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Courier

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Vol. 30. No. 258. — December, 1975 — Price 1c.

**A MERRY XMAS AND A HEALTHY AND
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.**

COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER, TUESDAY 2nd
Presentation of Calcutt Trophy, in Visitors Lounge,
Anzac Club. Members Bring your ladies.

JANUARY, SUNDAY 25th, 1976
Mandurah Outing. Poynton residence, 169 Ormsby
Terrace. — Make it a must.

P.S. Please read Courier as soon as it arrives and
not two weeks later, as again you may miss out on
good social events. EDITOR.

— Save your \$'s for Safari 1976 —
RAFFLE RESULTS BACK PAGE

W.A. MONTHLY MEETINGS

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING, HELD AT ANZAC CLUB ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1975.

The President: Mr. J. Carey declared the meeting open at 8.20 p.m.

Present: J. Carey, D. Darrington, P. Hancock, R. Dhu, G. Fletcher, A. Smith, D. Fullarton, C. Varian, H. Sproxtton, R. Neuzerling and L. Bagley.

Apologies from A. Wares and A. Smith were accepted.

Minutes of Meeting, held on Tuesday, August 19, 1975 were taken as read as circulated, and confirmed on the motion of D. Fullarton, seconded G. Fletcher.

Treasurer's Report: P. Hancock presented the following statement of Accounts, as at September 16, 1975, which showed a credit balance of \$471.42.

Financial Report was received and accounts passed for payment, on the motion of R. Neuzerling, seconded C. Varian.

Correspondence: Inward from Ron Sprigg, Ken Plesse 2/4th, Dave Ross, George Veitch, Elvie Howell, Fordon Holmes, Sheila Conley, Ken Monk, State R.S.L. Sec., Prime Minister's Dept., Gail Devlin, Gloria Isenhood, Jack Hartley, Bernie Callinan.

Outward to Ken Plesse, Mr. Stacy Sec. Sea View Golf Club, the Hon. E. G. Whitlam Q.C.

Moved R. Dhu, seconded H. Sproxtton that correspondence, both inward and outward be received and confirmed.

Kings Park: G. Fletcher reported on the success of working bee, held on Sunday, August 24. Since then another tree has been removed from our area, due to trouble with a water main, and another four sprinkler heads are missing.

Safari and Raffle: Copies of the proposed itinerary were received from the N.S.W. branch and were presented and discussed, obviously a lot of work and thought has gone into their preparation. Return fares by train and plane were also discussed.

At this stage there are only 5 tickets left in the Mammoth Raffle.

Annual Dinner: All arrangements are in hand for this function, and

also for the Commemoration Service.

September Meeting: This evening was devoted to discussions on the Timor situation and the evacuees, who are at present housed at the Graylands Centre. It was resolved that a letter be written by J. Carey to the Prime Minister of Australia, outlining our views on the situation. A sub-committee comprising H. James, P. Hancock, D. Fullarton and A. Smith was formed, and were asked to visit the evacuees at Graylands and find out at first hand: What were their immediate needs; and how could we assist.

Mr. D. Fullarton reported on the sub-committee's visit to Graylands, and of talks they had with the evacuees. He said their immediate needs seemed to be well catered for. He recommended that an outing to the zoo for the children and their parents be considered.

Acting upon this suggestion, it was moved R. Neuzerling, seconded C. Varian that the Association conduct an outing for the Timorese children and their parents. Enquiries are already under way as to bus hire and a suitable day on which to have this outing.

December Meeting: Presentation of Calcutt Trophy, ladies to be invited.

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING, HELD AT ANZAC CLUB, ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1975.

The President: Mr. J. Carey declared the meeting open at 8.20 p.m.

Present: J. Carey, D. Darrington, P. Hancock, R. Dhu, G. Fletcher, A. Smith, D. Fullarton, H. Sproxtton, R. Neuzerling and L. Bagley.

Apologies from A. Wares and C. Varian were accepted.

Minutes of Meeting, held on Tuesday, September 16, 1975, were read and confirmed on the motion of R. Dhu, seconded D. Fullarton.

Treasurer's Report: P. Hancock presented the following statement of Accounts, as at October 21, 1975, which showed a credit balance of \$682.82.

Financial Report was received and accounts passed for payment, on the motion of A. Smith, seconded H. Sproxtton.

Correspondence: Inward from A. Wares, G. McKenzie, J. Hartley, M. Devlin, The Hon. E. G. Whitlam, K. Monk, R. Sprigg, K. Piesse 2/4th, D. Ross, G. Veitch, E. Howell, G. Holmes, S. and R. Conley, G. Isenhood, B. Tucker, B. Burgess, R. Gurr, E. Rowe, T. Monk, A. Harper, P. Barden, D. Latimer 2/7th, Miss V. Helberg.

Outward to K. Dignum, Town Clerk City of Perth, F. Sparkman, M. Devlin.

Moved R. Dhu, seconded H. Sproton that correspondence, both Inward and Outward, be received and confirmed.

Kings Park: G. Fletcher reported on a rusted water main junction, which will have to be replaced. A working bee will be held on Sunday, November 2, George will purchase the necessary piping and fittings needed to repair the main.

Annual Dinner: Approximately 40 members and 8 visitors attended this evening. The Committee were pleased with the attendance, venue and buffet meal and voted it a very successful function.

Commemoration Service: About 20 members and their families attended this solemn service. J. Carey was

commended on the excellence of his address.

Timorese childrens outing to the zoo was discussed by P. Hancock. It will be held on Friday, October 31. Two buses are to be arranged by C. Varian for 11 a.m. to transport approximately 110 children from Graylands Hostel to the zoo. Lunches for the children are to be provided by Mr. Beerin, manager of the hostel. Drinks, ice creams etc., will be purchased from the kiosk at the zoo. Mr. P. Hancock, D. Fullarton and H. James will accompany the children and supervise the outing.

Raffle Drawing Night: Final arrangements were made for this evening, a working bee will be held on the Saturday afternoon to prepare the hall for the night.

November Meeting: Final of Calcutt Trophy.

December Meeting: Presentation of Calcutt Trophy, ladies are to be invited.

Mandurah Outing: Once again Joe and Helen Poynton have offered to have this function at their home on Sunday, January 25, 1976. All those who will be attending are asked to supply their own meat for the barbecue.

Meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

Report on Meeting held on Tuesday September 2, at Anzac-House.

The evening took the form of an informal meeting on the current Timor situation. The President Mr. J. Carey said he was very pleased to see Messrs Slim James and George Bayliss in attendance and gave a special welcome to these two members. Slim James and Joe Burrige said they had visited the refugees from Timor at Graylands and were both of the opinion they were being well provided for.

After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that a sub-committee comprising: Slim James, Percy Hancock, Doug Fullarton and Arthur Smith arrange to assist the evacuees in their present plight. Mr. R. Aitken to be co-opted if available. A good suggestion was that a committee of four or five be formed from the people living at the Hostel to liaise with our

committee to help matters along. Possible ways of helping including a picnic for the kiddies, jobs for those seeking work etc., were brought up. Committee were asked to report back at normal monthly committee meeting on Tuesday, September 16 of their finding.

