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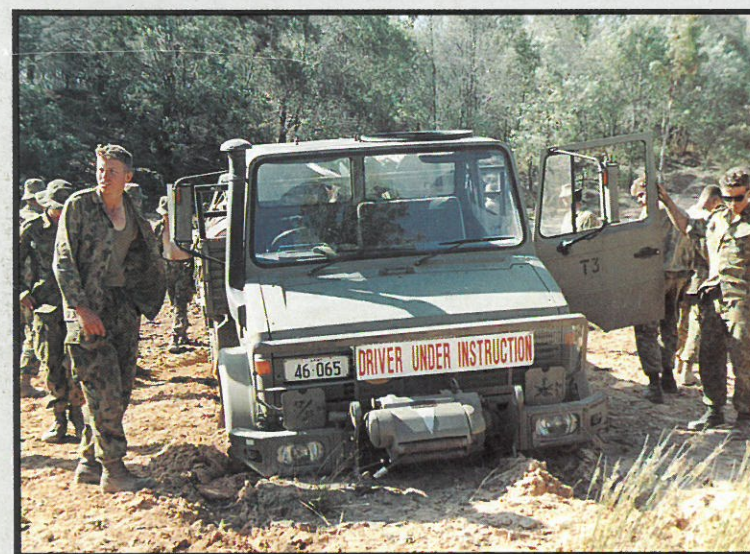
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THE RAM 1994



The Magazine
 of the
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 The Royal
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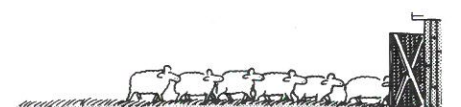
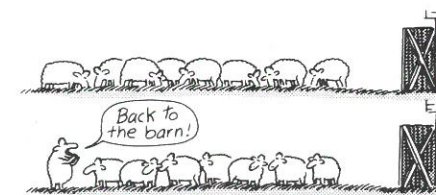
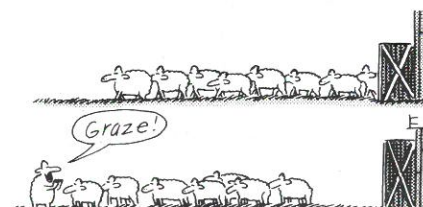
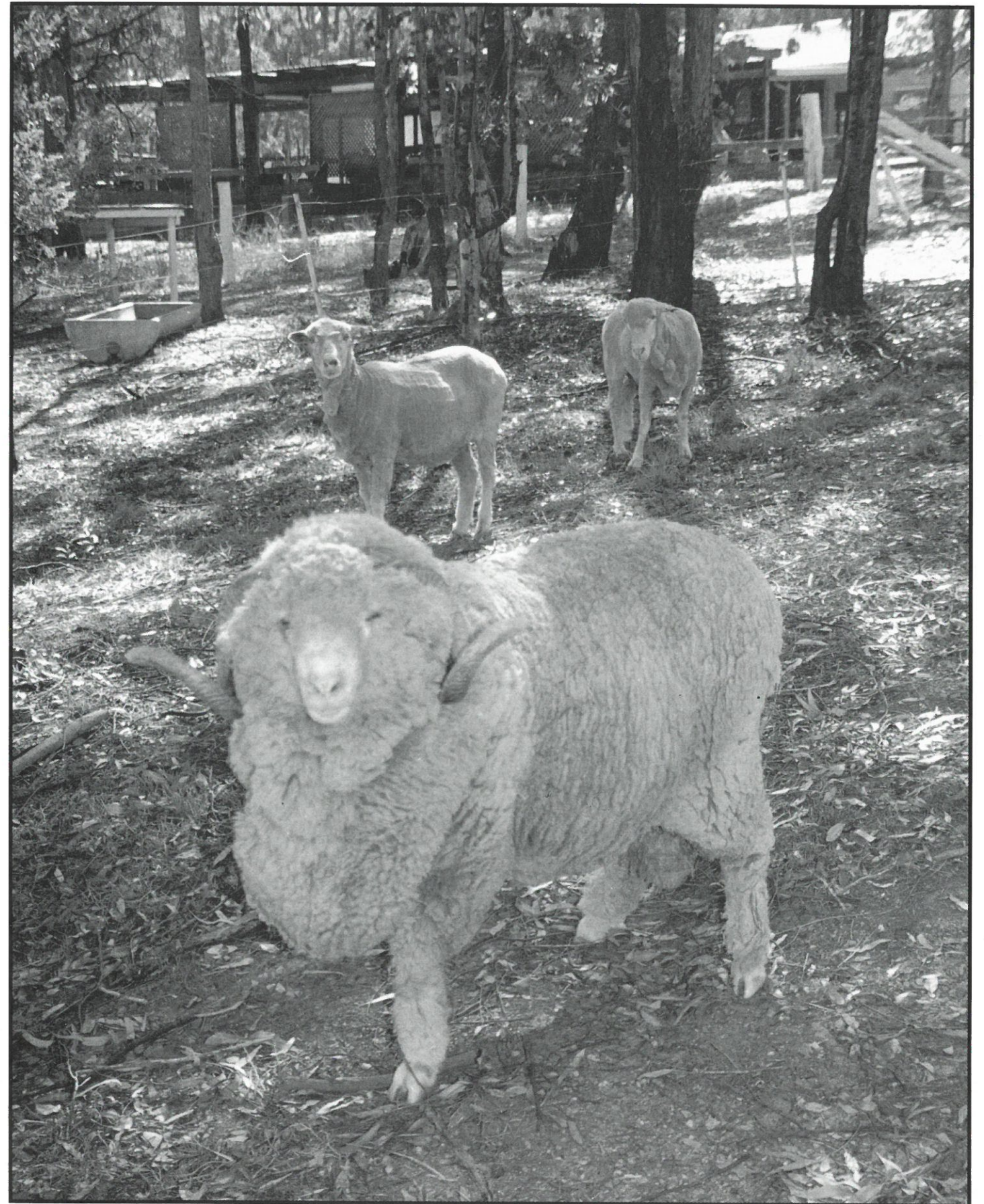
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Stan and his girls: "I didn't have change to call them a cab".



He was king of the sheep.



The RSM always travels like this! "Love the socks!!!"



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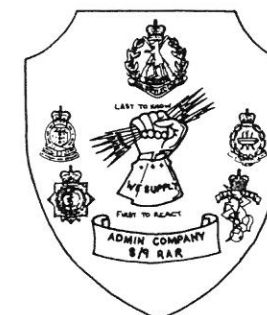
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9th Battalion's Association
8 RAR Association
9 RAR Association
RAR Association (Queensland Branch)



THE MAGAZINE OF THE 8th/9th BATTALION The Royal Australian Regiment

Editor CAPT. B. Raggatt

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2nd LT Tim Grant

Printing and Publishing Monoset Printers
Monoset Typesetters

EDITORIAL

Once again the Battalion has produced a magazine at the end of the training year. The magazine is an important part of our lives as it serves as a record and reminder of the years' events. Additionally, the magazine forms an important link for those soldiers who are serving in the Part Time Service Companies. Soldiering is a tough and demanding profession but also one that we all find enjoyable. As you read through the magazine, you will see many of the lighter moments and indeed the many characters that all combine to make the 8th/9th the proud unit that it is.

Those of you who have just completed your Full Time Year will no doubt be showing this to many puzzled friends and relatives. Show them with pride as many of our civilian friends really have no idea what it is that we do. Next year there will be many new faces in the unit as well as the familiar ones returning to do their Part Time Service, but the spirit of the unit will continue to prosper.

To the many who support us in our soldiering efforts, this magazine is also for your benefit. From the families and friends who wait for us while we are away, to the business houses which support the unit and advertise with us, all of your support is greatly appreciated.



CO 8/9 RAR

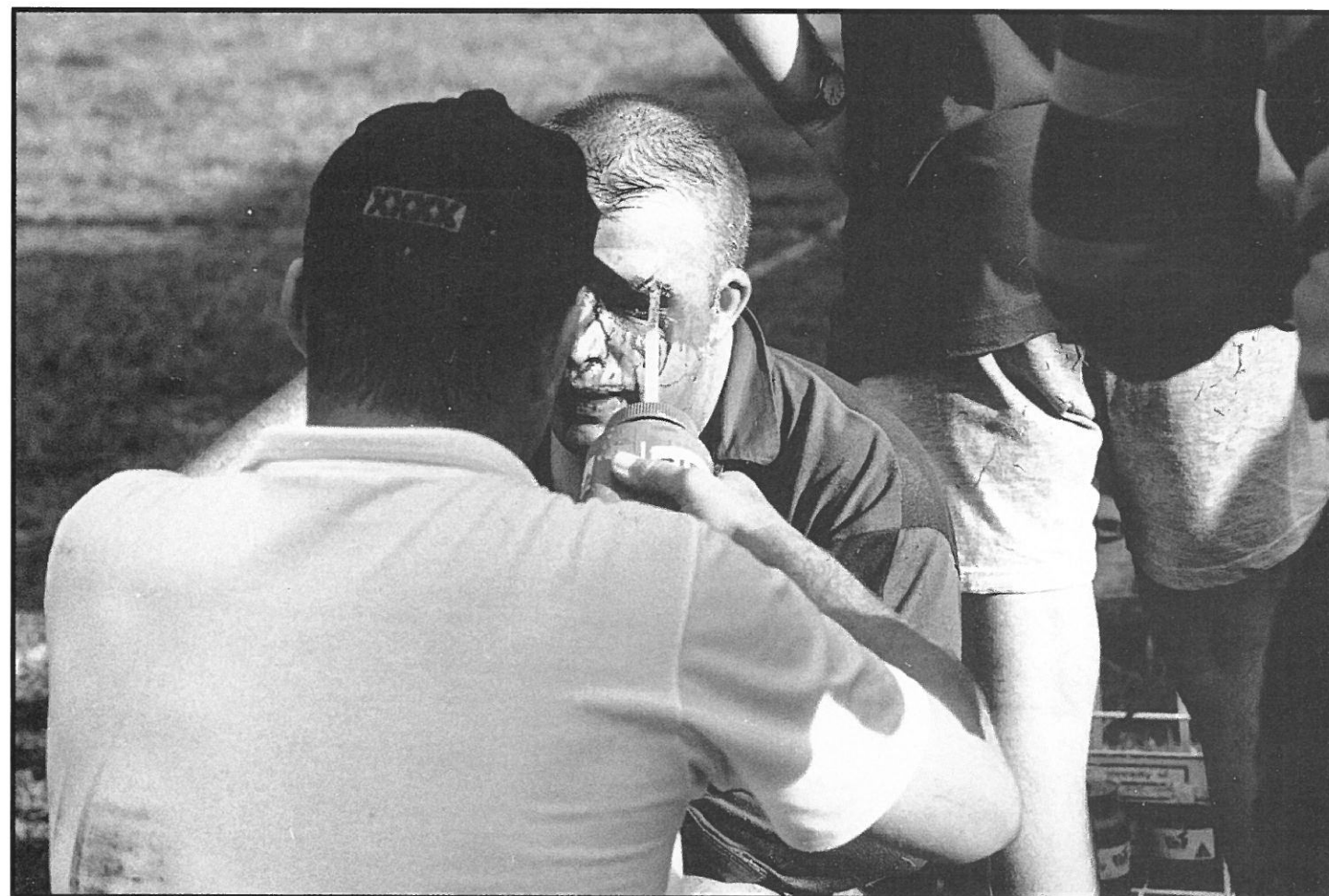
The year has been memorable for the Battalion and in our 21st year, we can only look forward to many more successful and enjoyable years of soldiering. Such highlights as the Rugby Grand Final and the Battalion Ball were only successful because of the spirit and enthusiasm shown by all involved. We succeeded where many other Ready Reserve Units did not. They did not have the advantage of the 8/9 spirit.

There are many thankyou's to pass on for the production and compilation of the Ram '94, however special mention goes to Lorraine at Monoset Printers for her professional and diligent efforts to help us produce a quality magazine.

— Captain Bruce Raggatt



The fodder drive.



Richo the turnbuckle — "It's only a flesh wound".

THE CUPS CANTEEN

I have a silver metal cup
Shaped like a kidney bean
With its rusty fold-out handle
I call it cups canteen.

The sallyman he fills it
Full of hot or cold brew
It can hold my water bottle
And my shaving water too.

I can boil water in it
Do tins and freeze dried rice
When I've got salami and no knife
The handle makes the slice.

It can hold a door or window open
It's handy in a fight
A short fellow can stand on one
To raise his manly height.
You can use it to mix paint in
Or hold dums beside the bed
Go digging at the beach with it
Burying pets when they are dead.
You can use it as a jelly mould
Or fill it full of ice
And if you're feeling kinky
Use it as a sex device.

