



# War Memorial September 2007

AUSTRALIAN  
WAR  
MEMORIAL  
INCEPTION MAY 1997

OPENING  
MARTINE DAY  
NOVEMBER 19

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## SERVICE POLICE OFFICERS BASIC COURSE 01-08 25 Feb - 15 May 08



BACK ROW: FLTLT J. Dell, LT N. Myyrylainen, LT T. Wilson, 1LT A. Arief, LT M. Rhodes, 1LT H. Iswanto, FLGOFF R. McIlroy, LT D. Hankin, LT K. Beaumont

FRONT ROW: CAPT M. Ithnain, SGT D. Barrett, CAPT B. Respondek, LEUT J. Christmas, WO2 P. Reynolds, SGT C. Hartley, LT H. Orchard

## RACMP Operations Phase



Rear Rank: LT Orchard, LT Longmuir, LT Tsakrios, LT Myyrylainen, LT Ford, LT Wilson, LT Hankin, LT Rhodes, LT Beaumont

Front Rank: SGT Barrett, CAPT Respondek, MAJ Krajewski, WO2 Reynolds, SGT Hartley





The new MP Patrol vehicle and bike.



Safari suits are still in?







## AN INTERVIEW WITH LTCOL PETER FISHER Commandant Defence Police Training Centre

**Editor:** Sir, given you are leaving your current appointment as Commandant Defence Police Training Centre and being posted to Papua New Guinea. It is an opportune time to let our readers know what you have encountered during your posting as Commandant at the Defence Police Training Centre and an insight into what you see the future holds for the Defence Police Training Centre and the RACMP in general.

Firstly let me get some background about you for our readers.

*You joined the New Zealand Army in 1976 and transferred to the Australian Army in 1987. Attended Officer Cadet Training Company (NZ) and graduated in 1981 and allocated to Royal NZ Provost Corps. Held the following appointments: Second in Command 3rd Military Police Company, Operations Officer 1st Military Police Company, Officer Commanding 2nd Military Police Company, Officer Commanding 1st Military Police Company, Adviser Vanuatu Police Force, Chief Instructor Military Police School, Deputy Commandant Army Military Police Training Centre, and Officer Commanding Development Wing.*

**Editor:** Have you enjoyed your posting and what has been the most fulfilling part of your posting as Commandant?

**LTCOL Fisher:** I have thoroughly enjoyed my posting as Commandant. I have had a great team assisting me and as a team we have made significant progress in developing modern training for service police. The most satisfying achievement has been the progress that Defence Police Training Centre has made in the design of training. In the last two years we have put a lot of emphasis and time into reviewing how we deliver our courses. We have improved the

quality and standard of training delivered without increasing the time members spend away from their families.

**Editor:** What do you see have been the three major issues that the Defence Police Training Centre has faced during your term as Commandant, and why have they been major issues?

**LTCOL Fisher:** The key issue for me has been the integration of RAAF into the Service Police Basic Course. Agreeing upon the competency and proficiency requirements of all three services in a common curriculum was contentious. The willingness of all three services to compromise and be flexible in their expectations has allowed me to deliver well trained members for all the services.

The work we have done on the revised RACMP trade structure and submission to Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal has been both frustrating and satisfying. An immense amount of work has been achieved by a succession of Employment Category Managers since 2004. The length of time the process has taken and the number of committees and working groups we have had to brief has been a frustration. That Army has recognised Close Personal Protection Operatives and Military Police Dog Handlers as trade skill groups is a key achievement for me. By the time this Pointsman is published the Tribunal decision on RACMP pay group placement should have been made.

Staff at the Defence Force Corrective Establishment are highly motivated and competent members but we have not had a mechanism to recognise or professionally develop their skills. The work done in the last year by Development Wing on a competency logbook and the mapping of

the members skills against the Cert III in Corrections qualification is just coming to fruition. The redevelopment of the detainee correctional program has progressed at the same time. These two initiatives will improve the level of correctional training delivered at Defence Force Corrective Establishment and will provide a professional development path for the staff.

**Editor:** No doubt you decided upon taking command of the Defence Police Training Centre that you wanted to leave a legacy. What legacy did you want to leave and have you been successful?

**LTCOL Fisher:** When I took over as Commandant my aim was to leave the unit in better shape than when I arrived. I believe that I have been successful in this. The unit structure is in good shape and the Defence Police Training Centre is well positioned to deliver the training for service police that has been identified as a requirement for the next few years.

**Editor:** How do you see training will be delivered in 10 years time at the Defence Police Training Centre?

**LTCOL Fisher:** While there will always be a requirement for residential training to be conducted at a central location, the development of virtual training is the way of the future. Trainees will remain in their home locations and interact with instructors and other trainees in a virtual classroom for some or all of a course. I believe we will make greater use of simulation, not only for initial skills training but also for continuation training. Service Police will also make greater use of on the job training and assessment. We will have better mechanisms to recognise and record on the job experience. This will see a reduction in our



reliance on centralised training delivery and a greater use of dispersed training methodologies and technologies.

**Editor:** Do you believe that sufficient emphasis is placed on our current training given the issues that police are facing in the community and wider world? Other police training establishments seem to focus on a much broader base of training including both professional and personal development. What is your opinion and how best can we deliver this training?

**LTCOL Fisher:** Our initial trade and skills training is excellent. Our development program for junior ranks is adequate but I believe we can do better in this area. Where we fail at the moment is in the area of professional and personal development, particularly for our senior non-commissioned ranks and officers. Provost Marshal – Australian Defence Force has been doing some good work in this area but has only just begun to address the issue. At the moment professional and personal development is conducted in a very haphazard manner that depends on personal whim and Commanding Officers wishes. I believe that all service police must participate in a professional and personal development program. I do not subscribe to a one size fits all system and the needs and aspirations of the individual must be included in the design.

Our current understanding and application of police practice is very traditional. We have not been successful in engaging with other police professionals as they address more contemporary and innovative policing ideas. In part this is an organisational failure with 'policing' being a lower



priority tasking activity for the majority of service police.

**Editor** What do you see the future holds for RACMP?

**LTCOL Fisher:** RACMP has made significant progress in cementing its place in Army over the last decade. I have some concerns that we have put too much effort into niche roles at the expense of our core raison d'être. The question we must answer is: What is the skill we bring to the battle that no one else can do? In my opinion that is investigations. Policing and the investigation of incidents must become our core

business. Other roles are appropriate for 'the war' not necessarily for 'a war'. If we move too far away from our raison d'être then the Corps is at risk. Having made this point I am very optimistic about the future. RACMP's profile within Army has never been higher and our future prosperity has rarely been brighter.

**Editor:** Thanks Sir for your time and honest answers. On behalf of all members of the RACMP I would like to extend our thanks for all your efforts and wish you and your family well for the future.



# In my view...

**This article on DFCE is written by CPL Julie Pietzner who marched in to DFCE as a LCPL GRES on CFTS and has since completed her promotion course and been promoted CPL RACMP.**

Upon posting to DFCE, I arrived as an Army Reserve LCPL, (also known as 'Learner Corporal'), about to undertake a 12 month period of CFTS, whilst balancing current university studies. Now, ten months on, I am off my 'L plates', and write this article as a CPL (I have been told on red P's) in the ARA, with considerable instructional experience and a positive career outlook for the future.

DFCE has provided for me an opportunity to work full time, whilst also maintaining my university studies, allowing me a very healthy work / life balance.

The opportunity to work with personnel from both the RAAF and the RAN, has been both an eye opening and enjoyable experience, and I have found that whilst there is always the friendly banter between the services, the three work well within this environment, promoting a positive workplace, a great learning experience, and a valuable correctional environment for Service personnel.

Working at DFCE requires each member to complete the Detention Centre Supervisors Course (DCSC) which involves a familiarisation of the paperwork and procedures employed at DFCE. Needless to say, as a female of average weight, cell extractions become rather interesting when you are role playing the 'unruly detainee', and sent to extract staff members double your size. Put simply, resistance is futile. However in a week I was qualified as a Detainee Instructor (DI), and then the real fun began.

As a DI, I have found the work to be very rewarding, particularly when a detainee upon march out states that their self confidence has improved as a result of their time at DFCE. I have also found a renewed tolerance and patience within myself and my



instructional style, in light of those detainees that possess, albeit a rather frustrating, yet very amusing ability to significantly alter simple instruction when under pressure. Of course, with our ultimate goal being to retrain the soldier, it is important as a DI, to constantly monitor your own standards of dress, bearing, and conduct, so you may as an instructor achieve the most positive result from a detainee, regardless of their gender, service, specialisation, or age. Just remember here at DFCE we are a Tri-service organisation, but we do it the 'Army way'.

## Arrivals and Departures

The 2007/2008 period has seen some wonderful staff pass through the gates of DFCE, with each member providing a valuable service to the daily workings of DFCE.

Firstly congratulations must go to the members who have welcomed additions to their own families over the 2007/2008 period. CPL Deena Moir was proud to announce the arrival of a very healthy and beautiful baby girl, as was CPL Heidi Brown, and POB Bob Herbert. On behalf of all the staff at DFCE I would like to wish these members the very best for the joyous years to come. Furthermore, we must also congratulate CPL Alyssa Dickinson who is currently awaiting the birth of her first child, and CPL Johanna Thevenet, awaiting the birth of her second child.

Posting cycles have also seen many DFCE members move on in their careers, with WO2 Greg Lockett, SGT (now WO2) Marty Hurnen, CPOB Michael Knott, CPL Ed Stone, CPL Colin O'Donnell (finally was paroled to Townsville), CPL Alyssa Owens, CPL Stacey Silk, CPL Luke Miller, CPL Andrew Scott, and LS Brooke Oram all moving on in their careers. By the end of 2008, we will also farewell SGT Chris Buckham, SGT Scott Gilbert, SGT Steve Muscat, LS Ash McGeown and CPL Rob Greig, and we wish them all the best in their future ventures both military and civilian.

Stepping in to continue the work at DFCE is CPOB Williamson, WO2 Brad Copelin, SGT Scott McDougall, SGT Tim McNamara, CPL Jason Smith, CPL Heather Phillips, and LCPL Gavin Fisher.

Since being posted to DFCE, I myself have been lucky enough to be a part of a wonderful team within the overall staffing of the unit, and special thanks must go to SGT Chris Buckham, CPL Colin O'Donnell, and LS David Richardson, for the knowledge and skills that they have imparted to me. Working at DFCE has taught me tolerance, respect, patience, and the finer aspects of the Defence correctional process.

Furthermore, the professional guidance that has been provided to both me and others by the current OIC DFCE, MAJ Garry Ward has been invaluable. His skills and knowledge in the policing, legal and correctional fields ensure the smooth operation of DFCE, and the continuing development of effective correctional training programs.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, DFCE is both a challenging and rewarding workplace, where the 'banter' exchanged between the services provides a very amusing setting for the more serious side of the job. For any reservists contemplating a period of CFTS, I would strongly encourage them to consider either a six or twelve month posting to DFCE.





# AN INTERVIEW WITH LTCOL MURRAY HERON

## Commanding Officer 1st Military Police Battalion

Editor, Sir, given you are leaving your current appointment as CO 1 MP Bn and being posted to Kuala Lumpur, it is an opportune time to let our readers know what you have encountered during your posting as the Commanding Officer of the 1st Military Police battalion and an insight into what you see the future holds for the Battalion and the RACMP in general.

Firstly let me get some background about you for our readers.

*You joined the Army in January 1983 as an Army Apprentice, Electronics Technician. You attended RMC and graduated in June 1990 and allocated to RACT as a Driver Training Troop Commander at the Army School of Transport. You transferred to RACMP in January 1996 and initially appointed OPSO 2 MP Coy, Holsworthy. After 2 MP Coy, you were posted to Townsville as the OC 13 MP Pl and JPM 3 BDE. In this appointment you deployed to both Bougainville and East Timor. This was followed by promotion and appointment as CI Police Training Wing and then OC 4 MP Coy in 02-03. You then spent a year at Australian Command and Staff College before heading off to the ADF Peacekeeping Centre as the training officer. You were then promoted to LTCOL later that year and given command of DPTC in 06 and 1 MP BN in 07-08.*

**Editor: Have you enjoyed your posting as Commanding Officer of the 1st Military Police Battalion?**

**LTCOL Heron:** My appointment as CO 1 MP BN has obviously got to be the highlight of my career. Enduring a few ups and downs, it has been most enjoyable.

**Editor: What has been the most fulfilling part of your posting as CO?**

**LTCOL Heron:** The most fulfilling part of this posting is an even split between the people whom I have had the pleasure in commanding and the ever-evolving role of 1 MP Bn within Army.

**Editor: What do you see have been the three major issues that the Battalion has faced during your term as Commanding Officer, and why have they been major issues?**

**LTCOL Heron:** The three main issues as I see them has been our ability to maintain unity of command; resource limitations and the continual fight for recognition as a world-class policing capability. Firstly, unity of command has always been a battle for the Corps for over 92 years. This is due to the vastness of our nation and the dispersal of command. Even with modern methods of communication and the concepts of mission command, the ability to pass the commander's



intent across the Battalion will always be a challenge. Our mitigation has been through the introduction and maintenance of several C2 systems and communications avenues. Our second issue has been our struggle for appropriate type and quantities of resources. Might I say that we are not alone in this struggle? In times where resources are limited and operational tempo is high, we must ensure that our need is relevant and prioritised in accordance with our principle roles within Army. We have achieved some success in this area over the past two years through the centralised management of equipment, higher standards of maintenance and accountability at all levels. The final issue is for recognition as a world-class policing organisation. There is no doubt that the individuals and teams within 1 MP Bn have the highest standard of training, extensive operational experience across all disciplines and some of the best people serving in the Australian Army. The issue lies in the fact that we do not have appropriate representation at the strategic (and to a degree the operational) planning levels. If it was not for the efforts of a few individuals within and outside of the Battalion, our inclusion in current and future operations would be considerably diminished.

**Editor: No doubt you decided upon taking command of the battalion that you wanted to leave a legacy. What legacy did you want to leave and have you been successful?**

**LTCOL Heron:** I suppose all commanders would like to leave a legacy. Mine has been difficult to put a finger on due to the fact that 1 MP Bn was in the midst of an establishment evolution. I think that my main aim over the two years was to ensure that the transition of the Battalion was seamless, the mission of the Battalion was relevant to the needs

of the modern Army and the people within the Battalion were there because they were proud to be there. I would like to think that I have achieved all of these with some success. I would also like to point out that whilst I steered the ship, many more were my engineers, my navigators and my communicators. Therefore I owe much of this legacy to them.

**Editor: Using the Battalions UE review in 2006, do you believe that the role of Military Police has changed?**

**LTCOL Heron:** Since the implementation of the new establishment, the role of 1 MP Bn has not really changed. What I believe is that our role has become more rigid, where our specific tasks have become more flexible in order to suit the ever-adapting needs of Army, especially within the many complex and challenging operational environments in which we serve.

**Editor: The high op tempo of the battalion no doubt has caused issues when trying to undertake collective training, how has this been addressed?**

**LTCOL Heron:** There is no doubt that the operational tempo has taken some toll on our ability to conduct collective training as it is intended to be conducted. However, we have implemented smarter ways around this to ensure the basic levels of training are still achieved. This has included: combining resources and people for training activities in order to achieve efficiency; coupling multiple activities in order to achieve unity of effort; and linking 1 MP Bn collective training to external units and agencies in order to avoid replication.

**Editor: What do you see the future holds for RACMP?**

**LTCOL Heron:** 1 MP Bn is the principle operation capability for RACMP and I see the future lies here. It will be important that our operational capability is employed effectively and efficiently in any contingency. This means that we must now ensure we have a future. We must get involved in all future development projects and we must make sure we are ready to adapt with the ever-changing operational environments. Over the past 12 months, the Corps has started this campaign, it is up to the next generation to continue the momentum and secure our future – a future which is adaptive and complex – a future which is ideally suited to Military Police.

**Editor: Thanks Sir for your time and honest answers. On behalf of the RACMP I would like to extend our thanks for all your efforts and wish you and your family well for the future.**



## Service police in training

On day one, all three services appeared eager and yet apprehensive. By the second day, many were commenting that they couldn't believe how much paperwork was involved with Service Policing. Welcome to Service Police Basic Course (SPBC) 02/08, the first truly tri-service SPBC being conducted at the Defence Police Training Centre (DPTC). Comprising of 2 RAN, 12 ARA and 6 RAAF, they have all come from various backgrounds and experience including State Police, Prison Officers and Law Students to name a few. So far, it has continuously proven to be challenging for students and instructors alike but worthwhile all the same. As this is being written, we are into week 9 and currently learning investigations. Anyone would think the students are old hands at this by now.

Class begins at 0730h everyday and instruction has been continuous without a dull moment. In a typical day, students can expect practical assessments, written exams. In fact, they are continuously being assessed, whether it is an exam or watching a video in class. In the evenings, they are given night assignments on a multitude of topics. These Service police in training are clearly doing their homework and studying hard. It shows in the quality of their work and written assessments.

Investigations, general duties and defensive tactics are all learnt here and the high quality of the tri-service instructors guarantee that only the most capable ones will make the grade. It is the aim of DPTC to provide our Service Police with sufficient confidence and knowledge to go out and deal with any situation that may happen.

At the end of week ten, the common phase of training will be complete and the three

services will conduct their own service specific requirements. The Navy will learn Whole Ship Co-ordination, prosecutions and many other things which will prepare them for a sea going policing role. The Army will go on to conduct their necessary field phase which incorporates going bush and conducting driver training courses. The Air Force will return to the Security and Fire School for further training in protective security and emergency response. At the end of this however, all three services will regroup at DPTC to take part in the much awaited march out parade before proceeding to their new units.

It has been a hard road for all involved in this course but as always, everyone has been able to maintain a sense of humour and at the end of the day, all can clearly see that



what is being done here is worthwhile and rewarding. The SPBC is challenging because what they initially learn here will shape their perspective of how they will operate as Service Police both professionally and ethically in their new career.

## Specialists in

### Close Personal Protection Operative

Advanced Training Section, Police Training Wing of the Defence Police Training Centre bears the responsibility of qualifying General Duties Military Police in the RACMP's most notable and high profile specialisation.

Close Personal Protection uses a combination of active and passive security measures to protect a principal from threat. This requires a unique combination of personal attributes and qualities, not the least of which is confidence and determination.

Training for a potential Close Personal Protection Operative (CPPO) is an arduous affair. It is not an unachievable expectation, but a combination of mental and physical endurance, quick decision making under pressure and teamwork. It is an important combination; real time operations can be months in duration, in sweltering climates, carrying heavy equipment, with operatives needing to maintain high levels of concentration and situational awareness.

All for that one moment: when drills, instincts and training make the difference between life and death for their Principal.

Training takes place over seven weeks at Lamia Barracks, with each day commencing with an energetic physical training session. Focusing on the teamwork and job related skills

this form of training is most synonymous when candidates consider applying for the Close Personal Protection Operative Course. But it is only a fraction of what awaits them should they be selected by their units to attend

A CPPO must possess a number of skill sets, physical toughness being only one. The course contains a number of subjects which expand the candidates' knowledge and personal skills base. Planning, situational awareness, individual and team drills, leadership and decision making, but the first of which is marksmanship.

The CPPO Course aims to refine the weapons skills of its attendees. Many hours are spent conducting dry, simulated and live firing practices, sharpening current abilities and capabilities and introducing new weapon systems and tactics to provide a level of competence well above that of the average soldier. It provides a firm base from which to later build upon with collective unit and mission specific rehearsal training.

Equally important, is driving. Many candidates believe that they are already good drivers. Driver training delivers a healthy dose of reality to many. CPP driving is not all about high speed evasive manoeuvres and screeching tyres. It focuses on the basics, vehicle preparation and maintenance, driving to the conditions and vehicle dynamics and control.





# The modern ADF investigator in training

An ADF Investigator prevents, detects and provides a police (criminal) investigation role, both domestic and operationally to the Australian Defence Force. In a discipline that requires considerable legal and technical knowledge, and practical interpersonal and communication skills, today's ADF Investigator requires the training which will allow them to identify and focus on the various competencies involved, to ensure an effective investigation and avoiding the legal and ethical pitfalls.

Part of an intense 11 week course, that is the ADF Investigative Course (ADFIC), is also a 'Visiting Lecturer' intensive course from all types

of investigative agencies both civil and military. The course is aligned with Federal, State and Territory Police investigator training programs and after successful completion is recognised with civil accreditations.

