

D COMPANY

As is usual, the year started at a furious pace for the Company including Company Headquarters. Military Skills assessment saw a number of different tasks for the staff, Tully was next where we endeavoured to conduct command post training, no thanks to the Tully staff, however some training was conducted with the emphasis on indirect fire support.



The other minor exercises came and went in such a blur that they are now difficult to recall. However, one exercise of note was Angel Trump, where the incoming Officer Commanding/Company Commander took the reins while the boss was away. LT Davies also came in to replace the Second-in-Command whilst he was on course. Even with these adjustments the exercise went very well (PTE Bourke, the Sig, even got a kill up whilst walking back from Battalion Headquarters).

Another activity of note was the fighting in an urban environment held at Greenvale. The activity was put together by LTs Davies and Tonna. As far as the soldiers were concerned this was probably one of the best exercises they had been involved in.

Maxi Beagle turned out to be an enjoyable exercise for D Company Company Headquarters. The most memorable moment was the creation of "the beach" or the Company Command Post. Complete with seating, angled exposed cross beams and internal shelving provisions, it became a comfortable shelter from the cold. A welcomed addition to the ration plan was CPL Jellatt, the medic, who was never too shy for a demand of seconds, (obviously closely followed by the consistent ration champion Bourkey). PTE Maclean was the most overworked

driver on the exercise, proven by the amount of sleep he had to recover during the day time. CSM Fang as usual made the most of the exercise by rolling his durries, filling his thermos, and greeting his wife and kids. CPL Wood received the prize of most dirt shifted whilst creating the command

post. The Company Commander is still in debt of one six pack of VB to the Second-in-Command after CAPT Fielding shot an enemy during the final attack (well it was actually a prisoner after the attack). After Maxi Beagle the company spent two weeks ensuring our SASR applications were accepted. Even the OC couldn't get a med board in.

Thanks to the Rwanda contingent the birthday week was diminished in Regimentality and D Company lapped up the party atmosphere at the cabaret night. Although Company Headquarters won no prizes the Platoons certainly made up for our loss.

The latest addition to Headquarters is PTE Dillon as on the job training clerk. His reign of power started with radical changes to orderly room efficiency and presentation, however, the return of PTE, now LCPL, Ladd brought a return to consistent methods.

Swift Eagle saw the Company (less the Second-in-Command and the clerks) deploy to Cohen for 3 weeks of enemy damper cooking. The CSM was obviously in his prime. The lads now commence a 3 week leave period followed by a 4 month deployment to Malaysia. Roll on Butterworth.



D Company on parade for ANZAC Day

10 PLATOON - THE PHANTOMS

The Phantoms have had a fairly full year with members coming back from leave early to be deployed to Tully as enemy. With the rest of the company following not long after. Also bringing with them CPL Russel from 1 Recruit Training Battalion on promotion to SGT. There was also two new marchins from 8/9RAR, PTE Fewster and Hindmarsh along for the party followed PTEs Wethall, Gardner, Hunt and Ingram all from lovely down town Singleton. The next step in the Phantoms year was deployment to air week which was enjoyed by all especially PTE McCormack who had an unhealthy attraction to a Blackhawk. After Easter stand down the Phantoms was once again complete with all members back from their stint as enemy at Tully. The Company then moved to a weeks shooting at Mt Vince and preparation for the Military Skills. Straight after Mt Vince we travelled to Greenvale (an abandoned mining town) for a week of urban training the best that this Platoon has done in a long time. Then it was on to Military Skills which was completed with mixed success but was a new and interesting format that kept all entertained. This was followed by a fairly full couple of months. Firstly, getting some new members in the Platoon, LT Thomas from Officer Cadet School New Zealand, CPL Stoddard from Snipers, PTE Bradshaw from Mortars and four new diggers from 49 RQR. The first of the Phantoms' gruelling tasks was to deploy to Maxi Beagle, where we found the joy of digging to stage three, even though PTE Wettenall didn't bring his entrenching tool. We also had much enjoyment having one of our first kills being a United Nations vehicle. The next couple of weeks after the exercise we had our Sarge trying to get us to do bayonet training whenever he could, but the Phantoms once again slid around that tasking. We then deployed on Swift Eagle as

Karmarians in the Coen area, perfecting such arts as cooking pork and making damper (basic survival skills). We spent most of our time killing civilians, even though the Blue Force didn't want to do anything about it. That about wraps it up for 10 Platoon. Now we're just carrying out drinking admin for Malaysia.

