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# POINTS MAN

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MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF MILITARY POLICE

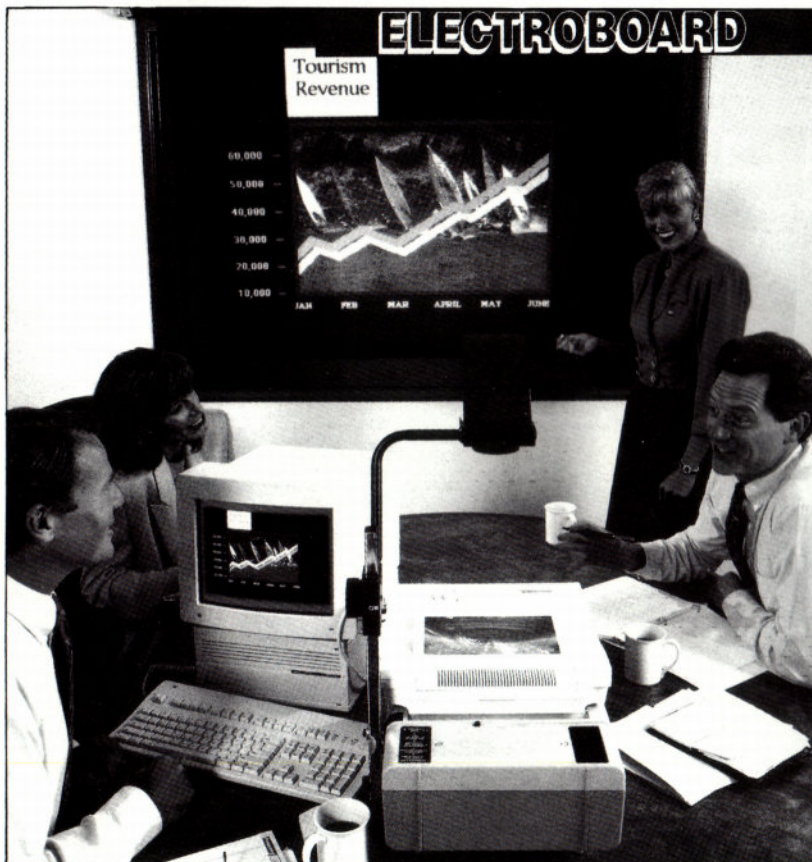
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# POINTS MAN

MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS OF MILITARY POLICE

1991 — EDITION 2

## Corps Prayers

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CORPS  
OF MILITARY POLICE

*Almighty God, give Your blessing to us, the members of the Royal Australian Corps of Military Police, and help us to be both courageous and courteous. May we, who must uphold the law, be enabled to fulfill our tasks without fear or favour, through Our Lord Jesus Christ*

Amen

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### FRONT COVER:

*Life size statue of the 'Pointsman' for the entrance to the new MP Centre at Green Hills*

## ARTICLES FOR THE POINTSMAN

Major articles should be about 1500 words. This will provide approximately two pages of double column print. Smaller articles should be a minimum of 250 words. Articles accompanied by photographs are preferred.

### TYPING

All articles are to be typed in double space on A4 size paper. Handwritten articles should be the exception as they are more difficult to proof read and adjust.

### STYLE

An article logically constructed which is simple and easy to read is always acceptable. Purely military abbreviations should be avoided unless they are in common usage.

### PHOTOGRAPHS

Sharp black and white photographs will always be preferred, but not polaroid, preferably gloss and not smaller than 100mm x 150mm.

### SUBMISSION

Articles and photographs for the next issue of Pointsman should be with the Editor, DMP, HQ MP Centre, Lamia Barracks Milpo, Holsworthy NSW 2173 by 1 October 1992.

## EDITOR'S NOTE

For reasons of space it has been necessary to reduce the length of some contributions. Care has been taken to avoid altering the thrust of submissions.

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## Message from THE DIRECTOR

*The most significant event for the Corps this year was our 75th Anniversary. All units celebrated in suitable fashion with the major activities centered at Ingleburn. The celebrations were a great success and gave a good indication of our current high level of Esprit de Corps.*

This year has seen a number of hails and farewells for the Corps. I welcome to the Corps the successful students from both 1/91 and 2/91 MP Basic Courses, and the five new officers we received from the Royal Military College. Congratulations to all of you on your achievements and I trust you will enjoy a long and rewarding association with RACMP. Congratulations also to WO1 Chris Tilley on being appointed to a PSO Commission in the rank of Captain.

On the debit side, 1991 has seen the departure or imminent departure of MAJ Kas Paul, MAJ Geoff Harland, MAJ John Suominen, MAJ Jim Garrad, WO1 "Nobby" Clarke and WO2 Brian Knight. To all of you, thank you for your service.

Bon voyage to CAPT Philip Baillie RMP and Margaret, after their contribution to the MP School and the training of the Corps over the last two years. Thank you for a job well done and we extend to you all our best wishes for the future. At the same time we welcome CAPT John Petrie and look forward to his service with RACMP especially his first hand account of experiences with RMP in the Gulf conflict.

On a more solemn note, I would like to acknowledge the posthumous award of the Star of Courage to MAJ Bob Jeppesen, whose tragic death was announced in the last issue.

This edition of the Pointsman sees a new inclusion in the form of profiles on Corps identities, to enable our younger members to get to know the more senior members. We intend to make this a regular feature of the Pointsman. LTCOL Geoff Russell has been included in this issue both as recognition of his long service to the Corps and

now as the senior member of the Corps serving in the Army Reserve.

On the sporting scene special mention should be made of CAPT Greg Walker's great achievement in being selected for the Australian Touch Football Team in his age division. Also, Corporals Booth and Orreal were again selected for the Army and Combined Service Rugby teams. Congratulations to CPL Booth for being awarded the Player of the series for the second year in succession. Also deserving mention is the MP relay team from Ingleburn who won the Albert Park Lake run, also for the second year in succession. Congratulations to CAPT Mark Langdon and his team.

On a historical note, it is intended to assemble a Corps Historical Display to complement the new MP Centre at Hoslworthy. If any readers have old photographs or items which they would like to donate to the collection, please contact the Directorate.

I am happy to report that construction of the new Military Police Centre is well advanced and units should be taking up residence early in the new year. A life size bronze statue of the Pointsman, sculptured on commission by Mr Rodney Broad, presents an imposing figure adjacent to the entrance to the new Centre. Our heartfelt thanks to Rodney for a magnificent job. The official opening of the new centre is being planned around the Corps Anniversary in 1992.

*In closing, may I thank all Corps members for their hard work during the year. Very best wishes from the Directorate to all members and their families, for a safe and happy Christmas and a very successful 1992.*



**LTCOL F BROWN Director of Military Police/  
Provost Marshal - Army**



# Military Police School

1991 was a very good year for the MP School and that's official! In April we took on the rest of the Corps to win the Director's trophy as well as the volleyball and softball competitions and the Colonel Commandant's trophy. Almost as important we survived an inspection visit from Chief of Staff Training Command. During the day long visit the Chief of Staff and his team looked into every aspect of the School's work and administration. The visitors were most impressed and remarked in particular on the enthusiasm and professionalism of instructors and admin staff alike.

As well as being a very good year it's also been a very busy year with the full range of courses being run once again. At the time of going to press we are gearing up to handle a 40 student MP Basic Course, a seven student SIB Qual and a seven student ROIC, all at the same time. After that the Christmas break will be most welcome.

As well as running courses we continued to develop new packages including Subject 4 Security Guard (Sergeant) and Detention Centre Supervisors. We have also taken a long hard look at some of the existing courses and in consultation with 'our customers' have revised a number of them, particularly those for SIB. SIB students will now be required to bring DPCUs on their courses! As WO2 Nigel 'scarcely a challenge' Griffiths of the SIB Training Sect (Operations) remarked:

*'Wearing DPCU isn't that bad, at least they have pockets large enough to hold the mobile phones!'*

**CI – MAJ R.K. Parkins  
MAJ C.G. Ostapenko  
MAJ G.L. Gordon  
RSM – WO1 V.H. White**



*Coaching is used to assist trainees qualify in the Elementary Application Practice for the 9mm pistol*

The instructors have been receiving knowledge as well as imparting it. A concentrated Instructor Development Course was run in January by the TDO, Captain Mike (alias Graham) Read which benefited all the instructors and gave them the chance to shake off the cobwebs after the Christmas break. Warrant Officer Gavin 'Don't call me that' Mitchell and SGT Brian 'it was all Kirby's fault' Lewis passed their Subj 1 WO courses with extremely good results which of course reflected very well on the Corps. The AO LT Pete Hogan and SSGT Tim ('the Prof') Sherwin made the most of Directorates generosity to take part in civil police courses, to everyone's surprise (not least their own)— they learnt a lot as well as making valuable contacts. Within the School we have been making a concerted

effort to cross-train (not cross dress) so that SIB Sect can assist on Field Sect CPXs and Field Sect can help instruct on the MCI Phases of their courses. The RSM WO1 Vaughan White is still wondering why SSGT Pete ('3 with flash') Evans allowed everyone except him to hand in their MCI assignments late (gutsy move Staff).

It hasn't been all work and no play. In April the School won the first Directors' Trophy during the Corps sports day. In

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## MILITARY POLICE SCHOOL



*Battle PT is used to assist leadership participation, commonsense and initiative*

July the School took to the water for four days Adventure Training. Unfortunately severe flooding on the Shoalhaven River meant we had to abandon our original plans for white-water rafting and we turned instead to the less exhilarating, but more tiring, tidal waters of the Hawkesbury. PTE 'Griffo' Griffiths (RAAOC) decided that his thirst for adventure wasn't satisfied and promptly jumped out of a perfectly serviceable aircraft and into the sea – silly boy.

The end of the year will have seen an almost complete turnover of staff, those leaving are too many to name here but to each and everyone thank you for your personal contribution to the school and good luck for the future. To those arriving welcome, we hope you will enjoy the new surroundings of Green Hills, but above all we hope you will make the most of the opportunities and challenges that a posting to the school provides.

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# ARMY SIB UNIT

## HQ

In January 1991, as the smoke from burning files and records of conversation rose high into the sky above Ingleburn, Major Peter Gilbey took over from Major Geoff Harland as OC. By September, Major Harland had left the unit, the state, the east coast and finally the Army. Fortunately, his next move was not to leave the country, the planet and finally the solar system; he has now joined the corporate community.

Captain Paul Clark took over as 2IC from Barry Ross and shortly afterwards applied for a Corps transfer to Intelligence. Captain Clark joins Intelligence in January 1992 and will be succeeded by WO1 Tilley, who will be accepting a PSO commission. His first tasks will be to unbolt the 'interview' chair from the 2ICs office and remove the second desk lamp.

During 1991, Sergeant Peter Hinds kept the MPCRO computer at a constant 'full ahead' in the relentless fight against crime. During the year both he and Sergeant Christine Wylds completed computer training courses at the School of Signals. Staff Sergeant Bill Idagi slipped away to Darwin Section in the confusion. His replacement will be Staff Sergeant Gary Perkins from Liverpool Section.

Yet again the proposed new computer system slipped into a funding black hole. The latest proposal is that the OC approach Elvis for a special grant.

## 1 PI

Beautiful one day Northern Territory the next, the 'Big One' is now even bigger with Darwin Sect coming on stream in late August 1991. SSGT Bill Idagi had the honour of re-establishing a permanent SIB presence in NT (position was disestablished after Cyclone Tracey). The area covered by 1 PI is now in excess of 3 000 000km, over 40 percent of the total land area of Australia. It is a pleasant change to open a new section after closing two over past years; Canungra and Oakey. The PLCOMD was last seen sharpening the hooks on his barramundi lures.

As usual the platoon has had its fair share of changes in personnel with WO2 Max Britton, SSGT Peter Evans and SGT Les Hine moving south from Brisbane, and SSGT Gary Perkins and CPL Chris Hughes going in the same direction from Townsville. Chris has elected his discharge to join SA Transport Department as a Security Officer. Good luck Chris.

SGTs Bernie Martin and Peter Feuerstein have had a very tight schedule with Subject One (SGT) courses and detachments to Butterworth. Regardless of that Bernie was still able to fit in a marathon or two, while Peter was presented with his second son by his wife Mary. Congratulations are in order to both.

**OC – MAJ P.G. Gilbey**  
**2IC – CAPT P.M. Clark**  
**SM – WO1 C.J. Tilley**

Congratulations are also offered to CAPT Greg Walker for his recent selection for Australia in touch football. CAPT Walker is off to play touch football at the World Cup in NZ in Nov/Dec 91. A fitting reward for many years hard work and

dedication.

We welcome two new members to the platoon and branch in CPLs John Horvath and Liz Morris. The long and the short of Brisbane Sect, so to speak. The population of Qld has just skyrocketed with SSGT Bryron Hall, his wife Barbara and their six children joining us on posting from a short holiday in Perth.

## 2 PI

As I look at the Platoon manning board, I ask myself, where have they all gone? At present the PLSPV is in Ireland on leave, SSGT Bruce Williams, CPLs Paul Hayton and Scotty Wylds are preparing to attend their promotions courses. We wish them all the best. CPL Sonny Liston has just returned from his Subj 1 for SGT with excellent results, well done, and is at present preparing to move to Singleton.

SGT Jock Lang has barely had time to settle into the platoon and was off on the Economic Crime Course, with the Victorian Police, which he successfully completed. Upon his return he was off again, to Butterworth.

WO2 Tony Schwerdfeger and SGT Shannon Smith were recently involved with members of 22 MP P1 Randwick in the 21st Annual City to Surf; in which four children, suffering spinabifada, were pushed in wheelchairs for 12km to complete the course. All finished, well done. Furthermore, approximately \$700 was raised for the Royal North Shore Hospital.

On the sporting side of things the PLCOMD early this year completed the Foster Ironman Triathlon, finishing in just over 11 hours.

Congratulations to SGT Lindell Buckley on her promotion early this year. On the sadder side of things we said farewell to CPL Mick Clacherty who returned to general duties. We all wish you well, Mick.

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## ARMY SIB UNIT

The Pl is already in training for our forthcoming Adventure Training exercise which will be held at the back of Bourke. After adventure training the next highlight will be the forthcoming move to the new MP Centre at Green Hills.

