

# THE VOICE

August 2011 Edition

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## Memorial Service Address

*The following was delivered by KVAA Inc. National President, Vic Dey, at the Korean War Memorial Service, Korean Church of Melbourne, on Sunday 26 June 2011. (Note: slightly edited version).*

After the passing of 6 decades since most of us – we Australian ex-servicemen – came home from the Korean War, I'm sure that in our minds, there are still vivid memories of the devastation and destruction we witnessed during our service there. And I'm sure that those memories will never fade away.

But the downside of those far away days has been replaced by the magnitude of peace and friendship when we enter this church. From the Ministers of this Church, and of course, the full congregation, there has always been a special warm greeting on arrival and the hand of friendship extended to all visitors who attend your annual memorial service, this year being the year of the 50th anniversary of friendship between our countries.

The older Korean members in attendance here today, like your elder Kim Dong-up, would quite clearly remember those far off days of the Korean War, and the absolute chaos that the country was in, but to the credit of people like Kim Dong-up, and the generations that followed him, since the war, South Korea has prospered and progressed, to become a prominent nation in the Free World.

We Australians, along with the other nations involved in the Korean War, are extremely proud of our participation, in helping South Korea and it's people in their hour of need, and we are also honoured to be here with you today, to share with you this time of prayer – this time of reflection – and to embrace you in the name of friendship.

This year we have nine grand-children attending the third *Peace Camp for Youth* in Korea. This is another wonderful gesture from the people of South Korea towards our grand-children who will see a very modern, prosperous and vibrating city, full of sincere, warm-hearted people. What a fantastic experience for them, and one I am sure that they will never forget.

On behalf of the wives, widows and veterans present here today, I again express our sincere thanks to the Ministers, and to the congregation of this church, for hosting and sharing this Memorial Service with us.

May God bless you all.

### 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  
Australian Korea Veterans Association Inc.

### Allied Associations

Australian Peacekeepers and Peacemaker Veterans' Association Inc.



# Life Members

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 Rev. Burne Brooker†  
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 John Burke†  
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†Deceased

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 Tasmania: George Hutchinson 03 6275 0762 South Australia: John Bennett 08 8556 7288  
 Albury-Wodonga: Rocky Camps 02 6024 7241 or 0408 690 820

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## Website

www.austkoreavets.asn.au

## Merchandise Available

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

**TOTAL . . . \$ \_ \_ \_**

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

Surname: ..... Given Names: .....

Address: ..... (Please Print)

State: ..... Post Code: .....

Cheques or money orders should be made out to:

The Treasurer, KVAA Inc., 1 Kent Court, Werribee 3030, Victoria

## President's Report

The Korean Church of Melbourne held their annual Memorial Ceremony on June 26th. It was, as always, a warm and sincere service, the congregation extending the hand of friendship to all visiting veterans, our wives and widows. The manner that they welcomed us and the hospitality given to each individual present is of course deeply appreciated by the Australian contingent.

After receiving and accepting a dinner invitation from his excellency, Dr Woosang Kim, Ambassador for the Republic of Korea, my wife and I were excited to learn that the dinner was to be held at the Eureka Towers building in Melbourne. The occasion was the 50th anniversary of diplomatic ties between Korea and Australia, and also to bid to farewell to Ambassador Kim, who is returning to Korea. A wonderful night, a wonderful host and a chance to say goodbye to a thorough gentleman and friend to our Association. I'm sure we all wish him well in his future postings.

Our Commemoration Day Service at the Shrine on Saturday 30th July was marred by a little rain during the ceremony. But with the RAAF Band leading us, students from Fountain Gate Secondary College bearing the flags, and in the presence of the Hon. Ted Baillieu, Premier of Victoria; the Hon. Ryan Smith MLA; Mr Leo Hammond, DVA; Sqd Leader Ron Ledingham, Shrine Governor; Mr Mark Ahn, President Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Vicki Walters, Principal of the Fountain Gate Secondary College, we marched proudly to the Pool of Reflection. Our Guest Speaker, Dr Rosalie Triolo, Lecturer Faculty & Education, Monash University, spoke extremely well in trying conditions.

We send our Queensland comrades our best wishes for the Korean War Memorial Ceremony at Cascade Gardens on the Gold Coast on August 20th. Our DVA Delegate, Ivan Ryan, will represent our Association at this Dedication Ceremony. After all the hard work it should be a wonderful day for all present. If our interstate delegates, or indeed any member has newsworthy information from their own State, please feel free to send it to us. Your input is important.

## The Forgotten Anniversary

2010 and 2011 were, and are, crowded with significant WWII and Korean War anniversaries. Some, such of the 65th anniversary of the commissioning of *HMAS Tobruk*, are relatively minor, and most concern notable battles, such as Kapyong or the siege of Tobruk.

Yet one anniversary has gone virtually unremarked. An entire military campaign. It has been 60 years since Greece and Crete fell to the Germans and the Allies precipitously evacuated the area.

In early 1941, the war in the Mediterranean was going splendidly for the Allies, with the Italians on the retreat everywhere, especially in Libya where in 61 days from the start of the 9th December 1940 offensive, the Allies, including the 6th Australian division, advanced 400 miles and captured 130,000 Italian troops and a mountain of supplies. There was now nothing preventing the Allies pressing on to Tripoli and driving the Italians out of North Africa entirely. Then Churchill intervened, and in doing so probably made his single greatest blunder of WWII.

