



POINTSMAN

The Official Publication of the Royal Australian Corps of Military Police



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MILITARY POLICE
BATTALION ... Pg 1**



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LTCOL T.A. Grutzner

It is with great pleasure and pride that I write as the first Commanding Officer of the 1st Military Police Battalion. The Battalion Headquarters have been established to coordinate the establishment of the unit by the end of 2000. The HQ is temporarily located at Randwick Barracks and will move into permanent accommodation at Victoria Barracks in early December. At this stage, that accommodation will be in Building 58. (Refer to story on page 63)

I take this opportunity to congratulate LTCOL Brian Cox, who was promoted in August and assumed command of AMPTC. It is great to have two LTCOL serving in Corps appointments now, and this bodes very well for the future. Brian has served at AMPTC previously and comes to the home of the Corps from the Army Recruit Training Centre (ARTC), where he was the COFS. He has a solid background in the Army Training System, which will serve the Corps well. Congratulations also to WO1 Bruce Napper on his promotion and appointment as the RSM AMPTC and Corps RSM.

I want to thank everyone for their hard work this year, particularly in providing returns on financial expenditure, equipment holdings and facilities to enable planning for the Battalion to continue. This has been very important in getting the Chief of Army Directive on the Battalion issued.

The challenge ahead for all of us is a significant one. Raising a new unit is not an easy task, particularly when all MP units will be required to maintain their high operational tempo during the transition. The New Year provides us the opportunity to present a professional, motivated and essential police service to the Army.

The most important word I have found over the past 12 months is 'credibility'. I believe the credibility of the RACMP is high, but it is not something that comes from the top down. It comes from the bottom up, from the work of every member of the Corps. Our credibility has been strengthened by the work of Corps members on operations, exercises, ceremonial tasks and the conduct of our police work, both routine garrison support and the high profile, often complex investigations members of the Corps have been involved in lately.

I congratulate all those personnel who served on operational service in East Timor, Bougainville and Kosovo over the past year. Equally, I congratulate those whose service has been recognised by a service award. Major Mick Pemberton on the award of his CSM, Major Sean O'Connell and Lieutenant Kurt Black-Sinclair for their commendations from INTERFET, the RACMP members of the Investigations Section, Force Military Police Company INTERFET on the award of the Commander INTERFET Commendation for their outstanding work in East Timor and those personnel presented with PM-A Certificates of Merit.

A special mention must be made of Sgt Glen Ingrams heroic deed of rescuing a wildlife park attendant from the jaws of a 4.5 m, 750kg crocodile. (see story page 4) Congratulations Glen on a job well done and receiving a 'bravery medal' from the Governor General of Australia.

The RACMP Reunion, held at Lamia Barracks on ANZAC Day this year, was a terrific occasion and a huge success. Having so many past members of the Corps sharing ANZAC Day with a large number of serving members, including our latest veterans from East Timor, was very special. I extend my thanks to all those who organised the reunion, particularly John Watson and Barry King. I sincerely hope this is the start of a closer bond between the MP Associations and the current serving members.

I thank Captain Max Britton for his work as the Editor of the POINTSMAN this year, continuing on the excellent work by Captain Narelle Powers last year. Max also coordinated the competition to design a motto for 1 MP Bn.

After reviewing the entries, around 12 potential mottos were selected for the final panel. I took advice from senior personnel of the Corps in looking for a motto that would be a suitable representation of what we strive to be and how we want the Army to see us.

After much consideration I am pleased to announce that the motto for 1 MP Bn is to be **'I Stand in Front and I Stand Fast'**. This translates into Latin as **'Praesto et Persto'**.

Congratulations to CPL Tim Stroud of Bandiana for this inspired entry and thanks to all those who contributed serious, and the not so serious entries.

I wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and New Year period. Enjoy a well-deserved break and I look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year as we formally launch the 1st Military Police Battalion.

Finally, we should always remember both our own Corps members who remain overseas this Christmas in East Timor, Malaysia, The Middle East and Vanuatu, and all members of the ADF who will spend the holiday period deployed away from home. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers.



Lieutenant Colonel Tim Grutzner Commanding Officer 1st Military Police Battalion/Provost Marshal-Army

Lieutenant Colonel Tim Grutzner enlisted into the Australian Regular Army in July 1980 and was commissioned into the Royal Australian Artillery on graduation from the Officer Cadet School (Portsea) in July 1981. He transferred to the Royal Australian Corps of Military Police (RACMP) after two years service in the 4th Field Regiment in Townsville.

Lieutenant Colonel Grutzner's staff appointments include HQ 6 Bde as the Staff Officer Grade Three (SO3) Personnel and the Deployable Joint Force Headquarters (DJFHQ) as a logistics Planner and Operational Liaison Officer.

Lieutenant Colonel Grutzner's MP appointments include 1 MP Company (Platoon Commander 16 MP Platoon and 13 MP Platoon and OC), 2 MP Company (Platoon Commander 21 MP Platoon) and 3 MP Company (Platoon Commander 31 and 34 MP Platoons). In addition, Lieutenant Colonel Grutzner served as the Operations Officer 115 Provost Company, Royal Military Police in Germany for two years in 1989/90. Lieutenant Colonel Grutzner assumed the appointment of Commandant AMPTC/Provost Marshal - Army in December 1999. In August 2000, LTCOL Grutzner was posted as the first Commanding Officer of the 1st Military Police Battalion/Provost Marshall-Army and given the task of raising the unit.

Lieutenant Colonel Grutzner served as the Executive Officer of Headquarters Joint Task Force (JTF) 105 on the drought relief operation OP PLES DRAI in Papua New Guinea in 1997, as the Senior Logistics Officer on the Headquarters of the multinational Peace Monitoring Group, Bougainville in 1999 and as the Military Assistant to the Deputy Commander, Coalition Manager and Combined Provost Marshal on Headquarters INTERFET in East Timor in 1999.

Lieutenant Colonel Grutzner is a graduate of the Command and Staff College Queenscliff in 1994 and has been awarded a Diploma of Resource and Personnel Management, Advanced Certificate in Investigation Management, Bachelor of Professional Studies, Graduate Diploma in Management and Masters in Public Policy and Administration.

Lieutenant Colonel Grutzner is married to Marian and they have a daughter, Samantha, and a son, Jake.

Lieutenant Colonel Grutzner was awarded a Deputy Chief of the General Staff Commendation in 1984 for his actions at a military traffic accident and a Commander Australian Theatre Commendation for his work during the drought relief operation OP PLES DRAI in Papua New Guinea in 1997

The commendation read ...



"I commend you on your professionalism as the Headquarters Australian Theatre Liaison Officer in 1997, then as the Staff Officer Grade Two Joint One/Four, and as Executive Officer/Staff Officer Grade Two Joint Operations during drought relief activities as part of Operation PLES DRAI in Papua New Guinea.

Working alone, your efforts ensured that the operation was implemented quickly and effectively. In particular, you established a strong rapport with other organisations that were involved in the operation and you earned high regard from the many personnel that benefited from your advice and assistance.

Your professionalism, dedication and commitment have brought great credit on yourself, the Australian Army and the Australian Defence Force."

Signed by: Air Vice Marshall R.B. Treloar, AO,
Commander Australian Theatre
dated 18 July 2000



Message from WO1 H. Rappard, RSM 1 MP Bn

Well how quick time flies when you are having fun. It only seems yesterday when I put a few words together for the last Pointsman. So much has happened over the last nine months that will change the Corps for many years to come. Obviously the raising of the 1st Military Police Battalion (1 MP Bn), and the deployment to East Timor being the most significant ones. Both these occurrences will change the way we do business in the future.

At the end of 1999 we saw the Comdt AMPTC/PM-A LTCOL Fidler move to Perth on discharge and the new COMDT AMPTC/PM-A LTCOL Grutzner take over the helm. No sooner was he entrenched into his office when the project team for the raising of the Bn was formed and in Aug he moved to LC-A as the CO of 1 MP Bn. We then welcomed the new COMDT AMPTC, LTCOL Cox who joined us from ARTC.

On 7 Sep 00 I vacated my seat as the RSM AMPTC / Corps SM and was posted as the RSM 1 MP Bn. On the same date we welcomed the new RSM AMPTC / Corps SM WO1 B. Napper. On behalf of all members of the Corps I congratulate him on his appointment.

The issue of the Corps receiving a Governor General's Banner is still being pursued. I am quietly confident that we will receive it but only time will tell.

To say that I am excited about the changes to the Corps in the near future would be an understatement. The challenges ahead for all of us will be very demanding. We will all need to pull together to ensure that this new structure works effectively right from the start. This is not going to be a number of individual efforts; this will be the first time we will be able to work as a team to a common goal.

To those members who are being posted at the end of the year, I wish you all the best in your new jobs. To those being promoted I congratulate you. I would also like to welcome back those members who have been non-corps for a period of time.

All the best for the festive season and our thoughts will be with those members overseas away from their families. Drive carefully and have a very merry and happy festive season. ■

Results of the Become a Living Legend 1st Military Police Battalion Motto Competition

OK. You can all stop holding your breath, and the winner is ...

Provost Marshal -Army was seen hunched over huge piles of paper with an anguished pained look on his face. And that was just from the serious contenders. Finally it came down to a list of about a dozen hopefuls, with CPL Tim Stroud from Bandiana taking out the premier prize. (It's in the mail Tim) And the motto is:

**PRAESTO ET PERSTO.
I STAND IN FRONT AND I STAND FAST.**

A fitting motto for a new battalion. Look for it on all Battalion signs, plaques, memorabilia etc.

Thank you to all those who submitted entries. For those who think they were hard done by, here's a sample of the not so serious attempts to take your mind off your losses. (We think they weren't serious, but then again)

- Waddy a wanna be? A walla walla bee!
(Well the trophy cabinet is full as we go to press)
- Discipline through Niceness (Description of the Editor no doubt)
- Caveat Emptor (Let the buyer beware)
- Noli illigitami Carborundum
(Something about not letting them grind you down)
- Do it with me baby. Aha aha. (Stolen from a song we think)
- All animals are equal but some animals are more equal than others
(We think there's some sort of hidden psychological meaning here)



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- New Reporting Procedures for Criminal Offences
- Letters to the Editor



Capt. Max Britton

It's amazing how things happen. Early this year CAPT Narelle Powers walked into my office and I remember being very happy about her picking up a posting to East Timor. I'm not sure I was so happy when I received the e-mail that told me I was now responsible for putting the Pointsman 'together'. But having been thrown in the deep end it soon became apparent that the ordeal was not going to be as painful

as I thought. Thanks to the groundwork laid by Narelle and the help from our new publishers it's been a true pleasure and an eye opener.

As many of you may be aware RACMP has had various publishers over the years, some good, some well ... we won't go there. Well it seems those days are behind us, as you read this you will have already seen the quality of the product for yourselves.

Mr David Barrett, Managing Director of Spacelink Holdings Pty Ltd, very early this year picked up a telephone in his Surfers Paradise office and called 'someone suitable in the Military Police.' As luck would have it he got put through to Narelle who just happened to be the person who had carried the can for the previous 18 months or so. A brief face to face later between David and Narelle and the corps had found itself a publisher. Simple as that. I did find out from David himself later that the phone call had not been as off the cuff as first appeared to us. David had been reminiscing about how his father had published a Military Police journal sometime in the sixties and he himself began wondering about the current state of affairs. So thank you David for the intelligent insight and obvious good taste in material (Military Police of course).

At any rate the Pointsman has materialised into a somewhat different form to what we have seen in the past and the future is looking much rosier than it was.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my personal thanks to Mr Barry Ransom, Editor in Chief, Spacelink Holdings, for his unending support and tolerance in dealing with someone with no knowledge of the publishing industry. Countless telephone and e-mail messages later we can say 'we actually got there'.

We will be introducing a Letters to the Editor page in the Winter 2001 edition, so send them in. All letters will be responded to.

We welcome any suggestions about the content of the magazine from you the people who know. Tell us what you want to see here. It's our goal to continuously improve the magazine so that it becomes the premier corps magazine of the ADF.

Finally I would like to extend an invitation to all current and ex corps members to contribute wholeheartedly to the Pointsman; it is after all, your magazine.



We welcome readers to the first edition of Pointsman published by Spacelink Holdings Pty Ltd for the Royal Australian Corp of Military Police. Together with Capt. Max Britton of the RACMP, we have strived to put together a publication to be enjoyed by all.

We will be back in June 2001 with our next edition. Until then, remember the new motto:

Praesto et Persto

Barry J. Ransom

Barry Ransom
Editor-In-Chief

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SPR (Snowy) Snowdon of 1 JSU, Enoggera, Queensland provided the action shot on the front cover. The pictures on pages 34 & 35 also came from Snowy's camera. Thanks for the great shots. We will be looking for an action pic for the cover of June 2001 edition so start those cameras clicking!

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Note: The deadline for the Winter 2001 Edition is 13 Apr 2001



Promotions 2000

CPL	DR	Able	1	MP	Bn
CPL	RC	Moverley	1	MP	Bn
CPL	SAJ	Scott-midson	1	MP	Bn
CPL	RJ	Cannan		DCSC	SQDL
CPL	JP	Barrett	1	MP	Bn
CPL	MD	Ikin	1	MP	Bn
CPL	CA	Rowland	1	MP	Bn
LCPL	SJ	Walsh	1	MP	Bn
LCPL	CJ	Keys	1	MP	Bn
LCPL	A	Stey	1	MP	Bn
LCPL	CS	Lyndon	1	MP	Bn
LCPL	GJ	Westling	1	MP	Bn
LCPL	AJ	Barnett	1	MP	Bn
LCPL	SC	Boden	4	MP	COY
LCPL	DM	Doherty	1	MP	Bn
LCPL	KS	Voitala	1	MP	Bn
LCPL	P	Machalek	1	MP	Bn
LCPL	SA	Bowes	1	MP	Bn
LCPL	SA	Wood	1	MP	Bn
LCPL	PM	Saintsbury	1	MP	Bn
LCPL	TD	McNamara	1	MP	Bn
LCPL	TJ	Baird	1	MP	Bn
SGT	A	Shields	1	MP	Bn
SGT	MF	Pimm	1	MP	Bn
SGT	BM	Skerritt		AMPTC	
SGT	BJ	Grant	1	MP	Bn
SGT	AW	Ratcliffe	1	MP	Bn
SGT	TG	Brodin	1	MP	Bn
SGT	J	Shields	1	MP	Bn
SGT	GJ	Williams		AMPTC	
SGT	AP	Johnston	1	MP	Bn
SGT	ACI	Chisholm	1	MP	Bn
SGT	DB	O'Brien	1	MP	Bn
SGT	DL	Greenwood	1	MP	Bn
SGT	SLC	Wicks	1	MP	Bn
SSGT	A	Harper	1	MP	Bn
SSGT	JE	Bell	1	MP	Bn
SSGT	M	Barany	1	MP	Bn
SSGT	WH	Shepherd		LHQ	
WO1	BE	Napper		AMPTC	
WO2	LE	Parker	1	MP	Bn
WO2	WJ	Huggins	1	MP	Bn
WO2	G	Kubea	1	MP	Bn
WO2	KJ	Bullman	1	MP	Bn
WO2	TD	Warke	1	MP	Bn
WO2	N	Southam	1	MP	Bn

MP Fights Off Croc ...

Congratulations are in order for Sergeant Glen Ingram a Military Policeman based at Puckapunyal in Victoria. Even though it's now over 12 months since Glen received his "Bravery Medal Award" in recognition of an act of bravery in hazardous circumstances, this is the first opportunity the RACMP has had to acknowledge his act of bravery publicly.

It is now three years since Glen and his family visited Queensland and in particular the Wildlife Park. Glen was taking a photo of 21 year old Carla Bredl a park attendant, feeding a 750 kilogram crocodile when it lunged at her and took hold with its jaws.

Realising what was happening to the attendant Glen dropped his camera and backpack, jumped the safety fence and went to the attendants aid. Two others came to Glen's assistance, one being Carla's father who owned the park and together they started beating the crocodile trying to get it to open its jaws. As the 4.5 metre "croc" started sliding backwards into the water, Sergeant Ingram took hold of the girl, who by this time was shoulder deep in the water, and dragged her from the crocodile's jaws to the safety of the edge of the enclosure.

The danger still wasn't over as Glen and the other rescuers had to keep fending off the other crocodiles in the enclosure until the ambulance arrived.

For those of you who know Glen as a quiet person who normally keeps to himself, will be aware of the embarrassment he has felt with all the publicity that surrounded the event.

We do know however, that Carla and her family will never forget that MP from Puckapunyal who was holidaying in Queensland at the right time.

With his "Bravery Medal" Glen received a commendation from the Governor General of Australia in which the citation read:

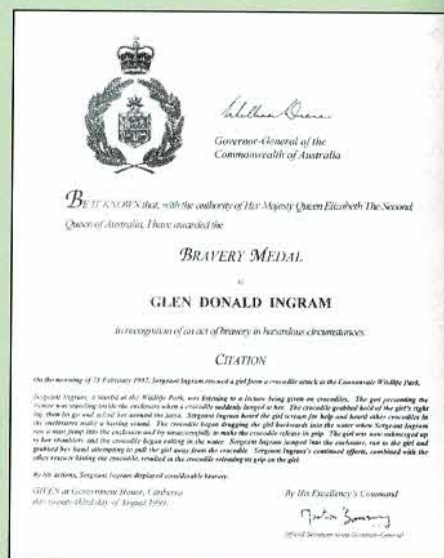
"On the morning of February 21st 1997, Sergeant Ingram rescued a girl from a crocodile attack at the Cannovale Wildlife Park.

Sergeant Ingram, a tourist at the Wildlife Park, was listening to a lecture being given on crocodiles. The girl presenting the lecture was standing inside the enclosure when a crocodile suddenly lunged at her. The crocodile grabbed hold of the girl's right leg, then let go and seized her around the torso. Sergeant Ingram heard the girl scream for help and heard other crocodiles in the enclosures make a hissing sound. The crocodile began dragging the girl backward into the water when Sergeant Ingram saw a man jump into the enclosure and try unsuccessfully to make the crocodile release its grip. The girl was now submerged up to her shoulders and the crocodile began rolling in the water. Sergeant Ingram jumped into the enclosure, ran to the girl and grabbed her hand attempting to pull the girl away from the crocodile. Sergeant Ingram's continued efforts, combined with the other rescuer hitting the crocodile, resulted in the crocodile releasing its grip on the girl.

By his actions, Sergeant Ingram displayed considerable bravery."

Glen also received a congratulatory letter from Jeff Kennett, Premier of Victoria. Included in his comments Premier Kennett stated, "Your brave actions will be widely applauded by your family, friends and the general community.

Glen, from the members of the RACMP, congratulations for a job well done. ■





A Message from the Colonel Commandant

In the four years it has been my honour and privilege to be Colonel Commandant of the RACMP, I have closely followed the various activities of the Corps. In all instances, the professionalism and enthusiasm displayed have been most impressive.

Two recent activities stand out: the deployment to East Timor and the formation of the MP Battalion.

The MPs were a scarce but vital part of INTERFET, and established an enviable reputation for the Corps. The Army and its commanders now appreciate the value of MPs and have a clearer idea of the wide variety of duties and responsibilities that can be so capably undertaken. All formations in INTERFET would have welcomed more MPs. Our MPs in UNTAET are continuing this fine work.

The establishment of 1 MP Bn, although not great in terms of extra people, is a significant step in giving MPs a higher profile in the Army and will in the not-too-long term, see MPs being employed more efficiently to the benefit of morale all round.

My association with the Corps continues to be a happy and proud function for me. May it continue to be a rewarding and interesting career for all members.

For my first contribution to Pointsman my subject is one which is often misunderstood - both within and without the Corps - DISCIPLINE.

Military Police are often associated with the word 'discipline' and often this word has the unpleasant narrow connotation of punishment. It is unfortunate that in so many minds that this is the case. It should not be.

It frequently happens that the root meaning of a word more clearly explains the whole context of ideas with which it is legitimately associated; rather than the usual or often mistaken or loose use of the same word. Coming from the Latin, 'to discipline' is to teach, and as far as we are concerned, little needs to be added to that defini-

tion, other than to note that teaching is also training.

We have all been taught many disciplines which make life safer, simpler or more pleasant eg: how to read and write, the rules of the road, basic hygiene.

Such disciplines are common to both service and civilian life. But as members of the Defence Force we are also subject to a further discrete and essential discipline; military discipline.

A paragraph of the now superseded AMR&O (paragraph 304) stated:

'Without discipline, all military bodies become worse than useless; but discipline maintained by fear alone is a poor sort of discipline which would not stand any severe strain. What must be carried out is that high standard of discipline which springs from a military system administered with impartiality and justice, so as to induce in all ranks a feeling of duty and the assurance that, while no offence will be passed over, no offender will be unjustly dealt with.'

Re-read the above paragraph and insert 'training' for 'discipline' and you will get a different, and perhaps clearer, understanding of the word discipline.

Within our system, that discipline is nearest perfect which assures to the individual the freedom of thought and action whilst at all times promoting his feelings of responsibility towards the group.

It is the job of the military to train for war and to be ready, willing and able to go to war if required. War is a bloody business - people get killed and our aim as soldiers is twofold: to overcome the enemy and to save ourselves.

Military discipline (training) is also vital for the civilian community. What nation would tolerate an expensive defence force that might or might not go to war; that might or might not advance towards the enemy; that might or might not stand firm against the enemy's onslaught?

The establishment and maintenance of service discipline is also important in a very personal way. Consider the soldier who knew his comrades might sleep on sentry duty, or often had malfunctioning weapons; the sailor who knew the coxswain might be drunk and slow in responding to the wheel; or the pilot who had a sloppy mechanic in his ground crew. Discipline, group discipline, becomes very personal in the services because your life, and others, depends on it, both in and out of active service.

This is where we get back to the root of the word - to teach. Discipline is not blind, unreasonable obedience. Under military law a soldier may disobey an unlawful command with impunity but this is done at his peril and he had better be certain that it is unlawful. Good training (ie, discipline) will allow him to make the proper distinction.

The RACMP is a corps of officers; non-commissioned, warrant and commissioned officers, but all officers nonetheless. All officers of whatever corps have responsibilities for training and discipline, mostly within their own corps and units. We however have a much broader responsibility - to the whole Army.

Most of the minor offences with which MPs are confronted with are a result of the lack of proper training. This is often due to the member's lack of service and experience. In such cases an experienced MP will often use his discretion and become a 'training officer'. Such discretion would however, be rarely, if ever, used for more serious offences, such as theft, fraud or assault.

So, when the word discipline is used, see it against this background. Trained, ie, well disciplined, soldiers are produced through the training system and by their units and formations. It is a major function of the RACMP to ensure that soldiers maintain this discipline at all times. This may be why the 'powers that be' placed RACMP under Training Command.

Many more pages could be written on other aspects of the word discipline, but the above will suffice for now.

There is a temptation for me to finish off this by saying 'good luck'. However, recall the story of the soldier who came out of a successful operation unscathed, to be told that he was lucky. His reply was, 'Funny thing about that; the more I train, the luckier I get'.

For the troops and with the troops.

Editor's Note:

Honorary Colonels and Colonels Commandant are synonymous and are appointed to assist in an honorary capacity, Corps and Regiments in the Army. They are appointed for a set period by the CA, and are normally drawn from retired senior officers. Their main functions are to foster esprit de corps, the general welfare of the Corps and its standing in the community.

They may assist in recruiting, ceremonial matters and the facilitation of liaison between the Corps and other kindred organisations.

