



# Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia

## MINUTES

### National Council Meeting

HELD AT THE ESPLANADE HOTEL , BRIGHTON , SOUTH AUSTRALIA ON  
THE WEEKEND 13/14 DEC 1986

COMPILED BY VICTORIAN REGIONAL STATE  
BRANCH FROM THE OFFICIAL TAPES OF THE  
ABOVE MEETING AS DIRECTED

MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

DATE 13/14 DEC 1986

VENUE ESPLANARDE HOTEL BRIGHTON SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PRESENT : QUEENSLAND	JOHN THOMPSON	STATE PRESIDENT
NEW SOUTH WALES	DON WILSON	STATE PRESIDENT
VICTORIA	JOHN PRINTZ	STATE SECRETARY
TASMANIA	MIKE ALLWRIGHT	STATE PRESIDENT
SOUTH AUSTRALIA	GRANT COLLINS	STATE PRESIDENT
WESTERN AUSTRALIA	COL EVANS	STATE PRESIDENT
ACT	KEVIN GILL	EXECUTIVE MEMBER

OBSERVERS : THERE WERE VARIOUS OBSERVERS FROM TIME TO TIME.

CHAIRMAN

AFTER SOME DISCUSSION ON FILLING THE CHAIR, IT WAS RESOLVED TO FILL THE CHAIR WITH A TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN, DUE TO THE PASSING OF NATIONAL PRESIDENT PHILL THOMPSON, AND BY LEAVING THE ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS TILL LAST SO AS TO GIVE THE NEW NATIONAL PRESIDENT THE BENEFIT OF THE COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS REFERENCE THE THE DIRECTIONS OF THE ASSOCIATIONS FUTURE.

MOTION : IT WAS MOVED : JOHN THOMPSON QLD

SECONDED : COL EVANS WA

THAT RON RULE, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN STATE BRANCH BE ELECTED TO CHAIR THE COUNCIL MEETING (AFTER REFERENCE TO THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION) THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

DURING THE COUNCIL MEETING A MINUTE TO THE MEMORY OF AND FOR THE SERVICES OF MR PHILLIP THOMPSON OA BE ENTERED IN THE MINUTES AND A SILENT TRIBUTE TO PHILL WAS HELD.

NATIONAL OFFICE

ITEMS FROM NSW, WA, TAS WERE RAISED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE NATIONAL OFFICE AND INCLUDED

- (a) Financial statements, (b) Office security, (c) Deferment of the Tas meeting,
- (d) Phill Thompsons illness (e) Royal Commission legal advisors fees.

MOTION IT WAS MOVED : COL EVANS WA

SECONDED : MIKE ALWRIGHT TAS

THAT THE MATTER OF THE LEGAL FEES BE LEFT AS IT WAS NOT BELIEVED THAT THIS WAS A MATTER FOR THE VVAA, AS THE FEES WERE PAID BY THE GOVERNMENT. IT WAS RESOLVED FOR THE SECRETARY TO ATTAIN LEGAL OPINION FROM THE VVAA SOLISITOR ON THIS MATTER, IN WRITING, TO CONFIRM HIS VERBAL ADVICE. CARRIED

DISCUSSION ON THE FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE VVAA WAS DISCUSSED. IT WAS RESOLVED TO LEAVE THIS POINT, TO THE COUNCIL DISCUSSION, ON FINANCIAL BUDGETING SESSION THIS COUNCIL HAS ON THE AGENDA.

#### NAM VIET PTY LTD

DISCUSSION ON THE ABOVE NAMED COMPANY AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE VVAA WAS DEALT WITH AND THE FOLLOWING MOTION WAS MOVED

MOTION MOVED GRANT COLLINS SA

SECONDED COL EVANS WA

THAT FROM THE INFORMATION DISCUSSED THE BELIEF OF THE COUNCIL WAS THAT, THERE WAS NO FURTHER ACTION THAT THE VVAA HAS ON THE PRIVATE COMPANY NAM VIET AND UNLESS ANY FURTHER INFORMATION COMES FORTH NO FURTHER ACTION IS NECESSARY. CARRIED

#### WELCOME HOME PARADE

LACHLAN IRVINE, SECRETARY OF THE 'AUSTRALIAN VIETNAM VETERANS WELCOME HOME PARADE COMMITTEE' ADDRESSED THE COUNCIL AND OUTLINED THE CURRENT STANDING OF THE PROJECT. (TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THAT THE COMMITTEE MEETS ON SUNDAY 13 DEC 1986)

ITEMS RE: THE PARADE.

COMMITTEE: A COMMITTEE IS FORMED WITH VARIOUS MEMBERS OF VARIOUS VIETNAM VETERAN GROUPS

PRESIDENT : PETER POULTON

SECRETARY : LACHLAN IRVINE

DATE OF PARADE : SAT 3RD, SUN 4TH AND MON 5TH OF OCTOBER 1987

VENUE : SYDNEY NSW

SPONSOR : ANNSETT RSL

THE COMMITTEE WILL CHANGE IN SIZE AND SCOPE AS OTHER ASSOCIATIONS AND STATES JOIN IN BRINGING THIS PROJECT TO FRUITION.

MOTION MOVED : KEVIN GILL ACT

SECONDED : JOHN THOMPSON QLD

THAT THE NATIONAL CONGRESS ENDORSE THE PROPOSAL FOR THE WELCOME HOME PARADE TO BE HELD IN SYDNEY IN OCT 1987, AND ASK STATE COUNCILS TO ASSIST TO FORM LIASION COMMITTEES TO ASSIST. CARRIED

#### HALF WAY HOUSE REPORTS

##### NEW SOUTH WALES

DON WILSON REPORTED THAT A PROPOSAL FOR A HALF WAY HOUSE THAT HAS BEEN NOTED FOR SOME TIME IN THE GOSFORD AREA IS NOW BEING PERSUED WITH THE INCORPORATION OF THE BRANCH AND WITH AN OFFER OF CO-SPONSOR STATUS FROM THE RSL AND WITH VVCS APPROVAL, IN PRINCIPAL, THEY WERE LOOKING TO THE QUEENSLAND EXPERIENCE FOR GUIDENCE.