Regarding activities on the Island itself, all members expressed concern at the turn of events. After some members including C. Doig and J. Carey outlined what they knew of the situation. Mr. Burrige moved, seconded Mr. Doig "This Association approaches the Federal Government and recommends that Australia should take the initiative in arranging immediate mediation for the peaceful solution for the current problems in Timor" This was carried unanimously. General feeling was that the Timorese people were looking to Australia to assist in a settlement.

Letter to:

The Hon. E. G. Whitlam, Q.C.,
Prime Minister of Australia, Can-
berra, A.C.T.

My Dear Prime Minister,
PORTUGUESE TIMOR

At a meeting of our Association held last week, it was unanimously resolved that; "The Australian Government be asked to take the initiative in arranging immediate mediation for the peaceful settlement of the current crisis in Timor."

Australia has recognised the debt owed to the Timorese as evidenced by the action of the Gorton Government in contributing on an equal share basis with the Association for the erection of a Memorial to the Timorese people. This Memorial which was officially opened in 1969 is situated at Dare overlooking the capital of Dili.

Our members have met many of the Timorese refugees at the Graylands camp and talking to them we have found they are looking hopefully to your Government to intervene on behalf of all their people.

Because members of this Association owe such a great deal to the people of this Island, we are most anxious to see a peaceful settlement arranged and therefore we would be extremely grateful if your Government will do all it possibly can to bring this about,
Yours faithfully, J. W. Carey,
President, 2/2 Commando Association.

Reply from the Prime Minister's Department:

I acknowledge receipt of your recent representations to the Prime Minister. I have been asked to let you know that the matter you raised has been brought to the notice of the Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Yours sincerely, Secretary.

Reply from the Honfl. E. G. Whitlam, Q.C.:

In your letter of September 5 you drew attention to a resolution recently adopted by your Association to the effect that "the Australian Government be asked to take the initiative in arranging immediate mediation for the peaceful settlement of the current crisis in Timor".

The position is that the Australian being a party principal in the decolonisation of Portuguese Timor. It does of course, very deeply regret the suffering of the people of the

territory over the past month and provided humanitarian assistance to relieve this suffering. Apart from helping the Portuguese Government in its evacuation operations, the Government has assisted the relief work of the International Red Cross. An RAAF aircraft has been available for use by the Red Cross since September 2. An Australian contribution of \$100,000 to the Red Cross operation assisting the victims of the fighting in Portuguese Timor was announced on September 18, 1975.

The Australian Government does not believe that it would be appropriate for Australia to mediate between the contending parties in Portuguese Timor. Mediation efforts, however, are under way and you will be aware of the activities since August 21 of the Portuguese negotiating team, led by Dr Almeida Santos. The Portuguese Government, of course, remains the government which is recognised internationally as having the primary responsibility for Portuguese Timor. Australia has sought to assist the Portuguese efforts, in particular by providing transport and logistics support for the Santos mission. Australia also helped Dr. Santos to travel to Jakarta on September 10 for further discussions with the Indonesian Government. It is hoped that these discussions might now be followed by a further round of discussions between the Portuguese authorities and representatives of the three major political groups in Portuguese Timor.

The objective of all such talks is to bring about a restoration of conditions in Portuguese Timor which will allow a resumption of the process of orderly decolonisation for the territory.

Yours sincerely, E. G. Whitlam.

OCTOBER MEETING: This evening was held in the Visitors Room of Anzac Club. Present were: Charlie and Mary King, Dave and Ivy Ritchie, Harry and Thelma Sproxtton, Arthur Smith, Percy Hancock, Ron Neuzerling, Clarrie Varian and Len Bagley. Apologies were received from Malsie Holder, Dorothy Bagley, Jack Carey and Doug Fullarton. The evening was advertised as a "Discussion Night" and discussion it was. Subjects under review were the 1976 Safari, Timor Situation, Picnic outing to the zoo for the Timorese

children and their families, to building a house at Miami. Good to see Charlie King and to meet his wife Mary. Charlie has been wrestling with an ulcer for some time, but a recent operation has fixed that—we look forward to seeing more of you both.

Harry and Thelma Sproxtton gave us some impressions of their recent car journey to Queensland, where they visited their daughter Carey. On the return trip they met their son Don, in Adelaide, who travelled home with them for a two week vacation. The supper was supplied by Anzac Club and rounded off a very pleasant and informative Discussion Night.

COMMEMORATION SERVICE

Our Commemoration Service was held in our area in Lovekin Drive, Kings Park on Sunday, September 21. The day was good, the weather perfect.

Our two wardens, George Fletcher and Rod Dhu had the grounds, as always, in perfect order. These two members certainly do a marvellous job of maintaining the area.

Jack Carey gave us a very inspiring address, then read out the names on the Roll of Honour. After the usual two minutes silence and the Ode, Jack then handed the parade to Mick Morgan, who formed the members into two ranks, and they did a parade of honour of our area. At the conclusion of the march the President thanked everyone for attending the service.

Those present were: Rod and Doris Dhu, Jack and Delys Carey and young John, Percy Hancock, Lou Thompson, Fred and Beryl Griffiths, Ron Kirkwood, George Fletcher, Dick Darrington, Mick Fowler, Harry and Thelma Sproxtton, Arthur Smith, Bill Rowan Robinson, Ron Neuzerling, Doug Fullarton and his wife, Irish Hopkins, Mick and Jean Holland, Oscar Johnson and his wife, from Victoria, Don Turton, daughter Maxine, her husband and their three children.

Once again our thanks are due to George Fletcher for providing, erecting the flag poles, and to Rod Dhu for arranging the seating. After the service a few of us went back to the Imperial Hotel for a heart starter or two, before making our various ways home.

Arthur Smith.

MAMMOTH RAFFLE DRAWING

A very successful Cabaret was held at Perry Lakes on Saturday 15th November for the drawing of the Mammoth Raffle. There were approximately 500 present to witness the draw and everyone enjoyed the evening and were very appreciative of the way the committee had arranged it.

The Sub-Committee would like to thank all those who promoted the sale of tickets, especially, Col. Doig, Fred Sparkman, Len Bagley, Ray Parry, Percy Hancock and all those who so willingly bought tickets to support the raffle.

I would like to express my deep thanks to colleague Len Bagley who, while I was absent on holiday, finalised the arrangements for the Mammoth Raffle Cabaret, and who also offered to be responsible for the collating and sending out of the last Courier and the assembling of material for this present issue. My sincere gratitude Len.--Scotty Vares.

ANNUAL DINNER

This was held on Saturday, September 20, the venue being, once again, the Imperial Hotel.

The weather was rather kind to us and people started arriving at about 6 p.m. As they arrived they were served drinks and soon the tongues were loosened, and old friends greeted each other as heartily as ever. Football, politics, cares and worries were soon forgotten as over a few drinks everyone seemed to enjoy the evening. This went on until about 7.30 p.m., then we moved into the dining room where an excellent buffet meal had been set up for us.

After our appetites had been satisfied our very capable master of ceremonies, Col Doig, called for a little peace and quiet. He then welcomed everyone present, and proposed the toast to the Queen. After a little more eating and drinking Col called for order again and introduced our President Jack Carey. Jack gave us another treat in the use of the English language in proposing the toast to the Unit.

