RAASC

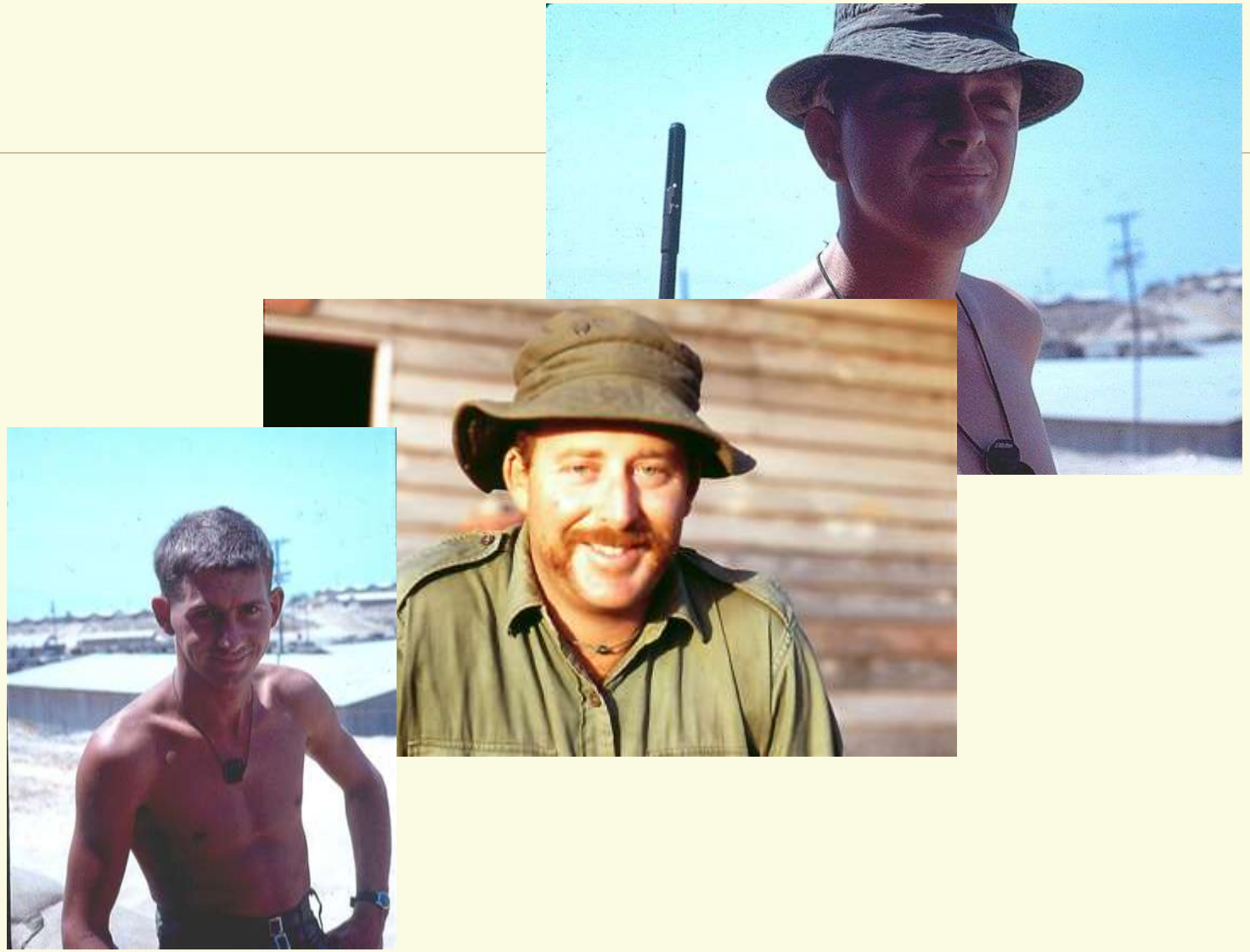
Vietnam Supply Platoons Association

Albury 2007

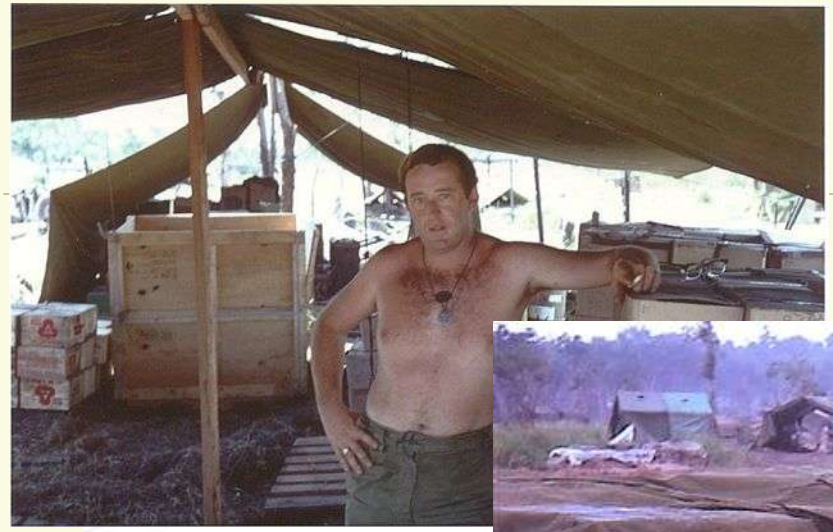
Working alongside other service personnel of the arms and services of the Australian Defence Force, including drivers, pet operators, posties, ASCO, air dispatchers and every other RAASC trade in between, the storemen and clerks of the Supply Platoons at Bien Hoa, Vung Tau, Nui Dat and at various Fire Support Bases ensured that vital food and expense supplies were available to maintain operational needs for the 10 year period of the Vietnam War. Throughout that time, these men proved themselves to be

"Equal to the task"

This slide show is dedicated to them.



