

The logo is a large, stylized 'CB' in a serif font, enclosed within a circle. The background of the entire page is a dark, textured grey.

CB

**Number 2, 1995
June**

**Central
Bureau
Intelligence
Corps
Associataion
Inc.**

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THE TRADITIONS.

WREATH LAYING ANZAC EVE.

Reporter Madeline Chidgey.

It is hard to define just what it is about Anzac Eve at the Cenotaph that makes it such a moving and evocative ceremony.

It may be due in part to the mellow Autumn evening and the scent of flowers and rosemary. Or perhaps it is the peacefulness, which invites reflection on such things as courage, friendship, loyalty, sacrifice or personal recollections of loved ones. At all events it is a very special time.

After the laying of the wreaths by Central Bureau and A.I.A., followed by the Last Post, the Ode and Reveille, we marched to the top of Barrack Street. That marvellous group of young people, the Pittwater House Band, certainly put a spring in the step.

Members attending were Norm Allen, Madeline Chidgey, Alf. Davis, Gordon Gibson, Dave Hansen, Sandy Hinds, Coral Hinds, Helen Kenny, Geoff Milne, Allan Osborne, Diana Parker, Bert de Mars, Aub. Roberts, Gordon Swinney. Family members who came to observe were Meg Osborne and Adele and Angela Smith

THE MARCH.

By Helen Kenny.

The Anzac March is shorter than it once was, and bands play in a slower tempo. Much as the marchers would like to step out as they did in the past, this is wishful thinking. Fifty years have passed since the war ended. Admit it - we are old. The organisers of the march know this, and have planned accordingly.

No longer do marchers swing down Martin Place from Macquarie Street, and wind through the City to the Domain. Now the march follows Hunter and Pitt Streets (how eighteenth century the names) turns into Martin Place, passes the Cenotaph, goes down George Street, up Bathurst, and into Elizabeth. There at Hyde Park, it breaks off. The gradients are easy, downhill, then level but the going is hard for those made infirm by age, illness or war injuries.

Some of our group, this year, have had to turn to watchers for the

first time. They stood by the roadside, or went to the reunion lunch at Phillip's Foote in the Rocks.

Anzac, April 25, 1915. The Gallipoli landing. The word and the event are remembered, as are other dates, other wars and actions. After World War II, according to the Australian Encyclopaedia, there was a suggestion that Anzac "might be taken to mean Australian, New Zealand and American Comrades." This remained a suggestion.

In CB there were many "American Comrades" as well as British and Canadians. They, and Australians came and went to the old house at 21 Henry Street, to the Fire Station, to the huts in Ascot Park. What did they do? Security meant silence. Only through meeting now, and through "CB" - the journal so ably edited by Dennis Moore - we are deciphering a little of what went on. Members of Wireless Units and of ASWG are recalling what happened, in the north, in the islands, in the Philippines. Answers are forthcoming.

This year 42 men and women gathered behind the Central Bureau Intelligence Corps Association Incorporated banner. In front were our President, Aub Roberts and Secretary, Gordon Gibson. Then came the banner-holding brothers Bruce and Brian Lovett. Behind them the rest of us lined up, the men of CB - ever gentlemen - putting ex-servicewomen in the front rows.

We are all civilians now. No khaki, no blue. The bands struck up, fore and aft. Quick March. We moved at Allan Osborne's command, heeding his instructions on how to wheel round corners, and his orders - "CB- left, left, left, right, LEFT".

The bands competed in tempo. Sometimes it took a few shuffles to get back in step. It was strange to follow the green banner in which the lettering faced away from us. Circular cut-outs, like eye-holes, were in the material, designed to prevent the banner from behaving like a spinnaker on a windy day. Anzac Day, 1995 was calm enough. The Lovett brothers were well in control of the banner.

Our line up included: Coral and Sandy Hinds, who had met at CB, and were now about to celebrate their golden wedding. Bruce Bentwich, F.M. MacDiarmid OBE, Bert de Mars, Sydney Cooper, John Pascoe, Lou Harris (who wrote "The Merauke Incident" in the March, 1995 issue of CB), Cec Cousins, David Hansen, Jim Kennedy, Roy Perry, Doug McNally, Gordon Swinney, Keith Phillips, Les

McLean, Frank Hughes. (Mark time here. Who will ever forget hearing him talk at Jamberoo on "From Central Bureau to a War Crimes Unit." ? This address was printed in CB - December 1994. It should be more widely read.