The Italian invasion of Greece in 1940 fared as well as every other Italian invasion of WWII. The Greeks not only halted it but in places drove the invader back. Despite this, the Greeks felt themselves in a desperate position and requested British help.

Churchill jumped at the opportunity to open a new military and diplomatic front against Germany and, ignoring all objections, stripped North Africa of most of its best units. A coup against the pro-Axis government of Yugoslavia and the intervention in Greece by Britain led to the inevitable military response from the Germans.

Unfortunately for the Allies, faulty deployment, a muddled chain of command, unclear objectives, and misunderstandings with the Greeks, led to disaster when the Germans launched *Operation Marita* on 6th April 1941.

The campaign lasted a mere 27 days and was one continuous retreat for the Allies, leading to the evacuation of over 50,000 troops by the Royal Navy, most to the island of Crete where they arrived exhausted and with few supplies or heavy weapons.

On 20th May, the Germans launched the first airborne invasion in history when they landed 10,000 airborne troops onto the island. Despite taking heavy casualties they captured Maleme airfield allowing in a steady flow of reinforcements. Seven days later, a second Allied evacuation began, but this time only 12,00 troops escaped.

Around 23,500 Australians took part in the Greece/Crete campaign of whom around 600 died, 1000 were wounded, and more than 5,000 went into captivity.

When the now diminished Allies resumed the task of kicking the Italians out of North Africa, they encountered the newly arrived General Erwin Rommel and his Africa Korps backed by elements of the Luftwaffe. This led to two unnecessary extra years of hard fighting before North Africa was finally and irreversibly in Allied hands.

Churchill himself had no regrets about the Greek enterprise, believing it achieved its political aims and that the concluding stages in Greece had been a glorious episode in the history of British arms.

Those who did the actual fighting and dying might disagree.

# Notices

## Korea: In From the Cold

International Conference, 6-7 October 2011

Where: Australian War Memorial, Canberra, BAE Systems Theatre

Prices: Pre-sale registration – limited numbers \$280 / Registration \$320 / Concession rate \$299  
(Conference dinner on 6 October 2011, optional \$60)

Registration includes a welcome reception at the Embassy of the Republic of Korea on the evening of 5 October 2011. Registration closes 28 September 2011. To register, and for more information, go to [www.awm.gov.au/events/conference/2011](http://www.awm.gov.au/events/conference/2011). A *You Tube* preview of the conference is available at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Br-Jz56o4wo>

*Keynote Address:*

Professor Robert O'Neill AO (Australian Official Historian of the Korean War)

*Presentations:*

Professor Allan R. Millett – Understanding the forgotten war: The United States and Korea, 1945-1954

Professor Xiaobing Li – China's war for Korea

Associate Professor Jongnam Na – The transformation of the ROK Army, 1950-53

Dr Richard Hallion – The Air War in Korea: Coalition airpower in the context of limited war

Cameron Forbes – Fighting in the giant's playground: Australians in the Korean War

Professor David Horner AM – Australian higher command in the Korean War

Sir William Purves CBE, DSO – A Borderer remembers

Brigadier Colin Kahn DSO, AM (Ret'd) – Reliving minor tactics: a platoon commander's war in Korea

Support us by becoming a *Friend of the Memorial*. Go to [www.awm.gov.au/participate/friends](http://www.awm.gov.au/participate/friends)

*[Editor's addendum: for anyone with an interest in the Korean War, this is THE conference to attend. You are unlikely to ever again have such a stellar collection of historians and veterans gathered together in one room.]*

## Awarding of US Air Medals

Media release from the Defence Media Centre ([mediacentre@media.defence.gov.au](mailto:mediacentre@media.defence.gov.au)), Monday, 27 June 2011

The Minister for Defence Science and Personnel, Warren Snowdon, congratulated the 11 veterans of the Korean War who were awarded the United States Air Medal for service in Korea. The awards were presented by the United States Ambassador, His Excellency Jeffrey L Bleich, in Canberra.

The medals have been awarded to 11 veterans, from the R.A.A.F.'s Number 77 Squadron, who flew in support of the 5th United States Air Force during the Korean War. Authorised by President Roosevelt in 1942, the US Air Medal is awarded to any person who, while serving in any capacity in or with the armed forces of the U.S.A., shall have distinguished himself by meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight.

The recipients are: Sergeant Ronald Bastin (Forster, NSW) / Sergeant Peter Coy (Sunshine Coast, QLD) / Flying Officer Ronald Guthrie (Newcastle, NSW) / Sergeant William Monaghan (Canberra, ACT) / Flight Lieutenant Hartley Shearn (Adelaide, SA) / Sergeant Spencer Seaver (Sydney, NSW) / Sergeant Billie Collings (Canberra, ACT) / Sergeant Robert Macintosh (Adelaide, SA) / Pilot Officer John Newham (Sydney, NSW) / Sergeant John Seaton (Sydney, NSW) / Squadron Leader Ross Glassop (Sydney, NSW) [posthumous].

*Note: media release trimmed and rearranged by Editor.*

## Club Sori Performance

The April edition of *The Voice* carried a notice about Club Sori, a Melbourne-based cultural club performing Korean traditional music and dance. At 5 pm on Saturday 27 August, Club Sori has an event – *2011 Harmony of Drums II* – at the Glen Eira Town Hall auditorium (corner Glen Eira & Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield). Adults \$15, Concession \$5.