QUEENSLAND

JOHN THOMPSON REPORTED THAT THEIR HALFWAY HOUSE ' ANGUS HOUSE ' (NAMED AFTER SALLY AND MAL ANGUS ,EX 6RAR , WHO WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EARLY WORK)  
 IT IS OPEN TO ALL VETERANS , IS FOR EMERGENCY RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES, WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF THE VVCS , NEAR GREENSLOPES HOSPITAL , HAS A MAXIMIN RESIDENCY AT THE HOUSE OF 3 MONTHS , AND IS STRICTLY MANAGED TO KEEP THE MANY VETERAN IMPOSED PROBLEMS TO A MINIMUN . THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEET MONTHLY AND INCLUDE MEMBERS FROM THE VVAA , RSL , DVA , POLICE AND VVCS WITH DIRECT ENQUIRES TO THAT COMMITTEE ONLY.  
 THE GROUP HAS DEVELOPED TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEER HELPERS AND ARE TRYING TO PRODUCE A PART FINANCIAL RESOURCES INCOME. THE RENT ASKED OF RESIDENTS IS \$6 PER WEEK OR \$30 PER WEEK  
 THE BEUROCRATS IN THE DVA DISAGREE THAT WE SHOULD HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE GRANT AND ARE HOPING THAT WE FAIL SO THEY CAN SAY TO THE MINISTER WE TOLD YOU SO.

ACT BRANCH

KEVIN GILL REPORTED THAT THE ACT ARE INVESTIGATING A BLOCK OF LAND THRU THE DEPARTMENT OF CAPITAL TERRITORIES CAPITAL DEVELOPEMENT COMMISSION AND TO BUILD A PURPOSE BUILT HOME OF 10 to 12 ROOMS THIS IS IN THE EARLY STAGES.

CON MEN/IMPOSTERS PRESS STATEMENTS

THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED THE PROBLEMS WITH CON MEN WETHER VETERAN OR NOT WHO BRING BAD NAME PROBLEMS TO THE ASSOCIATION AND ALSO THE LAX USE OF THE TERM VIETNAM VETERAN BY THE PRESS.

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT PERSONS ASKING HELP BE GIVEN THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT AS WE WOULD NOT LIKE TO TURN A VETERAN AWAY BUT CHECKS CAN BE MADE AND COMPLAINTS TO THE PRESS COUNCIL SHOULD TAKE PLACE.

NAMES TO BE AWARE OF REV GRAY TAPPET, FRANK MILLER, DAVE WHITE

AUSTRALIAN VIETNAM WAR VETERANS TRUST FUND ( CLASS ACTION )

DON WILSON GAVE A BRIEF RUN DOWN ON THE CURRENT SITUATION WITH THE TRUST FUND AND DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE CASE IS STILL RUNNING IN COURT THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE TRUST FUND ARE NOT ABLE TO MAKE STATEMENTS, EXCEPT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF INFORMATION WHICH ARE COMMON KNOWLEDGE

- (a) A DISPERSAL PLAN HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE JUDGE IN THE US FOR APPROVAL
- (b) STATES WILL NEED TO ASSIST IN THAT PLAN

ROYAL COMMISSION

DISCUSSION RESOLVED THAT THE VVAA WOULD STILL PERSUE THE COMMISSION AS WE HAVE IN THE PAST THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE TABLED FOR INFORMATION.

JUSTICE EVATT : WILL BE RETIRING IN 2 WEEKS

JUSTICE EVATT : WILL BE GIVING HIS REPLY TO THE REBUTTAL IN WRITING IN THE NEXT MONTH

SENATOR GETZELT : THE EARLIEST CABINET WOULD DEAL WITH THE REBUTTAL IS FEB  
STUDIES NOW AVAILABLE : UNITED STATES ---- MALITHION  
 ---- CANCERS 24T 24T  
 ---- CANCERS (WEST VIRGINIA AND WISCONSIN)  
 STATISTICS OF INCREASING CANCER IN V VETERANS

TELEVISION : A TV SERIES IS BEING MADE BY THE BBC/SWEDISH TV ABOUT CHEMICALS AND WILL  
 FEATURE THE POOR HANDLING OF EVIDENCE IN THE EVATT ROYAL COMMISSION

CONSULTING SCIENTIST : EMINENT SCIENTISTS FROM CANADA, WEST GERMANY AND SWEDEN HAVE  
 REVOKED THEIR EVIDENCE DUE TO THE WAY IT WAS USED BY THE  
 ROYAL COMMISSION

THE NATIONAL OFFICE IS PUTTING ALL THIS EVIDENCE IN SUB-MISSION FORM AND WILL INCLUDE  
 THE REPLY TO THE REBUTTAL FROM JUDGE EVATT AND NOTE THE ASSOCIATIONS REPLY.

VETERANS ENTITLEMENT ACT

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE EFFECTS OF THE VEA AND IT WAS EVIDENT THAT THE ACT WAS NOT  
 PERSUED BY THE RSL TO ENSURE THAT THE ENTITLEMENTS OF VETERANS WERE PROTECTED . IT WAS  
 NOTED THAT THE AUSTRALIAN VETERANS and DEFENCE SERVICE COUNCIL (OF WHICH THE VVA IS A  
 MEMBER) HAD FOUGHT THE DVA ALL THE WAY AND BECAUSE THEIR CONCERNS PROVED RIGHT IS GAINING  
 AN MEMBERSHIP TO CONTINUE THE FIGHT.

FOR INSTANCE A VETERAN WAS GIVEN A TPI PENSION UNDER THE RULES OF THE OLD ACT , THE DVA  
 APPEALED TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TRIBUNAL AND HAD THE PENSION REDUCED TO 100 %  
 UNDER THE RULES OF THE VEA . THE 69 YEAR OLD PENSIONER THEN HAD HIS PENSION LOWERED  
 BY THE DVA TO 30 % SO AS TO GET BACK LEGAL COSTS OF \$47,00 .

THE QUESTION ASKED BY THE COUNCIL IS WHY DID THE RSL ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN.

THE DIRECTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

THE COUNCIL COVERED ITEMS IN REFERENCE TO THE DIRECTION THAT THE VVAA IS HEADING AND IT  
 WAS RELEVANT THAT THIS REVIEW WAS CARRIED OUT NOW WITH THE DEMISE OF PHILL THOMPSON.  
 THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED.

