

The

WHISPERER

**The Newsletter of the Beaufighter and
Boston Association of Queensland**

DECEMBER 2005

Annual Combined Associations Day RAAF Amberley



L-R: S Curran, V McMinn, C Smith, P White, H Findlay, R Snell, E Cavanagh

Tuesday 6th September was the date chosen for the 2005 Annual Day. This year the following Associations attended: The Beaufighter and Boston Association of Queensland, The Path Finder Association, The RAAF Beauforts Association (Q'ld Branch), 467 and 463 Squadrons Association, The RAAF Association (Q'ld Div) and The Aircrew Association.

It was a fine and sunny day and the day commenced with a Memorial Service in the Amberley Memorial Garden. Chaplain Paul Goodland opened the service and he was supported by Chaplain Murray Earl.

Wreaths were then laid by Mrs John Lyons and her daughters Barbara and Bette, Peter White and Barbara Smith. Group Captain Leo Davis and representatives of the Associations attending also laid wreaths.

On completion of the service we were bused to the Officers Mess for morning tea. The presentation of Annual trophies then took place. As President Ralph was unable to attend Vice President William O'Connor presented The Beaufighter and Boston Shield together with a personal trophy of a pewter tankard to Sgt Bradley Parmenter of the Combat Support Squadron.

The guest speaker was AVM Dunlop CSC, who spoke of the value of such meetings of the older RAAF members with the new.

This year it was good to catch up with The Lyons family and Barbara Smith. We also had the company of some guests from The Logan RAAF Association including their President, Mr Eric Cavanagh and his wife Linde. Once again Ron Snell drove all the way from Townsville as he has done in past years. Chaplain Cameron Smith brought Vic McMinn to the service.

President's Corner

Dear Members

As foreshadowed in the previous edition of the *Whisperer* Peter White together with Stan Curran & I attended the Commemoration Service to honour the name of the late David McClymont (ex 22 Squadron Navigator) & friends of his family & the wider community who may have lost loved ones in WWII.



The dream of David's family is to create a sanctuary where those who wish to contemplate & rest peacefully & enjoy the protection of trees & the magnificent views of the Pacific Ocean where seven years ago David's ashes were scattered some distance out to sea, may do so.



It was very kind of David's widow Suzanne & his four daughters Wendy, Deborah, Melanie & Jaguar to invite us to the ceremony. It very interesting to note that Peter with 30 Sqdn Beaufighters flew on the same mission that saw David & his pilot Sqdn Leader Townsend shot down at Palmalmal New Britain.

The setting of the memorial chair & plaque, both facing South East, is truly magnificent, in an area of Australia which, for pristine beauty & tranquility, leaves most other parts of our wonderful country well in its wake. As I have observed on many occasions the Northern River District of NSW is something quite special.

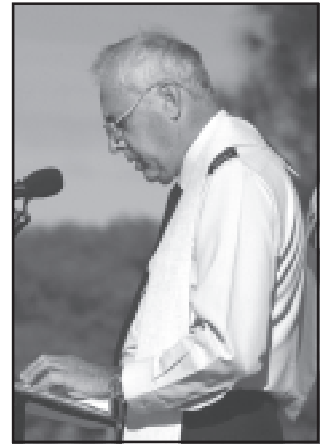
If you are ever in the Lennox Head area you should make the effort to see what I am raving about.

Peter has told me the Combined Associations Day at RAAF Amberley was a great success. I regret that Joan & I were unable to be present as we were visiting Western Australia at the time. I wish to thank our Vice President Bill O'Connor for carrying the duties required of him in his usual very competent manner.

Well, it is almost that festive time of the year again & I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all the compliments of the season & trust you have an enjoyable Xmas & New Year.

Regards
RALPH

St Thomas Aquinas RAAF Memorial Mass



Introduction and Welcome

On behalf of the Parish of St. Thomas Aquinas and the Organising committee I welcome you and thank you for joining us this morning in this special and rather significant occasion within the history of the parishes annual Mass of Remembrance.

Through sixteen years this beautiful Air Force Memorial Church has set the scene for the growing enthusiasm and dedication that so energised the remarkable growth of this occasion, from a smaller parish event to the proportions of formality and expression that have been our delight to share in over the years of this pageant of remembrance.

As I join with you this morning on the final of this formal occasion I hold to my feelings of hesitation and reluctance. Perhaps you too feel this – saying farewell to this wonderful opportunity to meet in friendship for the honourable cause of remembering those who suffered and died in the defence of our nation as members of the Royal Australian Air Force.

On a positive note I sense though, that the timing is right – to seize the opportunity to celebrate with some extra show and finesse what has been done here at St. Lucia over the past years to recognise, salute and honour that pervading yearning those of you, who returned from the testing and sometimes horrific events

The Beaufighter & Boston Association Trophy 2005



The Award for the year 2005 was won by **SGT BRADLEY PARMENTER**, from 382 Expeditionary Combat Support Squad. The winner each year has his name inscribed on the Beaufighter and Boston Association shield, and in addition is presented with a personal trophy. This trophy is usually in the form of pewter Tankard with the winner's name inscribed.

