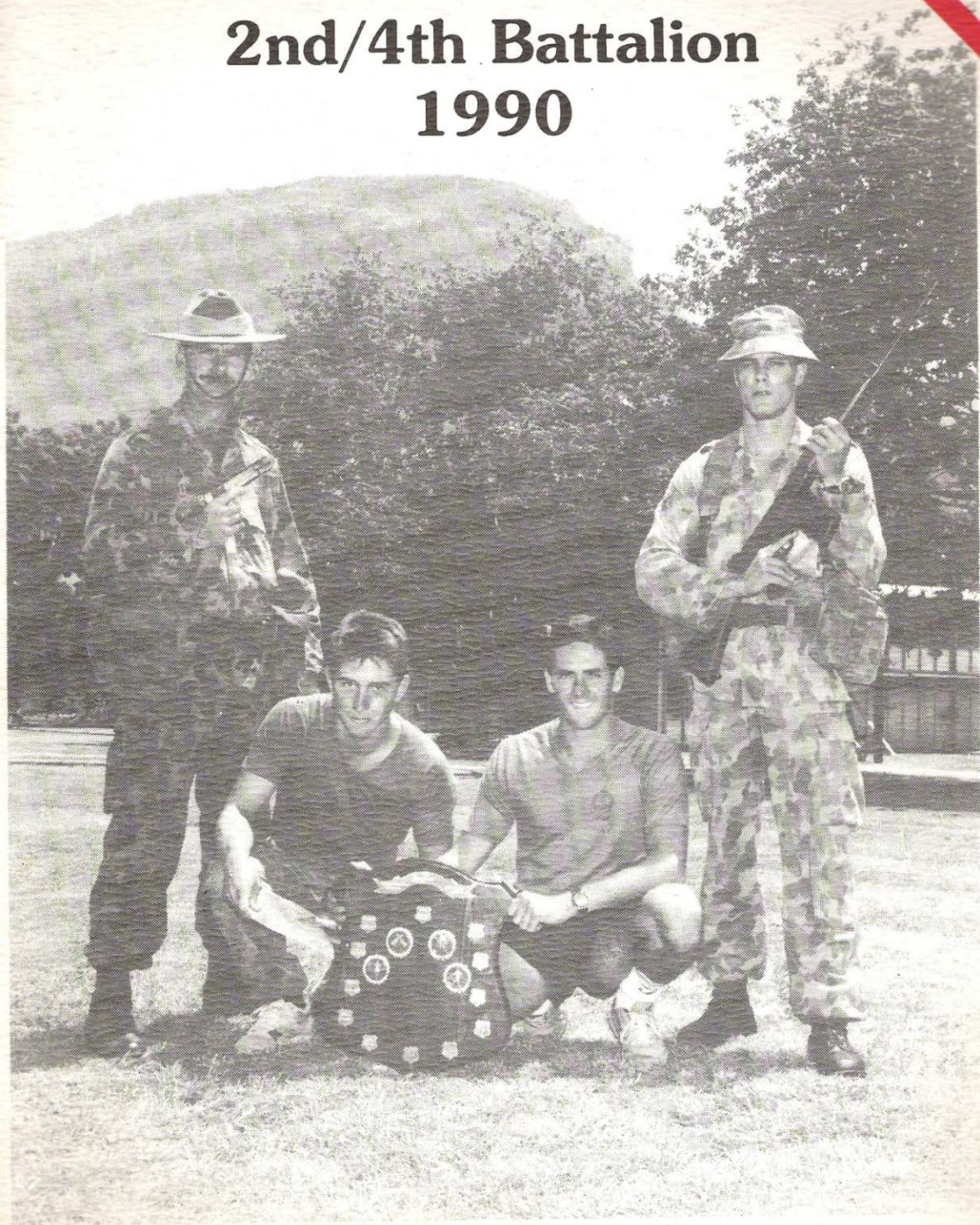


2nd/4th Battalion 1990





The Magazine of the

2nd/4th Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment 1990

Colonel in Chief: **Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**

Commander in Chief: **His Excellency The Honourable Bill Hayden,
AC, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia**

Colonel Commandant: **Major General A.L. Morrison, AO, DSO, MBE**

Regimental Colonel: **Colonel P.J. Cosgrove, AM, MC**

Commanding Officer: **Lieutenant Colonel M.G. Smith**

Regimental Sergeant Major: **Warrant Officer First Class C.W. Russell, OAM**

REGIMENTAL ALLIANCES:

Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment

The Royal Malay Regiment

The Brigade of Gurkhas

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Regiment

BATTALION ALLIANCES:

Coldstream Regiment of Foot Guards

Irish Regiment of Foot Guards



LCPL Shelton urges his section onwards



LCPL Shelton urges his section onwards

2nd/4th Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment



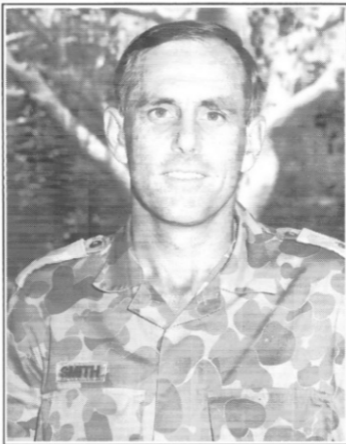
CONTENTS

FOREWORD	5
RSM's ARTICLE	6
SUPPORT COMPANY	9-16
A COMPANY	18-21
B COMPANY	22-24
C COMPANY	25-29
D COMPANY	30-34
ADMINISTRATION COMPANY	36-38
MILITARY SKILLS COMPETITION	41
EXERCISE SUMAN WARRIOR	43
BIRTHDAY WEEK	45-46
SPORT	47-52
LIVE FIRE EXERCISE	54
SHOOTING	55
LADIES ASSOCIATION	57



Colour Party

FOREWORD



1990 has been a great year for the Battalion, and a busy one. We started at an electric pace, being recalled early from leave in January, and seem never to have slowed down. It has been a demanding year for us all, and I have not heard or seen any evidence of idleness. I congratulate you all on the professionalism you have shown and the long hours you have worked.

I have been extremely proud of the Battalion's performance this year. In barracks our regimental standards have been maintained and our facilities improved significantly. On the parade ground and within the community the Battalion has earned great admiration. In inter-unit sporting and shooting competitions we have had our most successful year for some time — including winning the Commander's Trophy in grand style. But we are soldiers first, and most importantly we have proved ourselves on the many exercises and deployments throughout the year. "Duty First" has remained our motto, and "readiness" has been our creed. We have all learnt a lot and I have been extremely pleased with the improvement in soldier skills that has occurred throughout the year. I particularly wish to salute our junior NCOs. The Battalion is nothing more than a collection of sections and it is the Section Commanders

and 2ICs who will determine success or otherwise on the battlefield. We have proved ourselves in the field (particularly in the jungle) and can be proud, but never complacent, of our efforts.

There is not sufficient space for me to thank individually all those who have done their job to make mine so easy. It has been my honour and privilege to have been your Commanding Officer and I will take with me many fond memories. I am often heard to say that the Battalion is like a large friendly family; but perhaps it is more a dynasty, and only those who have belonged and served can comprehend its true value and strength. I look forward to seeing many of you again, and will watch with great interest to see how 2/4 fares in the years ahead. Sadly for me I must now pass on the mantle of command, but I charge all those who continue to serve in 2/4 to maintain and enhance our regimental standards and traditions.

This Magazine helps remind us of what we achieved during the year. Read it and gloat proudly.

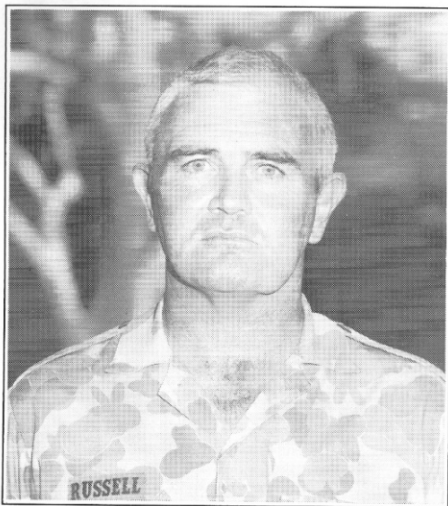
Duty First, as always!

LT COL Mike Smith

Regimental Sergeant Major

Warrant Officer Class 1

C. Russell



It has been a great pleasure for me to have been RSM of the 2nd/4th Battalion over the last 12 months.

In January we were on the closest thing to a war footing that I have seen in the last 20 years, and then to go on and produce exceptional results in all our endeavours throughout the remainder of the year is a credit to yourselves and the unit. I am proud to be serving with the vast majority of soldiers within the Battalion and look forward to another successful and

rewarding year in your company. To the small number who occupy most of my time, lift your game or 1991 will have a special significance for you.

To all of you and your families I give my best wishes for the Christmas period and a well earned break.

Come back safe and well.

Battalion Headquarters Platoon

1990 just didn't want to be another normal year for us at the hub of the universe. With all of our 'characters' — it showed that the gods must be crazy or at the very least vindictive. You can imagine the horrors of facing a tough SGT 'Hercules' Bietcher with his two bonces Eels of Tarzan fame and the muscle bound Howie. No paperwork ever passed their desks without desperate strong arm tactics being applied.

Of course the oldest man in the Battalion Kerry was always busy 'or I think he was'! But the facade was maintained by our two very own cow manure artists Drabbo and Tails. We could always expect some kind of tall story for the world being on fire around us. We had our Maggie Thatcher of the Ord Room as well — old Harro

— the unswerving — just try to get a photostat from the Ord Room without signing for it. The world is full of disabled bodies from Smithy and Laurie who did attempt the unthinkable. Then the gods went berserk and allocated us a Mercury look alike in the form of a Vinny. This roamed the halls of power creaking new and varied styles of brew, all designed to stupify the partakers with caffeine consumption. Thor even managed to surprise us by arriving on earth in the shapes of the might CAJ — a being so awesome that the smart section with its thugs like Buck, Macka, 2 dads and nits were always tempted to tackle the peaceful groupies of the clerical throng — to no avail. When those thugs saw the clerics secret weapon — the other living skeleton Blue they faded to a man.

Of course Zeus thought this year was so much fun he has decided on a sequel. The 1991 story to end all stories. Hopefully the next 40 will be easier, and the next BFT will be easier, and the next PT will be easier, and the next



CO in CP on Suman Warrior

Intelligence Section

INT REP 1/90: Int Section would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped the section throughout the year. To those units and individuals who didn't, we would just like to tell them to stick IT!!

The section once again performed some of the most mentally exhaustive tasks. (some unkind people say the section gave a bit too much)

The section also had a few wins this year in regards to acquiring equipment, eg.:

1. TV, VCR and TV Stand (compliments Tech Spt)
2. Video library, and
3. Thermofax machine which can produce OHP screens as well as laminate A4 size paper.

All of which the section encourages the BN to make full use of. Throughout the year we lost people for various reasons. The section would now like to farewell those members and wish them the best in their new positions:

MAJ MOORE (our success story), (also the motivator for the infamous PAM RAID 1990).



Lying: PTE NITSCHKE (OMISSION) Front Row: SGT LOWIS, CAPT MOORE, CPL SMITH
Rear Rank: PTE BARRITT-EYLES, PTE M. GUFFIN, PTE ROGERS, CPL FALCOCCHIO

CPL SMITH (CAJ, say no more).

CPL LYONS (I hope he is a better Sect Comd than int-dutyman).

CPL FALCOCCHIO (good luck to VINEY and his wife).

PTE PURDOM (transfer to medics?), and

PTE MILLER (discharged, possibly his best decision of the year). Intelligence Section welcomed the arrival of three new members to the section:

CAPT SMITH (late arrival).

PTE McGUFFIN (some people can talk underwater, MAC has taken that one step further), and

PTE NITSCHKE (JAP).

I could tell you more but I would have to kill you all!!!

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ALPHA COMPANY

Alpha started 1990 full of enthusiasm with a two week stint at the LCBS in Tully. As usual the weather forecast for the next 14 days was 13 1/2 days rain and 1/2 day of sunshine. Remember that a Bear that gets wet is a dangerous Bear. The Company thrived amongst the 'gymple', and 'wait-a-while' hardly became a challenge. After a while the only rain worth noticing was the reigning of Alpha Coy. Ex Get Hard II showed that the OC must be getting old as it wasn't as HARD as last year. It was a good opportunity for section commander's to get back into the swing before Mil Skills. On return to Lavarack it was straight into Mil Skills where a stab in the back did not dampen our spirits as we knew what the results should have read. Congratulations to C Coy, next year beware the BEAR.

A well earned Easter break sampling the old Amber Fluids seemed to pass by quickly and it was down south to MT Vince for a bit of shooting, which turned out a large number of quality marksmen. The video's before breakfast each morning put a couple of people off breakfast, and made a couple of others really hungry. Those before lunch and dinner weren't too bad, thanks for the sound effects SGT Brady. With all that spare time down there, we enjoyed ourselves by practising 3.2 km runs for the Platoon Competition. It was then the time of the year for NBCD Training and as the CSM said 'If I'm Doing It, You're All Doing It', so we kept the chamber open for the sporties. Air week saw the most amount of Blackhawks in the air at the one time transporting the Company to and fro around High Range. This exercise was so good we didn't have to order resupply, the planes flew to where we were and dropped their goods, on top of the CSM, ready or not.

May saw the Corporal's Dining-In-Night finish with the usual results, hopefully most of the company JNCO'S will make it to the Mess someday. CPL Dixon is still trying to clean the used dinner from the inside of his shirt. Discipline was freely available within the Company and the gardener hates the CSM.

Digging the holes was not the hardest job, it was bailing them out prior to digging.

APC week culminated in the Live Fire APC Battle Run followed by platoon attacks. We had the bush fires (even though a certain WO2 was sure you couldn't start a fire with a flamethrower), the BBQ plate (APC's), and all we needed was a good steak for a decent feed. PTE Kerp's cry for help, on the radio, to be saved from rabid, man eating cows will go down as a notable occasion. Ex Maxi Beagle was not 'A' obstacle for the Company but the snake bites soon depleted the number of Bears in the Koombalomba Jungle. CPL Price won the prize for the most amount of leeches in a mouth at one time and even 'Gympie' on the face couldn't make him good looking. Who could forget PTE Jacobson taking the pin out of a grenade and sitting it on his knee. LT Johnson won the navigation prize for the exercise and CHQ won the body count. Major Bancroft left Alpha Coy in September and a 'Punk' type BBQ was held in his honour. While he held onto his Fatta-gram, the Company remembered a man they would follow to war. Ex Swift Eagle 90 saw the 2IC in command. The midnight hiring and firing of JNCO's was reminiscent of the Spanish Inquisition. PTE Stocks will always remember the phrase "7 days in the bush and it's legal" and the glint of anticipation in LT Michel's eye. Adventure Training at Hinchenbrook Island and around Cape Cleveland occurred as various people went on courses. The Bundy Bear has returned to the cave, this time as OC. As the year draws to a close, we farewell those from Alpha, including MAJ Bancroft, to teach the Poms how to GET HARD, WO2 Snow 'I'm not an angry little man but if you look side-ways at me I'll rip your head off', Kahler to teach SPT COY how to find salt beside

their company office, SSGT Kim 'I've got it, you can't have it and if you say I'm an AGRO BASTARD I'll take you for a run', Porter and lots of others to everywhere. Have a Merry Christmas and see you all next year ready for whatever they chuck at us.

