

2 Platoon

1988 started with us working over the X-mas period as ODF Coy. Section training was the order of the day with Cpl's Haynes, Elliot and Conrad calling the shots and the Boss and Sarge doing "Admin." Cpl Haynes left us for DPR1 and Cpl Bazza Pickering took over.

Mt Spec, a couple of times during the January/February period with Cpl Pickering providing tactical sneezing demonstrations.

Ex Hamiltons Request was next and the platoon was kept laughing for 2 weeks. Some exploits include: Platoon barbeques at the power station (Jehovah). Half the platoon attacking an ARES Battalion and winning until the DS

thought it was a bit unrealistic. When the ARES was not having a party and a beer we had a great time.

Back to Townsville after standown and up to High Range for some ambushing and interrogation. Not one of us cracked or gave them anything - Hey Saundo.

Next we had nearly Vanuatu and got in some good training. A Coy finally got our para jump thanks to the OC. No one worried about the drills - it was just look up and scream. Sgt Williams left us to become chief of the Gestapo and Sgt Ingall became our new Big Toe.

Then came "Maxi Beagle" - 2 weeks in the sun on the side of the road. We avoided heat, illness, snakes, the enemy etc. only to have Pte Bowen beaten up by a Battle Broiga at Escott Lodge. The platoon is now looking forward to next year and Hong Kong! Doesn't that sound familiar.



Lt Eames



Pte Constantin

3 Platoon

3 Platoon started off the year brilliantly, winning the OC's tests after our ODF stint. That earned the Platoon a trip to Tully. In the rising waters we nearly lost two - Browning and Pugliese after slipping at crossings. Vic Morrow decided to swim across the 3ft deep river during a fighting withdrawal while Szreck lost compasses, claymores and everything else he owned.

After a mammoth 3 day rest we went back out bush for Bn Bushweek. We blitzed the walk in and walk out, and dodged the other platoon's bombs and bullets.

Our next trip was the enemy trip for the ARES at Singleton. We had no trouble pinpointing the enemy as everywhere they went they had their blue portaloo. Electric fences proved a problem at night. The highlight was a section of half naked enemy chasing the boss and Cpl Darcy after an unexpected contact.

Shooting at Mt Vince improved, while future package deals for soldiers at Brampton Island did not. Except for the accusations of rape and drunkenness, none of us could see what the fuss was about.

The platoon performed well in sect Mil Skills with Cpl Stanton and Cpl Delben's section both putting in good efforts.

Most of us jumped out of an aeroplane into Townsville harbour and enjoyed it. There could be a mass exodus to 3 RAR though, for some once was enough.

"Maxi Beagle" turned out to be a good exercise for fishing, spotting crocodiles and reading. In between these activities, the platoon managed to kill a lot of enemy as well as Maj Les Hiddons, the survival expert, in a vehicle ambush. It just shows he's got a bit to learn. (P.S.: he was eating a Mars Bar at the time).

Cpl Bolitho's recon party ended up in the Burketown prison for 3 days. Lt Sutton was attacked by a ferocious broлга only to be saved by an alsation at Escott Station.

Overall, 1988 has proved to be a very successful year for 3 PI, as we hope it will be in 1989.

Those that are leaving or have left in 1988:

Lt Sutton 3 Bde
Sgt O'Donnell LWC Canungra
Cpl Delben PNRS
Cpl Quinn Recon
Cpl Stanton Singleton
LCpl Albon LWC Canungra
Pte Anderson 6 RAR
Pte Rowbottom Tasmania
Pte Smith D Coy



Pte Bowen



LCpl Marshall





Pte Daskal and Pte Horvath



Pte Ritchie



Pte Elliott



Pte Lacey