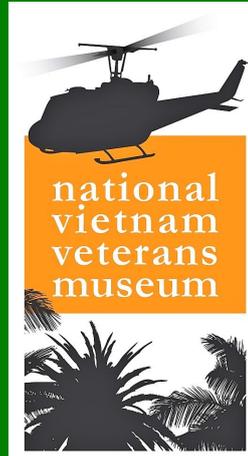


Sit Rep

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Sit Rep Editor Peter Watson



MEET BOARD MEMBER MARCUS FIELDING WESTLAND WESSEX 31

KINGSLEY IS GIVEN A PIECE OF THE 'WALL' IN WASHINGTON

A MESSAGE FROM BOB ELWORTHY AM PRESIDENT OF FRIENDS



Welcome to Lesley Argaet. At the National Vietnam Veterans Museum Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 20 February 2019, Lesley Argaet was elected to the NVVM Board

of Directors, our first female Board Member. Gary Elliot was re-elected for another term on the Board and Kingsley Munday AM, was re-appointed as Chairman by the other Board Members.



Lesley Argaet

During the AGM, the Museum annual report which contained the 2018 year audited accounts was tabled, and a number of amendments to the Museum's constitution were passed. As part of its external reporting responsibilities, the result of the AGM and copies of the financial accounts will be provided to the Australian Charities and not-for-profit Commission and Consumer Affairs Victoria. A good number of members attended the AGM and exercised their voting rights.

Following the AGM, the Board held its first General Meeting of the year with the next meeting scheduled for 22 May at the Dandenong RSL.

Looks like more big boys toys are on the horizon with the prospect of a Hercules transport aircraft and a Phantom F4 turning up sometime down the track, and the Chairman has his eye on a Pilatus Porter aircraft which is currently residing in the AWM storage area in Canberra. This aircraft has a special meaning to me, as I flew the last

Australian Airborne Radio Direction Finding mission in that aircraft before the airborne signals intelligence capability was closed down prior to the aircraft being returned to Australia.

There is some exciting news on the horizon with the prospect of the State Government supporting a scheme to provide schools with the opportunity to visit the Museum with transport and entry costs being paid from a grant by VVAA Vic. This should encourage more schools to visit and lift the visitor numbers at the Museum, as well as give the Museum guides plenty of opportunities to tune their skills. On that front, John Methven OAM is putting in time working with the guides to ensure polished and consistent presentations.

What a great time to be a Friend of the Museum, what with exciting plans ahead and continual improvements in house.

Cheers Bob



THIS AIRCRAFT IS THE SAME AS THE ONE BOB FLEW IN

The Pilatus Porter PC-6 is a single engine STOL aircraft designed by Pilatus Aircraft of Switzerland. Top speed of 244km/h, 11m long, 16m wingspan, Pratt and Whitney engine from Canada.

The Australian Army ordered 16 of these aircraft in May 1967, followed by another 6 in August of that year.

They were \$55,000 ea.

REPORT FROM PHIL DRESSING GM



Finances: Our Museum reported an audited surplus of \$43,782 for the 2018 year. A creditable performance. Further, we continue to trade well year to date, with our overall result to date an improvement compared to the same time 12 months ago.

Visitation numbers: Visitor numbers for 2018 broke the previous records with eight out of twelve months breaking the records. January 2019 was down but anecdotally, similar tourist orientated facilities also reported a slight January downturn.

Museum Accreditation Program (MAP): We are continuing to pursue accreditation, with goal posts tending to shift but we press on.

New Potential Acquisitions: The Centurion and Scorpion Tank Turret Simulators are being made "Innocuous" meaning they can't be fired. Procurement procedures have been initiated. Whilst the Sabre jet has been taken off the donations list, the C130 Hercules remains. Plans are afoot to ship it to Newhaven in the near future and procurement of an F111 cockpit continues.

New Museum Building Project: The Board are pursuing the federal Government for their \$5 million commitment. We are in dialogue with a number of land owners in regard to procuring land for our new home.

Bellman Hangers: Three second hand Bellman aircraft hangars arrived at our Museum and are currently located on Phillip Island Helicopter's land. I really don't know where we be without their support.

