

THE VOICE

April 2011 Edition

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Korean Picnic Report

Due to the appalling weather which hit Melbourne on the night before (the tail of Cyclone Yasi) and the threat to belt down the next day, the Korean picnic day held on 5th February to welcome the Chinese New Year, was a much diminished event. The picnic part, and the grounds on which it is held, was abandoned. However, the Aqualink Centre in Box Hill contains more than just a couple of swimming pools and picnic ground, so some of the racing and other more vigorous activities were moved to the volleyball courts indoors. Given the weather and the diminished activities, numbers were naturally down; however, the hundred or thereabouts who did attend seemed to enjoy the occasion. Ironically, Saturday afternoon, though cloudy with occasional drizzle, was largely cool and fine. The picnic part of the day probably could have gone ahead after all. Melbourne weather: unpredictable one day, unfathomable the next.



Being as fluent in Korean as I am in ancient Tibetan (in other words, not at all), I have no idea what this race was all about. I think, it had something to do with who could deliver bags of smelly garbage the fastest – which explains the speed of the racers and their enthusiasm to get rid of their bundle.



Young fans watching their heroes race



Some found the excitement too much and opted for an activity a little more sedate.



Associate Member

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

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Korea War Veterans Association of NSW
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Australian Peacekeepers and Peacemaker Veterans' Association Inc.

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www.austkoreavets.asn.au

Merchandise Available

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

TOTAL . . . \$ _ _ _

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

Surname: Given Names:

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Cheques or monery orders should be made out to:

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



Vic Dey, National President, KVAA Inc.

President's Report

Sometimes it is impossible to attend every ceremony/service that we, as an Association, receive. So I would like to express my sincere thanks to Ron Kennedy who represented us at the Fountain Gate Secondary College on Friday 4th March on the occasion of their Annual Leadership Assembly Presentation Day.

On Sunday 20th March, my wife and I accepted with pleasure, an invitation to attend the Melbourne Legacy Annual President's Luncheon at the Melbourne Town Hall. Many ex-service organizations were present at the function and the Guest Speaker was Professor Bruce Scates who had all present enthralled with his "The Origin of Anzac Day" talk. He spoke in detail and obviously with a vast knowledge of the subject. Fantastic.

Our adopted school, Fountain Gate Secondary College, will be holding their Annual Anzac Day Memorial Ceremony on 7th April. A little early this year because of school holidays and Easter. This year we will have the Korean Ambassador, Dr Woosang Kim, in attendance. This should prove both an interesting and a rewarding day for both the students and veterans.

On April 8th there is to be a reception at the Malvern Town Hall on the occasion of the launch of the Korea-Australia *Year of Friendship*. Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations. This Korean arts gala performance will be hosted by the Korean Ambassador, Dr Woosang Kim.

As we are fast closing in on Anzac Day, may I wish all members/wives/widows, wherever you maybe on April 25th, may you enjoy good company and at the same time spare a thought for our mates who did not make it home and also our comrades who have since passed on.

The Allies Invade North Africa

by Matt Dattilo

Matt Dattilo is a amateur historian from Indiana, USA, who puts out his own podcast, Matt's Today in History. Each episode lasts only about 5-10 minutes and covers a variety of topics, many military related. They are free to download and can be found at: <http://www.mattstodayinhistory.com/ry.xml>

On 8 November 1942, British and American forces went ashore in French North Africa. This invasion, called Operation Torch, was the first offensive operation by US forces in Europe. The operation also carried with it many political hazards, for the landing beaches were defended (or not defended, in some cases) by French troops under the command of the Vichy government; that is, the French government formed by the Germans after they invaded France in 1940.

In the fall of 1942, Allied victory in World War Two was far from certain. German forces were still on the offensive in the Soviet Union, prompting Stalin to push Roosevelt and Churchill to open up a front in Western Europe that would relieve the pressure on the Russian forces. War planners in the United States wanted to invade some part of occupied Europe in 1942 or early 1943, an operation they dubbed Sledgehammer. The British, rightly so, were more cautious and warned the American generals that an attempted invasion of France or any other occupied area in Western Europe would end in disaster. After all, the only experienced soldiers in the Armed Forces of the United States were already committed in the Pacific; the Yankees in Europe were all green. Eventually, a compromise was reached: a landing would take place in Morocco and Algeria, both countries under the control of Vichy government. This would place the Allies at the rear of the German Afrika Corps, whom the British were still fighting near Egypt.

The assault consisted of three major amphibious landings at Casablanca, Oran and Algiers. The *Western Task Force*, commanded by Major General George Patton, was made up entirely of American soldiers who were transported to North Africa directly from the United States, the only time during the war such a long pre-invasion transit would take place. The *Central Task Force* was also comprised of American soldiers. The *Eastern Task Force* consisted of a British division and an American division.

The French defence of the invasion beaches was mixed; in some areas it was fierce, while in others it was non-existent with some French officers actually welcoming the Allies ashore. There was a significant French naval presence in the area, but their performance was sporadic at best. Many of the ships were destroyed at their anchorages; one French battleship bravely fought from her dry dock but was hammered by the USS *Massachusetts*.

All of the major objectives of the invasion had been achieved by November 10th. The allies headed east towards the Germany forces who would put up a fierce defence in order to maintain their grip on North Africa. By the spring of 1943, the Germans were cut off from their supply lines and had a dwindling area of desert under their control. In May, 1943, the Axis forces in Tunisia surrendered.

Notices I

R.A.N. Battle Class Social Club

Annual National Reunion - Hobart 2011

An invitation to all ex-naval personnel and families.

When: September 29th - October 2nd 2011

Where: Hobart, Tasmania

Venue: Hobart Macquarie Hotel
Macquarie Street, Hobart, Tasmania

Cost: \$135.00 per couple inc. full buffet breakfast.
\$55.00 per head - Registration & Sat. Dinner Dance
(including pre-dinner drinks).

