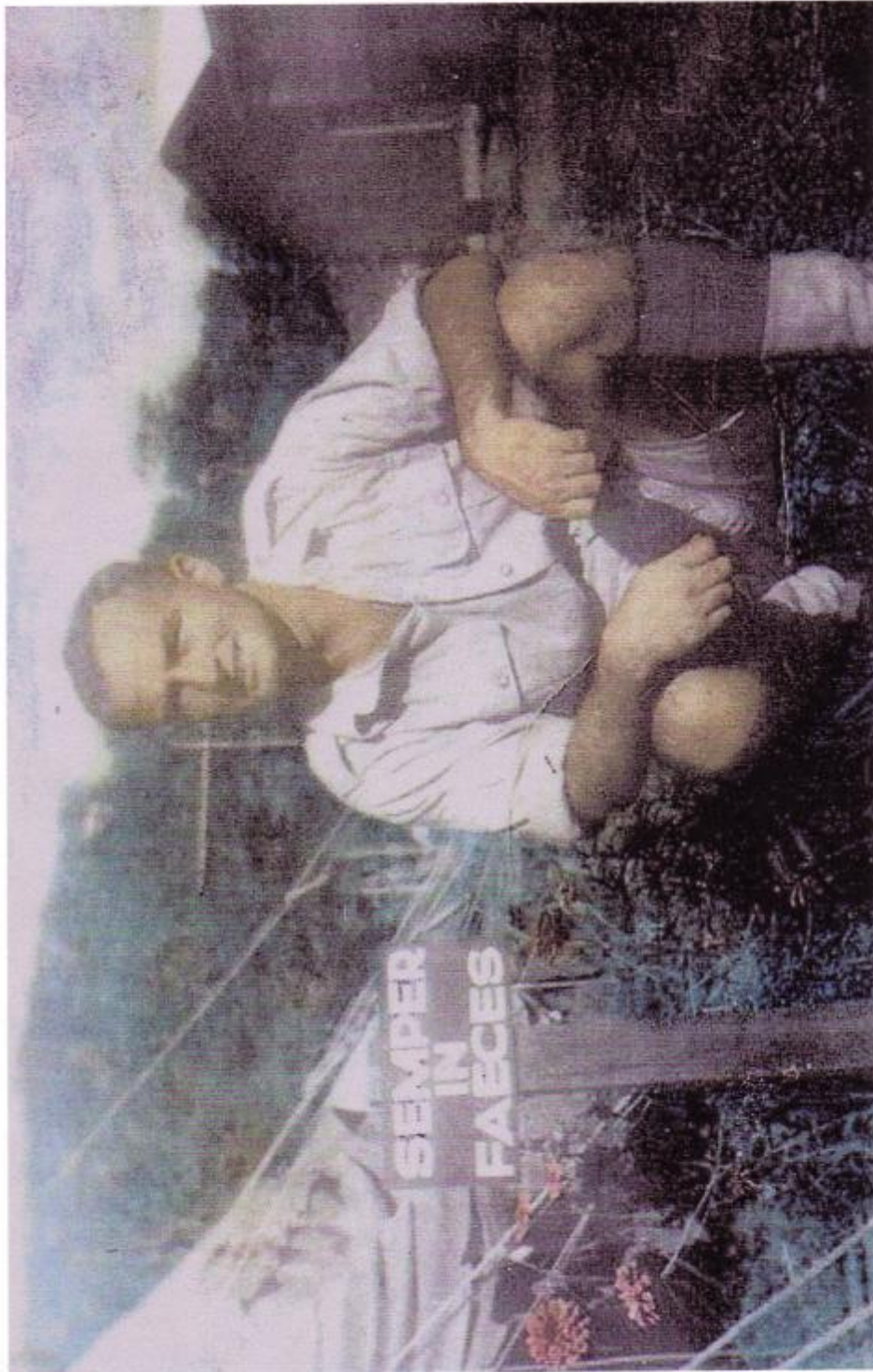

Alan Wellsley Griffin

2ND / 5TH A.G.H. Morotai



Bert Sharp (My Mother's Brother/my Uncle) at 2nd/5th AGH Morotai. Here Bert is pictured outside his tent with a sign of Latin meaning. The direct and politically correct translation being... " ALWAYS IN THE POO!" Hospital buildings can be seen in the background.



My Uncle Bert (Sharp) and myself with a canoe that we made from an old seaplane pontoon. 2nd/5th AGH hospital buildings are visible in the background

Bert Sharp pictured at the beach near the 2nd/5th AGH. The hospital consisted of several buildings and tents and was a stone's throw from the ocean. Operating theatres were fairly basic, with most being accommodated in large tents.

Bert worked in the X - Ray department of 2nd/5th





Bert Sharp and Laurie after enjoying a swim while off duty

Laurie was later to become Bert's wife when the war was over

Myself, Bert, unknown and Laurie enjoying one another's company



My 21st Birthday was celebrated at 2nd/5th AGH X - Ray department Morotai. X - Ray equipment is visible in the lefthand background. I am pictured in the rear, fith from the left. (The one with the biggest smile!)

After a few days living in the clearing in the jungle I was sent to 1st Tactical Air Force Signals Dept. – My stay there was short and I was asked if I wished to be in the landing at Tarakan in Borneo. (Tarakan was where one of my close colleagues, Hugh Whitford had been posted after our service in Broome) My answer was yes, however in the meantime I was posted to 110 Mobile Fighter Control Unit (MFCU) on the Island of Morotai.

