

THE VOICE

December 2009 Christmas Edition

Contents:

Christmas Greetings	1
Point Cook/Laverton Trip	1
Life Members	2
Directory	2
Editorial Disclaimer	2
President's Report	3
The Forgotten September 1939 Invasion of Poland	3
Out & About	5
Murphy's Law of Combat Operations	6
Korean War Crossword	7
Gone to the Dogs	8
Korean War Memorial NSW Dedication	9
A Splendid Parting Gesture	9
Another President's Report	9
Oops	10
Useless Facts	10
Last Post Register	10
The Hollywood Name Game	11
Notices	12
Renewal Time	13
T'was the Night Before Christmas	14
A Batty Idea	14
Odd Spot	14
Farewells	14
The Ode	14

Christmas Greetings

(Politically correct version)

We at *The Voice* ask that you accept without obligation, implied or implicit, our best wishes for an environmentally conscious, socially responsible, culturally sensitive, low stress, non-addictive, gender neutral, celebration of the summer solstice holiday, practised within the most enjoyable traditions of the religious persuasion of your choice, or secular practices of your choice, with respect for the religious/secular persuasions and/or traditions of others, or their choice not to practice religious or secular traditions at all.

Point Cook/Laverton Trip

RAAF Base Williams at Point Cook, Victoria is the birthplace of the Royal Australian Air Force and has a museum and a memorial garden and a Korean War plaque in honour of those RAAF personnel killed in action. Two dozen members of the KVAA and guests, including flyboys Lloyd Knight and Lawrence Hubbard, attended the second of what we hope will be an annual event there on 14 October.

Those of us who attended last year noticed that the Mosquito bomber under reconstruction in the workshop abutting the museum now looked less re-constructed. The technician explained that this was a good thing; it meant the plane was being worked on. He expressed hope that it would be finished sometime in the decade.

The weather being typical Melbourne spring conditions (cold driving wind and threat of rain interspersed with cold driving wind and bursts of wan sunshine) it was decided not to place the wreath to the RAAF Korean War fallen at the Memorial Garden. We drove to the base chapel where Laurence Hubbard, laid a wreath on the alter.

Laurie Hubbard served with the famous No. 36 Transport Squadron as a Flight Sergeant Navigator during the Korean War, a difficult job given the mountainous nature of the country, extreme weather, the primitive conditions, and a squadron often stretched to the limits. He retired from the RAAF as a Wing Commander in 1976.

After the ceremony we decamped for the RAAF Williams Laverton Base and lunch and drinks in the very comfortable Sergeant's Mess hosted by Warrant Officer, Geoff Jones, the Mess President.

Associate Member

International Federation of Korean War Veterans
Korea & South East Asia Forces Association of Australia
Sister with Korean War Veterans Association Australian Chapter
Twinned with the South London Branch British Korean Veterans Associations
Twinned with the Korea Veterans Association of Canada

Affiliated Associations

Association of Queensland Korea Veterans Inc.
Korea Veterans Assoc. Sunshine Coast Inc.
Korea War Veterans Association of NSW

Allied Associations

Australian Peacekeepers and Peacemaker Veterans' Association Inc.



THE VOICE

Life Members

Jim Boxhall
Rev. Burne Brooker
John Brownbill RFD KSJ
John Burke†
Bill Campbell†
Victor Dey OAM
John Duson
Athol Egeberg
Mick Everett†
Jim Farmer JP
J F Frawley OAM BEM†
Stan Gallop
Olwyn Green OAM (Hon)
Des Guilfoyle†
John Holford
Neville Holl†
Murray Inwood
David Irving
Ron Kennedy
George Lang OAM
Dennis Lehman
Kenneth Mankelow
Bruce Maxwell
Alan McDonald
Ian McDonald†
Ray McKenzie†
Don McLeod†
George Mitchell†
Bill Murphy
Ormond Petherick
Jack Philpot
Arthur Roach
Ivan Ryan
Joe Shields†
Gerry Steacy
Doug Wilkie JP

†Deceased

Directory

Patron

Major General J C Hughes AO DSO MC FAIM Dip FP

President

Victor Dey OAM
Phone: 03 946 72750
Mobile: 040 987 8864
Email: blueydey@bigpond.net.au

Vice-President

Tom Parkinson 03 9350 6608

Secretary

Alan Evered
Phone: 03 9874 2219
Email: evered@optusnet.com.au

Treasurer

Gerry Steacy
Phone: 03 9741 3356
Email: steacy32@bigpond.com

Committee

Peter Brooks, Ron Christie, John Duson, Keith Langdon, Allan Murray,
Allen Riches, Arthur Roach, Ivan Ryan, William Youngs

Appointments

Chaplain: John Brownbill RFD KSJ 0418 359 085
Editor: Geoff Guilfoyle 03 9546 5979 Email: Geoff_Guilfoyle@aanet.com.au
Publicity & Ceremonial: Allan Murray 03 5962 6197 Email: kvaainc@bigpond.com
KSEAFA & Kindred Korea Veterans Organisations: Alan Evered (Liaison Officer)
Pensions: Charlie Slater 03 9355 7264

Delegates

General Committee: Alan McDonald
Veterans' Affairs: Ivan Ryan 03 726 6053
South Australia: John Bennett 08 8556 7288
Western Australia: John Southorn 08 9531 2008
New South Wales: Merv Heath 02 4343 1967
Queensland: Harry Pooley 07 32000482
Tasmania: George Hutchinson 03 6024 7241
Geelong: Arthur Roach 03 5243 6113
Albury-Wodonga: Rocky Camps 02 6204 7241

Correspondence

The Secretary, PO Box 2123, Rangeview, Victoria 3132

Website

www.austkoreavets.asn.au

Editorial Disclaimer

Articles in *The Voice* are printed on the understanding that, unless stated, they are the original works of the contributors or authors. The editor reserves the right to reject, edit, abbreviate, rewrite or rearrange, any item submitted for publication. The view of the contributing authors are not necessarily those of the Association, the editor or publishers of *The Voice*.