J. FLETCHER

Colonel
Colonel Commandant
RACMP





Public Interest Immunity

MAJ H.C. BELL

A powerful tool for Protecting Information Gathered by Military Police

Military Police, by virtue of their daily business, frequently gain information and documents requiring special care and protection from disclosure. Very effective protection of such material can be gained using the legal doctrine of public interest immunity. The rules which operate in this area of the Law can be employed to resist the disclosure of sensitive information sought by way of subpoena, freedom of information applications, letters from lawyers acting for accused persons and even questions asked of MP appearing as witnesses before service tribunals.

Scope of the Doctrine

Public Interest Immunity (PII) is a term which applies to a body of legal rules governing the flow of information, the disclosure of which may not be in the public interest. The public, or community, is seen as having an interest in the effectiveness of its justice system. For this reason the legal system allows both military and civilian police investigators, as well as other security professionals, to claim public interest immunity in order to protect information which depends for its effectiveness, on secrecy and confidentiality.

Information caught by PII normally falls within one or more of the following categories:

1. Information which would tend to disclose that a person is an informant (registered or otherwise).
2. Details of the nature or extent of assistance given to MP by a person (who may or may not be known as an informant).
3. Information which might disclose details relating to on-going or incomplete investigations in progress by MP investigators.

4. Details of investigative methodology employed by MP investigators in the course of detecting crime.

5. Any other information which depends, for its effectiveness, on secrecy and confidentiality. This can include intelligence reports, surveillance logs, certain entries in duty books, diaries, DOB, witness statements and other records, reports and correspondence generated in the course of investigative work.

The doctrine of PII can be invoked at any stage of the criminal justice process. Unlike most rules of evidence, which apply in the course of trials, PII does not only arise in the course of the conduct of the trial itself. Although it is a matter for the court or tribunal to rule on whether the doctrine applies in a given situation, the applicability of PII can be asserted whenever an attempt is made to access secret or investigative documentation or information. Thus, letters or other approaches from defending officers or lawyers acting for suspects or accused persons may be responded to by simply asserting that you claim PII. So too may the assertion be made when you are

approached seeking to view your notes or investigative records. Again, subpoenas, applications under Freedom of Information legislation and calls made by lawyers on investigators who are giving evidence in Court can be successfully challenged by asserting the doctrine. The key thing is to assert the doctrine whenever you think it applies - or may apply - to any matter in which you are involved.

Legal Sources of the Rules

The doctrine of PII is found in both the common law and statute. The case law on the subject still applies extensively to situations in which attempts are being made, by accused persons or their lawyers to access information before a case has commenced in court. Defending Officers will often seek, formally or otherwise, a large amount of material at the pre-trial stage, in order to prepare the defence case. In many situations, they are entitled to such material and will be supplied it as a matter of course in accordance with the existing pre-trial disclosure requirements, eg as part of the brief of evidence. On other occasions, the defence will be seeking

material to which there is no entitlement and will be protected by well-established case law.

The Uniform Evidence Law, established in 1995 with the enactment of the Commonwealth Evidence Act, 1995, provides statutory protection of information or documentation sought to be tendered into evidence at trial. Section 130 of the Act gives courts and tribunals discretion to direct that such material not be adduced as evidence. The court or tribunal may do this if it is of the view that the material relates to a matter of State and the public interest in admitting the material into evidence is not outweighed by the public interest in preserving secrecy or confidentiality (s.130(1)). The Act specifically includes as a 'matter of state' information or documentation which would, if it was adduced as evidence, 'disclose or enable a person to ascertain, the existence or identity of a confidential source of information relating to the enforcement or administration of a law of the Commonwealth or a State' (s. 130(4)(e)).

Although the protection afforded by the Act is narrower than the relevant common law, the two sources operating together now provide much better and



more authoritative recognition of the doctrine of PII.

Practical Approach

Whenever you are asked by lawyers, defending officers or others to produce documentation or disclose information which you think may attract PII, you should adopt the following general approach:

1. Consider whether the documentation or information which they want is likely to:
 - disclose the identity of an informant
 - reveal the nature and/or extent of assistance provided by an informant
 - reveal details of investigative methodology, such as the use of listening devices, undercover operatives and the like
 - disclose the fact, status or details of other investigations

which are on-going or incomplete

- otherwise likely to result in the disclosure of information which depends, for its operational effectiveness to RACMP and the Army, on secrecy or confidentiality.
2. Assert to them that you believe the information/documentation they are seeking is caught by public interest immunity and that you are therefore not prepared to release it.
 3. If they insist, stick to your guns on the issue and seek legal advice.
 4. If you are before a Service Tribunal or other Court, indicate to the President, Judge Advocate, Defence Force Magistrate or other judicial officer as appropriate, that you wish not to produce the documentation or dis-

close the information as you believe that the subject matter may attract public interest immunity. Ask for your evidence to be adjourned to enable you to obtain legal advice.

5. If the Tribunal or Court insists that you produce the documentation or disclose the information, ask again if the proceedings might be adjourned whilst you seek legal advice.

6. As soon as possible, seek legal advice as necessary.

Conclusion

PII may arise in many ways in the course of MP investigations and duties. It can operate to protect operationally sensitive information from disclosure as well as maintaining secrecy of material that could expose informants and others to risk. The types of docu-

ments and information to which PII might apply are numerous. All MP should be conscious of the principles of PII, the need for careful assessment of material coming into their possession or knowledge and the approach that should be adopted in asserting the doctrine when necessary.

PII should be thought of as a very useful tool for preserving the efficacy, integrity and value of MP operations, enquiries and investigations. ■

MAJ Bell is the current OC 2 MP Coy. He is also Senior Solicitor, New South Wales Police Service, Lawyer in Charge and Manager, Litigation Unit, Criminal Procedure Lecturer, New South Wales Police Academy, Lecturer in Law and Criminology University of Sydney, Lecturer in Management and Organisational Science, TAFE NSW. He is currently completing his Ph.D in criminal trial case management at the University of Sydney

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PM1015



A step back in time

Barry J Ransom

The British Commonwealth Occupation Forces were in Japan from 1945 until 1953. The Australian troops were the only ones who served for the full period.



When we first started negotiating with Capt. Narelle Powers to publish "Pointsman" on behalf of the Royal Australian Corp of Military Police, little did I know that I would be stretching my memory back to the late 1940's when, with my family, I travelled to Japan as a Dependant of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force.

My father who did his stint in the Middle East and then the Pacific, came back to Australia late 1945 spent 6 months at home then informed my mother he was off to Japan as a member of Lieutenant General John Northcott's staff. Two years later our family was on the "Westralia" heading for Kure, then on to Ebisu Camp in Tokyo. So what, some of you may be saying. But that's all you are going to hear about me. It's just that my time as an "Army Brat" has qualified me to provide some background on the history of BCOF to go with these great pictures on the next few pages. Some come from Capt. Max Britton's collection and others from a "BCOF Pictorial" compiled by an ex-serviceman and member of BCOF, Keith Howes. I hope you find them interesting.

BCOF days are a long way off going back to August 17, 1945 when the Prime Minister of Australia Mr Ben Chifley announced that a composite Australian Force would take part in the occupation of Japan. Mr Chifley decided, in conjunction with the "War Cabinet", that three Australian Services would operate in Japan under an Australian Commander, subject to the control of the Supreme allied Commander General Douglas MacArthur of the United States Army. The Australian Army Forces were known as the 34th Brigade Group, the RAAF component consisted of three Mustang Fighter Squadrons and the Navy contingent were the Royal Australian Naval Units that were already serving in



Lieutenant-General John Northcott
Deputy Chief of the General Staff, 1940. Chief of the General Staff, 1942 - 1945. Commander-in-Chief, British Commonwealth Occupation Force, Japan, September 1945 - June 1946. Governor of New South Wales, 1946 - 1957.
General Sir John Northcott CB, KCMG, KCVO. Born 1890, died 1966.



General Douglas MacArthur
Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers (SCAP) in Japan from August 1945 to April 1951. He was responsible for both the military and civilian aspects of the occupation of Japan. Born 26th January 1880, died 5th April 1964.

time



a step back in time ...

Right: Cpl. Harold Andrew (left) with CPL. V. Walsh - 34th Brigade MP, Hiro.

Below: Major A. W. Johnson - Assistant Provost Marshal BCOF HQ, Kure.

Discipline commenced in Japan in March 1946 when Military Police were organised to keep control of Australian troops.



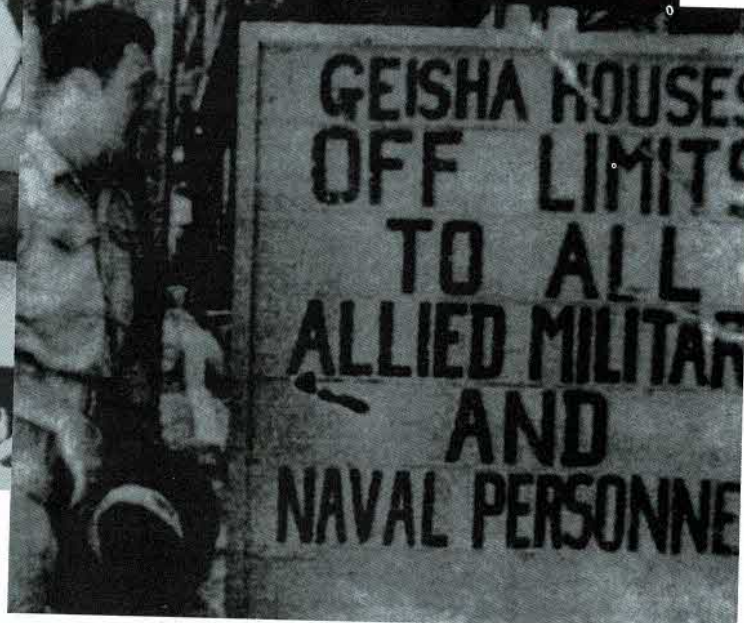
AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES		LEAVE PASS B 9386557	
NAME	DATE	TO	FROM
90104 Pte J. J. J.	1800	2359	
Tokyo	66	91	91
SIGNED		DATE	
M. J. J.		9.1.1947	

Above: A standard Leave Pass issued to the Australian Troops.

Below: Australian and British MP's happily waiting for the uninvited guests from units in the area who turn up at the 'out of bounds' Miyajima Beer Hall.



Right: Will I take the chance? An Aussie soldier weighing up the odds of disobeying the sign



time



a step back in time ...

Japanese children awed by an Australian MP searching for lunch (below top)

Locals subject to search on leaving allied premises (below bottom)



Working together - British and Australian MP's with members of the Japanese police (right)



Japanese waters with the British Pacific Fleet.

The British Commonwealth Occupation Forces were made up of troops from four Commonwealth Countries - Australia, Britain, New Zealand and India. Each group provided an infantry brigade group and air and naval component.

Lieutenant General John Northcott CB, was appointed Commander-in-Chief of BCOF in September 1945. He held that position until June 15, 1946 when he returned to Australia taking up the position of Governor of New South Wales. He was succeeded as Commander-in-Chief of BCOF by Lieutenant-General H.C.H. Robertson. BCOF troops were spread over hundreds of miles on the three main islands of Japan, Honshu, Shikoku and Kyusu. This made it extremely difficult to police so the MP of the combined nations had their jobs cut out keeping order, especially when the American Troops were allowed to mix with the locals and Lt.Gen. Northcott issued a non-fraternization order to BCOF members.

Discipline commenced in March 1946 when Military Police were organised and leave passes had to be obtained before leaving their barracks. Signs were placed in many areas advising BCOF troops of areas which were out of bounds. These included Geisha Houses, Dance Halls and Japanese Beer Halls.

Because of the diversity of the members of BCOF, MP patrols often consisted of members of the four main nations who made up the force. The man who had the responsibility to marshal many of the MP movements was Major A.W. Johnston, Assistant Provost Marshall, BCOF HQ. Kure. The bulk of Australian personnel were based in the south at Etajima, Hiro, Kure and the air base at Iwakuni, so the MP HQ was situated at



Kure which had the largest contingent of Australian troops.

Tokyo also had its share of Australian troops, based at Ebisu camp about 6 miles outside of Tokyo. These troops were situated in Tokyo to carry out guard duties at the Imperial Palace. It was a sight worth seeing when the Australians were handing over to troops of the other nations. The "Changing of Guard" showed how 'slick' the Aussies were. They put all the other nations including General MacArthur's Honour Guard to shame.

Being an MP during BCOF days was not an easy one. Not only were they responsible for keeping control of the troops, they also had the job of keeping a very active "Blackmarket" to a minimum, as well as controlling pilfering by the locals working in Australian controlled premises.

The Australians were the only Commonwealth troops who served in Japan for the whole of the occupation period which extended from 1945 until 1953. From the original four nations who made up the force, the Indians gained their independence in 1947 and returned home. Around 12 months later the British troops started leaving, followed by the New Zealanders.

The occupation then became a wholly Australian occupation until the outbreak of the Korean War when the British and New Zealand troops returned, followed by the Canadians. Japan then became a stepping-off point and R and R destination for troops serving in Korea. ■



New Zealand, Indian, British and Australian MP's on patrol (top)

Pommie MP waits in the jeep while the Aussie does the work (middle)

Back street foot patrol (bottom)

85th Anniversary of the Landing at Gallipoli by the ANZACS

Former Sgt. Matt Walsh 2 Div Pro Coy.
Publicity Officer Military Police Association

On the 25th April 2000, I had the honour and privilege to attend the 85th Anniversary of the landing of the ANZACS at Gallipoli, and the dedication of the new site for the Dawn Service at North Beach just a short distance from Anzac Cove.

The emotion that one felt at this time is very difficult to describe, particularly as I was standing within 15 feet of the waters edge, and in the dark I could hear the lapping of the water on the beach, just as the ANZACS did 85 years ago. A very sombre feeling.

Whilst standing there, I had many feelings, humility, pride, honour, and anger, but most of all a firm conviction that our ANZAC Traditions must never be allowed to fade away.

At the conclusion of the official Service, I had the privilege and honour to lay a wreath on behalf of the Corps.

As I said it is difficult to describe feelings on the day, but to illustrate this a little story. There is a young chap who attends the Dawn Service every year in the uniform of the 1st AIF. He was walking up from the waters edge just prior to the commencement of the Service and nodded to a Major, who did not acknowledge

Matt Walsh at the Wreath Laying Dawn Service (right)

LTCOL John Fielding & Matt Walsh laying a wreath for M.P. Association (below right)



his presence. After the service the Major approached the young lad and apologised. He said "I thought I was seeing a ghost". I think that this goes a long way to explaining the feelings that one has at Gallipoli.

After the Service a number of us including Lt Col John Fielding former OC 2 MP Coy and Cpl Jason Fielding of 2 MP Company walked from Anzac Cove up the track to Lone Pine and the Australian Service. This walk certainly gave us a better understanding of what our boys faced, and we were not carrying a pack and being shot at by Johnnie Turk.

At Lone Pine, John Fielding and myself laid a wreath on behalf of the Military Police Association.

The following day we undertook a tour of the various battle field sites, Chunuk Bair, Quinns, The Nek and Lone Pine just to name a few. It was during these visits that one obtains a better understanding

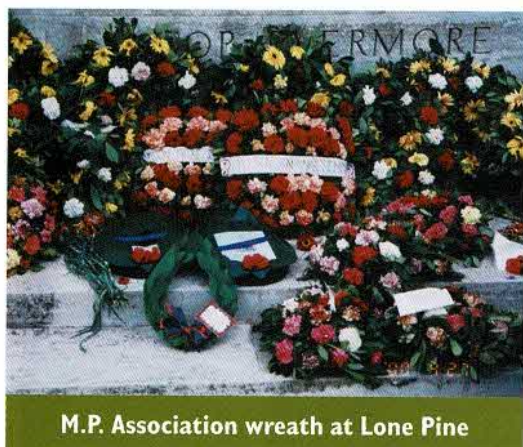


standing of just what our troops were up against and the carnage which occurred.

You can read all the books and study all the maps, and charts you like, but you only obtain an appreciation of the situation after visiting the sites. You then realise just how close the trenches were, the open ground between the trenches, and the difficulty of the terrain surrounding the area.

All this adds to your feelings and thoughts about the campaign. It certainly made me feel proud that I had followed on in the traditions set by these brave Australians. ■

***We will Remember Them.
Less We Forget.***



M.P. Association wreath at Lone Pine



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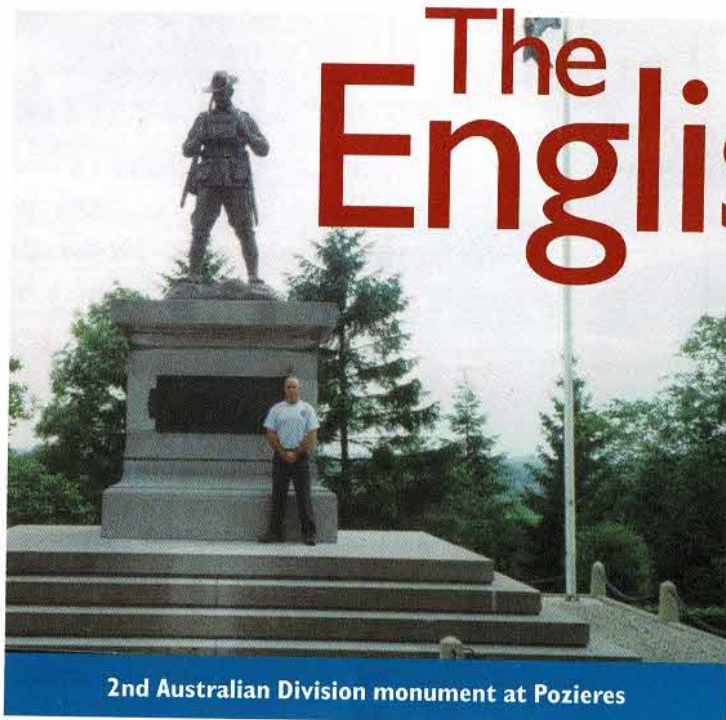
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2nd Australian Division monument at Pozieres

The English Tour 2000

the remainder of my stay, such was the frequency of it's use!

The course began with a quite demanding physical assessment. As

had finished in front of were removed from the course!

Over the next 7 weeks, PT continued to test my limits. Oh, t

"Self, I don't think your training regime was the best preparation, however these are Pommies, you must not come last!"

In the first days of February, I was enjoying an afternoon of Dili's festivities, contemplating our imminent return to Australia, which was to be followed by two months leave. As I daydreamed of Queensland's golden beaches, bikini clad women and gallons of Bourbon, I was summonsed by the SM, WO2 Mitchell. Eloquent as ever, he said; "Mick, get in here! I've just spoken to the RSM, there's good news and bad news." He gave me what he considered to be the good news first. "You're going to AMPTC next year and don't even think about pulling a shonky to get out of it!" As I reeled from the shock of that, I was suddenly aware that was apparently the good news. What could possibly be worse than that! How did he know that I'd plan a shonky! Now for the bad news!

began an intensive training program and modified my diet in preparation for what lay ahead. I commenced walking to the Coogee Bay Hotel, and began to drink Diet Coke with my Bourbon.

Occasionally, if I had spent all of my money hydrating myself, I would walk home from the pub. That is dedication. After three weeks of solid training, I believed I was ready!

On 29 March, LT Black-Sinclair drove me to the airport, issuing me strict instructions to make the unit proud of me. "What's that Sir, do you want me to have a crack at Boony's Trans Atlantic beer drinking record. Sixty cans is a lot of beer!". Funnily enough, it was not what he had in mind. He was adamant that record should only be attempted on the return flight so he could observe the after effects!

the rain fought through the sleet, hail and snow to dampen my spirits, I stood on the start line of the 2 mile run and said to myself; "Self, I don't think your training regime was the best preparation, however these are Pommies, you must not come last!" And so I ran, ran some more and then completed the circuit component of the test. At the completion of the activity, I noticed that of the 22 students, I had finished in front of four guys and the two girls on course. I had no time for jubilation however; I was vomiting from exhaustion and shivering from the cold! I was horrified later that morning when the four guys I

be 21 again! However, I found as I become accustomed to the cold each morning, my fitness levels increased rapidly, which combined with my requirement to vomit after each session saw the weight fall off me. I believe that running around in the rain and snow will be an ideal preparation for the "sub-tropical" climate of AMPTC!

On a serious note, the course was an incredible experience. We have all heard that the British course is acknowledged as the best in the World, and I concur with that judgement. Apart from the physical side, it was perhaps the most enjoyable course I have

"... it's cold!"

"Your leave will have to be changed, you are going to England to do the British CP course!" At that moment, I contemplated my ever-expanding SNCO waistline and recalled that I had not done any PT in five months. My response could not be printed here!

Upon return to Australia, I

After a 30 hr journey (including a \$125 taxi fare from Heathrow to Australia House in London), I arrived at the RMP Close Protection Unit. My immediate reaction was "... it's cold!" When it snowed the following morning, I was again heard to mutter "... it's cold!". That quote was soon to become my "Callsign" for



Remembrance Day at Moucron, Belgium
WO1 Tim Sherwin (left), SGT. Mick Cracknell



completed in my career. The firearms training was outstanding, including practices that we can only dream of in Australia with our current training limitations. The standard of instruction was superb, with all staff having recently completed numerous operational tours. Perhaps most important of all, it was fun, which is what soldiering is all about.

The course concluded with EXERCISE WATCHTOWER, a real

I completed my military duties the first day by acquainting myself with the RMP unit at Edinburgh Castle. I then spent the next 6 days playing golf

time EX, where a senior RMP officer plays the part of the VIP. Civil Police and agencies such as MI6 and the Foreign Office are utilised as enemy throughout the exercise. My particular syndicate had the pleasure of an American exchange officer as our "man". Perhaps the most pleasing aspect of the course was a physical attack on our man in the centre of London. The unarmed combat training obviously worked as myself and another lad managed to break three ribs of our attacker without him managing to lay a finger on our man.

At the completion of the course, only nine of the original 22 remained. As the British say, "Better to work with one good man, than to bear the burden of two slack men". Some will no doubt try again, but for a few, once is enough!!

After the course, I was sent to Scotland for a week of rest and recuperation. I completed my military duties the first day by acquainting myself with the RMP unit at Edinburgh Castle. I then spent the next 6 days playing golf and seeing the sights of a day, with evenings reserved for enjoying the nightlife of Edinburgh. I was

amazed by the amount of Aussies working in bars in Edinburgh. Being a patriotic soul, I thought it my duty to visit as many bars as possible and say hello to my fellow Australians!

The highlight of my trip to Scotland was a visit to the home of golf, St Andrews. It is every golfer's dream to play St Andrews, and the heart fluttered as I was called to the first tee by the starter. "Ladies and Gentlemen, from Australia, of a huge handicap of 16, the winner of absolutely nothing, Mr Mick Cracknell". I did feel better after immediately phoning Bob Jeffers to tell him where I was and what I was doing! Being Scotland, I was also persuaded by the locals to enjoy a "wee dram" of Whisky after the game. I attempted to have a dram for every shot I played, however I soon discovered that trying to keep pace with a Scotsman drinking Scotch Whisky was not a challenge for the faint hearted. I have no recollection of my journey back to Edinburgh!

This year, St Andrews' hosts the greatest tournament in the World, the British Open. I must report that my score did not qualify me for entry into the tournament! However, my 91 was better than Ian Baker-Finch's round at the last Open held at St Andrews in 1991 when he shot 92!

The next phase of my visit was a Battlefield Tour of WWI battlegrounds in Belgium and France, conducted by 158 Provo Coy (RMP). I was accompanied on this tour by the SM INVST, WO1 Sherwin. The tour lasted seven days with numerous sites visited. We were fortunate to visit The Somme Museum, and the Australian 1st and 2nd Division Memorials. It is difficult to describe the feeling when standing within the Australian cemetery at Pozieres, however I must say that it was a moving experience. The Australian soldier is revered throughout France, so much so that the Australian Flag is flown

from the Town Hall at Bullecourt.

