. We now can see our way clear and I feel sure you will be happy with the arrangements we are making for you.

Our primary concern is to ensure that none of our visitors has to dig in his kick for accommodation and entertainment expenses for the week you are here, which means of course that we intend covering these costs ourselves and any argument to the contrary will be ruled out of order.

Eric Weller's son Anthony, also won one of these Scholarships (he attends St. Pat's College, Geraldton) and then got seven subjects in his Junior.

Our greatest problem is home accommodation, as there are not very many of us in the city or metropolitan area and most of us are already using our homes at maximum capacity. As yet I haven't a full list of those who can take someone in, but personally I am more in favour of keeping you together as much as possible, especially so because there will not be many cars in the group and transport will be much simpler if we don't have to chase around the countryside to pick people up for outings, etc.

With this in mind we have been scouting around the various caravan parks and although they vary greatly in their tariffs according to location, we have a very good offer for four berth caravans at a park reasonably close to Cabramatta. These parks are clean and well appointed with toilets and washing facilities, and I think everyone would be quite happy in them for a few days.

I suggest that married couples split up and we put four women in one van and four men in another. By comparison with two berth vans this would cut our costs by about 40 per cent. Would you mind airing this at your next meeting, and let me know how the chaps feel about it.

Of course if anyone feels they would prefer something better than there are plenty of motels in the

area and we will be happy to make any arrangements required in that direction.

By the way, I have tried to ring Col several times in the evening for a yarn, but each time the girl has said no answer to the ring. Please let me have your home number in case I was given the wrong one and the times I am most likely to catch you at home and I'll ring you to give you a progress report. I particularly wanted to talk to you about letting your chaps know about Ray Harris passing on, as Mavis has been dreading the thought of getting Christmas cards from the Sadler boys and others who were particularly matey with Blue. Hence the telegram.

And now here is a brief outline of the programme we have mapped out for you.

1. Everyone will be met on arrival and taken to wherever they are staying.
2. An informal dinner and evening will be arranged for April 23 at the Cabravale Diggers Club.
3. April 24 will be a do as you please day for resting, cleaning up, shopping, etc.
4. April 25 usual arrangements for Anzac Day followed by a day of entertainment at Arncliffe R.S.L. The ladies will be able to watch the march or go to the movies as the fancy takes them.
5. April 26, open for visits to the city buildings, art gallery, museum, zoo, etc.
6. April 27, picnic at Warragamba Dam followed by a visit to General MacArthur-Onslow's Rotolac Dairy at Camden.
7. April 28, yatching picnic on Sydney Harbour.

I think everyone will be ready to tap the mat at this point and head for home, but if not we can always think of something else to do. This is such a huge place that you could spend a month or more just touring around and you still wouldn't see it all.

I really should have written to you long ago to report the deaths of several N.S.W. chaps but I'm only home two or three nights a week and of course the family have to have some of my time so it doesn't leave much for writing.

Our new son Andrew is six months old now and a little beauty

too, and believe it or not there is going to be another one arriving in late May or early June next year. The three older boys, 12, 9 and 7, began keeping pet rabbits last year and I think they must have Jonahed us.

Alec Garbutt was accidentally killed in a fall from a painter's scaffold in Newcastle early this year.

Arthur Hirst died in April following a long and painful illness. Arthur was a mathematician with I.B.-M. in Sydney and had just reached the top of the ladder with an appointment to the board and also had just been elected a member of the Council for Economic Control of Australia (or something similar) when he was struck down by cancer. He left a widow and two small boys.

Ray Harris passed away in May after a very long illness with a heart complaint. Poor old Ray had reached the stage where he was a complete invalid and it was an effort for him to even walk.

Another old member who passed on some time ago was Arch Bowman, of Queensland. I understand Arch suffered a sprained ankle and this was bandaged too tightly and resulted in gangrene setting in the affected leg. This leg was amputated but the other leg was then affected and he eventually died as a result.

Also killed a few years ago was Eddy Elliot who fell over a cliff out Bondi way while on a fishing trip.

With regard to Alan Thompson's letter in the "Courier" I'm afraid the Combined Commando Group here must feel we are an unsociable lot of b— and personally I would like to accept their invitation to join them on the ferry each year but unfortunately we had already accepted the invitation from Arncliffe R.S.L. and they have been so good to us over the years that we don't want to disappoint them on this special occasion.

