

THE EYES and EARS

"FIRST PUBLISHED 22nd JULY 1967 in Nui Dat, South Vietnam"



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. Victorian Vietnam Veterans State Council Meeting –



Ron Mason managed to sneak in a last nano-second item which is a really good read and view –

"Dicko, at the recent Victorian Vietnam Veterans State Council meeting 4 ex members of 131 were present. Representing different years from '66 to '72.

L > R -- **Ron Mason, Rieny Nieuwenhof, Peter Dealy & Kevin Heenan.**

Not a bad representation for such a small unit.

Don't know if any plans have been made for a get-together at the 131 paver a the Seymour walk – there will be an unveiling of panels for the 4 VC recipients early in October- just a bit of information you may like to take on board.
Ron Mason"

. 1st Australian Task Force – (source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>) The following is the continuation of the account of Australian involvement in the South Vietnam conflict focusing on The Battle of Long Tan...



The Long Tan Cross, commemorating Australian losses.

The reasons for D Company's success included superior radio communications which had allowed Stanley to co-ordinate the fire of the guns at Nui Dat, the weight of the artillery which repeatedly broke up the assaulting formations, its timely aerial resupply which prevented them from running out of ammunition, and the mobility and firepower of the APCs in the relief force which finally broke the Viet Cong's will to fight. The battle highlighted the power of modern weapons and the importance of sound small-unit tactics, and has since been cited as an example of the effect of combined arms, demonstrating the effective coordination of infantry, armour, artillery and aviation. In particular, the artillery had been the mainstay of the defence, with D Company supported by twenty-four guns from the 1st Field Regiment, RAA and A Battery, US 2/35th Artillery Battalion. Indirect fire provided close protection to the infantry, allowing D Company to hold their line and repulse any Viet Cong soldiers that succeeded in getting through the barrage. Likely forming-up positions and withdrawal routes had also been heavily engaged throughout the battle. In total 3,198 rounds of 105 mm ammunition were fired by the Australian and New Zealand field guns and 242 rounds of 155 mm high explosive by the American medium battery. Ultimately the Viet Cong made the error of attacking within range of the artillery at Nui Dat and had to withstand the fire of three field batteries and one medium battery as a result. Meanwhile, Long Tan also confirmed the importance of armour to support infantry, even in dense jungle. In the wake of the battle the Australians were left to speculate on the reason it had occurred. One hypothesis was that the Viet Cong had intended to attack and overwhelm Nui Dat, with the initial plan to mortar the base to draw a response force into an ambush after which the base would be attacked and captured, but that they had been prevented from doing so after clashing with D Company. A second possibility was that the operation may have had the more limited aim of drawing D Company into an ambush in an attempt to destroy it and secure a small victory over an isolated force. Finally, it was possible no ambush was planned at all, and that the Viet Cong had been moving on Nui Dat in regimental strength when they were unexpectedly intercepted by D Company, resulting in an encounter battle. The evidence suggested they had intended an attack on Nui Dat in some form, while the lack of prepared positions from which to mount an ambush made this unlikely. Jackson believed the Viet Cong had been on their way to attack Nui Dat on the night of 18/19 August when D Company had intercepted them and this was supported by information from a prisoner captured after the battle. Certainly they had been carrying large quantities of ammunition and may have had sufficient strength to seriously damage the base, even if its defences were likely strong enough to withstand such an attack. Yet, from the earliest Jackson had been of the opinion the Viet Cong would have to engage 1 ATF in a major battle if they wished to retain control of Phuoc Tuy, and this interpretation fitted his previous thinking. In dispatching patrols east of Nui Dat following the mortar attack on 16/17 August Jackson seemingly reacted to his opponent's first move, and in so doing may have allowed himself to be shaped into responding as the Viet Cong had intended.

