



PAPUA NEW GUINEA CONSULATE-GENERAL

Acting Consul General:- Ms Winniehayne W Herry-Ugava

SUITE 8 LEVEL 11

Christie Corporate Building

320 Adelaide Street, BRISBANE

Phone: 07 3221 7915

Fax: 07 3229 6084

Email: pngcg@kundubne.org

Hours of Business

Monday to Friday

VISAS

9.30 am to 12.30 pm

OFFICE

9.30 am to 12.30 pm

SAMARAI REUNION SAMARAI REUNION

An invitation is out to all those who experienced a wonderful posting on Samarai.

Fri / Sat / Sun 9,10,11 July 2004

Friday:- Meet & Greet 6.00 pm

Saturday:- Sight Seeing / Free time
Dinner Dance 6.00 pm

Sunday:- Sight seeing / free time
Farewell Bar-B-Q 5.00 pm

Venue:- Mercure Inn, Woolcock Street
TOWNSVILLE

Contact:- John Wilkinson 07 4725 5444
Yvonne Sellen 07 4723 2988
Dulcie Baptiste 07 4779 1815

STEAMIES REUNION STEAMIES REUNION

Calling all those who at some time worked for Steamships in Papua New Guinea. There is a REUNION in the making.

Sat / Sun / Mon 11,12,13 June 2005

Venue in Queensland—to be advised

If you would like your name to be placed on the list for future Steamies reunion information, please contact:-

Maggie Charlton
Ph: 07 4984 1692

Email: mdcharlton@yahoo.com.au

AIR NIUGINI



Level 4 99 Creek Street Brisbane.
(Corner of Adelaide & Creek Streets)

Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm

Ph:- 07 3221 1544
FOR ALL YOUR PNG TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS

New Guinea Volunteer Rifles
and
Papua New Guinea Volunteer Rifles
Ex Members Association Inc.

All correspondence to:-

The Secretary
PO Box 287
EVERTON PARK Qld. 4053

Ph/Fax: 07 3311 7480 Mobile:- 042 111 7092
Email: pngvr@optusnet.com.au

No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form without the permission of the Association.

NGVR Service Recollections articles are copyright ©



NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW GUINEA VOLUNTEER RIFLES
AND

PAPUA NEW GUINEA VOLUNTEER RIFLES
EX MEMBERS ASSOCIATION INC.

VOLUME 33

DECEMBER 2003

President's Update:-

As another year draws to a close, it marks the 14th year of our Association's existence. From a small contingent of former members of the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles and Papua New Guinea Volunteer Rifles Regiments marching, for the very first time on Australian soil, on ANZAC Day 1990, we now number almost 300 members, and, (I know I am biased) believe that we are now one of the best presented Units in the Brisbane parade, with an average of 90—100 members making parade.

I would like to personally thank all members who have, in so many ways, made our Association what it is today. Whether you live nice and handy in Brisbane, or away somewhere in the top end, in WA or way down south in Victoria, SA, NSW or Tasmania, as well as PNG and the Solomon Islands, your contribution, no matter how big or small, is appreciated and important.

ANZAC Day 2004 marks the 30th Anniversary of the laying up of our Colours in the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. Many of our members were involved with that ceremony. Alastair Martin (Solomon Islands) was one of the Colour Sergeants at the parade, and is already making plans to be in Brisbane next year. I also invite members to plan now for April 2004 - Friday 23 April Regimental Dinner / Sunday 25 April ANZAC Day march and reception / Monday 26 April Public Holiday or "Sick Parade" if need be. There are still rooms available at the Astor Hotel right next door to the United Services Club (Regimental Dinner Venue) and within walking distance of the ANZAC Day parade assembly point.

Over the past couple of months we have been strengthening our relations with Papua New Guinea in line with one of the objectives of our Constitution. One of our aims is to secure the Australian Service Medal (ASM) 1945 -1975 for former Nationals of the PNGVR who served in an Australian Army Reserves Unit under the Australian flag prior to Independence.

Late in October, 2003, Association Secretary Col Gould, Honorary Solicitor Bruce Crawford, OAM, and former Chief Superintendent of PNG Police, Denis Samin, OBE, made a personal trip to Port Moresby in response to an invitation to attend the 2003 Port Moresby RSL Annual Dinner and to take the opportunity to follow up a number of other Association issues. Col Gould reports:-

Our reception in Port Moresby was terrific. We were able to personally meet and discuss Association issues with senior officials from the PNG Ceremonial & Protocol Division, Commander of the PNG Defence Force, Commodore Peter Ilau, CBE and Police Commissioner Sam Inguba, QPM. With the professional help of Denis Samin, OBE as managing editor of an NQ newspaper, we made direct and rewarding contact with his counterpart of the PNG Post Courier.

In this issue:-

President's Report; Diary dates for 2004; 31 RQR Shield of Military Excellence Presentation 2003; 9 RQR Shield of Military Excellence Award 2003; Around the Traps; PNG Coffee prices; Raffle Winners; NGVR Service recollections—Bruce Fraser (final); 2004 Regimental Dinner details; NGVR video promo; Post Courier Viewpoint 12/14 December 2003; Samarai & Steamies Reunions;

The Post Courier ran a substantial article in their Friday edition (with a large photo of the then Administrator, David Hay, inspecting PNGVR troops during the presentation of our Colours in Lae in 1969.) The article stated that we were trying to make contact with former PNG members of PNGVR re their ASM. Initial response was great. I have been receiving numerous emails and calls from all parts of PNG—from PNGVR members themselves and/or their sons and daughters. Emotions from the PNG end were running high as the callers wanted to find out where their former Platoon commanders, Sgts, section leaders and Aussie mates were today. I found three former 12 Pl D Coy Madang PNG members who were in the Platoon during the time my Dad, (S/Sgt Stan Gould) and I served—Sgt Malea Eleadona, Pte Gregory Aioaio and Cpl William Todokta. Others who made contact were from Wewak, Rabaul, Hagen, Lae and Port Moresby. There were some very emotional calls I can tell you. Two PNG members rattled off their service numbers without hesitation. Recognition of their service is long overdue.

