

RICOCHET

Monthly newsletter of VVAA Sunshine Coast Sub-Branch Inc., FEBRUARY 2021



RAAF Centenary Page 3.

Looking back on a big year for Defence

Last year was difficult and disruptive for our nation and was a defining year for Defence.

At the beginning of 2020, as Australia burned, Defence swung into action with the largest-ever mobilisation of the ADF in response to a domestic disaster. More than 8200 personnel supported authorities in six states and territories as part of Operation Bushfire Assist.

As this crisis abated another arrived in the form of a global pandemic. A Defence COVID-19 taskforce was formed on March 9, with Operation COVID-19 Assist announced on April 1.

Since that time, more than 13,000

ADF personnel have deployed across the nation to support state and territory governments. This support continues today.

Despite the horrors of the bushfires and restrictions of the pandemic, military operations, deployments and joint exercises were conducted in and beyond our region throughout 2020.

About 16,300 military and civilian Defence personnel deployed on domestic operations and about 4100 on overseas operations.

Navy had an average of 15 ships at sea a day and conducted 44 foreign port logistic visits across 15 nations. Air Force units completed more than 53,000 hours of flying and Army

undertook 96 international engagement activities, resulting in the training of more than 500 foreign counterparts.

HMAS *Parramatta* deployed to South and Southeast Asia from February to May, engaging in joint exercises with the US Navy.

The centrepiece was Exercise Rimpac – the world's largest maritime exercise – involving 10 nations, including seven from the Indo-Pacific, in August.

Australia continued to protect its borders and offshore maritime interests in the 14th year of Operation Resolute.

• Continued page 3

SEE YOU AT OUR AGM: TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 1000



OUR MISSION: To assist ALL veterans and their dependents in all matters relating to their health, welfare and well-being.

Our website: www.vietnamvetssc.org.au

Email: secretaryvvaasc@gmail.com **Editor:** ricocheteditor@gmail.com

General information Page 2.

Veterans & Families Counselling

OPEN ARMS

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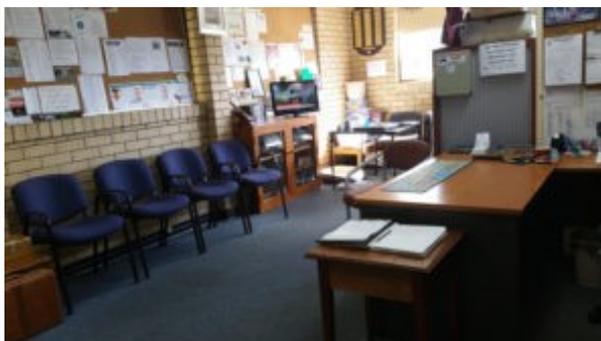
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OFFICE HOURS: The Drop-In Centre hours have been extended — now open Monday to Friday 0900 to 1300 (9am — 1 pm).



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This service provides counselling and support to all veterans of overseas conflicts. The families of Vietnam Veterans are also able to receive counselling through us. Group programmes include the Lifestyle Management Program (5 days live-in with partner) and the Heart Safe Program (12 month gym). Other therapeutic/educational groups are being planned for the Sunshine Coast.

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OUR MISSION: To assist all veterans and their dependents in all matters relating to their health, welfare and well-being.

• Continued from Page 1.

The ADF, as part of Maritime Border Command's multi-agency taskforce, conducted security and surveillance activities.

In 2020, there were regular Regional Force Security Group deployments and a Shadow tactical unmanned aerial vehicle supported maritime border surveillance activities for the first time.

The ADF continued contributing to Australia's environmental and scientific endeavours in the Antarctic as part of Operation Southern Discovery.

Under Operation Solania, which commenced in 1988, the ADF worked with 13 other nations as part of Operation Rai Balang in March to track and thwart multiple illegal fishing operations over more than 14 million square kilometres in the Southwest Pacific.

The ADF also partnered with Fiji's Military Forces for construction works activity in the ongoing Exercise Coral Sapper.

RAAF Poseidon aircraft made important contributions to regional security, flying from Malaysia's Butterworth Air Base to conduct maritime surveillance in the North Indian Ocean and South China Sea as part of Operation Gateway, and from the Kadena Air Base in Japan to help enforce UN Security Council sanctions against North Korea under Operation Argos.

Defence also contributed to life-saving humanitarian efforts in the Pacific.

Defence's activities and achievements in 2020 are testimony to the professionalism, resilience and dedi-

Testimony to ADF dedication

cation to duty of our military personnel and civilians.

In 2020, ADF personnel continued to deploy in support of United Nations' peacekeeping missions in the Middle East and Africa.

Across the broader Middle East region, about 600 ADF personnel deployed on Operation Accordion provided overarching support to Operations Highroad, Manitou and Okra, including communications, air mobility, movements support, and command and control.

In Afghanistan, as part of Operation Highroad, the ADF completed missions focused on mentoring and training Afghan forces – in Kandahar, and at the Afghan National Army Officer Academy in Kabul – complementing the progress made by the Afghan defence and security forces. Australia has decreased its troop numbers in Afghanistan to 80 personnel.

Australia also reduced its naval presence in the Middle East to prioritise defence activities in our immediate region as we contend with a less-benign Indo-Pacific.

Under Operation Okra, 110 ADF personnel continued to support the international coalition against Daesh to prevent the group's resurgence in Iraq and Syria.

Australia completed its contribution to Task Group Taji in June, having trained more than 47,000 members of

the Iraqi Security Forces.

It is fair to say 2020 threw a lot at Australians. First bushfires, then a pandemic, a global recession and a changing regional and strategic environment which is presenting new challenges.

Throughout it all, Defence was there for Australians, supporting them and protecting our national interests.

Defence's activities and achievements in 2020 are testimony to the professionalism, resilience and dedication to duty of our military personnel and civilians and to the Defence enterprise's ability to adapt, respond and mobilise.

Note: This unattributed article is from the ADF website, dated 12 January 2021. Interestingly it does not include one significant issue faced by the ADF last year: The Brereton Report into alleged war crimes committed by ADF personnel during the war in Afghanistan 2005-2016. The article has been abridged here but is available in full at:

<https://news.defence.gov.au/national/adf-challenges-2020>

RAAF marking Centenary

On 31 March 2021, the Royal Australian Air Force will mark 100 years of service to Australia.

Air Force 2021 is planning a national series of events and initiatives that will honour the sacrifices and service of the last 100 years, demonstrate today's highly capable force, and foreshadow our continued evolution into the future.

Visit the Centenary website to learn more and stay up to date: www.airforce.gov.au/100

PICTURED FRONT PAGE: The F-35A Lightning II is described as the Australian Defence Force's first fifth-generation air combat capability. It is a highly advanced multi-role, super-sonic, stealth fighter which will meet Australia's requirements to defeat current and emerging threats. The first F-35A squadron, No. 3 Squadron, will be operational this year.—



A RECORD 75 attended the December Rifleman's Lunch at Mooloolaba Surf Club. They included this group of old and not-so-old Diggers from 6RAR. The monthly lunches are held on the first Friday.

From the President

Hi Everyone,

I hope that you and yours had a wonderful Christmas break and all went well with you over the festive period. Although this damn Covid thing has caused all sorts of problems throughout the last year or so, we have still managed to man the office at the Drop In Centre, albeit only the one day of the week. However, since our last informal Committee meeting, we agreed that as and from that date, the Drop In Centre would open once again, Monday to Friday between the hours of 9am to 1pm, manned each day by members of your Committee. The exception is Thursday's, when the office will open at 7.30am - 1pm.