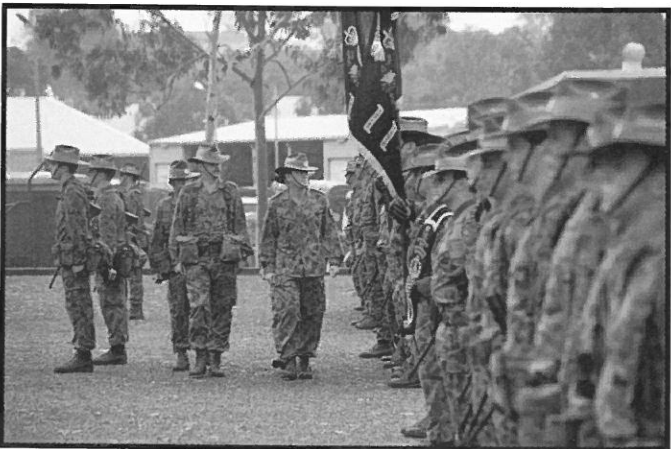
The possibilities are endless
If you're really bloody keen
So here's to the one and only
Legendary cups canteen!!



CPL Lugton plots the theft of the Sgt's Mess shovel.



OC A Coy looks on amazed at the lengths his CSM will go just to be in the RSM's good books: "White with two, Sir?"



CO's farewell.

FOREWORD BY THE COMMANDING OFFICER LTCOL D.S.M. ROCHE

1994 has been a year of consolidation and success. Fortunately the pace this year, while hectic, has not been as frantic as last year. This has allowed the Battalion the time necessary to consolidate its gains from last year. I believe the Battalion now has a firm base from which to continue with its conversion to both the RRes Scheme and its next major challenge - motorisation.

We have had some big wins this year. Ready Shield 94 saw the Battalion acquit itself well in the Brigade's first major deployment. A Coy enhanced the Battalion's reputation at Tully and Canungra while Stan Treck was a most valuable training activity. Stan Surprise was a good learning exercise with a nice variety of new and challenging tasks for commanders at all levels. Stan D'Alone should prove to be the most challenging and enjoyable exercise this Battalion has undertaken in a number of years - certainly enough work has been put into it. And Ready Shield 95 has the makings of a tough, physically demanding exercise blended with the variety of the VAP at Springsure. Again we have performed well on most of the courses we have attended.

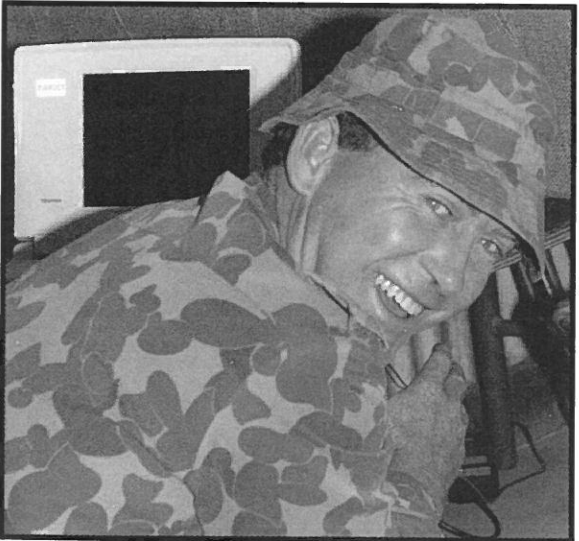
Our manning is fortunately looking a lot more healthy than this time last year. I believe that in 1995 we will have the manning and experience in those critical areas to take full advantage of the high quality of soldiers we have or are about to have in the unit.

On the sporting fields we have certainly made an impact. The highlight was obviously the efforts of the Rugby team who went through the season undefeated. A great performance by all involved, particularly by the team coach CPL Evans. Our Aussie Rules team also had a top year and bar a technicality would have given the grand final a real shake. Next year will be different. Our touch football players again performed well as did the soccer, basketball and volleyball teams.

Again I must thank our wives and partners for their support throughout the year. Looking after the home and kids is often a more challenging job than ours, especially when your man is absent for long periods. Thank you for your understanding.

To those who are leaving the Battalion at the end of the year, my thanks for your efforts and my best wishes for all that the future holds in store for you. In particular I would like to thank the RSM for his outstanding contribution to the Battalion. Much is asked and expected of any RSM, but WO1 Paulson has always done more than expected. His efforts have ensured that the Battalion's conversion to the RRes has not only been successful but has been achieved without loss to the Battalion's spirit and professional competence. Thank you RSM and best wishes to you, Dihan and family for all your future endeavours.

Finally, farewell. Thank you for the support you have given me throughout my time in command. It has been a pleasure to serve with you and for Tess, Bede and I to be part of the Battalion family. Your friendship, good humour and "can do" approach to all your duties will remain in my memory forever. I am confident that your new CO, LTCOL Robbs will enjoy the same support that you have given me. To you all a merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.



REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR WARRANT OFFICER CLASS 1 S. PAULSON

During 1994, the members of 8/9 RAR have bought further credit to this fine unit by carrying out their many and varied tasks (both collectively and individually) in a most professional manner. I take great pride in all our achievements, too various to mention for the fear of missing some worthy person.

To the JNCO's, I say thank you for your efforts. Everybody knows that your task is the hardest. Most of you have direct command of eight men of a 24 hour basis and you are responsible not only to train your men during normal working hours but also to guide discipline and set the professional standards for the rest of the day. Make no mistake, your rank and your job is most important and that you are a very valuable commodity. History has shown that wars are won and lost at your level.

To the SNCO's, I urge you to continue to set and maintain the standards that all your juniors should aspire and to continue to offer the correct advice to the junior officers in a professional and tactful manner.

This has been the most gratifying three years of my 27 years of army life. It is the culminating point of any soldier's career to be appointed as the RSM of Battalion of 8/9 RAR has been far more rewarding than I could have imagined. I am now moving back to the home of the Regiment, Infantry Centre, from where I will continue to look to 8/9 RAR to provide the yardstick by which the standards, professionalism and enthusiasm can be measured for the remainder of the Regiment.

I wish you all good soldiering and hope that your friends and family will continue to understand your lot and support your career and efforts.

Finally, I bid you all goodbye and wonder when I will see you again.



BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

Battalion Headquarters has had another hectic year in 1994. New arrivals to the Battalion included Sgt Ken "Handyman" Findlay (ORS), Cpl Shane "Reg" Varney and Pte Ritichie both of the Pay Office.

There were some changes within the Headquarters, Maj Porter (OPSO), Capt Tompkins to OCD Coy (prom Maj), Capt Schwebel move in for a period as the ADJT, then Capt Wilson finishing the year as the ADJT. Not to forget Cpl Hooper (mov clk), Cpl "Rugby" Evans and Lt Tindall as the AADJT.

Also our ASO1 change with Hydrie left to have a baby and was replaced by Cathy, without them you would still be waiting to get things typed.

We ventured into the 21st century with the inclusion of extra STD lines and finally a fax machine at last. Not to forget the Bn 21C's new toy (FAPES computer), DEFMIS for mov's when its working, the CO and OPSO's laptops. The companies are still asking when are they getting their computers?


The Headquarters receive a face lift this year with some extra help from Sgt 'handyman' Findlay in reorganising most of the bottom floor.

At the end of the year the Headquarters will have most of its team leaving to greener pastures:

CO (C&SC), RSM (Inf Cen), OPSO (CA Ra Inf SCMA), ADJT (Spt Coy), AADJT (prom Capt 2/4 RAR), Sgt 'Kraut' Nicolaou (51 FNQR), Sgt Chris 'Piper' Laurenson (9Disch), Sgt 'ha bud' Scott (BASC-E prom WO2), Cpl 'Touch Footy' Gaulke (5/6 RVR), Cpl 'Reg' Varney (Prom Sgt 1 CER), and Pte Bruce Longeran (Disch). Not to forget Cpl "Rugby" Evans to B Coy.

It has been a busy year, thanks to all who have served in Bn HQ, its been a good team. To all who are leaving all the best wishes in the future.






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But to me they're BHQ
When it comes to organizing shit
They haven't got a clue.

You can't tell 'em anything
But that's no great change
They list the legend Sallyman
Who'd left the bloody range.

Their handsets must be red hot
From endless radio checking
But mine is red hot too
Because it's my nerves they are a wrecking.

3 Rovers full of officers
The heat makes them irate
Zero Alpha puts me in the shit
Sentry one. To you, wait.

The brass is getting pissed off
They vent annoyance at me
I stand by the road like a dickhead
"Zero Alpha Take pity on me!"

"Sentry one this is Zero Alpha"
That call sign from your loc may pass
I cheerfully let them all through
Then plonk right back down on my arse.

Zero Alpha is pissed off with me now
At my radio manner they dig
I wish they would give me a break
'Cos this is my first go at sig.

I wanna choke old Zero Alpha
Whose banter has made me quite bored
And it won't be with my bare hands
But a fucking 77 handset cord.

As I sit on sentry
Flexed out on my arse
A Rover pulls over
Ah! Fuck, it's big brass!

I straighten my shirt out
I look like a pig
He rolls down the window
And says, "G'day digg".

"Do you know who I am?"
And as if I didn't know
I smile as I stutter,
"Ye . . . Yeah sir, you're CO".

But I know a bit more
'Bout this man who's in charge
But I don't blurt it out
'Cos the hurt would be large.

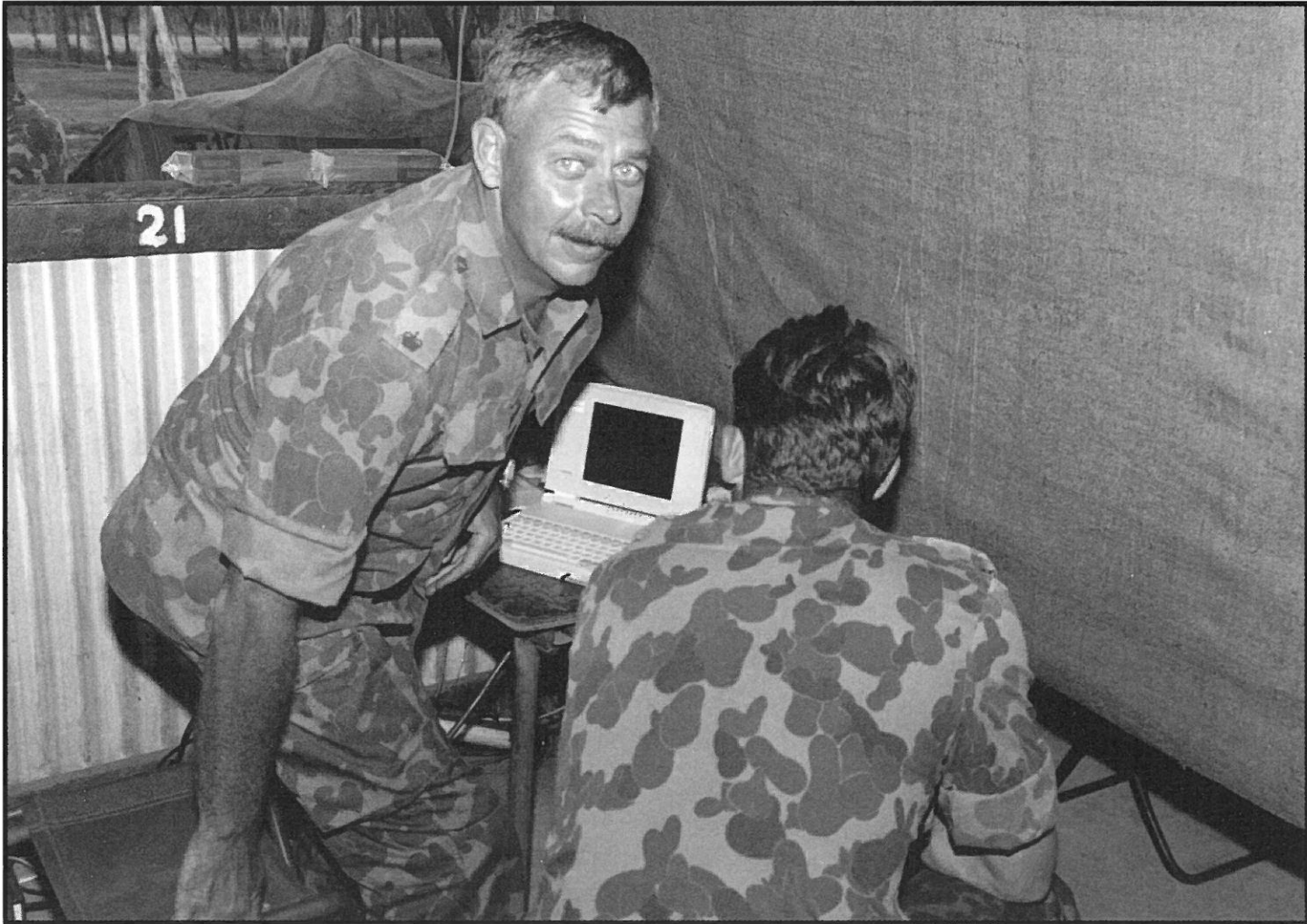
Good old Damian Stanley
Maliphant Roche
With a nickname of Dolly
That no one would poach.

He relishes rugby
A legend 5-8
He would have made the majors
Till his knee sealed his fate.

One thing I'm unsure of though
His close mates name is Stan
But does this refer to the RSM
Or our woolly mascot ram?