But on with the marchers Michael Casey, Bill Clarke, Sid Carey (is it true that an ancestor of his, Henry Carey wrote the original "God Save the King.?") Allan Osborne, Joy Grainger, Helen Kenny, Diana Parker, Marion Winn, Joy Grace, Peg Teague, Ailsa Hale, Bob Leonard, Noni Benn, Alan Norton, Stan King, Earle Heap, Norm Allen, Jack Bennett, Ivan Auprince, John Shoebridge and Reg Murphy.

One of the bands was playing that Boer War song, "Soldiers of the Queen". Suddenly I remembered words that some AWAS cipher girls in NSW sang to this tune . . . "We're the silent cipher personnel/ And who we are we cannot tell/ We're sigs wrapped up in mystery, And if you ask us what we know, we only say, "Now off you go." But here, my memory has gone. Can anyone else recall this doggerel, or any songs linked specifically to CB. ?

Wheel now into Martin Place. Pass the Cenotaph with the bronze statues of the sailor and soldier, all designed by Sir Bertram Mackennal. Our eyes turn to it, to the statues in World War I uniforms.

I cannot presume to think what others think at this moment, but I had my own thoughts, of uncles who died before I was born, Tom the young doctor at Passchendaele, Leslie (for whom I was named) of pneumonic flu in London after surviving the battles in France. There were others who had been at Anzac, and under gassing in Europe. An uncle lived next door. I remember his coughing paroxysms. At home there were sepia photographs of these young men in the flat where my grandmother lived, always wearing the black of long widowhood.

It had been the war to end war, said our parents. We saw no war films, read no war books, overheard no conversations of ex-servicemen. They censored horror from us. We heard no bad language and the only tales told were joky ones, with a bit of Arabic "Imshi" or French " Inki pinki parlez-vous" and mention of Mademoiselle from Armentieres thrown in. (They played that tune, too, on Anzac Day.)

Although ex-soldiers came to school and spoke of Anzac Day, our family kept away from the City and all marching. It was a day of mourning. Sometimes I looked on from a distance as men gathered in Burwood Park - which had paths on alignment with

the crosses of the Union Jack. They stood before a memorial shaped like a small Arc de Triomphe. It was lettered "These gave their lives - these offered their lives. Then came the dreadful lists. The marchers wore medals and rosemary on their lapels. Last Post and Reveille sounded.

But marches were always for returned men and women. Now the march is for anyone who served, whether they went overseas or not. Children march with their fathers, widows for their husbands. Until last year I had not marched, feeling it was probably against my family's wishes and their stoic silence.

Then I joined the CB unit, did so this year and shall, I hope, again. At CB I had been young, not married, not engaged, enduring no loneliness of separation. Others had and had seen the deaths of comrades, whom now they remembered. As I marched (rather badly) with old CB friends I thought too of lost friends.

Heads turned as we passed the Cenotaph, with its laurel wreaths and purple ribbons tagged with the names of units. Metallic paper trembled and flashed in the sunlight. Small posies were tucked among great and formal floral offerings. To our left, the old GPO., long disused, was closed, emitting no signals. Into George Street, then. Crowds packed the footpaths. People and flags formed embankments on either side. Children and adults waved flags as we passed, but in older times Australians were never flag wavers. What causes this? Is there sudden realisation that the Australian flag itself is under threat, and that, on a national day it must be shown? I think so, although there is no way of proving it. Perhaps the flag sellers were making profit.

Step it out now, right down the middle of George Street, down that centre line where horses had passed fairly recently, leaving neat dollops of manure. Allan Osborne's voice gave discreet warning. We avoided the dollops which would have been "so good for the garden", as my mother would have said.

People called out. Sometimes "Good on you girls!" (stretching the truth). Suddenly - a shout - and it was Noni McNaught on the sidelines, waving to us all. We waved back. She was with us in spirit.

The City is quiet. No traffic sounds, only footfalls,

conflicting bands, a few shouted orders. The crowd is thickest around the Town Hall. We turn into Bathurst, and Elizabeth and break off at Hyde Park. The Red Cross gives us hot drinks. We appreciate it. We have been part of a march, individuals and one individual unit in the whole. Ours in war was a strange and fragmented organisation - deliberately so. But in our teens and twenties friendships were made that have lasted. Among CBICA people we have made new friendships with those met comparatively recently. We renew this on Anzac Day.