Our tents were in a banana plantation, a couple of hundred yards from the barbed wire perimeter fence between the Allied and 'Jap' held area. Situated further back from the perimeter was an American artillery unit who used to fire daily over our camp into the Japanese held hills. It wasn't very conducive to sleep, especially if you had been on watch all night.

The tents fitted into the banana plantation quite well with a banana palm at each corner of the tent – you would watch the banana's getting ripe and just when you thought they were nearly ready to pick, the natives would walk through the camp and chop the bunches off with a machete. They preferred the banana's green and would boil them in their skins like potatoes.

Every tent had a "Choofer" for boiling your washing etc. This ingenious piece of equipment was very simple and consisted of scrounged materials from aircraft wrecks. Firstly a small tank to hold the petrol which was hung on a banana palm six feet from the ground where the metal tubing from the tank ran to the ground and was bent into a two inch circle, turned in underneath and pointed up through the circle and crimped to make a jet. When lit it would go "choof-choof-choof" and so on, hence its name "Choofer" A very effective heater and although using petrol I never ever heard of an accident with one.

BOOTS

The rich baritone voice of Peter Dawson singing one of his most popular songs, (the only words that I can remember are "Boots, Boots, Boots, Boots marching up and down again, there's no discharge in the war!"), remind me of the RAAF boots that we were issued; strong, heavily constructed with steel horse shoe heels and weighing an absolute ton. They were meant to last and last they did.

On Morotai Island we were issued with two bottles of beer per week and as I did not drink alcohol in those days I was able to make a large profit in selling the weekly ration of two bottles to the US Airman camped close by. The yanks were well paid compared to the Australian Troops and I had no problem in getting a profit between 1500% - 2500% depending on the bargaining on the day.

One evening I set off with my grog issue to the US Tent Lines. I tried the first tent and nobody was interested, the next tent had an unusual and different feeling about it because they were having a Wake for one of the airman in the tent who had not returned from a mission and was just officially recorded as missing in action.

They had just gone through his personal gear to be sent back home and some of his unwanted clothes and a pair of boots had been thrown out beside the tent. The discarded footwear was a fawn coloured suede pair of desert boots – almost new and in my mind I could see me wearing them with the luxury of light weight comfort – so I made my play and offered the yanks two bottles of beer for the boots – the offer was snapped up and the boots fitted me like a glove. I wore those desert boots for over six months and on leaving Morotai placed them neatly placed beside a banana palm where I knew some native would gratefully put them to good use.



Alan Griffin (myself) in the centre with two tent mates at the 110 MFCU camp.
These tents were typically used to accommodate four men.



The fourth tent mate amongst the banana palms.

I mentioned earlier my uncle Bert Sharp worked at the 2nd / 5th A.G.H. X-ray department and when I got the chance, I quite often visited him. If it was meal time while I was there, I was invited to dine with them. The hospital was provided with fresh vegetables and I can picture vividly in my mind one meal was accompanied with fresh cauliflower. I've never in all my life tasted cauliflower as fantastic as on that occasion. It was a treat to behold.

I had my 21st birthday on Morotai and Bert and Laurie organised a party for me at the X-ray department. I can remember saying in my response to my 21st birthday toast, that if I wasn't able to be home on the occasion of my 21st, my second choice would be with Bert & Laurie and the friends I had at the 2nd / 5th A.G.H. X-ray department. Knowing people and keeping in the company of good friends was important in those tough times.

OPERATION AT 2ND / 5TH A.G.H.

On one occasion while visiting my friends at 2nd / 5th A.G.H. X-ray department, they wheeled in a soldier who had been shot in the chest. The wound had healed up but the bullet was still lodged somewhere in his ribcage. To find out its exact position continuous X-rays displayed on a screen were employed both from vertical and horizontal axes. The bullet was clearly visible and by passing a metal instrument like a pen over the soldier's chest, a mark was made on the top and side of the chest showing the exact position of the bullet – then off to the operating theatre (large tent) to have it removed.

On another occasion, I was at the X-ray department about 9 o'clock one morning when they wheeled in a soldier who had picked up a booby trap. I think from memory it was his left hand. His hand was a mass of bandages upon bandages, larger than a football.

The X-ray showed that the bone structure was OK but heaps of shrapnel was present. Whilst waiting for the results, he was questioned by Army Intelligence as to what happened. He said he saw at the side of the road what looked like a shiny bolt and picked it up, then BANG!

An immediate operation was scheduled and I was asked if I would like to observe. The answer was "yes" and I was issued with a gown and mask. First the anaesthetic was given and the chap was out cold. A sister unwrapped the hand which revealed that half the flesh on the hand had been blown away and pieces of shrapnel were easy visible.

The sister took the hand, placed it in a white enamelled dish of antiseptic and proceeded to scrub the wound with a small scrubbing brush. At every stroke of the brush you could hear small pieces of metal shrapnel falling into the metal dish. When she had finished the surgeon looked at the wound and made his decision to take a piece of flesh from his left thigh and graft it on to the inside of the left hand.

The operation in the large tent took over four hours and only once did I have to step outside to get a breath of fresh air – I have often wondered how everything went for that soldier.

GRAMMATOPHYLLUM PAPUANUM

Living in a tent opposite mine in the banana plantation was an electrician who loved his cup of tea. He made himself a small water heater so that he could make a cup of tea in his tent at any time.

