

1986 Doug Fullarton
18th Dec we had 548 party
Bob



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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A Christmas Message

CHRISTMAS. It seems impossible that the festive season is with us once again, but when one looks back over 1986 it has been quite a busy year for the Association.

The highlight of the year was the Canberra Safari— a wonderful get together. The organisation of this Safari was something that our Canberra members can well be proud of. Our thanks to you from all who were lucky enough to be present.

Unfortunately, over the year members and their wives have suffered loss of loved ones. To these friends, our thoughts are with you.

Our sincere thanks to the members who produce the 'Courier' thus keeping contact Australia wide.

On behalf of the Committee, myself, wives and friends, I wish you and your families a Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Doug Fullarton



MEDIA WORLD Pty. Ltd.

278 Gore St., Fitzroy, Victoria, Australia
 P.O.Box 214 Fitzroy 3065 Phone: 417 4888
 8th August, 1986

Dear Sir,

This company, with the assistance of Sir Bernard Callinan is intending to produce a Drama/Documentary for SBS Television based on the exploits and involvement of the 2/2 Independent Company, from its formation till its evacuation from East Timor, during the 2nd World War.

I am writing to seek names and addresses of your members, who would be willing to be contacted as part of the research involved in the development of the script. We are also interested in the availability of personal photographs, memorabilia, etc.

Further, it is our intention to film sequences for the production in Perth on Anzac Day, 1987. To this end, both Sir Bernard Callinan and Mr Rolf Baldwin have agreed to accompany the film crew for this event. Outside of filming the Anzac Day March, we intend to film interviews with members of the 2/2nd Independent Company for inclusion in the programme.

I would be pleased to provide you with any further information you may require and look forward to your reply.

Yours faithfully,
 COLIN J. SOUTH
 PRODUCER

Editor's Note: This project warrants our whole hearted support. Act now—dig out your photos—volunteer to assist by contacting Mr Colin South immediately!!
Be in it—don't put this in your W.P.B.!!

BRIDGETOWN CONVENTION

Once again a very happy get together of members and wives was held at Bridgetown from Tuesday, 21st October until Friday the 24th. The organisation by Bill (Harold, Robbie) Rowan-Robinson and his good wife Iris was truly outstanding. Of course, it does help if you are regarded by all and sundry as Mr Bridgetown! Forty eight persons made the trip and it can be said quite positively that they all enjoyed themselves in a big way. Accommodation was at the Freemasons Hotel (nothing wonderful), Bridgetown Motel and Bridgetown Caravan Park.

On Tuesday afternoon a civic reception was held at the local R.S.L. Hall and the Shire and the R.S.L. combined to make a really good start to what would be a great three days. We were welcomed by the Shire President (a woman, thank you very much) and our President, Doug Fullarton, responded. It was a great chance to get together with our own mob and also the local people. The R.S.L. turned on plenty of the fluid that cheers to keep tongues banging away.

On Wednesday we were provided firstly with a tour of Whittaker's Timber Mill at Greenbushes and had our first glimpse of wood chipping, seeing all the waste material from the saw mill turned into wood chips. We were lucky to see this at close quarters as it is on a small scale. Afterwards, a bus tour of the Greenbushes Tin Mine where we saw mining

of tin, tantalite and other metals. The size and scope of this mining was a real eye opener to most of us, as we had never really conceived the immensity of this operation. Most of the country that has been mined has been reforested and looks in excellent heart. The huge open cut will eventually become a lake. The company has a nursery to supply all its trees and also conducts a marron farm. This is really big and, we were told, turns over \$30,000 per annum in revenue. It is mostly a breeding proposition and a lot of the fingerlings are sold to stock other venues, but large quantities are sent to Queensland for fattening to an optimum size for market.

A barbecue lunch was arranged on the area near the bridge and bowling greens and this was a most pleasant end to a great day.

Thursday was a really big day. We started off at 9 a.m in a big bus capable of carrying us all and driven by Max Sadler who has won two Queen's Prizes as a rifle shot and also represented Australia at the World Rifle Long Range Shoot in the U.S.A. We travelled from Bridgetown to Manjimup where we picked up our guide who is a Forestry Chip Manager for Bunnings (turned out to be Ted Loud trained).

He was most expert and guided us through re-forested Karri country from Manjimup to Pemberton, showing us regrowth from one year old to 10 years old. He was able to show us the most economical methods used to use

the forest, both Karri and Marri for logging and wood chipping and its reforestation. Morning tea at Pine River in a nearly new restaurant-cum-new vineyard was delightful - scones, butter, jam, cream and tea or coffee and plenty of everything. We had luncheon at the Gloucester Tree at Pemberton and there caught up with Ted Loud, who looked in good nick despite walking on a stick. After lunch we saw the huge chipping plant at Pemberton run by Bunnings. Two train loads of chips, each of 1000 tonnes depart daily for Bunbury for transhipment to Japan, a most awesome operation but mostly using timber normally unfit for the timber industry. This was a long and exacting day but this was not the end. That evening a most enjoyable sit-down buffet type dinner was arranged at the Bridgetown Motel and was really a grand finale to a great trip. The evening passed off with thanks to Robbie and Iris from Jack Carey, Bernie Langridge and Doug Fullarton. A few good stories were told, especially a couple by Ralph Finkelstein and also by Jess Epps. Mick Morgan took charge later in the evening and the old Unit songs were given a great airing. I think everyone went to bed tired but well satisfied with an excellent Mini Safari.