ANZAC DAY REUNION.

Reporter:
Madeline Chidgey.

A good roll-up of 65 or so members, family and friends and terrific weather ensured another successful Re-union at Phillip's Foote, Central Bureau's usual stamping ground. Hearty greetings smiles and laughter were the order of the day and made up for some of the sore feet

and tired limbs suffered by some of the marchers. Funny thing, we never get tired of reminiscing — is it a sign that we are "Getting On"?

We did miss our Treasurer, Norma, in hospital recovering from a knee replacement op., and Dennis, who was struck down by a sudden illness (Now fully recovered.)

Those who attended were; Noni Benn Jack Bennett Ilma Bennett Bruce Bentwich Michael Casey Joyce Casey Syd Carey Norma Carey Madeline Chidgey Bill Clarke Syd Cooper Hope Creary Cec Cousins Sally Clough Alf Davis Flora Davis Bill Fermoy Gordon Gibson Sue Gibson Joyce Grace Joy Granger Shiela Gregory Ailsa Hale Dave Hansen Noeline Hansen Sandy Hinds Coral Hinds Lou Harris Frank Hughes Helen Kenny Jim Kennedy Judy Kennedy Alan Langdon Pamela Langdon Bob Leonard Pam Leonard Brian Lovett Bruce Lovett Goeff. Milne Doreen MacPherson Noni McNaught Doug McNally Michael McNally Grace McNally Margaret McCafferty Les McLean Reg Murphy Bert de Mars Beth de Mars Dawn de Mars Lillian Nutting Allan Osborne Meg Osborne Diana Parker Keith Phillips Ruth Phillips Aub. Roberts

Diana Seymour Gordon Swinney Phyl Swinney
Peter Swinney Peg Teague Chris Uhlman Eric
Webb Eve Webb Jim Williams Marion Winn.
For any misspellings or omissions, we apologise. To
all who sent apologies, we missed you, and hope to
see you next year.

EXECUTIVE NEWS.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK.

Members of the Executive Committee met on Monday
10th. April. Among agenda items discussed were
Anzac Day arrangements also the November Reunion
to be held in Canberra.

Anzac Eve - Wreath Laying.

Unfortunately two regular attendees at both the
wreath laying ceremony and the Anzac Day march/
reunion were missing:- Hon. Treasurer, Norma
Keeling recovering from a knee replacement on the
11th. April also Publicity Officer, Dennis Moore who
was suffering from a virus, from personal experience
I know just how debilitating it can be

The Executive Committee extend their thanks and
appreciation to those who attended this solemn
service.

Special thanks to those who travelled from interstate:
Allan and Meg Osborne also Coral and 'Sandy' Hinds.
Once again congratulations to members of Pittwater
House School's Service Training Unit who provided
a catafalque and flag party also a band at the wreath
laying ceremony where C.B. members joined the
A.I.A. contingent.

After the ceremony at the Cenotaph the band and
members of the Pittwater House unit lead the parade
a short march to Barrack Street where the personnel
of the Pittwater House performed a number of drill
routines.

Anzac Day.

Another fine day greeted the marchers; again
C.B.I.C.A. members march alongside of the A.I.A.
members. The A.I.A. President, Bill Robinson,
earnestly attempted to have the band following our
members keep a fair distance, but at times conflicting
beats made 'keeping in step' a problem.

It was obvious that there were more marchers than in
recent years as we did not move off till 10am. Also
the crowds lining the streets were more numerous
and certainly more enthusiastic than in past years.

After the march members, family and friends gathered
at Phillip's Foote for an afternoon of socialising and

reliving past memories. It was noted Coral and Sandy
Hinds were about to celebrate their 50th. wedding
anniversary: a romance that started at Central Bureau.
I was reminded that a number of other romances
started at Central Bureau. We wish them continued
happiness. Perhaps for some people Central Bureau
could also mean "Cupid's Bureau".

On behalf of members I would like to thank Brian
and Bruce Lovett who drove some kilometres to
retrieve the banner from Dennis Moore and to take
care of it during the procedures.

Australia Remembers (1945-1995)

Sydney, August 12th. 1995. Saturday.

A march through the streets of Sydney has been
organised by the Returned Services League of
Australia; the following are the arrangements.