Very soon after Col again managed to make himself heard, and called on Harry Sproxtton to propose the toast to our visitors. This was a special toast this year as we had five Timorese people present. After this toast had been honoured, re-

plies to the toast were made by Bill Hood, on behalf of City of Perth R.S.L., Les Dingle for the 2/16th, Jim Lyons, 2/5th Commando Sqdn., and Harry Beerin, manager of the Graylands Migrant Hostel.

This concluded the formal part of the dinner, and by special request some old stories and few modern ones were told by various members. Those who attended the dinner were: From the country, Lou Thompson, Don Hudson, Charlie Sadler, Bill Riwen Robinson, Ernie Bingham, Joe Poynton, Bill Howell, Vince Swann, Don Turton, Joe Kalinowski. From the metropolitan area were: Jerry Maley, Clarrie Varian, Dutchy Holland, Arthur Smith, George Fletcher, Len Bagley, Col Hodson, Jack Carey, Ray Aitken, Percy Hancock, Harry Sproxton, Geoge Bayliss, Ron Neuzerling, Dick Darrington, Doug Fullarton, Harry Holder, Ron Kirkwood, Rod Dhu, Mick Morgan, Roy Watson, Irish Hopkins, Terry Paul, Jim Smailes, Jack Fowler, Bob Smythe, Col Doig, Dave Ritchie, Fred Napier, Fred Griffiths.

The visitors present were: Bill Hood, City of Perth R.S.L., Les Dingle, 2/16th, Jim Lyons 2/5th, Oscar Johnson (brother-in-law of Rod Dhu), Leon and Tony, these two Timorese boys are doing a special English course at W.A.I.T. and furthering their education there next year. They are sponsored by the Burma Oil Co., Harry Beerin, who is manager of the Graylands Migrant Hostel. He told us of his experiences in East Timor during 1939-45. He brought with him Jose Filipe, Paul Filipe, Jose Pires. these three Timorese were evacuated from Dili on the small overload ship the Mac Dill, They landed at Darwin. Jose Filipe called himself a hospital photographer (X-rays), Paul Filipe is a qualified motor mechanic, and Jose Pires is a motor driver and had, at the time I met him, done quite a bit of driving around Perth. These men have visas till January next, but hope to stay here permanently.

Arthur Smith.

DAY AT THE ZOO

Friday, October 31, was the day arranged to take the Timorese children and their parents to the zoo, and with the assistance of Ray Aitken, Harvey and Mrs. James, Doug Fullarton, Arthur Smith, and Perc

Hancock, it proved to be a very enjoyable and successful outing.

The weather was ideal as two bus loads of parents and excited children arrived at the zoo at 11.15 a.m. Trying to make a head count as they passed through the turnstiles, was a thorough waste of time. There were at least 150 present, ranging from babes in arms to high school age.

The children were divided into groups, and each group went off in a different direction. Staff members of the zoo were there to explain the various types of animals and bird-life, their help was very much appreciated.

The childrens behaviour was a credit to them; and it was a pleasure for us to be with them on their day out.

The buses departed at 3 p.m. for Graylands with some very tired, but very happy children aboard.

It was good to see Harold Brooker on this day, Harold has been working at the zoo for the past 20 or more years.

Perc Hancock.

CALCUTT TROPHY NIGHT

Tuesday, November 4 was the final night to compete for the Calcutt Trophy. Those present were: G. Maley, R. Kirkwood, R. Neuzerling, C. Hodson, B. McDonald, D. Darrington, J. Carey, P. Hancock, D. Fullarton, Mary and Charlie King, and L. Bagley. A very competitive night, resulting in a final points score in favour of Percy Hancock. Results were:

Hancock 9, Fullarton 8, Kirkwood 7, Maley 7, Bagley 6, Finklestein 6, Carsey 6, McDonald 5, Smith 3, Hodson 1, Doig 1, Darrington 1, King 1, Neuzerling 1.

Presentation of the Calcutt Trophy will be held at Anzac Club on Tuesday, December 2. Ladies invited.

MANDURAH OUTING

Once again Joe and Helen Poynton have offered to have this function at their home, 169 Ormsby Terrace, 095 35 2261, on Sunday, January 25, 1976.

All those who will be attending, are asked to supply their own meat for the barbecue.

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES

CRAHILL, E., 21 Donar St., Innaloo 6018. W.A.

ROBERTS, W. L., 1 Janina Court, Vermont, South Victoria 3133.

BRIGGS, R. I. F., 31 Kidgell St., Lilydale, Victoria 3140.

VANDELEUR, G., 95 Bambrook St. Taigum, Zillmere Brisbane 4034.

DORHAM, R., Cook Pt., Caravan Park, Port Hedland, W.A. 6721.

KNIGHT, C. J., 8 Norton St., Ballina, N.S.W. 2478.

Please cut these changes out and paste in your Address Books.

COURIER DONATIONS

The President wishes to thank the following members for donations: B. Tucker, B. Burges, E. Rowe, R. Conley, T. Monk, A. Harper, J. Keen-

ahan, G. McKenzie, G. Vandeleur.

TIMOR DONATIONS

Eddie Craighill, Miss V. Helberg, Dick Dorham.

VALE

It is with regret that we record the passing of John (Scotty) McLeod, father of Jess, and father-in-law of our late member, Bill Epps.

Also we regret the passing of Anne Richards, wife of Tex Richards, of Tasmania.

Sincere sympathy, from all members is extended to both Jess and Tex and their families.

NEW SOUTH WALES NEWS

Well here we are, fast approaching, yet the end of another year, and as the man said, the older you get the faster they go. I am at present finding it most difficult to settle down to work after our Safari trip which as I said before, was terrific.

One of the many places that impressed me was your Ord River Scheme, which has to be seen to be believed, it makes most of the Eastern States dams look like puddle holes, and as for Lake Arroyle, where we stayed a few days, in my opinion it is comparable with any resort of that nature anywhere. I got to climb Ayers Rock after many short, sharp bursts, and on reaching the summit, had the misfortune to get caught in a very severe electrical storm which kept us pinned up top until we were all blue with the cold, quite contrary to what I expected out in the centre. We paid a visit to the Adelaide River Cemetery just out of Darwin, and was very surprised to see just how many 1st, 2nd and 5th Company boys that are buried there. I must give full marks to the War Graves Commission for the manner in which they service and maintain, not only the cemetery, but also the general area. It is very hard to envisage in a part of Australia that generally is so dry and desolate, can be seen one of the best prepared and kept cemeteries as a memorial to ex-service personnel in any country in the world.

We had the unlucky experience of striking what we are led to believe from the locals around Alice Springs, an early start to the wet season, and

were most fortunate to get our wheels on solid ground before the rain really settled in. We were forced to drive from Toowoomba to Longreach in one leg approx 750 miles, of very rugged country especially when wet, and also a dash from Ayers Rock to Coober Pedy, a distance that eludes me for the moment, but a ruddy long way, when you have to travel all night and the best part of the next day. Would you believe that on arrival at Coober Pedy, whose rainfall I am told is something like - in per year, we copped 2½ in. in one shower, and that was the story until we reached Wagga in sunny N.S.W. However we had a wonderful trip and met some wonderful people, including the two good looking Canadian school teachers who I tried to get Harry Sproton to chaperon on their visit to W.A. (bad back indeed) at least you could have reminisced old mate.

