

MORTAR PLATOON

1994 has been a year of mixed results for the Battalions Senior Platoon. There was a rotation of almost every key appointments at the beginning of 1994. There was also an expansion from 3 to 4 sections. These factors indicated the requirement for a greater than normal settling in the early period of the year. Due to the huge commitments the Battalion had this period was unfortunately reduced. To the credit of you all, mortars pushed on with a CAN DO attitude to overcome huge obstacles and achieve above average results in all areas.

Training Highlights

1994 saw Mortar Platoon break new ground in several areas. Most notable of these were:

- CAPT McAuliffe submission to School of Infantry on revised templating rules for adjusted mortar fire
- Functioning as a Platoon of 4 sections/8 tubes
- Effectively deploying and redeploying in dry and live fire situations from Armoured Personnel Carrier, Blackhawks, 6 x 6 Landrovers and Manpack;
- Deploying elements of the Mortar Line out of a base plate position, by Blackhawk, while the remainder of the Line continued to Live Fire
- Functioning as a combined Motorized/Mechanized Platoon for a Cavalry Live Fire Exercise
- Effectively adjusting fire by night, without illumination, using a combination of Kiowa Air Operations with Night Vision Goggles and Recon Platoon with Thermal Imager
- Deploying Sections Under Command of Rifle Company as per the dispersed operations doctrine

Congratulations

We were the only Platoon to have 3 Sections finish in the Top 10 on Military Skills 94.

PTE Rhodes finally promoted to LCPL (The General lives on).

Farewells

The following Maggots moved on during or at the end of 1994:

Discharge

PTEs Smith, Calkin, McGuinness, Crace & Joyce

Posted

CAPT McAuliffe (RMC) - LT Webb (Promotion/Darwin) - SGT Logan (B Company) - SGT Grimes (?) - SGT Stephens (JLTC) - CPL Robertson (Injured/Admin Company) - LCPL Brace (D Company) - LCPL Marsh (Main Q) PTEs Snidgers (B Coy/Promotion) - Kipping (C Company/Promotion) Bell (B or C Company/Promotion) - Donaldson (SASR) - Pain & Scott (Clerical) - Hall (Transport Platoon) - Bradshaw (D Company)

Things we'd like to see in 95

- A Platoon Boat Live Fire Exercise
- LCPL Cowen promoted
- All new Command Post Operators come from our Command Post Operator's Assistant
- McNamees hat size
- Pope & Kerp whispering
- Neilsen hat size
- Mols write a book "101 ways to cook your enemy"
- CPL Smith invited to the annual Policeman's Ball
- Bells Nazi Party Membership Card

To all the Maggots past, present and future remember

"If they aren't a maggots they don't have a clue".

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MORTAR Platoon "MAGGOTS" 2/4 RAR LAVARACK BARRACKS - 1994

Front Row :- MICK 1, BRIAN, MICK 2, RPSO, BOSS WAM, SCHMIDTY, SCANNERS, LUCKY
 Second Row :- DUKE, BIG BILLY, MOLSY, URLS, MUNNY, PROCEY, BOWKS, STEVE, POPEY, MR CRACE, Q WALLA, ROO
 Back Row :- ALBY, KIPPO, BURKEY, PTE G. SNUJERS, MACKA, POWELLY, NEILO, NAMEE, MORRIE



Mortars in action - TFTA 94



Mortar Platoon deployment from FSB Joan