The Beaufighter and Boston Association of Queensland Trophy.

GUIDE LINES

1. Awarded annually in commemoration of the formation of the Beaufighter & Boston Association.

2. **Aim.** To encourage excellence in non-commissioned officers and airmen in their service with the Royal Australian Air Force.

3. **Eligibility.** A member shall comply with the following eligibility criteria to be considered for the award: During the year of the award, be a non-commissioned officer or airman who is employed in non technical combat support duties which are in support of strike reconnaissance activities.

4. **Criteria.** A demonstrated excellence in General Service Attitude, Dress, Bearing and Proficiency in Mustering.

5. **Selection of Nominees.** Commander Combat Support Group and Officers Commanding No 82 Wing and Strike Reconnaissance Systems Program Office shall select the most worthy recipient from their Formation/Unit.

6. **Presentation.** The presentation will be made at a suitable venue during the Associations' Day.

7. **Trophy.** The trophy will always remain the property of the Beaufighter & Boston Association of Queensland. The Unit of the winner is responsible for the safe custody and maintenance of the trophy and is to ensure that it is kept on display in an appropriate place.

8. **Administration.** The award of the trophy is to be administered by Headquarters 82 Wing. In the event that the trophy is not presented in any year, the trophy is to be returned to 82 Wing until next presented.

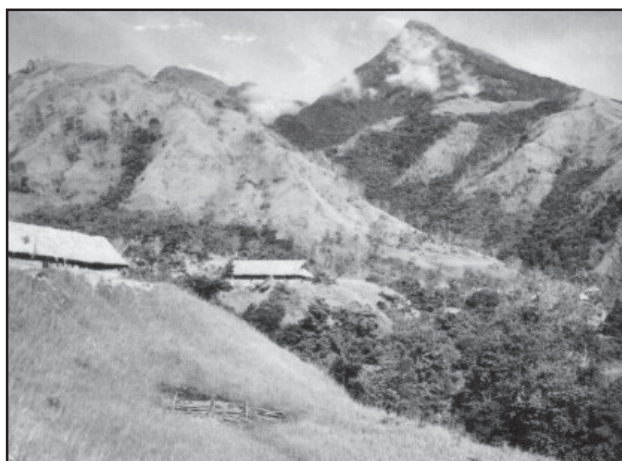
of War, have towards remembrance of those who did not return to their homes and families.

It has been my privilege as a military chaplain to mix with and befriend so many Air Force veterans. Through involvement in varied ways with Association gatherings and in speaking with individuals I have and in speaking I have gained a deep and somewhat passionate appreciation of the depth of personal persuasion and sincerity that ultimately drives the way our veterans strive and execute the memory of those who fought and died beside them

It is that quality of remembrance that we so honour today – specifically that quality of remembrance so brought to the fore through these sixteen years of gathering annually at St. Thomas Aquinas parish for our Mass of Remembrance

RAAF Chaplain Wing Commander Paul Goodland.

Holiday Home to Remember?



Goodenough Is. Campsite

PALMALMAL

22 Squadron Goodenough. 0720 Wed. 3rd. Nov. 1943.

As I was putting my socks on I discovered one had a hole in it, so I discarded it and picked out holey one, but of a different colour and thought: 'Funny if the Japs catch me with one blue and one black sock, they will think we are short of equipment.'

I remember a crew member of a Lancaster, telling me when he bailed out he looked up at the bottom of his abandoned aircraft and saw, 'PLACE TRESTLE HERE.' Bill Townsend, standing near his bamboo hut on Goodenough, said;

'I don't mind where I fight the war, as long as I fight it in comfort.' Indelible impressions, but now forty six years old. Some hazy, some not.

We took off early headed for Palmalmal, south coast of New Britain, accompanied by a number of Beaufighters, sixteen Kittyhawks and some Bostons. The strike was designed to impress the natives and the thirty or so Japs there.

I remember flying low and fast over a coconut plantation and seeing a large red- roofed house, which I fired at with my top gun. I don't remember being hit, probably because of plenty of other noises at the time.

I tried to communicate with Bill by wireless and message-carrier, neither worked. The fire was increasing up forward. It was getting hot.

I went to put my chest-type-'chute on, but realised we were too low to bail out. I tried to get the fire-extinguisher out, but could not unclasp it

Fire was coming down from the forward area of the aircraft and it was too hot for me to stand, so I sat down on the floor.

I had the bottom hatch open.

The good old girl sank down onto a coral reef approximately 6 inches under water in a perfect landing.

The water rushed in and took the ammo-bins off their hooks and swirled them around, but no damage to me.