We called into Clare S.A. on the way back and was able to spend quite a while with Ross Smith and his good wife Molly. Ross has not changed a great deal since his heyday and still looks fit enough to stand another preparation. Also spent a short time with Keith and Betty Craig at Young, N.S.W. Keith has become a townie after many years on the land. Betty has not enjoyed the best of health since her visit with Keith and family to Sydney for the Combined Commando Re-union in April, however she mentioned that the last report from the specialist in Sydney was most encouraging. We were able to see Jeanette and Stans wedding photos

which Betty happened to have with her, and no doubt they make a wonderful couple.

Bet and I called in at Tamworth where No. 2 son now resides, his place of work is about 5 minutes walk, from Jack and Mary Peattie's home, so we were able to spend a few pleasant hours with them both, mainly discussing our Safari trip. Jack and Mary propose doing a tour into the centre and near confines, and I just about sold him on the idea. Both he and Mary are very keen on outdoor life so should really enjoy the trip when they decide to take off, but the first item you must invest in Jack, is a two-man canoe, (has the old gentleman relented yet Mary?).

I am very pleased to report that Alan Luby has been discharged from hospital and continues to make good progress, he and Edith are currently on their second honeymoon in the Forster-Tuncurry area, I have no doubt that they will be calling in on Cliff Paff, to see how the squire is behaving himself. John Darge continues to make forward progress, although I have not seen him over the past month.

Had a phone call from Col Knight who tells me that he has disposed of his flats and now leads a quiet domesticated life at 8 Norton St., Ballina, N.S.W.

Must close now and in so doing, may I extend to all members and their families a Very Merry Xmass and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Mick Devlin

CABRAMATTA, N.S.W.

Friend Mick took off last weekend on a bus camping safari half way around Australia and won't be back for about three weeks, so I thought I'd best get these applications for raffle tickets off to you before they are too late.

We had our Annual General Meeting on Monday night and our executive remains the same. Also present was Gordon Hart 2/4th, and he was able to give us the latest lowdown on the Timor situation. Things are likely to break out again any day and become a real blood bath, but this could all have been avoided if our Government had listened back in April to Lopez da Cruz and Costa Mousinho when Hart and company

took them to Canberra and interviewed Bill Morrison. They told Morrison then that all they wanted from Australia was for the Consulate to be re-opened in Dili so that they would have an Australian contact to whom they could turn for advice on their problems. If the Consulate couldn't be re-opened then a trade office would do fine, just as long as some Australians were present. Gordon gave us a large number of Timor Sit-reps to distribute among our numbers and I'm enclosing one for your appraisal.

All for now, kind regards to all the boys.

Jack Hartley.

EPPING, N.S.W.

Just a hasty note, to enclose raffle application, on behalf of Jack Keenan, also a donation for the Courier.

Bet and I have not long arrived back from our Safari tour which was really fantastic, although very rugged at times.

Alan Luby advises that he is to be admitted to hospital for a gall bladder operation and while he assures me that there are no complications, he still expects to be on light duties for at least a month. I shall be calling to see him in the next few days. I have arranged for six young nurses to cheer him up while he is hospitalised. I met these young ladies, who were part of our crew on our recent safari, and all practice nursing at the Prince of Wales. I am just hoping his ticker is sound.

During my absence, Jack Hartley and Alan Luby have called into the respective hostels housing the Timor refugees, and both are very pleased in the manner they are being cared for, quite a few have been found jobs, while the remainder have been put on social service. Bill Bennett and the boys from the North-shore have arranged quite a considerable amount of clothing for them, and generally their morale is very high.

I was very pleased to hear that Scotty, Elsie and Jess are having a good time in Scotland, and I bet that Scotty has his hands full keeping them in check. My best wishes to all the members and their families in W.A.

Mick Devlin.

VICTORIAN NEWS

BURWOOD, Victoria.

Had quite a fright just recently when told Bert Tobin was critically ill in hospital after a big operation, but I am pleased to relate that Bert is coming along very slowly and is home recuperating and he would be very pleased to see any of his mates, as it is going to be a slow process. I have seen him a few times and he has lost a lot of weight but has spirit to get back to his old self.

George (Pancho) Humphries was married recently with Johnny Roberts as his best man, we all wish Pancho and Wyn all the happiness for the future.

Tex Richards rang me to convey his thanks for the messages of sympathy for the sad loss of his wife Anne recently and wishes to be remembered to all the boys.

Alec and Beryl Boast had a barbecue last Sunday at their home to help entertain some of the Timor people who were recently evacuated from Dili to Darwin during the recent fighting over there—and there are quite a few of these people in hostels around Melbourne—they seem to like it here and I believe would like to stay, and it was a wonderful gesture on the part of Alec and Beryl to have this function to help these people and they asked members of

our Association and some of the 2/4th to come along and meet them, the following members of the 2/2nd were present: Bill and Eileen Sharp, Bernie and Naomi Callinan and their son Andrew, George and Dot Robinson, George Veitch and Johnny Southwell and Olive and Harry Botterill and some of the 2/4th were there too. It was a wonderful show and despite inclement weather a huge success. It was wonderful to see these people really enjoying themselves especially as one of the boys could play the guitar and we had a lovely time listening to them singing and dancing and joining in with them—many thanks Alec and Beryl.

Johnny Southwell's wife Shirley has just had an operation and is coming along nicely now. Bill Sharp has had quite a few trips to hospital and is still not the best—they cannot seem to find the trouble.

Yours truly is feeling very well and getting back to feeling his old self again—slowing down a little but still playing tennis each week.

That's about all the news I have for the present, so I'll take this opportunity to wish you all a very enjoyable Xmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Harry Botterill.

TIMOR VIEWPOINT

By R. AITKEN

I have watched the reporting of the troubled times in Timor-Leste with some trepidation. In a very short period the description of the three political parties, for example, has changed dramatically.

U.D.T. has become a party urging union with Indonesia, Fretilin has become "pro-communist", whatever that may mean in Timorese terms, and Apodeti has become some sort of appendage at the end of the reporting.

Let us try to put the story in context. Portugal banned political parties in Timor for several hundred years. With the recent fall of the Caetano Government the politically relaxed atmosphere allowed the establishment of political parties in Timor. The three formed were—

U.D.T. committed to continue association and political confederation with Portugal; Fretilin, a "Timor for the Timorese", party preaching complete independence and Apodeti a party pressing for Union with Indonesia.

The complement of U.D.T. was made up of the European island settlers, the families of mixed blood and those full blood Timorese who followed these leaders. Fretilin, as it claims, probably represents the majority of Timorese people and certainly the majority of the largest and most warlike tribe, the Mombal. Apodeti has been said in the past by members of the other parties to be representative of those Timorese who are prepared to accept Indonesian pay for the colour of their politics.

Until comparatively recently U.D.T. and Fretilin were in co-allition. U.D.T. perhaps influenced by Portuguese advice, withdrew from this association and made an attempt to take over the island. They were successful in securing the Dili Airport, the Post Office and various Government facilities without opposition. A similar pattern existed in Bacau and some of the near border villages such as Letfoho and Atsabe.

The recent hostilities arose when Fretilin retook the key points held by U.D.T., and the refugees we now have in Australia are the families and supporters of U.D.T.

