

# **2/2 COMMANDO COURIER**

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Address all Association Correspondence to: Box T1646, G.P.O. Perth 6001

**Vol. 51**

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**Price 1c**

## **CANBERRA SAFARI 1986**

**SATURDAY MARCH 8 TO 17 INCLUSIVE**

### **ACCOMODATION AVAILABLE AT CANBERRA MOTOR VILLAGE:**

MOTEL ROOMS      MOBILE HOMES      SITE CARAVANS  
CARAVAN SITES

Deposit of at least \$50.00 per couple for accommodation **MUST** be sent to:

**DAN THOMAS  
21 MACKINALTY STREET  
SCULLIN 2614**

**Phone (062) 54 3536**

by JANUARY 1985.

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*The organisers need to know numbers attending even if accommodation is not required.*

## **PROPOSED ITINERARY**

**(Subject to Alteration)**

Arrival - greetings - setting in.  
Evening buffet meal at Village Inn.  
Free Day.  
ferry trip on Lake Burley Griffin.  
Reception at House of Assembly.  
Ceremony at Australian War Memorial.  
Evening - Formal Dinner.

Free Day.  
Picnic lunch at Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve and afternoon inspection of Tracking Station.  
Canberra Day Parade.  
Free Day - community activities.  
Evening - Farewell.

T.A.A PERTH/RETURN AIR FARES AT PRESENT ARE -  
\$623 for group of 20 people.  
\$450 Apex for group of 20 people.

**ORGANISERS: DAN THOMAS JIM FENWICK TOM SNOWDEN**

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**DONT FORGET**  
**COMMEMORATION SERVICE**  
Lovekin Drive, Kings Park  
Sunday 18th Nov. 1984 3.00pm

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**JACK SHEEHAN - KING-OF-TWO-UP**

Known always to the boys of the 2/2nd as Jack, this tall, lithe man, quietly spoken, deliberate of movement, free striding man of the bush, seemed the least likely to be a gambling man. Jack lifted morale of the boys on many occasions with his ability to produce the two-up coins and start his beloved "game".

In Kalgoorlie Jack (Dave) has been a household word with his "bush style" game of two-up, in fact he is well known throughout the sporting world. When it was banned for a short while Jack had faith in its ability to survive for he knew it was part of Kalgoorlie's history, part of its unusual charm. He was so right. It was restored to its rightful niche in the set up of Kalgoorlie and this article shows why it should retain its status - it is a tourist's delight because it adds to one's experience.

Jack was a fine soldier, as were all the men of the Goldfields breed, his quiet, unobtrusive, yet forthright approach endeared him to us all. He knew what the men, and now the women, of the Kalgoorlie area wanted,

for they lived over all the years in the atmosphere of expectancy and chance. Such are the ingredients of his game of "Two-Up".

Good luck Jack from all the boys right across Australia.

THE EDITOR

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**JACK SHEEHAN - APOLOGY**

We planned to republish the photo of you and your Son with the article but ran into some snags.

The photo was apparently the property of a free-lance photographer whom we have not so far been able to trace.

The article too, was apparently a reprint from a local paper.

Now hope to give it the treatment in another issue - meantime - Keep 'em Spinning.

"GE-EM"

**THIS IS OUR ARCHIE**

Our Editor, and as far as we are concerned he is "the daddy of them all, of an Editor". Tireless, always pleasant and co-operative, Archie to us is now dedicated to getting our grand little news sheets out to our valued readers every second month.

Archie is at present in Queensland (and that is why we got the chance to include the article) holidaying or just plain bashing it with "Basher" Adams - lucky so-and-so's).

Have fun, both of you, but don't forget Archie, the position of Editor is still yours - see you after the holidays.



Archie Campbell at home in his garden.

**NOT A PARENT, BUT A FINE FATHER FIGURE**

A Man without any children of his own has been nominated for a Father-of-the-Year award.

But he is no stranger to a father's responsibility.

Mr Archie Campbell (68) of Coolbinia, has spent 37 years with Legacy caring for children whose fathers were killed in war or afterwards died from war injuries.

Mr Campbell, a widower since 1981, said yesterday he was honoured that the Perth Legacy Club had nominated him for the award.

