



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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Vol. 40

OCTOBER 1982

PRICE 1c

COMING EVENTS

SANDGROPER SAFARI 1983 — STATE OF EXCITEMENT W.A.

FREEWAY HOTEL:

Accommodation deposits are now required, and can be received, by us.

(A 10 per cent deposit is approximately \$50 per couple, which is due and payable early in 1983.)

COMO BEACH CARAVAN PARK:

1982 Prices are:

Sites only: \$38 per week for 2 people, plus \$4 per extra person

On site Vans:

4 berth \$100 weekly

6 berth \$110 weekly

A deposit of \$20 per booking is due and payable early in 1983.

(So far these people will not give us a projected price for 1983.)

PLANNING PROGRAMME

Proposed Itinerary for Sandgroper Safari October 3 to October 16

NOTE: Several alterations and amendments are already in hand.

3rd MONDAY:

Arrive Welcome at Freeway Hospitality unit.

4th TUESDAY:

Day free. Evening: Formal dinner at Freeway Hotel.

5th WEDNESDAY:

Day tour to Wildflower Nursery, and Yanchep Park
Bus \$8.50 per person Lunch Yanchep Inn \$8.00 pp.

6th THURSDAY:

Free day. Late night shopping.

7th FRIDAY:

Civic Reception at Council House. Evening, Trots.

8th SATURDAY:

Races. Evening get together at Freeway, snack supper \$10 per person.

9th SUNDAY:

3pm Kings Park Memorial Service, after at Freeway \$5.00 pp.

10th MONDAY:

Half day tour by Parlorcar to El Caballo Blanco Bus \$4.25 pp
Entrance \$4.00 pp.

11th TUESDAY:

Free day.

12th WEDNESDAY:

Miss Sandalford Vineyard Cruise and lunch \$23.00 per person.

13th THURSDAY:

Day free. Late night shopping.

14th FRIDAY:

Half day Parlorcar Cruise & Coach Tour to Fremantle. Evening Trots. Bus \$4.25 pp Ferry \$4.00 pp.

15th SATURDAY:

Day tour by Parlorcar to Don Turton's property. BBQ lunch. Timorese to be invited. Bus \$8.50 per person BBQ \$2.50 per person.

16th SUNDAY:

Book out of Freeway Hotel by 10 am.

Approximate cost per member \$85.00. Double \$170.00

Parlorcar Coaches, seat 44, full day hire \$370 ea. half day \$185 ea. up to 240 kilometres, 95c per klm thereafter. Firm rates from Oct. '83.

2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

In our 1980 administrative year, it was decided that the courier story should be told once more and that when pertinent, as each issue presents, we should remind our readers that "Courier needs the help of all readers, at all times, all the time."

Accordingly, we sought again the assistance of Col Doig "Supremo amongst past editors." His editorial, "A brief history of the 2/2 commando courier and it's antecedents" was published in March 1981 issue. NOTE the cost structure makes interesting reading eg 1947 (Escalating costs of postage to 1½ pence per copy was causing concern and forced us into bulk postage - THE POSTAGE COST

OF AN ISSUE NOW averages \$48.47. Costs for printing an issue (approx 500 copies) was then eight pounds (\$16.00) now \$345 for average issue of (450) copies, a strictly competitive price. Work and time now involved to prepare an issue under, - "Australia Post - national sorting plan for bulk pre-sorted mail and registered publications service" - is to say the least, quite an undertaking eg postcodes for a largely populated place, such as, Moss Vale, are not as easy to decide from standard post coding formulae, here in W.A., as may be imagined. There are many more such areas requiring information from Australia Post, but an aware production team soon compiles it's own "Aide Memoirs," as it goes.

Since, Col's editorial, we have referred to courier and address book in each issue. This presentation is another chapter in the story.



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER - PRODUCTION TEAM

The photo of our courier production team was taken at the conclusion of preparation of the June 82 issue. Thought you may like to be acquainted with them in this way.

PROFILE L to R

Len Bagley State secretary and life member, also member of "Courier Back-up Team." Assiduous worker for our association in many capacities, including president 1971/72/73. Has attended all 2/2 safaris to date and currently secretary of the planning committee for "Sandgroper safari 1983." A gem who continues to shine

through with his enthusiasm, his gentlemanly approach and constant application to the multifarious association tasks he is involved in. We earnestly hope that he keeps well forever and that Dot continues to help him with association affairs, in her quiet way.

Jess Epps "OUR ONE AND ONLY LIFE ASSOCIATE MEMBER" has been a tireless worker for our association over the years. Started on Production of our courier alongside of her beloved late husband Bill - (one time president for some years and life member) - way back in 1946/7 through to 1982. Since we streamlined procedures including the new "Australia Post national pre-sorting for bulk posted registered publications plan" we have been able to let Jess take a rest for several issues but she remains as first emergency to our "Back-up" Team, willing to come and help whenever we call for her. A priceless and generous also long standing contribution to association affairs and a much loved member of our association.

Mary McKenzie Heads the "How it is done" section of our "Back-up Team." Took over when we needed someone to replace the late Scotty Wares, when he was forced to give up due to ill health. We are lucky Mary has had the interest and has found the time to give to courier production over the last year and nine months. A splendid job, quietly and efficiently executed.

Arch Campbell Our courier editor and energetic member of our "Back-up" Team. When Gerry McKenzie returned to W.A. in 1978, he enquired "where is Arch Campbell? and added" he ought to be on our association executive in some capacity!! Wouldn't you believe it - some few weeks later Arch VOLUNTEERED to take over as courier editor IF WE NEEDED HELP IN THAT DIRECTION. What Luck? What interest!! What a capture!! Did we need help? We think readers will agree that a new style, a flair for the P.R. bit, and more reading value has appeared in courier, since Arch took up the reins as editor. If you like him, write to him, he is a good mate. He will most likely publish your letter and thereby keep you in touch with all your dear old mates interstate as well as those in W.A. He is at present at the games!

