

I go back to 23-9-1942.

The day I became PM 5043, and a member of the RANR. How many of you would have joined the RANR in an office, in a building, that was mostly small private companies, who had nothing to do with, army NADY OR AIR FORCE. The building was in COLLINS ST Melbourne just up from SPENCER ST STATION. I remember myself and other enlisted men ambling (not)

2
Marching to Spencer & Station and
getting on a train going down to
"FLINDERS" and HMAS CERBERUS.
Many of you would remember of seeing
five weeks at CERBERUS, we then
went to HMAS WESTRALIA at
PORT STEPHENS. Every day we went
ashore and marched up to HMAS
"ASSAULT" still being completed,
as a depot. There we used to clean
up the huts and pick up builders
rubbish. I can remember when we

3

at last came ashore, I was in
the same hut "WOLFE" but as
HIRSH RISTROM, for a long time
I was COXSWAIN of one of the
only 2 LCM's at PORT STEPHENS.
We were anchored off the pier
Then I had a falling out with
BERTIE DICK, LIEUTENANT who
became in charge of the boats
and crew on ANIMBLA, GARRETT
SKINNER took over my
LCM, and I got pushed off into

4

The Naval Beach Commando's, we then wore army clothes lived in army camps (mostly) and trained as army troops, and spent most of our time near Cairns PORT DOUGLAS and the Atherton Tablelands near ~~CAIRNS~~ CAIRNS. In due course we went into action at TARAKAN ISLAND BORNEO. We were ashore with the ARMY 26th BRIGADE 9th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION. Then after a few weeks there, we went

5

back to MOROTAI ISLAND in
the DUTCH HALMAHERAS, then
with the 7th AUSTRALIAN
DIVISION we went into action
at BALIK PAPAN in South Borneo,
that is where I finished the war.
When I came to this retirement
village in alany, I joined the
club in town the "COMMERCIAL"
Going through the rooms, I came
across one with Honor ROLLS on the
walls. I went over and had a look and

6

saw the boards were for members of
the 2/23 Battalion, 9th Division.

ALBURY'S OWN. This was a unit

I went into action with at TARRAMAN.

Now on ANZAC days I go into the

Commercial Club where the 2/23

come after the March. I sit with

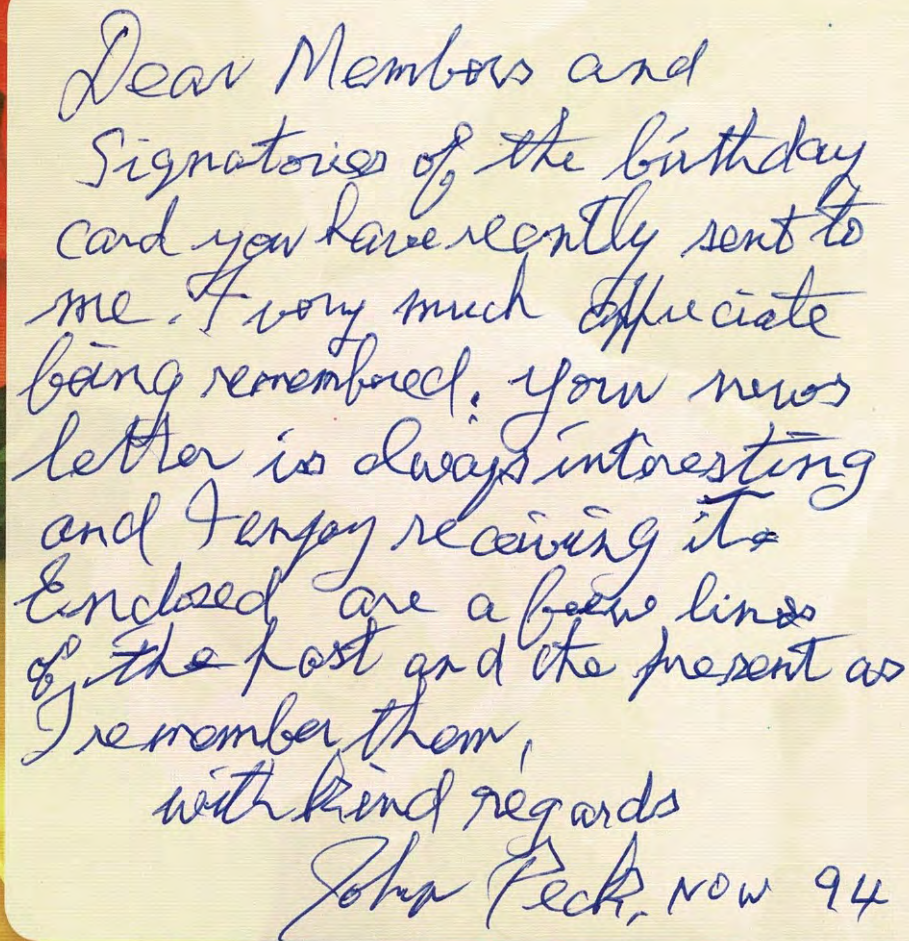
them as the only Navy man, and we

have a talk. Now I can hardly walk,

am getting deaf, and very unsteady

on my legs, but still have happy

memories. John. Please
excuse my scumble.