1. THE NEED TO FORM AN AUSTRALIA WIDE FLOW OF INFORMATION
2. THE NEED TO DEVELOPE A PUBLIC INFORMATION KIT
3. THE NEED TO DEVELOPE AN ADVISORY SYSTEM FOR INFORMATION ON WELFARE
4. THE NEED TO DEVELOPE A USER HANDBOOK ON WELFARE , DVA , COUNCELLING ITEMS ETC
5. THE NEED FOR THE ASSOCIATION TO MATURE AND DEFEVOPE THE REUNIFICATION OF VIETNAM VETS
6. TO DEVELOPE A BUDGETRY SYSTEM
7. TO DEVELOPE AN ADVOCACY TRAINING SYSTEM
8. TO DEVELOPE THE ASSOCIATION AS A FAMILY ORIENTATED ORGANISATION
9. TO PERSUE THE ROYAL COMMISSION TO THE CONCLUSION

MOTION MOVED : GRANT COLLINS SA  
 SECONDED: MIKE ALWRIGHT TAS

THAT THE ABOVE ITEMS BE ACCEPTED AS THE NATIONAL POLICY OF DIRECTION CARRIED

ITEMS ARISING

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT NEW SOUTH WALES AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA ARE TO DEVELOPE THE PUBLIC INFORMATION KIT USING THE CURRENT PR INFORMATION AVAILABLE AND TO USE THE AIDS TO ILLUSTRATE THAT KIT. SECONDLY ALL PUBLIC INFORMATION KITS ARE TO BE SENT TO NSW TO BE USED IN THIS PROJECT. POINT OF CONTACT DON WILSON

THE USER HANDBOOK ON WELFARE IS TO BE UNDER TAKEN BY VICTORIA AS THEY HAVE ALREADY STARTED ON THAT PROJECT. POINT OF CONTACT IS JOHN PRINZ

THESE ITEMS ARE TO BE READY FOR TABLING AT THE NATIONAL CONGRESS

NATIONAL OFFICE

MOTION                MOVED : GRANT COLLINS                SA  
                            SECONDDED: JOHN THOMPSON            QLD

THAT WE RE-AFFIRM THE NEED FOR A NATIONAL OFFICE AND THAT THE STATES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FUNDING OF THAT OFFICE                CARRIED

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR NATIONAL CONGRESS

BY DON WILSON FOR NSW : THAT THE OFFICE BEARERS OF THE NATIONAL BODY BE CHANGED TO PRESIDENT , 3 VICE PRESIDENTS , SECRETARY AND TREASURER. SO AS TO SPREAD THE WORK LOAD OF RESPONSIBILITY .

ELECTION TO FILL THE VACANCIES ON THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

NATIONAL PRES DENT :                      KEVIN GILL OF THE ACT WAS ELECTED  
NATIONAL VICE PRES DENT :                COL EVANS OF WA WAS ELECTED  
SECRETARY :                                  TIM McCOOMBE WAS ELECTED TO THE SECRETARY POSITION  
  AS WELL HE RETAINS THE TREASURERS POSITION

NOTE: THESE ELECTIONS FILL THE VACANCIES FOR THE PERIOD UNTILL THE NATIONAL CONGRESS

VVAA NOMINATION TO THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

IT WAS RESOLVED TO NOMINATE MR COL. EVANS OF WA TO THE MINISTER TO FILL THE POSITION HELD BY PHILL THOMPSON ON THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

NATIONAL OFFICE

IT WAS NOTED THAT THE NATIONAL SECRETARY WAS TO LOCATE AND MOVE THE NATIONAL OFFICE TO A NEW LOCATION DUE TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE OWNER, THE NEW LOCATION TO BE ADVISED.

SECURITY OF FILES OF EVIDENCE FROM ROYAL COMMISSION

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT THE SECRETARY INVESTIGATE THE ARCHIVING OF THESE ITEMS AT THE AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AND THE SECURITY OF THOSE ITEMS WITH ACCESS TO THE VVA ONLY

LIST OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- Federal Executive Accounts:
1. Statement of income and expenditure 85/86 unaudited
  2. Statement of income and expenditure 84/85 audited
  3. Statement of income and expenditure 83/84 audited
- Royal Commission Accounts:
4. 83/84 audited
  5. 84/85 audited
- Royal Commission Public  
*CAPITALS A/C*
6. Statement of income and expenditure 85/86 unaudited
  7. Statement of income and expenditure 84/85 audited
  8. Statement of income and expenditure 83/84 audited

VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
FEDERAL EXECUTIVE ACCOUNT

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED 31ST MARCH 1986

Income:	
Government grant	5,000.00
Affiliation and capitation fees	2,567.00
Interest on bank account	<u>32.82</u>
	7,599.82
Less Expenditure:	
Office rent	1,000.00
Electricity	473.14
Telephone	1,182.76
Town Hall Concert expenses	2,045.20
Postage and courier	280.75
Printing and stationery	469.40
Typing charges	700.00
Travelling expenses	2,639.20
Subscriptions	400.00
Bank charges	95.51
Petty cash expenses	30.00
Welfare payments	60.00
Legacy - North Sydney	<u>50.00</u>
	9,425.96
Deficit for the nine months ended 31st March 1986	\$ <u><u>(1,826.14)</u></u>
Represented by:	
Bank account - National Australia Bank	
Overdraft as at 1st July 1985	(130.07)
Add Deficit for the nine months ended 31st March 1986	<u>(1,826.14)</u>
Overdraft as at 31st March 1986	\$ <u><u>(1,956.21)</u></u>



Registered  
Tax Agent

AUDITORS' REPORT TO  
THE VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

FEDERAL EXECUTIVE ACCOUNT

We have examined the Statement of Income and Expenditure of the Federal Executive Account for the year ended 30th June 1985.

In our opinion the aforementioned statement presents a true and fair view of the cash transactions of the Account for the year ended 30th June 1985 and is in accordance with the books of the Account and the information furnished to us.

*S. L. Tagg & Co.*

S. L. TAGG & CO.  
Chartered Accountant

Sydney, 30th April 1986

VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

FEDERAL EXECUTIVE ACCOUNT

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1985

Income:

Royalties from Association journal	300.00
Affiliation and capitation fees	2,988.00
Government grant	5,000.00
Donation - Redgum	1,000.00
Sales of stickers and badges	687.75
Interest on bank account	40.58
	<u>10,016.33</u>

Less Expenditure:

Typing fees	2,640.00
Travelling expenses	1,619.00
Welfare payments	125.00
Purchase of stock of books "Politics of Agent Orange"	875.85
Postage and courier	515.50
Printing and stationery	46.80
Research assistant	500.00
Subscriptions	260.00
Accountancy fees	270.00
Bank charges	176.22
Payments for and on behalf of Debrief magazine to be reimbursed	960.00
Contribution to RSL re class action	<u>200.00</u>
	8,188.37

Surplus for the year ended 30th June 1985

\$ 1,827.96

Represented by:

Bank Account - National Australia Bank

Overdraft as at 1st July 1984	(1,958.03)
Add Surplus for the year ended 30th June 1985	<u>1,827.96</u>
Overdraft as at 30th June 1985	\$ <u><u>(130.07)</u></u>

Registered  
Tax Agent

AUDITORS' REPORT TO  
THE VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

FEDERAL EXECUTIVE ACCOUNT

We have examined the statement of income and expenditure of the Federal Executive Account for the year ended 30th June 1984.

In our opinion the aforementioned statement presents a true and fair view of the cash transactions of the Account for the year ended 30th June 1984 and is in accordance with the books of the Account and the information furnished to us.