BEWARE THE BEAR!!!!!!!



MAJ BANCROFT, WO2 KAHLER, CAPT REILLY

One Platoon

The year was off to a predictably frustrating start with a large intake of bright eyed, bushy tailed kids, including our brand spanking new boss, 'LT KENNY "KOALA"'. Our first pleasure cruise saw us hitting the trail in beautiful scenic Tully, where everyone saw just how little they knew. Although not officially recognised it is rumoured that a certain platoon did attempt to cross a swollen, flooded creek when withdrawing from a mortar attack on a captured position.

While on this subject, lets thank our lucky stars that our packs made convenient floaties.

Recreational activities, namely the Tully Gully proved to be a considerable source of amusement and it was during a memorable incident with skulls x spoons that PTE Jago laid the last few cobblestones in the road that led to his dubious reputation as 'the legend'.

Mil Skills arrived much to the joy of everyone concerned, Mil Skills left, need we say more.

While still on skillful subjects, Ex Maxi Beagle was a memorable time in the jungle for 1 Platoon.

Swift Eagle was also a pleasant activity for the members of 1 Platoon who were chosen to be civilians for the exercise. This involved playing the role of evacuees and doing what civilians normally do. The boys enjoyed their stay courtesy of the HMAS TOBRUK and games of volleyball were enjoyed by all. 1 Platoon gratefully acknowledges the sympathy extended by other platoons concerning any discomfort they may have suffered.

June saw the boys of 2 Section cruising off to Tully again under the watchful eye of CPL DARCY to act as enemy. This proved to be quite an enjoyable 10 weeks and no-one was totally eager to return to Townsville, but when your hardened, super fit, and razor keen like the men of 2 Section you can handle anything. LIFE GOES ON AND SO DOES 1 PLATOON.

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Two Platoon

2 Platoon again set the pace for Alpha Company in 1990, setting the example and leading the rest, "generally" in the right direction.

Notable occasions abound and some of these include:

a. A "sort of" memorable stretcher carry through the weeds of Tully when we found LCPL Shelton fibulating on the ground from the effects of Gympie.

b. "PTE Blue, I'm always in trouble Haynes" fibulating on the ground after completing gas training.

c. "PTE I'm a barrel of fitness Bateman", fibulating on the ground after some character building battle PT.

d. Some of the keener platoon members actively helping the mortician during a visit to the morgue.

e. "CPL my section doesn't need rescuing by 1RAR but needs to drink itself into oblivion Price" on Phase 1 of Ex Maxi Beagle as civilian evacuees.

Personalities also abound and next year we would like to see the following:

a. PTE Blue Haynes stay out of trouble;

b. PTE Darrell own a car for more than a week without making close personal inspections of light poles; and

c. PTE Swain complete an exercise, any exercise!

Best wishes to all those that have left the platoon over the course of the year, including:

SGT Murphy
CPL Strahan
CPL Johnson
LCPL Edelman
PTE Birney
PTE Bateman
PTE Schieber
PTE King
PTE Howard
PTE Grant
PTE Farrell

To all those who continue the fight, remember the following: a. A 7.62 Ballistic overmatch against your enemies is the preferred option and don't go jack on your mates by getting yourself shot.



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Three Platoon

3 Platoon kicked off the year of 1990 at Tully. A great trip for all the 'lids' who just arrived. Not much commendable happened but we must pay compliments to the 8 Sect Ambushzzzzzz! The next show on the agenda was Ex Get Hard. PTE Timmins, holding his reputation fell asleep during a short break on patrol and was left behind, but only to find himself a day later bagged and gagged in front of the Company with a red face (well done Timmo). 7 Sect excelled again becoming lost in the jungle on the last night.

The next exercise of the year was "Mil Skills". Not much on that exercise except for B Coy Night Nav Stand. I will comment for the rest of 3PL. "Get None".

The month of April was the best of all exercises, "Ex Standdown". We were back into it again full of stale beer when we hit Blue Water in mid May. Back from Blue Water and we were straight into SPE training — great week.

Next on the programme was air training week. Not bad, especially for the blokes who had never been in a Blackhawk before. Even though the 2IC acting OC thought he'd be "warri" and get us to dig in. (Good one Sir).

The next big thing on the list was Battalion Birthday week. Great week to square away the drill and enjoy the events. Then there were the two big one's for the year. Maxi Beagle and Swift Eagle. Maxi Beagle was the first of the two, not a bad exercise, but not for John Balderston who was bitten by a snake, and PTE McBurnie who cried for a week when he realised he had been bitten by a rat not a snake. A few more weeks down the track we had Swift Eagle.

It started in the jungle where inactivity abounded for a day or two then crack bang it all happened at once. Poor old PTE Stocks lost his '66' and so decided to carry it around everywhere he went after the exercise until Standdown.

Then we were at High Range digging in at every 5 min durry break and to hear a furphy that walking home was looking good. Anyway after a great live fire demo we were off on our walk home. Anyway it was eventually over and Standdown came. After Standdown we took to Hinchbrook Island for adventure training. Not bad except for the Mossies and burglars.

The year is ended and we made it. Well done 3 Platoon.

BRAVO COMPANY

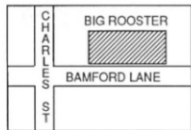
THE SHARKS IN 1990

Shark Company has cruised though 1990 with the usual finesse. A little "trouble in paradise" meant that BRL was slightly shorter. Before you could say "I didn't join the Army to go to war" our trunks were packed with spare socks and dry gunpowder. We couldn't deploy because the BN swimming carnival was to be held. Shark Company secured second place while the BRA gasped "thank God for the swimming comp". During February the Sharks beat the BFT and cuffed the CFT. Exercise First Shot separated the Wyatt earps from the 'also ran' shooters. March was our winners month as we scooped the Orienteering and X-Country trophies. CPL Brown decided that three months in England was better than one week with the Dog Squad and quietly sewed up overall third place in the inter-sect Mil Skills competition. In May the Company (after being tipped off about the impending invasion of Kuwait) conducted Anti Armour/Support Weapons live firing at HRTA. June saw the Sharks everywhere at once. LCPL Hungerford licked his foresight and became the Company champion rifle shot at MT Vince. Exercise "Noahs Arc" APC training proved to be wet and wild. As one wet Shark said "I thought war was a summer sport". Before our

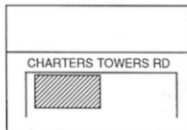
boots had dried we whipped off on our 40 km route march. BDE HQ attempted to catch us at a weak point by requesting an ODF callout at the end of our march. But the terrorists at Burdekin Dam were no match to our rage from bruised and blistered feet. An excellent deception plan was used by our 5 Avn taxis when they dropped CHQ at the wrong LZ. In July MAJ Griffin was called away to instruct fellow Company Commanders in 'morning tea etiquette' at Singleton. Meanwhile, the Sharks swam off to be first in and last out of Exercise Maxi Beagle. We won't forget SSGT John Rambo Jier guarding a POW all night while stranded at DZ orth or CPL Platypus Petracca doing a belly flop in Downey Creek on the move to the BN FUP.

The Beagle had barely been busted when the Sharks set sail on HMAS JB for Exercise Swift Eagle. After hitting the beach in "halls of Montezuma" style we proceeded to show our Ex Long Look Pom, LCPL Douglas just how far we are prepared to march for the sally man brew.

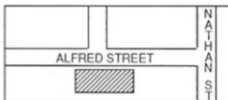
The end of Swift Eagle saw the Sharks wind down for an early BRL prior to deployment to Butterworth. Farewell to all who have served with the Company this year or helped us in any way. Good luck to all those deploying to Malaysia.



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Four Platoon

It's been a busy year for asbestos platoon. Our first major activity for the year was playing enemy for 31 RQR at Selwyn and Hilton mines. We made a definite fashion statement with our black headdress.

After our brilliant victory over the ARES we had a short rest period and prepared for the major exercise of the year. It was back to the jungle for Maxi Beagle with gympie plants devastating the platoon strength (particularly CPL Wear deliberately head butting a gympie tree).

From there we moved onto Swift Eagle where the platoon enjoyed a luxury cruise on HMAS Jervis Bay. The highlight of the cruise was the platoon demonstrating bayonet training without bayonets on the flight deck in rolling seas to the amazement of the RAN.

The platoon then participated in an airmobile and amphibious assault on Forrest Beach and acquitted itself well. We redeployed to HRTA where we participated in the Brigade live fire attack followed by a "short" evening and morning stroll back to camp.

The "last" duty week seemed to last forever before the platoon wound down for BRL. After BRL the platoon readied itself for its three month tour of Malaysia.

Quote of the Year:

LT O'Leary — "I'm the boss, I'm the boss, I'm the boss."



Lt Moody discussing his confidential report with the CO's wife.



B Coy, Freedom of the City

Five Platoon

The year 1990 as usual has seen many changes to the platoon and of particular note was the loss of SGT "K.C." Challands and the arrival of SGT Freeman, who takes over the tour of Malaysia.

During the year CPL T.J. Brown was rewarded for "services rendered" with a trip to the U.K. and the platoon received in exchange CPL Douglas (Duggy) from the British Army — "excellent". Duggy was fortunate to visit the gulf country — the real Australia — in his holidays. He accompanied Slam (the Barra man), Duncan and PTE Callow on a fishing trip to the region. The sandflies, snakes, spiders and crocodiles (especially the crocodiles) caused long bouts of insomnia in the hardened Englishman. This was only cured by the consumption of vast amounts of Fosters in the relative safety of the Central Hotel, Normanton.

Six Platoon

The platoon's year started with the possibility of a trip to Bougainville, but that was cancelled, possibly due to a lack of funds.

The rest of the year has been taken up with the usual duties, mil skills, pl and coy exercises, Bn air week (where we sat and watched the Blackhawks do more flying than we did), "Maxi Beagle", "Swift Eagle", platoon competition and pre-Malaysia leave.

Looking back over the year the platoon lost a lot of members, these being LT "Gordy" Luke (OC Pnr Pl), LT Stuart (now D Coy — we never got to see him), LT Brown (a pom who eventually learnt to make a good brew), SGT Chester, CPL Jakins (back to being a hand bag), LCPL Williams, LCPL "I want to be a fireman" Bennett, PTE Betar (now at uni as a civvy), PTE Connal (now a civvy), PTE Leiflang, PTE Hawks, PTE Sheppard, PTE Kelly and PTE Moran. PTE Moran tried to find a cheap way into a night club, but fell off the roof and

A few reminders to platoon members:

To Tony Warren (Minastrony): don't forget to take your rifle with you onto the APC.

To Lieutenant Moody: taxis are not the ideal place for regurgitating one's meals.

To PTE (The Hammer) Brown: excessive intake of McWilliams Sherry may result in making love to a stomach pump.

To CPL (Wee Wee) Watts: brewing up on stand-to may result in back to back guard duty.

To LCPL Boyle: a quick jog up Castle Hill is not every women's idea of a romantic evening.

landed in hospital. He can't remember if he lost his memory or not but hopefully he'll be back with 6 again next year.

Highlights of the year have been stand down; "Buster" Burkes enthusiasm to carry or get a machine gun; emu bobbing leaves in front of BHQ; SGT "Splinter" Mills' efforts to get flyscreens cleaned of paint by using steel wool — the paint was probably there since the first freedom of the city; and civvy duties in the mess.

Things we would like to see next year are — the OC getting a new slouch hat; if the bosses fringe really does touch his knees; the rest of the coy learn how to say "4 or 5 Pl", not "6 Pl"; Alpha Coy learn to play something other than soccer all the time; LT Luke's wife; Officers taking more notice of furphies, as they really do come true; the old lines converted before we get back; and a pay level 4 test.

We look forward to getting back next year to spin yet another warry.

CHARLIE COMPANY

The Year of the Dragon!

Outright victories in the Mil Skills, Rugby, Swimming, Volleyball and Australian Rules. Second in the Touch and numerous creditable performances resulted in the Schlyder Shield returning to its rightful place — C COMPANY.

The Year in Profile:

While the rest of the Battalion spent Christmas 1989 with their families, C Company undertook the responsibility of being the ODF Company.

The Company worked hard over Christmas combining good training — including a section live fire exercise — with the duty commitments of Rear Details.

The January call-out provided an edge to the training and recall procedures that culminated on the 25th when the Company was placed on 30 minutes notice for deployment. The two months training and working with the threat and then completing all the preparation for deployment was valuable experience. Consequently it was a slightly tried and jaded Company that started its BRL in February, but not before a convincing victory in the BN swimming carnival.

While the rest of the Battalion trained for Mil Skills or Summer Sports, C Company did some serious BRL.

With only a week to prepare for Mil Skills some notable experts were offering long odds to C Company, compared to some of the well prepared entrants, but class in the end must tell and the rat Koombaloomba was a good place to prove our supremacy. A solid performance was highlighted by 4, 5 and 1 Section finishing 1st, 4th and 6th respectively.

We then went straight from Mil Skills into Summer Sports. Winning the Volleyball, second in the Touch (although undefeated) and Water Polo belied the lack of training time and preparation. Easter standdown was a welcome break. During

April and May we competed in the Bn athletics carnival and conducted familiarization and air training with Blackhawks.

June saw us back at High Range for our Coy LFX, then down to MT Vince for a week at the Range.

July saw us in the jungle for the month, firstly as enemy for 1RAR on Exercise 'Eager Eaglet' and then our own Bn exercise 'Maxi Beagle'. The Company performed well at High Range for the live fire and again in the jungle at South Johnstone. Winter Sports were again a success for C, winning the Rugby Shield for the second year running and remaining undefeated in the Australian Rules.

The Bde exercise "Swift Eagle" was made notable by the walk home. The Company led the Bn in without losing a man. September standdown was another welcome break followed by some pleasant paddling around Hinchinbrook Island.

As always there are a number of people leaving the Company, notable farewells to the:

OC MAJ "STUMP" FAIRLEIGH

CSM WO2 "TASSIE" GRAHAM, and

CQMS SSGT "GENGHIS" KEYNES.

Their efforts have enabled the Company to achieve the success we have this year. The start of a new era — Champion Company 1990.

Seven Platoon

7 Platoon didn't start BRL until early February after working during Christmas.

We came back from leave and went straight into Mil Skills. We had less than a week to prepare but managed to cuff it rather well with CPL Ross and 1 Section finishing 6th. Well done. We just got out of the jungle in time for Easter, a break we were all looking forward to. 10 days of women, beer, ladies, beer, girls and more beer and we can tell you it was magic. We came back from Easter with sore heads and a few damaged livers. We then went straight into air week which was a good experience for the troops, especially those who hadn't flown in Blackhawks before.