President's Report

Since the last issue of our newsletter, our Association has received numerous invitations to attend various functions such as such as the Korea War Veterans Reunion in Canberra on October 23-25, part of which included an Australian / Korean War Memorial ceremony. This event was attended by Republic of Korea Ambassador, His Excellency, Woosang Kim, and the Korean Military Attachè, Colonel Yongsoo Choi.

Commodore Bob Morrison and the Australian Repatriation Commissioner, Brigadier Bill Rolfe, were also present. That evening they and their respective wives, Joan and Lyn, joined the Wives/Widows and Veterans for a most enjoyable dinner.

All present over the three days enjoyed good camaraderie and expressed their desire that next years reunion be part of the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Celebrations.

Two other October events...

On Friday 2nd, we attended a reception hosted by the Governor and Mrs Jan De Krester for the Senior of the Year awards, and the 29th being the 86th Anniversary of the foundation of the Republic of Turkey, saw Aydin Nurhan, the Consul-General in Australia, received congratulatory message from the KVAA Inc.

On to November...

The 5th of the months saw us at Anzac House for the 90th Anniversary of Remembrance Day hosted by Major General (Ret.) David McLachlan AO. Four days later we attended the launch at Parliament House of Gary Hutchinson's book *Remember Them*, a guide to Victoria's heritage.

November 11th was a double up: the Department of Premier and Cabinet's Remembrance Day ceremony followed by that at the Austin Repatriation Hospital in

(continues on page 12)

The Forgotten September 1939 Invasion of Poland

by Geoff Guilfoyle

Here's a little puzzle for you with a deceptively complex answer: Who started the Second World War in September 1939? Here's a hint: the 70th anniversary of this invasion was in September this year.

Easy! Germany, of course.

Whoa! I warned you it wasn't that easy. Unlike the anniversary of the 1st September 1939 German invasion, this "intervention" received little attention from politicians and historians and even less mention in the media (both at the time and today).

First, a little history. In 1772, Poland ceased to exist as a country, its internal decay reaching a point when more powerful neighbours, namely Prussia, Russia and Austria, stepped in and partitioned it amongst themselves. For the next 150 years and despite various revisions, this remained the case. World War One swept away all three occupying powers (Germany, Tsarist Russia, and the Austro-Hungarian Empire) and Poland re-emerged as a nation.

But there were problems allocating territory. Trouble with Lithuania and the newly created Czechoslovakia and U.S.S.R., which all claimed parts of Poland (and vice versa). Conflict broke out with Lithuania over Vilnius and the U.S.S.R. over the Ukraine. This led to the Polish-Soviet War of 1920 which ended in a division of territory which satisfied no one.

On the western frontier, Germany was divided from its Prussian heartland. Poland received parts of German Pomerania and Danzig (Gdansk) was declared a free city despite its majority German population. The Allies arbitrarily divided the ethnically mixed Silesia between the two countries, to the satisfaction of neither, and left the two countries with a complicated and unnatural border 1930 kilometres in length.

These various and enormously complicated claims and counter-claims and unresolved border disputes, papered over by various treaties, resolved nothing and set the stage for WWII.

Fast forward twenty years. With the failure of the Munich Agreement, and with war imminent, Neville Chamberlain guaranteed Polish territorial integrity and Franco-British negotiations started in Moscow with the U.S.S.R. at checking German expansion. These foundered on Stalin's insistence that Soviet troops be given free passage through Poland. The Polish Government, naturally, and as later events showed, quite correctly, balked at this, correctly guessing that once Soviet troops set foot in Poland they'd never leave.

Stalin was playing a double game, negotiating with Hitler at the same time as meeting with the Franco-British delegation. Having resolved on war with Poland, and remembering WWI, Hitler wanted to avoid the strain of a two-front war. This meant reaching an agreement with Stalin. Given the territorial claims against Poland by both Germany and the Soviet Union, Hitler had more to offer than Britain and France.

On 23 August 1939, the Molotov-Ribbentrop Agreement (Nazi-Soviet Pact) was signed dividing Eastern Europe between Hitler and Stalin. A week later, on 1 September, now relieved of the nightmare of a two-front war, Hitler launched the Wehrmacht against Poland. Britain and France declared war on Germany on the 3rd.

Two weeks later, on 17 September, and in contravention of the

(continues on page 4)

1932 Polish-Soviet nonaggression treaty and without warning, ½ million Red Army troops backed by over 3,000 tanks and 1,500 aircraft poured across the border. This stab in the back proved the final blow and Poland collapsed. A joint German–Soviet victory parade was held in L'vov and Brest-Litovsk.

Within Soviet Poland, a reign of terror began. To add to the political and cultural persecution, and the tens of thousands tortured and executed within Poland, between ½ a million and 1.5 million men, women and children (Poles, Ukrainians, Belarusians and Jews) were packed into cattle cars or trucks and sent east to the Gulag where nearly two thirds of them, mostly civilians, perished.

They were soon joined there by tens of thousands of Lithuanians, Latvians and Estonians as the Soviet Union occupied the Baltic States, part of its division of Eastern Europe. Rumania, threatened with invasion by the Red Army if it didn't give way, ceded Bessarabia and Northern Bukovina to the U.S.S.R. on 28th June 1940. Finland had already lost a large slice of territory, invaded and defeated by the U.S.S.R. in the Winter War of 1939.

So why has Stalin's part in starting the Second War World and subsequent invasions been effectively airbrushed from history?

Firstly, Hitler's spectacular campaign in the west drew attention away from Stalin's less dramatic conquests in the east. However, British Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain noticed, and after Stalin's invasion of Poland, the British Cabinet met to discuss a declaration of war on the U.S.S.R. After all, the two dictators were clearly acting in unison, and was what Stalin did any better than this German counterpart? Apparently it was. The British Government concluded that it had enough on its hands just fighting Germany. A pragmatic decision, and undoubtedly the correct one from a military and political point of view, yet morally dubious.