The "civil war" was possible only because the official Government authorities lacked military power. The European National Service component of their army had been withdrawn and, Segunda Ligna, the Timorese component, largely Mombai and largely Fretilin, became the official forces of Fretilin. They were commanded in this operation by Rogerio Labato and his brother Nicolau Labato an efficient Timorese Segunda Ligna ex-serviceman who was in Australia quite recently.

Australians with Timorese contacts, particularly ex-servicemen are in a queer position. The refugees in Australia have amongst their numbers the sons and daughters of old friends. The same may be said of Fretilin. Less is known about Apodeti, although at least one of its senior members changed sides from Australia to Japan in much early times. It perhaps not surprising that he is now said to take Indonesian pay.

Francisco Xavier Amaral, the leader of Fretilin is probably the best educated Mombai Timorese at present living. He was born, about 40 years ago, in the high mountains in the village of Turiscal. His elementary schooling was in a convent, his secondary period in the seminary at Darf, above Dili, and he followed this in a Portuguese University studying philosophy for four years and theology for three. He was not ordained as a priest on the grounds that he kept up a continuing correspondence with various of his classmates who had been involved in an attempted revolt in the late '50's. These activists had been deported to Angola.

Revolts in Timor are not new. One major but unsuccessful revolution under Dom Ventura, Timorese Chief of Same, lasted for eighteen months from 1912-13. It was finally quelled when Portugal committed some regiments of African soldiery from Mozambique. One revolt of the late '50's has been noted. Ten years later Indonesian led and based Timorese launched an unsuccessful attack on the Enclave of the Accousi. This was repelled with considerable bloodshed by Segunda Ligna. No report ever reached the Australian Press although the then Australian Consul effected the peace agreement (Open Government?) in fairness to the Indonesians it appears that the root cause of this disturbance was the stupidity of a Portuguese Administration in dealing with a natural border change as the result of a flooded river shifting its course.

Looking back in time a major revolt occurred in the Maubisse area during 1942. Many thousands of people lost their lives when Portuguese forces suppressed the revolt in a head-taking blood bath. In this Gilbert and Sullivan situation the Australians in the south were opposed to the Japanese in the North while the revolting natives in the West opposed the Portuguese Government forces and allied Timorese in the East. For some weeks the Australians enjoyed fairly amicable relations with Timorese revolutionaries and Portuguese soldiery alike.

For the best part of five hundred years the Mombai have averaged two or three revolts of varying intensity per century. Since thirty-one tribes on the island have 'done their bit' periodically it may be seen that the Timorese do not take eagerly to over-lords. Both our Prime Minister and our press would have us believe, however, that the ultimate fate of Timor must be Union with Indonesia. This seems to say the least of it simplistic, Lebensraum may be an Indonesian philosophy but has not proved an Indonesian fact. Indonesian colonial record in West Irian is suspect. She has failed to colonise the rich green island of Sumatra having dissident forces in the North at this moment—and a few volunteer colonists. Like the Dutch she has found that the Menadonese of the Celebes are capable of al-

most continuous guerilla warfare. Her future in the high mountains against the Mombai can only be regarded with foreboding. At worst it could be a "mihi" Vietnam, at best a re-institution of the old pattern of some blood spilling every decade or so.

In the view of this writer the Australian policy should be "hands off". Further it should be one of financial aid and advice dedicated to the proposition that any people however small are entitled to self determination. Should Australia engage in continuous 'hand-washing' as at present there can only be two ultimate possibilities. The first is a "take-over" by Indonesia which is likely to result in continued strife and bloodshed. The second is that Francisco Amaral in his search for assistance will obtain it from sources not favoured by Indonesia or Australia and indeed Fretilin may then be properly designated as 'Pro Communist'. Both these alternatives seem opposed to the best interests of Timorese and Australians.

Should the Australians take a more active interest in Timor and

give aid and succour to this tiny potential republic, there is a possibility that in Francisco Amaral they will be dealing with some-one big enough to eventually re-admit our nation. He certainly needs their administrative and technical knowledge just as at this moment he needs our assistance in keeping his minor urban populations fed. The montagnards are self-supporting.

Finally, Sir, may I record my resentment of certain journalistic monographs, not necessarily in your own journal, in which writers of the crass arrogance to recommend the handover of 600,000 people to Indonesia on the grounds that failure to do so will rile some Javanese politicians, (a group which have kept some thousands or so political prisoners under duress, without trial for ten years) or that there might be a danger that if we do not help, the communists will.

In the meantime, too, may I make a plea to all Australians to do what they can to make the stay of the U.D.T. refugees, whether permanent or temporary, as comfortable as possible.

RANDOM HARVEST

ALBANY. W.A.

Just a hurried note to see if we can still manage to get accommodation at the Country Convention, we did not look like being able to go, but things have altered, so hope we do not miss out.

Things are much the same in this neck of the woods. I have been quite fit since my spell in hospital, Win still busy at work, had a buying trip to Sydney last month, managed to visit the Botterills in Melbourne and the Don Murrays in Sydney. Hope to see you in Bunbury.

Ron Sprigg.

Sorry the Country Convention had to be cancelled, due to lack of support.—Ed.

BEAUMARIS, Vic.

I have pleasure in enclosing four copies of a Tetum dictionary recently completed by Jim Landman, an ex-member of the 2/4th's No. 1 Section, based in the Ermera district. He has visited Timor three times

since the war including our Return to Timor 1973 tour and again this May, just in time it seems!

He readily agreed to my thought that he might care to let me have a few copies for the 2/2nd. Apart from your official Archives I'm sure if you have no better ideas, both Ray and Don Turton would welcome a copy. They retain a considerable interest in the language and this would be reinforced by what must be the most comprehensive dictionary of English-Tetum, Tetum-English ever compiled.

Ken Piesse, 2/4th.

POOWONG, Vic.

At last I've put pen to paper after much prompting by Margaret over the last few months. Sorry I haven't done it before, but my hand seems allergic to holding a pen, but as income tax has come up and something I couldn't put off any longer, I thought I had better carry on and do my deed.

Weather-wise it has been pretty wet lately and the ground full of water making it very mucky. Getting round the hills with the tractor is a bit of a problem and the ruts are nearly up to the axle.

Have not seen any of the Vic. boys lately, but did a jaunt over to South Aussie to see my son who is doing a course at the Roseworthy Agricultural College. He did 3 years at Dookie College in Vic., then decided to do a further year over in South Australia.

I intended to get to Murray Bridge the first night but when we got Bordertown had trouble with the car, rang Rob at the College about 250 miles and he came and picked us up and took us back to the College, got there about 3 o'clock in the morning. Marg and I slept in one of his mates bed and slept pretty good considering it was only a single bed. In the morning Rob went to ring Burt Bache, but the phone was engaged, he came out of the box and over the loudspeaker came a call for Rob to answer the phone, so he went straight in the box and it was Bert Bache ringing him, Rob had been in touch with Bert and Keith Dignum a week or so before. He took my old Address Book over there with him.

Bert had booked us into a Motel and that night he and his wife Sylvia picked us up and took us to St. Leonard's Inn for dinner and to meet some of the other boys. Present were Dud Tapper and wife, Alan Hollow and wife, Keith Dignum and wife and Ted Timcke, making eleven of us. It was a wonderful night and Margaret and I wish to thank these people for the great hospitality Ted Timcke, or Saltbush, as we knew him in days gone by, I had not seen him since the end of the war, still the same Saltbush, but filled out a fair bit.

