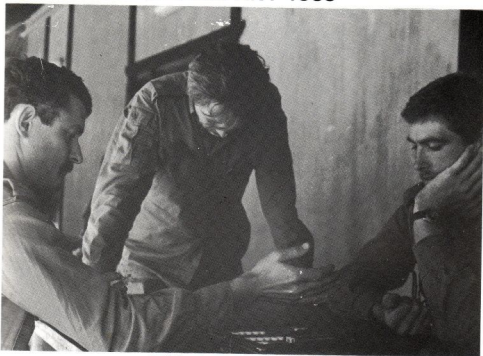


A COMPANY 1983



Maj Wilson, Capt Moxham and Lt Bourke K83

1983 looked a busy one from the start, in the telling it proved to be just that with some notable successes and generally satisfying results.

The Company had the dubious honour of being first company "on line" for ODF Company Group, and despite our tension/anticipation of some form of call out, all remained quiet.

Our training began with Close Country Operations at Mount Spec, and a week's shooting at Mackay (if only fresh green prawns were available in Townsville); the less said about some of the shooting the better, however, we managed 16 marksman badges for the Company and came second to B Company.

April saw us wincing under OIC Gases and Torture, Lt D. Harper, (BN NBCD Officer), but little did we know what was to follow on Exercise 'Maxi Beagle'; 6km TOPP 2 and 8km TOPP 3.

Exercise Northern Run, Coen, in hindsight, certainly proved to be the most successful of our Battalion activities. Everyone enjoyed the variety of tasks and it was worth while, if only for OC1 PL's pure love of flying and Sunray Minor 3 PL's emulation of OC 1 PL (without the plane ride) whilst touring Coen.

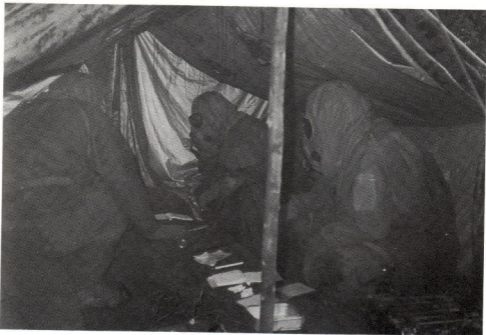
Kangaroo 83 was challenging but frustrating. We (i.e. 2 PL) were fortunate in having a large contact on Day Two, but for the remainder we dogged in the Kamarian's footsteps but were never in the right spot at the right time.



Is this TOPP 2 or TOPP 3



Coy HQ — who are they?



A Coy CP during 'Maxi Beagle'

Statistically it has been an interesting year, we have had:-

- 9 — Discharges
- 43 — March-ins (40% Turnover)
- 6 — Farewells — Capt Moxham
WO2 Dabinett
SSgt Legge
Sgt Taylor
Sgt Smith
Sgt Schwerdferger
- 10 — Promotions — 1 to Sgt
3 to Cpl
4 to Lcpl
2 to Pte
- 8 — Births

Our thanks go to the regulars from SIG, MED and TPT PL for their professional assistance throughout the year.

To wrap up the year we are working through December as ODF Priority Coy; a few however are fortunate enough to be attending our Freefall Parachute and Diving Courses.

To all members of the Battalion and their families, best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.



A Coy on patrol

2 PL NOTES

As with past years, the beginning of the year began with a big shuffle in our manning. Everyone from number four rifleman (when we had one) to Platoon Commander, have either moved into, out of, or about the 'Mighty 2'. Variety is always the spice of life.

May '83 saw the start of our present manning with new Platoon Commander, Platoon Sergeant, two new Section Commanders and a new Section 2IC.

A year of hard training and exercises had been promised, and began with a week's shooting at Mount Vince. Results were generally good with all members of the Platoon beating the OC (lowest score was 46!).

Other exercises of note throughout the year included Company training exercises and the big ones:

**MAXI BEAGLE
NORTHERN RUN, and
KANGAROO '83.**

Many important lessons were learnt during these exercises, in particular:

- the joys of tactical flying by CI30;
- what is meant by 'Combat Loading';
- that it takes \$20,000 a year to run a 77 set!;
- that Company Commanders, Platoon Commanders and Platoon Sergeants are not invincible to 'anti-pers mines' (or even purple puffers!);
- Platoons can operate effectively, even when half its strength is KIA, and RAAF and 2 Platoon can live in harmony, but not in the Sexchange Hotel.