

THE EYES and EARS

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



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Vol 10 No 2 28/02/2017 No 103

Official newsletter of the 131 Locators Association Inc

ABN 92 663 816 973

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

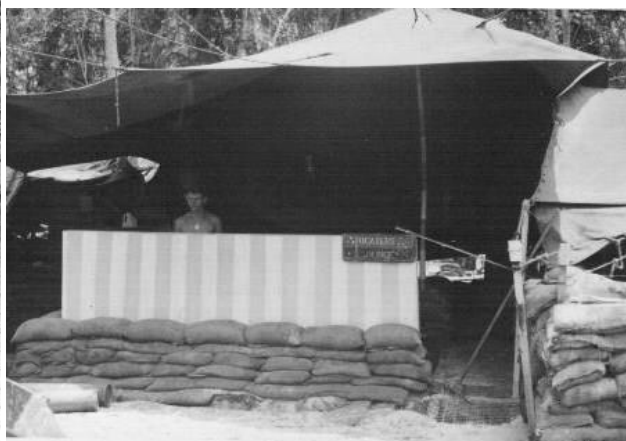
Supported by the Department of Veterans Affairs

The tents are evolving – with sandbags!!



Arty Tac lines in 1967 had sandbags added...

The following photos are a combination of current submissions or ones I have purloined from archived albums – however, let me acknowledge – Al Adams, Ian Amos, Bob Billiards, John Blake, Warwick Brooker (c/- Geoff Jebb), Paul Dickson, Ernie Newbold and Rob Retrot for their contributions.



Water point and someone had done some washing, then the “Locators Lounge” was inserted



Artillery Tactical H.Q. (Arty Tac) external view
1 ATF Nui Dat 1967

note tarpaulins on roof to deaden sound of heavy rain during wet season

Below is what the interior was like...



Detachment 131 Div Loc Bty Orderly Room & Q Store
1 ATF Nui Dat - mid 1967

Self-explanatory – the 47 Transport “Office”





On left almost looks like a scenic drive?



At left - what did they do in there?



A "healthy" snack-bar selection below



We're all aware of what this was used for – not sure why though with all the trees around



Photos above and left around and in the "mess" hall



And of course, at right, the "Salvos" Rover was a welcome warm cocoa point to say g'day at



The LPs (Listening Posts)

31 A – Nui Dat Hill (SAS Lines)



LP / OP 1 call sign 31-A
on top of Nui Dat 1967

31 B – The “Horseshoe” comes to life...



"A quiet morning on the Horseshoe" LP / OP Bravo
L to R Gnr. J Reid, Gnr. A Goldsmith, Gnr. R. Gunnell, Udr. V Danko
Long Hai hills in background to the south

31 C – on the wire at the Engineers...



LP / OP 3 ~ c/s 31-C
on perimeter wire at Engineers section
1967

31 D – positioned with 1st/83rd...



...then add an LP at FSB Berryman, January 1968...
 31 E – Operation Duntroon at FSB Berryman



FSPB Berryman ~ Op. Duntroon
 Det 131 Surveyors LP c/s 31-E
 Jan. 1968



FSPB Berryman ~ Op. Duntroon
 LP/OP c/s 31F
 Gnr. E. Newbold on duty Jan. 1968

Now down at the 1/83rd and Bravo Radar



Was it pleased to see us or was it just a warm day!!

The barber shop, below, in the 1/83rd compound with Murray Smale wandering past.



Two great shots of Bravo Radar...



131 SURVEY SECTION INSTALLATIONS - 1967-68

Warwick "Brookey" Brooker supplied the following of the re-establishment of **Survey** lines and the introduction of **Sound Ranging**...

"I've attached my recollections of Survey Section installations during my time at Nui Dat. I've included the Sound Ranging installation, which was shortly after my time. Despite having been a driver, I can't remember exactly where we parked the Survey vehicles at night. I know there was a designated parking area, possibly in the RAEME compound. Best wishes, Brookey"

Tents - May 1967: Erected tents in the newly designated Survey Lines on the southern perimeter of 1ATF Nui Dat. Spent three weeks filling sandbags for protection of tented accommodation.



Shower block - Erected concrete-based shower block using materials kindly provided by the neighbouring Engineers unit. Because of materials shortage, only three walls were partly erected. This was deemed sufficient for our purposes and facilitated great ventilation!