We also attended a Memorial Service and parade at the Belgian town of Moucron. The Poms organising the parade were thrilled to have Aussies present and invited us to take part. WO1 Sherwin was good enough to enjoy the privilege of his rank, and enjoyed volunteering my services as a member of the honour guard! It was an honour to take part, as was meeting many of the old veterans at a Civic Reception after the parade. That afternoon, representing the Australian soldier in the presence of many WW2 veterans was an experience that WO1 Sherwin and I were privileged to experience and we shall never forget.

France also provided me the opportunity to test my linguistic skills. As WO1 Sherwin can attest to, my French is appalling, particularly when spoken with a Tasmanian accent. Like Timor, I found that shouting and waving your arms around gets your point across! A highlight of the trip was adopting a Samuel L Jackson accent in McDonalds and ordering a "Royale with Cheese!" How I ever received what I ordered is beyond me, however I managed it, which is more than can be said by SM INVST who ended up with an unidentifiable salad!

France was particularly warm, and dehydration was known to be a problem, however the French Wine was found to alleviate that problem, particularly if enough was consumed! At an average price of \$2 Australian a bottle, it was not a problem!

Upon returning to Longmoor, it was time to get back to reality and do some "Army Stuff!" I attended a Close Combat Trainers Course, which was a combination of Unarmed Combat and ASP Instructional Training. It was an excellent course, however it did not pay to be the lone Aussie, particularly whenever someone was needed to receive a flogging as a demonstration! I finished the week

with bruises, aches and pains in parts of my body that I had forgotten existed! However, the pain was worthwhile, as this course is only conducted once a year, and to have it conducted in conjunction with my visit was extremely fortunate.

The final weeks of my tour were spent assisting with instruction on the next CP course. I must say, it was much more enjoyable from the DS side of the fence, particularly at PT! Most importantly, it enabled me to see first hand the preparation and administrative nightmare involved with organising such a course.

In summary, I would consider my "English Tour" a memorable experience. It pains me to admit, but most of the Poms aren't bad blokes, although I'd never tell them that myself! I would also like to think that I have passed on some fine Aussie culture to our British friends! I taught them to drink beer cold, and burnt everything at our Barbecues!

I would certainly recommend the British CP course to any member fortunate to deploy on EX LONGLOOK. I would also advise that an extensive pre-course training regime (not involving gallons of Bourbon at the Coogee Bay Hotel!) is vital prior to commencing the course. Also, take heaps of money, as the cost of living is 2-3 times what we pay in Australia. ■

By SGT Mick Cracknell



No wonder "It's cold" became Micks "callsign"

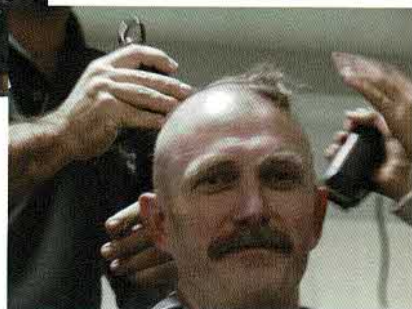
"The Australian soldier is revered throughout France, so much so that the Australian Flag is flown from the Town Hall at Bullecourt."



MP's Close Shave



The moustache survived but the kids definitely made short work of the hair



Amid cries of 'keep your hands off the moustache!' CAPT Richard Thorn, Investigation Section, DCSO-B, succumbs to the blade in support of Queensland 'Bluey' Day. Participants were required to raise a minimum of \$1 000 for the privilege of having their heads shaved. CAPT Thorn, with the invaluable aid of the members of the Investigation Section, DCSO-B, managed to raise just short of \$1 300.

Bluey Day, formerly known as Crop-A-Cop, was originally an initiative of a Victorian Police officer in 1995. Since that time, it has spread throughout Australia, and is now one of the most effective fund raising activities for Children's hospitals.

Money raised in Queensland goes to the Cancer Ward of the Royal Queensland Children's Hospital. From its inception in Queensland, Bluey Day has raised over \$800 000.

Rumours are abounding about how certain members of a newly raised MP organisation might be feeling the cool breeze across the cranium for Bluey Day 2001. Watch this space for more info. ■

The 'other enemy' cops it with a smile

From the 'Sydney Morning Herald' April 26 2000 • By Stephen Gibbs



They are booed and jeered by other old men as they march each Anzac Day, and have learned that the only way to answer name-calling is to laugh off the legacy.

But for some of the 200 military police who donned their bright red berets for their largest gathering in 40 years, the temptation to reply was too strong yesterday.

With smiles still in place for the well-wishers, a dozen veterans of the Royal Australian Military Police Corps answered mostly light-hearted insults along the parade route with one-fingered salutes.

The gesture only increased the volume of calls to "Get a job", and led to other suggestions coming from the footpath outside a city hotel and balcony above.

The civilians who lined George Street greeted the MPs as they did all other veterans, with cheering and applause. But from many old soldiers who recognised the berets came muttered messages of ill will.

The president of the Military Police

Association, Mr Barry King, acknowledges his corps, once had an image problem but says military law enforcers have been highly professional soldiers at least since World War II.

"They had a fairly rough sort of reputation," said the Vietnam veteran of his over-zealous predecessors, especially those of World War I.

"But we've got a different set of values now. It's more preventative than repressive.

MPs have served everywhere Australians have fought since the formation of the Australian Army Provost Corps in 1916 - yet some veterans still considered them heavy-handed cops.

Even the corps' history was called The Other Enemy.

Another former MP and veteran of Vietnam said MPs had not had the same esprit de corps

as other groups because they were stationed individually, rather than serving as a unit.

"They do have friendships and camaraderie but not to the same extent as in an army unit, an air force squadron or on a ship," Mr John Casey said.

"During the Second World War the MPs were sometimes considered to be bastards. But in later years, in Vietnam for instance, MPs were pretty tolerant and looked after the diggers as much as they could."

And so as the sea of red berets turned into Bathurst Street and passed the Edinburgh Castle Hotel, the boos of mocking diggers were answered with waves and smiles.

"It's more good-natured than anything," Mr King said of the shenanigans. "Attitudes have changed." ■





Australian Troops Excel at Long Tan

From the battle of Long Tan, D Coy became only the second Australian Army unit to be awarded a United States Presidential Citation. The following is an extract from that citation awarded officially on 30 May 1968.

'D Company distinguished itself by extraordinary heroism while engaged in military operations against an opposing armed force in Vietnam on August 18, 1966. While searching for Viet Cong in a rubber plantation north-east of Ba Ria, Phuoc Tuy Province, Republic of Vietnam, D Company met and immediately became engaged in heavy contact. As the battle developed, it became apparent that the men of D Company were facing a numerically superior force. The platoons of D Company were surrounded and attacked on all sides by an estimated reinforced enemy battalion using automatic weapons, small arms and mortars. Fighting courageously against a well armed and determined foe, the men of D Company maintained their formations in a common perimeter defence and inflicted heavy casualties upon the Viet Cong. The enemy maintained a continuous, intense volume of fire and attacked repeatedly from all directions. Each successive assault was repulsed by the courageous Australians. Heavy rainfall and a low ceiling prevented any friendly close air support during the battle.

After three hours of savage attacks, having failed to penetrate the Australian lines, the enemy withdrew from the battlefield carrying many dead and wounded, and leaving 245 Viet Cong dead forward of the defence position of D Company.

The conspicuous gallantry, intrepidity and indomitable courage of D Company were in the highest tradition of military valour and reflect great credit upon D Company and the Australian Army.'

'A Soldier - The Twilight Years'

By: CAPT M. Lyons, 9 MP Platoon

"Aggressiveness, quick reaction, good use of firepower, and old-fashioned Australian courage have produced outstanding results."

- General William C. Westmoreland, August 19, 1966.

The 18th August, 1966 was a memorable day in the life of one member from the RACMP.

Allan Russell Fraser; father, mentor, friend and currently the TRG WO with 9 MP PI (soon to be 34 MP PI) found himself, as a young 20 year old, patrolling through the rubber plantation of Long Tan as a member of D Coy 6 RAR. The circumstances that unfolded on that fateful day will live on in the annals of Australian military history.

WO2 Allan (Al) Fraser, 54 years, the last remaining Long Tan veteran still serving with the Australian regular Army, was born on the 2 July 1946 in the sub-district of Sandwich in the County of Kent, England. His father William Russell Fraser was employed as a colliery worker for many years. William had married his sweetheart, Joan Picton before settling down and having a family.

For many years, William and his young family lived in Broad Lane Northbourne. As an adolescent, Al Fraser reached Form 3, Fourth Year High School at the Secondary School for Boys in Kent. Sometime after Al's parents packed their bags and with their family discovered a new life in Australia.

On the 15th June 1965, Pte Al Fraser enlisted into the Australian Army. Like many young Australians at that time, adventure and a sense of duty motivated him to stand tall (all 190cm of him) as he accepted the new challenges which were increasingly confronting Australia over its involve-

ment in Vietnam. In June 1966 he was enlisted into Delta Coy, 6 RAR.

As a young, fit and highly trained soldier, Pte Fraser left Nui Dat as a member of 12 PI to sweep the area lying to the east of the Australian Base. He was the 2IC of his section at the time. Delta Coy was split into three platoons, 10, 11 and 12. The Australians had been aggressive in their patrolling; a factor, which would play a key role in what, unfolded on that day. Little contact had been made with the elusive enemy prior to the 18th August. Why should anything be different? Pte Fraser was one of many soldiers both Full Time and National Servicemen who probably thought that nothing would be different. Fortunately, Delta Coy had elected to patrol in Coy strength on that day.

Shortly after 1540 hours PTE Fraser with his fellow members of 12 PI, rested just outside of the Long Tan Rubber Plantation. They had been the forward PI and had stopped to rest due to the heat and the heavy going through the high grass. 11 PI patrolled through their position into the rubber plantation. The rest is history. For two to three fateful hours which followed, Pte Fraser and his mates were exposed to what we train for but few experience or wish to ever experience in our military careers. 17 Australian servicemen lost their lives that day and no doubt the lives of many members from Delta Coy, 6 RAR were affected in some way.

Pte Fraser returned to



Alan Fraser in 2000 (above) and as he was in 1966 (below).





cont. from previous page ...

Australia after 360 days overseas service. LCPL Fraser discharged on the 14th June 1968 and sought a life as a 'civvy'. He had served as a recruit and corps training for 6 months and regimental and rifle-men duties with an infantry unit for 2 years and 6 months.

Realising his mistake he left his trade as a ceramic tiler and rejoined the Army on 5th August, 1980. He had learnt much during his wanderings for he joined the RACMP. He completed his assessment induction at the MP School, Ingleburn on 17th February, 1981 and has remained with the Corps ever since. He became a 'real

Australian' on the 19th February, 1982 when he received his Certificate of Australian citizenship.

The knowledge and experience that Allan has gained throughout his career have been invaluable to the people he has worked with. Like his time with 12 PI, Delta Coy 6 RAR where Full Time and National Servicemen worked alongside each other, Allan has continued to adopt the same philosophy in working with ARes personnel.

His time with 9 MP PI has been and continues to be one where his leadership, guidance and commitment have remained constant.

In June 2001, 1 MP Battalion will lose a part of its history. The last serving Australian soldier from Long Tan will retire to his villa at Flagstaff Hill in South Australia. No doubt to play golf with his brothers and enjoy retirement. We at 9 MP PI are suspicious though, as we think if compulsion retirement wasn't the motivator, WO2 Fraser would serve on.

As we enter the new millennium, 1 MP Battalion will reflect back on its history and importantly on the people who have created it. Warrant Officer Class 2 Allan Russell Fraser is a part of that history. ■

Defence Force Corrective Establishment

OIC/ CI: CAPT N.M. POWERS / CAPT C.J. TILLEY
WOIC: CPOB R. GRAHAM / CPOB K. SMALL

As the new millennium year draws to a close, it is time to reflect on the year at 'The Boob'. This has been a year that has passed quite rapidly and seen a large staff turnover yet again.

New staff posted in this year includes: CAPT C. Tilley from MP Dev; CPOB 'Tiny' Small from HMAS Hobart; SGT 'Skerro' Skerritt from 1 CSU; SGT 'Willi' Williams from 7 Bde; SGT 'Luscious' Zornig from 1 JSU; CPL's Muirhead and Kealy-Bateman (KB) from 41 MP PI; CPL 'Plugga' Pleuger from 13 MP PI; LS's Clark and Bretherton from HMAS Watson.

Welcome to 'The Boob'.

We say goodbye to:

CAPT N. Powers posted as the JPM for Op Tanger, East Timor; SGT C. Andrews to 2 MP Coy; PO G. Morris to HMAS Penguin; SGT J. Shields on promotion to 7 Task Force; LS W. Adams to HMAS Sydney; CPL J. Anderson to 13 MP PI for deployment to East Timor; LS R. Bretherton to HMAS Penguin; CPL J. Dickinson to the Australian Federation Guard; CPL M. Holland to 2 MP Coy; LS M. Payne to HMAS Kuttabul, and CPL K. Muirhead on her transfer across to investigations to

DCSC- SYD/WS.

Several members chose to retire or take discharge and they include CPOB R. Graham, SGT 'Rick' Wheeler, CPL's Bergman, Lewis, Pocklington and LS Williams. We wish them all the best for their future endeavours.

SGT 'Jock' Andrews enjoyed an attachment to 13 MP PI, joining them on operations in East Timor.

This year DFCE conducted three Detention Centre Supervisor Courses held at AMPTC, Perth and Darwin. Inspections of the Australian Defence Force detention centres were also on the agenda. Training continued back at the home base with staff refining their skills on cell extractions, defensive tactics and alcohol & drug awareness training. Some members also participated in whitewater rafting with the Police Training Wing at the Olympic venue in Penrith.

The middle of the year saw us celebrating Xmas in July at the SME Officers Mess for an all ranks function. Most members and their spouses attended the function and had a pleasant evening that fortunately didn't go too late.

The unit received several visitors this year including COMD TC-A, ADFA Students, United States Military Police, the NSW

Corrective Services Dog Squad, representatives from Armament Systems and Procedures (ASP) to train and qualify some members as certified ASP Baton Instructors. The Naval Police Coxswains (NPC) from HMAS Albatross filmed a training video at DFCE as the culmination of an investigation legal proceedings and sentence to detention of a junior sailor; the results of which we look forward to seeing early next year.

CAPT Tilley has taken on the role of OIC/ CI whilst CAPT Powers is overseas while SGT Sotheren briefly took up the position of WOIC during August and September awaiting the arrival of CPOB Small (returning on his third tour on staff at DFCE).

The unit worked extremely hard to cope with the ongoing staff shortages to achieve our goal of providing high quality custodial care delivered with firmness and humanity. Thanks must go to all staff members and members of 41 MP PI and those many MP reservists who professionally filled these short falls.

The OIC/ CI and staff of DFCE look forward to the challenges of the New Year and wish all Corps members a happy Christmas, a safe festive season and prosperous New Year. ■





Gordon Murdoch

On this page we bring you one of the final stories written by Gordon Murdoch. Gordon was an old digger who served as an MP during World War I and after being demobbed he worked his way up to the rank of Snr Det Inspector with the NSW Railways. Gordon was one of those people who you would classify as one of life's characters and as you can see by the letter we have included with this story from the NSW Commissioner of Police NTW Allan, he was well loved by all. Gordon had a great sense of humour and wrote a whole series of stories from his days with the service. In this edition of Pointsman we bring you his story titled "The German Gorilla". We will leave it up to you to decide whether you think this story is fact or fiction, whichever, I'm sure you will all enjoy it. Gordon was born in 1888 and passed away in September 1971 and has left us a legacy with the many stories he has written. We will remember him.

A copy of the letter from the Commissioner's office dated 30th September 1971:-

"Gordon Murdoch made no claims to distinction during his lifetime from his fellow men but he was in fact different in many ways. This was his birthright.

He was blessed with a kindly, happy disposition which immediately attracted to him all who came to know him. His circle of friends was large. He was known, respected and admired by people from all walks of life. He loved people and he loved life. He could move in any social group and be immediately accepted because of his inbuilt sincerity of purpose.

He was in every sense a gentleman, possessing a charming manner and a natural dignity not given to all men. His character was beyond reproach.

To have been a friend of Gordon Murdoch was indeed a privilege as one then knew and experienced the true meaning of loyalty, trust and kindness and the inexpressible comfort which these qualities can bring in times of need.

We who knew and admired Gordon Murdoch and counted him as our true esteemed friend and colleague today salute his memory and mourn his passing. We shall always remember him.

To his sorrowing widow and family we convey our deepest sympathy and offer our friendship.

N.T.W. Allan,
Commissioner of Police

The German Gorilla

By Gordon Murdoch

When the telephone rang in my office at Sydney's Victoria Barracks the feminine voice at the other end of the line was tremulous: "I want to speak to an Intelligence Officer about a German spy." "If you go to No. 40 L_____ Street, Newtown, you will find him there. Be careful. He is a powerful and dangerous man." Before I could ask any more the woman had hung up.

In those early days of World War I, when peace-loving Australia had had little practice in home security, no lead, even an anonymous one, could be overlooked. I alerted my mate, Lieut. Roy Hordern, a staunch ally in many a tight corner, and we were soon speeding to Newtown in a powerful car. When Roy heard there was likely to be a fight, he grinned happily. Although he had only recently returned from active service after being severely wounded, he was in excellent condition and spoiling for excitement.

At No. 40 L_____ Street, one of a number of tenement houses, I quietly tapped on the front door. It was opened by a pretty girl who eyed us with suspicion. With a quick intake of breath she took stock of us, sensing that we were a common enemy. When I asked her who lived in the house she was stolidly indifferent and refused to answer. I persisted, and at last she muttered that there were only her sister and a "gentleman friend," beside herself, living in the place. I said I'd come in and have a look around. She went bright scarlet and tried to slam the door, but, as usual I had my foot (size 10) wedged firmly against the side of it.

Brushing past the woman, Roy and I went into the front room which, though level with the street, was on the top floor of the small two-storeyed house. Hate suddenly blazed from the woman's eyes. She loosened a high-pitched scream: "Albert!" At this moment, a gigantic blond man, easily 6ft.5in and 18 stone, appeared on the top of the landing between the front and back rooms.

He was clad only in pyjamas. "Who the hell are you?" he shouted. "You'll soon find out," I replied and I motioned him to sit down. Sullenly, the man, Albert D_____, came over and lowered himself on to a chair. A closer look at him



showed me that this indeed was an ugly customer who would only understand force and I decided to show him I could be tough, too.

I rapped out my official Security questions to him about his nationality and his business with unusual sternness. He sat there glowering. Then, without warning and in spite of his bulk, he jumped to his feet and reached the top of the stairs leading to the lower storey of the house in two huge, ape-like bounds.

My own leap was only a fraction of a second behind his, but, as I reached him, he gathered himself to take the 12 steps down to the kitchen in one spring. As he took off, I grabbed the end of the wall at the side of the stairs with my left hand and seized the back of his pyjama coat with my right. As my grip tightened the impetus of the fellow's mass in mid air slammed my face around to the wall with a sickening impact. For a second, I blacked out. When I gathered my wits I was reeling on the landing with the back of the pyjama coat in my hand and Albert was gone.

Roy was already down the stairs in pursuit. I staggered after him, blood spurting from my battered face.

In the small backyard I found Roy clawing at the door of an outhouse. Then he hurtled aside, as a full-sized house brick, clutched in the hairy paw of the mighty and now furious Albert, crashed down past his head on to his shoulder. There was a snarl, "Now come and get me!", a crash, then silence. Roy drew his revolver, and together we charged through the door of the shed.

Inside we found that Albert, with super-human strength, had torn out the back of the shed, which adjoined a vacant allotment, and had escaped. There was no sign of him, so, leaving Roy to keep a rearguard, I rushed back through the house and into the street.

It was full of hostile-eyed residents of the locality, well-used to violence, but still interested enough to want to know what had been

the commotion in No. 40. This is the kind of citizenry that has a sixth sense about the law, which it does not favour.

I don't say that I've got "cop" written all over me, but with my build and height of 6ft 2in., it used to be difficult to disguise it. I didn't expect any co-operation when I started asking people what house the wild-looking man in pyjama pants had run into (it was obvious he must have gone to earth nearby) - and I didn't get it. So, doggedly, I knocked on each door, hoping for a clue.

To my astonishment, one door was opened by the same woman who had opened the door of the house from which Albert had escaped. I stepped quickly inside and slammed the door on the faces of the curious onlookers who had followed me. While the woman shrieked, "He's not here! He's not here!" I moved swiftly from room to room of the mean little dwelling.

In the back bedroom I took a quick look at the end of a big double bed and saw in the gloom under it the bare soles of two enormous feet. I turned to the defiant woman: "Well, if he's not here, where is he?", I asked. I had no intention of tackling Albert alone. The woman thinking, as I meant her to, that I had been thrown off the scent, smiled impudently as she escorted me into the backyard, so that I could make what I told her would be a last check.

From the backyard gate I was able to signal Roy, who raced up to join me. Together we went back to the bedroom and locked ourselves in it. We meant to come out with Albert, as a captive — or else. "The game's up, Albert," I said, addressing the bed. "Come on out of there." Slowly, Albert turtled his massive frame from under the bed. When he was half-way out, I dropped on to his back, ready to get the handcuffs on him. With a snarling roar, he heaved himself up and flung me spreadeagled on to the bed.

Roy came bouncing at him, but the giant brushed him aside and let

go a right-hand drive at his chin. Roy was fast on his feet for a big fellow; he side-stepped, and the punch only grazed him. I sprang at Albert, but he met me with a terrific left uppercut that connected square on my solar plexus and paralysed me. I sank to the floor in agony, fighting for breath.

Albert swivelled on his feet and, with the precision of a heavy-weight champion, shot a dynamite right that snapped poor Roy's head back with a crack. My mate, one of the best "rough house" fighters you'd find in many a day, was out like a light and here I was, half crippled, facing his lunatic gorilla alone. But Albert's wits, unlike his muscles, were slow-moving. Instead of rushing in for the kill and bursting his way out of the room, he backed into a corner like a beast at bay, and glared at us uncomprehendingly.

Although my stomach was in a knot and I was dizzy with nausea, I set myself for the next round. When I saw Roy open his eyes and struggle up on to one elbow, I decided to take the initiative from Albert before the big fellow's slow brain sized up the situation. He met my first left swipe to his mouth with a bull-like run that carried me across the room, smack against the opposite wall. With the wall as a lever, I kicked him back off me, and then we closed, slugging toe to toe with every ounce of strength. It was obvious that I was no match for Albert at punching and, in sheer desperation, I side-stepped, swung around behind him and locked my fore-arm across his throat in a throttle-hold.

I jammed my knee in his back to get leverage, but he braced his powerful legs and swung me from side to side like a pendulum on a crazy clock. But my grip was a real finisher and gradually Albert's gurgles for breath grew weaker, his body relaxed and he sank, semi-conscious, to the floor. Roy, although still groggy, helped me drag Albert's arms behind his back and snap the handcuffs on his thickly-corded wrists.

Then, completely exhausted,

we slumped side by side on the edge of the bed. The room was a shambles of shattered furniture, flecked with blood. But, for a minute or two, nothing in my life had seemed so peaceful.

We got water from the kitchen to revive the prostrate giant and ourselves, and then, each holding one of his arms, we led him out of the house through the threatening crowd on the footpath.

As Roy prepared to start the car I bundled Albert toward the rear door. Suddenly he bumped me against the side of it, wrenched himself free of my hold and bounded away. As I took up the chase he was running with incredible speed for a man with his hands handcuffed behind his back. Able runner as I was in those days, he was getting away from me. After 200 yards I was all in. It seemed that no two men, without using weapons, would ever take Albert.