Photos courtesy Brian McKeown Circa 1967



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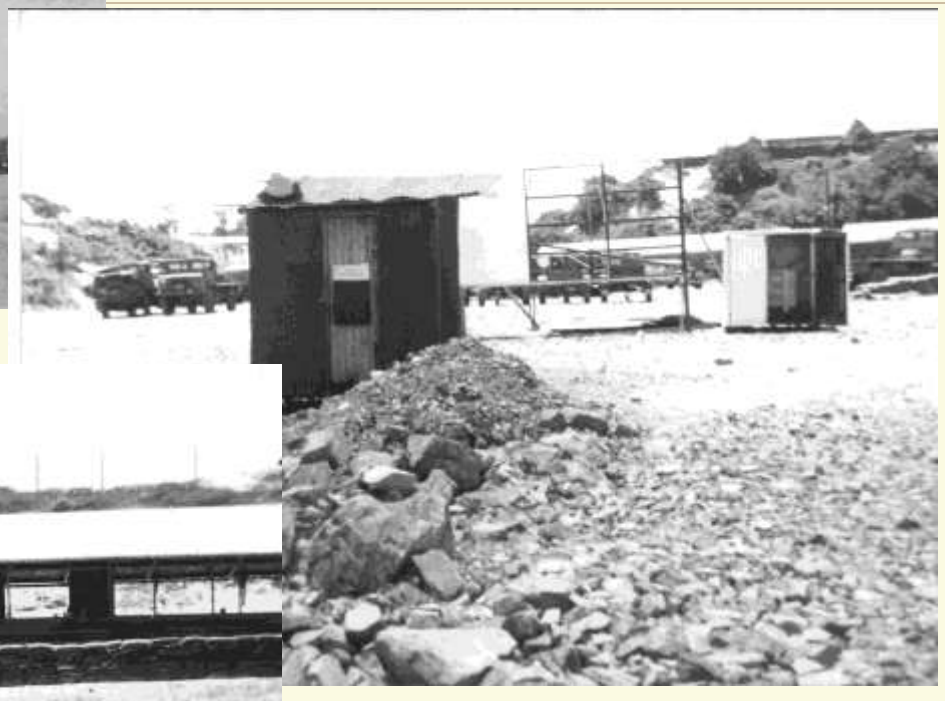

Photos courtesy Brian McKeown Circa 1967

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Photos courtesy Mick Hartas

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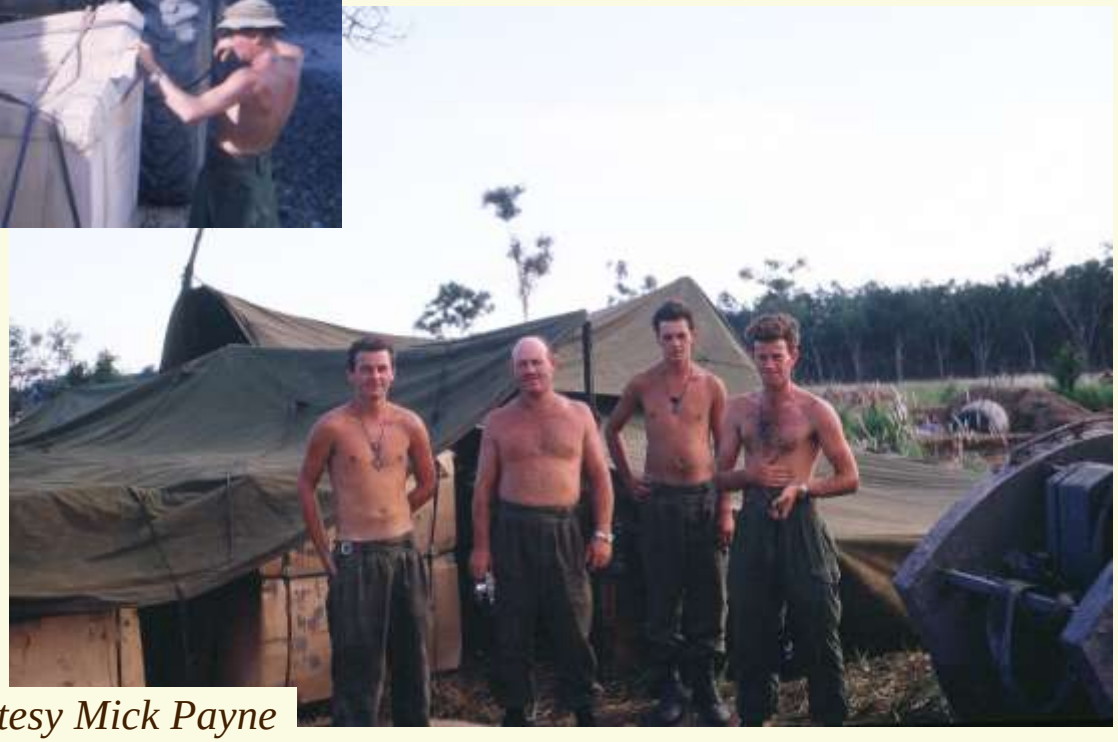