Assemble at 0900 hours at Hunter Street (south
side) and Elizabeth Street. Watch out for the
C.B.I.C.A. Inc. green and gold banner. **Medals to
be worn.**

After the march members are invited to an
informal get-together at Phillip's Foote, 101 George
St. North at 1200 hours.

Sydney, August 15th. V.J. (V.P.) Day.

On Tuesday, August 15th. members are invited
to attend a wreath laying ceremony at 1100 hours
at the Cenotaph, Martin Place. **Medals to be worn.**
After this service members may join the parade or
an informal re-union

The R.S.L. stressed that above activities would be
restricted to personnel who served during World War
II.

The reason the August 15th. re-unions are being kept
informal after the formal organised functions is that
members may attend services in cities and towns and
be able to join our Australia Remembers Re-union
November 11th. and 12th. in Canberra. The Hon
Secretary will expand on this venue in this
"Newsletter".

Berets.

Bruce Lovett had a sample of the beret he suggested
on Anzac Day and he undertook to obtain information
about the possibility of a cloth badge and price prior
to, the next Executive meeting.

VALE. S.G. (Gordon) WILSON.

It is with deep regret that we advise the passing of
Gordon Wilson. Gordon and Marcia were among
those who attended the Jamberoo Valley Reunion last
November. A number of Central Bureau members
joined a large group of family and friends at the
Northern Suburbs Crematorium to pay their last

respects to Gordon. Our sympathy goes to his wife, Marcia and family.

Aub. Roberts.

15 Gregory St.,

Putney NSW 2112.

(02) 807 1426.

HON. SECRETARY'S PAR.

Australia Remembers 1945-1995

In response to a tactful hint from us, the Minister for Veterans' Affairs has written a very gracious letter offering a grant of \$800 to assist with the costs of organisation of C.B.I.C.A.'s commemorative activities fifty years on. In doing so, the Minister, the Honourable Con Sciacca has paid a generous tribute to our war-time achievements in the following terms. "Members of the Central Bureau Intelligence Corps certainly played an enormous role in World War II. The task of intercepting and decoding Japanese signals required great foresight and proficiency.. The triumph over enemy forces in World War II can certainly be related to the information obtained by the Central Bureau Intelligence Corps from enemy forces." I hope that gives you all a little glow of pride. As for the disposal of this donation the two conditions are that we provide satisfactory evidence that the money was spent for the purpose for which it was given and that we make reference to "Australia Remembers" in any activity connected with our commemorations. President Aub. has already outlined plans for other 'Australia Remembers' activities — the World War II Veterans March on 12th. August and the Commemorative Ceremony on 15th. August. It is now suggested that our annual Combined Reunion in Canberra on 11th. and 12th. November become our third 'Australia Remembers' activity and the Federal Governments donation of \$800 be used to defray part of the costs of the Commemorative Dinner on Saturday evening at the Eagle Hawk Hill Resort. Mr. Martin Brady, Director, Defence Signals Directorate has accepted our invitation to be guest speaker on this important occasion. I am confident that this proposal will meet with your approval and have your support and that we will see the largest roll-up ever to the Australia Remembers 1945-1995 Combined Reunion. As a bonus we also have the opportunity to participate in a two hour guided tour of the D.S.D. Building on the Saturday afternoon.

Bookings for Eagle Hawk Hill Resort.

Our contact person is Phil. Burnett and Phil is offering special bargain rates for C.B.I.C.A. members *provided the bookings are made before 31st. August 1995*. The phone number is (06) 241 6033 or toll free 008 651543. Fax is (06) 241 369. The postal address is P.O. Box 82 Watson, ACT 2602. As outlined in the March "Newsletter", the Eagle Hawk Hill Resort is located in a bushland setting on the Federal Highway near the NSW border about 20 k's out of Canberra itself. It has all modern resort facilities and should prove a very pleasant venue. Please note that it is up to each individual member to make his/her own reservation of accommodation by contacting the Resort personally. No remittances should be sent to the Hon. Secretary or the Hon. Treasurer.

Letter from Graham Lobb.

One who is already a definite starter in the March on 12th. August is U.S.A. member Graham Lobb who has written us the following letter.