The aircraft was in a wonderful position, the top hatch had been jettisoned. Bill and I got out on the wing; and I remember saying two things;

'A bit of a Bastard, sir,' not noted for my humour; and secondly, I thought, 'Thank goodness, I can have a spell.' I was young, conscientious and keen, but worked to the extreme in the squadron. Bill said;"Get out the dinghy." The dinghy inflated and was momentarily covered with frost.

We were not supplied with paddles, that I remember and our speed and tracking to shore was pitifully erratic and we were in a hurry. We could hear the Japs yelling. When we landed ashore under overhanging

SPLASHDOWN

trees. We collected several small water-tins and 84ozs of chocolate and a ground sheet 6 feet square, yellow one side and blue on the reverse, a good piece of equipment but when Bill and I lay on it, it would not lace up, and as Bill was over six feet, we were sticking out both ends. I thought it was designed to prevent Bill from getting too comfortable on a dark rainy night.

As well as the dinghy equipment we had a .38 revolver and ammo, a good jungle knife and enough M+V and dehydrated blocks to keep us going for 15 days, at the rate we rationed ourselves. (Nancy Wake marched 8 days with nought to eat). Collecting all our gear, we headed into the jungle, that grew to the water's edge. After about a one hundred yards we came to a Jap road with a new bridge to the right. We ducked across the road into the bush and went NW avoiding native tracks in the bush. We found propaganda leaflets in pidgin dropped by us.

We could hear the Japs yelling. We were briefed to contact natives inland, in case the ones near the shore were under Jap influence.(The Japs only had a walking track along the coast.) We were aware of Coast Watchers on New Britain, as we had tried to drop supplies to them before we pranged, not knowing one party had been betrayed by the natives, before or behind Gasmata. Once across the Jap walking track we just went NW. and were as safe as could be; but, of course, ignorant of where the enemy was. We learnt to stop walking about 4pm and make ourselves a lean-to, to keep the rain off.

It rained every day and yet the creeks were dry and when we were up in the mountains, the only water we could get was down on our hands and knees and lick it off big leaves or cut segments of bamboo. We would not die of thirst; but we found very little to eat away from the native gardens. The first night we had a little emergency ration for tea and then wrapped ourselves in the ground-sheet to keep warm. We were sopping wet. It rained heavily all night. November the 4th we kept going NW to get away from the coast. That night we built a bit of a lean-to and tried to light a fire, but the wood was too wet.

Over the mountains next day we went further inland and camped on a high ridge in moss and tangled vine country. On the following day we thought we saw a



F/O DAVID McCLYMONT

village at a distance of approximately one mile across a valley. We carefully noted the direction and set off down the side of the mountain and climbed up again to where we thought the village should be, but couldn't find it. That night we climbed still higher and got water out of bamboos.

On the seventh we came back to the edge of the canyon, after a reconnaissance north, and camped. The next day, the 8th we scrambled down the side of a very steep mountain and found a wide, dry, rocky creek below. For two days we walked down the creek, the second day, Nov. 10th, we came to a waterfall, where we bathed and lit a fire to make some tea. We tried boiling wild taro, both leaves and bulbs, which were absolutely inedible.

Native Tracks and gardens:

We had noticed native tracks that day in the bed of the creek, so we scrambled straight up straight up the side, which was very steep and tiring. We camped on the top. Next day we found native tracks going in every direction, except the way we wanted, to go (west). We camped again close to our camp of the night before.

Next morning, 13th, we found an old native garden, from which we took 108 bananas and three papaws, all green. We intended to cook them. We left a razor blade stuck in the trunk of the papaw-tree.

Reaches Village.

We kept going and at about 2 o'clock on the 13th Nov., we came to a village, which we approached carefully. However this was unnecessary as possibly only one native had ever seen a white man and probably never a Jap., as we were too far inland. We asked for food, water and sleep in pidgin (from our aircrew book)

Starts return journey.

The natives seemed friendly and repeated, "Captain belong English", that sounded good to us. After boiling green papaw for us, they led us back East for 2 days. The first night they put us in a "house". It was great to get in out of the rain. I could just see, (the night was black and so were our guides) and they were talking animatedly and we wondered, what about

Next day, the boy who could make himself understood, told us there was a " Captain Belong English".

We followed him from Kynegie to Polar, using the creek-bed we had walked before and actually came down into the creek at a place, where we had looked for a way out. These entries to creek beds are extremely hard to see.

We stayed at Polar that night. We were given plenty of taro, sugarcane and capiok belong master. Next day, the Tul Tul of Polar took us NW, back past Palmalmal to Apapuna, where we were given taro and fish. The Tul Tul there sent out a scout to see if we could walk along the Jap road in the moonlight, but he reported

Japs, so next day we walked the inland route to Mantan, where we were fed by the Luluai and hidden in the bush for a day and a half. From there we went down towards the beach, eventually we saw a native paddling a canoe, on a small river towards us, with Numba Wan, himself, in the bow. He was proudly wearing an AIF cap and sweater, a red laplap and had a magnificent .44 Winchester rifle across his knees. His first words were that he was, " Friend bilong Australia tru". He was Golpak, Chief of the Nengin tribe and was to be our No1 for the next month or so.