Photos courtesy Mick Payne

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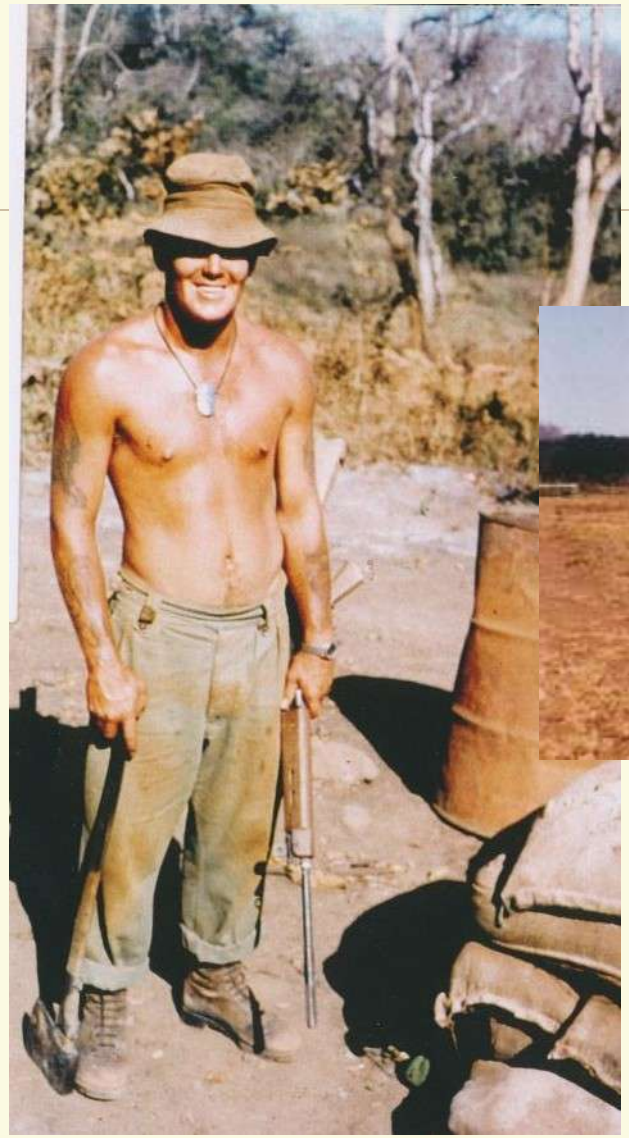
Photos courtesy Ron Thompson



Photos courtesy Ron Thompson

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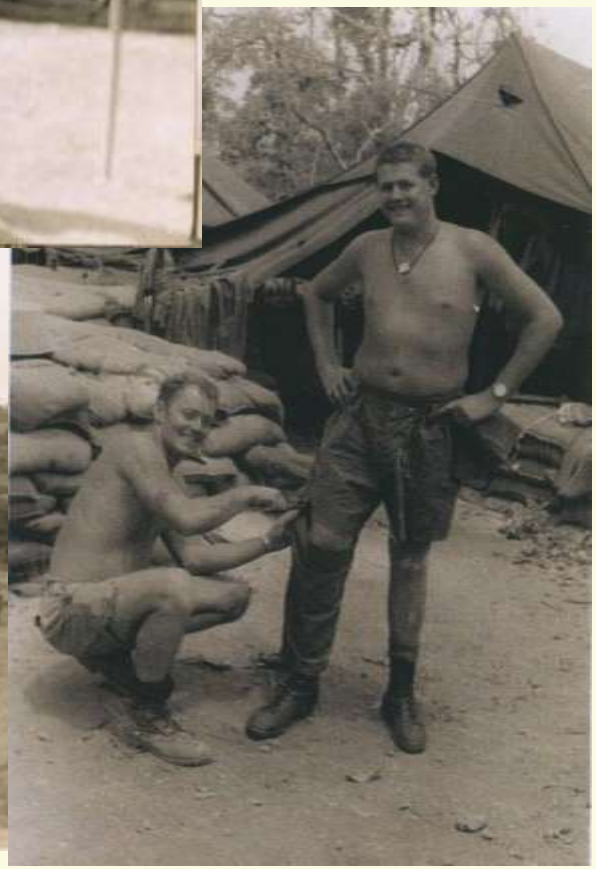

