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ZEALAND PERMANENT OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION FORCE NEWSLETTER NO. 34 ss AUG. 1980

Registered at G.P.O. Wellington as a Magazine.

P.O.Box 33-710 TAKAPUNA. AUCKLAND.9.

1. LAST POST - ROLL OF HONOUR

With sincere regret we record the passing of Old Members: O.A. (Ossie) WAHRLICH on 11 Apr 80, at Dunedin, a message of sympathy, followed by letter to Mrs Wahrlich, were sent on your behalf. A later letter from George Stuart, records the passing of : S.J. (Stan) GAGE, (6-Wing), on 22 Jun. at Wellington; the same letter tells us of the passing of Mrs Doreen (Sam) WAHRLICH on 13 Jun 80, almost two months to the day after Ossie's death.

2. CHANGES OF ADDRESS ::

Bernie BANKS : now :

Bob CALDER : 1/2 Proteus Pl. Half Moon Bay Auckland Ian CUNNINGHAM, 20A Wiremu St., Otumoetai, Tauranga. Len GORDON, 140 Old Wairoa Rd., Papakura. Ron JONES, WOI(S), HQ Coy, NZLF, Fort Cautley. Frank LUPO, WO2(S), 37 Kahu St., Burnham Camp. J.M.MASTERS, Col.(S), 1 White Rd., Burnham Camp. Redvers POTTS, Tara Lodge, Ingram Rd., R.D.3. Drury. Geoff ROCHE, 73 Maich Rd., Manurewa. Papakura. M. Mike.WICKSTEED, Major (S)

2/49 Park Rise, Campbells Bay

Roger WYLDE, 27 Mary Cresc.

John BELLAMY, Capt. (S) 123 Major Hornbrook Rd., CHCH.8. HQ. NZFORSEA, Singapore, c/- PO. AUCK. Colin COCHRANE, 29 Warkworth Grove Bell Block, New Plymouth.

> Neville FISHER, 17 Orchard Rise, Papakura.

Stan HARDING, 2 Grierson Ave, Amberley Beach. CHCH. Jerry LUNDON, 41A Braemar Rd., Rothesay Bay, AUCK. 10. J.G.MURRAY, 5 Maunder Pl., New Lynn. AUCK.5. George MARTIN, 5 Hart St. Featherston.

Charlie PRIESTLEY, 82 Martin St., Upper Hutt. P.R.R.Joe.RUTHERFORD, 27 Swaffield Rd., Papatoetoe. A.S.Simmy SIMEON, 14 Harper St., S. Bill.STOTT, 1 Kapiti Pl. Forrest Hill, AUCK.9. A.H. Taffy. WILLIAMS, 2A Coles Cresc. Papakura.

R.W. Smudger. SMITH. c/- D. Cavell, 122 Gonville Ave., Wanganui. A.R.Rusty VAIL, 38A Hawkins St., B.R. (Brian) EDMONDS, Flat 3, "Salvic Court", 25 Tamaki Drive, Mission Bay, AUCK.5.

NEW MEMBERS :: 3.

AUCK, 10

Upper Hutt.

ADAMS. H.B. (Harvey) Sgt. (S)

Meadowbank. AUCK.5.

CAMERON. A.N. (Allan) COOPER. W.A. (Bill) WOI. (S) DODD. W.A. (Bill) GIBBISON. F. (Frank) ISHERWOOD. S.G. (Bill) JONES. W.N. (Taffy) MAUNSELL. M.W. (Baldy) PAWLOWSKI. A.J. Sgt. (S) PEARSE. M. (Mick) Capt. (S)

22(D) Bty, 16 Fd Regt RNZA Fort Dorset, Seatoun. Wgton. 3. 3 Ewebank Pl. Manurewa. 17A Rosehill Drive, Papakura. 180 Quinns Rd., CHCH.1. 23 Velma Rd, Glenfield. AUCK. 10. 148 Yaldhurst Rd, CHCH.4. 7 Totara Vale Dve, Glenfield, AUCK. 10. 141 Porchester Rd, Papakura, HQ. 16 Fd Regt RNZA, Papakura Camp. HQ.NZLF. Private Bag. Takapuna. AUCK.9.