No1 built a house for us. It was rainproof and had two beds in it made with 4 forked sticks driven in, 2 cross sticks and 4 or 5 running lengthwise, designed to keep the occupant awake and uncomfortable; boots on, haversacks on. Haversacks, at a stretch could serve as pillows. We had plenty of food while there, bananas, pineapples, pomelos, coconuts, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, taro marrow, fish, chicken and pork.

No1 had a house some 150 yards away from us for his family and self. He killed an old sow and we ate her for a fortnight, every day and we did not have a fridge! Nor ptomaine.

Trouble with the Japs:

The Japs were suspicious of Golpak, who said that "Corsar from Tokai and Nynolayoo from Totongpal(SW of Palmalmal had told the Japs about the Post and Wireless parties, whom they knew Golpak had helped. So when the Japs, at Palmalmal wanted Luluais and Tul Tuls, Golpak said he was too sick, so the Japs sent 12 Police Boys round to catch all Pomio and Sali at night".

Some of the picaninies got away and ran up to us. Golpak and his women were in the bush with us, so we all went down to the beach and camped. Golpak's strategy was that when they looked for us in the bush, we would stay on the beach and vice versa. The night was pitch black and all was OK, until a crocodile tore through our "house" chasing a white dog through under my bed, which was at least 9 inches wide,- a balance act. The fire was still smouldering and the dog stirred it up with the help of the "croc". No1 felt things too lively, so suggested we go up to a cave, where we three stayed eleven days. Each day No1 would go to an old garden and get a taro, each- equal to a medium potato. They had to be cooked and burnt, which we did each night in the ashes. If you ate your taro the night you cooked it, you got no breakfast or lunch next day. My father used to tell me of when he was on Guard Duty, (World War 1) in a corn field, pitch black and every rustling corn leaf was a Turk. One night when we in our cave, a mob of Japs were creeping up and surrounding us on another pitch black night, except for fire-flies. There had been rain, then absolute stillness. All around we could hear movement., trees brushed and odd big

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Commemorative mission to mark the 60th anniversary of the signing of the surrender documents at the end of the war in the Pacific



Fred Anderson [30 & 31 Squadron] was one of the party of 18 [ex-service men and women and a war widow] representing all the services who took part in the Pacific action in the Dept Veterans Affairs sponsored mission to Hawaii for the ceremony in Pearl Harbour held on the US Missouri where the documents were signed on 2 September 1945. Fred and all the other veterans were given a position of honour on the deck under the 16 inch guns. This was the culmination of a week or so of ceremonies and events which will leave the veterans with many memories.*

Fred writes:

The trip left me and my colleagues feeling overwhelmed by the honour and recognition accorded us and by the kind generosity and consideration of all involved in arranging and supporting the trip. We were accompanied by Senator DeAnne Kelly, Minister for Veterans Affairs and various senior personnel from the services and Veterans Affairs. We were also met at various places by consular and defence staff.

Some of the highlights apart from the flight to Hawaii [Business class], the wonderful food, accommodation, hospitality and welcome were:

- The official farewell at Victoria Barracks when the war biography of each veteran was presented in turn as one by one we stood in our specially provided outfits and faced the crowd of family and dignitaries.
- Site seeing around the island of Oahu past shrimp farms, pineapple and macadamia plantations. [Honolulu, Waikiki and Pearl Harbour are all on Oahu.] While he drove us around, the African American driver gave us the benefit of his detailed local knowledge and his deep sonorous voice as he sang some traditional spirituals.
- A traditional welcoming luau near Waikiki beach.
- Visiting the memorial built over the 90% submerged wreck of the 34,000 ton USS Arizona bombed in 1941. The bodies of 60 sailors lie there still. Oil continues to seep from the wreck.
- The laying of wreaths at the huge Hickham Air Base.

- A very moving ceremony at the Punchbowl National Memorial Cemetery situated in 116 acres of beautifully maintained lawns and gardens. There are 33,255 headstones for the dead [from WWII, Korea and Vietnam] including 400 American Japanese soldiers who fought with the Allies in Italy. An honour roll lists 28,778 veterans whose graves have not been found. This memorial has a wall sized colour map of the Pacific war areas.

- The climax was the ceremony on the USS Missouri to which we were transported by the launch belonging to the Admiral of the US Pacific Fleet. The ceremony culminated in a fly past by 4 F 16 jets flying line abreast with one dropping out for the "missing man" formation.

I was indeed very fortunate to have been nominated by 30 Sqn and to finally be selected. I am grateful to Jack Anderson [31 Sqn], Fred Cassidy [30Sqn] and AVM Dave Rogers [Ret'd] for their support.

