

7 PLATOON

'Magnificent' 7 PLATOON: Back with a bang!

After an absence of twenty-three years, 7 Platoon, C Company, 4RAR, returned to the scene in March 1996. Largely made-up of rookie soldiers a few months out of IETs, experienced NCOs and one new officer, the Platoon held its own during EX SWIFT EAGLE.

The Platoon Sergeant, SGT Wear started-off proceedings with a bang (literally!). He became the casualty of a flying antenna bobbin and was put out of action for the rest of the exercise. Corporal Juergen 'Hermes' Hermann of 1 section took over as acting PI SGT. His Prussian discipline and attention to detail coupled with the enthusiasm of the Platoon Commander, LT Severino, kept the Platoon on track, to do the job it was assigned.

Along the way there were many memorable moments:

Who could ever forget the navigation skills of CPL 'the Champa' and his endless supply of jack rations!;

Or PTE Uzunov who spent more time going to the toilet and getting lost in the jungle at night than patrolling;

Then there were the colourful cam cream facials by Blerta. The skull one was probably the best!;

PTE Altmann who scored high on the platoon shooting contest;

PTEs 'Honda' Honzantko, 'Russ' Russell and 'Snuffy' Gordon were just acting as themselves and that was memorable in itself!;

PTE Greentree who, as usual, was his authoritative self. With such a commanding presence and deep 'authoritative' voice he belongs on television as a newsreader!;

Or the bubbly, effervescent LCPL 'Smurf' Hewitt acting 'seco' of 1 section.

With this year almost over and our entire kills for Ex 'Swift Eagle' being 1 Rat, 7 Platoon in the tradition of Charlie Company in 96, just stayed loose.

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