Photos courtesy Ron Thompson

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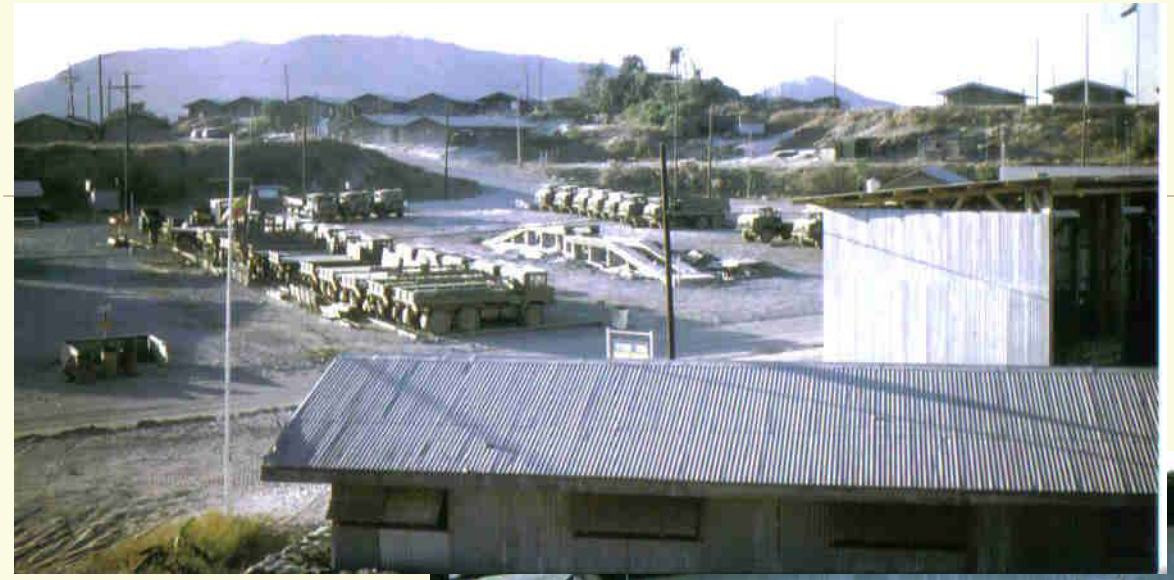
RAASC Unit Plaques

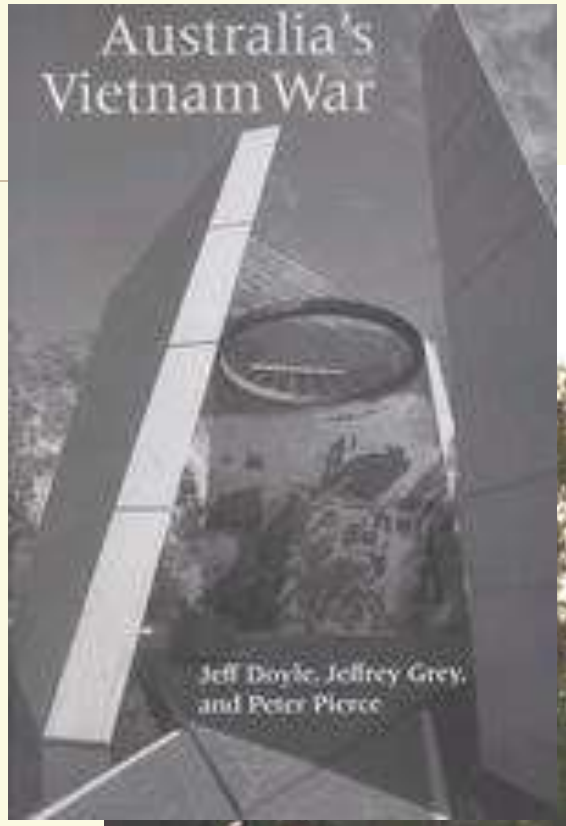
25 Supply Platoon

5 Coy RAASC (DIV TPT)

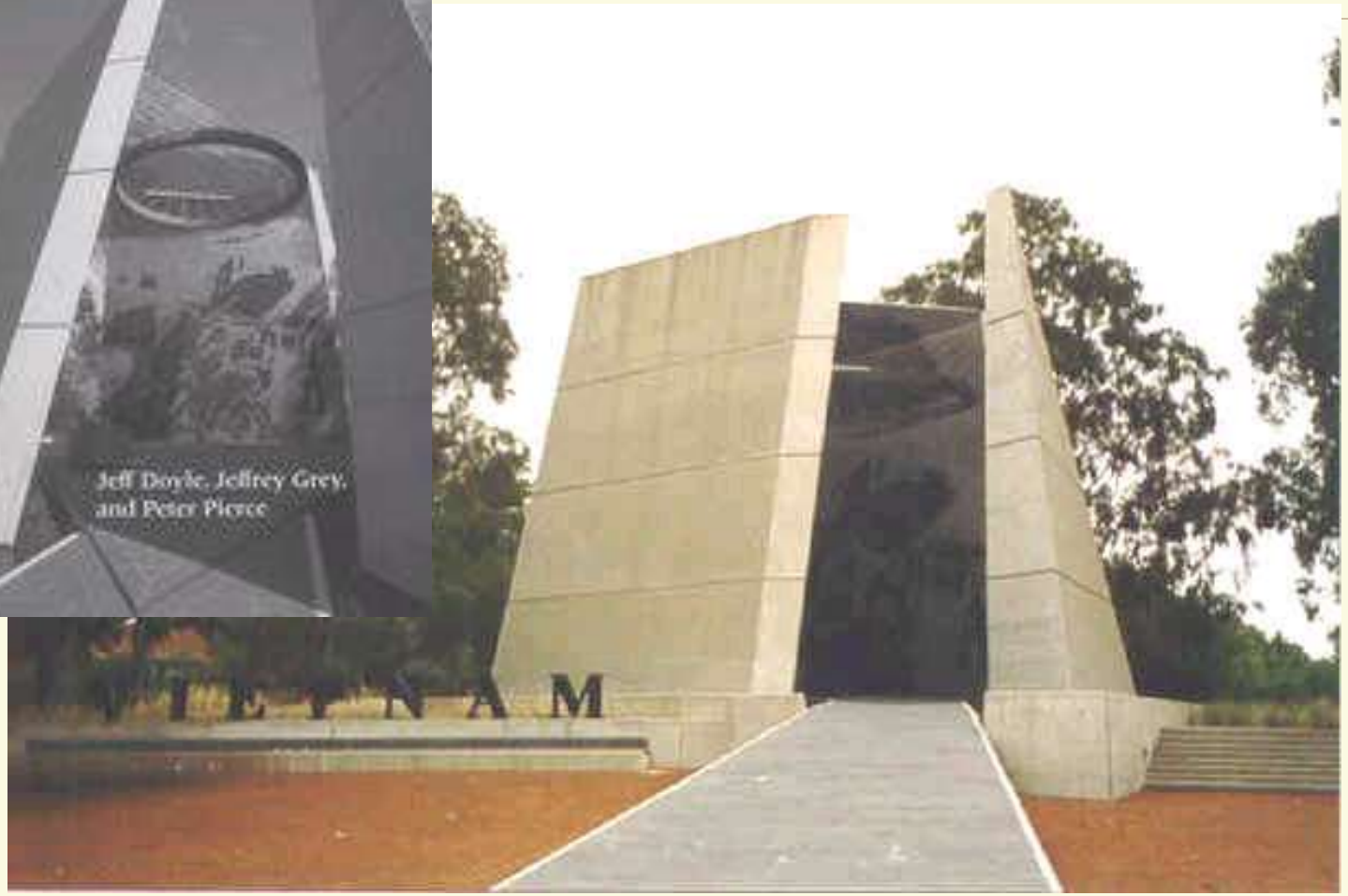
Commemorative T-Shirt designed for the 40th anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan



Photos courtesy Tony Galea



'Vietnam War Memorial in Canberra'



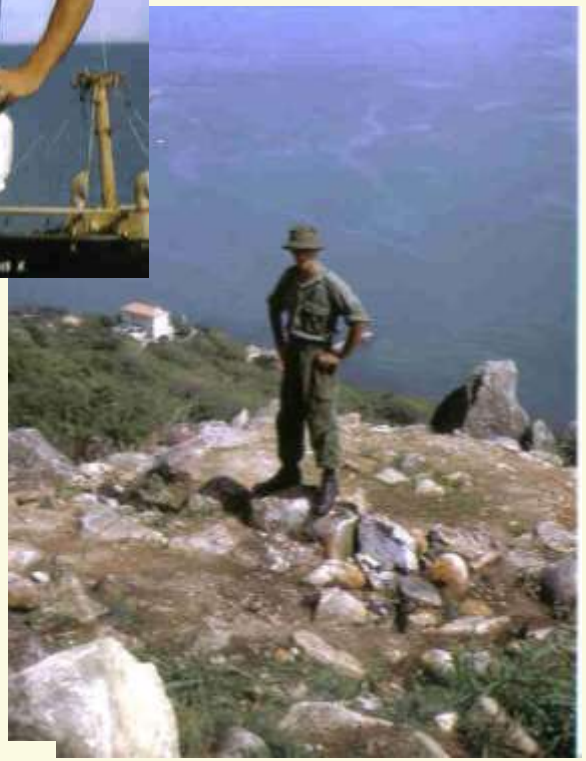
'LT Paul Asbury,
85 Tpt Pl (Tipper) with
'Rastus' - damn feral monkey
residing in the TFMA lines
at Nui Dat

'Vung Tau - home of
1 ALSG, and
25 Supply Platoon'

'Aerial view of the Vietnamese landscape along the Mekong Delta area.

'Mk3 truck belonging to 86 Tpt Pl RAASC.

Below 86 Tpt Pl caught up in the fighting at FSB Coral'



Photos courtesy Tony Galea

'RAAF Caribou aircraft and Huey chopper gunship in South Vietnam

'Det 52 Sup Pl' rock discovered near the old TFMA lines by ex-RAASC soldiers on a visit back to Nui Dat in 2003