I whipped out the baton I'd kept in reserve in my rear pocket and hurled it at the runaway. With unbelievable luck, it struck him neatly behind the left ear and he dropped "cold." It must have been a weird scene, as Albert, by this time, was clad only in the torn remnants of his pyjama trousers.

Roy arrived in the car, we heaved Albert in and rushed him to head-quarters. There, he was found to be a full-blooded German, without naturalization papers, who had not reported as an alien, as required by law. He was interned in Holsworthy concentration camp for the rest of the war and was later deported to Germany.

From this distance in time I remember Albert only with admiration. He was a magnificent physical specimen. His crime, so far as we could find out, was technical (there was no proof that he had actually been a spy) although, in any man's language he was a potential danger to Australia's security.

He could have saved himself, and Roy and me, a lot of trouble if he had only come along quietly.

But Hun or no Hun, he was a bonny fighter. ■



Career Advisor Artillery and Military Police

Major D. McNicholas

Having survived (just!) two posting cycles, I welcome this opportunity to provide a quick update on some RACMP officer career management issues.

The raising of 1 MP Bn has been the key career development issue of 2000. Having virtually been restructured out of a career path over the last few years, RACMP officers now have better opportunities than many other Corps. In particular, sub-unit command prospects have increased fourfold, and the Bn structure should ensure that those posted to RACMP appointments are actually employed in policing roles. The proposed division of responsibilities between CO AMPTC and CO 1 MP Bn should also result in far greater oversight of general professional development matters.

To ensure that the new structure hits the ground running and is sustainable in the long term, we have filled all RACMP officer appointments WEF Jan 01 and increased output from RMC. The issue of non-Corps regimental training has also been addressed, with a view to balancing the benefits of such training and the need for continuity at MP Coy level. In broad terms, December graduates will undertake 1-2 years regimental training, whilst mid-year graduates will be employed supernumerary within a Coy, prior to assuming a Tp Officer appointment. That said, this year's graduates will all be posted directly to 1 MP Bn.

Based on current figures, the RACMP will have 48 officers below the rank of LTCOL in 2001, of which 34 will be employed in Corps appointments. This is an excellent ratio, reflecting solid opportunities for both Corps and non-Corps appointments. In addition to a major contribution to EM deployments, RACMP officers have performed exceptionally well this year in high profile appointments such as UNTSO, ADC and RMC, and there is no reason why they will not continue to compete for such positions.

A few general observations:

* Whilst I acknowledge that special circumstances sometimes exist, my experience has been that the majority of concerns over postings relate to geographic preferences, compounded by spouse employment issues. Another peripheral issue is that of officers married to other service members, who understandably seek co-location with their partner. Co-location cannot always be achieved, and it must not be at the expense of another officer's career development.

* Far too many officers are attempting to defer courses without reasonable justification. Aside from the obvious detrimental impact such delays have upon individual development (particularly regarding competitiveness for special appointments), an adequate corps balance is essential for many courses. Given their cross-corps role, RACMP officers need to take advantage of such opportunities to advance Corps issues amongst their peers. Officers should note the caveat concerning pre-requisite courses included on all posting orders involving promotion in 2001.

* Some officers are still undertaking tertiary studies for the wrong reasons. Tertiary qualifications carry no weight at all in PAC up to and including selection for AC&SC. Study for promotion's sake is therefore study for the wrong reason. Junior officers should concentrate on being good regimental officers, as one strong EDRO carries far more weight than 4 or 5 years of study. As a rough guide, those officers that graduate without a degree should aim to have one prior to AC&SC, and the remainder should look at a post-graduate qualification before attendance - but not at the expense of enjoying regimental life and developing as leaders.

Those concerns to one side, I'd like to stress the generally positive and professional attitudes I've encountered throughout my time as Career Advisor. I have genuinely enjoyed the opportunity to manage RACMP officers, and I have been impressed by the quality and commitment evident across the Corps. The new structure provides the basis for improved policing support to the Army, but the Corps will continue to be judged (quite rightly) by the professionalism of the officers that represent it.

I wish you all the best of luck in facing the challenges that lie ahead, and I look forward to the possibility of serving with RACMP officers again in the future. ■

Provost Club

The Year 2000 commenced on a sad note for the Provost Club with the passing of a member CPL Matthew Potter. The committee was given the honour of hosting CPL Potter's wake at the club. A large number of Ex serving members, current members of the Corps, family and friends gathered at the Club and showed their respect to CPL Potter's family.

The high light of the year for the club was being able to provide the facility and resources to the Military Police Associations to conduct the Corp reunion. The old, young and new Corps members celebrated the Corps reunion on ANZAC day at the Club. The celebrations commenced with the gathering of members from the Military Police Associations throughout Australia from far and wide on the eve of ANZAC day. During 'Odark' hours the RSM AMPTC hailed the live in lines with a burst of blank rounds ensuring all members and guests were awake for Reveille. Rum and Coffee was shared prior to the Dawn service. A lot of comical stories were shared from the past amongst the members over a gun fire breakfast. After the breakfast it was time to gather the scarlet beret and wear it with pride during the ANZAC day march in Sydney. A large number of EX Corp members combined with current members held their heads high whilst marching through the streets of the city.

The activities continued on until the early hours of the evening in the PROVOST CLUB. It was a pleasure for the committee to be part of such an activity to bring all the Corps members together and reunite old comrades from far and wide.

Throughout the year numerous functions were held within the club some of these being the Post Timor celebration by 41 MP Pl, 'OOO' party, end of course functions and morning teas.

The Provost Committee has had guidance from four different Supervising Officers throughout the course of the year:

- CAPT R. Thorn,
- CAPT N. Powers,
- WO2 McGarry, and
- CAPT Jacob.

The Committee has consisted of a team who has worked hard to provide all trainees and members with a facility that they can call their own to share stories and make new friends without any stress or interference and to relax from course or work environments. The committee consists of:

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| • PCC | CPL M. Holland, |
| • DPCC | CPL P. Cowled, |
| • Sec | CPL Muirhead, |
| • Tres | CPL M. Durr and |
| • Bar Member | LS Hillsley |

The Committee would like this opportunity to thank all the members for their patronage throughout the year. ■



Investigation Section DCSO-B

SECTCOMD (SOMETIMES):
SECTCOMD (MOST OF THE TIME):
AUTHOR:

CAPT RICHARD THORN
SGT ANDY TUNSTALL
CPL GREG LUNDIE

The change from a 'Bush Pig' to a '190' is one that always attracts some ridicule.

The transition to becoming an Investigator is not as easy as I imagined. We said that they're always 'bludging' and never go bush and do the hard yards. But alas one finds out that the grass is not always greener on the other side. For one thing, we don't get regular stand down periods, such as Christmas - someone has to work. I have found that although I am not required to go field, my workload is greater, taking longer hours, which are managed by myself. For a Bush pig, the majority have a knock off parade every afternoon telling you to go home and what time to start the next day (This in no way says that they don't work hard during the day). Our day doesn't finish at 1600h. Both streams work extremely hard in their endeavors, but it is the work of the Investigator which

will always be mocked, but rarely appreciated.

Being posted to the Investigation Section at DCSO-B has placed me in a section that has a constant flow of jobs coming in. Not flat out and not too slow. All that with an excellent team of go getters, SGT Andrew 'give me a druggie please' Johnston, SGT Andy 'You must combine food with work' Tunstall and CAPT Richard 'Who' Thorn, has provided me with a great wealth of knowledge to draw from. The section has also been fortunate to have SGT 'I'm going back to the real (315) army' Shields attached, who in a short time has become an integral part of the section. This year the section has continued dealing with a large number of 'white collar' matters, however it would be nice to have a simple drug job every now and then.

Aside from the usual jobs, some of the section members

have found time in their extremely busy schedules to take the occasional visitor down to taste some of the culinary delights of China Town. Of course, no food pilgrimage would be complete without a food critic, and at the section SGT Andy 'I know Asian food' Tunstall always more than willing to be of assistance.

The future for the Section is looking brighter with the introduction of the Bn and the SIB Coy, and with the new section members, there is only one way for the section to go and that is forward. I also hope to see a far closer relationship between the Bush pig and the 190's, which inevitably will only benefit all. As with the majority of other Sect/Pl's, accommodation for the new battalion has not been identified. At the Invst Sect we have looked at all suitable premises and are now looking at the highlights of an open air office. ■

MP Det - Canberra

SSGT A. MCKELVIE

The New Millennium has seen a few changes in manning for Canberra Det, which firstly saw the departure of SGT 'Super Spook' Sue Ryan, who was successful with her Corps transfer to Aust Int. We wish Sue all the best in her new career.

CPL Keith Johnson marched into the Det with a flying start, picking up his Subj 5, prior to his first day at the unit. Since that time he has knuckled down and has adapted well as a young investigator dealing with all the politics associated with units within the Canberra Region. Mid year Johnno successfully completed the SOCE Course and he must be one of the few SOCE JNCO in the Corps.

Johnno has also been assisting units with the future development of Officer Cadets by hurling them off the roof of Campbell Park Offices. According to Johnno ropes were optional for those cadets who did not show potential as future leaders, however some may have slipped through (Pardon the pun).

Scotty McKelvie experienced the infamous Canberra weather when he attended Bruce Stadium to see the Mighty Tigers taking on the Raiders at the wrecking yard. Word has it that when he was rugged up in complete Dri-Riders he froze something off when the temperature dropped to minus 11. His poor daughter was worse off as she had to endure the blunt of

the coldness by dancing during his time.

The raising of the 1st MP Bn in 2001 will see the Det manning increase to a WO2, SGT and a CPL position. Rumour has it that Big Bad Mick from MPCRO will be heading South to join the Platoon next year. By the way Mick don't forget to pack your thermals.

Well I suppose that is it from not so sunny Canberra. The members of Canberra Det sincerely wish you all and your families a very Merry Christmas and a SAFE holiday period and look forward to seeing and hearing from you as come the revolution. ■



MP Sect DCSO-S

SECTCOMD - SSGT W.A. WRIDGWAY

Yet another big 'Hello' from the 'Gurus of grapes' and yet another goodbye to a fast flying year. Two man Det in a country town, what a swan that would be!!! We have all heard it before BUT let me tell you the year 2000 has been totally to the contrary. It all started by welcoming CPL Shane Murphy and his lovely wife Vanessa to the picturesque Upper Hunter Valley in Jan. Shane was fresh back from Timor and into his first posting after completing the Snr Invst Cse. The two Section members were only together for about two weeks and then SSGT Wridgway went on a well earned leave break. In fact it was that well earned and he enjoyed it that much, he didn't come back to work. Contrary to the never wrong 'rumour grape vine' he wasn't AWOL and wasn't

living in the UK with a backpacker. (He may have liked to but he wasn't) Although there were spurts of short periods of two - three days here and a week there, Shane was usually away during those periods and the SSGT was there by himself. When he finally came back to work, he was seconded to 'that' Task Force in Jul through to Dec when he was to pack for a posting anyway. So for the better part of the year there has only been one person at the Section at any one time. Shane not only scored his first Invst posting but scored his first acting SECCOMD position for about nine to ten months straight. Talk about dumped in the deep end.

As a result of the members not being in the one spot for long enough, there was no Sect training like the abseiling in 98 and the

rider training in 99, the year 2000 was work, work and more work. (not a bad motto for the new MP Bn) All work and no play make Wes and Shane boring blokes.

The new year involves a turn over of 50% of the office staff with SSGT Wridgway moving to take up another position in Wagga Wagga after three years in sunny Simpleton, with his replacement strongly rumoured to be SGT Ken Fenton from Townsville. We wish you well, adjusting to the much cooler climate of the Hunter Valley, Ken. I am sure the 'warm jacket' shop will get a work out from you when you get here.

The 'Gurus of grapes' would like to wish all Corps members a happy and safe festive season and all those in Timor and other far off locations a safe and speedy return. ■

Advice on the Rehabilitation of a Soldier on Return from SVN

1. This is to certify that your son/husband/father/uncle/lover/cousin/nephew/mate/fiance/old friend/brother.....having completed an arduous tour of duty in the Republic of VIETNAM, will be returning to AUSTRALIA during 1997-.
2. You should appreciate that he is no longer as sweet and unspoiled as he was when he left AUSTRALIA fired with patriotic fervour and zest for adventure. He is now older, probably wiser, leaner and possibly short-tempered.
3. One of the earlier indications of his changed character will be periodic hot and cold flushes accompanied by shortness of breath and trembling knees. This could be due to either malaria or the rigors of the AUSTRALIAN winter, OR the sight of mini-skirts which he had forgotten.
4. He will gaze in awe and fascination at blond hair, trains, blue eyes, clean sheets, hotels and tight sweaters. Remember that his only contact with white girls has been via the centrespread of a Playboy magazine and he probably thinks that all girls have staple marks on their stomachs. If you wish to disillusion him do so gently.
5. Be careful, never say to him, "Let's go for a walk," or, "I wish it would rain," or, "You buy me SAIGON TEA." This is most important as he may react violently.
6. If he walks across the garden and climbs through a window, humour him. He doesn't trust the path, it may be mined.
7. Flushing toilets will be a source of constant wonder to him; after he overcomes the initial fear of them. If he grabs a shovel and heads for the back yard, do not be abusive, merely direct him to the correct room and gently confiscate the shovel.
8. If he is reluctant to rise at a suitable hour (we suggest midday) simply whisper to him, "Movement On the Wire," and watch him leap from the bed with a strangled cry and grovel under the bed.
9. Never ask him "does it rain in VIETNAM", because he may answer you in abusive language. Similarly if you ask him "are the women really flat chested?" he will either laugh or cry. Neither is good for him.
10. Encourage him to drink from a glass. If you give him a beer in a can he will drink it, certainly, but may then fling it over his shoulder with a roar of "Up the Old Red rooster - more - " and the furniture will suffer.
11. Force of habit may cause him to do some apparently odd things: sleep with his boots on, shower in public, swear at his closest friend or grind his cigarettes into the carpet. He will constantly look at trees, not because he is fond of trees, but because he suspects snipers. He will distrust Bus Stops because they have unpleasant associations with Grenades in SAIGON, and if some litterbug throws something from a passing car he will scream loudly and dive into the gutter. This can be amusing to friends and others.
12. Never question him about powdered eggs, American Bacon, C Rations, Ice Cream, Fresh Milk, Rubber Trees, Chlorinated Water, Swamps Chomper Ants, Mud, Dust or Ho Chi Minh. If your family is fond of Ham and Lima Beans, Corned Beef or Vienna Sausages, serve them when he is not around.
13. He should be a rational human being in a year or so. Try and make him feel important, and occasionally whisper, "Uc-Dai-Loi Number One," to boost his spirits. Explain to him that Bar Maids are not easily won in AUSTRALIA, Taxi Drivers are not robbers and that rain is necessary at times. Point out when necessary that VIETNAM is a long way away, everybody loves him and that the mosquitoes won't bite him.
14. Above all, HUMOUR HIM. The Viet Cong could not shatter his composure, but civilisation might do just that. His readjustment is up to you. ■

Author unknown



Military Police Association of NSW

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 Welfare: Matt Walsh ☎ (02) 96007383

Anzac Day 2000

This year's highlight was the Anzac Day 2000 Reunion at the MP Centre. A great day was had by all and it was very pleasing to note the attendance at the dawn Service, the March and the function back at the Provost Club.

Special thanks to PM-A, LTCOL Tim Grutzner for leading the contingent as well as his support for the reunion. There are others too numerous to mention but collectively the support provided by the MP Centre was outstanding.

John Watson has found new employment as "Reunion Coord" and his contribution was invaluable.

Membership is open to ex and current serving members and you will be made most welcome. Phone any one of the committee for an application form. ■

- See Sydney Morning Herald comments an Anzac Day march and photos from Barry King on pg 16.
- Also see story, pg 13 '85th Anniversary of the Landing at Gallipoli by the ANZACS'

RACMP Historical Society

President: MAL Murray Heron ☎ 02 9600 4683
 Curator: WO2 Terry Warke ☎ 02 9600 1213
 RSM: WO1 Bruce Napper ☎ 02 9600 1235

On Anzac Day 2000, the RACMP Historical Collection was reopened. The collection is now situated within a purpose built facility within Lamia Barracks, Holsworthy. Whilst there is still has a bit of work to do, about 90% of the displays are up and running. The collection has seen hundreds of visitors since April with many more to come. All courses at PTW will be given the opportunity to receive a tour from the members of the Society during their stay at AMPTC. The response from visitors so far has been extremely positive. As such, we have received many donations and offers of support from current and ex-serving provost (and families) from all over Australia.

It is excellent to finally see our history on display. It has allowed the Corps to graphically represent its diverse past from the first recognised provost on 28th May 1241 to the founding of the ANZAC Provost Corps on 3rd April 1916 and finally to the establishment of the 1st Military Police Battalion on 1st January 2001. The Historical Collection is open on all major parade days including ANZAC Day, Corps Birthday and Military Police Basic Course March-out. The collection can be opened by a request at any time to one of the Society members above. We will be only too pleased to show our proud past.

Remember to keep an eye out for the Historical Society page on the Corps website. ■

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Service Police Data Management

The Way of the Future

BY SSGT CRAIG BREWER

Over the past few years Army and RACMP have gone through a number of changes. Those changes have not always been for the better, although the majority of them were necessary. Another change is on the way and it is promising to revolutionise the way members of RACMP and other agencies responsible for law enforcement within the Defence community do business. Some of you will already have heard the term 'DPSMS' which stands for the Defence Policing and Security Management System, well it's here and as you read this SGT Michael Vandermark is tripping around the country with the rollout team providing an overview and user training.

History.

To properly understand the significance of what this system will mean to RACMP personnel at the coal face it is necessary to understand where we have come from in order to see where we are heading.

Up until, and including the seventies, MPCRO utilised a card system to capture offender details, manual crime books for case file details and copies of files for everything else. As we progressed into the eighties and the information age the systems used to store data remained largely the same, albeit, a computer was added. In truth this was a monumental step forward and in its day sped up the process of data retrieval. During the mid to late eighties with advent of Microsoft Windows(the old Dbase 4 database was replaced with a Microsoft Access 2(database which was used through out the nineties. That database served the corps well until the late nineties as it was reaching the end of it's life and was becoming both unreliable

and unstable and was subsequently upgraded to Access 97(in an attempt to squeeze even further service out of it. In early 1999 it became apparent that a new data management system was needed. As a result of numerous difficulties with the current system, coupled with the ever increasing requirement to provide detailed real time reports to working Military Police units and higher command formations

Those of use who have had any dealings with MPCRO in the past few years would have heard all there is about the current database and it's capabilities. Although the Microsoft Access97(database has served us well over the years, it is getting old, unreliable and it just doesn't cope with the needs of the corps. As a result of a number of enquiries, IG-Div approached the corps early last year together with our counterparts in Navy, RAAF and the Security community and discussions commenced on the design of a database which would suit the needs of all agencies involved. After a lot of discussions, long hours and a great deal of hard work on behalf of the project team together with the respective service representatives IG-Div have finally produced a product that fits the bill. The project, driven by IG-Div, has provide a data management system for Defence Policing and Security Agencies that will see defence policing in its different flavours well into the transition period, at which time the integrated system will be implemented allowing real time data to all users.

What does it do?

DPSMS has been designed as a tool that assists members of RACMP in the recording, analysis

and reporting of data as well as case and information management features which should increase efficiency as well as streamline the investigative process. The information is entered at the coal face where the intimate knowledge of the case is best known and where

tion to the system we are not referring to a trade, but a function, all corps members will have varying degrees of access to the system, which will be dictated by, the position they hold during a posting or a particular task which they are to perform.

"... case and information management features which should increase efficiency as well as streamline the investigative process."

the initial analysis is required to meet the policing needs of each area. I can already hear some on you saying that MPCRO is ducking work again, well, in a very small way I tend to agree to some extent. The data will be entered and managed on a local level by you, this will mean that you will have a more effective way of providing a service to your individual areas by recording all incidents and investigations undertaken by your respective sub units. The data that is trapped in the system in the main deals with incidents and investigations. This is done by recording all personnel, addresses, documents and relating them to an individual record. Those records can in turn be related to other incidents or investigations which can also show relationships between offenders, addresses and investigations and so on. The most powerful feature of the system in my humble opinion is the

The management tools include a cost tracking facility which can be used by management to determine the exact cost of investigating an incident, this could provide valuable data if corps manning increases were to be requested in the future. There is also a task utility built into the system that allows an investigator or manager to assign tasks to individuals in the team or as reminders to them self. A list of assigned tasks is automatically generated and displayed each time the user logs onto the system as a things to do list, that list can be printed so you can take it with you, pretty nifty, I think as us older members have trouble remembering sometimes.

There are a number of other functions available and as you become more familiar with the system you will get to know them. Have you ever had a feeling about a job and didn't know where to record it, as it may become impor-

"The most powerful feature of the system in my humble opinion is the built in investigator management tools."

built in investigator management tools. Although they appear simple on face value, I'm sure that you will all see their benefit. When we use the term investigator in rela-

tant at a later stage, well now with DPSMS you will be able to record your observations, feelings and thoughts about an incident. This will be an advantage if someone



else has to conduct any further enquiries in the future, as it will be easier for him or her to pick up from where you left off. This is aside from the built in running sheet.

Security.

Apart from the normal security service provided by the respective defence networks throughout the country, DPSMS security issues are divided into two main areas. Those areas are user accounts and business rules. The business rules are measured built into the actual program, whilst the user accounts are responsible for detailing what each user is entitled to do on the system. There are four user account types in the system, they are read only, reporting officer, investigator and DPSMS Manager. The main two that will effect the majority of personnel in RACMP are reporting officer and investigator.

Reporting officer will usually be assigned to those personnel involved in general duties policing who are only required to enter information relating to incidents

reported, those incidents will generally be of a minor or routine nature such as traffic and minor offence related matters. Those personnel who are assigned the investigator permission will be those who are primarily involved with the investigation of criminal activity irrespective of trade. DPSMS Manager will in the main be assigned to MP Commanders and MPCRO Staff, although it is envisaged that there will be a requirement for a number of trusted agents in some units/sections. The read only permission will usually only be granted to those personnel in positions where they are required to view the records without an editing capability.

Management.

The management of the system in the first instance will be the individual MP commander supported by the chain of command, however the ultimate responsibility rests with the RACMP DPSMS Manager who will liaise with the project team to have systems

repaired, updated and upgraded, all faults with the system should be directed to the nominated person in writing with as much detail as possible. Data entered at the section level will be up loaded to platoon HQ and so on until it reaches MPCRO where quality assurance issues dealing with the data will be carried out. The data will be up loaded in the form of a

electronically for dealing.

Conclusion.

In conclusion, I see DPSMS as a step in the right direction and believe that once all the bugs are ironed out and we become familiar with the system, we will all sit back and wonder how we ever go on without it. In the case of DPSMS

“... that once all the bugs are ironed out and we become familiar with the system, we will all sit back and wonder how we ever go on without it.”

system generated 'ZIP/E' file either by E-mail or on a disk. In the future, however, it is believed that a fully integrated system will be in place, this should allow real time updates and queries to be conducted by users. There is also a facility in the system to allow incidents/investigations to be referred to other defence agencies

will require members of RACMP to adapt to a new concept of doing business. Just remember it is not a be all and end all, it is only a tool to assist us in providing a better service to Army and Defence. The information will only be as good as that which is put into it so take it for what it is, just another weapon in our arsenal. ■

RSM AMPTC / SM RACMP - WO1 BRUCE NAPPER

I feel privileged to be able to write to you in my new role as the Corps SM and as the RSM of AMPTC. I would like to start by welcoming you, the members of RACMP, to a time of change and growth. With the raising of the MP Bn and the splitting of the COMDT AMPTC / PM-A functions we are faced with an opportunity few could have imagined. AMPTC will now focus on developing and delivering training in order to provide the battalion with the skilled individuals required for policing Army. COMDT AMPTC will also provide the Honorary Head of Corps function, which will enable him to provide career guidance for RACMP to both SCMA and DOCM-A that matches the skill requirements for the MP Bn.

