SERVICE CASUALTIES

Capt Ronald Charles **Cromie**, 28, who was killed in action in Egypt last month, was the second son of Mr and Mrs W. J. Cromie, of North Croydon, formerly of Rupanyup. He was educated at Scotch College, and was a farmer at Rupanyup when he enlisted early in 1940. He sailed in November, 1940, and served in Libya, including 10 months at Tobruk. He was promoted captain in May, 1941. Capt Cromie leaves a widow, who was formerly Miss Lesley McMullin.

Sgt Francis Nicholas **Henwood**, who has been reported killed in action in Egypt on July 27, joined the AIF early in the war, and had seen action in Libya, Tobruk, and Syria. He was a noted runner, swimmer, and boxer. Late of Echuca, his father now lives at South Melbourne.

Pte H. G. McNeil, aged 28, of Erica, reported died of wounds in Egypt on July 17, joined the AIF in March, 1941, and sailed in June. He served in Tobruk, Syria, and Egypt. Pte McNeil was born at Ballarat, and was a teacher in the Education Department. He was at Knotts (V) for about 6 years before enlisting. He leaves a widow and 2 children.

Cpl A. J. R. (Roy) Cowley, killed on active service on July 22, was the son of Mrs Gertrude Cowley, Cobden, and the late Mr James Cowley. Another son, Pte Hubert Cowley, was reported missing in Java, while a third son, Pte Jim Cowley, is also with the AIF abroad. Cpl Cowley was a player of the Cobden junior football team, and later with the senior team. He was employed at Cobden Butter Factory at the time of enlistment.

Pte Albert E. Gerecke, reported killed in action in Egypt, was the elder son of Mr A. G. Gerecke (late Victorian Police Force), of Jolimont. His brother, Stanley, who is a member of the AIF, was reported missing in Malaya.