Another influential group, one unencumbered by the necessity to balance military and political considerations with moral ones, failed even more completely to protest Stalin's actions. There were Western communists, fellow-travellers and sympathisers; so-called progressive thinkers – intellectuals, academics, feminists, social activists, and trade unionists, men and women such painter, Pablo Picasso and dramatist, Bertolt Brecht, to name just two.

Most of these luminaries and lesser lights claimed to support the U.S.S.R. as a bulwark against fascism in general and Nazism in particular. Many explicitly maintained that is why they joined the communist party in their respective countries. After September 1939, there should have been mass resignations from these parties and a public outcry at this open and obvious betrayal of their beliefs. None of this happened. Few spoke out; fewer still resigned. Most managed to re-order their thinking, blaming the capitalist West for the war and, until 22 June 1941, metaphorically singing the praises of wise comrades Hitler and Stalin.

That June date is significant. The Nazi-Soviet Pact was a cynical agreement made by two leaders who always intended to break it when ready. For Stalin, this was 1942 when his re-organisation of the Red Army was finished. Hitler got in first – on 22nd June.

The Soviet Union became a reluctant ally – a friend by necessity – of Britain and the Commonwealth and later the U.S.A. At a stroke the invasions and mass murder by the U.S.S.R. (both pre-war and those committed during the war, for Stalin continued to shoot, enslave, starve and deport hundreds of thousands of people throughout his blood soaked reign) became unmentionable topics. Thus in 1945, in one of those obscene absurdities of history, the U.S.S.R. sat both as prosecutor and judge at the Nuremberg Trials along side the Western democracies.

With the setting up of various communist puppet states in eastern Europe, the truth about 1939-1940 was written out of their history. Those who questioned the official line ended up in the Gulag or worse. Those in the West who also questioned this official line were shouted down or mocked by those on the left who dominated the cultural and intellectual agenda. Western governments, even those avowedly anti-communist (Eisenhower in the U.S. and Menzies in Australia) also needed to tread carefully given the wartime alliance with the U.S.S.R. Supping with the devil, as it were.

With the collapse of communism in Europe, a new generation of East European historians are arising – and they are questioning this long cherished shibboleth of sole Nazi aggression and war guilt. None of the governments of the now liberated Eastern Europe trust the Russian Federation (successor to the U.S.S.R.) – and who can blame them. This has led to an attempt at diplomatic 'bridge building' by Russia.

Well, sort of. Although the Stalin-admiring Vladimir Putin, in Gdansk (ex-Danzig) for the commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the Nazi invasion, branded the Nazi-Soviet pact immoral, he argued that Stalin had no choice but to sign it and move into Poland, placing the blame on those whom it truly belonged – Britain, France and, paradoxically, Poland. An assessment, no doubt, with which Hitler and Stalin would both agree.

Out & About

Don Scally Korea Re-Visit September 2009



Above: Burning incense at the Korean War Memorial.

Top right: The U.N. flag display at the Korean War Memorial.

Right: Group shot at the Korean War Memorial.

(from left to right): Hefer Nally (South Africa), N. Moller (Denmark), Harry Heath (U.K.), Don Scally, Chait Berk (Turkey), Niklas Wallin (Denmark), Vitool Tuuayanon (Thailand), David Lopez (U.S.A.)



Point Cook & Laverton Visit, 14th October 2009



(l-r): Alan Evered, Arthur Roach, Editor, Don Scally, Leo Gleeson, Vic Dey, Tom Parkinson, Maurice Butterworth, Ray Everett, George Coleman, Lloyd Knight, Ron Johnson, Lawrence Hubbard, John Duson, Michael Littleton, Gerry Steacy.

Murphy's Laws of Combat Operations

Friendly fire - isn't.

Recoilless rifles - aren't.

Suppressive fires - won't.

If it's stupid but it works, it isn't stupid.

Try to look unimportant; the enemy may be low on ammo and not want to waste a bullet on you.

Don't look conspicuous; it draws fire.

Never draw fire; it irritates everyone around you.

If at first you don't succeed, call in an airstrike.

If you are forward of your position, your artillery will fall short

All 5 second grenade fuses burn down in 3 seconds

Never share a foxhole with anyone braver than yourself.

Never forget that your weapon was made by the lowest bidder.

The enemy diversion you're ignoring is their main attack.

The enemy invariably attacks on two occasions: when they're ready & when you're not.

No PLAN ever survives initial contact.

A retreating enemy is probably just falling back and regrouping.

The easy way is always mined.

Mines are equal opportunity weapons.

Tracers work both ways.

Teamwork is essential; it gives the enemy other people to shoot at.

If you are short of everything but the enemy, you are in the combat zone.

When you have secured the area, make sure the enemy knows it too.

Incoming fire has the right of way.

No combat ready unit has ever passed inspection.

No inspection ready unit has ever passed combat.

If the enemy is within range, so are you.

The only thing more accurate than incoming enemy fire is incoming friendly fire.

When both sides are convinced they're about to lose, they're both right.

Professional soldiers are predictable; the world is full of dangerous amateurs.

Military Intelligence is a contradiction.

Fortify your front and you'll get your rear shot up.

The most dangerous thing in the combat zone is an officer with a map.

If you can keep your head while those around you are losing theirs, you may have misjudged the situation.

The one item you need is always in short supply.

Interchangeable parts aren't.

Things which must be shipped together as a set, aren't.

Things that must work together can't be carried to the field that way.

Whenever you lose contact with the enemy, look behind you.

If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.

The quartermaster has only two sizes, too large and too small.

If you really need an officer in a hurry, take a nap.

There is nothing more satisfying than having someone take a shot at you – and miss.

