

The Regimental Sergeant Major



THE REGIMENTAL sergeant major, Warrant Officer First Class A.C. Toghill, returned to a familiar theatre when he arrived in South Vietnam with 4RAR. For 12 months in 1962-63 he was a member of the first Australian training team to go to Vietnam, serving in the northern part of the republic. WOI Toghill enlisted in the Australian Army in 1950, having served with the British Army in Germany after the Second World War. His first Australian posting was as a machine gunner with 1RAR. This led, in June 1951, to Korean service with 3RAR as number one in a section, section sergeant and finally platoon sergeant of the battalion's medium machine gun platoon. Returning to Australia in June 1952, WOI Toghill was posted as an instructor to the 47th Infantry Battalion (CMF) early the following year. Continuing to serve as an instructor to the CMF, he was posted in August 1955 to the headquarters of the 7th Infantry Brigade. A year later he was promoted to Warrant Officer Second Class and posted to the Jungle Training Centre, Canungra, as an instructor. He served at Canungra for four years before going back to 3RAR as a company sergeant major and for regimental duties. WOI Toghill left Australia in July 1962 for his first tour in Vietnam and then went back to the Jungle Training Centre as an instructor. In August 1964 he was posted to the new 4th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, as a company sergeant major. Two years later, in November, he was promoted to Warrant Officer First Class. The RSM is married with five children and lives at Redcliffe, Queensland.