MURRAY RIVER IN FLOOD.

Australian Squadron members who live in the States bordering the Murray River Valley will have a particularly vivid idea of the devastating floods in which the overflowing river has threatened to overwhelm the Irrigation Areas (in which a number of 458 ers have their post-war homes and livelihoods) and in which major damage was suffered. 458 members with properties near the Murray include Ken Copper, Dave Pirth, Roger Rodwell, Ian Showell and Fred Barnett. To give members generally some idea of the desperate battle that was fought to preserve the relatively low-lying lands from flooding and to protect some of the Vine and Dried Fruits Vines from obliteration, we quote from the South Australian Press:

REMARK—August 20th. Desperate urgency gripped Remark to-day as women and children were evacuated from threatened areas. From a night of tension and frenzied activity on weekend loveuses, the people moved into the day tight-lipped and determined. Down Murray Avenue the river tried to force itself through drains and old pipes, through any chink in the defence line. The Battle of Angove's Distillery will go down as Remark's finest hour in the flood. Hundreds of men and women worked through the night to protect the snuggling bank. Breakage of the bank endangered two-thirds of Remark's Irrigation Area. Floodlights blazed down on a sinister pool of water bursting through a hole in the corner of the loveuses. Men with shovels sprinted out of the darkness from all directions. Peter Thompson and Ian Showell plunged into the water on the outside of the bank. Clinging to ropes they disappeared below the black water trying to find the breach. At first it looked hopeless—the sandbags washed off as fast as they were stacked. But more and more earth arrived and helpers swarmed in. Gradually that hole was filled in and a secondary lovepiled up.

But the battle had gone on for six weeks. The river took one bank and they put up another. Sometimes the river took that too, but they go on putting up banks. When fruit-grower Ian Showell was asked this morning if he minded a bank being put through his vineyard, he never hesitated. "Go straight through the lot," he said. The bulldozers roared, a vineyard died and another bank went up.

School, hospital, vineyards have gone but though the Murray may break earth, loveuses the courage of this town and its people is so strong that no river will ever overcome it. (The Advertiser-Adelaide.)

458 ers in Adelaide wanted to help and a party drove up to Remark. Here is Ron Badger's account of their journey.

"The River Murray was in flood. Ian Showell lives at Remark. So, Bill Taylor, John Ringwood, Ron Badger were in a party which journeyed to Remark with shovels, food and, also, supplies of bottled good cheer to lend a hand for a week-end.

"En route, as the miles dwindled, so dwindled the supplies of good cheer. Many squadron stories were told.

"Fantastic is an expressionable word and sums up the conditions we found at Remark. It likewise sums up the extraordinary efforts put up by Ian Showell in the past two months.

"He has been a tower of strength in the "Battle of the Flood". His name coupled with others of course will be a legend in the district for years. His citation for a 'Coug'
Murray Floods (Cont.) would be difficult to write adequately. We arrived, had 'one' for the Loveo, and were driven in Ian's Ford, which, coupled with the driver, displayed due contempt for rats, bugs, logs and passengers, to a new Loveo where we volunteers were introduced to the business and of copious stores of sandbags for a few hours into the night.

"Our anchor was damaged, our books were broken, but not our spirits, which we kept in our hip pockets. So to bed in Ian's Dining Room floor. Next day a further battle with sandbags, Loveos, bulldozers and trying to remain in one piece in Ian's Ford the drive to our next assignment—which was filling sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags, sandbags. That afternoon we built a levee round Ian's house, or a bulldozer did.

"Yes, that's all we did, we helped build a levee, but when you see the size of it, and the speed in which it was completed one just stands back and says 'It's Fantastic!'

"So back to Adelaide, very pleased to have had the opportunity of helping a fellow squadroner, also deeply conscious of the tragedy of the flood and the spirit of the people. -- It's Fantastic, and it's not finished yet by a long way."

VICTORIAN FLIGHT NEWS. from Arthur Green.

We are planning to plant our Memorial Tree—most likely early in the New Year. Since the last News Letter, we have held a Social Dance. This was not the usual huge success—the weather was really bad—but 30 odd couples turned up and had a really happy night. We also held our Annual Reunion in September—again not the best as regards attendance but some new faces gave new interest in their doings. During the evening an election was held and Wing Commander Mick Nethercote became a new member of the Flight Committee.