Gerry McKenzie Didn't get in the photo, he took it! A couple of the less polite members say the photo was of "workers" only, therefore, he had to miss out. Gerry says the excellent results reached by the team indicated correctly set objectives, pursuit of the leadership qualities, knowledge, in-

itiative, tact etc. (Mary says she wouldn't have thought this latter quality comes through, noticeably) and he insists that his "unique contribution" is his ability to do any of the tasks WHEN NEEDED. He reminds the team that they must be aware that the corporate image soon becomes tarnished, if someone doesn't make the time to think and plan and promote, he says this comes more easily, sitting down!!

PRODUCTION TEAM - MOTTO!

We have selected the following procedural rules as a guide to our team-work.

They are:

- (a) Consider it's purpose.
- (b) Appreciate it's function.
- (c) Preserve it's appearance and contents.
- (d) Labour hard and smart to ensure it's distribution.

COURIER PRODUCTION

Our courier is now produced, through and by a "standing editorial committee" comprising, A. Campbell (editor), L. Bagley and G. McKenzie, and a "standing back-up team" comprising the three members of editorial, as well as Mary McKenzie also Jess Epps.

Courier is presented as a registered publication, on the basis of (6) issues yearly in Feb/Apr/Jun/Aug/Oct and Dec in each year.

We send copy of each issue in terms of the requirements for - Legal Deposit in Australia - to both legal deposit unit, national library of Australia, Canberra and Accessions Division, Library Board of W.A., Perth. As well as to our (421) address carded members, throughout the Commonwealth..

EDITORIAL AND BACK-UP

Four, sometimes five of our editorial and "back-up" people are involved in the production and despatch of each issue. Details of time taken follow:-

EDITORIAL	STAFF	FREQUENCY	TIME	TOTAL
Writing	(1)	As Req	15 Hrs	15 Hrs
Proof Reading	(1)	(1)	3 Hrs	3 Hrs
Collect & Collate				
News Items	(1)	As Req	4 Hrs	4 Hrs
Function Notes	(1)	As Req	12 Ann	2 Hrs

BACK-UP TASKS

Secretarial	(1)	Daily	1 Hr	60 Hrs
Address Cards	(1)	Weekly	1 Hr	8 Hrs
Print Wrappers	(1)	Per Issue	5 Hrs	5 Hrs
Write Post Code Tags	(1)	Per Issue	2 Hrs	2 Hrs
Write Bundle Tags	(1)	Per Issue	1 Hr	1 Hr
Folding	(3)	Per Issue	2 Hrs	6 Hrs
Wrapping	(3)	Per Issue	3 Hrs	9 Hrs
Bundle, Tie & Code Label	(2)	Per Issue	5 Hrs	10Hrs
Count & Cost Postage	(2)	Per Issue	1½ Hrs	3 Hrs
Posting & Receipt To				
Treasurer	(1)	Per Issue	1 Hr	1 Hr
Treasurer	(1)	Per Issue	1 Hr	1 Hr
				130 Hrs

COURIER DISTRIBUTION

2/2 Commando Courier though limited by number, still enjoys a reasonably wide circulation throughout the Commonwealth.

Details of postings for August 1982 issue, were as follow:-

WA	170
NSW	114
VIC	64
QLD	37
SA	23
TAS	8
ACT	3
UK	1
NG	1
	421

COURIER COSTS

February 1982 issue cost us for:-

Printing \$320.00

Postage 46.81

Since then for Apr/Jun and Aug 82 issues, printing was \$345.00 due to the rise in cost of paper - postage was \$48.00. The Disturbing aspects in terms of future costs are that we can anticipate steadily rising charges for paper but worse still, we must anticipate a rise in postage. We are told that Australia post lost large sums in their last financial year in respect of bulk postage and that this trend will not be allowed to continue. Our informant says we can expect bulk posted standard items to be as much as 25 cents or equal to present day letters, 27 cents. Astonishingly, it was indicated that postage on normal letters could reach 50 cents in the near future. Add this all together and one of the hard

cold facts that emerge in 2/2 commando association - W.A. branch, yearly budget considerations, is that we must produce or set aside an amount of approx \$2500.00 for courier, on the present basis and frequency of issue.

Solutions readily come to mind ie. reduce the number of issues - reduce the size and number of pages etc. All good stuff but will need lots of planning, some new form design BY SOMEONE WHO HAS SOME SPARE TIME TO ALLOT TO THE TASK and how then would we know what effect economy changes are likely to be having on our readers.

In our view it is crucial that our readers continue to be interested in and kept in touch by courier, which for years has been our paramount medium for maintaining contact with our old mates. As Col Doig wrote in his March 1981 editorial "here's hoping that the little paper lives on during all our life times."

FINIS

Someone said:-

"Courier costs \$400.00 an issue for just over 400 copies - thats a dollar a pop?" so it is!!

"Our work parties are not overloaded with male talent and members are not personalities of power and pelf! Indeed they are not!!"

"All except one are pensioners but all with a steadfast desire to do something to keep our old mates in touch"

KEEPING TOUCH IS THE NAME OF THE GAME!!

LET'S HEAR FROM - YOU!!

ADDRESS - Box T1646 GPO, Perth.

"GE-EM"

TIMOR

This article is presented because it has special significance to many of our members and even though we did not all serve in Timor, that event is a part of our history, and, because we are members of the 2/2nd, regardless of where we served, it is a part of us and we all share equally the campaign that made the 2/2nd the marvellous unit it was. We are indebted to the courtesy of Bob Smyth for this story.

The articles cover March - April - May of 1982 and a follow-up from the West Australian Newspaper - 12th July '82.

