



Special Edition – APRIL 2022

# THE OBSERVATION POST

*The official publication of the*  
**South Australia & Northern Territory Branch**  
**National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association of Australia Inc**

**National Patron:** General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK AC(Mil) CVO MC (ret'd)  
**SA/NT Patron:** Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia

## Confrontation, 1962-1966

† 214742 Bombardier Brian James 'Snowy' Selby (1945-2022)



Brian Selby was born in Belmore, NSW on 21 March 1945. He first served in the Citizens' Military Forces (CMF) in Sydney in 1961-62 with 23 Field Regiment, Royal Australian Artillery.

He enlisted in the Australian Regular Army on 24 June 1962 aged 17, and served in 111 Light Anti-Aircraft Battery, Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery at Holsworthy in 1962-64, attaining the rank of Bombardier.

On 25 May 1964, he embarked on HMAS *Sydney* 111 R17 and deployed to RAAF Butterworth in Malaysia, serving as an Observation Post commander until June 1966. From October 1964 to January 1965, Brian was detached to 'Bravo' Company of the 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (3RAR) conducting counter-insurgency patrols on the Thai-Malay Border.

Brian took his discharge on 25 June 1968. He served again as a Transport Section Commander from July 1968 to August 1971.

Brian was President of the SA & NT Branch of the National Malaya and Borneo Veterans Association of Australia Inc from 2002 to 2006, and again from 2010 until his passing on 15 April 2022, aged 77.

## THANKS DIGGER

Virtual Museum and Commemoration Centre

<https://www.facebook.com/ThanksDigger> | [ThanksDigger@gmail.com](mailto:ThanksDigger@gmail.com)

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Brian 'Snowy' Selby.

Brian suffered a massive heart attack at 0130h on Good Friday, 15 April 2022. We thank the SA Ambulance Service crew for their immediate response, but Brian was unable to be resuscitated.

This notice was shared on social media sites on behalf of Mrs Chris Selby, and Mr Don Cameron, Vice-President of the SA/NT Branch, National Malaya-Borneo Veterans Association of Australia Inc.

Don Cameron said, *"Everyone has the same reaction.... shock & disbelief that he is no longer with us, such a sad day for all"*.

We thank everyone for your kind responses. We have been collating these and will share them with Chris.

We have included some images in this special edition of the 'Observation Post' for your reflection.

Lest we Forget





**The Honourable Hieu van Le AC**  
**Former Governor of South Australia**

*I am very sorry to hear this. Brian is a great man who devoted his time and energy to ensure the sacrifice and effort of those Australian servicemen and women who were involved in the Malaya Borneo conflict will never be forgotten.*

*God bless his soul!*



**Aaron Musk**

Formerly of No 604 Squadron, AAFC  
 and Catafalque Party Commander in Kuching, 2016

*R.I.P. Brian you were an amazing man, always helping others! Going to miss you mate.*

*Sending my condolences to his family.*

**Luke Scott**

*Sad to hear. I have two photos I took of Brian at the 75<sup>th</sup> commemoration of the end of WWII.*



**No 604 Squadron**  
**Australian Air Force Cadets**

At the 604 Squadron End of Year Parade at Hampstead Barracks on 21 November 2021, President Brian Selby and Vice-President Don Cameron presented the Commanding Officer No 604 Squadron, Flying Officer (AAFC) Kieran Wandel with an NMBVAA plaque to be the basis of a special new annual award.





### Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day Adelaide, 24 August 2019

The SA/NT Branch held its annual commemoration in the West Torrens Memorial Gardens in 2019 to commemorate the 59th anniversary of the end of the Malayan Emergency and the 53<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the end of the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia.



### Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day Adelaide, 24 August 2019

No 604 Squadron, Australian Air Force Cadets supported the service in the West Torrens Memorial Gardens by providing a Catafalque Party armed with innocuous 7.62mm SLR rifles representative of the Confrontation era, assisted by Cadets from a variety of squadrons who provided an Honour Guard or held other important roles on the day.

### Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day Kuching, Sarawak, 29 August 2019

In 2019 the SA/NT Branch of the National Malaya Borneo Veterans Association of Australia held a very successful reunion visit to Kuching and conducted a Service of Commemoration in the Sarawak Heroes' Memorial Park in Kuching. Pictured: Dato' Lim Kian Hock, Heritage Adviser, Sarawak Tourism Federation, and Mr Bill Russell of the Malayan Veterans Association of New Zealand.



### Sarawak, Malaysia

The ongoing friendship and support of Dato' Lim Kian Hock, Datuk Dr Philip Ting AM (Honorary Australian Consul to Sarawak, pictured) and Puan Fiona Marcus Raja (Deputy President, Sarawak Tourism Federation and Chairman, STF Heritage Development Committee) is greatly appreciated.