As you may by now be aware, our Annual General Meeting is set down for the 16 February, 2021, at the conference room within the Drop In Centre. After that date, we will then return to our regular monthly meetings

which will take place at the same venue on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 12 midday. Thank God for that!

We have a few problems at the current time which will have some impact on our organisation. The most important being:-

- Our Treasurer, Glen Preston has indicated that he will be standing down this year;

- Trying our hearts out attempting to get volunteers for the February Caloundra Tri;

- Same regarding volunteers for the Mooloolaba Tri in March; and,

- Brainstorming ideas to raise money now that we have no further sausage sizzles at Bunnings.

As indicated above, we desperately require volunteers to man positions as 'road marshals' at various positions within the Caloundra area in February (which might be too late to do anything

about now) and at Mooloolaba in March. It's not hard work and all you are asked to do in man a road barrier for part of the day and re-direct traffic if required. So how about it? Can some of you at least give your Committee a bit of a hand? It would be greatly appreciated. If you can assist, give us a call at the office on 5479 4552 leave your name and contact number and we will get back in touch with you.

Well, that's about it for now so please take care of yourselves and remember, if anyone has any good ideas on how we can advance our association, then please let us know. Best Regards,

**Mick Howe,
President**



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From the A/Secretary

Hope this email finds all our members and friends healthy and ready for a fabulous year ahead in 2021.

Christmas and New Year have come and gone and already we have been advised by two separate groups regarding upcoming triathlons in the first quarter of 2021.

We are currently looking for volunteers to marshal the smaller tri in Caloundra on the 7th February.

To ensure we can accommodate this request, Mick and myself will be looking to you guys for assistance as this will be our first opportunity this year to fund-raise.

Former volunteers for this event are aware that it needs a commitment of about four hours managing crossings and roundabouts

I will have more info on this in the coming days.

If you are not aware, we now open the DIC 5 days a week from

0900hrs to 1300hrs and duty officers have been appointed to cover these hours at this stage. We are however always looking for people to fill in when others are unavailable.

Sausage sizzles at Bunnings remain on hold at this stage, but we remain very much in contact with the relevant people.

Please be aware of our upcoming AGM which will be held in the meeting room on the 16th February at 1030 hrs.

This meeting will confirm Executive and Committee for the year

ahead.

In closing I wish you and yours all the best for 2021 and hope we can continue to aid our members and veterans in the manner we have in past years.

Cheers,

**Garry King
(Acting Secretary)**



RIP for former Governor-General

Michael Jeffery (left), a long-serving soldier who became Australia's Governor-General was remembered as a "warrior king" and "truly humble man" at his state funeral in December.

Born in 1937 in Western Australia he served in the Vietnam War and commanded the SAS.



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FROM THE EDITOR

HISTORY is alive, it is living, it can include various views depending on the recorder’s biases, perspective, context, sources and even memory.

The afternoon of 21 February 1967 is a time I recall vividly – when 5RAR’s B company including myself – was hit by mines in the Long Hais, stark dreaded mountains in Phouc Tuy, Vietnam.

But even that vividness has been blurred over time and, when the incident is discussed at reunions and informal catch-ups, there are invariably points of difference. Just as there are over the death of Errol Noack, the first 5RAR casualty and first Nasho killed in the war early in their tour before my time.

After a Track hit a mine, and in the aftermath someone trod on a Jumping Jack, nine deaths and 22 wounded was the toll that afternoon in the Long Hais. It was an event that I have written about both in poetry and prose in

this newsletter and elsewhere. One of our members, Jim Campbell, was awarded a DFC after flying in the RMO, “Doc” (Tony) White, and taking out wounded from the area.

The company commander and a platoon commander were seriously wounded and died later. My memory and that of others, is that my Nasho platoon commander became OC of B Company for a short time before Captain Max Carroll from A Company arrived on the scene later (as related in the official 5RAR account of the tour, *Vietnam Task*, by Robert J. O’Neill, battalion Intelligence Officer).

Recently I was surprised when doing a search on “5RAR Long Hais” when up came a document with a citation for a Military Cross for a Lt Michael Langley which read in part that as an artillery forward observer he had taken control of the situation after the mines incident. Not that I doubt that, but it just the sequence of events that

needed to be clarified — and it has been.

I must add that I was but a Digger at the time and in the last Track of the line of armoured personnel carriers ascending the mountain.

As I have written previously, the Long Hais also proved challenging for 5RAR on their second tour and for other units. Lest We Forget.

Best Wishes,

Kerry White
Editor



[Note: You can read an interesting account by Doc White (no relation) at <https://www.5rar.asn.au/narrative/longhai.htm> and Jim Campbell’s citation is here: https://www.5rar.asn.au/history/cite_campbell.htm]



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Volunteers get-together in Christmas spirit



Old soldiers catch up



AT THE January Riflemen's Lunch were Ian Atkinson (left) and Jim Connolly — in another life (Vietnam with 2 Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, 1967-68) Sunray21a and Sunray21, or Corporal Atkinson and Lieutenant Connolly, subsequently Warrant Officer Class 2 Atkinson and Major General Connolly.

PICTURED ABOVE: A Christmas Barbecue Lunch for our volunteers was held at the park on Cotton Tree Esplanade in December attended by nearly 30 ready to celebrate after a tough year due to COVID. Thai Dang, Diamond and friends came from Brisbane to help with a suitable cake (below) for dessert.



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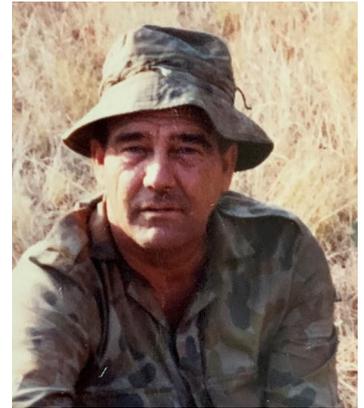
Nasho who stayed on

OBITUARY RALPH JEFFERY CADDIES 1945-2021

In April 1966, Ralph Jeffery Caddies (1731760) went into the Army for two years' National Service and retired in 1994 after several periods with the Regular Army and the Army Reserve (**pictured**).

His service totalled about 22 years – 10.5 with the Regular Army and 11.5 with the Army Reserve (including its predecessor the Citizen Military Force, or CMF).

He served in the Vietnam War from March 1968 to May 1969, first with 17 Construction Squadron, then 55 Engineering Workshop and Park Squadron.



Postings included 3 Training Battalion, School of Military Engineering (twice), 30 Terminal Squadron, (RAE Reinforcement Pool), 17 Construction Squadron, 55 Engineering Workshop and Park Squadron, 8 Signals Regiment, 1 Field Engineers Regiment, 9 Battalion Royal Queensland Regiment (twice), 5 Field Engineers Regiment.

He was born on 18 September, 1945 in Townsville and has lived in Nambour since 1980. He is survived by wife Sandra, four daughters, 11 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

His funeral service was held on Friday, 22 January at Gregson and Weight Chapel, Nambour. Lest We Forget.



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Rollers on display

One of the best kept secrets on the Sunshine Coast is the Henry Royce Foundation at Coolumb, a collection of 30 or 40 magnificent old vehicles, many pre-World War Two.

