

Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Operations Cell (EMEOPS)

EMEOPS faced several challenges during rotation 4 and overcame them on all accounts. By far the biggest was the introduction of SDSS, which caused more than a few grey hairs but was worth it in the long run. All in all, an outstanding effort by the members of TSP who have well and truly done their bit to keep the Bn Gp on its feet (or better yet, in cars).

Arte et Marte

Red Shield Rep (Colin F. Brownhill)

Firstly I need to say, "Thanks." Thanks for the privilege of sharing this experience with the 4 RAR Battalion Group deployment to East Timor. My first deployment overseas was to South Vietnam in 65-66 with 1 RAR as a soldier. Now, in the twilight of my time with Defence, I have been 'In good company' with you guys. I need also to express my thanks to Chaplain Darren Jaensch for giving me a free hand in terms of ministry as well Lieutenant Colonel Sengelman for taking me onboard. Unfortunately there are just too many people who deserve thanks, but my space is limited.

Here in East Timor, as I listened and watched you guys during and after the various tasks, the patrols, Command Post duty, sentry duties, cutting through lantana, the steep hills, the logistic personnel who kept the support going. Even the boredom and how you handled that, I often thought and said to myself "They do it better than I could ever have done it". I have nothing but admiration for the soldiers' professionalism and commitment to the job. I believe the training, past and present has stood by you again.

I have to say after 30 years in Defence that I am more convinced than ever that a 'faith commitment to God' needs to be continually nurtured and everything done to enhance it. It isn't easy for Defence personnel, there is so much on and events that you don't have control over. However, a good number were able to get together at Church Services, Alpha and Overcoming bible courses to pray for members of the unit, their loved ones and to gain some teaching about the Christian faith. Who knows what the outcome of those gatherings will be?

One of my roles was to acquire greeting cards and home made cards for the members to send home. I discovered that Lieutenant Teena McBride from the CSST had a real gift for making them. I'd often say to the guys (if you remember), "it's all about emotional credit. We have to keep the emotional credit balance up over 95% with our partners". I remember my wife Barbara saying on the phone after about ten weeks "Col, I am adapting to this" and my reply "Yeah so am I". I thought about this phone conversation and endeavoured to communicate more.

It was a real experience to mix with the East Timorese people, they looked content as I guess they realised we were doing our job providing them a secure environment. The women were always industrious and the young men, I felt for, as there was not much employment. Like many others, I found their culture and life style interesting and challenging in the light of the adversity that they had experienced.

Another experience that I will treasure was watching by satellite our victorious Wallabies in the Tri-Nations Rugby Union and Bledisloe Cup. We all felt good, although I heard that the NZ Battalion were understandably depressed after their loss.



Front to back, left to right.

CPL G. Jones, CFN C. Lach, CPL A. Makin, CFN L. Clark, CFN A. Deans,
WFO2 T. Gill, CPL R. Jones, CPL P. Gardiner, SGT P. Weiss, CFN A. Kelly, CFN T. Sheares, CFN B.
Taylor, CPL M. McAnley, CFN C. Dare, CFN S. Hewat, CFN B. Jansen, PTE V. Andrews, CPL J. Beale,
CPL P. Naernberg, SGT S. Murray. (Absent CFN T. McLaren)



Below: SGT Greg Wilson setting up to take an X-ray of a local man with a suspected fractured pelvis.





Above: "I'm sure I can make it, I think I can make it, I might make it, I thought I could make it."
CPL Pete Kocak in the Unimog he so capably bogged on the Memo to Tanshibi road.

Below: The soldiers of the Quartermaster's Platoon.





The Logistic Support Company Headquarters.



CPL McAnlay and CFN Dare replace an engine in a Land Rover after replacing the clutch.



***BHQ MEMBERS OF THE
'ALPHA' DISCUSSION GROUP***

*L-R Captain Niessl, Captain Ellul, Lieutenant Colonel Sengelman, Rep Brownhill,
Captain Collins, Captain Davison, Captain Grills*