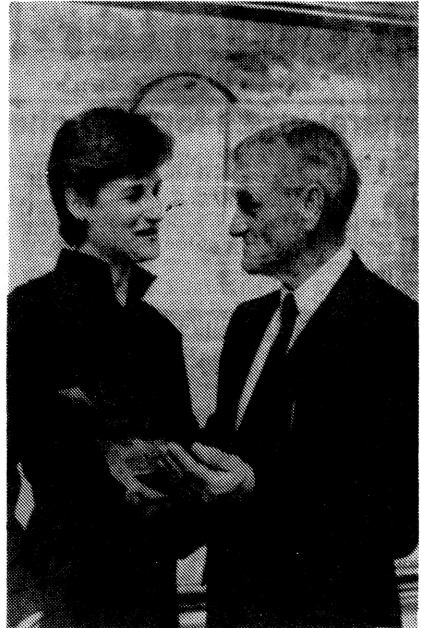
"I feel I am representing the 360 legatees in WA," Mr Campbell said.

"They have given thousands of man hours with a great deal of compassion", he said with the warmth and humility of a person dedicated to helping others.

Born in Parry Street, Perth, in 1916, Mr Campbell was a prominent East Perth footballer before the war and later worked on radio.

It was his war experience as a captain and lieutenant behind the Japanese lines in Timor and New Britain that led Mr Campbell to commit himself to fatherless children.

**MARY-JANE SAID 'I DO' TO SAM THE OLD DEATH ADDER**



SAM and Mary-Jane Fullbrook at his art exhibition . . .

"If I strike a good girl I'll marry her".

When a mate told Sam Fullbrook he was getting like an old death adder, living along in the Queensland bush, Sam went east to find a bride.

Brisbane was not far enough. The 62 year-old Archibald Prize-winning artist headed for the United States, where the women "don't muck around when they go for things they want".

Neither did Sam Fullbrook, a former cane cutter. After a two-week courtship he married Mary-Jane — a university student friend of his nephew — and brought her back to live in a tent on his farm at Oakey.

On Friday, Mr Fullbrook launched his first art exhibition for four years at the Philip Bacon Galleries in Brisbane.

"Out west, they call old people who live by themselves 'death adders' because you see them only once a year, at the picnic races or something," he said.

"My mate Jack Bristow, who's a contract musterer, told me I was getting like an old death adder, and I should come back east to get married.

"I got a hell of a fright. I hopped on a plane to America and thought: If I strike a good girl, I'll marry her."

He struck Mary-Jane at a party thrown by his nephew.

Mr Fullbrook said: "He reckoned he'd find me someone smart. Mary-Jane is. She's got a good eye — for the country, a good horse, a good painting ... and for a good man.

"She was a city girl from Columbus, Ohio, and I told her I had a tent and shed. I suppose you could say I swept her of her feet. I didn't want to waste any time. I'm not a baby any longer.

"All you've got to do is ask them to marry you and give them a roof over their head. My wife tells me I gave her a tent over her head. But she's a great cook and she keeps the tent spotless."

Mr Fullbrook is deadpan, a twinkle in the recesses of his deep-set, sun wrinkled eyes the only indication of a devastatingly dry sense of humour.

He won the Archibald Prize in 1975 with a controversial, commissioned portrait of Sir John Kerr which has never been hung in Parliament House.

He appears prouder of his new wife than of his exhibition, which is nearly sold out despite price tags up to \$35,000.

Mr Fullbrook particularly admires the American women's go-getting determination. "They're pretty realistic, those Yankee girls," he said. "They don't muck around. It's a competitive society out there. If you want something you do it now. If you like someone you marry them."

Mary-Jane Fullbrook, immaculate in black for the exhibition opening, admitted she had known nothing about Australia, let alone one of our greatest artists.

"I kept asking Sam what Australia was like and what the property was like," she said. "He drew pictures for me but the lines merged into each other and I couldn't tell. I arrived at Oakey two weeks before Christmas in the stinking heat. Sam really did live in a tent before we built a house, and I had to cook over a wood stove with the flies everywhere.

"My friends were amazed that I was heading for what they believed was the outback. But they said it was a part of my personality to take off on such an adventure. When my mother got used to having a son-in-law older than herself, she was happy."

Sam Fullbrook, of the uncompromising, non-nonsense manner, iron grey hair and jutting jaw, appears to have mellowed. Although he does not suffer fools gladly, his crusty disposition has softened.

Resplendent in navy pin-striped suit and silk tie, his gold wedding ring gleaming, he was excited at the prospect of seeing people at the exhibition's opening cocktail party.