"This is a follow up to my letter Feb. 21, 1995. My travel plans are firm at this time. I will arrive Sydney, Aug 11 at 06:05 a.m. Will stay at WARATAH CENTRAL 22-24 Albion Street, Surry Hills. TEL: (02) 281-0333 Aug 11-13. I plan to participate with CBICA in the unit parade on August 12th. At this time, I have not heard from anyone coming as I am from Washington, D.C., on Qantas who made my arrangements.

I will proceed to Brisbane on Aug 13th. and contact Mrs. Rita (Taylor) Balin at Brisbane.

I have learned some SIS members maybe coming on a separate tour from L.A., but this group will not reach Sydney for the Aug 12th. parade. They will be in Brisbane on Aug. 15th.

I also had a call from Myron Soucgel SIS-CB who will be in Australia, with his wife.

I have been in touch with Joe Richard and Harold Spain.

We are enjoying rain after a dry spring. V-E ceremonies came off with a small gathering at Fort Myer, before the President left for Moscow.

National Archives has mounted a V-E and V-J exhibit. I heard a recording of "Advance Australia Fair" as I entered the hall.

About all for now.

Sincerely,

Graham Lobb."

Great to hear from you, Graham and we look forward to (a) marching with you through Sydney streets and (b) reminiscing over some liquid refreshments

following the march. We are hopeful that Graham will not be the only American representative.

New Member.

Gilbert (Gil) Holmes of East Prahran served with C.B. from September 1942 in Melbourne, Brisbane, Finschafen, Hollandia and Tarlac. Gil keeps in regular contact with Keith Jarrott and also with Les Perkins of Geelong. No, Gill, Les is not a member of CBICA and I'd be glad to have his postal address. See you at the Canberra Reunion Gil? I can't think of a better way for you to renew old acquaintances.

Hon. Secretary's Change of Address.

Advice to those contemplating moving from the old comfortable family home into a smaller home unit. Don't. Nuff said. After many hassles my new address is:

67/1-9 Yardley Avenue

Waitara 2077

Phone (02) 487 3029

(Don't ring this number before 12th. July, however, as Telecom has been unable to provide us with a new phone service in less than two months from time of first request.)

My best wishes to you all in "Australia Remembers" year and may your celebrations thereof be successful wherever they may take place, but hopefully some of them in Sydney and/or Canberra.

Gordon Gibson.

THE TREASURER'S COLUMN.

There isn't one this time. Norma has made progress since her op. As most of us who have had surgery know, recovery is not usually represented by a steady upwards curve and is often marred by plateaus and regressions which can be disappointing. Norma sends her thanks to everyone who has posted a card or note and especially to members who have visited her at Hurstville and Lady Davidson. Until renewed physiotherapy sessions put Norma on the active list again your Publicity Officer is the stand in Treasurer. You may send your questions or your subs. to the Publicity bloke.

AND while in the world of funds and finance here is a plea for help from Marion Winn Yes, Norma we do miss you!

"At the Anzac Day Reunion Luncheon someone handed me his \$10 1995 membership fee to pass on to our Treasurer. I did not write down his name but assured him that of course I would remember. Dear reader, you surely know the rest of my sad story—I cannot remember who gave me the \$10 although it has been passed on to the Treasury.

So****to the unknown donor, could you please telephone me on 02 982 9607 to identify yourself to make sure you are recorded in the books as being a paid up member and also to receive an apology from

Marion Winn".

THE YAMAMOTO SAGA.

Not again! you say. Who now is claiming that famous intercept? This story is not so much an attempt to get more mileage out of a worn out yarn but more of a tribute to an indefatigable Central Bureau codebreaker who still relentlessly searches for the truth. This is in spite of continued ill health. Joe Richard puts it this way "Healthwise recently as soon as one part of me is O.K. someother part goes bad." So here is the last word on the Yamamoto saga as told by our esteemed veteran member from Stateside, Joseph E. Richard.