WHITLAM AND THE TIMOR DEBATE

THE BULLETIN of March 30 stirred up a hornet's nest with an exclusive report from former Prime Minister Gough Whitlam on current conditions in East Timor. Whitlam, visiting East Timor in March on an itinerary arranged by the International Committee of the Red Cross, found that the conditions of the people of East Timor were now much better than before the civil war of 1975 or the famine of 1978. He rebutted allegations of famine and called upon Australians to aid their government in supporting present efforts in East Timor by the Red Cross and UNICEF.

The article aroused several letters from readers, many of them with a strong anti-Indonesian tone. The arguments against Whitlam are best summed up in the letters of two writers, Shirley Shackleton, widow of one of the five newsmen killed during the Indonesian invasion of East Timor and Labour MP Ken Fry.

The Bulletin this week publishes the letters of Shackleton and Fry, together with Whitlam's reply. We hope the letters and reply will throw some light on the East Timor issue, which has bedevilled Australian-Indonesian relations since 1975.

TRUTH BURIED WITH THE BODIES

FROM Shirley Shackleton: I am the widow of one of the Australian journalists killed in Timor. For the past four years I have worked to raise money to establish a memorial scholarship in memory of my husband and his colleagues. The first Greg Shackleton scholar was announced on April 6. The winner, Geraldine Brookes, will travel to the US to take up studies at Columbia University later this year.

Now that the scholarship has been established I feel free to work on behalf of the Timorese and I write this, not as the widow of Greg Shackleton but as an Australian citizen who wishes to assist any Timorese who survived the slaughter and famine which have ravaged Timor since the Indonesian invasion.

I have followed the articles reported in the Australian Press of the Whitlam/Hastings visit closely. The debate depends on one's definition of the word famine and the allegation that the apostolic administrator in Dili, Monsignor Martinho da Costa Lopes, has lied (Gough Whitlam, B, March 30).

"The Bishop" did not claim that famine was present in Timor, he warned that famine was possible. His conclusions were drawn from his knowledge of agricultural facts coupled with his outrage and frustration regarding military operations described by Peter Hastings (*Canberra Times*, March 12) as "frankly disastrous as well as inhumane. Throughout the middle and spring months of last year an alleged 50,000 Timorese men (certainly not less than 30,000 men) 16 years and up, were taken to the hills to contact Fretilin groups and discuss amnesty possibilities. The operation was not only clumsy but completely counter-productive. It resulted in a few surrenders and took thousands of able-bodied men away from the urgent needs of planting and other village duties."

The survivors of the operation returned to their families sick and completely undernourished according to "the Bishop." Viewed in this light his claims are understandable.

If by famine your definition is "food shortage severe enough to cause health problems and risk of death" consider a further report by Hastings (*Canberra Times*): "There are certainly pockets of population short of food in a desperately poor island. There is also a perennial risk of severe food shortage leading to famine in the first three months of every year." These and many other factors known to "the Bishop" add to the grim picture.

In assuring us that there is no famine coming to Timor, Gough Whitlam has not taken into account any of the following:

- The East Timorese have been moved from their traditional areas where crops grow readily.
- The resettlement areas were chosen for strategic gains not agricultural merits.

● The East Timorese have always been subsistence farmers. They have never grown crops for sale and are not accustomed to buying food. They are not used to having money. What little they had come from the coffee plantations or odd jobs. The Indonesians have forbidden any internal trading of coffee except to a company set up by Indonesian generals.

● Travel is restricted. For security reasons *surat jalan* (travel permits) are required. This is to prevent the Timorese from aiding Fretilin, but it also cuts Timorese off from food purchasing areas. The great difficulty in obtaining travel permits introduces graft common to Indonesians, but totally unacceptable to the Timorese way of life. *Their lack of graft and their honesty cannot be over-emphasised.* In many cases the mere application for a travel permit places them under suspicion of being pro-Fretilin. This prevents them from applying.

By moving the people into strategically important areas, the Indonesians have created pockets of overcrowding. They have compounded all the natural hazards common to farming in Timor. If there is a grasshopper plague or a rat plague or insufficient rainfall the crops will fail. These are common in Timor.

Indonesia's petty refusal to accept Australian buffer stocks makes one wonder if they are fit for the task of domination over the Timorese.

The Indonesians are capable of great kindness and they may mean well in Timor but they are also capable of brutality and absolute stupidity, as evidence confirms.

The Bishop of Dili has seen human misery visited upon his people. Peter Hastings in reporting the death rate (*Sydney Morning Herald*, March): "Estimates have varied widely from a low of 100,000 and less than half the island's population."

What Australians can't stomach is Gough Whitlam's eagerness to accept that "conditions of the people of East Timor are much better than before the civil war of 1975 and the famine of 1978" (B, March 30).

His list of "improvements" includes the fact that he saw four tractors in Dili! He also reports to have seen buildings, roads, fish farms and an irrigation system. As though such material gains could replace self-determination to a people who are traditionally known for their complete disregard for material wealth.

Australians can't help wondering what Mr Whitlam might have seen had he the power to set the helicopter down in

areas other than those where he was expected.

Anyone seeking clarification of the Timorese situation must share my bitter disappointment that Whitlam appears to be bending over backwards to bathe the Indonesians in a rosy hue.

If all is well in Timor, why have the Indonesians consistently denied admission to people like Harry Martin from Community Aid Aboard, or Cliff Morris. Mr Morris was in Timor during World War II. He has been working on a dictionary of Tetum to assist the Timorese.

He has been refused entry into Timor twice so far. He, among many Australians, would be quite happy for the Indonesians to take over if that is what the Timorese want.

The terrible truth and one which Whitlam can't deny is that they have never been given the chance to speak on their own behalf.

In attempting to become chief apologist for the Indonesian invasion of Timor, Whitlam dismisses without a murmur the hundreds of thousands of East Timorese who died horribly. Having made a terrible mistake Gough Whitlam appears to be busy, busy, busy seeking to cover it up.