For AMPTC this past year has provide for some very interesting operational experiences for our personnel:

- SGT Andrews TDY to 13 MP PI in Timor
- WO2 McGarry TDY to INTERFET
- WO1 Sherwin to UK and Kosovo on Long Look
- CAPT Powers to UNTAET

Additionally all the Wings have been flat out like the proverbial lizards conducting courses, providing mobile training teams and getting involved in the odd investigation or two, and at the same time dealing with the usual staff shortages. For those of you being posted to AMPTC next year you can look forward to another busy and rewarding year.

If your not being posted to AMPTC then keep trying!

The Naval Police Coxswain School has taken up residence within the confines of Police Training Wing and the Naval personnel have been made welcome. Their white uniforms and salty language add a little colour to our lives. To continue on the inter-service theme the JET Study into Service Police Training is ongoing and an outcome in relation to a common Service Police Course is expected early 2001.

From the 'Home of the Corps' I wish you all well for the festive season and good luck on the formation of the 1st Military Police Battalion. ■

*For the Troops
and With the Troops*



On Operations and Exercises

Operation Langar - East Timor

by WO2 J Harvey SIB.

WOIC Multinational Investigation Section

(MIS): A/WO1 J Harvey. 2I/C: WO2 L Parker RACMP

“Hello” I answer the telephone. “John, I know you have just got back from Bosnia. How do you fancy a trip to East Timor?” Thus begins the story of the SIB man in East Timor. I arrived in Darwin after a pleasant flight on Royal Brunei Airways but no one met me. The following morning, after one false start, I sponged a lift to the BRITFOR contingent and joined two other RMP in East Timor: Sergeant Dave Gibbs and Corporal Rob Balmer filled in the gaps as to what had been happening since they deployed on 20th September 1999, some two weeks earlier.

Getting my bearing the following day showed me a country where the infrastructure had been completely destroyed. I had just come from Bosnia, but by comparison that was a virtual paradise. Every shop had been burnt out, every Bank ransacked, no electricity, no telephones, no water - and no population. However, BRITFOR had done well for itself and managed to get one of the only buildings still intact in Dili, the Presidential Palace!

On speaking with the Commander BRITFOR I found I was to be dually employed. The request was that a member of SIB was to set up and run an Investigation Section to deal with the reports of murders, dead bodies, execution sirs and serious crimes that were being reported. This was to be an interim measure as the UN Civilian Police in theatre were not mandated or in a position to deal with these.

The Multinational Investigation Section (MIS), Dili Command, International Force East Timor (INTERFET) came into being at 1800 hours on Friday 15th October 1999 when I was thrust

upon eight members of both RACMP and RNZMP. We had six investigations on the books at the time, which were four murders, one arson and one traffic accident. The brief was simple “get it up and running and any serious crime that comes in is down to you!” That evening, meeting what was to be the MIS, latterly SIB East Timor, was the first indication of what lay ahead. I met with the senior Staff Sergeant, Shane Towers-Hammond RACMP, who briefed me on our equipment and vehicles. We had one Australian Land Rover and a burnt out house as the Section offices and accommodation. In true traditions of SIB a search for the nearest hotel found it disappointingly fully occupied by the press. The next best thing was the East Timorese equivalent of the Agriculture and Fisheries building. The dilemma was either to live with my fellow Brits in the Presidential Palace, with all its luxuries, or join my fellow MIS brethren in a burnt out house with no water, dry ration packs, no electricity and no toilets! Being a sucker, I chose the latter.

After borrowing two Range Rovers (one of which needed hot wiring for much of the time), by 0900 on Saturday 16th October things looked a bit better. Eventually we had enough resources to equip four teams each of two investigators. These were Team 1: Staff Sergeant Shane Towers-Hammond and Corporal Mark Anderson RNZMP; Team 2: Staff Sergeant Brian Hall RACMP and Sergeant Robert Shields RACMP; Team 3: Sergeant James Bell RACMP and Corporal David Clarke RACMP; and Team 4: Staff Sergeant Alan Williams RACMP and Sergeant Darren Cripps RACMP.



Capt. Richard Thorn sorting through remains during an exhumation in East Timor

See p16 for Capt. Thorns Close Shave ...

After a quick SOCO course for the uninitiated, 7 weeks condensed into a 3 hours, hands on practical demonstration, the teams seemed happy with what was required. Team 3 were the ultimate scavengers and by 1330 that day had returned with desks and chairs for all four teams.

On looking over the existing case-files I realised that there was a problem - they had been wrongly advised to apply Australian Law when dealing with crime. Fortunately Sergeant (now Staff Sergeant) Owers, having just returned from Kosovo at the time of my departure, had made me aware of UN international law, in that the law of the land applies at the time of intervention. A hurried meeting with the INTERFET Legal beagles clarified the situation and the correct Jurats were identified, these being Indonesian in origin.

At 1500 hours that Saturday the first call out took place - an alleged murder scene. For the next week it was a blur of telephone calls and the teams going



AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE



Commendation

INVESTIGATION SECTION - FORCE MILITARY POLICE COMPANY INTERNATIONAL FORCE EAST TIMOR

I commend the Investigation Section of the Force Military Police Company, International Force East Timor, for their tireless and outstanding performance in carrying out their duties in relation to the investigation of serious incidents during OPERATION STABILISE/WARDEN. The section made a significant contribution to the Operation, particularly in relation to the investigation and development of cases for the prosecution of crimes against humanity.

In completing their work, the investigators displayed exceptional technical skills, completing a large number of investigations in a short period of time. Working under extreme conditions, that exposed them to victims of atrocious acts of violence, they applied themselves diligently to the task of collecting and recording evidence. Their work has given dignity to many victims and provided a sense of closure to many families and friends.

The Section's achievements and procedures were of the highest order and have drawn great praise from International Human Rights organisations. They have significantly assisted the International Force East Timor in achieving its mission of restoring peace and security in East Timor.

23 February 2000

P.J. COSGROVE, AM, MC
Major General
COMINTERFET
(COMD DJFHQ)

Commendation presented to Investigation Section from Major General P. J. Cosgrove AM, MC (COMD DJFHQ)

from scene to scene with little sleep or respite between. By the end of week one the statistics were: alleged murders - 11; suspicious deaths - 16; grave sites - 6; execution sites - 3; arson - 1; shooting incidents - 4; recovery of drugs - 2; and one attempted murder.

The problems of that first week set the method and manner with which investigations were dealt with. Our problems simply listed, were: no morgue facility; no pathologist; no FSS support and no freezers. The decision to map, video, photograph, recover, examine and then rebury the bodies was not taken lightly, however as there appeared to be no other choice this was our method of approach. In addition, bearing in mind the time lapse of some of the murders (the majority of the hostility and crimes against humanity having taken place in late August early September 1999)

there was a league approach to these incidents being dealt with. Priority One were fresh complaints of murder or bodies above the ground. Priority Two were exposed body parts or shallow graves, and Priority Three allegations of atrocities with unconfirmed bodies.

The next few weeks saw a massive influx of reports and our strength grew from nine and peaked at twenty when at full strength. By 31st October there had been some 143 investigations initiated and the MIS were fast becoming the most high profile unit in East Timor because of the nature of our work.

One of the more publicised jobs was the brutal murder and torture of five catholic nuns, two priests, an Indonesian Journalist and a twelve year old local boy, all of whom were killed by the infamous Team Alpha militia group. We worked hard and our efforts were subsequently rewarded by having the pleasure of arresting the leader and second in command of that team. This, however, threw up another problem for INTERFET as until then little consideration had been given to long term prisoners. As a result, and just to complicate matters even more, a Judge and preliminary hearing system was put in place almost overnight. This increased pressure on us as a ninety hour judicial review was put in place. This meant that from time of arrest we had only 90 hours to produce evidence to the Judge, which was to be tangible and cogent in nature. This would allow the suspect to be held in custody until such time as East Timor re-established its own judicial system. By 6th November 197 cases were on the books and the UN Special Rapporteur, Ms A Jahangir, together with Prof M Skinner, Forensic Anthropologist, received detailed briefings from us on its work. Both said that despite the appalling conditions and scan resources available to us an excellent job had been done. Prof Skinner's skills were not wasted as he remained in East Timor for a further two weeks and immediately seconded to us where his advice and expertise proved invaluable.

By the 26th November we had 263 cases on the books but for the first time we had two whole days without call outs. The new members of the Section were Sergeant B Clark RNZMP, M/Corporal Charlotte Russell CM, Corporal RL Losier CMP, Corporal K Paker RACMP, Staff Sergeant PJ Watson RNZMP, Sergeant AG Cooper RAAFMP, Sergeant BJ McDonald RACMP and Corporal GN MacNicol RACMP.

The proliferation of crimes against humanity seemed to follow an east to west direction across the country at the time of unrest. This made life more difficult for us as force protection resources and manpower often dictated that enquiries were not initiated at the time of notification. There were many horrific investigations, however, it did not deter those employed in the Section, some of whom had never dealt with anything like it or on this scale before.

On a lighter note there was plenty of humour provided by the team to make the objectionable side of the work seem a bit easier. One of the more memorable events was one day at Commander BRITFOR prayers.

We were all sitting at the table when an earthquake shook the building, its occupants and seemingly everything else in sight. A rather nervous staff officer suggested that we evacuate the building! Colonel Tillington-Price, Commander BRITFOR, without the bat of an eyelid said words to the effect "We are not going to a minor thing like an earthquake interrupt prayers - now let's move swiftly on". I thought this was priceless - especially as I felt I might need a change of underwear. The most satisfying moment was when the UN Commission requested a six month handover period, so in house training could be given to them by our Section. They had been so impressed by the standard of our work.

At the time of redeployment on 13th December 1999, WO2 Les Parker RACMP had taken over the reins and a time line was initiated to hand over all case-files to the UN. The last remaining member of the Section flew out of East Timor on 23rd May 2000. ■



Australian National Command Element - East Timor Service Police Section

CAPT N.M. POWERS

Life in Dili has changed dramatically from Interfet days, and continues to do so. The local East Timorese are much more confident now, which is pleasing to see. When drafting this article, I had been in country for some five plus weeks and had noticed considerable alterations to local Dili buildings, which were evolving from the charred structures left behind by the Militia and TNI.

WO2 Shannon Smith will depart back to Townsville soon, having spent some 193 days in country. Along with the now routine assistance with body exhumations, SOCE work at major incidents, discipline patrols, criminal intelligence gathering and standard investigations into a number of different incidents, he has also taken part in Contingent Review

Teams. These are small teams, consisting of an Invst Officer, the Legal Beagle and of course the MP Invst who are sent out to sites where, for instance, a contact involving casualties has occurred. Their main purpose is to ensure that the ROE have been complied with. This has meant quite a number of trips to the East/West Timor border for the intrepid 190! I have been made aware that just prior to Shannon's departure, he will have completed more trips to the border than either Ops branch or the LO, something which doesn't sit too well with the Ops pers here at the ASNCE! The fact that he had two chicken KIA's is also a proud fact!

We were lucky enough to have a two-week visit recently from SSGT Jim Bell who conducted the investigation into the rather unfortunate explosion at

Junction Point Memo on the border. I would like to thank Jim (Dinger) for his outstanding application to the job, professionalism and teaching points on how not to use a video camera! (Hmm)

Come publication time, WO2 Dave Wiseman will have sailed into sunny down town Dili on the HMAS Jervis Bay. I anticipate that like everybody else, for the first few days, he will appear to be constantly coated in a fine film of perspiration and wearing a somewhat shocked/dazed look on his face.

From all here in East Timor we wish you well in your upcoming preparations for the forming of our new Battalion. ■

**Captain Narelle Powers
& WO2 Shannon Smith
take time out in East
Timor**



Military Police Detachment - Malaysia LCLS Butterworth

SSGT STEVE STYLES/SSGT BILL SHEPHERD

Greetings once again from the Pearl of the Orient.

Yet another year is nearly over. This year the detachment has been relatively busy providing support to the Rifle Coy Butterworth (RCB) and elements of the RAAF 324 CSS in Malaysia. Throughout the year, the RCB exercised in Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia. Although no major policing incidents occurred, logistics and administration kept Land Command Liaison Sect (LCLS) and the MP Det on their toes.

The majority of RCB rotations this year consisted of GRes units from around Australia. It was quiet hilarious to watch very young, most of who had never been out of their home town before, arrive in Malaysia with expressions of shock and horror on their faces. Overall, the GRes units worked extremely hard to

achieve very creditable standards of training.

Due to operational requirements in East Timor we lost the MP CPL ECN 315 position normally attached to RCB. Some units however, did arrive with the benefit of having an MP CPL within the rotation. As a result, CPL Glenn Shuttle, CPL Malcolm Binyon, both 9 MP PI, and CPL Luke Jones, 2 MP Coy all completed a tour of duty in Malaysia this year. Sincere thanks go to all three for their motivation, dedication and willingness to do the long hours.

On 28 Aug 2000, SSGT Bill Shepherd arrived at the Det and took over the reins by immediately jumping in at the deep end. The poor fellow was forced to conduct a handover/takeover, that incorporated of a four day tour of Singapore, Johor Bahru, Kuala

Lumpur, Hatyai and Penang. The tour was quite beneficial as it also allowed him time to take in some of the customs and traditions which those cities have to offer.

Finally we wish Steve all the best in his posting to Bandiana (better known as Albury/Wodonga, the twin cities) which takes effect 18 Sep 2000. This posting will offer him quite a few different challenges from those he has been confronted with in Malaysia.

We would also like to take this opportunity to wish all Corps members and their families a safe Christmas and a happy New Year. ■

**(left to right)
SSGT Steve Styles,
FSGT Peter Pinkerton
(RAAF Police) and
SSGT Bill Shepherd
take a well earned
break from the stress
of Butterworth**





Closure in East

Right: INTERFET Military Police making notes of grave positions after re-burials.

Bottom: The children of an East Timorese family paying their last respects.



A while ago I was lucky enough to spend some time with a group of Service Police Investigators in East Timor. They'd already been in country for a while by the time I met up with them, and they all gave the impression of being used to their surroundings.

The casual approach to the situation in which they found themselves was somewhat surprising, given the duties that they were expected to perform on a daily basis. I imagine that it had something to do with keeping their perspective on reality.

It was an environment that could easily have caused reasonably sane people to start to question themselves. It was obvious how much help it was to have a Padre around with a good sense of humour. Although it might appear distasteful, it also helped giving the bodies names like the Beach Boys, Rustle (not a spelling mis-

take) and the like. I guess that a Psychologist would give it a fancy name and suggest that it helped the Investigators to focus on reality by dehumanising the dead. I'll leave the mumbo jumbo to the shrinks, because I'd rather like to think that it just helped the Investigators keep their sense of humour.

One particularly hot day, which wasn't too unusual in East Timor, a group of us set off for a small village in the mountains north of Dilli. It should have been a welcome relief because the mountains normally offered a cool respite from the heat, not to mention magnificent views over the valleys to the ocean. In reality though, for the Investigators, it was to be another routine task of exhuming bodies. To be more specific, the bodies of two villagers who were murdered because they supported the wrong political viewpoint. Wrong in the eyes of the people who murdered them anyway.

Any romantic notion of 'it was done with dignity' is somewhat left of centre with the reality of the

day. It was hot, in a culvert on the side of a mountain and the bodies weren't in the best shape. The Padre, the Interpreter, the Doctor and the Investigators took turns working on recovering the bodies non-stop for hours. The only happy part of the exercise, that I saw, was when one of the men's wedding rings could be returned to his widow.

Eventually, the bodies were removed from their hastily made but not so shallow grave and divided, somewhat evenly, into two open body bags. In a fashion similar to a macabre comic opera, the Doctor, desperately starved of an adequate command of the English language, looked down at the bodies and sombrely pronounced 'They dead'.

Having had the obvious stated, the Investigators allowed the family to step in and wrap the remains within brightly coloured, locally woven cloth before the body bags were closed.

We learnt from the Investigators that there was only one more duty for them to perform with the bodies, and that was





Timor

to tag the burial place so that the United Nations could exhume them again if more physical evidence was required. The final process would be delayed because of the requirement for the family to observe a dignified mourning period. No problem, come back the next day.

Closure is a strange word because it suggests there must be a beginning. For the dead it had obviously been birth, but for the investigators the beginning was encapsulated in the exhumation of the dead. It may have been that the Investigators had been prepared for what was to take place the next day, but, looking back, I'm not sure that anything would have prepared me.

Mid afternoon of the next hot and humid day, the Padre, the Investigators and I set off back up the mountain. The intention was to, with at least some religious dignity, bury the bodies and get back down to meet up with another group of Investigators as quickly as possible.

It took a little while to find out where they had taken the bodies. It turned out to be a small house further up the mountain. A young man, whose intention was to make sure that the Padre arrived at the right house, guided us. When we stopped outside of the house, we were still confident of being able to get in and out quickly. No one seemed to be have been waiting for us apart from the anxious young man.

In what seemed to be only a matter of seconds, we encountered a crowd of around eighty men, women and children of all ages. It was like being mobbed by feather dusters. Touched, our hands shaken, and even kissed, we were guided into the shade of a shelter at the side of the house.

Nearing the house, I saw that a row of chairs had been arranged and were awaiting our arrival. For some reason we didn't have an interpreter with us, so I found

myself doing the normal 'speak slowly and they'll understand'. In the end, I decided to follow the lead of the Padre. Not for any good reason, such as he might understand what they were saying, but rather that I felt with God beside me at least I couldn't go too wrong.

We sat down. Nothing happened. People stood around saying nothing, just watching us. An overwhelming urge took hold of me to jump up and do something to start this. I couldn't work out where the bodies were or what might come next. Eventually, the Padre stood up and made some sort of sign that we should start. Once again, I was thankful for the Padre. We were guided into the house which, apart from a multitude of candles set around two small caskets, was incredibly dark after the bright outdoors sun.

The scene, which confronted me on entering the house, caused some initial confusion. Sitting on a raised table were two roughly hewn caskets containing the remains. They were the shape of normal coffins, without the lids attached. They clearly contained the body bags of the previous day, yet, they were of a size more suited to that of a small child rather than the two adults that had been exhumed. It took a short time for me to realise that the bones had been arranged in a manner so that they would fit the small coffins.

The Padre led the prayers for the dead in that surreal candle lit atmosphere. A small room, crowded with a many of the villagers as humanly possible, accompanied by the obligatory wailing. The Padre finished, and a short silence preceded the coffins being carried out

into the sunlight we had previously left behind us. As I exited the house I saw that carpenters trestles had been erected and the coffins placed onto them. Still the lids had not been fastened and remained slightly ajar so as to expose the whiteness of the body bags.

Reverently, one by one, the villagers approached the coffins, knelt, and crossed themselves. Even with no overt sign of personal wealth, each managed to leave small amounts of money on the coffins in order to aid the dead in the next world. The coffins were finally nailed shut.

Ensured a place of honour, we were led by an elder, or member of the direct family, behind the funeral procession. The immaculate graveyard was situated behind an immature cornfield. Within the graveyard were two freshly dug graves. The view from the head of the graves stretched across immense valleys lush with tropical forests.

As the coffins were lowered into the ground, we each threw dirt into the grave and, as the graves were filled, the Padre conducted the funeral service. I have no doubt that not a word of the service was understood by any of the East Timorese on the mountain that day. The simple fact that a Catholic Padre was present for the service comforted them. A comfort that was visible on their faces.

As the last of the dirt was placed on the graves, we were handed bouquets of flowers, then flower petals and finally lit candles which we placed onto the graves. As the mourners stood silently, the Padre finished his scripted service. A moments silence before an old woman started to pray. No written Scripture before them, but

as though reading from a prayer book, for the next five minutes the East Timorese standing around those graves recited prayers with a voice like a single person.

Now slightly numb, I felt relief that it was over. I was wrong. The Padre indicated that we were expected to share a meal with the villagers. As if on queue, we were led back towards the village. Remembering all of the horror stories I had heard of Asian cooking methods, all I could think was 'don't eat the bloody food'.

A table had been set under the shelter where we had earlier sat. There were enough chairs for a single Elder, the Padre, the Investigators and myself. As we sat down, the remainder of the village resumed their earlier position of silence around us. Two or three women quietly and efficiently went about the business of serving a variety of meat dishes and sweet coffee. We ate in stony silence equal to that in which our observers watched us. Whenever our plates emptied, we were offered more. These people who had suffered and had so little, offered us enough food to feed most of them for a week. At the end, they gave the Padre a bag of their locally grown coffee.

The feather duster treatment was repeated on the way out. I recall the Padre turning to me and saying that he had finally found a village where he would enjoy being the local Priest. With a look of disbelief, I turned to him and said, 'Stuff Padre, around here you could be Pope'.

We were made to feel special not because we were special, but rather because we had helped to return two sons to their families.

Closure is an unusual sentiment. At least, amongst all of the sadness of East Timor, on one afternoon in December 1999 there was closure for a small village, a Padre, a group of Service Police Investigators and myself. ■

“... looking back, I'm not sure that anything would have prepared me.”



Lieutenant Colonel Brian J.P. Cox Commandant AMPTC

Firstly, I wish to thank LTCOL T. Grutzner for his efforts in establishing the 1st Military Police Battalion. This has been the catalyst in the development of AMPTC as the 'Centre of Excellence.'

My focus, since assuming the appointment of COMDT AMPTC on 25 Aug 2000, has been a 'back to basics' development strategy. AMPTC is reviewing training; commencing with the question 'What does the Army really require of its MP resource?' To assist me MAJ M. Langdon has returned and has assumed the appointment of SO2 RES and his task is to rewrite MP doctrine. He will be liaising with various MP across Australia and has already linked into CATDC and HQ 1st MP Bn. We hope to publish a revised MLW 2.1.1 Employment of RACMP as Land Warfare Doctrine 3.8.6 - Policing by Jul 2001. In addition, it is intended to set up an AMPTC web site, allowing all members of RACMP the opportunity to access and comment on our doctrine.



The restructure of AMPTC on 2001 will place added emphasis on training development issues, with a dedicated Development Cell at the headquarters. A specially organised Tri-Service Training Development Team lead by LEUT Andy Wilson RAN, has been focussing on commonalities in Service Police and Security training in the ADF, involving Service Police Basic, investigation, Military Working Dogs and Close Personal Protection courses. The team has made some great progress and will be lead by MAJ Langdon in Feb 2001, with the development of the pilot course for the Service Police Basic Course due in early 2002.

As an adjunct to reviewing RACMP doctrine and Tri-Service Police courses I have initiated a 'building block' approach towards the review and rewrite of the Training Management Plans (TMP) for each RACMP course. Commencing with the MP Basic course, my aim is to clearly identify the critical and core tasks required to be performed at entry level for Other Ranks and Officers. It is anticipated that the MP Basic course TMP will be finalised early 2001 at which time the Regimental Officers Basic Course (ROBC) will be reviewed and rewritten.

RACMP has entered a most exciting and challenging period. The formation of 1st MP Bn will allow AMPTC to focus on improving training, doctrine and trade management. My aim is to provide effective and efficient police training and trade management that meets the needs of the Army and ADF.

I hope to see the majority of RACMP members in my current appointment and encourage all to drop in and visit the "Home of RACMP".



Lieutenant Colonel Brian J.P. COX Commandant AMPTC

Lieutenant Colonel Brian Cox is the Commandant of the Army Military Police Training Centre and Head of Corps, Royal Australian Corps of Military Police.