If your sergeant can see you, so can the enemy.

You'll only remember your hand grenades when the enemy is too close to use them.

How come you are on one frequency when everyone else is on another?

The ammo you need "NOW"!! is on the "Next" airdrop!!

If your ambush is properly set the enemy won't walk into it.

The degree to which you overreact to information will be in inverse proportion to its accuracy.

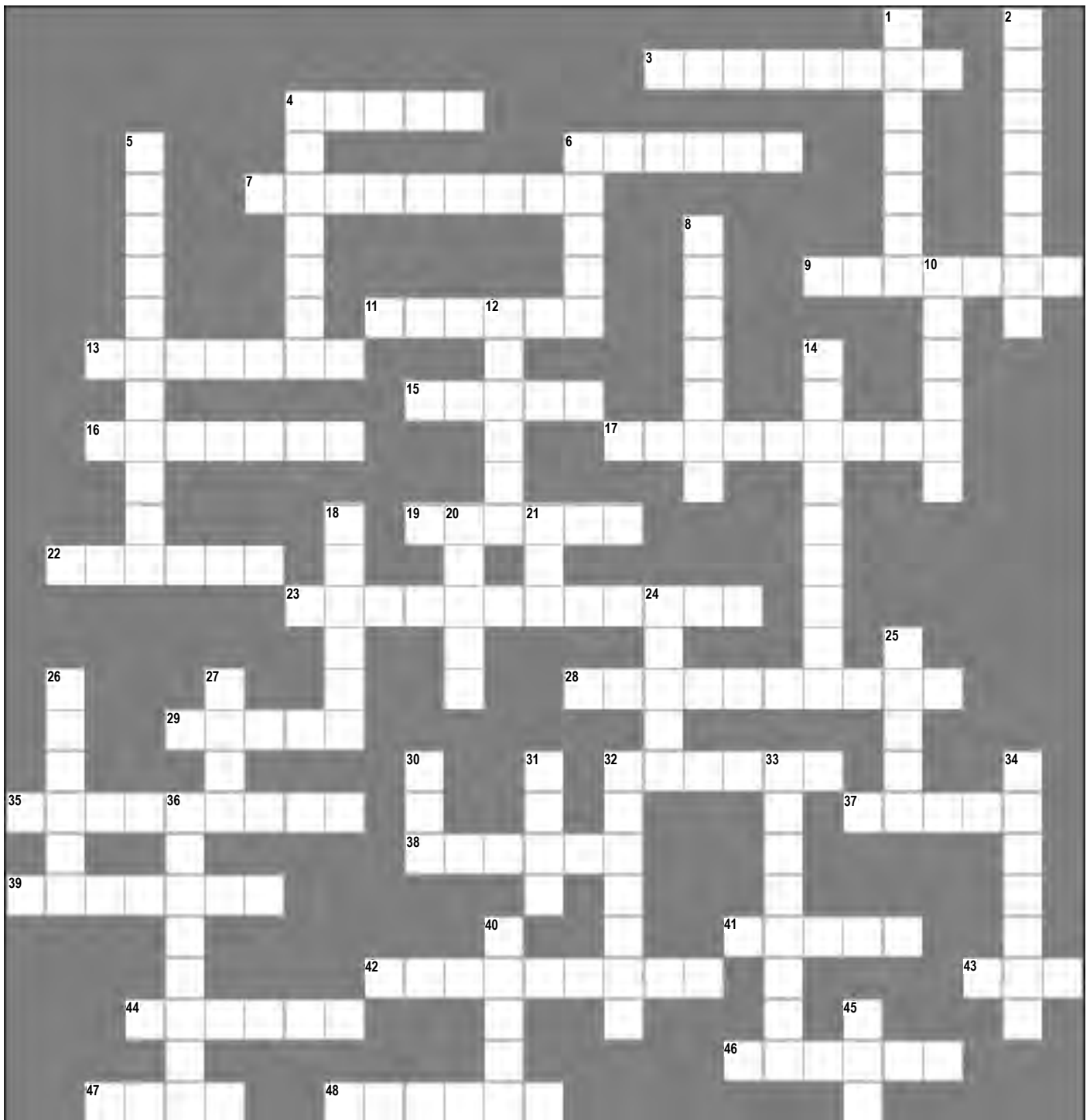
If you receive two contradictory orders, obey them both.

If all else fails hide.

So he said, "Cheer up: it could be worse!" So we cheered up. And it got worse.

There is no limit to how bad things can get.

Korean War Crossword



Across

3. An infantry battalion from this South American county arrived in Korea in June 1951.
4. Country which sent military assistance to North Korea.
6. U.S. General Douglas MacArthur's ambitious amphibious assault on 15 September 1950 took place here.
7. The 27 July 1953 ceasefire was signed here.
9. Primary fighter used by RAAF No. 77 Squadron until 6 April 1951.
11. On 23 Sept. 1950, medical personnel from this country converted a vacant school into a Red Cross Field Hospital.
13. Australian Prime Minister during the Korean War.
15. Favoured destination for soldiers on leave.
16. Fighter used by 805 and 808 Squadrons during the Korean War (two words).
17. Common medical condition which afflicted the U.N. troops during the Korean winters.
19. The frigate, La Grandiere, was provided by which nation.
22. Primary fighter used by RAAF No. 77 Squadron after April 1951.
23. This July 1953 battle provided the story for the 1959 movie starring Gregory Peck (three words).
28. This seven-mile-long hill mass, scene of the 13-27 September 1951 battle, became known as _____ Ridge.