If it was night time, every one in the camp would know when he was brewing a "cuppa" because his water heater drew so much electrical current, that the camp lights would dull to a half glow while the water was being boiled.

This chap was also an orchid enthusiast and the orchids he gathered from the jungle were growing all around his tent. He frequently used to crawl through the perimeter fence and into the 'Jap' held jungle looking for different types of orchids and I went with him on a few occasions. On one of these expeditions I collected a couple of stems of orchids called *Grammatophyllum Papuanum*. I was lucky to have two cardboard boxes about 9" x 3" x 3" and I fitted a stem into each box, covered them with brown paper and posted one to my mother and one to Phyllis Power (who later became my wife).

Both orchids arrived home (Melbourne) in good condition within a few days and I still have six blooms of these orchids which have been dried, pressed and laminated.



Grammatophyllum Papuanum - The Giant or Queen Orchid. This orchid species was one of many grown by the 110 MFCU camp electrician. He was an orchid enthusiast and allowed me to pick a couple of stems. These I sent back to Phyllis Power and my parents in Melbourne, Victoria. To this day I still have 6 blooms dried, pressed and laminated.



US Liberators on the airstrip at Morotai proudly displaying all their livery. Completed missions are indicated by bomb silhouettes on the side of the fuselage. In the case of "Streamliner", 55 missions had been completed at the time the photograph was taken.

PAW PAWS

Tinned fruit was OK but became monotonous as fresh fruit was very rarely available. From a high point of advantage you could see Paw Paws growing in the depressions that ran up to the Japanese held hills. Geoff McCord and I decided to see if we could get some of these Paw Paws to supplement our diet. We took with us two haversacks, a bottle of water each and crawled through the barbed wire perimeter fence and set off in the direction of the fruit trees that we had seen in the distance.

We came across a well used track about a metre wide that was heading in the right direction and decided to follow it. After about half an hour we heard the pounding of feet of someone approaching at the double and getting louder as they got closer and closer.

Fear struck my imagination and I could only picture a section of Japanese infantry jogging along the track with their rifles at the ready. Geoff and I dived into the jungle at the side of the track hoping we were hidden from view when two natives pulled up and said "What you do boss". I could swear that fear made me imagine that the natives were over 7ft tall.

Several years after the war Geoff and I were reminiscing that night and he said that the natives asked for a drink of water from my water bottle – I was that frightened I do not remember that fact and needless to say, we did not go any further and returned to camp – no Paw Paws!

BOAT TRIP

Occasionally we would swim at a small protected cove which was situated roughly at the eastern end of Wama Air Strip. One day a small open boat about 16ft was moored in the deep water about a hundred yards from the shore. Six of us swam out to the boat and climbed aboard. It was powered by a small four cycle motor which we were able to start and we headed north.

As there was a box of hand grenades and necessary fuses we decided to try out luck at fishing – plenty of bangs but no fish! By this time we were seven or eight miles into Japanese territory when one of the boys said “I hope nothing goes wrong with the motor”, talk about being a ‘Jonah’ – we blew a cylinder head gasket shortly afterwards. We were two or three hundred yards from the native village “Daeo” which was in Japanese held territory. So we rowed ashore and pulled the boat up on the sand to see if we could do anything to the motor. The natives just melted into thin air as they did not want to have anything to do with us for fear of reprisals from the Japanese.

There were some spanners in the boat and after removing the head of the motor we decided that it was impossible to repair at this point, so we pushed the boat off and had to row all the way back to the cove. We were perhaps lucky that there were two oars to row with otherwise we would have been in big trouble. We removed the motor and took it back to camp to work on. We needed gasket material and enquiries at several work shops proved fruitless.

When all else fails try the dump and sure enough I came across a fibre travelling case and was able to cut a gasket to fit. When finished it started up like a charm and with no silencer fitted it could be heard for quite a distance - and sure enough the boat owner (a RAAF Flying Officer) heard it and tracked it down to our tent. It appeared he had seen the boat when we had headed north along the coast and had followed in his jeep as far as the perimeter fence, but was unable to go any further.

My story had to be good and simple, so I said we had found the boat adrift in the cove with a blown cylinder head gasket, we tied the boat up and had repaired the motor. Satisfied with my story he took the motor and I have often wondered how long the motor continued to operate on my “home-made” fibre case gasket.

ENTERTAINMENT

Entertainment at night was pretty good as there were movies at several open air theatres and quite often a live show. Gambling tables were usually set up near the entrance to the theatre and they were promptly dismantled before the show started and therefore there was no conflict of interest. The live show that impressed me the most was Gracie Fields at the Boomerang Theatre and you can see by the programme it was quite a big deal.

For several days before the show the organizers had Jap POW's spreading shell grit at the entrance to the theatre to give the area a touch of class. Living in primitive conditions was tough and it was important to run such shows. It gave us a chance to "kick back" and for a short while, forget the woes of the war. The shows were something to really look forward to and gave us all a big boost in morale.