### 3 Pl

This last year in the life of 3 Pl Army SIB Unit has been action packed with work and play. Personnel changes have included the promotion to CAPT of WO1 Mick Pemberton and the posting in on promotion of our three Warrant Officers, WO1 Col Claridge, WO2 Max Britton and WO2 Brian Thomson. We have also seen the promotion to SSGT and SGT respectively of Shane Towers-Hammond and Bill Tilley as well as gained the services of SSGT Kev Hunnebell, SSGT Leon Treweek and two of the 1990 Qual Cse vintage, CPLs Wayne Fee and Dave McGarry. On the debit side we have farewelled CAPT Mike Wong, to RMC; WO2 Neil Jones to peaceful retirement and SSGT Byron Hall (to semi retirement in 1 Pl). Of course during all that we had the departure and rapid return of SSGT Terry Fitzmaurice.

But back to work and play. The platoon this year has placed a great deal of emphasis on training and every available opportunity has been taken to bring our sub-unit brothers in from the cold to participate. The results of this initiative has not only proved to be successful in developing individual, investigative and soldier skills but has had an obvious effect on morale and team spirit. To appreciate just how much that sense of team spirit has been enhanced one had only to be present at Pearl Point during our Adventure Training Exercise in February and witness MAJ Charles (anybody for champagne) Nayler risking life, limb and half a can of Fosters in a valiant attempt to save Col Claridge and his overturned zodiac from mountainous surf. Such deeds of heroism do not happen everyday, in fact in another time they could well have been rewarded by a medal. Unfortunately, investigators being what they are chose not to embarrass the Major with simple backslapping but instead bagged him for the pitiful ineffectual method he chose to effect his rescue bid. As luck would have it no lives were lost and our bold contingent eventually conquered the ocean, the majority with scuba gear and CAPT (Gidget) Pemberton on his surf board. To touch so briefly on only a few moments of that exercise does not do justice to describing just what a successful activity it was. For those who missed it and want more info, take the opportunity one day to visit the Bellbird hotel and ask about the week that the Federation of Australian Underwater Investigators came to town. Just tell them that 'COOTA' sent you. It's the stuff that legends are made of.

From group efforts to personal achievement now; I'm sure

all will share in our congratulations to SSGT Vic Lees on his selection in the Army team for inter-service basketball. Other personal achievements of note were the successful completion of promotion courses by WO2 Max Britton and Brian Thomson, SGT Bill Tilley and CPL Bill Shepherd. Those first three mentioned have all received their promotion and God help us all by the time this is published so will have Bill (I've got a more tasteless tie than that) Shepherd.

There have been many other highlights in our year at 3 Pl but with budget restrictions being what they are at the Corps Journal one cannot be too verbose. I will therefore conclude with these few words: The pleasure to be derived from investigational employment, in which you work long hours for little pay, suffer constant criticism from people wise after the event and rarely hear a word of praise, is directly proportional to the comfort you feel over a beer with your mates when the job is done.



*A happy and safe Christmas and New Year to all and may all your jobs be 'Positive'.*

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# The Making of the Pointsman

by MAJ C. OSTAPENKO

In June 1988 the then Director LTCOL Grahame Turner had a vision of a sculptured monument, representative of RACMP, being erected at the entrance to the new Military Police Centre. The statue to be modelled after the Dargie/Warner painting of the 'Pointsman', which has been adopted by RACMP as a symbol of our history, and a focal point of Corps sentiment. The 'Pointsman' painting of course depicts SGT Thomas William Osborne MM under fire during the campaign in Greece, April 1941.

After a number of well known Australian sculptors tendered to create a cast bronze life size Pointsman, the contract was awarded to Mr Rodney Broad. Rodney was born in Dannevirke, New Zealand in 1947. After completing a Diploma



*Initial wax model of 'Pointsman'*



*Helping to instal the 'Pointsman' – left to right: PTE Matbew Griffith, MAJ Cbris Ostapenko and LCPL Mike Lincoln*



*Cast of torso and head*

## THE MAKING OF THE POINTSMAN

in Fine Art at the University of Canterbury, Rodney taught sculpture at the University of Tasmania from 1971 - 1988. He has been involved in a number of significant projects including participation in the 'Simpson and his Donkey' work for the Australian War Memorial.

It has taken Rodney about five months to create his bronzed Pointsman. Initially Rodney spent several weeks researching the historical aspects of the work, and to WO1 Liz Madden a special mention is made for her assistance to Rodney during this stage. From his research Rodney produced a number of sketches after which a life size model in wax was created.

From the wax model, moulds were made from which the four sections of the statue were cast in bronze. These four sections were the head, right arm, torso and legs. Each cast was then welded together and a protective coating applied.



*Mr Rodney Broad preparing the plinth for the 'Pointsman' statue*

Rodney describes bronze as a 'living material' which becomes more beautiful in time, as the weather, atmosphere and environment contribute to its place as a piece of sculpture. The process used by Rodney to create the statue is called 'lost-wax casting' and is about 4000 years old.

Within Australia very few craftsmen are capable of utilizing this process, which allows the sculptor to recreate precise detail in their work.

In October 1991 Rodney completed his work when the statue was installed in front of the HQ building (DMP and HQ Army SIB Unit) at the new Military Police Centre. The statue stands tall and greets all visitors to the Centre. We thank

Rodney for his dedication to this project, the Pointsman is a marvellous reflection of the quality of his skills.

**NOTE: At this stage occupation of the new Centre will occur in late February 1992, with the official opening scheduled for May 1992**

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# Defence Force Corrective Establishment

COMDT — CAPT C.G. WILLIAMS MM

RSM — WO1 A.E. PORTER

Since penning the last article there have been a number of changes in the personalities at DFCE. RACMP departures included SGT Jeff Clifford, SGT Phil Ive, SGT Rudi Kakulka, SGT Ken Purbrick, SGT Greg Westhead and CPL Lou Pagano on posting and CPL Billy Burgin on discharge. RAN departures included LWRAN Jo Adams, LS Bob Green, LS George Gilmore, LS Mark Coleman and LS Bob Clanchy, all on posting.

In their place we welcomed SGT Chris Hodge, Wayne Martin, Petar Krajl, Ben Lomman and Mark Harrison, CPLs Peter King, Kevin Lindsay, Steve Bloomer, Steve Charlett, Doug Gibson and Carole Batten (RAAOC), from the RAN – LS Mal Martin, Dave Hellier, Warwick Wyndham and Liz Bury and from the RAAF – CPL Tara Nandan. We also welcomed back CPL Stu Dray RAINF ARes on a second tour of FTS at DFCE. At the time of writing CPL Dray is attending MP Basic Course 2/91 and if successful will join the ARA on direct enlistment to RACMP.

There have been no marriages to report over the year but on the births side we were blessed with a billy kid, about 10 baby chucks, 9 ducklings and a dozen or more baby budgies. Sadly 7 ducklings succumbed to the cold or were taken by cats and most of the chicks ended up on the Barbie. Mother duck is sitting on a further dozen eggs so it looks like duck is back on the menu for Christmas. Oh, by the way, 9 MP Coy can relax as there is no truth in the rumour that "Old McDonald's Farm" is moving to Indooroopilly with the COMDT at the end of the year.

Having said our Hails and Farewells, back to work! Over the year detention figures have continued to rise. Last year's total was 241 admissions and to date we have just topped 170 admissions with 3 months of the year to go. There is little doubt that we will exceed 220 detainees again this year and might even

exceed last year's recent record.

In addition to the increased workload from these additional detainees, more and more establishments and VIPs are showing an interest in the principle of Corrective Training and visiting DFCE to familiarise themselves with its functions. Visitors over the period have included MAJGEN A.J. Fittock AO ACPERS-A, BRIG G.D. Carter AM COFS Land Comd, BRIG P.S. O'Sullivan MBE COMD 1 Bde, BRIG A. Hodges DGPS-A, BRIG V.A. Morgan COMD 2 MD, WO1 P.J. Prewett RSM-A, Mr J. Brassil Chairman DFRT and Consultant to NSW Corrective Services, Students of RAINF Coy Comd Cse 1/91 and 2/91, Officer Cadets from RMC on Ex Bardia 1/91 and 2/91, RSM Cse 1/91 and 2/91, 1992 DFM Seminar, CO/OC of local units and numerous Offrs, WOs and SNCOs in groups of 10-30 on unit training days.

On the sporting scene the staff of DFCE acquitted themselves well in the Director's Trophy Sporting Competition and again in the Lamia Shield competition. Although we won no trophies this year we did not come last and all who participated thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

There were however a number of individual sporting achievements which are worthy of praise. To LWRANS Jo Adams and Liz Bury, congratulations on being selected to represent RAN in the Inter Service Volley Ball and Netball respectively. To CPL Kevin Lindsey, congratulations on representing Army in the State Inter Service Hockey competition. Congratulations are also in order to CPL Lindsey and to SGT Mark Harrison who teamed up with two members of 2 MP Coy and one from 2 PL Army SIB and won the 1992 Round the Lakes Relay at Melbourne

*In closing, all members of Staff at DFCE wish the Corps health, wealth and happiness in 1992.*

## 55th Military Police Platoon

PLCOMD — CAPT C.A. PEARCE

SM — WO2 J. OBOLEVICS

Welcome once again from the Land of the "Eagles". This year has not only been a very busy one, it has all been very diversified. From our members helping out with the World Swimming Championships, 5 Trg Gp instructional support, to a full ARes Brigade Exercise codenamed 'SPIDERMAN'. So if anyone believes that Perth is a shady hollow think again! This is not to mention the requirements of the individual training needs of the Corporals within the unit.

With that in mind, I don't think CPL Huggins will ever be the same since instructing on an ARes recruit course.

*Some individual achievements from the unit include:*

- CPL Huggins – successfully completing the Vic Pol Close Protection Course,
- CPL Delamotte – attending the RAAF School of Languages studying "Asian Lingo".
- CPL Griffin – currently jetsetting around Europe on 'Exercise Long Look'. In exchange CPL Pearson (RMP) arrived. We haven't seen much of CPL Pearson as he has been gallivanting around Australia breaking girl's hearts in his travels.
- CPL Trinder – making the grade at VIC DET LWC qualifying

for Subj 1 for SGT, and of course,

- SGT Clifford – being issued a typewriter, skirt, liquid paper as the new 55 MP PL Clerk Admin as *another* extra-Regimental appointment.

It should also be noted that of all ARes members, 75% are female. I wonder if CAPT Pearce has anything to do with that. Maybe next year with two men at the helm things may be different.

It is at this point we must say farewell to CAPT Pearce on her posting as SO3 PERS HQ 1 Bde. The 55th and our SIB friends hope you have achieved what you set out to do in the West. Even if that meant trying to teaching WO2 Obolevics and SGT Clifford proper English.

*Other moves for the unit include:*

Postings out: CPL Wood – to Army SIB Unit, CPL Toia – to 1 MP Coy.

Postings In: CAPT Ross – from 1 MP Coy, CPL Williams – from 1 RBT, CPL Gerada – from 1 MP Coy.

Late Mail: Army office has recently approved the unit's canteen to be called the 'CPL Ian Brown' club.

***Bye for now from the WEST!***

# Interview with LTCOL Geoff Russell

Like many members of the Corps from the mid sixties to the early seventies LTCOL Geoff Russell entered the Army as a National Serviceman. He was called up from the NSW Police Force in 1966 and after completing officer training at Scheyville he joined the RAA Pro Corps and was posted to E Comd Pro Coy. He worked as a Pl Comd at Liverpool Detachment until he went to AFV Pro Coy in Jan 68. As a regimental officer he spent his time floating between Saigon, Nui Dat and Vung Tau. In May 68 he took some NCO to FSB CORAL to provide MP support to 1 TF operations. Late that year he was posted as the 2IC of PNG Pro Coy.

The eighteen months in PNG were extremely challenging and rewarding. It was before independence and the role of the Australian MP officers and warrant officers was to train and manage the PNG soldiers in their duties as MP NCO. Very few soldiers attended the MP School in those days and all the training had to be conducted around Port Moresby and Lae. There were some very fine and professional soldiers in the Coy and as a young 2LT he learnt a lot about soldiering in a different country. This experience was followed by a posting to Melbourne (in Jul 70) when he was appointed the 2IC of 1 Comm Z Pro Coy, a CMF company with the role of providing support to the Comm Zone (ask some of the older members of the Corps about that beast).

In Mar 72 CAPT Russell was given his greatest career challenge to that stage by being posted as the OC 1 Div Pro Coy which had to be raised – from the remnants of the disbanding AFV Pro Coy – equipped and trained to provide support to 1 TF as well as to test new equipment and procedures for the Corps. He recalls those days with great fondness and regards the officers, WO and NCO whom he had the privilege to serve as OC as being the best in the Corps at that time. There are only a few remaining in the Corps today.

In 1974 the position of SI at the MP School was created and he was posted into that position to continue his career as a trainer. It was at that time that the systems approach to training was being introduced in the Army and the task of redesigning and validating Corps training fell to him and his team of professional workers. The Corps in NSW underwent a relocation during this year and the MP elements were co-located at Coral Lines (later renamed Lamia Lines). The antics of eminent Corps personalities at that time ensured that all the staff maintained their sense of humour at a very high level. This very rewarding but exhausting posting was followed by a brief stint as Pl Comd of 2 Pl SIB before a posting took him to

the Directorate in Canberra in mid 1986.

The Corps was undergoing a reorganization and our present Colonel Commandant was at the helm as the Director. A glaze came over LTCOL Russell's eyes as he tried to recall some of the highlights during the two and a half years he did the job as the DDMP (other than Corps Conferences) but he quickly passed on to his experiences as a student at ASC Queenscliffe in 1979. He was in the first group of ex-National Service officers to go to the Staff College.

A posting to 2 Trg Gp as the SO2 (OPS) followed in 1980 and the move to Ingleburn saw the Russell family put down roots for what was to be five years before returning to Canberra but what has turned out to be eleven years of soldiering. The involvement with the ARes at 2 Trg Gp was extremely rewarding – as anyone who has worked closely with them can testify – and this was followed by another highlight of his career. He was posted as the CI of the MP School in late 1981 and remained there for three years. One of the benefits of serving at the Corps school is having the opportunity of seeing the bulk of the Corps pass through on promotion courses and he had the pleasure of rekindling his relationship with those he trained as the SI seven years earlier and had managed as the DDMP. A posting as the PM FF Comd took him into Victoria Barracks in 1985 and in July that year he was promoted to LTCOL and posted as the SO1 (COORD) of HQ FF Comd. In 1987 he served as the SO1 (PERS) on that headquarters before achieving his long-held ambition to be the ASST COMD 2 Trg Gp. He arrived at Bardia Barracks in Jan 1988 and it was from this appointment that he retired three years later.