Korean War Crossword (from previous page)

29. Hill 266 is better known as Old _____.
32. Australian aircraft carrier.
35. Region of China. South-eastern edge forms border with North Korea.
37. Capital of and largest city in South Korea.
38. The battalion, known as *The Hellenic Expeditionary Force*, came from this country.
39. Battle in which Australian troops played a particularly distinguished role.
41. Unit of ammunition
42. Capital and largest city of North Korea.
43. Standard abbreviation for service personnel captured by the enemy.
44. North Korean reservoir.
46. On June 29, 1950, the frigate Shoalhaven and which Australian destroyer were placed at the disposal of the U.N.
47. President of South Korea from 1948-1960 (surname).
48. The President of the U.S.A. at the outbreak of the Korean War (surname).

Down

1. Type of machine gun.
2. The frigates HMTS Prasae and Bangpakong, and the transport, Sichang, formed part of this country's contribution to the war.
4. Slang word for Chinese soldiers used primarily by English speaking U.N. troops.
5. U.S. military decoration awarded to any member of the armed forces who is wounded in action (two words).
6. This river formed part of the front line for much of the 1952-1953 "static" phase of the war.
8. Type of pipe favoured by Douglas MacArthur (two words).
10. This country was the only Muslim nation to send combat troops and ships to Korea.
12. The main transport and cargo plane used by the RAAF in Korea.
14. Hill 355 is more commonly known as Little _____. (Hint: the original is found in the Mediterranean)
18. These three interconnected hills, site of a mid-August to 5th September 1951 battle, was known as _____ Ridge.
20. Short form of 'reconnaissance.'
21. A sergeant or a corporal is considered one of these.
24. A medical unit from this former Axis power arrived in Korea in November 1951.
25. This fighter was used by South African pilots in the latter stages of the war.
26. In July 1950, this country dispatched the destroyers Cayuga, Athabaskan and Sioux to Korean waters.
27. This river forms the boundary between North Korea and China.
30. Russian-made jet encountered by U.N. pilots during the Korean War.
31. Ubiquitous rough terrain vehicle used by U.S. troops in WWII and Korea (and beyond).
32. U.S.-made tank used during the Korean War.
33. One of two African nations to send combat forces to Korea.
34. Military unit usually comprising three sections and commanded by a lieutenant.
36. An underground living quarters with an overhead cover.
40. This Hindu nation sent a Field Ambulance and Surgical Unit to Korea in November 1950.
45. Chairman of the Peoples' Republic of China from 1949-1976 (first name).

Gone to the Dogs

In the early stages of the German invasion of the Soviet Union during World War II, the Red Army resorted to some rather odd stratagems to stop the Wehrmacht's advance. Since conventional Soviet antitank tactics had proven somewhat ineffective, the Red Army attempted to employ a scheme using dogs as antitank weapons.

The idea was to turn dogs into mobile antitank mines that would seek out German tanks and destroy them. The dogs were trained to find their food underneath tractors with running engines. It was hoped that this would teach them to run underneath heavy, tracked vehicles. When they were released on the battlefield, the dogs wore a satchel charge of explosives on their backs, which was linked to a long bamboo pole attached to a detonator. Thus, according to plans, the dog would run under operating German tanks on the battlefield, the bamboo pole would break, the satchel charge would detonate, and with it the tank.

The mine dogs were first employed at Bryansk, in September 1941. It was an instant fiasco. The dogs were released on the battlefield, became terrified by the noise, and panicked, running back to their handlers, who were riding in trucks. The Soviet troops, tanks, and dogs waiting to counterattack were blown to bits. The Germans estimated that upwards of 20 Russian tanks and at least 200 Russians were killed as a result of the use of the new Soviet secret weapon. A barking mad idea that proved a howling failure.

[Source: Strategy & Tactics No.100]

Korean War Memorial NSW Dedication

Here's another story in the 'better late than never' category...

On 26 July this year, KVAA Inc. NSW delegate, Merv Heath (in centre in photo below), other Korean War veterans and interested parties, gathered in Moore Park for the unveiling of the first memorial in Sydney specifically dedicated to those who fought in the Korean War. Moore Park was chosen because it is less than 5km from the Sydney CBD and the park is heritage listed as a place of national significance.

The memorial itself contains both obvious and more subtle design elements, from the incorporation of forged steel "Roses of Sharon" (*Hibiscus syriacus*), the national flower of Korea and a symbol for regeneration, to the centrepiece: two large granite stones from a quarry in Kapyong.

The memorial was funded jointly by the NSW Government, the Korean Government, veterans groups and the Korean community of Sydney. This was reflected in two of the speakers at the ceremony: Graham West, Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs, and Mr Yang Kim, Minister for Patriots and Veterans Affairs, Republic of Korea. Also present was the Consul General of the Republic of Korea and many of Sydney's small Korean community.

Further details are available from www.koreanwarmemorial.nsw.gov.au



A Splendid Parting Gesture

Due to falling numbers, the Mid North Coast Korean Veterans' Association, active since 1995, is no more. In a splendid parting gesture, and in line with the association's aim of supporting each other, their families and the local community, Frank Donnelly, treasurer of the group, called in to the Coffs Harbour office of the Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopter and presented the organisation with a cheque for \$2009, this being the proceeds from the group's accumulated funds.

Thanks to Olwyn Green for the info.



Frank Donnelly presenting June Smyth with the cheque for \$2009.

Picture from *The Coffs Coast Advocate*.

Another President's Report



Ronald Reagan
President U.S.A.
1980-1988

"Here's my strategy on the Cold War: We win, they lose."

"The most terrifying words in the English language are: I'm from the government and I'm here to help."

"I have wondered at times about what the Ten Commandments would have looked like if Moses had run them through the U.S. Congress."

"Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it."

"It has been said that politics is the second oldest profession. I have learnt that it bears a striking resemblance to the first."

"Politics is not a bad profession. If you succeed, there are many rewards; if you disgrace yourself, you can always write a book."

"Government is like a baby: An alimentary canal with a big appetite at one end and no sense of responsibility at the other."

"No arsenal, or no weapon in the arsenals of the world, is as formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women."

"The taxpayer: That's someone who works for the federal government but doesn't have to take the civil service examination."

