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Coral Sea Commemorative Council 1/3/92 [OA 8332]

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share something else -- the willingness to put our lives on the line to protect freedom. In the trenches of France and the rice paddies of Vietnam; on the battlefields of Germany, the ^{icy ridges} ~~mountains~~ of Korea, and the heat-seared desert of Saudi Arabia, Australians and Americans stood shoulder-to-shoulder throughout this century.

* Nowhere has this unique friendship been more important than in the Coral Sea in '42. I was 18, about to join the Navy -- an experience that eventually brought me to the South Pacific as a fighter pilot. I remember hearing of that first momentous battle, when 2 time-tested friends joined forces to turn back Japan's advance. I remember hearing of the USS York-town and the HMAS Hobart in combat and of the "Lady Lex" going to her final rest deep off your coast. I remember the victory we forged -- and the sense of morale it strengthened within us. Above all, I remember the lives lost from both our homelands.

* We owe them a debt, those fine young men who died for the truths our countries were founded upon. You -- the Coral Sea Council -- are repaying that debt on behalf of all of us. You remind the world of the full sweep of American-Australian action in 1942, starting with the Battle of the Coral Sea, which was the "end of the beginning." And you remind us that the alliance -- the friendship -- we share is our future.

* My best wishes to you throughout this commemorative year. May God bless our countries -- and the brave sons and daughters who died to keep them free.

#

May 1942
Mort Dworkin
U.S. Embassy
in Australia
U.S./Aussie
alliance
U.S. emb
in Aus
Fact
info

Life
Mag
June
1989
issue

?

Staffed copy & FACT CHECK COPY

(Hinchliffe/Nix)
December 18, 1991 1 p.m.
CORAL Draft Two

PRESIDENTIAL TALKING POINTS: CORAL SEA COMMEMORATIVE COUNCIL
FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 1992 11:20 a.m.
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

Mat Dworken
Australian general info. Encyclopic Presidential memo

* Thank you, Sir Eric, and special greetings to Ambassador Mel Sembler. It's great to be in Australia -- I certainly feel at home in "Bush Country." Australians have a reputation for warm hospitality, so on the way over today I told Barbara how moved I was that all these people were waving to me. "Sorry, George," she said. "That's the Australian Wave. It's fly season."

* I'm pleased to have the chance to meet with you. You should be congratulated by both our nations on the work you're doing -- looking to the future while honoring the past. The fact that, 50 years after the crucial Battle of the Coral Sea, so many prominent Australians accepted Sir Eric's invitation to join this Council, shows that what young Americans and Australians achieved together in the defense of freedom has not been forgotten.

* I bring you special thanks on behalf of the over one million Americans who served in your great and beautiful country during WWII. I hope many will return here next year for this tremendous commemoration -- when I go home I'll tell them first-hand of the open, warmhearted Aussie welcome they'll receive.

* I know you've worked hard to raise funds so today's young Americans and Australians can understand what our countries have gone through together. We're inseparable allies because we share a real friendship; a special bond forged out of our shared roots of frontier spirit, rugged individualism, free enterprise. We

Some lost their lives Long. ok.

Mat Dworken Aussie U.S. embassy in Canberra

State Dept Brian Woo and Mat Dworken Canberra

December 20, 1991

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST
 TONY SNOW

FROM: BETH HINCHLIFFE

SUBJECT: CORAL SEA COMMEMORATIVE COUNCIL

I. SUMMARY

On January 3, 1992, at 11:20 a.m., in Otway Room No. 1 of the World Congress Centre in Melbourne, you will speak from talking points to the 50-member Coral Sea Commemorative Council. The Council consists of business, government and community leaders throughout Australia. Council Chairman Sir Eric Neal will introduce you to the Council's members.

II. DISCUSSION

Your talking points praise the Council for its efforts in organizing and raising funds for the 50th anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea. Additionally, you recognize the strong alliance between the United States and Australia -- one that has carried us through battle side by side five times.

JOKE: Your visit coincides with the advent of the fly season in Australia. Since Aussies are constantly waving off the insects, the gesture has been called the "Australian wave."

December 10, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR BETH HINCHLIFFE

FROM: MICHELE NIX

SUBJECT: CORAL SEA COMMEMORATIVE

Per JAG's advance memo: The Australian and US navies fought side by side to turn back the Japanese military advance in WWII. Five months after the outbreak of war in the Pacific, the Battle of the Coral Sea in May 1942 was a crucial strategic victory for the allies, and the first reverse for the Imperial Japanese Army.

Per the Australian Embassy, the two most important points to make are:

- Thank the Council for its efforts to recognize the memory of this battle, lives lost, etc.
- Call attention to their efforts to help their fundraising goal.
- Recognize this as a tie between U.S. and Australia.

Attached is the FAX from the embassy, which includes logistical info, other objectives for the speech, participants, and talking points. Also included is background material about the Council and the Coral Sea Battle.

TP

(Hinchliffe/Nix)
December 12, 1991 12 p.m.
CORAL Draft One

**PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CORAL SEA COMMEMORATIVE COUNCIL
FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 1992
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA**

Thank you, Sir Eric. And special greetings to Ambassador Mel Sembler. It's great to be in Australia -- I certainly feel at home in "Bush Country." \ \

Australians have a reputation for warmth and hospitality. So as we were driving over today I told Barbara how moved I was that all these people were waving to me. "Sorry, George," she said. "That's the Australian Wave. It's fly season." \ \

I'm honored to meet with this very special council. ~~On a~~ personal level, the Coral Sea Commemoration has always meant a lot to me. As a 19-year-old Navy fighter pilot in the South Pacific in May 1942, I felt keenly the significance of the battle itself. And as a somewhat-older Vice President in 1982, I had the privilege to speak in Sydney at the Coral Sea Ball.

We must remember all the Coral Sea events. In particular, we must celebrate the extraordinary friendship they represent. The United States and Australia are inseparable allies. Our countries have always had a special bond -- forged out of our shared roots of frontier spirit, rugged individualism, and free enterprise. As Sir Nicholas Parkinson put it, there is and should be a "natural alliance" between us.

This century, that alliance has been firmly cemented with the glue of shared sacrifice. We've fought side by side 4 times in defense of the principles we share. There's no greater example

Explain on cover memo

how? why?

This sounds forced. imperative mood seems to work - sounds desperate

his bio detail

It's my - reflects bond

Need real friendship - details

?! kind of an icky metaphor.

three over the year

also been fought for freedom & growth C.S. stands for

too formulaic

of that cooperation than the Battle of the Coral Sea, where we joined forces to turn back the Japanese military advance.

You all know how important that battle was. Our ships took part in the first major aircraft carrier engagement of the war; and in the first naval battle in history in which surface ships didn't sight each other. Together, we handed Japan its first reverse -- and together we prevented it from achieving air superiority in the Coral Sea. It was a crucial strategic victory, and it also gave our forces invaluable morale -- enabling the Allies to never again lose the initiative in the Pacific.

can we offer a more dynamic explanation? Japanese ships? Allied heroes? etc?

Something more dramatic - name of fees

make # more dynamic

~~But one of the most significant legacies of the year that began with the Battle of the Coral Sea is the origin of our~~
bilateral alliance. *grew strong that year*

1942
Pamphlet in -
no one will forget
(Chorus around)

That's why you outstanding citizens should be congratulated by both our nations on the work you're doing -- for you look to the future while honoring the past.

non sequitur

engagement in us to prevent proper lost to future generations

The programs you sponsor will assure that the critical events of 1942 receive the attention they deserve. The fact that 50 years later so many prominent Australians have accepted Sir Eric's invitation to join this Council shows that what young Americans and Australians achieved together in the defense of freedom has not been forgotten.

I bring special thanks from over 1 million American men and women who served in your great and beautiful country during WWII. I hope many of them will return here next year to take part in this unique commemoration -- when I go home I'll tell them firsthand of the open, warmhearted Aussie welcome they'll receive.

premises leader & integrity

essentially a mad ISLAdun to protest become steps

1942

I know you've been working hard to raise funds especially for activities designed to appeal to young Australians. We attach great importance to the future of our alliance -- and the upcoming generations are the ones who will maintain it. We want the young people of both our countries to understand our history, and to remember and respect the full sweep of American-Australian military cooperation in 1942 -- starting with the Battle of the Coral Sea, which was the "end of the beginning."

I'm sure this Council's work will strengthen and sustain our Alliance -- one that has matured and that is as relevant today as it ever was. My best wishes to you throughout this commemorative year. May God bless our countries -- and the brave sons and daughters who died to keep them free.

#

sounds strike
concrete things
This alludes to our future - We cannot see our back into the world.

REMARKS OF GEORGE BUSH
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AT THE
CORAL SEA BALL AND RECEPTION
WENTWORTH HOTEL
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1982.

Prime Minister and Mrs. Fraser, Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, friends.

Barbara and I are thrilled to be here in what must be one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

We're especially thrilled and honored to be with you tonight for the Coral Sea Ball.

My trip to East Asia and the Pacific began in Tokyo, where the papers are full of talk about Japan's increased defense expenditures. Now here I am helping to commemorate a turning point in the war. Such are the ironies of a Vice President's life.

I bring to you the greetings of the President of the United States and the First Lady. They couldn't be here tonight. Frankly, if they had come, I wouldn't have been able to. So it turned out fine.