Thanks very much to Robbie Rowan-Robinson and Iris, and his friends in Bridgetown who made it such a success.

Luckily we had eastern states visitors Ron & Dorothy Trengrove and Doug & Marg Dixon as company and they really had a ball.

Those present were: Doug & Edna Fullarton, Len Bagley & Betty Illsley, Jack & Delys Carey, Gerry & Mary McKenzie, Don & Vida Turton, Mick & Jean Morgan, Ron & Nan Dook, Wilf & Lorraine March, Ralph & Eve Finkelstein, Clarrie & Grace Turner, Eric & Twy Smyth, Jack & Gloria Poynton, Tony & Gwen Bowers, Bernie & Babs Langridge, Bob & Bety McDonald, Stan Payne, Barbara Palmer, Clarie Varian, Dick Darrington, Fred Sparkman, Dulcie Ryan, Jess Epps, Ann Douglas, Gordon Holmes, George Fletcher, Col. Doig, Harold & Iris Rowan-Robinson, Ron & Dorothy Trengrove, Doug & Marg Dixon, and for a short while Ted Loud. A top grade line up.

My thanks to Robbie & Iris for being mine hosts to self, Jack & Delys Carey and Bernie & Babs Langridge.

Col. Doig.

COMMEMORATION SERVICE

Sunday, 16th November 1986, in Lovekin Drive, King's Park the 2nd Commando Association paid homage to the men who had fallen in battle while fighting for the right of all people to be free. Over the years we have missed them dearly, for they were our mates.

We do not assemble each year to glorify war but to pay tribute to these grand men so all will know that their sacrifice was not in vain.

Our President, Doug Fullarton, in his address, succinctly and aptly described what was in all our hearts as we stood in silence in the surroundings of our beautiful section of the Avenue of Honour.

The men of the S.A.S. Regiment helped to make the day dignified and memorable. The Catafalque Party, beautifully drilled, took post, then came the President's address, the names of the fallen, the Ode, the Last Post and Reveille, stirringly played by the S.A.S. Bugler adding full reverence to this very special day.

The men of the 2/2 formed ranks and marched magnificently along the full length of our section of Honour Avenue, giving a smart 'eyes right' to our President, Doug Fullarton, the C.O. of the S.A.S.R., Lt-Col. Terry Nolan and his R.S.M., W.O. Class One, Terry O'Farrell.

Thirty six of our Unit answered Roll Call and their ladies watched them with pride. As always, the widows of our deceased joined us, to make this day one of sharing a deep emotion each with the other.

After the service we enjoyed the hospitality of the S.A.S.R. in the Sergeant's Mess at Campbell Barracks in Swanbourne and we thank the men of the S.A.S.R. for this, and their continued support.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Ladies and Gentlemen,

To me falls the humble task of addressing you on this the 41st Commemoration Service in this - our very special grove.

Today we gather to pay our deepest respects to those of our Unit who paid the supreme sacrifice in our wartime campaigns in Timor, New Guinea and New Britain. Also to those of

our members who have died since the cessation of hostilities, mostly as a result of the problems and stress of returning to peacetime employment.

This is the time when we dedicate ourselves to the memory of all our good mates who can no longer be with us.

These young men gave their all that we who are left should enjoy peace. This peace was to be a just reward for all who donned a uniform, also to make this country secure for future generations.

As we look around this present day world and see conflicts in different countries, serious doubts arise, but we in this lucky country, Australia, have had forty years without serious threats from an outside source. This, however, has not been achieved without the eternal vigilance of the present day forces.

Once again I would like to convey to those who suffered the loss of a loved one and down through the years have been left to bear the deep anguish which such loss brings, that they have our sincere desire to do all we can to make their lot a little easier to bear. May this service bring them some comfort in the knowledge that we, the men who had the honour of serving alongside them have not forgotten them.

I would like to thank everyone who has attended here today. Also, a special thank you to the S.A.S. Regiment for their contribution toward this solemn service.

VICTORIAN NEWS

We had a really good roll up for our outing to Phillip Island on the 13th October to hold a general meeting and discuss the 88 Safari and view accommodation etc.