In his after action report Townsend stated he believed D Company had disrupted a regimental attack on the 1 ATF base. Yet years later he stated that he doubted whether the Viet Cong ever intended on attacking Nui Dat. He felt they would have gained more from attacking a soft target such as Ba Ria and that the defences at Nui Dat would have been sufficient to withstand a regimental assault, having been improved significantly in the 11 weeks since its occupation and protected by aggressive patrolling and overwhelming artillery support, even if they were still to be fully developed. However, there were suspicions a battalion from the 274th Regiment had been moving towards Nui Dat from the west at the same time the 275th Regiment approached from the east, and if true such an attack may have been feasible, even if it still would not have achieved the nine to one superiority communist doctrine required. The southern side of the base was only lightly defended and an assault from that direction would have allowed the Viet Cong to attack the gunline first, and if they succeeded in breaking in they would have then crossed 500 metres (550 yd) of open ground before reaching Headquarters 1 ATF. On the other hand Ford believed the mortar attack had

served to lure an Australian reaction force into an ambush, arguing the Viet Cong would have been unlikely to telegraph their intentions to attack Nui Dat and that they had left a clear trail for any force dispatched to find the mortar base plate and RCL positions. Townsend disagreed, arguing that the mortar crews and RCL teams had actually tried to hamper the follow up by breaking into small groups, indicating that no such trap had been planned. Meanwhile, Honnor believed the bombardment had been used by the Viet Cong to register targets and that D Company had stumbled across the communist force as it was preparing to launch an assault on Nui Dat two days later, with the battle that ensued preventing this from occurring.

A year following the battle, Nguyen Van Nuong (alias Loc), a Viet Cong soldier who had rallied under the Chieu Hoi program, claimed to have been second-in-command of a platoon from D445 Battalion at Long Tan. During questioning he stated they had planned to destroy Nui Dat to allow further operations in Phuoc Tuy, and that the force had consisted of three battalions from the 275th Regiment, together with D445 Battalion and a number of medical units; in total some 2,000 men. The Viet Cong had estimated Australian strength at Nui Dat at 3,000 men and that the plan had been to mortar the base to draw a response force into an ambush by two battalions from the 275th Regiment and D445 Battalion, while the remaining battalion would capture Nui Dat. They had expected to quickly overwhelm the ambushed force as well as any relief force, thereby leaving the base relatively undefended. Loc said D445 Battalion's role was to close the rear of the ambush and that they had suffered only light casualties during the battle. Despite Viet Cong claims he believed only 100 Australians had actually been killed or wounded, and that the official number of Viet Cong casualties was 200 killed, although he had seen more than that number on the battlefield and believed many more had died during the fighting. According to Loc the Viet Cong were concerned about the capabilities of 1 ATF and would attempt to avoid contact in future. In accounting for the fact Nui Dat had ultimately escaped attack the intelligence officer who interrogated Loc surmised that D Company may have entered the killing zone before the ambush had been prepared and because of this the third battalion may have been unable to be released. Other possibilities included the Viet Cong being forced to abandon that part of the plan by the weight of the Australian artillery or that they had overestimated the size of the Australian force and retained the third battalion to complete the ambush.

...next month we continue with consistent information as to the accuracy of reporting the Battle...

. 131 Div Loc Bty dates – August...

18th August – Long Tan Day

. August in SVN...

18 August	1966	Battle of Long Tan, South Vietnam	Amid a tropical downpour, 108 men of D Company, 6th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, supported by artillery and a timely resupply by the RAAF, fought off an attack by an enemy force of more than 2,000 in a rubber plantation near the abandoned village of Long Tan. The arrival of Armoured Personnel Carriers carrying reinforcements brought the action to an end. Seventeen Australians were killed, one died of wounds, and 24 were wounded. More than 245 enemy bodies were later counted, but many more had been taken away.
18 August	1971	Australian Government announces withdrawal from Vietnam	The Australian Government announced that the 1st Australian Task Force would be withdrawn before Christmas 1971, and the logistic support force shortly thereafter.