He looks back with great fondness over his career of nearly twenty five years as an MP officer and recalls many splendid men and women who have worked tirelessly for the Corps which they serve. The highlights of his career (and he says that there are far too many to mention each one individually) all relate to situations where he has been involved with fellow professional soldiers – in SVN at FSB CORAL, in PNG, especially as OC of the 'second' 1 Div Pro, as the DDMP at a very challenging time for the Corps, as the CI MP School and as the climax of his career, being the ASST COMD 2 Trg Gp.

LTCOL Geoff Russell has settled comfortably into retirement. He performs some ARes service for HQ 2 MD and 2 Trg Gp, is pursuing a tertiary qualification in adult education at university and is helping Karen, his very supportive wife and mother of his three sons, in her challenging publishing venture. He says that he is very pleased that his 'marble' was selected and that he had the opportunity of serving in the RACMP.



**WO2 V. White is presented with a GOC Training Command Recommendation by LTCOL G. Russell at the 2/90 MP Basic Course March Out, December, 1990**

# DESERT SHIELD: *Before the Storm*

*Despite a host of challenges, CID agents have taken on a new role as...*

## DESERT COPS

*Reproduced by kind permission of 'SOLDIERS' MAGAZINE*

When he needed to interview a soldier back at Fort Stewart, Ga., Criminal Investigation Division Special Agent Keith 'Bugsy' Moran simply picked up the telephone and told the unit commander or first sergeant who he needed. In as little as 10 minutes, a soldier would report to the CID office to be interviewed or questioned.

But things are a little different for the more than 100 CID agents deployed to Saudi Arabia. Although their overall mission remains much the same – investigating crimes, monitoring the logistics pipeline and running an anti-terrorism effort – agents are finding that CID work in a war zone is unlike anything they faced in the States.

Overall, criminal activity among US forces has dropped off significantly since Desert Shield kicked off in mid-August. 'We're not getting as deep into the law and order business as we typically would,' said Special Agent Joseph Couch of the Southeast CID region. 'After all, there's no alcohol here, and troops are locked down in the desert where they can't go anywhere and can't get into anything.'

That's not to suggest that CID agents are simply marking time until they can return home. While the military police assume their combat roles, largely pulling security and reconnoitering main supply routes, CID agents are picking up investigations of misdemeanors as well as their more typical felony crimes.

They keep busy investigating cases of mail theft, lost or stolen equipment and supplies, self-inflicted injuries, sexual assaults, drug and alcohol violations and all fatal vehicle accidents involving soldiers.

Logistics security has become a top CID priority in Saudi Arabia. From the ports to the air terminal to the desert areas occupied by line units, agents are 'making sure the beans and bullets get to the troops where they are supposed to go and don't get siphoned off in the supply lines,' explained Lt Col Terry Frey, executive officer of the 3rd Military Police Group. That role, said Special Agent Steven Welch, who works with the 1st Cavalry Division, has turned the regional CID operation into 'a giant lost-and found department' where any unit with lost or missing equipment turns for help.

According to Couch, 90 percent of equipment initially reported missing from M-1 tanks to five-ton wreckers to pallets of Meals, Ready to Eat – is traced to 'friendly diversion,' one unit 'borrowing' the equipment it needs from another unit's shipments. Other items were simply misrouted in the haste to quickly deploy troops to the Gulf region.

In one of the most dramatic cases yet, a Humvee loaded with six Stinger missiles that had been reported missing by the 1st Dav. Div. was located through CID's efforts. The missiles, which had been stored in a little-used compartment aboard the transport ship USNS Bellatrix at the Port of Houston, were located after three transatlantic passages and returned to the unit.

Although the logistics security mission may not be one of CID's most exciting, especially for agents used to investigating 'slug and mug' assault cases, Couch said it's the command's most important. 'Without us, a lot of soldiers wouldn't have what they need to do their jobs,' he said 'In a very real sense, we're here serving as forces multipliers.'

Despite the tremendous scope of its logistics security mission, much of CID's case load in Saudi Arabia revolves around ongoing investigations from the States. According to CWO3 Mike

Herzberg, a CID logistics security and criminal intelligence officer, those ongoing cases run the gamut from murders and aggravated assaults to larcenies and forgeries. 'We're getting tons of requests for assistance in open cases,' Herzberg said. 'If the soldier is here in Sauda Arabia, we're the ones who do the interviews and take the fingerprints, photos and handwriting samples. We do whatever is needed to keep the case moving.'

In an environment where telephonic communication is unreliable or nonexistent and units are spread over hundreds of miles of desert wasteland, keeping cases moving is an exercise in persistence as well as patience.

'Everything we do in the States, we do here,' said Special Agent Khaalid Muhammad. 'The only difference is, it's twice as difficult and takes twice as long to get things done.'

The fine-as-talcum-powder Saudi dust renders fingerprints almost unreadable. Power surges from field generators force agents to move to the rear – sometimes four hours away – to run polygraph tests. Even things that were simple back home, like interviewing witnesses and suspects, take on a whole new dimension. 'Here, nobody comes to us,' said Special Agent David Zelif. 'We have to go to them.'

Getting to witnesses and suspects, whose locations are reported in grid co-ordinates rather than building numbers or street addresses, is sometimes half the battle.

Two-agent teams drive through the desert in search of their interviewees. Often they will travel two hours to a site, only to learn that the unit has 'jumped' still deeper into the sand. Sometimes the soldier they seek is on a patrol or training mission. The CID team returns to its base of operations to continue its search the next day.

Back at the base camp, CID Agents are getting a blunt reminder that they are soldiers first and criminal investigators second. Moran estimated that 40 percent of the agents' time is spent, not on interviews, but on day-to-day survival. Each time the combat element they support moves, the agents must disassemble their operation and reorganize at a new site. In addition to setting up tents, they fill sandbags and dig foxholes and bunkers. And wherever they go, day or night, they must have immediate access to their gas masks and chemical suits.

'Back at home station, we wear suits to work, and sometimes you have to remind yourself that you're walking around with a green ID card,' said Special Agent Rich Staniszewski.

Welch said the field duty has been a real learning experience for CID personnel, especially for the more senior agents. 'A lot of things we learned in basic training are coming back to us,' he said. 'In some ways, the people in leadership positions are taking advantage of the younger soldiers' more recent field experience,' agreed Special Agent Randy Bailey.

Staniszewski acknowledges that the daily requirements of surviving in a desert war zone can be frustrating. 'We might have 38 requests for assistance to work, and there we are, filling sandbags,' he said, 'but in an environment like this, we have other priorities just as important as CID work. Dead agents aren't going to get a single case done.'

The soldier-agents in their desert field uniforms, Frey said, are raising their share of eyebrows among the soldiers they encounter daily. 'The combat units look at our people living in the same conditions and eating the same food and say, 'Hey, these people really can soldier.'

# 1st Military Police Company

OC – MAJ T.A. GRUTZNER

SM – WO1 P.J. CLOWRY

1991 was another busy year for 1 MP Company. The "Bush Pigs" undertook a variety of tasks, not just limited to field exercises. Even the distant events in the Gulf effected 1 MP Coy, and two members accompanied ASC Habitat to Iraq. There was also the challenge of having 10 PTEs at 1 MP Coy. This was a once only situation, undertaken to alleviate manning problems. They underwent on the job training as well as pre-course preparation for the basic course.

The year started with the usual style and saw 1 MP Coy deploy to Wide Bay for the shake-out exercise, New Centurions. The exercise saw unit members being trained in the VINSON communications equipment, the upgrading of licences and MP specialist training which occurred during exercise Forceful Forger 1.

Exercise Forceful Forger II, consolidated earlier training and left the platoons ready to provide MP support to formations and units.

April 1991 was predominately occupied by inter-platoon sporting events, culminating in the Cocks of the Corps competition for the Champion platoon of 1 MP Coy. The sporting events began with the 'Swimming Carnival without notice', won by 13 Pl. Then followed the Indoor Cricket competition won by 16 Pl, the Field Cricket won by 13 Pl and CPL Les Smith of 16 Pl won the Champion Pistol Shot trophy.

The major event as always was the hotly contested Cock of the Corps competition. The competition was fierce and controversial as always. The competing teams were 13 Pl, 16 Pl, 14/15 Pl and HQ/11/Admin Pl. After two days of events it was 16 Pl who came away with the title. After the last event, there was no doubt about which was the best platoon.

Exercise Termite Spray 91, saw 13 Pl supporting 12 Terminal Regt at Jervis Bay. The exercise later became well publicised due to the environmental damage that was attributed to the Army.

In mid-May, with very little warning, SGT Steve Withers and CPL Jake Morley deployed to Iraq, accompanying ASC Habitat. Both members gained invaluable experience from their six week deployment. The tasks undertaken included VIP close protection, census taking of refugees and liaison with Kurdish rebels. The excellent conduct and professionalism of both members advanced the standing of RACMP with the Army, as well as with the US and British Armies.

Brave Baghera was the annual COLTS exercise and proved to be quite a testing time for both platoons. There were many cases of embarrassing and amusing incidents, as well as hard work.

From July the pace picked up, and saw the platoons do more time in the field.



Winning 1 MP Coy Tug of War team at the Directors' Trophy sports day Ingleburn, 3rd April 1991

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## 1ST MILITARY POLICE COMPANY

Just after Brave Baghera, 13 Pl went to Townsville and trained with 2/4 RAR in Services Protected Evacuation (SPE) procedures. Swift Eagle 92 will exercise 3 Bde plus 1 LSG in SPE operations and the experience gained with 2/4 RAR will serve 1 MP Coy well.

In August, the Company Cross Country championship was held over the less well travelled routes up Mt Enoggera, and back down other routes favoured by goats. The individual event was won by the OC, who was hot favourite. The team event was won by 13 Pl by 2 seconds, with the 4th placed team less than two minutes behind in a very close competition.

Again in August 13 Pl went to Townsville, this time for Exercise Sole Provider 91. Sole Provider was the shake-out exercise for the newly formed 3 Brigade Administrative Support Battalion. The BASB Combines the old BMA (-) units of the Fd Wksp, Fd Sup Coy, Tpt Sqn, Fd Amb and Dental Unit.

1991's major exercise commitment was the deployment of 13 and 16 Pls on the 6 Bde Camp at Shoalwater Bay and the

LSGs Exercise Full Pack at Rockhampton. Good experience was gained by all who participated.

After the platoons returned from Shoalwater Bay and Rockhampton, the Company's next commitment was the conduct of the pilot 'Close Protection Course' in November. It was a month long course consisting of professional and realistic training, which will allow the company to provide CP support to the ODF and JFHQ. It is hoped that eventually such a course will be formally conducted at the MP School.

With 1991 grinding to a halt, we are looking forward

to 1992 and its major events. Exercise Kangaroo 92 and Swift Eagle 92 are looming, as well as the changes to the Company's structure following DFRS.

Congratulations are extended to the departing OPSO, Captain Fisher, going on to become OC 2 MP Coy, and thanks also to WO1 P.J. Clowry on his posting to LWC Canungra. Both members have worked tirelessly for the company providing three years valuable service.



*While Australian Army medical personnel provided medical care for thousands of displaced Kurds in the Gir-i-Pit region of northern Iraq, Military Police Sergeant Steve Withers, formerly of Evandale, Tas, had plenty of opportunity to meet local villagers. Australia sent a 75-person team to be part of the multinational relief effort. The contingent returned to Australia on June 30.*

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# 2nd Military Police Company

OC — MAJ M.A. LUSCOMBE

SM — WO1 P.L. ROGERSON

1991 has again proven to be a busy year for those at the coal face. Whilst overall tasking has been slightly less than in the past two years, a lack of troops has seen the hours worked by individuals remain high.

This is not to say that the year has been all work and no play. The Company has found time to perform great deeds on the sporting front. In April, after being narrowly defeated for the Director's Trophy, (Softball as an inter-coy sport????), the Coy went on to win the Lamia Shield by an impressive margin.

In late September two members of the unit accompanied three other personnel from 2 Pl SIB and DFCE to defend RACMP's title at the Logistic Command Lake Relay. The campaign was again a success with the team winning the Mixed Division. Congratulations are extended to CPLs Hobbs (22 Pl) and Voltz (23 Pl) and to the rest of the team. It has been reported that training is already underway for next year's event, with many contenders being confident of taking out the trifecta.

22 MP Pl and Randwick SIB weren't to be outdone so they decided to run in the City to Surf. In order to keep the speed down (and so that the SIB would feel at home) it was decided that wheelchairs should be pushed during the event. As it turned out four wheelchairs were able to be obtained complete with kids from the Royal North Shore Hospital's Childrens' Spinal Unit. The OC 2 MP Coy was invited along as a guest runner (good snivel 22 Pl) and the day proved a great success with \$700.00 being raised for the Childrens' Ward.

Whilst 21 MP Pl have had a quiet time on the sporting side of the house, they have nonetheless been exceptionally busy trialling vehicles on behalf of the Corps and Log Comd. Following RODUM action addressing the crash bars on the 650cc motorcycles and the roll over capability of the 110 Landrover, 21 MP Pl was tasked with trialling and assessing the new modifications. There was no shortage of volunteers as CPL Law tested the motorcycle crash bars, with a confirmatory test being conducted by CPL Murphy and (you guessed it) CPL Law. CPL Sherwin assessed the new roll over bars on the 110 Rover and both she and CPL Styles concur that they are money well spent. CPL Sherwin has suggested that the speedometer could be used as a cost compensator as she

never actually uses it anyway. Finally it has been rumoured that CPL Wridgway in fact did the developmental work for the four wheel drive Nissan, but that a communication breakdown saw him test it off road rather than at Bathurst.

Whilst all this frivolity has been taking place, 23 MP Pl and 26 MP Pl have basically contented themselves with working hard and providing a good level of support to the training institutions and units within their areas. Being busy hasn't however prevented some off duty relaxation with both the Sainsburys and CPL Guy eagerly awaiting the sound of tiny feet. Whilst on the subject congratulations are also extended to the Berka's, Kelly's, Moloney's, Tulk's and CPL McMahon.

The ARes elements of the unit have had a quiet year with no major deployments being conducted by HQ 2 Div or the supported Bdes. There have, however been numerous CPX building up to K92, which have been supported by elements of the Coy, and of course the ubiquitous Ex Menin Road.

As always there have been a host of welcomes and farewells. So to the newcomers — welcome and to those who are moving on our good wishes are extended to all in their future endeavours.