On the Sunday Bert and Sylvia took Marg, Rob and I for a trip down to Victor Harbour and beyond, a trip we all enjoyed thoroughly. Thanks Bert and Sylvia. We had to wait till Tuesday to get our car, then we headed home down through Naracoorte and Easterton. We came to a sign saying kangaroos for the next 6 miles and what do you think, we hit a bloody great emu! Buggered our lights a bit, but his went out permanently.

Other than those few things we had a very good few days, although very expensive. Have tried to keep busy by going down to the other farm, but the weather has not let us get out in the paddocks much. Cows calving seems to take up much of our time, getting rid of the calves is a problem, as we get nothing for them, so I just knock them on the head and put them in a hole.

Things look bloody messy over in Timor.

Here it is next morning and the weather is lousy, still I've got to go out in it and feed the hungry cows. So I'll have to close down, but please find form and cheque for raffle and what is over is to help cover cost of Courier, it is something we look forward to reading, and find out all the news.

Ken Monk.

APPLECROSS, W.A.

I thank the Committee and members of the 2/2 oCommando Association for their invitation to attend their Annual Dinner and regret that it would be unwise for me to attend.

I have senile cataract in each eye and find that movement at night is a bit erratic and risky. In due course operation can restore the defect, but that time is not yet here.

I guess that all ex-Timor members must feel a bit sad over the present state of the place and wonder what has happened to their personal friends among the native stalwarts.

Dave Ross.

SUNBURY, Vic.

Please send me a ticket in the Mammoth Raffle. The balance of the cheque is to go towards the Courier. I haven't won a lottery, just got my tax back.

George Veitch.

NEW GUINEA.

Enclosed is my application and cheque for ticket in the Raffle. The cheque is made out in Kina which until December 31 is interchangeable in value with the Australian dollar. The extra 50 toea is to cover the handling fee. I wish you success with your Raffle. My husband, Ralph

Conley, was with your unit in Timor, having joined it after the Japanese landing. He was, at the time of the landing with 2/1 Fortress Company in Koepang, Dutch Timor.

Enclosed is a stamped addressed envelope. I look forward to hearing from you soon. It must be very distressing to the members of your Association to read of the upheaval in Timor at the present moment. I trust it will not be too long before peace comes to the Island.

Sheila Conley.

MANDURAH, W.A.

Enclosed please find money for ticket and rest for Courier. Everything going pretty well down here. We catch up with a bit of news now and then through Joe Poynton and mates. Jess Epps called in the other day before going off to Scotland. Looks pretty good too. Our family is still pretty young, so we still don't find time to attend unit affairs. Best wishes to you, yours and all the others of the unit.

Elvie Howell.

KOJONUP, W.A.

Am enclosing cheque for Courier. Hope you are able to carry it on with the rising costs.

Gordon Holmes.

CARDIFF, N.S.W.

Sorry to see we folk of the East are so slow off the mark, must be our age showing. Never mind, I'm sure by October 17, all the tickets will be sold, after all slow and steady wins the race (or it used to be said that way) my age again. Please send Les and I a ticket each in the Mammoth Raffle, enclosing Money Order. Our best wishes for a great success of the Raffle.

Gloria Isenhood

HIGHETT, Vic.

Please find enclosed cheque for raffle plus an extra few dollars that may help the Courier distribution costs. The work costs and efforts that has been put into the publication of the Courier over the many years must be appreciated by all and I feel very guilty when reading same

without doing anything to contribute to its contents. It is a great means of keeping old friendships in contact and together and I trust it will continue to do so. With best wishes to all.

Bill Tucker.

Thank you Bill, it is much appreciated.—Ed.

KATANNING, W.A.

During the school holidays we do not get the daily paper, but did get yesterday's edition as we were in Katanning. Consequently the very excellent letter by Joe Burrige was read with great interest. As it happened I had had a request from the "Great Southern Herald" to call in and help them with an article on Portuguese Timor.

When I called to collect Alf Hillman (who incidentally had just come back from the farm and was in his working clothes he showed me the paper. I agree with Joe that with members of the various opposing factors here in Darwin, that we have a unique starting point for mediation.

I am enclosing a cheque for a Raffle ticket plus something towards Courier costs. If the raffle is either filled or abandoned please pay the money into general funds.

This week is a very pleasant and unusual one for my wife and I as we have our three children home together, Peter from University where he commenced at the beginning of this year, Michael from Keaney College and Margaret from Salvado, New Norcia. It is the only time that I am other than chief labourer, so I am making the most of it.

Earlier in the year we had some son and in particular regarding lack doubts about the vagaries of the sea of rain to fill dams. However our prayers have been answered and the season is finishing off beautifully. Wool prices are up to mud despite all the biffle one reads in the papers and together with ever increasing costs are causing some concern.

Met Dot and Reg Harrington recently on Parents Day at Salvado College. There is so much to cram into a few hours a day that one doesn't have the luxury of much conversation with anyone. If Dot and Reg have any worries they certain-

ly don't wear them on their sleeves or their faces and certainly keep them out of conversation on such occasions. Kindest regards to all.

Bert Burges.

Donation and money for ticket received with thanks.—Ed.

CANUNGRA, Qld.

Just a few lines about receiving the application form, so very pleased to receive the Courier, so sorry to hear about some of the boys passing on, but age must catch up. We are all well, our family are all married, we have four grandchildren, so proud of them.

Please find enclosed cheque for Mammoth Raffle, also remainder for Courier fund.

Regards to all the boys.

Eddie Rowe.

Donation and money for ticket received with thanks.—Ed.

NARACOORTE, S.A.

Col, I would like to say a personal thank you for all the years of work that you put into editing the Courier and to say how much it was appreciated by me and by others I have talked to. It was always a great pleasure to receive and read the Courier and a wonderful way of keeping in touch with the doings of old mates.

I am sure there would be no tother army unit where there is still such a live spirit of comradeship and am equally sure that it is mainly due to your stirring efforts. Am enclosing some yarns that appealed to me and thought they might to you too. One of my favourite N.G. stories is the message a sig. sent to the QM at Goroka when a certain Lieut. became exasperated at his failure to get any supplies of soap. Kind regards and many thanks.

Ron Gurr.

LATHAM, W.A.

Enclosed please find cheque for raffle ticket and balance for Association funds. Looking forward to the opening of the Bowling Season this weekend, hope to catch up with Charlie Sadler during the Pennant.

The wheat crop looking reasonably well, however, difficult to estimate at present owing to a long dry spell prior to our last rain. Shearing completed, more than pleased with result of clip.

We look forward to receiving and reading every edition of the Courier.

Best regards to one and all.

Ted Monk.

Donation and money for ticket received with thanks.—Ed.

GEELONG, Vic.

This note has been a long while coming as I am a very poor letter writer.

I am a very keen Courier reader and would not like it to cease, so am enclosing a cheque to help it along.

I also would like two tickets in the raffle and hope it goes well for the N.S.W. Safari.

I was 23 years in textiles but now I am working on the waterfront, the best job I ever had.

Regards to all the boys, especially the ones from my section.

