



CENTRAL BUREAU INTELLIGENCE CORPS ASSOCIATION June 2009

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Anzac Day Celebrations 2009

Once again at 1830 hours on Anzac Eve, Central Bureau Intelligence Corps Association joined with Australian Intelligence Association to take centre stage (briefly) at the Cenotaph, Martin Place, for the annual Wreath Laying Ceremony. Those representing C.B.I.C.A on this always moving occasion were: Norm Allen, Bruce Bentwitch, Nancy Goldstein, Di Parker, Bill and Jan Rogers, Frank Hughes, Eileen Hazzard, Gordon and Sue Gibson. Where would we be on Anzac Eve without the Pittwater House Grammar School Cadets? The Catafalque Party paraded with their usual precision and their Bugler did not sound a false note in the Last Post and Reveille. Our thanks to them and also to the Reverend Dr. John Bunyan (A.I.A. Chaplain) for his dignified address and to Brian Buckley who recited the Ode.

At the Anzac March there were 22 in the CB contingent but the 'new' march regulations are now permanent, it appears, and we will no longer march in company with the A.I.A and Pittwater House Band. On the brighter side, our intrepid banner bearers, Rob and Ian, contrived to slot us in behind a stirring Scots Pipe Band which kept us in step pretty well throughout. Reports from viewers indicate that we received good television coverage even though the verbal commentary was not very enlightening which unfortunately is often the case.

Tongues loosened up at the post march gathering at the Macquarie Boutique Hotel, 42 Wentworth Avenue. Unfortunately all except one were male tongues. I commend this venue to ALL members as a quiet and comfortable pre-lunch meeting place. The lunch itself was attended by 44 members and friends, a gratifying number considering that it was by my calculations our 34th Anzac Day Reunion.

The cuisine and service at The Marriott seemed to improve every year.

Unit History

At the Anzac luncheon Bill Rogers reported on the latest developments and was at least able to give us some good news. Draft copies of Chapter six and eight of the Central Bureau History by Chris Clark have now been received to add to the previous chapters one, two, thirteen and fifteen. Six down and nine to go! Better than nothing I suppose.

Gordon Gibson
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HON. SECRETARY'S PAR

Hello everyone.....It's that time again for the Anzac Day up-date, so sit comfortably. Once again I left here in the cavalcade of taxis, cheered on by our wonderful staff, friends and ever supportive residents of Collaroy Plateau, Dee Why and Brookvale. Lined up at 9.00am somewhat apprehensive as we were left without a band last year. All well; we had the Scotties, their drumbeat was just what we liked. I always think of it as the marching version of the swimming crawl. On a gorgeous morning, our elegant banner-bearers Rob Moore and nephew Ian McBride up front. President Gordon leading, we were Norm Allen, Stan Baylis, Bruce Bentwitch, Col Brackley, Judy Carson, Joyce Grace, Joy Granger, Ailsa Hale, David Hansen, Lou Harris, Frank Hughes, Jacqui Keeling, Bruce and Brian Lovett, Alan Norton, Roy Perry, Doug Pyle, Bill Rogers. In the Land-Rover alongside were Noni Benn, Don Dunn, Les McClean and a disabled AIA paratrooper (sadly, we didn't get his name.) We all survived the distance

and peeled off happily for welcome tea/coffee at Hyde Park. Keen walkers repaired to the Wentworth Ave watering hole, the rest of us headed for the Marriott to recover (it had become very warm) and await those still travelling in or lost. Assembly at 12.30 in the lovely Windows Room overlooking Hyde Park. President Gordon welcomed those from interstate, near and far coasts. After Grace given by Alan Langdon we partook of an interesting and satisfying buffet. Present were: Stan Baylis, Noni Benn, Bruce Bentwitch and Faye Gilinsky, Col and Mark Brackley, Madge Chidgey, Don Dunn, Gordon and Sue Gibson, Nancy Goldstein, (Arundel, Q), Joyce Grace, Joy Granger, Ailsa Hale and daughter Lyndall Gladstone, David and Noeline Hansen, Lou and Joan Harris, Frank Hughes, Jacqui Keeling, Alan and Pamela Langdon, Margaret McCafferty, Les McClean with daughters Sandra Bullon and Janette Lavender, Rob Moore, Diana Parker, Roy Perry and entourage Ellen, Gail, Stephen, Craig and Todd, Doug and Nell Pyle, Bill and Jan Rogers. All agreed it had been one of our best days ever and to see us off the Army Cadet Band provided some toe-tapping tunes. Well Done. That's it for now; keep on keeping on.