Trainees will be expected to have a general knowledge in investigative policies and procedures as the trainees will face one of the most difficult courses a police member will face.

Investigation Instructor's ensure trainees gain a thorough understanding of the law pertaining to investigation through a mixture of role-playing, case studies and traditional book study.

A typical day for trainees in the course can involve lectures, syndicate discussion, practical assessments and exams. There are a number of day trips, which include a number of external agencies' to enhance the exposure trainees can experience as an ADF investigator.

While classroom based teaching can give the trainees the opportunity to examine the broad section of Commonwealth legislation, it's the hands-on scenarios that allow the trainees to learn from real life experiences.



Practical scenarios are set up within the Police Training Wing using role players, to test the trainees' knowledge of investigative processes and to give them a chance to put everything they have learnt into practice. This gives the trainees' the confidence that they can actually go out and have a look at a real-life situation, and try to turn their minds to what they have been taught in the classroom .

Ongoing development and interaction with the stakeholder will ensure the ADFIC continues to adapt to the changing environment investigators face and ensure trainees are well prepared.

The Investigation Sections' aim is to provide investigators with the knowledge and confidence they need to deal with any situation they may face in their employment as an ADF investigator.

## training

And it makes or breaks many potential CPPO.

Teamwork is crucial to all elements of the course. The team must trust and depend on each other. Every moment the trainees are assessed on teamwork, aptitude and attitude.

The aim is a balanced CPPO. To some just a qualification, but to many more it is a sense of achievement. It is the recognition of many months of preparation and hard work and the inclusion of that person in an exclusive group.

They are proficient in skills that allow him or her to deploy into an area of operations as a part of a Military Police Close Personal Protection Team where they put the safety of another person above their own.





# AFP PUBLIC ORDER MANAGEMENT TRAINING

By WO2 Brad Copelin

## Introduction

In June 2008, an offer was made by the AFP Operational Deployment Team (ODT), for RACMP members to attend the Level 1 and 2 Public Order Management Training (POM). A total of ten positions were made available to the RACMP.

This was seen by RACMP as an excellent opportunity to enhance the AFP and RACMP interoperability, based on previous lessons learnt in both the Solomon Islands and Timor Leste. I looked upon it as an

opportunity to consider the options available to remove the gaps within Population Protection and Control Tactics (PPCT) Doctrine.

This joint venture is on the back of a move nationally, to establish a common standard over all jurisdictions, based on experiences within Australia and a number of operational police incidents.

AFP POM is based on British Metropolitan Police Tactics, which is now seen internationally as the best practice. On

Top Image: CPLs McBeth, Graham and SGT Giulianai in blocked short shield formation at HMAS HARMAN

the back of Redfern and Macquarie Fields, NSW Police were the first Australian jurisdictions to adopt the British Metropolitan package followed by the AFP and Victorian Police. QLD, SA, and NT Police are currently considering changes to their doctrine, whilst WA Police adopted a Civil Disorder package in 2005 based on the British County System. Both the British Metropolitan and County Packages are similar.

## Training Courses

The POM training was conducted at both HMAS Harman and the NSW Police Academy in Goulburn. The following corps members attended; WO2 Greenwood and Donovan, SGT Guiliani and Morrisson, CPL Graham and McBeth, and myself.

POM is based on a basic 22 man Police Support Unit (PSU), made up of 1 PSU Commander, 3 Section Commanders and three sections of six troops. The PSU tactics are based on the three principals to restoring public order; 'Containment, Isolation and Dispersal'. With this in mind, POM Level 1 tactics are the traditional defensive tactics involving a uniformed presence and planned responses. POM Level 2 involves Dispersal tactics using offensive techniques. The AFP currently train to



WO2 Greenwood, CPL McBeth and SGT Giuliani taking an intersection with the long shields in a stacked formation at the NSW Police Academy



Level 3 POM, which involves less than lethal tactics and the employment of extended range impact munitions and chemical munitions, combined with a lethal overwatch. This capability is maintained by the International Deployment Group Stability Response Team (IDG SRT) and the Australian Federal Police Special Response Squad (AFP SRS).

During the Level 1 training (week 1) we were introduced to a specific POM warm up developed by the British Metropolitan Police. Needless to say, it achieved its aim in Canberra's minus temperatures. After that we had the joy of a DT specific AFP warm up affectionately known as 'hot and sweaty'! I know the name does not leave anything to the imagination, especially considering that it is conducted in full PPE, complete with riot helmets. Needless to say, WO2 Donovan has already incorporated this into the SPBC and I look forward to introducing the S2 SGT to it as well.

Level 1 contained quite a few low level and shaping tactics missing from our current PPC doctrine. It allowed flexibility for the PSU COMD with options for batons, intermediate shields and helmets. One very notable difference in techniques was the conduct of the 'flak drill' or 'form cover'. They are conducted whilst advancing or retreating, which prevents the PSU being engulfed by the crowd. Worth noting is that the AFP baton is considerably shorter than the army's which allows it to be employed from behind the shield. The AFP does not link the shields, but prefer to trust their PPE.

After a week of warm-ups, 'Hot and Sweaty's', running and working in gas masks, running with shields and PPE, I like most was looking forward to the weekend to recover!

The AFP takes POM seriously, which was evident by a number of their members not returning for Level 2. POM Level 2 tactics are harder and faster, involving one section with long shields (6 foot Armadillos) and two sections with short shields. All movement is either at a brisk walking pace (equivalent to stepping out), or a gallop as fast as you can! Now you can only imagine how excited the three old boisterous SM's were feeling about a week of this! "I'm too old for this shit" may have been mentioned by all three on numerous occasions.

On Thursday we were taken to the NSW Police Academy to complete an assessment in their scenario village. 120 NSW Police recruits eagerly turned out for the oppor-



CPL Graham and WO2 Copelin running during a 'Short Shield Advance' at the NSW Police Academy

tunity to throw things at the AFP. The scenario required us to clear the streets and restore public order. The eager recruits provided us with a very happy mob and produced a wave of projectiles, of the like I have never seen before. However the tactics were considerably harder and faster than they had seen before, and the mob was defeated. For some reason they lost motivation to throw things when they were forced to continually run to avoid having the shields and batons used on them. The British Metropolitan POM tactics were validated by the recruits, when they were heard by safety officers complaining that the PSU was advancing too quickly, meaning they had to run too fast to throw things at them.

### Conclusion

Having been involved with this training before with the VIC and WA Police and the ADF, I must say that the skills, knowledge and attitudes of the AFP Instructors were the best I have ever seen. All based on real operational experience in Australia and overseas. The tactics themselves are the best I have used, and I base that opinion on my operational crowd control experience.

I have managed to establish an ongoing training arrangement with the AFP for future training and development. However I could not have achieved it without the excellent performances of SGT Guiliani and Morrisson, and CPL Graham and McBeth. These four consistently led from the front, continually volunteered to be challenged in positions of command, were always motivated, and continually encouraged all course members. AFP Instructors were very impressed and consistently commented that every time the PSU was running or taking offensive actions, the

'Brown Boots' were always in front and always on the long shields.

As the ADF and AFP are being deployed in the same AO's, on the same operations, it would make sense that the AFP and ADF POM should develop and maintain interoperability. My personal belief is that during overseas incidents of civil disorder, it is possible to mix the 'thin blue line' with green elements under one competent command, with a single mission statement, 'To restore Public Order to the town of ...' ..."



**Author:** WO2 Brad Copelin is currently DFCE Sergeant Major. He has held various positions within 1 MP Bn, with the most recent being WOIC Policing Sect. He has deployed to Solomon Islands with RAMSI and Afghanistan with the SOTG. WO2 Copelin gained crowd control experience with VICPOL, the most notable being during the World Economic Forum in 2000. He holds instructor qualifications in this field with VICPOL, WA POL and ADF.



# 2008 Nonlethal Weapons Course - Missouri

## By Captain Matt Nisbet

Each year RACMP is afforded one position on the United States Marine Corps (USMC) lead Interservice Nonlethal Individual Weapons Instructor's Course (INIWIC). The course is two weeks long and conducted at Fort Leonard Wood Missouri. As it is an instructor's course, the member of RACMP selected to attend this course also has the opportunity to conduct OJT with the INIWIC cell and instruct on the following course.

This is the only school within the US Department of Defence that teaches nonlethal weapon (NLW) munitions, TTP, capabilities and PPC. As such, the instructor cadre comprises representatives from all services and civilian contractors and instructs US Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, National Guard and foreign students, from CPL to Officers, on nonlethal weapons. The course is both theoretical and practical, with assessments conducted throughout the course.

The introductory phase of the course comprises power point presentations on the Marine directives that control the use of NLW, both within the continental US, and

also outside the continental US. The day also covers Rules of Engagement and Rules for the Use of Force implications for nonlethal weapons. As nonlethal weapons are designed to minimise the risk of fatalities and damage to facilities, they are able to be employed earlier in a particular situation than lethal weapons. This is an issue that will need to be addressed by the ADF, and RACMP, as NLW are now being authorised for use within Australia, as well as on operations.

Also covered on the intro phase are the different services nonlethal capability sets (CAP SET). Each different service within the US DOD has their own CAP SET with different NLW/equipment in them. These are similar to our PPC sets, except they include all their NL munitions, plus items such as Taser, OC spray, audio and optical devices, etc. This is something that may need reviewing by Army now that NLW are approved for use, and something RACMP should integrate into our PPC training once the TTP are approved.

After the intro phase is complete students learn Mechanical Advantage Control Holds (MACH), which are the course's equivalent to our DT. The techniques they taught were good in the fact they were gross motor skills

Top Image: CAPT Nisbett fires the Marine 40mm Milkor M32 Multiple Grenade Launcher

and easy to learn and remember, but may not always be practical. They teach these techniques due to time constraints. What they have done well is develop techniques that work empty handed or with baton drawn, and the same techniques can be applied for team tactics as well. These techniques have merit and should be considered in our DT pam. There is a rewrite of the DT pam in progress at the time this report was written; however, to date there is no confirmation of the contents of that document.

Following the MACH techniques the course progressed with theory lessons of OC spray. The USMC use water based OC, whereas the US Army uses oil based, so students learned both. Students are also taught about different spray patterns, methods of delivery, different canisters, etc, which is very similar to what the SPBC/SPOBC teaches. INIWIC, however, has all the equipment there so students can handle the different canisters and see for themselves how the rarer pieces of



equipment, like the MK46 Riot Extinguisher, are employed. The main focus of the day, however, is the M26 and X26E Taser.

Students first get theory lessons on Taser. Nomenclature, cycle of operation, legal implications, Drive Stunning, types of cartridges, and psychological and physiological effect were covered. Students also learned about projects Taser International are developing, like an area denial system that is basically a wall of Taser cartridges and a shotgun round called the X-REP, which can fire out to 100m and incapacitates subjects for 30 seconds. Next the students were given one five second exposure either by alligator clips or being shot by probes. USMC Directives state that to be qualified as a Taser instructor, students must be exposed. The INIWIC cadre shows students all the different ways Taser can be employed, from a subject just standing still, to simulated vehicle extractions and hostage situations. Students were also afforded the opportunity to qualify as Taser International instructors on the first Saturday of the course, which most readily accepted. There is a good case for the introduction of Taser into LCOMD (other parts of the Army already have it), especially for RACMP, as it would aid in the protection of our people and minimise injury to those we encounter in our IDOPS capacity and at the DFCE, as well as in our general duties policing. For more information on Taser, see WO2 Anderson's article in the Summer 2003 edition of *Pointsman*.



Following Taser, students are solely concerned with OC Spray exposure. Firstly students revise the MACH techniques as their performance assessment of the techniques is conducted while under the influence of the OC Spray. Their requirements to be qualified are the same as ours in that they have to complete a course, comprising five stations, after they have been exposed, otherwise they can not continue on the course. Another aspect of the course that I think RACMP, and more specifically DPTC could implement is the way they conduct their OC course.

Instead of an instructor spraying all the students, and the students simply going from one station to another doing one technique, like punching or kicking a bag, INIWIC cadre pairs the students up and they conduct the course together. Students do the first three stations individually, from standing and striking, into an individual takedown, with and without a baton, to securing the subject on the ground ready for handcuffing. Students then come together for the final two stations and do team techniques into a team takedown and once again securing the subject on the ground. Students also spray each other to ensure that when they are conducting this training in units they are doing it correctly.

After OC spray is covered, students learned about the different types of Vehicle Arresting Devices (VAD) that are in the US military. There are four that they have in use on operations, those being the Vehicle Lightweight Arresting Device (VLAD), the Portable Vehicle Arresting Device (PVAB), Magnum Spikes and Caltrops. All are very effective, especially the VLAD and PVAB. I think these would be great pieces of equipment, but with the CSS support that would be required for each (the VLAD can only be used once, and the PVAB weighs 1050lbs and comes in seven boxes) they would not suit our needs. Also covered on that day were optical and audio devices.

Following VAD, students learn about the different types of NLW that the US military





possesses, and how they are employed. Of note was the FN303 Compressed Air Launcher, which is easiest described as a “paintball gun on steroids”. It fires plastic rounds that are accurate to 50m for point targets, and 100m for area targets. They can fire clear dye for simple pain compliance; a water based pink dye for non-permanent marking; a yellow dye permanent marking; and there is an OC round as well. The weapon has a minimum safety range of 30m, however, as any closer and it will either crack a car windscreen, or penetrate skin.

This weapon has great potential for the army because of the range of uses it has. Not only can it be used to mark persons of interest in a crowd control situation, but is a good NL option if vehicles are too close to convoys, if vehicles are moving too fast approaching a traffic control point, etc. Two or three rounds into the windscreen of a suspect car will be sure to get the attention of the driver. This will obviously assist in winning the hearts and minds of the population if they are not being fired upon by lethal rounds. The biggest negative on the weapon is the CSS it needs. The bottles that contain the compressed air need to be refilled for the weapon to operate properly, and that causes a logistics burden for those using them. Most of the other NLM are similar to the ones currently in use within the ADF.

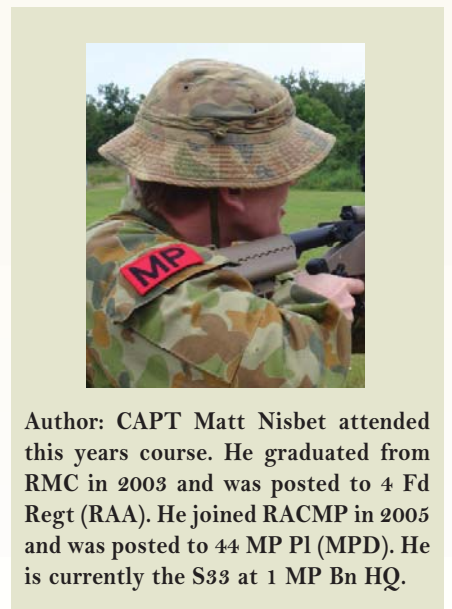
Students then move to the range to fire all the NLM learned about on Day Six. The day starts with students firing their qualifying shoot from the minimum safe distances for each of the munitions. All that was required was to hit the targets three times out of five. From there students then went into a moving practice where they patrolled through a town and engaged targets at varying ranges using the most appropriate munitions. The final exercise was a live fire riot control situation incorporating all the NLM as well as the nonlethal grenades (called Stingers) and the NL claymore.

Following completion of lessons students were assessed on various simulated training exercises. Numerous situations were incorporated including a presence patrol through a village that was neutral, but had insurgent activity occurring, to a food distribution point and a rescue mission involving a car accident. These days were very useful in cementing the lessons learnt by the students



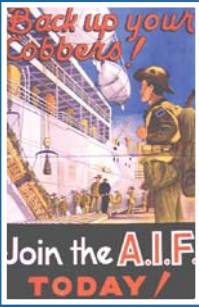
and allowing them to see for themselves how the NLW could be employed. What these activities also highlighted was how confusing it can get having multiple weapons and carrying both lethal and nonlethal munitions. Activities such as these should be mandatory for any TMP raised by the Australian Army for the use of NLW.

INIWIC provides members of RACMP with an opportunity to learn nonlethal weapons, munitions, and TTP from the world leaders in this area. It is essential for RACMP to continue to attend this course to ensure that the Australian Army is kept up to date with NL technologies, and also bring back the lessons learnt on this course and apply them to better our NL capabilities.



**Author: CAPT Matt Nisbet attended this years course. He graduated from RMC in 2003 and was posted to 4 Fd Regt (RAA). He joined RACMP in 2005 and was posted to 44 MP PI (MPD). He is currently the S33 at 1 MP Bn HQ.**





# MENTIONED IN RECOGNITION OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICES

THE STORY OF MAJOR NORMAN FREDERICK QUINTON  
MILITARY POLICE INVESTIGATOR, SIB, WW2

By SGT Antony Buckingham, Australian Defence Force Investigative Service (ADFIS), 2008

Mentioned in Recognition of Distinguished Services was written in the telegram received by Ruby Quinton on 12 June 1942 when she learned of her husband, LT Norman Frederick QUINTON, Mentioned In Dispatches (MID), award.

Some 60 years later, what is even more interesting about the telegram is LT QUINTON's service; although originally an Infantry soldier when he was awarded the MID he later became an officer in the Special Investigation Branch (SIB), throughout the remainder of WW2.

This story reveals for the first time the extraordinary wartime life of Norman QUINTON during WW2. Norman was one of the first soldiers to serve in the SIB allegedly hand picked by General Blamey whilst they were both serving in the Middle East in 1941. By 1943, Norman had been appointed the first OC of the SIB and later a war crimes investigator in 1945 before finishing his military career in late 1946 as a Major prior to returning to civil life.

The year 1939 is etched in Australia's memory forever as the year Australia declares war on Germany and enters WW2 in support of the mother country England. On 09 October 1939, Norman Frederick QUINTON enlisted into the WW2 Australian Army (2nd AIF) as a Private at the Melbourne showgrounds. On 10 November 1939, Norman was transferred to the 2/5th Australian Infantry Battalion then located at Footscray in Victoria. The 2/5th Battalion was formed on 13 October 1939, Norman having joined them within their first month of existence earning the title of a '39er', one of the early members of the AIF who joined up in the very unknown stages of WW2. The 2/5th achieved much fame and was also one of only two Australian Infantry Battalions to fight all of Australia's enemies in WW2; Italians, Germans, Vichy French and the Japanese.



Troop Ships leaving Port for the Middle East

A quick glance of Norman's enlistment documents record that he was a member of the 32nd Infantry Battalion prior to enlistment in the AIF. This indicates that Norman was a militia soldier (similar to the Army Reserve of today) prior to WW2; the 32nd Battalion having been formed in 1921 and disbanded in 1942.

On 10 December 1939, Norman was promoted to CPL. On 14 April 1940, Norman along with his Battalion boarded a troopship in Melbourne bound for the Middle East arriving there in May 1940. The 2/5th Battalion was part of the 17th Australian Infantry Brigade, 6th Australian Division commanded by the courage Australian, Brigadier SAVIGE.

On 13 September 1940, Norman was promoted to temporary Sergeant rank in the Middle East and attended various tactical, gas and other specialist courses at British Army training schools. Upon return to the Battalion, Norman was promoted to substantive SGT on 21 October 1940.



Official enlistment photograph of VX3630  
PTE Norman Fredrick QUINTON



On 14 January 1941, Norman was promoted to Quartermaster Sergeant (QMS) until 09 April 1941 where he was deployed to Greece to the infamous location of Derna returning to the Battalion in May 1941.

On 03 July 1941, Norman was promoted to WO2 and on 22 August 1941 attended the Middle East, Regimental Sergeant Major's Course (RSM) returning to the Battalion about a month later. According to Norman's records there is no evidence of him ever being promoted to WO1 or achieving RSM status?

On 26 December 1941, the *London Gazette* proudly proclaimed that Norman had been Mentioned In Dispatches (MID), stating: *His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve that the following be Mentioned in recognition of Distinguished service in the Middle East (including Egypt, East Africa, The Western Desert, The Sudan, Greece, Crete, Syria and Tobruk), during the period February 1941 – July 1941.*

The Australian Army forwarded a letter to Norman's wife dated 12 June 1942 informing her of Norman's award. The Oxford Companion to Australian Military History states that Mentioned In Dispatches (MID) is awarded where the conferring of a gallantry or other decoration is deemed inappropriate or is not otherwise available, and is signified by an oak leaf worn on the ribbon of the relevant service or campaign medal. It may also be awarded for continuous good service over a period of time. An MID award for service in WW2 is worn on the ribbon of the war medal 1939-45.