To the rest of the Corps, we hope you enjoyed the festive season and we wish everyone the best for 1992. And finally, to the School, we hope you took photos of the Shield when you had it — because it's here to stay now!



*CPL I. Sims during 2 MP Coy's mounting of the Centotaph Guard, Sydney on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the Corps, 3rd April, 1991*

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# CITY TO SURF 1991

## "WHEELPOWER"

12 August, 1990, standing with friends and surrounded by thousands of shivering, highly motivated and some slightly comical runners all awaiting the sound of the starter's gun for the 20th Sydney City to Surf. Where I was waiting the only indication that the race had started was the

slow shuffle that began as the mass crept forward. Some 20 minutes later you crossed the start line and if you picked your way through the crowd you could almost break into a slow jog. It was at this stage I saw what was to inspire the events which took place over the months of June, July and August of 1991. Amongst the hoards of runner were three wheelchairs which were being pushed by members of the Rotary organisation. In the chairs were handicapped kids, who you would swear were just given the keys to the city, as the smiles on their faces and the sparkle in their eyes were something that had to be seen to be believed.

June 1991 saw the first steps towards our goal. After initial enquiries it was decided to approach the Royal North Shore Hospital and seek four young test pilots who would be willing to take up the challenge albeit none of us were experienced in the art of pushing wheelchairs, let alone trying to run and dodge almost 50,000 other competitors whilst all sharing the same thin strip of bitumen. As strange as it may sound we soon had four volunteers ready to take the leap.

The wheels now began to turn. The Unit began canvassing local businesses for donations of anything that we could use in a mini raffle to raise money for the cost of entry fees and maybe the production of T-shirts for the event. To our pleasant surprise the business houses turned our mini raffle into a jumbo raffle. Altogether there were 34 prizes totalling almost \$1,500.00. The money raised paid for T-shirts, sweatshirts and entry fees for all the participants involved. More importantly though we were able to donate \$700.00 to the Children's Ward at Royal North Shore Hospital.

With time running out and work commitments increasing our training was a little lacking. But what was building was the bond that was growing stronger by day as all the members of the platoon became engulfed in our mission. The day arrived and we were ready. It was a brisk but fine sunny Sunday and our four new members of the unit had arrived, perhaps a bit apprehensive but none the less eager. Using all

the unit resources we transported everyone to the race start. Chaos would be an understatement as two scouts bravely volunteered their lives to fight the hoards who were lining up to receive their official race numbers. Eventually we were away, the very last with only 49,980 runners to pass to take the race out.

It would have been almost 15 minutes into the race before we were actually able to start jogging. The pace was slow but we were soon to start weaving through the slower runners. Staying together was the plan however this proved difficult. Several times the front runners needed to be reeled in. Heartbreak Hill lay about halfway and its reputation was well known. For this section there was no tactical plan. It was going to be survival of the fittest.

At the top we realised that we had lost a few of the kids sisters and fathers who had decided to run with us. We waited for a while then pushed off. It was mostly downhill from here and things were going well. We pressed on and about one

hour and thirty seven minutes later we rounded the last corner with the finish line in sight. Through we went and collected our medallions and on paper had passed over 25,000 runners within the 14kms.

To say who got the most out of the event would be difficult, to complete the run on its own would have been gratifying, but to have been given the opportunity to help four young people achieve something they would have not dreamed possible gave us a feeling that is indescribable.

Throughout the run the well wishers

brought smiles to the kids faces and gave strength to us. I believe the children had a lot of fun but I know we as a platoon grew stronger. This was certainly reflected by the interest shown in continuing the involvement next year, even the members who are being posted at Christmas want to return for the next run.

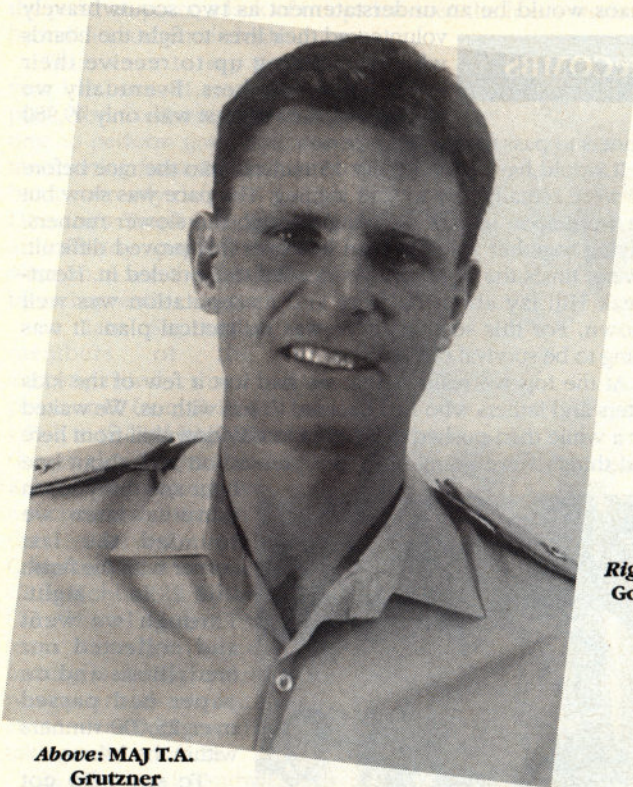
As with all exercises, the first always has teething problems. We certainly will start organising our fund raising much earlier next year and hopefully will more than double this year's donation. There are a few administrative problems to be fixed, however one thing is for sure, we will be doing it again, with our four pioneers volunteering already and hopefully inviting two more to share what turned out to be a day that those who contributed will never forget.

by WO2 K. McCOMBS

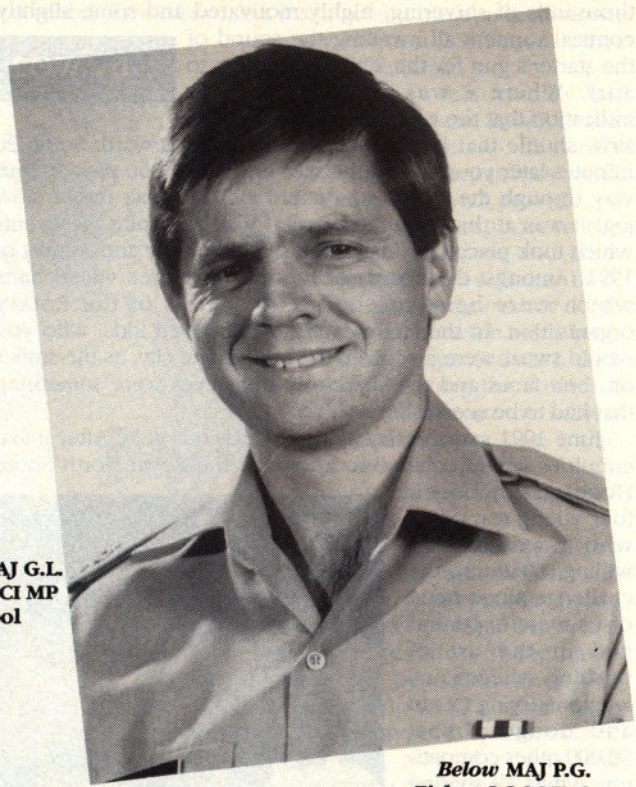


The top of 'Heartbreak Hill' - 8km mark ... (note the lack of smiling faces)

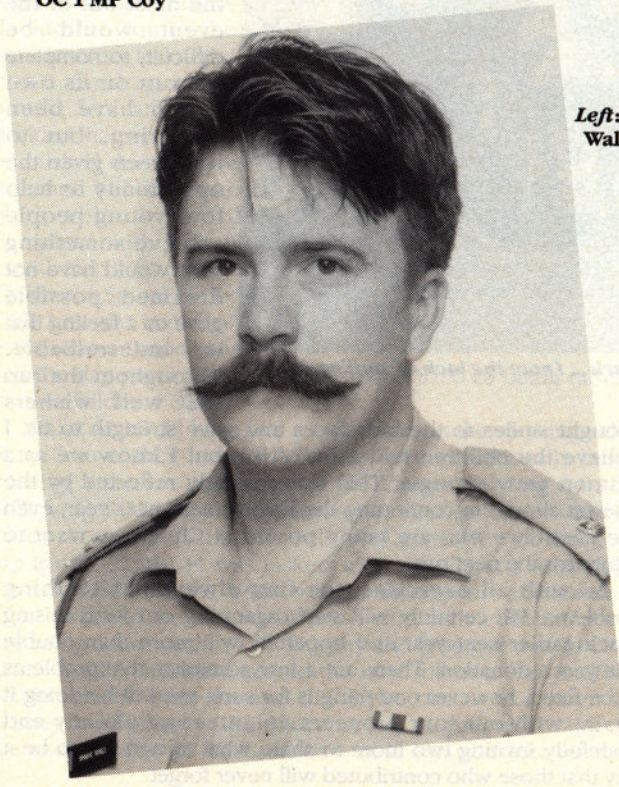
# RACMP OFFICERS OCCUPYING SENIOR APPOINTMENTS IN 1992



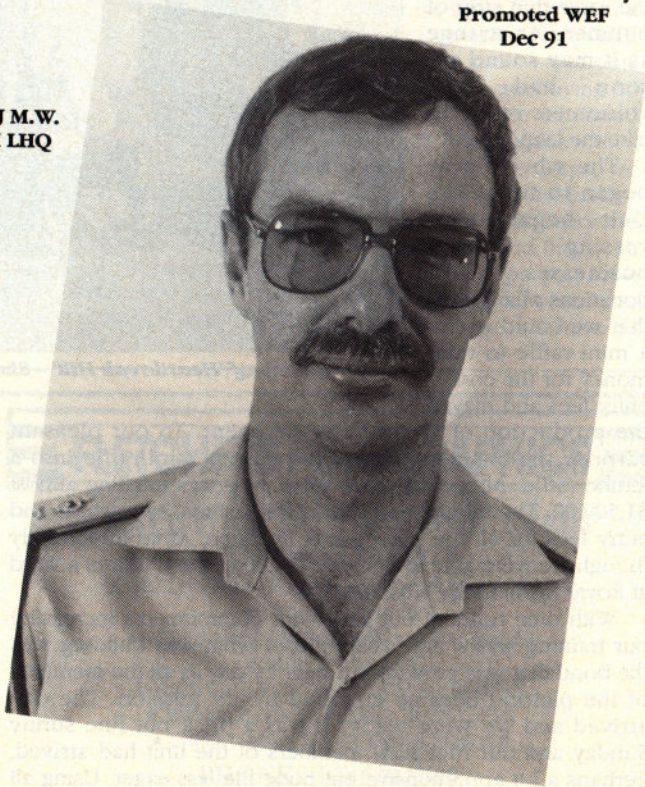
**Above: MAJ T.A. Grutzner**  
OC 1 MP Coy



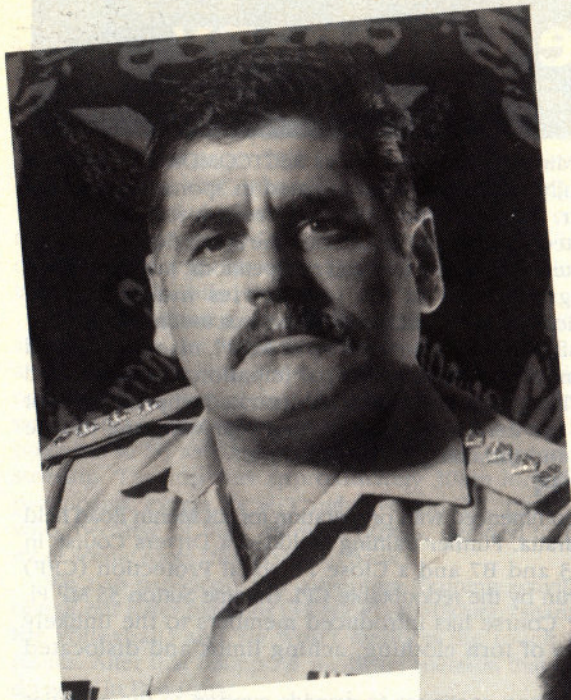
**Right: MAJ G.L. Gordon**  
CI MP School



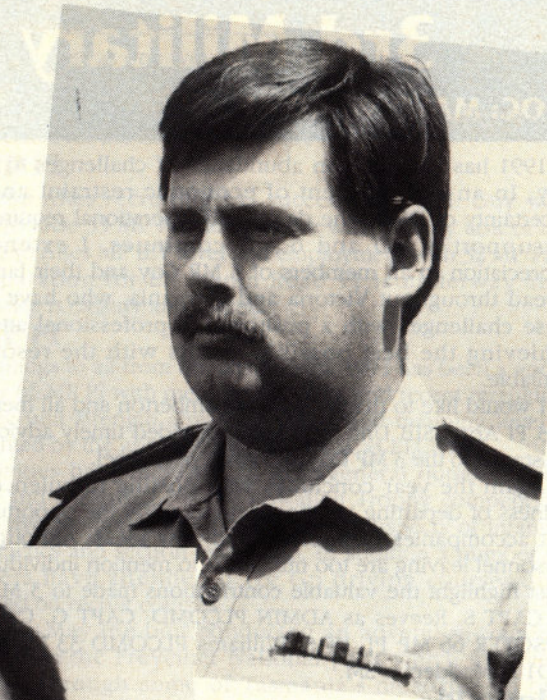
**Left: MAJ M.W. Wall**  
PM LHQ



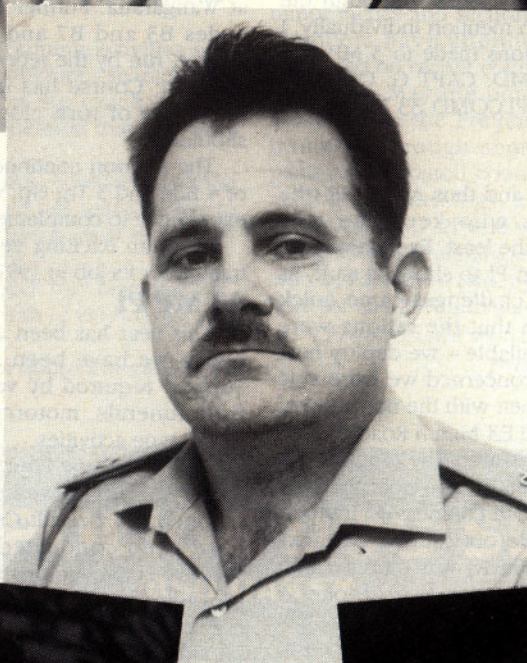
**Below MAJ P.G. Fisher**  
OC 2 MP Coy  
Promoted WEF  
Dec 91