Volunteer Program: Volunteer software "Better Impact" continues to be rolled out by Deb and Ernie. Volunteer levels appear stable but we do need more. Any individual will be made most welcome to join our Volunteer workforce. Follow this link and express an interest-on-line... <https://www.vietnamvetsmuseum.org/support>
Volunteer training keeps being upgraded.

Avalon Air Show: Our Museum has a stand at this year's Avalon Air Show. Colin has taken the Kiowa and the radar unit together with the associated storyboard. Expected top temperatures at Avalon during the show are expected to peak at 39 degrees.

Kiowa: The Kiowa helicopter received a new coat of paint although further restorative work is required but we are getting there with that and the

Canberra.

Back to Nam: A musical event held at our Museum Saturday 23 February this year, was sold out a very short time after ticket sales opened. We had 150 guests and everyone appeared to enjoy themselves. We've got more events on the drawing board, some advertised further in this Sit Rep or on the website.

Canberra Visit: Jan and I joined Neville and Lynne Goodwin, Museum supporters Joe Bastion and Lise Brorsen to Parliament House on Wednesday 13 February. We met with and later lunched with our new Federal Member for the newly formed electorate of Monash, the Honourable Russell Broadbent MP. A request was made for us to formalize our request for a 12 seater bus to be donated to our Museum. We also met with Greg Hunt and Dan Tehan. I introduced myself to national Party leader and Deputy Prime Minister, Michael McCormack. We are chasing the Federal Government's Agreement to grant our Museum \$5 million for our New Museum Project, to no avail however, but we plug on. I recently met with Federal Shadow Minister for Climate Change, Mark Butler. He was aware of our solar energy status and he noted, "my Father is a Vietnam Vet, I must bring him down to the Museum" Senator Derryn Hinch also visited our Museum in February.

Vietnam Conflict Timeline: We have a narrative of events in our Sound and Light show. We're planning some modifications to improve our AATTV Display which will also provide room for the Timeline.

The Mourning Soldier: Our Museum was presented with a print of "The Mourning Soldier" by a group of ex ARVN Rangers. http://vnafmann.com/BienHoa_cemetery75.html. Andy Nguyen, Secretary, ARVN Rangers Assoc Vic advised that his Assoc is looking to have "The Mourning Soldier" statue replicated and is making contact with the original artist. Comment was made during their visit that our Garden of Reflection would make an appropriate area in which to place the replica.



MEET BOARD MEMBER MARCUS FIELDING



Hello Friends of the NVVM. We members of the Board have been asked to write and relay a little about ourselves.

I was born and raised in Melbourne, In 1983 I joined the Army straight from school and was fortunate enough to be selected to train and study at the Royal Military College Duntroon.

After four years I subsequently served in the Royal Australian Engineers. I recall that most of our instructors at Duntroon were Malaya and Vietnam veterans and the tenets of jungle fighting were a key part of our training. Curiously in the 1980's all our uniforms and equipment were Vietnam era—jungle greens, bush hats, webbing, big packs, SLR's. M60's, M-16's, Claymores, Land Rovers, Mark V trucks and Hueys.



MARCUS WITH ARMoured
VEHICLE IN IRAQ

Like all officers I had a range of postings in command, instructional and staff roles around Australia and a couple overseas. In between I served on operations in Pakistan/Afghanistan, Haiti, East Timor and Iraq.

At several points throughout my military career I served with the US military—firstly on

exchange with the US 25th Infantry Division (Light) in Hawaii where we also undertook a short deployment to Haiti. Secondly as an instructor at the US Army Command and Staff College in Kansas and lastly I worked in the US led coalition headquarters in Baghdad.



MARCUS WITH GARY PARKER (PRESIDENT DECEASED)
AND TWO VISITORS AT THE MUSEUM

When I left the military in 2011 I did some work as a consulting engineer and one of the projects was a strategic review of the NVVM. The project allowed me to get a detailed understanding of the Museum and its operations. The recommendations that the project team made were all accepted by the Board and to a large extent have been implemented over the last several years.