On 18 February 1942, whilst in the Middle East with the 2/5th Battalion, Norman was promoted to LT and transferred to the Australian Army Provost Corps and appointed to the HQ AIF (Middle East) SIB. The circumstances surrounding his rapid promotion and posting to the SIB is not recorded; however, friends close to the QUINTON family in 2008 state that 'Uncle Norm (Norman) was selected by General Blamey for the SIB after Blamey recognised him on parade in the Middle East remembering him from the Victorian Police, (Blamey was the Victorian Police Commissioner during the 1930s).

This is an interesting statement that Blamey may have chosen Norman for the SIB; however, is there any truth to support the family recollection? A search by the Victorian Police

Archives in Melbourne verified that Norman was a police officer and later detective in the Victorian Police during the period 1927 – 1937; sadly, a misconduct issue saw his services terminated rather abruptly.

Norman's career in Victoria Police started on 03 May 1927 at 25 years of age when he was appointed to the force and marched into the Police training depot until graduation on 22 August 1927. Norman then commenced "foot duty" throughout Melbourne city areas and later the suburbs before being attached to the CIB on 20 March 1936 for investigation duties. By 07 October 1936, Norman attained detective status and was posted to the CIB at South Melbourne.

Tragically, Norman was forced to resign from Victoria Police on 20 July 1937 roughly 10 years after joining the force after being charged with misconduct for trying to take his own life {suicide} with a pistol and for failing to report the finding of a revolver which was in his possession {the pistol that he used to attempt suicide}. The findings of the misconduct hearing for the above offences on 20 February 1937 found him guilty of misconduct against the discipline of the Force, and awarded a fine. The final entries on his file states:

*Given opportunity of tendering resignation as alternative to discharge. If resignation is submitted, fines and costs not to be enforced. Discharged on resignation by direction of Chief Commissioner dated 20 July 1937.*

Whilst the circumstances surrounding Norman's termination from Victoria Police are tragic, it must be mentioned that for the previous 10 years of his service, remarks on his conduct record were consistently recorded as, *well conducted, loyal, reliable and*

*efficient.* Special commendations were also entered in 1932 for energy and perseverance in detecting offenders in connection to the stealing of motor vehicles and a separate matter of an offender shooting with intent to kill. In 1935 he was further commended for detecting offenders involved in seven counts of house breaking and stealing around Melbourne.

Based upon this information it is fair to assume that Norman was known to Blamey as a detective in the Victoria Police as Blamey was responsible for much reform within the Victorian Police, Criminal Investigation Branch (CIB), during Blamey's time in the force as Police Commissioner covering the period 1925 – 1936. This would further explain Norman's pre war employment status as a "watchman" or security guard upon enlistment to the AIF; a suitable employment for an ex-policeman who obviously did not wish to mention his former civil police employment.

Norman was one of the first members posted to the SIB. In fact the SIB had been established in the Middle East about the end of 1940 as part of the Australian Army Provost Corps by order of General T.A. Blamey, Commander in Chief, HQ AIF, Middle East. General Blamey already in the Middle East with his modest HQ staff and the Australian 6th Division was appalled by the level of crime, pillage, theft, fraud and long term absenteeism among the Australian troops of the 2nd AIF.

The Middle East SIB was the first and only SIB in the Australian Army at this time although attempts by the Provost Marshal (PM) to raise an Australian mainland SIB had been considered but abandoned due to

manning issues of raising a large war time Army. A formal SIB structure would have to wait; however, the Middle East SIB was busy investigating a never ending activity of crime, indiscipline and other enquiries. A post WW2 enquiry into the Australian Military justice system in 1946 revealed the following evidence from Lt Col Fryer – Assistant Director of Research and Civil Affairs in 1946 who stated:

*In the Middle East there were several murders, many manslaughter charges, charges of rape, administering of noxious drugs, stealing with violence,*



Japanese POW's being guarded by Australian Military Police



*damage to property, and practically the gamut of all range of offences that you would get before a civil court.*

Whilst the front line soldier in the Middle East would not have seen the SIB or even knew they were there, the SIB were investigating a wide range of offences and enquiries helping to keep the Australian Army in battle. The war equipment alone that was recovered by the SIB proved their value and worth to the Australian Army. Norman was investigating the Australian Army throughout the Middle East for the next 12 months until he returned to Australia along with the Australian Brigades in February 1943. Australia's Middle East war had ended and the troops were returning home to fight the Japanese.

On 19 May 1943, Norman was appointed the first Officer Commanding (OC) of the newly raised Australian Army SIB unit; its' correct title being the Land Headquarters Special Investigation Branch (LHQ SIB). LHQ SIB was approved a formal War Establishment on 07 May 1943 (GRO G.363/1943) with its HQ located at 252 Swanston St, Melbourne. Although a LT at the time, Norman was granted temporary CAPT rank whilst raising the new unit and promoted to substantive CAPT rank in September 1943 upon formally occupying the position.

Norman now commanded all SIB Sections located throughout Australia and the South West Pacific Area (SWPA) encompassing the newly raised New Guinea SIB. On 28 December 1943, SGT Randall Harland WHITEMAN was selected to deploy to New Guinea and raise the SIB New Guinea Force Detachment (New Guinea SIB); Randall's records show that he attended LHQ SIB HQ in Melbourne on 04 December 1943, no doubt to be briefed by Norman prior to departure.

Norman commanded the SIB inside Australia until he undertook a "tour of inspection" of the New Guinea Area including the New Guinea SIB returning to Australia about one month later. The results of his inspection are unknown at this time; however, it can be assumed that Norman identified many areas of concern as he undertook further trips covering areas North of Brisbane during the period 15 April 1944 to 14 May 1945. Norman's records indicate that he traveled to Brisbane, Townsville, Darwin and New Guinea, many times during the period, the exact nature of his duties or inquiries not recorded.



Australian POW Inquiry Group

During this period, Norman was promoted to temporary Major rank on 04 July 1944 and continued conducting enquires throughout the SWPA and other areas as required. On 02 September 1945 the Japanese signed the formal surrender documents and ceased hostilities in the Pacific area; however, much work needed to be done in relation to the repatriation of troops, injured troops, Australian's taken prisoner of war (POW) throughout the world mainly in the South East Asian area, and war crimes issues.

Australian POW and war crimes issues would become a matter of national interest as many thousands of Australian military personnel mainly Army were taken prisoner by the Japanese when Malaya and Singapore fell in 1941, many families not knowing if their loved ones were alive by 1945. Much research, exploring and interviewing of POWs would be required to find and locate

surviving Australians who were spread across much jungle and areas of South East Asia with little records or details held by the Japanese.

To assist with this important process, special units were created to deal with the multitude of issues surrounding the POWs; the Australian Prisoner of War and Inquiry Groups with many sub detachments were created. One of the many roles the PW Inquiry Group personnel performed was interviewing POW in relation to maltreatment and the identification of Japanese offenders including the recovery of camp records to support any/all accusations.

On 21 March 1946, Norman was seconded to the 3rd Australian Prisoner of War and Inquiry Group located in Singapore. On 27 April 1946, Norman's formal transfer to the unit occurred and he was posted as the OC of the unit. Over the next few months, Norman would travel to Java - Batavia, Darwin, Koepang, Dili - East Timor, Bangkok - Thailand and return to Singapore. While many servicemen of the period were anticipating their return to Australia and demobilisation from the military forces, others like Norman were beginning a new phase of the war.

On 01 August 1946, Norman was attached for temporary duty with the 1st Australian War Crimes Section, South East Asian Command (SEAC) located in Singapore. On 18 August 1946, Norman departed Singapore for Bangkok in Thailand to the 'Bridge on the River Kwai' area (Kanchanaburi Province) returning to Singapore about two weeks later. Kanchanaburi Province was the start point for the infamous Burma Thailand railway that cost the lives of many Australian POW at the hands of the Japanese.

On 06 December 1946, Norman finally departed Singapore for return to Australia and WW2 for Norman was finally coming to an end. Norman's appointment was terminated on 04 March 1947 when he was demobilised from the WW2 Australian Army and returned to civil life.

Norman's post WW2 life was connected to the legal profession where he obtained employment as a legal clerk; a job he would maintain for the rest of his working life. Sadly, Norman passed away at 72 years of age on 05 June 1974 after a long and interesting life despite whatever tragic circumstances may have occurred during his Victoria Police service.





## EIGHT DAYS ON THE WESTERN FRONT or Our other Anzac Day

### Introduction

During April 2008 a group of 760 Australians toured the Battlefields of the Western Front to Remember and Commemorate the Battle that occurred on the 25th April 1918 involving the Australians- relieve and recapture of Villers –Bretonneux from the Germans.

Many of the Diggers who took part in this Battle were veterans of the first Anzac Day at Gallipoli just three years earlier.

It was also an opportunity to explain to those on the tour of the "Role of the Provost (MP) during their time on the Western Front. It was explained that the Provosts role was not just to "Check Passes & Kick Arses" but they were responsible for Traffic Control – evacuation of Troops and equipment. They were highly skilled soldiers and they spent most of their time in the 'Front Lines". So much so that to apply to join the Provost Corps a soldier had to have won a Military Medal (MM) or a Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM) or be entitled to wear a 'wounded stripe'- this criteria applied to no other Corps or Unit within the 1st AIF. This was explained to those on the tour as we visited the various cemeteries where members of the Provost Corps were buried and a short Service was conducted at each grave site.

### Day 1

Before arriving in the town of Peronne which was recaptured by the Australian 5th Division from the Germans who had been in occupation of the town since 1914, a visit was made at the Peronne Communal Cemetery and the Peronne Road Cemetery.

It was then on to the L'Historical De La Grande Gurre 1914-1918 and a Tour of this Memorial/Museum before being met by the Mayor and Councillors of Peronne.



### Day 2

Today was a visit to the historic Beaumont Hamel the area held by the Canadians (The Newfoundlanders).



Trench Line 'No Mans Land'



It was then on to Vimy Ridge also held by the Canadians.



Trench Line Vimy Ridge

The next stop was at the Australian Memorial Villers-Bretonneux with a visit to the grave of 849 Pte William Tilloston MP where a short service was conducted.



Grave of Pte W. Tilloston

Those present took a tour of the Memorial prior to their return for the Dawn service on Anzac Day.

We then proceeded through the town to the Adelaide Cemetery Villers-Bretonneux which was the original resting place of Australia's Unknown Soldier before being re-interred at the Australian War Memorial Canberra.



Not far from the original grave of the "Unknown Soldier" it was pointed out that two members of the Provost Corps were also buried:- 917 Pte Phillip Pritchard & 4310 Lt Robert Samuels (1Bn) the Provost Corps.



Graves of Lt Samuels & Pte Pritchard

Again a short service was held at each grave. The group then moved on to Crucifix Corner Cemetery on the outskirts of Villers-Bretonneux.

Our next visit was to the Village of Dernancourt which was recaptured by the 4th Division in March/April 1918.

On entering the village it was reported that the Australian Troops said to the French Civilians of the village in an effort to reassure them and to maintain calm. "Fini retreat, Madame, beaucoup Australiens ici" meaning the retreat is over Madam there are many Australians here.



This relationship with the citizens of Dernancourt and Australia still remains today. The citizens of Adelaide collected funds to re-establish the Village school. Now known as the 'Adelaide School'



During our visit the Mayor of Dernancourt M. Lionel Lamotte invited those present to join him and the citizens of Dernancourt in their Anzac Day Service at the Dernancourt Communal Cemetery.



It was also an opportunity to inform the group of the involvement of the Provost



Corps in the offensive- particularly 1018 L/Cpl Ernest Poole who although he survived Dernancourt he lost his life on the 14th June 1918 whilst saving a young child from drowning at the port of Le Haeve - a typical action of a Military Policeman.

## Day 3

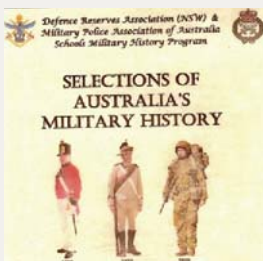
The group arrived at the Australian Memorial Villers- Bretonneux prior to dawn to be part of the 1st Dawn Service to be held at the Australian Memorial (and might I say not the last).



After this very moving Service the group moved into the town of Villers -Bretonneux and the Victoria School where we were met by a number of the citizens and the children of the town.



The school was presented with a copy of the 'Australian Schools Military History Program' (this program is supported by the MPAA).



After breakfast at the school the Australian Group formed up to march to the centre of the town where a replica of the Villers-Bretonneux Cross was presented to the Mayor and dedicated. (The original Cross is now in St. Georges Cathedral Perth) this cross was also present during the Service.

In the afternoon we moved to Bullecourt where a tour of the Battlefields took place and a Service was conducted at the 'Digger Memorial' Bullecourt. Australians took part in both 1st Bullecourt 10/11 April 1917 & 2nd Bullecourt 3/17 May 1917.



Digger Memorial Bullecourt

The citizens of Bullecourt have not forgotten the efforts of the Australian digger. This can be seen from the number of Monuments & Memorials to the Australians erected within the Village.



Slouch Hat Memorial Bullecourt

## Day 4

Today a number of areas were visited Mont St. Quentin where we visited the new (1971) 2nd Division Memorial which replaces the original Memorial which depicted an AIF infantry man in Battle Dress thrusting down with his bayonet into the belly of an eagle laying on its back on the ground . It was removed by the Germans during WWII and destroyed. It was the only known monument to receive this treatment.



We then proceeded to the Riqueval Canal



and then Bellenglise



4th Division Memorial Bellenglise

Our next stop was at Jeancourt Cemetery where a short Service was held for 788 Cpl. Thomas Quinney of the Provost Corps.



We next stopped at Daours Cemetery on the outskirts of Amiens



Where a Service was held for 275 Cpl Alfred Harston MM & 5470 Pte Donald Robertson MM both killed on 20/5/1918 at Vignancourt and buried side by side in Daours Communal Cemetery.

## Day 5

Today we visited the area of Monash's success at Le Hamel.



Unfortunately the site is closed for renovations and details of the action were discussed from a hill overlooking the Battle site.

It was then on to Pozieres where we visited the 1st Division Monument.



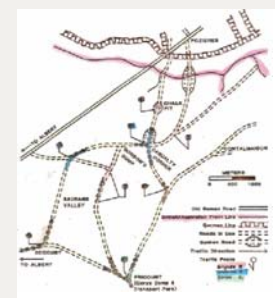
We then visited the site of the "Windmill" a mound of earth which gave who ever occupied the site a good view of the area.



The next memorial visited was the Tank Memorial.



The Military Police (1st Anzac Corps) were highly involved during in the attack on Pozieres on the 23rd July 1916.



We then proceeded to Pozieres Cemetery where the group were able to view a WWI British Soldier and his equipment and actually hear the sound of a .303 rifle being



fired and given the opportunity to actually handle one.

A French observer of the Australians at Pozieres is quoted as saying:- "We French fight for our country our ideals and our flag. Australians appear to fight because they like to fight".

## Day 6

Today we visited Fromelles and after visiting the "Cobber Monument" which depicts an Australian Digger carrying a wounded comrade back to safety. Very few people are aware that the figure is a depiction of a 40 year old Victorian farmer Sgt Simon Frazer recovering a wounded mate who he had heard calling out "Don't forget me cobber" hence the name the Cobber Memorial.



Fromelles was a disaster and those killed were left where they fell for a period of 2 ? years and were still unburied at the signing of the Armistice in 1918. Their skeletal remains were recovered and buried in mass graves in VC Corner Cemetery with no headstones. They are all "Known unto God"



### VC Corner Cemetery Fromelles

The cemetery was established on 'No Mans Land'.

It is interesting to note that very little was written about Fromelles. One would think that when 5,000 casualties occurred on one night that this would warrant a mention.

Fromelles was considered a disaster and details were suppressed until 1921.

It is interesting to note that the Battle for Fromelles was not mentioned in the Western Front Alcove of the Australian Memorial in Hyde Park Sydney.

We then moved to Polygon Wood and the 5th Div Memorial, this is the only Australian Memorial in Belgium.



### 5th Div Memorial Polygon Wood

The Battle of Polygon Wood had as its chief

objective the capture of the high ground either side of the Menin road.

During this battle the Australians suffered heavy casualties (5848). During the battle the Germans introduced for the first time the 'Flame Thrower' (Flammenwerfer).

Recently (5) five Australian bodies were located in Westhoek Hamlet- two (2) have been identified and the others reburied as 'Unknown Australian Soldiers' in Polygon Wood Cemetery.



The group were fortunate to be able to talk with the person who actually located the remains and the forensic group who assisted in their identification.

## Day 7



Today we visited Hill 60 at Zwarteleen about 5 Km from Ypres. Hill 60 was the site of the start of many of the tunnels (Saps)



which extended for many kilometres under the various battlefields often extending up to 10,000 yards if measured in a straight line.

Unfortunately Hill 60 is the last resting place for many of the soldiers who died in this underground battlefield from Methane Gas-hand to hand fighting-and rock falls.

On Hill 60 a Memorial has been erected to the members of the 1st Australian Tunnelling Company (also known as the Phantom Soldiers as they were never seen). This Memorial bears the signs of WW2 bullet holes sustained during action at this time.



No Battlefield tour of the Western Front would be complete without a visit to the Battlefield areas of the Ypres Offensive. The Menin Road and Paschendaele. We were able to drive through the various battle areas and stop at the Menin Road



with a stop at 'Hellfire Corner'



Our next stop was Paschendaele. and Tyne Cot Cemetery the largest Cemetery in Belgium.



## Day 8.



On the last evening we attended the "Last Post Service held each evening at the Menin Gate. On this occasion the Military Historians and those of the Australian group who had served were invited to form an Australian contingent and The Australian Contingent was invited to march to the Menin Gate Memorial and lay a wreath.



The author was fortunate to be selected to be one of the Australian Flag Bearers and lead the parade into the Service at the Memorial.



Matt Walsh served in the CMF from 1958 to December 1969. During this time he served in 19 Coy RAASC (the same unit his grandfather served in during WWI) National Service (1959); 5Fld Sqn RAE & 1 Div Pro Coy and 2Div Pro Coy.

He was the foundation Secretary/Treasurer of the MPAA and is a keen Military Historian and undertakes Military History Tours to the various Battle Sites.



# FROM A SYDNEY "COPPER" TO A MILITARY POLICE INVESTIGATOR DURING WW2

## The story of Randall Harland WHITEMAN, QPM, Military Police Investigator, SIB, WW2

By SGT Antony Buckingham, Australian Defence Force Investigative Service (ADFIS), 2008

Upon the re-raising of the Australian Army Provost Corps in 1939 to support the Australian Army in WW2, it was identified at the earliest stages of its formation and deployment that the Australian Army would need a Military Police investigative capability.

That capability would be exploited by Military Police investigators of the Australian Army Provost Corps, Special Investigation Branch (SIB); the Australian Army's version of detectives to investigate the more serious and complex criminal matters both civil and military, along with other matters as directed by Army HQ during WW2. Most of the WW2 SIB personnel were soldiers who had already served in various theatres' of operations as infantrymen or supporting troops with many battles and often prestigious awards to their credit eventually finding their way to the SIB.

One of the many Military Police investigators to be employed in this role during WW2 was Randall Harland WHITEMAN. Randall had resigned from the NSW Police Force as a detective to enlist into the Australian Army (2nd AIF) of WW2. Previous civil police service would play a large part in the recruitment, procedures, experience and development of the SIB during the WW2 period.

Born on 19 January 1907 at Springwood NSW, Randall had joined the NSW Police Force on 03 July 1929 at 22 years of age. By 17 September 1929, Randall had completed police training and been allocated to a Sydney Police station where he policed as a General Duties Constable. By the mid 1930s, Randall had been attached to the CIB attaining permanent status on 30 August 1938. Hard work and competent investigating saw Randall achieve Constable 1st



CAPT Randall WHITEMAN

Class status on 30 June 1939 and formal Detective status on 30 August 1940.

On Friday, 01 September 1939, news broke throughout the world that a German battleship flanked by many smaller vessels had opened fire on the port of Danzig in Poland; the world was now at war. By Monday, Australia would be at war supporting the free world and mother country England.