Present were: Harry & Olive Botterill, Ken & Margaret Monk, Norm & Frank Tillet, Jack & Julie Fox, Bill Tucker, John & Kath Roberts, Blue Bone, Bill & Pat Peterson, Bluey & Miff Sargeant, Alec & Beryl Boast, George & Dot Veitch, Denny & June Dennis, John & Sfirley Southwell, Leith & Marg Cooper, Fred & Mavis Broadhurst, David and Thais Brown, Max & Grace Davies, Peter McCracken, Jock & Fay Campbell & Tom Nisbet.

David Brown was able to get use of the Newhaven Yacht Club facilities and we were glad of the indoor facilities as the weather became very wet.

Everyone was very enthusiastic about the Safari, hence the good roll up. We had apologies from Sir Bernard Callinan, Bruce McLaren and Wilma Tobin.

Leith will be reporting on the accomodation available.

Bruce McLaren is leaving us to live in Queensland. We will miss Bruce and Lorraine as they have been great stalwarts in Victoria. Bruce has done a very good job as Treasurer and we thank him sincerely.

Harry Batterill.

Well done Victoria!
Plenty of talent and capable hands in you new office bearers. See you all at the Safari 88.

'GE-EM'

COMING EVENTS

1988 SAFARI—PHILLIP ISLAND

Let us make this a SAFARI to be remembered—to do so—

BE THERE!!

SEE VICTORIAN NEWS

SAFARI 1988 NEWS

Rhyall, 3925
4/11/86

On October 13th a general meeting of all the Association was held at the Newhaven Yacht Club and all offices were declared vacant. The following were elected to fill the vacancies—

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| President | — Tom Nisbet |
| Treasurer | — Harry Botterill |
| Secretary | — Leith Cooper |

A Safari working committee was also elected, the members being — John Roberts, David Brown, Bluey Bone, Max Davies, Fred Broadhurst, Alex Boast, Jack Fox, Bill Tucker, Ken Monk and, of course, the executive as above.

The Safari Committee held a further meeting on November 3rd, at which duties were allocated to all members and general business conducted, including the exact dates of the Safari - from Friday, 18th March to Monday, 28th March, 1088.

As we have to book 12 months in advance to secure accommodation in a compact area, I am enclosing an application form. If we can get all applications in early we can make bulk bookings to ensure members are placed close together in each establishment and also secure discounts to everybody's advantage.

Harry Sargent, from Eaglehawk, came down to attend the general meeting at Newhaven on October 13th, so you see enthusiasm in Victoria is widespread. He too is looking forward to meeting W.A. mates at the Safari. He sends particular greetings to Gordon Rowley.

Yours sincerely,
Leith Cooper.

Victoria and Safari news a bit duplicated but who would worry about enthusiasm.

A/ED.

Lieutenant Colonel T. J. Nolan
The Special Air Service Regiment
Campbell Barracks,
Swanbourne. 6010
7/10/86

Dear Doug,
Thank you very much for a most enjoyable lunch with your Association members last Friday, 3 October 1986.

I am speaking for Major Andy Leahy, Warrant Officer Class One Terry O'Farrell as well as myself when I say that we were most appreciative of the hospitality and friendship shown towards us.

We look forward to seeing you all again in November.

Yours sincerely,
Terry Nolan

ADDRESS PROBLEMS

The courier team has recently been more than usually bewitched, bothered and bewildered by happenings to our 'Address Index'.

Couriers returned by Australia Post under our postage paid address slip request - if undeliverable (their word) return to Box T, 1646 G.P.O. Perth, 6001 - upon investigation or advice from our readers should have been

delivered. We do not know why they were judged 'undeliverable'. What we do know is that 'returned couriers cost us 45 cents for a first time return, and 95 cents for a second time' and raises the need for a system to be managed for collection, payment and recording of such cards.

Perhaps readers could assist by ensuring that when necessary, due to move or addition to their address, changes are notified promptly in time for 'next' couriers. The problem can strike any person any area: several troubled recently were Dean Anning, Peter Campbell and Stan Payne. Sir Bernard Callinan also copped an address lapse - the Callinan place of abode was suddenly changed from Kew to Kewdale. Most annoying, you will agree!! The answer, good humouredly given was, 'Oh! A simple mistake for our girls (secretarial services types), you see there is no other suburb name with a K-E-W in it, in W.A., except our Kewdale, and it's easy for a typist going flat out not to realise the error'.

We discussed annoyance, improved service, the problems of R.S.I, then returned to Base to help out with the preparation of the next courier.

Whilst driving home, that delightful note from Charlie Gorton (this issue), about the dear old lady aged 91 'she had no problems because she has 6 legs', kept rolling in my mind as I recalled the oft expressed wish by 'Mary Mck' that she could suddenly receive the use of 6 legs and 6 extra pairs of hands at courier time.

Would you believe, the most part of this issue has been hand written for presentation to the printer. Our typist extraordinaire has suddenly become unfit for duty due to previous indulgence - in too much typing. It's not R.S.I., but she is forced to spend the week in Perth for Chiropractic treatments over several days.