The other Air Force personnel who went with me are:

- Alex Cumming [from WA] F/ Sgt, Flight Engineer with 43 Sqn Catalinas, served Oct 42 - Jan 46 in Darwin and Air / Sea Rescue
- John Lemke [from Qld] DFC & MID, Pilot with 7 Sqn Beauforts, served June 41 - Mar 46, Horn Island and Instructor at Sale [133 ops]
- Harold Olgivie [from Tas] A.M. Radar Operator served Feb 42 - Jan 45 in New Guinea and Australia [incl. Darwin]
- Jack Storey [from Vic] DFC & MID S/Ldr, Hurricane pilot served in Burma [RAF 135 Sqn] and as an Australian instructor, 8.5 victories.

We all felt the honour of being selected to represent so many; those who are still here to remember that day in Pearl Harbour in 1941 and those who are not.

The memories of the trip will be revisited over and over.

*** Fred Anderson MID saw service in Milne Bay, Port Moresby [30 Sqn], Darwin [31 Sqn]**



Remember

Remember, Australia, now peace bells have rung
And Victory's song have been joyfully sung,
Remember the blood that was shed for this land;
Forget not the courage so noble and grand.
Remember, Australia, when birds sweetly sing
And nature's soft blossoms are glories of spring,
As trees gently sway in the light laughing breeze:
Remember the battle to keep gems like these.
Remember, Australia, those brave men who fell,
Whose lives ebbed away in a valley of hell.
Remember their children, and others loved dear
And give them a future to face without fear.
Remember, Australia, the brave who return,
The wounded, the war-torn, you must never spurn;
Remember these men, and discharge your debt well,
Secure and in comfort, be sure they all dwell.
Remember, remember, forever, these sons
Who flung back the foe with a thunder of guns!
As free soil you tread, and on beauty you gaze.
Remember. Australia, remember always!

Cpl S. George Van Siaveren

PALMALMAL SPLASHDOWN

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drops hitting the floor of the jungle. When someone stood on a shell (old No 1 had brought us some shellfish) we knew it had to be Japs.

We had been sitting on our beds with our .38's pointed in the direction of the noises. I said to Bill, 'Will we run or crawl out? He said,' You crawl. I'll hang on to your boot.' We crawled some 200 yards and decided to stop and go again at day-break. At break of day we sneaked over to No 1's camp and found kids playing and No 1 OK and having a laugh. The Japs were pigs. A hell of a night!

Golpak's Boys kept coming up and tried to get him to go down to Sali, as that was the English Law that one should be punished and not everyone in the village, as was happening, then. They were being beaten by Kundah (cane).

To be Continued



RAAF Memorial Mass for 2005.

The Mass was held on Sunday 6th October 2005 at The St. Thomas Aquinas Memorial church at St. Lucia, where it has been held for the past sixteen years. This was a very special Mass as it was to be the last RAAF Memorial Mass to be held at the church. . Because of the falling of attendance by RAAF veterans due to the ageing factor, health problems and the increasing rate of veterans passing on. The church committee decided and I believe wisely, rather than let the Mass continue to fade away it would be preferable to make this a special event as the final mass in this format. The result was that the Church was full.

As the Governor of Queensland Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC was attending, an RAAF Honour Guard was mounted. On the Governor's arrival she inspected the Honour Guard, before entering the church. Following her entry the Queens Colours of No1, No2, and No 23 Squadrons were paraded into the church and placed adjacent to the alter. The colour party from RAAF Amberley carried out the parade of the colours impeccably.

The service was commenced by Chaplain Wing Commander Father Paul Goodland giving an opening address in which he confirmed that this was to be the last Memorial Mass. The Mass Celebrant was Most Reverend Max Davis AM DD, Catholic Military Bishop to the Australian Armed Services. The Bishop also presented a Homily.

At the conclusion of the mass the Ode was recited and the bugler played the Last Post and the Arouse. After Her Excellency and party departed to join all members in tea and sandwiches the Queens Colours were paraded from the church and the Honour Guard marched off with precision with hand clapping from some of the congregation. The RAAF Amberley Band played an important part, firstly by entertaining for 30 minutes before the service commenced, then the normal tunes used for the Honour Guard inspection by the Governor, the March Off, and then entertaining whist all were enjoying tea and sandwiches.

This was a very memorable Mass and will be remembered for a long time by those who took part. Included in the congregation were - Group Captain Gavin Davis Officer Commanding No 82 Wing RAAF Amberley, Wing Commander Paul Willmont Commanding Officer No1 Squadron RAAF Base Amberley, Wing Commander Ken Quinn Commanding Officer No 6 Squadron RAAF Base Amberley Wing Commander Frank Grigson staff Officer Personnel Headquarters Combat Group RAAF Base Amberley and Squadron Leader B Cummins Commanding Officer No 23 Squadron RAAF Base Amberley.

