



Lest We Forget

Eyes and Ears No.0004 – 06/05/2009

 Last Post	<u>Roll of Honour:</u> Menz, James (Jimmy) Leslie, L/Bdr. Service No: 38833 DoB: 01/02/1946 SVN: 10/10/1967 – 18/02/1968 At the going down of the sun And in the morning We will remember them
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ANZAC Day 2009 – A Snap-shot

. **Melbourne** – Well, it was a pleasant adventure for me as not only did I get to share it with Al Adams, but I managed to meet some really nice guys. Among them were John Bayford, John Dellaca, then 2 mates of Brian Killworth's, Bernard Erica and John Roberts (no Killer they weren't out on day-release from the "Bluestone College" – they looked too well fed!). These blokes have been added to our network. The 131 Contingent consisted of about 11 blokes and the march itself is a little more formal than Sydney as you get to do an eyes right to a review of some brass, the Premier and Governor and at the end where you approach and pass the guard mounted Shrine. The weather was very kind to us, though it threatened to rain but didn't. I wonder what happened to "Pierre" who didn't complete the march? It was interesting to watch the rear of the parade as they were ethnic groups of marchers from Poland with their furry hats, the Greeks (as you could imagine in Melbourne) the Italians with the black feathered plumed hats, their navy (I'm still not convinced they were on our side in the Second Big One?) and of course the ARVN blokes with their yellow and red striped banner – they're worth a clap or two. Afterwards, Al and I met his 2 sons for a beer and then we had lunch and the 'red', which accompanied it, wasn't too shabby either!



Al and I with the banner.	Al, Bernard Erica, John Roberts (both there in '66) and Dicko	From the left – John Dellaca 3rd, Bernard Erica 5th, John Roberts 7th, Al Adams 8th, John Bayford 9th & Dicko	You can't end a march without sustenance!
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. **Sydney** – Ernie N reports - We had beautiful weather in Sydney today for the march. Our forming up position was a bit further forward this year. We actually formed up at the top end of O'Connell Street. As expected a number of the usual faces were absent this year due to appearing elsewhere.

Nick Proskurin didn't make it into the city for the march as he was not feeling the best, due to problems with a bad back. Nick had to report to the R.A.P earlier but they let him go home to watch the march on T.V. Yes he saw us and waved, unfortunately we didn't see him.

There were seven of us for lunch at Tattersalls. Vic Danko, Bob King, Phil Endicott, Roger McDonnell, Peter Fletcher, Garry Smith and myself. It was great to meet Garry Smith, who served with the Detachment in 1970 and was able to describe many things that had changed since 1967 - 1968. He was 13th Intake and served in SVN from 15/04/70 to 17/12/70 today was his first appearance at the Anzac March - congratulations. Garry told us that when he was there the crew at 31-Alpha did not live on top of Nui Dat by the L.P., but lived down the bottom of the hill and they only went up the hill to fetch a pail of water, No, No, No, that is not correct, I meant to say that they only went up the hill for their shift and then came back down again to their lines when off duty.

In conclusion, it was interesting to note that seven likeminded individuals all ordered the same thing for lunch from a varied and interesting menu. What did they all order I hear you asking? Well, we all had the flathead fillets with chips and salad and it was lovely.



Bob King, Pete Fletcher, ? Ernie Newbold, Phil Endicott, Vic Danko, Roger McDonnell, Geoff Holden, Ian Amos



The Boys and the Banner

. Perth – The 131 roll up consisted of about 14 blokes. The 1703hrs start saw us at the Vietnamese-Australian memorial in Kings Park for the Gunfire breakfast. Breakfast was fried egg, onion and sausages on a bread roll washed down with tea and coffee. After the march we were then off to the SAS Barracks at Swanburne for lunch and Happy FOUR hours. The SAS are in the middle of constructing a Museum and we took a brief tour of it. Afterwards it was fish and chips at Guzder's. The weather was fine and 24c, but coolish breeze.



Kanga taking point marker (the rest are out of step!), then Peter Hopper, Kenny McNamara and Joe Liberzsi



Ken McNamara, then Bert Blink and Grahame Dignam carrying the Banner



Back R – Ric Marquis, Barry Guzder, Ross Gunnell, Chris Chapple & Front R – David Cornell, Bert blink, Geoff Blackwell, Grahame Dignam