In charge of 8/9 Battalion
Shaping the Ready Reserve
Will be his most colorful assignment
The one to destroy his steel nerve.

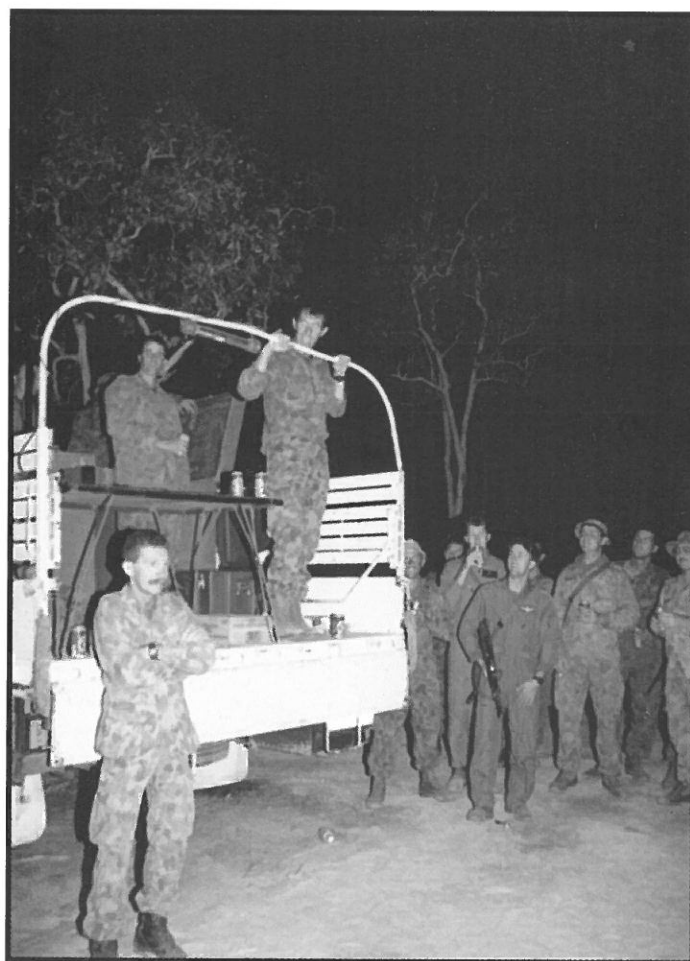
But backed up by both Tess and Bede
In control of the lot he will stay
I snap out of my trance with the radio static
"You're cleared to go sir! Goodday"



The Adjt and Bn 21C plot world domination (Officer Training) during a quiet moment at OA.



Bn 21st Birthday — Please don't go off . . . please don't go off!



SGT Graham sings Happy Birthday.

BLANK FILE COMRADE

Though it's been some years I'm gone, from Enoggera Hill
The Regiment has moved it's lines, north, to far Townsville
And now you've swapped your greens for some 'can't see me' twill
If not for other duties call, I'd march beside you still.

So when the Sar'nt Major bawls "Now lads fall in for drill"
When one of you is on KP, or missing, or is ill
Then spare a thought for those of us, whose 'civies' fit us ill
Allow for us that place in line, that numbers cannot fill
That blank file, for men moved on, whose heart is with you still.

When next you mount late sentry go, and march around the hill
Or coming up from gully deep, you feel a sudden chill
Don't take alarm, nor reach for charm, it truly bodes no ill
It's but a shade of one of us, who'd march beside you still.

When next you run the marathon, the road seems all up-hill
As you move up the outside rank, you need some extra will
When you get there, the gun to bear, you feel its weight may kill
Then take some heart, an extra start, your burning lungs to fill
For there's a host of diggers past who'd run beside you still.

And when at last, the day is past, the suns beyond the hill
Your duties done, some time for fun, a quiet jar you fill
Then call a toast, a rowdy roast, for comrades gone but still
If they had but their will, they'd march beside you still.

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A COMPANY

As A company didn't exist for Exercise Ready Shield, the year started with the Company sort of materialising as people drifted in from all over the Battalion, dazed and shell-shocked from months of bewildering changes and internal postings. Eventually things settled down just in time for a quick Long Hai Day parade and then leave.

After leave, the Company set out to make the most of the slack period of the RRES training year by embarking on "individual professional development" activities. Diving at Byron Bay, White Water Rafting at Dorrigo, shooting at Coffs Harbour, caving at Rockhampton and scenic trekking in the Border Ranges followed in swift succession as the Company explored all the training activities that can be done without soldiers. Meanwhile, the NCO's were catching up on their careers by attending all the courses they'd been too busy to do for the last couple of years. Cpl Barnett, whom some of you may recall as the dark, stocky bloke perpetually marked "C" in the roll book, set out to achieve a record number of days spent on course in any one year. With so many diverse activities, the CSM's versatility came to the fore with the cooking of the sensational bar-be-cue at Kenilworth, booking the sensational pub for dinner at Coffs Harbour and looking at the sensational views at the Border Ranges.

After so much variety it was truly sensational to receive 109 fresh faced, eager young soldiers from Depot Company and 49RQR and fill the company out until it bulged at the seams. For the rest of the year the programme was more conventional but very tight. A Company Exercise at Imbil was followed by Tully, Canungra and Exercise Stan's Surprise at Shoalwater Bay in such rapid succession that there was barely time to draw breath and do duties in between. And we had barely returned from the last Exercise when the Company exploded again sending soldiers and NCO's off to all other parts of the Battalion for Exercise Stand Alone. Has been a busy year, but a good one, with A Coy whipping the competition, be they Tully enemy, 10 IRC or Recon Platoon every time, and once again providing the reinforcements that will keep the rest of the Battalion going.



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ASSAM Shooting Team.



A Company Headquarters.

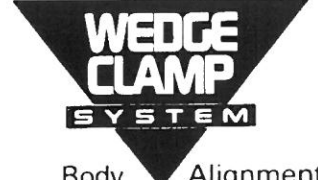
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SOCCER

1994 proved itself to be an interesting year for the Battalion Soccer team, overcoming the unavoidable problems associated with a somewhat reduced Brigade camp, no field on which to play and a distinct shortage in players. Despite these limitations however, each week often after numerous phone calls and no little amount of coaxing, a team 'ran on' to represent the Battalion, quite often playing without reserves.

Upon the arrival of the soldiers in July the comp really picked up as the Battalion could then muster quite a lot of

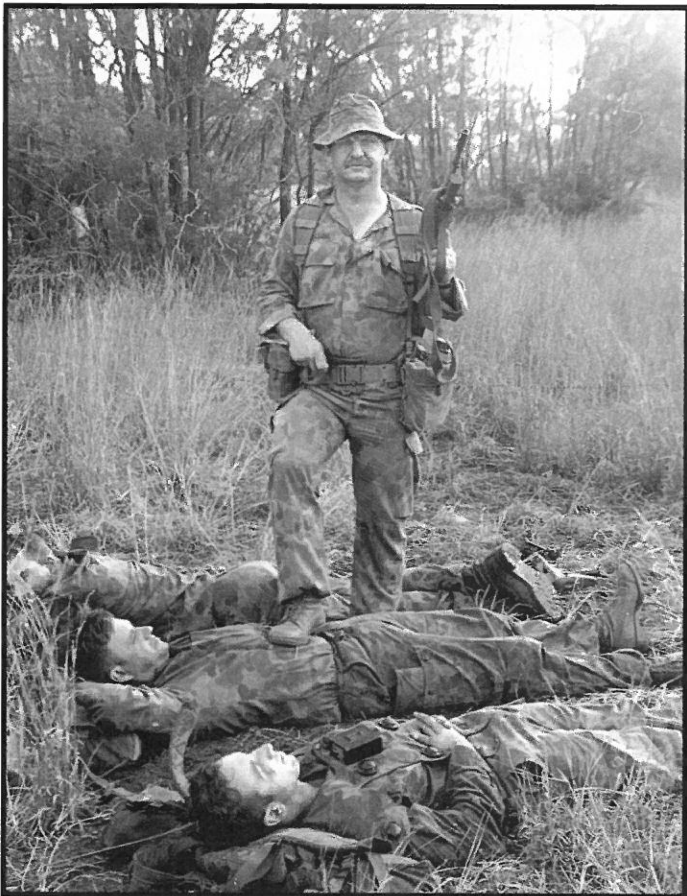
soccer talent from amongst the inconceivably large number of Aussie Rulers. It was then that the matches could really be enjoyed. Staff Sergeant Walton could take the bench and points put on the scoreboard.

The late arrivals were not quick enough to salvage the comp however, with the team running short of the Grand Final, but the games were enjoyed and a good time was had by all.

Best on field — Cpl Wilson.
Most verbal on field — Pte Holland.
Oldest on field (and the comp.?) — SSgt Walton.
Most durries during half time — Cpl Hastings.



Westy in one of his prettier moments.



"Now Hasto, about that money you owe".



Pictured in the "Fuhrer Bunker".

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1 PLATOON

In A Coy the soldiers arrived to 1PI in July; previously, adventure training and courses were on the agenda for some lucky person. Some had to contend with the 49RAR IET commitment. The PI commenced and consisted of LT "Mav" Tindall, Sgt "Pup" Maclean Cpl Steven Holz, Cpl Grant Barnett, Cpl Robert Grant, LCpl Robert Dore, LCpl Paul Smedley, and LCpl "Clem" Griffith. Cpl Holz then departed to longlook for a holiday (which we will never hear the end of) and was replaced on exchange from some "pommy" Regt by Cpl Mark Stanley or "The Pom".

"The Pom" managed to discover the Rams, Paddo Tavern, Lonely Hearts club whilst quaffing copious amounts of ale; however, could not escape the vortex of Land Comd Battle School Tully. Cpl Barnett also made an exit with another perpetual Cse. Cpl Justin Bishop then arrived from Signal PI.

The Tully exercise was the first for the year besides "The lost world adventure" which we won't mention. 1PI achieves high standards and the soldiers perform exceptionally well with Cpl Grant and LCpl Dore of 2 sect pulling champion sect with the fastest time on the Obs Cse. Special mention must be made for 2LT Behan the PI runner for the experience of "Ambush Tactics". The diggers departed for Spt Coy and Admin Coy. 1PI then went to 2, sometimes 3 sections.

The next exercise was Canungra which saw the rein or wrath of Lt Michael Ilcynski master of "Hungry Hippo" order groups and farewell to Lt Greg Tindall to the Big Onion (BHQ). Bon Voyage Greg, who soon is to be a Capt in Townsville. However, Canungra the PI performed well and managed to defeat the enemy single handedly in a pincer, rearward Creek line search attack. The En fought fiercely from their sleeping bags but 1PI fought on and was victorious, special mention to Chq who were heard to be running from 3PI Loc when the En Overran them.

The next exercise was Stan Surprise which included vital assets protection, Infill by 2 min helicopter rides, enemy without iwess and death marches; however congratulations to "Smeds" for 5 Chq confirmed kills including Oc A (and we have pictures to prove it), to you we give the title "The Great White Hunter".

Finally 1PI and the suppliers of the dog squad commanded by Cpl Bishop, 2IC-LCpl Griffith Good Luck. See you next year. 1PI Quotes

"Voice Check"

"Hungry Hippo's Time"

"Penis"

"Pull Your Heads In"

"F---en Ruperts"



1 PL A Coy



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TOUCH FOOTY

Touch '94 Summer and Winter Comp.

Well, starting the '94 season was always going to be a real challenge after winning the A GRADE FINAL in '93. With all but 3 players remaining from that team after all the postings (Hadgis, Gaulks and Schwebel).

The first season (winter comp.) was a learning experience for all the new and interested players, we still had A grade and C grade as we won both titles in '93, but as usual had to play both grades with the same players.

At the end of the Winter Comp persistence and dedication of a certain 5-8 players paid off as A's (7th of 8) and C's (6th of 8) started to improve, and in the summer comp, those same 5-8 players formed just an A grade side, and certainly showed that they had learnt the game of touch, because we have finished the season in 2nd spot, undefeated 4 wins 4 draws and are in the semi's with a chance to take BACK TO BACK A GRADE SUMMER comp premierships which is a great effort from a group of blokes that hadn't played at the start of the year.

A great thanks to the players that kept turning up during the summer comp, that got us to the finals of A grade once again. Below is a list of the dedicated players that got us there:

B. Gaulke (Manager and Captain)
M. Ritchie (Most Consistent)
Chook Poultney
Theo Hadgis (Best and Fairest)
Reg Varney (Most Improved)
Jazz Jaramazz
Alistair Blake
Smedley

and special mention to Cpl Hemberg of recruiting (ex 8/9) who will play in semi's who also helped us get there.

— CPL B.C. Gaulke, Touch Rep



PTE William Whaley gets his kick away while CPL Henderson does his Homer impression in the background.

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8/9 AUSTRALIAN RULES CLUB

Well, we've come to the end of yet another year, a very successful, all be it in the end controversial, year.