. **Peter Fuhrmann** continues with LP photos supposedly taken on Operation Forrest. However, there is a problem as Des Spencer, Leigh Hemming and "Pappy" Gault had all left SVN by December 1967. So it has to be another operation??

"Hello Paul

Yes I admit that Leigh's photo in the last *Eyes & Ears* (thanks Brookie) looks very much like a younger version of me. The photo, as far as I can ascertain, was taken during Operation Forrest in January 1968. To add some context and partly explain why there is a "bloke looking decidedly ARVN " in the photo, attached are a couple of photos I also took at the time.

Looking down from the LP to the living quarters in Leigh's photo (I think that is Pappy on the left):

On the *ARTILLERY SURVEYORS 131 DIV LOC BTY* website (<http://www.artillerysurveyors131.com.au>) I wrote:

"We set up an LP on the ARVN perimeter using a disused tower with a fixed MG on it. The gun had a hornet's nest in the barrel and would have blown us out of the tower had anyone pulled the trigger. We're - 'built' the tower to add some 'protection' for the LP. I think it consisted of a few boards nailed over the gun placement to add height and a hootchie (actually some leaky pieces of roofing) over the top in case it rained." Attached is a not-very-good-photo of the tower but you get the idea. You can see a corner of this tower in Leigh's photo.

And this is a view from the LP across to 106Bty FSB and, in the foreground and the following photo, the reason for the ARVN connection: and a week or so later, Gnr Bob King bids goodbye to the natives on our behalf; and I believe that is Gnr Geoff Holden looking on with xx and Leigh(?):

Regards Peter Fuhrmann PSM"

...Pete continues...

"Hi Paul

Fine by me on use of the info and pics.

Can't recall who the two LP occupants might be and difficult to identify. Most likely part of the party lined up in other photos as I don't recall any changes to the base complement when we were there. Don't know the one on the left (not my dog tags which were fully covered) and the one on the right has his watch on the right hand. Both Des and Leigh wear a watch on the right wrist in the *Eyes & Ears* pic.

0030 definitely Bob King but 2 is not me (I took the photo) - pretty sure it is Geoff Holden, don't recall 3 as Bdr Barry N (and no stripes visible), and I think that 4 is Leigh.

One of the ARVN soldiers insisted we take photos of his two daughters who had been dressed up for the occasion. He thought (incorrectly) we had instant polaroid cameras. Sadly he never got a copy of this one attached with me holding the two girls. Regards Peter Fuhrmann PSM"



. Jim Menz – Kim Mcgrath responds to the **Jim Menz** photo/painting article with regards to the photo/painting -

“Hi Paul,

In the latest Newsletter you ask where the photo of Jim Menz was taken and who painted his portrait.

In the background of the photo appears to be a photo of John Edmondson VC (perhaps) so I would suggest that it may have been the Boozer in at the Regiment or an RSL Club.

With regard to the painting, my recollection is that it was painted by Max Crane's Father-in-Law. I believe that Kevin Browning was BSM at the time and the payment for his work came from Regimental Funds. I am sure that Kevin would have clearer details. Ubique, Kim”

...then Ed responds...

“Kim,

I'm copying Kevin in this response to you - morning KB!

The portrait is in the Menz Club - that we know, let's see if KB can fill in the missing link about the artist?

Paul”

...Kevin responds...

“Hi Paul and Kim,

Kim's recollection is correct. Max's father-in-law also painted another painting which was placed in the Sergeants' Mess at the School of Artillery at the time of the School's centenary in 1985. Jim's portrait was done in 1982, I think. Kim's recognition of John Edmondson VC is also correct and it might be an RSL, the John Edmondson VC RSL Club is at Liverpool. I doubt the photo was taken in the RSL though as I feel sure greens were forbidden to be worn outside camp. I cannot remember the name of the boozer at Holsworthy but all the major Army boozers were named after VC recipients. I think the Edmondson VC Club is the one at 1 RTB Kapooka so the photo may have been taken whilst he was on his recruit course.