& Bblack 79. TAWA

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New Members : (Cont'd) ::

SCOTT. A. 10 Langstone Place, Birkenhead, AUCK.10. SKINNER. L.J.(Lindsay) WO2.(S) HQ.16 Fd Regt RNZA, Papakura Camp. WARD. H.J.(Harold) 543 New Brighton Rd, CHCH.9. WHITLEY. N.(Norman) 9 Anthony Place, Bayview, Hawkes Bay. CALVERT.P.J. Lt-Col (S) Commander, 16 Fd Regt.RNZA, Papakura Camp. THORNTON. N.C. Major (S) HQ.NZLF. Private Bag Takapuna. AUCK.9.

4. NEWS FROM AND ABOUT MEMBERS ::

Patron, Sir Leonard Thornton writes of his busy life, regrets that he is not exactly a T.V. idol; and mentions his close association with the Army Museum.

George wrote of the large attendance at Ossie Wahrlich's Funeral. Gunners of Dunedin turned out in force, as well as RSA, Council, and Football Club Members. A later letter together with a large collection of snapshots from the collection of the late Capt C.T.R. (Haggis) McLean, MBE - of Gallipoli, France, and the Northwest Frontier showing a 3.7" How.Mule Pack Battery in various phases of action. (though we have not finally established from copies of his Service Record obtained from Army HQ. that he was there). Together with some of George's collection of pre-1939 RNZA.

Wally took them to the Army Museum in late July for copying and retention of anything they may need.

Emil Jennings tells us of the formation of a Social Sub-Committee which has organised a local Roll Call Dinner to be held at the Avon Motor Lodge on Sat. 11 Oct at a cost of \$12.00 per head; they hope for a good muster of CHCH folk. Should any Member be within coo-ee of CHCH on that date, they will be most welcome - contact Emil at 12 Bygrave Place, CHCH 5. We wish it well Emil, and that there is a good turnout.

Jim Gilberd writes of a small but enthusiastic get-together at Napier RSA on 21 June, a good natter about old times. Good to hear Jim, that interests are being kept up by all our Dist Reps.

Col.Frank Rennie also writes of a still busy life connected with Rothmans Foundation, and Presidency of the Outward Bound Trust. Still keeps in touch with Army matters as Col.Comdt.SAS. That retirement will be welcome when it comes Frank.

Col. Hardy Maxwell expresses interest in our concern that parts of our History may be whittled away, saying that the Army Museum is the brightest light on Army's horizon for many a year.

Sandy Bissett tells us he's now completely recovered, due, reading between the lines, to careful therapy carried out with the usual Sandy dedication,—a long time since the day a Pommy Red-Cap stopped you on your B.M.W. and said, "That's enemy equipment Sir, you're supposed to hand it in". the reply, "Well you can have it if you can catch me". Along the river road to Helwan, he had no show on a Norton.

As well as those shown above who wrote in giving changes of address; the following got in touch with snippets of news - Lt-Col Bill Dillon, Bruce McIver, Geoff Geddes, Bill Stephenson, Jack Mercer, Fred Prior, Arthur "Shufti" James -- all expressed the wish to be remembered to all those who know them.

16 FD.REGT. NEWS ::
The Gunners Day Parade and Memorial Service was carried out at the Auckland Cenotaph; the weather was a little unkind so the Service occured indoors in the Hall of Memories. Despite the drizzle, 11(A) Battery fired the Salute of 11 Guns. Eight Old Comrades attended together with Members of Auckland Officers Club, (Gunners being in preponderence there).

16 Fd Regt News. - Cont'd. ::

A wreath wsa laid on your behalf by myself, (the wreath of Officers Club being laid by Lt-Col Rodney Short, late 14 LAA (2 NZEF) and 14 Comp AA Regt (CMT), who many of you will know.

Later, Wally took them on a tour of the old Fortifications at North Head. He remarked that he was impressed by the interest shown and the questions asked, indicating that the younger Gunners realised that they were treading the ground where their forbears had sweated and worked for nearly a hundred years.

Later, at a small function at Takapuna RSA, attended by 80-plus Members of the Regt; Secy/Mgr mentioned that RSA Members were impressed by the bearing and manner of "the invasion of Gunners" which occured.

A letter from Major Brian Hewitt, BC.161 Bty, expresses pleasure at receiving our N/Letter 33 whilst in Rhodesia. Twelve Gunners served there: Major Hewitt, Sgt Gregg, Sgt Subritsky, Bdr Ashworth, Bdr MacArthur, Capt Pope, Sgt Whyte, Bdr Nagle - all of 161 Bty, Sgt Pickering, 3 Fd Regt, Capt G.R.Williams SAS Sqn, Capt O'Reilly HQ.NZLF, and briefly Major Munro Army HQ.GS.