I was invited to join the Board in late 2015 and have contributed towards several initiatives by that forum. I am looking forward to the New Museum Building Project being further advanced in the coming years. I am a director of several organisations including my own small business, an incorporated association and two owners corporations. I was also recently elected as a member of the State Executive of the RSL Victorian Branch.

I am married with two adult children and one almost adult so I am looking forward to becoming an empty nester and am living in Melbourne.

Cheers Marcus



REMEMBRANCE PAGE



Reginald A Phillips, 21, Murray Bridge, SA.



9RAR, be married, raise a family and go fishing" The private died of gunshot wounds on January 18 1969 in 1 Australian Field Hospital, after being wounded in Bien Hoa.

Ronald V Lees, 37. Lidcombe, NSW. In



“This situation still has the power to rock the foundations and devastate one’s being at a loss”, Lorna Phillips wrote of her conscript son. “All he wanted to do was finish his tour of duty with A Coy
1947 aged 18 he joined the armed forces, but resigned two years later when his daughter was born. However within three years he had re enlisted. Snipers shot the Warrant Officer on

January 1st 1966, as they were driving through Quang Nam Province. He died 12 days later. The AATTV volunteer arrived in Phuoc Tuy in 1965 where he was attached to MACV Advisory Team, 3 Bn, 51 Coy Regiment ARVN. He was 182 days in Vietnam.

Ernest F Grant, Thurgoona, NSW. The youngest of four children, Grant left school at 15 and worked on his parents dairy farm till he enlisted in 1965. He was assigned to D Company 6RAR and was apprehensive about going to Vietnam but accepted his responsibility.

Private Grant was killed in action at the battle of Long Tan, Phuoc Tuy on August 18 1966, while he was removing a backpack from a wounded soldier. He had only been in Vietnam for 72 days.



OPERATION SANTA FE OCT/NOV 1967

The Support Section of Bravo Coy, 7th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, was led by Corporal Graham Rae, taking part in Operation Santa Fe in the north east of Phuoc Tuy Province Vietnam. During the Operation, which had more than 1500 Australian, American and South Vietnamese troops, the Australians had early successes, locating a number of Viet Cong training camps. 7RAR

had taken part in since it arrived in Vietnam. 7RAR was lifted out of base camp at Nui Dat to the operational area by giant US Army Chinook helicopters. As the Australians moved through the area, the fleeing Viet Cong left fowls and chickens behind in their haste. These, however were rescued by the Australian troops before they mapped the compound for demolition by the Battalions assault pioneers.

Besides the Australians in this operation were the US 1st Brigade, 9th Infantry Division and the South Vietnamese 18th Division.

Records show that 6 US soldiers died

and it is claimed that 126 Viet Cong were killed.

By December 1 some 1,000 enemy fortifications had been destroyed within the area and the highway through the zone secured.



CHINOOK HELICOPTER IN VIETNAM

also had numerous contacts with groups of enemy who were trying to flee north. Corporal Rae's section located a wired-in compound containing 13 enemy huts, some of which had bunkers beneath them. Explosives and hand grenades were recovered from the compound, and a big store of rice was also found. It was thoroughly checked for hidden weapons. Rice pounding implements were discovered and a 30 foot deep well was searched for booby traps. Santa Fe was one of the biggest operations that the 1st Australian Task Force



TRACKER DOG, JUSTIN, GETTING SOME WATER IN THE FIELD



OUR WESSEX HELICOPTER RAN NO. 31

The Westland Wessex was a British built turbine powered development of the Sikorsky H-34. It was developed and produced under licence by Westland Aircraft Ltd Yeovil Somerset UK. One of the main changes from the Sikorsky's H-34 was the replacement of the piston engine powerplant with a turboshaft engine, the Wessex was the first mass-produced helicopter designed around the use of a gas turbine engine. The Rolls Royce Gnome engine was originally built by Bristol Siddeley, but became RR after they took over the firm.

The Royal Australian Navy ordered 27, with the first being delivered on 1 November 1962 and the last on 4 November 1963. With a length 65 '10" these aircraft stand almost 15'



off the ground and have a wing span of 56'. Top speed of 108 knots they had a range of 262 nautical miles and operated with a crew of 4. They were used on ships HMAS Sydney, HMAS Stalwart, HMAS Success and HMAS Melbourne.