AUST. ARMY AMENITIES SERVICE

in Conjunction with
R.A.A.F. WELFARE

present

MISS GRACIE FIELDS C.B.E.

at the

BOOMERANG THEATRE
MOROTAI

29th & 30th August, 1945



For that added touch of class.....Japanese
POW's spread shell grit at the "Boomerang"
Theatre entrance prior to the show



Outdoor Theatre at 110 MFCU Morotai

PROGRAMME

ENTERTAINMENT UNIT, No. 8 DETACHMENT
(S/Sgt. A. Knowles, N.C.O. i/c)

1. OVERTURE — SGT. COLIN BERGENSEN'S ORCH.
Sgt. Bill Watkins, Pres. Bob Way and Bob Fisher (brass);
Cpl. Merv. Oates, Pres. Ron Murray, Alan McAlister,
Bernie Holland (saxes); Sgt. Stan Smith (pianist); Cpl.
Denis King (guitar); Cpl. Fred Godfrey (bass); Sgt. John
Raymond (drums).

2. COMEDIAN Sgt. BILL MARTIN
2. BARITONE Cpl. CHARLES UNSWORTH
4. MAGICIAN Cpl. JOHN DIAMOND
5. MONOLOGUE S/Sgt. ARTHUR KNOWLES
"I'M ON THE STAFF"
6. PIANO ACCORDION Cpl. MERV. OATES
7. SKETCH S/Sgt. A. KNOWLES, and
Sgt. W. MARTIN

8. FEMALE IMPERSONATOR Cpl. DANNY THORPE
9. SAX. SEXTETTE ORCHESTRA MEMBERS

Supporting Artists travelling with Miss Gracie Fields

10. SOPRANO MISS PEGGY SHEA
(J. C. Williamson and Radio Star).
11. BARITONE F/Sgt. VICTOR MOORE
R.A.A.F.
12. PIANO ACCORDION S/Sgt. LOU CAMPARA
(A.A. Amenities Service).

MISS GRACIE FIELDS

with
Mr. MONTY BANKS and
Mr. ERIC FOX (Accompanist)

END OF WAR

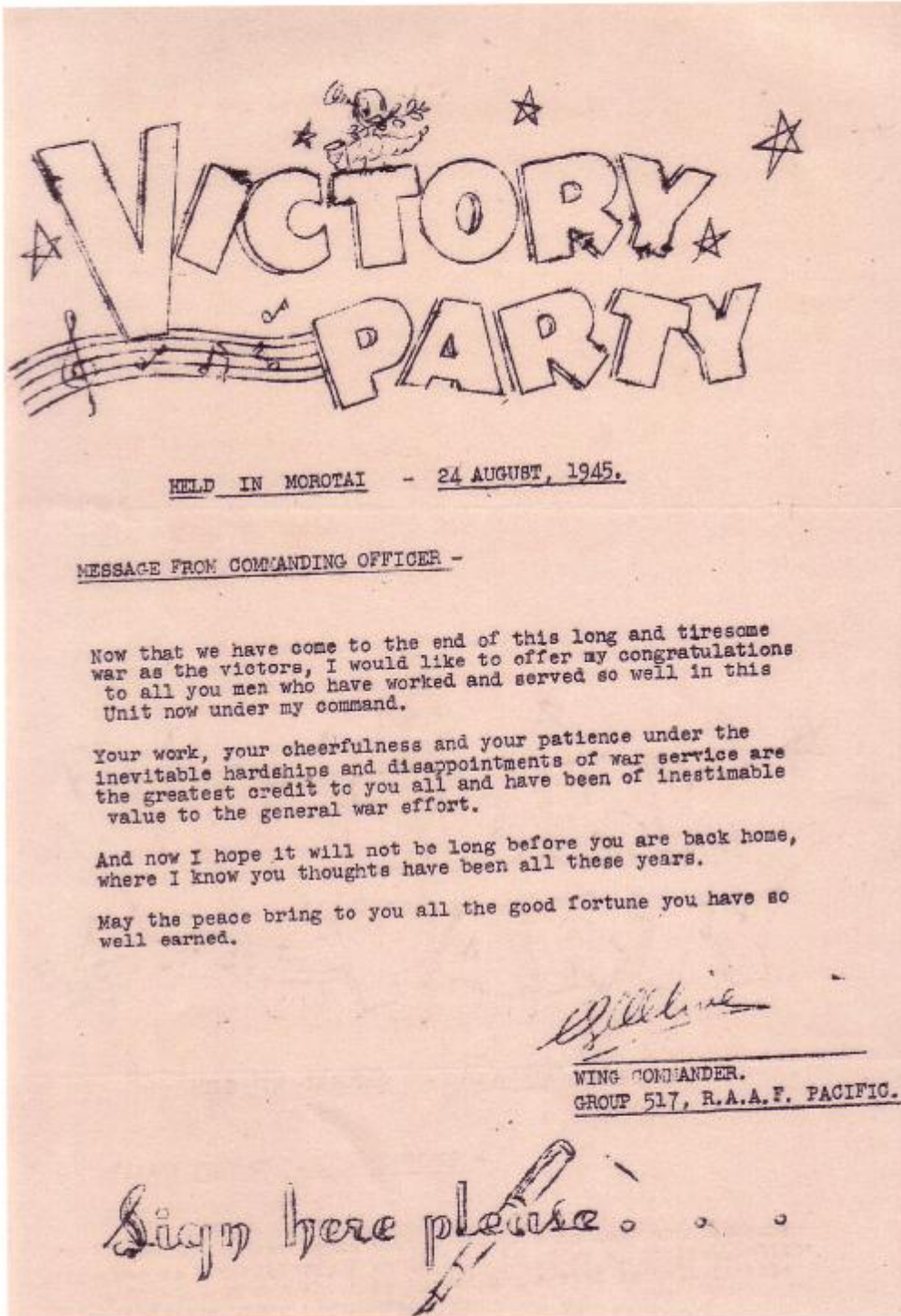
I was on night shift when the news came through that the war was over. I remember hearing a lot of noise and on going outside seeing Vary Pistols (flares) being fired in the sky. The war had finished and General Blamey in his address to the troops at the signing of the Japanese surrender said, "Now sit back and enjoy your stay on Morotai".