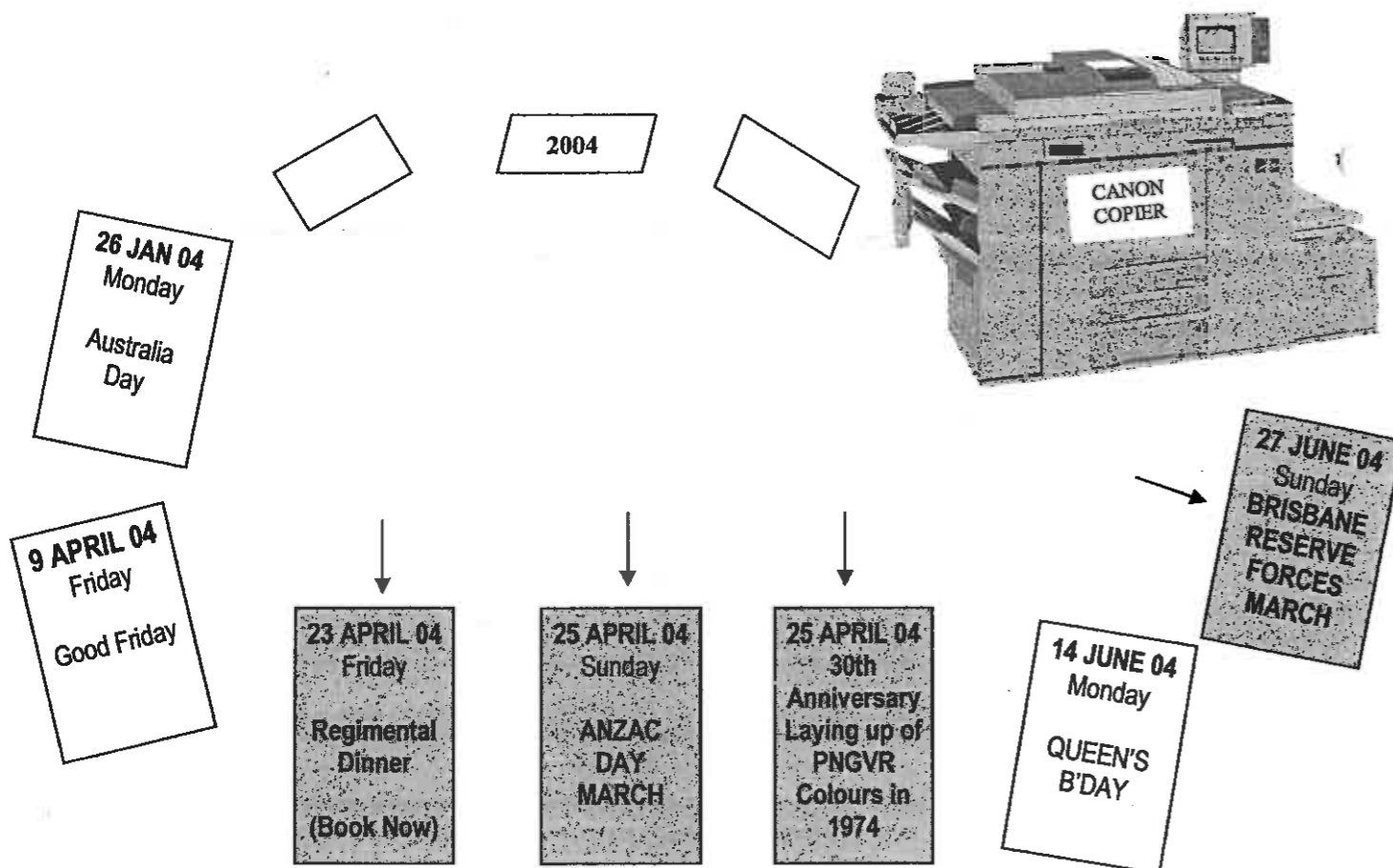
Our Secretary is now compiling a list of contacts and "doing the paperwork" for a submission to Canberra early next year.

During the Moresby visit, Association Vice President John Mudge, MBE along with Colin, Bruce and Denis, presented Honorary membership of the Association to Police Commissioner, Sam Inguba, QPM and Commodore Peter Ilau, CBE., in recognition of the roles played by the RPNGC and PNG soldiers, often in partnership with the NGVR, during the Second World War.

This visit has certainly strengthened our ties with PNG and senior officials. I would like to thank John Mudge, MBE who kindly provided accommodation, transport and personal support in Port Moresby. My thanks also to RPNGC Commissioner Sam Inguba, QPM, PNGDF Commander -Commodore Peter Ilau, CBE, Colonel Arni, and Joan Vanariu and Tambon Tara and staff of the Prime Ministers Dept for their assistance.

On behalf of the Committee may you and your families have a wonderful and safe Christmas celebration.

Harry N Green
PRESIDENT.



NGVR VETERANS COULD STAR IN THEIR OWN HISTORIC FILM

A private production group have offered their services to produce an initial short promotional video and solicit the funding for a film on the NGVR / PNGVR, in a similar manner that it has done for the RAAF 460 Bomber Squadron, the home of the famous G for George Lancaster Bomber housed in the Canberra War Memorial. The initial short promo would include interviews with our members about their experiences in Papua New Guinea during the war and would include some historic war time footage and still photographs complete with background music and connecting voice narrative.