**Above MAJ. C.G.  
Williams MM  
OC 9 MP Coy  
Promoted WEF Dec 91**



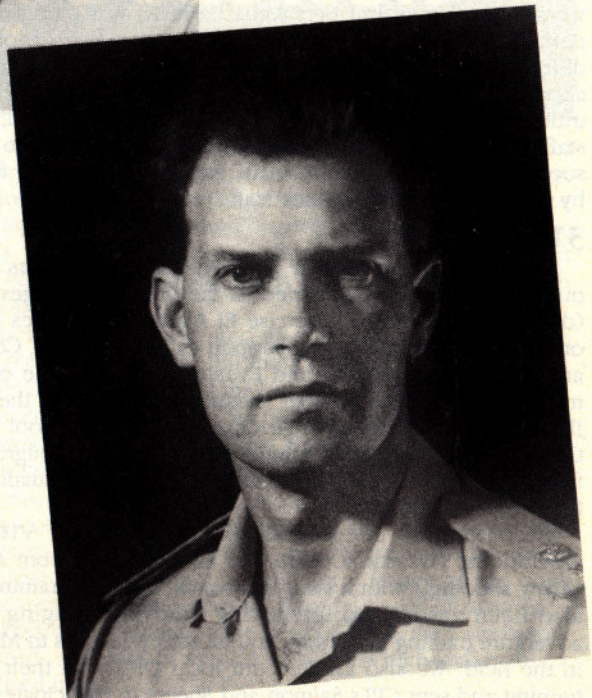
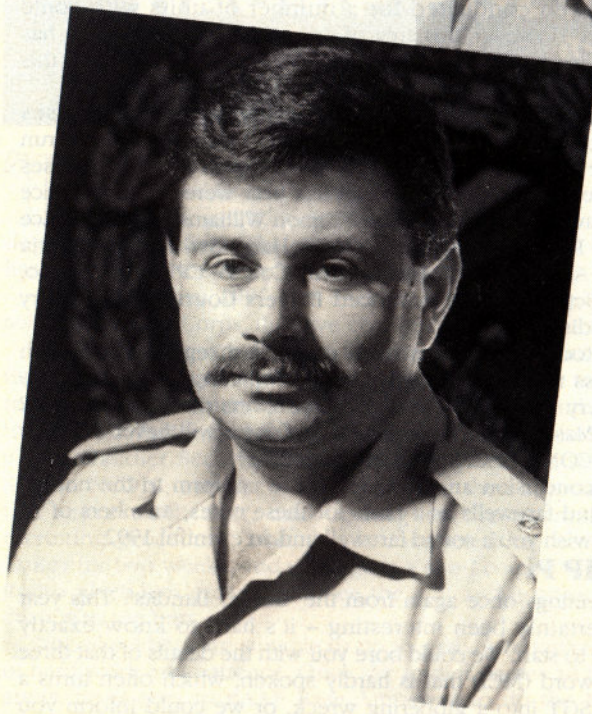
**Above: MAJ R.K.  
Parkins  
OC 4 MP Coy**



**Below: MAJ D.W.  
Fidler  
OC 3 MP Coy**

**Below: MAJ C.G.  
Ostapenko DDMP**

**Below: MAJ P.G.  
Gilbey  
OC Army SIB Unit**



# 3rd Military Police Company

OC: MAJ D.W. FIDLER

SM: WO1 E.A. MADDEN

1991 has provided an abundance of challenges to 3 MP Coy. In an environment of economic restraint and the uncertainty of DRSR, the day to day operational requirement to support 3 MD and 6 MD continues. I extend my appreciation to all members of 3 MP Coy and their families, spread throughout Victoria and Tasmania, who have faced these challenges with a positive and professional attitude, achieving the best possible results with the resources available.

I would like to thank CAPT M.Pemberton and all members of 3 Pl Army SIB Unit who have provided timely advice and assistance to the 3 MP Coy MCI team personnel.

Again the year concludes with posting turbulence, the sadness of departing 'cobbers' tempered by the opportunities that accompanies fresh blood and new ideas. Although the personnel leaving are too numerous to mention individually, I must highlight the valuable contributions made to 3 MP Coy by CAPT S. Reeves as ADMIN PLCOMD, CAPT G. Cairns as OPSOFFR 66 MP Pl, LT S. Williams PLCOMD 33 MP Pl and WO1 E. Madden as SM.

## Admin Pl

The past 12 months for 3 MP Coy and thus Admin Pl (the Q, tpt, cooks and bottlewashers who keep the MPs operational) has been eventful to say the least. Ex Menin Road 91 provided an opportunity for Admin Pl to show its stuff, as EX Menin Road loomed closely the challenges came quick and frequently (what do you mean that the rations were indented for 12 months ago aren't available - we deploy next week!) Due to the hard work of all concerned we were able to achieve the goals set by the OC (albeit with the nurturing of the odd baby ulcer along the way) and EX Menin Road proved to be a success tempered by fire and water. The long sought after goal of many a Unit Fire Officer/NCO - one practice, then the real thing. No damage but much coolness on the part of staff and students as the light pole outside the barracks went up in flames and Bersheeba Barracks was plunged into darkness. And then the night that the water mains broke. A different style of welcome for the members of 2 MP Coy, talk about parting of the waters. However, despite the trials and tribulations of flood, fire and an overabundance of food, both staff and students alike deemed EX Menin Road 91 to be a success and worth the numerous grey hairs that were found by various 'behind the scenes' staff.

## 31 MP Pl

1991 saw a busy year for us at Puckapunyal, and as usual our tasks have been as varied as the weather changes here (different every hour). Exercise El Alamein continues to be one of our major efforts and support to 1 Armd Regts, Cordon and Search, and Escape and Evasion exercises one of our more popular tasks. We sent 'instructors' to support the new JLTC Course, AST Motorcycle Courses and MP School Basic Course. The Detective Training School made their pilgrimage from Melbourne a number of times for our regular small arms fire power demonstration.

SGT Napper successfully completed the VICPOL Operational Firearms Course and also returned from ASAM (Army shooting) with a swag of awards. Our unit training has also been varied and interesting this year, ranging from adventure training in Mildura and motor-cycle treks to MP ops in the field. We also assisted our local DSU with their NCO training and sent CPLs Salmon and Sheers to participate in an

Infantry Minor Tactics Exercise as SECTCOMDs. The unit has successfully and actively participated in sports competition this year. We won the CO DSU Trophy for volleyball (undefeated), SGT Rudy Valzan took the men's Squash Trophy (undefeated), we won a few golf competitions, just missed out on the grand final in the local civies indoor cricket competition and we participated in the area touch comp.

Overall 1991 has been good to 31 MP Pl, manning swelled which enabled us maximum participation in tasking and courses. This, combined with a concentrated emphasis on unit training, has made for an interesting year with unit morale reaching and sustaining 'fever pitch' level.

## 32 MP Pl

1991 commenced with preparation for EX Menin Road held at Wangaratta. Further training included a Drivers Course in codes B3 and B7 and a Close Personal Protection (CPP) Course, run by the redoubtable CPL Graeme Sutton 33 MP Pl. The CPP Course has introduced members to the unlikely pleasures of torn clothing, aching limbs and dislocated shoulders.

The Platoon continues to provide support to the activities of 4 Bde and 3 Trg Gp, which gives the members the practical experience to complement their training.

In all an exciting year which will leave the Platoon well trained for its job in 1992.

## 33 MP Pl

This year has been a pretty eventful year for the Platoon, hence we have been able to keep ourselves fairly busy. Support required by various units in the area have ranged from funerals, motorcycle escorts, displays and all those 'pogo' type activities.

MCI and Crime Prevention have demanded a lot of support from the Platoon, with a constant flood of minor crime being reported. As a result Crime Prevention Lectures and surveys have been conducted for a number of units with some success. However, this area of operations for the Platoon has proved to be the most fruitful as we come to grips with this new responsibility.

Various Platoon personnel have attended courses throughout the year ranging from Subj 1 Courses to those run by the Victoria Police. Some of the more notable courses attended by Platoon personnel this year were: Victoria Police Detective Training Course - LT Simon Williams; Victoria Police Crime Prevention Course - WO2 Harry Swindells; Victoria Police Accident Scene Investigation Course - CPL Luch Pagano; and Victoria Police Advanced Drivers Course - CPL Harry Ioannidis.

Platoon training has been conducted regularly and with success this year, ranging from civil range shoots to the recovery of a couple of 'lost' Landrovers mastered by WO2 Brian Mason and CPL Jock Andrews (who will never drive for the PLCOMD or CPL Stu Adams again!!!)

In conclusion and in order not to conform to the normal hails and farewells as a basis for these notes, members of 33 MP Pl wish you a sound farewell and an eventful 1992.

## 34 MP Pl

Greetings once again from the 'Border Bandits'. This year has certainly been interesting - it's hard to know exactly where to start. We could bore you with the details of that three letter word (MCI) that is hardly spoken, which often turns a burly SGT into a gibbering wreck, or we could inform you

### 3RD MILITARY POLICE COMPANY

about our experiences with those other type of soldiers (Apprentices) who inhabit Bonegilla.

However, we decided to tell you how we overcame the never ending pressure – R&R (of course we called it Adventure Training). The first of these activities was at Blowering Dam, NSW, where the emphasis of training was on watermanship and off-road motorcycling. Nobody could say that this activity lacked excitement, with one CPL having a disagreement with his motorcycle as to the direction to be taken to avoid a fallen tree.

Then, in between ensuring RAAOC Centre and RTC IETs and of course, the Apprentices were aware of our presence, another 'Exercise' was conducted, this time a leisurely canoe paddle down the mighty Murray River. Again member's watermanship skills were tested to the fullest, where the main obstacles to be avoided included low flying eggs and erratic steering. The trip was approximately 30km long for most participants, except for SGT 'ugly' Ive and CPL 'pizza' Marvilla who, because of their extreme fitness, decided to take the more scenic route (from bank to bank).

We also participated in Adventure Training activities with one of our sister platoons (31 MP Pl) at Mildura, (shame about the volleyball) and we won't mention the touch football results. After that I suppose we better mention that we really do work in Bandiana.

The platoon had been working flat out, however, with the introduction of the Investigation Section it has settled down to a more routine nature and we are achieving great results, 54 jobs – 15 positive and 28 bad guys.

Many thanks must be extended to SSGT 'Vic' Lees and SGT 'don't !@#\* lie to me' Thorn for their wealth of knowledge and willing input into the conduct of MCI.

On the other side of the fence, patrol duties have still been

as busy as ever as one would expect with the wide eyed IETs and Apprentices in the area.

Congratulations to all members being posted to us and condolences for the members that are leaving.

#### 35 MP Pl

As the ARes recruiting has succeeded, LT H. Guy was tasked to raise 35 MP Pl and continue with the key task of trg soldiers to ARes MP IET level and employment with 32 MP Pl.

Preparation for EX Menin Road 92 is underway and attendance is eagerly anticipated.

#### 66 MP Pl

Greetings to all from the deep south. 1991 has been a good year for 66 MP Pl with member retention and recent recruiting bringing unit strength almost to authorized manning level – highlighted by the appointment of LT Box as PLCOMD.

Activities have included an IET (general duties phase) course and preparing for the Rowallen Trophy competition which involves becoming proficient in all aspects of infantry minor tactics and section leadership. In addition a number of members have attended 6 Trg Gp driving courses and instructed on recruit courses.

During May the unit conducted an adventure training weekend in the Freycinet National park which involved tramping through some of Tasmania's most rugged but picturesque coastal country. Despite the ups and downs, the aching feet and legs, all survived, including the OC and PLCOMD 33 MP Pl who were visiting the unit at the time.

DMP/PM-A also was a welcomed visitor in July, and amongst a beer or two, updated us on the what the future may hold for 66 MP Pl and attachment to a Brigade.

*From 66 MP Pl we wish everyone a happy and prosperous 1992.*

## RACMP POLICE DOG SECTION

### BSU OAKEY

The Army Aviation Centre Police Dog Section was formed on 8 September 1977, at that time the Section had five dogs and five handlers. Today we have 15 dogs and 15 handlers. The only Police Dog Section the Army has is at Oakey, the Army's Aviation Centre.

Until February 1990 the Section was made up from soldiers from all Corps, then we changed to RACMP.

All Police Dogs are German Shepherds. We get our dogs from public donation and once the dogs meet all the testing requirements they are transported to RAAF Base Amberley to the RAAF Police Dog School. If a soldier wants to become a Dog Handler Security Guard, he simply telephones our Section NCOIC, and has a talk to him, he then approaches the nearest MP Unit, and undergoes the normal MP recruiting procedure, after that is completed he comes to Oakey for two weeks, and undergoes a short course with us, it also gives him a chance to see the job, and it gives us a chance to see him.

Not all soldiers are suitable to do this job, it requires a lot of hard work and patience. Once the soldier passes all these areas, he is sent to RAAF Base Amberley to do the Basic

Police Dog Course, this course takes three months of hard work and training. He learns subjects like Dog Physiology, Dog Husbandry, Security Guard Training, and of course the Handler meets his dog and together they train for three months. After training they are then posted to Base Support Unit, Oakey to start patrol duties plus further training with their dogs.

After reaching Oakey, and as soon as possible he then has to complete the ECN 160 Induction Course which is run by 9 MP Coy. This course runs for five days and covers basic MP procedures. Within the Section we have one SGT, three CPLs, two LCPLs, and nine PTEs. A lot of soldiers have given up their rank to become Police Dog Handlers.

The Section is always conducting PR demonstrations with the dogs and we travel throughout Qld and NSW. Apart from our normal duties we are called upon to protect other Army Bases from protestors or act, assist local Police as our dogs are also trained trackers, and we have had a lot of success.

All Police Dog Handlers are hand picked, they are highly motivated, and highly skilled soldiers which make this a specialised trade.

## **IN PROFILE**

# WO1 JEFFEREY ROY JACKSON

*'An impressive young soldier who is one of the best of the group. A future RSM in about 1990.'*

MAJ I.B. Bates OC 1 MD MP Coy 9 April, 1974

MAJ Bates was a little out in his assessment of WO1 Jackson, as Jeff was to attend the 1/86 Infantry RSM Course and then was promoted to WO1 on 10 Dec 86, four years earlier than predicted.