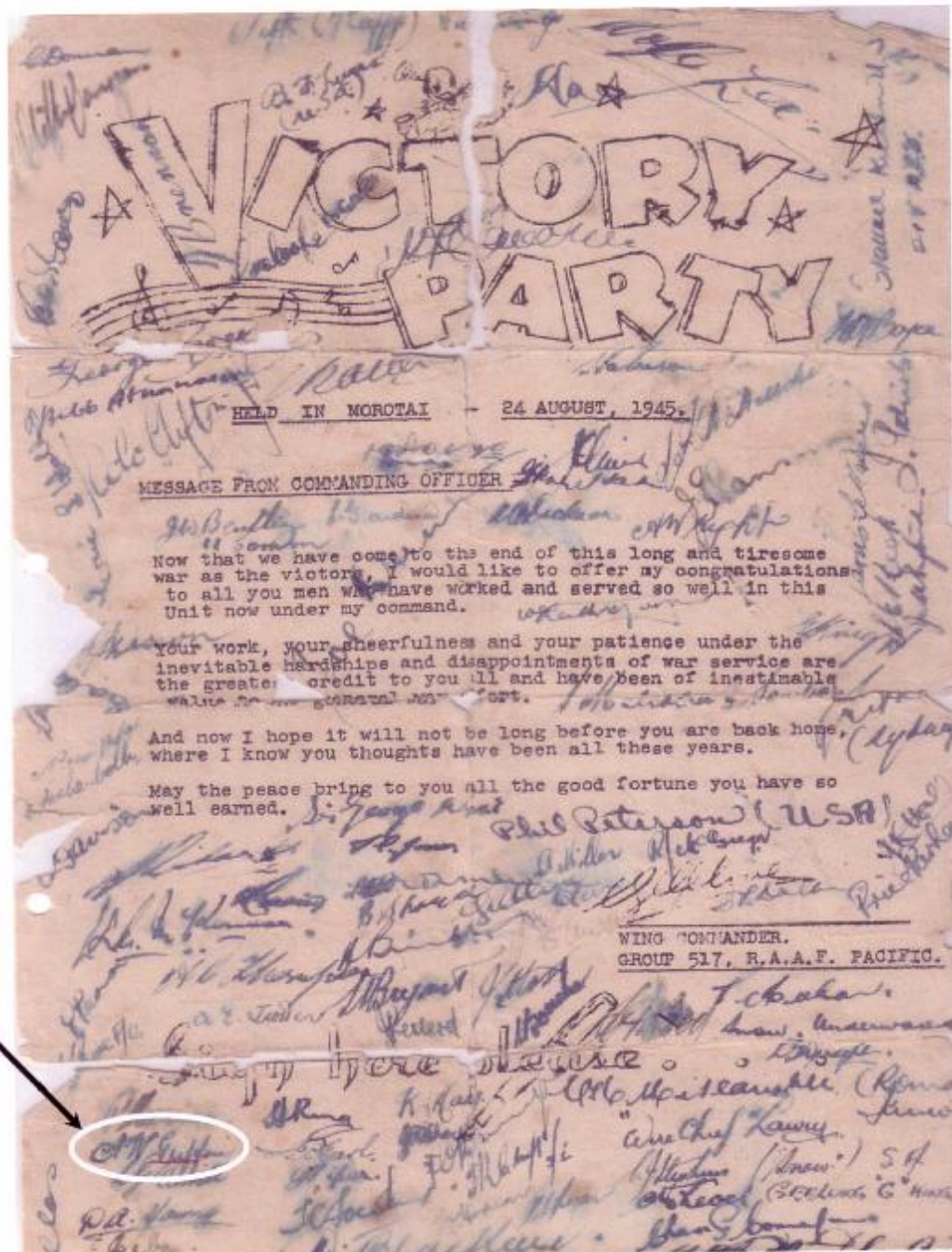
Without a doubt you would realise that every one wanted to get home as soon as possible, but first there was a lot of equipment to be dismantled and cleaning up to be done. We pulled down 110MFCU and removed all the tents in the banana plantation and moved into tents at the end of Wama Air Strip. On either side of the stage of the open air theatre our unit operated were curtain material drops. About 3ft wide and 12ft long these were a desired item by the local natives, so I sold them the material for two grass skirts. The natives were frightened of the Dutch and indicated they wanted proof of sale, so I wrote out the following on a piece of paper:

"This is to certify that I, Leading Air Commodore Griffin of RAAF Morotai, have this day 10th Sept 1945, sold to the bearer of this document two sections of material 3ft wide by 12ft long for the barter price of two grass skirts – signed:

59697 L.A.C. Griffin A.W
Commanding Officer

With the war officially over, Wama air strip was turned into a large parking lot with row upon row of army vehicles. Everyday, these vehicles were being pushed out to sea over the coral and into deep water. It was an amazing waste to see equipment disposed of in such a way.





