

# Signals Platoon

Signals Platoon had a tough year in 1987. We were constantly deploying on road runs, line exercises and overnight communication recons. This busy schedule cost many sleepless hours. Most areas of North Queensland have now been adequately reconstructed for communications and social life.

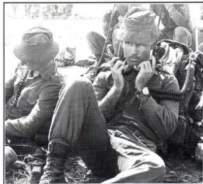
'87 commenced with some staff changes. Capt Rhodes came to replace Capt Mitchell and Danny Sheehan replaced Monty without changing the dress standard. Promotions throughout the year were LCpl's Matoga, James and Sheehan to Cpl and Pte's Kirk and Burger to LCpl. Losses throughout the year were Ray Currien to Melbourne to produce corn chips from Victoria, Adam Boddy to Civvie Street to tour the world and Pte Hynes to RSM batman then Civvie Street on medical discharge. Baldy (Baldwin) went to drink South Queensland dry from Canunga and Danny Sheehan went to the main Q after a visit to 4 Camp Hospital to have his Pte gear surgically removed.

Sporting achievements for the year were headed by Cpl Trevorrow, actually being for some military training. Ray Boneham represented in swimming and water polo and Max Reichow rendered the storeman unconscious in a friendly game of softball. Pte's Hughes and Wilson could have represented Bde or better at Badminton or Squash if administrative hassles had not got in their way. International standard cricket was seen for the first time at the Hidden Valley Cricket Club with the visit of the platoon team. Most players scored at least one dozen.

Signals Platoon worked well and played hard in 1987. Good luck in '88.



LCpl Burger and Pte Reynolds organising some communications



Pte Henderson of Sigs Plt "Stereo Signaling"



Close medical supervision for Jacko on Bluewater Hill



The unknown signaller



LCpl Ostler preparing for his transfer to Delta Coy



Cpl Stumpy Payne making a trunk call



Recon Platoon have been found alive and well

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# Reconnaissance Platoon

Why am I writing about Recon PI in 1987 when I've spent the year away?

I think the answer lies in the fact that I was the last one out of the door when the OC demanded the PI article. But if you think I'm idle, what about this manning for a rogues gallery:-  
Sgt Ian "Crocodile" Dow

The man who displays so much initiative and quick thinking that his left hand doesn't know what his right hand is putting in his pocket. Dow's day is divided into two parts — the Army time and time spent on Dow activities.

Sgt "Bones" Brady

Bones has annoyed me for two years by persistently wearing Dunlop Volleys to PT. I've told him that if he wears them again I'll kill him before he does his knees damage. Bones has good months and some terrible, terrible nights and mornings.

Sgt Haydon

Kal fell lame this year by breaking his leg showing off in front of the OC & CO. After hobbling for months he now limps (but only for PT). Kal doesn't like rapelling too much now.

Col P.J. Brooks

Brooks' fame this year came with his diet of rice sandwiches for the DGC. Although he had to be dragged bitching and screaming into the event he learned one thing — he never wants to be a Delta Section Comd.

Col T.T. Bean

Age is slowly catching T.T. and as December approaches the prospect of a job in the Q system seems appealing. His purchase of a new Pajero is helping the National Debt. T.T., I hope you enjoyed LWG.

Col "Stumpy" Payne

Stumpy entered the PI this year and after his first shower he was the instant PI mascot. With his leg bone and fireman's helmet he has kept Patrol 63B very content out bush. Stump is going on the 288 Selection Course — all the best mate!

Pte Jennings and Eckett

Two fruits were at last united in Recon PI although people put a lot of shit on them, both have done a good job this year and for their rewards are now attending "The Junior Woodchucks Course" with C Coy. Jemmo — you old man — keep the faith and try the west again.

Pte Moyle (alias Richard Geare)

Mac has a bad habit of buying me orange juice in a Fosters Can. His other habit is to tell stories using his fists and turning up to work late with bruised knuckles and a hangover. "Honest Boss, I was just sitting there and this bloke hit me!" Yeah sure Mac!

Pte Proctor

Proctor's lip comes round the corner before he does. He adopts the Coolgardie stance, lets his eyes 'hood' over and always says "..... this is f..... shit ....." Luckily no-one takes him seriously because after three beers Moore has to carry him back to his room. Good luck next year Proctor.

Pte Toohay

Pte Toohay is lucky he is in the Army because otherwise he would be dead or in jail. Anyone who wears a Mohawk and 7 earrings on BRL is bound to attract the Police's attentions. For his sins he has mowed Grannies lawns and won the Army's Sniper Shooting Competition at ASAAM '87.

Pte McGinty & Young

These two went on LWOP to travel to the U.S.A. and never got further than Charters Towers. After working as labourers at Nathan Plaza they realized that being stuffed around doesn't only happen in the Army. Welcome home fellows.

Pte Moyle

After 5 years of hiding Pte Moyle has a last been made to do a Subject 2. I know you would have preferred not to, but

some one had to go, and you got it. Good luck with the training and the course in '88. (P.S. go to Water Ops).

Pte Rees

Pig was a June entrant to Recon and started his trip by throwing up in Cairns and losing his front tooth. Since then the gold peg has been all prominent in PI activities. Now on the Recon Course he's afraid not to do well lest OD find out.

Pte Page

This man admits he used to be a handbag but didn't really like it (or so he reckons). After confirming his fertility he has settled in to become a good bloke to have for advice on all things female. Have a good year in '88 Page!

Pte Wheeler

Pte Wheeler likes to find lost star pickets on night navvies. He also has an immaculate set of front teeth which appear in every photo. The Adj was disappointed when he couldn't stitch you on SE '87.

Pte Moss

The 'lid' has probably suffered since joining the PI because no one likes Hockey or any minor team games. Being a jockstrap has lead to many a hard time from Proc during '87. Good luck with the future.

Dispatch

Camo, Moore and Turnbull left Recon to join C Coy. Moore will probably be an RSM one day and still tell us to cover our packs off in 3 ranks. Camo's flexing out and dreaming of surf and Ball — keep dreaming because 3 days with a pillow case on your head is a long time. Young Nick is a petrol head and will probably blow his next car up as well!

CO, Morris and Kennedy left the PI in June to join SASR. Lucky bastards were there before me!

Epilogue

I would like to thank Recon PI for 2 top years. Remember this men, at a time when the PI had people on the DGC and marching into SASR, we were the only ones to pass all objectives of the ODF test. In terms of getting there and getting the job done, there were none finer than Recon PI in '87.



The men at the top



*This lady has just won third prize in the Spt Coy Raffle*



*Two snipers reading the latest training pam.*



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