Our next function is our Annual Dinner to be held at the Hardware Club on December 12th at 6.30 p.m.

Several of us braved the floods to visit Ken Cupper at Robinvale. Those from Melbourne were Ian Allison, Harry Ashworth, and myself. Bob McKenna kindly put the three of us up for the night and the next day he journeyed with us to Robinvale. Roger Rodwell will another visitor, from Herborn. Dave Firth and Ken are in good health—or at least were before we arrived—wouldn't like to say after we left. As at our previous visit we started to say good-bye at 9.00 a.m. and left just after 4.00 p.m. Still, it was a grand week-end. Harry and Ian say "Let's do it again." For myself, I and my wife may head that way during the Christmas Holidays.

Twins for the Ashmans. There's headline news! Boys, Ian and Neil. To Roy and Margaret, our hearty congratulations!

Charlie Harding and wife stayed with us for a night, down from Mortlake. Tom Burgess is awaiting a visit from me but the weather has me beaten at the moment. Both Dave Firth and Ken Cupper have been in hospital but I am glad to say now better and hearty ones. They are next door neighbours at Robinvale. I often wonder how many of the boys have opened up these farms together or joined each other as business partners.

Jim Sunday is off to Western Australia today—rang me for a few of the boys' addresses.

Glad to hear that arrangements for Anzac Week in Sydney are progressing well. Victoria will have at least 12 going. Tell Bill Barlow to polish the glasses. In spite of Theo Ravencroft's claim to be the last single man to be trapped, he's slightly ahead of there. Two Offhand here occur to me. Paul Meredith and Don Johnson. Who the heck would marry either of these dandie dandies is beyond me. Now are Allan Walkir and Cy Irwin these days. Give them my good wishes.

Norm Cugley is about to move into his new home just outside Punteridge. I reckon he's on the wrong side of the wall.

Bill Carr is packing for a business visit to U.S.A. Bon voyage, Bill. That seems to be about all the news. My regards to all.

IN HOLIDAY MOOD: Q-Flight Commentary.

Squadron Memorial Tree at Ambarley. About 20 members and associates, with wives and children, saw the very well staged ceremony of planting Q Flight's Memorial Tree at Ambarley on Sunday 16th September. Berndie Hughes came down from Eau Valley, bringing Bob Coles from Toowomba. Mrs. Cathrie was one of the Associate Members present.

The site chosen was on one of the lawns between the Officers Mess and the Parade Ground. Two Flights of Airmen were drawn up on either side of the line. R.A.A.F. officers and members of the Association occupied one of the remaining two sides, while
In Holiday Mood (continued) G/C Douglas, the Padre, and Flight President Ron Russell, were stationed on the fourth side.

Just as the ceremony was about to begin light driving rain fell and continued throughout the ceremony. This forced G/C Douglas to cut his address considerably. The Padre's Service was also curtailed and Ron missed out altogether. G/C Douglas traced the Squadron's fortunes from its formation at Holme-on-Spalding Moor in September 1941 to its disembarkation at Gibraltar in 1945.

Wreath at Shrine of Remembrance. As has been our custom, Flight President Ron Russell, on behalf of members and associates, laid a wreath on the Shrine of Remembrance on Saturday, 15th September, at the ceremony at the opening of Air Force Week.

Melbourne Gun Sweep. Q-Flight ran its own Sweep again this year. 1st Prize to T. Pursey; 2nd Prize to Chas. Richardson; 3rd Prize E. McAlpin. We made a modest profit, sufficient to offset a loss anticipated on the Christmas Social. A splendid gesture by Bernie Hughes, Bob Donaghy, and Tim McQuaid, all of whom could not return books in time but sent a donation of £2 each. Thanks, boys, from all Q-Flight. Bernie Hughes, winner of two of the three prizes in last year's Sweep wrote: "I'll give the boys a chance this time!"

A.T.C. versus Q-Flight. A few stalwarts upheld the honour of Q-Flight when challenged by the A.T.C. Moss at Billiards, Table Tennis and Pairs. The winner is still in doubt.

