The accent was on youth at this year’s National Aborigines Day celebrations in Martin Place, Sydney, on July 12.

In the presence of thousands who jammed the footpaths in the famous square for the lunch-hour rally, the State Governor, Lieut-General Sir Eric Woodward, inspected a juvenile guard of honour composed of schoolboys from Walgett.

The boys, all members of the crack football team widely known as the “Walgett Midgets”, were brought to Sydney specially for the NADOC celebrations to play a match in their own age group against a team drawn from Condell Park State School.

The Walgett Midgets travelled to Condell Park from Martin Place after the rally and won an exciting match against the Sydney boys by 6 points to 3.

The Chief Secretary, Mr. C. A. Kelly, who was absent from Sydney, was represented at the Martin Place ceremony by the Minister for Agriculture, Mr. A. G. Enticknap.

Other speakers at the rally included the Governor, the Lord Mayor Ald. H. F. Jensen, Mrs. McAllam of the Sydney Nurses Association, concert singer Harold Blair from Melbourne, Mr. James Warburton of the University of Armidale and Mr. J. Brown of Nowra.

Singers heard between the speeches included Harold Blair, Lorna Beulah and Jimmy Little.

WONDERFUL TIME

Commenting on the Walgett boys’ visit just before they returned home on the Sunday night after an exciting week-end, sportsmaster Alan King of Walgett Central School, who was in charge of the team, said: “This has been a wonderful experience.”

Mr. King said National Aborigines Day really began for the boys when they stepped onto the train for the long trip to Sydney.

“On arriving at Central we were met by the teachers and parents of the host school, Condell Park. From that time on the boys hardly seemed to stop,” he said.