*S. L. Tagg & Co.*

S. L. TAGG & CO.  
Chartered Accountant

Sydney, 2nd April, 1985

VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

FEDERAL EXECUTIVE ACCOUNT

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1984

Income:	
Royalties from Association journal	1,500.00
Affiliation and capitation fees	1,587.00
Government grant	5,000.00
Donations - V.V.A. branches and members	371.00
- Redgum	9,614.98
- C.B.S.	1,000.00
Sales of stickers and badges	538.70
Interest on bank account	23.69
	<hr/>
	19,635.37
Less Expenditure:	
Association stickers and badges	456.00
Travelling expenses - airfares	3,696.89
- accommodation and travel allowances	5,879.42
Promotion and congress expenses	1,047.50
Subscription - ADVACS	100.00
Welfare payments	493.70
Typing	3,012.00
Printing, photocopying and stationery including mailing lists	1,831.08
Photographs	158.55
Postage and courier	1,366.64
Telephone	202.09
Office supplies - furniture	1,181.80
- sundry incl. petty cash	841.89
- research books	51.00
Repairs and maintenance - photocopier	829.00
Bank charges	52.80
	<hr/>
	21,200.36
	<hr/>
Deficit for the year	\$ 1,564.99
	<hr/> <hr/>
Represented by:	
Bank Overdraft - National Australia Bank	
Balance at 1st July 1983	393.04
Add Deficit for the year	1,564.99
	<hr/>
Balance at 30th June 1984	\$ 1,958.03
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S. L. TAGG & CO.  
Chartered Accountant

(4)

Registered  
Tax Agent

AUDITORS' REPORT TO  
THE VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
ROYAL COMMISSION GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE ACCOUNT

We have examined the statement of income and expenditure of the Royal Commission Government Assistance Account for the year ended 30th June 1984.

In our opinion the aforementioned statement presents a true and fair view of the cash transactions of the Account for the year ended 30th June 1984 and is in accordance with the books of the Account and the information furnished to us.

*S. L. Tagg & Co.*

S. L. TAGG & CO.  
Chartered Accountant

Sydney, 19th September 1984

VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

ROYAL COMMISSION  
GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE ACCOUNT

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1984

Income:

Allocations of government funds	85,000.00
Interest received on savings account	<u>1,067.79</u>
	86,067.79

Less Expenditure:

Research - scientific consultants	25,310.00
- research assistant	8,650.00
- V.V.A. assistants & typists	15,330.00
- publications	609.74
Travelling expenses - airfares	8,630.49
- accommodation & local travel	2,148.20
Office rent	8,359.70
Electricity	548.83
Telephone	8,496.79
Office supplies and stationery	4,276.56
Office equipment - computer	8,080.00
- furniture & equipment	1,354.00
Postage	4,388.14
Bank charges	<u>157.69</u>
	96,340.14
Deficit as at 30th June 1984	\$ <u><u>(10,272.35)</u></u>

Represented by:

Cash at bank - National Australia Bank	1,527.65
Less Amount owing to Public Appeal Trust Fund	<u>11,800.00</u>
	\$ <u><u>(10,272.35)</u></u>

S. L. TAGG & CO.  
Chartered Accountant

Registered  
Tax Agent

*[Handwritten signature]* (5)  
*R/C*

AUDITORS' REPORT TO  
THE VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
  
ROYAL COMMISSION GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE ACCOUNT

We have examined the statement of income and expenditure of the Royal Commission Government Assistance Account for the year ended 30th June 1985.

In our opinion the aforementioned statement presents a true and fair view of the cash transactions of the Account for the year ended 30th June 1985 and is in accordance with the books of account and the information furnished to us.

S. L. TAGG & CO.  
Chartered Accountant

Sydney, 7th July 1985

## VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

ROYAL COMMISSION  
GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE ACCOUNTSTATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1985Income:

Allocations of government funds		
- grants for administration and research		108,760.00
- reimbursements of costs claimed		23,784.40
Interest received on bank account		<u>199.20</u>
		132,743.60

Less Expenditure:

Research - scientific and legal consultants	10,839.27	
- research assistant	7,350.00	
- V.V.A.A. assistants and typists	10,880.00	
- publications	171.05	
Travelling expenses - airfares	30,550.62	
- accommodation and local travel	22,736.45	
Office rent and cleaning	9,292.41	
Electricity	1,121.53	
Telephone	13,948.50	
Office supplies, stationery and photocopying	9,926.37	
Postage	3,073.14	
Audit and accountancy fees	900.00	
Bank charges and bank interest	683.90	
Freight and courier	<u>985.26</u>	
		<u>122,458.50</u>
Surplus for the year ended 30th June 1985		10,285.10
<u>Less Deficit for the year ended 30th June 1984</u>		<u>(10,272.35)</u>
Net Surplus as at 30th June 1985		<u>\$ 12.75</u>

## Represented by:

Cash at bank - National Australia Bank	\$ 12.75
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THE VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
ROYAL COMMISSION GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE ACCOUNT

INVENTORY OF FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT

<u>Reference number affixed</u>	<u>Description</u>
001 A	4 drawer filing cabinet (at office of Royal Commission)
002A	4 drawer filing cabinet
003B	Office desk
004B	3 drawer filing cabinet
005B	2 drawer card file
006B	Demountable metal shelf unit
007B	Demountable metal shelf unit
008B	Demountable metal shelf unit
009B	Office desk with 6 drawers
010B	Office desk 4 drawers
011B	Office desk 4 drawers
012B	Office desk metal construction
013B	Computer CPU
014B	Computer keyboard
015B	Computer visual display unit
016B	Computer disk drive
017B	Computer disk drive
018B	Computer printer
019B	Typists chair
020B	Typists chair
021B	2 drawer filing cabinet
022C	Office desk metal construction
023C	Double bunk bed
024C	Double bunk bed

INVENTORY OF FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT

025D	Visitors chair
026E	Office desk metal construction
027E	4 drawer filing cabinet
028E	4 drawer filing cabinet
029E	3 drawer filing cabinet
030F	Demountable shelf unit
031F	Demountable metal shelf unit
032F	Demountable metal shelf unit
033F	Demountable metal shelf unit
034F	Typists chair
035G	Office desk metal construction
036G	Typists chair
037G	Typists chair
038G	Typists chair
039H	Office desk 2 drawers
040H	Typists chair
041J	Office desk 2 drawers
042J	Typists chair
043K	Office desk metal construction

Dated, 5th July 1985

## VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

ROYAL COMMISSION  
PUBLIC APPEAL TRUST FUNDSTATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED 31ST MARCH 198632.50  
may

## Income:

Proceeds of sales of book "Politics of Agent Orange"	587.08
Interest on bank account and bonus deposit	<u>2,360.25</u>
	2,947.33