Coming Events. Q-Flight is to be entertained by R.A.A.F., Amberley, on Sunday, November 25th. We've been invited to push buttons, pull levers, and make things tick. Our Christmas Social is set down for December 1st. This is THE social event of the season.

ANZAC ALL-STATES REUNION: SYDNEY: APRIL 1957.

The N.S.W. Flight announces the following programme for next year's All-States Reunion in Sydney.

Wednesday April 24th.
Afternoon-Interstate visitors welcomed.
7.00 p.m. Wreath laid on Conophath, Martin Place.
7.30 p.m. Social Gathering (Mixed), Air Force Club-3rd Floor.

Thursday April 25th.
Dawn Service.
Anzac March-Squadron President leading;
Anzac All-States Reunion following March-South Sydney Police-Boys Club;
For the Ladies, Race or the Theatre;
Evening-Private entertainment;
Free Day;
8.00 p.m. Squadron Anzac Dance
9.30 a.m. Squadron Conference, at 330, George Street;
2.00 p.m. Sight-Seeing Trip
Evening-Private entertainment.
The Anzac Golf Cup-location to be arranged.
Barbecue and Picnic.

Accommodation for interstate and country members is being arranged at the Hotel Sydney.

Members desiring accommodation should please notify the N.S.W. Secretary at Box 5299, G.P.O., Sydney by January 1st, 1957, accompanying their notification with a deposit of £2. If anyone is arriving earlier that the 24th, will they please let the N.S.W. Secretary know.

Members will have a first-class time and the Social Committee is planning for the entertainment of Squadron wives during the Reunion Week.

BRITISH BULLETIN.

First and foremost, all arrangements have now been made for the planting of a Squadron Memorial Tree. Everyone here all agreed that Holme-on-Spalding Moor should be the site and the ceremony will take place on Sunday, December 2nd. The type of tree to be planted is an A.C.C.L.I., which seems most appropriate. At the present, six or seven of us from the South will be making the trip but we are sending out a circular and hope quite a few more will come.

Our next Reunion will be taking place on November 17th. This will be for wives also.

About two weeks ago, the U.K. Committee got together in London to discuss the question of 458 Squadron Tins. Most of the discussion was carried out in Harry Bishop's office, so you can imagine we did not go short of a few drinks. We agreed that
we should have a plain blue tie with our Squadron Badge hand-embroidered below the knot.

Pete Pattit should be home by now. Ask him to drop me a
line.

The Blazer Pockets are on the way.

It's a cold dreary Sunday afternoon here with a fire as a great comfort. I will now sign off and put my feet up. So, for now, the very best to all 458 ers in Aussie.

PASSING OF EVEN (DARKY) CROMPTON.

At the end of August, after a two year illness very courageously borne,

Darcy was born at Forbes, N.S.W. where he lived until he was six or seven when he moved to Rosabush, Sydney with his people. He was the youngest of a family of seven children. Educated at Fort Street High School, he was noted as a brilliant cricketer and tennis player.

His business interests were in the Wholesale Butchering Trade in which he worked for a time with a brother.

Existing in Queensland, where he was at the time managing his Uncle's Ford Showroom, Darcy came to 458 Squadron as a Wireless Operator/ Air Gunner in Lof Thiale's crew.

His brilliant left hand batting and pace right-arm bowling were
present at once a mainstay of the Squadron Cricket team. As a youth he played for the .S.W. Colts Team and he now represented the Air Force.

After the war he returned to Wholesale Butchering. His Father died two months before he returned home.

We recall his return to activity in post-war 458 Squadron. It was at a cricket match, in Centennial Park, against the Air Force Club. Going in first wicket down, he at once showed us that attacking batmanship could be quick 98.

After a couple more innings, the malignant Hypertension, which was to cause his death, attacked him. In spite of his illnesses he carried on with his job with epic fortitude until the last weeks.

He is buried at Rookwood. 79 Squadron members attended his
burial and four, Eric Hunkan, Allan McKee, P. E. T. Irwin and Alf Hamilton were his pall-bearers.

We shall remember him.

To Yvonne Crompton and to the girls, boys and patriots, our deep sympathy and the assurance of our friendship.

R.S.W. NOTES—Corrobales Elbow-Twisting.