The 60 minute film would be more formally structured and include more of the above, probably with current PNG footage. Much of the material is already available in the stories narrated in our Harim Tok Tok.

The final 460 Bomber Squadron (video) film is costing in excess of \$100,000 and is being funded, we understand, partly by the Netherlands and Australian Governments. The Association's Committee was shown the 460 Bomber Squadron's short promo at it's last meeting in November and was impressed with its technical quality and content. The Committee was also briefed on the project.

To produce the initial 8 minute promotional footage, the Association would need to raise \$5,000, either by

(1) Individual sponsorship, say a minimum of \$500 (we already have a pledge of \$1,000 if the remaining \$4,000 can be secured) AND/OR

(2) Provide contact names and phone numbers or likely sponsors so that they may be immediately approached. You may contact them yourself if you prefer. Suggestions include companies/communities which were in existence in PNG during the war—eg Qantas; Steamships; Burns Philp; WR Carpenter; Nestle (of Sunshine Powdered Milk fame); Oil Search and others.

TIME IS SHORT for this project. Our war veterans are becoming frail and the group making the offer has the resources and time frame available early in 2004. Please send your pledges, donations, suggestions or possible contact names & addressed to:-

Phil Ainsworth (NGVR/PNGVR Association Media Officer)
PO Box 1046, Coorparoo DC, Queensland 4151

Email:- p.ainsworth@kingco.com.au Phone:- 07 3844 3222 Mobile:- 0418 730 348
No later than the 15 January 2004, please.

POST COURIER VIEWPOINT 12—14 DECEMBER 2003

GREAT NEWS FOR CRIME FIGHT:- News of the Australian Government committing over K 2 billion to help Papua New Guinea clean up crime and corruption is the most positive news yet for the country's future.

Law and order problems must be dealt with decisively if PNG is ever going to prosper in the years ahead.

We need peace to be restored in our communities where every man, woman and child will feel safe to move about without fear for their lives. Businesses need peace so they can conduct their affairs with confidence. Investors need assurance that crime is being contained and it is safe for them to come and invest in PNG. This is a huge commitment on part of the Australian Government and it will be up to everyone involved to ensure the people of PNG see the real benefits of this support. The Government of Sir Michael Somare is committed to reducing crime on the streets and fighting corruption at all levels of government. The help from Australia will ensure both these important policies bear positive outcomes. There is no problem in PNG right now that is greater than law and order problems which are getting worse by the day. It has seriously affected every aspect of our private and national life. It is a problem that must be tackled hard if we are ever going to see the economy grow and people live better lives in future. The decision reached by the two governments at the annual ministerial forum in Adelaide, will give investors a huge confidence boost. Investors have always been uneasy about conducting business in PNG because of the rising crime but the massive injection of aid from Australia to fight crime will give them the confidence they need to come here. This is a great Christmas present for PNG.

HAVE YOU RUNG TREASURER BOB COLLINS YET ON 041 383 1397

**TO BOOK YOUR SEAT AT THE
2004 REGIMENTAL MIXED DINNER REUNION—FRIDAY 23 APRIL 2004**

Come and join in a great night of camaraderie as we mark the 30th Anniversary of the laying up of PNGVR's Queen's & Regimental Colours on ANZAC Day 1974.

AROUND THE TRAPS

EMAIL FROM TERRY FARMER AT THE TOP END.....Message reads....."Are there any ex members of PNGVR out there would be thinking of or would like to walk the Kokoda Trail. Trevor and I and Sgt Jones did the walk with the newly established University Platoon from the PNG University some time ago. We would like to do the exercise again but under the PNGVR Banner.

Any comment?? Replies to the Association OR Email Terry Farmer on terry.farmer@bigpond.com

WHO was the former RSM who was out and about checking the wine growing areas (and product) with a few mates and was complaining bitterly that he could not find or get into his bed one night ? When told to get up off the floor, the former RSM found that he could get into his bunk after all.

EMAIL from member Mike Moir-Bussy in Port Moresby..... Message reads....I am organizing a digital picture of the old PNGVR Drill Hall at the University of PNG, which incidentally in now my base for Uniforce— The Uni Security organization— where I am Chief of Security. You can tell the Ex Uni members we are still in control of some PNGVR buildings here in PNG"

During their visit to PNG in October, Col Gould, Bruce Crawford, Denis Samin and John Mudge started the ball rolling to find former PNG members of PNGVR with the view to getting them awarded the ASM 1945-1975 with PNG Clasp.

Secretary Col Gould has taken many emotional calls from PNG, either from former members themselves or their sons/daughters, who thought that their service in PNGVR was long forgotten and expat comrades just a memory.

Who remembers:- Romeo Sinien (Wek), Malea Eleadona (Madang), George Kitoneka (Gka); Alphonse Aitsi (Uni PL); Iwom Bobola (Lae); Peter Lovell (Rab);

Anton Wagambie (Madang); Bidibud Gemo, (Lae) Gregory Aioaio (Madang); Nomrod Mark (Sp Coy); Augustus Wagambia (Pom); William Todokta (Madang); William Mafo (wek); Peter Matawai (Rab); Morea Gaigo (Sp Coy); Lucas Poka (Rab); Elias Sakbua (Madang); Raymond Veratau (Uni PL); Nor Kairi; Patrick Amberye (Hgn); Lazarus Salle (Wek);

Secretary Col is busy getting ASM application forms to PNG for signing. The 1st application form returned to the Association came from Gregory Aioaio (12 Pl D Coy Madang). As the Association does not have any PNGVR RO's after approx 1965, we will be asking former Company Commanders, Platoon Commanders, CSM etc to confirm the names we receive as being ex PNGVR PNG members. This will assist us in our bulk application to Canberra.

