



THE VOICE

April 2019 Edition

Contents:

| | |
|---|----|
| Editor's Opening | 1 |
| Life Members | 2 |
| Directory | 2 |
| Editorial Disclaimer | 2 |
| Merchandise Available | 2 |
| Outstanding Leadership and Brilliant Victory | 3 |
| The Forgotten Fleet | 4 |
| Korean Partisans 1950-1953 | 5 |
| The Ramifications of Inchon | 6 |
| The Ghost Fleet | 7 |
| Get a Horse! | 7 |
| Bigger Than Europe | 7 |
| Korean War Memorial Church Service | 8 |
| Volkssturm, Hitlerjugend and Stomach Soldiers | 9 |
| More Motors Than GMH | 9 |
| 2019 Peace Camp For Youth | 10 |
| Old... | 10 |
| HMAS Wort | 10 |
| Blonde Jokes | 11 |
| Nizam's Night of Terror | 13 |
| Instand Divisions 1944 | 13 |
| Memorial Unveiling Ceremony Schedule | 14 |
| Farewells | 14 |
| The Ode | 14 |

SPECIAL NOTE

Due to Committee members' commitments on Wednesday 17th April 2019, the President advises the next meeting will be at 1130 hours on Wednesday 29th May 2019.

The Voice is proudly sponsored by



Editor's Opening

Quite a bit to talk about, so I'll jump right to it...

Melbourne Korean War Memorial: This is almost certainly the last major event/ceremony/function that the KVAA will ever be involved in. The unveiling is on Thursday, 2 May 2019, and I urge as many veterans, their carers, family, friends, widows, associate members and special members to attend as can. **FULL DETAILS ON PAGE 14**

The Annual General Meeting: Given that it is 2019, the turnout for the main meeting of the year – the AGM, was about on par with expectations. Of note is the exit (for the second time) of long-term National Secretary, Alan Evered, and unofficial assistant, Nicole Evered. May I record for the umpteenth time how important the National Secretary position is, and how both it and the work done by the person taking the office goes unremarked and unappreciated. So to Alan and Nicole, on behalf of the KVAA, thank you for the effort you have both put in over the many years you have handled the task. The organisation would have fallen into a heap without you.

Taking Alan's place is Deborah Rye from Epsom, which used to be a town near Bendigo and today is more or less a suburb of the city. And that's about all I can tell you about her at this stage. Her contact details are on page 2.

I expect the "hand over" period will last some time as it takes a while for all members to note the change. Speaking of change, George Daniel and Ron Kennedy have retired from the Committee with Laurie Price taking their spot. More about the AGM on page 8.

ANZAC Day: As they always have and will continue to do as long as they can, those KVAA members who served long term in the military (and not just the Korean War) will march with their respective organisations – mostly navy or airforce – on ANZAC Day and then off to their respective reunions.

For the first time since its formation in the 1980s, the KVAA will be unrepresented as an organisation. Time has thinned our numbers to the point where we can't guarantee the presence of a single veteran behind the KVAA banner, and the number who make it to the reunion at the Stella Maris can be counted on the fingers.

Hence the KVAA will be NOT be participating on ANZAC Day this
(continues on Page 8)

Associate Member

International Federation of Korean War Veterans Association
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.
Australian Korea Veterans Association Inc.
Korea War Veterans Association of NSW
Korean War Veterans Association of Sunshine Coast Inc.
The Sunshine State Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Assoc. Inc. of the USA

Allied Associations

Australian Peacekeepers and Peacemaker Veterans' Association Inc.

Life Members

Colin Berryman OAM
 Jim Boxshall†
 Rev. Burne Brooker†
 John Brownbill
 RFD, KCSJ, KtT (Scot)
 John Burke†
 Bill Campbell†
 Victor Dey OAM†
 John Duson
 Athol Egeberg†
 Alan Evered MRAC, MRSV
 Mick Everett†
 J F Frawley OAM BEM†
 Stan Gallop†
 Olwyn Green OAM (Hon)
 Des Guilfoyle†
 Geoffrey Guilfoyle
 John Holford
 Neville Holl†
 Murray Inwood†
 David Irving†
 Ron J. Kennedy
 George Lang OAM†
 Dennis Lehmann
 Kenneth Mankelow†
 Bruce Maxwell
 Alan McDonald
 Ian McDonald†
 Allan Murray†
 Ray McKenzie†
 Don McLeod†
 George Mitchell†
 Bill Murphy†
 Ormond Petherick
 Jack Philpot
 Allen Riches
 Arthur Roach
 Ivan Ryan
 Joe Shields†
 Gerry Steacy
 Doug Wilkie JPT
 †Deceased

Directory

Patron : Major General David McLachlan AO (Retired)

National President : Tom Parkinson

Phone: 03 9350 6608 or c/- Pascoe Vale RSL 03 9354 6364 or president@pascoevalersl.com.au

National Vice-President : Alan McDonald

Phone: 03 5975 4113 / Email: alanmc12@iprimus.com.au

National Secretary : Deborah Rye

Phone: 03 5448 8758 / Mobile: 0419 334 483 / Email: djrye72@gmail.com

Correspondence

The Secretary, 260 Station Street, Epsom, Victoria 3551

The Voice

The Editor, PO Box 3, Grantville, Victoria 3984

National Treasurer : Merrill Lord

Mobile: 0432 836 182 / Email: merrilllord78@gmail.com

Committee

Milton Hoe, John Moller OAM JP, John Munro OAM RFD ED,
 Laurie Price, Allen Riches, Arthur Roach

Appointments

Chaplain / Veterans' Affairs: John Brownbill RFD, KCSJ, KtT (Scot) 0418 359 085

Editor & Webmaster: Geoff Guilfoyle Phone: 03 59976240 Email: editor@kvaa.org.au

Delegates

ACT: Colin Berryman OAM (Phone: 02 6258 2463 / Mobile: 040 896 2415 / Email: jacol57@bigpond.net.au)

Geelong: Arthur Roach (03 5243 6113)

New South Wales: Merv Heath (02 4343 1967)

Queensland: Harry Pooley (Phone: 07 3200 0482)

Queensland (Kilcoy Region): Kelly Frawley (Phone: 0428 186 788 / Email: kel52bes@gmail.com)

Riverina: John Munro OAM RFD ED (Phone: 03 5480 3778)

South Australia: John Jarrett (Phone 0411 420 162 / Email: jarrett8083@gmail.com)

Tasmania: George Hutchinson (Phone: 03 6275 0762)

Western Australia: John Southorn (Phone: 08 9531 2008 / Email: bessboss@westnet.com.au)

Website

www.kvaa.org.au

Editorial Disclaimer

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

Merchandise Available

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|----|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|----|
| Bannerettes (flags) | \$15.00 | \$ | Kapypong battle print | \$ 6.00 | \$ |
| Tie (with KVAA Inc. logo) | \$20.00 | \$ | Christms cards | \$ 2.00 | \$ |
| Korean War bumper sticker | \$ 2.50 | \$ | | | |
| Windscreen decals | \$ 4.00 | \$ | TOTAL . . . | \$_____ + \$3 pp = \$_____ | |

Surname: Given Names:

Address: (Please Print)

State: Post Code:

Cheques/money orders should be made out to: KVAA Inc. and sent to: Merrill Lord, PO Box 107, Frankston 3199, Victoria

Outstanding Leadership and Brilliant Victory

Part Two: Armed Invasion By US Imperialism

*This is the next section from the pictorial book, **Outstanding Leadership and Brilliant Victory**, published in 1993 in Pyongyang, DPRK, presenting the North Korean (or at least Kim Il Sung's) view of the war.*

The US imperialists, having emerged as the chieftain of world imperialism, made their ambition of world conquest their foreign policy. The essence of their Far Eastern policy was to make the Pacific a “lake of the United States”, by subordinating Japan, Korea and China.