Small talk and interviews, once scorned, were given graciously. "You've got to communicate with people" he said. "Living out in the bush, painting is such a solitary business. You have to belong to the community, to keep in touch with people. I don't mind cocktail parties. I've got a good business selling my paintings to rich people."

Sam and Mary-Jane Fullbrook at his art exhibition .. "If I strike a good girl I'll Marry her".

By Sally Loane

## SCRIBES NEEDED

Our Editor receives a satisfactory quantity of quality letters to keep alive - Courier Correspondence - and we thank readers for their efforts in this regard.

However, it is frustrating and "Courier Team" tends to "go off the boil" when sad and/or bad news, such as the passing of one of our dear old mates is not sent to our Editor.

READERS IN EACH STATE - PLEASE  
TAKE NOTE OF THIS, OUR PLEA!!

Declare yourself in - saying NOW!!

In future if I obtain information about a member or hear anything of interest to other members I will send it in to -

THE EDITOR, BOX T1646,  
GPO, PERTH, 6001

Our grand little paper must not continue to be left wanting, as in the present case of the late Tom Mildren.

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## THE HOLLOW'S AND A 'HIGH'

We in W.A. have recently had the pleasure of a visit by Hazel and Allan Hollow.

As we have become used to expecting, our tireless and much loved Jess Epps, collected the visitors and made them welcome as always and eventually deposited them with Grace and Clarrie Turner at their cosy beach-side home, at Peppermint Grove, near Capel. Here they apparently wiled away a week of time, sipping and tripping about the Environs, so well known to, and loved by the Turners.

On Monday, 24 September, the Turner's brought Allan and Hazel up to our beautiful and rapidly expanding holiday resort and popular retirement city, Mandurah.

Our energetic and pleasant mannered committee man, Len Bagley, now living at Mandurah, had been at work to organise a luncheon and get together at the very acceptable Peninsula Hotel. To welcome our visitors. Pre-lunch drinks (you have got to believe this - some were "on the house") went down nicely, thank you with the "Nice to see again" bit and the latest story from S.A. Great pity our dear old C.D. was hospitalised; his absence surely affected the story telling stanza. (Col! All present sent their best wishes for a good recovery).

The McKenzie's were late arriving, as usual but as we have become to expect, they didn't let us down. It was a thoroughly acceptable gathering, held on a grand day, weather wise. Those answering roll call included, Hazel and Allan Hollow, Mary and Gerry McKenzie, Grace & Clarrie Turner, Gladys and Mac Reid, Ivy and Terry Paull, Helen and Joe Poynton, Babs and Bernie Langridge, Eva and Gordon Rowley, Dulcie and Merv Ryan, Len Bagley and Betty Ilsley, Don Hudson, Dutchy Holland, and last but by no means least Jess Epps (Life Associate Member).

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## VALE - JIM RITCHIE

It is with deep regret that we report the passing of yet another of our notable 2/2 old mates. We refer to Jim Ritchie who passed away, suddenly on 6 September. The funeral service for Jim was held at the Karrakatta Crematorium at 10.15 o'clock on 12 September. Some measure of the esteem in which Jim was held can be gauged from the large number of friends, relatives and old 2/2 mates who attended his funeral service.

Jim served in the Middle East from September 1941 until March 1942 with a field ambulance unit, before joining 2/4 Independent Company, and he landed in Timor with that Unit, when they came to reinforce us and were to later take over from us, in December 1942. He volunteered to remain behind with Lieut. Harry Flood and his small party, as a rear guard, when the 2/4 Company was withdrawn. This small rear guard party suffered many harrowing experiences and they too, were forced to evacuate Timor by submarine in early 1943.

After his arrival back in Australia, Jim transferred to the 2/2nd (some say "big brother" the late Dave claimed him into our Unit). Jim served throughout the New Guinea campaign with "C" Troop and again in New Britain as a highly regarded R.A.P. Corporal and a fine soldier. He was a keen and tireless operator with the pills, plaster, agraflavine, gentian violet, aspros or ung whitfield and he could keep up a conversation of encouragement, astutely drawn to fit the occasion, whenever such a need arose. His sympathy for the injured knew no bounds and I well remember a number of cases when he laboured beyond the cause of normal duty to ease the pain, cleanse the wounds and succour the needs of a number of our "Fuzzy Wuzzie" pals who had

become victims to a stick of indiscriminately dropped medium bombs. At least one arm amputation, below the elbow, was needed and Jim attended to this with confidence, speed and success.