If my memory serves me well I also believe we obtained the photo for the portrait from his family.

Regards Kevin”



. Bill Taggart responds to the article in last month's *Eyes & Ears* – “Hi Paul, hope you're doing well, where are you now that Winter has set-in in Australia?

I wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed the photos of current day Nui Dat. I can't get over the highway to Vung Tau. I drove that route many times and over the narrow rickety bridge along the way. I have often wondered how the old 1/83rd area looked today, I wonder if the rubber trees have reclaimed it?

I have avidly followed the "1st Australian Task Force" narrative with the details on the Battle of Long Tan, it has been very enlightening. I wish we had those type of details on our time in Vietnam. I have a Unit History on the 1/83rd website but the details are not fully complete.

I also want to thank you for the pictures of our guns and yes, most of us have hearing problems! One thing on the pictures. On page 7 you show a picture that you say is Craig Castona. It isn't Craig. I was sure when I saw it and confirmed it with Craig who added that he did not know who it is. If you could send me the .jpg version of that photo I will pass it along to my group to see if anyone can ID him.

I am attaching 2 pictures of Craig (right), one in Vietnam and other a more recent vintage. Take care and stay warm wherever you are right now. Bill’



. **Nick Proskurin** chimes in with some interesting comments on 31A and Nui Dat Hill in response to our article last month... “Hi Paul,
Following are some pictures of Nui Dat hill and the Listening Post.
The aerial ones I took whilst returning from Saigon in a chopper after R & R.
The ‘Original LP’ photo was taken after I arrived at the LP in May ’67, and the ‘Modified LP’ photo was taken many months later after I was posted there after my stint at 31D. I think Vic Danko was in charge at Alpha during the changes.
Hope these pics (below) help you out. Cheers, Nick P”



. **Grahame Dignam** sent the following in as a reminder of the potholes that are around in this “electronic” age we live in –

A message from NSW Fair Trading Commissioner Rod Stowe regarding recent scams (11 July 2014)

Australia recently marked National Consumer Fraud Week but unfortunately every week is Scam Week when it comes to ruthless opportunists.

Scammers never sleep. They plague people 24/7 with variations on scams and new scams are emerging almost daily. The following scams are some of the more recent to look out for:

Fake Energy Bills: This is a phishing email pretending to be from reputable energy companies including Energy Australia. It claims you owe money for an outstanding gas or electricity bill and asks you to click on a link to view or update your account and arrange payment via money transfer. If you click on the link, you risk infecting your computer with malware and having your personal information stolen.

If you pay this fake bill via money transfer, you will lose your money. Similar versions of this scam take the form of phone calls, texts and good old fashioned snail mail.

Discount Telstra Services: Also a phishing scam via telephone designed to procure personal details from consumers, offering discount services after “confirming” account details.

Tax refunds: The bogus Government Reclaim Office contacts people telling them they are entitled to a refund, usually around \$7,000. People are told the refund will not be paid until a specified smaller fee is paid into the scammer’s account “to cover legal or administrative costs”.

Fake court appearance notices: Scam emails telling people they need to appear at court on a certain day and time with a court notice attached. If you click on the attachment, your computer is infected with a virus and your security and personal information is compromised.

Accident insurance: The caller suggests you or someone in your household has been involved in a recent car accident and is entitled to compensation of thousands of dollars. The caller then asks you to confirm personal details for their database.

Many of these scams involve identity theft instead of, or in addition to, monetary theft. The best way to protect yourself against these scams is to ensure you never send your credit card or bank details in response to an unsolicited approach on the phone, in emails or texts.

While many people are scam smart there are also many who get caught and often it is the more senior members of our community who are targeted.

Fair Trading is asking anyone who believes they have been approached by a scammer to call 13 32 20 to report the incident.