The US imperialists, after occupying south Korea, made minute preparations for an invasion of the northern half of Korea with the plan to convert the whole of Korea into a bridgehead for their aggression in Asia and an important strategic base for their domination of the world.

They either rebuilt or built military airfields and harbours all over south Korea and concentrated their troops and arms systematically in areas along the 38th parallel.

They gave about 110,000,000 dollars in “military aid” in 1949 for the modernization of the south Korean puppet army.

The US imperialists, having shipped vast armed forces into south Korea, began in 1949 to draw up a plan for provoking war against the northern half of Korea, based at the MacArthur headquarters.

The warmonger Dulles went to south Korea and “inspected” the armed force of the puppet troops along the 38th parallel. Then he re-examined with the chief stooge, Syngman Rhee, and Sin Song Mo, the plan for provoking the war.

The great concentration of south Korean puppet troops along the 38th parallel aggravated the tension along the parallel.

The DPRK Government took every step for the peaceful reunification of the country.

Early in June 1950 the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland issued an “Appeal for the Promotion of Measures to Bring About the Peaceful Reunification of the Country” and sent it to all the democratic parties, public organizations and people in south Korea.

In mid-June that year the Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly adopted a resolution, “On Promoting the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland.” The resolution proposed that the peaceful reunification of the country be achieved by unifying the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly and the “National Assembly” of south Korea into a single legislative body for the whole of Korea.

The south Korean puppet clique, however, would not accept our serious proposals for peaceful reunification and ignored them. Then at dawn on June 25, 1950, they started the criminal armed invasion of

the northern half of the country at the instigation of the US imperialists.

More than 100,000 puppet soldiers launched an attack all along the 38th parallel, intruding one or two kilometres deep into the territory of the northern half of Korea. Our country and people were faced with a grave danger.

On June 25, 1950 the great leader President Kim Il Sung called a meeting of the Political Committee of the Party Central Committee and an emergency Cabinet meeting and took decisive steps for a counterattack on the enemy, in the light of the prevailing situation. The following day he made a historic radio address, *Go All Out for Victory in the War*, in order to organize and mobilize all the people and the People's Army to struggle for victory in the war.

In his radio address he made clear the aggressive aims of the US imperialists and their stooges in the war and the just nature of the war waged by the Korean people. Saying that all the country's strength must be mustered for victory in the war, he called upon all the people and the whole of the People's Army to turn out as one in the sacred war to wipe out the enemy. He put forward militant tasks for winning victory in the war.

He first emphasized that the People's Army officers and men must prove themselves brave and devoted in the just struggle to liberate the southern half of the country and reunify the country.

He pointed out that the people in the northern half of the country must reorganize all their work on a war footing, make the rear an impregnable fortress, organize all-people, assistance to the People's Army and produce and supply all the materials and provisions needed for the front.

He called upon the people in the southern half of the country to render active assistance to the People's Army, intensify the guerrilla war in all parts to confuse the enemy's rear and attack and annihilate the enemy.

He urged the officers and men of the “National Defence Army” to turn their guns on the enemy and join the nationwide struggle for the reunification of the country.

President Kim Il Sung's radio address became a banner making the Fatherland Liberation War an all-people, nationwide war. It also became a militant banner rousing all the people and officers and men of the People's Army to defeat the enemy and achieve final victory in the war.

(continued next issue)

The Forgotten Fleet by Alan Zammit

Fifty years ago [now 73 years ago], as the British Pacific Fleet took part in naval operations against Japan, Sydney provided the fleet's main leave and repair base. The principal theatre of operations was 4000 miles from Sydney. Manus was the forward base, 1800 miles north of Sydney. The fleet train kept the supplies up, replenishing the fleet in the operational areas, using an assortment of ships from many nations.

It was planned that Allied troops would land on the Japanese mainland and Malaya in November 1945. It was feared that if Japan continued fighting, the Pacific War could last until 1947.

The dropping of the first atomic bomb on August 6 over Hiroshima, the Russian scramble into the war to share the spoils and its advance against Japanese forces in Manchuria and the bombing of Nagasaki ended the war against Japan.

The war was brought to a conclusion before many of the 250 BPF ships had been in action. Nevertheless, the BPF was engaged in significant action which deserves to be remembered. BPF's main striking force was the fleet aircraft carriers commanded by the blue-eyed war hero Vice Admiral Sir Philip Vian, KCB KBE DSO and two bars.

Four fleet carriers usually operated together, although six saw action on and off during 1945 in the Pacific. On its way to Australia in Jan. 1945 the fleet's aircraft attacked the Japanese-held Sumatra oil refineries. This caused great damage and acted as a dress rehearsal for later operations in the Pacific.

The first aircraft carrier squadron arrived in Sydney in February 1945. The British sailors were overwhelmed with hospitality. Their pay was less than that of Australian servicemen, so the Australian Comforts Fund presented sailors with gift parcels of puddings and other goodies and unofficially they were asked not to pay public transport fares. The public subscribed £200,000 to erect the British Centre in Hyde Park, where up to six meals were served each day. Three hundred girls acted as hostesses each night.

Between March and May 1945, the British Pacific Fleet took part in the supporting operations for Operation Iceberg, while the Americans landed on Okinawa to capture the airfield which was to be used as springboard against the main islands of Japan.

The BPF task was to destroy the stepping stones of Japanese airfields on the islands of Ishigaki, Miyako and Iriomote in the Sakish-ima group, preventing Japanese aircraft from Formosa (now Taiwan) reinforcing Okinawa. The BPF carrier aircraft struck repeated blows at the six airfields, its Avengers bombing the airfields and the fighters shooting up aircraft on the ground.

The Japanese reaction was attacks by Kamikaze suicide aircraft against the offshore warships on 1st

April. *Indefatigable* was hit with 14 killed and the destroyer *Ulster* was damaged by a bomb. On May 4, 1945, the battleships *King George V* and *Howe* and the cruisers *Swiftshire*, *Gambia*, *Uganda*, *Black Prince* and *Euryalus* carried out a bombardment of the Miyako airfields.

While the battleships and cruisers with their A.A. protection were absent, the Kamikaze aircraft attacked the carriers, hitting *Formidable* and *Indomitable*. The British carriers' three inch armoured steel flight decks saved them from serious damage, whereas the American carriers often suffered critical damage when hit on their light flight decks.

On May 9, Kamikazes hit *Victorious* twice, with three killed and 19 wounded. *Formidable* was damaged again with one man killed. On May 25, the BPF sailed south for refit and leave, having lost 203 aircraft through operations, accidents and other causes, with 85 killed and 83 wounded in air operations and Kamikaze attacks.

The next BPF operation was to pound the Japanese mainland along with the huge American Third Fleet in the height of the typhoon season. By August, Allied aircraft had virtually destroyed the Japanese Navy in Japanese waters. Allied warships two miles off-shore were bombarding the Japanese mainland. Aircraft were flying over Japan with little Japanese fighter opposition.