## MIA Website

As you should know by now (and shame on you if you don't) the 'go to' man for information and updates on MIAs from the Korean War is Ian Saunders. Ian now has a website up and running, offering progress reports on the subject and links to media articles, plus a few extras such as an overview of the conflict. You'll find it at [www.ausmiakoreanwar.net.au](http://www.ausmiakoreanwar.net.au)

## Extra Grandchild Accepted

Another grandchild – bringing the number of our successful nominees to nine – was accepted for, and attended, the *2011 Peace Camp for Youth*: Samuel Heath-Dray. He is the grandson of Merv Heath (ex-*HMAS Tobruk* and our NSW delegate).

# 61st Anniversary Service

## Commemorating the commencement of the Korea War (1950-1953)

The Shrine of Remembrance, Saturday, 30 July 2011



(l-r) Keith Langdon and John Duson anchor the banner, Vic Dey and John Brownbill, guest speaker, Dr. Rosalie Triolo with Tom Parkinson providing weather protection, and Sqd Leader Ron Ledingham, Shrine Governor, braving the rain.

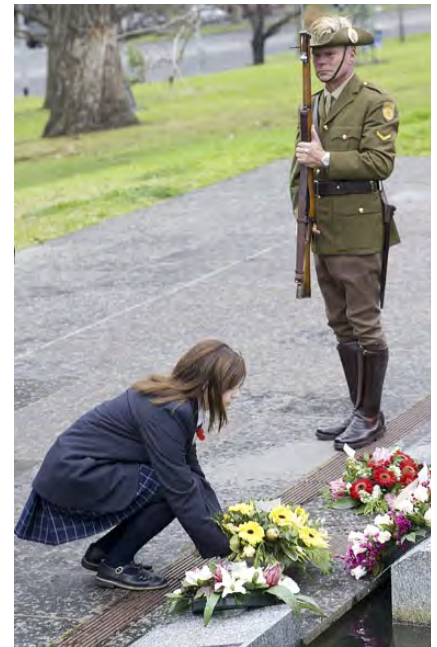
The march to the Poll of Reflection in wind-driven drizzle.



John Moller placing a wreath on behalf of the KVAA Inc.



The delegate from the Premier's Department representing the Premier and State of Victoria turned out to be the Hon., Ted Baillieu, the Premier himself.



School Captain, Sally Northey, places a wreath on behalf of the teachers and students of the Fountain Gate Secondary College



(l-r) The Hon. Ryan Smith, MLA; the Premier of Victoria, the Hon. Ted Baillieu,; Vic Dey, President KVAA Inc.; Mark Ahn, President, Korean Chamber of Commerce & Industry (Melb.) and Sqd Leader Ron Ledingham, Shrine Governor.



The Hon. Ryan Smith, MLA, meeting students (and future voters) from the Fountain Gate Secondary College.

# Notices II

## AVCAT 2012 Scholarships

Scholarships, Bursaries and Grants for Children of Veterans intending Tertiary Studies in 2012

Opens 18 August 2011 - Closes on 31 October 2011

The Australian Veterans' Children Assistance Trust (AVCAT) gives financial assistance to help selected children and grandchildren of the Australian Ex-Service Community with the costs of tertiary education. Selection is of the most deserving candidates of merit, who, without our help, would be unable to start or complete studies without financial difficulty. Applicants are considered for all schemes for which they are eligible.

### *Long Tan Bursary:*

The largest scheme is the Long Tan Bursary funded by the Australian Government. Each year there are 50 new bursaries valued at \$9,000 each, which is paid at \$3,000 per year for three years. To be eligible you must be: the child of an Australian Vietnam Veteran, be resident in Australia, be enrolled or planning to enrol in any year of tertiary study having not previously received a Long Tan Bursary.

### *Other Scholarships:*

The other national schemes are the AVCAT Bursary, the RSL Scholarship, Vietnam Veterans' Peacekeepers and Peacemakers Scholarship, Legacy Australia Scholarship and the George Quinsey Scholarship – which directly pays tuition fees for economics, commerce and accountancy studies.

There are also regional scholarships. In NSW, there is the Brisbane Water Legacy Scholarship covering Gosford/Wyong NSW and the NSW TPI Association Scholarship. In SA, the VVAA also offers a Scholarship. There are also some private donors offering scholarships to NSW resident applicants.

Schemes vary between \$3,000 and \$5,000 per year each. Some are restricted to location of residence or studies. Most require operational service in Vietnam but others are broader in eligibility criteria. In addition to the above there is one grant per year to assist a handicapped eligible veteran's child or grandchild with special extra costs of transition to tertiary studies or employment.

To apply you must be:

- a. Within the means test, i.e. eligible on assets and income grounds for the Youth Allowance benefit for full time education.
- b. Enrolled, or planning to enrol in a full-time course of tertiary education in Australia by attendance at a university, TAFE or college. The course must be of one or more academic years in length and should be at undergraduate level (some exceptions).
- c. The child or grandchild of a person who has operational service with the Australian Navy, Army or Air Force, or three or more year's continuous full-time service as a member of the Australian Defence Force.
- d. Under the age of 25 when applying, unless exceptional circumstances related to veteran's service exist.

One application form covers all the scholarships. To receive an application form, register your interest on 1800 620 361, or by email: [avcat@dva.gov.au](mailto:avcat@dva.gov.au), or download it from our website at: [www.avcat.org.au](http://www.avcat.org.au)

AVCAT Scholarship Officer, Aust. Veterans' Children Assistance Trust, PO Box K978, Haymarket NSW 1240

## **Veteran Assist**

Veteran Assist is a private local company that is contracted to the Department of Veteran Affairs. We conduct HomeFront assessments for all Gold, White & War Widows who have a gold card, regardless of health status, age & accommodation.