Since I arrived here yesterday, on the very day, incidentally, that our ANZUS treaty was signed into being 30 years ago, I've been...overwhelmed -- is the word -- at the warmth and the graciousness and the hospitality of my hosts. I understand why there has always been a warm spot in the hearts of Americans for the Australian people; and why there should be a "natural alliance" between us, as Sir Nicholas Parkinson has put it.

You've made us feel very welcome.

Our roots -- the frontier spirit, rugged individualism, free enterprise -- go back a long way before the events of the first week of May, 1942. So it was historically fitting that at the very nadir of Allied fortunes during World War Two that Americans, Australians and British and the New Zealanders came together to defeat the most serious threat this continent has ever faced -- the most serious threat, we pray, that it will ever face.

-2-

This evening we're gathered here to remember the brave sailors and Navy fliers who, between May 3rd and May 8th, 1942, stopped the Japanese advance on Port Moresby and thus their advance on Australia.

If they had not succeeded in turning back the Imperial Japanese forces, the outcome of the war might have been different. Surely the consequences for Australia, despite her indomitable spirit, would have been grave, and she might well have become part of what the Japanese high command referred to, in one of the greater euphemisms of this troubled century, as the "greater East Asia co-prosperity sphere."

But they did stop them, in a bloody and drawn out battle that forever changed the very nature of naval warfare-in which carrier fought carrier.

Tactical aspects of Coral Sea aside, it was a battle, like all other battles, that pitted men against men. The enduring significance of the battle is that many died so that others would live, demonstrating the kind of courage that makes heroes out of ordinary men; demonstrating courage as Chesterton defined it: "A strong desire to live taking the form of readiness to die."

In their memory, and in their honor, let us bow our heads in a moment of silence and thanks for those whose sacrifice forty years ago ensured the freedom of the soil on which we stand tonight, and the eventual allied victory in the Pacific.

Let me, if I may, offer a few more words on another event we commemorate tonight: The signing of the ANZUS Treaty.

We signed that treaty during the Cold War, in the face of a Soviet Union that was consolidating its empire, and casting an eye on other lands. The Korean War was on. Tension in Berlin was high. It was a natural extension of our "natural alliance" that we should have formulated our relationship to assure our security as we faced the challenges of the post-modern world.

But ANZUS was also a vital element in the construction of the post-War peace throughout the Pacific; a process that brought a democratic Japan into a close economic and political relationship with the three ANZUS partners.

-3-

I don't need to point out that this friendly relationship has radically changed the attitudes of the past, and has taken on an enormous importance, even beyond, perhaps, the vision of those who signed the treaty.

Our interdependence is of an importance which we disregard only at our peril. Benjamin Franklin put it rather trenchantly a long time ago when, in an admittedly different context -- one on which I will not dwell in the company of so many distinguished members of the British commonwealth -- he said, "if we don't hang together, then we are sure to hang separately."

This is truer, probably, of the democratic nations of the world today than it was when Franklin and his fellow colonists took on great Britain. In these parlous times, President Reagan is determined to do all he can to maintain the intimacy between our countries of which ANZUS thrives.

A wise Australian statesman, Sir Percy Spender, once told our House of Representatives that "so far as it is possible, it is our objective to build up with the United States somewhat the same relationship that exists within the British Commonwealth. That is to say, we desire a full exchange of information and experience on all matters, and consultation on matters of mutual interests."

And so do we. The United States, as I've said many times on my trip, has no desire to dominate this, or any other part of the world. We do want to be a good and faithful partner, and a dependable ally. And so we shall.

As partners, we have disagreements, of course. All partners do. But we also have many common goals, foremost among them preserving the peace that we fought for forty years ago. There are those whose reckless international behavior presents an everyday threat to that peace. Let them know we are determined to guard the peace, to guard our freedom; that we have learned from the mistakes of history and are resolved not to repeat them.

In a letter to William Allen White in 1939, Douglas MacArthur wrote, "The history of failure in war can be summed up in two words: too late. Too late in comprehending the deadly purpose of a potential enemy; too late in realizing the mortal danger; too late in preparedness; too late in uniting all possible forces to resistance; too late in standing with one's friends.

-4-

The vitality of ANZUS and our history of standing together are a tribute to our vigilance and to the degree to which we cherish our freedom. As partners in the free world, our alliance holds the line against tyranny, just as forty years ago those who came before us held the line then.

Thank you.

--another shrimp on the barbee
--inseparable allies, special bond between countries
--Coral Sea Ball
--in this century, we've fought side by side four times in
defense of principles we share
--May 1942, "serious threat, if battle turned out differently,
Japan's plan could be different" -- crucial strategic victory for
allies, first reverse for Japan
--Battle of Coral Sea -- "hinge upon which the fate of Australia
turned"
--I was fighter pilot in South Pacific
--took part in 1982 Coral Sea Ball, in Sydney

--Australian and US navies fought side by side to turn back
Japanese military advance in WWII

--Battle of Coral Sea, 1200 kilometers off N. Queensland coast;
--first naval battle in history in which opposing surface
ships didn't sight each other
--first major aircraft carrier engagement of WWII
--in order to secure air superiority in Coral Sea for Japan
--USS Yorktown, USS Lexington; HMAS Australia, HMAS Hobart
--air reconnaissance; dive-bombing, torpedo carrying
aircraft

--"Lady Lex" -- 2400 fathoms deep at bottom of Coral Sea
--50th anniversary of origins of bilateral alliance
--Council formed on initiative of US Ambassador Mel Sembler
--50 of country's most leading citizens
--Council events begin with Pearl Harbor and end with Battle of
Milne Bay (Papua New Guinea, August) -- centerpiece is Battle of
the Coral Sea, formally commemorated every year since 1956
--

--thank Council, especially Sir Eric Neal, for efforts to
recognize memory of this battle, lives lost, etc., Council
programs and projects that will commemorate the WWII origins of
our bilateral alliance next year -- especially anniversary of
Battle of Coral Sea;

--thank Council for efforts to help their fundraising goal
--recognize this as tie between US and Australia -- underline
importance US attaches to future of alliance
--acknowledge contributions of thousands of Australians who are
working to develop commemorative activities during 1992

--Friday, January 3, 11:20 a.m., Melbourne

--I'm pleased to have the opportunity this morning to thank all
of you personally for your participation in the Australia--US
Coral Sea Commemorative Council

--The programs and activities you coordinate or sponsor will
assure that the events that shaped the beginnings of our
bilateral alliance -- especially the 50th anniversary of the
Battle of the Coral Sea -- receive the attention they deserve in
1992.

--on their behalf, I also want to convey to this Council and to all Australians who are developing commemorative programs this year, the appreciation of the over 1 million American men and women who served in Australia during WWII

--That 50 years later so many prominent Australians have accepted Sir Eric's invitation to join this Council is evidence that what young Americans and Australians achieved in the defense of freedom here and in the South Pacific during WWII has not been forgotten

--I share your hope that those veterans, some of them still living, will return to Australia with their families in 1992 to take part in the programs, ceremonies, and activities that are planned. I know they will receive the same open, warmhearted Aussie welcome that I have.

--I am pleased to learn that this Council is giving looking to the future of our alliance and will support many activities designed to appeal to young Australians

--I am sure that the actions of this Council will strengthen and sustain an Alliance that has matured and is as relevant today as it ever was.

--My best wishes to you throughout this commemorative year

--Ambassador Sembler helped found

--all Coral Sea '92 events

--purpose: to strengthen and consolidate the US-Australian Alliance

--look to the future while commemorating the past

--Prime Minister Curtin's historic speech "Australia Looks to America"

--full sweep of Am-Aus military cooperation in 1942 be commemorated, not just the Battle of the Coral Sea

--Battle of Coral Sea -- first serious check to amazingly rapid series of Japanese successes in the Pacific following Pearl Harbor

--Battle was the "end of the beginning"

--morale value unmeasurable to Allies who never again lost the initiative in the Pacific

(Hinchliffe/Nix)
December 12, 1991 12 p.m.
CORAL Draft One

**PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CORAL SEA COMMEMORATIVE COUNCIL
FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 1992
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA**

Time?

Thank you, Sir Eric. And special greetings to Ambassador Mel Sembler. It's great to be in Australia -- I certainly feel at home in "Bush Country." \\
→

Australians have a reputation for warmth and hospitality. So as we were driving over today I told Barbara how moved I was that all these people were waving to me. "Sorry, George," she said. "That's the Australian Wave. It's fly season." \\
8

I'm honored to meet with this very special council. On a personal level, the Coral Sea Commemoration has always meant a lot to me. ~~As a 19-year-old Navy fighter pilot in the South Pacific in May 1942,~~ I felt keenly the significance of the battle itself. And as a somewhat-older Vice President in 1982, I had the privilege to speak in Sydney at the Coral Sea Ball.

We must remember all the Coral Sea events. In particular, we must celebrate the extraordinary friendship they represent. The United States and Australia are inseparable allies. Our countries have always had a special bond -- forged out of our shared roots of frontier spirit, rugged individualism, and free enterprise. As Sir Nicholas Parkinson put it, there is and should be a "natural alliance" between us.

This century, that alliance has been firmly cemented with the glue of shared sacrifice. We've fought side by side 4 times in defense of the principles we share. There's no greater example

*5
add
Parkinson
Buff*

of that cooperation than the Battle of the Coral Sea, where we joined forces to turn back the Japanese military advance.

