

# C COMPANY

## 8 PLATOON IN '82

Our main task in '82 was the reorganization and assimilation of new blood into the PL; Spt Coy, Admin Coy and Civy Street having claimed many of the veterans of the Champion 1981 PL. Apart from the highly trained reinforcements from Singleton, we received CPL 'do a deal' Roncevich from Sig PL and Lt 'fix swords' Phillis from RMC. Sgt Russell made a couple of short appearances during the year between courses and pre-course study, to let the boys know who the mythical Clem was.

Highlights of the year included our romp through the jungles around Lake 'Koombaloomba' taking three days to reach the C Coy AO. The Mackay shooting was noted for the fine scores recorded, after the boys had spent an evening talking and drinking the occasional cold ale. September saw us indulging in a nature romp from Kangaroo Hills to Mt Spec, and incidentally suffering the highest casualty figures since WWII.

To sum up, 1982 has been a year of ups and downs with numerous high points (Cpl Neville's knee job) and some low points (the PI missing out on the Battle Efficiency Course at Canungra for adventure training). All our energies are now being directed to the serious business of preparing for Malaya and Christmas leave.

LCPL M. Stokes

## 9 PL

The year started with the PI going down to Singleton as enemy for SASR. Although it rained and was very cold, a couple of nights at Kings Cross helped raise our 'spirits'.

The Coy live fire proved to us, that besides having a good time firing various weapons, we could actually hit the target.

All the lads had plenty of comment on the Battalion Exercise, especially about the little climb we had at the start.

Now we come to the Brigade Exercise, in which Cpl Akatow's section won acclaim by deciding to clear a killing area by burning 'out' Kangaroo Hills. Although the enemy were very elusive, we managed to nab one or two, even though most of us were killed in the Bn attack. A special mention should go to our boss Mr Elliott, who took up a brilliant fire posn. in the middle of a fire lane.

9 PI has changed much over the last six months, the most dramatic change being the addition of several new members who are already fitting in well.

We wish to thank our PI Sgt who is off to England next year, and also to our boss who turned 20 years old this year. We hope that Pioneers will not overwork him next year.

CPL C.I. Skaines

## 7 PL NOTES

### LCPL 'SNAKE' KELLY

This year started off pretty much the same as any other with new, dumb, green jubes marching in knowing only the basics of soldiering and even less of common sense. By the end of the year, after a lot of work, they had turned into more mature and competent soldiers.

As well as new men to the PL we welcomed a new PLCOMD and PLSGT and with their combined experience and knowledge the PL prospered. Our first main EX of the year was Tully. Much was learnt during this trip including how to dig a ..... pit. (One of the new PL members was told to dig a ..... pit for the sect and he dug 7 little holes, one for each member of the sect. All that was missing were nametags).

We then went and froze at Koobooloomba Dam. it was a cold EX as SGT Nobbs in his lightweight sleeping bag will attest.

Our next trip was to Mt Vince Rifle Range where we identified some marksmen amongst the jubes. From Mackay we sent a sect to Shoalwater Bay for Ex Silver Dollar. This was a very interesting 14 day exercise as we got an opportunity to work with Leopards.

After the major BDE exercise (which we will let everyone else brag about) we went to Puckapunyal to play enemy for OCS. Victorian weather was kind for a change and good lessons were learnt by all, including the man who was stolen from the perimeter.

Now courses have started it is a good time to take a break and rest before the Mil Skills. Next year we are off to Malaya for 3 months and we reckon we deserve it because this year has been very successful for us (and besides we are nice blokes — you ask us).

(D. Kelly)

LCPL

Resident Reptile