PETER WHITE

Annual Raffle



The first prize for the 2006 raffle is a special note pad holder. This note pad holder has been crafted by master craftsman Flt/Sgt John Houlson (RAAF rtrd) from a piece of Western Australian Jarrah. It is an article designed by him, and includes a fine gold plated clock which has been cleverly inserted in the raised section. This is a piece of woodcraft that you would be proud to have on your desk

If you would like more than the five tickets allocated to you attached to your Annual Subscription form, just show it in the appropriate space and I will make out the tickets for you and include them in the draw. It would be most helpful if you completed the subscription form, filled in the raffle tickets attached and post them back for inclusion in the draw.

A19-141 Radio Recovered at Kimbe



An E-mail arrived from Cecile Benjamin in Kimbe to let us know that the radio from A19-141 had been recovered from the crash site.

Unfortunately, due to a nearby volcano misbehaving it could be some time before it could be cleaned up. A couple of days later another E-mail arrived with this attachment showing the radio having been thoroughly cleaned up for the photo.

The photo was take by Miss Keiko Yamato of Kimbe

Diary of F/Sgt Donald C Kirkwood

RAAF - 30 Squadron

1943 - AUGUST

Continued from September 2005 Issue

Sunday 1st

Packed up and pulled down our tent in preparation for another shift to Goodenough Island. Due to leave tomorrow. Nothing else exciting.

Monday 2nd

Up early and away by 7.30am. Trip only 40 minutes in the Doug.

Goodenough is a beautiful place, an island rising almost sheer out of the sea to a height of 7,800 feet.

Camp site is very fair.

Our gear which was shipped from Moresby was rifled on the way over and a large portion of everything stolen. Two wallets and all my underwear were stolen.

We have an excellent bathing pool here, crystal clear and free from germs.

Tuesday 3rd

Out on a rush job today.

Left at 10.30am and were out for 5 hours. Conducted an armed reconnaissance of the south coast of New Britain mainland, from Arawe to Cape Archway. Main job was to pick up a damaged Jap destroyer and motor vessel, hit during a bombing attack by a Catalina at 2313 the night before. Nil sightings.

Passed right by Gasmata without interference, stooged right into Jacquinot Bay and right around the shores of Wide Bay. Cape Archway is about 1/4 hours flying from Rabaul, which is loaded with Japs. Saw nothing and remained unmolested the whole trip. Weather closed in on way home and we were split up. We arrived home 14 minutes before the others.

Received 2 letters today.

Wednesday 4th

Usual type of day. Spent all morning swinging compasses and lining up drift recorders. Made extensive enquiries concerning watch. Cpl. Woods of our instrument section will be able to fix it up

OK. I hope so.

While swimming today Cohn dived a little deep and ended up with 3 stitches in his skull. Poor fellow looks a picture with his bald head.

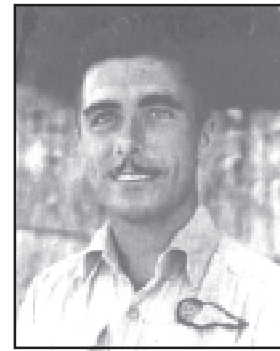
No letters.

Thursday 5th

Nothing. No letters.

Sunday 8th

Lazy morning.



Trip to Mud Bay village during the afternoon. Road was perfect for about 10 miles then disintegrated into a mud and slush track. Met up with a downpour and were thoroughly soaked before we could reach shelter. Sheltered under a thatch roofed building with 10 natives, 2 very old women, 1 grey haired, 1 consumptive old man, several kids and 2 young women. There were hundreds of boongs along the road, some very smart and remarkably developed girls amongst them. The women carrying the loads of course. A little trading was done with bully beef but nothing much was obtained. Didn't reach Mud Bay due to the truck breaking down.

No letters today.

Monday 9th

Rained all night. Swung a compass again, our only activity apart from the usual 3 feeds and a shave. No letters again. This is becoming bad.

Tuesday 10th

Expended great amounts of our sadly lacking energies today, on a walk, nay scramble, up into the hills. Object was boong village with an eye to bartering our cursed bully beef for some souvenirs or fresh fruit.

Party consisted of Cohn Wein, Ted Marron, Bernie Le Griffen, Merv Linklater, Cpl. and myself. Missed our pad and struck off through some very back breaking jungle undergrowth. After an hours intense tussle with natures worst types of foliage, vines, odds and sods, with spiders like saucers, butterflies like birds and all midst a stifling heat we burst upon a grassy ridge. Stated ridge was grassy all right. 6 foot spearlike stuff growing out of rocks not soil. The footing was damned treacherous and very leg wearying but "onwards ever onwards" Eureka and fame. The top was nearly reached but managed a struggle to 2000 feet, then decided to descend. Track back was a torrent bed, very rough and simply murderous to travel down. Came across a boong garden at the base of a ridge and managed to secure a photo of an old woman peeling yams and 2 women carrying baskets on the skull. Met 2 young boys who were very intelligent and gullible. Good English but poor grammar. Obtained nothing in the way of souvenirs.