You all know how important that battle was. Our ships took part in the first major aircraft carrier engagement of the war; and in the first naval battle in history in which surface ships didn't sight each other. Together, we handed Japan its first reverse -- and together we prevented it from achieving air superiority in the Coral Sea. It was a crucial strategic victory, and it also gave our forces invaluable morale -- enabling the Allies to never again lose the initiative in the Pacific.

But one of the most significant legacies of the year that began with the Battle of the Coral Sea is the origin of our bilateral alliance. That's why you outstanding citizens should be congratulated by both our nations on the work you're doing -- for you look to the future while honoring the past.

The programs you sponsor will assure that the critical events of 1942 receive the attention they deserve. The fact that 50 years later so many prominent Australians have accepted Sir Eric's invitation to join this Council shows that what young Americans and Australians achieved together in the defense of freedom has not been forgotten.

change

I bring special thanks from over 1 million American men and women who served in your great and beautiful country during WWII. I hope many of them will return here next year to take part in this unique commemoration -- when I go home I'll tell them first-hand of the open, warmhearted Aussie welcome they'll receive.

I know you've been working hard to raise funds especially for activities designed to appeal to young Australians. We attach great importance to the future of our alliance -- and the upcoming generations are the ones who will maintain it. We want the young people of both our countries to understand our history, and to remember and respect the full sweep of American-Australian military cooperation in 1942 -- starting with the Battle of the Coral Sea, which was the "end of the beginning."

I'm sure this Council's work will strengthen and sustain our Alliance -- one that has matured and that is as relevant today as it ever was. My best wishes to you throughout this commemorative year. May God bless our countries -- and the brave sons and daughters who died to keep them free.

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(Hinchliffe/Nix)
December 12, 1991 12 p.m.
CORAL Draft One

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* I'm pleased to have the chance to meet with you. You should be congratulated by both our nations on the work you're doing -- [looking to the future while honoring the past. The fact that, 50 years after the crucial Battle of the Coral Sea, so many prominent Australians accepted Sir Eric's invitation to join this Council, shows that what young Americans and Australians achieved together in the defense of freedom has not been forgotten.

* I bring you special thanks on behalf of the over one million Americans who served in your great and beautiful country during WWII. I hope many will return here next year for this tremendous commemoration -- when I go home I'll tell them first-hand of the open, warmhearted Aussie welcome they'll receive.

* I know you've worked hard to raise funds so today's young Americans and Australians can understand what our countries have gone through together. We're inseparable allies because we share a real friendship; a special bond forged out of our shared roots of frontier spirit, rugged individualism, free enterprise. We

share something else -- the willingness to put our lives on the line to protect freedom. In the trenches of France and the rice paddies of Vietnam; on the battlefields of Germany, the mountains of Korea, and the heat-seared desert of Saudi Arabia, Australians and Americans stood shoulder-to-shoulder throughout this century.

Not a pilot yet

* Nowhere has this unique friendship been more important than in the Coral Sea in '42. I was an 18-year-old Navy ~~fighter pilot,~~ soon to head to the South Pacific. I remember hearing of that first momentous battle, when 2 time-tested friends joined forces to turn back Japan's advance. I remember hearing of the USS Yorktown and the HMAS Hobart in combat and of the "Lady Lex" going to her final rest deep off your coast. I remember the victory we forged -- and the sense of morale it strengthened within us. Above all, I remember the lives lost from both our homelands.

* We owe them a debt, those fine young men who died for the truths our countries were founded upon. You -- the Coral Sea Council -- are repaying that debt on behalf of all of us. You remind the world of the full sweep of American-Australian action in 1942, starting with the Battle of the Coral Sea, which was the "end of the beginning." And you remind us that the alliance -- the friendship -- we share is our future.

* My best wishes to you throughout this commemorative year. May God bless our countries -- and the brave sons and daughters who died to keep them free.

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VICE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS
FOR THE CORAL SEA BALL
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

April 28, 1989

Marilyn and I have only been in your country for a short time, but we have already been able to see for ourselves just how much of the Australian myth is true. During his meeting with me in Washington, Ambassador Lane personally praised Australia and its people, and spoke warmly of the ties between our two countries. Last year's bicentennial along with the America's cup and Crocodile Dundee, have brought Australia to the consciousness of Americans as never before. As

more and more of us come to visit, we can go beyond the stereotypes to form a greater appreciation not only of the differences between our two nations, but also of just how much we have in common.

Our democratic traditions, respect for individual freedoms, and rule by law are taken for granted. We are both pioneer peoples, who grew from rudimentary settlements, marched across inhospitable terrain, and built modern prosperous societies. Australians sailed to the American West Coast in the middle of the last century to take part in the California gold rush, and soon thereafter

Americans returned the favor by coming here to seek their fortune in gold. The first dependable system of land transport in Australia was the stagecoach route of Cobb and company; Mr. Freeman Cobb and his three partners were Americans one and all. And the list of influences on one another during our respective formative years is a long one.

In this century, we have fought side by side four times in defense of those principles which we hold dear. The Coral Sea Ball, an event of celebration, of course commemorates a much more

somber time. There is no question about the threat posed to Australia in 1942 after the fall of Singapore and the Dutch East Indies. With the Japanese poised to move on the Solomon Islands and Port Moresby, a move against Australia seemed imminent. In fact, had the battle of the Coral Sea turned out differently, Japan could easily have expanded its design for conquest to include Australia. It was the concerted effort of our joint task force of HMAS Australia and Hobart, along with several U.S. vessels including the carriers, Lexington and Yorktown, that withstood the

Japanese attack and saved Port Moresby. The Battle of the Coral Sea was the hinge upon which the fate of Australia turned, and marked the beginning of the allied strategic offensive in the Pacific.

This may seem like ancient history to some who, such as myself, were born after the end of World WAR II. I would remind you, however, that the President of the United States was a fighter pilot in the South Pacific, and it is not ancient history to him. Nor is it to Ambassador Bill Lane, whom most of you know first met Aussies as a

naval officer in the Pacific with Admiral Nimitz and served with Aussies in convoys. Some of you may recall that when he was Vice President, George and Barbara Bush attended the 1982 Coral Sea Ball here in Sydney. It is second nature to him that the United States and Australia are inseparable allies bound together by sacrifices shared in the Pacific War.

I can assure you that this sense of steadfastness as an ally of President Bush's generation is also shared by my own. I have been impressed by the members of my generation here tonight. I assure you that dedication to our alliance with Australia will continue.

The real relationship of our two countries, however, does not rest in history nor in formal alliances, but in the everyday exchanges, cooperation, and consultation that are the essence of the relationship. Certainly important to keeping that relationship alive on a personal level is the Australian-American Association. The challenge to your organization is to strengthen Australian-American ties, especially among a new generation whose experiences have not been forged in time of war.

Events like this one give us the opportunity to have a good time together and perhaps reflect a bit on our commonality of heritage, interests, and ideals. Marilyn and I thank you for our invitation and for the opportunity to show that even after the bicentennial year, and perhaps all the more because of the bicentennial, Australia still holds a key place in the hearts of Americans.

Events: Meeting with members of the the Australia - United States Coral Sea Commemorative Council

Time: 11:20 a.m., Friday, January 3:

Place: Otway Room No. 1, World Congress Centre, Melbourne

Purpose: To meet with and express appreciation to the Council for assuring that the 50th anniversary of the origins of the bilateral alliance is given the prominence it deserves.

Setting:

Approximately 50 members of the Council, distinguished and influential citizens from many sectors of Australian society, will be gathered in Otway Room No. 1 when you arrive. The Ambassador will introduce you to the Chairman of the Council, Sir Eric Neal, and the Vice Chairman, Vice Admiral Hudson. Sir Eric will invite you to address the Council. Sir Eric (Rosemary: I am making this up!) will respond briefly at the end of your remarks and then introduce you to the committee chairmen and to the other members of the Council.

Key Objectives:

-- To thank members of the Council, especially chairman Sir Eric Neal, for their contributions to Council programs and projects that will commemorate the World War II origins of our bilateral alliance in 1992.

-- To focus press attention on the Council and stimulate general public interest in the cycle of commemorative events planned in Australia during 1992, especially the 50th anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea.

-- To acknowledge the contributions of the thousands of Australians who are working to develop commemorative activities during 1992.

-- To underline the importance the U.S. attaches to younger Australians and the future of the alliance.

Participants:

Patrons: Ambassador Sembler (Prime Minister Hawke, also a Patron, but will not participate)

Chairman: Sir Eric James Neal, Chairman of Westpac Bank

Deputy Chairman: Admiral Michael Hudson, AC, Deputy Chairman and Services and Veterans Liaison.