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HON. TREASURER'S REPORT

As reported we had a very enjoyable luncheon at the Marriott Hotel after the Anzac Day march which culminated in a visit by the Army Cadet Band – a bright finish to the afternoon.

Thank you to those members who have paid subs in advance as noted on the receipt. On the other hand a few have not paid this years sub.

Let us hope those on the sick list recover quickly. Helen tells me one of her problems can be traced to the issue of cigarettes when discharged from the A.W.A.S.

Bruce Bentwitch
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OUT AND ABOUT

Our thoughts and good wishes go to those recently hospitalised and now coping with the aftermath – Editor Helen Kenny, Noni Benn, Peg Teague and Jean Hicks (Bris).

Eric Webb (Blue Mts) and Eileen Hazzard (Tweed Heads) not well; may the situation improve. Maureen Baylis having radio-therapy but feeling quite well and positive. Good.

Katie Norton kindly sent a video of the march. One of my family downloaded a brief section (C.B.). Whether it can be reproduced for the Newsletter remains to be seen. Don't hold your breath. I might add the entire Norton family had a nasty virus, so hope they have recovered.

Apologies and remembrances came from Bill Burns (Batehaven), Vic Lederer (ACT) pressing on at 94+, the other Gordon Gibson (Pt Macquarie), Ken Brown (Budgewoi) and (Rev) Don Robinson (Pymble).

Great to see Madge Chidgey and Joyce Casey make it to the lunch – despite some difficulty. At this stage I thank Madge, Bruce B. and Ailsa Hale for their providing me with the names of those coming to the lunch and those marching.

Recently we received an appeal from the family of the late Walter Taylor for any information re his wartime service; he had not revealed anything. In response to our call for help Jack Bleakley and Keith Carolan have contacted the family with details. We are most grateful and I'm sure the family are too.

We learned with pleasure of Nell Pyle's OAM – recognition of her initiative and support of the Maitland community in establishing the first and only Australian Museum of Clothing and Textiles. This is located in the Lt.Governor's residence at the historic Maitland gaol constructed in 1875. Their vision: To collect, conserve, document and display items of clothing and textiles and related materials, both domestic and commercial, from Australia's earliest time to the present day, and to display and interpret them in their historical context. Congratulations.

BUT NOT LEAST – We thank our wonderful friends and Honorary Members Eunice and Les Smith (Bris) who will be putting this Newsletter together with other material supplied by Helen and, in due course, we will post it out to you. Thank Heaven for Friends.

J.G.

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Gallipoli Surf Boat Race Planned for 2015

The Australian Association for Maritime History writes in its Quarterly Newsletter for June that the centenary of the Anzac landing on 25 April 1915 will be commemorated by a 100km surf boat race around the Gallipoli Peninsula. 100 Australian boats manned by crews from Australia, New Zealand and Turkey will take part in the event, which has been approved by the Turkish Government. Australian and New Zealand surf clubs have been invited to participate in the race which will be timed to coincide with Turkey's National Day on 23 April 2015. Expected to take 10 hours the race will start at Eccabat on the eastern shore of the Dardanelles, head south toward Cape Hellas, and return to finish at Anzac Cove.

Editor's Report

Many CBers have been on the sick list and I've just had my turn – a spell in hospital. After respite care, I am back home in Lavender Bay. May others get well soon.

Sorry to miss Anzac Day, but saw our marchers on TV and had many kind messages from old "garage" friends who were at the lunch. Thank you all – Margaret McCafferty, Coral Hinds and Wendy Clarke for cards, Frank Hughes and Eileen for flowers.

Bruce Bentwitch, that stalwart, is helping to collate the Newsletter and Eunice and Les Smith will be putting it together. May it make sense.

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Remember John Stumm's famous list – how he tried to name all in CB's orbit? Now add another name Lorraine Stumm. In 1940 she was in Singapore working as a journalist for the "Straits

Times". A Queenslander and former Fleet Street journalist, she was married to Flight Lieut Harley Stumm, an Australian-born RAF officer based at Seletar. Japan had not yet entered the war

[Lorraine's story is told in Peter Thompson's book, "The Battle for Singapore: The True story of the greatest Catastrophe of World War II." Published by Portrait in 2005. Just before I went to hospital I picked up this deeply researched and well-written book for \$14.95. I have drawn the information from this.]