## Less Expenditure:

Printing of Repatriation Claim booklet	1,579.60
Critique of the Report of the Royal Commission	
- legal consultant	1,000.00
- typing	250.00
- printing	1,615.20
Travelling expenses and allowances	1,064.70
Office rent	2,000.00
Electricity	901.78
Telephone	4,498.05
Purchase of typewriter	395.00
Typing charges	1,400.00
Stationery and photocopying	1,405.86
Postage and courier	676.53
Accountancy and audit fees	865.00
Bank charges	<u>11.43</u>
	17,663.15
Deficit for the nine months ended 31st March 1986	<u>\$ 14,715.82</u>

## Represented by:

Bank balances as at 1st July 1985	
Commonwealth Trading Bank	4,076.32
Westpac Bonus Deposit	<u>15,000.00</u>
	19,076.32
Less Deficit for the nine months to 31st March 1986	<u>14,715.82</u>
Bank balance as at 31st March 1986	
Commonwealth Trading Bank	<u>\$ 4,360.50</u>

7

National Patron:



# VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## NATIONAL OFFICE

CNR. BLAXCELL & WILLIAM STREET, GRANVILLE 2142 (P.O. BOX 369, PARRAMATTA 2150) PHONE: (02) 682 1788

Mr J.H. Greenwood OBE

4 of 1986

20th January, 1986.

TO ALL BRANCHES & SUB-BRANCHES  
=====

Attached is the Audited Statement of the Royal Commission Trust Fund account which has already been sent to Branch Presidents some months ago.

We still have \$9,000.00 which will be used to continue the work of the aftermath of the Royal Commission and the costs involved in travel for scientists, reimbursing overseas witnesses and for the work carried out etc.

Yours sincerely,

PHILL THOMPSON.

National President.

Encl.

Registered  
Tax Agent

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
THE VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
ROYAL COMMISSION PUBLIC APPEAL TRUST FUND

We have examined the statement of income and expenditure of the Trust for the year ended 30th June 1985.

In regard to donations it was not practicable to extend our examination beyond the Trust's receipt records.

In our opinion, which, with respect to donations is limited to those recorded in the receipt records, the aforementioned statement presents a true and fair view of the cash transactions of the Trust for the year ended 30th June 1985 and is in accordance with the books of the Trust and the information furnished to us.

*S. L. Tagg & Co.*

S. L. TAGG & CO.  
Chartered Accountant

Sydney, 20th September 1985

VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

ROYAL COMMISSION  
PUBLIC APPEAL TRUST FUND

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1985

Income:

Donations received		3,333.47
Repayment of moneys advanced to Royal Commission Government Assistance Account		11,800.00
Government assistance - travel expenses reimbursed		3,549.56
Proceeds of sales of book "Politics of Agent Orange"		2,219.74
Interest on bank account		79.06
		<u>20,981.83</u>

Less Expenditure:

Purchase of stock of books "Politics of Agent Orange"	3,934.40	
Production of Repatriation Claim Booklet - artwork and layout	1,786.30	
Bank charges	24.58	
		<u>5,745.28</u>
Surplus for the year ended 30th June 1985		15,236.55
Surplus for the year ended 30th June 1984		3,839.77
Net Surplus as at 30th June 1985		<u>\$ 19,076.32</u>

Represented by:

Cash at bank - Commonwealth Trading Bank		4,076.32
- Westpac Banking Corporation Bonus Deposit		15,000.00
		<u>\$ 19,076.32</u>

(18)

S. L. TAGG & CO.  
Chartered Accountant

Registered  
Tax Agent

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
THE VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
ROYAL COMMISSION PUBLIC APPEAL TRUST FUND

We have examined the statement of income and expenditure of the Trust for the year ended 30th June 1984.

In regard to donations it was not practicable to extend our examination beyond the Trust's receipt records.

In our opinion, which, with respect to donations is limited to those recorded in the records, the aforementioned statement presents a true and fair view of the cash transactions of the Trust for the year ended 30th June 1984 and is in accordance with the books of the Trust and the information furnished to us.

*S L Tagg + Co*

S. L. TAGG & CO.  
Chartered Accountant

Sydney, 30th July 1984

VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

ROYAL COMMISSION  
PUBLIC APPEAL TRUST FUND

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1984

Income:		
Donations received		24,142.78
Interest received		<u>14.87</u>
		24,157.65
Less Expenditure:		
Advances to Royal Commission		
Government Assistance Account	11,800.00	
Airfares.	8,502.10	
Bank charges	<u>15.78</u>	
		<u>20,317.88</u>
Surplus as at 30th June 1984		<u>\$ 3,839.77</u>
Represented by:		
Cash at bank - Commonwealth Trading Bank		<u>\$ 3,839.77</u>

This is the Statement  
referred to in our auditors' report dated 30th July 1984

S. L. TAGG & CO.  
Chartered Accountant





# VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH

CNR. BLAXCELL & WILLIAM STREETS, GRANVILLE (P.O. BOX 170 GRANVILLE 2142)

PHONE: (02) 682 1788

National Patron:  
Mr. J.H.Greenwood OBE

Regd. Charity No. CC24654

The President,  
Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia,  
New South Wales Branch.  
Cnr Blaxcell and William Streets,  
GRANVILLE. N.S.W.  
Attn. Don Wilson.

9th Dec. 85?

Dear Don,

RE: NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING  
ADELAIDE 13/14 DECEMBER 1986

At the committee meeting of the association held in Sydney Tuesday December 9, 1986, the following motions were proposed, voted upon and accepted and you are instructed to present them at the National Council meeting 13/14 December;

- 1) That N.S.W. Branch is not prepared to support a non elected National Office of the V.V.A.A.
- 2) That N.S.W. Branch will not support in any way an appointed body without having knowledge of the financial status, correctly audited and certified, of the National Office of the V.V.A.A.
- 3) That N.S.W. Branch is not prepared to elect any person or persons to any position within the National Executive without knowledge of the financial and logistical position of the National Office of the V.V.A.A. as we would believe such non elected representatives are not accountable for any debts incurred in the name of the National Office.
- 4) That N.S.W. Branch will only show future support if all actions carried out by the National Executive and the National Council are carried out in accordance with the National Constitution.
- 5) That N.S.W. Branch consider that the National Office should be expanded in accordance with the N.S.W. motion presented to the 6th National Congress to the following positions;  
President, 3 Vice Presidents, Secretary | treasurer.

Yours faithfully,

R.F.FOSTER.

Secretary | treasurer,

For the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia, N.S.W. Branch.



# VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH

CNR. BLAXCELL & WILLIAM STREETS, GRANVILLE (P.O. BOX 170 GRANVILLE 2142)

PHONE: (02) 682 1788

National Patron:  
Mr. J.H. Greenwood OBE

Regd. Charity No. CC24654

(A)

Mr. P.C. Thompson,  
National President,  
Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia.  
2B Hale Road,  
MOSMAN. N.S.W. 2088

15 October 1986

Dear Phil,

At our committee meeting held in Sydney on Friday 10 October it was decided that in respect of the Half Yearly National Council to be held in Launceston Tasmania November 8 and 9, as determined at the National Congress held in Sydney in May 1986, that:

- 1) Irrespective of the health and availability of the National President that the meeting as scheduled should proceed;
- 2) We seek clarification that we still have a National Office;
- 3) We seek clarification as to whom is acting as National Secretary;
- 4) to whom we should direct correspondence;
- 5) Whom is entitled to respond to media requests for comments on those matters of a national interest;
- 6) The National Council members elect at the Launceston conference delegates to fill the currently vacant positions of Vice President and Secretary;
- 7) Clarify the security arrangements re Association and personal members files currently held at Mosman.

For your information we also enclose copies of;

- A) Letter to the Prime Minister and The Minister for Veterans Affairs relating to the Royal Commission.
- B) Letter to the Minister for Veterans Affairs relating to pensions eligibility for Allied Veterans.
- C) A report on V.V.C.S. speech at D.V.A. Seminar on pensions held in September. We request that this matter be followed up on a National basis.
- D) In the absence of any information forthcoming from the National Office, a copy of a letter that our members wish to forward to The Auditor. General's Department relating to funding of the Royal Commission.

We look forward to seeing you in Launceston in November.

Yours Faithfully,

DON WILSON.  
PRESIDENT.

COPIES TO.  
Immediate past Secretary,  
State Branches.



# VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH

CNR. BLAXCELL & WILLIAM STREETS, GRANVILLE (P.O. BOX 170 GRANVILLE 2142)

PHONE: (02) 682 1788

National Patron:  
Mr. J.H. Greenwood OBE

Regd. Charity No. CC24654

The Right Honourable R.J. Hawke,  
The Prime Minister of Australia.  
Parliament House,  
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600

15 October 1986.

(B)

Dear Prime Minister,

Re; Royal Commission into the effects of  
Chemical Usage in Vietnam.

It has been brought to our attention by our members in Australia and our associates in the United States that The New Jersey Agent Orange Commission has announced a major scientific breakthrough, the development of a new way to identify toxic substances in the body through simple and inexpensive blood tests.

As your Government has always shown concern for the Vietnam Veteran and has promised to consider any new scientific evidence as it becomes available, we would believe that the required action has already been taken to investigate the feasibility of extending such testing to the repatriation system.

Following the press reports many of our members have expressed interest in having such tests. We would greatly appreciate if you could advise if and when such testing for toxic substances within the body will be available to Australian Vietnam Veterans.

For your information we enclose copies of newspaper reports from Australia and The United States.

Yours Faithfully,

Don Wilson.  
President, New South Wales Branch.

Copy; Senator A. Gietzelt,  
Minister for Veterans Affairs.



# VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH

CNR. BLAXCELL & WILLIAM STREETS, GRANVILLE (P.O. BOX 170 GRANVILLE 2142)

PHONE: (02) 682 1788

National Patron:  
Mr. J.H. Greenwood OBE

Regd. Charity No. CC24654

Senator A. Gietzelt,  
Minister for Veterans Affairs.  
Parliament House,  
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600

14 October 1986

Dear Minister,

Re; Elegibility Requirements for Service and Disability  
Pensions for Allied Veterans.

We are writing to seek your Departments Elegibility Requirements for Allied Veterans to receive Service and Disability Pensions.

We are aware that this subject has been a matter of correspondence between your Department and the City of Campbelltown R.S.L. Sub-Branch. We have had the opportunity to peruse the correspondence and find that not only is some of the information contradictory but it discriminates against the Australian Veteran.

Accordingly we would appreciate if you would advise this association of the elegibility requirements and the guidelines within which Your Departments staff must work.

Thanking you, in anticipation, we remain,  
Yours Faithfully,

DON WILSON.  
PRESIDENT.



# VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH

CNR. BLAXCELL & WILLIAM STREETS, GRANVILLE (P.O. BOX 170 GRANVILLE 2142)

PHONE: (02) 682 1788

National Patron:  
Mr. J.H. Greenwood OBE

Regd. Charity No. CC24654

AUDITOR GENERALS DEPARTMENT.  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE.  
CANBERRA. A.C.T.  
2600

13 OCTOBER 1986

C

RE: VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
NATIONAL OFFICE FUNDING FOR THE JUSTICE  
EVERITT ROYAL COMMISSION INTO AGENT ORANGE.

SIR,

WE THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH INCORPORATED ARE EXTREMELY CONCERNED ABOUT THE FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE TO OUR NATIONAL OFFICE TO PUT OUR CASE TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION.

ALONG WITH MONIES MADE AVAILABLE BY THE GOVERNMENT THIS STATE, ALONG WITH OTHER STATES HAVE MADE SUBSTANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR NATIONAL OFFICE. AS YET WE HAVE NOT BEEN GIVEN A TRUE AND PROPER ACCOUNT OF THE WAY IN WHICH THIS MONEY WAS USED. WE HAVE NEVER BEEN GIVEN AN AUDITED ACCOUNT TO PRESENT TO OUR MEMBERS. AS IS SHOWN IN THE MINUTES OF OUR COMMITTEE MEETINGS WE HAVE ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS REQUESTED INFORMATION AS TO HOW THE MONIES WERE USED, BUT WE RECEIVED NO ACCOUNTS OR EVEN A REPLY TO OUR REQUESTS FROM OUR NATIONAL OFFICE.

IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT WE REQUEST YOUR HELP TO OBTAIN THIS INFORMATION, EITHER BY GOVERNMENT RECORDS OR BY AN INVESTIGATION BY YOUR OFFICE OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA NATIONAL OFFICE AT MOSMON N.S.W. YOUR EARLIEST ACTION ON THIS MATTER WOULD BE OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE AS WE FEAR OUR NATIONAL OFFICE IS IN DIRE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES. WE HOPE YOU MAY BE ABLE TO ASSIST US IN THIS MATTER.

YOURS SINCERELY

---

D. WILSON PRESIDENT.



# RETURNED SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA

(New South Wales Branch) Incorporated  
"The Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance"

CITY OF CAMPBELLTOWN R.S.L. SUB-BRANCH

P.O. Box 71, CAMPBELLTOWN 2560

President J. Wyner  
Hon. Treas. A. L. McDonell, J.P.  
Hon. Sec. R. James

6 Lithgow Street  
Telephone: (046) 25 1408

REPORT ON V.V.C.S. SPEECH  
D.V.A. SEMINAR ON PENSIONS  
CONDUCTED SEPT. 1986.