She will be receiving lots of encouragement to mend up and return to the keyboard in time for the Feb 87 issue.

'GE—EM'

DONATIONS TO THE COURIER

Messrs.

Bomford, L.
Costelloe, P.
Fagg, B.
Goodhew, J.
Kenneally, P.
Mitchell, A.
Moodie, P.
Smith, Joyce.
Snowden, B.
Teague, R.
Dignum

Hodge
Swann
McDonald
Doig
Fletcher
Wicks
Criddle
Hudson
Carey
Poynton (Joe)
Holder

Dook	Rogers
Darrington	Rowan - Robinson
McKenzie	Burridge
Aitken	Hodson
Rowley	Bingham
Hopkins	Studdy
Langridge	Taylor (Scotty & Jock)
Herbert	Sharp
McLoughlin (Stan)	Callinan
Wheatley	Jordan
Morgan	Smyth (Eric)
Thompson (Lew)	Humphrey
Parry	
Harrington	Joyce Smith
Finklestein	Betty Coulson

DONATIONS TO THE TIMORESE APPEAL

Kath Sargeant
Madge Field
Isobel McCaul
Maria Burges
Beryl & Queenie Smith
Jess Epps
Dulcie Gay
Dot Boyland
Jean English
Kath Press
Messrs.
Coker
Lillie
Parry;Poynton (Bruce)
Lewis
Archer
Dennis
Isenhood
Harper
Greibert
Bryant
Costelloe
Snowdon
O'Neill
Mantle
Dook
Aitken
Stevenson
Scott
Wheatley
Gorton
R.S.L. C of P Sub Bch.
Holder
Hall, State Pres. R.S.L.
Smailes
MacLachlan
Smyth (Bob)
Kirkwood
Carey
Teague
Murray
Cole
Haire
Gorton
Mitchell
Thompson (Lew)
Sadler (Stan)

Williamson
Sparkman
Sadler (Chas)
Griffiths
Nisbet
Hayes
Moodie
Stevens
Jones
Iles
Monk
Loud
Jordan
Krause
Goodhew
Fagg
Thompson
Herbert (2/4)
Paul
Beveridge
Veitch
Burridge
Tomassetti
Holmes
Taylor (Scotty & Jock)
Davies
Elmore
Turton
Sproxtion
Botterill
Hancock
Maley
Turner
Blundy
Varian
Napier
Fullarton
Doig

Campbell (Pat)
McKenzie
Hopkins
Humphrey
Kenneally
Campbell (Arch)
Dorham R.
Da Luz P.J.

VALE—JIM GALLAGHER

Jim Gallagher passed away early this month after a long battle with Cancer.

Jim joined our Unit from Canungra prior to us going to New Guinea and was one of our many valuable signallers. He saw out the rest of the War in this capacity with our Unit.

Jim hailed from Kojonup and returned there after leaving the Army. He worked for some time with Tony Bowers on his timber mill and later worked around various farms. He was a very well respected citizen of the Kojonup area and took a keen interest in many local activities, especially the R.S.L.

The Association did not see a great deal of Jim as he was tied up with work and family commitments.

We extend to Jim's wife and family our deepest sympathy in their sad loss of husband and father.

LEST WE FORGET

VALE—BERNARD ALAN BROWN

It is with great regret that we have to advise of the death of Alan Brown earlier this month after a brief spell in hospital for heart surgery. He had apparently weathered the operation quite successfully and appeared to be doing well when he had a relapse and died suddenly.

Alan joined our Unit after we left Willsons Promontory and was therefore one of the originals. He was drafted to No. 3 Section and served throughout the Timor Campaign but did not join afterwards due to ill health. He later served in Borneo.

After demobilisation he joined the "Daily Newspapers" as a machinist, eventually moving to the "West Australian" where he became foreman of the Machinist Section which actually prints the paper. This was a most onerous job and full of tension to get the papers out on time. He was forced to resign due to ill health a few years ago.

Due to the fact that Alan mostly worked night shift he was not able to take a great deal of interest in Association affairs but did attend Safaris in W.A. and joined in wherever possible.

Alan was a great family man and was much liked and respected by his friends and workmates.

The Association was well represented at the Karrakatta Crematorium which was filled by friends and relatives.

We pass on our sincere sympathy to Alan's wife Phyllis and family.

LEST WE FORGET

VALE—ROYCE BARROW WILKERSON

Once again we have to record the passing of one of our members. This time Royce B. Wilkerson better known to all unit members as "Wendel Wilkie" a nickname tagged on him when first he joined the unit as at that time the great "Wendel Wilkie" was Vice President of America. Quite a large number of his mates would not know his correct name he was so used to answering to his nickname. Royce departed this life on Saturday 15th November 1986 after a long illness.