The air/sea rescue service of Allied destroyers, submarines and amphibian aircraft was excellent and most pilots who came down into the water from A.A. flak were rescued, sometimes almost inside Japanese bays. Commander A. S. 'Donk' Storry DSC and Bar RAN (Rtd), was Vice Admiral Sir Philip Vian's Staff Officer Operations in 1945. Serving in *Indomitable* and *Formidable*, 'Donk' recalled that on August 6, while 100 miles off Japan, the engineer officer reported to *Formidable's* bridge that he "had felt a water hammer explosion and had a ship been torpedoed?"

The next day it was realised the engineer officer below had felt the underwater shock waves from the first atomic bomb dropped over Hiroshima. Earlier, Storey had come through nine Kamikaze attacks on his ships, six of them on *HMAS Australia*. On August 15, the signal "Cease hostilities against Japan" was hoisted from *HMS King George V*, Flagship of Vice Admiral Sir Bernard Rawlings KCB, KBE, and so ended the long and bitter war.

Source: *Navy News*, 14 August 1995



The *King George V* in Sydney Harbour.

Korean Partisans 1950-1953

by Tom Moore

If the Korean War is the forgotten war in American history, the story of unconventional warfare operations in that conflict is the most unknown part of it. For over fifty plus years, the operations involving North Korean partisans and a small group of brave and dedicated American soldier advisers that took place deep in enemy territory remained highly classified. It wasn't until 1990 that the U.S. Army made public some details of this partisan activity. (Even with presidential Executive Order #12958 guiding the declassification of national security information, documents regarding this time are still difficult to obtain, particularly in regard to the activities of the CIA.)

At the onset of the Korean War in 1950, the U.S. Army learned that a large anti-communist partisan force, escaping from North Korea before and after the invasion of the south, had set up ad-hoc bases on islands off of the Korean west coast and were conducting limited operations into their homelands in North Korea. Most of these partisans were not soldiers, they were local government officials, school teachers, policemen, labourers, etc.

On January 8, 1951, these anti-communist refugees made a request for arms and support from the U.S. Eighth Army. On the 15th, the Eighth established the "Attrition Section" to organize, equip and train the island refugees into a partisan combat force. The advisors included U.S. Army Rangers and personnel who had guerrilla warfare experience from WWII. Their goal was to work deep inside North Korea, to gather intelligence, conduct raids, sabotage, rescue UN POW's, recruit and lead guerrilla armies. In short, to create confusion in the rear of the enemy lines.

On February 15, the U.S. Eighth Army Attrition Section activated a Partisan Headquarters (William Able Baker Base, later renamed Leopard Base) on the island of Paengnyong-do, 125 miles behind enemy lines, to support future raids against the North Korean mainland. The area controlled by this HQ included numerous islands along the west coast as far as the Yalu river estuary. Baker Section, a training and staging base for airborne/special operations, was located near Pusan, South Korea, and Task Force Kirkland, operating on islands off of the east coast of Korea, was located near Wonsan.

In May 1951, Lt. Gen. James Van Fleet dissolved the "Attrition Section" and reactivated it the same day as the Miscellaneous Group, 8086th Army Unit (Partisan Operations) commanded by Colonel John Hugh McGee. Lieut. Col. Jay D. Vanderpool headed the Guerrilla Division. This got the group onto the U.S. Army Table of Distribution and Equipment, that formally authorized for the first time, both the U.S. personnel to train and support the partisans and the much needed equipment to carry out the operations.

In July 1951, Colonel McGee rotated back to the United States and was replaced by Lieut. Colonel Samuel Koster, an officer with guerrilla warfare experience in the WWII Philippines. Another administrative reorganisation saw the 8086th absorbed by the 8240th Army Unit (Intelligence) of the Far East Command (FEC). In November 1951, the Combined Command for Reconnaissance Activities, Korea (CCRAK) pronounced "sea-crack" and as U.S. Army Unit 8242, took control of the partisans.

The partisans eventually comprised six infantry regiments and one airborne regiment, a total of around 38,000 men and women, mostly North Koreans. The roster of U.S. personnel assigned to the unit is still incomplete due to the classified status of the operations and the U.S. Army Special Forces not operating as a unit in the Korean War.

The high-speed transport ship, the USS *Horace A. Bass* (APD-124) was fitted with large shower stalls. Unfortunately, on its first mission with the partisans, no one thought to tell the Koreans of the ship's fresh water rationing (an omission never repeated). When the guerrillas discovered the showers, they took to them like ducks to water and drained the ship's water supply of fresh water. The ship had to divert to a water tender for a refill. Additionally, the Koreans did not care for the American rice, so the ship's skipper let them prepare their own, but they had to keep their kimchi (a very pungent dish) on the ship's fantail. In other words, down wind.

This lack of information highlights the uncoordinated nature of clandestine United Nations operations behind enemy lines in North Korea and Manchuria. This activity was done separately by the U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). There was bitter bureaucratic feuding between senior U.S. Army officers and the CIA station chiefs in Japan over the ownership of the strategic unconventional warfare mission.

Many partisans did not make it back from their high-risk missions behind enemy lines - they had one of the highest casualty rates of any unit during the Korean War. One woman, Kim Woon-San, a nurse and a fighter, killed more than 100 North Koreans. In an interview in 2007, the commander of the Tiger Brigade, Park Sang-Joon, said he infiltrated North Korea 324 times, performed 68 airborne

(continues on Page 6)

jumps and was wounded twice. Park was on a mission of one kind or another for three years. (Of the 800 Tigers in the brigade, 386 got out of North Korea alive).

In May 1953, UN Headquarters ordered the evacuation of all island-based partisans from their positions above the thirty-eighth parallel, as part of the armistice negotiations. Evacuating the partisans, their families, tons of equipment, and thousands of refugees from the islands to which they had fled was no small task, with sixteen islands involved.

The withdrawal in late July 1953 was done in stages. First the people were moved to consolidation points on larger islands. From there the withdrawal proceeded to the five islands the truce agreement permitted the partisans to occupy: Paengnyong-do, Taechong-do, Sochong-do, Yonpyong-do and U-do. The movement required dozens of LSTs, fishing junks, and other vessels.

The legal status of the partisans remained a sensitive issue. Not until the truce was signed on July 27, 1953, did the Republic of Korea (ROK) government finally address it. On August 16th, the Minister of National Defense reached agreement with CCRAK, that a Provisional Unit, designated The 8250th ROK Army Unit, would be formed to deal with some of the administrative burdens of the partisan operations. The new unit would handle personnel policy, grant same benefits to the families of partisans killed in fighting, as were given to ROK Army personnel. The U.S. Army's 8240th Army Unit would continue to handle operations, logistics, and training for the partisans.

Records show that between May 1951 and the signing of the truce in July 1953, 22,000+ partisans were fighting behind enemy lines in North Korea. Only 3,700 are known to have survived. Of these known surviving partisans, 3,400 live in South Korea, and 300 live in California. The partisans conducted 4,445 actions throughout North Korea, in which 69,000 casualties (dead and wounded) were inflicted, 950 prisoners and 5,000 enemy weapons were captured, 2,700 vehicles, 80 bridges were destroyed, 3,800 tons of food were destroyed or liberated from North Koreans.