Program:

(Additional costs for events other than Saturday night dinner)

Thursday 29th Sept.: Meet & Greet with buffet meal at night

Friday 30th Sept.: Day Bus Trip
Evening reception at Government House

Saturday 1st Oct.: Free day - Dinner Dance at night

Sunday 2nd Oct.: Cenotaph Service, Lunch,
Farewell Drinks & Finger Food at Night

For Further Information on Membership or Reunion:

Geoff (Wiggy) Bennett

7 Viola Crescent, Highett Vic 3190

Tel: (03) 9532 3672 Fax: (03) 9532 3672

Email: benhun@bigpond.net.au or chjoemon@southcom.com.au

Sponsored by RAN Battle Class Social Club

HMAS Anzac &

HMAS Tobruk Reunion

All personnel who served on above ships are invited to participate in the National Reunion at Ettalong Beach, NSW on Thursday 20th - Sunday 23rd October 2011. Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the commissioning of HMAS Anzac. All replies regarding membership and/or the reunion to:

John "Rebop" Golotta. (President)

22 Troedel Street, Pearcedale,
Victoria, 3912.

Phone (03) 5978 7808

or fax: (03) 5978 5884

Email: hm.anzac@bigpond.com

Kapyong Documentary

A documentary about the *Battle of Kapyong* featuring many veterans of the battle and narrated by John Waters will go to air on Foxtel at 8pm on Kapyong Day, 24 April. The program is made by *Arcimedia*, located here in Melbourne, (www.arcimedia.com.au) and coincides with a week of activities planned by 3RAR, culminating in a huge display all day on Sunday, 24th.

Canada's Kapyong

For an interesting take by Canadian broadcaster and author, Dan Bjarnason, on involvement by Canadian troops in the Battle of Kapyong, go to <http://kapyongkorea.wordpress.com>.

Dan is puzzled as to why Canadians pay so little attention to the battle and the major role played by the 2nd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. He writes: *But in Canada, outside of the Army and Korean veterans groups, the mention of Kapyong will draw puzzled stares, as if Kapyong was perhaps some new word game, or a choice on an exotic restaurant menu, as in "I'll have a plate of sauteed Kapyong please."*

Subscription Raffle Winner

The winner of this year's Early Renewal of Subscription Raffle is Paul Robinson from Bateman's Bay in Queensland. The raffle was drawn at the 23 Feb. General Meeting by Denis Lehman, now residing in Melbourne, but late of Bateman's Bay and a friend of Paul Robinson. Hmm. Coincidence or elaborate scheme by two criminal masterminds to defraud the KVAA Inc. of \$50? You decide.

Shrine of Remembrance: Upcoming Talks

Diggers & Greeks

Friday 6 May 2:30 p.m.

Historian and author Maria Hill discusses the WWII Greek Campaign from the often ignored Greek perspective.

The Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital

Tuesday 10 May 12:30 p.m.

Historian and author, Gwynedd Hunter-Payne, discusses the history of the military hospital that was established in a sea of mud in Heidelberg in Melbourne's outskirts.

Our Home Front Pioneers

Thursday 26 May 12:30 p.m.

Author Jacqueline Dinan provides a unique insight into how women during WWI advanced socially, politically and economically during their time as home front pioneers.

Customs and Traditions of the Australian Army

Thursday 9 June 12:30 p.m.

Ex-soldier Chris Jobson discusses some of the most interesting and unique traditions and conventions of the Australian Army.

Australian Tunnelling Companies

Friday 17 June 12:30 p.m.

Author and historian Damien Finlayson talks about the WWI Australian tunnellers on the Western Front.

Working in Third World Conditions

by Barbara (Babs) Probyn-Smith

In the late 1990s, the KVAA Inc. instituted the Korean Veterans' Mortality & Health Study which looked at the effects of the conditions endured those who served in Korea and how it might have affected their later health. The following is an edited excerpt from the account submitted by the late Captain Barbara Probyn-Smith, RAANC, who served in the British Commonwealth Military General Hospital in Kure from early 1952 until October 1952, then in the Australian Ebisu Camp Hospital in Tokyo until transferred to Tokyo Army Military General Hospital. The media of today would present the horrific conditions she and others worked in as a scandal and the mess would, hopefully, be quickly rectified. In 1952, however, it was just a matter of making the best of the circumstances and stoically getting on with the job.

In 1952, at the age of 22, myself and another Sister and four nurses, the first nurses of the ARA, departed from Sydney by Qantas Constellation. After refuelling at Darwin we headed over the Arafura Sea to Manila for an overnight stop, then to Iwakuni in Japan.

We were given quarters in Kure, opposite the large 7-storey British Commonwealth Military General Hospital, established as such in February 1949. Kure had been a huge Japanese naval base. It, and the population housed nearby, had been severely bombed and damaged during the war. Conditions were still very primitive. We were often understaffed. We had Japanese guards and Japanese personnel, who had many endemic diseases to which our bodies had no immunity. They cleaned our quarters and prepared our meals, often with dirty fingernails. There was regular spraying around our quarters, inside the quarters and the kitchens and food preparation areas and food utensils to combat mosquitoes, fleas, flies, rats and other vermin.

A series of canals ran between many of the sites in Kure and Hiro, where the Australian troops were held as reinforcements or in holding camps. The canals were filthy, slimy, full of run-off of excreta filled paddy fields, rats and mice, and, often, the rotting bodies of humans and animals. Eradication campaigns were constantly waged against the rats and mice with toxic, poisonous baits and traps. We were forbidden to swim anywhere.

Up the hill, behind the Kure Hospital, and opposite and above our quarters was a very sordid town, with no washing facilities, no running water, where the Japanese grew fruit and vegetables in fields manured with human excreta. A terrible smell always emanated from it. It had no sewage. They dug open trenches into which they emptied their "honey buckets" of human excreta, before it was taken to the gardens for growing fruit and vegetables. Although there were wooden covers over the trenches, there were many large cracks between the boards, permitting the entry of flies and other vermin.