Water storage/heating - Installed water storage tank and water heating tank adjacent to the new shower block.

Pissaphone - Installed simple pissaphone – short section of pipe driven at slight angle into the ground adjacent to the shower block.

Pathway - Constructed concrete pathway with necessary drainage through the tent lines as far as the shower block. Planted banana trees along the pathway to absorb excess rainwater.

Battery shed - Constructed a tellurometer battery-charging shed in the Survey lines.

Firefighting facility - Installed firefighting capability in the form of bright red fire buckets hung on a purpose-built timber frame.

Post box - Erected a postal facility – red mail box on white timber post – adjacent to the pathway.

131 Canteen Constructed the concrete foundation for the 131 Canteen and assisted in construction of the walls.

Electric lighting - Assisted in installation of electric lighting through the Survey tent lines.

Weapons Pit - Dug a weapon pit adjacent to each tent, accessible via a gap in the existing sandbag wall of the tent. Stocked pits with steel helmets and supply of hand grenades.

Minefield fence - Survey Section assisted the (topographical) Survey Corps with survey for the infamous Minefield Fence.

Ap Suoi Nghe - Survey Section provided survey for the development of Ap Suoi Nghe hamlet, which was constructed north-west of 1ATF Nui Dat to accommodate people relocated from Viet Cong dominated areas. The hamlet has since developed into a large centre.

Sound Ranging - In 1968, a Sound Ranging system was installed across the 1ATF base at Nui Dat.



...and some recognizable faces going RTA in February, 1968...



The "Menz Club" takes shape...



...and sometimes took it easy –



Gnr. Terry Bruce - during an off-duty visit to LP/OP1 (31-A) 1967



Off duty fun and games - "playing Squatter"
L-R Gnr. R. Gunnell, Gnr. A. Adams & Gnr. P. Dickson
In 1967 steel beer cans could be opened from either end.

How about the name on the trunk? Did anyone ever open it?

...and yes, we did relax



Patti McGrath, a Melbourne television entertainer, on stage at Nui Dat with Private Peter Graham. He McGrath travelled with a government-sponsored concert party of entertainers to Vietnam, October 1967. [AWM CAM/67/6867/VN] Image 4 of 8



Entertaining the entertainers- The Melbourne Show 1967
L-R Gnr L Baker (obsc) Gnr R Retrot, Gnr J Vickary, Gnr A Goldsmith, Gnr L Hemming with Miss Patti McGrath



PATTI McGRATH, one of the most popular concert party artists to visit troops of the Australian Task Force in Vietnam, above, entertains a large group at Nui Dat.

LEFT: Gunner Yarema Troynar, of Noble Park, Victoria, gets news of home from Patti. She also brought back many messages.

BELOW: Denise Drysdale and Patti enjoy a barbecue lunch with troops in Nui Dat. At left is Garth Thompson, drummer with the Strangers, pop group in the party.



... watching the show. They were marvellous."

It was at this performance at Nui Dat that the hazards of tropical weather were brought home to Patti. Previously she had found the heat rather oppressive, but during the performance she was drenched in a downpour and her frock was ruined when it was spattered with red mud.

"Many of my other working clothes were ruined, too," said Patti. "The tropical weather causes them to go mouldy in suitcases."

"I also had problems keeping my hair well-groomed, as it stuck together rather like jelly. Fortunately, I took several wigs and hairpieces, which I wore for the concerts. When I wasn't work-

Patti said the inhabitants of the village were fascinated to see a blonde, as all their women were very dark.

"They kept staring and had obviously never seen fair hair before," she said.

"Visiting Vietnam was really the most fabulous experience, even though I found the war very hard to understand."

"Once we were flying to an air base, and a mile and a half away on one side a fierce battle was taking place. The same distance away on the other side, we saw people yachting and water-skiing."

"I would love to do another concert tour in Vietnam if possible," said Patti.

— **LEONIE NEWBERRY**



"**ROGER**, a big kiss, and out," said Patti after speaking on the radio with gunners of the 131st Divisional Locating Battery, Royal Australian Artillery, stationed outside Nui Dat. Assisting Patti, Bombardier Vic Danko, Newcastle, N.S.W.

THE AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S WEEKLY — November 22, 1967

What about Bruce Irvine, Ian Yerbury, John Vitkovsky and Joe Clendinen?