The total cost to the U.S. government: roughly \$100 million dollars. The 8240th U.S. Army Unit, formed as an interim solution, proved to be the beginning of the U.S. Army's Special Forces branch.

Because they fought under UN/US control, and not as South Korean soldiers, they were not recognized by their own government as fully-fledged veterans. At first, they only received about one-third of the benefits as other Korean War South Korean veterans. Only in 2008 did the South Korean government recognize them with full veteran benefits.

The Ramification of Inchon

by Stanley J. Grogan

One of the key operations of the war was the Inchon landing that began on September 15, 1950. Inchon can only be described as the worst possible place for an amphibious landing because of the 32-foot tides, the fast current of the channel, the lack of maneuver room for landing craft, the surrounding heights well suited for coastal defence artillery, and the lack of any beaches. There were only piers, seawalls, and rocks. To make matters worse, the waters could be easily mined.

The Inchon campaign, named "Operation Chromite," was a success because it resulted in the disintegration of the Pusan Perimeter in the southern end of Korea, liberated the South Korean city of Seoul, badly disrupted the North Koreans' logistics systems, returned UN forces to the 38th Parallel, and preserved the Republic of Korea as one of today's strongest economic engines in South Asia. Moreover, it solidified America's reputation as a maritime power.

Maj. Gen. O. P. Smith, commander of the 1st Marine Division, was responsible for the overall planning of this precarious, yet immensely successful, operation – despite the casualties it produced. One U.S. Army officer with whom I was associated, 1st Lt. W. P. Bush parachuted in and was cut down by machine gun fire. He was also a WWII Veteran and a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy's Class of 1949.

Amphibious Task Force Commander RADM James Doyle said in his after action report: "...it is my conviction that the successful assault at Inchon could have been accomplished only by U.S. Marines... because of many years of specialized training and [they] had the requisite 'know-how' to execute these plans without training or rehearsal."

Noteworthy also was the fact that the 68th Fighter Interceptor Squadron (FIS) was able to fly night interdiction missions in the F-82G and night intercept missions in the F-94B from K-13 on the Korean mainland, instead of from Japan. The 68th flew combat missions at night, operating in conjunction With the U.S. Marines flying the F3D Skynight.

Source: *The Graybeards* magazine Vol.28, No.4, July-August 2014

The Ghost Fleet

by Tom Moore

Following WWII Congress established a National Defence Reserve Fleet (NDRF) to serve as a reserve cadre of ships for national defence and emergencies. America needed the NDRF five years later, when the Korean War began. In June 1950, NDRF had 2,283 ships in its mothball fleet (aka ghost fleet.) During the Korean War, 540 vessels were activated from NDRF.

The answer to how well a ship endures the mothballing process lies in how well the process was performed. The ship must be refurbished and preserved. Most mothballing was done by the ship's crew, aided by civilian experts. All equipment, e.g. engines, boilers, electronic, weapons, galley, etc., had to be in working condition. The crew soon moved ashore, and the ship was cleaned inside and outside. Chipping, painting, polishing, oiling, and removing items for storage began.

Some items were removed and put in appropriate storage ashore. Ammunition went to storage bunkers, small weapons to gunnery storage, binoculars, long glasses and sextants to optical storage. Large calibre weapons were cleaned, oiled, inspected, and left in place. The ship clocks were allowed to run down, then left in place.

Radio, sonar, and radar equipment were cleaned, tested for operation, and inspected by civilian experts, then covered. The ship's engines and boilers were cleaned, greased, and oiled. Gauges were polished and inspected by civilians. Compartments were cleaned and the paintwork throughout the ship was chipped, repainted, cleaned, and inspected.

The bilges were pumped, hand wiped dry, and inspected. The bilge pumps operated regularly by a skeleton crew to reduce corrosion of their steel and to prevent the ship from foundering at its moorings. After everything was inspected and approved, and the vessel was pronounced shipshape, two actions remained: sealing and rust prevention.

All the watertight doors were dogged down and all outside vents were closed. The large calibre weapons were covered with painted canvas. Every seam, e.g., watertight door and vent, was sealed with a soft compound that hardened over time. Finally, every sealed space was filled with a nitrogen mixture to prevent rust. Ship security maintained round-the-clock watches.

De-mothballing involved a reverse process. The first task was to remove the sealing compound to allow air to replace the nitrogen mixture. Then the boilers were lit, the engines and electronic equipment were tested, electricity and water were turned on, the galley was lit off and inspected, food was stowed below, and the crew moved aboard. Finally, every thing was tested for operation and inspected. The process required several weeks.

The ship was placed in commission, and the crew began "keeping watch," which continued as long as the ship remained in service. At last, the de-mothballed ship became an active U.S. Navy unit and headed to its home port to take on remaining equipment such as munitions.

Source: *The Graybeards* magazine Vol.28, No.5, Sept.-Oct.2014

Get a Horse!

In this day of mechanized warfare, with tanks that can move at better than 60 km per hour, the daily combat rates of advance are not that impressive. The fastest sustained daily advance rate by an army is still that of the Mongol horse archers seven hundred years ago, who regularly maintained over 20 km a day for extended periods.

Rarely has a 20th century mechanized army managed a sustained rate of 20 km a day. In fact, one of the fastest moving armies in this century was the 1950 Chinese Army in Korea. It did better than 10 km per day on foot for several weeks.

In World War II, the German Blitzkrieg, at its best, sustained only 5 km a day in Russia (1941), 10 km a day in France (1940), and 17 km a day in North Africa (1941). The Arab-Israeli Wars of 1956 and 1967 did scarcely better and contemporary exercises show advance rates of under 10 km a day.

The critical factor here is sustained rate of advance, the rate at which the entire army moves forward, regardless of what individual units may do, which may greatly exceed the average. Horses can live on grass for a while and troops can live off the land, up to a point.

Mechanized armies must generally stick to the roads and need an enormous fuel and maintenance system to keep moving and dragging all their baggage along, which slows them down, even though most vehicles can zip along at sustained rates of over 50 km an hour, and individual units may average 100 km in 24 hours.

Source: Dunnigan, James F. and Nolfi, Albert, *Dirty Little Secrets*, William Morrow & Co., 1990 via *Strategy & Tactics*, No. 131, Nov.-Dec. 1989

Bigger Than Europe

By any standard, the fighting in the Pacific from 1941 to 1945 must be written up as one of the greatest military encounters in history. Peak force levels included about 8,500,000 men on the Allied side and 7,400,000 Japanese troops. The two sides fielded about 40,000 aircraft and 2,000 major warships, excluding such types as landing craft and auxiliaries. Such peak strengths represented several times the force levels engaged on the Russian Front, in a geographical area that dwarfed the entire European theatre of operations.

Editor's Opening (continued from Page 1)

year and, let's be honest here, ANZAC Day 2018 was the last hurrah, well, more a quiet exit given the low numbers at the reunion. Sad as this may be, it was also inevitable.

The John Harris Bequest: Still under debate, though at the AGM it was proposed and carried that \$6,000 be given to the Waurm Ponds Memorial Reserve Committee, with whom we have a long association, for the upgrade of the Memorial Park.

