

Delta Company



"Road Runners."

D Coy deployed as enemy for 1RAR on their air mobile exercise Eager Eaglet 86, the location non other than -HRTA!

The Coy was despatched to three locations, 11PI walked, ran and crawled up and down the entire western side of the range, being chased by frustrated and aggro 1RAR soldiers. 10PI kept the enemy working on the eastern side and experienced four live fire attacks, from the receiving end, with gunships, arty and mortars which gave them more than a scare when some misdirected rounds nearly landed on them. 12PI were scattered all over the place; the red datsun ute (Sgt Dows) was observed being chased from HRTA to the Thuringowa tip by a UH1H gunship - good thing he got away. They also caused havoc in and around the RAAF base causing the defending 1RAR Coy and RAAF police, quite a few headaches.

The grande finale, most probably seen on T.V., was the Coy held up in the old South Townsville Power Station, a Musorian staging area for a quick get away by submarine. 1RAR put in a cordon and stormed the building. Much to their surprise, and much gnashing of teeth, their job was made very difficult with T.J. Jones and several others holding up the bottom floor entry point. It cost the first platoon through the door very dearly. They were wiped out as they entered, the bodies piling up very quickly. Whilst the building could



CPL. Rule after capture at the Power Station.

have been secured in other ways, the fighting was very realistic. A hostage situation brought things to a halt, and whilst Lt Lean sent the police negotiator into complete turmoil and Sue Dow won an oscar for her impressive performance at getting killed, the Townsville Police SWAT team were quite relieved to eventually find out it was an exercise - I'd say it was a draw. A good exercise.



FTE Damien Fay ponders the answer to life, the universe and when next pay day is.



The enemy kept us amused and some interesting skirmishes developed; a high speed chase with APC and two LOHs running top cover netted us a good score! The local Caltex owner looked after the enemy with hamburgers and goffa's, the town drunk advised that the enemy were hiding in the mine shafts around the town-only problem there was that they cover the area, literally thousands! Cpl Lindgren conducted his own recon whilst on patrol one night and fell 20' down a shaft. Luckily it was full of water! He did need a hand to get out and declared it clear - good thing for toggle ropes Les!

An air assault on a station 60km from Croydon went amiss when a CH47, carrying Def PI from 3Bde and members from the Coy, crashed. Luckily it wasn't for real, although many believed it was and helicopters flew around like paper wasps until the CO squared things away, and a massive casevac was organized with all available resources. That over we continued on in APC's and secured the homestead. A good rapport was established with the townspeople, the Coy ate well and were entertained at the rodeo ground by an attractive young lady who showed the lads what could be done with a horse. A cricket match and other activities gave the boys the experience of being on operations whilst working closely with a community.



Our successes on the exercise were shrouded by the theft of three weapons on the second last night. The culprit was caught and found guilty, but it left everyone rather aggro.

On a serious note - I would like to thank all the soldiers in the Bn who openly expressed their support and concern over the incident. That is what makes a good unit and was appreciated by all of us - thank you.

D Coy Boxing



Mt Vince

During exercise Crack Shot Delta Company managed to better its shooting achievements of last year. By the end of the weeks long shooting spree we had produced 41 marksmen, four better than the year before. Admittedly, the Battalions team who were to compete for selection for the Cambrian March were also with us but some of those were ex Delta anyway.

Corporal Lee our medic was the highest scorer on the marksmanship practice with a score of 238. He was followed closely by Private Healy with a score of 233. Congratulations fellows for some excellent shooting. Well done to all of you! Once again it was the relaxed approach to training and the excellent range facilities at Mt Vince which went a long way to achieving these results.



CHQ Beans hard at it.

11 Platoon

11 Platoon has worked proficiently throughout 1986 and has been able to deliver the goods when required. It is unfortunate that we have lost so many hard working "diggers" to Support Company but we know that you are still there to give us timely assistance when required. All the best for the future Thomo, "Big Nose", Pedro, "Now you see me, Now you don't", Oddy, "Dogs", Boddy, Glen Henry and Graham Barber.

There were a number of notable incidents that are worthy of mention. Who will forget "Rambo" Smith falling down a 20m razor back ridge line at Tully, surviving, and then having another go because he missed the pine tree the first time. Needless to say the Platoon could have done with out the resulting arduous stretcher borne CASEVAC.

During 1 RARs exercise Eager Eaglet the platoon took great delight dressing up as NORQEB workers; and running a muck in Townsville's district power station and generally infuriating and embarrassing 1 RAR. The fact that we had been chased from mountain top to mountain top in Grasshopper Sector of HRTA earlier in the exercise might have been a contributing factor.

During exercise Maxi Beagle 11 Platoon was attached to 2AFDS RAAF. Their methods were novel to say the least.



L/CPL Parker is led away after "running amok" in the Power House.



Pte Ross and Pte Stacey contributed to the "live storm" during the attack on the Power Station.

As we approached Bang Bang during the Battalion attack it was some what of a surprise to us to discover the right flank flight on our left when 11 Platoon was the left forward element of the Squadron.

K86 Of course we can't fail to mention our Platoon Commander who is fleet of foot. Some how he escaped his protection party on a "reece" during the cordon of Ogmoo and rearreared with an Orange lander in tow. It was the opinion of the section commanders that their job was redundant. In future the Boss should travel well forward and, by the use of his bullet proof slides, deal with encountered areas of resistance by himself.

11 Platoon has tried to enjoy itself throughout the year and will endeavour to better its achievements next year.