WO1 Jackson is one of the stalwarts of the Corps. He enlisted into the ARA on 17 March 70 and after recruit training was posted to 4 RAR and saw service in South Vietnam in 1971. In March 74 after re-enlisting in the Army Jeff Corps transferred to RAA Pro Corps in March 74. Since then he has served with 1, 3 and 4 MP Coys, ADFA and is currently the CA

RACMP at SCMA. In December 1991 WO1 Jackson is posted to the MP School as RSM. Since the beginning of 1991 Jeff has also held the appointment of Corps SM, an appointment he will continue in after taking up his new position.

Throughout his long and distinguished career WO1 Jackson has set a fine example for the Corps. He is a natural leader and a highly motivated soldier, his attitude, knowledge, dress and bearing make him an ideal choice to take up the Corps top WO1 position of RSM MP School/Corps SM. We wish Jeff well in his new appointment.

## **RACMP WARRANT OFFICERS CLASS ONE OCCUPYING SENIOR APPOINTMENTS IN 1992**



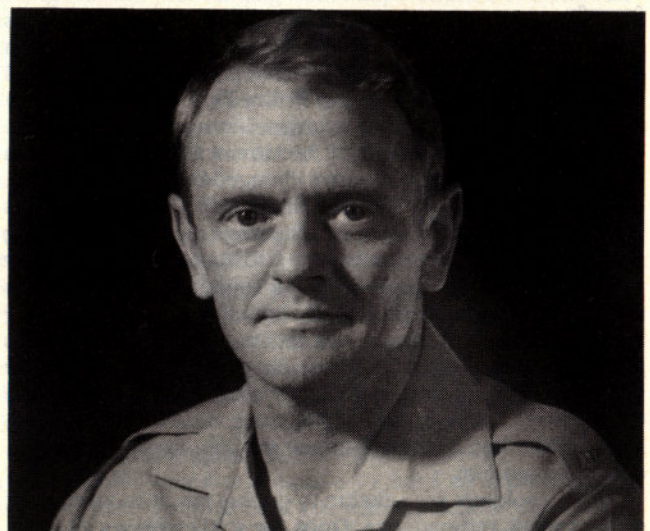
WO1 CR. Jackson RSM MP School/Corps SM



WO1 A.E. Porter RSM DFCE



WO1 E.A. Madden CA RACMP



WO1 J.P. O'Leary SM Army SIB Unit

# EXERCISE RELIC RETRIEVE

*This year 4 MP Coy undertook to recover sections of the fuselage of a B25 Mitchell bomber which made a forced landing at Point Jabeel on the northern most point of Melville Island on 30th March 1943.*

One of the major exhibits of the Darwin Aviation Museum is the only surviving B25 Mitchell Bomber which saw active service in Australia during WW 11. It was however missing its fuselage section from the wings to tail.

This story began on 19th February 1942 when war came to Australia for the second time in its history as a nation. The first open combat over the Australian continent was borne on the wings of war planes from the same task force which had opened the Pacific theatre of war at Pearl Harbour.

In the following years of this initial action Darwin became a target for many more strikes against the Australian continent. Many aircraft were involved, one being B25 Mitchell bomber N5-133 of No 18 Squadron. On March 30th 1943, N5-133 took off from Darwin to conduct an offensive reconnaissance operation against enemy shipping on the south-western coast of then Dutch New Guinea. Enemy vessels sighted a bombing run was executed. Accurate anti-aircraft fire was encountered, and damage was sustained to the nose area. Two enemy zeros attacked, one being shot down and the other breaking off combat after receiving damage. NT-133 took hits in the starboard engine and was unable to sustain height, low on fuel also, a forced landing was made on a sandy strip at Point Jabeel, Melville Island.

The crew were rescued and salvage crews recovered wings, tail, armourments etc.

Hearing of the Aviation Historical Society of the Northern Territory's plight to restore their B25, 4 MP Coy undertook the exercise which if successful would see restoration completed and permanent public exhibition of a complete B25 Mitchell Bomber, a rare aircraft representing a significant part of Australian historical heritage.

Planning and co-ordination was commenced by WO1 A. Porter in early 1990, however due to the unavailability of support in some areas, Exercise 'Relic Retrieve' was not undertaken till 1991.

The original concepts were put aside and an operation combining wheeled and track vehicles, moving overland from known landing sites was selected. Naval support after much confusion was finally provided by provision of the 300 tonne heavy landing craft, HMAS Balikpapan, to transport the expedition from Darwin to Melville Island and return.

Adelaide based units who participated were 4 MP Coy, A Sqn

3/9 SAMR, 4 ARRU, 3 Fwd Gen Hosp, AUR and 8 Tpt Sqn. 8 Tpt Sqn provided six drivers to transport a Fitters Mech and two Tillies from 3/9 to Darwin. Unit vehicles relocated the remaining stores and equipment to Darwin.

**by Warrant Officer  
Class One T.E. LUND**

Commencing Friday 28th June 1991, saw initial deployment begin from Adelaide. On Friday 5 July 1991, saw the expedition on the water aboard HMAS Balikpapan. We had

now been joined by John Haslet and Brian Arthur from the Historical Society and WO2 Alan Barry from NORFORCE, two Toyota four wheel drives and a Unimog.

The fifteen hour over night trip up and around Bathurst Island saw us arrive about 0800 hrs Saturday morning at Garden Point



**WO1 Lund at the fuselage of the B25 Mitchell bomber which crashed on Melville Island during World War II, during EX Relic Retrieve**

(Pularumpi) Melville Island in the Aspley Straight. Another NORFORCE member PTE Chester Turuntaneri joined our group and we then headed for the main settlement at Snake Bay (Milikapiti) to liaise with Milikapiti Community and pick up another NORFORCE member, PTE Bruce Mungatori and two elders Phillip Patles and David Austral. There is no entry to this island without permission of

the Tiwi Council who own the island. Alcohol is not allowed to be brought to the island, ignorance of this law can result in confiscation of all properties and items brought by the offenders.

The dirt roads, turned to tracks and the going became slower through the rougher country. Travelling west to east from Snake Bay we hoped to reach a location south east of the Johnstone River which would enable us to get our bearings and set a course northward. A mishap, involving one Mr John Haslett, saw us make camp early whilst he was returned to Snake Bay to be airlifted back to Darwin with broken ribs.

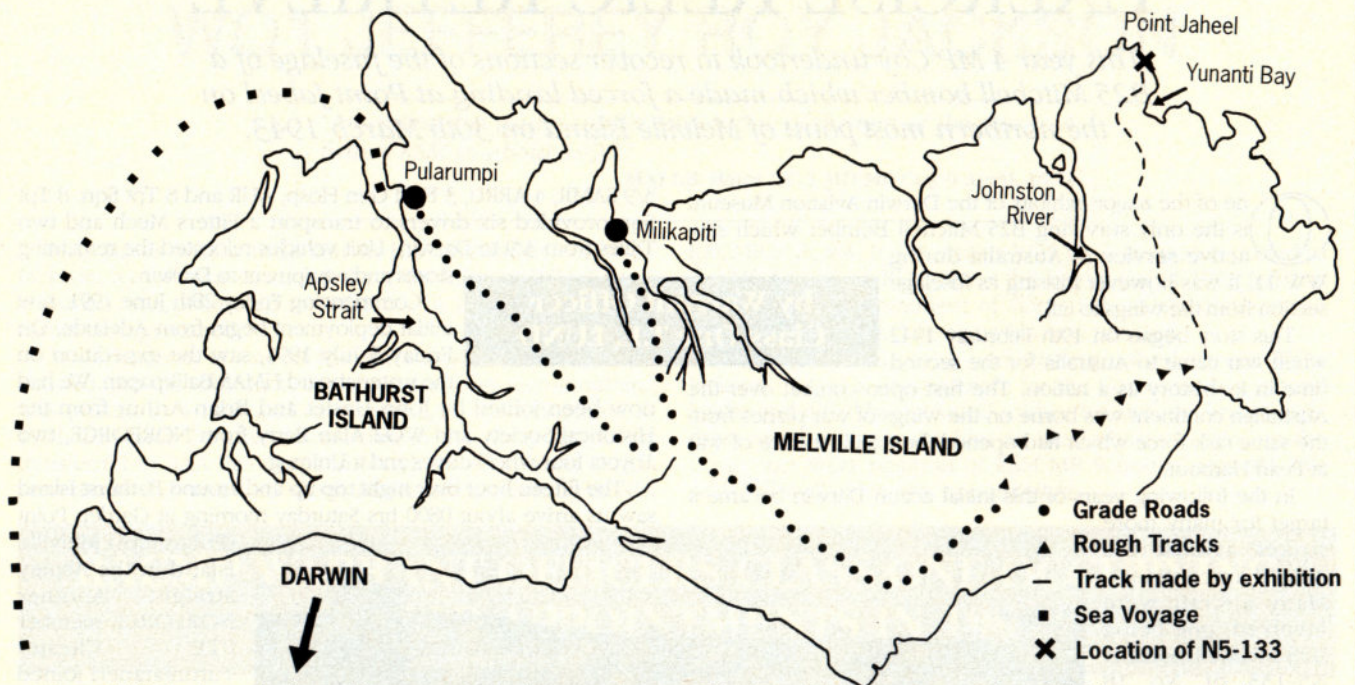
As we were well short of our planned day one location we departed our current location at 0400 hr to make up the lost time, from the previous day.

On reaching the mud flat, short recon trips were done to confirm our location. We could not be sure of our exact location as none of the tracks appeared on the maps and a lack of identifiable features on which to relate ground to map. Mileage and guess work combined with the recon trips gave us a starting point. WO2 Barry and CAPT Bowley (3/9) certainly showed their local knowledge and navigational skills would be of a huge benefit.

We now entered the area where neither white man or vehicles had been before and Aborigines had not been since the commencement of WW II. The bush did not allow any scope to check our exact location and winding in and around through the



## EXERCISE RELIC RETRIEVE



at times thick bush we had our fingers crossed. An error here could see us on the western side of the Johnstone River, which meant we had failed. The country proved to be of little problem to the track vehicles (minor damage) however its toll was being felt on the wheeled vehicles. Average speed at this time was around 5 kph with frequent stops to check navigation and to remove green ants and their nests which were becoming a real problem. Flat tyres and vehicle damage also slowed our progress. Often locations were selected camp sites, but we were always quickly informed, "No, no this snake or croc country we move".

Two full days travel saw us make our first sighting of water, but where? A rough reckoning (fingers crossed) we hoped we had reached a beach on the western end at Yunanti Bay. We followed the water's edge as best possible through some very thick bush accompanied by even more of our friends the green ants. Some 5 kilometres on we reached a sand bar and following this we round an out crop of trees and made our first sighting of N5-133. It had only taken us 3 days since our arrival on the island. Our gratification and a sense of overwhelming satisfaction was felt by all.

Two days later saw us dismantling our base camp. N5-133 had been dismantled and loaded. A team effort had seen our

objective achieved and a number of fishing and crabbing spots located. To most fishing is a relaxing sport, however here standing on an isolated beach, you were on your nerve at all times. Line in the water and SLR at your side in an action state. With snapping handbags (croc) only 30 metres away in the water varying from 2, to over 3 metres in length, the old fishing stories of the one that got away, would want to be you.

Sunday 14 July 91, saw us back in Darwin, and that night attending a function where the presentation of handing over the aircraft was made.

I have heard it said that Army people are strange in their ways at times, but I must admit the Navy gave us a shock. On returning to Darwin, we were ahead of time so we stopped for a spot of fishing. At the rear of the ship the enthusiastic fisherman had their lines in and were catching sharks. Meanwhile up front they had lowered the ramp, and we were being encouraged to join them for a swim. We stuck to fishing!

The exercise's successful achievement, certainly was the product of a team effort and individual skills. The challenges were there and I'm sure all learnt new skills and broadened their own personal outlook and confidence within themselves.

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# RECRUIT INSTRUCTOR 1 RTB

## *FACT AND FALLACY*

by LT D. CROWTHER

**K**APOOKA! The name still has the ability to strike terror in the hearts of all but the strongest of soldiers especially when asked if they would like to return as a Recruit Instructor. Old memories linger of the days spent in training and this has helped to create many myths, most of which are unjustified. All help to create a misleading opinion of what can only be described as one of the best training grounds for our young NCOs and officers. To take young men and women from 'civvy street' and turn them into well motivated young soldiers ready for IET training is one of the most satisfying jobs available. A job satisfaction that is sometimes hard to find in other postings. But what does the job entail?

Firstly the term job is incorrect. A more fitting description would be 'way of life'. For all the instructors the work is hard and the hours very long. It would not be unusual for a section commander to work for over twelve hours a day for long periods. But family and social life do not suffer greatly as these long hours are broken with substantial periods of rest that allow both recruit and instructors to recuperate. Week four of the recruit course is duties week. The recruits work on various tasks throughout the Kapooka Military Area and the staff take a well earned break. Between week eight and week nine both the recruits and the staff take a five day weekend. This is when the recruits are allowed to travel home to visit their families. There is also generally a break of six days between the march out of one platoon and the march in of the next. All of this leave is granted as short leave, unless periods of over one week are requested where BRL may be used if necessary.

Instructional ability is honed to a professional standard in a very short time as both the junior NCO and junior officer are required to instruct in all aspects of basic training. The Section Commander dedicates most of the early weeks of training

instructing in weapons and drill at section level and the Platoon Commander teaches navigation, personal administration and communications. All the platoon staff are involved in physical training and daily administration. The later weeks are dedicated to range practices and field craft, terminating in a small field exercise. The final weeks involve the allocation to corps and the preparation for the march out parade.



*IRTB March Out Parade 22Pl, 3 February 1991. Commanded by LT D. Crowther*

To be selected for a posting to 1 RTB, all NCOs must attend a Recruit Instructor Selection Course (RISC). This course is four weeks long and is conducted at 1 RTB. The course is mainly concerned with instructional technique and involves a period of time with a recruit training platoon. The course has no pass or fail but simply grades the student as 'suitable' or 'not suitable'. This result will not affect suitability for any other employment or promotion but a posting to 1 RTB is definitely a move that will not harm a career.

Officers will generally be posted to 1 RTB for twelve months. In that twelve months they will get more experience in man

agement and leadership than most units could offer in three years and the regimental lifestyle offers experiences not found in Military Police Companies. They also attend a short 'orientation course' of about two weeks duration to ensure that they are aware of what their duties involve.