In spite of having the sight of only one eye, Jim also excelled at all sports and was even a frequent and fearless contender in the boxing ring. Unluckily, soon after the War he suffered a severe head injury in a traffic accident, which took toll of his natural abilities and we saw less of Jim over recent years.

LEST WE FORGET

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### VALE

#### ERNIE HOFFMAN

"Hoffie" was an original Unit member at Wilson's Promontory, attached to "C" Platoon Headquarters but later seconded to 7 Section to be with all his mates. He was a good soldier and took terrific punishment in Timor with malaria etc., that stayed with him for a long time. His personality and dry humour endeared him to us all, he was a popular man indeed.

Postwar he returned to the Goldfields and his original vocation of mining. In this direction he was a loner but when in the company of people was very much at home, as though he had never been away he fitted into every aspect as though born to it. He was a good friend to many people, unobtrusively, a very generous person, he loved life and all it held.

In later life he had a battle with his health but was uncomplaining. His sudden death caused a wave of sympathy over the whole Association, such was his impact. To those of the original 7 Section who are left, Ron Dook, Keith Hayes, Peter Alexander, Ted Monk and the writer, Archie Campbell, "Hoffie" will be sadly missed as a "great mate" and for all the things he meant to us over all the years.

To his loved ones, so few in number, to Peter and Pat Campbell who were very close to him, we extend our deepest sympathy. The Unit was well represented at the graveside.

Happy reunion Ernie with all your old pals of 7 Section in particular, you will be so very welcome.

LEST WE FORGET

### ARTHUR SMITH

What a tragedy that dear old Arthur was the second original member to pass beyond the vale in the course of three days. It hit us all very hard indeed.

Arthur was the Platoon Sergeant with "C" Platoon in the formation of the original unit at Wilson's Promontory and served with distinction on Timor in all capacities. He suffered badly with leg ulcers which were to plague him for the remainder of his very active life in the work force of Telecom, as Official Starter with the Falcon Yacht Club, and as a distinguished member of the 2/2nd Commando Association which he served so faithfully and so well over all the years. He served on the Committee for eight years, held the position of Secretary in 1956, 57 and 58 and was Treasurer from 1966 to 1969. He was awarded Life Membership in 1961.

He spent considerable time in hospital trying to gain relief from his leg problems which were many and acute. He suffered pain over a long period but was uncompromising and courageous in his approach of trying to beat the affliction. By his side was his wife Beryl who gave great support to Arthur in the wonderful way she coped with his physical problems, full of sympathy, love and tender care, she made life so much easier for "Smithy". Well done Beryl, you fought it with Arthur to the end. To you and your family goes the deep love and sympathy of all the 2/2nd Commando Association members Australia wide. May God grant you peace of heart and mind in the months ahead.

The large attendance at the Lakes Memorial Cemetery, Mandurah, indicated the popularity and esteem in which Arthur was held, not only by his Unit mates and their wives, but the community in general.

So long "Smithy", happy reunion with all your old mates in the vale of happiness and contentment.

LEST WE FORGET

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### VALE TOM MILDREN

We report here the sad passing of our old 2/2 mate, Tom.

Regretfully, little is known to Courier at the time this issue goes to press regarding the circumstances related to Tom's passing. We recall that he enlisted from Victoria and

joined 2/2 in Portuguese Timor with our first reinforcement group just prior to the Jap invasion on 19 February 1942. After the grim battle for Dili 'drome, which lasted throughout the night of 19 February 1942 and ended with the demolition of the runways in early a.m. 20 February 1942, No. 2 Section regrouped at Railaco on about 25 February 1942. It was there and then that Tom joined No. 2 Section, along with Harry Cole, Keith Browne, Bluey Taylor plus Curley O'Neill, to replace those either killed, missing or taken prisoner on our first few hours in battle. He served with distinction with that Section throughout our Timor Campaign.

We believe Tom spent some time working around Gippsland pre-war, and knew the late great Kevin Curran at that time. It is suggested he may have competed against Kev, on the footy oval, when Kev played for Traralgon. Tom used to claim to have "done" the Curran in "pushing the barrow" races and having annihilated the big bloke in "tossing the sheaf". We know he was a "cracking" good rifle shot and could hurl a No. 36 grenade "a country mile".

Tom was a reasonably large chap, both strongly built and sure footed. He could carry his pack and weapons and walk and climb all day. A happy chap with a good sense of humour, his presence at all times aided morale within the Section.