Former PNG Police Chief Superintendent and ex PNGVK member, Denis Samin, has been appointed the Association's Representative for FNQ (Far north Queensland) Those members in the Atherton / Cairns region will probably hear from Denis in the new year— perhaps an occasional get-together for a few cold ales ???

Could it be that our friendly RSM mentioned earlier recently attended a military training exercise & competition (no he did not take part) After formalities and award presentations in Maryborough and well after a social evening in the Mess, our RSM could not get his kit bag open to get ready for bed because "someone had stolen the zip off his kit bag". Once his comrades "found" the missing zip for him, our ex RSM happily made ready for bed.

CONGRATULATIONS

To the winners of our raffle which was drawn at the November 2003 Bush Dinner at Jimboomba.

1st Prize:- Return tickets for 2 Brisbane to Townsville courtesy of **IMPULSE AIRLINES** plus \$200 cash.

Member Dr. John TEH.

2nd Prize:- 2 tickets for the 2004 Regimental Dinner. Member Karl Aschhoff.

Thank you to all who purchased tickets, and to **IMPULSE AIRLINES** for their generous support.

ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

SHIELD OF MILITARY EXCELLENCE

2003 AWARD PRESENTATION

31 RQR - TOWNSVILLE

By Juergen Raasch

The Association's annual award of the 'Shield of Military Excellence' took place on Saturday 1 November, 2003, at Jezzine Barracks, Townsville.

I accepted the invitation from the Executive Committee to co-ordinate this year's presentation. There were some difficulties in the early stages. As you can appreciate, troops from Townsville were on the move to and from overseas duties, which also resulted in key military personnel often being unavailable to finalise the function.

The background to the Association's award is to encourage the young (Reserve) soldiers of today to strive to excel in the various aspects of their particular military roles. Think of * as we, the Reservists of yesterday, providing encouragement for the young Aussie troops of today.

The 31 RQR award is made to a soldier below the rank of Sergeant.

The evening proved to a most enjoyable one and I was able to get first hand experience on the Unit's training methods and program which left me suitably impressed with the standards of training and enthusiasm shown. Proceedings started rather late in the evening at 2145 hours due to the unit doing night abseiling training on Castle Hill. (How keen is that??)

31 RQR has an overall strength of some 150 officers and soldiers, of which some 80 attended the weekend competition & training. This included a strong contingent from Cairns.

The Commanding Officer, Lt. Colonel Mick Reilly has done an admirable job getting his Unit back on its feet and he is most keen to continue our joint association with each other. Unfortunately the RSM, WO1 Mclvor is being posted to 2 RAR shortly, but the Adj Capt Graeme Wren will remain, so there will be some continuity of personnel for the 2004 award and presentation.

The CO asked me to present some historic information, especially on the NGVR as most soldiers in his unit had not heard of our Regiment. I was happy to do so, and noted that the NGVR History Book presented to 31 RQR some 4 years ago is currently in the Ingham detachment library and is apparently being used which is pleasing to see.

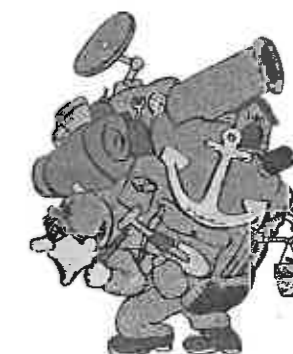
The 1st November was also the Unit's birthday, and it was celebrated with the customary cake, liquid refreshments aplenty, promotions and other Unit awards.

Our 2003 Shield of Military Excellence Award went to L/Corporal Wood, from Cairns, and it was ever so gratifying to see the surprise and pride he showed when his name was called out. He had also been promoted to Corporal a few moments before, indicating just how appropriate our award was.

The evening was topped up with a great Bar-B-Q and simply superb comradeship with the troops. I left feeling enormously proud to be an ex member of NGVR/PNGVR and having the opportunity to be part of this annual event in support of our young soldiers of today. - Juergen Raasch

The Committee would like to thank Juergen for his efforts in planning and making the presentation on behalf of our members and Association. A job well done. Our congratulations to all the members of 31 RQR who took part. A job well done.

C Gould Editor



9TH BATTALION THE ROYAL QUEENSLAND REGIMENT



SHIELD OF MILITARY EXCELLENCE

2003 AWARD PRESENTATION

'STEEL TUFF COMPETITION'

9 RQR—GALLIPOLI BARRACKS

By Phil Ainsworth

Peter Rogers, Norm Mundy, Joe Fisk, Bob Collins, Barry Wright, Tom Dowling and Phil Ainsworth attended 9 RQR's annual exercise "STEEL TUFF" on the weekend of the 18/19 October 2003, in the Harvey Bay area.

Proceeding from Brisbane by Army Hi-Ace bus, we arrived at Maryborough at lunch time on the Saturday, allocated accommodation and taken to the exercise area in the Mary Valley State Forest, 50 km west of Maryborough. We spent

THE FAMOUS GOROKA COFFEE AT TRADE PRICES TO OUR MEMBERS ONLY

Goroka Highland Blend	\$28-35 for 6 x 250g pkts
Goroka Espresso	\$28-35 for 6 x 250g pkts
Paradise Gold Organic	\$35-00 for 6 x 250g pkts
Goroka Premium estate	\$35-00 for 6 x 250g pkts

Allow \$5-00 delivery fee Brisbane metro area and up to \$9-90 overnight bag delivery Australia wide.

Pay by credit card / cheque / direct deposit

CONTACT:- NIUGINI COFFEE IMPORTERS Direct

Phone freecall for more information / orders 1800 600 654

Sunday at the Maryborough Rifle Range.

As explained by the RSM, the exercise was designed to find the best section commander, best soldier and determine the champion section within the battalion for 2003, and this would be achieved by assessing individual fitness, shoot, weapon handling and battlefield skills. The champion section would need to show high levels of team work and determination to succeed. We were there as representatives of the Association to award the champion section at the completion of the exercise.