...Ah! That smell!



Early morning insecticide delivery via "Patches"
USAF - C123
1967



Gee and I think that's the Mess Hall in the background

Ernie Newbold couldn't resist...this is a classic... "G'day again, I came across another old photo showing our mate, Peter "Tubes" Fletcher on laundry duty at the officers' lines.

The reason that this photo was taken was because my father was the manager of the Lightburn store at Stanmore in Sydney at that time. Lightburn and Co. were pleased to have a photo of one of their machines "on duty" at Nui Dat. Regards, Ernie."



Gnr. Peter Fletcher on laundry duty at Nui Dat 1967

. **Allen Morley** notifies us of another



"Motley crew" - Located Locator – Ray Hutchinson...

"Hi Dicko, Another locator has been located. Ray Hutchinson, who was Q-store bombardier at Nui Dat in 67-68 has been discovered in Dimboola, western Victoria. He is Secretary of the local RSL Branch.

Enclosed are two pics one (at right) of which shows the late Chalky Royal, Ray, John Vitkovsky, Allen Morley, Grahame Dignam (seated) and Ian "Scotty" McNicol at Nui Dat in probably late 1967. Those waist lines were trim! Welcome back to the fold, Ray the Reg. Allen"

...**As** a great addendum to this section **Barry Guzder** sent **Grahame Dignam** a copy of a programme for Thanksgiving Day at the 1/83rd where they were entertained by **Melody Patterson** (of “F Troop” fame)



“Hi Digs,
This might be good for next *Eyes & Ears* issue – see above.
It has my signature, Bob Billiards & Johnny Blake. Plus, Melody Patterson photo
(F Troop fame).
I just keep finding things!
Regards, Barry.”

...Barry responded to an email from **Ed – “Dicko,**

We got served by the officers (just like we do for Xmas) and I think from memory one of us ate fast so that the bloke on duty could come off the LP to get his share!

Cannot remember who that was. Bob or John might know. We were with LP 31D which was located in the 1/83rd compound (right alongside their 175 Long Toms!). She was visiting the Yank troops at the time. The meal served in their huge mess for ORs. Barry”

Footnote: Melody Patterson died in a nursing home in Hollister, Missouri on August 20, 2015, at the age of 66 from multiple organ failure was the reported cause. She was an American actress known for her role as “Wrangler Jane” in the 1960s-television series F Troop.

...**John Blake added -**

“Very sad but I had to go out on some out-of-town duty. I remember seeing the truck passing by the mess with the cornucopia and all the other goodies. It was explained to me that every Thanksgiving was set up the same for every unit in the US. And I remember seeing the spread that was magnificent. I had to go out somewhere for the day and by the time I came back it was all over. So, although I was there for Thanksgiving I have no fun recall of it. I would so love to see the copy of the menu and the program. John”



...**Then Bob Billiards responded -**

“Yep, I do remember that event. We gave the two women slouch hats from ‘Blue Leader’. We had photos taken and I can’t find the one of me with the Playboy girl, but she was very pretty. She wore a backless dress (Mini) and when I had my photo taken with her I put my arm around her back and it did go onto the bare skin as it went inside the back of the dress. She adjusted herself and we did get a very nice photo. I would love to find it but I do have this one. My faux-pas was they asked what Australians were doing in the US base and I nonchalantly said “we protect it”. That was a lead balloon as the next time Behram and I went to the OR’s boozier we were greeted by “Here are our great protectors” which we fully agreed with.

The photo shows her smiling sweetly at me as they were leaving and you can see Melody at the other door probably smiling for Behram. Bob”

Let’s see what we can uncover for 1969 plus the next edition?

. **“Forgotten/Unsure of Names”** – Ed, while surfing albums etc looking for photos with the late Jim Lockhart in them was wandering through **Graeme Owen’s** Album/s and discovered a few snaps with “Unknowns” in them, so thought let’s try our hand at trying to make them “Knowns”.

Here’s the first “Unknown” →

Anyone got any clues – he obviously smoked “Peter Stuyvesant” and by looking at the photo behind him had an attractive wife/girlfriend!!