In Europe, Britain stood alone against the Nazis - with whom the USSR (Russia) was allied. The Governor of Singapore, Sir Shenton Thomas, disapproved of an article Lorraine had written and sent for her. He told her that he objected to her style of reporting. She retorted that she had worked on the "Daily Mirror" in London and that "Your brother, Gil Thomas, was my editor and taught me to write that way." The Governor was silent for a moment, then said: "You may stay."

The first contingent of the Eighth Division, A.I.F. reached Singapore in February, 1941. More would follow. Militant Japan had invaded China years before, but Commander Nave and the Scot, Hugh Foss, had broken their codes. In 1939 the main Japanese code, JN25 was broken. In 1941, Sigint and CEVB intercepted kana, and knew what was happening.

Lorraine and Harley Stumm were now living in Orchard Road, Singapore. In June 1941 she gave birth to a daughter, Sheridan. Helped at home by an "amah" (nurse) she was soon able to return to work, this time at the "Malaya Tribune." More Australian troops arrived. Then into Singapore steamed the Great Far Eastern Fleet of the Royal Navy – the battleship HMS Prince of Wales, cruiser HMS Repulse and four destroyers. Bands played, ships' complements in tropical whites lined the decks and the city turned out to cheer

Cheering soon ended. The Japanese invaded Malaya on December 6 – British, Australians, Indians and Chinese putting up bitter resistance to General Yamashita's 25th Army.

On December 8, 1941, Japanese bombed Singapore. Lorraine and her baby sheltered under

the concrete stairs of their building. Anti-aircraft guns fired. When dawn came Lorraine went outside. Bodies of Chinese civilians lay outside Robinson's Store which had received a direct hit.

Later that day the "Daily Mirror" London, cabled Lorraine asking her to become its accredited correspondent and to start "filing stories immediately."

Soon news came that the Japanese had attacked Pearl Harbour (on December 7th Pearl Harbour time, December 8th by ours). The Japanese landing at Kota Bahru, Malaya, coincided with this. The British Fleet sailed north to intercept Japanese troopships.

Off Kuantan, Japanese bombers attacked the Fleet. A torpedo hit the "Prince of Wales"; the "Repulse" was hit. Both ships sank in this dreadful disaster, Admiral Sir Tom Phillips going down with his ship. Now the Japanese controlled the Indian and Pacific Oceans, barring the few surviving ships left at Pearl Harbour.

On land and in the air, the armies and obsolete aircraft resisted. In mid-January Lorraine was advised to leave Singapore. She and Sheridan boarded a Qantas flying boat and reached Australia via Java.

Eventually, she returned to Brisbane. The book says: "She cabled stories ... (to the Daily Mirror) from General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters ... and spend a great deal of time in the communications building at GHQ in a city insurance building, the one we now know as the AMP."

In 1944 she and Sheridan rejoined the now Wing-Commander Harley Stumm. He died in an air crash that September.

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I met Lorraine Stumm in the 1960s, when I worked for the SMH, and she was Women's Editor of "The Sun", both papers sharing the one building in Broadway, Sydney. She was a Fulbright Scholar.

I heard later that she re-married and moved to Queensland's Gold Coast, where she set up a newspaper. Sheridan became a journalist.

Years ago at a reunion in Henry Street, I met John Stumm for the first time and asked if he knew Lorraine. He did – but I don't know how the two Stumms were connected. I wonder if he knew she had worked in the AMP building. Please add Lorraine's name to Stumm's list.

Father and son at the MacArthur Museum Brisbane.

Faye Schutt from the MacArthur Museum forwarded the following information.

"When John Cullen Murphy, editor at large of the Atlantic Monthly, visited the MacArthur Museum Brisbane last year he was following in the footsteps of his father.

John Cullen Murphy senior was an artist and illustrator who drew the *Prince Valiant* comic strip for many years. In World War II he served in the United States Army in the 7th regiment becoming an anti-aircraft officer and rising to the rank of major. He was in the Pacific, in Brisbane and in Tokyo.

He served as an aide to General Richard Marquat in the General Headquarters in the AMP building and there he became part of an informal staff artist team. He painted portraits of General Douglas MacArthur, his wife and son and other notable figures, working his way through the entire American, British, and Australian high commands. Much of his work was published by the *Chicago Tribune*.