The Victory Party for 110 MFCU was held in the camp canteen on 24th August 1945. It was as much to celebrate the Allied forces worldwide victory as it was to salute our fallen comrades. We exchanged our Victory Party invitations and secured as many signatures of the serviceman that attended as we could. This is the result of my circulation. My signature is highlighted in the bottom left corner.

LUCK'S A FORTUNE

Luck's a fortune, for lady luck was certainly on my side on this occasion. Three DC3's were heading south evacuating troops and leaving at 0630, 0645 and 0700. I was to leave on the 0630 flight. The truck picked up several troops from our unit, some leaving on each plane – the driver must have been a dumbbell - thank goodness – because he made his delivery of personnel in the wrong order, 0700 first, then 0645 and by the time we were ferried to the airstrip the 0630 DC3 had already taken off and unfortunately was never heard of again. The only trace was an oil slick in the ocean along the route south.

After missing that plane I left the next day with a midday stop at Ambon (Ref Map page 56) and then onto Charlieville for a night stop. There were two DC3's travelling together and after the overnight stop one was to go to Brisbane the other to Townsville. My paperwork stated that I was to go to Townsville and then by train to Melbourne. On the plane going to Brisbane was a chap whose paper work stated he was to go to Brisbane and catch a train going north to Townsville, so we swapped ID's and planes. He flew direct to Townsville his hometown and I flew to Brisbane and then by train to Melbourne. It all worked perfectly, shortening both our travel by one leg!



With the war officially over, I received my papers to return home (Melbourne, Victoria), and boarded this DC3 (christened "FE") and headed back to Australia



Ambon Airstrip - Japanese POW's refueling another Southbound DC3.
This was the first stop on the way home

HOME AT LAST

After reaching Melbourne I reported to 1 PD awaiting discharge – as you can well imagine every one and his dog wanted to be discharged as soon as possible, and as you reported in, your name was placed on a waiting list. My good luck again – I knew the WAAF handling the paper work and after I gave her my best smile she juggled my paper work closer to the top of the list and in due course I was discharged from the RAAF on the 4th March, 1946.

So ended an adventurous chapter in my life. Looking back I can say it was a good time in my life, filled with many great memories and friends.

I joined the RAAF in 1942 as a young boy and was discharged in 1946 a self reliant young man.

APPENDIX I

SURRENDER OF JAPANESE FORCES

APPENDIX I



SURRENDER OF JAPANESE FORCES

Address Delivered by

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
GENERAL SIR THOMAS BLAMEY

to

Lt-General Teshima, Commander Second Japanese Army

On the occasion of the signing of their Surrender

MOROTAI, 9th SEPTEMBER, 1945

LIEUT.-GENERAL TESHIMA, COMMANDER, SECOND JAPANESE ARMY:

"The Japanese Navy has been destroyed. The Japanese Merchant Fleet has been reduced to a mere fraction. The Japanese Air Force has been driven from the sky. The Japanese armies have been defeated everywhere and all that remained for them was to await their inevitable total destruction. Japanese cities lie in waste and Japanese industry has been destroyed. Never before in history has so numerous a nation been so completely defeated.

"To escape the complete destruction of the nation, the Emperor of Japan has yielded to the Allied Forces and an instrument of total surrender has been signed in his name. He has charged you to obey the orders which I shall give you.

"In carrying out these orders, the Japanese Army and Navy organisation will be retained for convenience. Instructions will be issued by the designated Australian Commanders to the Commanders of the respective Japanese Forces, placing upon you and your subordinate Commanders the responsibility for carrying out your Emperor's direction to obey all orders given to you by me.

"You will ensure that all Allied personnel, prisoners of war or internees in Japanese hands are safeguarded and nourished and delivered over to the Allied Commanders.

"You will collect, lay down and safeguard all arms, ammunition and instruments of war until such time as they are taken over by the designated Commanders. You will be given adequate time to carry this out. An official date will be named and any Japanese found in possession after that date of any arms, ammunition or instrument of war of any kind will be dealt with summarily by the Australian Commander on the spot.

"Orders will be given for these and other matters as I consider necessary and you will ensure the obedience to all such orders without delay.

"In receiving your surrender I do not recognise you as an honourable and gallant foe, but you will be treated with due but severe courtesy in all matters.

"I recall the treacherous attack upon our ally, China, in 1938. I recall the treacherous attack made upon the British Empire and upon the United States of America in December, 1941, at a time when your authorities were making the pretence of ensuring peace.

"I recall the atrocities inflicted upon the persons of our nationals as prisoners of war and internees, designed to reduce them by punishment and starvation to slavery.

"In the light of these evils, I will enforce most rigorously all orders issued to you, so let there be no delay or hesitation in their fulfilment at your peril."

37,000 IN ISLANDS SURRENDER

MOROTAI, Monday. — The gray-haired Japanese, Lieut.-General Ishii, commander of all the Japanese forces in the Moluccas, today signed the Allied surrender terms on behalf of 37,000 Japanese troops and 4000 civilians.

Ishii signed the Allied surrender terms in the presence of the American commander, Major-General Harry H. Johnson, and senior officers of the 30th American Division based on Morotai and American naval officers.

The Japanese troops in the Moluccas comprise 32,000 of the army and 5000 naval men.

Immediately after signing the surrender terms, General Ishii asked General Johnson if he and his officers could retain their sabres. This request was refused.