In Kure Hospital, we often worked long hours, with limited facilities and staff, particularly when the ambulance convoys and train ambulance carriages arrived with loads of casualties, some quite horrific. As a result, when overworked and dead tired, we sometimes did not take all the normal precautions. Whenever we became sick ourselves, we avoided reporting it, as it meant a greater workload on the remaining sisters and nurses, and curtailed our times off duty, which we treasured. Thus our medical records would not reveal the true extent of whatever illnesses and diseases we ourselves got, mitigating against later claims, to which, at that time, we gave no thought. A similar situation existed with our troops in the frontline. Ambulance convoys often disgorged 100-150 badly wounded casualties at a time, when we had to work around the clock, often without a break. The surgical ward, alone, in the hospital could hold up to 200 cases, and often did.

Many of the soldiers arrived in a filthy condition, in dirty, chemical infested clothing and boots which they had not changed, in some cases, for many weeks. Many of them were infested with lice. They were all fumigated, de-loused, had all their hair shaved or cut off, and were placed in chemically treated baths. I do not know what all the toxic chemicals and solvents used for this purpose were, but there were many, most of which have since been banned. I do know that they were all liberally dusted all over with anti-lice powder and with DDT hand dust guns, or by engine-driven dusting apparatus.

Within the wards, there were many toxic chemicals used to counter infection, cross infection and keep the wards as sterile as possible. These included a variety of bleaches, Creosol and Lysol, to name just a few. Although we should have always used gloves and protective clothing etc., and washed our hands, as, indeed, should have the doctors, between patients, this was not always possible, when we were dog tired and overworked.

The Last Mission

The last air combat of World War II was probably over Tokyo on 18 August 1945, when a pair of B-32 *Dominator* bombers on a photo-reconnaissance mission were jumped by some 14 *Zeke* and *Tojo* fighters. The two aircraft successfully beat off their attackers and returned to Okinawa, despite suffering one killed and two wounded and the loss of No. 3 engine on one bomber. The mission, and the attack, occurred at a time when Japan had requested an armistice, though before the formal surrender.

Source: Strategy & Tactics magazine No. 89

Notices II

Shrine of Remembrance: Exhibitions

70th anniversary of Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital

4 March - 31 July

To celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital, the Shrine has developed this exhibition featuring memorabilia and images from the hospital archive as well as historical images from the Australian War Memorial.

90th anniversary of the Royal Australian Air Force

25 March - 28 May

In 2011, the RAAF celebrates the 90th anniversary of its creation. The Shrine presents a display of works of art and photography that have won awards in the annual RAAF Heritage Awards over the past 20 years.

* * *

Club Sori



Club Sori teaches traditional Korean dance and samul – the four traditional Korean instruments. Both originate in ancient shamanistic rituals two millennia old. It can probably be best summed up as Korean native musical theatre. If you have a grandchild or great grandchild who lives in Melbourne who may be interested in exploring the culture of another nation, then this may be the activity for them. Further details:

Time: Saturday at 2pm for 1 hour.

Venue: Monash Uniting Church Hall
1939 Princes Highway, Clayton North

Fee: Contact organiser

Contact: Sung bum Lee on 043 966 909

Website: www.clubSORI.com

(The website is still under construction but gives the flavour of what is involved.)

* * *

Also traditional and Korean, and creative in a different sense, is taekwondo, a Korean martial art and the national sport of South Korea. Taekwondo roughly translates as “the art of the foot and fist” or “the art of kicking and punching.” Though it sounds violent, it is mostly defensive in nature and a good way to build confidence as well as fitness.



Time: Mon-Fri starting at 5pm, toddler, junior and senior.

Venue: 176 Somerville Rd, Kingsville, 3012.

Fee: Contact organiser.

Contact: Young Youl Oh on 0488 555 155

Website: www.melbourne.taekwondo.com

2011 Peace Camp for Youth

The Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs is sponsoring the 2011 Peace Camp for Youth in July, which is open to descendants of the U.N. soldiers who participated in the Korean War. There are two events, and the number of Australian participants for each is **seven**, so spaces are limited.

Eligibility: Grandchildren (or great-grandchildren) of Korean War veterans who are attending universities or colleges and who have not visited Korea before at the Korean Government's invitation.

1st round: Date: July 3-9, 2011 (6 nights & 7 days)

2nd round: Date: July 24-30 (6 nights & 7 days)

Program Schedule (tentative)

1st day: Arrival / Registration

2nd Day: National Cemetery / Kick-off ceremony / Lecture on the Korean War

3rd Day: UN Cemetery in Busan / Haeundae Beach

4th Day: Experience of Korean tradition / Watching Performances

5th Day: Peace Bicycle March / Seoul city tour

6th Day: Peace Seminar / DMZ / Closing Ceremony / Farewell party

7th Day: Survey / Departure

Financial Support: Airfare (50%), Round-trip airfare (economy; domestic & international); Accommodation and meals (6 nights & 7 days), tour, visit to battlefields and cultural performances, other expenses. All of these expenses are fully covered by the Korean government.

The participant list needs to be submitted by **30 April 2011** so if you are a veteran which a grandchild or great-grand child who is interested and fulfils the eligibility criteria, then contact the National Secretary for further details.

* * *

Yeh-in Gallery

Music and dance not your thing, then may be you're better with the brush. The Yeh-in Gallery teaches Korean painting techniques and styles.

Time: Adults - Monday 5-7pm

Kids - Wed. 4:30-6:30 pm & Sat. 3-5 pm

Place: 247b Belmore Road, Balwyn, 3104

Fee: 1 x ten week term. Contact organiser

Contact: Myung hee Kim 0417 317971
or galleryyehin@gmail.com

Guard of Honour

by Ernie Holden

Here's another snippet from Ernie Holden's book, Mates, Mortars and Minefields (available directly from the author on (02) 96239392. Cost \$20 + \$10 p&p anywhere in Australia). In this story, Ernie gets to meet South Korean President, Syngman Rhee, well...sort of, and is distinctly underwhelmed by the experience.

On 20 May, a group of us were picked to take part in a Guard of Honour at 'A' Echelon, behind the lines approximately ten miles south. We went in a truck with our Lieutenant Crowe to practice drill all day with other UN troops and to polish and blanco our webbing and other gear.