The display includes eight or nine Rolls-Royce and Bentley vehicles in perfect condition, plus a few other vehicles with RR engines, a free standing Merlin engine as used in Spitfires, Lancasters and Mosquitos, and an Avon jet engine used in the RAAF Sabres in the 50s and 60s.

The showroom opens on the first Saturday of the month, from 0700 to 1000, entry for only \$5. It is a magnet for revheads who roll up in all sorts cars from American muscle and hot rods to British and German sports and racers.

In December, a mixed bag of veterans and Mazda MX-5 sports car drivers met up and did just that **(pictured)** with an always obliging Frank Carroll, the mover and shaker behind the Henry Royce Foundation, who gave us a fascinating and very informative guided tour.

• Continued page 11.

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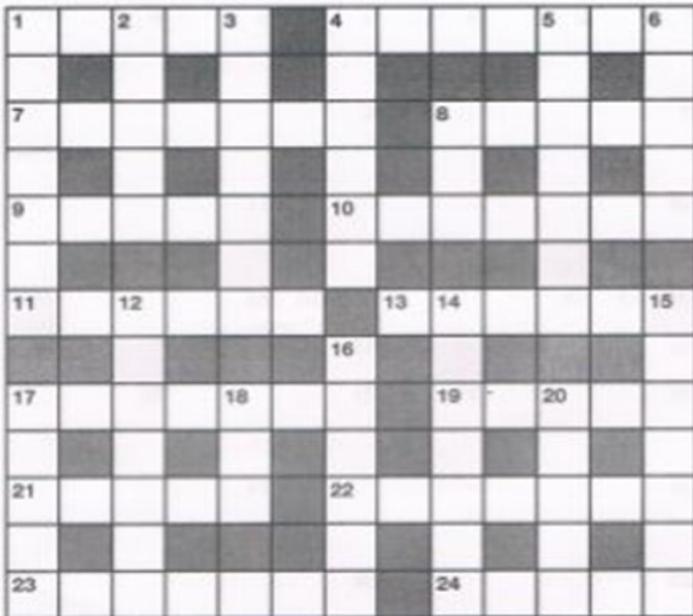
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JC's BEFUDDLEMENT PAGE



ACROSS

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Garret (5) | 11 Pact (6) | 23 Imagined (7) |
| 4 Communicative interaction (7) | 13 Strategy (6) | 24 Watercourse (5) |
| 7 Hassle (7) | 17 Time off (7) | |
| 8 Smithy's block (5) | 19 Stroll (5) | |
| 9 Tooth (5) | 21 Rough (5) | |
| 10 Reaches out (7) | 22 Eight-sided polygon (7) | |

DOWN

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1 Try (7) | 6 Stories (5) | 18 Employ (3) |
| 2 Supernatural creature (5) | 7 Pertinent (3) | 20 Start (5) |
| 3 Floorshow (7) | 12 Gourmet (7) | |
| 4 Mentally quick and resourceful (8) | 14 Disorderly (7) | |
| 5 Go forward (7) | 15 Everlasting (7) | |
| | 16 Unit of time (6) | |
| | 17 Perspicuous (5) | |

Some Puns For Intelligent Minds

1. The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.
2. I thought I saw an eye-doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.
3. She was only a whiskey-maker, but he loved her still.
4. A rubber-band pistol was confiscated from an algebra class because it was a weapon of math disruption.
5. No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
6. A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
7. A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownd-part.
8. Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.
9. A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it.

Aussie Trivia

1. Which former Australian Prime Minister set a beer drinking world record?
2. Before being named Melbourne, what was the city known as?
3. Which Aussie promised to "Go all the way with LBJ"?
4. What is Aussie slang for a 4WD that has never been driven off-road and is typically driven in the inner-city?
5. When an Aussie tried selling New Zealand on eBay, what was the starting price?
6. With the 5,000 km long Dingo Fence, Australia has the longest fence in the world. What else does it have the longest of?
7. Australia was the second country in the world to give women the vote. Who was the first?
8. What is a triantiwontigongolope?
9. Why was Australian Football invented?
10. Does Australia's or Switzerland's alps receive more snow?
11. What is the highest grossing Australian movie?
12. Who is the longest serving presenter of *Playschool*?
13. What was the design of the Sydney Opera House inspired by?
14. What unexpected animal does Australia export to Saudi Arabia?
15. What natural Australian landmark has its own mailbox?
16. Are there more kangaroos or humans in Australia?
17. Of the 25 deadliest snakes in the world, how many are found in Australia?
18. What's the ratio of sheep per person in Australia?
19. What Australian animal did England scientists think was a prank?
20. Which alcoholic beverage holder was invented in Australia?
21. Does Australia have a cattle station larger than the entire nation of Israel?
22. When security guards at Parliament House in Canberra were banned from calling people 'mate', how long did the ban last?
23. In Aussie slang, what does it mean to have a 'bo-peep'?
24. Where is the Big Prawn?
25. Australia is the world record holder for which Christmas decorative item?
26. Which actors played the characters, *Kath and Kim*?
27. Which classic Aussie film features the phrase, "Tell him he's dreaming."?
28. When an Aussie tells you he's going to "Bend an elbow", what is he about to do?
29. Why is Canberra the capital city of Australia?
30. In Australian idiom what is a furphy?

• ALL ANSWERS PAGE 17



Two by two

The first father and son in the Australian Army to serve in Vietnam about to leave Sydney for the war (right). Father is Warrant Officer Class 2 Raymond Wynne and the son is Corporal Paul Wynne. Both were members of the Royal Australian Army Provost Corps, and served in Vung Tau.—AWM photo



In 1969, David Bent was Senior Advisor to the 1st Battalion 51st Independent Regiment ARVN and is with his counterpart, Dai Uy (Captain) Ba, a 20-year veteran of “wars that never stopped,” then Captain (temp.) Bent recalls, “At the end I came home to peace. Doubt he ever saw it. Must admit that verbal communication required me to bend down. Hope he survived the end.”

Cars on display

• Continued from Page 9

The custom is to have coffee and/or a scrumptious breakfast at the German Bakehouse next door while eyeing each other’s what-nots, and then going to the showroom for a wonderful eye-candy experience.

He has a couple of Austin Champs, the forerunner to the Land Rovers in the British and Australian military. Why? Because, of course, they have Rolls-Royce engines.

And, to complete that display, he needs a full-size Bren LMG, rendered safe or a replica, to mount on the bonnet, either on loan or donated.

Put your thinking caps on, and see if we can find one. I came close at one museum I tried; trouble is, they had only one remaining. To think that in PNG when I was young and stupid, I personally had two, and they worked. – Peter Rogers.

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When you're laughing, the whole world laughs with you

Contributions from Chrissie Wesels (to whom any comment can be directed):

A gorgeous young redhead goes into the doctor's office and said that her body hurt wherever she touched it.

"Impossible!" says the doctor. "Show me."

The redhead took her finger, pushed on her left shoulder and screamed, she pushed her elbow and screamed even more. She pushed her knee and screamed; likewise she pushed her ankle and screamed.

Everywhere she touched made her scream.

The doctor said, "You're not really a redhead, are you?"

"Well, no," she said, "I'm actually a blonde."

"I thought so," the doctor said, "Your finger is broken."

.....

A police officer stops a blonde for speeding and asks her very nicely if he could see her driving licence.

She replied in a huff, "I wish you guys would get your act together! Just yesterday

they took my license away and now today you expect me to show it to you?"