We make an appointment to see the veteran in their own home. We show the veteran the products on offer this calendar year up to the value of \$196. The veteran chooses the products and we order these for them. The items are used for the home and come under the 'falls prevention program'. Items chosen are to prevent falls such as retractable hose reels, sensor light, night light, non slip mats, cordless telephones just to name a few. The assessment takes approx 30 minutes. It is at no cost to the veteran. The items are posted to the veteran and takes approx 4 weeks to arrive from Melbourne at no cost to the veteran.

The uptake rate of HomeFront is only 4%. Our mission is to increase awareness of HomeFront and to service the veteran community Australia Wide!. So, to do this, we need your help in spreading the word. So please forward this email on to all of your veteran friends.

We have a 1800 telephone number which is free for all veterans calling from Australia. Please advise all your veteran friends about HomeFront and to call us to arrange for a local assessor to see them.

Please contact veteran assist on 1800 257788

Ceri & Rhian Lewis (Veteran Assist)

# Following in the Footsteps of our Grandfathers

by Tara Boyd

My Grandfather [Ron Ridley] was the one who first told me about the *Peace Camp for Youth* in Korea. I was very excited to participate in this camp, as I had never been to Korea before; nor did I know much about the history of the Korean War.

I was one of nine Australians who went on this trip, along with other descendants of Korean War veterans



The Australian participants at the War Memorial. (l-r): Kieren Scally, Karl Maciejewski, Nikki Anderson, Peter Sutterby, Claire Sutterby, Olivia Thomas, Sam Heath-Dray, Rhianna Healey and Tara Boyd.

from many other countries. When we arrived in Seoul we were greeted by Korean volunteer helpers on the camp. They showed us to our accommodation at Hankuk University. For the next week we had an intense itinerary packed full of tours and activities. We attended informative lectures about the Korean War and the lives of North and South Koreans, visited the Gyeongbuk Gung Palace in Seoul, experienced traditional Korean dress, made masks, and learnt a traditional mask dance.

We also visited the Seoul National Cemetery where the bodies of Korean fallen soldiers are buried, had an interesting tour of the War Memorial, and visited The United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Busan where the bodies of many troops including Australians are buried. Later on in the week, we visited the Demilitarised Zone on the border of North and South Korea. We saw Panmunjom where

the 1953 Korean Armistice Agreement was signed, and witnessed the hostility that still exists today between the North and South Koreans. The tour guides and helpers were very friendly and hospitable. They made our time in Korea, not only enjoyable, but also educational.

I had such a great time meeting new people and experiencing new things. I learnt so much about the history of Korea, the life and times of those who fought in the Korean War, and the current situation in Korea today. This was an invaluable experience and really made me appreciate the journey that our grandfathers made. I feel as if I have a better knowledge and understanding of my grandfather's time in Korea, and I will never forget my experience on the Peace Camp. Thank you to the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs in Korea, the Korean Veterans Association Australia, and all of our grandfathers for this wonderful opportunity.



The author laying a flower at the plaque for Australians who died in the Korean War.

[Editor: Thanks also to Merv Heath for the related material he sent me. Too much good stuff; too little space!]

## Germany's Stealth Aircraft

Among the many German secret weapons experiments in World War 11 was one near the end of the conflict which was attempting to develop radar-absorbant materials for aircraft. Called *Schornsteinfeger* ("Chimney Sweep"), the experiments made use of a thick bituminous di-electric paint heavily laced with carbon to absorb a large part of a radar signal striking it and thus preclude an echo from registering on the operator's scope. Fortunately the material did not work well. Depending on the thickness of the material, it absorbed specific wavelengths only, and thus an application of the substance to a fuselage would be useful against only one particular frequency. Radars using any other frequency would be unaffected and could "spot" the aircraft. In addition, no matter how thick, the material was ineffective against high powered radar, so the project was eventually dropped. A question remains: Did the U.S. Department of Defense know about this technology during the development of its Stealth bomber?

Source: Strategy & Tactics magazine No. 89

# Out & About

## Wreath Laying at Altona Cenetaph 22 June 2011



(l-r) Peter Brooks, Tom Cooks, Jim Boxshall, John Moller, Alan Riches, Tom Parkinson, George Coleman, Vic Dey, Arthur Slee, Alan Evered, Arthur Roach, Gerry Steacy.

## Korean War Memorial Service Korean Church of Melbourne, Malvern Sunday, 26 June 2011



## Plaque Dedication

Kilcoy RSL, Queensland, Tuesday, 26 July 2011



Kelly Frawley placing a wreath. The stone was donated by one of the social members.

## Stella Maris Seafarers Centre Saturday, 30 July 2011



Two widows of 3rd Battalion soldiers displaying the sashes presented to widows of battalian veterans.



Joan Ryan presenting to Chaplain, John Brownbill, an album of photos of functions/events he has attended over the last 20 years and many of the people he knew/knows. To borrow an analogy from the music industry, consider it a sort of "Best of the Rev." album.



## The Highest Toll

The British and American experience was not typical of combat in the Second World War. Of the roughly 20 million combat deaths in the war, the British and the Americans accounted for less than 600,000, and even if deaths among troops of the dominion countries and other western Allies are included, the total is still well below 1 million. At least two thirds of the military deaths in the war occurred on the eastern front. Here it was a war of unimaginable brutality and atrocities, deliberately perpetrated by both sides – in the case of the Soviet Union, often against its own troops.

