

# D COMPANY

1. Delta Coy started the year with a high turnover of personnel and the influx of new faces has continued throughout the year. Individual training, shooting and PT were the order in the early stages of the training year, progressing to more complex and interesting training as the year progressed. Coy spirit developed very early in the year and this is reflected by the Coy's results in sport and training and also accounts for a high level of moral within the Coy.

## SPORT

2. The Coy has performed particularly well in sport this year and a keen competitive spirit has been evident in all areas of sport. Our more notable achievements were in the following sports in which Delta Coy excelled:

- a. Touch Rugby
- b. Australian Rules
- c. Soccer
- d. Orienteering

## SHOOTING

3. A week at Mt Vince rifle range in May produced some excellent shooting results. The overall standard of shooting in the Coy was very high and this was evident when 37 members of the Coy qualified for the crossed rifles award. A relaxed approach and a variety in training and entertainment provided the right atmosphere to achieve these results.

## MILITARY SKILLS COMPETITION

4. The Coy trained very hard for the Mil Skills competition but unfortunately the final results did not reflect the high standards achieved. Eleven platoon did however come third overall as a platoon. A good effort on their part.

## EX WANTOK WARRIOR

5. The Coy's trip to PNG in June was our most interesting and enjoyable training experience. The contingent itself numbered 120 people with attachments from the following units:

- a. 12 aviators from 162 and 173 Gen Spt Sqns, including 3 LOH and one Porter aircraft.
- b. 4 ARES soldiers from 31 IRC and 42 RQR.
- c. 5 soldiers from HQ Coy 3 BDE.
- d. A section of Pnrs and a Sig det from Spt Coy.
- e. 4 cooks, a medic and a driver from Admin Coy.

6. The exercise was conducted in six phases:

- a. Phase one — deployment by air to Port Moresby by RAAF C130 aircraft 2 Jun 85.



*Maj I. Robinson, OC D Coy congratulates Pte Richards and other Marksmen for top shooting results*

b. Phase two — acclimatization and familiarisation at Port Moresby, in particular at Taurama Bks 3-8 Jun 85.

c. Phase three — field trg 9-15 Jun 85.

d. Phase four — adventure trg 16-22 Jun 85.

e. Phase five — social activities and preparation for RTU 23-27 Jun 85.

f. Phase six — redeployment to Townsville by RAAF 707 and C130 aircraft.

7. Phase one was achieved without any dramas and all our people and equipment arrived safely in Port Moresby. Phase two was an interesting experience and was enjoyed by all members of the Coy. 1 RPIR made us feel welcome and provided useful support to us. The Coy was quick to establish which were the worthwhile places of entertainment in Port Moresby. The Port Moresby Royal Show attracted our attention and beach bar-be-ques became a popular evening past time.

8. Phase three had all the potential for success except for one unaccounted factor. That being the mites in the jungle at Goldie River are cannibals. The field training exercise had to be cut short as a large percentage of the Coy became infected from the many mite bites received. Prior to the bites becoming unbearable though, some useful training was achieved and some handy lessons in field craft were learnt. Once again, the support form 1 RPIR in providing some of their NCO's during this phase for liaison and local input, proved invaluable. Not all the Coy were effected by mites during this phase. A group of 18 soldiers, exercising in a different area in support of a PNGDF recruit course, experienced slightly more comfortable conditions but also benefitted by the interaction with soldiers from the PNGDF.

9. During phase four, the Coy group became separated as small groups of adventurers left for different parts of PNG. The activities undertaken during this phase were as follows:

- a. diving at Madang
- b. white water rafting in the central highlands,
- c. a Kokoda Trail walk,
- d. fishing trips from local villages, and
- e. day excursions around Port Moresby.

All activities undertaken proved to be exciting and well worth the time and money.

10. Phase five saw a number of our soldiers involved in the South Pacific Hobby Cat championships. The Coy was approached by the competition organisers who asked for assistance to man the officials boats and perform time keeping tasks. The Coy was more than happy to assist and the soldiers involved reaped huge social benefits. Also during this phase a national curfew was imposed and the Coy experienced the effect this had on the local population of Port Moresby. Farewell functions were the order of the day during this phase. The Coy hosted an all ranks bar-be-que and the Officers and Sergeants hosted appropriate functions in their respective messes.

11. After four weeks in PNG, the Coy was relieved



*"Beachcombers PNG"*

to commence phase six, the return to Townsville and a more sedate lifestyle.

12. Wantok Warrior was a tremendous success and was enjoyed by all involved. The exercise was highlighted by the social and professional exchanges and the experience of the climatic and geographic differences between North Queensland and PNG. Delta Coy recommends this exercise to future participating Coy's.

13. 1985 has been an interesting and challenging year for Delta Coy. The remaining weeks will be dedicated to specialist training and then a well earned break for Christmas. We look forward to another challenging year in 1986.

Regards to all,  
The Road Runners.

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# 10 PLATOON D COMPANY

Well what a year for 10. A fairly leisurely start to the year was brought to an abrupt end in April by Ex "Eager Eaglet". During this exercise we managed to quite categorically prove that a platoon in marching order cannot catch 4 men in patrol order, with a 400 m head start and a waiting Land Rover. June was a big month for 10 with 4 weeks spent in sunny PNG where Sgt Nagle showed us how to cut down trees with a para flare.

Living in the close confines at Taurama Barracks also gave us an insight into the private habits of certain of our living out and married members. Who can forget rising in mornings to be greeted by the sight of Tom Maddigan in various states of undress, draped unceremoniously across (or under) his bed and looking considerably worse for wear.