.....

A blonde pushes her BMW into a gas station. She tells the mechanic it has died. After he works on it for a few minutes, it is idling smoothly.

She says: "What's the story?"

He replies: "Just crap in the carburettor."

She asks: "How often do I have to do that?"

And ... Two Kiwis, Trevor and Jeanette, are walking down a street in Bondi in Sydney. Trevor looks in a shop window and sees a sign that catches his eye.

The sign reads: "Suits \$10.00 each, Shirts \$4.00 each, Trousers \$5.00 per pair".

Trevor says to Jeanette, "Look! We could buy a whole lot of those, and when we get back to InZid, we could make a fortune".

"Now when we go onto the shop, you be quiet, okay? Just let me do all the talking cause if they hear our accent, they might not be nice to us."

The owner says, "This is a dry cleaners!"

Some of the annual Darwin Awards from Mick Howe:

Here is the glorious winner: When his 38 calibre revolver failed to fire at his intended victim during a hold-up in Long Beach, California, would-be robber James Elliot did something that can only inspire wonder.

He peered down the barrel and tried the trigger again. This time it worked.

Some honourable mentions:

- The chef at a hotel in Switzerland lost a finger in a meat cutting machine and after a little shopping around, submitted a claim to his insurance company. The company expecting negligence sent out one of its men to have a look for himself. He tried the machine and he also lost a finger. The chef's claim was approved.

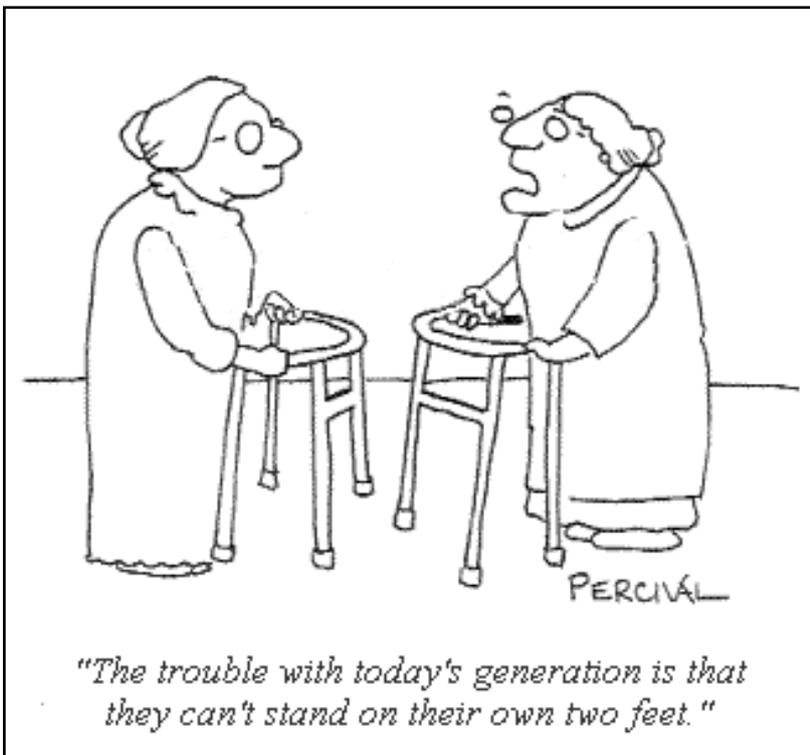
- A man who shovelled snow for an hour to clear a space for his car during a blizzard in Chicago returned with his vehicle to find a woman had taken the space. Understandably, he shot her.

- After stopping for drinks at an illegal bar, a

Zimbabwean bus driver found that the 20 mental patients he was supposed to be transporting from Harare to Bulawayo had escaped.

Not wanting to admit his incompetence, the driver went to a nearby bus stop and offered everyone waiting there a free ride.

He then delivered the passengers to the mental hospital, telling the staff that the patients were very excitable and prone to bizarre fantasies. The deception wasn't discovered for three days.



"The trouble with today's generation is that they can't stand on their own two feet."

I'll speak in my best Aussie accent."

"No worries", smiles Jeanette, "I'll keep my mouth shut."

They go in and Trevor says, "I'll take fifty suits at \$10.00 each, 100 shirts at \$4.00 each, and fifty pairs of trousers at \$5.00 each. I'll be back up my truck and..."

The owner of the shop interrupts, "You're from New Zealand aren't you?"

"Well... Yis," says a surprised Trevor. "How the hell did you know?"

February Timeline: From Baria to Breaker Morant

1 February, 1968: Tet comes to Baria, the capital of Phuoc Tuy province. A Company of 3 RAR and a troop of APCs fight a savage 24-hour battle to clear the town during the Vietnam War.

6 February 1851: On 'Black Thursday', European settlers in Victoria faced their first catastrophic bushfires, which burnt a quarter of the colony.

4 February 1856: Demands for electoral reform were a major political issue in Australia from the 1840s and increased in intensity with the arrival of large numbers of men during the 1850s gold rush. Reform became a reality in 1856 with the passing into law of universal male suffrage in South Australia and the secret ballot in Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia. Other Australian states followed suit soon afterwards.

6 February 1952: King George VI of England (pictured) died and his daughter, Princess Elizabeth, became Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Her actual coronation took place on June 2, 1953.

14 February 1954: The Flags Act came into effect making the current Australia officially the national flag. For the previous 50 years Australia's official flag was the British flag, the Union Jack.

14 February 1966: On Valentine's Day 1966 Australians woke to a brand-new currency. The decision to change from the Australian pound (with its awkward shillings and pence) to a decimal currency — the Australian dollar — had been a pragmatic, economic one, but decimalisation became an opportunity for Australia to assert itself as an increasingly self-assured and forward-thinking country.

19 February 1943: The Second World War was the first time Australians were conscripted to fight overseas. In November 1939 Prime Minister Robert Menzies announced that the existing reserve force, the Citizen Military Forces (CMF) or militia, would be bolstered by conscription. However, the CMF would not be required to fight beyond Australia and its territories, which did include Papua and New Guinea. That changed on 19 February 1943 when Menzies' successor, John Curtin, passed legislation requiring the CMF to fight further afield.



23–24 February, 1966: In the Vietnam War, 1 RAR is involved in the Battle of Suoi Bong Trang, while providing protection to US engineers building a tactically important road in the vicinity of Tan Binh, in central Binh Duong Province.

26 February 1973: Prime Minister Gough Whitlam announces establishment of diplomatic relations with Hanoi, but retains recognition of South Vietnam's Government.

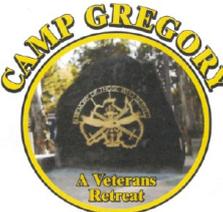
27 February 1902: Just before the end of the Boer War, lieutenants Harry 'Breaker' Morant and Peter Handcock were executed by firing squad for murdering 12 Boer prisoners of war. That they committed the crimes is beyond doubt. However, the controversy surrounding their trial and execution led to Morant being considered a folk hero by the Australian public.

Sources included:

<https://www.nma.gov.au/defining-moments/defining-moments-timeline> <http://www.vvaa.org.au/calendar.htm>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_Vietnam_War

<https://www.historyplace.com/specials/calendar>



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~ Onwards and Forward ~

January meeting for committee

COMMITTEE meeting Thursday, 28 January 2021 discussion, topics and notes:

Present: John H, Col P, John C, Kerry W, Johnno, Bob J, Chris W, Mick H. Apologies: Garry K, Gordon H.