Over the war years he did hundreds of on the spot sketches, moments captured in an instant with a few strokes on paper: the graphic equivalent of diary entries.

On his return to the United States, after visiting the MacArthur Museum, John Cullen Murphy Junior selected two of these original sketches: - a drawing of the AMP Building, with MacArthur's car parked by the entrance and MacArthur and Australian

prime minister John Curtin – to send to the museum. He has donated them to the collection.”



General Douglas MacArthur's car parked outside the AMP Building, Australia, 1943.



Australian Prime Minister John Curtin and General Douglas MacArthur at a public event in Brisbane, 1943.

“THE GREEN HORNET”

On a recent trip to Washington DC, Bill Caelli and I were fortunate to be given a guided tour of the NSA'S Museum at Fort George Meade Maryland.

During the tour we were shown a “SIGSALY” (The Green Hornet) Speech Encryption System.

" SIGSALY " was developed for the War Department by Bell Laboratories in 1942. It was also known as "The Green Hornet" or the "X system". It was the first unbreakable scrambler for radio messages used by the military. A prototype was developed by Bell Telephone Laboratories better known as "Bell Labs", and demonstrated to the US Army in 1942. It was so impressed that it awarded Bell Labs a contract for two systems.

In November 1943, " SIGSALY " was installed by the 805th Signal Service Battalion in the basement of MacArthur's Headquarters in the AMP building in Queen Street Brisbane. It provided secure voice communication with the War Department in Washington and other locations in Australia for MacArthur and his staff. The Brisbane installation relied on the Army Command and Administrative Network (ACAN) for its radio links via the Capalaba Radio Receiving Site and the Redlands Bay Radio Transmitter site which was later replaced by the Hemmant Radio Transmitter Site.

As MacArthur prepared for the invasion of the Philippines, the Brisbane “SIGSALY” was removed from the AMP building and installed on board one of the ships in the invasion fleet.. It was in use by MacArthur and his staff during the invasion of the Philippines and was eventually installed in MacArthur's HQ in Manila. It was later moved to his HQ in Tokyo.

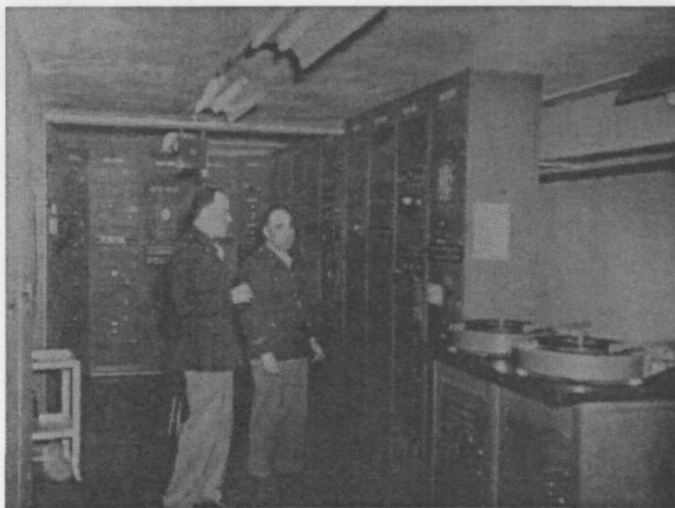
The “SIGSALY” terminal was massive. Consisting of 40 racks of equipment, it weighed over 50 tons, and used about 30 kW of power, necessitating an air-conditioned room to hold it. Too big and cumbersome for general use, it was only used for the highest level of voice communications

Terminal rooms were established in the Pentagon, London, Hawaii, and Australia. Eventually 12

“SIGSALY” terminal installations were produced and set up in Paris, North Africa, Guam, Manila, during the war, and in Berlin, Frankfurt, and Tokyo after the war. The “SIGSALY” was removed from service in 1946 and systems were returned to the US. The “SIGSALY” technology remained classified until the 1970s



“SIGSALY” in London.



Members of the 805th Signal Service Battalion in the Washington Terminal.

LETTERS

Dear Gordon,

Enclosed is money order for \$15.00 – I thought it was about time I became an official member of CBICA. Maybe one of these days I will get to one of your meetings or reunions. I note that two of my old mates – Farmer Norton and Keith Carolan – often attend your gatherings. It would be good to meet them again.