It was an easy day with fine and warm weather making everything pleasant. 'A' Echelon was a giant parade ground complete with a small airstrip. The next day, Syngman Rhee, President of South Korea, was going to arrive by light aircraft to inspect the United Nations soldiers on parade. After a meal, we had a general chitchat before going to bed at 9.00 pm, looking forward to the big parade next day.

We climbed out of our stretcher beds early next morning as the lieutenant walked in to our sleeping quarters – looking white and ashen and very sad. He announced to us in a shaky voice that Private Ronald Rackley and Sergeant Keith Foran had been killed the night before.

The sad part was that his 'bosses' higher up the command ladder, would not let him go to the funeral parade. The two were soldiers that he had got to know during training in Australia. The lieutenant had to carry on with his part of the parade for President Rhee.

We moved out at 8.00 am to assemble for the British Commonwealth Parade opposite the airstrip. I watched for the US Air Force Beechcraft 'Twin Bonanza' to land. It was an all-aluminium colour, carrying five or six people – with a little bit of red trim outside. After the motors had come to a stop, the right starboard side door was opened and the President climbed down the steps as all the officers saluted him.

He walked to where we were standing at attention ready for his inspection. I looked straight ahead at eye level to see what the President looked like and as he came past I got quite a surprise. I had to look down, as he was only about four and a half feet tall – a real little guy. He was then 78 years-old – no wonder he looked small!

After his inspection of about ten minutes, he got back into the 'Twin Bonanza', which took off into the 'wild blue yonder' disappearing into fine warm weather.

After all the excitement, we had our midday meal, then went back to the front line in trucks. We were then back to the usual evening routine as darkness descended, with rain not far away. I went to bed with warm memories of the day mixed with sadness for Keith Foran and Ron Rackley, killed by anti-personnel mines, the night before.

An Unknown Titbit of History.

We are always being urged to drink a litre of water each day. This, you think would apply even more in times past, especially working sailors. The crew of the U.S.S. Constitution, however, found an interesting alternative. Note: being another item from the vast repository of truth, half-truth, and grain-of-truth that is the Internet, the accuracy of this piece, although pitched as history, is not guaranteed.

The U.S.S. *Constitution* (*Old Ironsides*), as a combat vessel, carried 48,600 gallons of fresh water for her crew of 475 officers and men. This was sufficient to last six months of sustained operations at sea. She carried no evaporators (i.e. fresh water distillers).

However, let it be noted that according to her ship's log, "On July 27, 1798, the U.S.S. *Constitution* sailed from Boston with a full complement of 475 officers and men, 48,600 gallons of fresh water, 7,400 cannon shot, 11,600 pounds of black powder and 79,400 gallons of rum."

Her mission: To destroy and harass English shipping.

Making Jamaica on 6 October, she took on 826 pounds of flour and 68,300 gallons of rum.

Then she headed for the Azores, arriving there 12 November. She provisioned with 550 pounds of beef and 64,300 gallons of Portuguese wine.

On 18 November, she set sail for England. In the ensuing days she defeated five British men-of-war and captured and scuttled 12 English merchant ships, salvaging only the rum aboard each.

By 26 January, her powder and shot were exhausted. Nevertheless, although unarmed she made a night raid up the Firth of Clyde in Scotland. Her landing party captured a whisky distillery and transferred 40,000 gallons of single malt Scotch aboard by dawn. Then she headed home.

The U.S.S. *Constitution* arrived in Boston on 20 February 1799, with no cannon shot, no food, no powder, no rum, no wine, no whisky, but 38,600 gallons of water.

Notices III

Malaysia Emergency Medal

In 2004, the Malaysian government offered Australia the PJM to commemorate those Australian Defence Force personnel who served to uphold the sovereignty of Malaysia during the Malayan Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation between 31 Aug. 1957 and 31 Dec. 1966. The Australian government accepted the offer and over 8,000 applications have since been verified by Defence out of about 12,000 former and current serving members believed to be eligible. The Malaysian Government has set the following eligibility guidelines:

- The PJM will be awarded to Aust. Defence personnel, who served in the prescribed areas from 31 Aug. 1957 to 12 Aug. 1966, or to 9 Aug. 1965 for service in Singapore (the point of separation from Federation of Malaysia).
- Service until 31 Dec. 1966 will also qualify for those personnel who were posted to Malaysia for service prior to 12 Aug. 1966, but failed to qualify for the medal before that date.
- Awards will also be made to those whose service was cut short as a result of death or injury as a result of service in these areas.
- Around 40 former members of the Australian Army who were recruited by the Government of the Federation of Malaya to serve as Lieutenants in the Malaysian Police Force are also eligible for the award.

The Department of Defence will receive applications, verify the service and eligibility and facilitate the approval to wear the award in accordance with guidelines for foreign awards.

The qualifying period for the PJM is 90 days for those personnel posted to units in direct support of operations in the prescribed areas. Those posted to units in indirect support are required to serve for 180 days in the prescribed areas. In order for the Directorate of Honours and Awards to conduct a medal assessment, an application form will need to be completed and sent to:

Directorate of Honours and Awards
Department of Defence
PO Box 7952
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Anzac Day Details

The form up point is the corner of **Collins and Swanston Street** (across the road from the Melbourne Town hall at the edge of the City Square) and **not** Russell and Flinders Street as per the last few years. March time is **11:20** so muster well before then. As usual, a bus is available after the ceremony to take everyone to the Stella Maris Seafarers Centre for nibbles and drinks.

* * *

Certificates of Appreciation

Certificates of Appreciation are a way of expressing the nation's thanks to those who have made a contribution towards Australia's efforts in war, conflicts and peace operations. The contributions can be as a civilian or as a member of the armed forces. For the Second World War, the contribution may have been in Australia or overseas. For all other conflicts the contribution must have been given overseas in the country in which the conflict occurred. Certificates are available for service in: Second World War, for service in the Australian armed forces or on the home front / British Commonwealth Occupation Force (Japan) / Korean War / Malayan Emergency / Indonesian Confrontation / Vietnam War / Gulf War / Iraq War / Peace Operations.