"Of the four wars in my lifetime, none came about because the U.S. was too strong."

Oops!

During their 1940 offensive in the West, the rapidly advancing Germans were able to capture hundreds of French tanks because the latter had simply ran out of petrol, French Army policy being to allocate only five hours of fuel per vehicle.

* * *

During WW1, the British discovered that their standard barbed wire cutters, which worked quite nicely on their own wire, couldn't cut the higher quality German variety.

* * *

On 1 August 1907 the "Aeronautical Division" of the U.S. Signal Corps was created - the germ of the modern U.S.A.F. - with a strength of one officer and two enlisted men, one of whom promptly deserted on discovering what he had volunteered for.

* * *

"They couldn't hit an elephant at this dist..." These were the last words of General John Sedgwick, sniped as he surveyed Confederate positions over the parapet of an earthwork at the Battle of Spotsylvania in 1864.

* * *

In 1793, an Austrian army was forced to surrender to the French at Mainz, because it lacked the cash to pay ferry fees across the Rhine River.

Useless Facts

Brazil got its name from the nut, not the other way around.

Istanbul, Turkey, is the only city located on two continents.

Canada has more lakes than the rest of the world combined.

A cockroach will live 9 days without its head before it starves to death.

Elephants are the only animal that cannot jump.

Starfish have no brains. [And I thought it was only politicians - Editor].

Banging your head against a wall uses 150 calories an hour.

If you yelled for 8 years, 7 months and 6 days you would have produced enough sound energy to heat one cup of coffee.

The Amazon rainforest produces 20% of the world's oxygen supply.

Last Post Register

In order that the KVAA Inc. can have a simple, expedient and affordable method of notifying members of the hospitalisation or death of other members of the KVAA Inc., Murray Inwood and John Duson have proposed that all members of the committee and appointed KVAA Inc. members share responsibility for *The Last Post* program as part of their duties. So what does this entail?

Committee and other KVAA Inc. appointees will be assigned six to ten members within similar postcode areas who register as part of the program. Each of these 'telephone tree' leaders will act as a point of contact for their members. They will bring to the attention of the Secretary any illness or death and also let the rest of the contact group know what is happening. The Secretary will in turn inform members who attend the monthly general meetings of the health of those members on the register and/or take suitable other actions, such as the arranging of wreaths, etc. on behalf of the KVAA Inc. In this way, it is hoped that no member will 'slip off the radar.' The committee of the KVAA Inc. urges you to join this telephone tree, especially if you are ill or in declining health.

Please cut here -----

Please include me on the *Last Post Register*. I understand this will facilitate the information to KVAA Inc. members that I am in hospital and may appreciate visitors. I also understand that this information will be used to notify me of the illness of a fellow member so that I may visit them in hospital should I wish to.

My name is: Telephone:

My address is:

State: Post Code:

Next of kin / carer's name:

Their address is:

State: Post Code:

Telephone (home): Telephone (mobile):

E-mail:

Please send to: **The Secretary, PO Box 2133, Rangeview, Victoria 3132**

The Hollywood Name Game

by Pilkington Orenthal Farnsworth III*

Do you remember the 1952 movie, *Scaramouche*, starring James Stewart and Janet Leigh. Sure you do. It contained the longest sword fight in film history, the massive duel between Stewart and Mel Ferrer. It was Stewart's only really decent film role, though he did play the lead in the 1950 flick, *King Solomon's Mines*.

What a minute, you cry! Wasn't that—

Hold on. There's a twist to this. You're thinking of James Stewart whereas I'm talking about James Stewart.

OK. Try this. Michael Douglas rose to stardom in the 1980s in pictures such as *Beetle Juice* and *Mr Mom* before playing the eponymous crime fighter in the 1989 Batman film and the 1992 sequel.

What a minute, you cry! Wasn't that—

Hold on. There's a twist to this. You're thinking of Michael Douglas whereas I'm talking about Michael Douglas.

Confused? Well, you won't be in a moment. You are perfectly correct. James Stewart never appeared in *Scaramouche* nor did Michael Douglas play Batman. I'm also correct. James Stewart starred in *Scaramouche* and Michael Douglas played the Caped Crusader.

Still confused. OK. Try this. A would-be actor in the 1940s by the name of James Stewart discovered that there was already an actor by that name, quite a famous one. He changed his name to Stewart Granger.

Michael Douglas had a similar problem. The son of Kirk already claimed the name. So Michael Douglas, the one who wasn't the son of Kirk, became Michael Keaton and later Batman.

Speaking of Batman, in the 2005 version, the role of Alfred the Butler was taken by that famous English actor, Michael Scott. You probably know him better as Maurice Micklewhite. No? That's why he changed his name to Michael Caine.

Speaking of Michael Douglas, Kirk's son and not the other one who wasn't Kirk's son, his real name should have been Michael Demsky. Luckily, his father long before changed his name from Issur Danielovitch Demsky to Kirk Douglas.

Having an Eastern European-sounding name was a sure guarantee of failure in Hollywood in the 20th century and probably still is. This is probably less to do with xenophobia and racism and more to do with pronouncing the names (or rather, mispronouncing them). After all, Walter Matasschanskayasky hardly slides off the tongue. But Walter Matthau does. Not convinced. Try Lazlo Loewenstein, Malden Sekulovich and Laruska Mischan, better known as Peter Lorre, Kal Malden and Laurence Harvey. Oh, let's not forget Goldie Studlendgehawn who dropped a few of the surplus syllables from her surname to become Goldie Hawn.

Speaking of dropping a few syllables... Silent screen heart-throb, Rudolph Valentino, had to discard most of his real name which was (deep breath here) Rodolpho Alphonzo Rafaelo Pierre Filibert Gugliemi di Valentina d'Antonguolla. Try putting that up in lights!