. **Insights and Recollections from Geoff Jebb who served with the Detachment in South Vietnam from 1968 to 1969 as WO2 in the Survey section.**

This is the first in this series, which Geoff has meticulously covered not only in word but some great photos. These insights/recollections are recorded on the Surveyors’ website and now on the Associations website. This collection covers activities including Operations and other movements undertaken by others in the company of Geoff. These Insights/Recollections, like others we have recorded, are not official documentations, but very succinct recordings which add another dimension other than the factual Reports recorded in the Australian War Memorial (AWM).

131 DIV LOC BTY ARTY SVYS AT NUI CHUA CHAN, SVN



At left: Hill 837, Nui Chua Chan, east of Xuan Loc and the US 11th Armoured Cavalry Base at Blackhorse.

Chua Chan is located in Long Khan Province about 60 km east of Saigon and 10km east of Xuan Loc. Xuan Loc was where the last major battle of the Vietnam War was fought in March/April 1975.

Chua Chan rises on the eastern edge of a plain to a height of 837 metres. Its summit gave uninterrupted views from the south east to the north west, to a distance of about 25km.

In 1966 the Americans established a base on Nui Chua Chan as a radio relay station and observation post. It bristled with radio antennae and was only accessible by helicopter. The summit was cleared of all vegetation to about 50m down the slope and ringed with wire, mines and well-constructed bunkers. With heavy machine guns and mortars it was very defensible. The VC made occasional probes and in May and August 1968 they made serious assaults without success.

131 Artillery Surveyors’ interest was the French Trig Station established there in Colonial times. This provided a reliable point of origin when FSBs were deployed in the area sweeping from south to the west. Given the right conditions, a direct line of sight could be achieved, if not into the FSBs proper, then to points close by. For the Survey task a small party would be choppered to Chua Chan, the remainder would deploy as near the FSB as possible. Here they would set up and establish a computing centre.

It was not always plain sailing! At times smoke, haze, rain, mist and low cloud made visual contact difficult. The use of

heliographs and even magnesium flares, usually solved these problems.

Data was passed by radio to the command centre and because we were usually operating outside our AO, our particular frequency was often taken by another Unit. Data transfer by radio, often resulted in harsh words being exchanged; especially when dealing with chopper pilots!

Once these problems were overcome, the survey task could proceed. Long traverse legs- diamond, closed, or parallel for closure, and the job was well underway. The Svy Sgt would handle things at the other end, manage the computations and issue the BP cards.

While working, and waiting at Nui Chua Chan, we would be looked after by the base and nothing was too much trouble. More often than not our survey involved an overnight stay. Meals, hot tubs and accommodation would be provided, all precious items in this isolated rocky outcrop. Probably the most precious was the appearance of "Jack Daniels"!!! Needless to say, we always managed to include a few cases of VB and Fosters in our load. This all approved and paid for by Regt Funds in the interest of good PR!



1968, 131 Surveyors on Hill 837.



Approaching the Hill 837 Helipad



SVN ARVN on Hill 837

The US Commanders of Hill 837



Nissen Hut Command Centre Hill 837, 1968



Part of the defensive bunkers ringing Hill 837



*Re-supply
Chinook,
Hill
837*

Those who went to Chua Chan would remember the experience!

. Oddities – Ed – I was cogitating the other day while checking out the fluff in my navel and God knows why, but my mind wandered (it seems to do it a lot lately) to the 40th High School Reunion I attended in 2003 (yes, I did get through high school – just!). After the event, some bright spark put a lot of stuff, which, I guess we must have volunteered, on a website. Sounds all very similar to my efforts with Locator Profiles!!

Anyway, now where was I, oh yes, I thought it was curious that there were a large number of the attendees that still lived within a stone's throw of where they lived when they were at school! Hey, we're talking some long time later! OK, so I'm a habitual nomad and basically left Brisbane for good in 1979. National service did intervene for a couple of years earlier. Then from '79 it was Melbourne, Townsville and eventually Sydney and now of course for the past five years in a place south of "Trump-land" – way south thankfully.

However, what else was surprising was the number of the group who married girlfriends from the high school era or just after. I don't know how many lasted, but it all just seemed so "home-grown" to me, the marrying an almost childhood sweetheart I mean, not the time it lasted.

So, this rambling leads me to the following questions which need answering –
. who's guilty of one of the crimes or possibly both of them?

I'm innocent of both charges.

Mail Call...