Donations: Just one 'donation' to mention, all the way from the USA. It is funny to think that we have several members in that country as well as England, Canada and New Zealand. So thanks to Rogers L. Marshall who lives in Ohio for \$45 which, after the bank has extracted its "fair" share as a "processing fee", made the whole exercise not worthwhile. But the thought was there. Hint to other overseas members: *The Voice* is free to members; no subscriptions, and any donation will enrich the banks at both ends rather than the KVAA.

Other matters: You'll notice just one entry in the *Farewells* section this month, but it is a significant one. Keith Langdon, another veteran – in both sense of the term – gone. Keith didn't usually have much to say, but he was always there at the monthly meetings, ANZAC Day, and all other events and ceremonies. The term 'stalwart' defined him.

More on the AGM: Although I wasn't there in person, I did send, via the National Secretary, a short speech to be read out on my behalf on the future of the KVAA Inc.

Firstly, to all veterans who are here today – congratulations, it's a long way, and a long time, since the Korean War ended. For comparison, if you were World War One veterans, it would be 1984. That's an age, no matter how you measure it. You are the living embodiment of the adage about old soldiers never dying.

But, that second part – about them just fading away – is also true. Noticeably true. You just need look around to see how thin your ranks have become, and how much older.

In the coming months there is the unveiling of the Korean War Memorial and the Ceasefire Service at the Shrine in July, and then what?

Gone are the days of constant services, memorials, unveilings, conferences, visits to schools and other institutions. Long gone.

Also, given that the KVAA is an incorporated, not-for-profit government-recognised association, there are numerous statutory obligations we need to fulfil, obligations we are dangerously close to not carrying out. Failure to do so will mean the forfeiture of this status and the compulsory, and no doubt rancorous, winding-up of the KVAA.

*Given all of this, let's plan for a controlled dissolution of the KVAA Inc. Most of the accumulated funds – including the Harris Bequest – will go to some charity or not-for-profit group or groups, with enough left over after legal expenses to cover publication of *The Voice* for another few years and the maintenance of the website.*

*However, let's also use some of that money to go out with a bang and not a whimper on a date of our choosing. A date such as the first Wednesday in September, for instance. We have fully catered buffet lunch here at the Stella Maris, our home for the last decade and a half, and put an invitation in *The Voice* for all veterans, their carers, immediate family members, associated members and special members to attend. No cost. RSVP by some date in August. Or some variation of this.*

And after the party, the KVAA Incorporated is no more.

The alternative is going on as we are, until the inevitable stumble and fall, one from which the organisation can't get up.

*Your choice, but it needs to be made **now**.*

And it was. The vote was put. One agreement, a few abstentions and the rest against. The KVAA will continue as is. So, no party.

Korean War Memorial Church Service

Of the three main events on the KVAA calendar, the Korean War Memorial Church Service ranks just behind the Christmas luncheon in terms of popularity. Each year, Melbourne's Korean community conducts a memorial service at the Korean Church of Melbourne, followed by light refreshments. Although primarily a sombre occasion, it is also a memorable one due to the excellence of the choir and musicians. The annual Korean War Memorial Service is on **Sunday 23 June at 9.40am for a 10am start.**

Time: 9.40am **Date:** 23 June 2019 **Location:** 23-27 Glendearg Grove, Malvern (Melways 59, C10)

Please note, as usual, the Korean Church Secretary requires the names of attendees *in advance*. It is most impolite to just turn up on the day. If you plan to attend please advise National Secretary, Deborah Rye, on 03 5448 8758 or 0419 334 483 or djrye72@gmail.com **ASAP** (by 30th May at the latest).

Volkssturm, Hitlerjugend and Stomach Soldiers

by Stephen B. Patrick

The Second World War brought a constant flow of casualties. In the period June to August, 1944, however, Germany sustained horrendous losses. This period encompassed the Soviet offensive in Byelorussia against Army Group Centre, and the Falaise-Argentan pocket in France. Germany lost 149,000 dead and 749,640 captured. A total of almost a million men were lost in three months out of a total land force of slightly more than three million. Another 120,000 were killed and 216,000 captured in the last quarter of 1944. Yet, in the same period, 1,427,000 men were put back into the ground forces and in the first quarter of 1945 another 1,626,000 were put into service. In other words, between June, 1944, and March, 1945, over three million people were put into service. Where they came from is a study in how much manpower can be scraped together when a nation puts its mind to it.

The primary source, though at once both the most logical and the least unusual, was simply tightening up on the numbers previously exempt from service. When Germany could still build passenger cars in 1943, it is not surprising that many had been passed over for service. In 1944 they closed art and music schools and cut back in non-essential phases of such industries as radio and movies. More interesting, however, were the less orthodox sources.

One of the best-known German armored divisions, Panzerlehr, was the precursor of these last large levies. Panzerlehr was raised at the end of 1943 and fully operational by the summer of 1944. Its troops were the demonstration troops from the armored schools. All service schools in all armies have certain demonstration troops. As a result, after the armored Lehr troops came artillery, airborne and SS demonstration troops, all organized into combat units. A second combing of the schools in 1945 sent the actual school cadres, or *Schuletruppen*, to the front. Such usually ignored units as Clausewitz, Holstein, and Munchenberg Panzer Divisions and 38 SS Panzer Grenadier Division *Nibelungen* were formed in this manner.

With the Luftwaffe fast becoming more a name than a reality, parachute divisions were formed. They had no parachute training and were strictly ground divisions. Similarly, in the navy were men who could be pressed into service and four Marine divisions were raised (which designation merely meant that they came from the navy, not that they were anything like Marines in the Anglo-American sense).

Another source was the Volkssturm. This militia-type organization arose out of Hitler's decree of September 25, 1944, that all citizens between ages 16 and 60 were eligible to serve. Although organized by the Nazi Party, it served under the control of the Wehrmacht. The Volkssturm was generally ill-equipped. Often deployed without helmets, they were frequently armed with captured weapons, a few machineguns and some anti-tank weapons (most typically the Panzerfaust). When they had heavy guns, they normally lacked any means to move them and had only a handful of rounds to fire.

In March, 1945, Germany called up the Class of 1929, the 15 year olds. Former Hitler Youths were especially sought in hopes that they had been more adequately inculcated with appropriate Nazi fervour. Regrettably, many of them did fight as expected and died as anyone would without adequate military training, when faced by trained armies. It wasn't long before they were taking boys as young as 12 years old. The Lehr and other school troops were soldiers by training; some of the older Volkssturm were World War I veterans. The rest were green and untrained. All were thrown into the breach.

Yet another major source of replacements was, in theory, the source best suited for fighting. These were the soldiers disabled in the war. In other circumstances they would have been out for the duration. Now they were sent back to the front if they could physically do so under their own steam. Because many had stomach problems, they were all jocularly known as 'stomach soldiers.'

This mixed bag was the means by which Germany fielded so many new troops. For the able-bodied, training was scanty, at best. For the not-so-able-bodied, they were often mustered with only the most perfunctory training. The image of Germany's last levies remains one of young boys and old men lugging Panzerfausts for a lost cause in which they no longer believed.

Source: *Strategy & Tactics* magazine, No. 50

More Motors Than GMH

The Sultan of Brunei is believed to have the largest collection of cars in private hands – more than 5000 at last estimate. His compound of garages contains, among others: 604 Rolls-Royces, 574 Mercedes-Benzes, 452 Ferraris, 382 Bentleys, 209 BMWs, 179 Jaguars, 134 Koenigseggs, 21 Lamborghinis and 11 Aston Martins. No mention of the number of classic Aussie gems like the Holden Volt and Sunbird, or the Ford AU Falcon and Pinto, the Sultan possesses.