In signing the terms of surrender, General Ishii said he and his officers knew that their Emperor had accepted unconditional surrender, and that he would comply with these conditions of surrender.

He would order all his men to lay down their arms immediately, and agreed to comply with all orders issued by American troops.

He also signed a statement that he had agreed to terms of surrender without reservation.

APPENDIX I (CONT)



Instrument of Surrender

In accordance with General Order Number One issued by the Japanese Imperial General Headquarters by direction of the Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers we hereby:-

- A. **Proclaim** the Unconditional Surrender to the Commander in Chief, Australian Military Forces of all Japanese Armed Forces and all Armed Forces under Japanese control in the Netherlands East Indies East of and exclusive of Lombok, and in Borneo.
- B. **Command** all Commanders and members of the Japanese Armed Forces and Controlled Forces within the Territories Islands and Areas aforesaid to cease hostilities immediately, lay down their arms remain in their present localities and do all such acts and things as may be required of them by the Commander in Chief, Australian Military Forces or his authorized Representative or Representatives.
- C. **Command** all Civil, Military and Navy officials and all members of the Japanese Armed Forces to obey and enforce all Proclamations, Orders and Directions issued by the Commander in Chief, Australian Military Forces or his authorized Representative or Representatives.

Signed at Morotai on the Ninth day of September 1945.

小 沢 治三郎 Commander Second Japanese Army

山 本 虎 次郎 By command and on behalf of Japanese Imperial General Headquarters

香 月 清 司 Accepted at Morotai on the Ninth day of September 1945.

Ed Blaney General
Commander in Chief

APPENDIX I (CONT)

FORMAL SURRENDER OF SECOND JAPANESE ARMY
TO GENERAL SIR THOMAS BLAMEY
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

MOROTAI, 9th SEPTEMBER, 1945



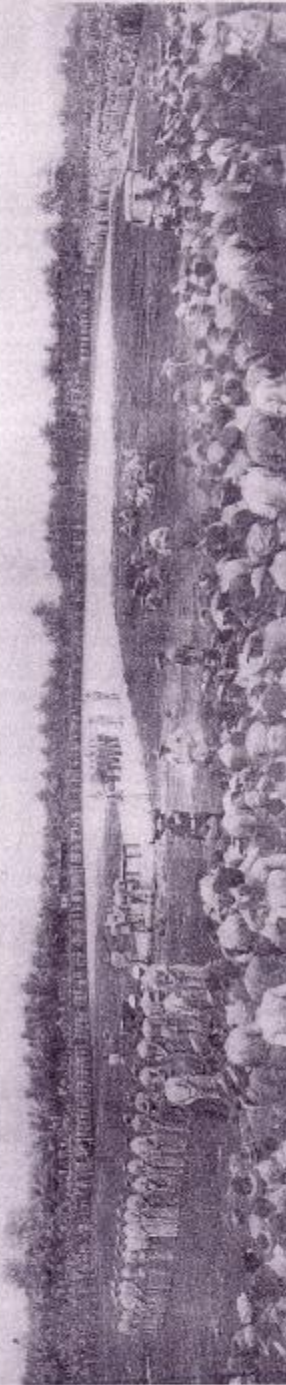
GENERAL SIR THOMAS BLAMEY
AND MAJOR G. A. MURPHY, COMMANDING
THE 2ND AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY DIVISION



GENERAL SIR THOMAS BLAMEY
SEATED AT THE SURRENDER CEREMONY



GENERAL SIR THOMAS BLAMEY
RECEIVING THE SURRENDER DOCUMENT
FROM JAPANESE OFFICIALS



GENERAL SIR THOMAS BLAMEY
RECEIVING THE SURRENDER DOCUMENT
FROM JAPANESE OFFICIALS

APPENDIX I – SURRENDER OF JAPANESE FORCES

APPENDIX I (CONT)



The Japanese reluctantly hand over their swords at the conclusion of the war. These swords were cherished by the Japanese and clearly had great ceremonial and sentimental value. They were distributed amongst the units in the area, and allocated to allied servicemen by ballot. Our unit received 6 swords.



The war is finally over and the Instrument Of Surrender is presented for Signature



The Instrument Of Surrender is signed by the Commander of the Second Japanese Army



With the signing complete, Senior Japanese officers prepare to be taken away

APPENDIX II

CERTIFICATES AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

APPENDIX II



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

Certificate of Service and Discharge

Number 59627 Rank Leading Aircraftman

Full Name GRIFFIN, Alan Wellsley

Date of Birth 20/7/1924 Date of Enlistment 30/7/1942 Date of Discharge 4/3/1946

Occupation in Civil Life Junior Laboratory Assistant

Reason for Discharge under the provisions of A.F.R. 115 (...L...)

"On Demobilisation"

Character on Discharge V.G.

R.A.A.F. Mustering or Trade Telegraphist

Degree of Trade Proficiency: A. SAT B. C.

DESCRIPTION

Height 5'6 1/2" Colour of Hair Dark Colour of Eyes Brown Complexion Dark

Marks and Scars or Wounds Nil

Qualifications and Special Courses No. 732 R.D. Gse. 21/8/42 1RD 12/42 No. 60 Teleg.

Gse. 20/4/43 S.S. 39/43

PROMOTIONS, REMUSTERINGS, Etc.