We do not know whether Tom served with the Unit in New Guinea or New Britain but if he did, we feel sure he would have continued throughout to serve with dash, responsibility and confidence and we deeply regret his passing.

LEST WE FORGET

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## CORRESPONDENCE CORNER

The Courier has caught up with us all over Australia and it was great to be part of the "scene".

After leaving home in July last year by caravan, we headed north, travelling inland and reaching the coast at Port Hedland. At Broome we accidentally caught up with Babe Teague and Nancy on their way to Perth and were able to entertain them at a meal in our Villa Del Mar tent which acted as lounge-cum-dining room. We eventually caught up with them at Ballina where they kindly held mail for us. At Broome we also ran into the Wellers who for some years were our neighbours in Geraldton.

On to Derby, the Leopold Ranges, Fitzroy Crossing, Halls Creek, Wyndham and Kununurra where, after a week in the high 40's, we eventually arrived in Katherine. Three weeks in Darwin exploring Arnhem Land urged us to get somewhere cooler so via western Queensland and N.S.W. we travelled south. On the way a bonus for Eric was seeing his old friend Jimmy Dent. Foster was our goal and was our base for 7 delightful weeks. Here we caught up with real Gippsland friendship. I've already written letters but this is an opportunity to say hello and thanks again.

To the Monks - their friendship and their garden go together - both beautiful.

To the Petersens - a warm welcome though they were experiencing a very busy time.

To the Roberts who shared their home and table with us.

To all the friendly people at the service at the Prom.

To the Bones who invited us to a barbecue at their home and where we caught up with friends we hadn't seen for 16 years. I could go on ad infinitum.

Over to Geelong where we basked in the warmth of Baldy's welcome and who gave us valuable advice on a route to take in western Victoria and which we took.

After leaving Victoria (with regret) we slowly travelled up the N.S.W. coast to Queanbeyan where we parked for a week and "did" Canberra. Then on to Sydney via a varied and roundabout route.

North of Sydney we took the opportunity of visiting Ron & Dot Trengove - just the same friendly people as ever. Further on at Toronto Eric had the chance to catch up with Andy Beveridge. It was great to see them - heads together - catching up on years of absence and talking about old times. It seemed to me that Andy and Heather are adopted grandparents to half the little children in Toronto. Their home is a haven.

At Yamba we were fortunate to find Lola Laidlaw at Home and spent two pleasant visits talking and drinking coffee. I would have been disappointed not to have seen this nice lady again.

At Brisbane Eric contacted Tony Adams and we had a very happy visit to his home and pleasantly surprised to meet Angus Maclachlan there too. Eventually we arrived at Townsville where we spent 6 weeks during which time we sent our daughter and

her husband off on a holiday and we had our three grandchildren to ourselves. We renewed our friendship with Alan and Jewel Soper. They had moved to a lovely new home and their welcome was as warm as it was 9 years ago. They even remembered my liking for avocados.

We left Townsville for Alice Springs on 5th June. At Simpsons Gap we saw the Harringtons had signed the visitors' book 2 days before so we kept our eyes open for them but no luck. The "Rock" and Coober Pedy were our next stops - the latter has a strong fascination and I would have liked to stay much longer. A long slow journey from Coober Pedy through Kingoonya - Lake Everard and finally to Ceduna, ended in much cleaning of vehicles of mud which was a legacy from the Coober Pedy south stretch. The trip across the Eyre Highway was smooth and uneventful. It will take a while to catch up with our family especially a new granddaughter "Amber", who was only 3 weeks old when we left.

W.A. is still beautiful and Perth is still the loveliest sight coming down Greenmount Hill.

To all our friends "Hello" and we hope we can offer Geraldton hospitality to 2/2nd people as we have received it.

Enclosed find donation.

Best wishes,

Twy & Eric Smyth  
Geraldton W.A.

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Just a line to say how much the Courier is appreciated. There are not many of the Association in South Australia and none in my part of the state. Keith Dignum calls in occasionally when his job brings him down in this direction.

There has been nothing about the Americas Cup in the Courier. I thought you people would be doing a bit of bragging about that.

Regards to the boys.

Ron Gurr  
Coonawarra, S.A.

Since the Safari have finished work and I am now on the Service Pension as I have glaucoma and my sight is not the best, although I've had an operation on one eye.

Have also a change of address as I am now at 5 Sutherland Street, Dickey Beach, Caloundra, 4551.

I have received all of the Couriers and I am very pleased as they certainly keep you up with the news of the States. I am enclosing a cheque to help where it may be needed.