By March 1945 the German army in the east had suffered total casualties of nearly 6.2 million (including about 2.3 million killed), twice its total strength at the beginning of the campaign in June 1941. Soviet figures are not clear, partly because of the very high death rate among prisoners of war, but the most accurate estimate suggests at least 13 million killed and probably about the same number wounded...

Although German casualty levels were high, those of the Soviet forces were far worse because of the profligate way in which they used men and equipment. In the first five months of the German attack, between June and November 1941, the Soviets lost combat aircraft at the rate of 45 percent of their frontline strength every month, tanks at a rate of 41 percent, and artillery, 51 percent. These extraordinary loss rates were not simply the result of the severe defeats and massive encirclements of this phase of the campaign; when the Soviets went onto the offensive their loss rates were generally the same, and some even rose. Even after the summer of 1944, when the outcome of the campaign was no longer in doubt and the Soviets had a huge material superiority, they were still losing 2,000 tanks, 3,000 aircraft, and 10,000 artillery pieces every month. The Soviet loss of tanks was stupendous, even when the Red Army was battle-hardened.

In the retreat to Stalingrad in the summer of 1942 the Soviets lost eight tanks for every German tank: in the drive back to the Dnieper it was still six to one; and in the battles of 1944 it was four to one. In two months, January and February 1944, the German Army Group South alone destroyed nearly 4,000 Soviet tanks, far more than the Germans deployed on the whole front in June 1941. Human losses were on a similar scale, almost six times higher than the German figure. Even allowing for the huge losses in 1941, Soviet losses were still three and a half times German losses...

This destruction was primarily caused by Soviet tactics, which were characterized by repeated attacks (often five or six times) employing no initiative or variation until breakthrough was finally achieved. Infantry units were not normally expected to survive longer than about ten days, and so were provided only with supplies that they could carry. Units did not normally receive reinforcements. Whole divisions or corps would almost be destroyed before being withdrawn and then rebuilt from scratch.

Special penal and punishment battalions were set up in the autumn of 1942 and carried out the most dangerous tasks, such as walking across minefields in order to clear pathways. In snowy conditions they wore black uniforms rather than white arctic clothing in order to draw enemy fire. Discipline was kept by special N.K.V.D. (secret police) and SMERSH security squads of about fifteen to twenty men per division and a network of informers that may have amounted to about one in eight members of the army. Behind the front line were "rear-area" security units, about six regiments per front, which were used as "blocking detachments" to stop retreats and if necessary shoot their own troops. Discipline was harsh. Many members of the armed forces, such as Alexander Solzhenitsyn, were sent to the Gulag camps and others were shot on the spot.

Despite this level of internal control the Red Army often disintegrated. During 1941, N.K.V.D. reports disclosed widespread drunkenness, panic, incompetence, and self-inflicted wounds, all of which was partly countered by the security units rounding up people almost at random and shooting them in front of their regiments. Nevertheless, in the last six months of 1942 German forces reported over 60,000 Soviet troops crossing to German lines and as late as the summer of 1943 deserters still accounted for nearly two thirds of Soviet prisoners of war.

Source: Clive Ponting, *Armageddon*, Random House, 1995

## A Failure to Sink

At the start of World War II, the submarine fleet of the Soviet Union was the largest in the world. By the end of the war in Europe, it also had proved to be the most useless. In comparison to the Germans, who lost 777 submarines to sink 2,798 Allied ships (14.25 million tons), or the Americans who lost 80 submarines in sinking 1113 Japanese merchantmen (4.75 million tons), the USSR lost 80 submarines sinking 100 German merchantmen for a paltry 280,000 tons. If Soviet submarine warfare was bad, their anti-submarine warfare was worse. The entire (very large) Soviet navy during the entire conflict definitely sank three U-Boats (with two more unconfirmed). Fortunately, the Red Army and airforce both proved more effective, well, mostly, after 1942 anyway.

Source: *War in the East: The Russo-German Conflict, 1941-45* by the staff of *S&T Magazine*, Simulations Publications Inc. 1977

## Notices III



### Army Magazine

For those of you with an interest in matters pertaining to the Australian army, an on-line magazine is available: *Army, the Soldiers' Newspaper*. You can browse and/or download the pages from: [http://digital.realviewtechnologies.com/?xml=defencenews\\_army.xml](http://digital.realviewtechnologies.com/?xml=defencenews_army.xml)

### Western Front Projects

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Warren Snowdon, has announced Australian Government funding to further honour Australian service on the Western Front during the First World War.

Whilst visiting the site of one of the key battles of World War One at, Passchendaele in Belgium, Mr Snowdon said the Australian Government will provide A\$270,000 to help enhance the *Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917* in Zonnebeke, Belgium. The existing museum will be expanded to house exhibitions from nations which took part in the Battle of Passchendaele and display artefacts linked to nearby battlefields and interpretive displays.

Mr Snowdon said Australia's most significant contribution to victory in the First World War was made on the Western Front, and in particular at Passchendaele. "In eight weeks of fighting in and around Passchendaele the Australian Army suffered around 38,000 casualties including more than 11,200 who were killed in action or died of wounds. To this day, that period remains Australia's most costly experience of war.

The enhanced museum will form part of the Australian Remembrance Trail along the Western Front, which is being established by the Australian Government in conjunction with French and Belgian communities, and local Governments.

The Remembrance Trail will link sites of the most significant Australian battles of the First World War including Ypres and Zonnebeke in Belgium, and Fromelles, Bullecourt, Pozières, Mont St Quentin, Le Hamel and Villers-Bretonneux in France.