"Reference the Yamamoto shoot down I have given it some research and conclude that the message was sent in at least two systems. High level JN25 intercepted and read at Hawaii and Melbourne and in at least one low level 3 or 4 Kana air ground system intercepted at Townsville and read at Central Bureau, Brisbane. The JN 25 version was longer. Page 333 of David Kahn's 'The Codebreakers' and page 474 of Admiral Layton's 'And I Was There' give translations of this version. The Kana code version is given on page 95 of Jack Bleakley's 'The Eavesdroppers'. Jack B's version is the one I think is mentioned in Lynn Crost's 'Honor by Fire', a book of anecdotes about American/Japanese soldiers who served in World War II. Many of them were translators working at ATIS (Allied Translation and Interrogation Section). One of them was, in early 1943, called in by General Kenney's assistant (I think General Whitehead?) to translate a message. The General was suspicious viewing it as a possible Japanese trap. The American/Japanese man was able to assure the General that the translation was accurate

and appeared genuine. I think this incident illustrates why Col. Winterbotham thought that Comint was too delicate and important to trust to unindoctrinated generals and created the SLU organisation to handle Comint and instruct and monitor Generals in their use of it. This General brought an uncleared novice into the Comint picture ! Fortunately no harm resulted; in fact good since the General appreciated and trusted Comint and acted on it thereafter.

A Japanese view of the incident is given on page 359 of 'Fading Victory' a translation of Admiral Matome Ugaki's WW II diary by Donald Goldstein. Ugaki was Yamamoto's Chief of Staff and was shot down that day. His plane went into the ocean and he, while injured, got ashore. One year later he wrote 'according to what I heard afterwards, the enemy had employed fighter formations for early morning reconnaissance of that area since a few days before. It was quite a change compared with the enemy's past activities but the report reached the South East Asia fleet [at Rabaul] as a summary report on the day after the incident took place. That was too late. Had the report reached us in time we could have called off the trip or changed the schedule and provided powerful escorts.' So the shoot down was within a day of not happening (if postponed) or becoming a trap for the Allies (if the escort had been tripled).

I think the Allied air force started making dry runs or rehearsals which while they diverted suspicion from Comint almost gave the operation away. Whether General Kenney would have trusted Comint after that is a moot point.

Joe Richard.

HOLLANDIA REVISITED.

Reporter Geoff Charlesworth.

JAYPUR (formerly Hollandia) the Capital of Irian Jaya, is a thriving metropolis consisting of two main busy streets, Jalan Percetakan and Jalan Ahmad (very Indonesian !) running parallel into the valley from the waterfront park facing Humbolt Bay. Jayapura is 36 kms from the Airport Sentani and between these settlements are Sentani Raya, Abepura Hamadi and Kotanica.

In 1945 all this area of Hollandia town was occupied by two rows of large thatched administration buildings. I recalled the occasion of the celebration

of the birthday of Princess Juliana of the Netherlands with the enthusiastic Fife Bands of the local boys. There was much feasting and flag waving. My flag from the event recalls the names of Alan Langdon, Brian Walsh, Geoff Day, Bob Frost, Keith Lavers, John McQuillan, Ken Tresize, John (?) Brenigan and WAC's Jeanette La France and Addi Gorham.

I took a Bemo from Sentani up the road which was called Queen Wilhelmina Highway some 5 kms to a Military Barracks from where I cadged a dink on a motor cycle with the Duty Officer to the top of the mount now called MacArthur Park. There stands a suitable memorial to the man and the 7th. Fleet. The large terraces where our tents stood are still very evident. The outlook is as magnificent as ever to Lake Sentani and Cyclops Mountains. (Recently, I met Bill Rogers in the street and told him of my visit. He still has vivid memories of his all night ordeal stranded on the mount.)

I vividly recall the open air Easter service held at dawn on the hill overlooking the lake. As a permanent reminder, there now stand illuminated crosses at three points on the hills around the area. My mind also went back to the Saturday night Youth for Christ Rallies that were held regularly in the valley until the Yanks responsible for them moved on to the Philippines. Alan [Langdon] and I then arranged for them to meet in our hilltop Chapel shortly before we also left for the Philippines. Many of the 90 or so who attended the first rally on the hill had never travelled up there before and were most impressed with the magnificent view from our camp site.

A visit to the large Technical School near Jayapura resulted in the offer of the company of two lads to find the descendants of a highly regarded local man, Maigoda whom Alan and I met many times during our sojourn. With a powered dug-out canoe we crossed the bay to Engros. The word spread of our mission and eventually his grandson of some 40 years of age, Adrian Maigoda, showed up and we shared memories of his late father, Sepus and grandfather. Sepus, then a lad of about 12, had been very keen to accompany Alan back to Australia to go to "the guru Australian's School".