Many years ago we used to have our Anzac Day Re-unions in private homes and one year we joined up with the Combined Commando Assn- for their re-union. This was a complete shambles—hot beer, fights, etc., so ever since then we have stuck with the Arncliffe mob and everyone is very happy with the arrangements.

About the time Jack O'Brien died

most of us belonged to the Armoured Corps Club in the city and we were also affiliated with the 8th Division Association, but there seemed to be some danger of us losing our identity in these big organisations so we dropped out and are quite content with keeping our own little Association going.

If you haven't already written to Allan Thompson I suggest you advise him that all arrangements have been made by us for the full period of your stay and we don't want to change anything at this stage.

Since I began this letter we have had another meeting and decided to make the booking for 60 people at the Bass Hill Caravan Park. This park is right on the Hume Highway and the facilities are first class. There is a large hotel about 200 yards

away, a drive in theatre about 400 yards away, a hamburger bar and grocery shop, etc., right opposite, so we feel it is ideal for our purposes. Also there is a motel almost opposite and if anyone feels the park is not what they desire we will fix them up at the motel.

Another thing, we want to run a sweep on the Sydney Cup next Easter to help out with expenses and if you have no objections we will send tickets to everyone in the Address Book. Which reminds me that Bill Bennett has not been getting his "Courier" and did not get an Address Book so if you have a few spare ones we would appreciate them.

Well, if I don't finish this off now it will be 1968 before you get it.

All the best for Christmas.



The jeep's bogged, the boongs are bogged, and we are resting prior to making another attempt to push the flaming thing up that muddy slope in the background. Oh! by the way, it's our "rest" period at Goroka. Left to right: Ray Parry, Ted Loud, "Kiwi" Harrison (in background), can't remember other fellows name, and our chief Tom Nesbit.

(Photo supplied by Ray Parry)

"Uncle" MARK CONROY, of 19 Legana Street, Launceston, Tas., writes to Bill Epps:—

Before me I have your letter dated Aug. 7, 1960, address 12 Hackett-st., Greenmount, W.A.

Doing some cleaning up over Christmas I came unexpectedly upon your epistle and looking at the date decided it was time I answered it.

It seems incredible the years that have passed since you shaved your beard off at Darwin and I did not recognise you. After we parted at Canungra I joined the 2/12th In. Bn. and went to New Guinea and went to the Ramu Valley, then over "Shaggy Ridge". Had a few months in New Guinea, returned home for some time, then to Moratoi, and was in the initial landing at Balikpapan. We were still there when the war ended.

I became a Sgt. after a lot of crawling. Got married soon after being discharged and have three off-springs. Mike, a clerk with Tasmanian Breweries, home on leave now after six months service with the 20 year old call up group, and shortly will be off to Vietnam. Colleen in her final year of hairdressing. Mark, second year at high school. As I was 34 years of age when married I could not produce the cricket team I was after.

I met up with Kevin Curran just after the war when he was in Tassie with a Victorian football side. Whilst on football I took my leave last year and saw the football carnival in Hobart. Cable, from the West, was a "ripper". I will never understand why Gerry Green played rugby.

Like Vic Pacey I work for the Hydro Electric Commission. I am only a switchboard operator plus two way radio, but to highlight the job I call myself "Communications and Liaison Officer". It might impress Mopello of "whopper" fame.

I see Harry Botterill each trip he has to Tassy and he usually comes home to reminisce of Timor days.

Mike, my eldest son, captained his high school at football and cricket. Colleen won a few tap dancing championships, and Mark excels with my motor mower. A commendable performance. My wife still tolerates me —another commendable performance

Apart from persistent so-called tropical ulcers and too much weight I am greying but not balding, so at 57 years I have no complaints.

Ken Pinner, from the 2/40th, but later with 2/2nd, died suddenly recently. Three other 40th ex-prisoners died from heart attacks within the last few months. I guess the years of worry in prison camps is now catching up with them.

This brings me to the point of appreciation of what a grand job was done by Double Red Diamond band of boys on Timor. Those of us fortunate to get back with your boys surely owe our lives to the courage and tenacity of the 2/2nd Company. Without doubt one of the epics of the war and never publicized enough was that of the 2/2nd Independent Company on Timor.

The memorial scheme is an excellent one. My contribution is small but every little helps.

The Safari should be a huge success.

I get a real kick out of receiving and reading the "Courier". It certainly brings back old names and places. "Historically Yours" was very interesting.