I did enjoy the Safari in the west and I am now saving for the Canberra Safari in April 1986.

Regards to all.

Allan Mitchell  
Caloundra, Qld.

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Please find enclosed cheque towards the Courier. Thanks for sending this so regularly to us and we would like to advise you of our change of address to 130 Westcoast Highway, Trigg. It was 9 Harwood Court, Trigg.

Regards.

Ross M. Shenn  
Trigg, W.A.

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I know this is a long overdue letter but the last 18 months have not been the best with me. On the 18th March, 1983 I had a fall while working on the Pimlico High School. Must have landed on my head as I ended up with a fractured skull. The result of the fracture is that my balance isn't the best, I'm deaf in one ear and can't hear much out of the other, my sense of smell has gone and my sense of taste has 99% had it. I guess things could have been worse. However, I'm still on Workers' Compo even if after the first six months the money is reduced to the Basic Wage. The brain surgeon reckons I won't be able to work again. Somewhere around the ridges I guess the Compo Board owes me a lump sum - guess time will tell.

Glad to receive the Courier and read the goings on of the boys. It's sad to see the numbers dropping off. Have not run into any of the lads for quite a time - a bit out of the way up here.

Enclosed cheque for Courier or whatever.

Regards to everyone.

Lucky & Doreen Goodhew  
Garbutt, Townsville.



Sorry to have been out of touch with the Courier "work force" for so long.

Ere long a year will have passed since visitors from the eastern states journeyed to Perth the Safari of 1983.

For myself the trip was a memorable event; it enabled me to see the picturesque City of Perth and some of its surrounds, e.g. Kings Park, and the historic City of Fremantle. Added to this was my reacquaintance with ex-Timor troops and others with whom I soon became acquainted during the Safari.

For the above reasons I appreciated the Day by Day Resume published in the December 83 Courier.

To those members of the Association bereaved since the Safari I extend my condolences; to those beset by sickness I wish a return to good health.

The enclosed cheque is a donation to be applied to Courier publication.

Best regards from all the "Banana Benders" on this side of the continent.

Yours sincerely,

Col. Grebert  
Yeronga, Qld.

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Dear Mr Arch,

Thank you very much and the 2/2nd Australian Commando Association for the support you are giving me.

My name is Wayne Gede Kardhita and I come from Bali and I am so proud of you and sure that I will not forget all the support and kindness. I am being kept very busy and not unemployed as I used to be. I am sure I feel more if I could say in English, but unfortunately I can't. Not very often I can find good support very easily in my life.

Mr & Mrs Bob Smith, my parents in law, led me into this kind of business, without them probably I would be doing something else. Also because of them I met some of the people of the 2/2nd Australian Commando Association when I was in Western Australia at Mrs Scotty Ware's place.

This is the best experience I have ever had in my life and probably will lead to a bright future. I hope very much so.

"T" Shirt printing is one of the arts I know and part of my hobby that I love best. I should mention that in our area in

Newcastle there are a lot of "T" Shirt printers and some of them very big ones, so we have to have good support for the competition, without it we will never be successful. There are a lot of young unemployed doing the course but most of them don't continue after finishing the course because they cannot run their own business and not many employers need young inexperienced people.

If you have any suggestions they would be appreciated as I would like to learn much, much more if possible, as a part of the younger generation. I have plenty of time to improve myself in a lot of different things such as skill, tradition and my language.

Finally, I would like to thank you Mr. Arch and the 2/2nd Australian Commando Association and wish all the best to everyone.

Bye bye.

Wayan Kardhita  
Tighes Hill, N.S.W.

Editor:

Thank you Wayan for your very kind letter to the Association via me; it was our pleasure to help you in this direction and I trust it continues when "T" Shirts and windcheaters are required by our boys, or girls! Good luck in the future, we all hope this is the start of a good business for you, leading to something bigger and better.

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### APOLOGY

This goes to "PING" Anderson and Cherry over the new names given to them in the last "Courier". How the devil that happened I do not know!! Ping, you now have an alias!

Made no difference to our deep regard for you both and our wish that the new life in Norhtampton is providing a great tonic.

God bless, take care.

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### STEPHEN SPENCER CHAPMAN

Below is a letter from the wife of the late Freddy Spencer Chapman, Penny, written to friends detailing the disappearance of their son, Stephen. Steve Stevenson of N.S.W. sent me a copy of the letter for he knew many of us would be most interested

and certainly eager to hear the ultimate outcome. Such is not known at the time of writing.