'TFMA lines circa 1969

Photos courtesy Denny van Maanenberg and Peter Bates

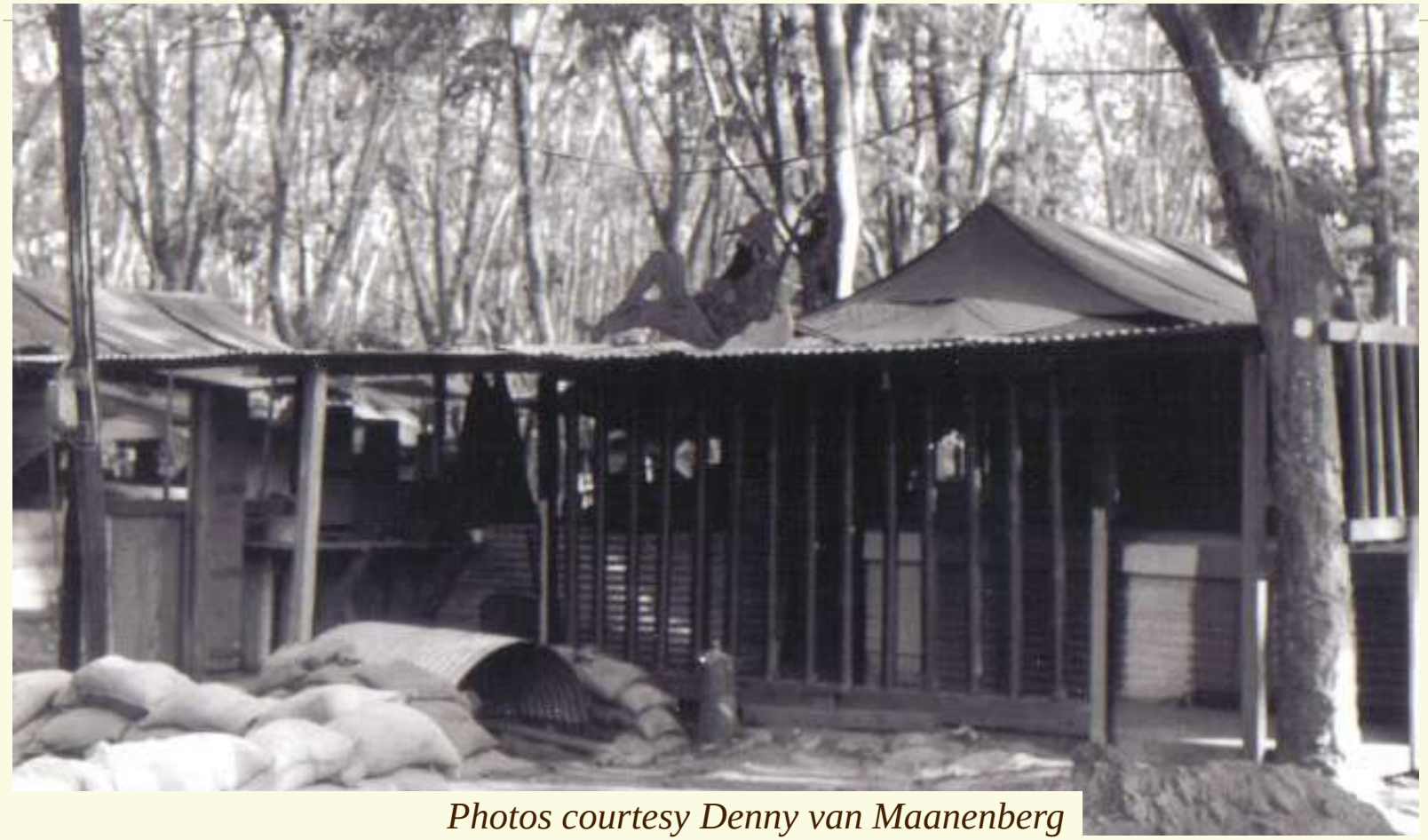
PTE Bill Ponting, Det 52 Sup Pl
Caught at a 'pissaphone and in front of the Hill Billy Inn. TFMA OR's Mess, Nui Dat in the background. Circa 1969.

Sadly, Bill passed away from throat cancer on the 6th July, 2007

Photos courtesy Denny van Maanenberg

CH-47 Chinook helicopter coming in to re-fuel at Kanga Pad, 1 ATF, Nui Dat. It was not unusual for members of Det 52 Sup Pl to be detached to Det 8 Pet Pl to help Pet Operators re-fuel choppers

The 'Hill Billy Inn', home to Peter Bates, Bill Ponting, Mick Simon and Denny van Maanenberg of Det 52 Sup Pl.



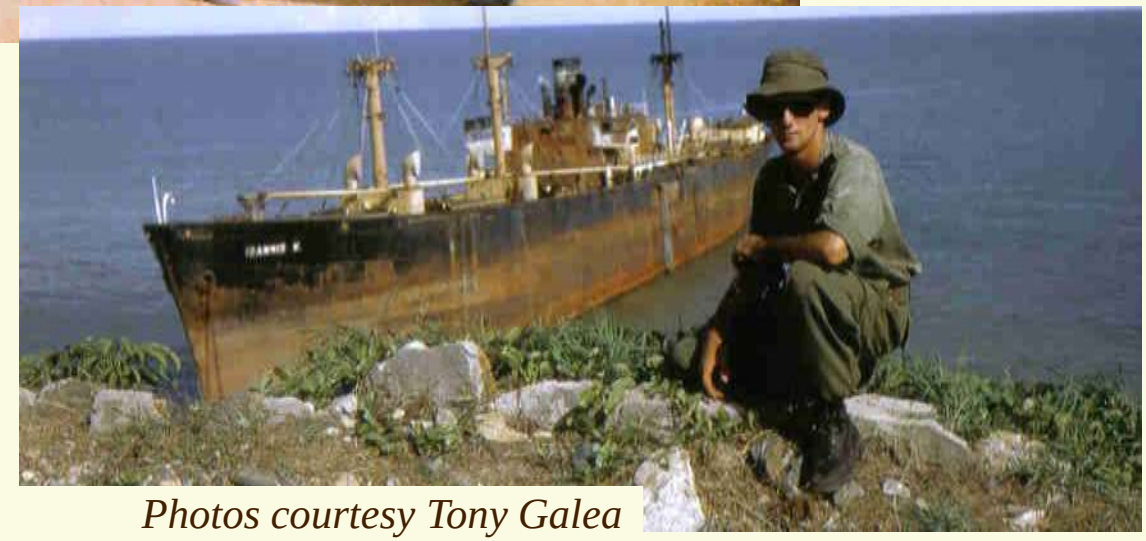
Photos courtesy Denny van Maanenberg

Photos courtesy Peter Bates

Colour slide of the 'Hill Billy Inn'.

The place in Nui Dat to hang your hat.....