I don't know "Beakie" Smith's christian name, but I have a big hunch how he got his nick name. I was amused with his methods of getting a pension and think it may have some connection with the success of the N.S.W. slot machines. I would love to meet up with all the old Sapper Section again, particularly George Strickland, who had promised me a visit to the "drums" or some such name, where bustlines are flattered.

Have not seen Tex Richards for many moons. Gordon Stanley worked with me for a few years but is in Queensland now.

Re-reading your letter of Aug. 7, 1960, I am sorry but I'll have to refuse your kind offer of accommodation for the 1962 Games.

Well, Bill, belated as this reply is names and memories of our Timor days are always fresh. The chaps I personally came in contact with were a great bunch of fellows.

All the best to your good family and may we meet in the near future. Regards to all my old cobbbers.



Our first Anzac Day march. I think 1946. If so it's our 21st anniversary (where Anzac Days are concerned). The boys are moving down William Street to the Esplanade. Tom Nesbit is commanding the parade, Ernie Bingham is standard bearer. (Photo supplied by Ray Parry)

CLARRIE TURNER, of "Killora Stud", Elgin, W.A., writes:—

I feel that as I have been given the honour of being made a Country Vice President that it is time I tried to write a few lines, which may help you with our wonderful little paper (the "Courier").

First let me thank the Association for the nomination and secondly thank those members who do so much for other members of our Unit in carrying on the running and organising of our affairs.

Life has been very busy this year and it brings me to the conclusion we must all be getting older and speaking of myself I'm afraid a good bit slower as I don't seem to be able to keep up with all my chores now. The season has not treated us very kindly this year as we had a heavy winter spread over June, July and August and then it cut out completely. Consequently hay crops finished about 60 per cent of normal years and very little dry feed for the months ahead. Still we could be a lot worse off, like a lot of others in other areas and different types of farming, orcharding, etc.

Haven't seen much of any Unit boys for a long time, as there is not many down this way and you know Robbie, Bernie, Bob Palmer, etc., really keep their noses to the grindstone. Did see Marshall on T.V. one night last week being interviewed about the Indians v. State cricket match at Harvey and I tell you it was the first time I had seen Arthur look really worried.

The Great Safari is fast approaching and I suppose there are many like us starting to make final preparations. Grace and I are beginning to get excited now and I am looking forward to seeing many old faces and renewing many acquaintances of the past. Only hope my stamina will see the distance.

Cheerio for now. Hope to see you down this way in the near future also any others who happen to be in the area.

Best regards to all.

TED MONK, of Latham, W.A., writes:—

Have just completed harvesting and grading seed wheat, and, at the moment, do not know when we will be able to make a trip to Perth as Barry, our son, left on Tuesday for holidays and I cannot get away until

he returns to look after stock, etc. As far as I know now it will be approx. another fortnight before we can get away and then will only be down for four or five days.

Many thanks indeed, Col, for the offer of house and regret we cannot take advantage of it now owing to Barry being away.

We are looking forward to the trip east and particularly meeting up with all our old army mates. Should prove a wonderful trip.

Enclosing cheque for Timor Memorial appeal.

Will contact you when we make Perth.

PETER J. WALTER, 2 Hibiscus Street, Nightcliff, Darwin, N.T., writes:—

Through Pat da Luz I learned about the erection of the Memorial in Timor.

As an ex-Dilli and Timor trooper, first with Dutch Forces and later with your 2/2nd Commandoes, I enclose a cheque as a small contribution to the Timor Memorial Fund.

I hope that I will join a delegation from here when this Memorial will be opened.

Here in Darwin we have a few Timor boys but I am not sure whether they are from the Dilli or the Koepang group.

Your "2/2 Commando Courier" has been a real eye opener for me. Pat gave me two copies, Vol. 22, 202 and 205. It was a wonderful feeling to read about those things which were so familiar and which made me quite sentimental after so many years. Particularly nice was it to read how well regarded is Capt. van Swieten.

I would appreciate it if you will put me on the mailing list of the "Courier". Of course I would like to be a member of your Association in addition to my R.S.L. membership here in Darwin.

With best wishes and kind regards to all the boys.

JIM SMAILES, of 114 Brookton Rd. Roleystone, W.A., writes:—

Please find enclosed \$50 as a donation to the Timor Memorial Fund. I am sorry to be late but I have misplaced the little yellow voucher. However better late than never, and I do hope that the full amount can be raised as and when needed. I quite agree with your comments con-

cerning our debt to those people. I often think that even had they been neutral let alone against us, it would have been a different story. Certainly more trees in Kings Park or even none at all. Actually they suffered more than we did and for less reward.