The boys who knew Freddy so well will offer their prayers for the safety and recovery of this young man. His father was held in high esteem by all who knew him and we are certain Stephen is "a chip off the old block". If so he will survive without a doubt, providing all things are equal. We all pray that this is so.

The Editor

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Don't die of shock! It's me - with a request! You will have heard of the "mystery" of Stephen Spencer Chapman in Saudi Arabia about 3 weeks ago. Since then Faith has left no stone unturned in "high places" to have the search continued. After all - on a day trip - one couldn't go beyond search limits and nothing has been found of machine or the men themselves. So she seems to think and HOPES that they are prisoners of some tribe - and will eventually be found etc. etc. She rang me this evening - especially as tomorrow is the anniversary of Freddy's tragic death - she feels ill, despondent and sick with worry. She is anxious that their many Australian friends shall know that the search goes on - she feels Stephen has Freddy's strong sense of survival. She asked me to let you know - and to ask if you could put something in the main press to the effect that she hasn't given up hope but asks for the prayers of the many who knew Stephen's father so well in the Commando days of the war. Do what you think.

Faith asks too for news of one friend, A.D. Stephenson (?) of St. Ives. She has not heard for so long and she wonders if she now has the correct address. She especially sent you her love Chip, so now I've done what I promised to do.

Many many thanks for your last welcome letter, Bill - when F. was off to Japan. I am waiting to hear all about the trip - I hope it was a great success. Mentioned it to Freda - I really am going into the possibility of another visit to Australia next year - second half 1985 sometime. I want to come by sea if at all possible, but not on a cruise liner. That is not my "cup of tea". However, I long to see you all again - just to be "at home" - no journeyings except to friends.

So many thanks for the two Couriers you have sent - it's great to catch up with news of mates.

Good you found the article in "Paradise" about Ralph Conley O.K. to reproduce as a news item.

Enclosed is a donation to help things a bit. Have just filled in Peter Epps' form and sent it off.

You'll notice a change of address. I disposed of my Real Estate business at the end of June and at the same time gave up my city office and now operate on a part-time basis from my home at 36 Soudan Street, Toowong, 4066, phone number (07) 370 8177. I've retained my Real Estate licence, but having been a valuer for many years, prefer this work and am keeping my hand in. Also have been a Travel Agent for many years and am continuing with this work too. Have always been active and just can't give up - guess you'd say "Another independent fella!"

All the best for now - cheers n beers.

Yours sincerely,

Ron Archer  
Toowong, Qld.

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We have been meaning to write and send a cheque towards funds, maybe to Courier.

Keith and I have been at Wodonga with our daughter and son-in-law, Janette and Stan, as Janette has had a son, Marc Andrew, a brother for Donna. We had nine weeks with them, as Jan didn't seem to pick up really well, so we stayed on and on. While there my sister came down from Goulburn and we went by bus to Adelaide for 4 days, to see our other sister. I rang Bert and Sylvia Bache and also Allen and Hazel Hollow, who are off to Perth this month, so you may see them. When I arrived back Janette had been very sick, but when we left 3 weeks later she was really well and back to her old self. I'm sure the weather has something to do with feeling glum. We have had rain, rain and more rain, for 2½ months, with the odd fine day. However, we needed it all, and for the first time in about 8 years or so, we have all reservoirs full. It is unbelievable to see water running over the walls.

We were thinking we might be able to drive to Adelaide late this month, and see Flinders Ranges and Wilpeena Pound, and meet up with Jean and John Fowler while they are in South Australia. However, we may not be able to get away as Janette and Stan will be here for a week and while here will have Marc christened. Jan will stay on, as Stan has to go to Melbourne for a week or so.

We had a letter from Jean yesterday to say they had left on the 10th September and that John had a nasty fall, spending a night in hospital with a badly cut leg - 14 stitches, but was O.K. Also that Arthur Smith had passed away suddenly. Very sorry to hear that. They were hoping to be in Kalgoolie for the funeral of Ernie Hoffman. Jean also said they were hoping to go on to Melbourne and see the Monks and other folk so if possible we will try and catch up with them in Victoria somewhere.

Had a phone call from Joan Darge this morning - she has retired but has been very ill. When she picks up a bit she will come up and stay for a while and have a good rest. Will be good to have her. She is also hoping to go to New Zealand in November to see her son and family. Joan told me the Christmas Barbecue is at Ron Hilliards on 2nd December. We hope we can make it. We also hope to have another mini Safari at Young, second weekend in March if it suits everyone.