Keep up the good work over there.

Alf Harper.

Thanks for the donation and the ticket sales Alf.—Ed.

WATSONIA, Vic.

Too ashamed to launch into a lengthy epistle, even though it's been a long time. We have passed through a few sad years but Mary and I feel that things are going to change from now on.

Been interstate a couple of times, recent visit down Barossa Valley, replenished the bar fruitfully (to be held in store for guests) due to a somewhat trying diabetic condition which now confines social drinks to a diet ale or odd glass of red or Reising with dinner.

Enclosed is application for Raffle ticket, plus cheque, the balance to be used for Courier funds.

Events in Timor most disturbing and we support the efforts of Dan O'Connor, Alan Thompson, Gordon Hart, Steve Stevenson, but alas have the feeling that loans, lies and lobbying will for the time being continue to take precedence over anything so mundane as help to a very close neighbour of a very good people who need our help so badly, together with Indonesia.

Will endeavour to fire another shot with the correspondence again soon. Congratulations to Association Officials, keep up the good work. Best wishes.

Gerry McKenzie.

Many thanks for Raffle money and donation Gerry.—Ed.

GERALDTON, W.A.

We have yet another illustration of double-red-diamond types giving practical application to the 2/2nd Commando Association's of Service in Peacetime as in Wartime. I refer to the election of Tom Foster of Geraldton as the new President of the revived Geraldton Agricultural Society whose 1975 Show will be opened on October 11 by a former Lord Mayor of Perth and one of Western Australia's greatest philanthropists, Sir Thomas Wardle.

Bruss Fagg of Northampton is continuing to be kept busy in his capacity as Chairman of the Pioneer Lodge Committee which is raising money to erect a Home for the Aged. Bruss called in to our A.B.C. News Room to obtain further publicity for this community project and he looked fairly well following his illness of a few months ago. Bruss also has reason to be proud of the achievements of the Northampton R.S.L. Sub-Branch in which he has occupied every office. At State Congress in Perth, the Sub-Branch received for the second consecutive year, the Geraldton Shield for the outstanding Sub-Branch with fewer than 100 members.

October 4 will be a big day for Bruss Fagg as he is on the committee of the Geraldton Regional War Veteran's Home which will be officially opened that day by the immediate past state R.S.L. president, Mr. Percy Pearson.

Nip Cunningham and wife Mary are a proud couple as a result of the money-raising efforts of their daughter, Fran, in the Miss Australia Quest. Fran, a nursing sister at the Gove Peninsula Hospital, has raised more than \$5,000, and was pictured recently on the front page of the Darwin newspaper.

A recent visitor to Geraldton was Rolfe Baldin of Victoria who was A-Platoon Commander with the rank of Captain when the Unit was first formed and who is teaching English and History at a Geelong High School after having been an English Master at Geelong Grammar School. Eric Smyth took Rolfe to the Abrolhos Islands in his boat Mullama and they witnessed the spectacle of a killer whale standing on its head. Being a keen naturalist, Baldy also had a great day out among the birds and wildflowers in the Coal-seam area. Nip Cunningham, Tom Foster, Eric Weller, Eric Smyth and yours truly, had a few nozzins and a good chat with Baldy at the Victoria Hotel which is conveniently situated a couple of doors from my A.B.C. office.

As I have often said, if any of you—or your friends—are visiting Geraldton, don't forget to call in and see me so that I can pass on news about you when I'm writing to the Courier.

I had the pleasure the other day of meeting Oscar and Thelma Johnson of Melbourne who are related to Rod Dhu of Perth, and of telling them about some of Geraldton's attractions they could inspect during their brief visit. Oscar said he had the pleasure of meeting some of you at the 2/2nd Reunion. He also said that Rod Dhu's new address is 234 Nicholson Road, Subiaco.

Well, I must be off now as duty calls. Kind regards to all boys.

Peter Barden.

BATH-AVON, England.

Well I received your letter with the Timorese and Safari itinerary, when I called into London.

Jess Epps was very upset as she just received the news that her father had passed away.

The trip so far has been wonderful and I would not mind if I could do it again. The weather over the last six weeks has been marvellous and we have had only 5 days of rain. We are now out of Scotland and Wales and are heading for Cornwall and Devon, so we will have a week there, before returning to London prior to going to the Continent for three weeks.

The itinerary of the Safari seems quite good and the three of us will be going on it. We are at present in Bath, then on to Bristol, where we hope to see Scotty Taylor. Whilst in Wales we had dinner at a beautiful mansion and it was put on in real Welsh style. The wines were terrific and I had two tiddly women on my hands before the evening was half over.

Well I will say cheerio for now and Jess, Elsie and myself send our best.

Scotty Wares.

NEW GUINEA

I feel very guilty for not having continued a close contact with the Association over the last few years and have intended many times to assist with the funding of the Association which is carrying out a wonderful function in keeping members in touch with one another.

It has been with regret that I have read in the Courier of the passing of an increasing number of old companions in Timor and perhaps this has jogged my conscience.

Enclosed is my cheque for a donation to the cause.

I find I do more than enough travelling so would suggest you do not include me in the 1975 Mammoth Raffle and use the donation towards your funds as you consider appropriate.

Our old stamping ground is certainly in the news now and I hear on the radio such names as Macbisse, Same, Atsabe etc., almost daily. The only difference seems to be that ABC and the Papua New Guinea National Broadcasting Commission do not transmit in code.

I trust you are personally keeping well Col, although I understand you had a bout of illness not so long ago. Please give my kindest regards to all and say hello to Don Turton and Gerry Green.

I leave here next January to return to Australia and I would very much like to come to one of your meetings and renew friendships.

Kind regards.

Ralph Conley.

Your donation is very much appreciated Ralph, and we would be very pleased to see you at any of our meetings.—Ed.

BLACKTOWN, N.S.W.

Enclosed is cheque to support the Mammoth Raffle. Have not received any Couriers yet.

Dulcie and I are planning to be present at some of the days next September, during your Safari.

Alan Luby is waiting to go into Prince of Wales Hospital to undergo a gall bladder operation.

Don Latimer (2/7th)

DONGARA, W.A.

There is a saying that "eaten bread is soon forgotten" but I am thankful you have proved it untrue.

I am enclosing a small donation—am just off to Broome for a month to help at an Aboriginal Mission and have barely enough money for my fare—and am too old to hike. However when I come back I will try to do more. For years I've felt very guilty because I didn't know what the Timorese housewife did with her day—my neighbour just across the water and I didn't know.

The donation is sent in memory of Mr. Tas Marchant of Cygnet Tasmania, one of the 2nd A.I.F. boys who owed his life to the Timorese. Tas was a terrific person, our local taxi driver, and in a small community this means being deeply involved. He often talked of the Timorese, could still speak a little of the language and on his return to Australia kept up a correspondence for some years with the "headman" of a village.

He also sent financial help. He died several years ago and is greatly missed.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Vonny Helberg (ex AWAL)

Thanks for your letter and donation.—Ed.

ZILLMERE, Qld.

Last May, Edna and I returned for a holiday to Yamba, N.S.W., and renewed our friendship with Lola and Geoff Laidlaw. Geoff was to have taken me fishing, but he fell over in the surf one day and hurt his leg and when we left he was still hobbling around.