Ed – After speaking to my bank about what looked like an erroneous email from them I was told it was a scam. I forwarded it to them for further action. email vigilance is possibly something which we should practice.

. Long Tan Day 18th August – What's on the drawing board around the place...as the reports have come into us -

Sydney was quick out of the blocks thanks to **Allen Morley** – “Hi Paul, The Sydney VVF event is again at Bankstown District Sports Club, 8 Greenfield Parade Bankstown, with the memorial service to commence at 1100.

Lunch starts at 1215 and cost is \$30 pp. Lucky Starr (I've Been Everywhere) is the feature artist.

Tickets can be obtained from VVF Granville office.

Cheers Allen”

Perth reports in via **Barry Guzder** – “Hi Paul, Long Tan Day in Perth is held at the Vietnam Veterans memorial (Synergy Park) in Kings Park every year at about 10.00HRS. Sometimes get a huge turnout. Regards Barry 5714500.”

Sunshine Coast is covered by **Steve Boutlis** – “Hi, Dicko. The Vietnam Veterans Association Australia, Sunshine Coast Sub-Branch, Queensland, will be having a march and ceremony, followed by a lunch, on Monday 18 August, at Caloundra RSL.

March-off at approximately 1100 Hrs. followed by drinkies at 1230, and lunch at 1300. All ex-service personnel are welcome to join us. Full details are on our website, www.vietnamvetssc.org.au/ricochet.

It has been a very successful day for our Sub-Branch in the past and it is anticipated to be again this year.

You may be aware that ex 131 boys Rick Marques, Leigh Hemming, Barry Nugent, and Grahame Smith are members of our Sub-Branch.

I hope that all around Australia we commemorate this day and enjoy the unique camaraderie that only those who have served our nation can know.

Cheers, Boots”

Coffs Harbour notes come in from **Dave Doyle** – “Hi Paul

Coffs Harbour this year goes to Sawtell RSL for their service at 1715hrs for the main service at their cenotaph with finger food and get together after at the club DD”

Melbourne information comes in from **Warwick Brooker** - Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration Ceremony 2014 18 August 2014, 12:00PM

10:00hrs: Gunfire Breakfast

11:30hrs: March begins

12:00hrs: Wreath Laying on the Forecourt

Shrine Representatives: Shrine Trustee Air Vice-Marshal Chris Spence AO (Rtd) (Chairman); Shrine Trustee Colonel John Wertheimer AM RFD; Shrine Trustee Wing Commander David Grierson (Legacy representative); Shrine Life Governor Lieutenant Colonel David Ford CVO AM GM; Shrine Governor Lieutenant Colonel Don Reid

- See more at: <http://www.shrine.org.au/Remembrance/Ceremonies/Vietnam-Veterans-Day-Commemoration-Ceremony-2014#sthash.OY5C0Gfz.dpuf>

. Sydney – 24th July...Ed mixed his seasons and arrived in Sydney in the middle of winter! Word of his imminent arrival had got out, so it was a case of ‘round up the usual suspects’.

Great to see former Detachment OC, Warwick Hamilton join in.

A few of us together for lunch and a long afternoon at the Royal Exhibition Hotel in Sydney. It's still amazing what trivia and new bits and pieces filter through when subjects are raised. It's just so good to catch up and share memories.



From Left Vic Danko, Warwick Hamilton, Paul Dickson, Allen Morley, Grahame Dignam and Ernie Newbold

Ed - Hard to believe (from the photo) that the '67-'68 OC gives us about 5 years start – scrubs up pretty well!!

. Locating Surveillance and Target Acquisition Association - An update sent in by **Allen Morley** after he and **Ernie Newbold** attended the recent AGM – “We extend congratulations to Joe Kaplun upon his election as Association President for 2014-2015 at the recent AGM. The 131 Locators Association was represented at the AGM by Ernie Newbold and Allen Morley. Other organisational officers remain as previously. A well deserved appointment as Honorary Life Member was awarded to Allan Harrison. A very appropriate recognition, Allan.