Then it was gas – gas – gas. All suited up to top three and off to the little tin shed! I guess some of the senior soldiers should have checked the 'billy's' masks for filters before they went into the chamber! (PTE Crace — you dope!)

We then went to MT Vince for a week of shooting and playing touch. Well done to Brundle for taking out the shooting trophy, it wasn't a bad week.

Off to the weeds for three weeks in July for 1RAR's exercise and a load of 10 man rations. By the end of the exercise we'd had enough of stew and curry — enough to last us a life time. All in all a pretty good three weeks.

Back to Lavarack for two days to prepare for "Maxi Beagle" and another ten days in the scrub. Everyone started to get a bit toey, but well done to everyone in 7 for keeping their cool. It was a successful jungle trip and once it was over September standdown was much closer. Stem and Bowie were counting the seconds, waiting for a bit of "Chuck—Won".

Birthday week was what we had been waiting for, a week of drill to sweat out each nights drinking. The highlight of the week was the ball — 7 Platoon took total advantage of the free drinking — 'Hey Greeney!'

A couple of weeks of sport and preparation for Swift Eagle. Who will forget highlights like the rock show on the SO6 feature. It's been a good year, although very busy, for 7 Pl and C Company and as always at this time of year postings are affected. 7 Pl would like to farewell LT Powys, SGT Townsend, CPL's McIver, Ross, McGregor and PTE Comben — all the best in your new positions.



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Eight Platoon

8 Platoon worked well over the 89-90 Xmas BRL period to finish it off with an operational standby. With this behind us the platoon headed off for the free and easy lifestyle of 6 weeks leave, to Australia wide locations, and a few errant travellers to Asian destinations.

However, before heading off C Company had some unfinished business in the swimming pool. 8 Platoon proceeded to form the backbone of C Company's winning team—which kicked some serious backsides in the inter-company competition. Harro (now SPT SECT) will readily tell you he achieved legend status that day. In Mil Skills, 8 Platoon confirmed to the Battalion what we already knew, with having 2 out of our sections coming in the top 4 places. These performances were reflected in our good representation in the DOG squad.

After Easter standdown the Coy LFX provided us with some good water ops in open country. We then packed up our goggles and snorkels, and went down to MT Vince. There 'Fruit' Oakley gave the platoon a good demonstration. Overall the time at MT Vince produced some good shooting. It should be noted that CHQ did call off the touch competition when

they started losing. As enemy for 1 RAR we made sure they earned the right to be the on-line ODF Battalion, this provided the platoon with 3 weeks of interesting work.

The farewell to 8 Platoon's old boss was going exceedingly well so the platoon decided to kick off to Jezzine Barracks, where LT Turkington's farewell was very memorable.

The Battalion LFX and Maxi Beagle followed with snake bites being the order of the day. 8 Platoon however, remained untouched by the South Johnstone snakes.

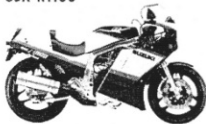
With a short break from Swift Eagle, 8 Platoon suffered a small morning crisis losing 6 men in one week. Thus with only 2 sections we went bush. This however had its benefits in the mounted ops phase with more room in the APCs.

The year is entering another training phase with courses about to commence. This year has seen a big turnover with up to 20 people coming and going—among these LT Turkington to 1RTB; SGT Logan returns to Spt Coy; CPL Kelly to Singleton, Depot Coy and LCPL Stanwichiz to Brisbane.

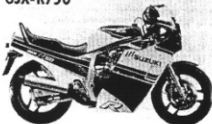
With Xmas in sight, 1991 is looming closer every week and again 8 Platoon will perform well—there were a lot of successes this year to build upon.

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Nine Platoon

Whilst the rest of Australia was having fun, the boys from 9 Platoon were hard at it trying to train our 15 new blokes. Our training must have been good due to a promise of a south seas trip. After all the build up all we got was standdown and a new Boss, ex 1RAR "no one's perfect".

After the new Boss showed the ADFA cadets how not to jump off a roof, we went off to HRTA for the company LFX, lots of noise but not many hits. CPL Lees had fun scanning targets with an 84mm. We then continued in the LFX mode with a short trip to MT Vince, where we demonstrated incredible speed at loading mags by night. We then travelled north as enemy for 1RAR. Pup Maclean started the exercise well with a lesson to his section on night nav and survival techniques. The highlight of the exercise however, was catching 2 of 1RAR snipers sunbaking whilst trying to establish comms. Our clearing patrol returned with 2 x packs, webbing, shirts, and most importantly a squad radio which we used to great effect.

The combination of the radio to help anticipate their future moves and PTE Pettingel taking out CHQ

made B Coy's attack on our position very difficult.

Next was the Bn exercise which was used as a nav comp for the Boss and the NCO's. CPL Dempsey quickly excelled at this with a tally of 7 beers owing without ever completing the exercise. On returning to the Bn the Platoon had it's crack at Pl comp setting the pace on the 3.2 km in 16:06, a fair Pl attack and some good drill, even with the Bosses words of command. The final exercise for the year was the Bde exercise, the highlights of which were the awesome firepower demo by the F-18's and the infamous return to Lavarack. Whilst the rest of the Bde flew or trucked we walked. What a walk which started at 36 km and finished as 56km. But hardly a challenge for 9 Platoon or C Company despite being constantly told to slow down for BHQ and B Company. The company lost no-one.

It has been a good year for 9 Platoon with a lot of changes to personnel. Thanks to CPL/SGT Freeman for his time as Pl Sgt. Congratulations to TED on a baby girl and Pup on becoming a husband.

Farewell and good luck to all the old faces who left the Platoon and look out for the new 9 Platoon in 1991.



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C COMPANY 2/4 RAR — 1990

Front Row: CPL S. MacLEAN, CPL B. McLEAN, CPL B. KELLY, CPL G. McIVER, CPL J. GENTILI, CPL B. FREEMAN, WO2 P. GRAHAM, MAJ M. FAIRLEIGH, CAPT W. NOLAN, LT G. POWYS, SGT R. TOWNSEND, LT R. KENNEDY, SGT L. LOGAN, SSGT D. KEYNES.

Second Row: PTE P. WALSH, PTE S. MILLIGAN, PTE D. COMBEN, PTE S. SMITH, PTE T. GERBER, PTE P. STUMBLES, PTE R. NEILSEN, LCPL L. CHEVALIER, LCPL M. BEHREND, PTE C. JACKSON, PTE B. FERRIS, PTE M. CORKILL, PTE A. CUSACK, PTE S. HELLNIRICH, PTE A. MILLER, PTE C. MILLER, PTE P. CRACE, LCPL S. STARKOFF.

Third Row: PTE E. WALSH, PTE R. CULVER, PTE B. STEPHENSON, PTE N. WISHART, PTE D. OZEGOVIC, PTE J. FLEMETT, PTE M. CASTLE, PTE S. HEY, LCPL R. SCANLON, PTE S. CONNOR, PTE A. REILLY, PTE M. STANSFIELD, PTE A. ZALEVSKI, PTE B. COOPER, PTE J. CALKIN.

Fourth Row: PTE S. MALETIC, PTE B. EYNON, PTE M. MARCHMENT, PTE A. THOMPSON, PTE A. WALKER, PTE G. BUTLER, LCPL K. CAMPBELL, PTE J. CARRAN, PTE A. PORTER, PTE B. CHRISTIAN, PTE M. BIRD, PTE T. WALSH, PTE J. PICTON, PTE D. ILLSLEY, PTE A. BENNETT.

Back Row: PTE S. THORNTON, PTE J. EASTON, PTE G. WHITE, PTE A. BRADY, PTE P. ARBUCKLE, PTE G. MAHER, LCPL R. STANIUCHA, PTE J. HARRISON, PTE S. HARRIS, LCPL M. BOWMAN, PTE D. STIMSON, PTE P. PRICE, PTE B. TIDYMAN, PTE C. OAKLEY, PTE P. SMEDLEY.

Absent: CPL S. ROSS, PTE C. GREEN, PTE E. McKELLAR, PTE R. DEWAR, PTE P. BLACKWELL, LT J. PHILLIPS, CPL T. LEES.

DELTA COMPANY

DELTA — THE JUNGLE COY

Know your limitations, train hard, forget the short cuts and trust the men in your team, and the result will be a fine Rifle Company as DELTA has proven to be in 1990. The year has been long and hard, the rewards were very few but well worth the cost. By the end of 1990 D Company had earned the respect of all for its ability in the field, high standard of infantry skills, and no nonsense approach to the profession of soldiering. The cost, however, was high. On the sporting score board our results were mediocre. We spent a bloody long time away from our wives and girlfriends and had more than our fair share choose to leave us. The junior NCO were placed under more pressure to command their sections effectively and worked longer days and more weekends than any other in the Battalion. In December 1990 we are proud of our Company, confident of our ability and very tired. The Company spent 4,500 man days in the jungle between February and November, including two tours of Tully, two trips of Bluewater, one in Paluma plus Battalion and Brigade exercises. It was in the field that D Company showed its skill. In February and March the Company received a large number of reinforcements from Depot Coy and worked well to win the field phase in the section Military Skills competition. An exceptional result for the lads in the most inexperienced and jumble company in the Regiment.

In 1989 D Company spent a lot of time fighting fires but in 1990 it spent a lot of time in fire fights.

BHQ tasked the Company heavily throughout the year particularly on Exercise Mox Beagle where the company was tasked to secure the assembly area, locate the enemy company, find an FUP, secure the FUP, cut a route through the jungle from assembly area to FUP and be the lead company in the Battalion assault. All this in 24 hours. This had to be a performance punishment. We also had our fair share of laughs and good times. Company concerts and quiz shows, being attacked by savage dogs during door knock appeals, watching the CSM drop his pacestick, a great Company Regimental Dining-in-Night, and table dancing at the Battalion Ball. By the end of 1990 the Company had 62 individuals qualify on a variety of specialist and promotion course. Our wishes to stay and take on the world in 91 will no doubt fade as many will be moved to Support Company or be posted away from the Unit. To those who leave all the best and remember what you have achieved. To those who remain remember the words of George Mansford THE OATH TO SERVE YOUR COUNTRY DID NOT INCLUDE A CONTRACT FOR THE NORMAL LUXURY AND COMFORTS ENJOYED WITHIN OUR SOCIETY, ON THE CONTRARY IT IMPLIED HARDSHIPS, LOYALTY, AND DEVOTION TO DUTY, REGARDLESS OF YOUR RANK.

PS.
In 1989 we worked during September standdown. In 1990 we worked during Easter standdown. Rumour has it that in 1991 we are working over Xmas leave. For Gods sake — this is the ODF — there are supposed to be four Rifle Company's in the Battalion. THINGS WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN THE FUTURE

'FEWER MORNING AND AFTERNOON PARADES' — THE DIGGERS
'FEWER PUSH UP ON YOUR BIRTHDAY' — EVERYONE
'NO MORE UD'S' — SLATER
'SGT BENNETT CONFESS THAT HE SPENT 3 YEARS IN CATERING CORPS' — 11PL
'LT THOMAS LEARN TO NAVIGATE' — 11PL

'LESS CHARGES' — THE CPL'S
'BETTER DISCIPLINE' — THE CSM
'THE CQMS SMILE' — EVERYONE
'THE 2IC HAVE A HAIR CUT' — THE SNCO'S
'NEWBOLD TO STOP COMPETING WITH DPRI' — SLATER
'LESS NCO TRAINING' — THE CPL'S
'BERNICE' — THE CHAIN GANG
'S.F. MICK STOP TALKING ABOUT MG PL 1RAR' — THE SNCO'S
'B COY IN UNIFORM' — THE BATTALION
'HARDER PT' — LT TINLEY
'LAND ROVERS WITH TRAINING WHEELS' — LT STUART
'RETURN OF THE M60' — EVERYONE WHO HAS TRIED TO DO FIRE AND MOVEMENT WITH THE MAG58
'NO MORE FALSE STARTS FOR ODF OPERATIONS' — EVERYONE.

THE RED BAYONET

The Red Bayonet is awarded twice annually with D Coy and the champion soldier in the areas of fieldcraft and general military skills. The inaugural competition was held in August 1990 with shooting, navigation, weapon drills, first aid and fitness among the skills evaluated.

PTE Bob Lonsdale, PTE Neil Wright and PTE Clinton Durham secured first, second and third place respectively.

Bob Lonsdale, now known as the top soldier, was born in NSW and grew up in Forster. He enlisted in January 1988 and was posted to 2/4 RAR in July 1988. Having been a Rifleman, Scout and Gunner in D Company he was more experienced than many of the other competitors who finished hot on his heels in the first of many Red Bayonet competitions. Bob was posted to 101RC Canberrra in December 1990. Well done Bob!

HISTORY OF THE D COY 2/4 RAR ROADRUNNER

In 1964, on the forming of 4RAR, the first OC D Coy, MAJ J.P.A. Deighton, immediately set to work moulding the Company into a team.

The OC C Coy was also mindful of his responsibilities. The two companies were injected with competitive spirit by their OC's continual rivalry, both in the mess and in training. D Coy outmarched, outwalked, outshot and outplayed the other companies in the Battalion especially, C Coy.

While 4RAR was in Borneo, in 1966, the CQMS D Coy, SSGT Darcy Tillbrook, had a sign painted on the lid of a used ammo box displayed outside CHQ, titled "D Coy 4RAR". The Roadrunner, copies from the Warner Bros. cartoon character was tagged with the words "Keep on walkin'" and below the drawing were the words "We've been everywhere". Consequently D Coy became known as "The Roadrunners".

In 1968 and 1971, during lead-up training for the tour of South Vietnam, "The Roadrunners" lived up to their reputation, training hard to become the best Coy in the Battalion. They walked and walked EVERYWHERE!

On 12 March, 1972, D Coy 4RAR were the last Company out of South Vietnam, to commemorate the occasion, a plaque was raised. It depicted the Roadrunner and the word "EVERYWHERE". Below was a scroll suitably inscribed "VIETNAM". When 2RAR and 4RAR linked on 15 August 1973, D Coy 2/4RAR adopted the Roadrunner and Everywhere as its own motto.

Ten Platoon

THE YEAR OF THE PHANTOM

"STRIKE HARD — IN AND OUT BEFORE YOU KNOW IT"

The Phantom returned from leave to find we had once more been thrown into the breach. A possible overseas trip was the rumour, we started training with gusto. The rumour was unfounded, it was all in vain — maybe next year.

With a very much needed injection of new blood into the Platoon, and the more seasoned vets telling horror stories about Tully we deployed to the Hotel Hilton under the guidance of "When we were in Vietnam" WO2 Dow. We stalled, crawled and shot the enemy into submission. "Die Hard" Dan found he could not keep his eyes open on sentry, until WO2 Dow pulled his head back and placed a bayonet against his throat, "You won't fall asleep again will you son".

PTE "Mad" Marsh fell down a creek bank completely scaring the hell out of the Platoon Ambush Recon party. A stretcher was rigged and he was casevaced with suspected broken ankle. We found out later he had sprained his ligaments. All in all the Platoon did well apart from "Did you reclaim the Claymore?", "No I thought you did".