Who can apply?

A person who made a contribution, either in the Defence forces or as a civilian, may request a certificate in respect of his or her service, or a family member or friend may nominate a person. Next of kin may nominate a deceased family member. Persons who served in the Defence Reserve Forces or National Service may apply for a Certificate of Appreciation provided that they served in a war or conflict for which a certificate is available. Application forms should be completed and forwarded, with supporting evidence of service, to the electorate office of the applicant's Federal Member of Parliament. Any civilian service on the home front, which assisted the Australian effort in the Second World War, qualifies for a Certificate of Appreciation.

Evidence requirements

- Evidence of contributions which are to be provided in support of an application may include:
- Service record showing service during the relevant period.
- Medals awarded for service in the conflicts for which a certificate is sought (or photographs of these medals) inscribed with the applicant's name and service number on the rim.
- Copy of an entry from these nominal rolls:
- Second World War Nominal Roll / Korean War Nominal Roll / Vietnam War Nominal Roll.

Any other relevant documentation or evidence which clearly validates the claim or, if no evidence is available, a statutory declaration attesting to the eligible service may be submitted. The applicant's Member of Parliament assesses the person's eligibility and, when satisfied, presents the certificate to the person concerned, or the family in the case of a deceased person.

For more information and applicant guidelines, or an Application for Certificate of Appreciation, please contact the Editor.

Battle of the Sexes

A group of girlfriends are on vacation when they see a 5-story hotel with a sign that reads: "*For Women Only*". Since they are without their boyfriends and husbands, they decide to go in.

The bouncer, a very attractive guy, explains to them how it works: *We have 5 floors. Go up floor by floor, and once you find what you are looking for, you can stay there. It's easy to decide since each floor has a sign telling you what's inside.*

So they start going up and on the first floor the sign reads: *All the men on this floor are short and plain.* The friends laugh and without hesitation move on to the next floor.

The sign on the second floor reads: *All the men here are short and handsome.* Still, this isn't good enough, so the friends continue on up. They reach the third floor and the sign reads: *All the men here are tall and plain.* They still want to do better, and so, knowing there are still two floors left, they continued on up.

On the fourth floor, the sign is perfect: *All the men here are tall and handsome.* The women get all excited and are going in when they realise that there is still one floor left. Wondering what they are missing, they head on up to the fifth floor. There they find a sign that reads: *There are no men here. This floor was built only to prove that there is no way to please a woman.*

* * *

Barbara Walters, of *20/20*, did a story on gender roles in Kabul, Afghanistan, several years before the Afghan conflict. She noted that women customarily walked 5 paces behind their husbands. She recently returned from Kabul and observed that women still walk behind their husbands. Despite the overthrow of the oppressive Taliban regime, the women are happy to maintain the old custom.

Ms Walters approached one of the Afghani women and asked, "Why do you now seem happy with an old custom that you one tried so desperately to change?"

The woman looked Ms. Walters straight in the eyes, and without hesitation said, "Land mines."

* * *

A husband and his wife are having a fight at the breakfast table. Husband gets up in a rage and says, "And you are no good in bed either," and storms out of the house.

After sometime, he realizes he was nasty and decides to make amends and rings her up. She comes to the phone after many rings, and the irritated husband says, "What took you so long to answer the phone?"

She says, "I was in bed."

He says "In bed this early, doing what?"

She says "Getting a second opinion!"

The Rules

- The female always makes *The Rules*.
- *The Rules* are subject to change without prior notice.
- No male can possibly know all *The Rules*.
- If the female suspects that the male knows all *The Rules* she must immediately change some or all of *The Rules*.
- The female is never wrong.
- If the female is wrong, it is due to a misunderstanding which was a direct result of something the male did or said.
- The male must apologize immediately for causing said misunderstanding.
- The male must never change his mind without the express written consent of the female.
- The female has every right to be angry or upset at any time.
- The male must remain calm at all times, unless the female wants him to be angry and/or upset.
- The female must, under no circumstances, let the male know whether or not she wants him to be angry sad/or upset.
- The male is expected to mind-read at all times.
- Any attempt by the male to document *The Rules* could result in bodily harm.
- The female is ready when she is ready.
- The male must be ready at all times.

Bride-to-be: "Mother, this wedding must be absolutely perfect. We mustn't overlook even the most insignificant detail."

Mother: "Don't worry – he'll show up!"

* * *

A man is stopped by the police at midnight and asked where he's going.

"I'm on my way to listen to a lecture about the effects of alcohol and drug abuse on the human body."

The policeman asks, "Really? And who's giving a lecture at this time of night?"

"My wife."

* * *

- The husband who apologises always has the last word in any argument.

- Behind every successful man is a woman who couldn't be more surprised.

- Before criticizing your wife's faults, remember that they may have prevented her from getting a better husband.

Notices IV

“
LEGACY IS KEEPING
THEIR PROMISE
TO MY DAD”
CHARLOTTE

A promise was made to a dying soldier in the trenches of WWI. A promise that his family would be looked after. With recent conflicts, our work is as important today as it was when we began. Help us keep the promise, make a donation today.



TO DONATE, CALL 1800 534 229 OR VISIT LEGACY.COM.AU



Korean War Memorial Service

The annual Korean War Memorial Service is on **26 June at 10am**. 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. Please note, the Korean Church Secretary requires the names of attendees. It is most impolite to just turn up on the day. If you plan to attend please advise Alan Evered by Tuesday **26 April 2011** on 03 9874 2219 or 0412 521 488 or at evered@optusnet.com.au

**Korean Church of Melbourne,
23-27 Glendearg Grove, Malvern.
(Melways 59 C10)**

Mervyn Petersen

Mervyn Petersen, 1/400602, 3RAR, served 12 Nov. 1952 to 11 Nov. 1953, is seeking mates with whom he served. If you are one, or know of one, let Vic Dey know and he'll pass the details on to Mervyn.