The outbreak of war in Australia generated a call for enthusiastic recruiting; the 2nd AIF was born. Whilst many young men enlisted, members of the NSW Police Force could not. Upon the outbreak of war, the NSW Police Force immediately placed an active ban on releasing personnel for

military service. This was a direct result of lessons learned from WW1 after suffering a manpower crisis from lack of trained Police personnel during the period. NSW Police would reverse this decision by 1944 allowing its personnel to take "extended leave" to enlist in the Australian military with full re-instatement guaranteed at the cessation of hostilities.

In the meantime, men like Randall were required to perform their duties regardless of personal wishes or sentiment. We can only guess how Randall felt about this; however, he would make his decision shortly. Randall resigned from the NSW Police Force at 34 years of age to enlist in the WW2 Australian Army (2nd AIF) on 17 December 1941 after 12 years of efficient and loyal NSW Police service; Randall received a 'Very Good' rating on his NSW Police discharge paperwork.

At the time of writing it is unknown why Randall resigned from the NSW Police Force and enlisted into the Australian Army of WW2; did he resign to fight as a soldier or did he resign to be a Military Police investigator? The answers to these and many other questions we will never truly know; however, the following story has been researched from Randall's, NSW Police and Australian Army records supplied by NSW Police Archives and the National Archives of Australia.

Randall enlisted into the Australian Army on 18 December 1941. After recruit training, Randall was transferred to the Royal Australian Engineers (RAE), Field Park Squadron's on 31 December 1941. Upon enlistment, Randall stated his pre war employment as being a motor transport driver and station hand with no mention of his previous civil police employment or experience.



The RAE Field Park Squadron's were specialised technical and logistic support units required to keep the RAE in battle with vehicle drivers being essential and necessary to support their tasks. On 10 January 1942, Randall was appointed a Specialist Group 2, Driver Mechanised, no doubt in reference to his pre war occupation as a driver. Randall would be promoted to Corporal (CPL) on 18 March 1942. Over the next few months, Randall would be attached to various units throughout NSW and Victoria for general duties as required. On 14 August 1942, Randall was charged with neglecting to obey a general order (the exact details not recorded) and awarded a severe reprimand.

On 06 September 1942, Randall was taken to hospital with extensive second degree burns to the back of his leg and thigh the result of his clothing catching fire; the circumstances surrounding the fire were not mentioned. On 28 October 1942, Randall was promoted to acting Sergeant (SGT). On 27 December 1942, Randall was posted to the Western Australia Lines of Communication Area (WA L of C) and promoted to substantive SGT rank on 30 January 1943.

On 18 September 1943, Randall would secure a detachment to the Special Investigation Branch (SIB), WA L of C Area where he would begin his service with the SIB; a few weeks later a formal transfer to the Australian Army Provost Corps occurred.

On 01 October 1943, Randall was transferred to NSW for annual leave. On 21 November, Randall was attached to SIB HQ, Queensland L of C Area and then detached to SIB HQ in Melbourne on 04 December 1943. It is interesting to note that the official formation of the SIB HQ occurred on 07 May 1943, its' correct title being the Land HQ Special Investigation Branch (LHQ SIB). The first OC was appointed on 20 September 1943 with LHQ SIB HQ being located at 252 Swanston St, Melbourne.

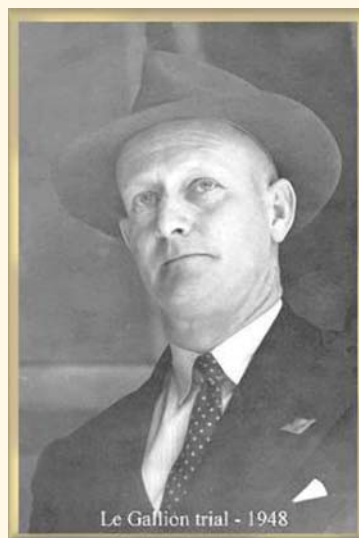
On 28 December 1943, Randall was deployed to New Guinea to raise and command the newly appointed SIB New Guinea Force Detachment (SIB New Guinea). With the raising of the SIB and the large numbers of Australian Army personnel now deployed throughout the New Guinea and South West Pacific Area (SWPA) the circumstances allowed for the deployment of the SIB. Randall would raise and command

the new detachment with very little support, equipment and corporate knowledge of Australian Army investigations and procedures especially at CO/RSM level. As we shall see, Randall would need to draw upon much of his former policing and soldiering experience as SIB New Guinea developed.

On 25 February 1944, Randall was promoted to Warrant Officer Class 2 (WO2) and promoted again to Warrant Officer Class 1 (WO1) on 13 July 1944. On 19 November 1944, Randall suffered a severe attack of Malaria where he was evacuated to Brisbane for medical treatment. The travel to remote locations, rudimentary living conditions and lack of knowledge of malaria prevention would prove more of an enemy than the Japanese. On 11 January 1945, Randall would return to New Guinea to command the Section.

On 21 May 1945, Randall was given an administrative discharge as a soldier and administratively re-enlisted as an officer and promoted to Lieutenant (LT), AIF, Australian Army Provost Corps. This was in recognition of the responsibility and expertise shown during the course of commanding the Section. Randall was the sole officer in charge of the Section and titled as the OC SIB New Guinea Section.

On 02 September 1945, the Japanese signed formal surrender documents and WW2 had ended. On 20 January 1946, Randall departed New Guinea for return to Australia his service with the SIB quickly coming to an end. On 31 January 1946, the remainder of the Section was warned for return to Australia within four weeks; the SIB New Guinea Section was slowly disbanding. On 04 February 1946, Randall was discharged from the AIF.



Whilst Randall was the OC he was required to maintain the official unit/war diary of the Section. Upon cessation of hostilities in September 1945, Randall was further requested to provide a written brief "of lessons learned" from the New Guinea SIB experience. The following selected extracts of those diaries/reports reveal Randall's problems, thoughts, beliefs and suggestions throughout the period.

When Randall first deployed to New Guinea in December 1943, he faced numerous problems stating:

*Initially, the Section was attached to the Assistant Provost Marshal, New Guinea (APM NG) Lt Col. Cowper for investigation duty; however, major issues occurred from the start:*

- a. SIB was a new and unknown entity to both the Provost Corps and the Army, with the SIB being poorly employed and misunderstood;
- b. Lack of equipment, correspondence, facilities for records storage and office accommodation;
- c. SIB being recognised as part of the Provost Corps with the resultant "hatred" of Provost personnel and lack of co-operation from Army units; and
- d. Problems with the APM who was "interfering" in investigation matters; the APM believed he was in charge.

Much effort, tact and hard work was required from Randall to overcome the main issues between Cowper and himself and the wider Australian Army units. Randall also mentioned the amount of travel undertaken by him and the Section during the period, stating:

*At the same time, SIB enquiries involved travel to all portions of the SWPA where Australian troops were operating, including forward areas. Travel was by Service aircraft, barge and land vehicles and included visits to Milne Bay, Goodenough Island, Oro Bay, Buna, Salamauna, Lae, Sio, Madang, Finschhafen, Sidor, Hollandia, Bougainville, New Britain, Aitape, Wewak, and to many native villages along the New Guinea coastline.*

It appears that Randall favoured current serving SGTs and WO who had previous civil police experience when considering their transfers to the NG SIB. Many of those men would transfer into the Section straight from front line units then serving in New Guinea and the SWPA. Randall considered this type of man, one who had been a civil policeman prior to the war and then had "soldiering" experience outside the Provost Corps, to be the ideal SIB candidate.





were retailing to Australian personnel. They bought the goods from US Negro soldiers for 2 bottles of whisky per bale and each bale was returning them about £200. The goods were stolen from the US QM but the US authorities failed to trace the thieves. In our experience most USA investigators are inexperienced men and usually take the line of least resistance and incline to "wipe off" inquiries where their own men are involved with Australian personnel. A few are very good and cooperate 100 per cent. SIB/NG/45/3/235

- Sgts Meehan and Allen to Wewak re inquiries at 6 Div re the pillaging of deceased soldier's effects. SIB/NG/45/6/43, SIB/NG/45/4/265
- SGT Meehan returned to Lae by plane from Wewak and Aitape. Inquiries re pillage of contents of kits of two deceased soldiers, in transit by barge from Wewak to kit store, Aitape. Kits were loaded on barge, loose, with troops and other cargo, instead of being crated and escorted. Disciplinary action taken against persons responsible. SIB/NG/45/4/265
- Routine inquiries into missing cargo unloaded this port
- Investigation into death of NX (Name), 6 Mob Met Ft att First Aust Army. Found dead with service rifle beside him and .303 bullet wound in his head at 1230 hrs, this date, in 6 Mob Met Ft hut. Subsequent inquiries proved suicide. Inquiry found "Death due to suicide while temporarily of unsound mind" SIB/NG/45/3/264
- Interrogated and obtained statements from two civilian women, Marjorie (Name) (24) married: and Rosalie (Name) (22) single, both of Toorak, Vic, who, when picked up by Aust Provost at Torokina, Bougainville, on the 10 Aug, conducting a brothel there in a hut in the bush, for US Servicemen at a fee of 20 dollars a time, stated that they

Previously, a civil policeman had been drafted into the Section as an investigator with no military background or experience. This proved disastrous as he could not relate to the life of a soldier and they in turn would not speak to him; Randall's war diary entry stating:

*The Policeman who joined the Army and served with a Unit and then transferred to the SIB, is able to appreciate the soldier's outlook and mind and to temper disciplinary action with discretion and tact. He will get much further than the man without such Army experience.*

Randall's report on lessons/suggestions of his time commanding and investigating in New Guinea stated:

- Former civil policemen with previous military experience are ideal investigators,
- SIB should be a separate entity and not part of the Provost Corps but working in liaison with them.
- SIB should work directly for the Adjutant General only; this would stop interference and "tipping off" of suspects and offenders.
- All three Services SIB or equivalent should be unified under one command.

The men who made up the SIB NG Section were often older than most soldiers serving in New Guinea with the Investigators being well into their thirties or older in age. This age "gap" represented a wealth of civil policing experience, knowledge and maturity well suited to SIB enquiries.

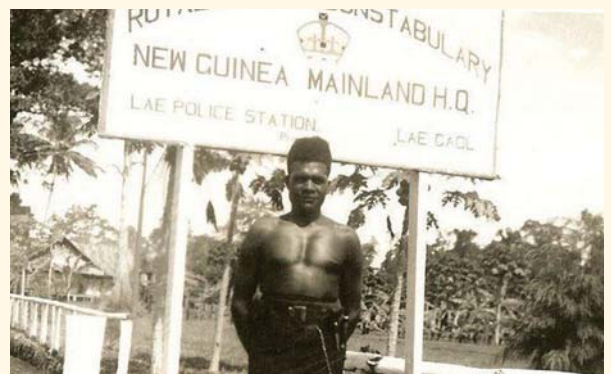
The SIB in New Guinea acquitted themselves well and after the initial

"teething problems" of a new organisation and lack of knowledge by user units, the NG SIB were often highly regarded by units who had to use their services. By hard work, dedication and lively liaison with units, the SIB was able to show the Army the benefit of a SIB capability. Evidence of their success is recorded in the War Diary for 1944.

During that year, the Section recovered Service property to the value of £13,697, carried out 455 inquiries, 116 persons arrested or prosecuted and 127 Courts appearances. By July 1945, Randall and his investigators had been gainfully employed investigating all types of offences and enquiries and proved to be a valuable asset to the Australian Army.

The following War Diary entries indicate the various types of investigations carried out by Randall and the men of the New Guinea SIB (all names and Regimental details of offenders have been deleted to respect their privacy rights):

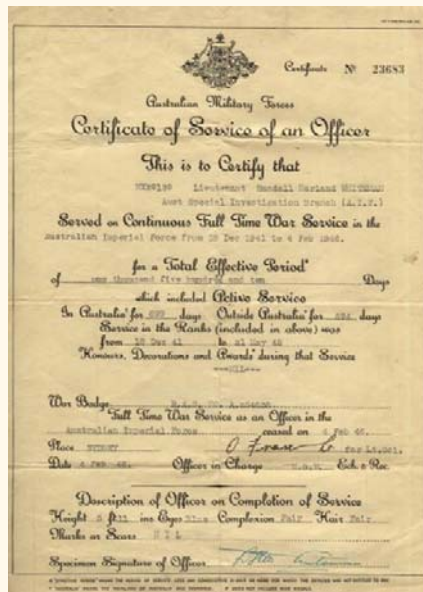
- A British Navy stoker, just recently released from detention and in transit to his ship, arrested and charged with break and enter Red Cross store, Lae and steal £50 worth of tobacco, cigarettes and Red Cross goods. Most of property recovered. SIB/NG/45/4/221
- Two RAAF personnel arrested in possession of US Army clothing valued at £1647, which they





had met and entertained two American merchant sailors in Melbourne on 14 July 45, had got pretty drunk, and later on in the evening had visited the sailors on board a ship (name unknown) at Port Melbourne. They “passed out” and when they woke up the following morning, the ship was at sea, and so were they (in the ships hold). They were kept on the hold for 9 days, during which time they were fed and supplied with liquor etc by the same sailors. They were put ashore at night at Torokina and after wandering about for awhile met an American Seabee who fixed them up with a hut in the bush, and went into partnership with them on a commission basis when they opened up their “business”. They were returned to the mainland by Civilian aircraft, from Lae, on 15 Aug 45. No charge was laid against them.

- Insecurity and theft of weapons (rifles, pistols and machine guns) from unit lines and offices
- Possession of stolen goods linked to above
- Pay book irregularities
- US Army jeeps recovered after being abandoned
- Selling Army Rations
- Possession of captured enemy weapons
- 4 members of First Army HQ admitted and treated at 2/7 AGH for VD. Carrier not known. (All arrested and charged with 11 counts of "Buggery")
- Suicide - while of unsound mind
- Trading in Birds of Paradise
- Mail missing
- *Break and enter US Army QM stores*
- Serious Assault with weapon (captured Japanese Army pistol)
- Murder of NX (Name) of 4th Infantry Battalion at Wewak on night 14 Dec 45 (45/4/368) Note: Fingerprints have been flown to Brisbane safe hand by Lt Col Grimshaw.
- Suicide of Jap POW CAPT YAMADA GONJU at 102 CCS at 1300 h 27 Dec 45 (45/4/370) Note: Inquiries made. Ascertained no suspicious circumstances. Complete report and photographs to DAPM LBSA for information and action.
- (RAAF Service Police MADANG) – Illegal use of Jap aircraft by Australian Army Officer, which crash landed on the



BIAK air strip on 23 Dec 45. Note: Aircraft was flown by CAPT (Name) of ANGAU from Japan. This Officer holds a flying licence and was attached to the 5th US Air Force since 1942 for flying duties and the plane was given to him by same. It crash landed on the BIAK air strip and left there, as it was found that parts had been removed from it overnight rendering it useless. Report submitted – No action taken.

- 20 Jan 46 (RAAF SIB) – Indecent conduct between RAAF Officer and Australian Army personnel.

### Post WW2 - Return to the NSW Police Force

Randall was discharged from the Australian Army on 04 February 1946 and returned to the NSW Police Force where he was reinstated (government policy for veterans) on 26 March 1946 achieving Detective Senior Constable status on 30 June 1946.

Randall worked as a Detective in the CIB until retirement on 18 January 1967 with a discharge endorsement of ‘excellent’ being recorded on his discharge paperwork; sadly, like many others after a full working life, Randall died from a heart attack on 19 March 1970 at 63 years of age.

During his police career, Randall was awarded the Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal on 11 February 1957 to recognise 22 years of full-time service in the Australian Police Forces. Randall was further awarded the Queen’s Police Medal (QPM) for Distinguished Service on 08 June 1967; the ribbon is of dark blue with three silver stripes. Awarded for the ‘exhibition of

conspicuous devotion to duty’, recipients are entitled to use the post-nominal QPM after their name. Randall further attained special mention on his police records as follows:

- Commended for courage and devotion to duty displayed on the night of the 27th September 1956 in connection with the arrest of Keith Joseph William HAHN, who in a darkened room of a house at Burwood and being in possession of a fully loaded revolver, had threatened a police officer. At the subsequent trial, Judge ROONEY, commended WHITEMAN and another detective for their actions in overpowering the offender.
- Commended for the part played by him in the search for Kevin John SIMMONDS and Leslie Allan NEWCOMBE who escaped from the State Penitentiary, Long Bay, on the 9th October 1959.

Randall had a combined service of 33 years in the NSW Police Force broken only for 5 years of WW2 Australian Army war service; his post WW2 police records showing his promotion details as follows:

- Detective Sergeant 3rd Class: 4 Feb 1949
- OIC Vice Squad: 8 Dec 1952 – 13 Dec 1954
- Detective Second Class: 19 May 1955
- Detective Sergeant 1st Class: 10 Nov 1957
- Detective Inspector 3rd Class: 4 Sep 1961
- Detective Inspector 2nd Class: 26 Apr 1963
- Detective Inspector 1st Class: 7 Aug 1965
- Retired from NSW Police: 18 Jan 1967

During the research for this story, I was able to establish that the WHITEMAN family has much memorabilia relating to their father’s war service; however, this information was not available prior to the cut off time for this article to be included in *Poinstman* 2008. Maybe, next year an update story will appear with hopefully original SIB reports, documents and photographs as kept by the WHITEMAN family. They have graciously agreed to meet with me and provide copies of whatever is relevant to our SIB and Corps history from their father’s possessions. See you next year for an update.



# Armoured Protection for Military Police

**By Nigel Allsopp**

With the concept of a hardened Army within the ADF it makes sense to provide MP who on many occasions operate well into the front lines are provided with armoured protection. Also the terrorist modus- operandi in current conflicts has shown that support and rear echelon forces are equally vulnerable to attack.

The current role of the MP include CPP, VCP and high risk convoy and security details which require better protection than soft skin vehicles.

During operation UNSOM in Somalia both Australian and New Zealand Military Police contingents were In-situ without armoured vehicle protection. Australian MP had unmodified 4WD LR110 and NZ MP

had a Unimog with protection installed by sandbagging the floor and pulling apart spare flake jackets to surround the drivers.

This would have made ANZAC MP vulnerable to any IED attack or even down to small arms fire. Other MP Forces during UNSOM had armoured vehicles to conduct duties such as Armoured Humvee, LAV, Panhard, Fahad and Cougar APC.

These vehicles were employed during VCP and mobile check points throughout the city. In addition they were used for the transportation of VIPs to and from various Embassy and Coalition Headquarters and finally as escort vehicles for food aid convoys throughout the region.

On several occasions UN Forces were ambushed whilst conducting these operations. Although some Foreign Force MP were injured during UNSOM mission

Top Image: The US Army MP uses the M1117 in the convoy escort role and rapid reaction force roles.

regardless of the extra protection. The results would have been fair graver if they had happened to the ANZAC vehicles.

In current operations with a greater increase in roadside bombings and suicide incidents, the need for armoured protection has increased.

The US Military Police in Iraq currently use the M1117 an updated version of the Commando which saw service in the Vietnam War with the USAF Security Police on Base protection duties.

Both USAF Security Police and US Army MP use the M1114 and M1116 Armoured Humvee extensively in Iraq and Afghanistan.



Armoured Vehicles used in Afghanistan by Canadian Military Police.



Armoured Humvee used by 545th MP, Iraq.



Military Police World wide are finding an ever increasing role in protecting facilities, VIPs and support structures, as terrorists see these as soft and easy targets. Increasingly MP are placed in harms way to protect them and must be likewise protected with armoured vehicles.

A break down of vehicles currently being operated by MP unit's world wide are: Armoured Hummer M1116, M1117, LAV, Cougar, VAB, Otokar, Chaimite and Buffalo to name a few.

The Australian Bushmaster would be an ideal candidate for a MP armoured role in

the ADF.

The Bushmaster would give MP better protection to carry out their role within the ADF and be in keeping with the hardened Army concept. The Bushmaster enables a section of MPs to deploy under protection during convoy escort or VIP transportation missions. Unlike a tracked APC, the Bushmaster gives a capability in a less threatening manner and can use existing road structure during any internal security function such as Aid to Civil power.

**Author: Nigel Allsopp is a current serving officer in the Queensland Police Service (QPS). He served in the RNZAF as a Police Dog Supervisor and Training Instructor, Investigator and a CPP operative. He saw service in Moscow in the late 80's as an Embassy Guard and saw active service in Somalia. With QPS his duties include District Firearms and Operational Skills and Tactics Instructor as well as a member of the regional Dignitary Protection and EORT search team on the Gold Coast. He is currently a FLGOFF in the RAAF Reserve.**



# THE MP MUSEUM

**By Captain John Reddington**

The Army History Unit co-ordinates the Corps and Regional Military Museums located around Australia and recently all the Museums underwent a name change. The MP Museum, as a Corps Museum, has recently changed its name to the Australian Army Military Police Museum.