The year began in the now familiar way of all THE OLD BOYS taking the field, and to our credit we won the first few games of the year, which were really the corner stone of the team making the finals. In what was a very long drawn out year, which at times tested everybodys patience, one of the best moments of the season was what has become known as "THE AUGUST DRAUGHT," yes the Ready Reserves arrived. On the day they arrived, I'm sure I saw a few of THE OLD BOYS limping around looking up to the heavens and thanking God. There was now considerable depth and skill in the club. As the season progressed the team moulded in to a very competitive, disciplined, and tough unit. Although unit training commitments prevented training together on most occasions during the year, the enthusiasm of the blokes never wavered. After finishing third after the home and away fixture, it was now time for the finals. Some inspiring football was played by the boys during the finals series, during which we weren't beaten. I think I will remember 1994 for the year that the best team in the competition finished third.

A very successful and enjoyable presentation night was held at the Albany Creek Tavern, and Congratulations goes to all the trophy winners, in particular to the clubs Best and Fairest winner Damian White. My thanks goes to all the people who have been involved with the club this year, especially to Assistant Coach and Captain Rob Dore, Vice Captain Damian White, and Team Manager Dave Pitt. I would also like to thank our sponsors, the Albany Creek Tavern and Rainbow Video Everton Park. I look forward to next year with a great deal of enthusiasm and confidence.

On behalf of the Australian Rules Club, I would like to wish all members of the Battalion and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

—Terry Campbell, Aust. Rules Coach



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2 PLATOON

During the past four months at the Battalion, 2 Platoon has worked as an integral part of Alpha company, and performed at a very high standard.

Through the Battle Schools of Tully and Canungra, the Platoon displayed an excellent level of professionalism, mixed with enthusiasm and good humour, clearly leading the company as the outstanding platoon.

So well trained is the Platoon that we displayed too much energy and vigour in our role and enemy for 1 Aviation Regiment. 2 Platoon was asked to "tone down" our activities, go easier on the "powder-puffs" and stop taking P.W.'s.

However, the pressure of such a disciplined unit has taken its toll. This can be seen when one considers the fact that 2 Platoon began with a posted strength of forty and finished with a mere twenty.

We churned through three 2nd lieutenants and four NCO's who obviously couldn't handle the pace.

We caused Sgt Boston to seek an early retirement from a Rifle Platoon, whilst Lt Doonican is fleeing to 1 RAR, claiming "I'll feel safer in the ODF..."

Of course, we can't forget to mention the fifteen Diggers who sought sanctuary in Pogue Companies (Admin and Support).

The nucleus of 2 Platoon remains as effective as ever, both in and out of the field. Whilst not out bush or on duties, representatives of the Platoon can be found at a pleasant little nightclub called "The Pit", charming the local female population.

THINGS WE WANT TO SEE:

★ Timms to repay the truck driver for hitting him in the chest at the age of six

- ★ Hasto to smile
- ★ Boner to give some of the tickets on himself to a raffle
- ★ Greive to shave his back
- ★ Weaver to spend one day without fighting with anyone else
- ★ Miles to grow
- ★ Potter to stop stealing Gibbo's women
- ★ 2nd Lieutenant Sparkes to stop talking down to Diggers
- ★ Jock to speak clearly . . . especially when giving orders
- ★ Weaver's tooth
- ★ Sandhu finish a march

THINGS WE DON'T WANT TO SEE:

- ★ The view from the 128 feature in Canungra again
- ★ Mullin's Feral
- ★ IWESS in the jungle
- ★ Trembath's sister

★ Hasto naked

★ Sandhu back in 2 Platoon

★ Garner to lose his knowledge of EVERYTHING in the world

MEMORABLE QUOTES:

Jock - "Ah cannae unnerstan' whay thay cannae unnderstan' ma...?"

Trembath - "She's my sister!"

Mullins - "I looove you . . . feral"

Skipper - "What did you just tell me to do Jazz!?"

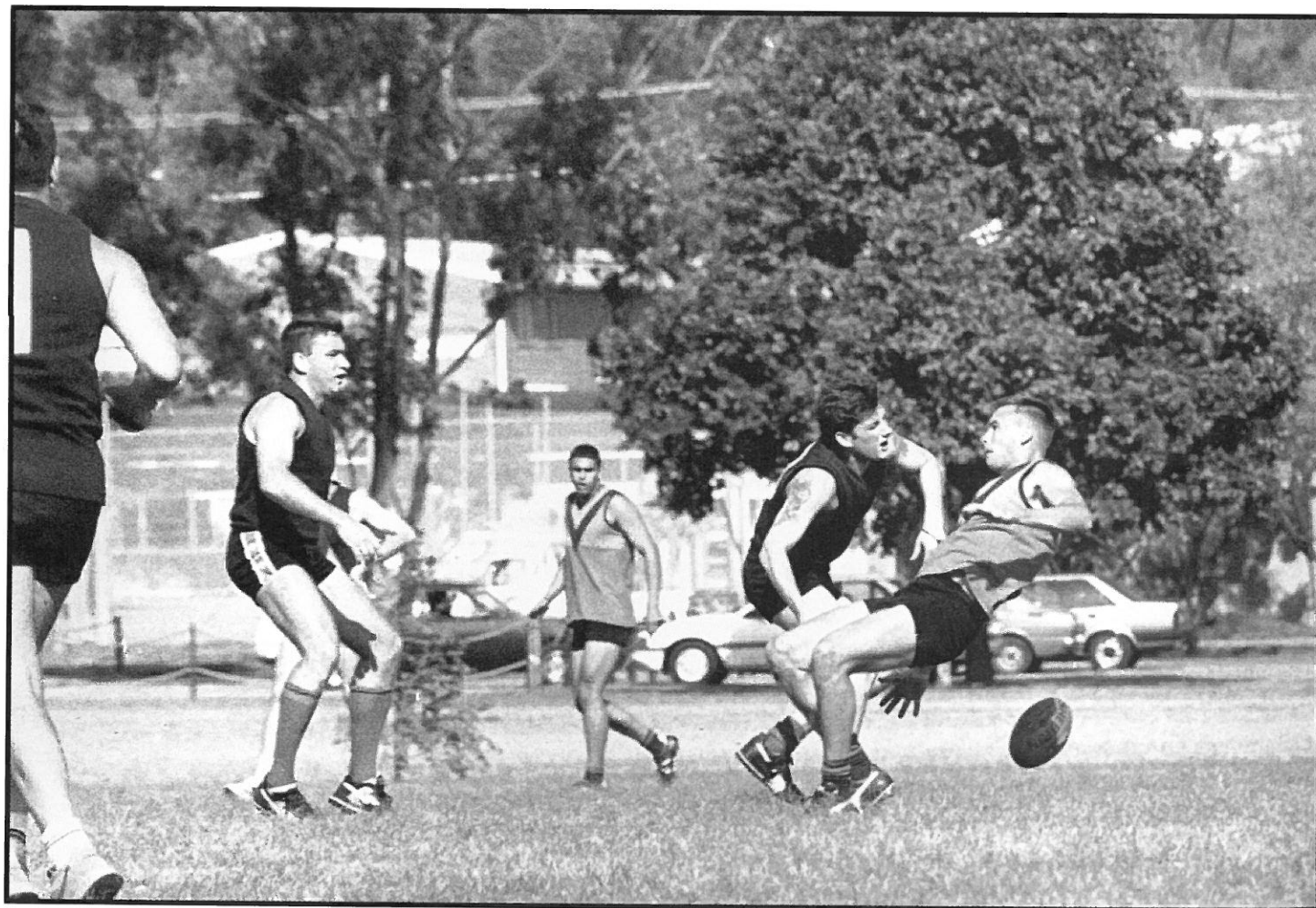
Skipper - "I've just come up from 3RAR, I'm not really a Ready Reservist"

Hanson - "I'll just take a short-cut down . . . Arghh!"

Jazz - "Put your clothes down, and get into the showers now, you schvine!"



2 PL A Coy



Australian Rules Coach LCPL Dore shows how it's done.



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3 PLATOON

3 PI commenced its life in February '94, comprised of one Officer and seven NCO's lucky enough to survive the death by nominal roll and busy trip EX READY SHIELD 94. The year began with adventure training, which saw the centrefold physiques of Cpl Lugton and Roberts wearing wet suits in a raft under the command of a guy named "FLUFFY" — please explain.

The newest members of the battalion were quick to impress and try started at the top, by enjoying a pleasant stroll with the RSM on group therapy, 15 km in the midday sun was fun.

The Imbil bush trip followed soon after and the development of 3PI's reputation as the drought breakers began. The Tully trip was next which exposed the platoon to wait a while and "mud!!!" Tully was a learning curve for all. Especially from the DS, Sgt "I don't burn my lips" Monystack.

Canunga was a delight because of patrolling with lwess. 3 PI displayed its value to the Coy by being fire support, securing the Fup and conducting the assault all in the same company attack.

The next bush trip was EX STAN SUPRISE. 3 PI enjoyed a brief enemy Ex with the Avo's and learnt how the other half live whilst out bush. The VAP phase of the Ex turned out to be a bit different, with a few enjoyable lengthy patrols through the SWBTA open plans.

The year was a turbulent one with much time spent out bush


and an almost constantly changing nominal role but the platoon combined well and performed as a team due to everyone's efforts.

Things 3 PI would like to see:

- Chq wearing lwess
- Helicopter extraction from patrols
- Water
- Less of the Sarengetti plains
- Day patrols less than 40 km
- Poller clean his gun and himself
- Sandhu make it out of the firm base
- Flatty going bush this year
- Lugs on the run on side
- CSM lose his voice
- CSM make his own brew
- Tully defoliated
- Pte Watts off a chit
- Lcpl's with no more groin problems
- Sgt's keep hold of their shovel
- Lug's not get shot
- 7 section survive any sort of attack
- Cpt Robert's ego fit into something smaller than a C-130
- 1PI and 2PI in a fire fight



3 PL A Coy



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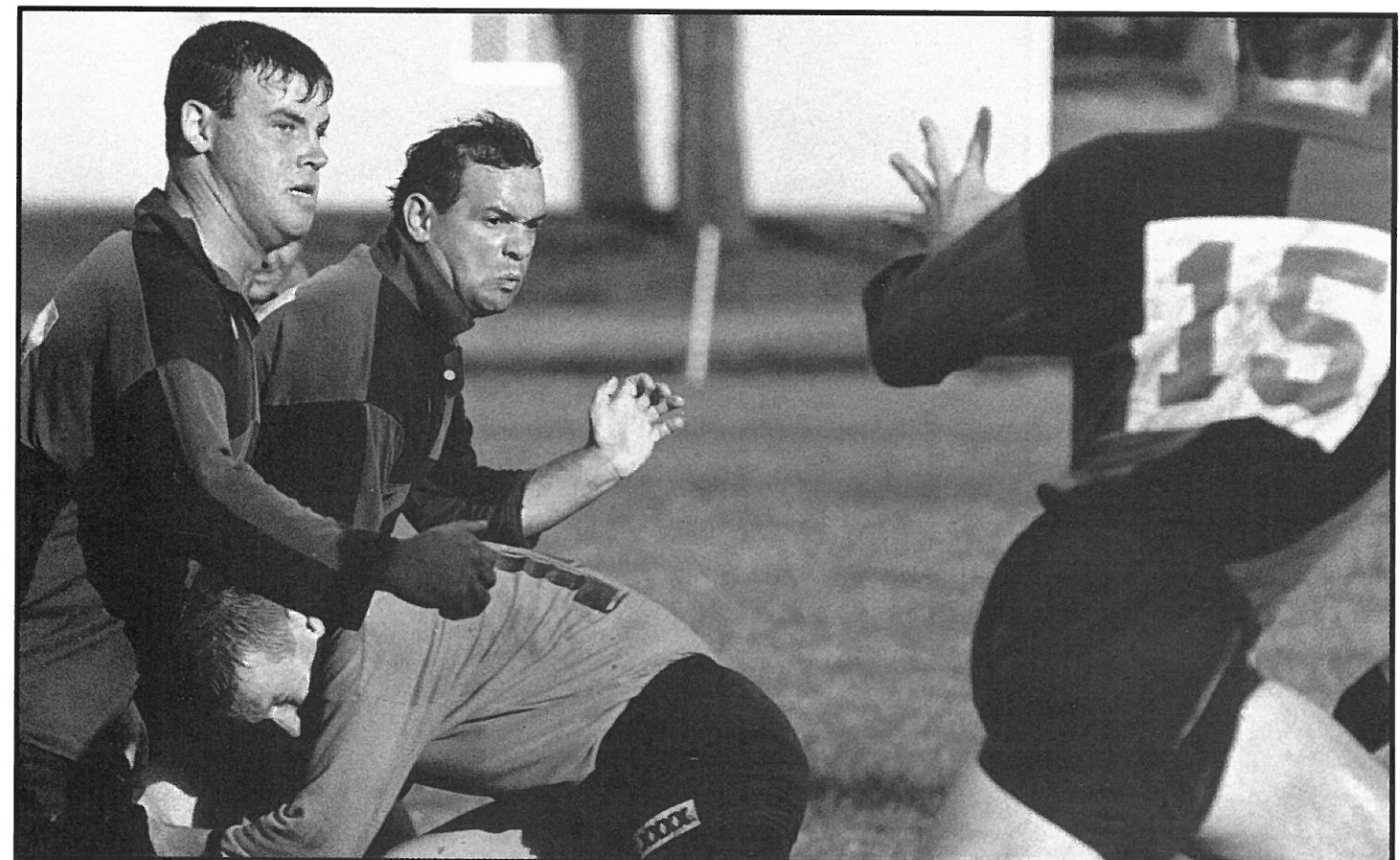
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MAJ Howard suddenly realises he is the oldest player in the comp.