We have also decided to go to Sydney for Anzac Day, 1985 and have booked the suite at Zebra Motel and hope all the ladies will come in and have lunch with me after the march, and all the men will come back and have a meal at night. Last time we had about 40 folk together and it was great fun and the atmosphere, as usual when 2/2nd members and their wives and friends get together, was really something. It makes you very proud to be part of it all.

Keith and I still feel very proud of the honour of Keith being presented with his Life Membership at the Mini Safari at Young in March. We had a wonderful weekend together, and also had perfect weather, so will be keeping our fingers crossed for next time too.

Heard from Jack Peattie. He and Marj. have been with their daughter Sue and son-in-law Mike. Sue presented Mike with twin girls so Marj. and Jack were grandparents twice very quickly. All is well and they were able to do a bit of travelling and were away three months and while it was wonderful to be with Sue & Mike and the twins, said it was lovely to be home in Australia.

I suppose you saw Harry & Olive Botterill when they were in the West after their northern tour. I had a letter from Jess earlier, and she hoped to take them down to Albany and back up the coast.

We hope to see them when we go to Melbourne to see Phillip & Lorraine and the girls. If we can catch up with the Fowlers while there it will be a bonus.

We were sorry to hear Bob & Joyce Smith were not so well, but hope they are much improved by now. I must give Bob a ring.

Haven't heard from Jim Dent as we have been away, but we will be going to Parkes soon to see Keith's uncle and will call and see if we can find him at home.

On 20th October the old 6th Motor Reg. are having their Annual Dinner so we will hope to go over and will see Jim again then. Also have plans to go to Orange and see the Cholertons and Kath Press. Not sure when we can make it.

Had a wonderful time at the Guide Hall when I presented the 19 Debs I had trained to the Canadian High Commissioner. We were very proud of them all and their partners.

We wish you all a really wonderful time at your Country Safari at Mandurah and hope you have a wonderful roll up.

Now I must away and get my beauty sleep!! Best wishes to everyone and hope to meet all at Canberra 1986, if not before.

Keith & Betty Craig

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## COL DOIG WRITES

Dear Arch,

I am writing in appreciation of all that has been done for me in my recent illness and current convalescence. Firstly my true thanks to Joy Lowden and her son Alec. Without Alecs assistance in taking me to hospital in the early hours of the morning I would be dead. Joys caring for me during my stay in hospital and help since I came home has been nothing short of magnificent and I owe her a debt of gratitude I can never hope to repay. Thanks so much Joy and Alec.

Secondly I wish to thank all those kind people who either visited me in hospital and at home recently, also those people both in

W.A. and the Eastern States who either phoned me or made enquiries or sent cards wishing me a complete recovery. I would especially like to thank George and Joan Fletcher for their ultra kindness both in hospital and since. I can say they have been the truest of true friends.

Thirdly I would like to extend my true thanks to the doctors and staff of the Sir Charles Gardner Hospital for all they did to keep me alive and kicking. I am far from 100% but am making gradual improvement.

All my doctors have warned me off alcohol as it will worsen an already bad condition of the liver. I am strictly a T.T. I have not had an alcoholic drink for 8 weeks and am not missing it. I have found plenty of substitutes which I enjoy and will be able to socialise quite well.

My sincere thanks to everyone once again for your goodness to me in my hour of need.

Yours sincerely,

Col Doig.

If has come to the notice of the Company that Employees are dying on their feet and refusing to fall over.

**THIS PRACTICE MUST  
CEASE FORTHWITH**

Any employee found dead on the job, in an upright position, will be immediately dropped from the payroll.

In future if the foreman notices that an employee has made no movement for two hours, it is his duty to investigate, as it is almost impossible to distinguish between death and natural movement of some employees.

**FOREMAN ARE CAUTIONED TO MAKE  
A CAREFUL INVESTIGATION**

Holding a pay envelope in front of the selected corpse is considered the most suitable method. There has been, however, cases where the natural instincts have been so strongly ingrained, that the hand has made a spasmodic clutch, even after rigor mortis has set in.

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**DONATIONS TO COURIER**

Jess Epps

**MESSRS**

- Beavis
  - Demmery
  - Marsh
  - Taylor G.
  - Archer
  - Hollow
  - Mantle
  - Sharp
  - Craig
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