Would you pay good money to see a movie starring Cherilyn Sarkisian La Pierre and Charles Buchinski? Nope. Nor would I. Try instead singer/actress Cher and tough guy Charles Bronson. Other stars with unusual names who changed them are Gene Wilder (Jerry Silberman), Edward G. Robinson (Emmanuel Goldberg), Cyd Charisse (Tula Elice Finklea), Susan Hayward (Edythe Marrener) and Dean Martin (Dino Crocetti).

Of course, it works the other way too; stars who possessed perfectly ordinary names yet who changed them, probably because they were ordinary names. The trouble is they altered them to equally ordinary names. Richard Jenkins became Richard Burton, Julia Wells turned into Julie Andrews and Angeline Brown made a name for herself as Angie Dickinson. Admittedly, Leonard Sayle doesn't quite have the same cowboy authenticity as Roy Rogers and Humphrey Bogart probably wouldn't have enjoyed such a rapport with Lauren Bacall if she retained her real name of Betty Joan Perske.

This brings us to the African-American actress who changed her name from the very staid Caryn Johnson to the very Jewish sounding Whoopie Goldberg. Just as well she is a comedian.

Oh, yes, while I think of it. Tom Cruise's real name is Thomas Cruise Mapother IV. Explains a lot, doesn't it.

[Source: I Was a Fugitive from a Hollywood Trivia Factory by Aubrey Dillon-Malone]

* Pen name of Geoff Guilfoyle, chosen to avoid any confusion with Barbara Cartland.

Did You Know... Jumbo, Squeaker, Boy, Twinkletoes, Monkey, Dolly, Windy, Pug, Poppy, Fairy, Tiger, Dirty Dick, Dickey, Filthy Richard, Squeaker's Boy, Whacko, and Bubbles were all nicknames of British generals during World War II. (And these were just the complimentary ones).

Notices

New KVA President

Eh, no we're not talking about a 'palace coup' in which Tom Parkinson has overthrown Vic Dey as President of the KVAA Inc. This announcement concerns General (retired) Park Se-Hwan who has succeeded the late Dr Park Seh-jik (see last issue of *The Voice*) as President of the largest Korean War veteran body in the world, namely the Korean Veterans Association of South Korea which boasts a membership in the millions.

To say that Park Se-Hwan has enjoyed a brilliant career is something of an understatement. He graduated from Korea University with a BA in Political Science & Diplomacy. Further studies added an MA and Ph.D. in Personnel Management. As a young captain he took part in the Vietnam War (1967-1969) and rose steadily in the ranks thereafter. The late 80s saw him commanding the 12th Infantry Division before becoming Chief of Staff, 1st ROK Army then Commanding General, 2nd ROK Army from 1993-1995. After serving two terms in the ROK National Assembly (1996-2004), he became Army Vice-Chairman of the KVA before assuming his present position.

Bublacowie Military Museum

In 1943 the Bublacowie school, on the Yorke Peninsula west of Adelaide, closed down. Today the school is the renovated residence of Chris Soar, and the two acres surrounding it given over to native shrubs, wandering ducks and guinea fowl. A nice place for a picnic, oh, and a tour of the extensive museum Chris has put together.

A couple of KVAA members paid it a visit when in Adelaide and came away most impressed by the collection of medals, military equipment, uniforms, and the photographs and personal memorabilia of local servicemen who served in every conflict from WWI onwards. There is also quite a collection of Korean War memorabilia there. They recommend a visit if you are in the Yorke Peninsula over the Christmas holiday period. Admission is \$8 and the museum is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Sundays from 10am to 4 pm.

Cricket Bat Winner

The winner of the KVAA Inc. cricket bat raffle was Arthur Slee. With two cricket mad grandsons, his delight at winning gave way to perplexity as he realised that two into one won't go. Arthur has a tough decision to make. A neutral party, Ron Kucera, of the Stella Maris Seafarers Centre conducted the draw, which took place at the centre at the end of the Oct. 28 general meeting.

WRAAC 60th Anniversary

The WRAAC is celebrating its 60th birthday in February 2010. In NSW, this will take place at the WRAAC School site at Georges Heights in Sydney. Details are yet to be finalized; however the organisers envisage gathering on Saturday, 12 February, 2011 at the Guard House for a brief formal ceremony followed by lunch. For further details contact: ginny.jane@bigpond.com

Correction

The contact number for *Veteran Assist* as listed on this page in the last issue is not functioning. The DVA advise that the following numbers be used instead:

Home Service: 1300 550450

Home Maintenance, Safety & Health: 1800 801945

Korean Picnic Day

Each year the small but vibrant Melbourne Korean community holds a Korean New Year festival picnic at the H.A. Smith reserve in Kooyong. Next year they are looking at either Saturday 6 or 14 February 2010. Check with Vic Dey closer to the date for details.

President's Report (from page 3)

Heidelberg.

Unfortunately, another double up that was impossible to handle was the War Widows Guild of Australia Inc. annual luncheon being held the same day as our General Meeting. Duty called and all members of the Executive attended (the General meeting not the luncheon, that is).

On November 16th, Tom Parkinson and I went to Fountain Gate Secondary College. This meeting was arranged through the Shrine of Remembrance with the view of getting schools and ex-service organizations to adopt each other. Tom and I met with Wayne Smith the Community Links Co-ordinator, Neil Uwins the acting Principal and two senior students. We were taken on a tour of the school and opened discussions which should benefit both the school and our Association.

May I take this opportunity to wish the Wives/Widows and Members, indeed all supporters of our Association, a very merry and happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year. From June 2010 there will be 60th Anniversary celebrations for the actions and events that took place in Korea all those years ago.

Renewal Time

1st January 2010 to 31st December 2010

Members – \$20 Associate Members – \$10

Your subscriptions are the hub of the Association.

Please be **prompt** in your payment.

Please submit your renewal direct to:

The Treasurer, KVAA Inc. Gerry Steacy, 1 Kent Court, Werribee Vic 3030.