The MP Museum is located at the Defence Force Police Training Centre and is the location where the Corps History is displayed.

Mr Steve Daly is the Curator and his team of nine volunteer members are making steady progress in developing displays and undertaking the multitude of the behind the scene tasks involved in the operation of a Museum. These volunteers were SNCOs of the Corps and are happy to give a day of their time on any Friday. Any involvement is greatly appreciated and you do not have to be a retired member to be a volunteer.

One of the volunteers, Mr Bob Dunn, received a Chief of Army's Commendation earlier this year which is a fitting recognition of the tireless effort and enthusiasm displayed by Bob over the years. Bob saw service in Vietnam and later with the Army Reserve.

Our Curator, Mr Steve Daly, has received a Commendation from the Army History Unit for his work in developing the Museum. He is a font of knowledge and his service goes back to Vietnam, with subsequent service with the Army Reserve. A keen historian, Steve has been involved in presenting the Corps history to the Basic Courses. He is also developing a collection of books in the fledgling library, which we are hoping will be utilised by other course members for research projects.

At the time of writing, a Military Police Foundation is being formed to co-ordinate the operation of the Museum. It will give a wider scope for operation particularly in obtaining outside sponsorship for the Museum. All of the other Corps Museums operate under a similar arrangement and it must be emphasised that the identity of the RACMP will not be lost.

If you have not been in the area for some time you will notice a number of changes. A shed has been erected behind the main building in two stages with a third stage underway. This building is named the Greg



Bob Dunn is presented with his CA's Commendation from LTCOL Peter Fisher Comdt DPTC

Westhead Wing in recognition of the support provided to the Museum by WO1 Greg Westhead. The lining and lighting of this building was installed by trade trainees from the School of Military Engineering. They have expressed an interest in assisting with our future plans for the Museum. Display cases donated by the Naval Museum on Spectacle Island are currently being installed.

There have been a small number of groups visiting the Museum and these have resulted in a number of donations, of display items, being made to the Museum. The comment, "I have something at home which you might like for the Museum", is often heard. It is surprising what is being held in many homes. With this in mind the request, for the serving members of the Corps, to donate items hidden away, is being made. The important thing that we ask is that the item comes with a history. This makes the display of the item more interesting. A photograph with a description is better for display purposes. If in doubt contact the Manager or Curator of the Museum.

Museums contain items from wars and activities in the past and the MP Museum is no exception. Photographs featuring MP

members appear in the Army magazine and the background to this activity would be useful in the Museum. It highlights the need for more information to be provided by the members in the field today. After all the MP today are making the history of tomorrow.

A report on the Museum's activities, entitled SITREP, has been prepared and is being emailed to all units. It gives an update on how things are progressing and items of historical interest. It is hoped that this will be prepared every three months.

One of the tasks which the Museum is hoping to undertake in 2009 is the development of an Oral history of the Corps. Unfortunately many of the interesting "characters" of the Corps have passed on, but if you are aware of the location of a member of the Corps, who served in the 2nd World War, please contact the Museum.

Do not neglect your Museum. Please have a look in when you are in the area. Visits can be organised away from normal operating times by contacting the Museum Manager or Curator.

**Email address of the Manager is:**  
[john.reddington1@defence.gov.au](mailto:john.reddington1@defence.gov.au)



# LIGHT CONVOY ESCORT VEHICLE

**By LTCOL Peter Fisher**

There is a growing body of evidence pointing to the vulnerability of logistics convoys. In Iraq, rather than attempting to take on combat forces insurgents have seen convoys as an easy target for ambushes. Insurgents have also directed improvised explosive device attacks against convoys. To counter these attacks US forces have been using M1114 up-armoured Humvee, M1117 Guardian Armoured Security Vehicle and in-theatre built 'gun trucks' using Vietnam War designs based on five tonne cargo vehicles.

If the Australian Army was to operate logistics convoys in an operational environment similar to Iraq how would it protect those convoys? At present the options would be limited to the ASLAV or Bushmaster vehicles. These options are probably not palatable for a commander as these are high value combat assets. To use

them to protect convoys dilutes his combat power and mission flexibility.

It can be argued that in future complex warfighting operations, logistic convoys could be one of a commander's key vulnerability. In addition to affecting combat power, the impact of insurgent attacks on road networks will affect the civilian population's security perceptions. These perceptions are likely to have significant political implications that a commander can not ignore. One of RACMP's tasks is the provision of light convoy escorts; however, the Corps has never had a vehicle capable of performing the role. Over the years various MP units have attempted to address the deficiency through ad-hoc local level modification of the Land Rover series of vehicles. Being ad-hoc these vehicles were not able to provide meaningful protection for a convoy, adequate firepower, or crew survivability. It is long past time for RACMP to identify a purpose designed weapons platform that can protect logistics convoys.

Convoy escort vehicle options fall into two broad categories. Protection up-grades for light utility vehicles and armoured escort vehicles. There are a number of commercial providers of add on armour for extant light vehicles, such as the Land Rover 110. While these do not provide the protection of a purpose built vehicle, they do have the logistic and maintenance advantages of using existing fleets. Land Rover produces detachable armour panels and glass screens to up-grade the protection offered by a standard Defender 110 vehicle. Optional anti-personnel mine protection is also available. This concept presents clear logistics and cost benefits by enabling the vehicle to operate in low threat standard, high threat armoured, or with partial protection configurations. Armour Mobile Security in France and Arotech's MDT subsidiary in the USA also provide protection upgrades for Land Rover vehicles.



Despite their attraction, protection upgrades for light vehicles have significant operational deficiencies. The most significant deficiency is the absence of a behind armour integrated weapon system. A light convoy escort vehicle must be able to provide terminal ballistic effects that have the kinetic energy to penetrate cover at small arms ranges. 5.56mm and 7.62mm ammunition can not do this. Ammunition of at least 12.7mm is required. Crews must be able to operate their weapons whilst receiving small arms fire and this necessitates that the weapon system be behind armour. Protection upgrades for light vehicles decreases the vehicles drive chains operating life, decrease performance characteristics, and increases maintenance requirements.

A strong argument can be tended that Army needs to invest in a purpose designed convoy escort vehicle. The M1117 Guardian is one of a number of military off the shelf vehicles that meets this requirement. The M1117 is a 15 tonne armoured security vehicle that is used by US Army Military Police Brigades in Iraq for convoy escort missions. The vehicle has 12.7mm calibre turret mounted weapons systems and provides crew protection for mine blasts of up to five kilograms. Its' armour can stop 12.7mm rounds, but not a rocket-propelled grenade. Textron Marine and Land are producing 36 M1117s per month to fill a US Army order for 212 vehicles. At approximately US\$700,000 each these vehicle are not cheap but they do provide a highly capable vehicle that can fulfil the convoy escort role.

Acknowledging that Army requires a convoy escort vehicle will be the first step in a long process to acquire a vehicle that can perform the vital convoy escort task. In the short term it maybe prudent to pursue a protection up-grade interim capability while continuing to seek approval for a purpose designed armoured escort vehicle.

Photographs Courtesy of Textron Marine and Land Systems

**Author: LTCOL Peter Fisher has been a Military Police officer since 1981 and has served in RNZMP and RACMP. He is a graduate of the Army Command and Staff College – Queenscliffe and is currently posted as Commandant of the Defence Police Training Centre.**





# Exchange Programme Long Look 2008

In my day to day job I am a Policing Captain / Coy 2IC in the UK and am used to a heavy load of policing case files and investigations to manage. Today I am filling the post of OPSO with Delta Coy, 1 MP Bn in Enoggera, Brisbane on the Exchange Programme Long Look.

I originally applied for a training post but was pipped at the post by an infanteer so didn't think I would be successful in my application. As luck would have it though, no RMP Lieutenants had put their name forward for the RMP exchange post and I was offered the position, which I gladly took up.

Our flight to Australia was with the RAF on a Tri Star with no in-flight entertainment. We decided we could largely forgive them for this as we had over night stops in Calgary, Honolulu (on Waikiki Beach) and Auckland before flying up to Sydney and on again to Brisbane. I have heard that our counterparts went the same way but swapped Calgary for Las Vegas. Must have been an expensive trip!

D Coy has a specialist role which is an entirely new experience for me. The UK RMP do not have Police Dogs anymore; the Military Working Dogs are all part of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps and have little, if anything, to do with RMP. In the UK our CP Operators are integrated into each of our General Police Duties Companies until they are called forward by the Close Protection Unit.

I visited the dogs in Oakey in my first week here and was impressed with the enthusiasm, knowledge and professionalism of the handlers, as well as that of the PI HQ. I was treated to a demonstration of the skills of the dog and was asked to wear the bite arm in order for the dog to attack me. I have had warmer welcomes I have to admit!

It has also been extremely foreign to me to have so many CP Operators in one place, let alone try and organise their training for the upcoming SECDET! I have had exposure to the ACMS system, as well as TASMIS in order to make bookings and resource requests. I think the only system we have that could replicate both of these is the good old fashioned phone call or e mail!

Since being in Australia I have been to see koalas at the Lone Pine Sanctuary and have also visited the much fabled Australia Zoo. I have had one surf lesson so far at Surfer's Paradise and managed to get my feet to connect with the board before I fell off it again. I like to tell people I stood up, but my instructor tells a different story.

I have been given the opportunity during my time here so far to sample the working practices and culture of the Australian Army while also sampling the delights of Brisbane and the larger Queensland area. It has not yet failed to impress.

**Capt Z Murray AGC (RMP)**



# EXERCISE WARFIGHTER

**By CPL Nick "Tex" Woodrow, RMP EX LONGLOOK**



Over the Period 12 – 23 May 2008 the Ready Company Group (RCG) of A Coy, 1 MP Bn was involved in Exercise Warfighter 2008. The exercise was run by the Combat Training Centre (CTC) and combined both an infantry Company (in this case B

Coy, 1 RAR) and specialist units which when combined established the Combat Team (CT).

The MP Det worked closely with Engineers, B Coy HQ, Coy Medic and Infantry Sections. The 12 day exercise consisted of two missions. The first, a field based search and destroy mission and the second was an urban based capture of a High Value Individual (HVI) combined with hearts and minds liaising with the civil population.

The MP Det consisting of CPL Sarah Archibald, CPL Troy Stapelton, CPL Jason Jesser and LCPL Nathan Smith played a vital role within the CT throughout both missions. Accompanying the MPDet was SGT Gov Wilson and a Longlook exchange member CPL Nick "Tex" Woodrow who's experience and knowledge of policing procedures were well appreciated by the MP Det and staff at CTC.

There was a variety of tasking throughout the mission for the MP Det. Tasking in Mission 1 involved assisting with PW handling and processing as well as Battlefield Clearance. The MP Det was able to provide subject matter expertise, guidance and advice to the CT HQ throughout the mission.

During Mission 2 the MP Det was able to showcase a number of skill sets in arresting and detaining suspected HVI, providing Key Leadership Engagement (KLE) with Civpol, assisting with Population Protection Control(PPC) and providing the CT with mission success in safely extracting the HVI from the village.

Overall the MP Det's contribution to the CT was invaluable and we can now look forward to Military Police playing vital and important roles within the CT structure. RCG, A Coy, 1 MP Bn looks forward to another CTC exercise with C Coy 1 RAR in June.





# THE POPE Comes to DPTC

Pope Benedict XVI was officially welcomed to Sydney during July for World Youth Day 2008. The residents of Sydney prepared for another week of traffic chaos as security cordons went up, emergency plans were activated and pilgrims from all over the world were converging on the city for the activity. For DPTC it was business as usual, way out in the western suburbs, until under the cover of darkness the vehicle with number plate SCV 1 was off loaded at DPTC under the watchful eye of SGT Tom Osborn, MM.

By all appearances the Pope was making an unscheduled early morning visit to Lamia Barracks, the home of the Military Police. In reality the 'Pope mobile', which is one of the most unique protective vehicles in the world was being pre positioned in order for the NSW Police Protection Operations Unit to commence training and familiarisation with the vehicle prior to the Pontiff's arrival.

DPTC is host to many NSW Police activities and courses due to the close training relationship that exists. However on this occasion it happened to be quite a sight as Lamia Barracks and its surrounds became the training ground for one of the countries most high profile visits. At the end of the day, staff from DPTC and 1 MP Bn working at Lamia Barracks were able to take an inquisitive look at this unique vehicle that had been transported all the way from Vatican City, the members of the NSW Police Dignitary Protection Unit were able to hone their skills and SGT Osborn was able to do his bit for the visit whilst manning the entrance to the home of the Military Police.





# FROM THE FRONT LINE – HEADQUARTERS 1ST MILITARY POLICE BATTALION

**CO – LTCOL Murray W. Heron**  
**RSM – WO1 Scott ‘Dog’ Upston**

Many commanders will say the second year is always the hardest, while others will say the second year goes much quicker than the first. I agree with both schools of thought in that for me 2008 has definitely been a rapid, yet tough year. Nonetheless, it has been a year which has capped off the greatest time in my military life, commanding some of the most professionally focused and highly adaptable people our Army has in its inventory.

Our aim this year was to modernise and adjust to the ever-changing environments. On top of that, we were still required to provide a credible domestic policing capability, support to various training and ceremonial activities, as well as maintaining a variety of deployable MP teams. All this plus the plethora of audits, investigations and inquiries, the Enhanced Land Force, the Hardened and Networked Army, Project Williams, Employment Category Review... etc.

In a word... VICTORY! – for both our teams and individuals. Yes victory, but not without the inevitable battles. I must once again acknowledge the excellent support of my key staff within the new look Bn HQ, and my team of commanders and key staff in all of the sub units. These guys and girls provided the Bn with an excellent operating framework in which our operators had the freedom of action. Our Bn HQ operations team, once again lead by the S3, MAJ Denis Sweeney, continuously provided sound advice and support to the Coys, and both supported and supporting formations and units.

As you know, Bn HQ has evolved significantly and I am satisfied that the top cover provided by the functional cells maintained the highest standards of protocol, governance and mentoring. Key individuals have been MAJ John Watson (2IC, newly arrived UK lateral), CAPT Kanchana Marasinghe (S4), WO2 Grant Davison (S6) and LT Susan Little and WO2 Steve Elborough (S1



cell). In an effort not to forget anyone, I must salute the remainder of my brilliant Bn HQ staff who were truly great in 08. Thanks heaps!

Now to the hardest workers, the officers and soldiers of the sub-units. Well, what can I say, apart from the fact I did say that 2008 was going to be a much busier year than 2007. What I was most surprised at was the dedication, the enthusiasm and the professionalism displayed at all levels of command, regardless of the task, the challenge or the environment. You have all lived up to our motto: ‘Praesto et Persto’.

In 2008, the Bn provided force elements to over a dozen separate deployments, plus countless exercises across the nation and overseas. Over 120 officers and soldiers from 1 MP Bn were deployed offshore in a variety of roles. Once again, our MP support teams were the key to the Army’s operational success especially in Timor Leste and Afghanistan. I must note the exceptional efforts of our MP teams in Timor Leste under command of SGTs Greg Williams and Pete Toia; the MP dog teams in Timor Leste with SGTs Aaron Barnett, Dean Hedberg and CPL Robert Serafin taking the lead; the

Joint Provost Marshals in Timor Leste, MAJ Ian Stewart and CAPT Sean Collopy; our security teams in Iraq under command of CAPTs Nathan Peirpoint, Luke Thatcher and Ben Respondek; and our numerous individuals and small teams around the globe. I think it would be only prudent to point out that about half of our deployable capability in 2008 was made up of our part-time officer and soldiers. Bloody good effort team!

I can honestly say that as commander of these people, I am extremely proud. Once again, letters of appreciation came flocking in and in a number of cases, some of our members received awards in recognition of their efforts. This included commendations for the whole team of SECDET XII (OP CATALYST); WO2 Jason Pratt (OP CATALYST); the Military Police Dog Team with TLBG64 (OP ASTUTE); CPL Michael Smallman (OP RESOLUTE); MAJ Ian Stewart (Bn HQ); CPL Kristoffer Rudge (B Coy); and WO2 Grant Davison (OP DELUGE 2007). I must also make mention of the Order of Australia Medal which was awarded to WO1 Ken Bullman, RSM 1 MP Bn 2006/07. Congratulations and thanks for your dedication to the Bn over the years. And well done to the many more who have received the Soldiers Medallions, Certificates of Merit etc.

There were a number of training highlights in 2008, culminating in our deployment on EX SWIFT EAGLE 08. As mentioned, it was essential for us to demonstrate our commitment to Army and the inclusion of a substantial MP element to the EX was well worth it. This will be the norm for the future. Well done to A Coy, who led this activity.

Once again, there was an incredible effect on individuals and their families. I must say I am very proud of your commitment, support and understanding. The families must be commended for their tolerance, especially due

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# FROM THE FOXHOLE OF THE RSM OF 1 MP BN – WO1 SCOTT UPSTON

## According to 'Dogs Law'...

In January 2008, I took up my appointment as the RSM of 1 MP Bn. I truly believe the ultimate achievement for a career soldier, is to be the "senior soldier" of his organisation.... Fantastic! This year has seen the Bn continue to grow and develop to meet the ever changing needs of Army and the wider ADF, the implementation of the UE review which sees the Bn better postured to serve current operational commitments; and an increased ability to forecast for future operations, and the re-rolling of the domestic policing capability in Kapooka, Bandiana and Puckapunyal which we will grow over the next couple of years. The plan is that we will see a separate Domestic Policing Unit (DPU) capability, solely structured to provide the essential domestic policing capability that was cut, back in 1993.

Unfortunately, we have not been without our discipline issues this year. Across all ranks, we must continually challenge ourselves as Military Police to ensure that each time we present ourselves we remain 'beyond reproach'. This is what the wider Army expects of us and how the general public assumes we will act. We need to continue to strive to achieve this standard and make amends for some of the failings that



have been evident from time to time in 2008.

One thing that continues to impress me however is the attitude of the soldiers across the Bn. During my travels with the CO and whilst chatting to those on courses at DPTC, I have found that apart from the usual gripes about equipment, deployments, something that has not changed from when I was a young CPL is the general 'can do', 'have a go' approach which signifies the

Anzac spirit ... Keep it up!

Our soldiers have continued to represent the Bn and the Corps at all levels, whether it's speaking to the digger on the ground or briefing Commanders on current issues. My goal for 1 MP Bn in 2009 is to continue to progress this level of support across the wider Army. I would also like to improve our robustness with regard to our moral courage in dealing with issues that us, as modern soldiers, face on a daily basis ... myself included. The concept of 'Dogs Law' will still apply in 2009 to ensure that our standards are maintained, our ethics are sound and our morale is high.

Those of you moving on from the Bn, farewell and thanks for your support during your posting. I look forward to when our paths cross in the future. For those remaining, look forward to again facing a new year with a myriad of new and old challenges. I would particularly like to thank the CO for his unwavering support / guidance to me in the first year of my appointment, also to wish himself, Amanda, Jacob and Bec all the best for your posting to Malaysia. For all members of 1 MP Bn, RACMP, family and friends have a spectacular Christmas and I wish you all the best for 2009.

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to short notice tasking and extended deployments. Thank you all very much for being there; it made our job worth while.

So, you may ask, what have we achieved in 2008? Well let me try to sum it up. Firstly, we restructured, renamed and refocused; then we sent some guys and girls on courses, exercises and deployment; then others returned from operations; then we had a bit of a roller-coaster ride in the middle of the year trying to sort out facilities, unit training, resources and personnel

issues; then we sent some more guys and girls on courses, exercises and deployment; then others came home... you get the picture.

In my final wrap, I must recognise the efforts of my principle staff advisors, my Adjutant, CAPT Damian Eaton and my Regimental Sergeant Major, WO1 Scott 'Dog' Upston.

To Damian, you have made my two years as CO very efficient.

Your organising and administrative ability has been second to none. Your enthusiasm to expand your own knowledge

and pass on your expertise has not gone unnoticed.

Thanks heaps and best of luck in your endeavours, you'll do well.

To 'Dog', what a great year! You have really been an excellent senior soldier and set the example to your superiors, peers and subordinates. We've had a tough haul, but we've also stopped to have a bit of fun along the way... I really appreciate that mate! Differences of opinion were not the norm as we both first thought. On the contrary, I think we made a very solid command team.