Golf Statistic

A recent study found the average golfer walks about 900 miles a year. Another study found golfers drink, on average, 22 gallons of alcohol a year. That means, on average, golfers get about 41 miles to the gallon. Kind of makes you proud. Almost feels like a hybrid.

An Open Invitation

The following is an invitation for veterans and their families and other interested people from UPF Victoria, the organisation which brought us the Little Angels last year. As most of you will be receiving this copy of The Voice around the 18th, the invitation is admittedly issued at short notice. However, if any of you live near the Knox area and can spare a couple of hours, your presence would be gratefully appreciated.

Rick McInerhency extends an open invitation to veterans and other interested people to attend the first function of UPF Victoria for the year, which will take place at Knox City Council, Room 3, 511 Burwood Highway, Wantirna South on Wednesday, 20 April from 7pm to 9pm.

UPF Victoria's main focus in 2010 was to act as the host organization for the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Little Angels tour to Australia last November. For those who participated in events at that time, I'm sure you will agree that the Little Angels did an incredible job as Ambassadors to bring an outpouring of love and gratitude on behalf of the Republic of Korea to the Australian nation, and in particular, to appreciate the Korean War veterans and their families for their sacrifice. The Little Angels, and ourselves as the central local organizers were overwhelmed with the outcome, and the appreciation from all who were in attendance.

Our aim on the 20th of April is to share the overall vision of UPF, as well as discuss our local activities for the year, in particular, the development of the Ambassadors for Peace network. Launched in 2001, the UPF Ambassadors for Peace initiative has become the world's largest and most diverse network of peace leaders. They come from all walks of life representing all races, religions, nationalities, and cultures.

If you are free on that evening, we would be glad to have you join us for what will hopefully be a stimulating and rewarding evening. We ask for a \$5 donation, which includes tea, coffee & snacks.

Please contact me for more information.

Rick McInerhency, Chairman, Mobile 0425 373 631

Universal Peace Federation Victoria
PO Box 524, Glen Waverley, Victoria, 3150 Australia
Tel: 9511 4543 email: rickmc@upf.org.au

You're Never Too Old or Too Injured.

by Geoff Guilfoyle

Attention all veterans... Are you ageing and feeling weary; bones aching, not as spry as you used to be? Then why not join the armed forces and serve in Afghanistan or Iraq.

Sound ridiculous? Well, generals and admirals throughout history have commanded into old age, perhaps most notably Field Marshal Radesky of Austria who won the Battle of Novara in 1849 at the grand old age of 81. He continued in command on Austria's Italian front until his death nine years later. Of course, as befitting their rank, senior commanders usually command well to the rear, sometimes sitting on a horse or in a jeep or, in WWI especially, in a comfy chair in a manor house with a glass of vintage port in their hand, 60 miles behind the front line. Douglas Haig, put your hand up!

On the other hand, some commanders fought up close and personal. Medieval barons, dukes, even kings, often fought in the front ranks. Most notable was Richard III of England who charged the enemy lines with his mounted bodyguard at the Battle of Bosworth, intent on cutting down the enemy commander. The plan came very close to success. Unfortunately for Richard, his foe, Henry Tudor, didn't believe in fighting up close and personal. He lurked well to the rear and probably wished he was further back when Richard came within striking distance. In the end it was Richard who was struck down and Henry Tudor became Henry VII of England.

But what of those of less exalted rank who were already in their – ahem – sunset years when they enlisted?

In 1863, Curtis King joined the Union's 37th Iowa Volunteer Regiment, dubbed the 'Gray Beards,' as the unit comprised men over 35. Being 80 years old at the time, King was considerably more ancient than the average 'Gray Beard.'

Charles Surrugue, a veteran of the Franco-Prussian War (1870-71) joined the French Army in 1914 at the age of 76. He served as a sapper until his discharge as a lieutenant in 1919.

And hats off to the next enlistee...

Henry Francisco, a New York tavern owner when the American Revolutionary War exploded around him in 1776, enlisted on 15 January 1777 and fought in the Saratoga campaign before receiving a medical discharge. He left the army on 20 April 1778 at the age of 92. [This is not a misprint.]

Three years earlier, on 19 April 1775 at the start of the war, fighting swirled in and around the village of Menotomy (near Boston). There the British encountered 80-year-old Samuel Whittemore, onetime captain in the Royal Dragoons, armed with a musket, two pistols and a sabre. He killed one British soldier and wounded at least one more before being shot in the face and bayoneted 13 times. Remarkably, he survived, not dying until 1793 at the age of 98!

This brings us to soldiers with significant injuries who fought regardless. Most who fall into this category are commanders. After all, as a common soldier it is hard to march into battle if you are missing a leg or fire your rifle with only one arm. It is different with senior officers, who have huge support staffs to assist them. Jose Millan Astray (1879-1954), a Spanish general, commanded with one eye and an arm missing. Same story with British admiral, Horatio Nelson (1758-1805), who also suffered from sea sickness (not a helpful illness for a navy man). How about a commander – a successful one – who was blind in both eyes? Despite this disability, Jan Zizka (c.1358-1424) led the successful Hussite Rebellion against the Hapsburgs, defeating one after another the armies sent against him. In all, he won twelve battles and was defeated just once.

And hats off to our final enlistee...

Group Captain Douglas Bader was probably the only RAF officer in World War II to draw double pay. He was technically 100 percent disabled, having lost both legs in a pre-war flying accident. This qualified him for full disability pay. Nevertheless, on the outbreak of war he returned to active duty as a fighter pilot, drawing regular pay on top of his pension. Bader managed to shoot down 28 German aircraft before he was himself shot down. Taken prisoner by the Germans he escaped three times – unsuccessfully. After his third try the Germans locked him up in Colditz, their maximum security facility for escape-prone Allied officers and threatened to take away his wooden legs if he attempted to escape again.

Sources:

Hessel, Brad (Ed.), *Strategy & Tactics No. 86*, Simulations Publications 1981.

Robbins, Michael, (Ed.), *Military History Dec/Jan 2010 Vol.26 No.5 & July 2010 Vol. 27 No. 2*, Weider History Group Inc.