Enlisting into the Army on 5 March 1980, Lieutenant Colonel Cox was allocated to Armoured Corps as a Driver. In 1982 he was posted to 31 MP PI after successful completion of the MP Basic course. Following graduation from the Officer Cadet School Portsea in 1984, to the Royal Australian Corps of Military Police, he served as a Troop Officer and Troop Leader in A Squadron, 3rd/4th Cavalry Regiment. He then served in a number of Military Police command and staff appointments including Platoon Commander 1st Military Police Company, Provost Marshal 5th Military District, Operations Officer 115th Provost Company and Officer Commanding the 1st Military Police Company. Training Command appointments include serving as a Platoon Commander at the 1st Recruit Training Battalion and as an Instructor at the Royal Military College, Duntroon. In 1999 he assumed the appointment of Chief of Staff, Army Recruit Training Centre. On 25 August 2000 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel to take up his current appointment.

Lieutenant Colonel Cox is a graduate of the Australian Army Command and Staff College, Queenscliff. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Monash University and a Master of Defence Studies degree from the University of Canberra.

Lieutenant Colonel Cox is married to Sharynne and has a son and a daughter aged five and two respectively. He enjoys most physical activities and sports including running and water polo, but has recently retired from rugby due to rising medical bills. ■



LTCOL Cox in a lighter moment

MP Basic Course Trainees undergoing Population Protection and Control training at Green Hills.



WANTED



DEAD OR ALIVE

THIS FELON, MAJOR B. COX (AKA: 'The COMDT AMPTC', AKA: 'The Smartie' (due to his dress sense), KNOWN TO THE MILITARY POLICE THROUGHOUT THE NATION, AND MANY OTHERS, IS WANTED FOR THE MOST HEINSS CRIMES KNOWN TO MANKIND.

COX MIRACULOUSLY ESCAPED FROM MILITARY POLICE CUSTODY. HE WAS LAST SEEN AT THE OFFICERS MESS, ARTC; HOWEVER, HE IS SUSPECTED TO BE HEADING FOR SYDNEY UNDER THE GUISE OF THE COMDT AMPTC. COX SHOULD BE AVOIDED AT ALL COSTS.

IF CORNERED HE MAY TURN FROM A SMARTIE TO THAT DEPICTED BELOW:



AN M&M !!!

MAJ (now Lt. Col.) COX, CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST OF LUCK IN YOUR NEW APPOINTMENT/POSITION AS COMDT AMPTC

REGARDS
MP SECT, ARTC ...



CPP Demonstration

The pictures on these two pages were taken by Sapper (Snowy) Snowden during exercise 'Tandem Thrust' at Shoalwater Bay in Queensland.

The Military Police from 1st Joint Support Group had just completed Close Personal Protection (CPP) training and were keen to show what they had learned during their training, so a demonstration was organised.

A Major from DJFHQ stood in as the VIP.

Starting from the top left and running left to right moving down the page the sequence of the pictures is self explanatory. From on patrol, to engaging the enemy, surrounding the VIP and protecting him until he was placed securely inside the vehicle. The patrol then left in the two vehicles that came to their aid.

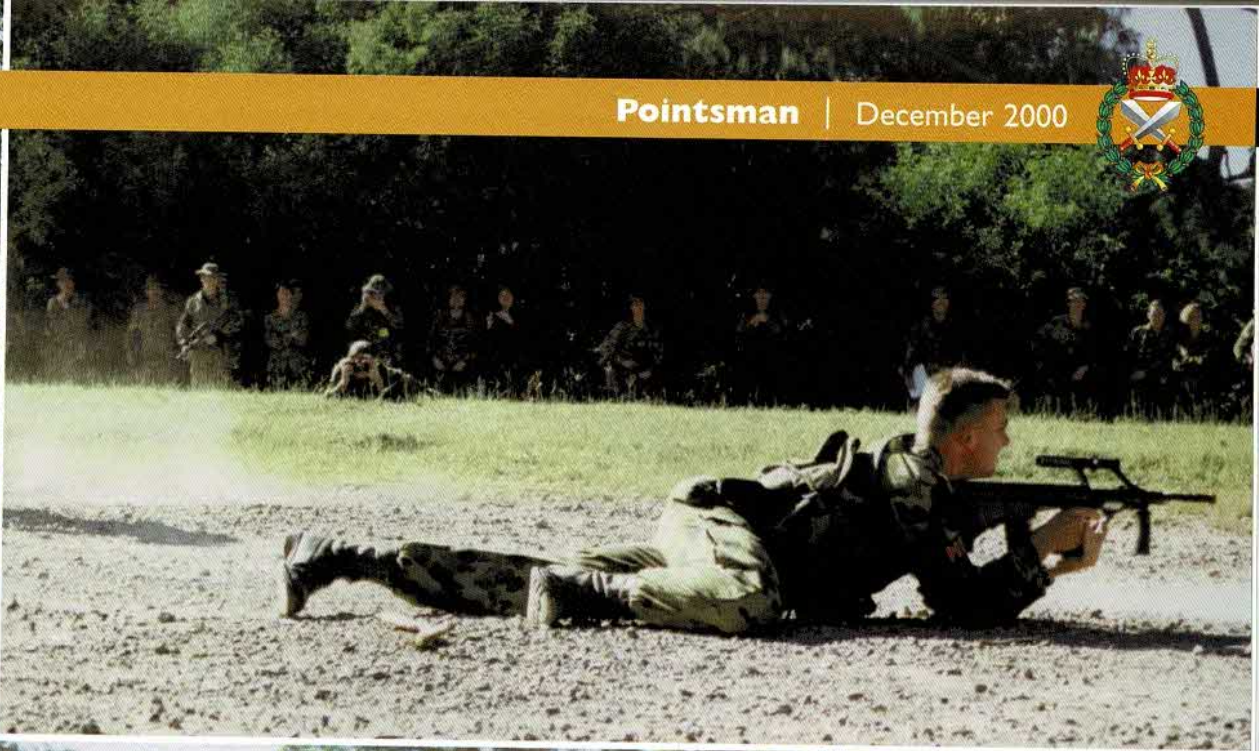
For those of you who don't remember 'Tandem Thrust', it was a division exercise with Deployable Joint Force Headquarters (DJFHQ).

1 JSU was deployed to Shoalwater Bay with a small contingent from DJFHQ who, unfortunately, were short of members due to many being posted to East Timor.

Besides being occupied by undertaking aspects of Infantry Minor Tactics (IMT) training, another exciting part of the exercise was watching the RAAF performing bombing raids on Townsend Island.

In all the exercise was worthwhile and enjoyable, especially when we got a chance to cool off in Shoalwater Bay. (below)







Hello from Vanuatu. MAJ P. Fisher

Last year I was privileged enough to be selected to represent the Corps here in Vanuatu. The position I hold is sponsored under the Defence Co-operation Program and I am the Joint Planning and Operations Centre (JPOC) Adviser. My role is to provide advice to the Vanuatu Police Force (VPF) officers who man the JPOC and to assist them to plan police operations.



Scenes from Vanuatu

The VPF is a multi-rolled organisation consisting of about 600 members. The three major elements are Police District North, Police District South and the Vanuatu Mobile Force (VMF). Police District OCs are responsible for all police operations within their respective areas. Southern District has the majority of the country's population and has about 200 police officers. Northern District has about 50 police officers. The VMF is Vanuatu's 'Army' component. It has reconnaissance and surveillance responsibilities and is about 200 strong. Its role is approximately that of one of the RFSUs, except that is a full time force. The VPF also has responsibility for the Police Maritime Wing, the Prison Service, the Fire Service and the Immigration Service. As you can see it is a very diverse entity.

The JPOC provides the Police Commissioner with an operations room and a planning staff for any activities of national significance or when two or more elements of the VPF are involved. The biggest difference between the VPF and Australian Police, is the separation of civil and military legal powers. Here there is no separation between the two and it is not uncommon for VMF members to be tasked with police duties or to assist in police operations. This lack of separation gives the police commissioner considerable influence in Vanuatu's internal politics and policies.

All meetings are conducted in Bislama, the Vanuatu pigin. So a working knowledge of the

language is absolutely essential. Many VPF officers speak English but there are some who are French educated and have very little English. Bislama is the common language in Vanuatu.

So far this year I have assisted the JPOC plan the Olympic Torch Relay, two deployments to the Solomon Islands, two deployments to Bougainville, a deployment to East Timor; a deployment to Bougainville and the celebration of the country's 20th anniversary of independence. I have also assisted with development and conduct of United Nations pre-deployment training.

Port Vila is a very pleasant place to live. The people are very friendly and always say hello or give you a wave. It is also a very safe place to live. A woman can walk by herself down the street at night in safety. Opportunistic theft is the most common criminal activity although break and enter crimes are becoming more prevalent. The cost of living is high, most grocery items being imported from Australia and subject to both import duty and a GST tax. We drive on the right hand side of the road. Most vehicles are 4X4 due to the poor state of road maintenance. A trip around Efate Island, a distance of 130km takes at least four hours.

For those who might be considering a holiday here I would recommend one week in Port Vila and a second week on one of the outer Islands. The place has fantastic scenery, deserted beaches, great diving and snorkelling, and of course lazing by the pool of your hotel. ■



Greetings from 3 MP Coy

Like most other MP units around the country side we all no doubt wonder where has the year gone. With the end of 2000 almost upon us and the formation of the 1st MP Bn time seems to have really flown.

It was just over 12 months ago that we saw our then 2IC CAPT Darren Anstee, our CQMS SSGT Dave Clarke, our Tpt Spvr SGT Chas Caldwell, and CPL Wayne Fee all depart for East Timor. At the same time SGT Tony Woodward was off to Bouganville, whilst the majority of the company had just returned from CROC 99, after six weeks in down town Rockhampton. These were very testing times for the company but I am pleased to say that all performed very well. A special thanks goes to WO2 Brian Mason, our TRGWO, who held the fort together and he was ably supported by our CSM WO2

Tony Laurie who was approved for a period of full time service, and our Chief Clerk SGT Nancy Miller.

Our 1999, end of year parade and regimental dinner was a somewhat exciting occasion, with everyone hoping and expecting to be deployed to East Timor, as part of the FLSG. That wasn't to be for those in Melbourne, but 33 MP PI did get away and did do a wonderful job.

Highlights this year were we said goodbye to CAPT Darren Anstee, and SSGT Dave Clarke, whilst welcoming in CAPT Steve Lewis and SSGT Bob Warner. Hope you enjoy your stay gentleman and we thank CAPT Anstee and SSGT Clarke for all they have done for the company and its members. Other highlights being WO2 Tony Laurie promoted to WO1, and both he and CPL Brad Cultar were awarded the LSF Comds commendation for their

efforts in saving the life of a young child during CROC 99. I had the pleasure of presenting AASM's to SGT Chas Caldwell and CPL Jody Bowman for their tour of duty in East Timor.

On the 1 Nov 00, 3 MP Coy was removed from the ORBAT as an independent MP Unit, and whilst it will now be part of the 1st MP Bn, its history is complete. The 21st of Oct 00 saw the company's 60th birthday having been formed in 1940. More history.

We are all eagerly awaiting the formation of the 1st MP Bn and to welcome 9 MP PI 21 MP PI and 46 MP PI to the new company.

Whilst 2000 has been busy we are predicting a bumper 2001.

From all at 3 MP Coy, savor the past but enjoy the future and we wish you all a very Merry Christmas 2000, and a happy New Year. Take care on the roads and look forward to catching up with you all in 2001. ■

42 MP Platoon

SM: WO2 L. PARKER

What a Year!! It would seem that many who believed that there was no longer such a posting as 42 MP PI were found to be incorrect. For a Platoon that is no longer meant to exist, we have been flat out.

After the usual exercises in support of 9 FSB during 1999, 42 MP PI (at that stage still known as Spec Ops Sect 41 MP PI) were deployed to East Timor in Oct 99.

The members of the Sect, SSGT Shayne Towers-Hammond, SGT Rob Shields, and CPL Dave Clarke (on attachment from 41 MP PI), were eventually employed within the Invst Sect, Force MP Coy, in order to conduct investigations into the murders, atrocities and violations against the human rights of the people of East Timor.

WO2 Lee Parker finally joined the team during Nov 99, and subsequently assumed the position of Sect Comd of a 'rag tag' crew of Investigators from Australia, Canada and New Zealand.

The members of the Sect conducted themselves with great professionalism and enthusiasm in a job that has brought their expertise to the fore. A role that hasn't been done since World War Two (as stated one day by a member of the Army Historical Unit).

Anyway, enough of the war stories. While the majority of the Platoon were in East Timor, SGT Lee Roberts was deployed to Bougainville on Op Belisi, and CPL, now SGT Al Chisholm, deployed with 33 MP PI, as a part of 9 FSB, to East Timor.

Recognition must be given to

the members of the Platoon who have since shuffled out to other units. They are:

- SGT Rob Shields - DJFHQ and
- CPL Dave Clarke - DCS - W.

Your efforts and loyalty were greatly appreciated during your time in the platoon.

Welcome into the unit, and return from Ops to:

- WO2 Lee Parker - RTAS 1 Jun 2000;
- SSGT Shayne Towers-Hammond - RTAS 1 Jun 2000;
- SGT Lee Roberts - RTAS Feb 2000; and
- SGT Al Chisholm - RTAS Jun 2000.

Since returning to work with 4 MP Coy, it has not been what you would call overly hectic. We have

been taking part in 41 MP PI activities and continuing to foster the 'one Corps' principle by assisting in a refresher training week in Singleton which was conducted to bring everyone on net with ASA duties in preparation for Op Gold tasking.

At the writing of this article, we are currently the Invst Sect for Op Gold and keeping very busy at our customer service centre at Moorebank. Everyone in the Platoon sees this as a good opportunity to get back into the swing of things after our deployments and leave periods.

In closing, the whole Platoon (all four of us), are awaiting marching in to our new positions within 5 MP Coy SIB and look forward to the challenge involved in this step back in the evolutionary cycle. ■



2 MP Company

OC: MAJ H.C. BELL
OPSO: CAPT J.M. BOWDEN

SM: WO1 J. HURCUM
TRG WO: WO2 T. WARKE

2 MP Coy has had a particularly diverse year of activity, with a number of its members having been deployed overseas.

East Timor:

CPL Searles
CPL Ashworth

Bougainville:

CAPT Bowden
SSGT Young

RTB, Malaysia:

CPL Jones
CPL Gibson

In addition, the year has seen increasingly active planning for integration of the Unit into 1 MP Bn, due to be raised in Jan 2001. This will provide 2 MP Coy with an opportunity to operate as a stream-lined member of a Battalion level Military Police asset with a broad Army-wide mission.

Planning for the Bn has been significantly assisted by the large

real-time operations of 2 MP Coy through its commitment to OP GOLD as part of security spt to the Sydney 2000 Olympics and Paralympics. The Unit, for this purpose, had already commenced 24 hour operations in mid-August so as to ensure full delivery of quality MP services by the commencement of the Olympic period in Sept. The Unit has been joined, in the delivery of spt to OP GOLD, by members from 9, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 55 MP Pl. A number of reserve MP have been able to provide continuous service for some or all of OP GOLD. The work of MP during OP GOLD is being closely studied in order to draw as many lessons as possible. The aim of this study is to produce a set of material which can be used to prepare a series of law reform recommendations for enhancing the statutory powers of MP. Such recommendations, if adopted by Government, will enable MP to better fulfil their Law and Order tasks. They will

also provide more effective legal protections for MP assisting state and federal policing agencies. Currently, protection of seconded MP relies heavily on memoranda of understanding and the common law of vicarious liability. Suitable law reform measures will provide more reliable protections and enable MP to exercise their powers and pursue their professional role with greater confidence and certainty. Operation Gold, therefore, is providing valuable opportunities for 2 MP Coy to deliver quality MP support, as well as to contribute strategically to developments in MP capabilities and strengths, as the dawn of the new Battalion approaches.

2 MP Coy experienced the deep sadness of losing CPL Mathew Potter who was fatally injured at his civilian police employment on 7 Jan 00. CPL Potter had touched the hearts of many during his time at 2 MP Coy, by his energy, enthusiasm and friendly approach to all. He is, and

will always be, sorely missed by each of us.

The Unit also pursued its sporting interests throughout the year. The vast majority of members achieved full AIRN compliance.

CPL D. Seacy received the 1999 Soldiers Medallion, as well as the Bob Jeppesen Memorial award. Australian Day Medallions were received by SGT N. Brannan and Ms D. Madden. Each of these people have served the Unit to an outstanding standard over many years. Their effort and their achievements have made the Unit extremely proud of them.

Overall, 2 MP Coy has had a challenging exciting and productive year with members engaged in interesting and varied work. The ensuing year looks certain to be even more testing as we move into a new era in the business life of the Corps. With all of this comes a whole new range of opportunities for the continued pursuit of excellence in military policing. ■

MP Sect DCSO-L BY SGT K. FEHLAUER

Greetings! from the members of MP Sect DCSO-L. What a year it has been for this Sect and the other Sections in the local area. The year has seen a number of people leave, on postings and discharge, and the result being our Sect and Randwick combining to assist each other and to share the work load. Also it's the year the Olympics have come to Sydney and this has greatly impacted on all of us with the greatest numbers of Service Personnel in the Sydney area since the Vietnam War.

The year started the same way as it ended - busy. January saw the arrival of SGT Ashley (Studley) RATCLIFFE, from MP Sect Perth. Their loss was our loss - just kidding.

In late February we welcomed Ms Kate ALVIS to the Sect as our new ASOI and what a shock it was for her and WO2 Wiseman. For a young civilian with no

knowledge of the Military way of life the first month or so was quite an eye opener for her; however, she has settled down and is now a valuable member of the team.

March arrived and saw SGT Fehlauer detached to MP Sect Singleton whilst SSGT Wes WRIDGWAY took a well earned rest, leaving WO2 Wiseman pondering his decision in allowing SGT Fehlauer to leave (and also have a well earned break). The same month saw the arrival of CPL Paul COWLED into the Sect (replacing CPL Tim STROUD who left in Dec 99). As the year progressed so did the workload. March also saw the introduction of the new Brief of Evidence (BOE) and a new way of thinking for Investigators.

April came and SGT Fehlauer was still enjoying his stay in Singleton, much to WO2 Wiseman's heartache. This month

also saw the departure of WO2 Paul HAYTON from MP Sect Randwick, causing WO2 Wiseman further angst by having to takeover there as well.

July arrived and what a month of turmoil it was. WO2 Wiseman received his deployment order for East Timor and along with the Section's help he was able to get himself in order to enable him to deploy overseas. He also took the opportunity to move his family to Brisbane, so that they would be there on his return and ready for him to take up his position as PLSM 51 MP Pl 5 MP Coy (SIB). At the sametime CPL Cowled was detached to MPCRO on a taskforce, leaving SGT Fehlauer scratching his head and wondering what he had done in a past life to deserve this. The Sect now consisted of SGTs Fehlauer & Ratcliffe and CPL Stewart and young Kate. As always happens, the decrease of manpower saw

increases in workload.

August arrived and there was no sign of things improving. The workload increased and saw us burning the candle at both ends and in the middle (Oh!! what it would be like to get a posting to a quiet area like Bandiana). The month went by like a blur and the workload still increased; however, there was some relief with the arrival of the Investigators from 42 Pl taking over the jobs belonging to OP GOLD units.

September arrived and so did the Olympics. As we enter this month we look forward to the end of the year and the passing of the Olympics/Para-Olympics and onto the BRL period. Again this will be a time of turmoil with SGT Fehlauer and CPL Stewart being posted out and the formation of 52 MP Pl 5 MP Coy (SIB). We extend a warm welcome to those members being posted in new unit and to all members of 1 MP Bn. ■



MP Sect DCSO Puckapunyal - Vic

Well another year has come and gone with the quantity of investigations conducted by the Section on par with last year; however, the percentage of persons reported has climbed. Investigations this year have included theft; Criminal Damage, Assault, Telephone Fraud, Internet Offences, Sudden Death and Drug related offences.

This year seen the arrival of CPL Kris Parker (Ex IJSU). Kris spent four months within East Timor, prior to arriving at the Section. CPL Parker experienced investigating crimes against humanity and atrocities committed against East Timorese Nationals. CPL Parker was also part of the CPP Team allocated to MAJGEN Cosgrove during his first three weeks in East Timor. CPL Parker

spoke highly of the way RACMP personnel conducted themselves and the liaison with UN CivPol at Liquicia. CPL Parker was further an Investigation Section member, Force MP Coy, which was awarded a Unit Commendation, by the Commander INTERFET.

SSGT Causer arrived in March and took the reigns of Section Commander. SSGT Causer has been keen to implement new ideas, although, has been kept busy with the involvement of support to MPCRO. SGT Ingram has remained within the Section, happily banking HDA whilst SSGT Causer has been absent. SGT Ingram greatly appreciated the support given to him and his family during the past year by the Section, DCSO-P and RACMP during his daughters continued ill-

ness. It appears things are on the improve and returning to normality (touch wood).

The New Year will see an MP Battalion raised and an increase in MP personnel within this Section. We may not fill all four 315 positions immediately; however, just one will make a difference to the Puckapunyal Military Area. It goes without saying that Unit Commanders are looking forward to the re-introduction of proactive policing.

The members of the MP Section Puckapunyal, congratulate all members with the achievements of 2000 and hope to have helped those abroad by continuing our efforts in location. We wish all members and families a Merry Xmas and a safe and prosperous New Year 2001. ■

MP Sect DCSC - SA

SECTCOMD: SSGT STEVE MOLONEY

The Sect has had another busy year with numerous amount of investigations from Stealing to Indecent Assaults.

SGT Terry Brodin arrived on the 99 / 2000 posting cycle to a well-established office thanks to the good work of his predecessor, SGT Greg Francis.

We have had the pleasure of the company of SSGT Trev Swan (Nee: Lancaster), SGT Rick Liston and SGT Greg Francis for short periods of time to assist us with 'enquiries', for short periods of time to assist us with enquiries, as well as unlimited support from 9 MP PI. Thanks gentleman.

We have also been able to conduct some training with 9 MP PI, such as Driver, Defensive Tactics

and Crime Scene training.

Terry was away for a number of weeks this year captaining the SA/NT male hockey team, here in Adelaide and then the ADF male team in Albury. Well done Terry.

At the end of the year, SSGT Steve Moloney is off to sunny Darwin, leaving Terry to show SSGT Mick Barany, the Adelaide highlights and there are plenty. The only problem left by Steve is the Golf trophy, which is between the MP and the RAAF investigators. It's still in the hands of the 'enemy'. I'm sure Mick will fix that. Just be careful of the chipping style of the hockey player.

'Sensational Adelaide' wishes all and theirs, a Merry Christmas and a very good 2001. ■

MP Sect - Sydney

SECTCOMD: SGT M. TOWERS-HAMMOND

2000 has been a year to sharpen our skills at being versatile. The Sect welcomed in SGT Brad Grant (promoted in May 2000) and we farewelled SSGT Andrew Harper posted Tassie. We said good-bye to WO2 Paul (Hammer) Hayton who discharged from the Army in May this year.

The Sect for most of the year consisted of only Brad and myself and our versatility began when we did the Section Commander shuffle. Firstly there was Paul Hayton, then WO2 Dave Wiseman and finally I was given the helm.

Brad completed and passed an intensive two-month Surveillance Course run by the AFP and is now seen around the Barracks 'stalking his prey'.

All in all for Randwick it has been an interesting year. ■



21st MP Platoon

PL COMD: LT S.ANDERSON

A/PL SM: SGT J STRIEGER

TRG WO: WO2 NIGEL SOUTHAM

The Formation of 21 MP PL (HQ 4 BDE) - 1 OCT '93

Following a review of RACMP in 1993, with the aim of transferring substantial MP assets from ASA duties to Land Comd, 21 MP PI was raised as a GRes unit in Melbourne on 1 Oct 93 as authorised by Army Office Staff Instruction 20/93. Although established as a sub-unit of 2 MP Coy at Greenhills, 21 MP PI was placed under command of HQ 4 Bde, with technical control vested in OC 2 MP Coy, by a Comd 2 Div Directive on MP Support to 2 Div.

