



DELTA COMPANY

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The Roadrunners started 1993 early again. This time thirteen soldiers from the company answered the call and were attached to 1 RAR for OPSOLACE in Somalia. While they set off to quell riots and bandits the rest of the company walked into Paluma to revise close country operating skills and give the 2IC a chance to see his beloved Golden Bowerbird. The walk out of Paluma convinced many members of the company that 1993 would see at least one GP Boot changeover.

Shooting at Mt. Vince was next and we decided to take C Coy along for some competition. There were many creditable performances and D Coy soldiers qualified for their Crossed Rifles. In particular, most soldiers performed very well in the falling plate impromptu competitions.

We said farewell to CPL Dave Edelman who went off to realise his dream of becoming a rock lobster and Munno decided that he would rather opt for sealing roads in outback QLD than face Tully again.

Airmobile operations proved to be a piece of cake except for the Blackhawk pilots often landing in the wrong place and wrong direction on the PZ, much to the 2IC's anger. The ability of D Coy to attack following an airmobile move is very good - credit going to the company's junior leadership. It would seem that as the year drew on this skill was often called for the by CO and the company achieved all that was asked of them.

The need to practice skills in anti-armoured shooting was identified early in the year and once again the company airmobiled, then walked into High Range to conduct a series of shoots. Bunker

busting techniques and night shooting skills were developed over five days of firing. The company airmobiled back to Townsville, less the section commanders, who were required to walk back with the OC and CSM and demonstrate some of their mettle.

Having spent considerable time on the range and in the field, it was appropriate that D Coy was selected to march through Townsville for ANZAC Day. We marched as an ANZAC Company due to the arrival of 2LT Pete Hall from Rotorua. The drill and steadiness of the company on parade was an example to all of the parade participants.

The next day the company climbed on board Blackhawks with sore heads and heavy loads to fly to Tully and commence two weeks of close country training. The weapon handling of the company was under scrutiny by a team concerned with the impact of the Steyr handling drills. To the company's credit, it was the first sub unit for 93 to complete the fortnight's training without a UD. The platoons approached the training with vigour and they were well reported on.

As the company stood down for a break the heady news arrived that a platoon was to accompany the Blackhawk squadron from 5 AVN REGT to Cambodia within seven days. Twelve Platoon was selected and, reinforced with members from other platoons, was quickly flown by Galaxy to Battambang. Their efforts in protecting both the airfield and the aircraft were creditable and the arrival of the Roadrunners soon lifted the professional standards of all the nationalities working as part of the UNTAC in the area.

The absence of Twelve Platoon considerably depleted the company. Performance on the LFX was understandably rough with combined sections having to develop their rapport in the midst of some realistic battle simulation. The training paid off with the good performances of the sections in the Mil Skills Competition. The results reflected strong efforts by all involved and CPLs Smith, Green and LCPL Roberts can be proud of their achievements.

The performance of the company on EX EAGLE FLIGHT II confirmed that D Coy was the 'Battalion Fire Brigade'. On most occasions, the company was given the mission of seizing the Battalion's vital ground, either by direct assault or by indirect airmobile and foot approaches. The final Battalion attack proved the eagerness and leadership of the junior commanders as the 49 RQR umpires endeavoured to destroy the chain of command.

The remainder of 1993 will be busy with courses, adventure training, and military skills training. On reflection, there have been many opportunities to experience a wide range of environments and military challenges. Hopefully, 1994 will give the company the opportunity to develop even more proficient skills, particularly with the immense range of talents that our junior leaders must develop.

To those soldiers who represented the company in Somalia, Cambodia and Hawaii - Well Done! You have been most fortunate to have had this experience. The lessons that you have learned will broaden your abilities and serve you well in the future.

To those soldiers who represented the company in all other endeavours; military skills competitions, sporting competitions and helping the Salvo's: to you also - Well Done!

To those members leaving the company - good luck and good soldiering. We will remember you!

The Roadrunners always show a spirited face regardless of their placing or the adversity of the task. The nature of such good spirit is reflected in these example achievements:

- ❖ LCPL Smith and PTE Gotch apprehending a bank robber, and then handing the loot over to the police.
- ❖ PTE Goff winning the Red Bayonet.
- ❖ SGT Lampard winning the QLD Heavyweight Karate Black Belt Championships.
- ❖ Babies born to the Czislawski and MacCormack families.
- ❖ Marriages making honest men of PTE's Palmer, Randall, McKenzie, Foster and CPL Bowman.
- ❖ LT Stockley and SGT Lynch as OC and CSM D Coy during the big attack at Raspberry Vale.
- ❖ SSGT Keyne's helpful and tolerant approach to weapon issues.
- ❖ PTE Stacey's eagerness to get a spot on OP GEMINI.
- ❖ PTE Clench becoming an Aussie.
- ❖ The great win by the Roadrunners Indoor Cricket Team in the 4th grade grand final.
- ❖ The blistering pace of the Chain of Command Relay Team.

1993 will be remembered as a special year for the company. It saw the company become the most decorated sub-unit in the Battalion. We can only hope 1994 brings the same unexpected challenges. It is only right that D Coy fights "EVERYWHERE".

10 PLATOON

LT S.C. Davies, SGT B.T. Pickering, CPL C.A. Dirou, LCPL R.H. Wilkinson, PTE P.J. Bourke,
PTE J.A. Clench, PTE J.P. Cobb, PTE P. Denby, PTE P.J. Eyears, PTE K.A. Gill, PTE M.R. Hadwen,
PTE J.R. Hollingworth, PTE N.D. Jarrius, PTE M.J. Karbownik, PTE A.J. McNamee,
PTE K.C. Murrells, PTE A.D. Schmid, PTE C.J. Willis

The Phantoms have had a busy year in which we have concentrated on air mobile work and more conventional operations as opposed to a lot of SPE work last year. Throughout the year the platoon has experienced some turmoil with manning in the sections and our ability to operate as a full strength platoon. This aside, the Phantoms have still managed to have a very successful training year in which all members have developed their fighting and professional skills as infantry soldiers.