Wessex helicopters were also used by the Queens Flight of the RAF to transport VIPs including members of the Royal Family, both Prince Phillip and Prince Charles were trained Wessex pilots.

Our Wessex 31 has had in interesting life, her first flight was on 23 May 1963, and then a

few years later she ditched on take off from HMAS Melbourne on 5 May 1967 with S/Lt G Dogleish and crew after engine failure. The aircraft was recovered and put back into service. Then on 25 June 1975 Lt. P Costa and crew experienced engine failure again and



made an emergency landing at Durras Beach NSW from 6000ft. Again on 4 December 1983 she crashed near East Sale Victoria after departing from the Bass Strait Oil Rigs, This time there were 2 fatalities of the three occupants.



The helicopter was withdrawn from service and remained at Fleet Air Arm Museum, Nowra NSW until it arrived at the NVVM.

OPERATION BABYLIFT APRIL 1975

In April 1975, a large scale evacuation of children took place in Vietnam, sending about 3000 children to the USA, Australia, Canada, France and UK.



BABIES AND CHILDREN ON AN AEROPLANE FROM SAIGON

Initially a US Airforce Galaxy took off from Saigon with 200 odd children and crew, Unfortunately the aircraft got into trouble and crashed while trying to return to the airfield, 141 were killed. Very shortly after that on the same day, two Hercules RAAF 'planes took off with 281 children and babies aboard. They arrived in Australia via Thailand, where many were put into hospital for health checks before being collected by their adoption parents.

When the American and Australian troops had withdrawn from Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh's forces were approaching the southern capital of Saigon, where panic had set in. My Huong Le and her brother were swept up in 'Operation Babylift', an effort to bring Vietnamese orphans and mixed-race children to the West

and to salvage some humanitarian spirit from the final days of this bloody and unpopular war. Mixed-race children were being killed by communist government soldiers in Cambodia and there was fear that the same thing would happen in Vietnam.

Born in Vietnam in 1970, My Huong Le was adopted to Australia in 1975. Unfortunately, due to complex circumstances surrounding her adoption, her experience of adoption was not positive. She began to search for her Vietnamese family in 1986, first making contact by letters. In 2004, My Huong relocated to live in Vietnam where she was reunited with her foster mother, but believing she had found her birth mother. In March 2018, her legitimate birth mother and family, through various trials and tribulations, was located and My Huong Le and they were reunited. It was finally through the power of



MY HUONG REUNITED WITH HER MOTHER

DNA that she was able to shed light on her own family and prove she had found her birth mother.

MORE OPERATION BABYLIFT

My Huong explains, 'Mothers were told to put their babies into orphanages to keep them safe. They were told to throw away photos, get rid of anything that linked them to their mixed-race children and to Australian or American troops'.

Today, My Huong works in a children's centre in Vung Tau about 100kl from Ho Chi Minh City, and is contracted by International Social Services Australia to conduct birth-family searches for other Vietnamese women who lost children in the war.

Jen Fitzpatrick arrived in Australia on April 7 1975. She had a cleft palate, was malnourished and tiny for her age, which was estimated at two and a half. There was no record of her birthdate and conflicting stories

about how she'd come to the orphanage. Jen was adopted by a couple who had been through multiple miscarriages and desperately wanted a child. There was little information about intercountry adoption but, she says I grew up in a mudbrick house' and they muddled through with the best intentions'.

'Sometimes I felt isolated' she admits 'I was the only Asian child at school, there was racism and I knew nothing of my language or culture, but my parents were awesome. 'I knew I was adopted and I knew I was loved'

As an adult, Jen has worked in adoption



JEN FITZPATRICK WITH A NURSE IN THE ORPHANAGE IN VIETNAM



**JEN FITZPATRICK
AS A YOUNG WOMAN**

services and has seen firsthand that many children who were airlifted from Vietnam fared worse than she did. She considers herself lucky. 'In principle' she says ' children are best placed within their community of family, but that's not always possible. In my case, I would probably have died on the street. I had a disability, I was a product of the war, my chances were very slim'.

