

FOREWORD

by

Lieutenant Colonel P.S. O'Sullivan, M.B.E.



When we came together for the first time at the beginning of this year, I told you how pleased and privileged I felt at being given the opportunity to return to the Battalion as the CO. It is your performance and achievements which make this such a rewarding job for me, and I am glad that I can express my appreciation for your efforts in this Magazine which will be a permanent record of our exploits in 1985.

Few endeavours run completely smoothly and ours is no exception. We've had our high and low points during the year, but I am greatly encouraged by the manner in which you have always bounced back from the low ones. Our failure to satisfy the requirements of the first ODF check was a professional disappointment, but I commend you all for the way you rallied and dealt so convincingly with the retest. It is a fact that we have not enjoyed extensive success in the various Brigade sporting competitions. However, I am more than satisfied with the way you have competed and with the strong team spirit which is evident amongst both the players and the supporters.

For me, 1985 has been a year which has confirmed my belief in the traditions of our Regiment and in the quality of the professional Infantryman. I am proud to be able to say that I command the men of the Second/Fourth Battalion and I urge you to take pride in yourselves as soldiers, because you

have earned that right this year.

Achievement of the standards required of the ODF Priority Battalion extracts a cost which is borne by our families, both near and afar. To all the families I extend my thanks for the support you give the Battalion and for bearing with the considerable demands made of your men. Additionally, I am appreciative of the important role played by the Ladies Association in the life of the Battalion.

At this year fast fades into obscurity, I encourage you to browse through the pages of this magazine to recapture some of those moments which have made this year memorable — one way or another — for you. To those who are leaving the Battalion, I offer my thanks for your contribution to the Unit, and trust that this magazine will be an important memento of your service in 2/4 RAR.

I wish you all well for the coming Festive Season. I trust that you and your families will enjoy a good rest over the holidays, have a very happy Christmas and return refreshed and ready to launch into 1986 — a year of new faces, places, challenges and rewards.

P.S. O'Sullivan