I have no doubt that conditions have improved in East Timor since the 1978 famine period. So they should have after more than six years of occupation and substantial international aid; but to accept that all is well on the basis of a very shallow, speedy and stage-managed inspection by Mr Whitlam is an exercise in self-delusion.

If we accept the Whitlam report as the "truth" about East Timor we will be doing a great disservice to the people of East Timor, by encouraging their supporters to drop their cause in the unsubstantiated belief that their brutal and aggressive overlords are treating them well.

Mr Whitlam has consistently adopted an accommodating posture on the illegal Indonesian occupation with little regard for the rights of the East Timorese people. As a member of the Australian Labor Party I publicly disassociate myself from his report.

The public should suspend their judgement on East Timor at least until evidence is heard by the Senate Standing Committee Enquiry on Human Rights in East Timor which begins shortly. I am confident that a much more balanced picture will emerge from a wider range of evidence.

KEN FRY, MP
Member for Fraser
Parliament House Canberra

FRETILIN SUPPORT HAS EVAPORATED

GOUGH WHITLAM replies: At Parliament House, Canberra, on Tuesday, March 23, I spent one and three-quarter hours at their request with the members of the Joint Committee and half the members of the Senate's Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence to discuss my visit to East Timor. I have agreed to give evidence before a public meeting of the full Senate Committee in Sydney on May 14.

Among the committee members who were present was Mr Fry. It was in committee that he asked me whether I had visited "six specific areas identified by church relief authorities where famine conditions might occur later in this year." I said I had not. (He already knew this from Mr Hastings' articles in *The Sydney Morning Herald*.) I pointed out that the areas had not been visited by the apostolic administrator, who is the source of the allegations of possible famine. I suggested that he or the committees might check the facts with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and/or US Catholic Relief Services (CRS), which have been in the province since April, 1979, and/or with the apostolic pro-nuncio who had spent 10 days there last June.

Mr. Fry is much more strident in your columns than he was in committee. He gives your readers the benefit of views which he did not venture to express before his peers and to my face. His after-thoughts are spurious. He now says that I made a "very superficial inspection," "lightning tour" and "very shallow, speedy and stage-managed inspection." The facts are I spent four days in the province in the course of which I visited eight centres by helicopter. Secondly, he cites the "Indonesian sponsors of the visit." The facts are that the itinerary was arranged by the ICRC, I flew in ICRC helicopters and I was accompanied throughout by the ICRC delegate who has been in the province since 1979 and who had taken round the secretary-general of the Australian Red Cross Society by helicopter. Thirdly, he describes my presentation as "an exercise in self-justification and apology," "dishonest and deliberately misleading" and "an exercise in self-delusion."

I relied in my *Bulletin* article on the published ICRC quarterly reports, a personal briefing by the ICRC team on February 28, a widely reported ICRC Press conference on March 4 and a CRS document of February 1. Further-

more, I produced these documents to the committee members together with our ambassador's report on the discussions to which he accompanied me.

By contrast Mr Fry made two visits to East Timor back in 1975. In March he visited two or three places. In September he visited three places in a plane owned and piloted by an undercover ASIS operative. On the second visit East Timor was no longer "subject to Portuguese authority," as he writes, but was occupied by Fretilin forces which, thanks to the weapons left them by the decamping Portuguese, had subdued their political rivals and caused an exodus of 40,000 refugees.

Since 1975 Mr Fry has maintained his contacts with Fretilin. In April, 1979, Mozambique, which was playing host to Fretilin as a government in exile, requested the Security Council to invite him to appear before it. This was heady stuff for a man who had been less than two years in parliament. In May and June, 1979, he missed the last 11 days and the last 35 votes of the parliamentary session to go to Lisbon to address a conference attended by, among others, the ambassadors from the five former Portuguese African colonies which recognise Fretilin as the government of East Timor. In June, 1981, he was again in Lisbon as a "witness" before a 10 member "jury" which was backed by the same former colonies and which found that Fretilin's UDI in November, 1975, was valid in international law. None of these expeditions were undertaken under the auspices of a parliamentary committee or the Australian Labor Party.

Mr Fry, like many politicians - and academics too - has long realised that East Timor is the easiest subject upon which to gain exposure in the Australian media. He refuses to realise that the Fretilin faction, to whose interests he has devoted so much emotion and effort, long ago lost all significant support in East Timor and everywhere else in Southern Asia and the Western Pacific. He and many of a like mind fail to realise that they have opted out of any role in building the future of the people of East Timor.

The Senate committee was established on November 26. Mrs Shackleton has had ample time to give it any information she has. The value of her information would depend on her sources. She should identify them. I have already given my information to the Senate committee. I identified my sources at the meeting in Parliament House on March 23.

E.G. WHITLAM
Sydney NSW

WHITLAM AND TIMOR

There is little doubt in my mind that Mr Gough Whitlam's report on Timor (B, March 30) is a sincere and honest attempt at peace-making and at cleaning out an Augean mess for which, incidentally, he himself is not entirely blameless. Unfortunately, Mr Whitlam is no Hercules and there is no River Alpheus handy to do the job for him.

Mr Whitlam, I suggest, does not know Timor and its peoples nearly well enough to be able to fully assess the significance of what he was allowed to see, as against what he has not seen. To somebody like me, who lived and worked for well over a year in the Portuguese Timor - even if it was 25 years ago - it is at once obvious that Mr Whitlam's brief inspection tours were limited to what may be called lowland and coastal fringe areas in the west and in the east (except Ermera, but that is a rather civilised coffee plantation mountain). It worries me somewhat that, despite the ICRC helicopter facility, he did not visit the mountainous heartland of East Timor from Tata Mailau and Cablac eastward to Mundo Perdido and Mata Bia, the area where the Aussies played cat and mouse with the Japanese invaders in the war - where one would suspect the Fretilin resistance pockets (if such still exist) to be based. There are a number of rather important market towns in this region, most of them certainly more important than Natarbora, Dilor or Luro. Why wasn't a single one of these towns visited?