The highlight of my visit was a morning flight into Bailim Valley, only discovered to the outside world in 1938 and still only accessible by air. Since the late 50's the main settlement, Wamena, has developed into a town with most modern amenities - roads, schools, electricity, T.V.'s - all materials being airlifted. Despite civilisation as we know it, the locals still prefer the

traditional covering of grass skirts for the women and penis gourds for the males - both light weight and disposable - maybe not drip dry !

A MOMENTOUS YEAR : NINETEEN FORTY FIVE.

It wasn't just a big year at the national level; but also at a most personal level 1945 was a very significant year. The war was ending, we were young and full of life and the joy of living and for some of us personal relationships were of number one importance. It is obvious that some good decisions were made because many of our members are celebrating Golden Wedding Anniversaries this year.

Here is just one story of a "Sigint Romance" with a happy outcome. Sigint Romance is the term used by Coral and Sandy Hinds. Anyway its the story of their romance and this is how they tell it.

"During April/May 1944, in the C.B. Cipher Office at 21 Henry Street, a new group of A.W.A.S. was striving to operate TYPEX machines 24 hours a day in eight hour shifts. I arrived to work in the Cipher Office with the late Sergeant Harry Kroger of the RAAF. We were waiting for a posting to Nadzab in New Guinea in late 1944. Lieutenant 'Gubby' Allen was in charge of the Cipher Office. He introduced me to Coral Osborne with the words — 'This is Sergeant Hinds; he'll show you what to do !' — Prophetic words !!!

Coral and I went out on only two dates before I departed for Nadzab three weeks later. Correspondence flowed thick and fast. I guess you could call it getting to know you by mail. Not that the letters could be too revealing. It was somewhat inhibiting to imagine the censor reading every word that passed between us. But where there's a will there is a way. Coral and I were engaged by letter in October, 1944. Padding on short cipher messages helped along the way. I guess Kana operators and other people outside of the Cipher room didn't know about "padding". Padding was used to expand or to break up short routine messages. Personal notes were used in varying places throughout messages to break up patterns of address groups, text and endings.

I worked with One W.U. at Nadzab with F.Lt E.C. Hattam as C.O. for approx. six months and was then

sent with a small RAAF detachment to Hollandia to liaise with 53 Wireless. I remember well the view over Humbolt Bay. On D-Day plus 4 I landed on Leyte in the Philippines with Six Wireless Unit. Members of 6 W.U. and some C.B.er's will well remember the School at Tolosa and fairly primitive camp conditions. (Primitive? you should have seen Biak, Sandy! Ed.)

In May 1945, I received the good news from C.O. Quentin Foster that I was to be posted to Brisbane - rather than go with the unit to Manila. The news of my return to Brisbane was known to Coral just hours later by means of padding on a cipher message."

"In just ten days from learning the news of Sandy's return my mother and family made all of the necessary arrangements for the wedding", says Coral. "No mean feat under wartime conditions. I obtained leave and our families arrived in Orange NSW for the wedding on Saturday 2nd. June 1945. Special permits were required for Sandy's family to travel by train from Melbourne. Until the night before the wedding my parents had not met Sandy and his parents had not met me."

Sandy takes up the story again. *"Unfortunately for me the trip from Leyte to Brisbane was to prove very eventful — one event near fatal."*

* Flying in a D.C.3 of Transport Command and approaching Palau at dusk the aircraft was buzzed by six American fighters because the aircraft was unidentified on radar.

* After flying to Biak next morning and stopping over for lunch the aircraft was refuelled ready for a long ocean flight. The aircraft **crashed** on take-off, veering off the strip with a jammed rudder. The port wheel finished in a bomb crater with the port wing crumpled and pointing to the sky with high octane fuel pouring everywhere. The crew of that D.C.3 had flown 30 missions over Germany and flown from England to Australia, then Brisbane to Leyte without any accident. They must have become complacent and not carried out the normal cockpit drill before they crashed with me on board. I was one of the first to evacuate by jumping to the ground; thankful to have survived such a crash without injury and thankful that the aircraft did not explode.

After such an eventful journey, 2nd June, 1945 our wedding day, was a happy gathering of family and friends. The wedding was celebrated by Rev. H.E.

Lawson at Orange Congregational Church. Coral's brother and sister were best man and bridesmaid.

There were, however, clouds on the horizon which we had not expected. My time at Tolosa exposed me to infective hepatitis, amoebic dysentery and hookworm and I got the lot. Three weeks after the wedding I finished up in hospital in Melbourne weighing just six stone ten pounds. Over the next eleven years I spent a lot of time in Heidelberg Hospital.