It's been great, bloody great! Cheers!



# A COMPANY 1 MP BN



**OC: MAJ Dale Morley**  
**CSM: WO1 Glenn Forrest**

In mid October 2007, 13 MP PL combined with 11 MP PL to form a section of some of the Corps finest soldiers to represent 1 MP Coy in the annual Boots competition, which for 2007 was held at Holsworthy Barracks. 1 MP Coy proved a force to be reckoned with and subsequently won the converted 'Boots' trophy. Special soldiers of mention were CPL Gardiner, LCPL ODermatt, CPL Malone, and CPL Mercer who all ran in the top five of the Olinger Challenge.

November 2007 saw 13 MP PL headed over to Darwin for "Ex Wolf Pack" to celebrate the disbandment of 1 MP Coy to make way for the new Corps structure. The exercise consisted of JNCO training, sporting competitions, lectures on other army capabilities and a dining in night. One particular activity of the exercise was a debate held between the two platoons, the debate drew heated arguments but overall both sides of the argument ("that humanitarian aid organisations are doomed to fail") were well presented and with their merits. The Townsville platoon left Darwin no longer a part of 1 MP Coy, but they left their mark on Darwin in many ways.

November also saw 13 MP PL provide PPC training at high range, MOUT facility, for the reservists and a platoon of PNG soldiers heading over to the Solomon Islands later that year. Headed by SGT Zane Foley 13 MP provided an informative and enjoyable PPC package as per the usual standard that Phantom's provide. CPL Grant Creswell almost started an incident between Australia and PNG, when he encouraged the PNG soldiers to act as opposition force against the reservists. Meanwhile CPL's Ramage, Lock and Weatherall had the job of qualifying two platoons of reservists on the mk3 9mm pistol for their deployment on OP Resolute.

November being a busy month for 13 MP PL, also saw two sections move out to the MOUT facility to conduct ex "Phantom Warrior" to test the platoons actions in an operational type environment. The exercise proved to be a physical and mental challenge combining PPC, Policing and Close Quarter battle (CQB) aspects. Every JNCO of the platoon walked away from the exercise having sharpened their skills as Military Police.

The month also saw the departure of the then CSM 'Dog' Upston to his new role as RSM Bn with WO2 Forrest taking up the role with a parting comment from Dog of; 'You don't need a handover/takeover they are all your lunatics!'

The beginning of 2008 saw the emergence of A Coy and the demise of the mighty 'Phantoms'. The new company had an influx of new faces ready and keen to promote RACMP and its capabilities.

2008 has brought many changes and challenges' to the men and women posted to the MP coy in Townsville. With the New Year brought a new identity and a new role to the company. 1 MP Coy became A Coy 1 MP Bn, the Bulldogs became the Vikings.

In February the RCG deployed on short notice with 1 RAR on EX 'Sea Lion' Amphibious Operation with the NZ and French armed forces, and after a manning change went out again on the CTC Warfighter with 2 RAR.

The MP Coy in Townsville has had a very busy 12 months, with the coy continuing to support 3 and 11 Bde, 5 Avn Regt, 10 FSB and the FNQR, actively participating in EX PW 07, the Governor Generals Parade in November 07, EX Talisman Sabre 07, EX Silicon Brolga, the Welcome Home Parade in May 2008, Chief





of Army's Farwell 2008, CATA, EX Menin Road, EX Swift Eagle, Future Land Warfare Conference and EX Sea Lion.

The coy recommenced a garrison policing program to compliment the training we were doing in preparation for deployment in conventional and non conventional warfare, this included town patrols and liaison with our local CIVPOL organisations, SECPOL and ADFIS. This allowed the company to train across a wide range of law and order and conflict spectrums.

Warfighter activities have been run through out this year with 1 RAR, allowing the infantry the opportunity to work alongside the MP in various field environments conducting IDOPs at the forward combat team level, battlefield clearance as well as MMS and convoy escorts. It also gave us the opportunity to have MP embedded in a battle group and combat team providing advice and assistance in Law Enforcement / Peace Enforcement Operational scenarios.

In February 2008 1 MP Pl participated in EX Sea lion, and Amphibious Operation with the NZ and French armed forces.

In the last 12 months the company has seen fifteen members deploy to OP ASTUTE, OP CATALYST, OP SLIPPER, RCB, and LONGLOOK, RBG training and preparation, support to LWC and the major Bde Ex Swift Eagle. As well as supporting the Bde, A Coy has also successfully completed IMTs, with members from B Coy making the trip to High Range to participate in EX Menin Road.

EX Val Halla commenced in September, an exercise designed to prepare members for EX Swift Eagle. It provided great refresher training for many members and also allowed the unit to fine tune its TTPs for the little practised conventional role.

Throughout 2008, many of A Coy members managed to escape the heat and travel to Sydney for various courses, including SPIC, CPP and the MPD-H Course. Congratulations to the new CPPO

who completed a physically and mentally demanding course. Our new dog handlers, CPL's Napier and Ramage, posted out mid year, all the best for the future, enjoy your new career path. God help us all if MPD Satan gets loose!

A Coy also conducted several courses within the local area, such as PPC, weapons qualification and R1 Motorcycle, qualifying four more people on the illustrious BMW.

The 3 Bde Open Day proved to be quite a hit. Although our role was to support Traffic Control, A Coy set up its own display, complete with flashing lights. Although nobody took any of our brochures, all eyes were on CPL Ryan Lock, who so keenly "volunteered" to don the Redman suit. Poor defenceless Locky, took a beating as kids from all over Townsville took a swing at him, including his own.

The year has seen several faces move on to new phases of their Military career. CAPT Urquhart, CPL Ihle, and CPL Titlow all transferring to different Corps within the ADF. CPL Biggs (TPT SPVR) is also departing on posting at years end.

SGT "Tex" Woodrow, a member from the RMP as part of EX LONG LOOK departed in August. Tex very quickly became a valuable member of the company, providing a variety of insight into Policing, and other areas of Military Police work.

As another SPBC marched out, A Coy received more members to add to the roll book. CPL Davies, LCPLs Dickson, Faulks, Flack, Mulder and Tsakisiris, welcome to the unit.

A Coy also welcomed its newest and youngest member..... Asta, a Norwegian Elkhound puppy as its Mascot. Asta has started her basic training under the watchful eye of the CSM WO1 Forrest, and she appears to have finally overcome her fear of stairs.

The end of the year will see many of A Coy members posting out, including SGT "Axle" Foley, who will take up his new position in

Canberra at OPM-A. He will be sincerely missed but one thing is for sure Benny Hill will never be the same again! Farewell to LT Acosta, CPLs Archibald, Berg, Biggs, T. Cresswell, G. Cresswell, Earney, Gardiner, Mercer, and Malone. A Coy wishes you all the best for your future endeavours and thanks you for all your time and effort in making A Coy what it is today.

As the year draws to an end, we take this opportunity to thank you all for your efforts, and wish you and your families a very safe and merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

**"For the Troops and With the Troops"**

## WHAT IS HUET TRAINING?

Because A Coy supports 3 Bde in their operational role, it means that they are required to be trained to the same level of readiness, including specialist training, as the deployable elements of 3 Bde are.

Helicopter Underwater Escape Training (HUET) is currently conducted extensively throughout 3 Bde and for those persons supporting them or deploying in an air mobile role.

Once you have done the training you need to re-qualify every two years to remain current. The card issued is to be kept with DP1 packages and commanders working with 3 Bde or in support of them are to ensure all persons who may be deployed are qualified at all times.

The training involves being strapped into a mock helicopter which crash lands in open water requiring the persons inside to escape the airframe in a number of different scenarios. The training will help to reduce fatalities and increase survivability of injured persons involved in air mobile operation in the future.

HUET positions in Townsville are limited and all persons wishing to undergo the training must pass a specific medical before hand.





# B COMPANY 1ST MILITARY POLICE BATTALION



**OC: MAJ David Pratt**

**CSM: WO1 Naomi Freeman**

The newly formed B Coy has seen the amalgamation of 11 MP Pl (Wolf Pack) now 4 Pl and 21 MP Pl (Spartans) now 5 Pl. The Coy has continued to supply professional and motivated personnel for tasks and training in Darwin and Sydney.

MAJ David Pratt has taken the reigns of the new Coy as the new OC and WO1 Naomi Freeman as the CSM. The Coy is dispersed between Robertson Barracks, Darwin and Lamia Barracks, Holsworthy. The forming of the new Coy in 1 Bde has allowed the MP to integrate into the Bde and start becoming more involved with Bde exercises like EX Predators Gallop in June.

There have been several members deployed from the Coy this year to various locations. WO2 Pratt, CPL Ferris and LCPL Horton are currently deployed on OP CATALYST - SECDET XIII and WO2 Pieschel, SGT Saintsbury and SGT Eadie have just returned from SECDET XII.

March saw the return of CPLs Cottle and Gillies and LCPL Wood from OP ASTUTE and the deployment of SGT Williams, and CPLs Phelps, Dymock, Brazier, Bendeich, Silverter, Gorrige, Stroop (A Coy) and LCPL Tate on OP ASTUTE.

CPL Carey is currently enjoying a holiday over in the UK on EX Long Look while LT Foster just got back from her UK holiday doing the RMP CPP Course.

The bulk of the Coy training has been in line with the OC's "shoot everything that moves with anything you can get your hands on" (or words to that effect) policy. B Coy members have fired more ammunition through more weapons in the last four months than most of them have seen in their career. Ranges planned for the rest of the year should turn out some accomplished gun slingers.

B Coy conducted a range shoot at the Kangaroo Flat Training Area (KFTA), over

the period 05-06 Mar 08 in order to qualify soldiers of the Coy in the 9mm mk3 pistol and the Remington 870 shotgun. The range consists of both static and sneaker ranges. The whole process was run smoothly with both ammo and rations being in plenty. All proficiencies were attained and the Coy was able to qualify all soldiers who participated in the activity.

From 6 May to 9 May 2008, 4 Pl and HQ B Coy, Darwin hosted an adventure training activity, involving members from Darwin, 5 Pl in Sydney, D Coy and two Long Look exchange members from the UK. Day 1 encompassed an introduction to rock climbing and abseiling at The Rock in Darwin, before heading to Lake Bennett for canoeing and stopping for the night at Adelaide River.

The second day saw a visit to The Adelaide River War Memorial, followed by a trip to Douglas Hot Springs and finally arriving at Umbrawarra Gorge, where everyone was involved in rock climbing and abseiling.

Day three involved a wet abseil down Robyn Falls, before visiting Bulli Rockhole and Florence Falls at Litchfield National Park for a swim. On the final day we visited various sights at Litchfield National Park, including Wangi Falls, before having lunch at Berry Springs and arriving back at Darwin. The week was an extremely enjoyable experience for all involved.

In mid May we conducted a range week in Holsworthy which allowed us to gain many weapon qualifications including the Mag 58, GLA, M79, Claymores and 66mm. Luckily the Sydney weather held up for us, it was nice and sunny, apart from those chilly mornings which us Darwin people aren't used too. Most of the NCO's became qualified OIC in CAT A and B Ranges.

Between deployed personnel, career courses and MP tasks, 5 Pl has struggled to maintain GD patrols and settle into its training program, with Pl training often



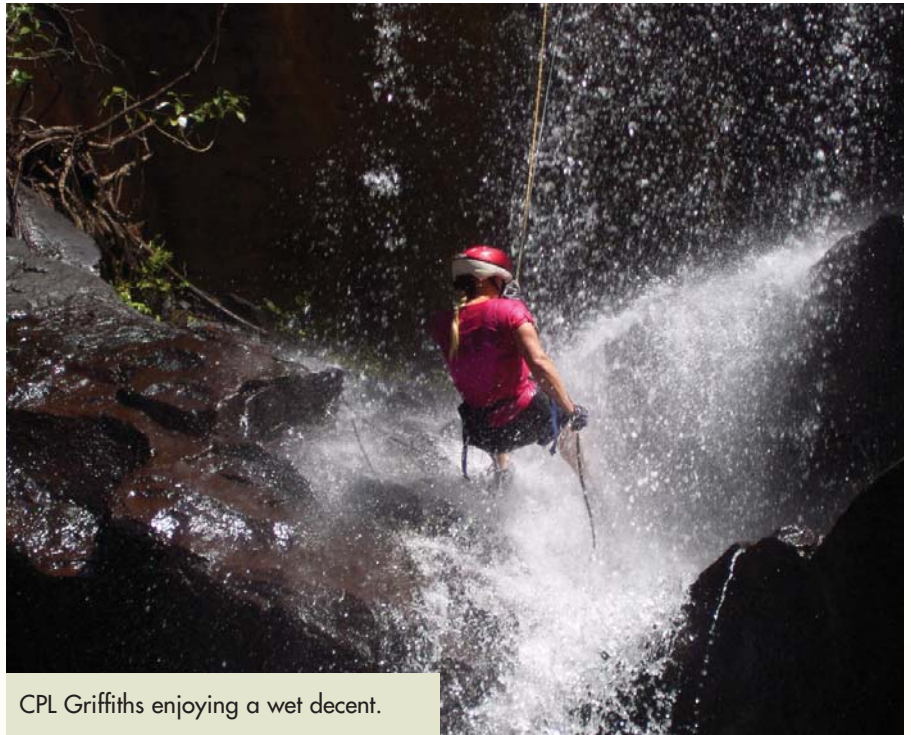
Coy range shoot at KFTA.



consisting of four to five people (on a good day). However, 5PI has still managed to conduct PPC training and Drug and Alcohol training for 8/12 Mdm Regt and 1 Bde, RRF training for 8 Bde, and the Sydney parade commemorating WW1 actions in Crete. As for next year though Holsworthy will be policing itself as the mighty 5th PI is dragged kicking and screaming to complete the establishment of B Coy with 1 Bde.

B Coy has continued to support the TSE with CPL Smallman receiving a commendation for his efforts. Earlier in the year CPL Ferris was presented with the CAPT Peter Boyle Memorial Trophy for being the most outstanding MP NCO for 2007, congratulations to both these members and well done.

To all our members deployed we wish them a safe trip and look forward to seeing them return to Australia later on this year.



CPL Griffiths enjoying a wet decent.



Escorting the CA on his farewell tour to Darwin.



# C COY 1 MP BN POINTSMAN ARTICLE



**CHQ**

**OC: MAJ T.C. Hind**

**CSM: WO1 C. Woodward**



01 Jan 08 was the date of the raising of C Coy 1 MP Bn. The ARes from the previous Bn structure amalgamated to form a 220 pers strong sub unit that has six MP Pls located in Perth (7 Pl), Hobart/Adelaide (8 Pl), Melbourne (9 and 10 Pls), Sydney/Newcastle (11 Pl) and Brisbane (12 Pl). CHQ is located at Freer Lines in Melbourne.



C Coy's Mission is to provide CO 1 MP Bn with a Sect capability from each Pl for both domestic and operational deployment. The Coy must also raise, train and sustain the ARes which requires significant efforts from all key staff. The Coy is now structured to shape ARes capability away from limited parading to supporting tasks and the conduct of training more in line with the Bn battle rhythm. The ARA and ARes staff at CHQ have performed to a very high standard under challenging situations since C Coy was raised. The management of Coy admin, training, logistic, transport and operations has been excellent. It is a credit to the professionalism of the HQ staff that the Coy transitioned so well and is developing and delivering spt to 1 MP Bn in such a dynamic and increasingly complex environment, even though at times there were many key staff absent for professional development courses, deployments and spt to BHQ and the other Coy's.



The C Coy ARA and ARes pers on CFTS are providing professional and motivated pers to taskings and Bn short notice op deployments like OP CATALYST, OP SLIPPER, OP ASTUTE, promotional courses and MP activities. The key staff have again been challenged in providing a limited GD response capability for policing whilst maintaining its focus on individual and Sect level Corps and non-Corps competencies.



Many ARes pers from all elements of C Coy have attended both the ARA and ARes SPBC. These pers were well prepared by their Sect and PHQ staff, with many achieving excellent results. The Pls continue to interact with their respective 2 Div formations through the provision of RRF and PPC training and many GD and ceremonial MP tasks. All Pls are continuing to focus on improving individual skills, knowledge and attitudes prior to the introduction of HRR in order to provide greater spt to A and B Coys. A MPST and JPM from 7 and 9 Pl are currently deployed on TLBG5.

Many H&A were presented to C Coy pers, including medals for Timor Leste, Iraq, Afghanistan, Lebanon and the Solomon Islands. ADM and DLSM were deservedly presented for recognition of valued service to Defence by many Coy pers.

Overall, it has been an extremely busy period due to the high routine tempo, op deployment of our ARA and ARes pers, and mandatory governance requirements within the Coy. It is a testament to the professional standards displayed by the Coys Officers, WOs, SNCOs and JNCOs that we will continue to provide an effective capability to op deployments and domestic tasking while focussing on the development and conduct of credible and realistic training. My congratulations to all C Coy pers. You should be proud of your achievements.

**7 Pl - Pl COMD: CAPT S.Collopy**

C Coy identified in Oct 07 that it would deploy a Sect and JPM on CFTS with TLBG5 to OP ASTUTE. 7 Pl pers formed the nucleus (with one person from 9 Pl) of the MPST identified to deploy to East Timor mid Sep 08. MRT was





conducted over a six month period under the guidance of the JPM (CAPT Collopy), SGT Ilinsky and SGT Toia. The MPST performed to a very high standard when supporting 5 RAR MRT in Darwin in Aug 08. The troops were farewelled by the OC and OPSO in Perth and we wish them all a safe and challenging deployment.

On 19 Aug 2009, a well organised family evening was conducted. The CO and RSM were present to add to the glamour. This enabled families to feel confident in the support displayed by the Bn for the duration of the deployment.

The PI has continued support to 13 Bde with RRF tasks by providing instructors and technical advice. 2009 will be another challenge for those that remain behind as the tempo of supporting Coy and Units in WA will remain high. Congratulations to the recently promoted Sergeant Craig Keogh, who will take command as the Sect Comd 1 Sect. Merry Christmas to all and good luck next year at Boots!

### **8 PI - PI COMD: CAPT M. Redburn**

33 and 34 MP PIs merged to form a determined and productive 8 PI, C Coy. This has of course produced some geographical challenges for training and administration being spilt between Adelaide and Hobart; however, the outcomes have produced some very positive results.

In May 2008, all Sects of 8 PI participated in a week long AFX at Murray Bridge in SA. This was to conduct the Sect assessed activity. This gave all pers the opportunity to be a part of a PI structure and combine their experiences with their peers. The success of the AFX will carry over to make it become an integral part of 8 PI training and tasking in 2009.

The tasking for 8 PI has been intense in 2008. The PI has conducted RRF training, MC escorts, policing and ceremonial activities. Many tasks are on short notice and 8 PI can be proud to have met the challenge and have been rewarded by letters and messages of appreciation from a variety of units.

CPL Hondow is about to transfer to the ARA and LCPL Tetlow will deploy on CFTS to RCB83 in mid Sep 08. Both MP have shown a high level of dedication and training, and all from 8 PI wish them well. Several new recruits have been inducted, from varying backgrounds and experience.

### **9 PI - PI COMD: CAPT M. Griffin**

9 PI has had a very busy year being, both understaffed and having many members away on deployments. Those currently on, or safely returned from deployment include SGT Morrison, LCPLs Young, Thornton, Griffin, Czyrek and Burrows. Congratulations on a job well done and good luck to those still deployed.

We have also had a number of promotions throughout the year. These are LT Ford, LCPLs Timberlake, Ryan, Nicholls, Kauer, Czyrek and Wright. Additionally the PI has had a busy program of training and tasking that include spt to RRF, security operations, MMS and ceremonial activities. The PI was involved in EX Chung Ju, ANZAC Day, Defence Force School of Music open days and spt to SCMA.

We look forward to developing the qualified pers within Melbourne to be able to deploy in spt of A and B Coy or deploy on ops with the ARA.

### **10 PI - PI COMD: CAPT N. Gerhard**

All Melbourne based unqualified MP are posted to 10 PI in order to consolidate their training. Since July 2007 the focus of 10 PI activities has been the basic soldier skills training of RECs and preparing pers for their foundation MP training. Activities conducted include four navigation courses that RECs are required to complete prior to attendance at ARTC, conduct of IMT and all Corps soldier skills revision at Puckapunyal, and C2 driver training at Lake William Hovell.