Visited Rene and George Greenhaigh, was glad to see that Rene had improved in health since I first saw her in November 1974. After leaving Yamba we travelled to Tamworth and I met my old mate Jack Peattie, whom I had not seen since June 1945. Jack and his wife Marg gave us a very warm welcome and showed us around the countryside; we stayed with them for the weekend. We hope to make it to Sydney next August for the Safari and I will be more than happy to meet others of the unit.

I retired yesterday from my job in the Taxation Dept., and intend devoting more time to my hobbies.

I enclose a donation for future copies of the Courier, regards.

George Vandeleur.

Thanks for your donation George, happy retirement.—Ed.

LATROBE, Tasmania.

Since I last wrote you the world has just about landed on my shoulders. I lost Anne on August 30, she was OK at 11.30 a.m., we had a working bee at my home, we poured 4.6 metres of Ready Mix in 1½ hours. I went to the R.S.L. Club and was home again at 12.30, my eldest boy and youngest daughter had left at 11.45. The vacuum was still going, and Anne was in an easy chair, but it was too late. On Friday the doctor passed her fit and advised her to start work again. We both were going to take our long service next August and go on the Safari and also go on to the West, I will be going on the Safari.

At the present time I have been admitted to the surgical ward, my

feet are in a bad way. I am having an operation next Tuesday. Mrs. Johnston told me not to worry as Dennis Lillie had the same trouble and he is bowling again, and I only bowl under-arm so I should be alright for Xmas.

Will be seeing Kev Curran during Xmas and New Year holidays. I have my youngest girl with me, she is coping pretty well, she is now a teller in the A.N.Z. bank. She wants to go and have a look at Perth next year, but doesn't like to be on her own she will be 21 next July.

I am a maintenance fitter in this hospital, been here fifteen years come December, am getting well looked after. What Anne told Bob Smith still stands, when he comes over next March, we have a pretty big home with only two in it these days and should any one like a rest overhere, they are most welcome.

Well pals they are after more blood, so I will close now, trusting all are in good health.

Tex Richards.

PORT HEDLAND, W.A.

I have been wondering how to contact the Association regarding any appeal for Timor relief. I have a deep regard for these wonderful people.

Enclosed is my cheque towards any such appeal. I wish I could make it more, but I have been out of work for three months.

I hope this contribution will help.

Dick Dorham.

Thanks for your generous donation Dick. New address noted, Couriers will be posted.—Ed.

2/2 COMMANDO ASSOCIATION RESULT OF MAMMOTH RAFFLE

- No. FIRST PRIZE
- 148 E. CARRUTHERS, 4 Zamia St., Graylands. W.A.
- \$20 PRIZES**
- 200 J. H. SMITH, 71 Killarney Rd., Karrinyup. W.A.
 24 M. COBCROFT, 78 Welbank St., Concord. N.S.W.
 532 HERB & PEG, C/o M.R.D. Moora. W.A.
 218 B. SMYTH, 128 Dalkeith Rd., Nedlands. W.A.
 176 J. McGRATH, C/o Bellevue RSL Club. W.A.
 111 B. CALLINAN, 111 Sackville St., Melbourne. Vic.
 257 B. KELLY, 15 O'Dea St., Carlisle. W.A.
 391 B. WROTH, 39 College Rd., Claremont. W.A.
 83 D. LATIMER, 8 Cumberland St., Blackton. N.S.W.
 423 L. MELBOURNE, Social Securities, Perth. W.A.
 604 W. ORR, 190 Birkett St., Bedford. W.A.
 188 H. JAMES, 18 Beatrice St., Doubleview. W.A.
 173 D. DAVIS, 52a Temple St., Victoria Park. W.A.
 424 W. Boylson, Social Securities, Perth. W.A.
 52 E. MULCAHY, Box 38983, Winnellie. N.T.
 452 T. FERGUSON, Social Securities, Perth. W.A.
 515 D. Boylan, 245 Ewen St., Doubleview. W.A.
 416 K. GORTON, Social Securities, W.A.
 164 G. O'DEA, 3 Amery St., Como. W.A.
 215 R. METHERELL, Wyee Place, Gooseberry Hill. W.A.
 562 V. Jillich, 43 Hamilton St., Osborne Park. W.A.
 184 R. CARVALHO, 7 Hobbs Ave., Como. W.A.
 460 F. CARROLL, Social Securities, W.A.
 241 J. VOLICH, 77 Rosedale St., Floreat. W.A.
 38 K. CRAIG, Box 234, Young. N.S.W.
 46 BAY VIEW SYNDICATE, C/o M. Jones, Mona Vale. N.S.W.
 521 R. AITKEN, 11 Patula Place, Coolbinia. W.A.
 250 G. BAGLEY, 11 Lynmouth St., Dianella. W.A.
 284 L. O'BYRNE, 34 Cheriton St., East Perth. W.A.
 153 B. POLLER, 127 Washington St., Vic. Park. W.A.
 574 H. MORGAN, 11 Daly St., Sth. Fremantle. W.A.
 486 L. RUDD DOYLE, 52 Sexton Rd., Inglewood. W.A.
 136 A. BOAST, 12 Burns Ave., Westall. Vic.
 568 R. DARRINGTON, 186 Stirling St., Perth. W.A.
 75 S. DUBBER, 6/69 John St., Waterloo, N.S.W.
 351 R. BARTON, 11 Watkins St., Beaconsfield. W.A.
 211 P. WESTON, 174 Acton Ave., Rivervale. W.A.
 62 J. WALTON, 35/77 Riley St., East Sydney. N.S.W.
 236 B. MacDONALD, 13 Northgate St., Karrinyup. W.A.
 457 D. ALLEN, Social Securities, Perth. W.A.
 270 J. ASHLEY, 4 Star St., Carlisle. W.A.
 12 T. SNOWDEN, 112 Matina St., Narrabundah, Canberra. A.C.T.
 347 G. CURTIS, 170b Kitchener Rd, Alfred Cove. W.A.
 240 R. HORSFALL, 28 Turiff Rd., Floreat Park. W.A.
 361 B. THORNTON, 41 Clevedon Way, Karrinyup. W.A.
 529 G. Mason, 10 Meredith Way, Balga. W.A.
 71 G. HENNESSY, 6 Belair Ave., Carindah. N.S.W.
 329 R. BEAVIS, 23 King St., South Perth. W.A.
 415 J. White & MRS. WHITE, Social Securities, Perth. W.A.
 493 A. BOWERS, RM6599, Kojonup. W.A.
 440 A. LOUDEN, Maitarra St., Nollamara. W.A.
 28 L. LAIDLAW, 77 Yamba St., Yamba. N.S.W.
 223 B. DUDLEY, 113 SYDENHAM Rd., Doubleview. W.A.
 582 M. Nichols, 32 Clevedon Way, Karrinyup. W.A.
 363 P. BURGER, 18 Rosette Close, Craigie. W.A.
 228 R. HARRINGTON, Wyening. W.A.
 410 L. SAMPSON, Social Securities. W.A.
 525 R. HUBBARD, 231a Walcott St., Perth. W.A.
 148 W. & E. KRAUSE, 48 Bourke St., Mentone. Vic.
 494 A. PARTRIDGE, Box 32, Kojonup. W.A.