Rank	Date	Mustering or Trade	Decorations, Medals, etc.
Aircraftman Class 1	30. 7. 1942	Trainee W/T Operator (G)	Pacific Star ADHQ 15/45.
Aircraftman Class 1	21. 4. 1943	Telegraphist	
Leading Aircraftman	22. 7. 1943	Telegraphist	

Remarks: Qualified for a Returned from Active Service Badge.

Office of issue and date stamp.
Royal Australian Air Force
Headquarters, Melbourne.
12th April, 1946.

B. H. H. H.
Air Member for Personnel

R.A.A.F. PRINTING UNIT

FOR NOTES SEE OVER

R.A.A.F. FORM P/581A, REVISED SEPTEMBER, 1940

APPENDIX II - CERTIFICATE AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

FORM 101/1, 62
(Revised Sept., 1945)

APPENDIX II
(cont)

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

Southern Area Finance Office

126/A.3 £120.5.9

Discharge or ~~Termination of Appointment~~ of R.A.A.F. No. 59697 Rank L.A.C.
Name GRIFFIN, Allan Wellsley
Address 141 Hopkins Street, FOOTSCRAY, Vic.
(on 4 / 3 / 194 6)

DEBIT			CREDIT		
			581	19	5
461	13	8			
120	5	9			
£ 581	19	5	£ 581	19	5

Total progressive credits as per pay book _____
Total progressive debits as per pay book _____
Amount retained for following:—
Balance due to member: (P.B. Line No. 5)
(One hundred & twenty pounds
five Shillings
nine pence.)

The balance of your account will shortly be made available by—
(a) Credit to your account at the Footscray Branch of Commonwealth Savings Bank
(b) A/c. No. 14828, styled Alan Wellsley Griffin

Note: The following amounts which are excluded from the above statement have been paid to the Taxation Department on your behalf:—
Group Certificates previously issued —
for Group year 1942-1943 ... £ _____
1943-1944 ... £ _____
1944 ... £ _____
1944-1945 ... £ _____
Group Certificate herewith 1945-1946 ... £ _____

Your pay book(s) is enclosed. Please acknowledge receipt by signing and returning the enclosed Business Reply card.

I certify that the above account is correct —

Checked by [Signature] Internal Auditor
Date 19/3 194 6

[Signature]
C./c. Demobilisation Section,
For Area Finance Officer.
Date 20/3 194 6

APPENDIX II
(cont)



AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Directorate of Administrative
Review - Air Force
(E-3-14)
Department of Defence
CANBERRA ACT 2600

HA-AF/59697

Mr A.W. Griffin
41 Fisher Parade
ASCOT VALE VIC 3032

Dear Mr Griffin

I am pleased to advise that you have been awarded the 1939-45 Star for your service in the Royal Australian Air Force. The Star is enclosed.

The 1939-45 Star may be awarded to members of the Australian Defence Forces who were on operational service in a designated Pacific Theatre of operations at any time during the six months immediately prior to, and including, 2 September 1945, but who had not previously met the qualifying periods of operational service for the 1939-45 Star.

Should you wish to have the 1939-45 Star mounted, a medals dealer will be able to advise you on the order of precedence.

On behalf of the Chief of the Air Staff, I extend sincere congratulations to you on your achievement of this award.

Yours sincerely

G.J. BAESJOU
Wing Commander
Director of Administrative Review - Air Force

Tel: Toll Free 1800 623 306
06 26-65865

14 October 1996

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE
1 9 2 1 - 1 9 9 6




APPENDIX III

CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP

SPITFIRE ASSOCIATION

APPENDIX III

The Spitfire
Association



CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP

Presented to

ALAN WELLSLEY GRIFFIN.

*in recognition of your dedication to the
Spitfire Tradition*

Dated this 26th Day of MAY 2003

Ray Griffin
President

Ray Hart
Secretary

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

AC1	AIRMAN 1 ST CLASS
AGH	AUSTRALIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL
CO	COMMANDING OFFICER
DC3	DOUGLAS DEKOTA TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT
FLT	FLIGHT LIEUTENANT
HQ	HEAD QUARTERS
ID	IDENTIFICATION
LAC	LEADING AIRCRAFTSMAN (Tongue - In - Cheek ; Leading Air Commodore)
MET	METEOROLOGY
MFCU	MOBILE FIGHTER CONTROL UNIT
NG	NEW GUINEA
PD	PERSONNEL DEPOT
SGT	SERGEANT
WA	WESTERN AUSTRALIA
WOM	WIRELESS OPERATOR MECHANIC
WT	WIRELESS TELEGRAPH OPERATOR
ZFC	ZONE FILTER CENTRE

MORE ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alan Griffin is currently residing at the Melbourne address below. Indeed, this is the residence that Alan and his wife Phyllis built shortly after Alan's return from the war.

The house was constructed in 1948 when building materials were scarce and prices an absolute premium.

Alan and Phyllis were married shortly after construction was completed and moved into what was to become the one and only "family home".

It has seen the birth of and provided shelter for their three sons Glenn, Adrian and Paul and has wonderful views of the Maribyrnong River (Major tributary to the famous Yarra River.)

Alan and Phyllis are also the very proud Grandparents of: –

Lauren, Sarah, Amy, Nathan, Nicholas, Emma, Ebony and Matthew.

Both Alan and Phyllis remain active citizens in the community participating in Gents and Ladies PROBUS meetings and many other social activities.

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A. W. GRIFFIN

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To Commemorate the 80th Birthday of
Alan Griffin