For more information on the Trail visit [www.dva.gov.au/media](http://www.dva.gov.au/media).

### Roy Sanders

Martin James is interested in talking with any veteran who served with his father, Roy Albert Sanders (22685 3RAR) in Korea. If you were in Korea with Roy Sanders, or know someone who was, you can e-mail Martin directly at [martin\\_james@bigpond.com](mailto:martin_james@bigpond.com) or contact the Editor.

### The Tenth

After about 15 years of research Richard Barry is about to self-publish his hard cover book entitled *The Tenth*. The book will be around 600 pages and contain about 270 photographs or images (mostly in colour) sent in by veterans.

The book is about the *Tenth Intake* (one of 30 National Service intakes that occurred between 1964 and 1972). The book contains comical stories, sad events, controversial incidents plus songs and poetry from the time written by some rather laconic wits. It is the personal reflection of one civilian who went from a bank teller to a forward scout.

Orders are now being taken and only a handful remains from the first print. If further substantial orders are received the printer will be approached for a second run. This is not a money making exercise and Richard is happy to only recoup his expenses. The cost is \$60 plus \$15 for special packaging and postage anywhere in Australia.

Please send a cheque/money order in favour of Yvonne Barry at PO Box 43, Narrabri NSW 2390. Contact 02 6792 3114 or [richyvon47@hotmail.com](mailto:richyvon47@hotmail.com)

### New DFRDB Justice Web Site

If you have an interest in DFRB and DFRDB (Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefit) pensions then there is a new website for you. Overseen by Gordon White, it offers articles, links, contacts, and even a forum on all aspects of veteran's pensions. You'll find it at: <http://dfrdb.com>

### Cruising Concessions

Carnival Australia (incorporating P&O Cruises Australia, Princess Cruises and Cunard) are giving serving and ex-service personnel a \$250.00 onboard credit when taking a cruise on any of their vessels. To obtain the credit, you need to send a copy of proof of your service (Discharge Certificate, Certificate of Service), when making your booking to: Defence Benefits, PO Box 2006, North Sydney, NSW 2059, or fax: 0284249161 or email: [defencebenefits@carnivalaustralia.com](mailto:defencebenefits@carnivalaustralia.com)

You then receive confirmation of the credit. Carry this with your Cruise paperwork when boarding. If you have already booked a future cruise, but had not applied for the credit, then as well as your copy of proof of service, you need to send your cruise details (Cruise number, departure date, etc.).

## Officer Performance Reports

*Do any of these fit any officer you served under?*

- His men would follow him anywhere, but only out of curiosity.
- He is really not so much of a has-been as a definitely won't-be.
- He would be out of his depth in a car park puddle.
- He has delusions of adequacy.
- He has the wisdom of youth and the energy of old age.
- He is depriving a village somewhere of an idiot.
- Got into the gene pool while the lifeguard wasn't watching.
- A gross ignoramus – 144 times worse than an ordinary ignoramus
- A photographic memory but with the lens cover glued on.
- A prime candidate for natural deselection.
- One-celled organisms outscore him in IQ tests.
- Donated his brain to science before he was done using it.
- Fell out of the family tree.
- Gates are down, the lights are flashing, but the train isn't coming.
- Has two brains: one is lost and the other is out looking for it.
- He's so dense, light bends around him.
- If brains were taxed, he'd get a rebate.
- If he were any more stupid, he'd have to be watered twice a week.
- If you give him a penny for his thoughts, you'd get change.
- If you stand close enough to him, you can hear the ocean.
- Some drink from the fountain of knowledge; he only gargled.
- Takes him an hour and a half to watch *60 Minutes*.
- Wheel is turning, but the hamster is dead.

## Caught by Accident

Between 1945 and 1972, Britain's security services captured only one Soviet spy without American help – and even that was by accident. In April 1952, an MI5 surveillance expert was on his way home for lunch when, as he got off a bus in Kingston, London, he spotted a Soviet diplomat talking to a young man. The unknown man was trailed and found to be a 24-year-old radio operator named William Marshall, who worked for Britain's Diplomatic Wireless Service, handling secret radio transmissions to and from British embassies around the world. Three months later, Marshall was caught red-handed selling secrets to the Russian diplomat and was jailed for five years.

Source: *Book of Facts*, Reader's Digest (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., 1994

## Window, a Real Pain.

The first "electronic countermeasure" was used by the British early on 25 July in 1943 when the pathfinders of a 746-plane raid on Hamburg dropped strips of aluminum foil code-named "Window." The *Window* was cut to the wavelength of the German ground controllers' radar and turned the blips of the night bombers into a cloud of hundreds of false targets. Without radar-directed ground control, interceptors and flak were relatively ineffective – losses amounted to 12 heavy bombers instead of the 45 bombers that would have been the usual losses for a target like Hamburg. *Window* was used again and again during the war with great success. During their invasion of Czechoslovakia in '68, the Warsaw Pact dropped so much *Window*-style chaff that it fell along the border and was visible for days.

Source: *Strategy & Tactics* magazine No. 86.

## New Rules 1940

The British 'stiff upper lip' was never displayed to better effect than during The Blitz as shown by the temporary rules introduced in 1940 by the Richmond Golf Club, located near London.