Chairman of Finance Committee: Mr. Richard Pratt, AO, Joint Chairman and Managing Director, Visy Board Group

Members:

Sir James Balderstone, Chairman, Australian Mutual Provident

The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor, Councillor Steve Condous

- 2 -

Mr. F.J. Conroy, Managing Director, Westpac Banking Corporation
Sir Robert Cotton, KCMG: Communications and Publicity
Mr. Geoffrey Cousins, Chairman, George Patterson Advertising
Sir Charles Court, AK, KCMG, OBE
Sir Robert Cutler, VC, AK, KCMG, KCVO, CBE
Mr. Peter Doyle, Chairman, Australian National Maritime Museum
Sir Llewellyn Edwards, AC, C/- Jones Lang Wootten
Mr. Brian Finn, Managing Director, IBM Australia Limited
Brigadier A.B. Garland, AM, National President, RSL of Australia
Mr Patrick Geraghty, Seamen's Union of Australia
Mr. J.B. Gough, AO, Pacific Dunlop Limited
General Peter Gration, AC, OBE, Chief of Australian Defense Forces
Mr. W.J. Hamel, General Motors-Holdens Automotive
Mr. I.R.L. Harper, AM, Senior Corporate Partner, Allen Allen & Hemsley
Mr. Paul Kelly, Editor in Chief, The Australian Newspaper
Mr J.A. Landels, AO, C/- Caltex Australia Limited
Mr. Phillip Lincoln, Jr., Consul General, American Consulate General
Mr. Eamon J. Lindsay, RFD, MP, President, Australian-American Parliamentary Committee
The Lord Mayor of Darwin, Alderman Allan Markham
The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor, Concillor Richard Meldrum
Commodore J.L.W. (Red) Merson, National President, Naval Association of Australia
The Lord Mayor, Alderman Tony Mooney
Mr. Brian Nebenzahl, Managing Director, Play Pty Limited
Sir Arvi Parbo, Chairman, Western Mining Corporation
Mr. J. B. Prescott, Managing Director, The Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited

Mr. Roger Pysden, Boral Limited, President of the
Australian-American Association for NSW: Community Liaison

Rear Admiral Neil Ralph, AO, DSO

- 3 -

Lady Ramsey

Rear Admiral Andrew Robertson, AO, DSC, RAN (Rtd)

Mr. Frederick Ross, President, Merchant Service Guild of Australia

Mr. J.S. Rowe, AM, Managing Director, Sydney Convention & Visitors Bureau; Tourism Liaison

The Lord Mayor of the City of Sydney, Alderman Frank Sartor

Mr. William Small, Senior Partner, Price Waterhouse

The Lord Mayor Brisbane, Alderman James (Jim) Soorley, Lord Mayor's Office

Mr. Kerry Stokes, Goldern West Network

Mr. Robert Sullivan, Federal President, Australian-American Association Limited

Mr. J.A. Uhrig, AO, Chairman, CRA Limited

Mr. Richard Warburton, Managing Director, Depont (Australia) Limited

Sir Bruce Watson, Chairman, MIM Holdings Limited

Mr. D.R. Wills, Chairman and Managing Director, Coca-Cola Amatil Limited

Talking Points:

- I am pleased to have the opportunity this morning to thank all of you personally for your participation in the Australia - United States Coral Sea Commemorative Council.
- The programs and activities you coordinate or sponsor will assure that the events that shaped the beginnings of our bilateral alliance -- especially the 50th anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea -- receive the attention they deserve in 1992.
- On their behalf, I also want to convey to this Council and to all Australians who are developing commemorative programs this year the appreciation of the over one million American men and women who served in Australia during World War II.
- That fifty years later so many prominent Australians have accepted Sir Eric's invitation to join this Council is evidence that what young Americans and Australians achieved in the defense of freedom here and in the South Pacific during World War II has not been forgotten.

I share your hope that those veterans, some of them still living, will return to Australia with their families in 1992 to take part in the programs, ceremonies, and activities that are planned. I know they will receive the same open, warmhearted Aussie welcome that I have.

- 4 -

- I am pleased to learn that this Council is giving looking to the future of our alliance and will support many activities designed to appeal to young Australians.
- I am sure that the actions of this Council will strengthen and sustain an Alliance that has matured and is as relevant today as it ever was.
- My best wishes to you throughout this commemorative year.

Item Subject: Coral Sea Comm Council II

doc. 03626

The Australia-U.S. Coral Sea Commemorative Council

- o The Australia-U.S. Coral Sea Commemorative Council coordinates and gives prominence to the 50th anniversary commemorations of the Battle of the Coral Sea (May 4 - 8, 1942). The council was formed on the initiative of U.S. Ambassador Mel Sembler. The Ambassador and Prime Minister Bob Hawke are Council patrons.
 - The Council, which includes 50 of Australia's leading citizens, has already raised U.S. \$195,000 and set an initial budget target of U.S. \$1,560,000.
 - The Council will coordinate all 1992 Coral Sea events, and will provide liaison with veterans groups and organizations in Australia and the United States.
- o The Council's calendar of events begins with an Australian commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor and ends with the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Milne Bay (Papua New Guinea, August, 1992). The centerpiece of its activities will be the 50th anniversary of the May 4 - 8, 1942 Battle of the Coral Sea, which has been formally commemorated in Australia every year since 1956.
- o Proposed USG contributions to '92 Coral Sea commemorative events include: visits by a group of seven USN warships, a presidential representative, and a CODEL of congressional veterans of World War II. At the moment, the projected visit of U.S. warships does not include a carrier or a battleship, which members of the Council believe is essential if the commemorations are to have their maximum impact. Council members may raise this point with the President.
- o The Council has approved funding of U.S. \$124,000 to develop a curriculum study unit with supporting videotape on the defense of Australia in World War II. This would be used in Australian (and selected American) secondary schools. The Council is also reviewing other proposals for funding.
- o Officers of the Council who might be present at the meeting with the President include:
 - Sir Eric James Neal, Chairman of Westpac Bank, Chairman
 - Vice Admiral Michael Hudson, recently retired Chief of Naval Staff, Royal Australian Navy, Deputy Chairman
 - Richard Pratt, Joint Chairman and Managing Director Visy Board Group of Companies, Finance
- Sir Robert Cotton, former Australian Ambassador to the United States, Communications and Publicity

MEMORANDUM

December 2, 1991

TO: Ambassador Sembler
THRU: Marilyn Meyers, DCM
FROM: Lewis R. Luchs, CPAO
SUBJECT: Background on the Founding and Mission of the
Australia-U.S. Coral Sea Commemorative Council

Attached is a draft briefing paper on the Coral Sea Council for your review.

USIS:LRLUCHS:pv

UNCLASSIFIED**MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF THE AUSTRALIA-UNITED STATES
CORAL SEA COMMEMORATIVE COUNCIL****SCENESETTER****PURPOSE**

The purpose of your meeting with members of the Australia-U.S. Coral Sea Commemorative Council will be to express appreciation to the Council for assuring that the 50th anniversary of the origins of the bilateral alliance is given the prominence it deserves.

SETTING

Approximately 50 members of the Council, distinguished and influential citizens from many sectors of Australian society, will have gathered in Otway Room No. 1 of the World Congress Centre. The Ambassador will introduce you to the Chairman of the Council, Sir Eric Neal, and the Council Vice Chairman, Vice Admiral Michael Hudson. Sir Eric will then invite you to address the Council. Following your remarks, Sir Eric will make concluding remarks and introduce you to the Committee Chairmen and to the other Members of the Council.

KEY OBJECTIVES

- == To thank members of the Council, especially chairman Sir Eric Neal, for their contributions to Council programs and projects that will commemorate the World War II origins of our bilateral alliance in 1992.
- To focus press attention on the Council and stimulate general public interest in the cycle of commemorative events planned in Australia during 1992, especially the 50th anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea.
- To acknowledge the contributions of th thousands of Australians who are working to develop commemorative activities during 1992.
- To underline the importance the U.S. attaches to younger Australians and the future of the alliance.

Attached is a list of participants.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDPOINTS TO BE MADE WITH THE AUSTRALIA-UNITED STATES
CORAL SEA COMMEMORATIVE COUNCIL

- I am pleased to have the opportunity this morning to thank all of you personally for your participation in the Australia - U.S. Coral Sea Commemorative Council.
- The programs and activities you coordinate or sponsor will ensure that events which shaped the beginnings of our bilateral alliance -- especially the 50th anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea -- receive the attention they deserve in 1992.
- I also want to convey to this Council and to all Australians who are developing commemorative programs this year the appreciation of the over one million American men and women who served in Australia during World War II.
- The participation of so many prominent Australians on this Council is evidence that the defense of freedom here and in the South Pacific during World War II by Australians and Americans has not been forgotten.
- I share your hope that many of our veterans will return to Australia with their families in 1992 to take part in the activities that are being planned. I know they will receive the same open, warmhearted Aussie welcome that I have received.
- I am sure that the actions of this Council will strengthen and sustain an alliance that has matured and is as relevant today as it ever was.
- My best wishes to you throughout this commemorative year.

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UNCLASSIFIED

MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF THE AUSTRALIA-UNITED STATES
CORAL SEA COMMEMORATIVE COUNCIL

SCENESETTER

PURPOSE

The purpose of your meeting with members of the Australia-U.S. Coral Sea Commemorative Council will be to express appreciation to the Council for assuring that the 50th anniversary of the origins of the bilateral alliance is given the prominence it deserves. In addition, the meeting provides an opportunity to (1) thank members of the Council, especially chairman Sir Eric Neal; (2) stimulate general public interest in the commemoration; (3) acknowledge the contributions of the thousands of Australians who are working to develop commemorative activities during 1992; and (4) underline the importance the U.S. attaches to younger Australians and the future of the alliance.