The PI was heavily involved in preparing unqualified MP and RECs for their SPBC modules. This included instruction in Corps doctrine and TTPs. Seven RECs completed ARTC at Kapooka; fourteen RECs completed the gap navigation courses; six PTE attended SPBC ARES GD/Op Safety (Part A); and five completed the SPBC MCI (Part C). When pers are fully qualified they are transferred to 9 PI.

PI members successfully completed a Pistol course conducted by 4 Bde. The PI also provided spt to a range of AFX and taskings with 9 PI. CPL Briant, CPL Scully and LCPL Petrov were also working in the Coy Orderly Room for many days, assisting CHQ staff with the admin and governance that the PI pers require.

### **11 PI - PI COMD: LT J. Bell**

The PI tempo has been particularly high in 2008. The efforts of PHQ staff are being

realised through the provision of realistic and challenging training that has led to high morale and a high level of ARes attendance for training and tasking.

The PI has been striving to achieve the Bn Mission and OC C Coy intent. Many pers are either recently returned from ops or are nominated to deploy on future rotations. These include SGT O'Loughlin, CPL Olariaga and LCPL Fisher who are back from OP ASTUTE. LCPL Fisher has recently been released to DFCE for six months on CFTS.

The PI is structuring its training and spt tasks to expand upon the skills ARes MP require to become ready for deployment. It will continue to develop its dedicated pers in order to achieve spt to ongoing domestic activities and tasking.

### **12 PI - PI COMD: CAPT P. Wilson**

The PI shares it's location with D Coy at Williams Lines. The training continuum has included a Sect unassessed activity, communications training, and general duties training. The Sect Assessed activity was conducted at Wide Bay Training Area, where pers were assessed on MMS in a tactical environment. All activities focused on the development and training of unqualified MP. Eight pers subsequently attended various modules of the ARes SPBC. Attendance on other courses include five pers on a Recruit Basic course, eight pers attending Gap Recruit training and four pers completing the Junior Leadership course.

ARes members have assisted the Bn capability in overseas deployments on Continuous Full Time Service (CFTS), with CPL Leigh McMahon deploying to East Timor and SGT Ianto Pickavance deployed to Rifle Company Butterworth (RCB). A further two ARes members transferred to the ARA – LCPL John McBeth (D Coy) and LCPL Jack Brunker (A Coy). Throughout the year ARes members also responded to requests to provide external support, including Ready Reaction Force (RRF) training to local and interstate units and an exhibit of MP capability during recruiting activities at the RiverFire festival (Southbank) and at Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera, through various demonstrations of defensive tactics and displays of vehicles and equipment. 12 PI will continue to focus on developing and maintaining ARes members to encourage skill and career development in support of the 1 MP Bn mission and capability.



## D COMPANY 1 MP BN



**OC: MAJ Amanda Meech**  
**CSM: WO2 Mark Pearson**

Welcome 2008, and welcome Delta Company!

The name may have changed, but 2008 has seen the Battalion's Specialist Company start much the same as it finished 2007, on crusade.

From our MPD brethren at Oakey and their rotations through Timor Leste, to the Brisbane based members CPP duties, the Company is, as in the past, maintaining a very high operational tempo.

The year out west in Oakey has so far flown past starting with the PI name change to the Military Police Dog Pl. The PI had its focus firmly on operations with commitments of a FAT on each OP ASTUTE rotation. The PI has also hosted a number of visits this year, most notably from COL Rowntree, COMD LC Spt Grp. COL Rowntree was even brave enough to take a bite from a MPD and escaped with out any lasting injuries and hopefully a few good stories.

The MPD PI also ran the first On the Job Training period during April this year. The PI hosted five hopefully future dog handlers and put them through their paces for a 12 day period. It was good to see that most of the members who attended are now attending the MPDH basic course and the PI looks forward to welcoming those members into the fold once they complete their course.

The MPD PI has also been focusing on trade development this year with a number of initiatives being taken on. The MPD retirement policy has once again been taken up, building on past efforts and staff work

with the PI hopeful of a resolution by the end of this year. PI members have also been actively improving their trade knowledge by attending a number of Police and Service dog seminars throughout the year. A number of valuable lessons have been taken away from this training and many new contacts made. The PI has also been actively sourcing and recruiting potential MPD for future courses.

The MPD PI also had a very successful ANZAC day joining with the Australian Defence Force Trackers and War Dogs Association and marching in the town of Leyburn with MPDs and supporting their newly formed RSL. The day gave PI members a great opportunity to show off the capability and swap stories with the olds and bolts.

For those of us in the big smoke, 2008 was to be a consolidation and training year, as the CPP unit concept is developed. Few were surprised however, when Team 1 was called upon to provide a team at short notice in February, for a job in the MEAO. This was followed in April by a similar request. Naturally the boys relish these short notice taskings, as is proven by the AIRN compliancy within the CPP teams, maintaining the ability to deploy if required at short notice.

Back at Enoggera, the emphasis has been on team drills and SOP development, personal fitness as well as maintaining the General Duties Policing responsibility for the Greater Brisbane region. A number of demonstrations have also been provided, not only to potential 'Principals', but also

potential recruits in their final years of High School. These demos have served not only to entertain visitors, but also to inform and educate Army's higher echelons about the capability Army is provided by our teams. By all accounts, the demonstrations are working well, and the word is spreading.

None of this could be possible of course, without the sterling support provided by all elements of D Company Headquarters. This is despite the pressure of supporting vastly different, yet both highly deployable ARA sub-units, separated by nearly 160km. Coy HQ continues to meet all challenges, and though they may not hear it much, their efforts are recognised and appreciated by those they task, administer, supply and lead. The OC, MAJ Meech, is to be congratulated on her promotion to MAJ in March, and all appreciate the added muscle she can now provide the Coy.

2008 saw the welcome return to Australia, of a number of D Coy members from deployment. So welcome home CPL's Hagan, Rogan and Shankster from OP CATALYST and CPL Dawson from OP ASTUTE. The commendations you received whilst away speak volumes about your performance overseas, so congratulations and well done!

Looking ahead, we predict the high operational and domestic tempo to continue. I know all the guys look forward to rising to the challenges the remainder of the year will bring, and with Bn's support, plan on exceeding all expectations.



# THE AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE (ADFIS)



The formal creation of ADFIS on 16 May 07, was marked with a 1st Anniversary celebration this year and the opening of the new headquarters at Brindabella Park in Canberra. The headquarters was formally opened by the Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Support, The Hon. Dr Mike Kelly AM MP on 15 May 08. The Headquarters was developed specifically to meet the needs of a growing organisation, with dedicated Operations Rooms, Interview and Evidence Rooms, closed circuit cameras and the latest computer and audiovisual technology to ensure effective

command and control. The ceremony was attended by the CDF, and other senior leaders within Defence. The event was also used as an opportunity for ADFIS to display its capability to respond to serious incidents and ensure the highest standard of support to the ADF. The demonstration of the newest equipment purchased by ADFIS included the Spheron Digital Crime Scene Camera that is capable of digitally mapping a crime scene in a 360 degree view in a



Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Support, DR. Mike Kelly, AM, MP officially opens HQ ADFIS on 15 May 2008

matter of minutes and assists with the compilation of an entire forensic case report with the inclusion of the supporting programs and inputted data. Dr Kelly and guests also had the opportunity to view the new Poly lights for body fluid and fingerprint identification as well as other static displays from the Training and Operations Cells.

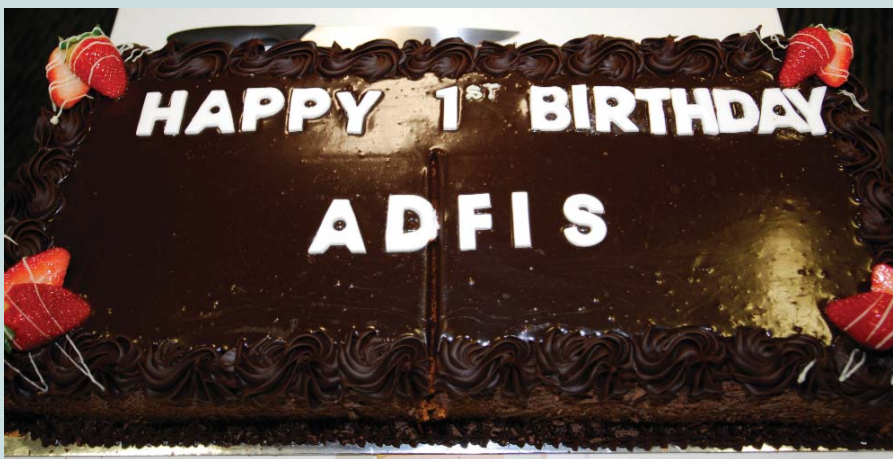
The anniversary of ADFIS has brought with it the much awaited UER review. The

initial structure of ADFIS was based upon DICA recommendations and the ability for the single-Services to staff the required positions to effectively run the organisation. After a lengthy review, it was deemed that a restructure of personnel and the command structure would ensure that command is minimised where possible, to provide greater autonomy within the regions and to fully develop the Directorates within the HQ.

The review has yet to be ratified but some of the changes include the creation of an additional Regional Headquarters

within Northern Queensland to reflect the importance of this region and to ensure the appropriate support is delivered. Within the Headquarters, it is hoped that a LTCOL (E) position will be established, and will be responsible for the day to day running of ADFIS in the new appointment as Director Operations, allowing the Executive of ADFIS to focus upon advancing the organisation and other strategic matters.

The last 12 months have seen some substantial advances in training for ADFIS Investigators. ADFIS has strong links with the Australian Federal Police and the State and Territory Police which are being formalised through formal MOUs. Members have attended NSW Police Drug Courses and completed secondments as part of their training, participating in all facets of drug investigations, such as searches and intelligence gathering. SNCO members have attended the Queensland Police Senior Leadership and Management Course. ADFIS also has an ongoing contribution to ensure the appropriate formal training of our officers with attendance on the AFP Management of Serious Crime Course





(MOSC) held at the Barton Police Academy, which is highly sought after internationally. The AFP has also provided additional training to ADFIS members with attendance on Scenes of Crime and Police Investigation Management courses, the latter focusing on criminal intelligence operations. This will continue in 2009 and hopefully beyond. Numerous secondments are planned for the remainder of 2008 not only in major units but Local Area Commands within the NSW Police Service such as the Professional Standards Unit and North Shore Local Area.

Doctrinally we have been very busy in 2008. With the implementation of amendments to the DFDA, in particular in relation to narcotics and steroids jurisdiction which has meant we have been required to review our policies and processes as to how we investigate these matters. The shift in focus is towards pro-active policing and the improvement of intelligence gathering, in particular from human sources.

The development of the Defence Investigations Standards (DIS), based upon the Australian Government Investigations Standards (AGIS), will replace the old Defence Investigative Technical Instructions (DITIs). This will ensure ADFIS investigations comply with national standards and is recognised as an effective policing agency able to provide briefs of evidence to the CDPP when required. This will continue to ensure ongoing doctrinal development will align the Service Police agencies to a common standard.

2008 has seen significant advances in rewarding the hard work of the members of ADFIS and ensuring that they have the resources to conduct their work at the highest level. This year has seen the implementation of the long-awaited civilian-clothing allowance. The allocation of a civilian clothing allowance was a recommendation of the DICA report and was formally ratified in 2008. The approval of the ADFIS badge by the CDF, has seen Investigators awarded their numbered badges and identification cards. These badges and cards were presented to the members in ceremonies throughout Australia to ensure that they are able to clearly identify themselves during inquiries and are able to display their role whilst performing their duties in civilian attire. Along with the purchase of the Spheron Camera and Poly lights, tireless work has been carried out to ensure the highest quality cameras, computers, and forensic equipment is now available to Investigators.



CAPT Chris Woodhouse, RACMP, together with PO Ondea Wykes, RAN and SGT Paul Judges, all HQ ADFIS, at the opening of the new HQ on 15 May 2008

We have also enhanced our surveillance capability with the ability to download and read mobile phone sim cards immediately.

Operationally 2008 has been a busy year for the Corps. Military Police within ADFIS are currently serving within the Middle East, East Timor and the Solomon Islands. The following personnel deployed on operations in 2008:

**Op CATALYST/SLIPPER**

- CAPT John Cunningham
- CAPT Ruth Weir
- WO2 Ken Fenton
- WO2 Kirsty James
- WO2 Graeme Callaghan
- WO2 Steve Hession
- WO2 Lee Roberts
- SGT Dan Harkin
- SGT Shane Murphy

**Op ASTUTE**

- Tony Hagerty
- CPL Lenny Lewis

**Op ANODE**

- SGT Lachlan Hutcherson
- SGT Dan Gray

The support provided to deployments has also been enhanced with the provision of forensic trained Investigators to the ADF Weapons Intelligence Team (WIT). The role of this position is to assist with the identification of makers of improvised explosive devices through the recovery of evidence for future forensic analysis. Due to the small amount of investigators in each

location, the development of the Major Investigation Teams has been a vital element to support these locations as a “reach back” capability. During 2008, the MIT deployed to Afghanistan to carry out enquiries into several serious allegations. The MIT has also been deployed to a number of foreign and domestic incidents.

**Our congratulations to the following RACMP members of ADFIS who have been promoted since the last POINTSMAN:**

- WO1 Graeme Callaghan
- WO2 Len Zornig
- SGT Jeff Lyon
- SGT Tony Buckingham
- SGT Lachlan Hutcherson
- SGT Lenny Lewis

**Congratulations also to the following members who have been selected for promotion at the end of 2008:**

**To WO1**

- WO2 Dean O'Brien
- WO2 Andrew Johnston

**To SGT**

- CPL Michael Brown
- CPL Dave Lundy
- CPL David Harrison

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of ADFIS for their efforts and the support of the Corps as a whole, who have assisted with the establishment and operation of the unit. I wish you and your families a happy and safe Christmas break.



# DEFENCE POLICE TRAINING CENTRE HQ

## COMDT – LTCOL P. FISHER

## DCOMDT – LCDR A.J. YOUNGMAN – RAN

## RSM – WO1 K. BULLMAN

DPTC has faced a number of challenges in 2008. These challenges have led to great rewards for Service Police. 2008 kicked off with the DPTC hosting the Corps Conference held from 31 March to 04 April. A number of key issues were addressed from all aspects of Military Police.

2008 saw the first tri-service basic course graduate in October. This has been a result of the tireless hours spent with the Military Justice Inquiry, and the Defence Investigative Capability Audit. This along with the Australian Defence Force Investigation Course, Close Personal Protection Operatives, Service Police Officers Basic Course, Military Police Dog Handlers, Service Police Investigators Course, Regimental Officers Advance Course, Detention Centre Supervisors Course, and the promotion courses has seen approximately 600 students come through DPTC this year.

Since July 2007 DPTC has become the asylum for a number of laterals from the United Kingdom, starting with MAJ Martin Lark, who has been OIC Dev wing since joining us in July 2007. In the same month SGT Mark Poole posted into Dev Wing. A month later DPTC welcomed SGT David Bates, who has utilised his extensive investigation skills as an instructor within Investigation Training Section. In December 2007 CAPT George Acheson-Thom took up the post of OPSO for DPTC, and finally the most recent transfer has been CAPT Sean O'Brien who has been employed in Capability Development in Dev Wing since September 2008. All have brought with them extensive experience, and a vast array of skill sets. They have been, and continue to be a wealth of knowledge, and an integral part of the DPTC team both professionally and socially.

### DEFENCE FORCE CORRECTIVE ESTABLISHMENT (DFCE) OC – MAJ GARRY WARD

DFCE has been located at Lamia Barracks since 1992, in 2008 DFCE has seen an unprecedented number of detainees and visitors come through the doors. The new Australian Military Court has seen our detainee numbers returning to the days of old and it is not unusual now to have consistent detainee numbers of between 7 and 10 in custody. As well, sentences are becoming exponentially longer and often stretch into months rather than weeks.

Of course with the ever increasing number coming through DFCE, comes a greater burden on staff and resources. It is an ongoing fight to gain and maintain staff, and the formula regarding historical usage has made us appear more and more Army centric. For the last two years staffing pressure has been strenuous, however plans are in the pipeline to stop this trend and allow staff some well deserved recreation leave. Through each Service providing manning in proportion to their work force, as opposed to manning DFCE as a proportion of the number of detainees in previous years as is being done currently, will see a higher level of training provided to detainees.

For all that, however, staff morale continues to be high and a 'can do' attitude continues to buoy operation. We are conducting, on average, six Detention Compound Supervisors Courses per year and continuing to achieve the annual Technical Inspection of all ADF DCs.

### DEVELOPMENT WING DPTC OC – MAJ MARTIN LARK

The past twelve months has proved to be a busy and demanding period in Development Wing, with a number of key changes to both wing personnel and work focus.

On the personnel front, MAJ Martin Lark, a lateral transfer from the RMP SIB assumed command, which allowed the outgoing OC, CAPT Kurt Black-Sinclair to depart on an overseas tour. Also leaving were the wing SM, WO2 Ken Scanlon, on posting to SCMA with promotion to WO1. CAPT Luke Thatcher the employment Category Manager (ECM) and CAPT Bronwyn Thomas, TD Cell, both leaving the wing on Operational tours. Inter unit moves saw PONPC Robertson, TD Cell and WO2 Brad Davies Inv Trg Section, exchange posts and SGT Mick George move from PTW to Assessment Cell. CAPT Kari Davies, took over as ECM and we were also able to welcome Mrs Vicki Keenan into Dev Wing as a TDO. Vicki was previously employed with Qantas and brings with her fresh ideas from the 'outside world'. In a similar manner we welcomed SGT Kellie Woods RACT and SGT Mark Poole, another UK RMP Lateral transfer into Assessment Cell. With their extensive experience in non RACMP posts, both provide a new and interesting dimension to the wing. With such a large turnover of personnel, it largely fell on the 'old boys' Mr Andrew Dixon and PONPC Richard Papais to hold the fort and maintain order until the new personnel could settle in. Their extra effort during this transitional period was very much appreciated.

Building on the excellent work started during the previous year, all areas of Dev Wing began to show results. A brief resume of the main achievements and projects for the coming months are as follows;

### TRAINING DEVELOPMENT WING DPTC

On the employment of civilian personnel into Training Development roles the COMDT directed that a five year plan was to be initiated to review all Training Management Packages (TMP) endorsed by



the TA. It was decided that the Service Police Basic Course (SPBC) as the initial entry for Defence personnel was the foundation block for all other TMPs, and we are now in the final stages of the review. By introducing new training delivery and assessment methodologies, the SPBC length has been reduced, without any adverse effect on quality of training and assessment. All other TMP will be reviewed with the same outcome in mind, with the desired effect being the provision of an optimum learning environment for the trainee.

DPTC was recently subjected to an AQTF audit, the purpose of which was to assess our policy and procedures against the three national standards. It is pleasing to report that after an exhaustive audit conducted by an external agency, DPTC was found to be fully compliant. Continuous improvement programs (such as the review mentioned above) have been established and will be implemented to maintain our compliance to the AQTF Standards.

Training Development Cell and HQ ADFIS have been working on the new Investigator Training modules (SPIC and ADFIC) and evidence of the work completed will start to filter through the courses conducted in 2009.

Recognition of the professional standard of training and assessment delivery was acknowledged this year with the unit employing external agencies to assess evidence provided by staff and the issue of relevant awards. All staff members were given the opportunity to work through a recognition process to obtain formal quali-

fications relating to the TAA04 CERT IV Workplace and Assessment. A plan to ensure the continuation for providing staff members with the opportunity to develop their skills and gain recognition in the workplace has been developed and implemented and will be reviewed in 2009.

## **EMPLOYMENT CATEGORY MANAGER (ECM)**

Early in 2004, DPTC identified a need to conduct an Occupational Analysis to ensure that RACMP recruited, trained, promoted and retained the appropriate personnel. Due to significant changes that DPTC and RACMP have experienced over the past 14 years since the last category review, there existed an urgent need to look at the structure and training continuum for MP. However, the Employment Category Management process is not something that can occur overnight as it progresses through a number of external committees and working groups before it can be put forward to the Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal (DFRT). The work that was started by CAPT Thatcher and is currently being progressed by CAPT Davies is fundamental to the career progression of RACMP members. It is hoped that in the next edition of the *Pointsman*, a full account of the trade review process and what impact it will have on RACMP into the future will be provided.