Royce was an original member of the unit having joined with a large contingent from Kalgoorlie and was drafted to 9 section C. Pln., and served with that section right through Timor, New Guinea and New Britain. He originated in the Goomalling area but like a lot of people was driven to obtain employment at the Goldfields during the depression 1929-1938.

He proved to be an outstanding soldier due to a degree of maturity plus an ever ready sense of humour for which he became known both in the army and after demobilisation.

Royce went back to the farming game in Goomalling after the war, and put in quite a few years before selling out and coming to live at Armadale and worked in the Kelmscott area for a considerable time.

Ill health forced him to give up all forms of work some 4-5 years ago.

The writer saw quite a lot of 'Wendel' in recent years and he was always excellent company or full of humour and a truly whimsical character.

Our sincere sympathy to wife Merle and his family from all the unit.

Farewell "Wendel" hope things are better on the other side.

LEST WE FORGET

UNIT MEMBERS ATTENDING ROYCE
WILKERSON'S FUNERAL

J. Fowler	J. Hasson
D. McKinley	J. Wicks
J. Carey	M. Wheatley
K. Hayes	G. Fletcher
C. Varian	D. Fullarton
R. Kirkwood	S & C Sadler (Wongan)

CORRESPONDENCE CORNER

Mornington 3931

5/11/86

Things are under way for the 1988 Safari. I feel a big step in the right direction was getting Tom Nisbet to take the helm of a strong, capable committee.

We took a trip north during the winter and met up with quite a few 2/2nd types, most of whom seemed to be wearing pretty well.

Regards to all over W.A. way.

Max Davies.

Katanning 6317

30/10/86

Earlier this year I had a lovely trip to Scotland - highlands and islands - and was saddened to read on my return of the death of Alf Hillman. We used to see him from time to time when he was in Katanning but not at all once he moved to Albany.

Warm regards,

Marie Burgess.

Griffith N.S.W.
17/9/86

I guess it must be time for another sub, so enclosed is a cheque.

Have heard nothing but glowing reports about the Canberra Safari. The Canberra boys certainly did a great job organising, and high praise must go to them.

Len Bagley phoned me on the way over, but did not have time to call. It was good to hear his voice again.

On the way home Keith and Betty Dignum called in on a flying visit. It was nice to see them again, although I had never met Betty before. Dig has worn extra well, in fact there didn't seem to be much difference from when I saw him last in 1945. We appreciated his visit, though short.

Season-wise the country is very good around here - there should be good crops about, then of course we have to sell it at a price. We hope old Ronnie leaves a few of our markets for us. The rice industry here is also anything but bright, high water costs, sprays and fertilizer are also high, as well as harvesting and carting. All these things eat into the profits. I don't have that worry now as I sold out ten years ago.

Don't get around very well these days. Health-wise I'm fairly fit but the pins don't carry me too well. Anyway, I can still walk, so must be thankful for that.

My regards to all the boys.

Cheerio

Alf Hodge.

Seaton S.A.
9/9/86

I have some sad tidings to pass on - in two months we have lost three men known to the 2/2nd.

Alistair Flett passed away on the 16th July, 1986. I did not know him. Bert Bache, in the course of his employment came in contact with him - he was State Manager of the Colonial Sugar Sales Division. He mentioned to Bert that he was in Timor. He was a very reticent type, didn't say much about it and didn't appear interested in renewing old acquaintances. For those Timor Wallahs who have forgotten him, his photo appears in Callinan's book on the page facing page 190.

Padre Arthur Bottrell passed away on the 5th August 1986. It was a private funeral, but I think the Commandos were expected and we turned up. A good number of the Companies were represented. I represented the 2/2nd. Padre Bottrell wrote two books - Cameos of Commandos and History of the Army Padres. I think there could have been a third one. A quote from his Cameos of Commandos: 'A

pleasant surprise came my way when on an early pastoral visit to the R.A.P. at Fanta, one of the orderlies told me he was a South Australian from the suburb of Payeham. I was glad to meet Trooper Timcke, as my family was living in that area during my absence in the 2nd A.I.F. We had a good yarn.'

Lofty Timcke passed away on the 31st August 1986 after a hard battle with 'Big Charlie'. We visited Lofty in hospital - he was very sick but was pleased to see any of the boys, a different face to look at. He had no illusions about the future and the way he handled the inevitable was an inspiration to all. He adopted the attitude of a person who has missed out on the lottery. He said - 'That's it, nothing you can do about it.' A very brave man. Betty and I went to Lofty's funeral and took Hazel Hollow, Dud Tapper and Shorty Stevens. Also, there were Bob Williamson, Bert Bache, Mark Jordan and Sid Wadey, RAF. The funeral was a large affair, attendance would have been in excess of 200 - speaks well for his popularity. The only 2/2nd chap who doesn't live in the metropolitan area is Shorty Stevens, he hails from further afield., Yallunda Flat on Eyres Peninsula, a nine hour bus trip each way. Not a bad effort and he thought nothing of it - just said Lofty was a pretty good bloke.