The ever adaptable "Phantom" Platoon tackled Mil Skills and achieved good results. CPL "Hard Ass" Jennings' Section 10th, CPL "I have not been here all year" Oreb's Section 18th, and CPL "Bald One" Cowen's Section 20th. Watch out next year, MT Vince revealed we have a few Davey Crocketts in the Platoon, a number of members being awarded their crossed rifles. We then deployed to High Range with the rest of the RoadRunners, for a highly exciting week of Hell bourne operations — a piece of cake.

We lived up to our motto during APC training, thrown about — choked with dust in the "Wema Bins". One man proved he could sleep anywhere and through anything! The Doz suffered immeasurably.

Our next task was the Bn LFX under the leadership of the Battalions Morals Officer, LT "Have you heard this one Before" Larkey, the Platoon did well.

With Ex Swift Eagle the CO needed the job done on the En Bunker position. The "Phantom's" did the recon — at cost — Pathfinders, Vanguard and left Fwd Pl in the assault. We didn't last long. Someone in the FSCC forgot to "check fire".

Ex Maxi Beagle was the last time the Phantoms were utilised as a full Platoon this year. The Platoon's

Battle Commanders changed, LT Larkey went to assume his new position as LALO. LT "Mad Dog" Stuart assumed command and took us on a 3 day cruise. The Exercise proved our nav skills, even Recon Pl agreed with us — the "Doz" blew it again. The Exercise culminated in the eagerly anticipated Bde attack. The F1G 11 enemy could not stop the Roadrunner's mounted attack. A short vicious fire fight carried the day. 3 F1G 11's were reported withdrawing south and destroyed by our APC's.

The walk back was hardly a challenge and with SGT "Pack Horse" Downing egging us on the Phantom's all made it in.

We were deployed again to Tully, survived the CO's inspection just and went on to end of year activities. Adventure training and courses.

It has been a good year for the Mighty Phantom, unofficially achieving a good result with the rest of the Roadrunners in the Platoon Mil Skills comp. We will be back striking harder and even quicker next year.

The Platoon would like to bid farewell and wish good luck to the following members who have left us:

LT LARKEY — AADJT

SGT DOWNING — NCO WING SINGLETON

CPL WOOD — C COY

CPL JENNINGS — RAAMC (?), and

all members affected by the annual Spt Coy purge.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

EX SWIFT EAGLE —

"You can't kill me it's my last attack" — LT LARKEY

"We had 4 Mag 58's on him but he got us all with a 9mm Pistol" — DIE HARD DAN

"Sarge can you indent for some new cam pants" — BILL

EX MAXI BEAGLE —

"You can't kill me it's my last attack" — SARGE

"Only 1 click to go from here" — JENNO

"We are in the right place and you people are my witnesses" — MAD DOG

"I took a sight picture on the Cow and just squeezed the trigger" — TEX VOGEL

"Worst case everything men, then you won't be disappointed" — SARGE.

THINGS WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE:

1.CPL OREB

2.OUR NEW LINES

3.THE PL COMP RESULTS

4.NEW ZEALAND

Eleven Platoon

THE CHOSEN ONES

The year started for some, with a ticket to ride to the South Pacific. A lot of wind but no sail. The 1RAR boys went home to make room for the 23 Billys and to miss out on Tully, which the new blokes found wet, and discovered the meaning of "UD" and "loss of pay". Back at Battlestar Lavarack the quest for Mil Skills supremacy began in earnest. The Platoon as a whole, whipped the company, and in the biggy the "field phase", beat a lot of more experienced platoons coming 4th and 5th. As a reward we got to spend Easter, like last September sampling the ales in the club between duties.

Air training in HRTA was next. A lot of experience was gained in varied activities not usually practiced. Like two days sitting around doing what we could have done in an arvo. Cynicism aside it was worthwhile. The Platoon conducted a PI triathlon ending in a function at the Met

lay over hill and through dale. By foot. Relief was supplied by Burto and his sore feet and lewd stories of his youth.

Standdown followed by Tully — a heart starter or stopper. The platoon was fortunate in doing the Recon rifle platoon course. The fella's found Tully dry and the course interesting. Interesting watching 10 and 12 platoons work their butts off. It was an ideal introduction to training for Ex Late Tufao in Tonga. As the third platoon in a Tongan rifle company life is interesting.

UNFORGETTABLE QUOTES

"Is touch on today?" — SGT WALKER "

Has anyone got a mirror?" — LT THOMAE

"Third season, third stripe coming up" — COL ROBSON

"When do we go and see the Captain's cabin?" — PTE TIT-TOR (on HMAS Jervis Bay)

"When's standdown?" — PTE BLISS

"Does the sun always set in the west? Well you don't know if you don't ask" — PTE DILLON

"Will you marry me?" — PTE THOROGOOD (to his girlfriend as he slipped a Cheezel over her finger)

"Have you every been to (insert any place or country in the world)... I have" — COL ECK-ERT

"Yeah, I left it there so I would know where it is" — PTE BOWEN (having left his 66 in the FUP).

(Left) 'Zeroing' on the HMAS Tobruk.

(Below) LT THOMAE gives orders, SGT BENNETT warns the SIG.



MG Practice — HMAS Jervis Bay

where Ladd sang "Hey Jude" on stage and we farewell SGT Walker to Mortars. We welcomed SGT Bennet who the Billys remembered from Singleton. APC training was conducted at HRTA (surprise x 2). MT Vince and a segment of Red Faces where the Boss took more digs than Gallipoli.

SPE was next and we tried out the Tandy radios, new flak jackets, and Kevlar helmets for a week. Then Bn Ex Maxi Beagle was held near Tully. The first few days were spent trying to RV with the enemy to tell him what he wanted and listening to "Burto" complain about his sore back and the Ginger Beer with an attitude "what do you mean I have to walk?". The inter PI exercise at Bluewater was next with 11 PI surprising 10 PI in their beds at 10.00 in the morning with the sound of gunfire — Bad luck 10 and 12 PI.

Birthday week and proof that all men weren't created equal especially if you wear a Redblack guernsey. For the rest of the mere mortals it was drill, drill, watching sport, drill the ball. In this the decade of the DOG we did the Delta dance on the tables.

Ex Swift Eagle and c'mon on down. The way home



11 Platoon "O" Group

Twelve Platoon

THE DIRTY DOZEN

The year of change — We acquired our new platoon commander LT ANDERSON, who became our gallant leader.

The platoon started out well undermanned, with seven diggers playing enemy at Tully, bringing manning down to 1-12. The diggers in Tully were rewarded for the fine job they did, especially PTE MOYLE who gave a good demonstration of how not to disarm WO DOW during Bayonet fighting, but being stabbed in the hip. ("303 Bayonets don't tickle", Guts effort.)

Then came Bluewater in a every platoon for themselves Battle lasting 3 days, victory to the "Mighty Dozen". Some highlights are: LCPL Tulk's (10 Platoon) ambush being spotted and rolled up from a flank (10 Platoon 8 KIA). The contact of the exercise goes to CPL CORNEY who put in a section ambush along the road, watching the CSM drive up and down the road in a landrover (no rovers were to be used). After deciding it was safe the CSM abandoned the vehicle and set off on foot, only to fall prey to the Dozen (CSM last seen sitting in the middle of the road saying "!!!!!!!" or words to that effect).

MT Vince proved that the Dozen's gunners were the best — you just can't beat 100%. Congratulations goes to all the prize winners (namely 12 Platoon) and PTE DURHAM and WHYTE for achieving their crossed rifles.

SPE Training proved different, everyone agreed kicking on doors was great, but getting eggs, flour and other objects launched at us wasn't (thank God for the CS gas grenades, they really work hey SGT HINCHEY).

LFX (one big bang) Good shooting PTE HALL for hitting the claymore cable and PTE DOMINICH who was hit on the head by a slab propelled tyre.

The Coy Dinner was different, cold soup, stingy meals, bloody ties, no women and we had to pay, all the ingredients for a great night — Thank God for the Alcohol.

As the rest of the year propelled along "Maxi Beagle", "Swift Eagle" and Tully for the second time. We welcome our new Platoon Commander LT TINLEY (We broke the old one and sent him to Bravo) who's idea of a light run is 13km or running around wearing a Flak Jacket and carrying a medicine ball (sick man). He also brought a lot of new ideas and experience from his 5 years out west, which we hope he'll pass on to the platoon.

1991 is certainly looking good for the Dozen. So if you are in trouble and in need of help, who do you call "THE DIRTY DOZEN". THE YEARS AWARDS.

BEST REDUCTION — PTE WRIGHT

LONGEST PRISON STAY — HARRY HOLDMAN

BEST CHIT — PTE WHYTE (I CAN'T WERE CAMS)

BEST COUPLE — MICH NEWBOLD AND OLIVE OIL.

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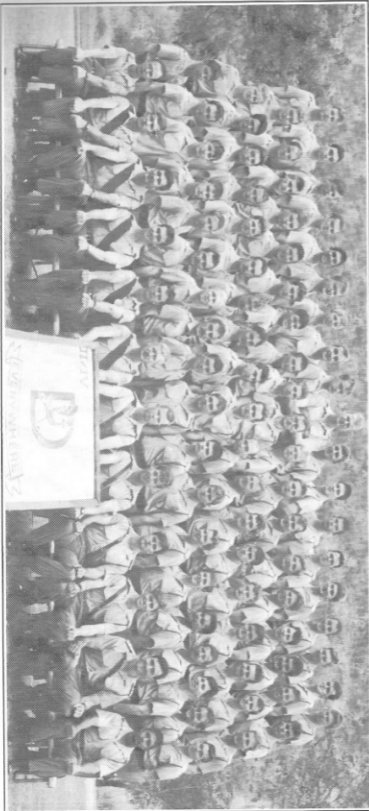
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D COMPANY 1990

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MAJ M.D. SLATTER
CAPT C.J. MITCHELL
LT R.G. KENNEDY
WO2 F.E. COWELL
SSGT R.N. BROWNE
CPL A.W. HOWARD
CPL S.A. MARSHALL
CPL C.L. OSTLER
PTE A.W. BRYCE
PTE R. DEWAR
PTE A.W. DONACHE
PTE T. FORD
PTE S.D. GREENFIELD
PTE D.L.A. IHMS
PTE W.R. LONG
PTE J. TAYLOR
PTE P.M. TOWNSEND
PTE D. WOOLARD
PTE W.F. WILLIAMS

10 PLATOON

LT S.A. STUART
LT A.F. LARKEY
SGT M.J.A. DOWNING
CPL W.J. COWEN
CPL M.W. JENNINGS
CPL F.E. OREB
CPL G.R. PEDERICK
CPL D.J. WOOD
LCPL P.A. BOTTOMLEY
LCPL V.G. MULLER
LCPL G.I. TULK
PTE C.B. BARON
PTE M.P. BLAKE
PTE M.E. BOZCAN
PTE W.J. BROOKS
PTE K.B. CARLIN
PTE S.R. DALE
PTE C.F. DANIELOWSKI
PTE R.M.C. FRENCH
PTE C.D. GLEESON
PTE C.L. GRAY
PTE B.R. GRUNDY
PTE J.R. HAYES
PTE C.J. HILLER
PTE P.R. MARSH
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PTE S.J. MURRELLS
PTE J.A. PAIN
PTE J.L. POWEL
PTE L.D. RUSSEL
PTE N.J. VINSON
PTE M. VOGEL
PTE T.P. WESTERNDORF
PTE A.N. GARDEM
PTE M.C. ARCHER
PTE B.V. SCOTT

11 PLATOON

LT D.J. THOM
SGT R.J. BENNETT
SGT C.R. WALKER
CPL A.D. BOXALL
CPL S.F. ECKERT
CPL H.H.M. ROBSON
LCPL J.D. WATERS
LCPL M.R. WISHART
LCPL R.W. McLYMONT
PTE S.M. BAILEY
PTE P.A. BLISS
PTE J.S. BOWEN
PTE S. BURTON
PTE C.W. DILLON
PTE S.P. DONNELLY
PTE K.M. EUSTACE
PTE C.R. FRICKER
PTE J.D. GINNANE
PTE D.T. GALLOP
PTE R.A. GREENHAIGH

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PTE A.B. LADD
PTE R.B. MCGOWEN
PTE M.S. McNAMARA
PTE T.M. MURRAY
PTE J.D. ROBINSON
PTE S.M. THOROGOOD
PTE G.W. TITTOR
PTE N.S. DIXON
PTE D.J. TILLEY

12 PLATOON

LT P.C. TINLEY
SGT D.R. PHILIPP
LT B.A. ANDERSON
LT M.D. COLLINS
CPL B.R. CORNEY
CPL C.T. DRAYTON
CPL T. JOLLY
CPL M.W. GAVAN
LCPL R.A. HEARTY
LCPL M.J. REGAN
LCPL D.J. WOOD
PTE A.R.J. BARTKOWSKI
PTE J.L. DOMINOCK
PTE C.V.J. DURHAM
PTE M.J. HALL
PTE I.M. HOCKLEY
PTE R.D. HOLDMAN
PTE R.S. LONSDALE
PTE G.L. LYNDON-JAMES
PTE W.R. MOYLE
PTE J.W. NEILSON
PTE M.G. NEWBOLD
PTE A.J. PARADIES
PTE A.S. PATTERSON
PTE S.W. POLLOCK
PTE M.S. POULTON
PTE A.D. SASSE
PTE R.S. VALDRE
PTE J.P. WHYTE
PTE D.R. WILLIAMS
PTE N.G. WILSON
PTE G.R. PINNOCK
PTE A.M. MONAGHAN
PTE D.W. HENDERSON
PTE D.G. PARKER
PTE G.R. APPLEYARD
PTE R.L. THOMPSON

SUPPORT COMPANY

In 1990 the ethic for Support Company was to develop a battle approach to the tasks at hand. This ethic was assisted by the Battalion call out in late January and increased in emphasis and strength throughout the year.

It was refreshing to witness the members of the Company seek out professional information and develop their specific tasks as time progressed.

There is no doubt that Support Company 'supported' during 1990 as those fortunate recipients of that would bear witness. Not only were the rifle companies supported but also the 3rd Brigade, 11th Brigade, 3 RAR, 1 RAR, ADFA, OCTU, The Townsville Show Association and even the Kirwan Boy Scouts managed a look in as well.

As has often been said "To succeed we need good men" and Support Company 1990 had good men.

Mortar Platoon

MAGGOT PL ANNUAL REPORT

The Maggots began 1990 with a change of Commander and some changes to key appointments. CAPT G. FAULKHEAD arrived from HQ Land Command, SGT GILLESPIE, SGT HINCIE and BENNETT all came from Singleton. As has happened in the past we were restricted by a lack of Ofpr/NCO qualified personnel. This was alleviated somewhat as SGT HERON and WALKER replaced SGTs HINCIE and BENNETT in June. Throughout the year we have had a solid base of JNCOs who were well lead by SGT GLOVER, Pl Sgt. At the digger level our solid base of senior soldiers helped the new march ins and ensured the Pl ran smoothly throughout the year. Highlights of the year were:

Many failed attempts at conducting LFX's resulted in the first live rounds down range in April. The feature of this was 20 rd FFE at FSB Myrtle.