A NOTE FROM OUR ROVING CHAIRMAN



On 23rd January at 11am I was presented with a piece of granite from the construction of the "Wall", at the Wall in Washington DC, by Jim Knotts the President of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation who built and manage the Wall. <http://www.vvmf.org/aboutus>

Myself and Brigadier General Gabriel and Sergeant Major Jarvis of the Australian Embassy were also present and the Brigadier also received a piece on behalf of the Australian War Memorial.



We laid a wreath, each spoke and then a lone trooper played Taps, (the American equivalent of our Last Post).

There are 58,318 names on the Wall and each one had a brother, a sister, a mother, a father, and loved ones just like our 521 fallen.

A number of American Vietnam Veterans attended and I presented each with our



'Vietnam' scarf from the National Vietnam Veterans Museum in Australia, (I am wearing one in the photo).

This piece of granite is symbolic of the enduring strength of

the relationship between our two militaries, and also the strength of the friendship and camaraderie between our soldiers, sailors and airman, and between people at large.

I am very grateful to Jim and his staff for making this happen and for the friendship between our two organisations.

Lest we Forget

Kingsley



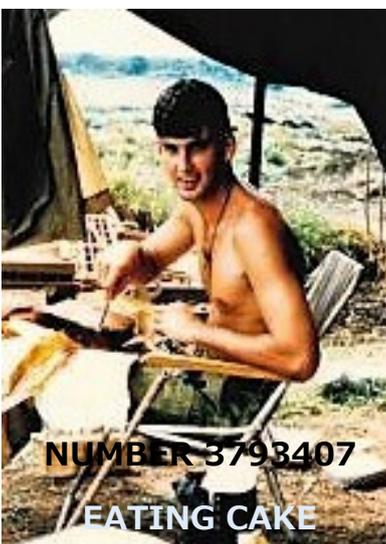
VOLUNTEERS BOB & PATSY WILLIAMS



I started my working life on 7th February 1966 with the Reserve Bank of Australia just 7 days before decimal currency was introduced. Conscription had been in operation for over a year and my brother had already been called up and was serving in the Army. This turned out to be advantageous for me as it gave me an inkling of what to expect if I was to be put in the same position, and of course I was..

My brother thought this was a huge joke, regarded it as payback time, but did give me some sage advice, "keep your head down, keep your mouth shut and don't volunteer for anything". Many years later I disregarded the last piece, also tended to have a bit of trouble keeping my big mouth shut!

It came to pass on 1st May 1968 I was inducted into the army and was immediately downgraded from a human being to a number, 3793407. On arrival at Pucka I was



the second person to get off the bus and was afforded the dubious honour of being the first member of the platoon to be bawled out by one of the corporals, "get

your hands out of your pockets". I thought, God, what have I got myself into here.

With my brother's advice ringing in my ears, I kept my head down, worked hard, achieved good results and was rewarded with my corps of choice, The Royal Australian Armoured Corps, where I opted for a gunner signaller course. The training was intense with an enormous amount of information to absorb, but again, I worked hard and on graduating was posted to the 1st Armoured Regiment in 'B' Squadron.

The Squadron was deployed to South Vietnam in January 1969. I was put on standby and was eventually sent over in June, a deployment I apparently volunteered for, which is funny because I don't remember doing that!! (see my brother's advice).

After nine months filling various positions and flirting with death a few times, I returned to Australia in March 1970 and was discharged on 30th April having completed my National Service obligations.