No letters again today.

Wednesday 11th

Bill Cosgrove and Bernie Le Griffen killed in

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BEAUFIGHTER/BOSTON ASSOCIATION (QLD) -NOMINAL ROLL

Mr D Agnew 86 Boundary Road Indooroopilly 4068	F/O F Anderson MID 58 Peridon Village Daleys Point 2257	Mr D Angus 21 Maders Avenue Kogarah 2217
LAC W Atkinson 8 Coolac Court Deception Bay 4508 07 3204 1667	LAC F Beadle 11 Tuggerah Street North Booval 4304 07 3281 3928	Mr G Blain 47 Warner Road Warner 4600 07 3264 4142
Mr T M Boehm 45 Carbeen Avenue St Ives 2075	F/Sgt J Brassil 46A Melbourne Street Gosford 2250 02 4322 7576	F/LT R Brazenor 7 Virgina Street Mt Waverley 3149 03 9807 2697
CPL C Campbell 22 Wangawallen Road Eagle Heights 4271 07 5545 1980	F/Lt F Cassidy AOM 1 Eucalytus Street Lakehurst 2210 02 9546 1972 fnwcassidy@optusnet.com	Mr J Castle 41/7 Oatlands Esplanade Runaway Bay 4216 07 5537 9699
F/LT J Chamberlain 120 Dudley Street Annerley 4103 07 3848 2184	LAC K Clark 18/8 Channel Street Cleveland 4163 07 3286 7696	Mrs M Clark 92/42 Ridley Street Bridgeman Downs 4103 07 3263 5412
F/Lt G Close 7 Chaley Street Aspley 4034	F/Lt E Coleman MID 100 Kirkwood Road West South Tweed Heads 2486 02 5524 9379	S/Ldr S Curran 6 Caloola Drive Springwood 07 3388 6053
F/LT S Cutler 14 Turner Street Ipswich 4306 02 32813145	S/Ldr WDallitz 69 Eucalypt Street Bellara 4507	W/O A Donnelly 132/16 Bedford Street Box Hill 3128
F/Lt G Drury 5 Hanlon Crescent Sandown Village Sandy Bay 7005	Mr H Dundas Taylor 1/10 Sangrado Street Seaforth 2092	F/O L Fanning 2 Burkitt Street Bundaberg 4670 07 4152 4522
F/O G Hall 403 Levitt Road Upper Kedron 4055 07 3351 4052	F/O J Hamilton 135 Victoria Street Mackay 4740 07 4957 4002	Mrs B Hamilton 2 Hammersley Circuit Alexandra Hills 4161
Mrs J Hayes 8 White Street Gladstone 4680 07 4955 1313	LAC A Hill 39 Stewart Street Bundaberg 4670 07 4152 0637	Mrs Y Holt 34 Charles Street Baulkham Hills 2153 02 9639 9862

Mr J Houlson 90 Ackama Srett Algerster 4115 02 9639 9862	Mr B Hunt 60 Bosun Boulevarde Banora Point 2486 07 5524 1785	Mrs N Hunt PO Box 123 Tweed Heads 2485 07 5536 6767
Ms M Houston AWM GPO Box 345 Canberra 2600	F/Sgt R Hutchinson 61 Alpha Road Greystaines 2145 02 9896 6891	Cpl R Inches Village on Downs 5/63-65 Drayton Road Toowoomba 4350 07 4636 7705
F/LT R Ind MID 49 Atlantis West 2 Admiralty Drive Paradise Waters 4217 07 5564 0181	F/O J Jacobi 27 Tilquin Street The Gap 4061 07 3300 2090	Cpl C Jensen MS 963 Langebecker Road Bundaberg 4570 07 4159 7356
Ms P Jensen PO Box 2388 Bundaberg 4570 07 4159 6866	F/O G Johnson 2/9 Hall Avenue Bongaree 4507	Mrs B King 127 Britannia Avenue Morningside 4170 07 3399 3540
LAC F King 2 Megan Street Tweed Heads 2486 07 5524 3637	LAC R Lawson 2186 Wynnum Road Wynnum 4178	Mr K Leonard 3 Morandoo Road Elanora Heights 2101 02 9913 3248
W/O J Loveband PO Box 494 Batemans Bay 2536 02 4471 3853	Mr S Lovell PO Box 770 Mossman 4873 07 4098 8406	W/O D Lyons 318 Beaconsfield Terrace Brighton 4017 07 3269 1331
Mr K Marks 1/13 Grenada Crescent Varsity Lakes 4227	LAC W Masson "Wilderness" Yeulba 4427	F/O Masterson 4/5 Mc Kean Road Scarness 4655 07 4124 4034
Mrs S McClymont 151 North creek Road Lennox Head 2478 02 6687 7304	F/LT K McDonald DFC 5 Grosvenor Street Frankston 3199 03 9787 6962	Mr D McMillan 42 Vergulde Road Regents Park 4118 07 3402 3528 Dugald23@optusnet.com
Sgt V Mc Minn 4 Kurrawa Avenue Mermaid Waters 4218 07 5572 2805	F/LT J McSharry 187 Stanley Terrace Taringa 4068	SGT J Merrotsy 17 Murphys road Kingscliffe 2487 02 65 74 2830
F/O A Miller 18 Fairway View Catalina 25366 2083	Mr L Moore PO Box 2960 Innisfail 4868 07 4063 3557	Mrs M Whelan 63 Rumrunner Street Mermaid Waters 4218
Mrs B Nixon "Phiara" Rollestone 4702 07 4984 3163	Mr A Nye 61 Sussex Road Acacia Ridge 4110 rabreet@optushome.com.au	W/O W O'Connor 26 Coburg Street Cleveland 4163 07 3286 1067
Mr D Patton 82 Gelhardt Street Chandler 4155	F/Sgt K Quinn 23B Tweedale Road Applecross 6153 08 9364 1343	F/Lt G Robertson DFC 189 Quarry Lane Rockhampton 4700 07 4921 2171 George.robertson@bigpond.com