Air week with the Bn meant that we are now fully conversant with S70 operations and have a good understanding with 5 Avn. Good training was achieved during Coy LFX's. C and A Coys put a great deal of effort into providing an interesting exercise for MOR PL.

Generous ammunition allocation and good scenarios meant that the Bn LFX was successful. The only problem was that a few WP rounds fell shorter than usual.

Once again during Maxi Beagle the Maggots showed

their mettle and completed their own TOBRUK that 2/4 RAR died trying to capture. Tested during Swift Eagle the Maggots dealt death to the Jimbafrosians and displayed our ability to 3 Bde during the Fire Power Demo on hill 506.

Society can once more rest safe in the Porcupine Gorge near Hughendon as the Maggots on Exercise "Maggot Trailblazer" built a highly successful track for QLD National Parks.

MAGGOT ROLE OF HONOUR 1990

CAPT FAULKHEAD — The Boss. Slipped away to Singapore late in the year.

SGT GLOVER — The man held with fear in the hearts of all Maggots.

SGT GILLESPIE — This person at times can be a little perverted and should do very well in a Rifle Platoon.

SGT WALKER — See CPL Brown.

SGT HERON — Never phased. The silent uncomplaining MFC.

SGT BENNETT/HINCIE — Nice try in a difficult situation.

CPL BROWN — Touch Football ECN.

CPL ELLIOTT — Always being chased by a pack of wild chihuahuas.

CPL GRACE — Aussie Rules punctuated with short periods of being a Mortarman.

CPL STEPHENS — The backbone of the FSCC.

Pioneer Platoon

PHQ

LT B HORN
SGT B MEULENERS
LCPL G MURRAY
PTE R REVELL

1 SECTION

CPL D HUNT
PTE L THORNS
PTE K ANDERSON
PTE P SQUIRES
PTE S MURPHY
PTE D MATHER
PTE N ELLERTON

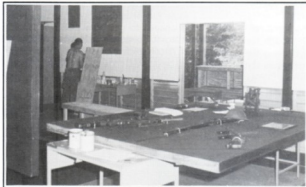
2 SECTION

CPL B PICKERING
PTE P BAKOS
PTE A McCARTER
PTE C JEREMY
PTE D STEVERS
PTE J WARD-WORLEY

3 SECTION

CPL P NEMME
LCPL J HANDO
PTE S GILES
PTE W WHARTON
PTE D BLISS
PTE C HULL

Pioneer Platoon began the year with CPL Hunt's section working the BRL period as part of the ODF Company. Their main tasks were to build an obstacle course for the Cleveland Youth Centre and begin construction on the new Battalion Museum. In both jobs the section acquitted themselves well.



Building the Museum

Our first major task as a platoon, albeit a platoon minus, was a refurbishment/rebuild of the Battalion's obstacle course. However, due to duties and the Battalion callout work was not to begin until late February. Some new obstacles were added to make the course more demanding as no doubt the Mil Skills sections found out. The rebuild proved a good means of starting the year with the soldiers receiving practical experience in minor field engineering.

Our next major activity was the Military Skills competition in which we entered, due to manning, only one section under the command of Darren Hunt. This section performed admirably eventually placing seventh.



SGT Bob Meuleners keeping a low profile

A week at Tully of minor field engineering followed in May. An enjoyable time was had by all. We then were to embark on watermanship and demolitions weeks however, due to bad weather these were cancelled. In their place we put on numerous demonstrations. Firstly for the ADFA Cadets, then the NZ CGS and so the list continues.

One of the highlights of the year was to have been a Company exercise on Magnetic Island. This was however cancelled. In its place came the Townsville Show. There then followed the Battalion LFX and exercise "Maxi Beagle" which saw us involved in providing battle noise simulation at HRTA and playing enemy in the jungles of the South Johnstone River.

August saw us on the Brigade exercise at Ingham and High Range. Once again there was a lot for us to do as pioneers. The highlight of the exercise was undoubtedly the march out. A good time was had by all. September followed with Standdown and October with adventure training.

November saw the platoon involved in running the Pioneer Course which was undoubtedly a roaring success.

Overall it was a disjointed year but none the less enjoyable. Farewells must be said to many: Firstly LCPL Skip Murray. Skip suffered serious leg injuries in a motor car accident

mid year and has since spent most of his time in and out of hospital. We hope that Skip makes a successful recovery and look forward to seeing him behind the storeman's desk once again. The remainder of farewells will be made in no particular order. John Harkness, Bill Wharton, Ziggy, Deano, Saundo, Wards and Nigel Ellerton all opted for civvie street. Darren Hunt was posted to the Infantry Centre. Barry Pickering is clearing mines in Afghanistan, the only way he knows how, with his mouth. We hope he makes it back safe and sound. Lt Horn went to 2IC B Coy and Hulls is soon off to 10 IRC Singleton. To all those we wish all the best. To those remaining in the Platoon I wish you all good soldiering in the future.

CPL WILLIAMS — Free-falling off jetties is his specialty.
LCPL COMLEY — The brew king of the CP.

LCPL JOHNSON — Military Pig.

PTE BARRON — Red the quiet man who can speak with a sharp tongue.

PTE CODY — Carried the gun for 2 x 40km marches say no more.

PTE HAWKEN — Asked by XXXX to donate pure alcohol from his bloodstream.

PTE JONES — The welsh

PTE KRUGER — Freddie the potential LT.

PTE LAWRENCE — Is going home to study. Will major in being a Yuppie and sub-major in yachting.

PTE LYNCH — Finally should reach his potential on the education course at Enoggera and at RMC.

PTE MARSH — How can a man who fell asleep at the wheel of his car top the T109 course?

PTE MARTHICK — Found love and has matured well.

PTE McGEE — Found love at OPUS (with the Bundy Boggles) and should find more love in Malaysia.

PTE MCGUFFIN — Desired greener pastures in Int Sect.

PTE MEYER — The Pl artist, a young father, a sorely missed maggots.

PTE MILLIGAN — Longer service in Maggots than the F2 Mortar — always keen to do work parties.

PTE PETERS — Wanted to man-pack on his Harley.

PTE PETRIE — Made his wife the ultimate Regimental spouse by sending her to 1 RTB.

PTE RHODES — Enjoyed wearing his Bundy Goggles and Rhonda's company.

PTE ROGERS — Buck. Soon to be a sky-god — always a happy character.

PTE SMITH — Noted for his treatment of women and his aerobatics out of Unimogs.

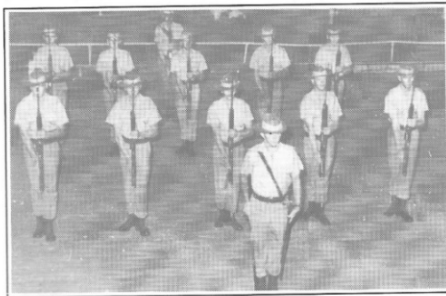
PTE SUMMERS — Memorable for his Ruger Cannon on Maxi Beagle.

PTE TRUMBLE — Nick the grumpy storeman. Has the world record for drinking poppers, eating pies, and digesting 10 man rat packs.

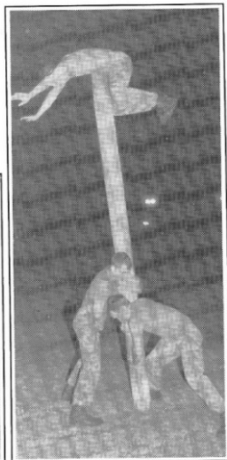
PTE WALKER — Never really suitable as a Maggot — much better in Recon and then SASR.

So concludes another year for the Maggots. 1991 should be interesting with a great deal of new march-ins coming to bolster our numbers.

LT FIELD
MLO



LT Field (MLO) and the guard at the Townsville Show



Human "muzzle cover" and the world's biggest Mortar

Reconnaissance Platoon

Our first trip to the field in 1990 was to the Atherton Range and saw the Platoon perform in true Recon/ Sniper tradition. We persuaded the ARES to take up a number of challenges. However, due to our fitness we came out the ultimate overall victors. After our excellent exercise and range trip it was back to the jungle. Four days in Paluma posed no threat to this bunch of hard chargers. We practised our old skills and adapted some new ones.

Following Paluma five of our 2IC's left the Platoon to complete Subject One in true military manner. 'Bam Bam' Horne was well remembered for his drill powers.

On completion of Subject One the Platoon selected the Recon Platoon Skills team. Even though we were pipped at the post we still managed to send some representatives on the Duke of Gloucester Cup team.

The Sniper pre-selection was held and some very ordinary soldiers participated. Even though the scores were very poor we managed to get three of the numbers to perform and take on the task as the invisible assassins.

Recon struck fear into the hearts of officers throughout the Battalion with a well exercised snatch and grab on OC Support, MAJ Bender following four days of constant surveillance on the OC.



CPL Torrens and LCPL Mackie before the Hong Kong Sniper concentration.

Maxi Beagle proved to be a task in itself. Recon was heard to be earning its bread and butter on close recons. After a number of attempts the 3 Platoons managed to get a rough but well detailed sketch back to Int Sect.

After losing another bachelor to the grips of a lady, Dinga Bell was lost in wedlock to Robin. Soon to follow was the tearfilled departure of Dinga, back to the world, to attempt life as a civilian.

Swift Eagle — after a wonderful cruise around the Pacific we disembarked by helicopter to the beach. From there we went on a joy flight to our LZ. Then came the trek with the Army's elite, Yes! Recon brushed shoulders with the S.A.S. After a little hike over the hills we were led by patrols to our AO's. We won't mention who lost their packs will we Youngy. But none the less it was a lot of fun and a job well done.

Recon went to perform TALS after Brigade standdown but a foul trick was played upon the Platoon, it quickly turned into an escape and evasion exercise. However, we managed to get from LCBS to Cowely Beach and back to Townsville via Innisfail. Mid March saw 3 more Recon soldiers lured to the west in search of the sandy beret. Well done to Max Walker, Thoma and Scope.

Signals Platoon

THE ROLE OF THE REGIMENTAL SIGNALLER

To seek out and close with the radio waves. To receive and relay them. To seize and hold codes and SOI's, and repel corrections and repetitions, by day or dogwatch regardless of duty officers, lost comms, and kicks in the arse.

SIGNALS PLATOON 1990

Signals Platoon started 1990 like the rest of the Battalion, with a bang! With the JNCO's at the RSM's Cowley Beach Holiday Camp and the RSO looking in the store saying "Is all this really mine?" and Sgt Carley drinking San Miguel in the Philippines not having a clue what's going on, it was left to the Diggers and a blow in from 1RAR (Sgt Bruegan) to sort out the signals needs. After it all died down we let some more Coy and PlSigs in on our little secret, the big 'V', with Ex Whispers. The Pl needed a break after that so we took off for an all expenses paid trip to the Tablelands. Don't worry Boss, we won't send you on any more dirt roads (until the Sig Cse road run!).

Well, we tried a few more activities like that, well planned and organised but someone kept coming up with unorganised, unplanned training activities, so we suffered!

Mil Skills came along and went again with a very good result and showed most of the rifle sections up. We also supplied all the comms at Koonhuloona and deployed the SS vehicle without its Can net! And we had to keep Bn HQ in supply with guffo's (and those sections who saw us on the road).

Maxi Beagle was a test for us, thick vegetation and VHF comms don't mix, especially when Bn HQ was man packed and couldn't carry all their good gear — jaffle irons, cook sets and the likes. But the retrans party of Sniper (now 8/9 RAR) and the Pogo maintained comms well, even for LT

Johnson of 2 Pl. Swift Eagle was another man pack for Bn HQ, and OPSO Sir, retrans is not supposed to walk off big, big Yohna's (yes, it was bigger than yours C Coy). Ship to shore comms was very successful for Jacko and his team.

We had some blokes head over to Malaysia on Ex Suman Warrior in October. Thailand and the introduction of Meekong whiskey made the trip worthwhile. When asked of various adventures, the reply was No Comment, as directed by 97 Sunray.

The Sig Cse started and all likely graduates are now on the dart board.

Things we would like to see in 1991 are:

SGT YOUNG — smile (at least twice in 6 months)
RSO — tidy his desk
SGT YOUNG — smile
RIFLE COY's — let us have your sigs to train!
DSG — let us go on more Road Runs
SGT CARLEY — open a tin of Ravioli without injury
SIG PL — get a bigger STORE

Farewells:

RSO — to ADJT
JACKO WILSON — B Coy
PAT MALONE — B Coy
SNIPER — 8/9 RAR
WOODY — Def Pl
THROSSEL — Def Pl
MICK CAROLL — Def Pl
JAMESY — RASigs
YOUNGY (PTE) — RASigs
HOOLIGAN — Spt Coy Clerk
HOCKING — Witch Doctors (Medical Corps)

WHITSUNDAY

RENT A YACHT



SUPPORT COMPANY 2/4 RAR — 1990

Front Row: SGT T. KELLEHER, SGT S. GILLESPIE, SGT C. WALKER, SGT J. GLOVER, LT R. PARKER, CAPT M. DAY, LT B. HORN, WO2 B. O'DONNELL, MAJ S. BENDER, CAPT M. ROSS, LT P. DOG, LT G. LUKE, LT P. BROWN, SGT J. HERON, SGT C.R. MEULENERS, SGT P. YOUNG, SGT M.R. CARLEY, SSGT G.J. STEWART.

Second Row: PTE R. PEARSON, CPL G. McIVER, PTE C. TAYLOR, LCPL P. MALONE, PTE S. GUILLIER, PTE R. REVELL, PTE D. PARKER, PTE R. ALLEN, LCPL R. GARNETT, PTE A. McCARTER, PTE T. K. HAWKEN, PTE S. GILES, CPL G. WILSON, PTE S. DUNCAN, PTE R. SUMMERS, CPL B. PICKERING, PTE S. HAWKEN, PTE C. MACKIE, CPL B. GRACE, PTE C. JEREMY, PTE J. PHILLIPS.

Third Row: PTE P. COGAN, PTE D. JONES, PTE P. LAWRENCE, CPL M. WILLIAMS, PTE G. KRUGER, PTE N. DIXON, PTE P. DAVEY, LCPL J. HANDO, PTE D. SIEVERS, PTE B. BUSKELL, PTE M. REYNOLDS, PTE S. BIMBO, PTE P. ERDMAN, PTE S. HOGGEN, PTE J. BLAKE, PTE S. NORTON, LCPL D. TRILL, PTE N. TRUMBLE, CPL S. BROWN.

Fourth Row: CPL P.J. YOUNG, PTE D. OLDHAM, PTE A. ELY, PTE P. HOFFMANN, PTE J.M. McGEE, PTE B. MILLIGAN, PTE L. THORNS, PTE K. ANDERSON, PTE M. BARRON, CPL W. BERGWERFFSKIE, PTE C. STODDART, PTE W. MARTHICK, PTE B. LYNCH, CPL P. STEPHENS, LCPL B. COMLEY, PTE D. BLISS, PTE P. SQUIRES, CPL M. TOOHEY, PTE D. LOVETT.