Champion Sect — CPL Roberts, A Coy.

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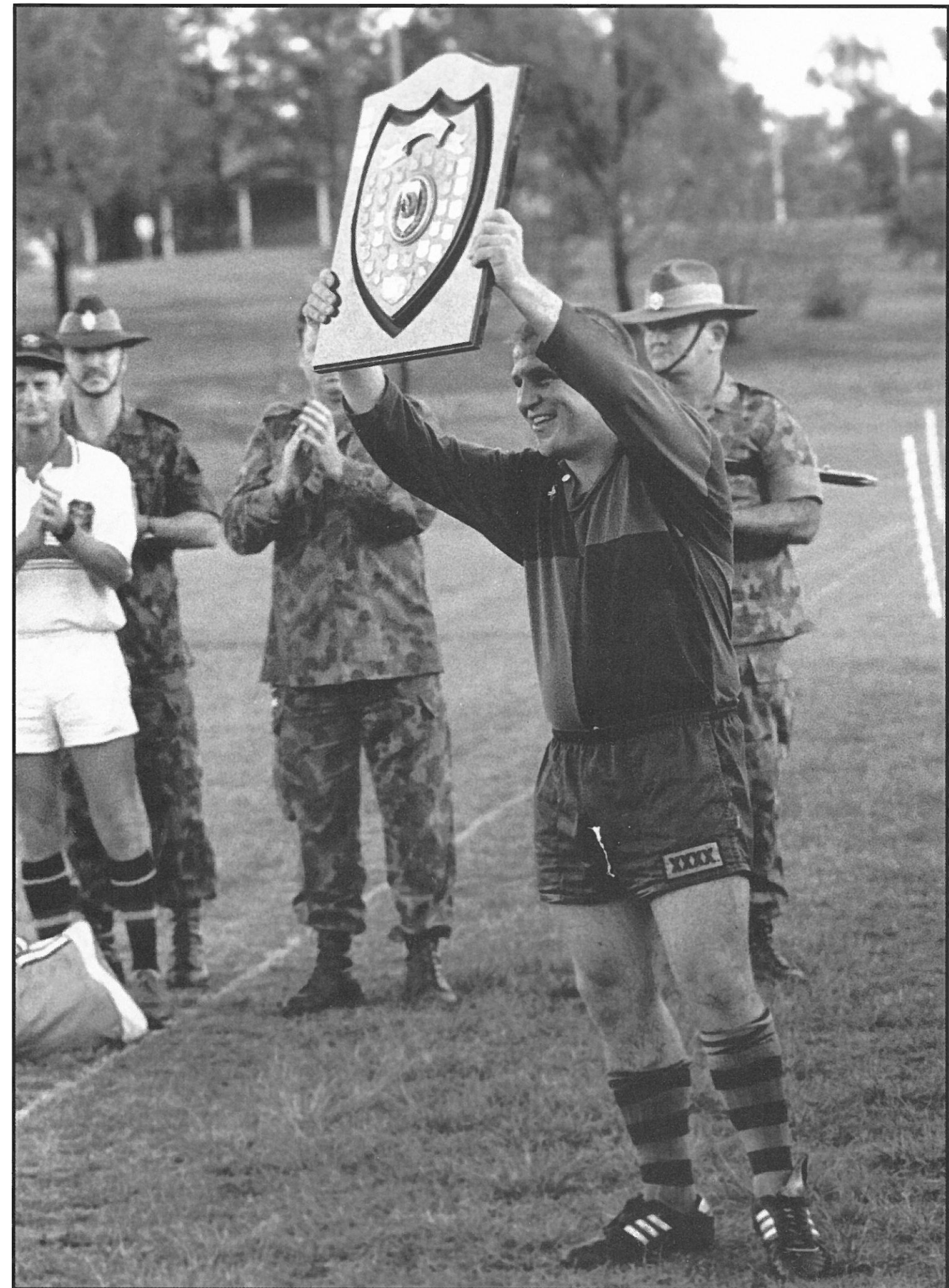
A Company VAP — “No matter which way I look, it's still just a big truck”.



"And if he is a really good bloke, he will reach around". CSM Schlegel at work.



Long Look Exchange CPL Stanley with Bish and Griffo.



Richo holds the big one aloft.

SPORTS SECTION

8/9 RAR RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL CLUB

1994 was a very pleasing year for the club achieving the ultimate goal as premiers 1994, the club also achieved this title undefeated, something not often done. It was a year which tested the depth of players throughout the year with some players making appearances in some unusual positions. This most obvious against 49 RQR when only three of the normal pack made it to the paddock.

The 1994 season was broken into two halves. The 10's competition which saw 8/9 RAR finish seventh. A game which did not suit our big forward pack and a game which was not keenly pursued by the club. The lack of players at the beginning greatly hampered the club. However from these humble beginnings a glimpse of what was possible was shown against Wide Bay, 8/9 RAR dominating, winning 21-12. In this manner the season properly began with Richard Evans introducing us to his training methods and drill sessions some players found harder than playing the game each week.

With several players leaving at the end of the season it is perhaps fitting that we remember those characters who made the team what it was. They include: Big Bazza and 'Homer', Locky our own Redneck, the Amberley connection Brad and Lenny and the list goes on. It is also a time to look to the future

with Mackay-Payne getting better, and Mudguts and Weaver helping out.

The prize winners for the year are:

Best and Fairest	C. Lutz
Best Back	G. King
Best Forward	D. Tompkins
Most Improved	W. Ellem
Best Clubman	B. Lollback
Coach's Award	K. Savory

It should also be noted that Cameron Lutz also received the prize of 'Best and Fairest' in the competition, a prize which he thoroughly deserved.

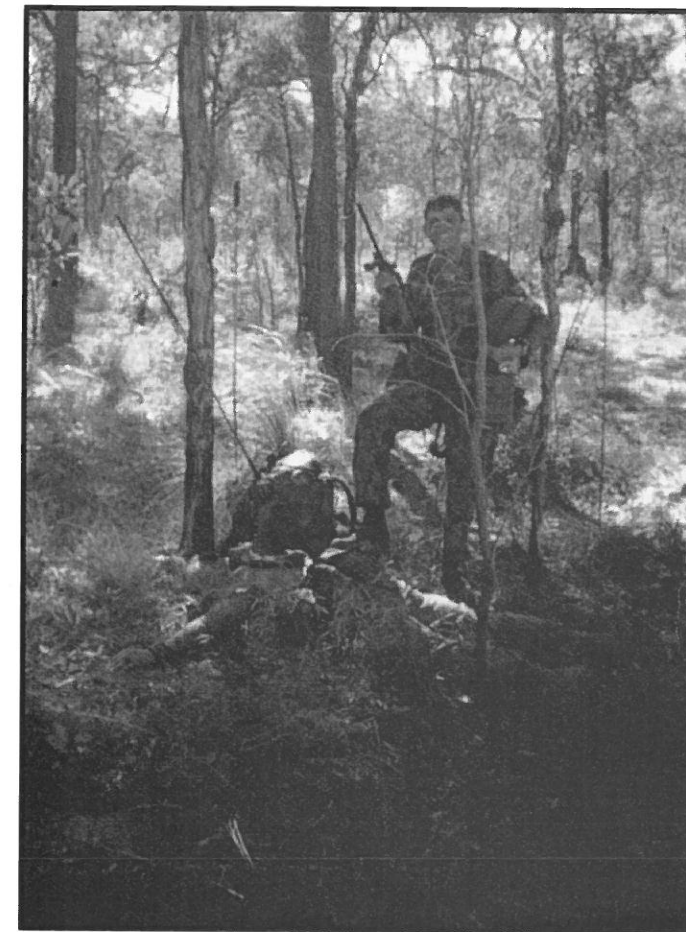
It was a curious feeling walking off the field after the Grand Final, finally winning it. Besides being happy, many of the players felt an undercurrent of disappointment that we, the team, didn't play as well as we know we could have. It is this fact that is most pleasing in a splendid year, that we as a team played not just to win but to always play our best. It is this striving to play the perfect game that will leave the 8/9 RAR R.U.F.C. in good stead for next year.

From the Coach: Thanks to ALL the players for the commitment that they have shown throughout the year. Looking forward to next year. See you there.

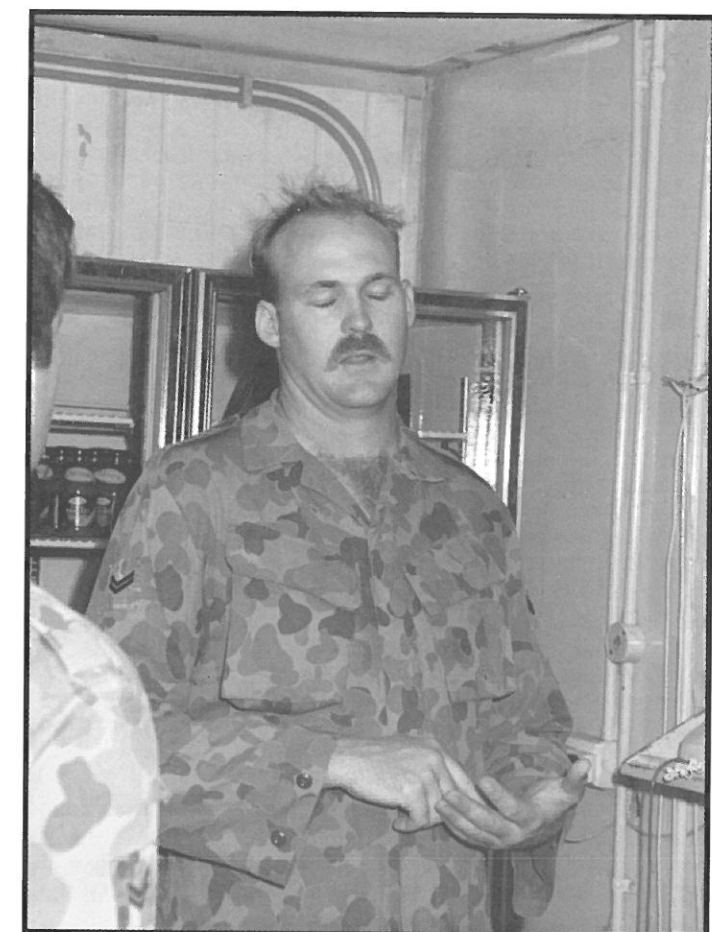
—Yours in Rugby, J.R. Evans



The team — undefeated premiers.



CPL Smedley finally bags the OC.



"Let's see, beer is \$1 a can and I want 2 cans, ummm?"



A Company reverse cycle training — "Can you see her!!!"

B COMPANY HEADQUARTERS

This year saw the company commence its Part Time Service role proper as a company in its own right staffed, in the main, by soldiers from Victoria and a selected few from the other states. Not only has the company changed the way it operates but there has also been a full change in the command structure with some of the occupants of those positions having changed more than once.

The company has participated fully in two major exercises in 1993.

Exercise Tracker Ram was conducted in the Wide Bay Training Area (and associated drug plantations) and saw the company conduct independent operations from a company patrol base with the support of various battalion assets. The exercise provided some fairly realistic training for everyone who participated in conjunction with the state police and the company medic who got some practice in removing the machete Pte Paas imbedded in his own knee in the desire either to prove that he was ready for the SAS selection course or to avoid having to fill in his pit. Whatever the case, we are glad that he left it till the last day.

Exercise Ready Shield was conducted in Shoalwater Bay (with an interlude at Rockhampton High School) where the company operated as part of the battalion with brigade support and resulted in the establishment of a new position in B Coy HQ. That of Coy Poet. We learned several important lessons from the exercise, a selection of them being:

BASC Rockhampton is a place that you never want to spend time in if you can avoid it;

The load straps on a Corps of Transport semi-trailer are capable of squashing steel trunks (several of them) and their contents if a truckie tightens them enough;

Pre-deployment kit checks are important. If you don't do them the Sigs Det leave their stick books behind;

A rifle company can do anything, even put on a concert complete with pianist and poet at short notice;

There is no requirement for the CSM to be issued with ammunition, he's always absent from company headquarters when the contacts occur;

You CAN fit the kitchen sink in or on your webbing if you are a platoon commander and it doesn't really make that much noise;

It doesn't matter if you make a mess around the OC. He'll clean it up for you. And wash the company vehicle and re-pack the company trailer every second day; and finally

Don't sneak out of camp and go to the local disco in your uniform on the last day. You might get caught.