RAASC unit plaques of
5 Coy RAASC Vung Tau
26 Coy RAASC (GT) Nui Dat



Photos courtesy Tony Galea

Busiest airstrip in the world at the peak of military operations in South Vietnam 1969.
Tan Son Nhut Airport, Saigon.

Centurion tanks in support FSB Coral,

Detachment, 52 Supply Platoon RAASC at Nui Dat. Cash office shown in foreground.

Photos courtesy Tony Galea

Sheds at Det 52 Supply Platoon RAASC at Nui Dat. Smoke from the rubbish tip

Photos courtesy Tony Galea

Vung Tau
street scenes

Photos courtesy Tony Galea

Aerial photograph of Nui Dat. Arrow shows location of Det 52 Sup Pl.

Vietnamese street scenes

Photos courtesy Tony Galea

Lorraine Desmond at Nui Dat.

Photos courtesy Denny van Maanenberg and Peter Bates

'Unit plaque
Det 52 Supply Platoon
Nui Dat'

Seldom seen 'round eyes' in concert at Nui Dat

Photos courtesy Denny van Maanenberg

More Vietnamese street scenes

Photos courtesy Tony Galea

Photos courtesy Denny van Maanenberg and Tony Galea

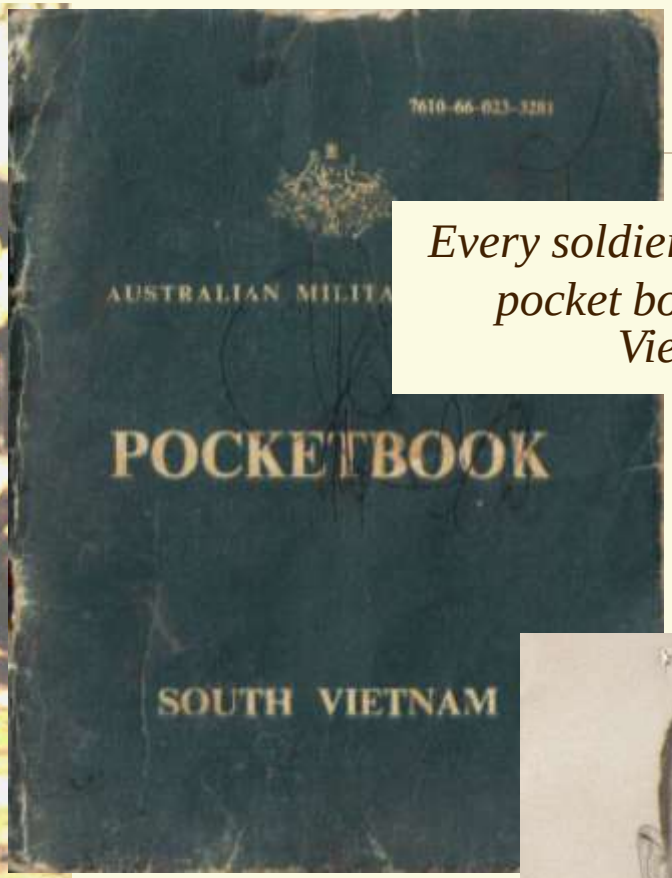
South Vietnamese Police 'The White Mice' at Baria.

Sunset and 'safe behind the wire' Nui Dat

Photos courtesy Denny van Maanenberg

South Vietnamese currency. Pretty useless stuff really…. Locals preferred MPC or 'Green Backs' (if you could get 'em that is)….

Photos courtesy Denny van Maanenberg



Every soldier had their own pocket book of South Vietnam

PTE Denny van Maanenberg, Det 52 Sup Pl, about to go on another TAOR patrol. Every TFMA soldier was required to undertake these patrols outside the wire of Nui Dat.

Bombed theatre at Baria and Huey troop movements on the coast.

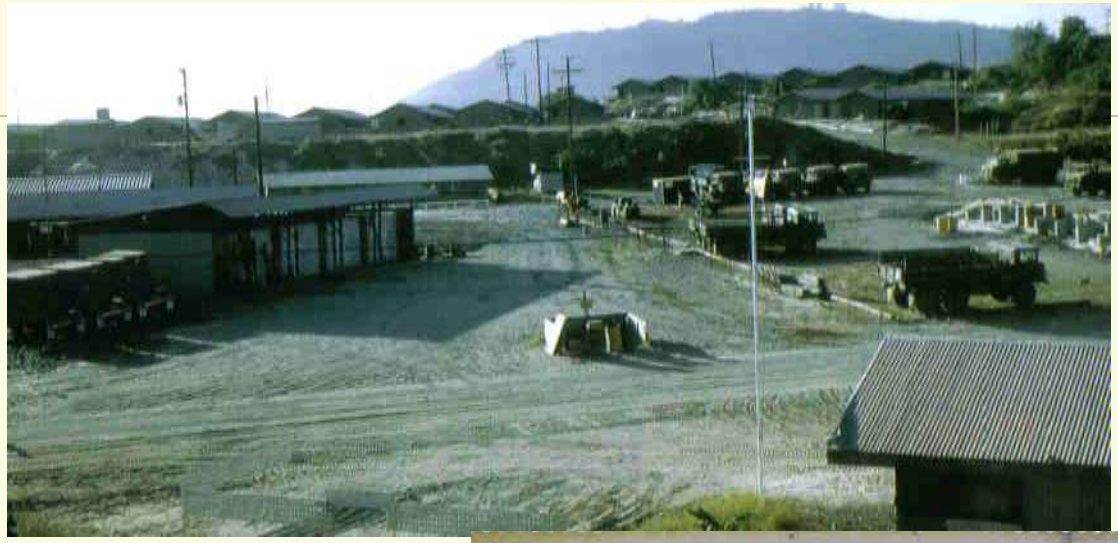
Photos courtesy Tony Galea

Huey gunship helicopters coming in to re-fuel at Kanga Pad, 1 ATF, Nui Dat. Circa 1969.