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CORAL SEA COMMEMORATIVE COUNCIL MEETING
PARTICIPANT LIST

Patrons: Ambassador Sembler (Prime Minister Hawke, also a Patron, will not be present)

Chairman: Sir Eric James Neal, Chairman of Westpac Bank

Deputy Chairman: Vice Admiral Michael Hudson, AC, Deputy Chairman and Services and Veterans Liaison

Chairman of Finance Committee: Mr. Richard Pratt, AO, Joint Chairman and Managing Director, Visy Board Group

Members:

Sir James Balderstone, Chairman, Australian Mutual Provident Society

The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor, Councillor Steve Condous, Melbourne, Victoria

Mr. F.J. Conroy, Managing Director, Westpac Banking Corporation

Sir Robert Cotton, KCMG: Communications and Publicity

Mr. Geoffrey Cousins, Chairman, George Patterson Advertising

Sir Charles Court, AK, KCMG, OBE

Sir Robert Cutler, VC, AK, KCMG, KCVO, CBE

Mr. Peter Doyle, Chairman, Australian National Maritime Museum

Sir Llewellyn Edwards, AC, C/-Jones Lang Wootten

Mr. Brian Finn, Managing Director, IBM Australia Limited

Bridagier A.B. Garland, AM, National President, RSL of Australia

Mr. Patrick Geraghty, Seamen's Union of Australia

Mr. J.B. Gough, AO, Pacific Dunlop Limited

General Peter Gration, AC, OBE, Chief of Australian Defense Forces

Mr. W.J. Hamel, General Motors-Holdens Automotive

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(Participant List - Page 2)

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Mr. Paul Kelly, Editor in Chief, the Australian Newspaper

Mr. J.A. Landels, AO, C/-Caltex Australia Limited

Mr. Philip Lincoln, Jr., Consul General, American Consulate General in Sydney

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Mr. Brian Nebenzahl, Managing Director, Play Pty Limited

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Mr. J.B. Prescott, Managing Director, the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited

Mr. Roger Pysde, Borai Limited, President of the Australian-American Association for NSW: Community Liaison

Rear Admiral Neil Ralph, A, DSO

Lady Janet Ramsay, Widow of Sir James Ramsey, Former Governor of Queensland

Rear Admiral Andrew Robertson, AO, DSC, RAN (Rtd)

Mr. Frederick Ross, President, Merchant Service Guild of Australia

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Sir Bruce Watson, Chairman, MIM Holdings Limited

Mr. D.R. Wills, Chairman and Managing Director, Coca-Cola Amatil Limited

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN TITLES:

AC Companion of the Order of Australia
AK Knight of the Order of Australia
AM Member of the Order of Australia
AO Officer of the Order of Australia
CBE Commander of the Order of the British Empire
DSC Distinguished Service Cross
KCMG Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George
KCVO Knight Commander of the Royal Victorial Order
MP Member of Parliament
OBE Officer of the Order of the British Empire
RAN Royal Australian Navy
RFD Reserve Force Decoration
RSL Returned Services League
Rt. Hon. Right Honorable
VC Victoria Cross

United States Department of State
Bureau of Public Affairs

Office of the Historian

HIGHLIGHTS IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND AUSTRALIA, 1792-1989

1792: The merchant ship Philadelphia was the first American ship to call at Port Jackson in New South Wales.

May 20, 1836: James H. Williams of Boston was appointed the first American Consul at Sydney. He served until 1858.

August 20-September 18, 1908: The U.S. Navy's "Great White Fleet" received an enthusiastic welcome when it visited Australia during its round-the-world cruise.

May 27-30, 1918: Prime Minister William M. Hughes met with President Woodrow Wilson in Washington en route to wartime meetings in London. Hughes was the first Australian Prime Minister to visit the United States.

July 4, 1918: The first U.S.-Australian military cooperation took place when elements of the U.S. 33rd Division joined Australian troops in the capture of Le Hamel, France.

September 1918: Trade Commissioner Mark Sheldon became Australia's first official representative in the United States.

July 9, 1935: Prime Minister John A. Lyons met with President Franklin D. Roosevelt during a visit to the United States. They discussed prospects for reducing trade barriers.

January 8, 1940: The United States and Australia announced the establishment of diplomatic relations. Australian Minister Richard G. Casey presented his credentials on March 5, and U.S. Minister Clarence E. Gauss did so on July 17.

December 22, 1941: The first U.S. Army personnel arrived at Brisbane. With most of its armed forces serving in the Mediterranean, Australia was obliged to rely primarily on the United States for its defense during the war in the Pacific. Nearly 500,000 U.S. military personnel were stationed in Australia during World War II.

March 17, 1942: General Douglas MacArthur arrived in Australia six days after leaving the Philippines. As Supreme Commander of the Southwest Pacific Area (SWPA), MacArthur maintained his headquarters in Australia until October 1944. Australian General Sir Thomas Blamey commanded SWPA's ground forces. U.S. and Australian forces fought side by side in the Southwest Pacific, notably in New Guinea.

May 1942 Battle of Coral Sea

E

September 3, 1942: The United States and Great Britain signed an agreement providing for Lend-Lease aid to Australia.

July 9, 1946: The United States and Australia raised their Legations to the rank of Embassies. Australian Ambassador Norman J. O. Makin presented his credentials on September 11; U.S. Ambassador Robert Butler did so on September 25.

October 1950: Australian troops began serving with the British Commonwealth Brigade in the Korean War. The last Australian military personnel left the U.N. Command in Korea in August 1957.

September 1, 1951: The ANZUS security treaty between Australia, New Zealand, and the United States was signed at San Francisco.

September 8, 1954: Australia was one of the signatories of the Southeast Asia Collective Defense Treaty (SEATO).

March 9-14, 1957: John Foster Dulles became the first U.S. Secretary of State to visit Australia when he attended a SEATO ministerial meeting in Canberra.

February 25, 1960: The United States and Australia signed an agreement establishing tracking stations used in manned space flight programs.

not notations May 3, 1963: The United States and Australia signed an agreement establishing a U.S. naval communications center *where NW Cape*

June 1965: The first Australian soldiers arrived in South Vietnam. The last were withdrawn on March 1, 1972.

October 20-23, 1966: Lyndon B. Johnson became the first U.S. President to visit Australia. In December 1967 he returned to attend memorial services for Prime Minister Harold Holt.

July 27-29, 1976: Prime Minister J. Malcolm Fraser made the first of several visits to the United States. He and President Gerald Ford stressed the need for continued cooperation between the ANZUS countries.

May 1, 1982: Vice President George Bush visited Australia to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the ANZUS Treaty.

July 15, 1985: Secretary of State George P. Shultz and Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs Bill Hayden issued a joint statement in Canberra reaffirming the importance of the ANZUS Treaty and expressing hopes for full cooperation between all its signatories.

1988-89 Australia celebrated bicentenary of European settlement
June 24-27, 1989: Prime Minister Robert Hawke made his fifth visit to Washington and met with President George Bush.

Tony
December 14, 1991

Michele,

Further information regarding Australia's participation in the Vietnam War:

Three years before Australia and New Zealand combat troops were committed to Vietnam in 1965, there was a small Australian military presence comprised of volunteer regular ground forces but no draftees. In 1964, the Australian government reintroduced conscription by using a lottery system that made nonvolunteers eligible to serve overseas. Once conscripts started to go to Vietnam in 1966, public debate over Australia's involvement in the war grew increasingly contentious.

At its height of commitment, the Australian military presence^e in Southeast Asia reached 8,000. The costs in casualties^{were} high (there were 500 killed) and financial expenditure was great (4 percent of Australia's GDP at the peak of Australia's involvement; outlays now are around half that).

Brian Woo
EAP/ANZ

Australia at a Glance: A Chronology

- c. 28,000 BC First Aboriginal settlers reach Australia—perhaps when it was still connected to Asia.
- c. AD 150 Claudius Ptolemy, Roman astronomer and geographer, hypothesizes existence of a southern “*Terra Incognita*” (Unknown Land).
- c. 1500 Following rediscovery of Ptolemy’s *Geography*, “*Terra Australis*” (Southern Land) appears on some world maps.
- 1606 Willem Jansz of the Dutch East India Company touches New Guinea and Australia (Gulf of Carpentaria, Queensland), but thinks they are a single land mass; the Spaniard Luis de Torres sails through the strait between Australia and New Guinea, now the Torres Strait, also without recognizing a new continent.
- 1616–1619 En route to the Dutch colony at Batavia (Indonesia), Dirk Hartog and Jan Houtman discover and explore the southwestern coast of Australia, then known as New Holland.
- 1642 Commissioned to explore New Holland by Anthony van Diemen, Governor-General of the Dutch East Indies, Abel Tasman sails around Australia without sighting its coast. Instead, he discovers New Zealand and a land mass he names Van Diemen’s Land (now Tasmania).
- 1688 English pirate and adventurer, William Dampier, lands on the northwestern coast. He touches on this coast again in 1699; Swift and Defoe make use of his accounts in *Gulliver’s Travels* and *Robinson Crusoe*.
- 1770 James Cook (1728–1778) anchors HMS *Endeavour* in Botany Bay. He continues north along the coast for several weeks, navigating the Great Barrier Reef and completing the map of New Holland. Claiming the area for England, he calls it New South Wales.
- 1779 Joseph Banks, who accompanied Cook on the *Endeavor*, recommends to the House of Commons the establishment of a penal colony at Botany Bay.
- 1788 Captain Arthur Phillip lands the first fleet of convicts at Botany Bay, but finds Banks’s account of its salubrious climate to be exaggerated. Nonetheless, he formally takes possession of eastern Australia as the colony of New South Wales and lays out a village to be named Sydney, after Viscount Sydney, the British Home Secretary.
- 1796 Spanish Merino sheep, with their highly prized wool, are introduced.
- 1798 Matthew Flinders and George Bass discover that Van Diemen’s Land is an island; New South Wales claims it for Britain.
- 1803 Risdon Cove settlement is established in Van Diemen’s Land; settlement at Port Phillip (now Melbourne) is attempted.