F/LT G Rose 16 Novar Court Robina 4226 07 5562 0202	F/LT H Rowell 10 Duncraig Road Applecross 6153 08 9364 7656	Mr D Shaw 21 Exeter Street Hadfield 3045 03 9306 1986
Mr R Smith "Lanyap" Rollestone 4702	Ms B Smith PO Box 1371 Southport 4215 07 5502 8387 barbannessmith@bigpond.com	S/Ldr C Smith 2/438 Cooloongatta Road Tugan 4224 07 5597 7976
Tec Rep R Snell 50 McLean St Gulliver 4812 07 4779 5042	Mr D Tanner 68 Evelyn Road Wynnum West 4178 07 3348 6061 tannerdv@uq.net.au	S/Ldr A Thomson DFC 323 Myers Road Merricks North 3926 03 5989 7219
S/LDR N Tritton MID 142 Yabba Street Ascot 4007 07 3262 5965	F/LT L Turnbull 40/7 Oatlands Esplanade Runaway Bay 4216 07 5537 7965	Mrs E Wardlaw 30 Curramundi Road Caloundra 4551 07 5493 4374
Mr R Wein 49 McCleod Street Cleveland 4153	MRs K Wells 13 Considine Street Rockhampton 4700 07 4922 6260	Ms AWemyss 78 Stuart Street Bulimba 4171 07 3395 7210
SGT A West 85 Rue Montaigne Road Petrie 4502	MsB Wicks 1/40 Ian Avenue Hervey Bay 4655 07 4194 0149	F/Lt P White MID 9 Scott Street Beenleigh 4207 07 3287

DON KIRKWOOD: Continued from page 9

aircraft accident. Took off at 4.30am and just disappeared. The plane was located in shallow water 2 mile from end of strip and about 100 yards off shore. Bill Cosgrove, pilot, was found and buried tonight. Bernie has not been found as yet but I am sure he is killed and buried amongst the wreckage.

Waded out to the wreckage myself to look it over and was appalled at the terrific amount of wreckage. Spread over a large area (about 80 square yards) not a single section of the kite was in one piece.

Appears as though a height of 800ft was gained, engine trouble, Bill managed to get out but was too low. Bernie did not get out and was apparently still in kite on impact. I found the rear gun in fair order, Aldis lamp smashed, astro-compass like a piece of cheese, the whole wireless gear in separate units and smashed unbelievably. Even the crank handle was broken in two. Pulling in the trailing aerial we found entrails attached to it in 2 places. Presumably Bernie was smashed to pulp and is still buried in the sand or was washed away.

Pile of letters today. 4 all told from Mary. One conveyed the shocking accident of our cousin Frank Bedkoher. Fell under train losing both legs. Poor Edna 4 months gone and left with young Joanie. Very sad indeed and quite upsetting for one day.

Poor Mary has cause to worry and I feel sorry for her living

DELETED BY CENSOR

Thursday 12th

DELETED BY CENSOR

turns up proving exciting and interesting for a change. News that George Carnegie is the father of a son at last.

No letters or parcels.

Friday 13th

Spent most of the day at the pool, swimming, sunbaking etc.

Pictures tonight "Prelude to War". Quite good.

"Yellow" on tonight, but nothing eventuated. Believe Milne Bay

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Saturday 14th

Nothing spectacular apart from the fact that we will have an aircraft to ourselves for a few days. No letters or parcels.

To be continued