

Staff College Graduates Speak on Wartime Era Experiences

I am writing with reference to the article which appeared in the February edition of *Air Force News* concerning 'Reflections on Staff College Training and the 22-23 October 2000 reunion. In particular the program at the War Memorial on the second day which included short presentations from eight selected graduates. Each of whom had served in the RAAF's major conflicts during the RAAF Staff College era and whose particulars and subject matter would be of interest to many *Air Force News* readers, particularly those contemporaries of their time. Accordingly, I have listed hereunder, the names and the area of operations which they addressed:

GPCAPT (Ret'd) Paul Metzler 'Catalina Operations'; WGCDR (Ret'd) Dick Cresswell 'Forming 77 Squadron'; AVM (Ret'd) Jim Flemming, AO, 'Mustangs in Korea'; AVM (Ret'd) Bill Simmonds, AO, 'Meteors in Korea'; AVM (Ret'd) Ken Tuckwell 'Butterworth Operations'; AIRCDRE (Ret'd) Arthur Pickering, AM, 'Base Squadron Butterworth'; GPCAPT (Ret'd) John Jacobsen 'Ubon Operations'; GPCAPT

(Ret'd) Mick Hacksell, DFC, 'Rotary Wing Operations Vietnam'; AVM (Ret'd) Graham Neil, AO, DFC, 'FAC Operations Vietnam'.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your being honoured with the Department of Defence Australia Day Medal as presented to you by DCAF Air Vice-Marshal Alan Titheridge, who, among other things, also said to you during the presentation of the Medal that 'the quality and relevance of *Air Force News* to both serving and retired members and, as endorsed by an overwhelming chorus of readers, is better than it has been for years.' As one of those retired members who look forward each month to *Air Force News*, I also join this 'chorus' of content.

WGCDR (Ret'd) A.E. Ilton

Banora Point NSW 2486

Editor's note: You are quite right — an important passage of text was inadvertently dropped from your article in the February edition for which we apologise.

Secondly, thank you most sincerely for your congratulations. I feel humbled by your words and hope I can live up to your expectations regarding Air Force News.