- 1804 Hobart Town and Port Dalrymple penal settlements (united in 1812) are established in Van Diemen’s Land, and the Aborigines are gradually wiped out.
- 1809–1821 Lachlan Macquarie, governor of New South Wales, establishes the basis of the modern city of Sydney with the help of convict-architect Francis Greenway (who earned his freedom through his designs).
- 1813 Gregory Blaxland, William Lawson, and William Charles Wentworth discover a route through the Blue Mountains, opening the way for westward expansion.
- 1823 New South Wales is named a Crown Colony.
- 1824 Moreton Bay Penal Colony (Queensland) was established by Governor Brisbane (for whom the site was later named) to incarcerate the worst convicts from New South Wales.
- 1825 Van Diemen’s Land becomes a separate colony; free settlers begin to arrive.
- 1829 Western Australia is annexed and becomes Australia’s first free colony, but later receives convicts to relieve labor shortage.
- 1835 John Batman and John Fawkner establish claims at Port Phillip (Victoria).
- 1836 Melbourne is laid out. South Australia is declared a separate colony.
- 1839 Captain J. C. Wickham of HMS *Beagle* discovers a harbor on the northern coast, which he names Port Darwin, after Charles Darwin.
- 1840 Last convicts are sent to New South Wales; free settlers arrive in Queensland.
- 1842 Copper is found in South Australia.
- 1849 Last convicts are sent to Queensland.
- 1851 Victoria is proclaimed a colony; gold is discovered at Ophir in New South Wales. Over the next decade 400,000 settlers flock to New South Wales and Victoria for the Gold Rush.
- 1853 Last convicts are sent to Van Diemen’s Land, renamed Tasmania in 1856.
- 1854 Miners’ rebellion erupts over licensing fees at the Eureka Stockade near Ballarat (Victoria).
- 1859 Queensland is proclaimed a separate colony.
- 1868 Last convicts are transported to Western Australia.
- 1869 Darwin (Northern Territory) is surveyed.
- 1873 Ayers Rock, the world’s largest monolithic rock, is sighted by William Gosse in central Australia and named after the governor of South Australia.
- 1880 Bushranger Ned Kelly, a notorious highwayman, is captured in a shootout at Glenrowan, Victoria. He is hanged and becomes a folk hero.
- 1892–3 Gold is discovered at Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie (Western Australia).

- 1901 Federal Commonwealth of Australia is established; Melbourne becomes provisional capital.
- 1911 Australian Capital Territory is ceded from New South Wales; Walter Burley Griffin of Chicago wins competition to design new capital city of Canberra.
- 1914 Australia enters World War I and experiences heavy losses in the Gallipoli campaign (1915).
- 1920–32 Sydney Harbour Bridge is built.
- 1927 First Federal Parliament meets in Canberra.
- 1929 Railroad reaches the town of Alice Springs (Northern Territory).
- 1939 Australia enters World War II; Darwin is severely bombed by the Japanese in 1941–42.
- 1950 Australia enters the Korean War.
- 1966 First contingent of Australian troops arrives in Vietnam.
- 1967 Prime Minister Harold Holt disappears while swimming off Victorian coast and is believed drowned.
- 1974 Cyclone Tracy destroys most of Darwin.
- 1975 Governor General Sir John Kerr, the Queen's representative in Canberra, summarily dismisses Prime Minister Gough Whitlam, provoking a constitutional crisis.
- 1978 Northern Territory becomes self-governing.
- 1986 Australia Act ends power of the United Kingdom to affect Australian law.
- 1988 Australia celebrates its bicentennial.
- 1990 Prime Minister Bob Hawke wins fourth electoral victory for the Labour Party.

Bush Pubs: A Window onto the Outback

by Tony Horwitz

Tony Horwitz is an American who quit his job as a journalist in Sydney to hitchhike through the Australian outback. In this extract from One for the Road, a book he wrote about his experiences, Horwitz describes the journey to Alice Springs in the red heart of Australia.

"I never miss a pub," Bill Gillholey says by way of introduction. "No chance." I am in the Northern Territory, on a motorized pub crawl from Tennant Creek to Wauchope to Tea Tree to Alice. Each settlement a pub, each pub a snort or two of blue [Foster's beer]. Then back on the road, like two men in a canoe, weaving down a river of beer.

"Europe, it has the culture," Bill says, holding the steering wheel in one hand and spilling a beer with the other. "Australia, Australia it has the pubs."

Bill left his native Hungary after the Communist takeover in the 1950s. He opposed the new regime and couldn't find work as a mining engineer. Bill hasn't found engineering work in the Territory either, but he's stayed, laboring as a handyman on outback stations and moonlighting as a pub crawler of Olympian dimension. He even adopted the surname of an Irishman he met over a green can somewhere in Darwin. At the Top End, it seems, beer helps cement the ethnic mosaic together.

Beer is also the lifeblood of the Territory's road traffic. There is one central artery, the Stuart Highway, running from Darwin to the South Australian border. Smaller vessels feed into it all along the way, carrying goods and traffic from the body corporal into the greater flow. It is at the junctions that the roadhouses appear to pump and prime the system with gas and beer.

There is nowhere else to stop along the hot dusty drive down "The Track," as Territorians call the Stuart Highway. So the same faces appear at every pub. Travelers drink and nod at one another, then move in a convoy to the next hotel. By Alice Springs, I will know everybody at the bar.

If I don't lose consciousness. Pub crawling with Bill makes me realize how much I still have to learn about Australian-style drinking. Americans don't necessarily drink less but they do drink differently. A beer or two after work. Cocktails before dinner. Maybe a blow-out at the weekend. Like everything else in the United States, drinking is done at prescribed times, for a prescribed purpose. And there are still "dry counties" in the Bible Belt where drinking isn't done in public, at least not legally. Elsewhere, there is a growing rebellion against anything caloric or intoxicating: "lite beer" and diet cola are the products of a lingering Puritanical strain.

In Australia, I soon discovered, this toehold of discipline doesn't exist. Drinking is done at all times, for no specific purpose. Down a drink at an 11 AM press conference, no worries. Knock back a bottle of wine at lunch and head straight back to work. Drain the hotel minibar, just because it's there. Don't let a little grog get in the way of whatever else it is you're doing.

So for a year I drank and learned and drank some more. I learned that it's bad form to make a social visit without a bottle in hand; still more gauche to leave the pub before it's your turn to shout a round. I even accustomed myself to the pub around the corner from my Sydney home, an "early opener" where the dockworkers gather for a quick beer before their shift begins. At 6:30 in the morning.

The Territory is my graduate education. Bars can be crowded at any hour, any day of the week. The distinction between public bar, saloon, and lounge dissolves altogether. And as the roadhouses become more isolated, the atmosphere becomes more bizarre. Aviaries and zoos are a common feature. Usually the wildlife is just a camel or emu milling about outside, but sometimes the animals wander inside as well. Other roadhouses host special events. The tiny settlement at Wauchope, for instance, holds an annual cricket match against the world. The home team has an advantage, of course; Wauchope's so remote that it's difficult for challengers to field a team.

But it is the heroic drinking that is the distinguishing feature of outback roadhouses. Again, etymology is the key to Territory thinking. A ten-ounce glass of beer isn't a schooner, or a pot; it's "a handle." Apparently, ten ounces is what's needed to get a handle on yourself before returning to the road. Just don't forget to take away a six-pack of blue tubes to hold you until the next hotel.

"The esky, it is just for back-up," Bill explains, emptying a carton of Foster's into his cooler outside the Wauchope roadhouse. "Even if I'm loaded up, I never miss a pub. No chance."

One pub in particular. South of Wauchope, in the middle of a sandblasted, sun-bleached desert, there is a road sign painted on the trailer of a capsized road train: "Barrow Creek Hotel—21½ km."

The pub that appears two tinnies [beers] farther on doesn't look like much, but outback pubs rarely do; a plain collection of iron and timber, piled onto concrete blocks. The road of Barrow Creek consists of a few houses, a windmill and an old building that once housed a repeater station for the Overland Telegraph. When the telegraph was built between Adelaide and Darwin in the 1870s, Morse couldn't leap more than 200 miles at a time. So outposts such as Barrow Creek were set up to keep the dots and dashes moving along.

Now it's the road traffic that must be resupplied. Not that anyone will emerge from the pub to pump fuel.

"I have a rule—never go out to serve petrol," says the publican, Lance Pietsch. "If you've got some competition, then you have to do something. But Barrow Creek? If they don't fill up here they're stuffed. And if I don't come out, they come in. Then I've got them drinking beer, buying pies and T-shirts. That's where I make my quid."