After the funeral Bob Williamson asked me and my car load to call into his home, on Clarices's suggestion, and over a few glasses we spoke and thought of Lofty, then the conversation shifted and evolved around the merits of different cheeses, Jaguar cars and shonky used car operators, interdispersed with ill informed interjections from Clarice.

Sorry the news I impart is of such solemn nature, but that's life, and of our age group.

Enclosed is a donation for the Courier.

All the best

Keith Dignum.

Busselton 6280
1/11/86

Eric and I had a wonderful few days in Bridgetown sharing all the activities with the other participants in the get together of 2/2nd men and their ladies. In some instances 20 years had passed since previous meetings. The hospitality and organisation was superb and we arrived home much better informed on the activities of the area. Thanks so much.

Now we are living in Busselton it will be easier to share in the various 2/2nd occasions and we look forward to seeing some of you now and then.

It was particularly great for us to meet up again with Ron and Dorothy Trengrove and when they joined us in Bremer Bay on a wildflower search we felt the trip rounded off with the renewal of a good friendship.

Best wishes to the staff of the Courier. It is a great little production and we missed it for the period between leaving Geraldton and settling in down here. We enclose a contribution towards its ongoing success.

Regards,

Twy & Eric Smyth.

Please tell The Doig I'll be writing to him.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all the men of the West and their families.

Good luck and God bless.

Paddy & Nora Kenneally.

Yagoona 2199

1/11/86

Am enclosing cheque for Courier and Timorese Association Appeal. May I add that correspondence to our Foreign Minister, the Rt. Hon. William Hayden MHR and his counterpart the Shadow Foreign Minister by as many members of our Association as possible, emphasising our support for the East Timorese in their quest for independence would be in order. Why shouldn't small nations have the right and freedom to run their own affairs. I for one do not subscribe to the belief that small nations should be in either the 'Big Brother' camp of Communism as represented by Russia, or its counterpart the 'Big Brother' of extremem Capitalism as represented by the U.S.A. They are the two who have been screaming peace since August 1945 and are also the two who have ever since been poking their noses into the affairs of any and every country since August 1945 in their quest for power. The rest of us sit back and hope to God they don't unleash the arsenal of weapons they possess. That's enough!

How did your trip through the Highlands go, Arch? All the old feuds are a long way behind now, which is, I expect, a good thing. There couldn't have been much romance in them for the people who lived through them at the time.

They did, however, mould a tradition which still survives. I always had a liking for Scots history. It's very akin to our own across the Irish sea. A Benedictine who had done a lot of study in both once described it to me as a long succession of treachery, but then that applied to every country in Europe during the so called age of 'Chivalry.' I reckon a fair summary of the doctrine of Kings, Dukes, Earls, Barons, Marquis, Princes and Chiefs (That just about covers everyone) was 'Do it to him before he does it to you', and the lower orders did as they were told. Still, it looks romantic from the back end of the 20th century and the Good Lord only knows wha the back end of the 20th century will look like in the 30th.

Helen and Peter's wedding went off well, but that is nothing unusual for weddings. They are back in Canberra now and kept busy. Both their jobs call for travel to various states, so one could be coming and the other going. All the family are well. I hope the same applies to all our members and their families.

Lane Cove 2066

3/11/86

Please accept the enclosed donation on behalf of the Timorese Association appeal. In the past I have made little or no contribution to the 2/2nd Association but the Courier has continued to arrive. Perhaps the donation could also be viewed as expressing my appreciation of this action. While not knowing many of those mentioned in the various letters I do get a lot of enjoyment out of reading them all.

It is wonderful to see the Commando Associations going so strong and so close after many years and I wish you every success with the important liaison work with the East Timorese Association.

Regards to all,

Alan Thompson, 2/4th.

Caloundra 4551

Am enclosing cheques for the Timorese appeal and subs to the Courier.

Have just had my eyes operated on for Glaucoma and am coming along slowly.

My regards to all members in the West.

Allan Mitchell

Hightt 3190

6/11/86

We have everything in hand for the 1988 Safari - a good executive and committee and everybody is pitching in and really interested. It's nice to see this enthusiasm.

All the best and hope you are all well as we are here.

Kindest regards,

Harry Botterill

Port Lincoln 5607
4/11/86

Having just watched the Cup on TV I hope it is not an omen re the Americas Cup, it being the first time the Yanks have won. I hope you West Aussies can show them a wide and rough wake.

Although I was not with you on Timor, joining when you returned, I support the idea to help and enclose a cheque, half for the Timorese Appeal and half for the 2/2nd Association.

I have been to Marree a time or two this year. Went up with Anne on the 8th to 10th October weekend. Quite a trip, rained all the way up and at Leigh creek found the road was closed.

