



## **Boele Martinus de Haan**

“Martin”

by Dorothy de Haan.

15 March 1925 – 18 May 1997

No. 15130019

Martin enlisted in Eindhoven on 19.05.1945 and was transferred to Wolverhampton, England.

He left England on the *Arundel Castle* for Australia on 30.05.1945 and arrived in Sydney on 7.07.1945 from where he was transferred to Victory Camp, Casino, by train.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of July 1945 he went to Bradfield Park in Sydney and with the end of the war in the Pacific he came back to Casino on 28.08.1945.

Shortly after arriving back in Casino he became an “MP”, one of the group of MPs who patrolled both the camp and the streets of Casino.

I met Martin at a dance in the ‘Civic Hall’.

He would travel by bus to town and we would meet there to go dancing or to the pictures, now called the movies.

My only transport was by horse.

It wasn't long before Martin bought himself a horse which he left on our farm which bordered the camp and then we went to town together and he could bring me home afterwards.



MPs on patrol, Martin 2<sup>nd</sup> from left.

Martin didn't say much about life in the camp as we had other things to talk about!

We were married in Casino on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. of August 1946 and Martin was transferred to Brisbane four days later. I joined him there two weeks later and we had two weeks together before I left for Holland.

Martin left Australia for Batavia on the *Manoora* on the 30<sup>th</sup> December 1946 and from there he came home to Middelburg, Zeeland on the 'Kota Inten', arriving on 1.2.1947. In September 1947 Martin left Holland for Australia on the 'Maria Kerk'. He obtained work in Sydney and remained there until I arrived back with our daughter (Anneke) in October 1948.

In March 1949 we moved back to Casino.

After several jobs Martin joined the PMG Department (now Telstra) in 1951 as a telephone technician, where he remained until his retirement.

He was very active in the town and held positions in several organisations; he loved taking part in stage productions and organising balls.

He and Koos Dalmayer were members of Casino's first soccer team.

He remained closely connected with soccer and just loved teaching little kids how to play.



MPs on parade

**Martin was one of the original organisers of the 'Casino Boys' reunions. He is fondly remembered by all and his widow Dorothy still attends all reunions. Ed.**