### Temporary Rules 1940

1. Players are asked to collect Bomb and Shrapnel splinters to save these causing damage to the mowing machines.
2. In competitions, during gunfire or while bombs are falling players may take cover without penalty for ceasing play.
3. The positions of known delayed action bombs are marked by red flags at a reasonably, but not guaranteed, safe distance therefrom.
4. Shrapnel and/or bomb splinters on the fairways, or in bunkers within a club's length of a ball, may be moved without penalty, and no penalty shall be incurred if a ball is thereby caused to move accidentally.
5. A ball moved by enemy action may be replaced, or if lost or destroyed, a ball may be dropped nor nearer the hole without penalty.
6. A ball lying in a crater may be lifted and dropped not nearer the hole, preserving the line to the hole, without penalty.
7. A player whose stroke is affected by the simultaneous explosion of a bomb may play another ball from the same place. Penalty one stroke.

# Notices IV

## Open Invitation

The Royal Aust. Regiment Assoc. (QLD) Inc.  
Presents a

“Military & Legacy Family & Friends” Picnic  
at The National Memorial Walk

Lavarack Parade, Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera

On Sunday 28th August 2011 from 1130 am to 4 pm

Come, join us and relax to a free musical presentation by

The Army Band Brisbane (from 1.00pm to 3pm)

PAYG BBQ & salad (\$10.00), Cash Bar for drinks, or

BYO – hat, chair, blankets & refreshments

Tea, coffee and milk provided

**All proceeds in support of Legacy**

RSVP Mon 22 August 2011

Secretary.rarassociationqld@gmail.com or 0417464251

## Navy Week 2011

The Seafarers Memorial Service  
& Wreath Laying Service

The Mission to Seafarers Victoria, the Company of Master Mariners, and the Naval Commemoration Committee of Victoria encourage all mariners from merchant and Commonwealth navies and their descendents, to attend the following occasions on **16 October 2011**:

1030 hours - Seafarers’ Memorial Service at St. Paul’s Cathedral, Melbourne, and

1400 hours - Navy Week Wreath Laying Commemorative Service in the Sanctuary, Shrine of Remembrance.

## Annual RAAF Service

In memory of the thirty-five RAAF and six RAF airmen who died on active service with 77 squadron RAAF during the Korean War.

**Point Cook Museum Tour and Plaque Commemoration**

**Wednesday 19 October 2011**

Museum tour: 10:00 to 12:00 (RAAF Base Williams museum)

Commemoration Service: 12:15 to 13:00 Memorial Parade Square (Holy Trinity Chapel if inclement weather)

Lunch: 13:30 (RAAF Sgt’s Mess Base Williams: Laverton)  
(Melways 198-199 J 4 & 53 C 9)

Cost of lunch: **\$15.00 per person**, which includes a sit down 50/50 meal of meat, vegetables, salads, desert with tea and coffee. Drinks are Sgt. Mess prices.

*Bus transportation:* Free to Members. (Note: the bus has room for only 22).

(The bus leaves from the Stella Maris Seafarers Centre, 600 Lt. Collins St., at 9 am).

*Cars:* those driving to the event are required to list their car registration no. plus the names of all passengers

**Members wishing to attend please fill out and return the form with payment by 12 October 2011 to:**

Ronald Christie, 15 Bianca Court, Rowville, Vic. 3178.

Phone: 03 9764 5542. Email: seafury1@bigpond.net.au

Car Registration No.: \_\_\_\_\_ OR Bus required YES / NO (please circle).

Names of those attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ person / people attending.

(Make cheque or money order payable to: Korea Veterans Association of Australia Inc.)

PLEASE BE PROMPT IN YOUR RESPONSE as the KVAA Inc. is committed to confirm to the Sgt’s Mess the guest numbers seven days prior to the Luncheon.

# Military Humour

## United States Armed Forces Voicemail

Thank you for calling the U.S. Armed Forces.

All of our units are currently busy assisting other customers in various trouble-spots around the world. When you hear the beep, please leave the name of your country, region of the crisis, and a number where we can reach you.

As soon as we finish cleaning up the Balkans, Afghanistan, Iraq, North Korea, Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Iran... Well you get the picture, and our compulsory "Consideration of the Feelings of Others" orientation classes, we'll be happy to return your call.

For more options, please press one now. (beep)

If your crisis is small, immediate in nature, under-funded, and close to the ocean, press 1 for the United States Marine Corps Special Recon Forces.

If your crisis is distant, with a mild climate and good hotels, and can be solved by one of two low-risk, high-altitude bombing runs, press 2 for the United States Air Force.

If your crisis can be resolved with a bit of gray flannel, flags, and a really good marching band, press 3 for the United States Navy. Please note that Tomahawk Missile service is extremely limited and will be provided on a first-come first-serve basis.

If your crisis is not urgent, press 4 for the Rapid Deployment Force.

If you just want troops to occupy your country, get drunk at the local bars, seduce your women, run over your civilians with their vehicles, piss on your fire hydrants, and in general be a royal pain in the ass, press 5 for the United States Army.

If you're in real trouble, press 6 for the United States Marine Corp. Command Centre. Your request will be processed as soon as the compulsory credit check is completed. Please note that the USMC Command Centre may bill your account at any time, and the actual specifics of the charges will be highly classified.

If you'd like to join the U.S. Marines, where you'll be shouted at for low pay, have your wife and family stationed miles from civilization, and are prepared to work long hours, risk your life, in all kinds of weather and terrain, while watching Congress constantly erode your pay and benefits package, please stay on the line. A bitter, passed-over Marine Recruiter in an old strip mall down by the post office will be with you shortly.

Thank you for calling the U.S. Armed Forces Hotline.