Allan Harrison and Joe Kaplun at left.

The Association's planned meetings (all at Paddington RSL) are: Sunday October 26th, 2014
Reunion – Sunday November 16th

. A Seymour Vietnam Veterans Walk update – **Ed** did a bit of a re-visit-detour via Seymour on his way through Victoria to have another squiz at the goings-on and was surprised to see a couple of new additions –

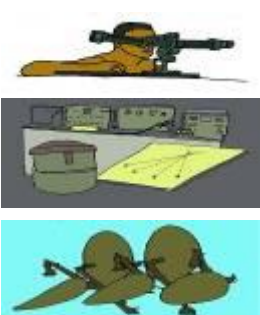
1. The new Detachment's paver (right) – looks great, though a bit lonely at present, but the Det Member ordered pavers are yet to be completed and laid they do them in batches (I think 7 million to a batch to make it more economical!). They should look very good when completed.

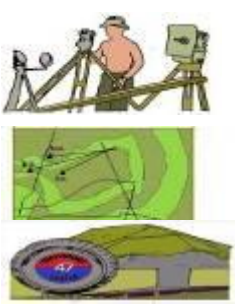




2. right and 3. Below are new attractions and look bloody good! Great settings and they've been renovated brilliantly. You can almost hear and feel them – eerie!





Committee members:
President – Allen Morley, **Vice President** – Bert Blink, **Treasurer/Secretary** – Grahame Dignam,
Public Officer – Victor Danko, **Webmaster** – Bob Billiards, **Research Officer** – Ernie Newbold,
Designs and Development Officer – Nick Proskurin, **Eyes & Ears Editor** – Paul Dickson
General members – Ian Amos, Ged Carroll George Lane.
Regional Representatives: **ACT** – Bert Blink, **Qld** – Terry Erbs, **SA** - Geoff Blackwell,
Vic (Melb) – Alan Adams, **WA** - Barry Guzder
<http://www.131locators.org.au>

Welcome – The Association has great pleasure in welcoming **Albert Jacka, Peter Jackson and Brian Kennedy** to the Association fold.

. Upcoming Events Calender –

131 Locators Association Committee Meeting Date: Tuesday, 24th August, 2014 at 1100hrs

Venue: Canley Heights RSL & Sporting Club, 26 Humphries Rd., Canley Heights for directions - <http://www.canleyheightsrsl.com.au/contact-us/> You're all welcome

Presidential perambulations -

It seems to me to be an updating of déjà vu. In the late 1960s and very early 1970s the 131 Div Loc Battery Detachment operated a number of American built AN/KPQ-1 mortar locating radars in South Vietnam. They did not always work well and Colonel Kelly in frustration, used one as an enemy target object during 'Operation Coral'. The aim of the equipment was to identify and locate incoming mortar rounds, using fairly unsophisticated gear. Then it was up to the gun batteries to blast the enemy based upon their location as indicated by backtracking the mortar round to its firing base.

Move ahead 40+ years and we now hear of 'Iron Dome' being used by Israel in their contemps with Hamas in the Middle East. The current equipment is guided by radar which tracks rockets and similar weapons originating from Gaza, or Syria or Lebanon. Iron Dome enables a counter rocket to target the incoming missile and to destroy it whilst still in flight. It works well, but each interception costs approximately US\$20,000. It looks like everything old is new again based upon this brief comparison.

Cheers

Allen

. web Performance...

If you've got more photos that you want added, just send them to: - Paul Dickson – web Photos three-zero@hotmail.com – **BUT DON'T FORGET TO ADD TITLES/NAMES ETC.**

. Birthdays in the Battery...August –

Now let's pick the youngster out for the Month – **Norman Jones** – just by a few days - Happy 64th where ever you are?