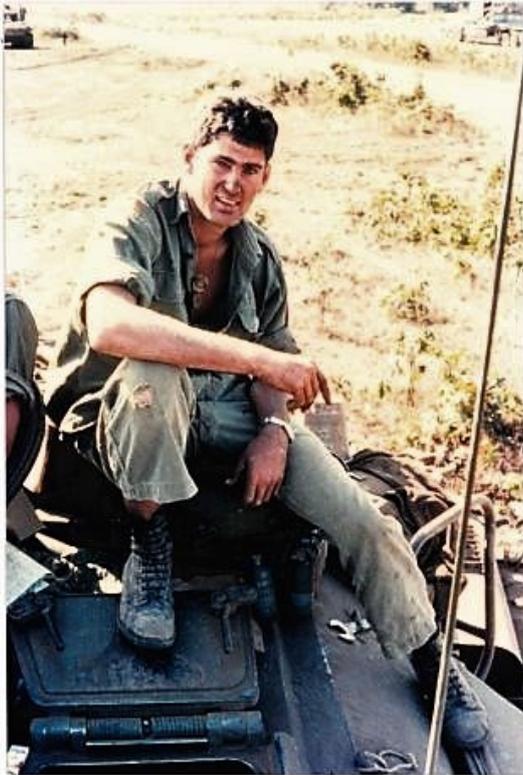
On returning to my job at the bank I found my career in tatters due to the two year absence. So after a couple of years trying to get promotion I decided to get my own promotion, left the bank and joined the financial markets.



MORE BOB & PATSY



Unfortunately I discovered that money is no compensation for the stress of that



occupation. So I opted out of that superficial world and went labouring. Concreting, building furniture and kitchens, built a couple

of houses, nearly went broke and loved every minute of it. All the while being supported by my beautiful wife Patsy. About 15 years ago I travelled to Phillip Island for some reason and as I drove through San Remo I saw the Museum. I thought, I should go in and have a look. I went back the next day and sat outside for an hour, but couldn't bring myself to go in, for I didn't know how I would react. I drove home and pondered. Finally I sat myself down in front of the mirror and said "get hold of yourself Lad". I did, rang the Museum, spoke to Krishna and offered to volunteer and she accepted. I made Patsy come with me, just in case I went to pieces.

So here I am almost 14 years later, with Patsy, still cleaning the bloody glass. Now they don't seem to be able to get rid of me.

They can't sack a volunteer, can they?

Cheers.....Bob

LAURIE DAWSON OAM

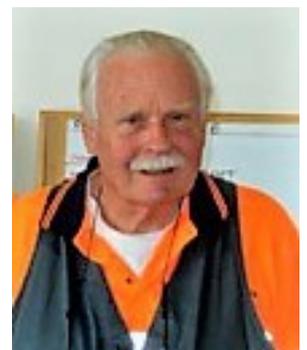
One of our volunteers, Laurie Dawson, has been awarded an OAM for services to Blaze Aid in NSW, where he has supervised camps of people rebuilding farmers fences etc.

Laurie has been deeply involved with the establishment of the Museum in all its phases—starting with John Methven in designing the Mobile Museum Trailer through to the NVVM. He has been associated with the design and building of all the various museum facilities and his problem solving ability has been fantastic. Laurie is the Museum's

Chaplin and has made an active contribution to ceremonial services.

The library at the Museum is named in his honour.

Congratulations Laurie and we hope to see you again at the Museum from time to time.



CORAL BALMORAL, UNIT CITATION FOR GALLANTRY

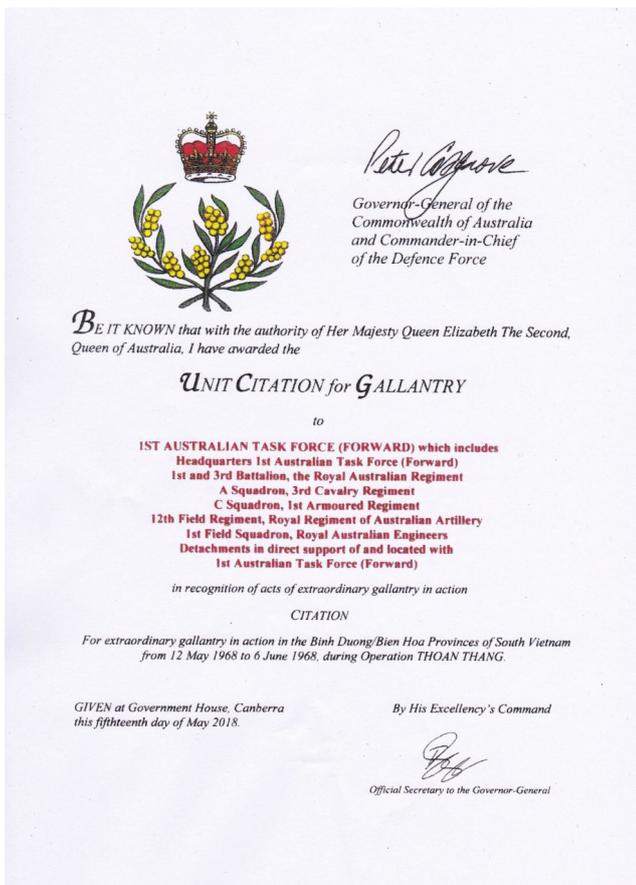
On 13 May 2018, Minister for Defence Personnel, the Hon Darren Chester MP, announced that the extraordinary gallantry displayed by members of the 1st Australian Task Force and associated units deployed to Area of Operations SURFERS during the Battles of Fire, Support Bases Coral and Balmoral, from 12 May to 6 June 1968, were being recognised by the Unit Citation for Gallantry.