Joyce from Lions Club – donation \$500. Query: is she available to be Treasurer at VVAASC?

Caloundra RSL Sub-Branch President sent an email regarding possible donations for Veteran activities, celebrations, etc. Contact Ian Harrison, Treasurer.

Mick H: some paper work with information re: volunteer requirement, names for Tri as per list. Hopefully, Mal will email list today with previous information.

John Felton advised upkeep of proposed park Memorial to be done by Sunshine Coast Council. The site is at Forest Glen, cnr of Forest Pines and Buderim St, not Nambour. John Felton will need to organise costing and apply for a grant. The park memorial is to honour Dan Keighran VC, who originated from Nambour.

John C advised that in the past Caloundra RSL would donate yearly \$1000 for printing costs of Ricochet. This is to be followed up 2021.

RSL booking for 18 August to follow strict COVID Plan. This may impact on number of people seated at each table.

Please ask all non-members to register in Visitors Book for COVID tracing.

If the sandwich board sign is placed outside it is to be thoroughly cleaned prior to being replaced inside; this is a COVID precaution as the sign could become infected and an unsuspecting D/Off has to pick up the sign to bring it in.

Mick H asked if Kerry W could take photos at the morning BBQ Thursday next week as a guest will be attending.

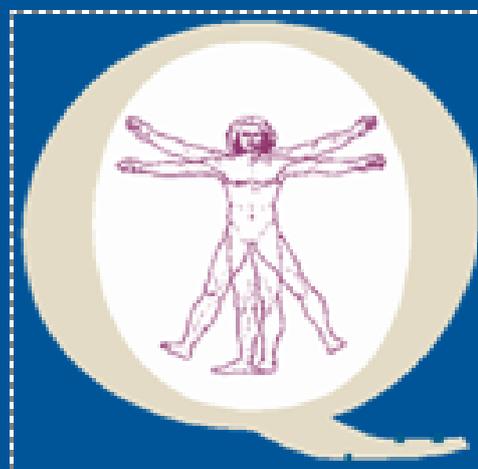
“The Treasurer Hunt” continues.

CAMERA WANTED

Anyone know where one of our people might be able to get on to a Hi 8mm tape camera. They were first made by Kodak in the 1950s and fell out of fashion after video cameras came in. Also wanted is a VHS-DVD recorder. Contact Scotty through the office if you can help.

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In 1917, official war photographer Frank Hurley arrived in the Middle East to document the actions of the ANZAC Mounted Division.

Hurley took hundreds of plates during his short time in the Middle East, including a number of staged photographs such as his famous scene of the 1st Australian Light Horse Brigade charging over the sandhills at Esdud (AWM B01510P).

This photograph was later featured in the first Australian-led exhibition of official war photographs in May 1918.

Some of Hurley's most famous

On show at the AWM

images of the war were taken during the Passchendaele campaign in the second half of 1917.

He ran considerable risks to get his shots, earning the name 'the mad photographer' from the troops.

War affected Hurley deeply but he also found the battlefield fascinating.

To explore this exhibition and more of Hurley's work visit the Memorial's online interactive Art of Nation <https://www.awm.gov.au/visit/exhibitions/art-of-nation>

Info sought on missing vet

The brother of a Vietnam veteran who disappeared in the early 1980s is hoping to receive information about him to help the family find some closure.

The veteran is Graham William Shelley (1735604, National Service), whose vehicle was found outside Derby, WA, but no trace of the driver was found apart from a diary. He had spent some time in Townsville.



Graham (pictured) was born in Kingaroy on 12 June 1947. He was a Gunner with 1st Field Regiment, then 4th Field Regiment in 1970-71) and may have been attached to 1 RAR at some time, probably as an FO.

His brother John is interested in receiving any information which can be sent through our member, John Cunningham at hookin1947@gmail.com or phone 0415375968.

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Mudjimba
679 David Low Way
ph. 5448 8755

BTPhysiotherapy.com.au

Battle continuing on campaign medal

The National Servicemen’s Association has, for many months, been fighting to have the Commonwealth Government change the protocols about the awarding of the Vietnamese Campaign Medal (pictured).

Through no fault of their own many Australians did not complete the required six months period in country. As such they were denied the award.

Jock Graham from the Sunshine Coast Sub-Branch of the national Servicemen’s Association has informed that, despite support from some politicians, the submission has stalled due to other issues such as COVID. Jock would like to reassure those who have registered with him that the battle will continue. Further updates will be provided when they come to hand.

If anyone would like to discuss the

matter with Jock, he can be contacted on 07 54414152 – **by John Cunnington.**

Editor’s comment: A 2014 Australian Government Inquiry into Eligibility for the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal found, among other conclusions:

- The RVCM is a foreign medal and is not an Australian campaign medal.
- The RVCM was accepted by the Australian Government because of the special circumstances of the Vietnam War. One key factor in the Government’s decision was that the RVCM was sufficiently different from the Australian Vietnam Medal in that it required six months’ service rather than the shorter period required for eligibility for the Vietnam Medal.
- To maintain the integrity of the

Australian honours and awards system and to keep faith with the intentions of the Government of the Republic of Vietnam the Tribunal concluded that the eligibility criteria for the medal should not be changed.

The complete report is at <https://defence-honours-tribunal.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/RVCM-Inquiry-Report.pdf>



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WHITE CARD: White Card holders are entitled to aids and appliances for assessed clinical need for their accepted disabilities that are caused by war or service.

We are happy to assist you in accessing eligible products and services you are entitled to through the DVA RAP program. It is always our aim to work with you to help keep you living safely and independently in your home for as long as possible.

*Warmest wishes,
Your ActivOT OT
Nora*

**Nora English
Occupational Therapist
M: 0435874440
E: nora@activot.com.au**



Welcome to 2021. I guess we are hoping there will be an end to this pandemic sooner than later. Many people are praying daily, and we wait for a downturn in the infection rate. Our daughter-in-law in Massachusetts told us that 4200 people a day were dying from COVID-19 in the United States. She has had her first vaccination with a second shot later this month.

We are truly blessed that those sorts of numbers of deaths have been kept out of Australia. The restrictions may have altered many of our plans, but I trust that our members, like Annette and me, are coping and adapting to the changes that have come into our daily lives.

I trust we can all thank God that despite the intrusions that COVID-19 has placed upon us, better days are coming.

Talking of intrusions, our grandson, Toby, who headed the audio team at the C3 church at Kawana, accepted the call to be part of a team from that church that went to Melbourne East 12 months ago to plant a new C3 church in Ringwood. Members who spent postings in the military around Melbourne would know of Ringwood.

Fireside with the Padre



Toby came home on a surprise visit before Christmas. Due back in Melbourne on 9 January, Greater Brisbane became a hot spot; Victorian residents could not return to Victoria for 14 days, so Toby is still in Queensland, riding out his housebound days at his sister's place on the Gold Coast. Like everything else, disruptions to our usual lifestyles, but we will get on top of it.

Out of my 26 years in the RAAF, I spent 14 years in Melbourne, some say, 'for my sins!' The centre of all my linguistic skills centred on the School of Languages at RAAF Base, Point Cook, so Melbourne area postings had to be expected.