Half-yearly Reunion. This was held on Friday 25th October. As with past for former Reunions, this was at 330, George Street, but this time it was transferred from the Basement to the Third Floor. Most of the 40 old members who attended thought this was an improvement. We had a good time, of course.

It was a Reunion notable for several things. Firstly, it was our pleasure to welcome the W.A. President, Len 'Blind' Stewart, who was in Sydney on business. Welcomed by Eric Hunkan on behalf of R.S.W. Members, he said how happy he was to be able to spend some time with his old squadron mates.

Secondly, and most regretably, the R.S.W. President, Peter Alexander, was unable to attend owing to illness.

Neither could Senior Vice President Sam Barlow come, due to another long-standing and very important engagement. This was the first Reunion we can remember without either Peter or Sam there. We congratulate Senior Vice President Eric Hunkan on a very good job done in their absence.

We were pleased to see Cyril Murray (another of the Instrument Section and now with Sydney University) at the Reunion.

A Battle for a Bottle of Scotch was won by Max and we can remember, at roughly 11.30 p.m., forbidding him to open it but from that point our reliable memory ceases and subsequent discussions seem to indicate that we were still going strong at 1.0 a.m. Thanks to Roster Balmer and Kemp Bush who tended the Bar for most of the evening and to R.S.W. Treasurer Graeme Oceobos, who had a heavy evening, having to cope with many socialising Comstractions in addition to his normal duties.

The Winning Competition. The Prize-winners in this year's Melbourne Cup

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Winning tickets were sold by Stuart Hockett, Max Skinner and Forbes Poulter including Consolation prizes, prize-money totalling £52 was distributed. Our thanks to all
K.G. Notes (cont.) who took part.

**Golf-The President's Cup.** This was held in very fine weather at Campbells town in September. We welcome Alf "Gloppy" Hammond as our new Holder of the Cup. We must sympathise with Frank Hickey who lost by ½ point on a count-back; both players finished with a net 69. Once again Lofty Chalmers turned in the best stroke round and we must recognise Lofty as our best R.S.W. golfer. The Annual Match with the Armidale Old Boys was won by the Old Boys. Congratulations to then. Trophy winners were Lofty Chalmers, Jack Miller and Allan Walker for the Squadron and Joe Murphy, Sid Bowen, Bob Custer, and Jim Haddon among the visitors.

**Darts Meetings.** A very enjoyable evening was spent at the Ryde Bowling Club on Friday November 9th when the Squadron Darts Team again engaged the Club. The Club won by 2 to 1. Congratulations to them and thanks for the Evening. Congratulations to Mrs. Notion who carried off a Poker Machine Jackpot.

**Interstate Visitors and New South Walesman Returning.**

We enjoyed having Len Stewart, the W.A. President with us, and more recently, to have Johnny Box here on a short business visit. We endeavoured to fill as many of their waking hours as they had available and hope that both Len and Johnny will have happy memories of their visits. We appreciate Sam Barlow's mighty efforts in upholding our hospitality towards visitors.

Apart from these welcome friends from the other states, we are very glad to have Peter Pettit back with us in Sydney. Peter, who played a very important part in Squadron organisation in N.S.W. after the war, qualified as a Dentist and went to London about six years ago. He practised there and also played an essential part in establishing the U.K. Flight. He married an Adelaide girl while he was in London, and has now brought her and their small daughter to Sydney. He is going to practise as a Dentist at Pams Buildings in Pitt Street, Sydney. Good luck to him.

**Christmas 1956.** Sydney-stiders of 456 Squadron will gather for the usual Christmas drink and exchange of good wishes at the Air Force Club at 5.30 p.m. on December 20th.

**Cricket.** The annual Cricket match against the R.A.A.F. Station, Richmond has been arranged for February 17th next. Geoff Burgoyne please note.

The Editor—Special note by the R.S.W. Secretary—I feel it my duty to report here (since he almost certainly will not do so himself) that the Editor of the "News", N.S.W. President and Squadron Secretary, Peter Alexander, has recently been in ill health and whilst on the road back, is not fully recovered. He has recently had a considerable time away from work as a result, and I am sure I speak for all 456 ops in wishing him a speedy and complete recovery.

