

- e. Inter Unit (Major Units and Open Category). A good result which net us a 5th place in both categories. Capt Larkins, Sgt Howells, Cpl Skaines and Lcpl Holmes all won a "Top 50" grading.
- f. ATA Challenge Shield. Although we won it last year, don't hold your breath over this years result. A bad day and a very mediocre score.
- g. RUR. A solid finish with a better score than last years winning entry. You never can tell with this one.
- h. Queens Medal. Originally we were allocated only four spots of a total of twelve in 1 MD. However our scores were markedly better than those of 6 Bde. Capt Larkins and Lt Jensen equal top scored with 238 in the eliminations. A total of 10 soldiers from N. Q. are going to the final, five of whom are from 2/4 RAR. They are Lt Jensen, Lcpl Holmes, Cpl Skaines, Lcpl Hinds and Sgt Howells. Good luck men!
- i. Inter Company. Based on the RUR result, and a team's match fired as part of the Queens Medal eliminations, this year's victors were C Coy. Well done lads.

f. Brigade Shoot. Unfortunately, the mounted rifle is back with 1 RAR following a very close tussle over the three days of competition. Defeat was snatched from the jaws of victory at the last moment in the Applied Marksmanship Practice. A similar fate befell the Pistol Shooters. The good news is the fact that Pte Ralph Lake of C Coy topped the field with the best individual score. We also won the Falling Plate Competition for the first time ever following a gruelling round of eliminations, in a cut throat knock out competition. In the process, we had two teams shoot against each other, while 1 RAR No. 2 (No. 1 having been eliminated) drew two byes in succession. However, the forces of good prevailed, and in a very close final the 1 RAR team was vanquished with less than a second to spare. Next year must be the year of the Clean Sweep. All you closet snipers out there, make yourselves known to the Shooting Team, you'll be most welcome to swell our ranks.

## TUG-O-WAR

This year the tug-o-war was conducted apart from the athletics.

The sudden death draw which has been the modus operandi in the past was superceded by a points system where all teams pulled off against one another. Conducted over a week the points pull off is a fairer system and although time consuming, gives all teams an equal opportunity both in training and in competition. It also exposes the teams to the selectors for a longer period.

The pullers (who under normal circumstances have little opportunities for Battalion representation) level in such competitions. Closet iron pumpers, roly pollys, attenders at remedial PT, cooks and all those who are too vital for release come into their own. The weight categories this year were 640kg and 720kg divisions. Even then, some companies had difficulty raising a heavyweight team! The B Coy heavyweight, (lightweight No. 2), team showed mobility in losing but proved to be adept skidders. The Admin lightweight team (balloons) however, had their heaves/pulls/tugs and grunts/gasps/heavy breathing together to produce a fine effort in taking out that grade undefeated. Well done Jock Leford and crew.

The heavyweight contest initially proved to be an Admin and Admin tussle on form. Both expectations took a dive however when a bunch of Spt Coy heavies were press ganged on the spot and looked a good chance to

go on to great things. There seemed to be a place for geriatric Sergeants after all! After having made room for the younger ones at sports like touch which required a nimble foot, they had a point to prove. It remains to be seen what a little training can do!

With the final day of competition to conduct, Spt were clear on 12 points with Admin and A on 9 each. To a thrilling crescendo the unforeseen, but to some the inevitable, occurred. Spt lost to Admin in two marathon pulls and A easily defeated D to leave the heavyweight result a three way tie. Well done chaps.

Wooden spoons were just as excitingly contested with C and Spt taking out their heavy and lightweight grades respectively. C Coy took the record for the quickest dive — 5.03 seconds. Matt Rainey can attest to what it feels like moving in a arc of 180 degrees from straining on his back to suddenly finding himself in the push up position.

Our chances against the other units are looking good.

Overall results were:

Lightweight	Heavyweight
Admin - 15 pts	Spt - 12 pts
B - 12 pts	Admin - 12 pts
D - 9 pts	A - 12 pts
C - 6 pts	D - 6 pts
A - 3 pts	B - 3 pts
Spt - Nil pts	C - Nil pts