In spite of all the abovementioned difficulties Coral and I are both thankful and grateful for a long and very happy life together. We have four wonderful children; Marion, John, Donald & Anthony plus nine lovely grandchildren including twin girls."

Sandy Hind's war service started well before his C.B. days. He served on Timor before Japanese occupation and was evacuated with No. 2 Squadron. There were 83 other people with him in the last Sunderland to leave. He survived the 70 raids on Darwin, including the famous 19 February 1942 attack when the RAAF Base at Darwin was wiped out. After the war he worked at Defence Signals Branch for a few years.

On behalf of your fellow C.B.I.C.A. members ,
Congratulations Coral and Sandy !

MORE GOLD.

"From your diverse beginning in the U.S. Army and Borovansky Ballet to living in Europe, Asia and America and culminating in a quiet Melbourne retirement it has been a fulfilling and rich 50 years." Those words were part of a congratulatory notice in the Melbourne 'Age' placed by the people who were attendants at the wedding of Lester Truex and Kathleen Mc.Clelland fifty years ago. Lester is one of the American C.B. staffers who made his home Down Under. The name of C.B..I.C.A member, Maurie Coombs, who did not move to Oz. is included in the list of congratulating wedding attendants. The Association also sends its congratulations to Lester and Kathleen. Over the years Lester has been an active supporter of our functions and like the Hinds team has frequently made the long trip up to Sydney from Kennett country to participate in Association events.

IN BRIEF.

RADIO and press publicity about the presentation of Philippines Liberation Medals at a ceremony in Canberra this month has prompted some of us to ask 'What goes on ?'. What has happened to the applications which many of us submitted about a year ago. Your Executive is making enquiries. We are, however, in the area of international relations because the medal is issued by the Government of the Philippines.

ALAN MARSLAND found his answer to the "Y" group mystery in England in April; he was watching BBC TV and saw an interview with a WAAF (not WAAAF but an English WAAF) who, as a member of "Y" force, intercepted enemy radio signals. Alan's conclusion; "Y force was the English equivalent to our organisation." He also recalls that he was in the detachment about which Keith Carolan and Lou Harris wrote in the last "Newsletter". The detachment was on two DC3's leaving from Port Moresby. His didn't turn back but continued on in bad weather. But that is another story for another time. Perhaps we should run a series on hair raising experiences with DC3's to add to the Sandy Hinds trip and the Harris/Carolan experience. Bruce Bentwich and your Editor could tell a tale about a Curtis Commando ; we would have gladly swapped it for a DC3.

EIGHTIETH Birthdays and Golden Weddings are "in" for 1995. Events worth noting ! Nancy Johnson turned 80 on Anzac Day, and Treasurer Norma will be 80 in August. I suspect a member of the Executive will also celebrate a Golden Wedding soon. Drop a note to "Newsletter" or make a telephone call if you know of such an event so that we may share the milestone.

BASIL FOGARTY's ULTRA FACTOR has rolled off the presses. The "Ultra Factor" is a story about the Army's role in jungle intercept operations in WW II. In the unsolicited words of the RAAF Wireless Units foundation member, 'Snow' Bradshaw "a darned good read". Newsletter agrees and will publish a review in the September issue; written by an Airforce WU type, unless an Army veteran submits a book review beforehand.

New member PHIL BURRILL of Taroona (in

Tasmania) recalls his days in the Philippines after a posting to that mysterious RAAF Command and remembers the name of his laundry girl. He also recalls his first taste of doughnuts from the American Red Cross stands and other sights and experiences familiar to many of us. But he has lost track of his good mates from those times, Hugh (Bluey) Farrell and fellow Tasmanian, Lon Cunningham. Does anyone else remember Bluey or Lon?

SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION on board HMAS

Swan, it is alleged in the Sun-Herald on 28 May, was directed at women sailors. Two of these sailors were radio ratings with Chinese language skills. According to the story Swan's mission in the South China Sea would have been to listen in to everything from messages between army units to air-to-air conversations etc. This was going on in August 1992. The case which received most of the media publicity was that of the woman doctor on Swan. The fate of the other four women was virtually ignored. They left the Navy and their years of intensive training in modern intercept skills was lost.



"Goodbye Gordon Wilson"
Jamberoo 1994