We kept going, with Anne driving, and got through O.K. Peter met us on the main road and guided us across country to the homestead. The race track was half under water Thursday night - but a hard working committee got stuck into it and cancelled the Saturday but had a good Sunday. Monday dawned with a howling dust storm. We left after lunch in dust really thick and 150 miles down the road were in rain. It sure is a land of contrasts.

I guess there will be a good few of the Unit in Perth during the next month or so. I hope you all have a good time and I wish you luck. One of these days we'll make it to the West.

Cheers,
Shorty Stevens.

Glenorchy 7010

Penning a few lines just to keep in touch with the Courier.

Sorry to hear of the passing of Bob Smith and Merv. Ryan.

I see where Arch has been tripping around the world - good luck to you, hope you had a good time.

Enclosing donation towards the Courier.

Kind regards,
Lance Bomford.

East Fremantle 6158

Just a few lines to say how pleased I am to receive the Courier.

I'm a bit of a stick in the mud and don't socialise very much. There are two reasons, the water works and my hearing. I have a hearing aid, but in a group I have a job to make out what's being said.

Hope you are all keeping well - we are all getting a bit long in the tooth.

About getting old, we had a fete at our church last Saturday and I was talking to an old lady I used to take home on Sundays. She was on a frame but quite bright and said 'you know, I'm 91 now.' The lady sitting next to her is 81 and she was selling raffle tickets that the older one used to do. I chipped in with my bit and told them that I'm 71 but have a bit of trouble with my legs. Mrs Allen, the 91 year old, said 'I'm alright, I've got six legs'.

My wife Joyce has had quite a lot of hospitalisation in the last three years but is now coming good. The last time was an operation on her knee to try and straighten her leg as it was bowing. She has just started to get about and is away on the 'Prospector' train to Kalgoorlie and Esperance for 5 days. Batching again, but I'm used to it.

One of my grand daughters was married a fortnight ago and we had quite a family get together. The daughter who is nursing at Wyndham got a trip down to a function at Fremantle Hospital. Her daughter came home from Melbourne for her 21st. My daughter from Port Hedland was down too. Her husband works for Repco up there, but they might soon be back for good.

Hope this finds you all well.

Please find cheque towards expenses.

All the best.

Charlie Gorton.

Cardiff 2285
30/10/86

We're very interested in all that happens in W.A. and we think of you all each day. The Courier keeps us in touch very well and we thank you for it.

Best wishes to one and all.

Sincerely,
Les Isenhood.

Wodonga 3690
31/10/86

Am taking this chance to enclose a cheque to go to the Courier expenses or general funds as you think fit. Like all members I look forward to reading news of those I knew all those years ago in New Guinea and New Britain. Keep up the good work.

Mr wife Bernice and I are living a quiet life in retirement now after some 35 years of farming, most of it dairying, with few holidays. Our farming is now done on only a quarter acre and that's enough.

Kindest regards to all.

Bob Snowdon.

Hello to all our good friends Australia wide. Thank you all for your enjoyable company and friendship that Phyllis and I enjoyed so much at the Canberra 'Safari'. It was another great 'Safari' and one that will long be remembered, our thanks go to Jim Fenwick, Tom Snowden and Danny Thomas for such a great effort by such a small band of organisers.

It was greatly appreciated boys and thanks once again from all of us who had the pleasure of attending. It was also very pleasing to see the widows of our former mates once more join us and revel in the fun and enjoyment that these 'Safaris' seem to make.

The 'Safari' did not finish at Canberra for Phyllis and I, it continued on for a further three weeks with Fred and Mavis Broadhurst as his sister Phyllis coming on to Dubbo and having a further fortnight with us. Some would say fancy putting up with Broadhurst for a month, but boy what a month. We enjoyed every minute of it and are still laughing.

No sooner had Fred and Mavis departed for Melbourne than Len and Betty Bagley came and had a week with us, once again a mini 'Safari'. It is so nice to have lovely friends and enjoy their joyful company.

Prior to going down to the 'Safari', we had Eric and Margaret Weller in Dubbo at the Caravan Park for a fortnight during their tour around Australia - so nice to have seen you both.

Once more we have lost several of our good mates in the passing of Bob Smith and Merv Ryan. To their good wives and families we offer our deepest sympathy, may they rest in peace. Their efforts were not in vain.

Keith and Betty Craig called in to see us recently on their way back from the coast to Young, we had a good yarn over the 'Safari' and events. Keith keeps smiling and making the most of life. He enjoys Broadhurst's stories.

Phyllis is not real well and has had to have major back surgery since the 'Safari' but is making every day a winner.

Had a phone call from Alan Luby a few weeks back, making enquires regarding Phyllis and giving me the news about Bob Smith's death as I did not know.