A Unique Method of Promotion

In 1909, Adolf Hofrichter, a young officer in the Austro-Hungarian Imperial-and-Royal Army, hit upon an unusual way to speed up promotions, by reducing the number of officers ahead of himself on the Army List by murdering them through the use of a bogus aphrodisiac. The method proved unprofitable, for despite several attempts he had only one success and was almost immediately apprehended.

Anzac Day Poem

I saw a kid marchin' with medals on his chest.
He marched alongside Diggers, marching ten abreast.
He knew that it was Anzac Day and he walked along with pride.
He did his best to keep in step with the Diggers by his side.
And when the march was over the kid was rather tired.
A Digger said, "Whose medals, Son?"
To which the kid replied,
"They belong to Daddy, but he did not come back,
He died up in New Guinea, on a lonely jungle track".
The kid looked rather sad, and a tear came to his eye.
The Digger said, "Don't cry my son, and I will tell you why –
Your Daddy marched with us today, all the bloomin' way.
We Diggers know that he was there – it's like that on Anzac Day."
The kid looked rather puzzled, and didn't understand.
But the Digger went on talking and began to move his hand,
"For the great land we live in, there's a price we have to pay.
We all love peace and freedom in this Country where we live,
And the price was that some soldier, his precious life must give.
For you to go to school, my lad, and worship God at will,
Someone had to pay the price, so the Diggers paid the bill.
Your Daddy died for us, my son, for all things good and true."
The kid looked up at the Digger, just for a little while,
And with a changed expression said, with a lovely smile:
"I know my Dad marched here today, on this our Anzac Day,
I know he did, I know he did – all the bloomin' way...!"

(Courtesy of Roseville-Lindfield Sub-Branch R.S.L.)
Per. W.Bro. R.A.Jennison Lodge of Welcome No.510

The Secret 'Warship'

In mid-1942, the Italian Tenth MAS Flotilla had the tanker *Olterra* pumped out and towed to the Spanish port of Algeciras – across the bay from the British base of Gibraltar. The tanker, which had been scuttled earlier to prevent capture by the British, was modified by cutting hinged holes in the hull under the guise of refitting her for use after the war by the Italian owners, Italian naval personnel were rotated on and off the workcrew.

By the autumn of 1942, the Italians were basing their Maiale manned torpedoes within the ship and, with varying degrees of success, attacked British ships and harbour defenses from there with impunity until the existence of the tanker as a Maiale and frogman base was revealed to the British following the 8 September 1943 Italian armistice.

All told, the Tenth Flotilla accounted for nearly 40,000 tons of British shipping in less than a year, mostly in attacks on ships outside the Gibraltar defenses.

Source: Strategy & Tactics No. 86.

MIA Update

The following is the (slightly edited) e-mail sent to Ian Saunders by the new Minister Defence Science and Personnel, Warren Snowdon, in reply to Ian's request for an update on the ongoing search for Korea War MIAs.

Dear Mr Saunders

Thank you for your e-mail of 26 September 2010 concerning your request for an update on Australians Missing in Action in Korea. As you are aware, both the Army and Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) are active in maintaining a close watch on issues related to Australian servicemen still unrecovered in Korea. You are very familiar with the difficulties associated with any search and recovery work in Korea, especially as it applies to North Korea and the Demilitarised Zone.

I understand that you are in regular contact with Mr Brian Maims of Unrecovered War Casualties – Army, and that Mr Maims has assured you that you are welcome to contact him at any time. I encourage you to keep in touch with Mr Maims as I am sure that you both share a desire for the same outcome.

I am advised that one of the outstanding matters from your last conversation with Mr Maims was the result of scientific (DNA) analysis of the remains discovered earlier this year in South Korea. The results of that analysis have now finally been received by Unrecovered War Casualties Army, and it concluded that the remains were of Asian ancestry, thus confirming the earlier comparison of ante mortem and post mortem information.

Currently, the Army and RAAF are exploring options for a more formal arrangement with the South Korean Ministry of National Defence Agency for Killed In Action Recovery and Identification and it is hoped that representatives from Unrecovered War Casualties Army and RAAF will visit South Korea later this year. There is also an intention for a visit to the United States Joint Prisoner of War/Missing In Action Accounting Command early next year.

I assure you that the Australian Defence Force is committed to doing all it can to recover as many Australian servicemen who remain unaccounted for, from all wars, as is possible.

Yours sincerely

Warren Snowdon

Minister for Defence Science and Personnel

The Breaking Point

When one reads of the suicidal battles fought on the Western Front during the First World War, one wonders how it was possible for anyone to have any kind of stomach for this sort of combat after going through it once. The fact of the matter was very few soldiers had to go through it more than once, the casualty rate being so high. In addition, after the first bloodbaths of 1915 and 1916, it became common to withdraw 10% of any unit earmarked for a big attack.

This “cadre” usually consisted of the most experienced soldiers, and was kept aside so that the unit could be reconstituted after it was destroyed in the coming battle. In addition, the vast majority of time spent by combat soldiers during the war was not in combat per se. Units did not even spend most of their time in trenches. Trench life, the most common form of “combat” experienced, while dangerous, could be tolerable for short stretches of time. However, during the war, most armies either reached their breaking point or came perilously close.

The Austro-Hungarian Army began to collapse in 1916 after the *Brusilov Offensive* on the Eastern Front. The Italian Army cracked in 1917 during the Battle of Capporetto, although it was put together again and managed to finish the war intact. The French Army suffered a similar experience. After numerous massive and unsuccessful attacks, the French Army mutinied in 1917. The generals showed enough sense not to try and force the issue. Large scale offensive combat was called off and the French managed to finish the war intact.

Between 1916 and 1917, the Russian Army also cracked and it did not recover. The British and German Armies did not crack, although they did come quite close. The Germans were generally on the defensive in the Western Front, where they at least had the satisfaction of defeating the numerous Allied attacks. On the Eastern Front the Germans were normally victorious and their offensive losses did not seem so futile.