**N.S.W. FLASHES.**

Jack Brown, writing from Wollongong, that he recently visited Jock Philip at Randwick—Jock sends his regards to all;

Bill Homan writing to Semi Parlow from Roma, Queensland "Never see a soul from 488 around here."

Bill has a wife and two children and is going on leave between January and May next year. He would like to spend it in Sydney if he could find accommodation.

Harry Pringie is coming down from Willobath for the Anzac Reunion next year.

"Ringo" Parlow is also coming (from Orange) for the Anzac Reunion. He hopes to bring one or two others with him.

Jack Nichols, who is now living in Campbells town recently had a spell in Yaralla. We believe him to be O.K. now.

Norm Bryan was recently in Sydney from Newcastle. We were sorry not to see him;

Len Walker has overcome out of hospital after a lengthy stay. All the best to you, Norm.

Gordon Nash is looking for a flat in Sydney for a week from January 14th—for four adults. Can anyone help?

Bob Coley is fit and well; with Parks and Gardens, Toowoomba City Council. Sends regards to all;

Fred Molloy, is now back again in New Guinea—at Daru, W.D., T.P.N.G. and is doing an agricultural survey of the Western portion of Papua. He writes: "Usual domestic worries; wife with fever, both boys with a broken arm and self with asthma.

Otherwise life is normal. Give my regards to all the old cobbers."

Tim Moquid and Bob Drummond send Christmas greetings;

Ron Newall is now lecturing in Sales Management at Brisbane Technical Management. He also works for Amco;

Jim Plunkett is fit and well. Sends his regards to all;

The Editor thanks members for telephone inquiries and good wishes during his recent illness;

Ernie Lausing has been awarded the Long Service Medal by the R.A.A.F. He is with the Air Trials Unit, Woomera, S.A.
Bill Laughlin is now at Deniliquin in New South Wales; 
Jim Wilson has left Broken Hill for Port Pirie
Col. Corten and his wife have our congratulations and good wishes on the arrival of their
fifth child, a boy (Colin). Col has maintained the girl-boy sequence;
Bill Fordyce has left flying and has a newspaper business in Holbourne.
Doug Bennett and Thamar have a second son (Graham Stewart). Good work!

YOUR SECRETARIES' ADDRESSES.

Squadron Secretary (Peter Alexander) Box 5989, P.O., Sydney, N.S.W.
N.S.W. Secretary (Allan Walker) 1, Donison Street, Parramatta, N.S.W.
S.A. Secretary (John Ringwood) 290, Beaumont Road, Beaumont, S.A.
Victorian Secretary (Arthur Green) 57, Woodlands Avenue, Pascoe Vale South, Victoria.
Queensland Secretary (Jim Holiday) 43, Stella Street, Holland Park, Brisbane, Qld.
Western Australian Secretary (Butch Power) I45, Gildorcliffe Street, Scarborough, W.A.
United Kingdom Secretary (Sid Thompson) 16, Brook Lane, Bromley, Kent, England.

CORRESPONDENCE.

From: Mrs. Yvonne Crompton, I4, Louros Street, Homebush, N.S.W.

Dear Peter,

Would you kindly pass on my very sincere thanks to the members of the Squadron. I appreciated their presence as that in itself was a tribute to Owen.

Sincerely, Yvonne Crompton.

From: Harry (Better Bear) Baines, Wallabadah Hotel, Wallabadah, N.S.W.

Dear Allan,

Long time since I have been mixed up with you fellows down there; will have to try and make one of the Reunions or outings. Will be down for Anzacs Day anyhow even if the customers up here have to serve themselves.

Have had Sun Barlow here a couple of times and have had to turn him to work, .... I would strongly recommend Sun as a competent Bar Tender at any of your outings.

Expect him here this coming long weekend on the way to Amidale. Also been in touch with Bob Malu by phone a couple of times and any day now he will be here with me for a few days and he will then be going to Sydney (I may find an excuse to go with him). Bob is doing very well on his sheep property and says he is looking forward to seeing some of the 458 boys.

It is very good to receive the Squadron News; Hita and I both look forward to receiving it and it is certainly doing a marvelous job of keeping the boys in contact with one another.