One quick odd story about Point Cook. We had a long-term Warrant Officer Fireman 'Tiny' Jackson, who became Mayor of Werribee, the

nearby town to Point Cook. I can still see the Officer Commanding, Point Cook, at the entrance of the Officer's Mess to greet Mayor Jackson on an official visit and escort him into the Officers' Mess.

That afternoon military pecking order saw the Air Commodore superior in rank to the Warrant Officer. That night, for an official visit from the Mayor of the nearby town, the Mayor outranked the Air Commodore. That oddity would not happen often.

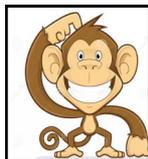
As we step out on 2021, I trust we can all look towards a brighter year than last year. For the Christians among us, we have a hope for the future that we trust flows on to our fellow man. My hope for 2021 is that some of that hope, and not the dreaded virus, will spread like wildfire.

Until next month, every blessing, and have a good AGM, hopefully it will be well attended by many of our members.

Arthur Fry

Honorary Chaplain

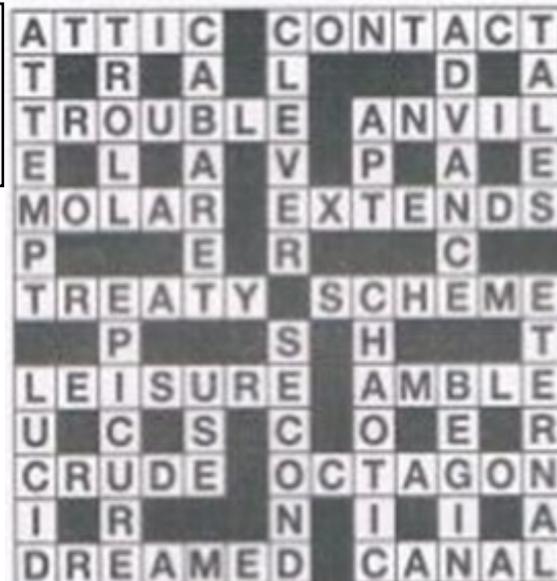
Answers from page 10



1. Bob Hawke (pictured below) — drinking 2.5 pints in 11 seconds.
2. Batmania—named after John Batman who built a settlement on the Yarra River.
3. Prime Minister Harold Holt.
4. Toorak tractor.
5. 1 cent.
6. We have the longest golf course in the world.
7. New Zealand.
8. A mythical insect.
9. To keep cricketers fit in the off season.
10. Australia.
11. *Crocodile Dundee*.
12. Benita.
13. An orange.
14. Camels.



15. The Great Barrier Reef. You can send it a postcard.
16. Kangaroos. There are over 40 million of them.
17. 21.
18. 6 to 1. There are over 150 million sheep in Australia.
19. The platypus. They believed us Aussies had stitched a duck's bill onto a rat.
20. the wine cask.
21. Yes.
22. One day.
23. A sleep.
24. Ballina.
25. The world's largest Christmas cracker.
26. Jane Turner and Gina Riley.



27. The Castle.
28. Drink a beer.
29. Because Sydney and Melbourne couldn't agree which city would be the capital, so we built a new city in between them
30. A rumour.

Hanoi thought US would support quest for independence

McNamara wanted to cover his term, 1961-68. The Vietnamese insisted on beginning in 1945, following the defeat of the Japanese in World War II. In the ensuing vacuum, they noted, Ho Chi Minh staked his claim for Vietnamese autonomy by including a passage from the American Declaration of Independence in his own declaration. They recalled his letter to President Truman -- unanswered -- seeking support for independence. Vietnam's most serious mistake, sardonically noted by Tran Quang Co, a former First Deputy Foreign Minister, came before 1945, when "we considered the U.S. a leading democratic country, which was opposed to colonialism," he said. "Therefore, we thought the U.S. would support our desire for independence. But we were wrong."

A quite different image of America had been fixed in the minds of the men around the table when the United States facilitated the return of French troops to re-establish France's colonies in Indochina, then provided financial and logistical support for the French in their unsuccessful war against the Viet Minh and then refused to sign the 1954 Geneva accords that called for Vietnamese elections. This was the picture of a colonialist power with "ambitions to become master of the world," said Thach, who from 1960 to 1975 was the North Vietnamese Foreign Ministry's chief specialist on the United States.

Woven into the harsh language was an instructive analysis of how misperceptions became reality. Co identified four mistaken images that shaped American behavior. First, when the 1954 accords divided Vietnam along a

"provisional" line, Washington saw something more permanent, underestimating the drive for reunification. "We never had two Vietnams," Co declared. "We had only one Vietnam. But the U.S. assessed it as two Vietnams."

Second, the Americans "misjudged the nationalist character of the revolution," he said. McNamara had already made the same point, admitting that Washington "underestimated the nationalist aspect of Ho Chi Minh's movement. We saw him first as a Communist and only second as a Vietnamese nationalist."

Third, "the nature of the struggle was not to undermine neighboring countries," Co continued. "The U.S. failed to understand the objective of our war. It was only for our own national liberation and reunification." This negated the domino theory.

And finally, Washington "misjudged the relations between Vietnam on the one hand and China and the Soviet Union on the other." Co pointed out what has become especially obvious since the demise of the Soviet Union: Vietnam was not a tool of world Communism. The theme resounded passionately throughout the conference. It meant that the central premise of the American motivation to defend South Vietnam was false. If these concepts seemed like echoes from the past, they were. Much of what the Americans were being told, and were

Continuing from the November issue, a feature article by David K. Shipler about a visit by Robert McNamara to North Vietnam after the Vietnam War. During the war McNamara was United States Secretary of Defense (1961 - 1968) under Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson. The article titled 'Robert McNamara and the Ghosts of Vietnam' was in The New York Times on 10 August 1997 (The article has American spelling).

now accepting, the antiwar movement had argued 30 years before.

In his opening statement on Friday morning, McNamara conceded that American behavior after World War II had caused the Vietnamese to form misimpressions "that the United States' principal goal in Southeast Asia was to destroy the Hanoi Government and its southern ally, the N.L.F." -- the National Liberation Front, or Vietcong. But "we in the Kennedy Administration had no such view and no such aims in Vietnam," he insisted. "On the contrary, we believed our interests were being

attacked all over the world by a highly organized, unified Communist movement, led by Moscow and Beijing, of which we believed -- I think incorrectly -- that the Hanoi Government of Ho Chi Minh was a pawn." He acknowledged having underestimated the Sino-Soviet rift.

The Vietnamese listened closely, but they seemed truly puzzled by the American obsession with the spread of Communism and sought more explanation. "If the reason was to fight Communism," they asked in a list of questions submitted beforehand, "why did the U.S. not help China in 1949, or why did the U.S. not help the Batista regime in Cuba in 1959?" They never got an answer, only a litany of conflicts, including two that nearly took the superpowers to war: the Berlin and Cuban missile crises of 1961 and 1962.

"We felt beset and at risk," McNamara said. "This fear underlay the Kennedy Administration's involvement in Vietnam." (A symmetrical domino theory gripped Moscow and Beijing, the American team had been told in Washington by Chen Jian, a Chinese scholar teaching in the United States. Newly obtained Soviet and Chinese documents reflected a fear that if North Korea or North Vietnam were lost, the Communist revolution could be reversed in Manchuria and perhaps all of China as well.)

Politely but pointedly, the Americans asked the Vietnamese to take some responsibility for their image. "If you believe that another country has a misperception about what you are trying to do," asked Katzenbach, the former Under Secretary of State, "my question is, What should you do to cure that misperception?"