## **DOCTRINE/CAPABILITY**

Early last year a decision was made to civilianise the Doctrine officer and Cap Dev Officer posts. This was intended to provide

a greater degree of stability in both areas, which would ultimately lead to better continuity and project output. Unfortunately, a recruitment moratorium imposed by HQTC-A has meant that neither post can be filled. However, despite this and largely thanks to the efforts of MAJ Mark Langdon at LWDC and MAJ Ian Smith (ARes based in Adelaide) MP Doctrine is in good shape. Notably, LWP-MP 3-8-1 Close Personal Protection (CPP) has recently been written and distributed, which provides commanders and CPP operative with the doctrine and guidance they had previously lacked. Currently under production is a full review of LWP-MP 3-8-2 Defensive Tactics (DT), which it is hoped will be distributed by the sponsor during Apr 09. This publication will be a complete update of procedures and tactics and will draw on current best practice in DT, which will serve our members well into the future.

Capability development is soon to get a well needed shot in the arm, with CAPT Sean O'Brien, a UK RMP Lateral Transfer taking up the post. It is hoped that he will be able to identify and research important projects to take forward into next year that will ensure that RACMP do not fall behind other law enforcement agencies in terms of equipment and capability. It is hoped that future *Pointsman* articles will give updates on projects that have been undertaken.



## Chief Instructor – Major Darren Krajewski

Greetings from the training arena!

I have come directly from deployment as the Joint Provost Marshal JTF631 to take command of Police Training Wing. Business of the day saw me land into the twilight of the Service Police Officer Basic Course (SPOBC) amongst the new officers for the Corps. An additional bonus was the ability of the future Commandant for the Defence Police Training Centre (Lieutenant Colonel Gary Vale) to present Military Police patch and beret to qualified members. Furthermore the future Commanding Officer for the Battalion (Lieutenant Colonel Rohan Jayawardena) attended to participate in the operational assessment phase of the course. He has an extensive regular army background and a number of years with the Queensland Police Service. We look forward to any future opportunities to include these and other senior officers in observing and participating with Service Policing courses throughout the year.

On a personal note to the officers, warrant officers and the SNCOs who carry the future of the Royal Australian Corps of Military Police; continue pioneering a suite of courses in your portfolio to enhance your abilities as future operational members. You should give consideration to professional development courses such as the Laws of Armed Conflict (LOAC) course and International Humanitarian Law (IHL) instructor's course.

Additionally, to all those fine men and women rendering service to the Australian Defence Force as MP, the Corps has come a long way in developing its doctrine, so let's start using it. Take these fundamental writings as a benchmark from which to operate. We must first teach ourselves before we can teach the greater Army and Defence Force on what MP has to offer.

Remember to visit the Corps shop. The diverse and impressive products that cater to the NEEDS and WANTS for good soldiering are worth your attention.

I look forward to now becoming more involved with the investigative and specialist courses, the training of new enlisted members and the promotional courses for our Sergeants and Warrant Officers - our future.

**Silent enim leges inter arma**  
(Laws are silent in times of war)  
**Cicero**

## Senior Instructor – Captain Ben Respondek

PTW has enjoyed another busy start to the year with a high tempo being experienced right across the wing. So far PTW has marched out a total of eight courses across the wing and numerous external courses including the NSWPF CPPOC. Late May 2008 will bring the commencement of the RACMP CPPOC which will see many of its participants deploy directly onto operations. PTW is also moving into an exciting period where the RAAF will be integrated into the SPBC en masse. With this long anticipated change, PTW as part of DPTC will continue to promote itself as the tri-service police training organisation for the ADF.

PTW was saddened by the discharge of the SI Investigations LEUT Jarrod Christmas who now works in the civilian security industry. Personally, I will be deploying on SECDET XIV in Sept which will see CAPT Bronwyn Thomas take over as SI once she returns from her current deployment. In the meantime PTW HQ is survived by the return of Major Darren Krajewski as the CI and the continuation of LT Kevin Beaumont as the PLCOMD.

## Platoon Commander – Lieutenant Kevin Beaumont

It's been a good year so far for Police Training Wing. Each of the sections have faced different challenges but good leadership from the WOICs coupled with teamwork and initiative from the instructors has made sure that these were overcome. I'm looking forward to maintaining the continuity of training throughout the year and ensuring that the service policing organisations are stocked with Service Police that are highly capable and motivated to the task.

Pam Corby, the sole staff member for PTW, continues to maintain the administrative requirements for the school. Her continued service for the last two decades at DPTC leaves her with an extensive volume of corporate knowledge on the functioning of PTW.

## Investigation Training Section – Chief Petty Officer Naval Police Coxswain Mark Goulding

Staff:

Warrant Officer Class One D. Ingram  
Flight Sergeant D. Hawker  
Petty Office NPC J. Robertson

Sergeant D. Bates

Sergeant N. Bridges

Since the commencement of the New Year the Investigation Training Section has been busy updating lessons to reflect the new changes with the DFDA and the recruiting of school leavers as well as the changes in the Military Courts System. Manpower has been enhanced by the arrival of SGT Nev Bridges from ADFIS and the support from various Reserve members including Naval Reserve PO NPC Marty McCutcheon. There was a hint of sadness with the departure of WO1 Glen Ingram and LEUT Jarrod Christmas who have decided that 1 Civ Div were their next posting.

On the courses front it has been a busy start to the year, kicking off with a SPIC and closely followed by the Invest Phase of the SPOBC. This was a challenge as half way through that course the first ADFIC of the year started, with 12 keen and eager students. The tempo is not likely to decrease with Invest training at least 100 SPIC and over 30 ADFIC qualified personnel a year.

## Initial Training Section – Warrant Officer Class Two David Donovan

Staff:

Chief Petty Officer NPC A. Richardson  
Petty Officer P. Carey  
Sergeant H. McPhee  
Corporal A. Penny  
Corporal S. Webb  
Corporal D. Clements  
Corporal S. Silk

Initial Training Section started the year running, as usual, with the first course for the year, SPBC (ARES) Invest (Part C), kicking off in early Feb 08. From there on it has been all go for the intrepid team of instructors of CPONPC Richardson, PONPC Carey, CPLs Clements, Penny and Webb led by WOIC, WO2 Donovan. The section will be joined by SGT McPhee mid year fresh from Bandiana.

2008 will see the first RAAF trainees and support staff commencing training at DPTC and an increase in SPBC from two to four courses per year. With the increase in SPBC and the inclusion of the C2 and C5 Drivers courses to commence mid 2008, the remainder of the year will be anything but dull for Initial Training Section.



## **Advanced Training Section – Warrant Officer Class Two Patrick Reynolds**

Staff:

Sergeant D. Barrett

Sergeant A. Barnett

Sergeant C. Hartley

Corporal G. Connolly

Since the beginning of 2008 Advanced Training Section has been on the go. Starting with an all new format Service Police Officer Basic Course (SPOBC) providing junior officers with the full continuum of training coupled with new management competencies, whilst concurrently running Subject 2 Warrant Officer (RACMP) and the management of Detention Centre Supervisor Courses in Sydney, Bandiana and Perth.

The upcoming CPPO and MPDH courses stand ready for delivery as this article is written, with the recent Capability Enhancement Proposal being approved for the CPPO allowing the training of MP-5K and the Remington 870 Shotgun to be included for the first time, and enshrined into doctrine.

But the year doesn't stop there, with another CPPO on the books, another MPDH and the revised Subject 2 Sergeant (RACMP) all forecast for the second half of the year. The section continues to strive to enhance that training delivered at DPTC, with the goal of delivering training which not only meets the needs of the Corps, but exceeds the standard, arming our troops with the knowledge to increase their skills,

flexibility and value to any commander within the battlespace.

The MPD training staff are busy with the usual testing, selecting and training of dogs for upcoming courses, a few training sessions with other government organisations, and representing Army and RACMP at the first National Service Dog Trials held at the Sydney Showgrounds. The upcoming course will be a first for RACMP which has all working bloodline dogs, all of whom were purchased, a big step forward from the previous "mongrel from the pound for free". The staff have also put forward a proposal to purchase four working line pups as a trial. This would allow all the imprinting and socialisation to be done by staff and raised to the requirements of a MPD. If approved and successful, the end product will be something never seen before.

## **Part Time Instructional Staff – Warrant Officer Class One Tony Chamberlain**

Staff:

Warrant Officer Class Two D. Singh

Warrant Officer Class Two P. Dilly

Petty Officer NPC M. McKutcheon (short term attachment)

Sergeant G. Slade

Sergeant N. Farrands

The reservist support so far this year has been indispensable. As usual their professionalism has been beyond reproach. The reservist instructors bring with them a significant depth of knowledge and experience which adds tremendous value to the full gambit of courses from the SPOBC

to the SPIC and SPBC. Their service has been highly valued by both the trainees and their fellow instructors, and we look forward to their continued support during the year.

## **Chief Implementation Officer – Chief Petty Officer Naval Police Coxswain Bill Prince**

Staff:

Able Seaman J Stevenson (short term attachment)

Bill is currently away burning his 97 days of FAN, so the school wishes him good fortune and a relaxing leave of absence. As for what occurs in CIO, well that is really pure RAN. Let's just say this area fulfils the specialist needs for the Navy.

## **Corps' Shop - Warrant Officer Class Two Patrick Reynolds**

Staff:

Warrant Officer Class Two P. Reynolds

Sergeant C. Hartley

2008 has seen another busy year for the Corps Shop, with our stocked items growing from strength to strength. WO2 Pat Reynolds and SGT Che Hartley have been working hard to source the best priced field equipment and Corps related items for both serving and ex-serving members of the Corps, in addition to collectors and members of the public. To see the fruits of that labour, make sure you check out the Corps Shop when you are in Sydney, or check the DPTC website. Flyers are updated regularly with new stock arriving monthly. Support your Corps Shop; all proceeds go back into your Corps.





# ADFIS JIO – STIRLING

**By SGT Marcel Keally-Bateman ADFIS**

HMAS STIRLING is the largest naval establishment in Australia. It is located on Garden Island near Rockingham and is home port to a large number of naval vessels, including Anzac Class Frigates, Guided Missile Frigates and the Australian Submarine Squadron. HMAS STIRLING is the Indian Ocean side of the Two Ocean Navy policy and provides operational support, logistics support, trials and research facilities, training, personnel and maintenance support for RAN ships, submarines and aircraft based in WA.

In January 2008, I had the pleasure of marching into the unit, Joint Investigations Office - Stirling on Garden Island, (oops, sorry, “post in to the establishment” Navy terminology). This was to be the start of a

blossoming relationship between Navy and Army. Or was it???

I joined the rest of the team which consisted of CPO Steve Coll, CPO Gary Clift, PO Rachele Burnett and PO Jon Giggins. Later in the year, CPO Trish Chaplin, PO Jane Butcher (thanks for the sarcasm Jane) and PO Mary Rose Chapman joined the team. Initially, it was simply a matter of getting admin squared away and learning the local naval language including acronyms. Then I hit the ground running, slow pace mind you, as most of the fleet was at sea, so the amount of work incoming was minimal.

An absence of a couple of months due to courses, etc, at the start of the year took me away from a busy period at the unit. Since

returning, the work load has fluctuated and a few complex cases have been shared by all in the office. Most investigations pursued through to a brief of evidence have resulted in successful prosecution.

My time with the Navy has not been the first; however, being posted to Stirling in a tri-service organisation, and working with the RAN on a more permanent basis, has been a growing experience for which I am grateful. The Naval Police and general naval populous have been accommodating and responsive. I continue to thoroughly enjoy my time here and encourage other investigators to undertake an opportunity to do the same. I look forward to being a part of the growing ADFIS organisation and experiencing what lies ahead.



# Military Police Association Australia - President's Report 2008

Our National membership has passed 500 which include 83 serving Corps members. A very good result for an Association formed in November 2004 and based upon a relatively small Corps. Our membership approach has been to allow former Corps members to consider and make their own decision to join to become the strength of this new National Association. Camaraderie, Commitment and Commemoration have been the simple principles of our charter. We are secure and financial, still maintaining a low membership fee based on our administrative costs and we have achieved our set goals over the past four years. I especially thank the other members of the Executive for their untiring efforts and their support to me by establishing the standards and maintaining this momentum.

Our administrative procedures have been revised on a regular basis, both in our computer management of membership records and fees, and particularly in the refinement of the popular 'Info Post' providing information on a range of veteran issues and general matters of interest to our membership. Executive Position Statements, with duties, have been prepared for the principal Executive appointments. As required, we are compliant to the Department of Fair Trading NSW with our annual incorporation report. Our Newsletter has been well received and it is reviewed after each edition. We have kept our Association mementos in balance with the majority of enquiries and requests, hence the MPAA Plaque and a new design of Corps Cuff Link, which follow the very successful

Commemorative Medallions of 2006 (90th Corps Anniversary) and 2007 (AWM Plaque Dedication).

The Commemorative events have been well attended with the AWM Military Police Plaque Dedication and the Commemorative Dinner in September 2007 in Canberra. The Cairns (FN Qld) Anzac Day Reunion for 2010 is progressing with 92 indicating attendance at this stage, details will follow in 2009. General Anzac Day information is being made available at a national level, through the Newsletter, for intending participants and is also assisting those who wish to participate interstate. Our Welfare Advisor is always available to guide members who may require veteran assistance. The website is established, yet still to be developed further with Corps information. Our future Plan proposes a Reunion in 2013 and celebration of the Corps Centenary in 2016, not ambitious, but reminding us to look ahead and plan in outline for the future.

The Association has supported its members, now how can you assist your Association?

We need your continuing support, assist us in the important matters, such as promptly advising any change in your contact details, we can't send you information without a correct postal or email address. The payment of fees, now with a two year option, is most important, as it is the financial support to our existence. Please assist us with our Newsletter content, it is for your reading as members and your notes are always welcome.

We have the Executive Elections planned for 2009; we need a Secretary as well as nominations for the existing four principal Executive positions. Would you be prepared to commit yourself to the ongoing success of this Association by being an active member of the Executive?

Assistance is also needed in providing information for the website to our webmaster, we need to add more content and expand the site. If you have this particular interest in computers or would like to assist, then contact me.

I am always pleased to receive contact from our membership, whether it be just a simple email of support or a suggestion to assist our management. Please remember that I am only a telephone call or an email away.

The MPAA has completed a very successful first four years, it will only continue to be with your interest and support. We have welcomed all to our membership, both serving and former members of the Corps together with our affiliated members. The future years will be the serving Corps members, as they will continue to develop the camaraderie that they made during their service, together with the ongoing re-connection in friendship of former Corps members, who comprise the majority of our current membership.

The Association is the Corps, both past and present; the future is its members.

**Warmest Regards,**

**John E. Cook National President**  
jcook@optusnet.com.au 0409 322 586



# Military Police Association Australia

Defence Police Training Centre Lamia Barracks, Green Hills Road, Holsworthy NSW 2173  
 ABN 27 270 659 103 ARBN 110 658 476

The National Military Police Association of Australia (MPAA) was incorporated in November 2004 and since that time has:

- Established a strong working relationship between RACMP and the MPAA and further developing esprit de corps for both serving and former Corps members.
- Attained a National Membership of over 500, including 80 serving members.
- Supported and participated in the 90th Corps Anniversary in 2006, produced a Commemorative Medallion and also conducted a WW2 battlefield tour of Greece, Crete and Singapore in June 2006.
- Initiated and conducted a Plaque Dedication to Military Police at the Australian War Memorial in 2007, with a National Reunion Dinner and produced a Dedication Commemorative Medallion.
- Established a planning process for future activities leading up to the Corps Centenary in 2016 including an Anzac Day Reunion at Cairns Qld in 2010.
- Facilitated the connection of the Hellenic Armed Forces (Greece), through the Government of Greece, to Lamia Barracks at Holsworthy in 2006.
- Developed and sponsored Military Police representation at the Battle for Crete Commemoration Ceremony, held annually at Martin Place, Sydney NSW.
- Participated in the first WW1 Anzac Day Commemorative Service at the Western Front on 25th April 2008.
- Developed and sponsored the introduction of a Schools Military History Program into NSW Schools and also into schools in the UK, France, Greece and Canada.
- Developed a website [www.mpaa.org.au](http://www.mpaa.org.au) and produced a bi-annual Newsletter and email information via the 'Info Post'. (Dec 2008)

Join and support us as a member of this developing national organization which represents a unified group of both serving and former Corps Members. Our aim is to develop our camaraderie together with the commemoration of our Corps Military service since 1916.

#### For Membership Enquiries:

Please contact John Watson (Membership Registrar) Tel (03) 5156 7481 or email [jcwatson3429@tadaust.org.au](mailto:jcwatson3429@tadaust.org.au)

Fees: Initial year \$15 (\$5 joining fee & \$10 annual subscription) due 1st Jan each year.

*‘Camaraderie, Commemoration and Communication’*



# OBITUARY

## Lest We Forget



**On 5th Nov 2007, John (Jack) Fletcher, GM, passed away in Canberra, ACT, aged 74**

Jack, joined the Army in 1952 and graduated from RMC Duntroon in 1955 and was Corps allocated to Infantry. He spent 31 years in the Army, the last eight in the ARes. During this time he held regimental appointments with 1 and 2 RAR (Malaya 1960-62), 2 Cdo Coy and SASR (Sqn OC and Regt 2IC). In 1968 he qualified at the Australian Staff College, Queensland. Jack served overseas for six years: Malaya (1 and 2 RAR); USA/UK (Special Forces and Cdo training); Vietnam (SAS LO/Advisor, working with US Special Forces and Thailand (SEATO HQ). He was appointed Colonel Commandant RACMP from 1996 until 2001.



**On 3rd Jan 2008, Michael John Vandermark passed away in Canberra, ACT, aged 48**

8262077 Sergeant Michael John Vandermark

Michael enlisted into the ARA on 14 Feb 1988. He served in 1 MP Coy, 3 MP Coy and in 1996 transferred to the SIB. His last posting being that of a Sergeant Investigator at MPCRO, prior to discharging on 19 Aug 2004. He passed away as a result of a heart attack.



**On 29th Feb 2008, Michael Desmond Costello (Bones) passed away in Gympie, QLD, aged 58**

8250406 Warrant Officer Class 1 Michael Desmond Costello

Michael, always known as "Bones" enlisted into the ARA on 21 April 1971 as a Signalman. He transferred to RACMP in 1977 and served in 1 MP Coy, 2 MP Coy, 9 MP Coy, DFCE and DPTC. His last posting being the RACMP Corps RSM. He was discharged on 15 Dec 2000. He passed away as a result of cancer.

**On 15th Apr 2008, Norman John Allan McKay passed away in Scoresby, Victoria, aged 62**

Norm lost a long battle with cancer. Norm served as a Military Policeman with 3rd Military District Military Police Company and as an Investigator with SIB in the late 60's and early 70's.

**On 27th May 2008, Royce (Roy) Hengist Bickle passed away suddenly in New Zealand, aged 81**

Royce was a Korea Veteran and served in 3 Bn RAR Korea and also BCOF Japan. He served with the RAA Pro Corps from 1951 to 1969



**On 5th May 2008, Frank Huggins our oldest Corps member passed away at Young NSW, aged 91 years**

MX 104985 Capt Francis (Frank) John Huggins - Provost Corps.

Frank joined the AIF in 1941 and the Provost Corps in 1942 and commanded the 16th Independent Provost Platoon in New Guinea. After WW2 in 1946, he returned to civil life and completed a rewarding and distinguished career in the NSW Police Service. He is survived by his wife, Jo, and an extended family in both NSW and Qld.

"He was a fine man and a good soldier"



**On 13th Aug 2008, Terance (Blue) Marshall, passed away in Cairns, North QLD, aged 61**

8320436 Warrant Officer Class 2 Terance George Marshall

Terance George Marshall, always known as "Blue" enlisted into the ARA on 19 Sep 1969 and was Corps allocated to RAA Provost Corps. He served in 1 Div Pro Coy, 1 MP Coy, 2 MP Coy, 3 MP Coy, and 9 MP Coy. His last posting being 3 MP Coy at Puckapunyal. He saw active service in Vietnam in 1970. He was discharged on 16 Aug 1993. He passed away as a result of injuries received in a traffic accident.



**On 2nd Sep 2008, Jack Myers passed away at his home in Green Point, NSW, aged 86**

21596 (NX 156714) WO1 John Francis George Myers

Jack, enlisted in the Australian Army during WW2 on 1 March 1942 and took his final discharge in 1976. He served in many MP units during his career; however, it was at 1 MCE that he gained notoriety as a hard, no nonsense RSM. Jack completed his career as the RSM of the Military Police School Ingleburn.