August	Name	Regt No	YOB	SVN In	SVN Out	Comments
1	PHILLIP ROSS	3794468	1947	06 05 1969	30 04 1970	
1	JOSEPH LOSIAK	218302	1950	04 11 1969	05 11 1970	
1	JOHN LUCAS	3796256	1948	20 02 1970	11 02 1971	
2	JOHN GREENAWAY	3790617	1946	24 10 1967	22 10 1968	
3	LES SMITHLESTER	1201202	1949	23 09 1968	24 09 1969	
3	MICHAEL BUTLER	3796958	1948	04 06 1970	09 06 1971	
3	GRAHAM GREENLAND	2792441	1948	15 04 1970	29 07 1970	
4	ANDREW OVERALL Lt.	235330	1946	22 02 1969	21 02 1970	
7	MARTY VAN DRIEL	38954	1944	27 11 1967	13 03 1968	† 08.08.98
7	RANDALL JONES	2788775	1947	29 01 1969	28 11 1969	
8	ARTHUR LUXFORD Sgt.	212803	1939	20 01 1969	28 01 1970	† 01.01.08
8	EDWIN LEWIS Sgt.	53909	1935	18 03 1970	11 03 1971	† 26.08.92
9	TERRY WELSH	4721779	1949	03 03 1971	29 06 1971	131
	" "			30 06 1971	30 10 1971	12 Fd REGT
9	GARRY GRIMWOOD	2795771	1949	24 03 1971	01 07 1971	131
	" "			01 07 1971	18 11 1971	12 Fd Regt.
12	ALAN THOMSON	42308	1937	20 05 1966	22 06 1967	
13	BRIAN HACKETT	2783449	1945	03 01 1967	12 12 1967	
13	STAN BRIGGS	1731999	1945	27 11 1967	17 09 1968	
13	BOB BRUCE	4718049	1945	11 06 1967	13 12 1967	
15	JOHN POLLOCK	53860	1939	{17 04 1967	24 05 1967	131
	" "			{05 02 1971	07 04 1971	12 Fd REGT
15	KEVIN TAYLOR	2791357	1945	29 07 1969	23 07 1970	
15	NORMAN McMANUS WO2	26202	1924	09 11 1970	19 08 1971	
17	PIERRE GOSS	213990	1936	24 03 1969	25 03 1970	† 06.08.2011
20	PETER BINNS	356367	1947	27 11 1967	19 11 1968	
21	NORMAN JONES	5717611	1950	04 05 1971	01 12 1971	12 Fd Regt / AACC
22	JOHN VICKARY	1732218	1945	04 05 1967	30 01 1968	
22	STUART SPORN	4718471	1945	04 05 1967	30 01 1968	
22	ANTHONY COUTTS	1733291	1946	29 01 1968	21 01 1969	† 1988
23	ROBERT ETHERINGTON	66962	1946	04 11 1969	19 11 1970	
24	JOHAN MOLENCAMP	2795074	1948	03 03 1971	30 06 1971	131
	" "			02 07 1971	09 08 1971	12 Fd REGT
25	LES FROST	215230	1945	22 04 1966	28 04 1967	† 26.03.14
25	KENNETH JONES	2786931	1946	27 11 1967	26 11 1968	
25	COLIN WEST		1947	20 01 1969	21 01 1970	
26	MAX TROYNAR	3790244	1945	05 05 1967	30 01 1968	
26	STANLEY PATTERSON	38451	1947	29 01 1969	28 11 1969	
27	LAWRENCE FARR	1734257	1947	27 08 1969	25 02 1970	† 2009
27	KEN PIESLEY	2787174	1946	27 11 1967	19 11 1968	

27	GORDON MALCOLM	2785906	1946	26 09 1967	17 09 1968	
27	PETER WHITAKER	2786848	1946	27 11 1967	19 11 1968	
27	PETER CREEDON	2790207	1947	31 01 1969	28 01 1970	
27	GRANT PERRINS	1734509	1947	27 11 1969	04 06 1970	
28	DAVID PIMM	215746	1946	17 04 1967	23 04 1968	RAEME
29	TIM FORD Capt.	235300	1945	19 08 1970	05 08 1971	
31	STEPHEN PALMER	18820	1946	12 04 1968	30 04 1969	RAEME † 03.12.72

Ed – 10 blokes not highlighted isn't too bad, maybe we could eliminate them before the next August anniversary?