Source: *Australia's Best Cars*, RACV 2016

One for the grand-children and great nieces and nephews of veterans...

2019 Peace Camp for Youth

The Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs is sponsoring the 2019 Peace Camp for Youth, which is open to descendants of the U.N. soldiers who participated in the Korean War, and is intended to build a network for future collaboration among youths of UN allied nations in the Korean War by inviting grandchildren of UN Korean War veterans. This Program is initially designed to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War.

Australia has 6 places allocated. The closing date for applications is **14th May 2019**. Information/ Application forms available from:

Debbie Rye: 03 5448 8758, mobile 0419 334 483, email: djrye72@gmail.com

Alan Evered: 04312 521 488 , email: evered@optusnet.com.au

Geoff Guilfoyle: 03 5997 6240, email: editor@kvaa.org.au

Kate Gahye Kim: Consul General's Office, Melbourne, 0401 164 499

Old...

Old academics never die, they just lose their faculties.

Old accountants never die, they just lose their balance.

Old assets never die, they just depreciate.

Old bankers never die, they just lose interest.

Old beekeepers never die, they just buzz off.

Old brewers never die, they just ferment away.

Old blondes never fade, they just dye away.

Old bureaucrats never die, they just waste away

Old burglars never die, they just steal away.

Old cashiers never die, they just check out.

Old chauffeurs never die, they just lose their drive.

Old chemists never die, they just fail to react.

Old composers never die, they just decompose.

Old hikers never die, they just trail away.

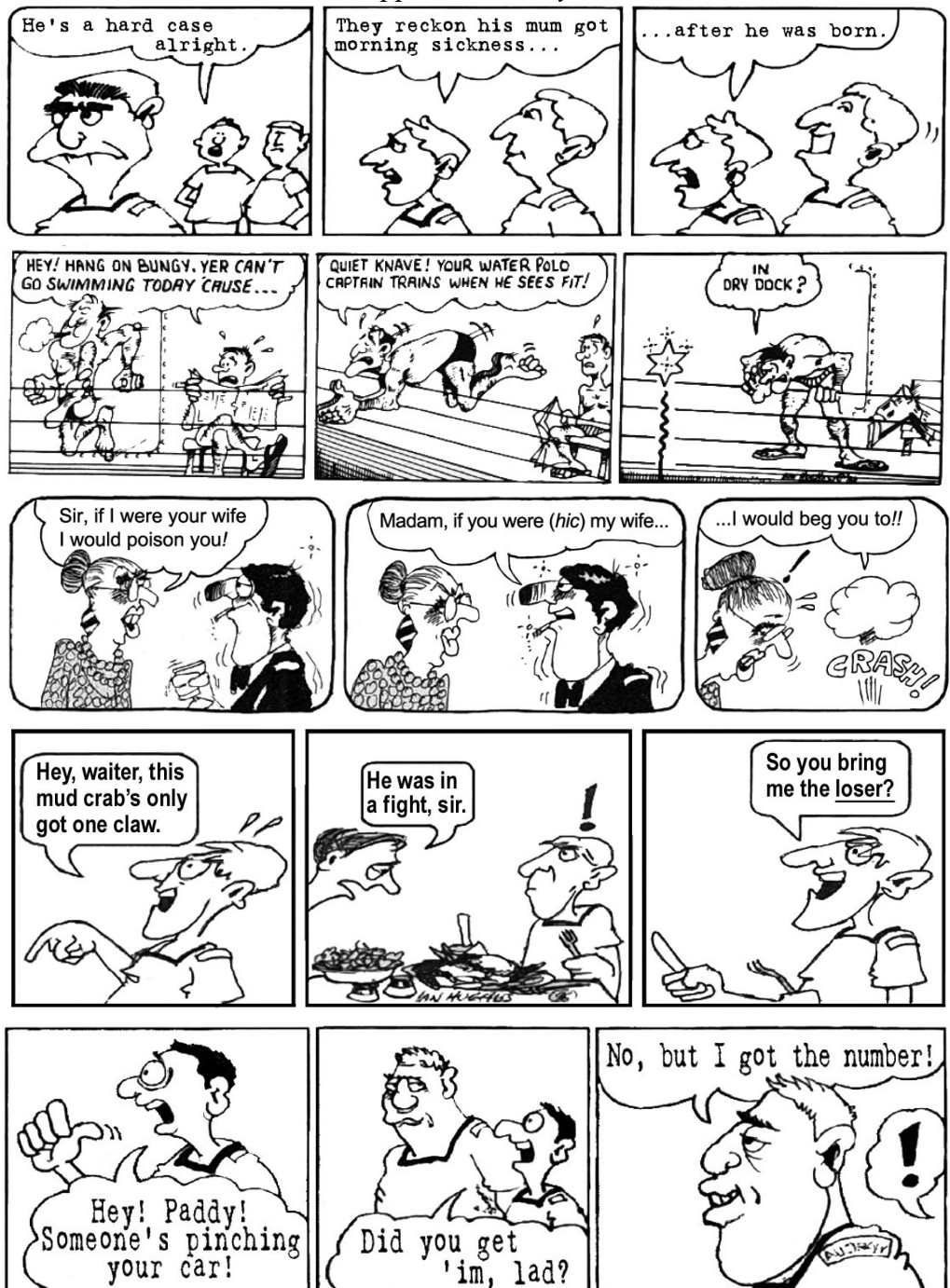
Old hypochondriacs never die, they just imagine it.

Old journalists never die, they just get de-pressed.

Old lawyers never die, they just lose their briefs.

HMAS Wort by Ian Hughes

A series of cartoons which appeared in *Navy News* in the 1980s & 1990s.



Blonde Jokes

The Blonde in First Class

On a plane bound for New York the flight attendant approached a blonde sitting in the first class section and requested that she move to coach since she did not have a first class ticket. The blonde replied, "I'm blonde, I'm beautiful, I'm going to New York, and I'm not moving."

Not wanting to argue with a customer the flight attendant asked the co-pilot to speak with her. He went to talk with the woman asking her to please move out of the first class section. Again, the blonde replied, "I'm blonde, I'm beautiful, I'm going to New York, and I'm not moving."

The copilot returned to the cockpit and asked the captain what he should do.

The captain said, "I'm married to a blonde, and I know how to handle this." He went to the first class section and whispered in the blonde's ear. She immediately jumped up and ran to the coach section mumbling to herself, "Why didn't anyone just say so."

Surprised, the flight attendant and the copilot asked what he said to her that finally persuaded her to move from her seat.

"I just told her the first class section wasn't going to New York."

The Execution

Three women were about to be executed by firing squad. One was a brunette, one a redhead, and the other a blonde.

The guard brought the first woman, the brunette, forward and the executioner asked if she had any last requests. She said no and the executioner shouted: "...Ready...Aim...!! and suddenly the brunette yelled, "EARTHQUAKE!" Everyone was startled and looked around. She escaped.

So they brought up the redhead who was asked if she had any last requests. She answered no, and the executioner shouted: "...Ready ...Aim...!! and suddenly the redhead yelled "TORNADO!" Everyone was startled and looked around. She escaped.