9 RQR comprises 4 rifle companies, each of about 100 soldiers and an Administration company. The Regiment has a proud tradition dating back from the original Moreton Bay Regiment. The CO is Lt. Colonel Steve Vokes with company commanders being Majors Carl Fisher, Mike Cash, Scott Shephard and Robert Brennan respectively. The RSM is WO1 Jamie Heron.

Generally, 9 RQR is a training battalion bringing troops through recruitment, basic training to section and platoon level. The Regiment continues to contribute troops to the Australian overseas contingents.

Many individual members of our Association have been soldiers of 9 RQR, particularly after their return from PNG. More particularly, the Association had been directly associated with 9 RQR since 1997 through it's sponsoring of this highly regarded Award of Excellence. This year's competition was based in the Mary Valley State Forest, a monotonous, undulating, thick dry scrub forest, and at the Maryborough Rifle Range.

The exercise and competition comprised a tactical 35 km circuit march with 14 compulsory rendezvous, where the tests were undertaken, as well as a live shoot at the range. These tests included an all arms call for fire, a land mine incident, weapon drills, general military knowledge, navigation, first aid, a night harbour, a trailer push, run & shoot, construction of field defences, an observation and deduction exercise, a stretcher carry, section attack, claymore/trip flares/weapons test and a quick decision exercise. Bearing in mind the difficulty in navigating in the State Forest, it is significant that this very ambitious exercise was finalized in the time allotted. This says very much for the quality of the planning, resources provided and above all, the capacity of the soldiers involved.

Two sections from each company plus one composite,

each of nine soldiers were selected to compete. The continuous assessment of the soldiers by nearly 70 staff only added to the quality of the effort and result achieved. The level of fitness, knowledge and skills required to complete the tasks was most impressive. From recruitment, the personnel are continuously assessed and must meet certain levels of fitness and competency before moving on.

The type and level of training is the same as the regular army which allows relatively seamless moulding of reserve and regular soldiers when bought together. It is not well recognized that a large portion of the soldiers who comprise Australia's overseas contribution are from the Reserve.

Accordingly, training is very focused. Interestingly, the Australian Army is evolving several schemes, whereby employers are encouraged financially, backed by legislative measures for employees to join and serve without loss of employment entitlements during training and tours of duty.

After completing the exercise, we returned mid Sunday afternoon to Delta Coy's Maryborough barracks, where the overall results of the exercise were given and awards for the best section commander and best soldier made by the CO and RSM. Peter Rogers followed, speaking briefly about NGVR's formation and service during WW11 and relevance today, and the uniqueness of PNGVR which served continuously overseas and was on the Australian Army's Order of Battle. Norm Mundy spoke about the Association's sponsoring of the event and together with other Association members presented the awards to soldiers of the "Champion Section".

This year's winner of the NGVR/PNGVR Shield of Military Excellence was Recon Section, Bravo Coy led by Cpl Kane.

Each soldier of Recon Section was given a 75mm diameter medallion featuring the 9 RQR Badge & PNGVR Badge and engraved with the name, rank and serial number of each soldier.

Our congratulations to Cpl Kane and Recon Section, Bravo Company for an outstanding effort. We also congratulate all of the other soldiers of 9 RQR who took part and excelled in their individual efforts during 'Steel Tuff'.
Written by Phil Ainsworth

FOOTNOTE:-

9 RQR—"The Fighting Ninth"

9th Battalion Royal Queensland Regiment is an integrated light infantry battalion. 9 RQR traces its history from 1867, and is credited with being the first battalion ashore at Gallipoli—member Lt Duncan Chapman at 0428 hours 25 April 1915. During the 6 months on Gallipoli the Unit lost 236 KIA and 390 wounded.

The battalion also served in the defence of Tobruk in North Africa in 1941, and the battle for Milne Bay in Papua New Guinea. The tradition of service continues today with more than 50 members volunteering for active service in East Timor.

9 RQR Battle Honours:- Queen's Colour:- Tobruk Syria 1941 Mergayun Kokoda Trail Milne Bay Cape Endaiadere-Sinemi Creek Liberation of Australia New Guinea Borneo Balikpapan

Regimental Colour:- South Africa 1899-1902 Pozieres Bullecourt Ypres Menin Road Polygon Wood Passchendaele Ancre 1918 Amiens Hindenburg Line Landing at ANZAC
Compiled by Col Gould

NGVR / ARMY HISTORY OF NG2421 (NGX 419) SGT BRUCE FRASER ©

Continued from Volume 32 - October 2003

2nd November, 1945, and Bruce is still in Wewak. Extracts from another letter. "The main, almost only topic of conversation here is when are we going home!"

Tens and tens of thousands of troops, whose services are no longer required in the New Guinea area are waiting to return to Australia, but there isn't sufficient shipping available. A broadcast from Australia couple of days ago said that Britain was lending Australia eight Victory or Liberty ships to transport troops home."

I still manage to get a little more than the regular issue of grog. If the issue is one bottle of beer per man per week, I get five or six—if it's two, I finish up with eight or ten bottles. However, don't imagine that any others have to go short—it's all done by a slight mistake in addition when the unit strength figures are compiled on the day of issue from the bulk canteen store."

"We had a visit from Tom Blamey, the C-in-C last week. In order to give the old basket a chance to throw his stomach out further (his chest is now in the vicinity of his stomach) a divisional parade was held. Actually it wasn't a full div parade as the Wewak airstrip can accommodate only approximately 7,000 men. Two rehearsals were held and I was dragged into the second one. Reveille at 5.30am, breakfast at 6.00am, on parade at 6.45 am, and departed for the strip at 7.15 am Arrived back here at noon after spending the morning alternately standing and marching in the blazing sun and dust. That was enough for me. When Blamey did arrive, I, as it happened, very luckily had a small patch of prickly heat and excused myself from attending."