- 3rd Battalion RAR
- A Squadron, 3rd Cavalry Regiment
- C Squadron, 1st Armoured Regiment
- 12th Field Regiment RAA
- 1st Field Squadron, RAE

Members of the following units who flew missions in direct support of the battles or who were forward deployed to the Fire Support Base, are also entitled to wear the Citation insignia:

- No 9 Squadron RAAF
- 161 Reconnaissance Flight

Since that time, more than 1200 Citation insignia have been despatched to servicemen who served at the Battles of Fire Support Bases Coral and Balmoral within the identified Units.



UNIT CITATION INSIGNIA

The units involved were:

- 1st Australian Task Force (forward)
- 1st Battalion RAR

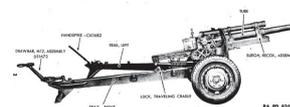
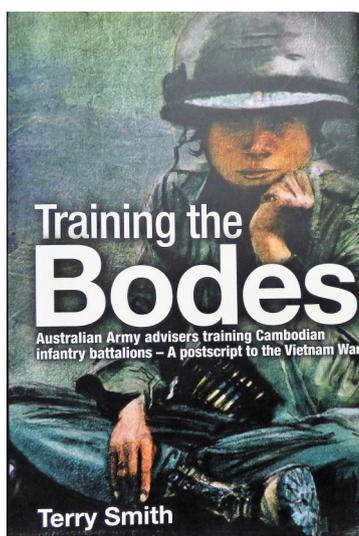


Figure 2 - 165mm Recoilless Rifle (M24) and Carriage (M242) - Right Side

BOOK REVIEW 'TRAINING THE BODES'

By the end of 1971, the hastily raised, poorly trained, and woefully led Cambodian army had suffered a string of defeats and heavy casualties inflicted by North Vietnamese army and Viet Cong. With many of its best infantry battalions and much of its armour, transport and equipment destroyed, only three of its 15 brigade groups were militarily effective. In South Vietnam, America and its allies were in



the process of withdrawing and handing back to the Vietnamese full responsibility for the conduct of the war.

A small group of Australians, which numbered more than 30 officers, warrant officers and non-

commissioned officers of the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam, helped train 27 light infantry battalions of the Cambodian army in South Vietnam during 1972. This project was, according to one historical study, 'a classic

example of using special forces as a force multiplier', and has been recognised as one of the most successful foreign internal defence missions of the Vietnam War.

The story of these few men is told against the background of the war in South Vietnam, and in particular Phuc Tuy Province, as both sides fought to secure villages and hamlets during 1972, before the Peace Accords being negotiated in Paris to end the war were signed.

As well as describing the details of the training programme, the book provides descriptions of camp life and of the Cambodians, Vietnamese and Americans. The last days of the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam's ten and a half year service in the Vietnam War are covered, including the last contact involving Australian and Viet Cong soldiers.

Training the Bodes is an interesting and valuable book that tells a moving story, The excerpts from letters and reports, and the photographs, are fascinating. It fills a small gap in Australia's military history.

Secrets to a long happy marriage



A old woman was sipping on a glass of wine, while sitting on the patio with her husband, and she says, "I love you so much, I don't know how I could ever live without you"... Her husband asks, "Is that you, or the wine talking?"... She replies, "It's me... talking to the wine."