While one can see no reasons for claiming the man-made living conditions - we are not concerned here with the naturally harder life of the mountain people - are worse than elsewhere, I would nonetheless feel a lot better about Mr Whitlam's report had he been able to say something reliably soothing also about one or two important towns in East Timor's heartland.

This letter is not written by a Fretilin supporter. Fretilin's cause, whatever it once was and may be now, is already lost in deadwoods of colonial history, however sour one may feel about the injustice of it all. It's all happened before and will happen again. What matters is to find ideas and ways which will heal the wounds and rifts and allow the various shades of antagonistic interests to be accommodated within the overall framework of the Indonesian Republic. I believe that is also what Mr Whitlam has in mind. He deserves support but, on the other hand, I suggest

we should ask him to drop a certain machiavellian streak in his manner of reporting.

RUDOLF O. BRUNNSCHZEILER
Deakin ACT

FOOD STILL SHORT IN E. TIMOR

CANBERRA, Sun: Serious food shortages persisted in many parts of East Timor and premature withdrawal of the International Red Cross would be disastrous, it was claimed yesterday.

The chairman of the Australian Council for Overseas Aid, Mr Richard Alston, called on the Australian Government to press for continuation of a Red Cross aid programme.

The relief operation was scheduled to end last month, but Mr Alston said this would have jeopardised medical and food relief, the tracing of missing people and prisoner welfare.

The council was particularly concerned that serious food shortages persisted in many parts of East Timor.

Mr Alston, who is also secretary of the Victorian Liberal Party made an implied criticism of statements by the former Prime Minister, Mr Whitlam, that there was no danger of famine on the small island State, incorporated by Indonesia in 1975.

"With the exception of Mr Whitlam, all those who have visited the area recently, including the International Red Cross and a number of foreign journalists, have agreed that the present situation is far from satisfactory and that more aid must be found," Mr Alston said.

He said there had been maize and rice crop failures, a rodent plague and mobilisation of large numbers of rural workers by Indonesians to engage in an extensive counter insurgency campaign. - AAP.

OF INTEREST

"Chit-Chat" with a couple of our Timorese mates prior to Mr Whitlam's planned visit, touched on areas he may visit, if his tour was a controlled stage-managed affair!! The Score, 6 out of 7, nominated in his eventual itinerary.

"GE-EM"

EAST TIMOR ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INC)

Recent receipt of copy of the newly constituted "East Timor Association in Western Australia (Inc.)" is a matter of important consequence, purpose and delight to our 2/2 Commando Association - W.A. Branch.

We are extremely grateful to a couple of members who acted a part in this achievement:-

FIRSTLY -

RAY AITKEN, who from away back in the embryo stages offered monetary guarantees and back-up also moral support to our Timorese friends in their quest to have officially constituted, their own association.

SECONDLY -

JERRY MALEY, who for some years prior to becoming president in 1978 had maintained an active interest in the efforts of our East Timorese friends to become officially organised and who on completion of his period of presidency at the end of admin year 1979, took over the newly created position of "Timorese Liaison Officer" with particular emphasis on assistance and guidance to the East Timorese, in having their own association officially constituted.

A couple of extracts from the constitution are published, because we believe they are important to the understanding of our readers and in particular those who did not serve in Timor and therefore did not experience the friendly acceptance and support given to 2/2 independent company by these lovable people during hostilities, in their country, through 1942. **QUOTE:-**

EAST TIMOR ASSOCIATION IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INC) is an association for social, cultural and recreational activities and rejects any involvement or affiliation with any political party or association.

Another of it's aims, is:-

- (b) To encourage and promote good relations, friendship and understanding between its members and the Australian people.

Courier says to readers anywhere in Australia - "The East Timorese are good people - they are highly intelligent and place a high value on being accepted into the Australian Community in a friendly, fair and equitable way."

"We are sure they will become happy and industrious migrants and in due course energetic and acceptable

Australians. We can help the most by recognising them as friends, by giving them a friendly welcome and by offering help and giving encouragement to them in accepting our BEST way of life.

TO OUR TIMORESE READERS

Courier says "welcome, we hope your settling-in period won't be too frustrating and we hope you will, whilst learning to become one of us, maintain the practice of your own traditions, in particular your lovely rhythmical dancing and accompanying folk songs and actions."

GOOD LUCK, MATES!!!

A/ED

HISTORICAL, MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES - OF 2/2 COMMANDO ASSOCIATION FOREWORD

Another episode in the long story of the priceless contribution, to Association Affairs by "The Epps Family" has begun. Our committee could rightfully be called "The Lucky People" due to having recieved the recent offer by Peter Epps to take over our historical records and artefacts and set-up our own museum, for us.

Peter is the handsome second son of our beloved Jess and late husband Bill (both mentioned elsewhere in this issue). He too has been a soldier and a junior officer and is acquainted with, also accomplished in, the restoration, mounting and display lay out of war relics and papers, through his service association with Western Military District's, extensive and expertly maintained army museum here in Perth, as well as his own collections.

Jess is providing the accommodation for our museum at her home address, 12 Hackett St, Greenmount 6056, and a start has been made to concentrate our historical gear from it's many prior venues, at that address.

In the past, for many years our historical paper records, have been stored and maintained at the business address of our member John Burrige, whilst many photos and artefacts plus many other kinds of items have been held stored, in our large and rather heavy "Unit Box" in our usual meeting room at Anzac House. The move to

new Anzac House, wherein, through a lack of planning or perhaps a planned but not communicated intention, to off-load such ex-service association equipments, we are no longer able to hang photos etc in our meeting room or stow our boxed impedimenta in that place. Hence the offer by Peter and his mother is a welcome windfall in solving what has been 2/2 Commando Association, W.A. Branch, most pressing problem for some time now!!