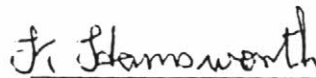
A THREE DAY PENSION SEMINAR WAS CONDUCTED BY THE D.V.A. AT WHICH VARIOUS SPEAKERS WERE INVITED TO TALK.

ONE OF THESE SPEAKERS WAS THEO PEGOLUS FROM THE V.V.C.S. WHO SPOKE ON THE SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE V.V.C.S. IN GREAT LENGTH. HE COVERED ALL ASPECTS OF THE SERVICE, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE ROLE AND INDEED THE VERY EXISTANCE OF THE V.V.A.A. UNTIL THE END OF HIS TALK, WHEN HE REFERRED TO US ONLY CASUALLY. HE REFERED TO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE V.V.A.A. AND THE R.S.L. MOVEMENT BOTH IN THE PAST, THE PRESENT AND HOW THE SITUATION WAS STILL IMPROVING.

IT WAS AT THIS TIME THAT REMARKS LIKE "WHAT ARE THEY RATBAGS" AND "WHAT DO THEY EXPECT", "THEY WON'T GET INVOLVED IN THEIR SUB BRANCH'S" BEGAN TO COME FROM THE FLOOR.

IT WAS AT THIS POINT IN TIME THAT I FELT I HAD TO SPEAK IN THE DEFENCE OF "VIETNAM VETERANS", AND POINT OUT TO THE PEOPLE ON THE FLOOR THAT "VIETNAM VETERANS" WERE INVOLVED IN THE RUNNING OF THEIR SUB BRANCHES, AND IN FACT WERE ELECTED TO EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE POSITIONS. I ALSO STRESSED THAT WE WERE NOT "RATBAGS" BUT RESPONSIBLE MEMBERS OF A VETERANS ORGANIZATION FIGHTING FOR OUR "RIGHTS", TO WHICH WE ARE ENTITLED, AND TO GET ASSISTANCE TO "OUR" VETERANS AND THEIR DEPENDANTS.

TO SUM UP I WAS DISAPPOINTED AT THE "CASUAL" RECOGNITION OF OUR ASSOCIATION BY THEO AND THE LACK OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED.



K. HAINSWORTH.  
HON. SECRETARY.



# VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH

CNR. BLAXCELL & WILLIAM STREETS, GRANVILLE (P.O. BOX 170 GRANVILLE 2142)

PHONE: (02) 682 1788

National Patron:  
Mr. J.H. Greenwood OBE

Regd. Charity No. CC24654

### WELCOME HOME PARADE IN 1988

TO: PARTICIPANTS IN THE CHICAGO WELCOME HOME PARADE 1986  
ALL EX SERVICE ORGANISATIONS  
SUB BRANCHES AND ZONE REPRESENTATIVES

MANY OF YOU WILL HAVE HEARD OR SEEN REPORTS ON THE VIETNAM VETERANS WELCOME HOME PARADE AT WHICH A NUMBER OF AUSTRALIANS ATTENDED HELD IN CHICAGO JUNE 13TH 1986.

YOU MAY ALSO HAVE HEARD OR SEEN OF A PROPOSAL PUT FORWARD BY THE V.V.A.A. AND THE R.S.L. FOR A WELCOME HOME PARADE TO BE HELD IN SYDNEY IN OUR BICENTENNIAL YEAR OF 1988. FOLLOWING MANY REQUESTS THIS ASSOCIATION WILL HOST A MEETING OF ALL INTERESTED GROUPS WITH THE AIM OF FORMING A STEERING COMMITTEE COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL GROUPS TO PLAN AND CO-ORDINATE ALL ACTIVITIES.

THE DAY: SUNDAY OCTOBER 19 1986

THE TIME: 10,00 HRS.

THE LOCATION: GRANVILLE R.S.L. YOUTH CLUB HALL,  
CNR. BLAXCELL AND WILLIAM STREETS,  
GRANVILLE.

AS THIS IS TO BE A PARADE FOR VIETNAM VETERANS WE BELIEVE THERE SHOULD BE MAXIMUM INVOLVEMENT IN THE ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION BY VIETNAM VETERANS. WE URGE ALL INTERESTED PARTIES TO ATTEND AND PLAN FOR A DAY TO REMEMBER.

.....

FOLLOWING THE ABOVE MEETING ALL V.V.A.A. SUB BRANCH AND ZONE REPRESENTATIVES ARE REQUESTED TO MEET WITH THE N.S.W. COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS MATTERS TO BE RAISED BY SUCH SUB BRANCHES AND COMMITTEE.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU

VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA,  
NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH.

DON WILSON.  
PRESIDENT



VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOC. OF AUSTRALIA

WESTERN AUSTRALIA BRANCH (09)4475585

National Patron:  
Mr J.H. Greenwood OBE

I Acacia Way Duncraig W.A. 6023

Reg. Charity No. 454

MR JOHN PRINTZ

RMB 5040

VIA HEYFIELD. Vic. 3858

24 OCTOBER 1986

DEAR JOHN,

This is to advise that our National President Phill Thompson has been ill for some time now and as a result has been in Concord Repat Hospital, then to Queensland for a rest which resulted in him having a car accident which added to his illness.

He then came to WA for further rest and hospitalisation in Hollywood Repat Hospital. He has since been discharged for R&R and he will be re-admitted for treatment in the near future, and a further period of R&R will need to be taken. The above has meant that he has not been able to engage in active VVAA work and that will remain the case for a while to come.

Phill has asked me to give you an update on the National Office and the Federal Govt enquiry into this Associations complaints about the Royal Commission Report.

Firstly because of the resignation of our National Secretary Ric Haines, and after discussion with Tim McCoombe, Mick Alright(Tas) Kevin Gill(ACT) Phill Thompson, John Delacca(Ballarat) John Printz(Vic) Grant Collins(SA) Don Wilson(NSW) and myself, by telephone on Wednesday 15th October 1986, the majority view was that it would be prudent to appoint Tim McCoombe as National Secretary/Treasurer as an interim appointment untill our next Council meeting, in Brisbane in November, it was agreed by all except one (NSW) by phone 15th October 86 that it would be appropriate to defer that Council meeting to a later date, to be determined. It was agreed that the deferment not be too long and that it was important to convene a Council meeting as soon as practically possible. (Unfortunately it was not possible to contact QLD on 15/10/86) The timing for that meeting is at this stage unknown because it is felt we should wait until more info regarding the Royal Commission inquiry is



available.

At this point in time it is known that Justice Evatt has asked the Ministers (DVA) Office to release to him a copy of our submission complaining about his findings. As a result of his request, Tim McCoombe as Secretary/Treasurer, after advise from our legal and scientific advisers, wrote a letter agreeing to let the Judge have a copy of our submission providing he responded within one (1) month and that we got a copy of his comments, and of any other on the copy forwarded to the Judge.