I thought your letter to Major General Gower was exactly right, and I hope you get a good result this time. Such a large percentage of our comrades have died, and it is sad that they will never see the official unit history. As a writer myself (Macmillan's have published half a dozen of my books for children) I understand the problems of publishing, but in this case it seems it is the author who is dragging the chain.

Our own Wireless Units Association, like that in Queensland has a dwindling membership, with so many of our blokes having departed for the Big Ops Room in the sky.

As you know, I was president for many years until moving up here in the bush and still recall with pleasure our reunions in the early days after the war. Our first President Cliff Hattam ran a great reunion complete with the 18 gallon cask of beer and anything up to 100 ex-Wireless members raucously singing rude war time songs in the Carlton Drill Hall.

These days we meet sedately in a St Kilda Pub private room and partake of a pleasant lunch together with our wives. Since Ray Wards' death our president has been Mick Manestar. Mick was our guard at FORDET (Moresby) in 1943 and he is ably supported as ever by Secretary Harold Jones and Treasurer Jack Bleakley. We get seven or eight (plus wives where applicable) at our Anzac Eve reunions. Gordon I hope your health is standing up to the rigours of these days of financial turmoil.

Kindest Regards

Keith (Zero) Falconer CASTLEMAINE VIC

(This letter was shortened for space reasons)

Brian Lovett of Tuncurry, NSW, writes that he was saddened to read of Bob Leonards' death last year. They were tent mates in 5WU at St Miguel. Brian has a copy of Bob's book "The Story of Medicos 1885-1998" a project of the Westpac Sub Branch of the RSL. Leonard inscribed it to his old tent mate.

VALE

Keith Phillips died at the end of March. He and his wife Ruth always shared a table on Anzac Day with Pam and Bob Leonard. Keith and Bob were both CBers.

Keith trained as a Japanese linguist at the University of Melbourne, then with Professor Sadleir at the University of Sydney. He was in the RAAF, working for ATIS in the old AMP building in Brisbane and then in the Philippines. After the War he had a distinguished career in the International Division of the Bank of New South Wales, which took him and his family on many overseas postings, including Threadneedle Street in London in the 1960s.

Douglas Helleur who joined CBICA in 2001 has died. He was a Japanese linguist who went to Japan with BCOF, and worked with the Japan Broadcast Corporation (NHK) Tokyo, taught at the University of Queensland and was head of the Japanese Service, Radio Australia.

In retirement he set up an organisation called ANVIL (Australian and New Zealand Veteran's Intelligence Linguist) helping to locate about 125 linguists here and abroad including CBers.

The death of **John Vasey** of Forster, NSW, a veteran of 4WT and 55 Section is also reported. He served in the Middle East, Greece and Crete and then the Pacific being O.C. of 55 Section. This was the pioneering Sigint Unit at Fairfax Harbour, Port Moresby in September 1942. Their intercepts were invaluable. Vasey rose through the ranks from Corporal to Captain.

Edith Claude, of Greenwich, NSW, who died in Sydney this year was the widow of "Van" – an enormous Yank, breezy and affable. This American operated the IBM machine in the Henry

Street garage late in 1942. (Major Zach Halpin was in charge of the section.) Later the machine was moved to the Fire Station.

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The SMH – Sydney Morning Herald – obituaries revealed details of those who worked in CB – **Bill Culbert**, according to Peter FitzSimons in the SMH, died aged 91 in Sydney. This American soldier's image appears in the photo showing General MacArthur and his group wading ashore at Leyte, keeping the "I shall return" promise. The report also says that Culbert decoded General Marshall's message to General MacArthur in Manilla on August 15, 1945. It began "You are hereby officially notified of the Japanese capitulation."

Bill Culbert married Bonnie, an Australian, and stayed in this country. She and four children survive him.

Another SMH obituary, headed "Legendary Journalist Had to Hide His Heroics" concerns **Harry Mills** (1924-2009). He joined the RAAF, worked in Sigint, and kept quiet about this until after Jack Bleakley's book "The Eavesdroppers" was published. This kana operator and others including Jack Bleakley worked in a cave on the island of Owi, near Biak. In the Philippines he was one of the "Australian Foreign Legion."

After the war he became a reported and sub-editor for the Packer empire and newspaper chain in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane. He was a witty writer and raconteur famous also for his invention of champagne cricket played with an empty bottle as bat and the cork as the ball.

Harry Mills, a Bondi boy who was educated at Sydney Boys High School died in Brisbane. His son Robert survives him.