Photos courtesy Denny van Maanenberg

Photos courtesy Denny van Maanenberg

Officers safety bunker built by members of TFMA units. At rear is the TFMA Officers Mess. Circa 1970.



Photos courtesy Tony Galea

Diggers on local leave at Vung Tau

Photos courtesy Peter Bates

VIETNAM
PNO
1960

PSC

VIETNAM
NOW!

Photos courtesy Denny van Maanenberg

A quiet moment at the 'Hill Billy Inn'. Circa 1969

Photos courtesy Tony Galea

'Members of 5RAR & 3RAR getting ready for patrols and being issued with a resupply of ration packs from Det 52 Sup Pl RAASC near Nui Dat'

South Vietnam. Not one of the nicest places to be in between 1962 - 1975.

Photos courtesy Tony Galea

HMAS Sydney, the 'Vung Tau Ferry'

Photos courtesy Peter Bates

The supply sheds at Det 52 Sup Pl and looking past 8 Pet Pl towards Luscombe Bowl

Photos courtesy Peter Bates

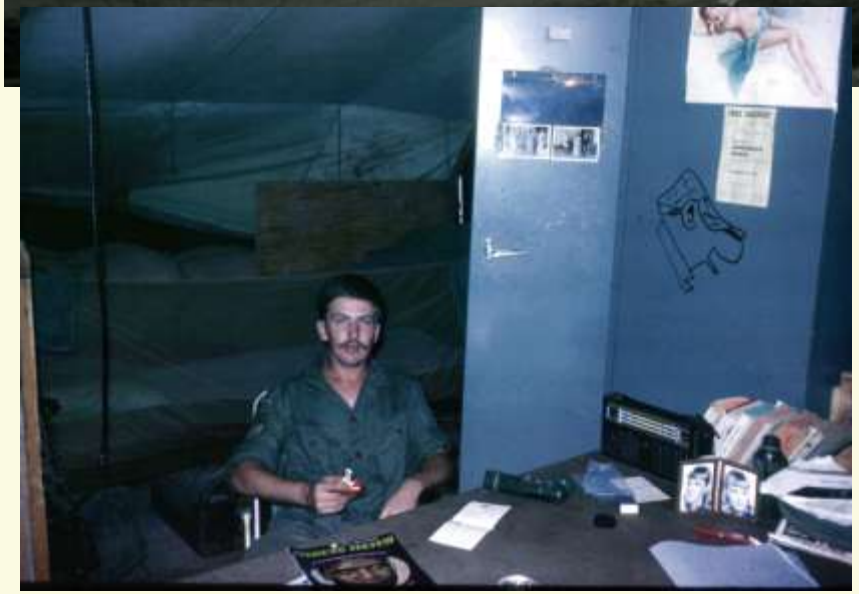
The bloody ***WET*** *season*

The bloody ***DRY*** *season*

Photos courtesy Peter Bates

Some down time and weapon cleaning duties in the 'Hill Billy Inn'.

Photos courtesy Peter Bates



Luscombe Airstrip
Nui Dat

A quiet moment at the
'Hill Billy Inn'.

Photos courtesy Peter Bates

The daily activities of aircraft at Luscombe Airstrip Nui Dat

The lads from "52" at play.

Photos courtesy Peter Bates

The inner sanctum of Fort Scruff, the office of 'ticka & flickas' CPL Peter Bates and SSGT Dave Belcher

Photos courtesy Peter Bates

The never ending activities at Luscombe Airstrip and Det 8 Pet Pl. Nui Dat

Photos courtesy Peter Bates

Photos courtesy Peter Bates

General scenes Vietnam

U.S. quits Vietnam
A North Vietnamese tank crashes through the gates of the South Vietnamese palace, Saigon

Late April 1975, as North Vietnamese communist troops storm into Saigon, a queue of desperate South Vietnamese try to board the last Huey leaving from the roof of the abandoned US Embassy.

China
Myanmar (Burma)
Laos
Thailand
Cambodia
Vietnam
Hanoi
Haiphong
Vientiane
Phnom Penh
Ho Chi Minh City
Hainan
Gulf of Tonkin
South China Sea
Gulf of Thailand
Mekong R.
Red R.
Aussie Operations in III Corps area, Phuoc Tuy Province

1 ATF (NUI DAT)
The Horseshoe (FSPB)
1 ALSG
ABANDONED PHU MY/32
ABANDONED BINH BA 1/33
ABANDONED BINH BA 2/35
Xa Binh Gia
BINH GIA
BINH GIA 350
LUSCOMBE
Xa Long Phuoc
BA RIA
DAT DO
Xa Phuoc Tho
Long Dien
Ap Long Cat
Ap Phu Hai
VUNG GANH RAI
CAN GIO
Xa Thang Nhut
LONG HAI
VUNG TAU
MUI VUNG TAU
Xuyen Moc
XUYEN
YS2
YS4
YS6