The year began with a short 'switch on' company exercise up at Paluma, a trip to Mt Vince followed, where we were joined by some new faces to the platoon from Singleton. We participated in our first air training in mid March and our second in mid April. The company marched through Townsville on ANZAC Day, and the day after we were back into Blackhawks flying up to Tully for an enjoyable couple of weeks, in which we not only participated in the 'usual' close country training but we also were the first company to conduct a cordon and search operation while we were there and many lessons were learnt not only by ourselves but also the Tully staff. We returned from the Tully Gully and proceeded on a weeks stand down, which turned out to be exciting for a fortunate few who were attached to 12 Platoon with their deployment to Cambodia.

Following that the Phantoms concentrated on individual and section level skills building up to the Bn LFX and Mil Skills competition. Unfortunately due to the current state of manning

in the platoon we were disbanded over the above two exercises and integrated with 11 Platoon. It was not long after though that the Phantoms were back to full strength with the return of members attached to 1 RAR, UNTAC, and members returning back with 12 Platoon from Cambodia. So from late July we concentrated on preparing for the Bde Exercise and we saw the departure of Sgt Pickering to LCBS for 3 sunny months. Bn birthday week passed and Eagle Flight came and went. It was an uneventful exercise for the platoon and even in the big mounted Bde attack at the climax of the exercise, the platoon was deemed 'dead' before we had even dismounted. We returned from Shoalwater Bay for a busy couple of weeks of Bn sport, athletics, and swimming before going our separate ways on September stand down.

Now in October the platoon faces a busy few months ahead with members on specialist courses, participating as enemy for a RAAF combat survival exercise, a week of adventure training and a final company level exercise is being organised for November. We all look forward to BRL and Christmas celebrations and look back on a year where Karbo couldn't stay upright on a bike, Irvo tried, and finally succeeded in going to Cambodia. Bad Baz got an attitude and then a Harley, and Cobb got a loan, then took out another. Hads continuously amused us with his tactical smile and vague ways, Jarra blew us all away at the lights with his turbo charged street machine, and Bourkey danced the night away with a lovely young girl from Rocky.



10 PL prepare to conduct airmobile to Tully
Left to Right:
LT Davies, PTE Hadwen, PTE Cobb,
PTE Karbownik, CPL Dirou,
PTE Schmid, PTE Gill, LCPL Roberts

11 PLATOON

LT S.M. Stockley, SGT W. Lampard, CPL S.J. Green, CPL B.T. Smith, LCPL M.G. Roberts,
LCPL E. Walsh, PTE C. Dillon, PTE D.C. Foster, PTE J.M. Gerritsen, PTE R.S. Davis,
PTE T.D. Godfrey, PTE M. Gray, PTE S. Hazel, PTE S.D. Innes, PTE W.O. Redlich,
PTE B.R. Ryan, PTE M.R. Skalić, PTE M.D. Stanley, PTE P.A. Stephens, PTE S.M. Norberry,
PTE J.L. Cox, PTE J. Watene, PTE V.J. Wood, PTE W.D. Woodhouse, PTE L. Verstegen

The "Chosen Ones" have worked extremely hard throughout the year of 1993. The platoon has seen a lot of change during this particular year with soldiers being deployed with 1RAR to Somalia and 12 Platoon to Cambodia. This affected the manning of the platoon and at the start of the year the platoon could only provide two undermanned sections. The platoon is currently at full strength and has enjoyed a very busy year that has brought its rewards. With the 'Champion Company' still not yet decided 11 Platoon has some hard work ahead of them to prove Delta Company is the best.

1993 started with a short exercise in Paluma where the platoon was put through its paces to find out areas lacking and fix them. The platoon was also joined by several soldiers from the "Southern Battalions".

The company also had a week of shooting at Mt Vince and received the new march-ins from Singleton, 11 Platoon got two of these being Ptes Stanley and Skalić. The week was a success with several soldiers qualifying for their Crossed Rifles.

Air Week 1 was in mid March and the company did an air mobile assault onto an airstrip without too many problems. Air Week 2 was in mid April and this saw some independent operations for the platoon and a fair bit of night work.

Delta Company also represented the 2/4 Battalion on ANZAC Day and marched through Townsville and then celebrated the day, some of us a bit too

much. The very next day the company was bundled into Blackhawks and flown to the Land Command Battle School in Tully.

Tully proved to be all the fun it was made out to be, however we were the first company to conduct a Cordon and Search operation as well as no UD's. It also proved that the platoon still had a lot of work to do to become the professional fighting unit that it was meant to be. The company took a week's standdown when we returned from Tully.

The platoon then changed the emphasis from platoon and section training to individual skills for the build-up for Bn LFX and Mil Skills. Manning became a problem and 10 and 11 Platoons were joined for the purposes of the two exercises. The LFX went ahead without too many hitches, and tested the platoon and company in a number of areas. With 12 Platoon now in Cambodia it was up to the remaining platoons to do well during the Military Skills Competition and they did with two of the sections in the top 12. This put 11 Platoon in 4th place and the company in 1st place.

The company then began its preparation for on-line commitments and the Bde Exercise "Eagle Flight". The on-line commitment brought no joy for D Company, not even a call out. Eagle Flight however was a different story. The company was kept very busy during this exercise looking for the enemy that no-one could find. The final attack saw the platoon thrown into the 'Cooking Pot'. The attack gave commanders a real problem in control