DEVELOPMENT

When we were forced to move our valued items of interest and historical consequence from anzac house, Don Turton, in his generous and predictable way, took the bulk of our "Goodies" and stored them in the cottage at his home at Attadale. (One of our other generous regular carriers eg. George Fletcher or Roo Dhu may have done the carting from anzac house to Attadale) But destination for stowage was the Turton family home. Gear such as parade flags, our unit photo album (produced by the late Dave Ritchie and greatly valued by us all) affiliated association newsletters, couriers etc. plus political circulars, letters and the like usually held by the president, went to Gerry McKenzie's, Morley home along with the considerable quantity of paper, printing supplies, address cards, machines and liquids used in production of our Courier by Mary McKenzie and our Courier Production Team.

At our inaugural meeting held on 3 Aug 82, Mr Peter Epps was officially appointed "Curator" of our newly designated "Historical Museum and Archives of 2/2 Commando Association."

An interim committee of management comprising L. Bagley, A. Campbell, D. Turton, R. Kirkwood and G. McKenzie was also appointed. Jess Epps (life associate member) was also invited to join the interim committee.

The committee decided on and laid down the following priority tasks:-

- (a) Move records, gear and equipments of historical note to, 12 Hackett St, Greenmount.
- (b) Sort and record all items - noting donors and or other pertinent information.
- (c) Restore and arrange accommodation available for display purposes (a small budget was sought and granted for this purpose).
- (d) Arrange the mounting and display of suitable articles, records and collections.

- (e) Concentrate, review, sentence and dispose of unwanted materials as required.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE

The very nature of the subject under discussion has encouraged members of the interim committee and others to discuss:- "So we set up our association museum, then numbers dwindle as they inevitably will!! What then??"

A thought from these discussions is, that when accepting donor items for display we ensure that accurate records are set-up to include information such as the name and relationship to the donor of the person or family which is to receive the historical relic, when the donor/loaner becomes deceased.

Our thoughts at present are that in "the end" our whole collection should be passed to Western Military District's Army Museum, for inclusion in their section maintained for W.A. Units.

Now for your comments on this latter, thought!!

WHO CAN HELP US IMPROVE OUR COLLECTION??

Any member or family of a deceased member who is in possession of war-time item of gear or collected relic or record of service or service medal etc, etc, can add to our museum collection and thus our display by donating or loaning such an item to us for display. Photos are also sought but are of no use if they are not neatly and fully notated with - who it is - where taken - the event in which engaged - by whom taken if possible etc.

If you wish to donate an item please fully notate same and send it to Box T1646 GPO, Perth 6001.

If an item is large and weightily it could be delivered to our Curator care 12 Hackett St, Greenmount, 6056. Or if an article is located at a reasonable distance from Perth metro area, we could arrange pick-up.

Loan items can be similarly treated but as well as neat and complete notation - loaned items must be accompanied by a letter

stating in addition to historical particulars the duration of the period of loan allowed on the item, as well as disposal particulars which are to apply for return of the item on completion of the loan period.

CONCLUSION

We are thrilled to receive such an important voluntary offer as the one under discussion, particularly from one of our "younger brigade."

Does this mean that possibly more sons of members or late members are waiting to make similar moves. **IF SO, WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO HEAR FROM THEM!!**

Meantime let us tell you that our Curator has set an objective - to have our historical, museum and archives of 2/2 Commando Association set-up and ready for viewing at least in time for visitors to sandgroper safari 1983 in October 1983 to enjoy the unit history, it will undoubtedly put on display by that time.

"GE-EM."

W.A. BRANCH - ANNUAL RE-UNION DINNER

Enough has already been written and said about this once important and usually well attended function on our annual calendar of events. Therefore, we won't bore readers with anything like the missives published in our June and Aug issues.

As an exercise in giving us an opportunity, in an accepted setting, to invite and entertain official guests, I believe our objective was achieved.

Our three official guests namely John Matires, Jacinto Dos Reis and Ac Da Costa were all seen to be enjoying themselves up at the President's table. Costa didn't often sit and talk, he is one of those special types of lovable people who is always in search of a "Jug of the Doings," or a tasty tit-bit for his table companion or any other member present who crosses his view. All three are senior members of the newly constituted East Timor Association of Western Australia (Inc) (more about E.T.A. of W.A., in this issue).

As with all other functions, to some, the day didn't suit - the changed venue was an expensive gimmick - the price (\$20 in the end) was too steep - the menu

lacked that essential (B & B) for ex-commandoes etc. We agree that an element of truth exists in all the foregoing comments but we remind those who found reason to complain that a majority of the small number, who attended, had a complimentary voice towards the organization, for an attempt to resuscitate this annual function with a change in venue, menu, style and pace.

We hear tell of a comment "The Mexican Chicken was much too hot for some of our old Roosters." Perhaps that about sums it all up!!!

It would be Re-miss of me not to mention our Mandurah contingent. Though also down on numbers in relation to previous years these staunch and regular attenders once again overlooked the distance and were seen to be enjoying themselves. We shudder to think what a Calamity the function would have descended to without them.