Will dig you out again one day for a beer or two. Am at present doing a survey job for the Main Roads Dept. down the south and only get home at weekends. Both boys were home for Christmas and doing O.K. in the army. The eldest boy, Vince, has decided to stay in as a career, and has been picked for an officers' school. Is now a Sgt. in a training battalion at Wagga in N.S.W. In fact both are there, the younger boy being a Corporal in the same outfit training Nashos. Both have been to Vietnam and both want to go again although Mum and I are not really keen I can tell you at the moment.

Our baby girl is now at Sir Charles Gairdner as a nurse and loves the life. Makes me feel a bit old, but aren't we all getting that way now? 27 years since our formation as a unit. What a lot of headaches we must have caused some people then. Oh well, that is another story, eh?

Am keeping fair and able to do a reasonable day's work if I avoid the high pressure stuff.

Well, cheers for now and until next time, all the best to self and the boys in general.

N. D. THORNTON, of Box 81, Denmark, W.A., writes:—

Enclosed find cheque for \$50 for the Timor Memorial Fund. If you get stuck for a shilling or two you can call on me again.

When you see Ray Aitken again ask him if he contacted Nicoli Gonzolas when he was in Timor. Ray knew him well. He was a mission boy and well educated. I'd like to contact him if he is still alive and send him something for his contribution to my welfare while I was in Timor.

Regards to all the boys.

BILL BENNETT, of 18 South Creek Road, Dee Why, N.S.W., 2099, writes:—

Sorry to have been so long in forwarding a contribution to the Timor Memorial Fund but I suppose it is better late than never. Please

find enclosed a cheque covering my contribution and with it goes my best wishes for the appeal.

See you all in April.

BERT BURGESS, of Burlands, P.O. Box 224, Katanning, W.A., writes:—

This should have gone to you some time ago but the last month has been one of those when everything seems to happen at once.

I enclose copy of a letter that I wrote to our Premier, Hon. David Brand, on Dec. 12 last. Hope that it will help the cause and not cut across any previous moves that you may have made. Trust also that it will bear fruit.

I put our Peter on the plane for Melbourne on Sunday night. First leg of the Y.A.L. tour that will take him up to Cairns and Atherton and Green Island.

Tried to contact you by phone from Gerry Haire's on Sunday afternoon but apparently you were not at home just then.

Cheque enclosed for \$50.

Kind regards.

Many thanks to those concerned for the presents for the youngsters.

PAUL COSTELLOE, of 2 Nelson Street, Coburg, Victoria writes:—

Herewith is my cheque for \$20. I do hope the appeal meets with the success which it richly deserves.

TOM CROUCH, of R.M.B. 11, Donnelly Mail, Manjimup, W.A., writes:—

Herewith a few patacas for the Memorial. Hope you and all the Committee are emerging from the Christmas and New Year break without too much hangover.

Things are not too bad down here. Been very dry since September though it could hardly be called a drought.

Hope to be in Perth during February for a meat seminar if it is possible.

Best wishes to you and all the Committee for the new year.

TONY DAVIDSON, of 16 Whitlock Street, Kalgoorlie, W.A., writes:—

Please find enclosed cheque for \$20 for Timor Memorial.

Thanks for the "Couriers" over the years. They are appreciated.

I have a son in Shenton Park Hospital (Bruce Davidson) getting over two broken legs.

MARCH MEETING: ANZAC HOUSE BASEMENT TUESDAY, MARCH 5

This will be a night at which the LADIES WILL ATTEND. Helen Poynton will give those attending a preview of a film on Association Activities which she has compiled over past two years and which will be taken on the Great Safari. This will be of great interest so come along and have a look-see. There will be other slides shown of interest to all.

GREAT SAFARI:

This leaves Perth Station at 6 p.m., APRIL 6, 1968. Even if you are not participating come along and give the travellers a rousing send-off.

ANZAC DAY:

This falls on a Thursday this year and because of the fact that so many members will be in the East this year you will be further advised of arrangements that will take place on this occasion in Perth.

TIMOR MEMORIAL APPEAL:

You are requested to give this most worthy project your most sincere attention. Funds are required urgently, so please do your level best to help the Association meet its commitments.