Back Row: PTE D. MATHEROS, LCPL C.J. LEE, LCL M. HOFFRICHTER, PTE C. RHODES, PTE A. ROGERS, PTE M. CARROLL, PTE S.J. MURPHY, PTE P. BAKOS, LCPL C. COWBURN, CPL W. LAMPARD, PTE B. SMITH, CPL B.E. CONRAD, PTE R. COUSINS, PTE R. WALKER, CPL A. ELLIOTT, CPL S. JAKINS, CPL P. NEMME, PTE BABY SNIDERS, PTE D. ASHWORTH.

ADMIN COMPANY HQ

They say a new broom sweeps clean, and Admin Company made a clean sweep at the start of 1990. Marching in were the new OC, 2IC, CSM and Padre. To welcome the new push to Coy HQ was CQ Geoff Lawman and his formidable team of LCPL's Twomey & Zuliani. They also say there's no rest for the wicked, and with a very busy start to the year we were wondering who to blame for the workload.

Once we got stuck into the job the Coy settled in quite well and we were soon improving old ideas and sometimes re-learning old lessons.

With clerks rotating through the orderly room like

the rotor blades on a Blackhawk, the Coy HQ always tried hard to provide a good service.

Exercise Maxi Beagle proved that the Echelon can live in mud like anyone else and all concerned were glad to scrape their boots clean of the South Johnstone Forestry Camp.

Victory was sweet when we scored a hard fought win over D Coy in the Inter-Company Rugby and also came home very well in the Bn Swimming Carnival.

Next year promises to be challenging, and Coy HQ will again be hard at it to see the job done well so that Admin Coy can provide the service and support the Bn expects of us.

Transport Platoon

"THE HARDEST WORKING PLATOON IN THE BATTALION"

This year started busy as usual and once again this year having a Platoon Commander for the second time in a long while. LT C. SMITH who leaves us mid 1991, we wish him all the best. In the next month different members will be returning from leave and preparing for the 3 month Tour of Duty in Malaysia, all the best fella's. PTE J. MITHCELL "MITCH", PTE D. BOULTON "BOULTO", PTE R. CLARK AND PTE KERTON, PTE G.J. SHIN-

NERS "SHIFFTEY" have returned alive from the USA and want to be posted there doing anything.

PTE G. ROLPE, "JEFF STYKER", is going on his own tour of Malaysia and Thailand — will he return?

LCPL B PATTERSON "PATTO" has taken a well deserved long service leave, don't worry Patto, Zac's doing a great job. All in all it's been a busy year with the so called normal problems, like not enough vehicles and drivers. The Platoon this year has covered some 465,000 kms.

"KEEP ON TRUCKING"

Technical Support Platoon

The year started quite well with new March-In's — CPL Mick Harris, CFN Robert Murdock and CFN Brendon Southy. We also had the loss of CPL Keith Chambers and CPL Nick Cashman to 102 Field Workshops and Canberra Workshops respectively.

Of course, who could forget Bougainville with all its drama's. But Tech Spt came through again, managing to inspect the entire Battalion's weapons in a day, and pages or not, we were prepared to go at a moments notice.

Mil Skills managed to teach craftsman's Walker, Southy and Robinson a few things about the Infantry role. The Admin Sect performed exceptionally well by beating several of the rifle company sections.

Air training week saw us deploy to High Range for some serious practise in putting up and pulling down cam-nets. It was a welcome sight to see civilization after that one.

The next deployment was to South Johnstone. The ASM adopted the new role as CSM and gave the enemy a run for their money. Between the mud, rain and jungle it's got me bugged how we ever won the 2nd World War. CFN Robinson saw some action out with B Coy and CPL Harris saw some action at the Milla Milla Pub — doing it hard. Meanwhile the real workers were doing a tour or two of Fantasy Island.

Anyway no sooner back off standdown than out on Swift Eagle, which saw Tech Spt split into two groups. Half going to Macrossan, the other to Forrest Beach. Macrossan saw our storeman Dave Harper become the centre of many a practical joke and several new pairs of underwear. Forrest Beach was nothing exciting, excepting, of course, the move out when CPL Van Shaik and CFN Tucker decided to take the wrong turn, not once but 3 times — due to their excellent sense of Direction. Luckily the rest of the convoy was switched on. The next phase was for the two groups to come together at High Range for the Firepower Demo. The definite highlight of this phase was when we were being probed, a smoke grenade was thrown by the enemy — Just missing the ASM. The ASM took great offence to this and in the light of the full moon all that could be seen was the enemy disappearing over a hill with the ASM in hot pursuit. Five minutes later CFN Walker pointed out an enemy to the OC, who then opened fire, to the words of "Don't shoot it's the ASM".

This about sums up the exercises and fun stuff for the year. But there were several other highlights.

ASM Dave Williams: Finally resigned himself to the fact that he had been stitched over his posting and tended to relax the pressure a little on his workers. There is some justice in the world.

CPL Phil Colliero: Meeting, Marrying and Conceiving a wonderful woman in under 12 months.

CPL Mick Harris: Would have to win the duck and weave award hands down. As a new member he achieved this feat tremendously.

LCPL Peter Meredith: Stepped on his slug early in the year several times, but managed to put it back in his pants just long enough to get promoted.

CPL Paul Van Shaik: Trying to become the ultimate poge by obtaining the 1 of a ton but being disappointed in finding out CFN Walker was well over this weight.

CFN James Walker: Unsure of where home was, decided to spend most of his time at Mt Vince gaining much needed armourer experience.

CFN David Robinson: Having quite a year by not telling us of his financial dominance very 5 mins (Only after slight persuasion).

CFN Brendon Southy: The psycho who only just managed to survive the armourers course, or was that his alter ego.

CFN David Larkin: True to his usual quiet self, did very little other than sit around and put on weight, like the rest of us.

CFN Robert Murdock: Marching in this year and off to Malaysia already. Don't forget the wheelbarrow to get your own and CFN Walkers stomachs back into the country.

CFN Sean Tucker: Selling his trailer for \$200.00 and buying another for \$400.00. Good business sense Tucker.

CFN David Harper: Going on standdown both times and not being able to walk afterwards due to consecutive bike stacks. In summing up we would like to offer this piece of advice to our much loved Infantry Brothers. If you get the chance come and see what we do because we don't bite and you may just learn something.

So to end 1990 we bid a big farewell to the ASM Dave Williams who is being posted to Melbourne (He, He, He), CPL Paul Van Shaik who is going to Albury/Wodonga and Sean Tucker who is going to Puckapunyal. Some may say its our loss and their gain but that's debatable. However, we wish them the very best of luck. Everybody have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and see ya in '91".

R.A.P. Med Platoon

1990 has been a busy year for the Med Platoon and has seen many changes.

Members leaving at the end of the year are:

SSGT Tony Sherlock (Wannay King) Promoted to WO2 2 Fd Amb
SGT Jim Scott (Mr Fitness) HQ 1 Construction Regt

CPL Brett Dick (Biggest Dickest) Promoted to SGT at 2 Fd Amb
CPL Ted Simons (Blow-Fly) to 4 Fd Regt

To all the other members, well done guys and best wishes for the future.

Still holding the fort will be:

CAPT Warren Wark (completed his shoe laces course)

SSGT Peter Symonds (welcome back Peter)

CPL Pablo Cardenas (hand in there Pabs)

PIPES AND DRUMS

A YEAR TO REMEMBER

Thank God for Diaries, the best thing the Chief Clerk gave me. Mind you there is no way I'll be able to reuse it in 91. 1990 saw an increase in small jobs and the major tasks were major. We were asked to play for many dinners, and I've mentioned only the memorable ones.

On 23 January, 1990 the Royal Australian Airforce held a Dining-In Night for their Air Vice-Marshal. I must admit their Officers are tending to uphold the traditional way of dinners as did their predecessors. It was a very well run traditional dinner.

The dinner at 2/4 RAR Sgt's Mess on 25 January was the start of many other dinners we performed at. The first major Parade was the 4 RAR Birthday on the 1st February, followed by the 2/4 RAR Officers Mixed Dining-In. It was also at this time that the Pipe Major got dinked for the Battalion Cricket Rep's job. Ever seen a duck out of water?, ask the Battalion cricket team, God knows how they put up with him.

Our affiliated unit, 31 RQR also employed us for their Offr/SNCO Dinner on 24 February, 1990.

Pleasant things were to come with the Wedding of "Tassie" Graham, CSM Charlie. It was a very radiant ceremony in Queens Gardens and an enjoyable reception. We hope our contribution helped to make the day.

Even the Townsville Boat Club had itself squared away and they enjoyed our company once again for their Blessing of the Fleet. I must admit the Commodore and his members looked after us extremely well. It was the first time our P/D President MAJ Davey Paterson ventured out with us, and I hope we didn't let him down. During this time the P/D's were preparing their music for the North Queensland Pipe Band Championships. So every job we did incorporated the selection of tunes which eventually won the day. Mind you, it was a lot more practise, during our own time that brought us to a competition peak. Just to blow our horn a bit, let us once again, tell you of our victories:

Pipe Band Results

- 1st Champion Pipe Corps
- 1st Champion Free Selection
- 1st Champion Standing Selection

CPL Les Shelley (enjoy Malaya buddy)

CPL Phil Wilkin (read labels mate)

PTE Allan Payne (on ya blue, medic extraordinary)

Med Platoon has supported the Companies in all areas again this year, with trips overseas as well as many on the ground here in Queensland. Tully, Paluma, Mt Spec, Cowley Beach and Blue Water. Maxi Beagle proved to be very demanding with close to 50 no-duffs evacuated from the forestry area, many of which were by helicopter, well done to all the medics and soldiers that participated.

We have been more than pleased with our performance this year and look forward to assisting the Battalion again in the years to come, in all medical and soldiers aspects.

From the staff of the RAP we wish all the Battalion the best for Xmas and the New Year.

DR. SHIRL

OR — BLOW-FLY

- 1st Champion Street March Element
- 1st Champion Drill Element
- 1st Champion Dress Element

The RSM attended and gave us a few pointers reference dress and drill, that's how we won that section. An old piper never forgets his tricks. Solo players did well on that victorious day, including "Pte Kathy Fraser", our LADY PIPER who played well, dressed well and wore our uniform with the pride of an ANZAC.

Check this out: Solo's

- 1st Champion Drum Major "Dick Damsen" 2/4 RAR D/Maj
- 2nd Runner Up "Tim (budgie) Macey"
- Champion Drum Major of the Games "Dick Damsen"

A Grade Placings Pipe Major one 2nd/ four 3rd's

C Grade Piping

- 1st and one second "Simon Bedding"
- 3rd placing "Kathy Fraser"

D Grade Piping 1st Place "Kathy Fraser"

Best Dressed Bands Women 1st Place "Kathy Fraser"

A Grade Drumming (Side Drum) 1st "Tim Macey" 2nd "Jeff Timmings"

B Grade Drumming (Side Drum) 1st "Tim Macey" 2nd "Jeff Timmings"

A Grade Drumming (Tenor Drum) 1st "Mark Lanham" (Markus Lanamus)

B Grade Drumming (Tenor Drum) 1st "Mark Lanham"

To consolidate all the Placings your Pipe Band took out: a 25 Placings and 8 Trophies out of 11. This is a good tally for a well earned day and I was very proud, as was the RSM and P/D PRES Maj Paterson who both went gal gal after each event. It was getting embarrassing during the presentations, all we could hear was 2/4! 2/4! 2/4!

Well after that big upper the CO let us venture to the Victorian Mini-Band camps and we soon realised how Bagpipes react to cold weather. We must have Kentuckian Bagpipes for when we went to Victoria, the Bast....ds played hell. We gained a lot of experience not only how to prepare our instruments for cold weather but how to prepare ourselves coming off an upper. We got a Fourth place out of six bands in our grade.

The P/D's also got down to the Australasian Championships in

Brisbane, however, we weren't large enough in manning to compete. Instead we assisted the Queensland Pipe Band Association to erect a few 11 x 11's. Dirled in by an Ex Pipe Major who knew some Col (Army) type who asked indirectly to assist. 32 tents in all. During all the time, of course, between swanning we did another three major Parades and started to lose count of the "on the spur of the moment" jobs. Dining-In's, Farewells, Welcomes, Departures, Birthday's, Show Day, and that was throughout the Brigade.

The 42nd Royal Queensland Regiment invited us to assist their Pipe Band in the Freedom of the City of Rockhampton, and this is where a fairy tale romance began. During that visit our Markus Lanamus fell in love. His future bride to be is the President of the 42nd Other Ranks Club. A very talented lady in her profession and in her role in the Army Reserve. Mark and Annette are getting married in Rocky on the 17 November.

Being away a fair bit this year set the mode for Baby making and Births, starting with Carol Bedding, giving birth to a boy (Piper?), and our "Tangles", Greg Pritchard managed to pot a few, without going asleep. Rayline his wife, at this time is filling out nicely and is expecting early next year.

On the P/D advancement side, this year saw the RAR Pipe Band Competition which was conducted at the same time as the Gloucester Cup at the Infantry Centre, Singleton.

Our results there weren't what we expected and we took out third place in the Band Competition. However, the Pipes and Drums Section at the Centre presented for the first time a Bugler of the Regiment Trophy which "Tim Macey" our senior side drummer took out decisively. A golden bugle mounted on a wood grain plaque now hangs proudly in the Band Hut.

Also in this busy year the Pipe Major managed to do some recruiting up north and south with the Townsville recruiting office and thanks goes to WO1 "Keith" Macleay and his highly professional staff for the assistance. Keith, as some of you may know, is an Ex CSM of Bravo Company. The Pipe Major this year got a few swans such as: Suman Warrior, and the 2 RAR reunion down at the famous Tweed Heads Service Club.

It was a pleasure to be part of our Battalion History. Old soldiers never die is true to the letter, for those diggers during the reunion are as proud as ever and talk with their heads high when anyone mentions 2 RAR or 2/4 RAR, it was a great honour to be part of one of their reunions and knowing you are still part of the history of one of the greatest Battalions raised in the Regiment.

What's to come?