After considering several options for a location, 21 MP PI was raised at 'Grosvenor' in Queens Road, Melbourne opposite Albert Park. This grand old mansion was the traditional headquarters of the Army Reserve in Victoria and home to HQ 4 Bde. The initial PI accommodation was one office in the HQ building but this soon changed to an old tin building in the backyard large enough to accommodate offices and lecture room. The "system" had a lot of trouble adapting to the new PI in Melbourne and for six months we received a stream of mail addressed to 21 MP PI - but intended for BASC Randwick MP Sect, the former 21 MP PI.

The initial PI manning was drawn from 3 MP Coy with the senior appointments being: PLCOMD - LT Tim Pollock, PLSM - WO2 Brian Smith and TRGWO - WO2 Dennis Pollard.

With an initial manning of only one SGT and six CPLs, recruiting was a high priority necessitating weekly visits to Army Reserve Recruiting to bolster the numbers. These efforts had mixed success but slow progress was made, particularly through targeting "word of mouth" lateral recruitment

from other units to shorten the recruit training pipeline. Equipment was also an issue in the early days and it was many months before vehicles and equipment dribbled in on redistribution from the "old" 2, 3 and 4 MP Coys. The benefits of being co-located with the Bde HQ were realised during this time with excellent support from the BM and Bde RQMS in terms of resources.

Within the first year the PI was tested with a major Bde exercise. Ex "Northern Explorer 94" was a Bde MLOC VAP exercise at RAAF Tindal in conjunction with the RAAF Airfield Defence Wing. The challenges kept growing when, three weeks before deployment HMASTOBRUK, which was to transport the majority of the Bde vehicles to NT, was withdrawn due to the coup in Fiji. This necessitated last minute planning for a 100-vehicle five day convoy from Melbourne to Tindal (and return) which the PI was able to support on a shoestring of two CPLs.

Just as things had settled after the first year, further organisational change came in 1995 with the raising of 4 BASB. Army Office Organisation Instruction 37/95 of 26 Jun 95 directed the raising of 4 BASB with effect 1 Jul 95 incorporating the usual Service corps units and 21 MP PI. Discussions with the incoming CO, centred on a possible move of 21 MP PI from "Grosvenor" to Oakleigh Barracks, the new home of HQ 4 BASB. Fortunately space precluded such a move and the PI remained co-located with HQ 4 Bde. Pragmatism also prevailed with the PI remaining under the effective direct command of HQ 4 Bde but supporting 4 BASB as required. This decision was a

function of both location based and a recognition that MP support in a Bde is a command function rather than an administrative one. This lesson was probably realised in other Brigades also over the next few years.

Life was never boring as the next challenge presented in the form of DCGS Directive 8/94 which required elements of 4 Bde (4/19 PWLH, 108 Sig Sqn, HQ Coy and 21 MP PI) to relocate from four inner-city depots to the Lines at Watsonia formerly occupied by LFSU (ex-2 Sig Regt) by Feb 96. The usual jockeying for space occurred with 21 MP PI ultimately being allocated four vehicle bays and a small demountable building in the compound, barely large enough for four desks.

Dec 95 saw the end of the initial era for 21 MP PI. This saw the disbandment of the HQ 4 Bde Sergeants Mess, in preparation for the move, packing and preparing for the PI to relocate first thing in the new year and the postings of WO2 Dennis Pollard, TRGWO, to LWC and WO2 Brian Smith, PLSM, on promotion to CSM 3 MP Coy. They were to be replaced in the new year by WO2 Brian Mason, as TRGWO, from a stint at ADFA (a bit of a culture change for him) and WO2 Greg Parkes, as PLSM, from 3 MP Coy.

"1996 was a new year for the PI but others know that story better than me."

(By CAPT Brian Smith)

Well thanks to CAPT Smith for his input. It won't be long before the 21st Military Police Platoon at Watsonia will merge into the 3rd Military Police Company, under the 1st Military Police Battalion, and reappear as

the 31st Military Police Platoon. 31 MP PI will be in direct support of HQ 4 Bde.

Today, 21 MP PI is a GRes field platoon under command of HQ 4 Bde and under technical control of HQ 2 MP Coy in Sydney. The old demountable building still remains but with another unit. 21 MP PI is now co-located in building 170 'Freer Lines' with 3 MP Coy and the MP Sect (WV) and has been for nearly two years. We still occupy the four vehicle bays in the 4/19 PWLH / 108 Sig Sqn, Multi User Depot.

21 MP PI is currently commanded by LT Shannon Anderson and the acting PLSM is SGT Jason Striegher. It has a posted strength of one and 21. The current ARA Training Warrant Officer is WO2 Nigel Southam who will be the last on a very colourful list of previous Trg WO such as John Fletcher (Civi street, Melb), Les Smith (1 MP Tp, Darwin), Brian Mason (3 MP Coy, looking very old), and Dennis Pollard (Unknown).

The PI Training Program was amended at the start of the year to allow trg for the support to the Sydney Olympics under 2 Div. As of 01 Jul 00, 21 MP PI was under OPCON of HQ 2 MP Coy and deployed 10 personnel to Sydney in support of HQ 2 MP Coy over the period 01 Aug-03 Nov 00. It has been an excellent opportunity for the soldiers to deploy on real time MP operations and gain some valuable experience, which under normal circumstances they would not receive.

The platoon has been involved in many activities this year including support to all 4 Bde annual activities like the Australian Grand Prix in Melbourne and support to 3 MP Coy tasking such as the Royal Motorcycle Escort of HRH Princess Anne in July. MP support has been provided to many local Bde units in the field and patrolling has been conducted at defence



cont. from previous page ...

establishments on a regular basis on Tuesday nights and during weekend trg. In the Southern Region there is still a large call for the traditional MP tasking on a regular basis.

Soldiers of 21 MP PI have been utilised for all sorts of activities and operations over the past 12 months. At the end of 1999, SGT Colin Woodward was posted from 21 MP PI (after 7 years) to 3 MP Coy and took up the MP SGT position in Bougainville PNG. In early 2000, SGT Jason Striegher was deployed for four months to the Rifle Company Butterworth with the 5/6 Royal Victorian Regiment as the very first rotation

of a GRes Infantry Company in Malaysia.

As the Chief of Army, LT GEN P. Cosgrove, highlighted at Simpson Barracks, Watsonia on a recent visit, recruiting is a number one priority. Victoria has been like most other areas, quite low in this regard of late. 21 MP PI has been fortunate enough to have increased in its size over the last nine months and has unfortunately had some unsuccessful applications from within the Bde and the Melbourne region.

The PI has a very close knit group of characters from a wide variety of civilian occupations who parade regularly. They are eager to

learn new skills and they have supported many activities at short notice and have done so very well. They get on well together and always spt the PI social activities. The PI Comd and I would like to extend a thankyou for a job well done throughout this year to the soldiers of 21 MP PI.

On the last parade on 31 Dec 00, 21 MP PI will depart from Victoria and will become 31 MP PI, 3 MP Coy in direct spt of HQ 4 Bde. 21 MP PI will return to its Sydney home after some seven years in the Great Southern Region

We hope that the PI will continue to attract quality GRes personnel. ■

Security & Naval Police Coxswain School

BY LEUT R.DOKTER

Background

The SNPCS provides Naval Police Coxswain category and security training for the RAN. The Defence Efficiency Review recommended that tri-service training be conducted where possible and hence a Feasibility Study into the Rationalisation of Service Police and Security Training was conducted. The report from the study recommended that the SNPCS, RAAF Security and Fire School (RAAF SFS) and Military Police School (MP-S) amalgamate to form the ADF School of Service Police and Security Training. The report recommended that the school be located at the (Australian Military Police Training Centre) AMPTC, Liverpool.

A Security Training Advisory

Group (POLSECTAG) was formed to pursue a joint Army/Navy training regime and in June 2000 the school relocated to AMPTC.

Training Provided by SNPCS

The SNPCS is responsible for the provision of NPC and security training for the RAN. The courses provided are as follows:

a) LSNPC Course - This is the initial entry course for sailors transferring to the category. Subjects covered include: discipline law, security, whole ship coordination, leave, movements, 9mm pistol, self-defence and baton training. The course

is ten weeks in duration.

b) Advanced NPC Course - This is a four week course, which is designed to provide students awaiting promotion with the necessary skills of a Petty Officer. Subjects covered include conducting investigations, prosecutions, crime scene investigation and duties of a Unit Security Officer.

c) Whole Ship Coordinators Course - This course is designed to prepare NPCs for their role as the WSC on a Major Fleet Unit. This course is also taught to CPO divers and submariners who perform WSC duties on Minehunters and submarines. The course covers Human Resource management

techniques and principles.

d) Unit Security Officer Course - This course is designed to provide the students with the knowledge and skills necessary for the role of Unit Security Officer

The SNPCS also provides support for a number of external courses. We provide security and DFDA briefings for both the Minor War Vessel and Major Fleet Units Commanding Officers. The school also provide security training for all new entry officer courses at HMAS CRESWELL.

The SNPCS looks forward to its continuing association with the AMPTC and towards a further integration of training. ■



MPCRO

OIC - MAJ S.A. REEVES • SM INVST - WO1 T. SHERWIN

Once more another busy year comes to a close. As most of the INVST SECTs are aware we have experienced severe staff shortages during the year with:

Staff on course - OIC, 2IC, SSGT INVST and SGT INVST, DPSMS Rollout - SSGT INVST and SGT INVST, Spt to OP GOLD - 2IC, and EX LONGLOOK - SM INVST

To mention just a few of the major 'distractions' of this year.

Despite the limitations placed on us we have still managed to achieve the odd investigation (thankfully far less against our own than previous years), undertaken some 'interesting' investigations for TC-A and OCA and travelled on more than one wild goose chase, in addition to our time honoured tasks of:

- Dbase management,
- Archival repository,
- Quality Assurance,
- Conduct of Technical Inspections, and
- The conduct of sensitive & serious investigations etc.

As is always the case with these articles it is time for the hails, farewells and heartfelt thanks:

- MAJ Bernadette Boss - our surrogate and definitely unofficial Legal Eagle. Farewell to 1 BDE and thanks for all the timely advice and discussion points (read arguments).
- CAPT Narelle Powers - Welcome to the revamped and retasked MPCRO in 2001 - the challenge awaits.
- LT Paul Newson - hail and farewell. You arrived bright eyed and bushy tailed from 16 AD REGT at the beginning of the year ready to change the world, instead you found yourself on an ROBC followed by the INVST QUAL cse

and then OP GOLD. Thank you for all your assistance for the short time you actually spent in your office at MPCRO.

- SSGT Brewer - farewell to the sunny climes of Brisbane. We wish you well as you get your feet wet again both literally (scuba diving) and figuratively as you jump back into the pond of real time investigations and running an MP SECT.
- SGT Vandermark - farewell to the not so sunny and definitely chillier climes of Canberra. The pleasures of deadlines on gazettes will be a thing of the past shortly as you also get back into the real world - but at least you can say that you've learned the art of politics.
- SGTs Cripps and Towers-Hammond (maybe, subject to the last alterations to the Posting Plot) - welcome to the funny farm in 2001. The challenge also awaits for you.
- CPL Johnson - Welcome from ARTC to the CBR DET you have made the transition well from REC INSTR to INVST with very few hiccoughs along the way. Many would say not much of a shift in perspective dealing with REC to SCDTs but we know otherwise don't we.

To all the MPCRO Staff and CBR DET thank you. You have worked long and tirelessly in at times less than congenial circumstances to provide a very necessary service not just to the Coalface but to senior Defence Staff. Your professional approach to your at times laborious and tedious work is greatly appreciated. I hope that as we all go our separate ways in 2001 you remember the good times rather than the frustrations and more importantly that an 'in your face approach' can work but more often tact and diplomacy will work even better.

To those poor suffering people who had the pleasure of 'vol-

unteering' (or being volunteered) to assist us thank you. I look back over 2000 and have come to the conclusion that without you all, we at MPCRO would be greyer than we currently are and probably bouncing around a rubber room. I would like to mention all by name but space precludes that luxury.

To The Task Force - you left your homes; families and work on short notice and although the investigation is not concluded as I type you have proved beyond doubt your professionalism and dedication time and again. You are a credit to yourselves and the Corps. Well done.

Finally on a personal note to you all my thanks and appreciation for a job well done. From the staff of MPCRO, our 'volunteers' and the COMDT and staff of AMPTC to the Investigators of the Army you have all made my sojourn as the OIC MPCRO a challenging and interesting experience (at times more interesting than I care to recall). This posting is one that I will look back on as a highlight, focussing on the amusing and pleasurable moments that thankfully account for more in my memories than the frustrations and angst that has been part of the last three years.

We are about to enter into a period of significant change for the Corps and the Investigators. The long awaited MP BN will be reality by the time you read this as will the introduction of DPSMS. In isolation either one is a major change to our accustomed manner of doing business put them both together and the next 12 months are going to be an interesting and challenging time for us all. One that I am sure we will all rise to the challenge of and see the benefits rather than the limitations.

From all at MPCRO good luck and enjoy the challenges that tomorrow will surely dump on your desk. ■



4 MP Coy

OC: MAJ S. O'CONNELL

Security check during Olympics



Most readers probably won't even be aware that 4 MP Coy was formally re-raised on paper in Jan 00 and prior to that, was used as the Coy HQ for the Force MP Coy as part of INTERFET in Oct 99. Since that time, at least a platoon of 4 MP Coy has been deployed on operations and will continue to do so until the raising of the MP Bn at the end of the year.

As part of the LSF re-structure, 4 MP Coy lost 46 MP PI to 2 FSB in Tasmania, but gained 33 MP PI in Brisbane. 41 and 42 MP PI (Invst) remained in Randwick, with the Coy HQ being formed by newly promoted MAJ Sean

O'Connell, who was so efficient that it was decided he did not need an SM, 2IC, OPSO or admin staff.

The success of 41 MP PI as part of INTERFET and then 33 MP PI as part of UNTAET cannot be overstated. Both Platoons performed exceptionally well under very trying conditions and circumstances. 41 PI deployed with GRES augmentation and 33 PI deployed as a GRES organisation with ARA augmentation. The participation and employment of the reserve members of RACMP was one of the many positive points to come out of the consecutive operations and all reserve members involved

are to be congratulated for their commitment. (Stories from each platoon follow)

4 MP Coy had the responsibility for Operation Gold policing tasks as part of military support to the Sydney Olympics. We were assisted in this role by a sect of Dog Handlers from 1 CSU MP Tp and personnel from 2 and 3 MP Coys and 13 MP PI. There was no shortage of work and all personnel involved relished the opportunity to perform traditional MP policing duties in large formation. It should prove to be good grounding for future tasking with the new MP Bn next year. ■

4 MP Coy

After returning from East Timor in February 2000, and completing some well earned leave and down-time, the unit returned to commence our training and start re-focussing toward our impending involvement in Op GOLD.

As the likely tasking began to take shape, the unit commenced its detailed planning into the conduct of operations and the subsequent training liability for Op GOLD. As 41 MP PL is a largely field orientated organisation, the requirement for the platoon to commence refresher training in the conduct of ASA Law and Order duties became apparent, and a final lead-up exercise was planned for early August.

The rapid influx of troops into Sydney was already well under way, and a requirement for additional provost support to the Joint Task Force was quickly identified. 41 MP PL was given a manning cap of 46, and the call went out for

reinforcements from other MP units around Australia. Not only was there a personnel requirement, but there was also a requirement for equipment as the majority of the platoon's kit was still in transit from East Timor.

The response to the request for personnel was overwhelming, and by the commencement of operations, personnel and equipment from 9 MP units had arrived. Without the valuable assistance gained from these units, the MP support to OP GOLD would not have been able to be as professionally provided and sustained at the level that it was.

With the command emphasis on enhancing the image of the ADF through involvement in OP GOLD, a real focus for MP operations was born. It became our mission to ensure that the excellent work being conducted by the other, more high profile units, was not tarnished by the conduct of a few.

From the outset of the opera-

tion, 41 MP PL was extremely busy. A 24-hour MP Duty Room was established in both Randwick and Holsworthy, and became the first point of contact for all MP assistance in both of those areas. The requirement for investigation law and order patrols, discipline and security patrols was endless, and the soldiers spent the majority of their time engaged in these important functions. As well as these tasks, MP set about providing an interface between the various unit commanders involved in OP GOLD, and the vast array of civil agencies also supporting the Sydney 2000 Games.

At the conclusion of the operation, the platoon had worked extremely hard and had achieved very good results. The image of the ADF has no doubt been enhanced as a result of the professional approach of all of the units within JTF 112, and 41 MP PL is proud to say that it has played a small part. ■



41 MP Platoon

PLATOON COMMANDER - LT KURT BLACK-SINCLAIR

PLATOON SERGEANT MAJOR - WO2 KEVIN MITCHELL

41 Platoon heralded in the new millennium on the front steps of the Force Detention Centre in Dili. We had only just finished watching the Sydney celebrations on TV when we all gathered out the front to watch a few illumination flares light the night sky - very sombre and depressing - but the hard work had been done and this was probably the first time that redeployment back home and to our loved ones was in sight.

The INTERFET deployment to East Timor is one that will live on in the memories of all those who took part. The stories and deeds are far too numerous to mention in this forum, and whilst some may be forgotten over time there are those that will live on as Corps folklore. Just ask Mick Cracknell about himself and Kylie Minogue.

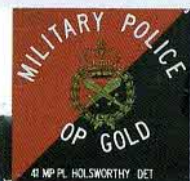
On 18 Feb 00, 41 Platoon redeployed to Australia and arrived in Sydney to a huge fanfare. Most Platoon members got there heads on the National news - well done Bob Jeffers, whilst others made the front page of the Monday morning papers - well done Brett Elliott. The 26 Feb 00 saw the Platoon celebrate its homecoming amongst family and friends at the Provost Club, AMPTC. The PM-A, LTCOL Grutzner presented PM-A Certificates of Merit on the night to the following Corps members who served with distinction - CPL Matt Ikin, 41 MP PI, CPL Dean Hilli, 41 MP PI, CPL Paul Rebl, 33 MP PI and CPL Wayne Ashworth, 23 MP PI. A special mention must go to CPL Jason Veitch who was the backbone of the Platoon during our deployment. Jason was awarded a Soldiers Medallion by the CO 9 FSB whilst in East

Timor.

For his efforts in East Timor, our Platoon Commander LT Black-Sinclair was awarded the Chief of the Defence Force Commendation whilst our OC, MAJ Sean O'Connell was awarded a Land Commanders Commendation. Congratulations and a job well done.

The next six weeks were spent relaxing, travelling, holidaying, spending and doing all those other things that we had been deprived of for five months. We returned to work feeling relaxed and rejuvenated, although there was an air of expectancy that couldn't be pinpointed. We had five Platoon members still in East Timor. WO2 Lee Parker and SSGT Shayne Towers-Hammond were still providing excellent support to UNTAET whilst CPLs Dave Donovan, Al Chisholm and Glen Andrew were providing support to 33 MP PI who had deployed to East Timor with 9 FSB. The Platoon spent the next four months with no Battalion HQ, no equipment, very little tasking and a number of new Platoon members to train - welcome LCPLs Graeme Westling, Nat Fowler, Chris Lyndon and Dee Doherty. Dee met her husband-to-be on her MP Basic Course and after a beautiful wedding at Vacluse House, at which most of the Platoon were present, Dee moved to Townsville to be with her new husband Scott Ihle from 13 MP PI. Best wishes.

OP GOLD is now the Platoons primary focus and at time of writing the Olympic Games have just begun. Our focus is towards investigations and policing duties and if it were not for the support of other Corps



Members of 41 Platoon take a break during the Olympics (top)



Organising security was a big task (bottom)

units, 41 Platoon would not have been able to do its job. Thanks go to 3 MP Coy, 2 MP Coy, 13 MP PI, 1 CSU MP Tp, 1 JSU MP Tp, and 33 MP PI for the provision of manning, vehicles and equipment.

To Platoon said farewell to a number of long time residents in the last year whose absence was sorely felt. Farewell Pat Reynolds (ARTC), Sean Heinze (1 JSU MP Tp), Marcelle Kealy-Bateman (AMPTC), Kirsty Muirhead (AMPTC), Dave Clarke (Invst Sect Melbourne), and Dean Hilli (transfer to GRES, 3 MP Coy).

Whilst 41 Platoon moves north to Brisbane in name only, the momentos that have been gathered over the years in the name of 41 MP PL, the momentos that give history and feeling and spirit to a unit will go north as well. Good luck to the new 41 Platoon and may the Military Police Battalion be our strength. ■



Police Training Wing

Army Military Police Training Centre

OIC/ CI -
MAJ MURRAY HERON

SI POL TRG -
CAPT DAMIEN HICK

SI INVEST TRG -
CAPT RUSS JACOB

WOIC POL TRG -
WO2 GREG WESTHEAD

WOIC INVEST TRG -
WO2 DAVE MCGARRY

PTW staff at
Lamia barracks,
Holsworthy



PTW has continued to produce the goods despite an extremely hectic training schedule in 2000. This year, the Wing conducted over 20 courses, qualifying over 300 trainees. In comparison to recent years, this is an increase of about 70%. This increase is a reflection of the importance of policing within the military environment and the advent of the 1 MP Bn in 2001. PTW has also picked-up added training responsibilities for RAAF and RAN Service Police in investigations and CPP. The Wing has also trained a number of infantry units in Population Protection and Control (PPC). Both of these commitments will continue in 2001 and will provide a challenge for the whole Corps, not just for those posted to PTW.

PTW has undergone significant establishment changes between Dec 1999 and Dec 2000. Departures from the Wing include MAJ Chris Ostapenko (HQ AMPTC); CAPTs Richard Thorn (SQLG), Max Britton (52 MP Pl), Russ Jacob (4 MP Coy); LT Scott Raymond (HQ 5 MP Coy); WO2s Leo Orreal (55 MP Pl), Les Smith (1 MP Tp), Terry Warke (2 MP Coy) and Greg Westhead (1 MP Coy); SSGTs Al Williams (52 MP Pl) and Phil Barrett (54 MP Pl); SGTs 'Larry' Larkham (24 MP Pl) and Craig Pfeiffer (3 MP Coy) and

FSGT Peter Penglis (TDT). To those who have served with us, thanks for your efforts and best of luck for your future within the Corps.

Arrivals in 2000 included MAJ Murray Heron (13 MP Pl); CAPT Damien Hick (DJFHQ); WO2 Steve Ritchie (ARTC); SGTs Luis Bello (13 MP Pl) and Brad Ward (1 MP Tp). They all hit the ground running and their transition has been relatively seamless. Well done and keep up the good work. It would be amiss not to mention the sound work provided by the staff members who have soldiered on from 1999-2001. WO1 Graham Lazenby, WO2 Dave McGarry, SSGT Vicki Jones and Ms Pam Corby. Well done on your efforts. You'll get out of here one day.

2001 will see further changes within PTW. This will include the reintroduction of the Advanced Training Section. This section will take responsibilities for specialist Corps and all-Corps courses as well as Training Technology Development. Initial Training Section will conduct basic and intermediate level courses, whilst the Investigation Training Section will handle investigative and scenes of crime training. The Wing will pick up about 30 courses in 2001 with a net training liability of about 400 (not including PPC coy training). The training development responsibilities will move to HQ AMPTC in order to allow training and Corps doctrine to be developed along comparable lines. Finally, the outcome. The role of PTW is to produce trained personnel to be able effectively conduct their role within the Service Police ranks. 2000 has produced some excellent trainees who deserve some recognition. The following trainees received awards this year. Well done to you all, you have set the standard for professionalism within the provost ranks.

