

## FLASH-BANG PLATOON MORTARS 1983

1983! Well what's in a year? The Platoon started off with several live firing exercises to get rid of the good living and Christmas cheer, but, as you can be seen with Cadge (SMITH CAJ) it's still there in all its glory despite his determination to get posted to ECHO (Admin) Coy for a better PT programme.

As the year flashed past, we found ourselves up there with the Malanda cows on the range week.

A transport problem forced us to walk 257 kms to a town 32km away. However, it was all worth it thanks to Fruit Bat (Wilcott) for carrying a house brick after gobbing off about the weight of his pack.

May brought us Ex Maxi Bungle sorry Beagle named after a dog, but that didn't reflect the exercise did it lads? It took four PI attacks to take out one Mortar Section (not mentioning it was understrength). For you Daisy (Cpl Burnett), you were not alone when you were captured. Buchino saved the whole thing, "but they did see you first".

Pushing North a little to Coen, C/S 8 wants to thank the person or persons who kept shouting 'Hot Dog' as we were pulling out for another Ready Reaction on Road Convoy Protection. We never did see or taste one of those Hot Dogs, however, we got an awful lot of D's and E's.

We must thank CSM B also for not letting us forget the aiming post when we ceased fire down by the bridge. The Main Roads Dept is still looking for their Survey Post.

'When in doubt, double the amount', is a term used for demolitions, not for ADD 1000 and fire for effect (dedicated to OC SPT) when attacking Elagoola Station.

Finally from Coen, will CSMA please return Gravo's (Pte Graveson) C Pack, that was like taking candy from a Sig.

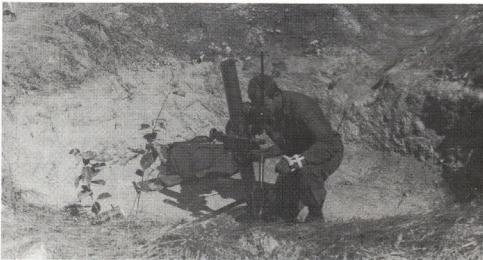
August nearly brought tears to some and joy to most when Pricey played Russian Roulette with a 3" Mortar Bomb. Next time could you please move a little farther away from us as we don't really mind the Flash, Bang but you can keep the schrapnel. That was also another transport problem that cost us 25km.

As the rest of the year vapourised around us it became a little hazy or was it just dust. We too were there for K83, but before we go on, please, B Coy, can we eat our rations now, and give us back just a little water.

K83. No comment from the Air Protection PI, the Area Protection PI, the Perimeter Protection PI, the Convoy Protection PI and Rent-a-Driver PI, but did anyone see Mortar PI.

On K83 C/S 87 was at his best (what — is that right — well I got those XJX?!) as he rolled back under his vehicle.

We'll sign off now for 1983, but remember — we're not switched off .....yet!



*Pte Oosterhuis and his hole*