. Robyn Millett - remember her from *Eyes & Ears* December 2016 edition -

"Hi Joe/Paul,

I did this interview for the Vietnam Vets recently & thought you might be interested. Sorry it's taken me so long to forward you something substantial.

Cheers, Robyn Millett (Go-go dancer)"

I responded and got this...

"Hi Paul & Joe,

The link below shows all 12 who were interviewed of 6 mins each. You asked how this video came about, Richard Williams, President of Vietnam Vets WA asked me & a few others to share our experiences & it's going into schools. His introduction explains more.

Paul, you asked about my pre SVN - I used to teach Physical Culture in Sydney for about 10 years in my late teens, from babies up to grandmas to about 3 clubs/week. I was on various TV shows as a teenager, Brian Henderson's "Bandstand", Johnny O'Keefe, "Showcase 66" with Gordon Boyd, "Dave Allen Show", "Mavis Brampton" etc plus we won 1st place in the South Street Eisteddfod in Ballarat. My husband, (the guitar player in our "Pinky & Lee Review" group) had done 3 months' tour of Vietnam and when asked to go again, he said not without me as a dancer. I would go to sleep & dream up all the routines - get up at 2, 3 am play the music & write down the routines. Since returning from Vietnam the marriage didn't work out & I ended up in Perth. Since 1999 I've been an instructor for Prime Movers (people in their prime, moving to music) teaching people over 50 exercises & dance movements. I have 3 classes/week of about 60-70 people in each class & I am a volunteer to a not for profit organisation - we only get petrol money, but keeps me fit as I am now 70.

Enjoy, Cheers, Robyn"

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLN7NVCaLHQO6TIWGo6haQnR5iGwLayQw7>

<https://app.wipster.io/Review/A4vBDAB1qSuwWwmVfogNqmE3RDtZ7OpdRXrx493eX47TXyIW1w#timecode=6m24s21f>

. Phil Mulgrew...

"Hi Paul. Some time ago in *Eyes and Ears*, Terry Erbs asked about the current whereabouts of the Flak 88 that was in residence at the Gun Park at North Head when the majority of us went through Corps training in the 1960's. I recall the gun quite well. It was in quite good condition given its constant exposure to the elements. We knew it as the Flak 88. But its designation was 88 mm Flugabwehrkanone 36.

I set my sleuths to work, namely family and former work associates in the ADF or connected to it and they came up with the following -

Three Flak 88's came to Australia during or immediately after WW2 as war prizes or for evaluation.

One resides at the Australian War Memorial as an exhibit. Condition - Very Good.

The second one is an exhibit at the School of Armour Museum, Puckapunyal. Condition - Good.

Captured by the Aussies in the Western desert. It's known as Rommel's Gun, and used as an anti-shipping coastal gun complete with ring kills on the barrel.

The third one is at the Anzac rifle range. Condition - Terrible.

The Armoured Corps Museum curator described the gun as quietly rusting away (as at October 2016). **This is the North Head Flak 88.**

In relation to the Anzac rifle range, I spoke to several representatives from the gun clubs that use the Anzac range and they expressed surprise that there was a Flak 88 there at all. After further inquiries, I found that in a fenced off area of the Malabar Headland National Park adjacent to the Anzac range, there appeared to be military ordnance stored in the open. This area is off limits to the public. But a Google map aerial search reveals what looks to be an artillery piece with the wreckage of a plane some metres south of it and a large framework 10 metres to the east. All but the plane wreckage is on concrete pads presumably the bases of buildings past. The site is located just north of the Mosman- Neutral Bay gun club, the first buildings on the left after the entrance from Franklin Street, on a rectangular raised area of ground in the fenced off area. Type in Anzac rifle range on Google maps and head north 60 or so metres into the National Park.

There was a query in the RAA guestbook in 2008 relating to the North Head gun, saying that it may have been destroyed as a target on the Holsworthy range in 1972. Even if that is correct, it's really hard to completely destroy an artillery piece, just like a tank. You can kill it as an effective weapon and scatter parts of it all over the place with HE, but it still remains a recognisable hunk of high quality steel, and German steel at that.

This could be the case with the North Head Flak 88.