We would also like to say farewell to Lt Davis who has gone to Second-in-Command Support then Pioneer Platoon. Thank you for your efforts.

PTE WETTENALL - WHAT ET TOOL?
SGT RUSSELL - I'LL GET YOU FOR BAYONET FIGHTING.
PTE MURRELS - "BUNTER".

The following is a list of Phantom loses:
LT DAVIS - Support Company
LCPL CARMICHAEL - Company Q Store
LCPL DEMBY - Pioneer Platoon
PTE HINDMARSH - Royal Military College
PTE MCCORMACK - Civy Street
PTE WHITE - Brigs Blow Rag
PTE COBB - Gail
PTE POWELL - Intelligence Section

But we received the following as compensation
LT THOMAS - NZ Officer Cadet School
CPL POLLICK - 12 Platoon
LCPL BALL - C Company
LCPL HADWEN (gob) - Company Headquarters
PTE BERENS - 6RAR
PTE D'CUNHE - 49RQR
PTE FAWCETT
PTE MCCARTHY (SGT love child)
PTE PURCELL
PTE RAMM



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11 PLATOON - ZULU WAR DRUMS

1994 saw a whole new 11 Platoon. With a compliment of new Section Commanders, a new identity and a juby with a name from Royal Military College - it was never going to be in doubt that it was going to be a year where you saw it coming and had to say yep, "it's going to be one of those years!"

In reflection, the Platoon's new identity and approach to different and interesting training made it.....well, a different year from any other. It's good to have interesting years (retention, etc, etc,.....) - but interesting years tend to rock the boat and 11 Platoon certainly used up it's boat rocking quota this year.

The Platoon managed to maintain it's identity throughout the year with minimal losses. The departure of SGT Pickering to the real world and the constant absence of CPL Wear (in search of another course to top), meant that their spots had to be filled.

It was a year of 'acting' personnel for the Platoon, which managed to keep the training interesting. No more than the headshed of acting Platoon SGT Reilly and LT "Wait a minute - we need it now and if you can't get it I'll pull rank" Tonna. This system worked steadily throughout the year with the boss not afraid to do a bit of toe tapping to keep training and morale high.

It was a year of high morale for the Zulu's, and even though the boat may have been rocking and the fingers pointing - 11 Platoon did it their way in 1994 and "it's going to be one of those years," turned out to be a good year.

"It's better to be seen as an individual team than a team of individuals.....ZULU!!!!"



The Zulu Warriors

PLATOON HEADQUARTERS

LT TONNA - A legend waiting to happen, with a lot of concurrent training ideas.

SGT PICKERING - God was a Pioneer, so I'll be a cop.

SSGT E HARRERA - Good to go, bloody septic running through the bush looking for crumpets.

PTE WOODHOUSE - He wrote his girlfriends name on his boot - say no more.

4 SECTION

CPL WEAR - Too busy topping courses all year.

LCPL BOYD - Army's great, Army sux, Army's great, Army sux,.....

PTE FOSTER - Short of stature, tall of spirit, hoping for that bankcard.

PTE ASTBURY - Possessed by the demon of heavy metal

PTE HILL - One of those rare soldiers who wants to go bush.

PTE GREY - Just one more chance!

PTE WOOD - 'Victor' the lawn mower cut your grass Wood (Stimpy)

5 SECTION

CPL BATTY - Yuppie with a problem, steyr magazine or mobile phone - the phone won.