- 9 Nov Lofly Wendt's Farewell (RSM - A)
- 10 Nov Stocktake
- 10 Nov Rehearsals at St. Andrews Church (11 Nov Armistice) 11
- Nov St. Andrews Church Tri Service Remembrance
- 15 Nov Arrival of Piping Judges from the Centre
- 15 Nov CO's Farewell at Sgts' Mess (Dining-Out)
- 21 Nov Comd Land Comd Visit — Guard of Honour
- 23 Nov CO's Farewell from Officers' Mess
- 23 Nov Regt Birthday Dining-In Sgts' Mess
- 26-29 Rehearsals 9 Tpt Sqn Banner Parade
- 30 Nov 9 Tpt Sqn Banner Parade

- 3 Dec CO's Handover Parade
 - 5 Dec 1 Div Comd Farewell Parade, Brisbane
 - 6 Dec RTU Townsville
 - 6 Dec 3 Bde Comds' Handover
 - 23 Dec 3 Bde Sgts' Mess Dinner (we may think about it, well the P/M may)
 - 31 Dec Bedarra Island New Years Eve (Perhaps the P/D Pres?)
- As always a plea for volunteers but perhaps I may be able to temp you a little. Events that have happened in the past two years, with the output from the Battalion, THE SECOND/FOURTH. a 2/4 RAR introduced the Australian Tartan Military Sett to the Regimental Council, RESULT: Approved as the Royal Australian Regiment Tartan;
- b. Paper outlaying the career structure for the Regiment Pipes and Drums including a qualifying system, RESULT: Approved with minor amendments;



Pipe Major praying for more pipers.

c. An outlay structure for qualifying for Piper, Drummer level for future pay levels, RESULT: Under review Pay Levels 5 and 6. d. A change in the primary, secondary and third roles of employment. RESULT:

Primary role: Piper/Drummer/Bugler
Secondary role: Combat Medic (RAAMC Trg)

Third role: Infantryman, Inf/Specialist.

e. Submitted orders of dress to the Corps Council for review, RESULT: Approved 4 out of 6 orders of dress;

f. Submitted a plan to assist in the retention of Pipes and Drums members. (i.e., regular visits to overseas Tattoos, exchange of allied Pipers and Drummers), RESULT: Under review at Corps level.

g. The requirement for a Pipes and Drums wing at the School of Infantry with qualifications, Military and Civil, RESULT: Courses have been running for the past twelve months at the school with excellent results. Qualifications as follows:

- 1. Military, Commonwealth recognised;
- 2. Australian Pipe Band Federation;
- 3. Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association (A world wide qualification).

What else could you want? Thanks to all CO's of the Regiment, RSM's and Pipes and Drums Officers, they have developed a future for the Pipes and Drums after 20 years; and it owes its birth the THE BATTALION, what more could anyone want? So think about what talent you have and its easy, all you have to do is have the GUTS to have a go. Instead of listening to those so called mates that are

going to laugh at you when you mount that Jumbo Jet to CRETE, SCOTLAND, NEW ZEALAND, mind you you could stay and go to: BUTTERWORTH!!!!

I'm running a course early in 1991 and I'm looking for honest workers who won't wimp out of hard graft. Believe me we are going places in 91, 92, 93, 94 and on _ and it isn't BUTTERWORTH. So if you can handle it, prove it!!!

NO!! EXPERIENCE NEEDED, WE, THE REGIMENT WILL TEACH YOU. CONTACT: Pipe Major William Gall, P/M of 2/4 RAR Pipes and Drums, 25 years of experience to pass on for free, just be able to work!!!!

THE EVENTS THAT SHAPED THE GYM IN 1990

LCPL Edelman trained hard for his PTI Course, early in the year. His demanding regimen paid off with an A Pass for the course. The highlight of the year was the Battalion Boxing Tournament. The Gym staff were certainly glad to see heaps of beer, heaps of blood, heaps of guts (shown by the fighters) and heaps of tit, on the night.

Also in August we saw, Mr Chest, James make a conspicuous arrival to the Gym. He has proved that he has got what it takes, by working hard on his fitness and has shown an eagerness to learn everything he can about PT. Even daily kicks in the arse are subsiding.

Ede's and James recently spent two glorious weeks in the field with Mortars. Mortar Platoon used them as

work horses. The very considerate Mortars did explain that Ede's and James would have lost fitness if they weren't worked so hard.

Johno broke the Guinness Book of World Records for the most number of foot injuries over a 12 month period.

On a happier note, the prisoners in the 2/4 RAR cells have never had it so good. They've been receiving regular personalised boxing sessions. The only thing stopping them from becoming stars of the ring are the no boxing, no bleeding and no concussion chits they obtain.

Apart from being involved with the Wives Club, taking the kids at Kirwan Special Unit and conducting platoon PT the Gym Platoon say "We've had a good year".

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MILITARY SKILLS COMPETITION

The Battalion paid attention to the annual Military Skills competition in April. The event in 1990 changed in emphasis from previous years and was held in three phases. The first phase was shooting followed by a jog around the Battalion obstacle course as the second phase. The climax of the competition was section level work in the jungle near Koombaloomba Dam.

The concept tested the sections in endurance, battlecraft, weapon handling and leadership with events designed by the Battalion officers and Senior Non Commissioned officers.

The trophy for the winning team was collected by CPL Kelly on behalf of his section from C Company with the trophy for the top section across the obstacle course going to CPL Lampards' Recon Section.

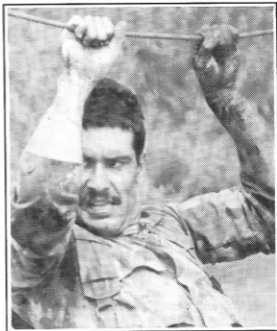
LCPL Bennett, Alert?



PTE Duncan at the Bar



CPL Wishart on the ropes



WHITSUNDAY
RENT A YACHT

EXERCISE SUMAN WARRIOR '90

Exercise SUMAN WARRIOR was a joint CPX involving soldiers from five nations and held in Malaysia, at least that was what we were told before we departed from Townsville. By the time the contingent returned from a 16 day stay each member had been exposed to a wide variety of cultural experience The contingent consisted of members from all Companies, for once Admin got a decent showing, many doing their job for the first time. Half a dozen from 3RAR and PTS came along so that there could be some Australians in the para demo on the opening ceremony and the lone 3 BDE representative (ex 2/4) finished the team.

Activities included a trip to Thailand, just an hour away; some enthusiastic sport which we lost; a hobos on the hill demonstration; and of course the CPX.

The Malay contingent went to a lot of trouble to ensure that their part of the show was well done. A re-enactment of the Japanese invasion on the Beach of Passionate Love, and a comprehensive display of traditional dancing in full costume were typical of the effort.

The CPX found the 2/4 HQ parked in a rubber plantation in the middle of a kampong in the rain. As the fast paced 2 days wore on, 2IC Admin thought that he would contribute to the hearts and minds effort by teaching the local children to play hopscotch, pity he got beaten.

Almost all took the opportunity to visit Thailand over

night. The favourite venue was a fairly "high class" hotel just across the border, where the service was so comprehensive that some managed to get all they wanted within the building. Others found that having been confronted with a pistol as encouragement to pay they had had all the adventure they needed for a night, and perhaps they should have stayed in the hotel.

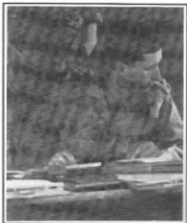
The Post Exercise Report will say that the objectives of examining interoperability between treaty partners was achieved. The trip did much more than that, it gave the participants a chance to critically look at the way other armies work and to experience the culture of a close neighbour.



Another jump Suman Warrior



The Land Commander visiting in Malaysia



*CAPT SMITH in the hot seat
Suman War*

BATTALION BIRTHDAY WEEK

And what a week it was!

The Battalion undertook a boxing night, a games night, a Battalion parade, a Freedom of the City parade and a Church parade followed by the Battalion Ball. And it only took four days!

The boxing night once again proved to be a most successful event with pugilists of varying degrees of skill practising the sweat out for the benefit of the Battalion. The Scpio Lodge Boxing Club was induced in the night as onlookers witnessed some very skillful boxing.

The three messes once again fought out the games night at the Edgar Towner VC Club without money. The overall winners were the soldiers of the ETVC Club.

The Battalion parade was conducted as the sun set. A very impressive display of drill and firing volleys culminated in a fireworks display as night fell. Those on parade were heartily congratulated for their efforts by the Colonel Commandant MAJGEN A.L. MORRISON, AO, DSO, MBE who also took the opportunity of presenting WO2 'Jock' Gall his warrant.

On the final day the Battalion exercised the right to the Freedom of the City of Townsville followed by the Church parade at the St. James Anglican Cathedral.

The close of celebrations was the annual Battalion Ball where everyone involved found time to relax and enjoy.



CSM D on the ball



Colour Party Church Parade



(Left) The Colonel Commandant MAJ GEN A.L. Morrison, AO, DSO, MBE opens the Historical Collection.



Padre Curnow on patrol

(Below) CPL Drayton discussing Recon techniques with PTE "Blue" Oldham



BATTALION SPORTING TEAMS

Australian Rules

The 1990 campaign for the inter-unit Australian Rules trophy started well with many believing that this was the year the drought would be broken. Indeed CPL Grace and CPL Bergwerf were heard to say, "If we don't win this year then I'm no judge of a football team". Bad luck Brian and Wayne.

Early victories were more like training turns for the 1RAR games the challenges for the Aust Rules warriors. Victory followed victory with the backline of Hatfield, Grundy and Robbo giving us a spring into attack. Indeed, Bob Hatfield "blossomed" toward the end of the season as he overcame injury.

Elvis is not dead!!! he is playing Centre Half Back for the Battalion team under the name of Mal Grey, supported by his partners the "nugget like" player Hally and Tucker from the workshop (not the sheltered workshop). Much of the reason we only lost three games all year.

The Centre Line was an example of flexibility with many players filling the Wing position. Bakes and Dunny would run all day on the games or training then again if you had pure red or pure white hair you would too. The two stalwart of the Centre Line were Jeff Rule (Centre), some say the best looking player — definitely one of the toughest and Drabbs the player/umpire. Drabbs known for dashing runs down the wing was also able to combine playing and umpiring, often not too successfully. The Half Forward Line was at times inspiration with Shaun O'Leary and Paddo producing what would only be called 'incredible' football. Both were known to say "everyone is entitled to an off day".

The Full Forward was that "Brick with eyes", Merro whose hands were second to none all year, he provided a focal point for attack.

The followers and utility player were the ball getters for the team. The small men of Stu Smith and Gracey always set the example in personal commitment, to the larger team members. The ruck roving team of Larks and George always worked hard for the ball. George had a superb season and hot favourite for Best and Fairest.

The talent discovery of the season was PTE Pain, D Coy, who combined well with the timeless talent of PTE Smith. The team received a late boost to its ranks with the dangerous CAPT Mark Nolan and the darting LT Dick Parker joining the squad. A special thanks or congratulations must go to those players such as PTE Wilson, PTE Garham, PTE Fricker who trained religiously and were always available for games but sat on the side line. Next year the commitment will pay off. To the coach CAPT Gavin Bourke a thank you, for the drive, enthusiasm which carried the team through some bad patches. A grand final victory was all you deserved. Rumour has it that it will be a player/coach role next year.

The support of SSGT Browne and the guest stars of CPL McQueen and PTE Brown showed that old men can still participate in contact sports.

The Battalion's Australian Rules team says goodbye to the services of Brian Grace after 7 years. He has captained and coached the team and been Best and Fairest and runner-up numerous times. Good luck in Singleton. We acknowledge all your effort, injuries and future arthritis in playing for the Battalion.

Rugby Union

Despite a lack of success in the Brigade Inter-Unit Rugby competition in 1990, the Battalion team displayed an attacking style of play and always provided excitement for the spectators. Forward play was much improved this year. Much of the credit for the improved forward play in 1990 must go to our coach Phil Gould. His knowledge and experience was appreciated. The year started off with our annual trip down to Ayr for the Burdekin 7-A-Side tournament. For the third time in succession the Battalion team won the plate final. Players to perform well during the tournament included Gerard Moody, Alan Thomas, Blair McLeon, Big Horny, Jim Petrie and Chuck Walker.

On the representative scene congratulations go to Gerard Moody, Mick Day, Glen Pennys, Chuck Walker, Steve King, Bambi Campbell and Hamish Robson who were selected in the Brigade team for the annual Jim Hesly Memorial match against Townsville.

A summary of our results were:

Prelim Games

vs 18 Fd Sqn — W 73-3
vs 2 Fd Sup Bn — D — not played
vs 4 Fd Regt — W 55-4
vs 1RAR — L 16-22
vs Minor Units — W 48-4
vs 3/4 Cav Regt — W 26-7

Series Finals

vs 1RAR — L 31-23
vs Minor Units — L 4-22

Our congratulations go to 1 RAR who won the championship by beating Minor Units in the Grand Final.

The 1990 Club Awards were:

Best and Fairest — Gerard Moody
Most Improved — Egan
Highest Pointscore — Colin Dixon

Apart from Phil Gould special thanks also go to our manager Peter Brooks and his helper Gary Jier.

INTER COY RUGBY

The 1990 Inter Coy Rugby competition was again fiercely contested. The final placings were:

1st	C Coy	(20)
2nd	Spt Coy	(16)
3rd	B Coy	(12)
4th	A Coy	(6)
5th	Admin Coy	(4)
6th	D Coy	(2)

Basketball

The 2/4 RAR Battalion Basketball team rebounded in 1990 with another Premiership win. Under the guidance of SGT 'Basketball is basic' Damen, the team glided through the year undefeated. Significant victories were posted against HQ Coy (68 vs 15), 4 Field Regt (48 vs 16), and 2 Field Supply Bn (25 vs 17). The team was well prepared for the grand final following two days of tone up and a team BBQ. Individual training was conducted by bouncer Bob Hatfield at OPUS One nite club.

During the grand final the Battalion team displayed consistent teamwork and superior fitness. Players

such as Flash Tucker and Rebound Robinson combined for numerous baskets to ensure that 2/4 RAR led from the start. B Copy Brown and Killer Kelly snatched all rebounds off the backboard to keep the team continuously in attack. At the request of the Battalion cheer squad Beast Hatfield was unleashed on to the court and slammed home our victory with his speed and aggression. The final score of 58 vs 13 was a true testimony to how skillful a game 2/4 RAR had produced. Well done to the Grand Final team. A sincere thanks to all Battalion members who trained with the Battalion side this year and to all who supported the games. The stage is set for the hatrick premiership in 1991.

Soccer

The Soccer season started with large attendances at training mainly due to the success the previous season when the Battalion emerged as undefeated Premiers.

Morale, fitness and commitment were especially high after our first competition game when 2/4 RAR trashed 1 RAR — 6-1, particularly as 1 RAR had given us such a hard game in the previous years Grand Final.

More good results followed as the team built on its good start to the season and as the Rugby and Aussie Rules teams started to stagger, attendances at Soccer games started to rise. It was pleasing to have the CO, Bn 2IC and RSM as regular spectators at games and I believe their attendance helped spur on the team. Although continuing to win games the team started to pick up injuries and several key players were missing for crucial games. However, our strong reserves who would probably have starred in any other team came to our rescue and the march to the Grand Final continued.

The team reached the Major Semi-Final without any real incident and easily accounted for 4 Fld Regt 6-1, to advance straight to the Grand Final. Unfortunately, we picked up more injuries to key players such as our Captain SGT Greg Murphy and Striker PTE Jock Richardson and we went into the Grand Final, again against 1 RAR, with some apprehension.

With a large crowd spurring on both teams, the Grand Final produced some of the best Soccer seen in the Brigade competition for several years. 1 RAR took the lead shortly before half time when a speculative lob left our goalkeeper stranded. After some stern words at half-time 2/4 RAR started to control the game and shortly afterwards LT Dave Michel levelled the scores. At fulltime the scores were locked at 1-1 and the game went into extra time.