Wallabadah isn't as bad as the name sounds, it is on the Highway just near Tamworth and any 458er is welcome. Several of the boys have called and we have had a few of "Baines Better Beers".

Regards to all,

Sincerely,

Harry Baines.

From: Doug Bennett, J2, Butler Street, Deniliquin, N.S.W.

Dear Allan,

As you will note I am no longer at Burraminey Dam, but was recently transferred
down here. It's a hell of a long way from Sydney but not a bad little town. Haven't been here long but ... am going to like it.

You will notice I have not another ex-458er, Bill Laughlin. He was a pilot operating mainly from Malta in 1943. He has been interested in news of the 458 Squadron Association, and I have passed on to him the recent copy of Squadron News.

The family is well. We have recently had an addition, a son, called Graham Stewart.

All the best,

yours sincerely,

Doug Bennett.

A 458 Squadron Tie in the Near Future.

The Squadron Council has arranged, through Sun Barlow, for the weaving and
import of a special Tie material which will be made up into 458 Squadron Ties (long, short
and bow). It incorporates the small Winged Torpedo cables, approved by Squadron Conference,
on a dark blue background. Delivery is expected soon and the price will be reasonable.

Special arrangements are also being made by the U.K. Flight for a Squadron Tie incorporating
an embroidered 458 Badge. These ties are something for members to look forward to with
keen and pleasant anticipation.

Final announcements soon.
Sid Thompson, as U.K. Flight Secretary, the continued energy and success of the Squadron in Britain must so very much depend, was a W/O at H.C.G. on 458. He came to us in September 1944, his last companion being Fred Bacon and Frank Norbury.

As they arrived on the Squadron without a skipper, his crew was captivated as temporary skipper, at different times by Robin Knight and later on by Ron Blunt. He went to the South of France on that detachment as a temporary member of No. 101 Squadron's crew.

He recalls the running about of bear that could be got in France, after the April a week they were accustomed to get in Italy.

Those who have had occasion to work with Sid since he became U.K. Secretary will have noted with pleasure the energy, promptitude, and resource he possesses and which augur well for the Flight. Good luck, Sid.

THE AIR TRAINING CORPS. contributed by. J.C. (Black-Jack) Bakkor.

(Editor's Note: Several 458 members, including Stuart Hector, Graeme Combes and Jack Bakkor himself have devoted time to the work of the A.T.C. We asked Jack to tell us something of its work.)

During 1941 the Commonwealth Government decided in view of the time necessary to train Aircrews and the increasingly complex nature of the training that some form of pre-entry training was desirable, and so the A.T.C. was born.

Lads between the ages of 14 and 18 were enrolled and so began a maximum of 4 years of part-time training that proved so successful that it was enlarged to include ground staff training.

The aims of the A.T.C. are to foster air-mindedness in Australian youth, promote qualities of leadership and good citizenship, and provide a potential source of recruits for the R.A.A.F. However cadets do not have to enlist at the end of their A.T.C. service.

The A.T.C., controlled by Training Command, has a Squadron in each State (two in Queensland with their H.Q. at Brisbane and Townsville). Other States have their H.Q. in the Capital Cities. H.Q. are staffed principally by permanent R.A.A.F. personnel including a C.O., who normally has the rank of Flight Lieutenant. The Squadrons are divided into Flights, which are scattered throughout the States and are staffed and administered by Reserve personnel.

Cadet entry is selective, the training standard is high and as a consequence the finished product is a young man who has the best qualities brought to the surface, and the worst, if any, thrust aside. Main subjects for training include: Organisation and administration of the R.A.A.F., Aircraft recognition, Armour, drill, Airmanship, Theory of Flight, Navigation, Radio, Aero-Engineering, Sport, and P.T. Instruction is given at the Flights, and R.A.A.F. and Cadet Pilot Officer courses are conducted during camp periods at R.A.A.F. camps when cadet training is stopped up. During the period of A.T.C. training, both at the Flights and at an R.A.A.F. Station, the cadet is subject to service discipline and control for the A.T.C. is an integral part of the R.A.A.F. set up.

Flying and Link training is given at most camps and suitable cadets can obtain a flying scholarship entitling them to be trained to private licence standard at a civil Flying School, free of charge.