LCPL KEELING - Spent more time on leave than anyone - "Ya gotta be happy with that!"

PTE SKALIJ - Red bayonet for biggest lick.

PTE GODFREY - Still trying to get out of grunts (Ren)

PTE NORBERRY - He's on the books but no one knew him by sight

PTE ROYAL - Finally passed Subject 1.

PTE PRICE - Lives for bush - gung ho warrior!

PTE DAVIS - As per Royal, almost went bush once.

12 PLATOON (DIRTY DOZEN)

Ah, yes happy joy! As the year draws to a close and the Ready Deployment Force contemplates standdown the men of the dozen prepare mentally and physically for the most strenuous four months they're ever likely to endure. 120 days of living up to the legend that is, the ugly Australian on tour. In the field of human endeavour this year 12 Platoon fared very well with CPL McGee's Section placing third, CPL Moyles Section placing 15th in the Battalion Military Skills competition. The Platoon as a whole came third with everyone putting in a good effort even though we froze our butts off in that less than memorable ambush.

By way of bushtrips we were fairly fortunate starting the year off with Tully which soon squared away the new NCOs and the Platoon Commander showed just why Iraq lost the Gulf War. Exercise Swift Eagle topped the year off playing enemy, catching fish, soaking up rays, and marvelling at some of the beards that could be grown in such a short period of time. We could only look on in awe as 3 RAR showed us exactly how not to operate as an effective fighting force in the field. The rest of the dozen are detailed below with a little info on what they achieved in 1994.

7 Sect:

- CPL Warren Moyle: Found the casualty radius of a high explosive round the hard way.
- LCPL Bartowski (Bart): Showed us all how not to fight on the rugby field by taking on the whole of Support Company with his jersey over his head.
- PTE Kleid (Clippid): Proved that underneath his pale skin there is indeed a flagon drinking, brawling wine-o.
- PTE Neal (Kev): We still wonder whether the bulls he rides are really any slower than him.
- PTE Kerr: His constant optimism is a joy to behold.
- PTE Muller: The 8/9 transport yard really prepares a man for combat with the Ready Deployment Force doesn't it?
- PTE Milnes (Meal disc): Totally corrupted by Widgeot.

8 Sect:

THE NUMBER 1 RIFLE SECTION IN THE BATTALION!

- CPL McGee (Scooter): Showed his section how to make the most of illegal fishing spots at the Cape.
- LCPL Carran (Jas): Terrified the feral pig population with his unmerciful M79 (Who said illumination was only used at night)
- PTE Stacey (Stace): Realised that his scouting and tracking skills can be utilised more effectively in his role as the Platoon Commanders sniv.
- PTE Harrison (Harry): The Lawnmower Man

takes on a new identity.

- PTE Sullivan (Smoo): what can you say!
- PTE Wigan (Widgeot): it's already been said.
- PTE Bowen (Rusty): I won't say it again.

9 Sect:

- CPL Boulton (Dave): His drill standard even exceeds his tremendous vocabulary.
- LCPL Brade (F.O.T.): His astounding wit is rivalled by his smouldering good looks - NOT!!
- PTE Harders (Hardcore): Lasted a total of 3 days field all year (What a Rambo). Nice gut, Breadeater!
- PTE Jones (Indiana): Had the choice of drinking, falling over and breaking his collarbone or going to Rwanda on the trip of a lifetime. He must really love a drink!
- PTE Kisch (Simon): His bubbly personality and sarcastic manner we could not do without.

We say goodbye to CPL Johnson, CPL Pollick, CPL Williams, PTE Goff, PTE Shelley, PTE Payne, PTE Webb, PTE Kitt, PTE Palmer, PTE Parradies. You will be missed and we say welcome to the new blood: PTE Roberts, PTE Birch, PTE Selby (Head), PTE Jeffrey, PTE Samson and PTE Poat. You all have a lot to live up to!!

In conclusion it has been a great year for the Dozen and may it continue in Malaysia. See you all in March '95.