The Artillery and Armour Museum in Cairns also holds a Flak 88 which is presumably imported as these guns are available deactivated on the international market. **One sold in California in July 2014 for \$US126,500.** Just the thing to have in the front yard to intimidate the neighbours the day after one of their midnight rave parties. I'm also on the trail of the V2 we all knew that acted as the gate guardian at Holsworthy. It even had a stint at RAAF base Point Cook in Victoria for a while.

Phil Mulgrew."

Ed – Phil is wondering if anyone out there might have a photo of the Flack 88 that was at North Head?

Notice Board...hey! see what's coming up?

SHORT TIME!!!!!!!

Have you heard about the Adelaide reunion over Anzac Day 2017?

It's to celebrate the First Replacement Group departure date ... 50 Years since 4th May 1967.

The Association organizing committee needs to make final arrangements for accommodation and Dinners etc. We need a FIRM numbers ASAP NOW so we can screw the best deal. Adelaide and the Barossa is a proven tourist attraction so you can easily convince yourself that you need to be there.

So far, Geoff Blackwell, our SA State Rep, local identity and raconteur, has proposed the following:

A preliminary itinerary would be:

Saturday 22nd/Sunday 23rd: Arrivals. 1800hr: Meet and greet with a meal at Geoff's Largs North house (33 Afric Street)

Monday 24: 1000hr: Bus trip to the Barossa, winery tour and a Late Afternoon Garden Party at Geoff's Angaston house (38 Moculta Road.)

1900hr: 131 Dinner, venue to be arranged

Tuesday 25: Dawn service at the Semaphore War Memorial (on the beach), gunfire breakfast at the Semaphore RSL, (200m up the road) and to the city by train, (short walk up Semaphore road), for the city march.

1900: **Alternative** 131 Dinner, venue to be arranged

Wednesday 26: Free Day. Optional fishing trip at North Haven, (weather permitting). Others return home

A further itinerary will be arranged for those wishing to stay until the May 4th anniversary.

Final numbers are required NOW - Please advise sectreas131locators@gmail.com

Think about it a little bit then - DO IT NOW!!!!!!

The 2017 National Gunner Dinner...

to be held at **The Events Centre in Caloundra on Sat 27 May 17.**

Time is getting short and Registrations need to be in for planning purposes.

The Australian Artillery Association's website is at: <http://australianartilleryassociation.com/>

All the information that you require of the Dinner is to be found

at: http://australianartilleryassociation.com/2017_national_gunner_dinner/2017_national_gunner_dinner.htm

A full list of current Attendees is at:

http://australianartilleryassociation.com/2017_national_gunner_dinner/2017_national_gunner_registered_attendees.htm

We would love to see as many as possible come along to make this a truly memorable occasion.

We are going to have a great time!

Ubique,

Kim McGrath



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>

A few well chosen words of wisdom from the Sec/Treas - "If you have had a busy year, now is the time to check your 131 Locators Assn membership is current.

Email sectreas131locators@gmail.com to check.

Grahame"

. Upcoming Events Calendar –

131 Locators Association Committee Meeting Date: Tuesday, 21st March, 2017 at 1100hrs

Venue: Canley Heights RSL & Sporting Club, 26 Humphries Rd., Canley Heights Ph (02) 9604 9975 and for directions - <http://www.canleyheightsrsl.com.au/contact-us/>
 You're all welcome!

. Pertinent Points – extracted from the 131 Locators Association Committee Meeting Date: Tuesday, 22nd, 2017 at 1105hrs...

Attendees were: Bert Blink, Grahame Dignam, Ernest Newbold, George Lane, Gordon Malcolm, Nick Proskurin, Des McGuigan, Vic Danko, Merv Nairn, Ian Amos, and Bob Billiards.

Chairman, Bert Blink, in the absence of Allen Morley, opened the meeting at 11.05 AM. and thanked those who were present. The chairman advised that Mr. Morley's absence was due to a prior engagement on the Serengeti

Mr. Merv Nairn asked permission to address the meeting. He thanked the meeting for the support he received from the Association on the passing of his wife Carole. He handed a note of thanks from he and his family for the kind wishes expressed.

Financial Membership is currently ...133, plus Associates 2, Affiliates 7. **Total 142.** Lapsed 20 members

Presidents report. No presidents report due to Allen's absence overseas.

However, he requested we discuss:

Radar Transport from North Fort to the NVV Museum Phillip Island. See below

We will need to prepare the unit for pickup so another work day will be required and still another day to supervise dispatch.