. **Locator Profiles** – we've received 124 and we've sent out 124. Ed – we're waiting patiently for more!

. **Located...**

Have a look at the Association's web site - <http://www.131locators.org.au> – you might find some lost mates or get in touch with us and see if we can for you.



131 Locators Association is always on the lookout for new financial members. With the establishment of the web site we continue to be burdened with the ongoing cost of maintenance etc and we need to be able to support this effort equally.

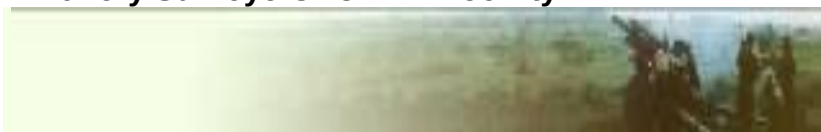
So, if you're a non-financial Associate receiving emails and the *Eyes & Ears* regularly you could bite the bullet and email **Grahame Dignam**: sectreas131locators@gmail.com and he could forward you the relevant forms to join.

Memberships are available for 1 or 5 years. Hope we hear from you?

Web site - <http://www.131locators.org.au/131locators/>

. **Other related sites...**

. **Artillery Surveyors 131 Div Loc Bty...**



ARTILLERY SURVEYORS 131 DIV LOC BTY

"Elements of 131 came wandering in from the bush"

(A quote whose origins are lost, yet the sentiments expressed will not be lost on many who served with 131 Div Loc Bty SVN.)

This website seeks to make contact with the Artillery Surveyors of 131 Div Loc Bty. We welcome your relevant contributions of photos, insights and observances so we might endeavour to expand

131 Artillery Surveying Vietnam record, beyond this window. Please use the [contacts page](#) for details:

<http://www.artillerysurveyors131.com.au/>

<http://www.artillerysurveyors131.com.au/operations/coburg.html>

. **Locating , Surveillance & Target Acquisition Association...**



LOCATING, SURVEILLANCE & TARGET ACQUISITION ASSOCIATION

The Eyes And Ears Of The Battlefield

...notes taken from the LS & TAA website –

The next Meeting will be held on 26th October, 2014 at Paddington RSL. Members are cordially invited to attend.

Details of scheduled Committee meetings will be available in the next issue of the Association's Newsletter LOCREP.



Australian Artillery Association – www.australianartilleryassociation.com



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY HISTORICAL COMPANY

www.artilleryhistory.org



Website link - <http://www.vvaa.org.au/>



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

Website link - <http://www.dva.gov.au/Pages/home.aspx>

. VETERAN'S AFFAIRS WEBSITE

The Dept of Veteran's Affairs has launched a new mental health initiative to assist veteran's experiencing the affects of mental illness and their families. Providing information and fact sheets about understanding mental illness, links and contact information for accessing support, and online resources for health professionals, this website focuses on helping veterans identify early warning signs of mental illness to effectively manage their mental illness and seek treatment. For more info or to access, please visit www.at-ease.dva.gov.au

. 1st Battalion 83rd Artillery...



Dedicated to the men of the 1st Battalion 83rd Artillery who served in Vietnam from 1966-1971. We left Fort Sill in October 1966 for Vietnam. We originally were at Bear Cat, Nui Dat and Xuan Loc. We later were in many other locations in Vietnam. We also welcome our Australian and New Zealand Allies to whom we owe so much.

It is also dedicated to those members of the 1/83rd who did not return. We will never forget their sacrifice. Website: http://83rd_artillery.home.comcast.net/~83rd_artillery/

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