## Order of Battle

**Army:** In the Army, the officers send the men off to fight.

**Navy:** In the Navy, the officers lead the men into battle.

**Air Force:** In the Air Force, the men send the officers off to fight.

## Battle Cry!

A British General is addressing a company of Australian troops just before a battle during WWI, trying to rouse their fighting spirit. "Did you come here to die?" he yells.

From the back a laconic Aussie voice calls back: "No mate, we came here yester-die."

Much laughter. But the general persists, finishing with a rousing cry, "Onward to victory!"

The battle commences. Half an hour later, an urgent message reaches him. It reads: "We've advanced as far as we can, but can't find Victory. It isn't on any of our maps. Need further instructions."

## Great Expectations

While talking to a potential recruit, the military recruiter said, "Exactly what kind of job are you looking for in the military?"

The high school kid said, "I'm looking for something with an enlistment bonus of about \$20,000, where I won't have to work too hard, wear a uniform, and won't have to deploy overseas, unless it is to Noosa.

The recruiter said, "Well, what if I could hook you up with a skill that allowed you to come straight in as a Lieutenant, where you'll only work weekdays, and you can have the base of your choice and stay there as long as you want?"

The young recruit sat up straight and said, "Wow! Are you kidding?"

The recruiter replied, "Yeah, but you started it."

## Sergeants Are Smarter

The tough private sauntered into the dimly lit saloon. "Is there anybody here called Donovan?" he snarls. Nobody answers. Again he sneers: "Is there anybody here called Donovan?"

There is a moment of silence and then a little fellow in a sergeant's uniform strides forward. "I'm Sergeant Donovan," he says defiantly.

The tough guy picks him up and throws him across the bar. Then he punches him in the jaw, kicks him, clubs him, slaps him around a bit and walks out. About fifteen minutes later the little fellow comes to.

"Boy," he exclaims proudly, "sergeants will be always smarter than privates. Didn't I fool him? I ain't Donovan!"

## Two Soldiers

Two soldiers were having a chat during their free time.

First soldier: "Why did you join the Army?"

Second soldier: "I didn't have a wife and I love war. So I joined. How about you? Why did you sign up?"

First soldier: "I had a wife and I love peace. So I joined."

## Really Dumb (Amateur) Criminals

During a burglary court case in New York, a member of the jury stole the credit card of a fellow juror. When there was a break in the trial, she went on a spending spree with the stolen card in stores near the courthouse.

A burglar broke into a home in Washington DC and before he left he used the householder's son's computer to brag about the crime on the boy's Facebook page and included a picture of himself with the stolen loot. "This is the most stupid criminal I have ever seen," a policeman said.

Two drunken thieves tried to break into a store in Edmonton, Alberta, and make off with some of the contents – despite the fact that everything in the store was available to anyone who wanted it for free. The store is a drop-off point for used items, destined for the tip.

John Finch, 44, broke into a house in Wilmington, Delaware, got drunk and couldn't get out – so he called 911 for help. Police say he drank three bottles of gin and two of whiskey and then realised he was too drunk to climb through a window to get out.

Burglars snorted the cremated remains of a man and two dogs after becoming convinced they had stolen illegal drugs. The men had broken into a Miami home and stolen two urns and electrical gear. The burglars confessed their mistake to police when arrested.

Matthew Meguiar's attempt to rob a US credit union in Orlando, Florida, went awry almost immediately when his prosthetic arm fell off and, as he was a regular customer there, he was recognised by one of the tellers. He was arrested soon after.

A man who stole an LCD TV from a shop in Dunedin, New Zealand, was caught after he returned to the store to steal a matching aerial. The man was seen taking the aerial and was later stopped by police who found it – and the television – in his car.

A man called the police emergency number to report that he was being held against his will. He was calling from inside the jail in Sandusky, Ohio, because he had been arrested for disorderly conduct outside a bar.

Source: The Age, *Odd Spot*, 17 Aug., 22 & 27 Dec., 2010, 8 & 21 Jan., 10 & 15th Feb., & 21 March 2011

## “Tell It To the Marines”

Nowdays, the injunction to “Tell it to the Marines” is a not-too-polite way of expressing disbelief in a statement, but it began as a compliment to that well-travelled service. Its origin dates back to late 17th-century England during the reign of King Charles II, when Samuel Pepys, the famous diarist, was serving as the secretary of the Admiralty. He told the king about a naval captain who had claimed to see flying fish in the southern seas. The king and his court thought that was an outrageous statement and laughed at the captain's claims. A newly raised Maritime Regiment of Foot was in court during the discussion, however, and one of its members testified that he, too, had seen flying fish. After hearing a marine confirm the story, the king said, *“From the very nature of their calling, no class of our subjects can have so wide a knowledge of seas and land as the officers and men of our loyal Marine Regiment. Henceforth, ere ever we cast a doubt upon a tale that lacketh likelihood, we will first tell it to the Marines.”*

Source: *Military History* magazine, April 2003.

## Editorial Disclaimer

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## Farewells

Bryant L Attwood, R39260,  
*HMAS Bataan*, in late June 2011

Douglas Ninian Bryan (Lt.), 335017,  
1RAR, 2RAR on 18 June

John Giffen, R44882,  
*HMAS Tobruk*, on 31st July 2011

Donald F. Hedges, 210503, 1RAR,  
on 12 May 2011

Harry Watson, R36738,  
*HMAS Shoalhaven* & *HMAS Bataan*  
on 22 June 2011

Neil Francis Wood, 5400124, 3RAR  
on 19 July 2011

## 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