It was so nice to see Jack Fox at the 'Safari' and so many of the boys from 6 section: Tom Yates, Reg Harington, Kel Cathew, Broady and myself. The photos taken of the group must have made Jack proud after 40 years.

To all once more I will say cheerio and may good health and happiness be with you until we meet again for our 1988 'Safari'.

Kindest regards,
Phyllis & Frank Sharp.

Kojonup 6395

18/10/86

Many thanks for your card and kind letter of condolence.

It is entirely my fault that you didn't hear of it in time. I was so knocked over I didn't even think to let Tony Bowers know and he went to school with Jim, as well as being in the 2/2 Commandos together, and Tony's late wife, my greatest friend.

Nursing Jim and watching him suffer - the load was too heavy for us both. He had cancer of the liver and lungs and it had entered his brain.

The funeral had to be very hurried because my daughter had to leave her young family to make arrangements - I am stone deaf so unable to use a phone and we live right in the bush.

I was a close friend of Jim's for 45 years and married to him for 22 years.

Thank you once again, kind regards and God bless.

Yours sincerely,
Wynne Gallagher.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

BOMFORD, L.

Lance
40 Tolosa Street
Glenorchy 7010

GORTON, C.

Charlie & Joyce
138 Marmion Street
East Fremantle 6158

KING, S.E.

Stan & Sheila
205 Dunham Street
Lake Grace 6353

ROWLEY, G.

Gordon & Eva
33 Singleton Beach Road
Singleton 6211
Phone (095)371686

PIPER, P.

5 Salford Ave
Balwyn 3103

ANDERSON, L.

1A Bardy Street
Falcon 6210
Phone (095)342599

ADDITIONS

DIXON, D.

Doug & Shirley
22 Wolger Street
Como West 2226

Here I am at last, to express my thanks to all those who made my stay in Perth such a memorable occasion.

Jess Epps and Elsie Wares for their part and hospitality. Jess took me to Mandurah to see some of the boys and their good ladies - saw Gordon Barnes, Len Bagley. Joe and Helen Poynton, Don Hudson, sorry if I have missed any.

Elsie, her part, a lovely day on the Swan and evening at the Casino, and arranging to meet others at Anzac House. Jack and Delys Carey, Beryl Griffiths, Reg and Dot Harrington, Beryl Humfrey, Elsie Wares, Jess Epps; forgive me if I have forgotten anyone. Thanks a lot, folks.

Also visited Col Doig while he was in hospital. I do hope things go well with you now, Col.

Things in South Aust. are much the same. Allen and Hazel Hollow were hosts to Barbara Palmer and Stan Payne from W.A. They had a get together of S.A. members, present were the hosts, Allan and Hazel, Kel and Ruby Carthew, Dud and Audrey Tapper, Frank and Muriel Shaw and yours truly. A very pleasing evening was enjoyed by all.

I am enclosing a money order for whatever - subs, Courier.

Best wishes to all,

Mark Jordan.

West Tamworth 2340
14/11/86

Marj and I have arrived home after a six months caravan trip around Australia with Ron and Dorothy Trengrove and, although we are flat out getting things back in order and enjoying home comforts, we are really sorry that the trip had to come to an end. It was a wonderful experience and we are looking forward now to going back to the places where we would have liked to have stopped longer, especially the southern area of Western Australia.

Ron and Dorothy were great company - even if Ron is a lousy canasta player. Our meetings with George & Betty Coulson and other banana landers at Maroochydhore; Reg. & Dot Harrington, the crowd at the Anzac house in Perth, Jack & Delys Carey and Jess & Peter Epps and the colossal job they are doing with the Unit artifacts, and, of course, to see Col. Doig looking his best and keeping us all well entertained with his outlook on life, while Joy really looked after us, made the trip so much more worthwhile.

At the moment we are organising things so that we will have time to enjoy the company of our daughter and family who are coming home for Christmas from Sarawak.

Split my donation between the Courier and Timor Appeal or wherever used best.

All the best to everyone who keeps our Association going so well.

Yours sincerely,
Jack Peattie.

Sydney 2001

Enclosed is a small donation for our great Courier and for the Timorese Appeal.

Last week the Commando Association held a reunion at Arncliffe R.S.L., and members agreed to send through to you their contribution toward the above Appeal. It was a happy occasion but I noticed a sadness in the eyes of old fighters when we remembered the old mates who have gone and thinking of our own short lives before we too reach the end of our destiny.

Sad reality of life!

God Bless.

Pat da Luz.

STOP PRESS!!

The story our readers have been waiting for, should now be available by Xmas 1986.

A history of 2 Independent Company and 2/2 Commando Squadron, skillfully compiled by our very own Colin Doig, will soon be on sale.

A quarter bound sized book, it will be selling for about \$15 including postage.

Readers who wish to purchase copies please send your orders care of 2/2 Commando Association, Box T 1646, Perth, 6001.