

After a brief tour of the local scenic attractions with the state Royal Rangers commander, Ivan Kasaki, we soon were airborne again. This time our destination was Sydney, New South Wales.

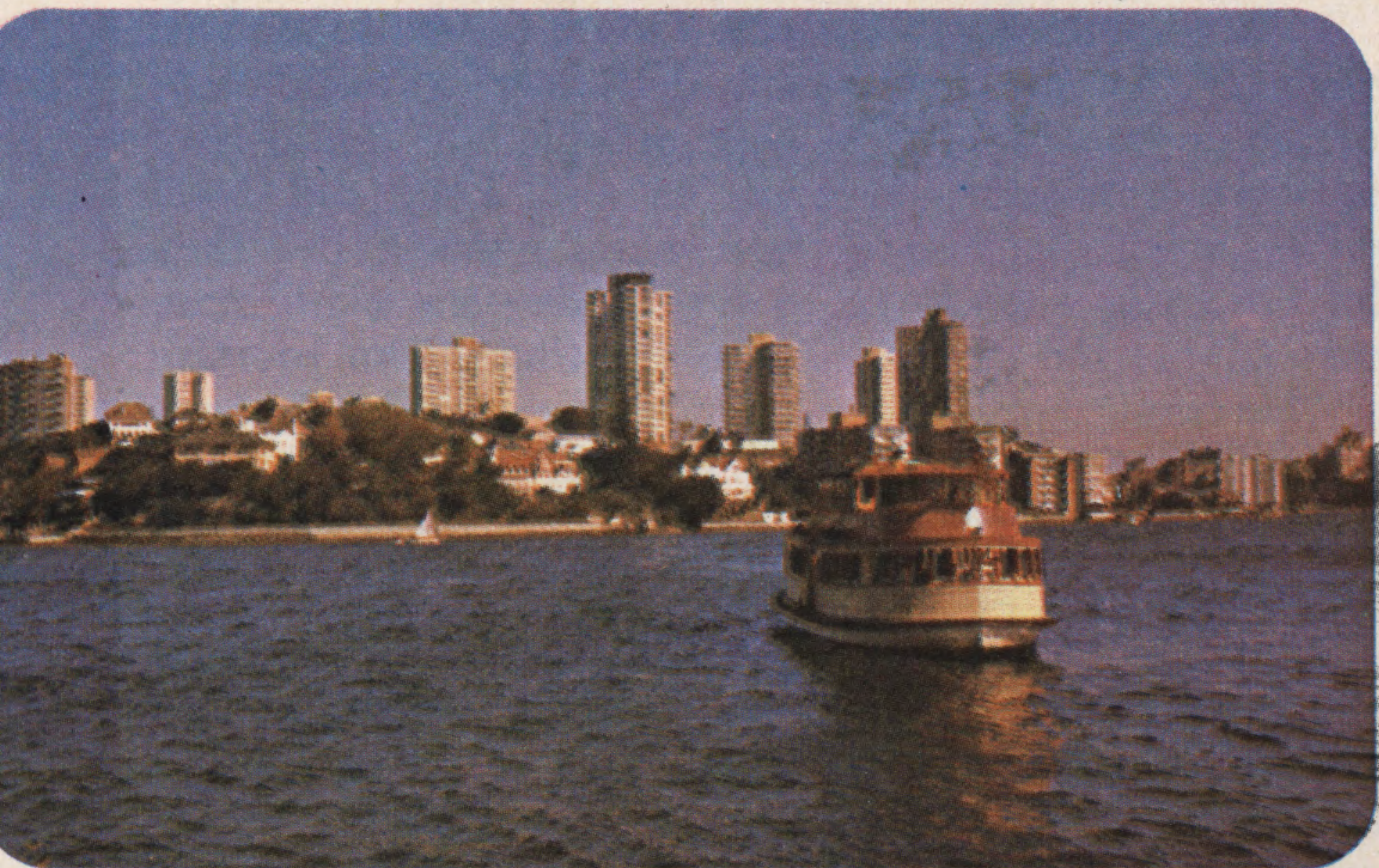
Upon arrival we participated in a cruise around Sydney Harbor with over 300 Royal Rangers. It is one of the most beautiful harbors I have seen. However, so many Rangers and leaders wanted to talk with us that we did very little sightseeing.

During lunch on a beautiful island in the harbor we had opportunity to speak to the entire group. I asked them, "How many of you boys and girls have accepted Christ since you became a Royal Ranger?" Over 60 percent raised their hands! As I looked into their eager, happy faces, I realized anew the value and importance of the program.

After the cruise boat docked, we went to a city park for a barbecue and leadership conference. We found the leaders to be highly dedicated workers with a great enthusiasm for Royal Rangers and a clear vision of what the program can do for young people.

En route to Newcastle the next day we made a

**This boat took 300 Royal Rangers on a cruise of Sydney harbor.**



side trip to a village of aborigines. Here we learned something about the art of throwing a boomerang and much about the culture of these primitive people.

The Newcastle rally was held in a large gymnasium with several hundred in attendance. There was an outstanding demonstration of campcraft, first aid, and gymnastics. Bill Butterfield, the state commander, commented on the fact these Rangers had practiced for months for this performance.


One of the main purposes of our trip was to conduct the first national training camp for the Australian Royal Rangers. It was held at the Pennant Hill Scout Training Center, located on a mountainside in a beautiful evergreen forest of eucalyptus trees—an ideal situation.

Thirty-nine leaders from various parts of Australia came for this specialized training. During the camp they lived in tents, cooked over campfires, and learned by doing. Classes included firecraft, ropecraft, toolcraft, water safety, nature study, winning boys for Christ, and dealing with the problems of boys.

Each day was capped with a large council fire. An outstanding move of the Holy Spirit, together with the topnotch fellowship, made the training camp an unforgettable experience. There were misty eyes as the campers said their good-byes and went their ways to put into practice the things they had learned.

Our final services were at Petersham Assembly of God. They had a special Royal Rangers Day with a gala parade, special award ceremonies, and a fellowship hour when we were blessed by the singing of a talented Royal Rangers choral group.

During one of the services Will Thorne gave a brief report of our tour. He said it had raised his hopes for Royal Rangers higher than ever, and he predicted the program in Australia would double in size within the next year.

From my heart I prayed, "Thank You, Lord, for what You are doing in Australia through the Royal Rangers. And thank You for letting me come to see it." 

**Royal Rangers leaders take time out for a special presentation during an assembly at the first Australian National Training Camp.**