*During 1991 there were five members of RACMP serving as instructors at 1 RTB. These were:*

LT D. Crowther – Pl COMD 11 Pl

SGT R. Streek – Pl SGT 5 Pl

CPL W. Williams – Sect Comd 25 Pl

CPL L. Orreal – Sect Comd 22 Pl, and

CPL A. Harrod.

It is worthy of note that, between them CPL Williams, CPL

## RECRUIT INSTRUCTOR 1 RTB

Harrod and CPL Orreal have trained 11 Platoons, have received two Vasey Trophies, nine Falling Plate Trophies and CPL Williams has been awarded the Dixon Trophy for the most outstanding Section Commander. A performance to be proud of.

These NCOs were asked to comment on the advantages and disadvantages of a posting to 1 RTB.

*In point form, their stated advantages were:*

The ability to become extremely efficient in all the basic soldierly skills, commonly forgotten in the ASA companies and the ability to pass this knowledge on to the recruits.

The acquisition of man management skills and command at a CPL level.

Exposure to a wide range of soldiers from different Corps and employment streams.

The opportunity to educate and liaise at recruit and peer level about RACMP.

The possibility of preferential posting at the completion of service at 1 RTB.

*The disadvantages included:*

Limited Corps representation.

The unavailability of Corps related non promotion courses. The difference in PR 66 gradings between ECN 315 and ECN 026, Recruit Instructor.

The difficulty in maintaining skill level as ECN 315 and lack of access to technical advances and new Corps doctrine.

And finally the workload.

In closing, a posting to 1 RTB is not for everyone. The prospective Recruit Instructor must be dedicated, motivated and highly skilled with a professional attitude towards the army and a wish to improve not only his own personal standards but assist in improving the standards of the army of the future.

# 4th Military Police Company

OC – MAJ W.J. AVENELL  
MAJ R.K. PARKINS

SM – WO1 T. LUND

*An interesting and varying year could be the way to describing 1991. The year presented us with many challenges and activities, at times in a most unexpected form.*

The comings and goings certainly made their mark. WO1 Bob Haslett, was left holding the SMs position from WO1 Al Porter until WO1 Terry Lund's arrival. Job well done, thanks Bob. MAJ John Avenell was posted just prior to mid year to HQ 4 MD and we welcomed MAJ Russ Parkins into the unit. SGT Al Fraser also made an early departure from the unit for Darwin. We wish you well Al, we're confident you'll grow to like Darwin. SGT Ken Scanlon has seen the light and is now a regular member of the unit, filling SGT Fraser's slot until the end of year, then to 1 MP Coy. CPL Damien Cox also left us around mid year, good luck Coxy in gaining a commission, now you should be able to spell your name! To all those members who have either been a part or assisted us over the past 12 months thanks for your efforts and we wish you well.

A number of moves within the Reserves have been made and these should strengthen both individuals and the unit as a whole. Promotions came to CAPT I. Gully and CAPT M. Bengel also LTs Richardson and Jordan, well done to all.

Recruiting and training are still priority areas and going well. The unit has certainly seen and felt the increase in the reserves. Exercise 'Rhino Charge', a 9 Bde activity, was the only major support we have provided this year. Unit training has been

centralised around Infantry Minor Tactics, to ensure these skills are maintained at a high level.

The unit has maintained its heavy involvement in support of 4 MD activities. The pressures have certainly been felt by the Corporals. With the fazing out of FTS and members attending courses we have had to get by with a strength of around three Corporals. Thanks to our SIB support throughout the year, their assistance has been appreciated. The last motorcycle escort consisted of a SSGT, 2 x SGT and a Corporal. Glad that uniform still just fits Staff!

Exercise 'Relic Retrieve' was undertaken involving members of 4 MD and other defence units. Thanks and well done to those who supported and took part in this activity. For those interested another exercise of this type is already in the planning.

On a sad note condolences to Mrs Dorothy Sharp and family on the passing away of MAJ Don Sharp, a long serving member and stalwart of 4MP Coy.

In closing we look forward to the challenges that 1992 has in store. To those leaving the unit at the end of the year, we wish you and your families well. To the newcomers, we look forward to your arrival and a boost to our man-power strength, with open arms we welcome you aboard!

*Proud current Contractors to 2MP COY, Ingeburn*

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# 9th Military Police Company

OC - MAJ V. SOMERVILLE

*Let's begin with 91 MP Pl from Sunny Downtown Brisbane, the River Platoon*

1991 started in very high spirits with a new Pl Comd LT P. Morrison and SM WO2 J. Hourigan, both of whom settled in very quickly.

The Platoon was happy to see the last of 1990, as an overload of taskings and a manpower shortage had begun to take its toll. There is no doubt that there are still some units out there in 1 MD who, for some unknown reason, believe that an MP has the ability to multiply at will, as additional tasks increase.

This year started at a steady pace and developed into a very busy year. The platoons provided support to the CGS Exercise held in Canungra, with its usual high standard. Open day at Enoggera Barracks, or now Gallipoli Barracks, was another success story. Fort Lytton's open day was a task which was handled by 91 MP Pl in combination with the ARes Platoon from 1 MP Coy. It was busy but a very good day. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the 1 MP ARes guys for their support and a job well done. Throughout the year the Platoon was also kept busy providing support to various field and non-field force units in Southeast Queensland in armed and ceremonial escorts.

CPL Maher (Crackers) and CPL Durrand (Yap Yap) have emerged in the competition of who crashes more 650cc MP motorcycles in the shortest possible period. Crackers took the honour so convincingly that the OC still has nightmares about it, and is considering banning both of them from riding the bikes for life. However, as we have a shortage of M/C riders, consideration is given to mounting some extra wheels to the motorcycles to improve the balance as obviously Suzuki

technology wasn't up to the standards of Cracker's and Yap-Yap's riding skills.

Our 'Adopt-An-MP' program had continued to be very successful with our three adopted schools. The idea is that a school adopts a Military Policeman, who visits the school on a regular basis and discusses with the school children "Stranger Danger" and any other safety aspects involving children.

Since the last edition of the Pointsman, a few NCOs have qualified in the Subj 1 for SGT course.

*Congratulations to:*

CPL P. Watson

CPL W. Peterson

CPL L. Zornig

Talking about courses, this year MAJ Somerville has introduced a number of military and Civilian orientated courses for all rank structures. Initially these courses were accepted cautiously, however, they have been enjoyable and beneficial. The courses, included a Stress Management, life moulding skills course which covered a variety of topics such as: Art of Communicating and Personal Counselling.

The computer courses have been another success story. WO2 J. Hourigan attended several computer courses achieving a sound knowledge. However, nobody has told him that a computer has a turn on/off

switch. For a moment there he thought that all computers come out of the box already turned on and stay that way. We are glad to inform you now that with a little bit of maneuvering he is confident of finding the switch.

Still with training, the Defence Regional Office, Queensland are still regretting the release of the training program for Jul-Dec



*The Director and the Assistant Secretary of the Ingleburn RSL Mr Andrew Grabam cut a cake to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the RSL and Military Police, April 1991*

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*CAPT P. Baillie RMP presents a commemorative statuette to the Director to mark the 75th anniversary of the Corps on behalf of the Royal Military Police.*

91, as this unit was quick to nominate for 27 different courses, which we are glad to say we had several unit members attend each course.

*Some of the courses covered such topics as:*

- New Supervisors Wksp;
- Service Supervision of Civilians;
- Industrial Relations Wksp;
- Performance Feedback; and
- Personal Claims course.

SGT Bailey, TRG SGT, has also been very busy with recruiting as per usual, interviewing numerous applicants, and of those so far 6 for ECN 315 and 2 for ECN 160 have been successful.

9 MP Coy participated in Corps Week activities and although

we didn't top the score, we showed plenty of fighting spirit.

The highlight of 1991 was perhaps the unit adventure training. It was a combination of navigation by water, by vehicles, vehicle recovery, and finishing with a game of golf, which appears to be the unit's major and most popular sport.

The Crime prevention presentations were just about completed and we had quite a good response from the units in Southeast Queensland.

The end of the year is approaching fast and as always it is a time when some unit members will be departing to a new posting, while those remaining will welcome new members.

Perhaps, at last, we would like to mention our Admin staff who throughout the year supported us enormously and without a doubt they have contributed to the effectiveness of the 91 MP Pl.

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# 92nd Military Police Platoon

PL COMD – CAPT I.R. SMITH

PL SM — WO2 M.P. CHERRY

*1990-1991 has once again been a busy year for the "Paradise" Platoon. Juggling limited manpower to provide maximum support to Townsville and North Queensland based units has once again been the major task confronting us.*

The new year saw the departure of some old (and not so old) faces, and the arrival of new ones. Captain Ian Smith (from 1 RTB) assumed command of the platoon from WO1 Jim Oldfield on his retirement in Jan 91. Jim Oldfield can now be found prospecting in the goldfields around Palmer River sporting a beard. We hope he will keep in touch. The arrival, regular absences and imminent departure of WO2 Martin "The Ghost Who Walks" Cherry (from ADFA) seem like a blur. We have just learned that WO2 Guy Bond (from 2 MP Coy) will be joining us in the sunny north in 1992 and hope to see more of him than we did of his predecessor. SGTs Rudi Kukulka (K3 from DFCE) and Andy Dixon (1 RTB) joined SGT Jeff Lucas and complete the platoon hierarchy. The following are the other manning changes that have occurred since the last posting cycle;

#### ARRIVALS –

CPL Lee Shepherd (from MP School)

CPL Colin Andrews (from MP School)

CPL Matt Thurbon (from MP School)

CPL Ken Fenton (from 91 MP Pl)

CPL Lee Roberts (from 34 MP Pl)

CPL Darrell Hodges (from 34 MP Pl)

CPL Lizzie Lynch (from 3 MP Coy)

#### DEPARTURES –

SGT John Stojke (to Malaysia)

CPL Brad Davies (to 1 MP Coy)

CPL Frank Henry (on discharge)

CPL Reya James-Bransby (on discharge)

CPL Steve Watson (on discharge to Qld Police)

CPL Garry Durrington (to 1 MP Coy on promotion)

CPL Nigel Southam (to 1 MP Coy)

CPLs Michael Aston and Lizzie Lynch announced their engagement in June, and are to be married over Christmas. We wish them well for the future. Obviously the Platoon Commander had a good Christmas last year, as his wife Jacqui gave birth to a son on the Thirteenth of September.

CPLs Michael "Astro" Aston and John "Crash" Hooper decided that the units DR250s were not up to cross country work, and went for a touch of nostalgia by taking the road bikes off-road. Oh what a feeling! CPL "BooBoo" Roberts escorted a visiting VIP off a parade ground, dropped his bike right in front of the General, then got the General to give him a hand getting it back up again. Way to go BooBoo!

The Platoon Commander attended a unit public relations officers course, then spent the rest of the year attempting to get his face in all of the local newspapers.

The platoon organised and competed in the second annual

Greg Stephenson Perpetual Trophy Pistol Competition between Queensland Police, Queensland Corrective Services, Australian Customs Service and the Military Police in July. In a rare appearance (we have photographs!), the PL SM put the MP Team in a strong position early but some dark horses (read "SWOS members") sealed our fate with some truly excellent shooting. We finished fourth behind the two Police Teams and the boys from Stuart Prison (who hosted the match), leaving the Customs team to wallow in self pity. The sooner the Army gets a replacement for the ancient 9mm Browning, the sooner we'll start winning this type of competition.

The ARES MP presence in Townsville has increased, and we were recently able to promote our first locally trained ARES CPL. Good things are afoot, and we expect to have a fully

manned and qualified section in June 1992. Several ex-ARA Corps members have expressed interest in serving in the ARES in Townsville after their discharge in the area, and anyone else considering discharge in the north is encouraged to drop in and see us about some part-time work.

As with all things in the "Deep North", we do things a little differently up here, and pride ourselves on living dangerously whilst main-

taining standards that other platoons can only dream of achieving. If you want a dose of real military police work at the home of a truly operational formation, put in your application for reposting now.

We also pride ourselves on our hospitality to members of the Corps, past and present. If you are ever in the area, just let us know you're coming and we'll have a cold beer waiting in the Club. To all of those who have graced the hallowed halls of 92 MP Pl and all those who wish you had, when the cold wind blows and the thermometer edges close to zero, IT'S PROBABLY 25 DEGREES AND SUNNY IN TOWNSVILLE!

**For what seemed like the hundredth time, the Combined Police Ball, in support of the Crippled kids, went off very well in June, raising over \$4,500 for a very worthy cause. The dedication of unit members holding positions on the Ball Committee was instrumental in the success of the night. Credits go to SGTs Rudi ("Let me tell you about Belgium") Kukulka and Andy Dixon. For those of you that have not been to the Ball, find the time to come north around May-June next year and savor an experience of a lifetime.**



# LIFE IN BAOR

by CAPT B. COX

There has been much publicity and coverage of the Gulf conflict and the political and social problems within the Middle East area, but little or nothing was reported on those fighting a different war in BAOR. The units that were left behind faced long hours patrolling large areas where the terrorist threat had greatly increased. The families of those who left for the Gulf faced six months in a foreign country watching broadcasts of SCUD missile attacks and hearing of Saddam Hussain's stockpiles of chemical weapons. The administration toil increased as old procedures and equipment had to be revamped to prepare for a different, unexpected war. I aim to highlight some of the events encountered during the conflict in the Gulf and shortly afterwards in BAOR, that were experienced by 115 PRO COY RMP, Osnabruck.

At the outset of the deployment to the Gulf one major problem arose; there was no mobilization of the Army called for by the Queen. A Queen's order is required to call up Territorial Army/Reservist forces that form an integral part of a unit's war role establishment. This affected all teeth arms within 1(BR) Corps, as the majority of these units were well below peace time establishment. Therefore to build up to war establishment, they had to regroup within regular Army resources. This meant units were stripped of men and equipment to form initially the 7 Armoured Brigade Group and, by Christmas 4 Armoured Brigade and Divisional Units of 1(UK) Armoured Division.

In Osnabruck only one complete unit left for the Gulf, 23 Engr Regt, all other units were stripped of men and equipment. 115 provided nearly 30% of its manpower, one Officer and one Platoon, consisting of one SSGT, five SGTS and seventeen CPLs. Not all SGTS worked with the RMP Platoon as some were assigned to close protection tasks.

The RMP unit that was formed in the Gulf was called 203 Pro Coy RMP. A bit of nostalgia was attached to this Coy by using the same number of the last RMP unit to leave the Middle East after Suez Canal crisis in the 1950s.

The tyranny of distance took its toll on BAOR as an entire Corps supply system was required to feed the Div HQ and two Bdes in the Gulf. This placed even more strain on those left in BAOR.