Renew Early and Win \$\$\$\$.
Renew your subscription before the end of the February 25th 2010 general meeting and go into the draw to win \$50.

Note: Please keep us informed of any address or telephone number changes. This is essential for any communication and to ensure that you receive your six issues of *The Voice*.

The Association would like to emphasise the following policy:

No KVAA Inc. members are dropped from the Association because of financial difficulties or sickness. Any member who experiences these difficulties please notify the Secretary or Treasurer in order that your membership remains within the Association. Information received concerning these matters will remain **confidential**.

Please cut here - - - - -

Renewal Details (Please Print)

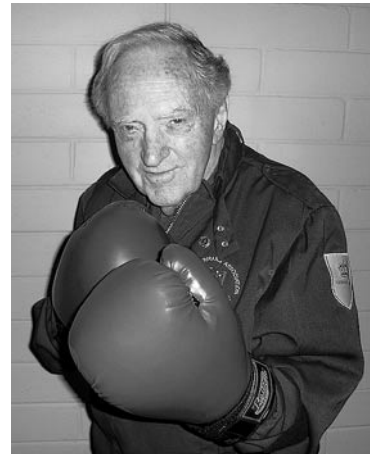
Name:	Address:
Telephone:
E-mail:
Signature:	State: Post Code:

Merchandise Available

KVAA Inc. pocket badge	\$10.00	\$
KVAA Inc. lapel badge	\$10.00	\$
KVAA Inc. windscreen decal	\$ 5.00	\$
Korean War bumper sticker	\$ 2.50	\$
Korean War map (laminated)	\$ 6.00	\$
Kapypong battle print	\$ 5.00	\$
RAN print: Ships in Korea	\$ 5.00	\$
Tie (with KVAA inc. logo)	\$20.00	\$
Korea Veteran caps	\$10.00	\$
Car number plate surrounds (set)	\$10.00	\$
	TOTAL ...	\$

Please put a check beside each article requested and insert the dollar total.

Renew NOW else the President will get very angry – and you don't wanna get the President angry *



* He quickly falls to pieces. The sight of him sobbing quietly in the corner is not a pretty one. So please spare us this and renew now - Editor.

Subscription:	\$	_____
Donation:*	\$	_____
Merchandise:*	\$	_____
(from above list)		
* Optional	TOTAL:	\$ _____

Good News! - The Voice Price Increase
The Committee of the KVAA Inc. is delighted to announce that subscription fees are going up from \$20 to \$25 (members) and from \$10 to \$15 (associates). So how is this good news for you? It doesn't kick in until Jan. 2011, so you have 12 months grace. However, your small saving of \$5 translates to hundreds of dollars loss to the KVAA. So if you can afford to do so, an extra \$15, \$25, \$35, or more, donation will be much appreciated.

**Remember:
Renew Early and Win \$\$\$\$.**

T'was the Night Before Christmas

Author unknown

T'was the night before Christmas – Old Santa was pissed
He cussed out the elves and threw down his list
Miserable little brats, ungrateful little jerks
I have a good mind to scrap the whole works

I've busted my ass for damn near a year
Instead of "Thanks Santa" – what do I hear
The old lady bitches cause I work late at night
The elves want more money – The reindeer all fight
Rudolph got drunk and goosed all the maids
Donner is pregnant and Vixen has AIDS

And just when I thought that things would get better
Those assholes from ATO sent me a letter
They say I owe taxes – if that ain't damn funny
Who the hell ever sent Santa Clause money?

And the kids these days – they all are the pits
They want the impossible... Those mean little shits
I spent a whole year making wagons and sleds
Assembling dolls... Their arms, legs and heads
I made a ton of yo yos – No request for them
They want computers and robots – they think I'm IBM!

If you think that's bad... just picture this
Try holding those brats... with their pants full of piss
They pull on my nose – they grab at my beard
And if I don't smile... their moms think I'm weird

Flying through the air, dodging the trees
Falling down chimneys and skinning my knees
I'm quitting this job; there's just no enjoyment
I'll sit on my fat ass and draw unemployment

There's no Christmas this year. Now you know the reason
I found me a blonde; I'm going to Noosa for the season!
I'll laze in the sun – into bed I'll get tucked
And those snotty nosed brats – can go and get—

Merry Christmas Everyone!

Odd Spot

At 92, Dame Vera Lynn is the oldest living artist to notch a best-selling record in Britain when her collection of World War II-era songs, *We'll meet Again: The Very Best of Vera Lynn*, shot to No. 1 on the U.K. album charts. Lynn's 24-song compilation co-incided with the 70th anniversary of the start of WWII.

From *Time Australia*,
5th October 2009

A Batty Idea

One of the weapons tested by the US government during the Second World War was a bomb attached to a bat. The furry winged mammal and not the sports variety. A Pennsylvania dentist named Lytle Adams came up with this batty idea. His plan was to fit incendiary devices to thousands of bats which would then be released from bombers over Japanese cities. The bats would come down to roost and, when they exploded, set the cities alight. Somehow Adams gained access to President Roosevelt who gave the go-ahead for experiments with booby-trapped bats; however, unsurprisingly, these trials proved unsuccessful and the bat-bombs were never used. The USAF eventually achieved the same result by simply dropping bombs on the cities.

[Source: BBC History Magazine, Vol. 10, No. 8]

Farewells

Edwin (Ron) Bowman
on 29 October 2009
6400094 3RAR

Raymond Clark
on 16 October 2009
1/7005 3RAR

Maxwell Foxley Wallington
on 10 October 2009
51449 3RAR

David Kayler-Thomson MBE MC
on 16 November 2009
525 1RAR

Lindsay Stanger
32176, RAAF 77 Squadron

The Ode

They shall grow not old,
As we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them,
Nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun,
and in the morning
We will remember them.
LEST WE FORGET