A special mention is warranted in relation to Ray Aitken. So soon after a very large and hazardous bout of heart surgery, it was a welcome sight and a tonic to see him in attendance, seemingly unrestricted, getting about the function room, deep in discussion with old mates and as could be expected of him, with our Timorese guests as well.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE WERE:-

Messrs McDonald
Dhu
Doig
Walsh
Powler
Furton
Varian
Fullerton
Dook
King
Holland
Smailes
McKenzie
Wheatley
Bagley
Turner
Sproxtton
Carey
Finklestein
Watson
Smith A.
Morgan
Paull
Bowers
Aitken
Haire
Langridge
Kirkwood

APOLOGIES FROM:-
Messrs Swann
Fletcher
Hudson Don

Rowan-Robinson
 Campbell Arch
 Burridge
 Hancock
 Marsh
 Anderson Les - Sick
 Cooper Bill - Sick
 Napier - Sick
 Holder - Associate Member

OFFICIAL GUESTS

Messrs Marties J. EAST
 Dos Reis J. TIMORESE
 Da Costa A. ASSOCIATION

A/ED

DONATIONS RECEIVED

J. Goodhew ✓
 J. Keenahan ✓
 W. Coker ✓
 S. McDonald ✓
 C. Doig ✓
 A. Walsh ✓
 J. Fowler ✓
 D. Turton ✓
 L. Bagley ✓
 H. Sproxton ✓
 J. Carey ✓
 R. Finklestein ✓
 B. Langridge ✓
 R. Aitken ✓

An dinner

A/ED

LEGAL DEPOSIT IN AUSTRALIA

Legal Deposit is a statutory provision which obliges publishers to deposit copies of their publications in libraries in the country in which they are published. (Refers to 2/2 Commando Courier.)

We became a depositor from the first time with our despatch of the August '82 issue, in response to a circular published by the National Library of Australia on 19 July '82. We are obliged henceforth to send copies to National Library in Canberra, also to Legal Deposit, J.S. Battye Library in Perth. In response to our despatch of the August issue we have been requested by the Principal Librarian - Battye Library in Perth to seek back issues from members willing to donate same in an endeavour by the library to make up a complete holding of our Courier, from when it began. Would those members holding copies which they are willing to donate please forward same under cover of a note to, Box T1646 GPO, Perth 6001.

A/ED

COMMEMORATION DAY - SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 1982

The Commemoration Service took place in our area of Lovekin Drive, Kings Park, commencing at 3 p.m., amid glorious sunshine.

The area looked a picture, due to the efforts of Rod Dhu and George Fletcher, our invaluable Wardens. Rod also provided chairs for our ladies, as he has done over the years.

Approximately 50 people attended the Service, which included members, wives, widows and children.

The President, Jack Fowler, read his Commemoration speech to a very attentive and solemn gathering, after which Mick Morgan assembled the members for a march of honor of the entire area.

One young man who attended our service, and introduced himself, was Wally Wordy - son of our late member Wally, who died in New Guinea.

At the Memorial stone, the Stanton family placed a Double Diamond wreath, in memory of their son and brother Charles. Also Elsie Wares placed flowers there, in memory of her late husband and Life Member Alex (Scotty) Wares.

An apology was received from Gerry and Mary McKenzie, who are in the process of moving house.

In conclusion the President thanked everyone for attending and invited them all to meet at the Freeway Hotel

for drinks and a savoury, and suggested that whilst at the Freeway they may like to take the opportunity to inspect the accommodation, that has been reserved for "Sandgroper Safari 1983."

About thirty people from the Commemoration Service visited the Freeway, and seemed to enjoy the drinks and savouries. Some did a limited tour of the accommodation and function rooms and generally speaking their acceptance was recorded.

Those in attendance were:

Jack and Jean Fowler,
Don and Vida Turton,
Bob and Joan Burns,
Clarrie & Grace Turner,
Mick and Jean Morgan,
Colin Doig & Joy Louden,
Mick & Jean Holland,
Joe & Helen Poynton
Roy & Vera Watson,
Jim & Marion Smailes,
Jack & Norma Hasson,
Harry & Thelma Sproxtan,
Doug & Edna Fullarton,
Fred & Beryl Griffiths,
Len and Dot Bagley,
Dick Darrington,
Arthur Smith,
Eric Thornander,
'Doc' Wheatley,
Tony Holland,
Elsie Wares,
Dot Boyland,
Jess Epps,
Rod Dhu,
Jack Carey,
Ron Kirkwood,
Percy Hancock,
Clarrie Varian,
Jerry Haire,
Wally Wordy jnr.

Stantons

CORRESPONDENCE CORNER

J. Keenahan
34 Duncan Street
Huskisson
2540 NSW

Dear Arch,

Herewith a few lines from another one of the "lost" but I hope remembered by some of my great mates. I have now retired 2 years and moved to the above address which is a beautiful sea side resort on the South Coast of NSW.

I have my own donga, 2 boats plus many other goodies to make life great. My previous address was 1 Kurrajong Street, Cabramatta, as I cannot find the yellow slip would you please make the necessary alteration.

I miss very much my old mates from Cabramatta, likes of Snowy Went, Tommy O'Brien, Jack Hartley, Bill Hoy etc., but by getting the Courier regular this brightens everything, but also saddens one when you read of those great's of the unit who have passed on.

I attended the Safari with my wife and always remember what a great state you have so I'll be endeavouring to make every effort for a return in 1983. Enclosed cheque - keep up the good work.

Jack Keenahan
13/9/82

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

P.J. Da Luz
Box 598, GPO,
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Editor,

Enclosed is a small donation for the Association and our great newsletter.

I would like an extra copy of the Addresses Book, when available.

Guess who came to Dinner?

With Authur Stevenson and myself we entertained at the Mandarin Club in Sydney, Zeca Madeira, the youngest son of Julio Madeira, who recently got out of Timor with his wife and 4 kids. We remembered Timor.

Due to poor health and no English, he is unable to get work at present and is living with his family in crowded conditions with other relatives.

I ask therefore for a little help from those of us who knew his father, Julio Madeira of Gleno, by way of a couple of dollars to alleviate their initial struggle.

Donations could be forwarded through the Association, Bernie Callinan or Arthur Stevenson (as these two names are more easily remember by Timorese as Senhor Barnard, Callinan and Senhor Arturo Stevenson).

Finally, we are trying to trace, together with Major Tom Hall and Captain Stevenson, the fate of the 2 Australians who escaped from Singapore in a canoe to Australia around 2/11/1944.

So far as we know from sketchy information they were picked up by the Japanese in the vicinity of Weter, Alor or Atauro and brought to Dili.