29th November, 1945—and Bruce is still in Wewak. This is his final letter:-

"Well it looks as though I'll be leaving here for Sydney on the 15th or 16th of December, by the aircraft carrier Implacable '. It's only through the generosity of Britain that some thousands of us will be in Australia for Christmas. Britain has made available to Australia eight Liberty ships and some warships, some of which will pick up troops on their way south from Japan and China. The Implacable' will pick up 5,150 of us."

Last Sunday 'HMAS Shropshire' called here and took 560 personnel to Sydney—only a few days trip. 'HMAS Vindex', an escort carrier took away 500 today. The passenger ship 'Duntroon' will take 16,000 on Saturday. Three more British naval ships are expected in a couple of days. The idea is to get

all troops away from Wewak as soon as possible as it is an unhealthy place."

I must tell you about the role I had in a Jap demilitarised cruiser last Monday. It was sent from Japan to transport 1,100 POW's back to their cherry- trees, although I think a few of them won't live long enough to see Japan. There were some very sick Japs who embarked. Anyway I was one of the party who checked the Japs coming aboard."

Bruce was discharged from the Army on the 10th January, 1946, after arriving in Sydney.

POST WAR

January 1946. Daughter Yvonne born just after discharge from Army.

July 1946. Returned to New Guinea to mine brother's gold lease.

1947-1949. Employed by New Guinea Goldfields in Wau—alluvial mining.

1949-1951. Employed by Morobe Construction Company.

1951-1979 Employed by CVSR Chemicals, at Rhodes in Sydney, as a chemical plant operator and supervisor.

1992 After his stroke, Bruce moved to Perth to be with his only daughter, Yvonne Farrant. After a major heart attack and hip fracture he was moved to the Salvation Army nursing home where he currently resides, while Rene still resides in the retirement village.

END

Footnote: The Association would like to thank Bruce for sharing his NGVR experiences with us, and to Yvonne for assisting with the preparation of this draft.

Our thanks also to member Bob Collins who has put considerable effort into recording these NGVR service stories. In coming issues we will produce the NGVR recollections of Carlo Cavalieri and Henry and Henry McCauley. Bob is also working on two more NGVR histories.

Please note that our NGVR service recollections are © - COPYRIGHT.

Col Gould

2004 REGIMENTAL MIXED DINNER REUNION
FRIDAY 23 APRIL 2004 - UNITED SERVICES CLUB BRISBANE
BOOK NOWSEATS ARE LIMITED..... BOOK NOW

Ph: Bob Collins 041 383 1397

Pre-dinner Sherry / Table wine / Port / Dinner / plus a great night for only \$70 pp



Presentation of a NGVR / PNGVR Ex Members Association Inc HONORARY MEMBERSHIP certificate to The Papua New Guinea Police Commissioner—Mr Sam Inguba, QPM

Port Moresby 1 November 2003

(L) Association North Queensland Representative Denis Samin, OBE; Association Honorary Solicitor Bruce Crawford, OAM and Association Secretary Colin Gould, AFAIM., during their visit to PNG .



Members of the NGVR / PNGVR Association present the winning infantry section of 9 Battalion The Royal Queensland Regiment with the Association's annual **SHIELD OF MILITARY EXCELLENCE AWARY—2003**

For outstanding performance during the Regiment's end of year STEEL TUFF Competition in Queensland. The Association has hosted this annual presentation for 8 years. (The Reservists of yesterday encouraging the Reservists of today & the future.)



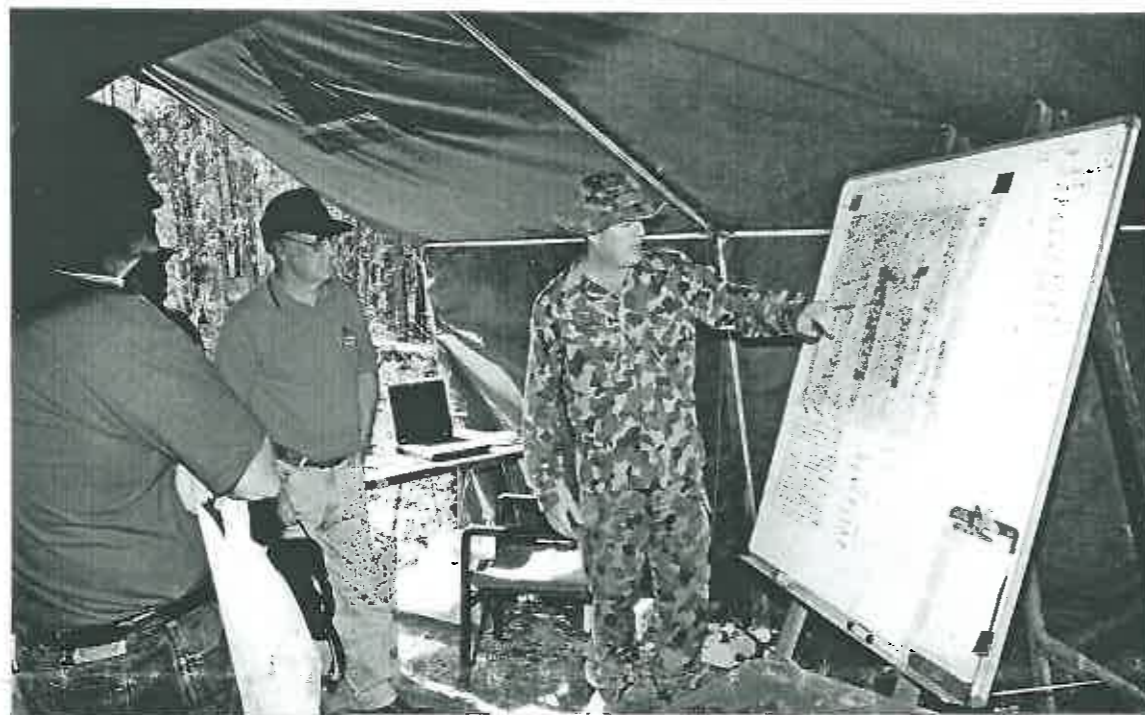
Presentation of a NGVR / PNGVR Ex Members Association Inc HONORARY MEMBERSHIP certificate to the Commander of the Papua New Guinea Defence Force—Commodore Peter Ilau, CBE

