

"Nan " Heard Today

QUESTS at the parties to be given by the Commanding Officer (Commander B. J. G. Schokking) and officers of the Royal Netherlands Navy in Australia tonight and Thursday night will feel regretful that they must be farewell ones because the visitors have made many friends during their stay in Australia. The parties will be held in the Netherlands Officers' Club, RNN headquarters, St. Kilda Road, and the rooms will be decorated with Allied flags. I was interested to learn that some Dutch dishes are on the menu for the buffet dinner which will follow the cocktails.

Among the guests will be Admiral Sir Louis Hamilton (First Naval Member), and the Hon. Mrs Ronald Douglas, Sir Thomas and Lady Blamey, and Group Captain and Mrs A. G. Acton.

Mrs Schokking, who with her husband, will receive the guests, will wear a black crepe dress with wing sleeves and a gathered skirt, and white flowers at the square neckline.

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I went along last night to the Netherlands Officers' Club for the second of two farewell parties given by Commander B. J. G. Schokking and officers of the Royal Netherlands Navy in Australia, where blazing fires were comforting after the bleak weather outside. Mrs Schokking told me that she and her husband, who is now on leave, plan to see more of Australia, especially Tasmania, before they leave in October.

Mrs Schokking, with her children, spent two and a half years in an internment camp in Java during the war, as did Mrs C. Doets. An Australian girl, who is thrilled about her first trip abroad, is Mrs J. H. Feldbusch, wife of Commander Schokking's ADC, who will leave with her husband in the Asturias next week. They plan to see a great deal of Holland per bicycles, after meeting his family.

Source: Trove