

PART 5

RESERVE FORCES DAY 1998

Chapter 12

RESERVE FORCES DAY 1998 50TH Anniversary of the CMF

On Wednesday 1 July 1998, Australia celebrated the 50th anniversary of the introduction of the Citizens Military Forces after World War II. The Australian government planned marches and ceremonies throughout Australia and, with the support of the RSL, media advertising attracted many former CMF and ARES members to the capital cities.

In Brisbane, the occasion was celebrated by a wreath-laying ceremony in Anzac Square on Wednesday 1 July at 12 noon with the Governor, MAJGEN P. Arnison, laying a wreath and giving a short address. On Sunday 5 July, the Reserve Forces Day march through the street of Brisbane began at 10 am with further celebrations in the Botanic Gardens. Members taking part were to receive a Medallion to mark the occasion. Ultimately, a Certificate of Commemoration was issued to participants.

The parade was lead by MAJGEN D. Luttrell and the salute taken by the Chief of Reserves MAJGEN D. Low Choy. Dignitaries included Defence Force Personnel Support Minister, The Honourable Bronwyn Bishop, State MLAs and city councillors. The salute was taken at the City Hall.

RAAOC was well represented at these celebrations with many serving and retired members marching. The RAAOC Association (Qld Division) graciously loaned the Association Banner for the occasion.

WO1 G.J. Sheehan OAM was invited to lead the RAAOC Reserve contingent. Members marching included:-

MAJ: A.G. Lederle, J.P. McGahan, R.Z. Marszalek, G.W. Oliver.

CAPT:: A.M.G. Grant.

WO1: G.J. Sheehan, E.G. Wall.

WO2: J.F. Bishop, G.R. Cochrane, J.J. Sherrington, J. Shorrock, D.G. Webb.



SSGT: H.W. Evans

SGT: D.T. Hanlen, O. Harch, J. Heywood, D. Luke, R. Pringle, J. Seymour, A. Skelson, D.W. Smith, C. Stephens

CPL: T. Morrison, K. Porter, L.M. Sherington, G. Smith.

WO1 E.G. Wall and SGT D. Luke participated in the march travelling in a Jeep. Eric Wall passed away on 12 September 1998 after a long illness.



MAJGEN D. Luttrell leads the parade.



RAAOC contingent.



WO1 Sheehan leads the contingent.



Reserve contingent.



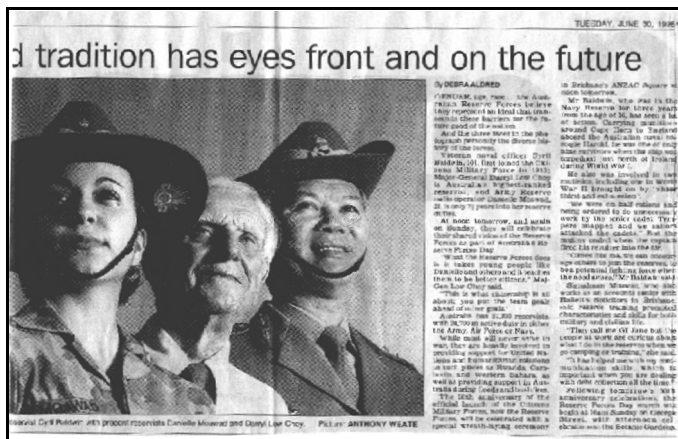
WO1 E.G. Wall and SGT D. Luke.



CAPT A.M.G. Grant, SGT A. Skelson.



Reserve contingents - The present and the past.



Courier Mail article - Past and present Reservists.

Many friendships were renewed on the day. Some members participating had served together in the early years of the CMF and took the opportunity to remember many fond days spent together.

Members who attended the ceremonies had the opportunity to record their personal particulars and their attendance on the day. They were subsequently



presented with a Certificate of Commemoration of this inaugural Reserve Forces Day *“Recognising the value of Reserve Force service to the Nation”*. Signed by the Governor General Sir William Deane AC, KBE, Patron in Chief of Reserve Forces Day and Sir Roden Cutler VC, AK, KCMG, KCVO, CBE, National Chairman of Reserve Forces Day, they provide a fitting tribute to the sacrifices made by the legion of citizens who have served in Australia’s Reserve Forces of the Navy, Army and Air Force.

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