Extra time confirmed why 2/4 RAR were the best team in the competition, when superior skill and team pride took over. PTE Dave Seivers scored two more goals to take the final score to 3-1. **TWO YEARS IN SUCCESSION THE TEAM WERE UNDEFEATED PREMIERS!!** I would like to pass on my thanks to several people for their efforts during the season. To SGT Greg Murphy for his leadership on the field and for all his efforts over the years as a member of the Bn Soccer team and wish him and his family all the best in their new posting in W.A. Also to LT Dave Michel for his coaching and organizational skills which were a large part of the teams success.

Lastly to all players whether first team regulars or reserves, thanks for your time and efforts and I hope you enjoyed the season as much as I did.

Award winners for the year were:

a. **BEST AND FAIREST** — PTE NOELEMES — Noels aggression and skill in mid-field proved to be a large part of the teams success and no player got the better of him.

b. **LEADING GOAL SCORER** — PTE DAVE SEIVERS — Dave scored some spectacular and much needed goals during the season, none more than his two goals in the Grand Final — a great way to finish the season!!

c. **BEST CLUBMAN** — PTE SHAWN GRELKE — a quiet achiever, never had a bad game and inspired confidence in the rest of the defence. Finally I would like to thank the QLD DEFENCE CREDIT UNION for their assistance with sponsorship during the season and hope that they continue to support the only successful football code in the Battalion.

L.M. HOOK

WO2

BN SOCCER OFFR 1990

Touch Football

1990 has been a memorable year for the Red-Men, two competitions were held this year with our sides making the Grand Final on each account. The winter competition was a very demanding league with all opposing sides proving to be worthy adversaries. The lads performed well and maintained an undefeated account throughout the competition. Unfortunately though, the awesome 5 Avn Regt proved too strong on the day of the Grand Final and had a narrow victory. Player of the competition went to CPL Colin Discon (Dicko) closely contested by SGT (Chuck) Walker, with great team support from SSGT (Gaza) Tiear, CPL Steve Brown, LT Moody (Moo) and LT Glenn Powys as well as the remainder of the side. Captain/Coach CPL Ted Simons believes the side was unfortunate with the end result of the season, and said when you lose players like CPL Thomas and CPL Waterhouse (Pissa) midway through the season it does make the task more difficult, the 5 AVN boys have been together for a number of years, however, I feel all the side performed well and bought credit to the Battalion in their sportsman's attitudes. Well done guys. The three day summer competition saw the Battalion divide into two sides, Opens led by CPL Steve Brown and an Over 30's side led by WO2 Tassie Graham, both teams performed exceptionally well and Resulted in a countback for 2nd and 3rd placing. The Over 30's won the countback and were given the opportunity of taking out the Grand Final against the awesome 5 Avn Regt, however, once again we were unfortunate and were beaten narrowly. Next year guys.

Individual talents and performances were rewarded by securing positions in the North Qld Defence Touch Sides, players included:



2/4 RAR Under 13's

Opens — CPL Steve Brown

CPL Phil Price

Over 30's — SSGT Geoff Lawman

SGT (Chuck) Walker

Over 35's — WO2 Tassie Graham

CPL Ted Simons

Best of luck men for SYDNEY and the AUSTRALIAN NATIONALS.

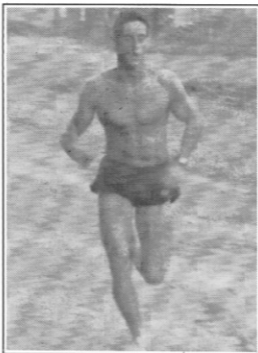
Cross Country

Even though most of us did not feel it as we ran them, 1990 was a most successful year for Cross Country in 2/4 RAR.

Unit Cross Country

The Unit Cross Country was run in March — on the day that Cyclone Ivor dumped 300mm of rain on Townsville. As OC C Coy started the race he advised that water wings and SCUBA equipment were optional. The course consisted of mud and thigh deep creeks but seemed to do little to slow LT Brad Horn who recorded the winning time of 28 minutes 54 seconds. Close behind and showing a clean pair of heels as well were second placegetter CPL Trevor Brown and bronze medalist PTE Bird. In all some 513 runners completed the course in appalling conditions.

At Company level the competition was close. B Coy were the eventual winners closely followed by D Coy. C Coy ran third showing even six weeks leave was not enough to slow them down.



CAPT HORN

Brigade Cross Country

2/4 RAR entered a strong 80 man team in the Brigade Cross Country held in May. The CO's instructions to the team were quite specific — "I know we cannot win, but we are to beat 1 RAR". As with the Unit Cross Country the Brigade race was held on a wet and unpleasant day after a weekend of heavy rain, and on a course a little longer than what the Unit ran.

The starters gun saw a flurry of red T-Shirts move to the front of the field. The finish line was also quickly swamped with 2/4 RAR team members. The first three places were taken by CPL Trevor Brown (in 33 minutes 04 seconds), LT Brad Horn and PTE Bird. Many more 2/4 RAR team members followed closely behind with most finishing in the top 100 in the Brigade.

The result for 2/4 RAR was outstanding. The Brigade Commander announced the results immediately after the event — 2/4 RAR first, followed by 103 Sig Sqn and

102 Fd Wksp — and yes the team did as the CO ordered — they beat 1 RAR who could only manage a distant fourth.

Well done to the team.

Hockey

1990 was a quiet year for Hockey in 2/4 RAR. Only a dedicated few in the Battalion turned up to either play or support. This small squad however, under the coaching of CPL Rob Palmer, acquitted themselves well and made it into the finals series. Unfortunately, we were knocked out of the finals by 1 RAR. In a close fought game we went down 2-1, with 1 RAR scoring their second goal in the last minute of the game.

Strong support throughout the season was provided to the Battalion team by stalwarts such as SGT

"Radar" Barker, LCPL "Buck" Rogers and LCPL Geoff Tulk. We also farewelled just before the finals, "old" team members LT Keith Turkington, LT Mick Collins and LCPL Frank Fersterer, all who left on postings, and PTE Doug Henderson who took his discharge. Thanks for your efforts for Battalion Hockey over the years. Thanks also for the rest of the guys who turned up and tried.

Inter-Company Hockey was not contested in 1990. Few Companies had sufficient players to make teams viable for a safe and well fought competition. Hopefully 1991 will see a resurrection of the game at this level.

Cricket

Like the Royal Family, Aussie Beer and Meat Pies, it's one of those Aussie institutions without which, we are told, the country would collapse. Certainly this grand old game has been played by the Poms for centuries. There is mention of King Edward the First's son playing Creag in the year 1272 AD, and in the county of Surrey, it's recorded that the local gentry played cricket in 1598 AD.

However, the Aussie, "Colonial Rabble", kicked the Poms in the guts when the famous Don Bradman shoved it right up "em". Not only have we recorded the highest runs of this century but we can even play under arm and get away with it.

Seriously, the task was there and we had to play to the best of our ability with what we could put together. Why the hell Admin Coy got a Scottish born, ten quid immigrant, to manage a Cricket team still has me beat. The players, thank God knew what they were doing and allowed the manager to share in the glories. The opening game was a great win and it felt good being on the winning side.

Without going through the wins and losses we man-

aged to reach the grand final against our old arch rival the "HEW HAW'S". They put up a good game and it was the best team we played against all season. During the games we had our own Don Bradman's, Greg Chappel's, Dennis Lilies' and Jeff Thompson's. These were: a.L.T O'Leary, LT Parker, SGT Heron, CPL Grace, PTE Callow, Lumpy, MacQueen, Petrie, Meredith, Hicksie, Brownie and many others who had a crack at the Battalion Cricket Team. It was a great effort from all.

OK we didn't win the grand final, but we didn't shame ourselves by losing badly. At least it was an Infantry Battalion that won it and no other unit outside the Corps.

I would like to personally thank all those players who assisted me through this season. At times I hadn't a clue what was going on, but their patience helped and "How to Play Cricket", by Bob Farmer. Thanks again.

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Volleyball

Spike and hit a ball over a net, you may well say any person can do that, and everybody did at the beginning of the year for the Battalion Volleyball team. The squad consolidated during the year and various coaches provided their personal touch to the development of the team.

The continuing problem of members being away at various times disadvantaged the team although the Battalion always provided strong opposition. The venue for this years competition was the John Herbert Fitness Centre and the high standard of facilities improved the skills of many players. The 1991 competition will again be played there.

The final against 1 RAR was led by CPL 'Pup' McLean, CPL 'Harro' Harris, CPL 'Pol' Lee and LT Larkey. The team in the final won three games and each game a whitewash.

During the year the Battalion team only lost two of ten games and showed they must have been one of the strongest sports represented by the Battalion.

About 30 people played volleyball for the team this year and thanks to their support. With the same support next year 2/4 RAR should be victorious on the Volleyball Court again in 1991.

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with Army ID.

BATTALION LIVE FIRE EXERCISE

The Battalion conducted the LFX at HRTA in July. Once again we were given great support from 108 Bty 4 Fd Regt, and B Sqn 3/4 Cav Regt and 15 Tp 18 Fd Sqn.

In 1990 the exercise included an air mobile insertion followed by a night defence shoot, APC battle run and a first light company attack.

A Battalion LFX is never a simple task and much appreciation is extended to B Sqn 3/4 Cav for support well beyond our expectations and those OC and CSM whose patience and professionalism made the organisation of the event run smoothly.

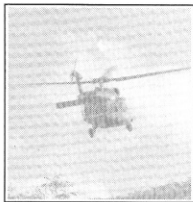


CAJ Smith on his way to the LFX

WHITSUNDAY
RENT A YACHT



SGT Meuleners, CPL Oreb



BATTALION SHOOTING TEAM

The red and black shooting team used 1990 to achieve their best results for many years. Much of this has been due to the consistent weekly shooting practise many team members have persevered with. First blood was drawn in the Champion Shot of the Army elimination practice held on 11 March 1990 at MT Stuart Rifle Range. 2/4 RAR filled five of the top ten scorers:

SGT R. HOLMES	1st place
CPL R. PLATT	4th place
PTE N. TRUMBLE	5th place
WO2 P. ORTH	7th place
SGT M. CHESTER	9th place

The inter company shooting competition provided a good team selection basis for 2/4 RAR participation in the NQ Area Inter Unit Shooting competition. This competition began with pistol shooting on 21 May 1990 in which 2/4 RAR secured third place. Successful individual pistol shooters were:

WO2 P. ORTH	4th place
PTE A. VOGEL	5th place

Rifle shooting was competed for 23-25 May 90. Being handicapped in having to supply such a large team compared to other Brigade units, 2/4 RAR performed well, achieving a close second to 16 Field Dental Unit in the Overall Champion Shooting Unit trophy and convincingly securing the Major Units Shooting trophy and the Falling Plate trophy. Again, individual performances were outstanding:

OVERALL SHOOTING RESULTS

SGT R. HOLMES	1st place
CPL R. PLATT	3rd place

MONTHLY MEDAL PRACTICE

SGT PHILLIPI	3rd place
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ELEMENTARY APPLICATION PRACTICE

CPL R. PLATT	1st place
SGT R. HOLMES	2nd place

SMR ADVANCED APPLICATION PRACTICE

CPL K. WEIR	1st place
LCPL RUDEFORTH	2nd place

APPLIED MARKSMAN PRACTICE (MODIFIED)

SGT HOLMES	3rd place
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The results of the NQ Area Inter Unit Shooting competition contributed directly to 2/4 RAR winning the Commanders Trophy for 1990. Consistent shooting by all team members and some excellent individual per-

formances caused these good results. Attention then switched to AASAM 90 and the team conducted a short training camp at Atherton Rifle Range prior to deployment to Brisbane on 3 June 1990. This year saw the deployment of one of the largest teams from 2/4 RAR to AASAM.

Team results from AASAM were:

RAR ASSOCIATION FALLING PLATE 2/4 RAR	1st place
NARRA OBSTACLE COURSE COMP 2/4 RAR	2nd place

Individual results at AASAM were:

TOP 100 ARMY SHOOTERS

SGT R. HOLMES	6th place
CPL R. PLATT	13th place

CHAMPION SHOT OF THE ARMY

CPL R. PLATT	6th place
SGT R. HOLMES	15th place

WEST AUSTRALIA MATCH

CPL R. PLATT	1st place
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NORTH QUEENSLAND MATCH

CPL R. PLATT	1st place
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SMG MATCH WO2 P. ORTH	5th place
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PISTOL MATCH WO2 P. ORTH	4th place
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THE SNIPER COMP

PTE TORRENS/CPL YOUNG	4th place
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Following successful participation in AASAM, SGT Holmes joined the Aust Defence Force Shooting Team to compete at Bisley in UK, and WO2 ORTH, SGT Holmes and CPL Weir were selected to trial for the Aust Army Team Brunei 91.

The end of 90 has seen continued achievement by 2/4 RAR shooters with several members representing the Army in the NQ Inter Service Shooting competition at MT Stuart on 19 October 1990. Individual results saw the Army team victorious:

THE RIFLE MATCH

WO2 P. ORTH	1st place
CPL K. WEIR	2nd place

THE PISTOL MATCH

LCPL M. REGAN	3rd place
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1990 will be the final year that 2/4 RAR uses the SLR. With continued training and significant effort by individuals the future of shooting in the Battalion rests well. Well done to all shooters and those that have assisted the team this year.

LADIES ASSOCIATION

Looking back over the year's activities it has certainly been a busy year for the ladies of the 2/4 RAR Ladies Association. The monthly morning teas included tennis, a video morning, a special mothers day, a lingerie party, food bingo, a craft morning and a Christmas fun morning. The morning teas on all occasions were as delicious as they were plentiful — our sincere thanks to the Catering Staff for their support.

As well as the morning teas the ladies were involved in fund raising with a lamington drive and an Easter raffle. Over \$850 was raised and donated to the Kapooka Chapel Appeal, the Pipes and Drums and the Salvation Army Pop-In room.

Once again the yearly swimming carnival was hotly contested by the ladies. Unfortunately, the ladies were unable to return with the cup but did come a credible third and had a lot of fun. The major event of the year was the Fashion Parade on the 15th June, which was sponsored by K-Mart. Only top models from the Unit were hand picked to model a variety of clothes ranging from swimwear and sleepwear to evening wear. This was a most entertaining family night with some excellent prizes won. A special thanks must go to Coralie Richardson for her time and effort in organising a most successful evening.

We wish all the ladies leaving a fond farewell and to those ladies staying an invitation to join us next year.



The Ladies



PTE Hawkin with his head facing the rear



I feel sick!



SGT Brady applies "doorman" techniques



Vonxanten's Escort Service



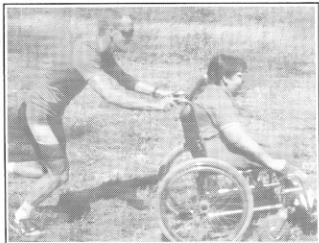
RSM



"Alice" Pack



Pedestrian Crossing



CPL Pickering on the run

E.T.V.C.C. COMMITTEE