- **Continued opposite.**
- **PHOTO: In 1995, Robert McNamara and legendary Vietnamese General Vo Nguyen Giap.**



- from opposite page

And later, adding that the domino theory was wrong but not irrational, he said: "I put myself in your place. The problem was, how would I, how would Vietnam, convince the United States that there was no domino theory?" Laughter but no answers came from the Vietnamese. Robert Brigham, an historian from Vassar, went on to point out that Chinese rhetoric in 1962 portrayed the N.L.F. as the first of many united fronts, "and nothing we saw coming out of Hanoi dissuaded us of that."

Once, Cooper turned the question around: "I would like to ask you if any mind-sets of Vietnam about the U.S. were wrong." A long silence followed. In private conversations later, the Vietnamese explained that the Foreign Ministry's sources of information on the United States had been limited to news summaries and issues of Time and Newsweek. They did not get any daily American newspapers, they said: a subscription to The New York Times was too expensive.

A couple of new facts emerged, not enough to revise the history books but sufficient for a lesson on how one side can read elaborate meaning into a coincidence and then react to the meaning rather than to the event itself. On Feb. 7, 1965, an American advisers' compound and airfield at Pleiku, South Vietnam, came under attack; eight Americans were killed and many more wounded. As Cooper explained to the Vietnamese generals across the table, Americans saw great significance in the timing. On that day, Cooper was in Saigon with McGeorge Bundy, the national security adviser at the time; they had been sent by President Johnson to assess the deteriorating military situation. Furthermore, on the same day the Soviet Premier, Aleksei Kosygin, was visiting Hanoi.

The choice of such a decisive moment to conduct the first specific attack on Americans was seen by Washington as a calculated policy move by Hanoi. In retaliation, the United States began its bombing raids on North Vietnam, which continued until the fall of 1968. Now Cooper wanted to know why Hanoi did it.

The answer came from Lieut. Gen. Dang Vu Hiep, a rotund, jolly-looking former deputy of the army's political department who was then stationed near Pleiku. "This was a spontaneous attack by the local commander" who acted under general orders to treat the South Vietnamese Army and its American advisers as equal enemies -- "no discrimination," he remarked with a smile. The assault, by 30 commandos, had been planned long in advance, he explained, but the timing was coincidental. No specific instructions for the attack came from Hanoi, and "we did not know Bundy was in Saigon," he insisted. "We were just attacking, so we had no reason to criticize our people for attacking. They got first-class medals." Since the Russians were trying to restrain Hanoi from fighting in the south, Kosygin "was not pleased, but he couldn't say anything," General Hiep added during a break.

Had the role of the local commander been known at the time, Washington would have seen the incident differently, both Cooper and McNamara conceded. "I think we'd have put less weight on it and put less interpretation on it as indicative of North Vietnam's aggressiveness," McNamara said. The same held for the Aug. 2, 1964, assault by North

'Timing of attack was coincidental'

Vietnamese patrol boats on the American destroyer Maddox in the Tonkin Gulf, McNamara added. That, too, was the initiative of a local commander, according to Gen. Nguyen Dinh Uoc, who heads the Institute of Military History. The alleged second Tonkin Gulf attack, on Aug. 4, never occurred, McNamara had been told by Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap, the military commander of North Vietnam during the war, in November 1995. At the time, the supposed attack had been used by President Johnson to secure a Congressional resolution providing broad authority for military action. Such details were mere footnotes, however, since the Vietnamese and American historians agreed that Washington would have found another pretext to bolster the decaying position of the Saigon Government.

Luu Doan Huynh, a Vietnamese scholar, came as close as anyone to giving McNamara what he wanted on China's probable response to an American invasion of North Vietnam. But the answer came in the form of analysis, not documentary evidence, and so it remained inconclusive. The Vietnamese were asked to supplement what had been learned from Chinese documents about a secret 1965 meeting in which Ho Chi Minh won from Mao Zedong a commitment to send Chinese troops in case of an American invasion. Nguyen Co Thach (pictured) replied curtly: "I have no evidence. Thank you."



Huynh went on to explain that China regarded north Vietnam as part of a buffer zone within its sphere of influence. "So China made adequate preparations," he said. "There was an agreement" under which thousands of Chinese engineering troops were stationed in North Vietnam to help with road construction. "They displayed their equipment for you to see from the air," he remarked. "The Chinese factor was a deterrent, but that did not mean we were very eager to use it. We wanted to fight you alone." The answer resolved nothing. "Hanoi's top leadership asked for and received commitments," Brigham said later. "It is not clear that China intended to follow through on those commitments."

Robert McNamara is still something of the systems analyst he was as a statistical control officer during World War II, as president of the Ford Motor Company, as Secretary of Defense and then as president of the World Bank. On his morning walks he calibrates his pace to four miles an hour and was pleased one rainy day to discover, on a hotel treadmill, how many calories he could burn. During the war he was so impressed by the logic of statistics that he tried to calculate how many deaths it would take to bring North Vietnam to the bargaining table.

Continued next issue. Robert Strange McNamara, who was born on June 9, 1916 in San Francisco, died on July 6, 2009 in Washington DC. His books included *In Retrospect: The Tragedy and Lessons of Vietnam* (1995). Your comments are welcome.

Roll of Honour – Vietnam, month of February 1962-75

February 1966

Andrews, John Harker (211090), 40, AATTV (att. RAI), Sgt (Temp. WO2), Albany Creek Crematorium, Brisbane.



Belleville, Graham Rhodes (54956), 32, AATTV (att. RAI), Lt (Temp. Capt.), Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth.



Grills, Edward Anthony (215418), 20, 1RAR, Pte, Stroud Cemetery, NSW.



MacDonald, James Alexander (53283), 27, RAE (att. AATTV), Sgt (Temp. WO2), Garden of Remembrance, Rookwood, Sydney.



Seipel, Raymond Douglas (15985), 24, 1RAR, Cpl, Mount Thompson Crematorium, Brisbane.



Suter, Thomas (17665), 20, 1RAR, LCpl, Garden of Remembrance, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.



February 1967

Arnold, Peter John (2781363), 21, 6RAR, Pte, Inverell Cemetery, NSW.



Birchell, Michael James (2781899), 21, 6RAR, Pte, Evergreen Memorial Park, Tamworth, NSW.



Bourne, Donald Mackenzie (23916), 35, 5RAR, Maj., Woden Cemetery, Phillip, Canberra.



Carruthers, John (36911), 28, 5RAR, Lt (provisional), Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.



Clark, Donald Murray (5713804), 21, 5RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Perth War Cemetery and Annex, WA.



Cliff, Richard William (1411047), 21, 1FldRegt, Gnr, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Bridgeman Downs, Brisbane.



February 1967 continued

Green, George Bruce (2782127), 21, 5RAR, LCpl, Pinegrove Memorial Park Cemetery and Crematorium, Sydney.



Hanley, Maxwell Powell (43593), 31, AUSINT, Cpl (Temp. WO2), Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.



Kelly, Barry Walter (6410158), 22, 6RAR, Pte, Cornelian Bay Public Cemetery, Hobart.



Kirby, John William (27758), 31, 6RAR, Sgt (Temp. WO2), Mount Thompson Crematorium, Brisbane.



Milligan, Robert Bruce (29635), 30, 5RAR, Lt (Temp. Capt.), Macquarie Park Cemetery and Crematorium, Sydney.