With that in mind the decision at this stage to defer the Council meeting was made in the interests of economy and that it would be wiser to adopt this attitude to allow discussion which may arise from the Judge's response.

Having said all that it's now worth stating that as a result of correspondence received from the NSW State Branch since the telephone conversations (15th Oct) referred to earlier, Phill Thompson is now back in Sydney.

According to the info on the NSW correspondence all State Branches have received copies of that.

For myself I am extremely dissapointed and disgusted with NSW in taking this destructive action, which I assume was taken as a result of the phone calls of the 15th October 1986.

I object to NSW writing (15th October 86) direct to the Prime Minister regarding blood etc testing, without consulting other States, under the guise of "our members in Australia" thus implying NSW is conducting our National affairs. It is more objectionable though for NSW to write to the Auditor Generals Dept (13th Oct 86) regarding Royal Commission funding and audited accounts pertaining

to that funding. I am aware as will other States delegates at Congress/Council meetings that statements have been tabled (with NSW present) and other financial statements have been forwarded by mail to States at other times. Shown below is a summary of statements held by this State Office;

1. Royal Commission Government Assistance Acc.(period ending 30/6/85 dated 7/7/85- audited by S L Tagg&Co)

2. Inventory of Furniture & Eqpt(dated 5/7/85)

3. Royal Commission Public Appeal Trust Fund Account.(period ending 30/6/85 dated 20/9/85 audited by SL Tagg & Co)

3.

4. Same audit document as above put out to States from National Office under cover note 4 of 1986 dated 20/1/86 and sent by mail.

5. Tabled at 7th National Congress 3/4 May 86.

- a. Federal Executive Acc (for year end 30/6/85-audited)
- b. Federal Executive Acc (for year end 31/3/86- unaudited)
- c. Royal Commission Public Appeal Trust Fund Acc  
(period end 31/3/86, unaudited)

These documents as presented were accepted by delegates.

May I suggest that if NSW do not hold on file these documents, then perhaps they should look at their own filing system.

The NSW complaint also questions the integrity of our Trustees and auditors, and borders on defamation.

It is my deep hope that other States will support my views and respond in a similar vein.

Yours sincerely,



24 Oct 1986

C.G. EVANS

President

DISTRIBUTION

NATIONAL OFFICE

STATE BRANCHES (INCL A.C.T.)



# VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## TASMANIAN BRANCH

National Patron:  
Mr. J.H. Greenwood OBE

PHONE: (003) 319718

Mr. P.C. Thompson,  
National President,  
Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia,  
28 Hale Road,  
MOSMAN. N.S.W. 2088

4th November, 1986

Dear Phil,

I believe I have cooled down enough to report on correspondence received from the N.S.W. Branch.

Firstly I find it unbelievable that the NSW Branch representing approximately 21 sub branches could be so ignoble toward our President and the Association.

As host to the National Council meeting 8 November, 1986 and accounting for arrangements already made, I had no hesitation due to the present developments (Justice Evatts request to D.V.A.) in agreeing and endorsing the postponement to a date convenient.

I find the letter forwarded to the Prime Minister totally objectionable. You can imagine the disastrous effects this would have on a Veteran by imposing a one Chemical and a one TEST between him and reasonable compensation, it would be suicidal.

The letter addressed to the Auditor Generals Department is the most mendacious vilifying piece of crap I've seen for many years. If it wasn't for the adverse flak the National Association would receive as a whole I'd let Don Wilson send it. Tasmania may not be a rich State but we have our office in order: Following documents held by this State Branch.

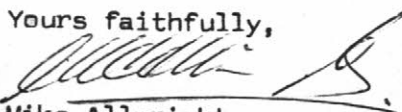
1. Royal Commission Government Assistance A/C dated 7.7.85 Audited by S.L. Tagg & Co.
2. Royal Commission Public appeal Trust Fund A/C dated 20.9.85 audited by S.L. Tagg & Co.
3. Inventory of Furniture and Equipment dated 5.7.85.

Tabled and passed by all State Delegates at Congress May 1986.

1. Federal executive Account (year ending 30.6.85 - Audited)
2. Federal executive account (year ending 31.3.86 - Unaudited)
3. Royal Commission Public Appeal Trust Fund Account (year ending 31.3.1986 Unaudited).

Phil, I must admit I have a feeling of apprehension, disappointment or total frustration toward the N.S.W. Branch. Possibly because the N.S.W. Branch demonstrated what I considered genuine patriotism in supplying this State with letterheads and envelopes at no cost, (perhaps a sprat to catch a mackerel) this gesture was appreciated and duly answered, (some delay, as our State Secretary had his house badly damaged by fire with additional and unfortunate loss of equipment to our Branch.) However, I believe at our recent Council meeting this issue of direct conflict and assault on the National Association by the N.S.W. branch be aired and dealt with as agreed by the National Council in the interest of all Australian Vietnam Vets and within the guidelines of National Policy.

Yours faithfully,

  
Mike Allwright  
PRESIDENT



# VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## NATIONAL OFFICE

CNR. BLAXCELL & WILLIAM STREETS, GRANVILLE 2142 (P.O. BOX 369, PARRAMATTA 2150) PHONE: (02) 682 1788

National Patron:  
Mr. J.H.Greenwood OBE

18th November, 1986

To All State Presidents

Subject: National Council Meeting

A meeting of the National Council (State Branch Presidents) and the National Executive will be convened on Saturday/Sunday 13th/14th December, 1986. The venue will be THE ESPLANADE HOTEL, 135A Esplanade, Brighton, Adelaide, South Australia, where adequate facilities to conduct such a meeting exists.

Because of health reasons, Phil Thompson the President has decided to step down as President. This meeting has been convened to elect a new Federal Executive. Also other items to be discussed are:-

1. U.S. class action
2. Half-way Houses - Qld and NSW
3. The direction and development of the VVAA
4. VVAA Submission to Government, Royal Commission
5. NSW letter to all State Presidents, dated the 15th October 1986
6. Election of a new Federal Executive.

A more detailed Agenda will be despatched prior to the meeting taking place. If any states wish to have items placed on the Agenda please forward them to the Federal Office before the 2nd December, 1986.

.../2

Preliminary Logistics:

Accommodation for inter-state Branch Presidents will be provided at THE ESPLANADE HOTEL for the nights of the 13th/14th. Those Branch Presidents travelling by air please notify Grant Collins the S.A. President (home 08-298 7963, work 08 298 4693) so arrangements can be made to meet you at the airport.

Regards,

*Tim McCombe*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
TIM McCOMBE  
SECRETARY