Dear Members and
Signatories of the birthday
card you have recently sent to
me. I very much appreciate
being remembered. Your news
letter is always interesting
and I enjoy receiving it.
Enclosed are a few lines
of the past and the present as
I remember them,
with kind regards
John Peck, now 94

John Peck PM 5043 Naval Beach Commando

202/36 Mountford Cres Albury East 2640 NSW

Entered next up all cards

1921 TO 1925 INC.

Deferred Pay Card No. 45723

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVAL RESERVE.

RECORD OF MOBILIZED SERVICE.

NAME (in full) **PECK, John David** OFFICIAL NUMBER **PM5043**
 Date of Birth **14 March 1925** Place of Birth **Hawthorn, Vic** Religion **C** Home Port or Port Division **P. MELBOURNE**
 Next of Kin (relationship and address) **Mother, Mrs R. Peck, 433 Glen St. Hawthorn, Vic**
 Entered in Ledger List No. **berberus 5²/10806**
 Initials of Certifying Officer **[Signature]**

address on disc
WOODLAND AVE MT ELIZA VIC 3930 MARYG
 11196
 12/24/46

The above-named member has been mobilized for service by proclamation. He reported for duty on **23 SEP 42** 19
 Rank or Rating **Ord. Imm II** Seniority **11 Sep 1942**
 Specialist Qualifications or Non-substantive Rating
 Service to which allocated on Mobilization
 Date **23 SEP 42**
[Signature]
 Signature and Rank of C.O.

SECOND CLASS FOR CONDUCT (inclusive dates).

From.	To.	From.	To.

The above-named member has been medically examined and is fit for service.

TIME FORFEITED.

Date.	No. of Days.	P., C., C.P., W.T., or D.	Date.	No. of Days.	P., C., C.P., W.T., or D.

DESCRIPTION OF MEMBER.

Height.		Colour of			Marks, Wounds, and Scars.
Ft.	Inch.	Hair.	Eyes.	Complexion.	
5	10 3/4	L/Brown	Blue	Fresh	—

GOOD CONDUCT BADGES.

Date.	1st, 2nd, or 3rd.	Granted, Deprived, or Restored.	Date.	1st, 2nd, or 3rd.	Granted, Deprived, or Restored.
14 Nov 46	1st	Granted Lousdale 8197/AX			

Date **14 Nov 46**
[Signature]
 Signature and Rank of Medical Officer.

Signature of Member **John. D. Peck** Date

Wounds received in Action, Hurt Certificate granted, Meritorious Service, Special Recommendations, &c.

EXAMINATIONS AND NOTATIONS SUBSEQUENT TO MOBILIZATION

Date.	Particulars.	Date.	Particulars.
12.10.42	Q. A.G. 1 day. berberus 10343XL	Deferred Pay Paid	24 APR 1946
6.4.43	Assault Trained 69% (nil) A.S. 3/36		

WAR GRATUITY CLAIM NO. 11194 AMOUNT £64.10.0 INITIALS **[Signature]**

Date	Particulars.
Paid 21/5	in Lieu of 20 Days Re-estab. Leave
	No H.S. Leave Due.
	W.S. Leave—Account No.....Dated.....
	Paid £ 1 / 1 in Lieu of.....Days Accrued
	Paid £10/6/6 in Lieu of 14 Days Accrued
	Leave—Account No.....Dated.....
	No H.S. Leave Due.

Name PECK John David

Official Number P.M. 5043

Name of Ship or Depot.	Rank or Rating.	From.	To.	Character.	Efficiency.	Date Assessed.	Remarks.
Gerberts Assault — 11 —	O. Sign II	23.9.42	15.10.42	V.G.	Sat.	31.12.42	Date Entered 27 SEP 1942 RATING AWARDED O/Smn II
	O/Smn	16.10.42	13.3.43	V.G.	Sat.	18.3.43	
Platypus Macon	O/Smn	14.3.43	31.12.43	V.G.	Sat.	18.3.46	Valid O/Smn. 14.3.43. Assgned. 71088. E. ✓ Raka 14.3.44 Platypus. 1880 A7 DEMOb 18.3.46 A51031Z/14866 Statement of service forwarded to ex-member. 13/5/70. 32/28/1481.
B/S Barrow Leave	21.1.44 Mon 74875 26.3.44 Plat. 43870 O/S	14.3.43	19.1.44 Ad H 112	SEA SERVICE whilst borne on books of a Depot (To be written up from Victualling Columns of Ledger).			
Kuranda N.B.C.	1-5-44 Mon 73079 Plat 89050	2.5.44	Plat 39054	Shp.	From.	To.	Hustralia 17.11.42 9.12.42
Kuranda N.B.C.	9.5.44 Kur. 50806	15.6.44 Kur. 57901	16.8.44 Kur. 39122, Kur. 39149				
Lowdale	10.5.45 B/S Barrow 19489	12.9.45	Yad NAC 90577				Nst Mem. N264/25/419 10 MAY 76.
Lowdale	15-10-45 Mon 70418	16-10-45 Mon 70419	8.10.45 Low 2067				
Lowdale	12.11.45 8687	5.2.46 25919 Pang 149	1.8.39-40 In MRO Lorb 70015				
Lowdale	1.8.39-40 In MRO Lorb 70015	19.3.46	Low 24253				