Mitchinson, Kevin Leslie (4717751), 21, 3Cav.Regt, LCpl, Garden of Remembrance, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.



Pomroy, Victor Ian (3786644), 21, 3Cav.Regt, Trp, Springvale Crematorium, Melbourne.



Poole, Michael Damien (342916), 20, 5RAR, Pte (Spec. List Bandsmen), Dromana Cemetery, Mornington Peninsula, Vic.



Powter, Douglas Roy J (2782783), 21, 6RAR, Pte, Parkes General Cemetery, NSW.



Rich, Adrian William (38728), 21, 6RAR, Pte, Hazelwood Cemetery, Vic.



Riley, Wayne Maurice (5411599), 19, 6RAR, Pte, Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth.



Rooney, Kerry Michael (15561), 24, 6RAR, LCpl, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Bridgeman Downs, Brisbane.



Roll of Honour – Vietnam, month of February 1962-75

February 1967 continued

Sandow, Richard Wayne (43496), 20, 5RAR, Pte, Albany Creek Crematorium, Brisbane.



Waters, Brian David (5713981), 22, 6RAR, Pte, Tambellup Cemetery, WA.



Webster, David Raleigh (5713986), 21, 6RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Perth War Cemetery and Annex, Perth.



Webster, James Clifton (5713751), 22, 5RAR, Pte, Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth.



Wilsen, Robert Peter (4717841), 21, 3CavRegt, Trp, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.



February 1968

Ayres, Marvin Walter (216920), 23, 7RAR, Pte, Rookwood Military Cemetery, Sydney.



Baines, George Terence (214230), 28, 1Sqn SAS, Sgt, Woronora Crematorium, Sutherland, Sydney.



Caston, Robert John (4719003), 21, 3RAR, Pte, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.



De Vries Van Leeuwen, Thomas J. (4718756), 22, 3RAR, Pte, Mount Barker Cemetery, SA.



Doherty, John Alexander (3789770), 23, 3RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.



Garrett, John Edgar (1200473), 20, 1FIdSqn, LCpl, East Ballina Cemetery, Ballina, NSW.



Godden, Guy Richard (6708763), 21, 3RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Carr Villa Cemetery, Launceston, Tas.



February 1968 continued

Grose, Thomas Joseph (61582), 20, 2RAR, Pte, Cornelian Bay Public Cemetery, Hobart.



Mathews, Geoffrey Francis (5714739), 21, 3RAR, Pte, Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth.



McLachlan, Colin William (13053), 38, 1FIdSqn, Sgt, Canungra Cemetery, Qld.



McMillan, Ross Charles (2785033), 22, 7RAR, LCpl, Uralla Cemetery, NSW.



Menz, James Leslie (38838), 22, 1DivLocBtry, LBdr, Marysville Cemetery, Vic.



Parrello, Antonio (36337), 30, AATTV (att RAI), Sgt, Botany General Cemetery, Botany, Sydney.



Pattison, Allan Graham (44042), 19, 1FIdSqn, Spr, Kadina Cemetery, SA.



Perrin, Robert Graham (3789447), 22, 7RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.



Rogers, John (4718449), 22, 2RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.



Steen, David John (4719232), 21, 1FIdSqn, Spr, Penola New Cemetery, SA.



Taylor, Leonard Alexander (3787987), 22, 3RAR, 2Lt, Box Hill Cemetery, Melbourne.



Vickers, Patrick John (O1622), 32, RAN HFV, LtCdr, Queensland Garden of Remembrance, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.



Roll of Honour – Vietnam, month of February 1962-75

February 1968 continued

Wilson, Kevin Ronald (3411951), 22, 2RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.



February 1969

Archer, Gary Alex (2788583), 22, 9RAR, Pte, Sydney War Cemetery, Sydney.



Byrne, Robert Alan (2786525), 22, 4RAR, Pte, Northern Suburbs Crematorium, Chatswood, Sydney.



Chant, Peter Allan (44265), 239, 9RAR, LCpl, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.



McConachy, Malcolm Ross (1201200), 21, 9RAR, LCpl, Belgian Gardens Cemetery, Townsville, Qld.



McGuire, Raymond Alfred (2787478), 23, 4RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Rookwood, Sydney.



Petersen, Victor Neils (1733375), 23, 4RAR, Pte, Queensland Garden of Remembrance, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.



February 1970

Baker, Douglas Alfred (43555), 27, 8RAR, Sgt, Happy Valley Cemetery, Happy Valley, SA.



Barrett, James Joseph (1200097), 24, 8RAR, LCpl (tempCpl), Mount Gravatt Lawn Cemetery, Brisbane.



Carlyle, Hugh (43941), 21, 3CavRegt, Trp, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.



Hoban, William Joseph (15400), 39, 8RAR, Sgt, Queensland Garden of Remembrance, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.



Hubble, Rodney Noel (55566), 19, 1FldSqn, Spr, Perth War Cemetery and Annex, WA.



February 1970 continued

Jackson, Robert James (2783512), 25, 8RAR, Cpl, Greta Cemetery, NSW.



MacLennan, Larry James (3795935), 21, 8RAR, Pte, Keilor Cemetery, Melbourne.



Maza, Reginald Nelson (15142), 39, 32SmlShpSqn, LCpl, Botany General Cemetery, Sydney.



Munday, Barry John (3795712), 22, 8RAR, Pte, Springvale Cemetery, Melbourne.



Pesonen, Timo Esko A (7154), 20, 8RAR, Pte, Queensland Garden of Remembrance, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.



Richter, Philip Mackay (3796110), 21, 8RAR, Pte, Woden Cemetery, Phillip, Canberra.



Thompson, Barry John (2789920), 22, 5RAR, Pte, Gunning Cemetery, Gunning, NSW.



West, Garry Maxwell (61912), 19, 8RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Cornelian Bay Public Cemetery, Hobart.

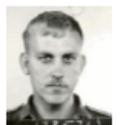


Whiston, Barry John (1202024), 23, 3CavRegt, LCpl, Mount Thompson Crematorium, Holland Park, Brisbane.



February 1971

Kowalski, Peter Francis (1735712), 23, 2RAR, Pte, Nudgee Cemetery, Brisbane.



Lyddieth, Trevor (26832), 38, RAASC (att AATTV), WO2, Northern Suburbs Crematorium, Chatswood, Sydney.



Lyon, Terance Edward (52503), 35, 2AOD, WO2, Springvale Cemetery, Springvale, Melbourne.



Roll of Honour – Vietnam, month of February 1962-75

February 1971 continued

Patten, Raymond Brian (2141115), 20, 7RAR, Pte, Rookwood Necropolis, Rookwood, Sydney.



Ross, Grant Stuart (17101), 27, HQ AFV RAAOC, Capt., Queensland Garden of Remembrance, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.



Talbot, Alan (3797623), 21, 7RAR, Pte, Fawkner Crematorium & Memorial Park, Melbourne.



Information and photos from Australian War Memorial, Roll of Honour; Department of Veterans Affairs; Virtual War Memorial, Australia; Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Wall of Faces; Find A Grave.

‘At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them ...’



The Long Hais

THE preceding Roll of Honour includes several deaths in February 1967, when the editor’s unit, B Company 5RAR, was savaged by mines while on operation in the Long Hais. Other Aussie units lost people in the same area over ensuing years. Editor Kerry White took this photo of the now-serene, but imposing Long Hais on a visit in 2017 (see Page 6).

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