It is the first clue to Pietsch's proprietary thinking. The second is a photograph of himself hung crooked behind the bar. Pietsch is a big-shouldered bloke with the broad chest and thick arms of a butcher. But no harm in making himself even more picturesque by turning the portrait askew.

"I hang everything crooked," he says. "Gives the place character."

The entire establishment is an essay in calculated kitsch. There's a pet kangaroo hopping around behind the bar, an emu somewhere out the back. And the walls at Barrow Creek make the artwork I've seen in Queensland pubs look like cave paintings. Nude photos and rude bumper stickers are the main adornment. Then there's a row of tattered stationmasters' hats hung like headstones in a medieval cathedral: Telecom Tom, Shim Ree, Tossa Reidy. Each man remembered by his hat, and by a short epitaph.

"Been there—done that," says the writing beneath Tossa Reidy's crumpled hat. "Has a very short fuse and prolific swearer."

And beside Telecom Tom's: "Just passing through, 1952. Been here ever since."

And he still is, a crinkled, khaki-clad figure perched atop a bar stool marked by a plaque that says: "Reserved for Barrow Creek superannuated citizens." In a community of fourteen people, he is the only one.

Tom once took part in a dingo cull. He was paid by the number of ears he turned in as proof of having killed the wild dogs. Tom put a few ears on top and filled the rest of the bag with dried apricots. "No one ever bothered to look too close," he says with an impish grin. "The smell's too revolting."

The hotel's pièce de résistance is a tapestry of dollar notes hanging on a wall behind the bar. It's called the "bush bank," and there are smaller branches at several other Territory pubs. Drinkers can plan their financial future by signing a note—\$2, \$10, even \$100—and pinning it to the wall. Then, when passing through at a later date, drinkers can simply make a withdrawal by reclaiming their note, and keep on drinking. Foreign currencies are also accepted.

The bush bank is obviously a liquid investment, but not a foolproof way of saving money. Most of the depositors are station hands or oil workers who return to Barrow Creek infrequently, if at all. When there is a run on the bank, the money usually lasts about as long as chips at the roulette table. "I've never seen a bloke claim his money without spending it before going out the door," Pietsch says. "The house always wins."

Sometimes the drinkers don't make it out the door either; they collapse on the wooden floor instead. One binge during an annual horse race went on for five days. "Blokes just fell off their stools, woke up and started drinking again." Most days, though, the hotel stays closed between about midnight and 7 AM. Eight of Barrow Creek's fourteen inhabitants work at the pub, filling beer glasses or making beds. The dead of night is their only break between shifts.

"But if a bloke needs a beer real bad at 4 AM, he'd probably get served," Pietsch says. "Bush rules."

After all, it's about 60 miles to the next pub. Only a heartless publican would exile a man into that much desert empty-handed.

Barrow Creek's isolation helps Pietsch escape another hazard of his trade: the regular drinkers. Pietsch hates them. "In South Australia they'd come in every day for six years and say 'How's it going, Lance?' They couldn't even remember being carried out the door the night before."

At Barrow Creek, the only face he sees on a regular basis is Telecom Tom's. Almost everyone else is passing through. Myself included. I deposit a two-dollar note at the bush bank, just in case, and head out into the desert with Bill again.

"Europe, only Europe, you find a Prado, a Uffizi, a Jeu de Paume," Bill says, becoming more grandiose with every swallow of beer. "But tell me. Where in Europe you find a Barrow Creek Hotel?" He puts his tinnie between his legs, presses the tips of his thumb and forefinger together and kisses them. "Nowhere." For Bill, Barrow Creek is the Louvre of outback pubs.

It is in a beer daze somewhere south of Barrow Creek that the scattered images start coming together. Tattersall's Hotel at the border of New South Wales and Queensland. The Blue Heeler Hotel in Kynuna. And now the picturesque watering holes of the Northern Territory. They are kin to one another, but kin to nothing else I've ever seen.

At first I regarded these pubs as eccentric outposts on the way to the Main Event. Somewhere "out there," I subconsciously supposed, a scene or character would bound off the horizon screaming "This is it, mate! Fair dinkum Australia!" I would stumble across the gem (like the mythical pro-

pector at Cloncurry) and carry its wealth with me back to the city.

Travel rarely pays out in that fashion, least of all in Australia. The civilization is too far-flung to allow for many generalizations. And in the outback, home and work life is usually sealed away from view, way off in the scrub.

The lonely roadhouse offers a window into this remote society. And peering blearily through it, I see an irreverence and whimsy that intrigue me: if not the real Australia, at least something more exotic than the international gloss of Sydney.

The Great Barrier Reef

by Sharon Cohen
Sharon Cohen is a travel and natural history writer, and the author of *The Outdoor Traveler's Guide, Australia*.

Even from an airplane, the Great Barrier Reef is an amazing sight. Fringed by brilliant turquoise and sea green, tiny islands and coral cays lie scattered along the ocean like a broken string of pearls. In the north, the necklace is clustered tightly; in the south, the pearls are flung haphazardly. Astronauts looking down upon the planet from outer space can readily identify the Reef, as it sprawls over 200,000 square kilometers (80,000 square miles) of the South Pacific.

On the ground you can see even more, for at low tide, water levels drop as much as 3 meters (10 feet), revealing a multitude of invertebrate life. With a sturdy pair of walking shoes and perhaps a tall stick (for balance, not prodding), you can walk along the clean white sand at the sea's edge, peering into pellucid shallows lit by a direct stream of tropical sun. But to see the Reef in all its glory, you must go underwater (either snorkeling or scuba diving), where you will encounter an astonishing variety of forms, colors, and textures, continually alive with shifting shadows, darting fish, and languorously swaying tentacles, fronds, whips, and grasses. The blue water is marvelously unpolluted and clear, and it's rarely more than 60 meters (200 feet) deep—which is the secret of its success, for coral requires plenty of sunlight to thrive.

It may overwhelm the imagination to realize that this huge, rocky structure is *alive*—one giant conglomeration of living organisms, extending over 1,932 kilometers (1,200 miles). It runs all the way from the northerly Torres Strait, which divides Australia from Papua New Guinea, down to the Capricorn Bunker Group east of Gladstone, tracing along most of Queensland's long eastern coast, across the Tropic of Capricorn. Wrapping and fringing around islands, or running like ribbons alongside large land masses, the Reef changes daily as it continues to grow. Pocketed boulders of intricate shapes and sizes are actually a calcareous skeleton secreted by the coral; yet within that curved and crenellated mass live millions of tiny coral polyps, feeding and reproducing and protecting themselves against their underwater enemies. Fish dart about in the caverns and crevices formed by the coral; sponges, algae, sea urchins, sea stars, sea cucumbers, mollusks, clams, and delicate anemones cling to its surface. It's an entire universe, with an architecture unlike anything we know on land.

While thousands of different coral species live in the Reef (with such metaphorical names as brain, staghorn, moon, elkhorn, organ pipe, and table), there are basically two kinds—hard and soft. Soft corals appear to be more deli-

cate, lacking the stony outer walls commonly associated with hard corals. They live only in areas of free-flowing water—particularly on the outer Reef edge—for, unlike hard corals that have tentacles, they must rely on water movement to bring them the plankton they need for food. They are also most likely to be found at lower depths, sometimes as much as 46 meters (150 feet) down.

It's hard corals that are responsible for the architecture of the Reef. When hard coral dies, its skeletal residue fuses with existing sand grains and other debris to form a limestone structure, no more alive than a human fingernail. The skeleton is created with the assistance of an algae (*zooxanthellae*) that lives within the coral's cells, secreting calcium as a natural by-product of photosynthesis (that's why the coral needs sunlight). One coral polyp on its own could do very little to build a reef, but in combination with thousands of other polyps, dividing and multiplying as they grow, a giant skeleton is amassed in the shallow water. At first glance, a large coral head looks like a moon boulder, barren of all life, but upon closer inspection, a diver can see thousands of tiny coral polyps, tentacles withdrawn, lining the whole surface.

Through simple cellular division, a coral extends itself and its limestone structure. There is a second type of reproduction as well, which intersperses species throughout the area, creating the reefscape's dizzying variety of shapes and colors. One night every November just following the full moon, when the water temperature is perfect and the tides are high, almost every coral on the Reef "gives birth" within hours of each other. It's the most extensive mass orgy in the world! Waters whirl with coral sperm and coral eggs trying to meet; tiny encasements already containing both add to the frenzied swim. The waters look like one of those souvenir plastic snow scenes you turn upside down, as a blizzard of newly formed polyps drifts down to the ocean bottom to anchor onto hard substances.

In some areas of the Reef, particularly the outer edge, wave action is powerful, and that constant flow shapes the coral. Where currents are too strong, polyps cannot secure themselves to the ocean bottom, leaving "coral-free" zones—sandy patches of ocean floor often used by burrowing crabs or passing nurse sharks. Yet no section of the Reef is unoccupied—there is a continuous flow of life. The opaque tentacles of an anemone stretch out to clutch passing fish and inject their poisons, while an inch-long anemone fish, naturally immune to this venom, darts in and out of the tentacles. Wedged into the top of the coral, a giant clam opens the colorful zigzag mouth of its shell ever so slightly, expecting food to come its way. Beneath an overhang of the Reef, a moray eel bobs its head back and forth, razor-sharp teeth bared, its thick body barely seen within the hidden

recesses of the structure. Sections of the boulder seem to be furred by a microforest of colorful lilliputian Christmas trees, but as you approach they retreat at the sudden movement: They are not plants but animals. Thousands of colorful sponges rhythmically suck in water, filter out any tasty morsels, and flush out the rest. On the shallow ocean floor, small conical-shape shells called cones or volutes encase creatures with powerful poisons that can be fatal to humans who step on them or pick them up.