It was an unusual, difficult, and exacting task, carried out in the same tradition in which we always took pride - that the Gunner is a versatile bloke.

From Capt John Wasson, (late Adjt 16 Fd), from Cairo, where he was stationed for some weeks with the U.N. Force, Israel. Capt Tony McLeod had just left, (he didn't whether to return home). He mentioned numerous places where they had Served, in Israel, Golan Heights, visited the Fiji Bn in Lebanon, travelled out through Beirut and Damascus. Then in Sinai and of course Cairo. It brought back, at least for me, a feeling of great nostalgia - and then I thought, "Great Heavens that was nearly forty years ago".

I was priveleged on 28 June to attend a Regimental Formal Dinner at 16 Fd Regt WOs/Sgts Mess and I felt, also represent us on that occasion. Its purpose was to dine in the new C.O. Lt-Col Calvert, to dine out the retiring C.O. Lt-Col Hanson; and four Retiring WOIs, Pilcher, Cunningham Fisher, and Goldsworthy.

Grace was said entirely in Maori - it was a moving prayer.

It was a brilliant occasion, and the setting, Papakura Camp Sgts Mess - perfect. The format, the way it was conducted, the use of Regt'l Silver, the display of Regt'l Trophies, perfectly maintained and shown, enhanced the evening. I also thought that it was the most ably organised, served, and conducted Dinner I had ever been to.

Major David Bowler, GSO2 at Directorate, after Dinner made the presentation of the Silver Granade to five retired or retiring WOIs.

I cannot help but believe that on any occasion where we can possibly do so, to meet and talk with our present day Gunner, show an interest in his doings we should try. I have observed that he is generally pleased with it; and if we in any small way can thus help to boost his Lorale only a little, we should make the effort.

I think we've gone out into Retirement, and tended to forget, that those who came after us are still carrying on the Traditions we left - in fact enhancing them, with some distinction.

After receiving the news - Wally and I went to visit Brig. Park in Auckland Hospital - we'd unfortunately not known until last week. He has been there a month, undergoing an exhaustive series of tests. He looked a little wan, but was very bright and cheerful and pleased to see two of his 'old boys'. We passed on the good wishes of all of you to him.

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RE-UNION AND A.G.M. - SPA HOTEL - TAUPO - 15-16 NOV. '80. ::

We have again booked the Spa Hotel for this year - in fact for 14-15-16 November.

Accn. available is :- 4 Double rooms - 2 Single - 13 Twin bedded - (two of which are small).

Room rate is at \$8.00 per person p/night. Please let us know what accn. you need at Spa, (see pro-forma), from this we get a consolidated List, and tell Spa who wants what. Tarrif should be paid to Spa Office as you leave in the normal way, we shan't handle this bit.

All six Army Motels at Acacia Bay have been booked, (sleep six people each) The tarrif is \$8.00 per day per Unit. We have already paid for Fri 14th and Sat.15th nights, so if you require this facility please remit the amount to us. But, we must allocate on a 'first in' basis, and if you are sharing, let us know with whom. If you want to stay extra days, i.e. outside 1600 hrs 14 Nov to 1600 hrs 16 Now, also let us know so that we can clear it with Waiouru; again remitting the extra through us. The Dinner - and I think we've chosen the best Menu; will be at \$17.00 per head. Wally who recently sampled their fare, confirms that the new Dining Room Management is equally as good as the old. Please remit the cost of Dinner with you confirmation, thus saving Mr. Treasurer from the chore of collecting after Dinner.

Well, that's about all for now, seems like a lengthy tome, but have tried to collect all, the news from all to all.

All the luck and best of health to all -- looking forward to Taupo.

Yours, Tent Inan Som

Address - Page. 1.

An old Gunner walking along a street recently saw a wee boy sitting on a step crying bitterly. "What's the matter sonny, can I help you?" "Ican't I can't do what the big boys do". So the old chap sat beside him and also had a little cry.

| NATIONAL RE-UNION AND A.G.M SPA HOTEL, TAUPO : W/E 15/16 NOV.1980 :: |
|--|
| Name : (please print) |
| <pre>Iwill / will not be attending, (Confirmation"will not" represents regret, and official apology for AGM)</pre> |
| I will be accompanied by : |
| From : hrs Date : |
| To :hrs Date : |
| Please find enclosed my cheque for: \$ |
| URGENT !!! Please reply by first week OCT. To :- Sec. |

giving us time to tie-in with Spa.