Selected members were also in attendance on Exercise Stan Trek which was organised by the CSM and was where everyone (except Maj Tomkins and the CSM) survived on live chooks and dead potatoes.

Other significant events during the period include:

The promotion of a number of Part Time Service personnel to NCO rank;

The conduct of a variety of advanced, live, field firing activities including armoured battle runs, sneaker ranges and section attacks;

The award of the best soldier trophy to Pte Buturlin; and

The transfer of several members of the company to the ARA.

In short, the company has had a successful and enjoyable year and looks forward to an equally challenging and satisfying year to come with some old faces and some new.



Transport Platoon looking for their trucks.



B COMPANY HEADQUARTERS 8/9 RAR FEBRUARY 1994



Tpt course Fodder Drive heads for the big dry.

TRANSPORT PLATOON

1994 has been an eventful year for Transport PI starting the year with 20 soldiers only to have them finish Ex READY SHIELD and head home, leaving us with 8 personnel and sixty vehs to maintain and support the Bn. This year we ran a B7 Landrover Cse, the first for Ready Reserves which was a complete success except for a couple of minor infractions. PTE Tyack (Tic Tac from Sigs) totalled a Ford Falcon. His only comment was "Don't ask me". CPL West (Bubba) helped as an Instructor who enjoyed the road run at Wondai proved you can grow icicles on the end of your nose. The trip to the Cherry Venture was an eye opener especially the numerous sightings of the female persuasion. The T109 Cse was a success qualifying people in truck driving. A fodder drive was organised in conjunction with the road run covering a total of 3000 kms giving all the cse including the instructors an insight into hardships endured by farmers and people living in Qld's outback.

At the end of the year we will farewell SGT Brian Vesper, 20 years of almost undetected crime remembered for his unusual approach to work, love of card games and his best catch phrase "I'll bet you anything". All the best from the PI in your new business venture and semi-retirement.

CPL Hill - to civvy street. His knowledge and expertise in transport will be sorely missed. All the best Stu and congratulations on your marriage to Melissa. LCPL Rabe to the Main Q probably never to be seen again once he passes through the doors in Q Store heaven.

LCPL Sweatman - hopefully he would like to become a medic. All the best in your new endeavours.

Max to A Coy hope your aspirations and capabilities are used to their full potential.

Welcome to the PI - WO Levitt and SGT Harris, we hope you enjoy your stay. The year has been eventful with CSE breakdowns and minor accidents and life would be harder if not for Tech Spt. To those guys we thank you for your help and spt.

In '95 we look forward to a bigger and better year.

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4 PLATOON AND STAFF B COMPANY 8/9 RAR FEBRUARY 1994



TPT PL — "All of these members consequently found work with the DMR".



5 PLATOON BRAVO COMPANY 8/9 BATTALION THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT FEBRUARY 1994



6 PLATOON AND STAFF B COMPANY 8/9 RAR FEBRUARY 1994



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COMMENTS FROM THE SUPER COACH AND HIS TEAM AT THE MAIN Q

We kicked off the year with an eventful trip called ex "CYCLONE SURPRISE" (READY SHIELD). Everyone enjoyed the exercise, especially those who didn't attend. "ANYTHING BUT A ECH" Barker was carrying out his normal menial tasks well at B ech. Pearcey was lying on his stretcher at the ammo point, conducting cyclone training, wondering why he was there by himself.

Then it was back to the house of confusion for a short period then a well earned rest period. We then returned refreshed jumping out of our skin with enthusiasm to get down to a 100% ces stocktake which left Tech Spt Pl in complete disarray closely followed by Transport Pl's Lcpl "OOOOOORRRRRRAAAAAHHHHHH" Rabe. The QM has now departed for greener pastures at the Pine Hills sports club where "Q" staff have been known to frequent. We wish all the best for him and his family, whatever the future may hold.

At the moment we are building up to another stress stocktake, once again Sgt "EAT YOUR HEART OUT WAYNE RAINEY" Brown will be deficient from the Q store on long service leave. All the best for you and your family.

Here's just a few classic comments from the staff at the Main Q,

RQMS WO1 Morrissey - Have I got some stories for you about the sub that got away.

QMS-1 SSGT Williams - I would like please 2 dollar chip in 2 1 dollar packets.

SGT Ledgers Barker - I nominate myself for most outstanding cricketer of the year for 1993, congratulations Geoff.

SGT Clothing Brown - Has anyone seen my keys so I can get the ladder out of the house of cloth.

CPL TECH Vandenhurk - Any chance of getting a forklift with a winch sir?

CPL DUF Hunt - I'd love to see BHQ get all of their stationary in one sock!

CPL AMMO Pearce - Yes sir, all stocktakes on ammo have been completed monthly for the year of '94?????

LCPL HARLEY Baines - Who said I was a red haired abbo with a bad temper and no friends?

LCPL EXPENCE Rohde - That's the best T109 cse I've attended in my military career.

LCPL R&I Summers-Taylor - Computers? I can fix'em or then again I could always f--k 'em.

PTE BARRACKS Steel - Excuse me Cpl but if I get on the piss, do I have to come to work on time tomorrow?

As for the ready reserve contingent, we thank the following members for attending Pte's Ryan, Brown and O'Hearn. Congratulations to those that made the ARA, Pte's Harper, Bates, Lugton, Blue M'call, Jenson, Fraser and Pok. And to the discharges, Pte's Maddox, Watt, Lawn, Wright, Armstrong and Horbury - all the best for civvy street.

As for the rest of the year, we are all looking forward to deploying interstate as admin support groups for the rifle coy's and then READY SHIELD '95.

We welcome the seven new members to the main Q store and hope they enjoy their stay.



CSM Admin selflessly offers himself as bait!

CATERING PLATOON

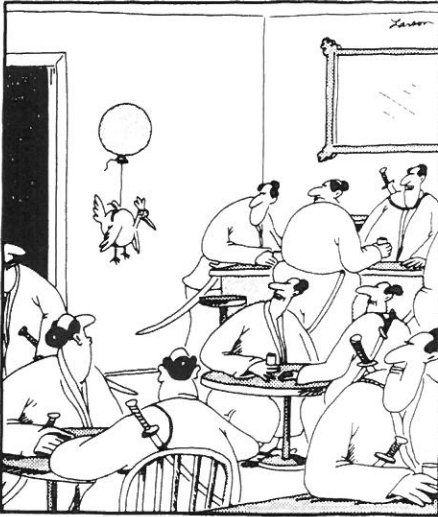
1994 has found 8/9 RAR catering platoon with a strong confident contingent of chefs. At the end of 1993, our hierarchy was depleted with the posting of SGT LES PALMER and SGT GLENN THORNEWAITE. There were no replacements for this pool of experience, thus the challenge of coordinating the day to day operation of the platoon has been left to the Caterer (WO2 GANT), SGT QUIDO CERNIK and SGT STEVE MACKAY.

We began that year refreshed from our ten days stand down over Christmas period. On returning to the Battalion we were briefed on Exercise Ready Shield, then four days later we deployed. The exercise proved to be an entertaining affair. During our time in the exercise area we were forced to submit to the whims of Cyclone Rewa and re-deploy to the Rockhampton show grounds. It was here under the guidance of LCPL Antonie that pray sessions were conducted daily, with the goal of re-deploying the training area, and I am happy to state that we were able to recommence our support with the battalion after 2 days in limbo.

On completion of the exercise the catering platoon was divided into two sections. One section redeployed to Brisbane to cater for the returning Ready Reserves, while the second section stayed with the battalions - A Echelon to partake in deployment exercises, CPL Pete Reynolds, PTE Taffy Evans, PTE Brett Harris and PTE Brad Omeara demonstrated true catering spirit under trying circumstances, from being washed



Shep: "You really want to know what I am cooking?"



In what was destined to be a short-lived spectacle, a chicken, suspended by a balloon, floated through the Samurai bar's doorway.



Medieval chicken coops



Vera looked around the room. Not another chicken anywhere. And then it struck her — this was a hay bar.

DELTA COMPANY

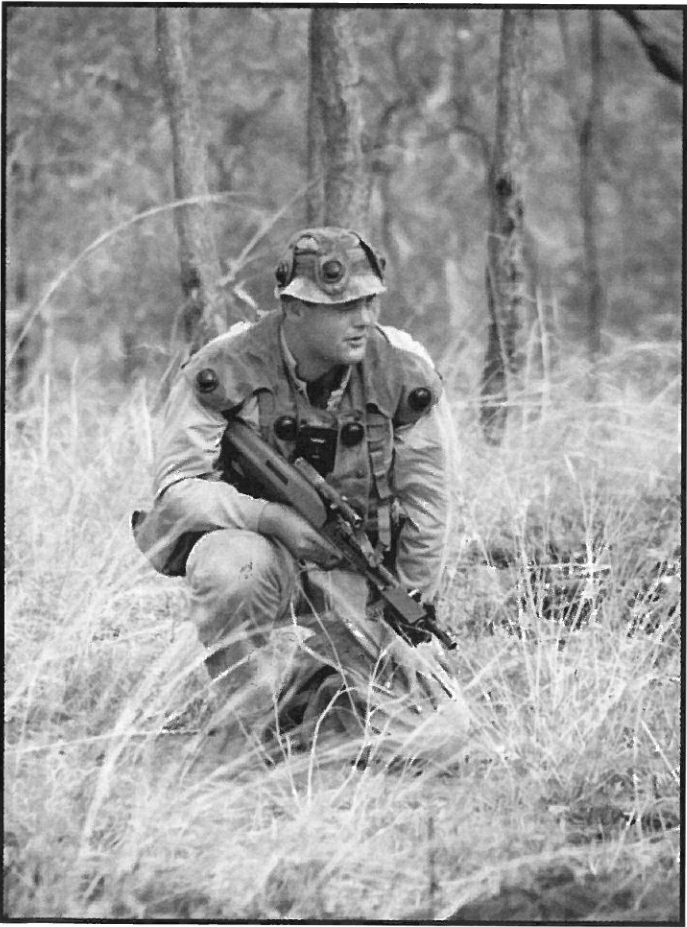
The Phoenix soared again in 94. The year started with a bang and is going to end with tumultuous thunder. After the reshuffle of 93,, the Company got together in Rockhampton for a summer time romp through Shoalwater Bay. Major Miat Niilus grabbed the boys and flew off into the scrub occasionally returning for the odd range practice, and Warrant Officer Ronny Lloyd dropped in when it suited him, mainly around range time. Once the ranges were finished, the Battalion (Delta that is) joined the Ram at the READY SHIELD Rockhampton Royal Show. Four days of Battalion Headquarters knowing exactly where the Brigade's fourth manoeuvre group was located. After the delights of camp life we hoofed off into the weeds, never to be seen or heard of until that magical message "End Ex".

Back to Base and then to the four winds. A lot of new faces had been on READY SHIELD but Delta continued to impress, we were impressed anyway. Some guys had come from other companies and some of our FTS pals had left to others. No matter why or how or where they came from, Delta Company has managed to maintain that air of supremacy and arrogance associated with the Phoenix.

PTS training is a new ball game. Some notable changes included the departure of Major Niilus and the arrival of Captain now Major David Tompkins. Captain Schwebel moved to Battalion (8/9 RAR) Headquarters and was found to be irreplaceable - is that the measure of the man or the position? Warrant officer Lloyd flew to Support Company, and out of the blue came Warrant Officer Dave Lucas, (ex A Coy, Admin Coy, Civi?)

All the platoon staff died a natural FSR death except for Lieutenant Ian Hubbard and Sergeant 'Richo' Richards. Sergeant Owen Trevorrow arrived and stamped his style on the Company.

PTS mode, what do we do now? How about ring the soldiers? Good. Ring - no answer - not here - number disconnected, so on, so on ahh got one! Now we have you, lets see you. So in May the CSM chuffed off on the liaison tour from hell. A good trip, got to see most of the soldiers, unfortunately had to get rid of a number because we just



CFN Lutz on the prowl.

couldn't find them. This is the sad part. The Delta Company CLK, LCPL, Blue Ellem, hates to see you go, as does CQMS, PTE 'Lambo' Markie. (Mother left for the Main Q but rumour has it he'll be back).

The next get together for Delta was Ex STAN TREK. A mid year concentration for those who had missed other training periods or were on the Subject Two for CPL Course or the Driver's Course. This was a platoon size group with guys from other companies and a few clowns from Delta. "Chief Sitting Bull" Mercuri springs to mind. Slats and Squid got made up to CPL and two other guys were substantiated as CPL, well done CPLs Couper and Morley. Part of STAN TREK was a trek. Helped by Smeds, Wharts, Pete, Bish and others we managed to slash a 90 km (some say 150 km) trail through SE Qld. The OC did little to endear himself, ask LCPL Peters of A Coy and CPL Morely. Two rides in one day, one with a civi heading west and another with the boss heading east. Billy Wharton got caught too. But the lads got away with other trips, lifts and fish and chips. Yes the boss knows all.