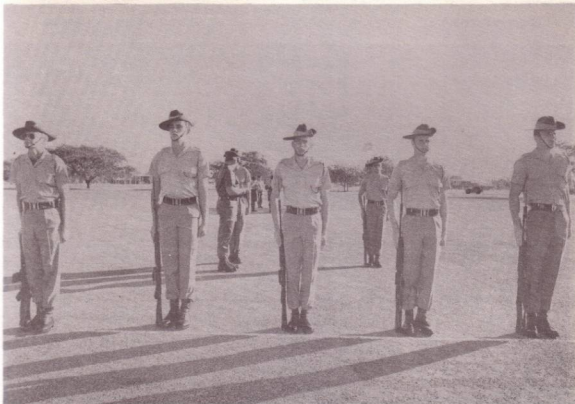
July and August were fairly quiet aside from Mil Skills which was something of a disappointment

as we were only able to field one section. "Ex Swift Eagle" was up on us in Mid-August and lessons learnt included the nights at Mt Spec do get cold, particularly during ambushes, Sawmills marked on the map are not necessarily in the same place on the ground.

We must also thank Les Lindgren for the opportunity to carry his section's packs whilst at Mt Spec and hope that the chance for us to return the favour occurs in the not too distant future.

At this stage 10 Pl looks like it has been in the wars with our contingent of walking wounded. Injury hasn't interfered with our club pro's golfing lessons. Those lunchtime chipping sessions have certainly paid dividends with the Battalion Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 5 golfers being in 10 Pl.

10 Platoon has undergone a major face change this year and we are all looking forward both new and old members, to a great year in 1986.



# 11 PLATOON D COMPANY

The platoon's trip to PNG with Delta Coy must be regarded as the highlight of an excellent year for "the chosen ones". As ambassadors for our country we were seen at all the right places and graciously accepted the invitation to visit the local South Pacific Brewery.

Here we experienced the locals hospitality to the full; we sampled SP for some time purely out of courtesy!

The field exercise was a total experience in itself (long live the PNG mite!) with the Brigadier experiencing it personally. Some of the platoon who walked the Kokoda Trail concluded that the locals must be civilized after encountering a rugby field in the centre of a village.

After being let loose on the "city" of Port Moresby the authorities decided for our own safety (or theirs, who knows?) to impose a "national curfew". But running true to form the road runners found a way around it.

All in all a great time was had and the immortal words still ring in our ears — "Pass through!"

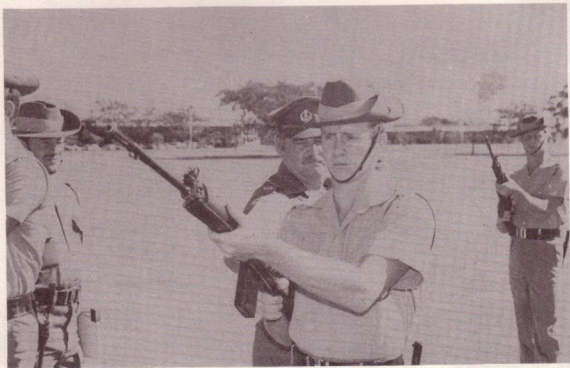
During a recent exercise one number of the platoon decided to trial a new method of load carrying. The STO was extensively modified to hang below the buttock so as to relieve pressure on the back.

After much trialling (and counselling from other members of the platoon) this method of equipment carriage was abandoned.

The platoon also managed to "bag" a motorcyclist who unwittingly stopped in the middle of the platoon's ambush. He was coaxed to leave with a quick burst.

And finally we can't fail to mention our platoon commander who set such a blistering pace in the 400 m sprint during the athletic carnival, he had to be carried off minus the soles of his feet.

Needless to say, he won. Not a bad year.



*Pte Henry turning it on for Mil Skills*

# 12 PLATOON D COMPANY

The Dirty Dozen had a quiet beginning in 1985. A skeleton of its former glory, it began again to recruit only the best that Singleton had to offer. Commanded by Combat Wombat with his side kick Doggie Howells, the Dozen blazed a trail to Tully to start the year's programme. Returning from a successful but wet few weeks, where future Dirty Diggers were initiated into the platoon; we pondered the parting pleasures of Tully Gully — especially Pommy's arousing experience with 2 diggers.

Having gotten used to the dark, we leaped at the prospect of a few night navex's. Regardless of Chips' radical new methods of navigation we eventually found our way.

Ex Eager Eaglet was the Dozen's first chance to work with choppers for '85. Many good lessons were learnt, in particular — Lofty found out that you should always take your oilskin to picquet, not the other way round.

The big event of '85, apart from Davo's collection of sign posts, was the cultural exchange. How

can we forget Rapo's nocturnal accidents; the cozy sleeping arrangements of Pommy, Fearless Freddy and Scum Runner; Von Loeben/Gibson/Von Gibson's experiments with personal hygiene, and Bear Wolf's coloured playmate.

We would like to thank Bravo company for joining us in the scenic tour of Paluma Dam and hope we can do it again next year.

Some notable events of 1985 were:

1. Thommo's frantic rush for the Herc.
2. Cuddles meets the man of his dreams at the Bank.
3. Rod the Mod's insistence that TASMANIAN'S AREN'T DUMM! He can't help his pointy head.
4. The new snake, the Big I and his bastard card (only 20 Toya).
5. Scratcher Parr and Itchy Thomson's communal shaving sessions.
6. Seeing Lizard.

The Dirty Dozen can look forward to another profitable year in the Keena Klub.



*Ex Wantok Warrior PNG*



*PT Sessions go on*