The thousands of fish species that inhabit the Reef include hussars, hawkfish, sweetlips, damselfish, surgeons, butterfly fish, Maori wrasses, and soldier fish, flitting in and out of the coral labyrinth like luminescent flashes of hot neon. The fish almost seem to take on human personalities—the showy parrot fish and harlequin tuskfish, the big fat potato cod, and the magnificent but venomous lion fish. Like devoted servants, tiny cleaner shrimp work at removing parasites (their favorite food) from these larger fish. Eagle rays arch their giant wings in unison, moving with amazing grace, and with one powerful flap, disappear into the dimensionless blue.

Many divers expect the area to be filled with sharks, but, in reality, sharks are shy, and humans are not their favorite food. Only a juvenile would be foolish enough to get close to a human—or, perhaps, a very hungry tiger shark, drawn by a smell of blood.

By far the biggest creatures near the Reef, humpback whales are regular visitors, lured by warm waters perfect for their blubbery calves. Despite their large size (and visibility), little is known about these creatures, for they stop here only during early September. Observation has shown humpback whales to appear with infant calves near Hervey Bay, a southern section of the Reef, which leads researchers to believe that their birthing area is not far away.

The Great Barrier Reef is believed to be only 8,000 years old—a mere baby, when you consider that Australia separated from Gondwanaland 50 million years ago. After the island continent drifted north to its current position, only 15 degrees south of the equator, warm waters from its new neighbors, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea, carried coral polyps down the eastern and western coasts. The shallower waters of the northeast, with their plentiful sunshine and nutrients from Antarctica, proved to be prime breeding grounds for coral. The growing reef formed a natural barrier against the surrounding sea, trapping drifting particles and feeding its wildlife.

Over the centuries, pounding waves broke coral boulders into fine sand, which in some areas built up into small sand islands, or cays. Even today, cays are continually forming, peaking above the surface of the ocean only to be flattened

out by a giant wave or two. The ones we map are the survivors, those that managed to form during periods of calm. Once cays are established, it is not long before teams of birds land, depositing guano filled with fertile seeds from plants on other islands. Pausing to preen feathers, the birds also shed the sticker seeds that have hitchhiked along with them. These seeds take root in the sand and begin the process of vegetation, and in a few years the cays are full of trees, as you can see on popular Heron and Green islands. The birds—terns, boobies, herons, and gulls—continue to live on the coral islands, too. On Heron Island, the very pisonia trees that were given life by the black noddy terns also claim the birds' lives: When a noddy gets too close to the pisonia's sticky fruit, its feathers become damaged and it soon dies at the base of the tree its ancestors brought to the island.

Hérons are found along the Reef's edge during low tide, when a good deal of it is exposed. Herons also time their arrival on the beach to the hatching of sea turtles' eggs—a delectable treat, indeed! As the baby sea turtles hatch, they crawl out of their buried nest in the sand and, if they can evade the predatory herons, gulls, and crabs, scamper into the sea. Little is known of the turtles' subsequent life, until a surviving female returns 40 or 50 years later to lay her eggs on the same terra firma.

Visitors are warned against disturbing the Reef in any way, for although it appears tough as rock, in truth it is a fragile ecosystem, easily injured. Just brushing alongside a huge coral head could kill hundreds of coral polyps, opening up an entire section of the Reef to disease and destruction. Stepping unwittingly on an anemone destroys not only the invertebrate, but also the home of its resident fish. To protect this awesome living organism from human abuse, the Queensland government passed the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act in 1975, declaring 98% of the Reef a national park. Thanks to this forethought, the Reef still stands as one of the greatest natural resources in the world, filled with what is, perhaps, the most incredible array of life found on this planet.

The founding of the Australia-United States Coral Sea Commemorative Council arose out of Ambassador Sembler's desire to assure that the 50th anniversary commemorations of the Battle of the Coral Sea are effectively coordinated and given the prominence they deserve. The Ambassador also wished to draw to Australia as many American veterans and their families as possible to participate in Coral Sea commemorations. The Ambassador and Prime Minister Bob Hawke, who has responded to Coral Sea commemoration plans with enthusiasm, are patrons of the Council.

The other key figures in the formation of the Council are Sir Eric Neal, Chairman of the Westpac Bank, and Vice Admiral Michael Hudson. In a few weeks Sir Eric gathered 50 of Australia's most influential citizens from every state and territory and from organizations which had traditionally sponsored annual Coral Sea commemorations for the first meeting of the Council in Sydney on October 9, 1991.

The Council agreed at this first meeting to establish a secretariat and appoint an executive director; to keep a master calendar of all Coral Sea '92 events; to coordinate the activities of the various organizations planning Coral Sea '92 events; to raise funds and to select projects for funding that further the Council's objectives; and to provide liaison with veterans groups and organizations in Australia and the United States.

At its first meeting the Council also established policy guidelines, raised 250,000 dollars A, set an initial budget target of 2 million dollars A, and named chairmen for five committees (Service and Veterans Liaison, Finance, Communications and Publicity, Community Liaison, and Tourism Liaison).

It was agreed that the purpose of the Council's activities is to strengthen and consolidate the Alliance. The Council sees the cycle of 50th commemorations of 1942 events as an excellent opportunity to educate Australians who have no memories of World War II on the foundations and continuing importance of the U.S. - Australian Alliance. It is the wish of the Council to look to the future while commemorating the past and to pay particular attention to involving younger Australian audiences in the Council's messages and programs.

The centerpiece of the Council's support activity is the May 4-8, 1942 Battle of the Coral Sea, formally commemorated in Australia every year since 1956. For older Australians Coral Sea has become the major symbol of U.S.- Australian cooperation in World War II.

The Council's calendar of events, however, begins with the attack on Pearl Harbor and ends with the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Milne Bay in August 1992. It is the Council's view that the major events of 1942 (the attack on Pearl Harbor, the Fall of Singapore, Prime Minister Curtin's historic speech ("Australia looks to America"), the Battle of the Coral Sea,

the Battle of Midway, etc.) are inextricably linked and the Council's wish that the full sweep of American-Australian military cooperation in 1942 be commemorated, not just the Battle of the Coral Sea.

USG contributions to the '92 Coral Sea commemorations will include visits by a group of seven USN warships, a presidential representative, and a proposed CODEL of congressional veterans of World War II. The projected visit of U.S. warships does not include a carrier or a battleship, which members of the Council believe is essential if the 50th anniversary commemorations are to have their maximum impact. This is an issue Council members may raise with President Bush.

The Council has appointed Lindsay Hamilton, formerly a senior executive with Westpac, as Executive Director of the Council's secretariat. He is assisted by SBLT. John Renwick, seconded by the Royal Australian Navy to assure effective liaison with the RAN and to assist in the coordination of all programs.

The Council has approved funding of 160,000 dollars A to develop a curriculum study unit with supporting videotape for use in Australian (and selected American) secondary schools on the defense of Australia in World War II, and is reviewing other proposals for funding.

The officers of the Council are:

Sir Eric James Neal, A.C., Chairman of Westpac Bank, Chairman.

Vice Admiral Michael Hudson, A.C., recently retired Chief of Naval Staff, Royal Australian Navy: Deputy Chairman and Service and Veterans Liaison:

Richard Pratt, A.O., Joint Chairman and Managing Director Visy Board Group of Companies: Finance.

Sir Robert Cotton, A.C., former Australian Ambassador to the United States: Communications and Publicity.

Roger Pysden, President of the Australian-American Association for New South Wales: Community Liaison.

John Scott Rowe, A.M., Managing Director Sydney Convention and Visitors Bureau: Tourism Liaison.

Note on honorary titles: An A.C. is a "Companion of the Order of Australia"; an A.O. is an "Officer of the Order of Australia"; an A.M. is a "Member of the Order of Australia".



United States Information Service

National Press Club Building
18 National Circuit
Barton, A.C.T. 2600

Tel. (06) 270 5872
(06) 270 5888

F A C S I M I L E T R A N S M I S S I O N

TO: Michelle Nix
President Speech Writing Office
The White House
FAX: 0011-1-202-456-6218

FROM: Lewis R. Luchs, Counselor for Public Affairs
U.S. Information Service, Canberra

DATE: December 10, 1991

SUBJECT: Coral Sea and Australian Center for American
Studies

Here is the background material on the Coral Sea Council and the new Australian Centre for American Studies we discussed by phone.

MEMORANDUM

December 2, 1991

TO: Ambassador Sembler
THRU: Marilyn Meyers, DCM
FROM: Lewis R. Luchs, CPAO
SUBJECT: Background on the Founding and Mission of the
Australia-U.S. Coral Sea Commemorative Council

Attached is a draft briefing paper on the Coral Sea Council for your review.

USIS:LRLUCHS:pv