Well, by now, the blonde had it all figured out. They brought her forward and the executioner asked if she had any last requests. She said no and the executioner shouted: "...Ready...Aim...!! and the blonde yelled, "FIRE!"

You've Got Mail

A blonde went out to her mail box, looked in, closed it, and went back in the house. A few minutes later she went out and looked in the mail box again.

She did this several times and her neighbour that was watching her said, "You must be expecting a very important letter today the way you keep looking into your mail box."

The blonde answered, "No, I'm working on my computer and it keeps telling me that I have mail."

University Entrance Exam For Blondes

Time limit: 1 week

* You must answer at least three questions correctly to qualify

1. What language is spoken in England?
2. Give a dissertation on the Ancient Babylonian Empire with particular reference to architecture, literature, law and social conditions – or – Give the first name of Paul Hogan.
3. Would you ask William Shakespeare to:
a. build a bridge / b. sail the ocean / c. lead an army
d. write a play
4. What religion is the Pope?
a. Jewish / b. Catholic / c. Hindu / d. Polish /
e. agnostic (check only one)
5. How many feet are in 0.0 meters?
6. What time is it when the big hand is on the 12 and the little hand is on the 5?
7. How many commandments was Moses given?
8. What are the people in Canada called?
a. New Zealanders / b. Martians / c. Canadians
d. Yankees
9. Spell the following: Bush, Carter, and Clinton.
10. Six kings of England have been called George, the last one being called George the Sixth. Name the previous five.
11. Where does the rain come from?
a. Cole's / b. Disneyland / c. Canada / d. the sky
12. Can you explain Einstein's Theory of Relativity?
a. yes / b. no
13. A television remote control is used to control which device?
a. the weather / b. ants / c. a television / d. pot plants
14. The *Marseillaise* is the national anthem of which French-speaking country located in Europe?
15. Where is the basement in a 3 story building located?
16. Which part of Australia produces the most iron ore?
a. Canberra / b. The Great Barrier Reef / c. Canada
d. Western Australia
17. If you have 3 apples, how many apples do you have?
18. Ice is simply frozen...
a. water / b. sugar / c. ice cream / d. air
19. Australia's first female Prime Minister was...
a. Tarzan / b. Julia Gillard / c. Lord Marmaduke
Langford de Bomba Jnr. / d. Napoleon Bonaparte
20. Is the cat an animal?
1. yes / b. no / c. I don't understand the question.

(continues on Page 12)

The Kidnapping

A blonde was down on her luck. In order to raise some money, she decided to kidnap a kid and hold him for ransom. So she went to the playground, grabbed a kid, took him behind a tree, and told him, "I've kidnapped you!"

She then wrote a note which said: "I've kidnapped your kid. Tomorrow morning, put \$10,000 in a paper bag and put it under the pecan tree next to the slide on the north side of the playground. A blonde."

The blonde then pinned the note to the kid's shirt and sent him home to show it to his parents.

The next morning the blonde checked, and sure enough, a paper bag was sitting beneath the tree. The Blonde opened up the bag and found the \$10,000 with a note that said, "How COULD you do this to a fellow blonde?"

Blondes on Everest

Eleven people were clinging precariously to a wildly swinging rope suspended from a crumbling outcropping on Mount Everest. Ten were blonde, one was a brunette.

As a group they decided that one of the party should let go. If that didn't happen the rope would break and everyone would perish. For an agonising few moments no one volunteered. Finally the brunette gave a truly touching speech saying she would sacrifice herself to save the lives of the others.

The blondes applauded.

Alligator Shoes

A young blonde was on vacation in the depths of Louisiana. She wanted a pair of genuine alligator shoes in the worst way, but was very reluctant to pay the high prices the local vendors were asking. After becoming very frustrated with the "no haggle" attitude of one of the shopkeepers, the blonde shouted, "Maybe I'll just go out and catch my own alligator so I can get a pair of shoes at a reasonable price!"

The shopkeeper said, "By all means, be my guest. Maybe you'll luck out and catch yourself a big one!"

Determined, the blonde turned and headed for the swamps, set on catching herself an alligator.

Later in the day, the shopkeeper is driving home, when he spots the young woman standing waist deep in the water, shotgun in hand. Just then, he sees a huge 9-foot alligator swimming quickly toward her. She takes aim, kills the creature and with a great deal of effort hauls it on to the swamp bank. Laying nearby were several more of the dead creatures. The shopkeeper watches in amazement.

Just then the blonde flips the alligator on its back, and frustrated, shouts out: "Damn it, this one's not wearing shoes either!"

The Blonde Pilot

A blonde went to a flight school, insisting she wanted to learn to fly that day. As all the planes were currently in use, the owner agreed to instruct her on how to pilot the helicopter solo by radio.

He took her out, showed her how to start it and gave her the basics and sent her on her way.

After she climbed 1000 feet, she radioed in. "I'm doing great! I love it! The view is so beautiful, and I'm starting to get the hang of this."

After 2000 feet, she radioed again, saying how easy it was becoming to fly.

The instructor watched her climb over 3000 feet, and was beginning to worry that she hadn't radioed in. A few minutes later, he watched in horror as she crashed about half a mile away. He ran over and pulled her from the wreckage.

When he asked what happened, she said, "I don't know! Everything was going fine, but as I got higher, I was starting to get cold. I can't remember anything after I turned off the big fan."

The Job Interview

A blonde goes for a job interview in an office. The interviewer decides to start with the basics. "So, miss, can you tell us your age, please?"

The blonde counts carefully on her fingers for about 30 seconds before replying "Ehhhh...23!"

The interviewer tries another straightforward one to break the ice. "And can you tell us your height?"

The young lady stands up and produces a measuring tape from her handbag. She then traps one end under her foot and extends the tape to the top of her head. She checks the measurement and announces, "Five foot two!"

This isn't looking good so the interviewer goes for the real basics. "And, um, just to confirm for our records, your name please?"

The blonde bobs her head from side to side for about twenty seconds, mouthing something silently to herself, before replying "Mandy!"

The interviewer is completely baffled at this stage, so he asks "Just out of curiosity, miss. We can understand your counting on your fingers to work out your age, and the measuring tape for your height is obvious, but what were you doing when we asked you your name?"

"Ohh that!" replies the blonde, "That's just me running through, 'Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you...'"

A police officer stops a blonde for speeding and asks her very nicely if he could see her license. She replied in a huff, "I wish you guys could get your act together. Just yesterday you take away my license and then today you expect me to show it to you."

Nizam's Night of Terror

By Vic Jeffery

By January, 1945, one of the glamour ships of the Royal Australian Navy, the N Class destroyer *HMAS Nizam* had survived four hectic years of war. She had served in Malta convoys, the evacuation of Crete – being the last British vessel to leave Suda Bay before the Germans occupied the port (only four hours later) and in company with her sister ship *HMAS Napier* evacuated over 1400 troops.

Nizam had been a reasonably lucky ship. Near-missed by enemy bombs and shellfire in the Mediterranean, on October 17, 1943, she survived a submarine attack in the Indian Ocean when a German U-boat fired two torpedoes which missed.

The *Nizam* completed a refit at Williamstown Naval Dockyard on February 9, 1945, and with new Commanding Officer LCDR W.F. (Bill) Cooke in command, sailed for Fremantle.

