

# The Canberra Times

To Serve the National City and through it the Nation

39, No. 11,101

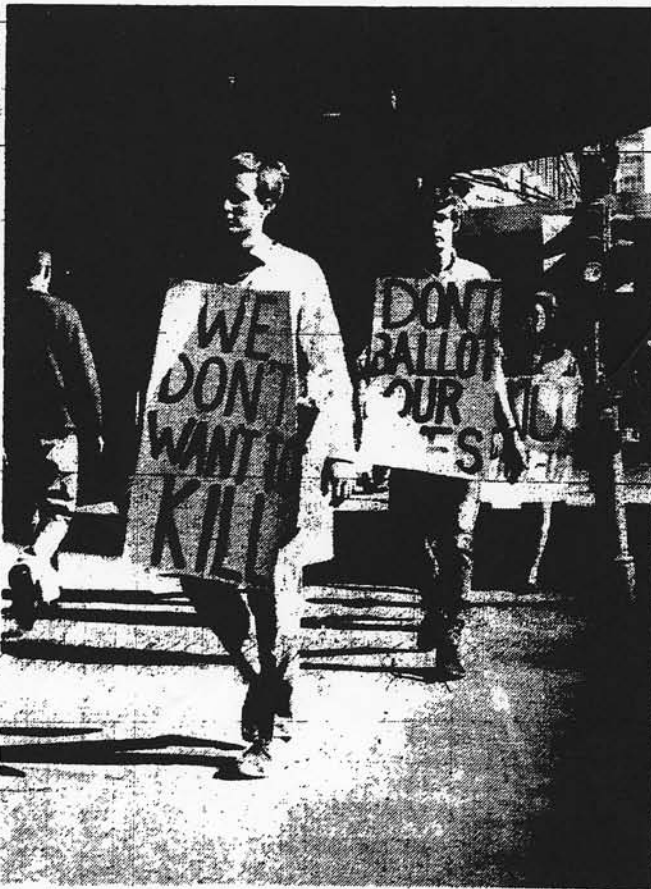
THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1965

28 PAGES. PRICE 4d

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15 MAR 1965  
OF NEW SOUTH WALES



Mr. Mackinnon, M.H.R., holds up the first marble drawn from the barrel in the National Service ballot in Melbourne yesterday. With him are, from left, Mr. J. F. Hughes, representing the Secretary to the Army, Lieutenant-Colonel P. E. Seddon and Brigadier M. Austin, both representing the Adjutant-General.



Two young men and a girl wearing sandwich boards parade outside the Department of Labour and National Service building in Melbourne yesterday during the conscription ballot.

## Singapore rocks Aus envoy's

SINGAPORE, Wednesday (A.A.P.-Reuters) — A blast to have been "planted" by Indonesian terrorist people and injured 35 others here today.

Senior police officials believe the blast, which rocked Singapore's crowded Orchard Road, was intended for the Deputy High Commission, on the second floor of the building.

The High Commission offices were turned into shambles.

The blast caved in a reinforced concrete wall of the Hongkong and Shanghai branch bank.

Tons of debris crumbled down on two Malaysian-Chinese girl secretaries working on the bank's mezzanine floor.

Bank employees worked frantically for half an hour to dig out the girls, but both were dead.

The third victim was a man who was in a lift in the building. Police said the explosion wrecked the lift and blew off his head.

Great chunks of masonry weighing half a ton were thrown down the stairwell beside the lift.

### Three girls injured

Desks on the mezzanine floor were shot across the room and glass skylights shattered and raised splinters on to staff working below.

Passers-by and taxi drivers were injured. Other buildings were shaken and windows for 100 yds. on either side of the bank were smashed.

One car was blown right across the street.

There were no serious casualties among staff of the Australian Deputy High Commission.

Mr. Barry O'Donnell, of Melbourne, an administrative officer in the commission was badly bruised when the front door of the office blew in and hit him.

The door finished 30ft. down the office corridor. A driver and a messenger boy employed by the commission were badly injured and three Malaysian girl typists suffered shock and minor cuts from flying glass.

CREIGHTON BURNS, our South-east Asia correspondent, writes:

The Australian Deputy High Commissioner, Mr. William Pritchett, of Sydney, was dictating at his desk when the explosion occurred.

The windows of his office were blown in, but both he and his secretary escaped unhurt.

## Minister clubbed by gang

But explosive have already been planted in the area.

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## Call-up ballot drawn

MELBOURNE, Wednesday. — A National Service day ballot was drawn in Melbourne today by the Federal Member for Corangamite, Mr. Mackinnon, M.H.R.

The ballot was held in secret.

Newsmen were allowed into the boardroom of the Department of Labour and National Service to witness the drawing of the first marble, but had to leave before the number was announced.

A total of 96 marbles was drawn from the 181 conscripts in the barrel between January 1 and June 30.

### Pitfalls of publication

The barrel used in the ballot was one which has been used for more than 50 years to draw horses for Tattersalls' sweeps on important Cup meetings.

The Federal Member for Higinbotham, Mr. Chip who presided at the draw, defended the Government's decision to hold the ballot in secret.

He said the department was experienced in this matter and was well aware of the pitfalls which might come from the publication of names of people likely to

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