Port Moresby 3 November 2003

(L) Association Secretary Colin Gould, AFAIM; Vice- President & President of the Port Moresby RSL John Mudge, MBE and Association Hon. Solicitor Bruce Crawford, OAM., during their visit to PNG .



Joe Fisk carefully eyes up a LMG to possibly add to his private collection. **STEEL TUFF 9 RQR 2003**



**9 RQR FIELD COMMAND POST
STEEL TUFF 2003 COMPETITION.**
Peter Rogers (L) and Committee member Phil Ainsworth observe competition progress



STEEL TUFF 2003— 9 RQR
Members Reps Norm Mundy & Joe Fisk
at the presentation in Maryborough



**NORM MUNDY AT THE PNGVR PREFERRED COMMAND POST
STEEL TUFF 2003 COMPETITION**



Commander of the Papua New Guinea Defence Force
2003

Commodore Peter Ilau, CBE.
Murray Barracks

**A BRIEF SNAPSHOT OF
PORT MORESBY
NOVEMBER 2003.**

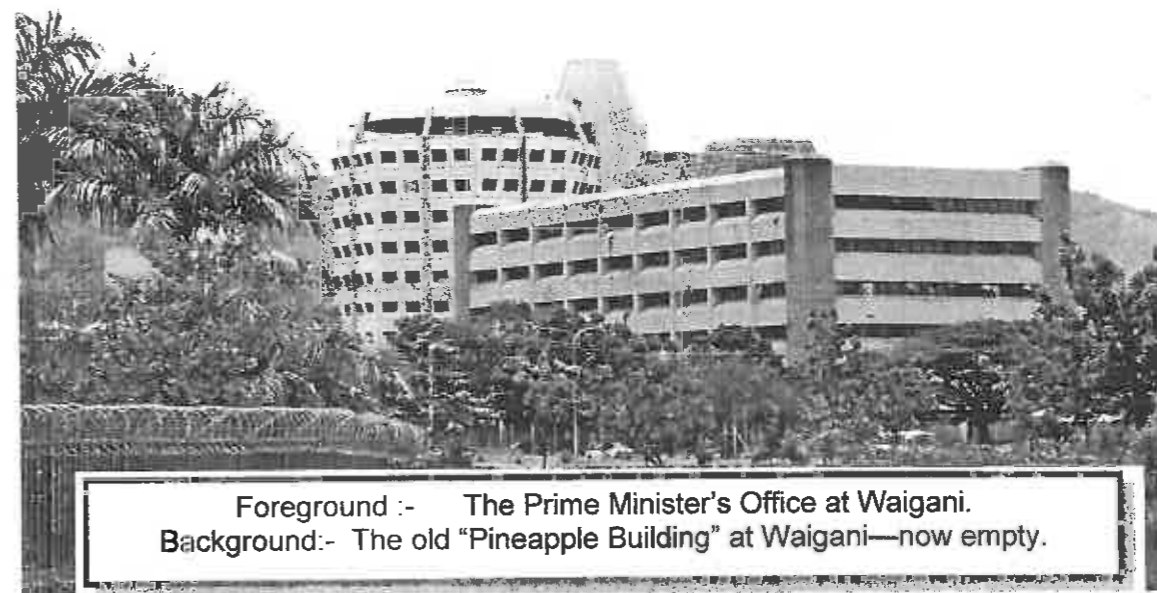
(Photos by Col Gould)



The mast of the old 'Macdhui'
Launched:- 23 Dec 1930
Tons:- 4561 gross tons
Commenced trading PNG :- May 1931
During the 61st air raid on Port Moresby on the 17 June 1941, the 'Macdhui' was bombed. The following day 17 twin-engine bombers dropped an estimated 68 bombs, of which the ship received 4 direct hits which resulted in the ship being sunk.



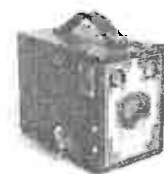
The 'SOMARE FOUNDATION'
Office complex at Waigani



Foreground :- The Prime Minister's Office at Waigani.
Background:- The old "Pineapple Building" at Waigani—now empty.