115's policing boundary nearly doubled. It stretched from the Dutch Border to Hamburg, and from Minden to Bremerhaven.

RMP in general however, is fully recruited to provide the required policing support to the Army, so manpower, although short, was not as critical as for the teeth arms in the early stages of the conflict. The increase in Policing Area led to a requirement to expand the unit's manpower. Auxiliary Military Police (AMP) were drawn from non-police units in BAOR and trained to a basic standard by RMP. Their role was to provide an extra security patrolling capacity. This enabled RMP units to increase their patrolling of married quarter areas and military establishments which provided both a deterrent and the ability to react swiftly to any given security situation. The effectiveness of this experiment is difficult to assess as some units believe the AMP solution was a necessary evil and more trouble than they were worth, while others saw them as a valuable asset. In looking into the background of these comments, I found that if units attached good, responsible and eager soldiers to RMP

units as AMPs then the latter comment was justifiable. However much can be said if the opposite were true as I can best recall in an example.

On 17 May 91 about 0300 hrs, five AMPs whilst on patrol in Detmold unlawfully entered a German supermarket store and were subsequently caught and arrested by the German Police. All AMPs were armed with 9mm Brownings.

The relationship between the German Police and the Osnabruck Garrison was one of mutual cooperation and professional respect. The German Police carried out patrols of British Installations and married quarter areas with vigor. At one stage during the height of the Gulf conflict, when Middle East as well as IRA attacks were most likely the Nieder Saxian Police had hired extra police to patrol the streets. The result in Osnabruck was that you couldn't even jay walk without two patrol cars pulling you up. The crime rate on Osnabruck dropped

dramatically and any would be terrorists would have been lucky to escape. German Nieder Saxian Police patrols also went one stage further than their counterparts in Nordrhein Westfalen, by issuing a machine pistol to each patrol member as well as their normal side arm. This act was enforced by the attitude that if a Terrorist was found, he would not be allowed to escape, unlike the Nordrhein Westfalen Police who allowed Irish terrorists to escape when a patrol that was in pursuit broke contact when fired upon. The Nieder Saxian Police have never let them live the incident down.



**Multiple rocket launchers taken from Iraqis by unknown British servicemen. Found in pieces in various vehicles and reassembled by the British Frontier Service (BFS are the customs service working in Germany.**

## LIFE IN BAOR



*T54/55 dug in on the main Iraqi defensive position in Kuwait itself*

Many protests were held in Germany, the largest being in northern Germany where 10,000 people marched in protest of the Gulf conflict. In Osnabruck there were also such events but one protest is well remembered. The German Police warned 115 that a peace rally was to be held outside the front gate one morning in early February. The rally was to protest 4 Fd Regt RA deploying to the Gulf. In fact 4 Fd Regt RA had already left for Northern Ireland. The protesters were off to a good start. German Police stated that they would supply a couple of squad cars and have patrols in the area on standby. They also asked matter of factly that if the protesters gained access to the camp by force, would we shoot them. Old habits die hard I guess. It was explained to them that there was no need for anything to come to that, to which I think the German Police were genuinely surprised. I arrived at the main gate at 0700 hrs to find two German Police squad cars at the entrance, with eight German Police and the British Guard facing me, to my left were three protesters and one placard. I relayed the humorous incident to Maj JJ Pike, my OC, who pointed out that the guard had felt sorry for them and therefore sent out tea and biscuits. The protesters declined the kind offer as none drank tea.

The stress of constant patrolling started to show on the men of 115. Minor accidents were on the increase as time off became non-existent and Platoon training gave way to more patrolling.

Everything was devoted to keeping patrols on the ground. A sad example of this burden resulted in an RMP JNCO taking his own life on desk duty in Bielefeld on the night of 5 Jan 91.

Wives were called upon to assist. A high fatality rate was envisaged when the war started and therefore Casualty Visiting Officers (CVOs) were needed to break the news to the families. If in the event entire units were lost, it was coordinated so that everyone would be told of their loss simultaneously, therefore wives were called in to assist in the event this mammoth task occurred. It brought home the reality of war, and wives of those whom it could affect sometimes became aggressive to those who were 'safe'. Examples that come to mind are wives spitting on guards and the use of the derogatory terms such as 'war dodgers' towards the men and their families who were deemed 'safe'. The majority of wives though, understood and accepted their predicament. The modern media had brought the war to their lounge rooms, radio and TV broadcast news on an hourly or even half hourly basis. The soldiers in the Gulf were at the opposite end of the spectrum and knew very little of what was happening around them.

On 24 February, G Day, the war started and then ended on 28 February lasting a mere 100 hours.

The pressure released in Osnabruck was clearly visible and a welcome sight but another hurdle was yet to come. The

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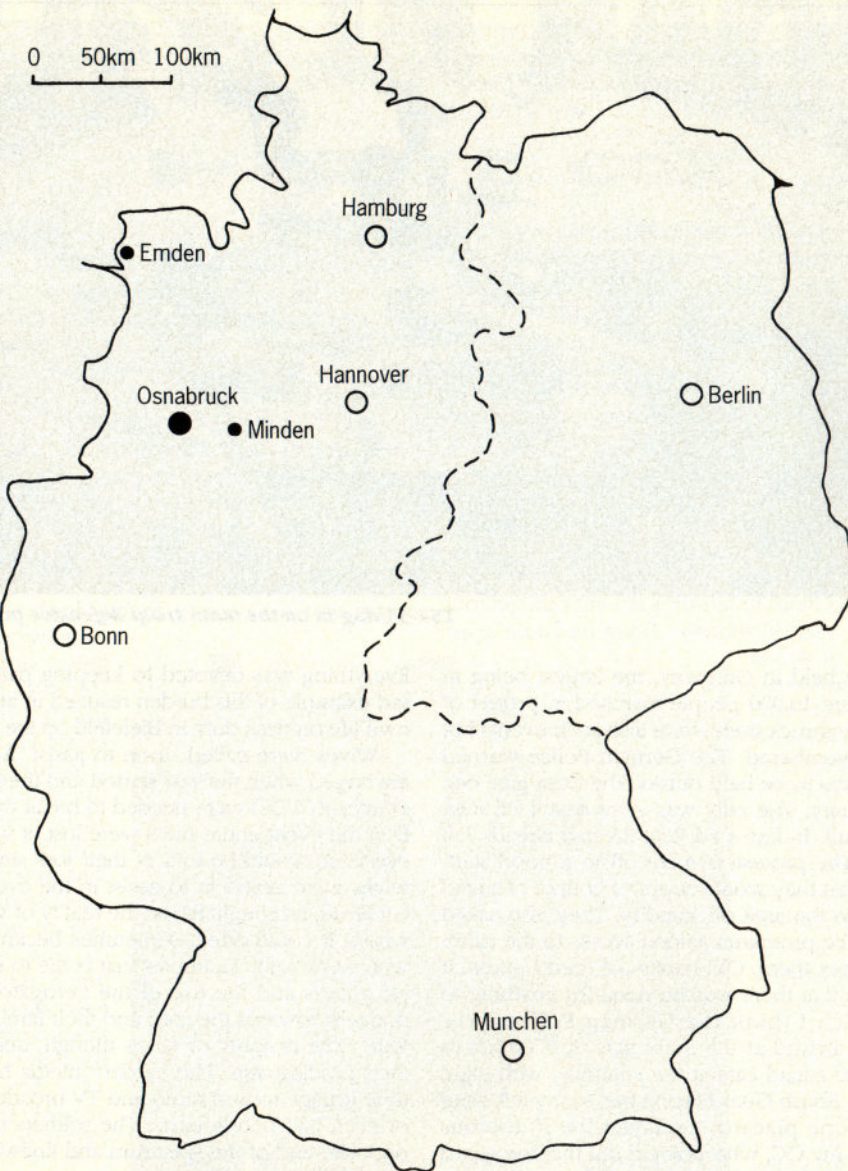
## LIFE IN BAOR

transporting of men and equipment from the Gulf and the rotation of those replacing them had begun. It was a time of 'baby boom' or a divorce court for some and the settling in and readjustment to peace time soldiering for all returning servicemen and women.

Emden Port is located on the North coast of Germany and became the major port of entry for all vehicles and equipment returning from the Gulf. As the port is located in Germany the British Frontier Service (BFS) was tasked to clear everything entering the country in accordance with the German customs regulations. A mammoth task indeed. Working 9 to 5, the BFS could only barely manage a 10% search of vehicles and equipment. The amount of arms, ammo and looted goods entering the country will truly never be known.

Within 6 months a large collection of Iraqi weapons and equipment turned 115 into a museum. The ATO at Herford was constantly employed clearing suspicious items that arrived at Emden. In April the ATO was called to Emden to clear an anti personnel mine that had dropped from underneath a hidden compartment on a 1/2 ton

0 50km 100km

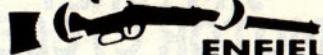


truck. The item was seen by soldiers standing near the moving truck and before they could identify the item properly a L/R drove over it narrowly missing actually driving over the top of it. The German Authorities refused to allow the ATO to explode the device in site so the ATO replied "Well you can have it then" and left. The German Authorities quickly reassessed the situation and ATO returned and exploded the device.

During the last seven months many changes and events have taken place within BAOR. It is still a time of uncertainty for many as units are being disbanded or amalgamated and military establishments prepare to close.

The stories from the Gulf are being written into the history books and BAOR is now settling down to restructure itself to comply with the Options For Change policies. The terrorist threat still exists but apart from that life has somewhat returned to normal. However the only threat apart from the terrorist remaining in BAOR is being caught by a Gulf veteran at the bar 'swinging the lantern'.

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**MILITARY POLICE  
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NEW SOUTH  
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SYDNEY BRANCH**

On the 12th of July 1991, the inaugural meeting of the Sydney Branch was held at Lamia Lines Ingleburn. During the meeting the following members were elected as Office Bearers.

Chairperson	Mr Kevin Walsh
Vice-Chairperson	Mr Tony Ranyard
Honorary Secretary	Sgt Wayne Martin
Honorary Treasurer	WO1 Paul Hawker
Welfare Officer	Mr Brian Collins
Public Relations Officer	Mr Bart Walsh
Entertainments Officer	Mr Dave Stevenson
Recruiting Officer	WO1 Alan Porter

Any enquiries about the Association should be directed to WO1 Porter. Phone (02) 618 4438. An update on the Association will be published in the next Pointsman Edition.



*On behalf of the Association  
"MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY  
AND SAFE NEW YEAR"*

**MILITARY POLICE  
ASSOCIATION OF  
QUEENSLAND  
BRISBANE BRANCH**

October marks the first anniversary of our branch here in Brisbane and I believe we have achieved the goals we aimed for at the beginning. We decided for the year we would concentrate on getting ex-members into the Association and to that end we have 52 financial members with a few others waiting approval. In our second year we will pursue more of those ex members and



*Current HQ MP Centre Ingleburn*



*New HQ MP Centre at Green Hills*

will have a concentrated effort at getting the now serving members to join.

Although we have held a couple of functions at Witton Barracks, probably our two main events for our first year would have to be marching as the MPA with a banner on ANZAC Day and then again organizing and marching as an identity at the Vietnam Veterans reunion. The reunion saw many ex-members from many parts of Australia migrate to Brisbane for a weekend and from all accounts, whilst it would not have been as big and good as the first reunion held in Sydney, it still provided that needed medium for old friends to reunite friendships and remember old wounds and good and bad times.

Plans are underway to make contact with other MPAs in NSW, Vic, SA and WA to attempt to form a committee to organize the final reunion/memorial dedication to be held in Canberra on 2-4 Oct 1992.

By the time this issue of the "Pointsman" comes out, we will have had our first AGM which will be followed by a semi-formal sit down dinner and guest speaker, Senator David MacGibbon, Opposition Defence Spokesman, is to address the meeting and show slides taken when he visited Kuwait at the end of the hostilities.

**I. KOTSOPOULOS**  
*(Secretary)*

## NEW OFFICERS IN THE CORPS



**LT B. JONES**

LT Brooke Jones joined the Army in Jan 90 after being selected for entry into RMC. She served in Kapyong Coy and graduated in Jun 91. She is single and her hobbies include netball and hockey. LT Jones is currently posted to 2 MP Coy supernumerary and is posted to the MP School as AO in Dec 91.



**LT C.R. KINGSTON**

LT Craig Kingston joined the Army in 1985 as a vehicle mechanic. After completing his apprenticeship in 1989 he was selected for entry into RMC in Jan 90, and was CSM of Kokoda Coy before graduating in Jun 91. He is married and his interests include Australian rules, touch football and history. He is currently posted supernumerary at 9MP Coy awaiting absorption



**LT S. LEWIS**

LT Steven Lewis joined the Army in 1987 as a recruit, and at the completion of his training was allocated to the Infantry serving in B Coy 5/7 RAR. In Jan 90 he was selected for entry into RMC, graduating in June 1991. He is single and his interests include fishing, cricket, and getting a tan. LT Lewis is currently undergoing regimental training at NORFORCE

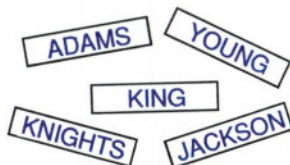


**LT J. LEADER**

LT Jay Leader prior to enlistment in the ARA was an active member of the ARes and employed in an electrical and mechanical engineering firm. She was selected for entry into RMC in Jan 90, graduating in June 1991. LT Leader is single and her interests include netball, competition ice-skating and squash. She is currently posted supernumerary to 3 MP Coy awaiting absorption

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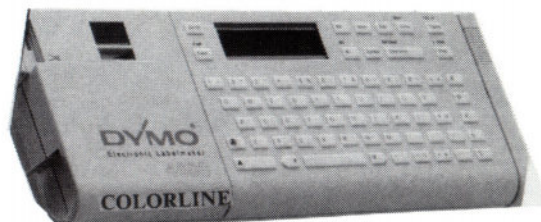
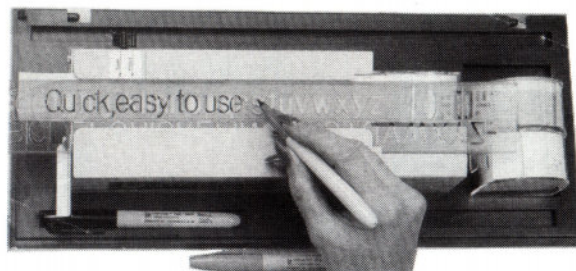


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