Detroit Window Sticker...



Of course I talk to myself.



Sometimes I need expert advice.

AUSTRALIAN ARMY TRAINING TEAM VIETNAM

AATTV PART 1



The Early Years. Colonel Francis P (Ted) Serong, commanding the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam, arrived in Saigon on 31 July 1962. The remaining 29 members of the Team flew into Tan Son Nhut Airport on 3 August. This unit, comprising officers and non-commissioned officers, was employed at first as trainers, then as observers and later as advisers in combat. The AATTV would remain in South Vietnam until December 1972.



COL TED SERONG

The initial discussions on the deployment of the Team to South Vietnam started in May 1962 when Dean Rusk, the United States Secretary of State, met with Sir Garfield

Barwick, then Australia's Minister for External Affairs. The first offer by Australia was three or four trainers, but that increased to 30, who were dispatched to serve with the U.S. Military Assistance and Advisory Group (the forerunner to Military Assistance Command Vietnam).

During Barwick's planned visit to Vietnam, he recommended that an Australian training centre be established at Quang Ngai City located in the southern part of I Corps Military Zone.

The American military commander rejected this idea and the Australians were deployed into established American training teams instead. Colonel Serong agreed with this plan.

The combined deployment placed ten AATTV trainers at Hiep Khanh to the northwest of Hue, a further ten to the Dong Da Training Centre



RAY SIMPSON SHARING A CIGARETTE WITH VILLAGERS

at Phu Bai south of Hue, while four Australians went to the Ranger Training Centre at Duc My, two officers went to U.S. Special Forces centre near to

Danang, and the remainder were placed at the U.S. Headquarters in Saigon. General Hawkins, the Commander of the U.S. Team, accepted Colonel Serong as an advisor on counter-insurgency at his headquarters.

South Vietnamese operations divided into three main areas of responsibility with the Civil Guard responsible for provincial security. The Self Defence Corps operated at village level while the ARVN fought as the national mobile force. The Civil Guard and Self Defence Corps became the Regional Force and Popular Force.

Although permitting some members of AATTV to participate in operations on 17 May 1963, the Commander of 1st ARVN Division restricted their activities to observing not 'advising' the South Vietnamese.

In June 1964, the AATTV increased to 60



AATTV AT ANZAC PARADE

personnel with approval to operate at battalion and lower levels on operations as advisers. This led to both the first casualties among the AATTV and to the first of many awards for valour.



AATTV DISPLAY AT THE MUSEUM

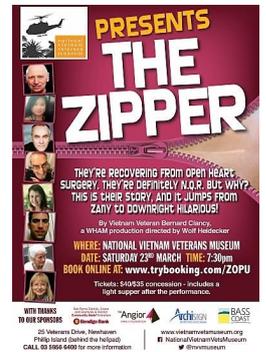
EVENTS FOR AUTUMN AT NVVM

THE ZIPPER

23rd March 2019 at the Museum

Tickets \$40, Concession \$35

Includes a light supper after the show



DUSTED OFF

27th April 2019 at the Museum

Tickets \$35, Concession \$30

Light supper and chat after the show



SISTERS & MASTERS

4th May at the Museum

Free Concert 2pm—3.30pm

11th May

‘Rock Away in May’ 1pm –4.30pm. Beer and wine available

\$15 per adult, \$12 concession, \$10 children

25th May

New Exhibition, ‘The Skippy Squadron—Qantas in Vietnam



MEMORIAL TO AUSTRALIANS IN PHUOC TUY PROVINCE

Bob Elworthy, through his contacts with the Vietnam Veterans in Diamond Creek, has come across some details and a picture of a memorial that was constructed by the residents of Phuoc Tuy Province after the Australians left in 1972.

It appears to have been destroyed by the communist regime after they took over the south, and we are lucky to have a photo of it.

Bob is contacting the South Vietnamese groups in Australia to see how much is known about this, and to see if a copy of the memorial can be re-created when we build the new Museum.

If anyone had seen the original memorial, or has more information, Bob would like to hear from you, through the Museum.



This is the photo that Bob has.