If the Indonesians allowed us into Timor, with their help, we could un-

cover this heroic episode of Australia War History, and the fate of those two brave men.

Any information or suggestion, please, so that, at least we can locate their remains and give the a final Resting Place.

Regards to all members and their Families

Pat

Pat,

Believe something by way of a small amelioration grant has been sent. You could contact NSW branch with a further request to help.

A/ED

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Dear Arch,

Just a very brief note this time. Would you please cancel the family suite which I initially asked for. My sister is unable to attend so will only need a double room for Cath and self.

Cath has asked if she could PLEASE have a 'room with a view.' She is one of these people who are up at the crack of dawn.

Also enclosed please find cheque for deposit which may help you people out financially in the early stages of planning.

Regards and best of health to one and all from both Cath and myself.

John Roberts

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

My wife and I were very sorry to miss the Safari at Surfers Paradise especially as we used to live there but we have been moving around quite a bit over the last couple of years and although we have travelled extensively in Queensland and NSW, we havent struck anyone from the unit, of course as I haven't had an address book its hard to make contact.

I had a note from Alan Luly to get in contact with him and also from Reg Harrington but as they had been following me about for month's there was no use as the Safari was long gone. Thanks fellers anyway. Sad and sorry to hear of so many of the old hands passing on, it seems that the average is too high for such a small group but I don't think any of us got out of the war without something wrong with us.

Well Val and I have looked at all the likely places where we would like to spend our remaining years from Cairns

down to Toukley in NSW, this seems to be the nicest place as it has everything you need, but it doesn't have the traffic problems of the bigger towns and no high rise buildings as yet, but it is not too far away from Maryborough and Bundaberg if you want to go shopping for something special, also it is in a good position for the weather being on about the same latitude as Sharks Bay and it has the reputation of being a fishermans paradise, what more could we ask?

Much as we would like to I cannot see us making it over to the West for the Sandgropher Safari but I'm sure that there will be a good roll up over there and I hope to hear all about it in the Courier in due course.

All the best to everyone.

Jack and Val Hanson

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Dear Gerry,

Sorry I am late but here is the Address Book information as requested.

Ron and Marje Goodairl, 170 Charles St., Ryde, Sydney 2112. PH: (02) 807 2570.

With best wishes to all

Ron Goodairl

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Dear Len,

Thanks for your very prompt reply to my letter. Your correspondence threw an entirely new angle on the accommodation arrangements to what was discussed at our meeting. My understanding on the information then was. The Imperial and Criterion were booked for our accommodation. Quite possibly I was mistaken on that score.

I agree most heartily with your suggestion that the Freeway Hotel would be by far the best accommodation of the three. So would you kindly book us in. (The years of the Lord have caught up with me). More to the point Nora will sleep far more comfortably solo. If John Patrick has any heavy sessions with people like yourself, Tony Bowers, Jean Kaynton, etc etc. River views will do us fine, thanks Len.

Spent yesterday afternoon with Jim English. His days are numbered (actually that common to all of us) in Jim's case its lung cancer, and it can't be operated on and treatment would have

no positive result. He is quite resigned to the fact. We had a get-together at Berncliffe R.S.L. five or six weeks ago. Jimmy, Ron Hilleard, Alan Luby, Bill Coker, Mick Derlin, Bill Hay (Snow) went and myself. Jim reckoned if there was going to be a "wake", it may as well be whilst he was round and about, and capable of enjoying it. He did, and we did.

Talking to Alan on the phone awhile ago. told him I was booking at the Freeway, in case there was any misunderstanding. He's OK, kept busy as he puts in a lot of time with the N.S.W. Commando Association. He told me Edith has not yet thrown off whatever "wog" that has been troubling her for quite some time. Apparently it causes quite a lot of congestion. Added to that she has to have a hip operation. I hope she is restored to full health in the near future, she really looked great when we were up at Surfers last year. This trouble has been with her quite some time now, as it appeared not long after her return from the last Safari.

Nora is keeping well and looking forward to a return to the West. Helen is up to her eyes in work once more, she will be returning to the North Coast in a couple of weeks. She's been at the departments head office in Sydney for some weeks now. She will be glad to go back to her own territory. She prefers running thing her way.

Won't be long before Nora and me leave for the Territory, two weeks actually. We will be pleased to see Stan again. He's been on the wander now for five years, except for the period he spent working with Willie Bowers on Tony's place at Kojonup, its always been in the faraway lonely places. The Pilbara, East Kimberleys and away to the North of Kal. Within 90 miles of Kal was the closest he worked to a town. The South and Southwest of the Territory. He likes it. I did too when I was young. He likes his visits home though. Michael and Gerald well, the former trying to save money, the latter succeeding. Gerald is talking of going to Ireland next year, his meeting with his Aunt whilst she was here rekindled a desire to go back and renew old acquaintances from his visit in 1972. Thats when he ordered a pint of Guinness at the ripe old age of ten, and further more was served.

I'm off now Len, best wishes to you, Dot and Gavin, and may all your wishes be granted. We will quaff a Swan or two for old times sake come October '83. So keep fit and raise a thirst. With thanks and best wishes,

Paddy Kenneally

☆☆☆☆☆☆

NEWS FLASH

Your editor is/was away "Playing Games" in Queensland!

No, He is not "Playing" he is at the Commonwealth Games with Tony Adams and others. Have fun Arch!! The WORKERS carry on and in terms of the old adage "When the cat's away etc, etc."

You deserve a break and we know the December issue will benefit from your refreshment.

A/ED

☆☆☆☆☆☆

STOP PRESS

VALE - B.J. (RIP) MCMAHON
We regret the addition of this sad note to the Courier and Report the Recent Passing of our dear old mate Rip. He had suffered from the scourge of Cancer for some years with Dignity, Patience and Great Courage.

(More Next Issue.)

NOTE:

*Much More Correspondence
Next Issue*