



Well it's that time of year once again when it's time to dust off the medals and pretend you are 30 or 40 years younger again to impress the spectators at these various events.

**Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup>:** Annual Merchant Navy Memorial Service commencing at 10:30 hours for 11:00 hours. Inside the Chapel adjacent to the Merchant Navy Lawn Cemetery and Cenotaph at the corner of Hawthorne Ave. and Necropolis Dr., Rookwood Cemetery.

**Sunday April 21<sup>st</sup>:** The Post Commander has been invited to attend this annual service and lay a wreath for The American Legion at the War Memorial in the Court House Reserve in Bankstown at 2:30pm. I have accepted and will attend.

**Thursday April 25<sup>th</sup>:** Annual ANZAC Day March in Sydney. We will assemble as per the last two years at the end of Pitt Street Mall heading in King Street. Just ignore those other groups who think by arriving early they are first, we are still the first of the Allied Troops as it is in alphabetical order and we are **American** not USA. As the Australian and British contingents are getting smaller due to age and unfortunately the demise of many World



War II veterans we should be stepping off between 11:30 and 12:00. However as we all know by now it is a "hurry up and wait" affair so we suggest you start assembling prior to 11:30. There will be an Australian Army Land Rover for those members who cannot march but wish to participate. Remember they will drop you off at Hyde Park at the march spot ending not back near Martin Place.

We are expecting five active duty and retired US veterans from Hawaii to join in with us. Two are retired USAF Master Sergeants (one of them is the Deputy Chief of Combat Plans at Hickham AFB), the others are active duty; a USAF Master Sergeant, a USAF Major, and a USN Lt. Commander. They will be laying a wreath at 08:15 then will join us at 11:15. They will be in the front row which should make the rest of us look good (or better if you wish). By the way, some of you may know this, There is no longer a Hickham AFB and a Pearl Harbor Navy Base.

No, the Japanese haven't been back for a second go, the bases are now one titled Joint Base-Pearl Harbor-Hickham with command of the Joint Base with the US Navy.



Once again we will have those outstanding Cadets from Barker College to carry our banners. A tip of the Legion cap to Post Member **Paul Fedeles** (USMC-Vietnam) for organizing them. We hope that some of you may join us at the Combined Services RSL Club to shake your thirst and tell a few lies. The new Bistro in the lower

floor have some good meals at a special ANZAC Day price. No, not higher but lower. If you do join a few of us there we would appreciate some assistance to bring our banners back to the club too. Don't panic, there are only three.

**Monday May 6<sup>th</sup>:** The 71<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea. If attending please be there no later than 10:45, the official guest arrive then and ceremony starts promptly at 11:00. The Legion Post and Auxiliary Unit will jointly lay a wreath.

## CONGRATULATIONS

As 10% of the Posts members are 90 years of age or older we are happy to congratulate the following who have birthdays in March, April and May. All are life members except one. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!! Emilio Nacua Sr. (97), Jack Savage (96), John Grant (96), Roy Spence (90) and D. von Kappelhoff (91)** whoaaaaa Nelly !!! Who is **D. von Kappelhoff** I hear you say, and why not a Life Member like the other four? Just thought I'd throw that in to see if ya'll read the newsletter. I'm sure some of you know, if not, it is none other than **Doris Day**, and yes she turned 91 on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and of course not a Legion member, que sera sera. I should also add if you haven't already guessed, it's a slow news month.

**Don't pay more than you should—Page 21**

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### ALLIED LOSSES LIGHT IN GREAT BATTLE OF CORAL SEA

#### Jap fleet repulsed with 11 ships sunk, 6 damaged; "our attacks to continue"

Allied losses in the naval battle off north-eastern Australia are "relatively light," compared with those of the Japanese.

Last night's communique from Allied Headquarters, South-west Pacific, announces this.

Latest official tally of enemy losses is 11 ships sunk and six damaged. Nine of the vessels sunk and four of those damaged are warships.

The communique says the only reason Allied losses are not revealed now is because disclosure would give Japan valuable information.

**Details of Japanese losses, in a communique yesterday from the U.S. Navy Department at Washington, were:**

<b>11 Sunk</b>	<b>6 Damaged</b>
1 aircraft-carrier	1 aircraft-carrier
1 heavy cruiser	1 heavy cruiser
1 light cruiser	1 light cruiser
2 destroyers	1 seaplane-tender
4 gunboats	2 transports or cargo ships
2 transports or cargo ships	

**Jap "Fiction"**

The battle had ended to the surprise of the Japanese, but Allied leaders would maintain, an earlier communique yesterday stated.

... (text continues) ...

**WOMEN TRY JIU-JITSU IN BATTLE PRACTICE**

The new martial art is being learned by a group of women in the city.

... (text continues) ...

The ANZAC Day March in Sydney won't be as bright as in the past 15 years as **David Hire** won't be marching with us this year. Yes he's still alive and back from North Carolina but this year he'll be laying a wreath and marching with a local group down yonder in Nowra NSW. We're gonna miss that tie **David**. You may not remember the face but that big bright tie with all the American flags I bet you do remember. Our newest member **Mike Schoettler** (recruited by **David Hire**) won't be marching either as he'll be on a 35 day cruise, yo ho ho and a bottle of you know what (duty free of course). Joining us for the march will be Post member **Ed Dickey** flying down from the wilds of Thailand just to participate (so he says).

In the last newsletter we had an article about US Social Security and who to contact. Emmanuel Castillo up there in Manila has many new duties now and travels a lot and cannot at times give you a quick reply. He has asked that you email [www.fbu.manila@ssa.gov](mailto:www.fbu.manila@ssa.gov). Tell them what you'd like to know and they will get back to you right away rather than having to wait for Emmanuel to return.

Did you know that there is an ANZAC Day commemoration in Hawaii each year? Sure is, since 1973. It is held at the Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, commonly called "The Punchbowl". It is attended not only by several veterans organizations but the Chiefs of the various military commands in Hawaii, Consular Officials from Australia, New Zealand and Japan. In 1990 to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Gallipoli landing all four Posts in Australia were represented with 118 Post members, most were from our Post and the Post (AU02) on the Gold Coast. The four Posts were Sydney AU01, Gold Coast AU02, Brisbane AU03 and Cairns AU04.

Today there are only the Posts in Sydney and Brisbane. Let's have a good roll up for ANZAC Day as we always do. Remember dress of the participants should be appropriate to the dignity of the occasion.



*Yanks Down Under office hard at work.*

**Thank you all who complimented on the new newsletter layout. Your Post Commander cannot take credit for that however. All he does is write the editorial comment, the layout and artwork is ALL done by his daughter **Nicole Raymond**, an Auxiliary Unit member. She also is the writer & editor of an industrial group emagazines.**

Got some news for the June newsletter? Travel? New children, grand-children-great-grandchildren etc etc ??? We'd love to hear about it.

*Thank You for your Support!!*