

Shooting

In the 1988 Skills at Arms Meeting at Malabar, a team of 15 firers, after a weeks training at Mt Vince Range, acquitted themselves extremely well in atrocious weather conditions. Freezing temperature, leaking tents and firing in 2 inches of water seemed to spur the lads on and our No. 1 team consisting of Capt. Jensen, Sgt O'Donnell, Cpl Hart and Cpl Marshall came first in the Obstacle Course, second in the Falling Plate, third in the overall Service Rifle competition and fourth in three other events. Our NO2 team consisting of Sgt Price, Sgt Dzienese, LCpl Linton and Pte Trumble came fourth in the Falling Plate.

Individual Results from AASAM were:

Cpl Marshall	6
Capt Jensen	16
Pte Trumble	19
Cpl Hart	76
Sgt O'Donnell	77
Pte Stansfield	90
Cpl Cameron	100

This is particularly significant as over 700 competitors from all over Australia participated in AASAM this year.

The Inter-Company competition was fired over a three day period in September and consisted of an SMR Practice, six serials from the Applied Marksman Practice, the Gurkha Trophy MG Match and a Pistol Match. Support Company proved successful in winning the Rifle and Pistol Matches and D Company won the Machine Gun Match on the day. The Champion Rifle Shot in the Battalion for 1988 was Sgt Ingal from A Coy who scored 36 out of 36 on the SMR and 245 out of 300 in the

marksman series (In both practices 3 firers shot 36 and 245 and winners were determined by either a shot off or a count back of scores from the 300m serials).

The champion rifle shot was Cpl Toohy from Spt Company and the best machine-gunner was Pte Oldham A Coy who scored 33 out of 36 with the GPMG.

In the Inter-Unit Competition 2/4 RAR was beaten by 1RAR who shot superbly and the best we could manage was third in the major unit competition. A lack of practice was the other contributing factor in our downfall but we would have been hard pressed to even remain level pegging with 1RAR even with several weeks continuous shooting practice, they shot very well indeed.

Overall the shooters at Company and Battalion level worked hard to achieve the results mentioned. It is hoped that in 1989, we can practice the nucleus of a 20 man shooting team or a regular weekly basis to develop the depth and experience needed to succeed in competition.