Of the six major armies (British, French, Italian, Russian, German and Austro-Hungarian) four cracked at one time or another and became useless as a combat force. The manpower losses from World War One made an indelible impact upon the European mentality. Never again would such callous infantry tactics be tolerated. Indeed, it was only on the Eastern Front in World War Two that the Russians would occasionally indulge in the type of murderous infantry tactics commonly utilized in the First World War. Thus, World War Two has made a far more vivid impression upon Russians than any other people.

Source: Strategy & Tactics magazine No. 51

The Four Plane ‘Armada’

In the mid-1950s, the USA spent millions of dollars building a force of high-altitude supersonic interceptor fighters – to counter a threat that did not exist. The mistake arose when American observers at Moscow’s annual May Day military parade in 1954 saw what they thought was a huge fleet of long-range nuclear bombers flying over Red Square.

The Russians did have the bombers – a type known as MYA-4 Bisons – but there was no massed fleet. Instead the same four Bisons simply roared over the square, then circled out of sight and reappeared in a new formation over and over again. As a result of the deception, the Americans wrongly assumed that the Russians did not possess nuclear missile delivery systems, and that they were concentrating their nuclear weaponry instead on manned bombers such as the Bisons.

The Russian propaganda ploy was not uncovered for more than three years. Then American U-2 spy-planes revealed in the late 1950s that the real Russian nuclear strength lay in missiles, triggering the development in the West of the Polaris and Minuteman missile systems.

Source: *Book of Facts*, Reader’s Digest (Aust.), 1994

Chemical Warfare?

During the preparations for the Third Battle of Gaza in 1917, Colonel Richard Meinertzhagen, head of Military Intelligence at General Headquarters, Egyptian Expeditionary Force, learned from captured Turkish soldiers that there was an acute shortage of tobacco in their units. Meinertzhagen then arranged for the British airplanes that dropped propaganda leaflets over the enemy trenches every night to also drop packages of cigarettes as an enticement to surrender. This seeming act of benevolence was leading up to a coup de grace in which, immediately before the Third Battle of Gaza, the cigarettes dropped on the tobacco-hungry Turks would contain Meinertzhagen’s own special blend of tobacco and opium.

Allenby deprecated this act as being too close to poisoning the enemy, but Meinertzhagen did it anyway, believing any action to save friendly lives was justified. After the battle, Meinertzhagen sampled one of his own opium-laden cigarettes, and observed that “they were indeed strong. The effect was sublime, complete abandonment, all energy gone, lovely dreams and complete inability to act or think.” Although the definite effect of this ploy cannot be ascertained, it has been recorded that after being captured on November 6, many of the Turks appeared lethargic, “befuddled,” and “barely coherent.”

Source: Military Heritage magazine, April 2001.

The Emblem of the Rising Sun

It is an interesting fact that the Rising Sun, symbol of the Australian Forces, originally had nothing to do with either the rising or, as some disgruntled soldiers would have it, the setting sun. This eliminates the otherwise surprising paradox that Australians should have chosen as their military symbol a motif traditionally Japanese.

The customary interpretation that the badge was meant to represent the young nation as rising out of the Southern Seas, however beautiful and patriotic, is equally incorrect. In reality, the apparent rays of the sun are the blades of swords and bayonets, and the solar body originally was a stained piece of wood. When the first Commonwealth contingent was about to be formed in 1902, for service in South Africa, the military commander, General Sir Edward Hutton felt that a distinctive badge should be chosen for the battalion.

He invited his staff to submit ideas. Most of the suggestions made use of Australian flora and fauna. But Sir Edward deemed the proposed Emus and Kangaroos, Waratahs and Wattles unsuitable, as they lacked martial significance. Rejecting the designs, he pointed to a trophy of arms over the doorway of his office in Melbourne's Victoria Barracks. This consisted of a semicircular board of red, which carried a crown and half-circle of bayonets and swords. Something like that would be much better, he said.

His advice was regarded as an order and a Melbourne engraver was commissioned to design an emblem embodying the General's suggestion. This was duly delivered, approved by the military authorities, and produced in sufficient number for all the men of the First Battalion. The emblem has become a motif of Australian valour, though under an erroneous name.

Source: How Did It Begin? by Rudolph Brasch, Angus & Robertson 1993

Saluting at the Cenotaph

At most Remembrance Services, or when passing a cenotaph, veterans will place their right hand over their left side, believing that they are placing their "hand over their heart" in respect or remembrance of the fallen. This is not so.

The Veteran's 'salute' to fallen comrades originated in London on Armistice Day in 1920, during the ceremony to unveil and dedicate the Cenotaph in Whitehall. At the same time, a funeral procession accompanying the remains of the "Unknown Soldier" halted at the Cenotaph during the ceremony before proceeding to Westminster Abbey. Those present included senior soldiers, sailors and many Victoria Cross winners.

The ceremony concluded with a march past. The Regimental Sergeant Major of the Guard Regiment conducting the ceremony, faced with a gathering of highly decorated and high ranking military men, all wearing rows of medals, decreed that all would salute the Cenotaph as they marched past by placing their hand over their medals, signifying that "No matter what honours we may have been awarded they are nothing compared with the honour due to those who paid the supreme sacrifice."

The tradition stuck, though the meaning has changed over time.

Eat My Dust!

The great tank battles of World War II in the Ukrainian steppes and in the deserts of North Africa threw up so much fine dust that there was a considerable increase in the volume of solid particles suspended in the atmosphere. This was detectable as far away as the Caribbean, fully 70% of the way around the globe, where this increase was blamed by some for a series of wetter than usual years.

Farewells

Thomas F. Aplin (Captain), 57543, 3RAR,
in mid-March 2011

Harold (Dutchy) Atkinson, 1400139, 3RAR,
on 7 February 2011

Phillip Greville (Captain), 3462, 1RAR,
in mid-March 2011

Kevin Healy
on 14th February 2011

Les Kossatz, Designer/Architect of the National
Korean War Memorial (Canberra),
on 15 February 2011

Jack Roebuck, 310710, 1RAR
on 1 March 2011

The Ode

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

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