Anzac Day – arrangements for 131 DLB marchers in Sydney. TBA

Photo Album Project – pictures covering 1968-70 are particularly required showing locations, establishments, FSB's, where soldiers worked, the equipment used

Public Officer Report. Vic attends the Cremorne RSL sub-branch and has provided his insights into the internal effect on members of the current turmoil in the State branch of the RSL. Resolution is some time away.

Radar Moves. A decision of convenience was made to meet to-morrow, the 22 Feb, at North Fort to finalise the preparation of the radar for collection prior to transport to Phillip Island.

General Business

Arrangements for **50th Anniversary May 1967 reunion in Adelaide ANZAC DAY 2017**

A request for expressions of interest did go out in mid-January as a first advice backed up by a mention in Eyes & Ears. A second reminder will appear in the Feb edition. Responses to date have been minimal.

An itinerary of events including day trips to wineries proposed for the period was included.

Photo Album project. This major undertaking will represent all Locators who served in SVN and to achieve its aim we require the help of all vets. Unlike the photos that appear in Eyes & Ears which are reduced in size, we will require

50 Years
 April 1966 - April 2016



The Memories Remain
 1966 - 1971

BEST POSSIBLE QUALITY photos that will make the final cut. This project will represent the entire period of 131's involvement in the SVN conflict and will be a heritage item so each photo will need a full description. The committee is requesting the BEST pictures you have of Orderly Rm, Tpt Office. RAEME and Radar and LP sites (showing different modifications over time): Equipment used- Bearing Boards, Sound Ranging, Sensors etc. incl. details of how, when, where and why. (Radar. Starlight scopes, firearms, Transport modes {vehicular, airlift by chopper}: Aircraft used for deployments to FSBs and in close support roles bird dogs, etc
Pics of the US Arty guns in support units 1/83rd and 2/35th: pics of liaison with ARVN personnel and positions. We will be looking for help from Personnel from each year/Corp to help with names and position identifications to ensure accuracy.

We need YOUR INPUT!

. A get together of 131 DLB personnel from WA is being organized by State Rep. Barry Guzder who has contacted 15 vets to gather on the 15 March for an informal lunch and general chat. More to come.

. 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...March –

	Name	Regt No	YOB	SVN In	SVN Out	Comments
1	EZIO LOMBARDO	216284	1946	20 05 1966	03 03 1967	
2	GEOFF HOLDEN	2785828	1945	12 09 1967	17 09 1968	
2	JAMES TOWNLEY Maj.	17072	1939	14 06 1963	22 06 1963	103 Fd Bty FARELF
	" "			22 04 1966	19 08 1966	131
	" "			30 04 1970	28 05 1970	HQ AFV
2	PETER BENNETT	3794060	1948	26 08 1969	04 06 1970	
3	RIC. MARQUES	3790008	1946	10 06 1967	21 05 1968	
3	RAY SMITH	3787666	1945	20 05 1966	02 05 1967	
3	GRAHAME LEE	2787457	1947	23 04 1968	23 04 1969	
3	ROGER STANLEY	2788155	1947	08 11 1968	27 08 1969	
3	FRANK PERRY	58490	1946			
3	RALPH MITCHELL	2788073	1947	08 11 1968	27 08 1969	
4	JOE CLENDINEN	17648	1945	04 05 1967	30 01 1968	
7	RODOLFO MARSANI	3796861	1948	20 08 1970	20 08 1970	131
	" "			20 08 1970	05 05 1971	4 Fd Regt.
8	RUSSELL JACKSON	3793090	1945	24 02 1969	28 11 1969	
8	BARRY COOKE Sgt.	54886	1946	16 09 1968	24 09 1969	RAAOC
8	DES McGIUGGAN Sgt.	214722	1944	20 01 1970	21 01 1971	
9	LAURIE GALLOP	5713642	1945	05 1966	12 1966	
11	BOB TANNER	6708362	1945	21 05 1966	28 04 1967	
11	PETER McKIE	2787728	1947	22 04 1968	23 04 1969	
12	JAMES FITZGERALD	2782044	1945	04 05 1966	29 04 1967	
12	GREGORY LUCAS	1735725	1949	20 08 1970	20 08 1970	131
	" "			20 08 1970	29 10 1970	4 Fd Regt.
13	JOHN (JACK) HEYES	3791085	1945	05 12 1967	03 12 1968	
13	ALLAN CAMPBELL Sgt.	18257	1946	20 05 1966	11 12 1966	† 2009
	" "			05 02 1968	31 03 1968	
14	NEVILLE WORTLEHOCK	54941	1947	29 04 1968	30 04 1969	
17	GEOFF LOCK	2782439	1945	20 05 1966	29 04 1967	† 09.09.10
18	VIC MOREAU	1200577	1939	22 04 1966	23 01 1967	
18	ROY CLAUSCEN	214873	1941	20 05 1966	11 12 1966	
20	BRIAN CAMPBELL	2781310	1945	22 04 1966	30 04 1967	
20	BARRY FOLLINGTON	2783144	1945	12 12 1966	27 09 1967	
20	IAIN KENNEDY	3791023	1945	27 11 1967	19 11 1968	
20	RONALD ROBARDS	216900	1948	21 02 1968	21 02 1969	
21	GARRY SMITH	2792048	1947	15 04 1970	17 12 1970	† 19.01.12
21	MICK KING	216504	1948	04 05 1967	02 04 1968	
21	WARREN JAENKE	1735584	1946	20 02 1970	11 02 1971	