After STAN TREK we had to get ready for STAN D'ALONE. A Company ex to be conducted in sunny, I bet, Tasmania in Nov/Dec 94. This meant that the poor CSM, Warrant Officer "Frequent Flyer" Lucas has to head south with a Hadgis under one arm or on a long leash. The tour discussed training for Ex STAN D'ALONE, READY SHIELD and 1995. A good success rate was experienced. Thanks for coming in. Next year Liaison Tours will be around the Anzac Day weekend and October long weekend. A Coy concentration will occur for 3-4 days, in Tasmania or Melbourne. Activities will include BFA, CFA, liaison, range qualifications and Pay Level 4 Testing.

Ex STAN D'ALONE is a mammoth effort to accommodate training in home locations. The ex will include ranges, BFA, CFA, a tactical defensive exercise and some adventurous training. We will be all over Tasmania from Hobart, to Brighton to Pontville Buckland, Mersey River, Mt Wellington, Frenchman's cap and back to Brisbane (or Melbourne or from whence you come). A full report will be in next years Ram Magazine.

A good year for 8/9 and a great year for Delta. Some faces go and some come but the spirit of the Phoenix remains. Have a great Christmas and see you all next year.



The soldier.



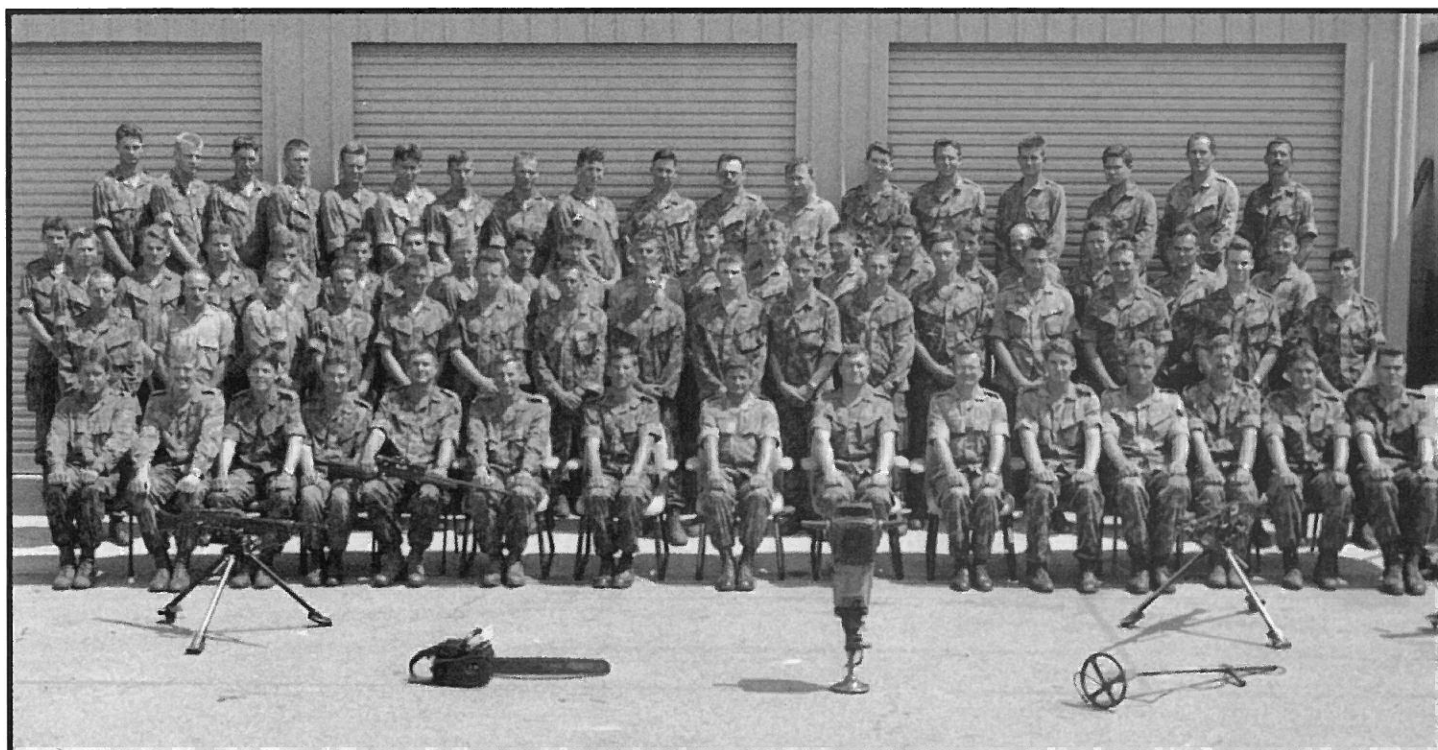
"It's not all hard work".

SUPPORT COMPANY

1994 was a year of flux for the senior company of the Battalion. With an almost complete changeover of personnel during the year. MAJ Karl Howard, CAPT Gavin Wilson and CPL Greg Hooper were banished to BHQ, SSGT 'Henry' Ford opted for Civy Street and so he wouldn't feel left out WO2 Ron Lloyd took some long service leave.

We welcomed CAPT Greg Hansen, CAPT Neil Schwebel and CPL Jeff Cavanough, with PTE John Cooper being dragged out of Pioneers to look after the Company Q store.

The Company was reinforced by the FTS blokes who successfully completed the specialist courses in September and October. The company now has a strength of 152. The next trick is to get everybody at the same place and at the same time! Can we achieve it at Ready Shield?



SPT Company.

JOE'S

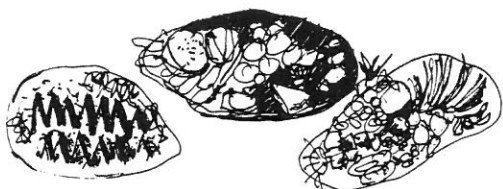
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MEDICAL PLATOON

The year started with a rush for the rap with READY SHIELD kicking off in early January. All members of the RAP deployed to beautiful Shoalwater Bay to soak up the sun and dodge cyclones. Despite the lack of an RMO the usual high standard of medical cover was maintained, evidenced by the low numbers of medically evacuated compared to other similar units.

There followed the usual lull in activity between February and the arrival of the Readies in July with the period being spent taking BRL and medically administering soldiers throughout the country by long distance manipulation and negotiation. The arrival of the Ready Reserve Company provided some numbers for sick parade and the usual training aids on which to sharpen our medical skills.

The platoon has enjoyed a fairly stable year with personnel but changes are afoot.

The Team:

M.O. Dr Bruce Rodgers has moved to greener pastures in

private practice and has been replaced by MAJ (ret) Craig Shearing ex (unregimental) RMO of the Battalion.

SSGT Brian Mundy after a combined 5 years in the Battalion, most of it on HDA, is off to the Area Medical Centre in January. 'I know it's not the real Army but what the heck, it's HDA for WO and it's in Brisbane.

CPL Richard 'Blue' Gosztyla is taking discharge in January to pursue new challenges and no, it is not true that he is looking for work as a public address system.

CPL Chris 'the body' Stindl is off to 1 Field Regiment at years end where his weight lifting will no doubt be useful if he has to help play gun bunny.

CPL Harry 'happy' Beyne is staying but no doubt hoping his repeated cries of 'send me OS again' are heard by corps so that he can add to his property portfolio.

CPL Craig 'Spud' Summers joined us in July and is no doubt pleased to be back in his old Battalion, this time as a medic.

In all a good team and a good year. The Platoon thanks all those who have helped us to help the Battalion and wish all good soldiering and good health.



Medical Platoon — "A bunch of caring and hard-worked individuals".

TECH SPT

Again we find ourselves having to contemplate the year's events and relive some of the more colourful moments of life in Tech Spt.

The first two months of 1994 seem to draw a blank for the majority of the platoon members as therapy continues. Vague recollections of numerous work parties, daily battalion vehicle inspections and preparing meals as honorary cooks still plague troubled minds. However, all was not lost. Amusing recollections such as the time spent at Rockhampton during the cyclone crisis when certain Ready Reserve members were persuaded that one of the GMV's was actually a pie truck. Then there was Matt Hardy's unauthorised test-fire followed by his classic statement, "I was bored so I squeezed the trigger." In addition, who could forget this ball-tearer, "Reference the shitters Sir, slight right, you'll find the CP just there," say no more.

This year the workshop was, again, reorganised to satisfy OH&S and other factors. However, some of the Tech Spt veterans developed a feeling of deja vu as the new layout was revealed. The workshop was not the only change of appearance that took place. 1994 saw the introduction of the new 'super safety boot' with its various 'mod cons' such as zip up sides and appealing shade of brown. This new development in workshop attire has drawn great interest from other RAEME elements in the brigade.

On the subject of improvements to workshop equipment, tests were postponed regarding project 'GMV Lift-Off' (the controversial attempt to fly GMV's utilising the side doors as wings). During trials, test pilot Bill Nolan and chief navigator Fred Voight encountered turbulence before leaving the ground and the left 'wing' became detached. Inspection of the black-box flight recorder later revealed a brick wall as the cause and

both members were cleared of any negligence.

New members of the platoon this year include Jamie Ware, Cameron Lutz, Llew Skinner, Gordon (Skip) Smith, Laurie Wallace, Rick Carthew and Dave Pitts. Postings out include Phil Dieghton, Mark (THE FUNKSTER) Coxhedge, Danny Power, Chris (YOU FILTHY LITTLE MONKEY) Benstead and not forgetting Chris (Ron) Reagan who scored the ultimate skive and departed on 12 months LWOP. It also appears that Skip will soon depart and take on a new career path, closely followed by Rick.

The achievement's attained by Tech Spt this year are numerous and therefore I shall mention only a few. Firstly, Scott Simcoe set the pace on Subj 1 for CPL and showed the arms corps members how it's done. For his efforts he received an all expense paid trip to New Zealand. Scott was also the captain and coach of the Battalion's Basket Ball Team.

Terry Campbell successfully completed his Subj 1 for SGT and coached the Battalion Aust Rules Team. Andrew (FAZZ) Farrington captained and coached the Battalions' Water Polo Team and attended Tri-Service competition in Canberra. The ASM's archery exploits led to his competing in the World Masters' Games.

Bill (Question Man) Nolan was awarded his long awaited promotion and got himself out of mess duties much to the dismay of the Craftsmen, and jubilation of the JNCO's. Fred Voight is currently on his Subj 4 for SGT and is otherwise occupied at the Wodonga College of TAFE.

This brings us to the future and what it holds for Tech Spt Pl. Will Bill Nolan be put on the Tech Spt sub account or will a posting order cross the ASM's desk before it's too late? Will Terry Campbell embark on a singing career to rival the great Don Maclean? Will Shannon Smith become a Craftsman or will the VM's course he so desperately desires elude him again? Whatever eventuates, Tech Spt will remain to cater to the whims of the Battalion for another year.



Tech Spt Platoon.

MORTAR PLATOON

Well, what a year! The year saw the platoon with a new boss—CAPT Wilson fresh in from Amberley and full of enthusiasm. Sgt Powell who came from the big D and not qualified, but who had to be to sort out the paper work to locate some ready reserves that no one had seen since they finished their course.

CPL's Henderson and Allen, fresh from rifle companies, but keen to get into the swing of things. All was made easy for everyone of us, with the help of the old wise one (Roachie) who we all voted should be the time capsule for Support Company.

As far as exercises go, "Ready Shield" would have to be the highlight of the year (not!!). We got to know each other and found out that the boss doesn't like mornings, loves a shower, and at times forgets where some of his equipment is. The exercise saw us chased out of the Bay by a cyclone, but we beat nature and fought our way back. After the bush trip we waved away with sadness our ready reserve soldiers and into a period of indoor cricket matches, leave, indoor cricket matches, courses and more indoor cricket matches.

Time flew past and saw us running the Mortar course for the Brigade, and with the end of the course 9 new soldiers very keen to leave the big A Company behind them as they seemed to like the idea of fishing gear getting packed for bush before anything else.

A change of pace now with a quick word from the diggers of the platoon! Greetings to all your snorkers out there, just a word from the digs now. The course from our point of view was a lot of fun, a great learning experience and a vast breakthrough into the world of greater sexual terminology thanks to Roachie and Hoddle. Amid the heartwrenching turmoil of learning to plot and bringing the platoon into action, we found through time to band together and get a bit of team spirit going. To sum up - we learnt alot and the future looks good.

Well, back to reality now. The year saw many changes and at times no one was really sure what job CAPT Wilson had, who was the MLO and CAPT Hansen thrown into the deep end being OC of the company and with a couple of days notice, running the mortar course and mortar PL Cmd.

Two other people that haven't been heard of yet in this little story are Marti our storeman (we think) and Stotzi who was sent to A Company to learn the art of 2IC in a rifle section. Oh and who could forget Walks (Phantom) also a refugee from A Company.

Overall a pretty good year and are sad to see some people leaving - Hendo, Roachie and Sarge, but we hope things go well for everyone.

PS We'd like to give a big Mortar Pl thanks to the Main Q and transport platoon. And you've gotta be happy with that!!!

PPS It was good to see at last some of our PTS soldiers could make it back, they must have read their hat badge a few more times than some of the others.