At 2215, while 11 nautical miles off Cape Leeuwin on the southern West Australian coast, on the dark night of February 11, the *Nizam* was struck on the starboard side almost simultaneously by a heavy squall, the southeast winds increasing greatly in force, and a freak wave. Steaming at 21.5 knots, *Nizam* rolled a terrifying 70 degrees and veered sharply to starboard causing the helmsman to lose his balance with no compensating wheel put on.

Before the order could be passed from the bridge, the Engineering Officer, who was in the engineroom at the moment, stopped both engines to prevent damage to the starboard shaft which was racing as the screw left the water. Ten ratings were hurled or washed overboard from “B” gundeck, the port signalling projector platform, No.1 portside Oerlikon 20mm gun platform, and the upper deck.

HMAS Nizam had taken an enormous hammering; lifeboats and davits were swept away, the lubricating oil ran out of the starboard engine, safety valves lifted, light anti-aircraft gun platforms and shields were bent, pipes fractured, wooden shell room battens broken, guard rails damaged and her electrical system in tatters.

A tremendous amount of water had been taken on board the lower deck in the incident. The near gale force winds and the spray whipped up by the high winds kept visibility to only 20 metres and the hopeless task to find those washed overboard was abandoned after an hour. Searching aircraft combed the area the next day in a fruitless effort to find survivors or bodies. No trace of the missing men was ever found.

After carrying out repairs in Fremantle, *HMAS Nizam* joined the British Pacific Fleet for the assault on Okinawa in the final strike against Japan. *Nizam* was a unit of the Allied fleet which entered Tokyo Bay on August 28, 1945, and was there when the Japanese surrender was signed on September 2, 1945.

HMAS Nizam paid-off at Sydney after steaming more than 295,000 nautical miles on wartime RAN service and reverted to the Royal Navy on October 18, 1945. In 1955, *Nizam* was sold for scrap, arriving at the yards of T.W. Ward of Grays, Essex, where she was broken-up.

Source: *Navy News* 14 August 1995

(This is an edited version of the original article.)

Instant Divisions 1944

In addition to generating troops almost faster than they were lost, the number of German divisions and units actually grew until the last few months of WWII. However, this was a matter of appearance versus reality.

Many units had been reduced to mere cadres during the last months of 1944, with few officers and men. They remained numbers on the roles, but little else. Rather than let these units disappear, they were allowed to remain as shadow divisions, to be filled by reserves as well as by dissolving fortress and other static and security units.

A more basic way of keeping so many units in the field was to alter the organization of the unit. It was at the lowest levels that economies were made.

For example, while the typical tank company had 32 tanks in 1938, they were down to 12 in 1945. Admittedly, the 1945 tank had a lot more punch than its 1938 counterpart, but, at the same time, giving fewer tanks per company allows more tank companies to be fielded from a fixed number of tanks. Similar economies were practiced in other arms.

Another expedient was not maintaining units at full strength. If a battalion had three companies, nominally, only two would actually be fielded.

Yet another way of keeping the “traditional” divisions around was to combine several Kampfgruppen (ad hoc units formed after a division was badly battered in combat) into a new division. In the end the Germans were not even so subtle as to merely omit a company or battalion.

Divisions were raised by fixing a location for a headquarters, assigning a commander (they had spare generals after the last half of 1944) and sending out a few troops. This was the ultimate in instant divisions and was the way in which Wenck's 12th Army and Steiner's Army Group were “raised.” It is also the reason why they never did anything of merit. They were only a fraction of their nominal strength, but were assigned missions which only an army of full strength could do.

Nothing of real value was accomplished by fielding these phantom units. Numbers of units do not replace the lack of troops. They do provide more flags on situation maps. Certainly Hitler seems to have enjoyed that, if nothing else.

Source: *Strategy & Tactics* magazine, No.50

Memorial Unveiling Ceremony Schedule

Thursday 2 May 2019 at Quarry Park, Footscray

Program for the unveiling of the Melbourne Korean War Memorial

- 0900-0955 Greetings to Veterans and Guests
0940-0955 Australian Army Band Melbourne Pre-Opening Performance
0950-1000 Official Arrival
1000 MC Call to Order
1000-1005 National Anthems by Soprano Hye-won SHIN
1005-1010 Unveiling Address: Korean Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs, **the Hon. Woo-jin PI**
1010-1015 Unveiling Address: Premier of Victoria, **the Hon. Daniel Andrews MP**
1015-1025 **Joint Unveiling of Memorial:**
Site Introduction by Director **Nigel HIGGINS** –Band Fanfare –All stand
–VIP Officials move forward –Unveil Memorial –back to seats
1025-1030 Congratulatory Address: Korean Ambassador to Australia **His Excellency Baek-soon LEE**
1030-1035 Congratulatory Address: Minister for Veterans' Affairs in Victoria **the Hon. Robin SCOTT MP**
1035-1040 Congratulatory Address: Korean Consul-General in Melbourne **Mr Sung-hyo KIM**
1040-1045 Congratulatory Address: Mayor of Maribyrnong City Council **Cr Martin ZAKHAROV**
1045-1050 Congratulatory Address: President of Melb. Korean War Memorial Committee **Mr Jong-gon CHOI**
1050-1055 Response: President of Korean War Veterans Association of Australia **Mr Tom PARKINSON**
1055-1100 The Catafalque Party and Flat Parties mount by Australian Army Band Melbourne
1100-1115 All to Worship by Military Chaplains
1115-1120 Laying of Wreaths by VIPs and Guests
1120-1125 Military Ceremony (The Ode –Last Post –1-minute Silence –Rouse)
1125-1130 The Catafalque Party stands down
1130-1140 Band recital and celebration performance
1140 MC announces the end of ceremony
1140-1145 Photo Opportunity
1145-1225 <<Move to Luncheon venue>>

<Luncheon Reception to follow>

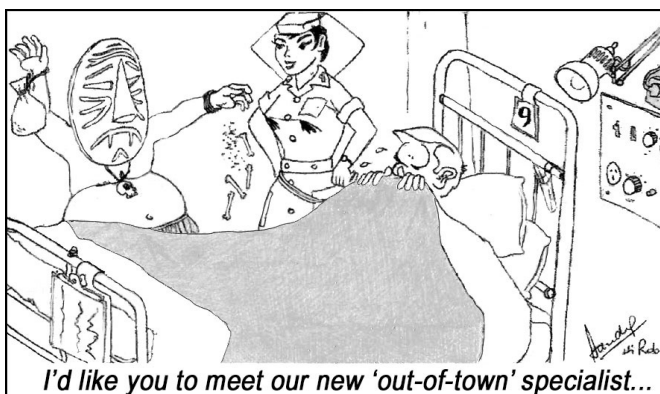
- 1300 Luncheon begins
1300-1335 Welcoming Address: Korean Consul-General in Melbourne **Mr Sung-hyo KIM**
1335-1340 Congratulatory Address: Mayor of Korean Gapyeong County **Cr Seong-gi KIM**

Entrée serving

- 1340-1350 Cultural performance 1 – Children's TaeKwonDo Demonstration
1350-1405 Cultural performance 2 – Korean tradition vocal music and dance medley by 'Sori'
1405-1415 Photo slideshow and video play

Main Serving

- 1415-1420 MC announces the end of ceremony



Farewells

Keith Langdon, 3400252, 3RAR on 2 March 2019

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