22	GREGORY PECK	2790401	1948	04 11 1969	04 06 1970	
23	DEREK HINDE	2787403	1947	01 07 1968	14 05 1969	
23	MARTIN KRYNTJES	5715291	1947	26 08 1968	04 06 1969	
25	GARTH NICHOLLS	216381	1948	{05 02 1968	11 02 1969	
	" "			{05 11 1969	28 11 1969	1 Fd REGT
25	ROBERT HARGREAVES	2790343	1948	04 11 1969	04 06 1970	
26	GEORGE LANE	2781630	1945	04 05 1966	11 12 1966	
27	ERIC WINN	219656	1951	30 05 1970	07 08 1970	131
	" "			07 08 1970	05 05 1971	4 Fd Regt.
29	JEFF REID	3790495	1946	26 09 1967	17 09 1968	† UNKNOWN
30	FRANK HALLIDAY Sgt.	215105	1937	02 01 1967	13 12 1967	RAEME
30	EDWARD CHASE	2782043	1945	04 05 1966	11 12 1966	
31	LESLIE CAHILL	2412281	1947	20 05 1966	30 04 1967	
31	GRAHAM HISLOP Sgt.	15290	1935	22 04 1966	03 03 1967	
31	PHILIP SHEEDY	4719418	1947	29 01 1968	21 01 1969	

*Above colour background coding explanation – Red – financial Locator, Yellow – located Locator, Black – passed Locator, Blue – honorary Member, White – NOT Located Locator.

Ed – 15 blokes not highlighted is terrible! C'mon fellas we've got some work still to do!

. **Locator Profiles** – we've received 131 and we've sent out 131. Ed – how long is it going to take to get to 132?

. **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.

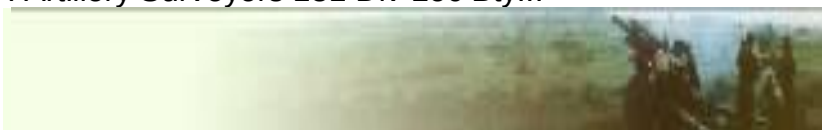
So, if you're a non-financial Associate receiving emails and the Eyes & Ears regularly you could bite the bullet and email Graeme [Dignam:sectreas131locators@gmail.com](mailto:sectreas131locators@gmail.com) and he could forward you the relevant forms to join - Memberships are available for 1 year or longer deposit a DONATION direct (add your name) to the associations account at "A/c Name: 131 Locators Association Inc. Bank: Westpac, Kingsgrove NSW BSB No: 032 166 A/c No: 264133"

Hope we hear from you?

Website: <http://www.131locators.org.au>

. 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](http://www.artillerysurveyors131.com.au/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



Australian Artillery Association – www.australianartilleryassociation.com



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY HISTORICAL COMPANY

www.artilleryhistory.org



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

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://www.1stbn83rdartvyvietnam.com>



The Royal New Zealand Artillery Association

<http://www.rnzaa.org.nz/>

Editor contact email: 131eyesandears@gmail.com Ed – Paul 'Dicko' Dickson

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