With the advent and establishment of the Jet Age with its ever-increasing speed and complexity, and the high degree of technical knowledge necessary to fly and maintain such aircraft, the need for some training in the formative years of life to those who would accept a career in aviation is becoming increasingly important.

The A.T.C. goes a long way in supplying this need.

CROW WATER'S COMMENTARY-S.A. Flight News. from Ron Badger.

At frequent intervals a Squadron Bomber passes through Adelaide from interstate and "Bingo" goes the phone from whoever the visitor has first contacted. In a matter of minutes you find yourself, class in hand, at the appointed local, everyone talking at once. Recent visitors include Lon Stewart from Perth on route to Sydney, a good master mesmerised, a good time had by all.

Pete Pettitt also arrived from England where he had a dental practice in London for a few years. Again a good five minutes...again urgent telephone calls to the wives. Pete bought a caravan while in Adelaide and is now in the Eastern States. He gave us his first hand news of the U.K. Flight.

Ian (Former) Giles from Portland, Victoria, also made a quick call on Jack Risley but unfortunately time did not permit a full get-together.

We felt, about 12 months ago, when Jack Risley was transferred from Western Australia that we had gained a first-class member. We were more than correct.
Crow-Future Commentary (Cont.)

Jack was very popular. However, he was suddenly posted back to the West. Phones buzzed and a hurried farewell was arranged. We regret we hadn't time to do things on a big scale for Jack but Bill Taylor and his good wife were able to go to the train to see Jack and his wife off. Our loss is the W.A. Flight's gain.

Jack Parkinson's Success: At the recent Royal Show, Jack Parkinson who now has a Stud Farm at Narrogin, won the Junior Championship with his Berkshire Boar at his first attempt at Exhibition. Jack is now Vice-Chairman of the local Agricultural Association Branch.

The Opal Hunter: Sid Burton is away again at Coober Pedy after the elusive opal. After the war Sid made a successful attempt in this field and really brought home the bacon.

The Murray Floods: S.A. Squadroners were going up in strength again recently to Renmark to assist Ian Showell with his flood troubles but it appears that the Government equipment was not ready for the project in mind, so the trip fell through. Both Ian and Fred Burnett of Jervois can be assured that if our assistance can be used at any time we will answer the call.

Functions and Do's: While our organised functions have been quiet of late, our members get together regularly both at private functions and such fixtures as Bomber Command Dinner, Air Force Week functions, and an occasional golf "do" with other clubs. Also of course we have representation on Legacy.

Our next function is a Big Picnic at National Park on Sunday November 25th. A good novel programme has been drawn up with emphasis on the children. These outings, complete with a large grill, are very popular particularly with such ideal surroundings - to say nothing of the wooden barrel we surround.

Meetings and Expeditions: A General Meeting of all members is to be held at Ron Badger's premises on December 7th, to discuss future outings and Club policy. Quite a few S.A. Flight members are hopeful of going to the Sydney Reunion. This function is always discussed at every get-together, so we are keeping our fingers crossed in the hope that the wind and tide will be in our favour.

EDITORIAL

HERE'S TO US!

1. 458 Squadron has active Flights wherever the numbers are sufficient. We have all the marks of energy and achievement: Federal Union; All-States Reunions; Dance, Picnic, Squadron badges for caps and caps; newspaper, stationery, blazer badges; and, now coming up, Squadron Ties. What's like us?

2. We must see to it that we keep it up. To maintain takes less doing than to create but it is also easy to slip back. What should we do? Attend the functions the Flights organise for us; pay our yearly dues; stand for office; be ready to do a bit of work. If we hold office, see to it that we hand over to someone competent when we stop down. Always remember the old friends of Holme-in-the-Snow, Shellbury, Proville, Gibraltar - and also the newer friends of the living 458 in the Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane, Perth, Robinvale and London of the post-war years. So we persuade 458, the incomparable.

3. And so, a Merry Christmas and a Happy 1957 to you all, Ladies and Gentlemen!

AUTHORISED by the EDITOR (Peter Alexander), Box 5289, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W., AUSTRALIA.

The Squadron Secretary, 458 Squadron Council, Box 5289, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W., AUSTRALIA.

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