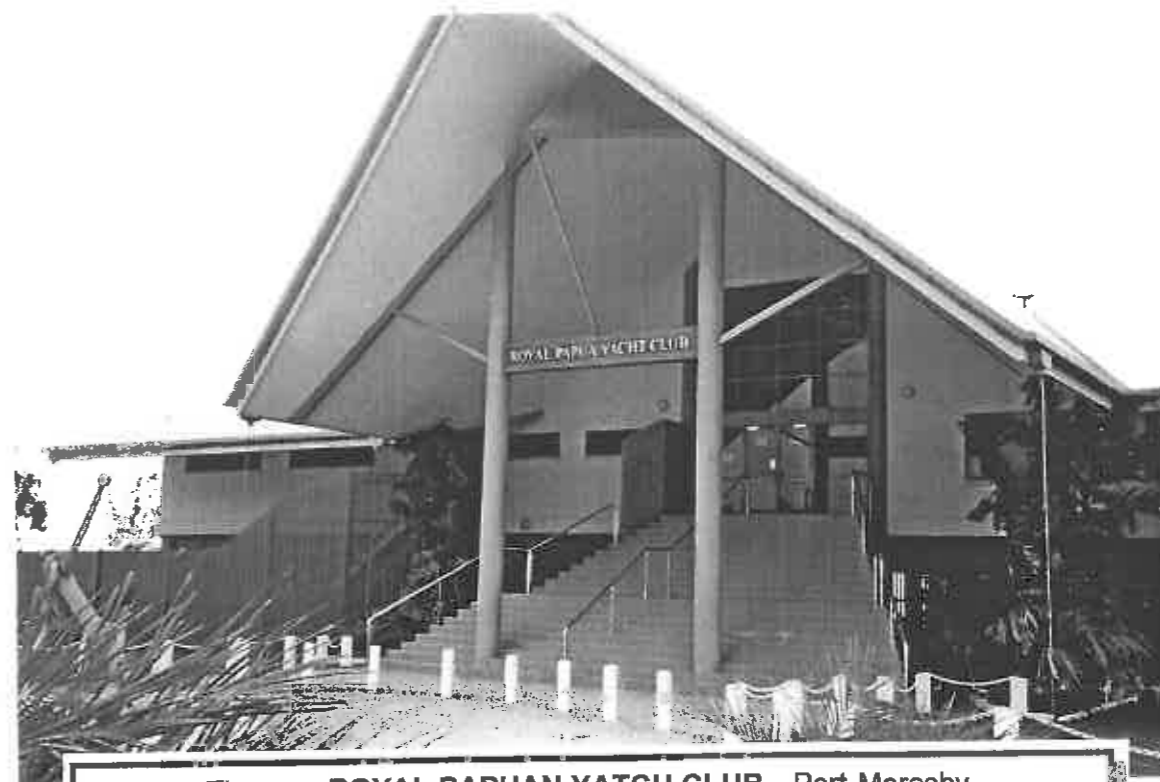
The start of the new proposed "BALUS BAR" in Port Moresby.
The Airways Hotel Resort which overlooks Jacksons Airport plan to erect an old Air Niugini DC3 onto scaffolding to be fitted out as a unique air conditioned executive "Bar". Access will be via a ramp to the main cargo doors. Should bring back many memories of the days of side saddle travel on the old Ansett MAL and TAA DC3's.
Another DC3 is still a feature at Air Niugini's Head Office at Jacksons Airport.
The new modern air conditioned Domestic and International terminals at Jacksons are a vast improvement on the old semi- opened air hanger terminals of 'TAIM BIPO'



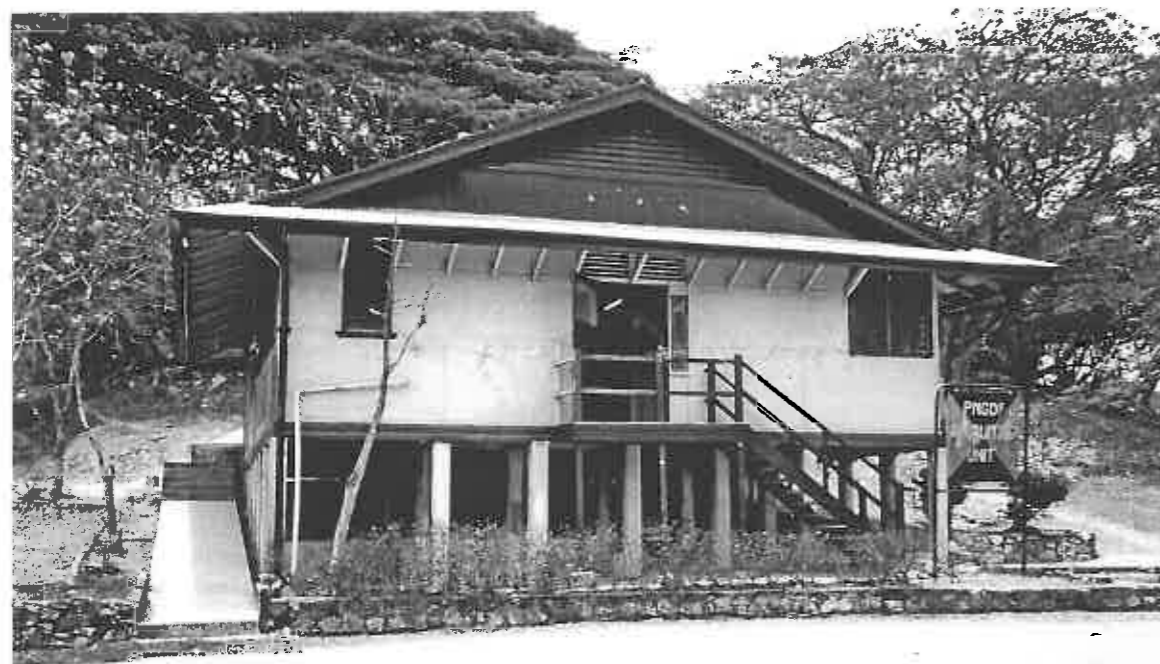
The new 'AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION' in Port Moresby.



The remains of the old **ADMIN COY PNGVR Drill Hall**— Murray Barracks destroyed in a fire in 2002.
(L) John Mudge, MBE and Denis Samin, OBE stand at the exact site of the Mess Bar where many a cold ale was downed during those frequent late night post-parade "de-briefings".



The new **ROYAL PAPUAN YATCH CLUB**—Port Moresby.
2003



The old **PNGVR Q Store** at Murray Barracks
Now used as the PNG Defence Force Recruiting Unit.



Inside the main area of the **Royal Papuan Yatch Club**.
Port Moresby waterfront. - 2003.