CAPT Wilson	Where's my pack
CAPT Hansen	Yibbeta Yibbeta I'm Rex Hunt and you're not
2LT Dale	Am I in mortars or not
2LT Grant	Who
SGT Powell	I'm not qualified!
CPL Allan	Go you good thing
CPL Henderson	Recruiting for the Third Riech
CPL Roach	I don't drink
LCPL Martin	I don't know where it is
LCPL Walker	I'm back
PTE Grant	Hoddle again
PTE Banks	I'm not an animal
PTE Bridges	We have no comment!
PTE Browning	Wheres me rifle
PTE Broszil	Gumby
PTE Higgnet	Twiggnet wheres my chest
PTE Nevin	The Assassin
PTE Kite	Iceman
PTE Paton	Pants down Paton
PTE Riordan	Deep sea mullet fisherman
L/CPL Stotz (wearing red shoes)	there's no place like home



RECON PLATOON

This year has been another interesting and productive year for Recon Platoon. Exercise Ready Shield in January of this year was a good opportunity for the platoon to work within their patrols once again, creating a good team environment. The Platoon confirmed on Ready Shield they are a force to be reckoned with, portraying the skills and spirit of Recon.

Recon Platoon Commander Tim Stevens successfully completed the SAS cadre course and has since completed both the patrol and parachute courses. Lt Stevens is now posted to SAS, LCPL B.P. McNamara has been posted to Alpha Company on promotion and will be missed by the Platoon. The Recon Platoon sergeant Nev 'Rock' Warwick was promoted earlier in the year to Sgt and the Platoon has gained a new Platoon Commander LT John Eiby who has come over from Bravo Company.

LT Eiby and four soldiers completed the basic recon course conducted by 6RAR. All found the course a real challenge with RV procedure and the field phase at Mt Mee the most enjoyable parts of the course. PTE Tobias Swanson achieved student of merit. Well done swanno!

The Platoon has just completed Ex Stan Surprise and all in recon found the exercise very worthwhile. The exercise was a good opportunity for Recon Platoon to operate within an open country environment as well as being introduced to the UH1H helicopter.

The remainder of the year sees Recon Platoon preparing for Ex Ready Shield which will give the Platoon an opportunity once again to shake out and be the eyes and ears for the Battalion.

Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year!



“Now we’ll find the varmint for sure. ...
Red Nev can read even the smallest trail signs.”



“This muffler is definitely on the way out”.

ADMINISTRATION COMPANY

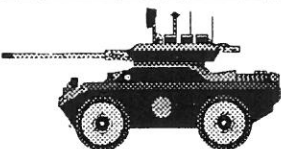
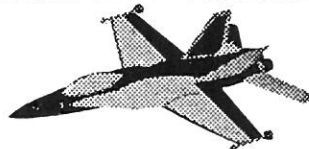
1994 saw the evolution of Administration Company headquarters with a new OC - MAJ Barnes and CSM - WO2 Levitt. The crew was also joined by a new CQ — SSGT Wallace and Storeman - PTE Thompson. With the mixing of the old and new we happily departed for Ex READY SHIELD, and much fun was had. The 2IC was dispatched to F Ech to Pers/Log Cell to pine about returning to A Ech, with the CSM hoping he would. It was an exercise remembered most for the phase 'complete the loop', heard often at evening prayer sessions. Other notables included the scream of anguish by CPL Cavanough when trying to balance the parade state.

Upon returning from the Bay the Company HQ settled into a comfortable routine which has continued for the remainder of the year. The thrice weekly conference was always a highlight with CAPT Halls (now Mister) and the ASM, WO2 'Boat' Davies trying to determine who could bring up the most points.

As the year has continued on the Coy HQ is again changing with SSGT Wallace leaving to do study and CPL Cavanough going to SPT Coy after fleeing the Tipping Competition. Further change is expected with CAPT Savory going to BLG and WO2 Levitt moving to Tpt Pl. However, as these transitions occur the Coy will be gearing itself for leave and Ex READY SHIELD 95 which promises to be a lot of fun.



Admin Company Headquarters.



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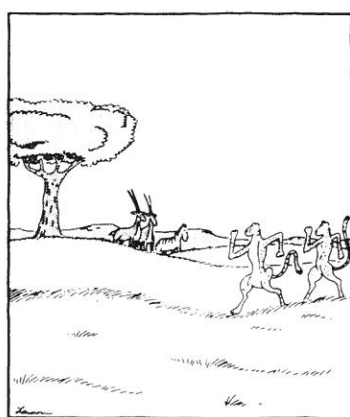


BACK AT BATTALION HQ THE PLAN IS COMPLETED.



"I've never seen this before, Roy! ...
They've all stopped running!"

IN THE BATTALION LIFE IS HAPPY AGAIN. WITH THE
SIGNALLERS TAKEN CARE OF, EVERYONE CAN LIVE
PEACEFULLY UNTIL THE NEXT EXERCISE



Alert, but far from panicked, the herbivores
studied the sudden arrival of two cheetah
speedwalkers.



The action suddenly stopped while both sides
waited patiently for the hornet to calm down.

PIONEER PLATOON

Pnr's couldn't have had a better start to the year. Renown for their bad reputation especially at BASC Rocky. The reason for that reputation was our hard working efforts on READY SHIELD 94 (culverts, watermanship; LZ's demolitions) and we split up as usual to assist the dreaded rifle coys. It was also the last ex for LCPL/PTE/CIVI Kelly and SGT/CIVI Willan with Pnr's. Then the ready reserve soldiers left the PI because their part time commitment had finished, so they headed off in their own direction. When we arrived back at Brissy within 1 month CPL (Banger) Coughlan was finally promoted to SGT (Big Banger) Coughlan and took over the PI. The store has seen many changes all for the good of Pnr's. Also through the year Pnr's, all 6 of us, have had many tasks cementing, cementing and cementing and fenced the car park around the Sgt's Mess.

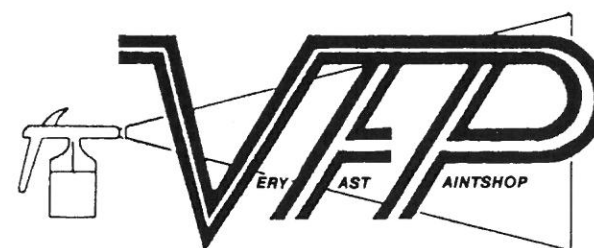
The Breaker Brothers, Whales and Cares were put on the T109 Dvr's Cse (oh no) which they successfully passed, then Ex STAN SURPRISE tested their talents with the dreaded 8 ton trailer. During the middle of the year Bill & Kingy were put on the Offr/NCO Pnr Cse (more courses at Singo). They successfully passed all drinking tests with a hangover here or there. Oh yeah and the cse as well. Finally the last member of the dirty half dozen, our dedicated storeman/carpenter/mechanic/stud, or so he tells us John (Holmes) Cooper.

Well the year has been a quiet but good one for Pnr's and as we look forward to BRL and the farewell parties (of Whales and Cares). Well another year almost over but we'll be back next year and depleted of the dirty quartet (SGT Cogs, Bill, Kingy and Coops). As we sign off we leave you with our theme song .

Bauw, Bauw, Bauw, Jiggy, Jiggy, Jig.



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DFSW PLATOON

DFSW Pl's year began with an interesting insight on how other arms operated in the field. Ready Shield '94 gave us the opportunity to take part in co-ordinated fire planning involving artillery, mortars, DFSW and air support. Memorable moments from the exercise included the whole platoon sleeping in single file on a ridge line in the Hummock Sector and 4 RO's cyclone warnings. However the pinnacle had to be being left on a knoll next to nowhere at midnight, soaking wet, without artillery, telling us they were moving and only 2 land rovers to move 17 men in marching order with 26,000 7.62mm rounds.

The next six months were spent trying to repair the equipment damaged on Ready Shield '94 that is when the ARA Privates and NCO's weren't on the Gold Coast or in Perth. SGT Harris certainly made his presence felt on the basketball court, in fact, I think there may still be a dent where he landed. The results of his accident were rather confusing and included a bizarre mix of crutches, bed rest and beards. CPL Wallace did the hard yards as an umpire for 2/4 RAR in the USA for six weeks while the rest of us slogged it out in the Battalion.

SIGNALS PLATOON

The year started off quietly with Ex Ready Shield '94 when all the RRES soldiers returned to participate in their PTS training. It was during the Ex that the RTX site learnt how to parachute from a chopper, without a parachute, luckily only the RSS sustained injuries.

Other notable moments include: Pte Ingram finding it difficult providing integral communication for the coy without a Radio when he left it behind during a move; 21C Admin interrupting Pte Munro on piquet and didn't realise what was happening; The RSO managed to find the only dead spot in SWBTA and the RTX site got worried when their extraction date was four days after the Ex had finished. After the Ex a Road Run was called for by the OC and Sig Pl gladly answered the call.

As most of the Dets on the Road Run were pulling up to Erotic Hideaways that the Queensland outback has to offer, one Det was pulling into The Twilight Zone. The RSO, Beddo, Hamo, Booney, Tic-Tac (ASIO spy) and Willie the PI KGB spy, were invited to Bill's place to watch the League State of Origin. Harmless enough????

Little did we realise that Bill was a frustrated Infantry man who missed out on going to Vietnam but was prepared for all occasions and was especially prepared for us. But Willie was prepared for Bill, with his trusty machete under his pillow, should anything happen during the night.

The Det managed to stay alive long enough to depart from Bill's place never to see poor Bill again. The Road Run continued and it was thought that Beddo threw smoke on the departure from Springsure, when his FFR disappeared in a cloud of black smoke, only to find that it was a blown oil line. The Road Run finally made its way to Rocky where the RSS

July saw us heading north to Shoalwater Bay again to work with artillery, and it was good to see the place hadn't changed. We only managed to scrape one section together but it had to be one of the most top heavy sections ever. With a LT as section commander and gun crews full of NCO's, PTE Kerr must of had no doubt in his mind as to whose responsibility it was to dig the latrine.

The Basic Course was run by 6RAR this year and surprise, surprise, it was held at Shoalwater Bay. We gained a further eight members for the platoon and if nothing they are well trained in fire fighting. The abundance of time on the course afforded Easty the opportunity to plan the revival of his Monaro. It has done more k's between workshops than on the open road.

Overall, it has been a good year for DFSW PL. The introduction of the modified vehicles next year promises to be exciting and a lot more comfortable. People appear to be coming to grips with the change from Heavy Weapons to DFSW and 94 will have to be remembered as "the year we didn't play enemy".

managed to stay standing long enough to enjoy the Black night and Dono and the RSO were rejected by two of Rocky's glamour's disguised as circus animals.

The remainder of the year was quiet with the PI only managing 20 Spt tasks between 10 people. Where possible the PI managed to get on cses which included the VHF Raven instructor cse. Crabs, crabs and more crabs said the RSS after returning from another Swan trip cleverly disguised as a VHF Raven instructor course. It is rumoured that Watsonia is still being fumigated, but these reports are un-substantiated. In closing it has been a good year for the PI and we are looking forward to another challenging year in 95.

Signal Platoon Quotes for 94

RSO — You wont be fired, slaves are sold!

RSS — Turn it off, Turn it off, Hamo you bastard turn the bloody thing off!!!

Simon — Mal Jenny's on the phone.

Coons — Yum, Yum, Yum said the Big Brown Bear.

Oades — If you don't shut up you'll get the other half.

Tic Tac — You don't get it, you just don't get it.

Munro — EAT ME, go bite me.

Hamo — Not qualified don't want to know about it.

Mal — Seen my Roids syringe?

Willie — I need time off to move my house.

Chook — Piss off you white Honkeys.

Squizzy — UMMM yes that's right.

Dono — Where's the Witch, behind you.

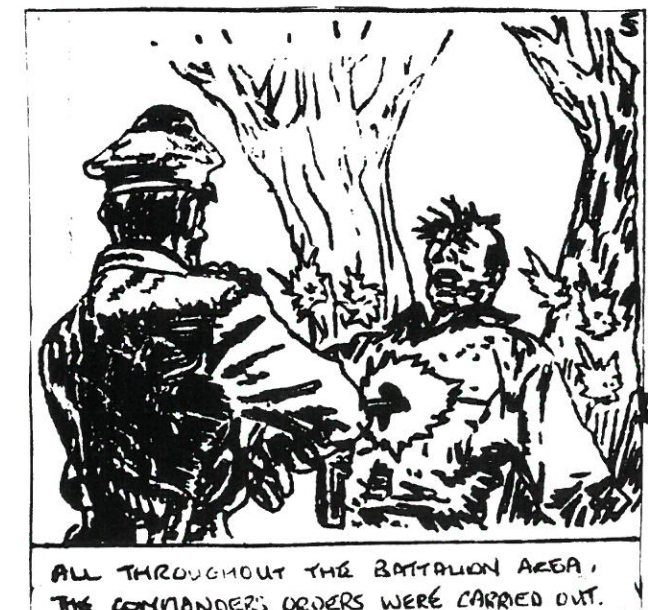
Boonie — Don't talk to me, just don't talk to me, I'm not listening.

40p Commando

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SIG PL