

Roping with A

THE QM IN ANOTHER ROLE. HIS HELP
WAS INVALUABLE



Immediately following the Colours Parade, A Coy took steps to quickly get the soldiers back to earth and switched on again. This was very successfully achieved by bowling each individual soldier off a ninety foot vertical cliff and leaving the rest up to him.

The aim of this activity was to teach some basic roping techniques and to boost each soldier's self-confidence. Both these aims were very successfully achieved.

Two methods of mechanical roping were taught, "Karabiner Run Down" and "Rapel". Both these methods required the use of a body line, a karabiner, a pair of heavy duty gloves and a 90 foot length of $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch

extra hard lay manila rope, and a ton of intestinal fortitude.

It was soon evident that A Coy was going to take to roping as they took to boats on the Katherine River.

To see Jock Yule sprinting down the cliff with an air of gay abandon as a sight to behold. Cpls Smith, Torney and Campaign were also found to be people who liked keeping themselves in the air over things, which relieves their OC of that responsibility in the future. Even the old man of A Coy (CSM) was seen to throw himself into the face of death on numerous occasions.

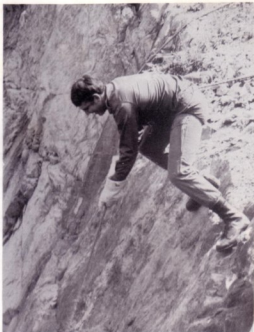
Naturally enough, there were some members who were a little more timid, but they all had a go which

was to their credit.

Each platoon spent a full day on the cliffs and, as in all Army activities, just as the soldiers were really starting to enjoy themselves, the activity had to be called off.

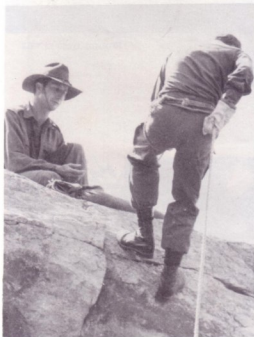
A Coy's thanks go to the QM whose roping ability and qualifications made it all possible and to the 10 and others who did much to make it a very successful activity. It must be noted that the activity received a good TV coverage on the ABC National News.

Hopefully, the art of roping and rappelling will not stop there. The next logical step is to rapel from helicopters and with a rappelling Instructor in the Coy. A Coy should be doing this during 1977.



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