

DELTA COMPANY

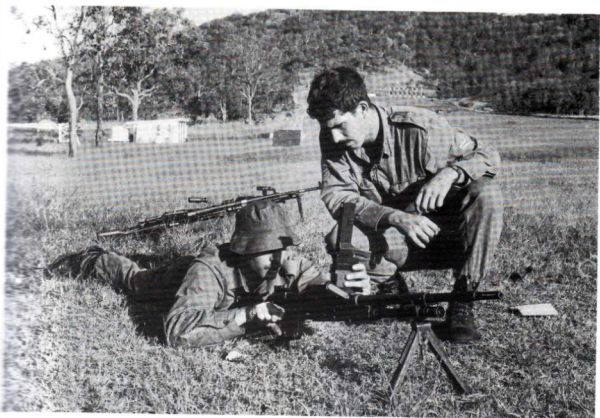
Although the Regimental Motto reads "Duty First" one could not be blamed in Delta Company for thinking that perhaps it really was "Duties First". Cleverly disguised as rear details or composite duties, Delta Company was not to be fooled or discouraged from getting some training done. The first part of the year lived up to this motto and it was some time before the company could not be seen holding the fort or washing the dishes.

Mount Vince and Exercise Long Shot provided an opportunity for the company to show its skills. Some good shooting was displayed and 25 qualified for their crossed rifles (even some Platoon Commanders). Congratulations to Lcpl (Tats) Talty on achieving top shot.

It has been rumoured around the traps that some people are scared of insect repellent in grey cans with a yellow band around them (good one Ted!) A report that Sgt Howard's gas chamber was last seen in a gust of wind brought a smile to everyone's face. Gas training did catch the attention of nearly everyone in the Battalion as they asked, "who are those ape like creatures disappearing in the dim light of dusk".

With May came fine weather everywhere, except Tully. FFBS provided the first real opportunity for the company to train away from Lavarack, and the Deltones put their backs to the wall and produced a good result. With nine of the company on a three month Musorian holiday in the beautiful Tully Hotel it could be said that the war was won on both sides. 10 Pl once realizing they weren't in "Disneyland" or "on drugs" hooked in even if their boss could not see it. 11 Pl notables showed the way with "Robbo" giving an "almost" perfect demonstration of sighting a claymore and "Vinnie" displaying his advanced skills in stealth and mountain climbing. Were 12 Pl at Tully or out pig hunting? Twelve learnt to deal with the enemy, the jungle and the rats.

At last High Range again, Exercise Sting, and company field firing. An excellent week that brought out the beast in everyone. Training started with individual ranges and concluded with platoon attacks that provided some interesting reactions that sharpened everyone's skills and reflexes — even the OC's (right Haynsiel) To say that the "gunners" owned the range and Delta Company burnt it down



Cpl Feeney instructs Pte Snell on the L7.

would probably hit the nail on the head. Needless to say the fire was put out, as was Ted Howard.

A change in pace and the company geared up for an onslaught on the mil skills competition. Somebody said Eddy Schlegal had tickets on his section. Good try Eddy! Some hard work was put into preparation, however the opposition proved too strong.

To the main event, and it was standing room only on the trucks to High Range, (heard that name before), and Northern Warrior. Defence was the first phase for the company. A valuable experience in excavation and geology what with the constant battle of man against rock. Even one of the pioneers found the rubble a bit hard on the ankles. Score: Mother Earth - 13 entrenching tools and 6 picks, Man 35 pits. A shower provided by the Decontamination Unit cleaned up the first phase. Does the 2IC really enjoy rolling around in the mud?

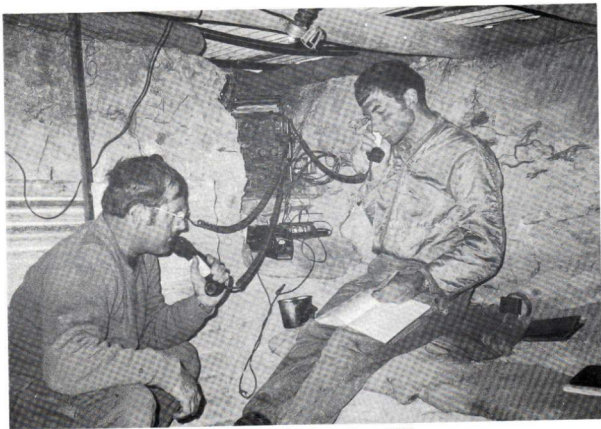
The next adventure, the air training phase saw the team fly into Grasshopper Sector. Sadly short of air time the company spent more time on foot than expected. 12 PI got in some mountaineering which would later prove invaluable at Mount Spec, and the OC conducted maggot identification training during the battle. This phase provided air resupplies which, thanks to the hard working Delta Company Supermarket Rep, were complete with mail and the odd love letter.

On to the APC phase and the Coy Live Fire Attack both of which provided valuable training and brought out good lessons, like where not to leave a brew mug when working APC's. At last a change of scenery. The Deltones led the Bn into Mt. Spec and the jungle, a pleasant change from High Range. We lived in the jungle and worshipped the God that bought us our resupply. Was that the "chuck wagon driver" seen throwing full bags of rations at Blue Johnson from the chopper? 12PI were last seen on the 28th and reports were received of tiger country, roping and repelling with jungle vines, and something about "Raiders of the Lost Path". The Bde Attack concluded the exercise with Delta Company being employed in the now familiar role of fire fighters.

Sport in 1984 for the Deltones looked promising with a strong showing in water polo and the makings of three strong football teams. The soccer team did us proud by taking out the trophy and providing strong representation in the Bde side. Rugby was the reverse with so many of our players in representative sides that the team became sadly depleted, whilst a good performance by the Australian Rules team was only blemished by them being unfortunately beaten in their last match. Well done to all our sporties who produced the goods in '84, and to all those who covered for them.



Pte Cadzow and Pte Oreb "dixie-bash" at Mt. Vince.



OC Delta and Cpl Dzienisz in defence, HRTA.

TEN PLATOON IN REVIEW

Ten lost some people this year.

e.g. Kevin Warke wanted to be a Lcpl.

Tats wanted to be a civvie.

Welcome back Schlegal and Holmes.

A good year for 10PI who displayed many skills such as ambushing and fire fighting, not to mention training rats to eat the Boss's pack.

ELEVEN PLATOON

Enemy support to RMC was the highlight for legs eleven. The exercise concluded well with a near perfect APC mounted assault on the RMC position. Dropped 600m short and plan B was in effect (again). Ferg and Turtle obviously obeyed Vicks orders (action at last) and were found by an effective RMC ambush.

Eleven had an excellent year on the sports field, even the boss was seen in uniform.

TWELVE PLATOON

Twelve platoon has provided much of the support for 1984 with Cpl Feeney and his helpers on the Subject Course and if you ask them they'll tell you they have done all the duties. Support to ARES Training enlightened the platoon to say the least. With everyone eager to pass on all their experience to the Officer Cadets whilst enjoying six nights of female company.

A good year for Twelve who also saw some leave in the last OC's footsteps (to Spt Coy). Funny how that happened!

"There was movement at the camp for the word was passed around, the 66 from the Q had got away".

(found on a scrap of paper in 11 PI's office).