3/ 99-00 MP Basic Student of Merit -
LCPL Deanne Doherty
Instructors Award -
LCPL David Schell
4/ 99-00 Invest Qual
Student of Merit -
CPL Shane Waterson
Instructors Award -
LAC Chris Andrew

2/ 99-00 MP Basic (Part B - GRes)
Student of Merit -
PTE Susan Palzer
Instructors Award -
PTE Bradley McMullen
1/ 00-01 MP Basic
Student of Merit -
LCPL Nathan Mark
Instructors Award -
CPL Jonelle Cornick

1/ 00-01 Invest Qual
Student of Merit -
CPL Kirsty Muirhead

In the past couple of years, the provost profile has been lifted to new heights. With our success in East Timor and with the raising of 1 MP Bn, PTW has been the centre of focus and the centre of excellence. The instructors and staff of PTW have worked tirelessly in 2000 and have produced outstanding results. Because of their dedication and commitment, the Corps can function in the role that it was intended to do. Finally, the staff would like to acknowledge the support provided by the members of the Corps who have given time to assist with courses throughout the year. We only hope that this professional affinity can continue into 2001. Remember to keep an eye out for the PTW Page on the Corps website.

Last but not least, congratulations to CAPT Damien Hick and Charmaine and SGT Luis Bello and Lisa on their respective marriages. ■



MP Sect DCSC NT/K & I MP TP

WO2 WARREN HUGGINS/ SSGT DAMIAN TREVOR

Greetings from the sunny and ever tropical north. Another year is nearly over and yet it only seems like yesterday that we started off with new millennium job numbers. The year started off with a bang with 30 investigations being recorded in the first 30 days of the year. By the end of the month the 'high' of the New Year was over, heads went down and bums went well and truly up. I MP TP have provided invaluable assistance, initially with their two and now one 315-2. The remaining CPLs have responded well with a steep learning curve for all in the conduct of TDR's under the ever watching eyes of SSGT Trevor.

The 'Troop Investigators' started off the year by travelling to scenic MT Bundy for the troop 'shake out' exercise, where the section of two watched in amazement, whilst sipping iced cordial, as the TP HQ attempted to reverse their vehicle into there cam net. The exercise gave the investigators an opportunity to show the troop what tasks they can perform in the field and the ease in which they can do it. Whilst gently reminding people that 190's do get dirty and drive Landrovers.

The Sect still remains the first and last smiling Corps face that members see whilst on transit to and from EM. The Sect is still conducting a large amount of forensic and liaison work for jobs coming out of EM. This is anticipated to continue for the foreseeable future, much to NT Police Forensics delight!

CPL Glen Bickley was lucky enough to be deployed on EX LONGLOOK where he was employed by the RMP Covert drug surveillance team, along with the obligatory trips to Germany, Cyprus Scotland etc etc. I know he felt guilty about leaving us but to continue with the grind.

Aug 2000 saw the discharge of

SSGT Ken' I can get any gadget' Dobson from the ARA to GRes. Ken was a tireless investigator who is missed not only by this Sect, but also from the Corps. Ken is now working for Immigration in Perth. Best wishes to you Ken in your new job.

Congratulations go to Steve Wicks who was promoted to SGT on his posting into I MP Bn WEF Aug 2000.

The short time posting award goes to Damian Trevor after his drive up here on posting in Feb 00 and getting stuck at Kulgera for seven days in floods. He has decided enough is enough and will be in Oakey as of Oct, escaping before the wet hits. During his stay at Kulgera he managed to drink free beer, eat free steaks and be accommodated by the NT Police at no cost. Who would imagine that you could have a distant cousin as a copper in a town that has only a Police station and a Pub that you have never met before? Good luck to Damian and his family on posting and a hopelessly uneventful drive down south.

The last quarter of the year will be a trying time for the Section with Anne, (I really like Darwin) Wood, Steve (I really do like Darwin) Wicks and Glenn (I never want to leave Darwin) Bickley remaining behind to continue the workload whilst everyone else deserts them. We are sure that they are up to the task.

Postings in will be Steve Hessian on promotion from Perth and Sue Mercer from Kapooka on yet another drive up the highway. Good luck to both on there impending postings.

Well the year is almost over and the Battalion will be commencing with much anticipation from all at this location. All the best to all for the coming Christmas and New Year and we hope to see you all, probably on your way to EM, soon. ■

MP Sect DCSC NTH QLD

SGT K. FENTON

Salutations to all Corps members from the guys and gal in tropical North Queensland.

The millennium year has been somewhat quieter with the redeployment of the 3rd Brigade from East Timor and post deployment leave for the troops, however, there is always plenty happening to keep us going up here.

2000 saw only one posting out when we bid farewell to CPL Andrew Johnston at the beginning of the year to DCSO B, on promotion to Sergeant. Our best wishes go to you Johnno.

Soon after the departure of Johnno we saw the arrival of CPL Fiona Rancnik from ARTC, Kapooka, in her debut posting to the dark side, proving herself to be very aptly making the transition from 315, come Recruit Instructor, to 190.

The Section Commander, WO2 Shannon Smith, managed to join in the 'Dili Dash for Cash', but from all reports has had to work feverishly as the only Aussie MP Investigator in country (although he always found time to call the Section to ensure that they were still missing him). Upon returning he intends to travel to Barcelona, where you can just picture him at one of those wild Spanish festivals running with the bulls. A posting to Canberra awaits him on his return to the illustrious position of SM 5 MP Coy (SIB).

CPL Dennis 'the human phone book' McLean is gearing up for the big move to Wagga Wagga and is looking forward to his first winter out of the Sunshine State (Not). We offer this advice to those at ARTC Kapooka, make sure he has his morning coffee.

The cobwebs are still hanging off SGT Ken 'is there an Army outside Nth Qld' Fenton, who can't seem to escape from the Section. Although, after 10 years in the tropics, there appears to be a light at the end of the tunnel with a pending posting order to Singleton somewhere on the horizon.

Finally, we here in Townsville, no doubt like all others, look forward to the raising of the 1st MP Battalion in 2001 and the changes it brings with great anticipation. Our best wishes go out to everyone for the Christmas and New Year period. Until then farewell from everyone up here and remember if you are ever in Townsville drop in as we always have a spare case file for you to do. ■





Policing Major Military Concentrations Lessons Learned from the First Brigade Experience

BY CAPTAIN D.R. BRADLEY

In the 1/98 edition of the Combat Services Support Journal I discussed the potential for significant improvements in the area of garrison policing through the incorporation of Military Police (MP) assets within the garrison rather than under different command arrangements. By using these assets to revert to a more pro-active policing model it was proposed that a positive effect could be obtained through the better response times of MP to incidents, the higher level of interaction between MP and their supported formations, and the increased potential for problem solving.

MP assets in the Northern Territory (NT) have now been able to put into practice many of the concepts outlined in that initial article. This subsequent paper is aimed at discussing the outcomes of the policing program in the NT so that other formations can make an informed decision on the suitability of such a program for their garrison.

NT Military Policing Program

Currently the NT has two MP sub-units:

- 1st Military Police Troop (Bde MP Tp). The integral Bde MP Tp under command 1 Bde for the conduct of combat MP operations comprises General Duties MP (GD MP), investigators and Military Working Dogs (MWD); and
- Defence Corporate Support Centre Northern Territory / Kimberleys MP Section (DCSC NT/K MP Section) comprising of MP investigators.

The DCSC NT/K MP Section is responsible for the conduct of all garrison policing and criminal investigations within the Northern

Region. No major pro-active policing was conducted by this section prior to the relocation of the Bde MP Tp to Darwin in 1998. With a strength of five investigators the Section could do little more than conduct reactive investigations into reported crimes because of the significant investigative workload generated by the Northern Region.

However, since the arrival of the Bde MP Tp the two sub units were able to develop a policing program combining the resources and manpower of both elements to produce a program tailored to local which has produced positive outcomes as noted in the Introduction. The key aspects of the program are as follows:

- A 24 hour contact phone number for the MP in the region. This number reaches the GD MP on duty. The GD MP handle the initial enquiry, provide an immediate response if required, and contact the duty investigator should the matter warrant their attendance;
- A combined investigative section. This enhanced section handles all criminal investigation in the region when required. The section consists of the four investigators on strength of 1 MP Tp and the five investigators of the DCSC NT/K MP Sect. The senior investigator in the region is responsible for the day to day supervision of all criminal investigations irrespective of command. A Duty Investigator is appointed for 24 hour response and is rotated amongst this Section
- A 24 hour GD MP patrol. This two to four person patrol responds to incidents and conducts active patrolling within the barracks area, Darwin and Palmerston. The GD MP from 1 MP Tp man this patrol. The Tp

also provides the regional Duty Officer from its Officers and SNCOs.

Policing Philosophy

The MP philosophy in dealing with community policing issues is best summed up by the following questions that should be answered by MP when confronted with a situation:

- Is the decision you make within your discretion? (If not you have the Duty Officer and Investigator available for assistance);
- Will the actions you take remedy the situation? and
- Are the actions you take in the best interests of the soldier?

It has been the experience of the Bde MP Tp that if MP follow these key principles favourable outcomes are achieved.

Results & Lessons Learned

The increased cooperation between the MP sub units in the Northern Region has had many benefits for the soldiers of the Bde and improved the efficiency of the service delivered by the MP. Some of the key lessons learned are outlined below:

Centralised Service Delivery.

One point of contact for all MP within the region means less confusion for units who previously called MP for support and were told 'that's not our area, you need to call (other formation) MPs'.

Increased Response Times.

MP are able to respond to incidents significantly quicker by use of the GD patrol. Additionally the GD patrol assess the requirement for investigator support and assist the investigator upon their arrival,



MP's on bikes - A community policing initiative in Darwin



reducing the time required at the incident scene.

Increased Civilian Police (CIVPOL) Liaison.

MP work more closely with CIVPOL agencies resulting in an improved outcome for the soldier. In general, where discretion allows, CIVPOL allow the MP to take custody of a soldier and transport him back to his unit for further Defence action rather pursue civilian action. This strong liaison creates a direct link with the community and identifies Army as being key players in the resolution of issues as they affect the wider community.

Initial Friction between Units and the MP

Initially there was resentment by units of the increased involvement from MP with their soldiers. This was particularly so after hours. Increasingly, however units find that the information the MP can supply and their ability to negotiate a reasonable outcome with the wider community, including law enforcement, is a greater benefit.

Effect of Shift Work on MP

It was found that 24-hour, 7 day patrolling was not able to be maintained with a manning of 26 personnel in addition to the requirement to conduct collective and individual training. A review of service data showed a lowered call rate during the early part of the week. The focus was shifted to an on-duty patrol in the peak, which were assessed as being Thursday-Saturday. Remaining times were covered by an on-call patrol. Recent increases in MP strength have seen a return to a 24-hour service.

Problem Solving

MP were able to solve problems encountered by soldiers within the community. Often this meant alternatives to arrest and civilian charges being laid. An anecdotal example follows:

"A group of soldiers attending a function at a popular local nightclub become involved in a fight with the nightclub security when one of the members is asked to leave due to his

level of intoxication. The fight results in injuries to security staff and soldiers. Both sides threaten to lay assault charges and the nightclub wants to issue a trespass notice against all members of the unit, banning them from entering the premises. MP negotiate a resolution between the unit security staff and the unit which results in no charges being laid, no trespass notices being issued and no adverse publicity for Army, which would have been the case were the matter to be heard in the local court."

Training value to MP

The constant interaction between MP and the Defence community and the requirement for the MP to constantly apply their powers in a real-time law enforcement setting has resulted in a marked increase in the level of individuals MP law and order skills.

Criminal Information

A higher profile for MP within the Bde and Darwin community has led to an increase in the amount of information passed by informants and other law enforcement organisations to the MP regarding criminal activity amongst service personnel.

Crime Prevention

More pro-active military policing allows for specific local concerns to be addressed. Most notably in the Northern Region there was a concern over soldiers driving whilst under the influence of alcohol. A program was initiated in which MP provided breath testing checks as soldiers depart the barracks. To date over 2000 soldiers have been tested. Those soldiers who provided a positive breath test were advised on the appropriateness of them driving their vehicle at the time. All soldiers tested to date have complied with the advice given to them by the MP. Additionally MP actively promote programs such as free soft drink for designated drivers within establishments selling alcohol on barracks.

Recent Developments

Recently the MPTp commenced a mountain bike patrol as

part of its community policing program. The mountain bikes allow for rapid and discreet access to all areas of the barracks and presents a more approachable image to soldiers in the 1 Bde community. It has the additional benefit of allowing MP to work on aspects of their fitness that shift work does not traditionally allow.

An increased focus on liaison with nightclub security staff and rapid follow up action after an incident has occurred has resulted in the MP often being called for advice directly by these organisations, allowing solutions to be reached with a minimum of outside intervention.

Conclusion

Since the introduction of the Northern Region combined community policing program many incidents such as the one illustrated in this article have been resolved through the timely availability of MP support to the soldiers serving in Darwin and the outlying regions. Additionally, significant training benefits are available to MP involved in such programs. A flexible approach to the management of MP resources in the region is necessary for a program such as this to be successful. Units who are policed by the local MP need to be made aware of the problem solving focus of such a program. It is hoped that by demonstrating the benefits of the Northern Region Policing Program, other garrison locations can achieve similar results through more lateral use of their integral MP assets in this role. ■

Captain Bradley graduated from the Defence Force Academy and the Royal Military College in 1994. He has previously been appointed as the Administrative Officer 1st Military Police Company before commanding the 16th Military Police Platoon and being posted as the Liaison Officer to Commander 7th Task Force. He is currently posted as the Officer Commanding the 1st Military Police Troop in Darwin.



MP SECT Army Recruit Training Centre (ARTC) SM - WO2 G. Kubea

Greetings from sunny Kapooka. The new millennium began with a major changeover of staff for the section, with WO2 Gordon Kubea taking post as the Section Commander, SGT's Dave Voss as OPS SGT and Paul Paterson as INVEST SGT. CPL's Sue Mercer filling the post as INVEST CPL, with Matt Pike and Patrick Reynolds bolstering the 315 ranks. Joining the only section member remaining from last year, CPL Zane Foley.

Much has happened over the course of the year, and as the year draws to a close the section can look back and see that we have had a serious impact on the psyche of all those recruits that have passed through these hallowed walls. From the moment they arrive, to the time that they march out, rarely a day will go by without them seeing an MP. Be it on patrol or in the form of one of the two RACMP Recruit Instructors, CPL's Craig Peacy and Greg Lockett.

ARTC has been in overdrive, training soldiers for their deployments to East Timor, much to the angst of their platoon staff. And recruiting units around the country have been excelling at sending us the finest of what Australia's youth have to offer, at least the flow has been consistent. All have been drawn in by the saturation of advertising throughout the media. THE ARMY. THE EDGE. This unit has conducted its own recruiting of sorts, with RACMP posters positioned throughout the area.

The work within the section has been a constant reminder of how the Army is changing. With CSP in full swing within the Kapooka Military Area there are more civilians than military personnel at times, with this, (no direct link is implied), has come an increase in minor offences and theft related occurrences. Coupled with several larger jobs this has lead to many sessions of burning the midnight oil to meet deadlines and complete investigations before the young recruit moves on in his or her career path.

A posting to Training Command has allowed unit members to participate in a plethora of short training courses otherwise not freely available in some of the larger military areas. These range from Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) to Occupational Health and Safety Managers courses.

As the year has ground on, there have been some casualties. CPL Matt Pike has elected discharge, and has moved on to a career within the NSW Corrective Service. The members of the section wish him all the best in his endeavours.

CPL Sue Mercer was detached to the Task Force in Sydney for several months.

As we approach the New Year, and another recruiting surge period, more changeovers are anticipated as the posting cycle comes around yet again. The majority of the unit's members are heading for postings to either Sydney, Canberra or Townsville.

2001 holds much promise, and with the new Battalion coming on line in the New Year, this will be an exciting time to be in THE CORPS. ■

7 BDE MP Tp

BY: LT DAMIAN BUSHELL

As with all units within the Corps and the Army it has been a hectic year so far, I would like to send my thanks to all members of the Tp for their support and dedication. The Tp has undergone major changes in manpower with postings in and out. There has been a focus on individual training within the Bde and the Tp has so far accommodated this directive from our HQ. The following is a summary of major points that have occurred within the Tp this year.

The following were posted in this year:

CAPT Ross, LT Bushell,
SSGT Shepherd, SGT Shields,
CPL Watson, CPL Searles, and
LCPL Hughes.

gained support from the Brigade and Garrison Commanders, all though limited by manpower and resources we have achieved our goals.

In keeping with our focus on individual training we have been able to send a significant number of our personnel on courses, CPL Walsh has won the award for most courses attended.

LCPL Sue James and her husband, CPL Mick James (1 JSU MP Tp) were pleased to announce the arrival of the newest addition to the Corps on 26 Aug, their daughter Sarah weighed in at 3290g, Congratulations to both and all the best for the future.

I would like to make a special mention to those people who volunteered for attachment to

"Let no man speak ill of the Provost Corps attached to the 9th Aust Division within hearing of the veterans of the Huon Peninsular campaign. There is a bond between them; a bond forged of mutual esteem and respect won by each for the other on the beaches from Lae to Sio for their fortitude and unassuming bravery under a hail of shells and bombs."

- from the 9th Division Provost Company

The following have been posted out this year:

SSGT Shepherd, posted to MP Det Butterworth; SSGT Lindorff, posted to 1 Int Coy; SGT Dog Upston, posted to ADFA; SGT Williams, posted to DFCE on promotion; and SGT Payne, posted to 1 CSU on promotion.

SSGT Shepherd and SGT Coad have had their work cut out for them with (at the time of writing) 43 jobs for the year so far. We have had some significant (and sensitive) investigations completed with successful conclusions, this is a result of SSGT Shepherd and SGT Coad's dedication.

A comprehensive policing program has been in place throughout the year. We have

DFCE. As we all know DFCE has had significant manpower constraints this year and CPL Thwaites, CPL Hurnen, and CPL Guppy gave up their spare time to help out.

On behalf of the Troop I would like to thank their families for their support and to all members of the Corps I would like to thank you for all your support this year and I know that we all look forward to the formation of the Bn. ■

"You are coming to a funny place; you will be blamed if you do your duty and you will be damned if you don't"...

2nd AIF MP company commander, 1940, to a new MP recruit.



These two poems were written by a serviceman while he was a guest in a Military Detention Centre. Permission was given by the author to the Admin Officer I MCE for publication by the Military Police in their Journal.

Review of I MCE

Soldiers Under Sentence, Sailors doing time,
Blue orchids grounded, all for petty crimes,
Absconders and defaulters head the disposition sheet,
addicts and assaulters bring up the rear seats,

The soldiers are the most, orchids at a loss,
In between the matelots the scourge of the Cross,
The cream of the nation, Australians each one,
Arrested and Court Martialled for crimes they had done,

You review the Commandant in a formal way,
He quizzes you and ends to say,
'Rules are for safety and protection,
Standing Orders for discipline and prevention,
You will obey each command in mention,
Whilst serving under Military detention',

Most of the tales are of truth and compassion,
Others protest theirs in need of the fashion,
These are the posers, suave debonair,
More likely than not, they like their long hair,

Some of the stories are tall, bold, but ample,
To appreciate these lines, I'll give you an example,
One matelot protested, said he was hip,
Claimed t'was accidental, he scuttled his ship,
An orchid was early - on his way to the heavens,
Claims amnesia - where - did he get the F one eleven,
A soldier was straight forward, as it came to his turn,
Damaged his tank, when, he took his girl for a burn,

Just a few of the cases, as I'm sure You'll agree,
They insult the intelligence of the average person,

Our sentences vary, from months to a day,
Each sweating it out, our crimes for to pay,
We'll all be released never to return,
Carrying the memories and the lessons we learned,

Now don't take me wrong -we're just young in years,
Still a bit headstrong and green it appears,
Frisky and game like that of wild horses,
The woes of Her Majesty's Australian Armed Forces

By Serviceman Under Sentence - 46/72

The Dying Swagman

Along the lonely highways
I worked my way up North
Jumped trains on the Government Railways
Progress were my thoughts

I've slept in sheds and empty huts
Sometimes beneath the starlit sky
Smoked tea leaves, bark and soggy butts
Slept till the Sun was high

I rooked my food from any chum
Just as long as I had my fill
Drank beer, wine and Bundy rum
And flaked on the side of a hill

I only worked as a last resort
When inflation set me back
Lasted a week and packed my port
Back to the blazing track

I've not a worry to my mind
Nor regret for things I done
Nor damaged life of any kind
But, slowly killed myself, me, number one

By Serviceman Under Sentence - 46/72



MWD SECT DCSO-DD

CPL IAN HODGES

Bushflies, the Digger and the MP

A digger from the bush gets pulled over by a MP Corporal for speeding, and the MP starts to lecture the digger about his speed in the usual dignified manner. Finally, the MP gets around to writing out the ticket, and as he is doing that he keeps swatting at some blowies that are buzzing around his head.

The digger says, "Having some problems with circle flies there, are ya Corporal?"

The MP stops writing the ticket and says "Well yeah, if that's what they are—I've never heard of circle flies before."

So the digger says—"Well, circle flies are common on the farm. See, they're called circle flies because they're almost always found circling around the rear end of a horse."

The MP says, "Oh," and goes back to writing the ticket. Then after about ten seconds he stops and says, "Hey...hang on a minute. Are you trying to call me a horses"

The digger says, "Oh no, Corporal. I have too much respect for law enforcement and MP's to even think about calling you a horses"

The MP says, "Well, that's a good thing," and goes back to writing the ticket.

After a bit of a pause, the digger says, "Hard to fool them flies though."

This year has proven to be both challenging and rewarding for the members of the MWD Sect, DCSO-DD. Earlier this year, we welcomed LCPL's Bowes and Schell to our happy ranks, and congratulated CPL Shane Waterson on both his qualification as an Investigator, and his marriage to Maree. LCPL Brad Marshall discharged from the Service, and joined CPL Brad Milner in the pursuit of an Airforce career. SSGT Neil Sainsbury also discharged, and is now living the contented life of a civilian in Oakey. CPL Mark Nelson concludes his illustrious stay with us, and is posted to Puckapunyal Dec 00. All the best, mate.

June saw SGT Naomi Freeman and LCPL's Steve Bowes and Dave Schell embark on their MWD Basic Course, and the arrival of Sgt Leo Leppens on TDY. Leo firmly ensconced himself amidst the doggies, and is

posted to the Section Jan 01. All members of the Section successfully completed a CSFA, complete with dogs! The pleasing results of this exercise were marred by the death of CPL Craig Rowland's dog; MWD Boss. Boss was diagnosed with a brain-tumour; a condition which had lain dormant for some time.

MWD Presentations and displays have featured highly this year. CPL's Ian Hodges and Craig Rowland, LCPL Ben Geurts and Police Dog Salem made the pilgrimage to AMPTC, and gave a comprehensive recruitment presentation to the members of the MP Basic Course. The presentation was well received by the students, with several indicating an interest in pursuing this career stream. CPL's Mark Nelson and Rod Cannan, and LCPL Aaron Barnett conducted a similar presentation at ARTC.

Several Section members

competed in the annual Police and Service Dog Association Biathlon, achieving an admirable result. LCPL Jason Sellers also gave a good account of himself in the Iron Man event conducted on the same day. The Section members are awaiting the arrival of SSGT Damian Trevor as their new SECTCOMD, and Lt Williamson as their PLCOMD.

Sect members are waiting expectantly for the implementation of the IMP BN, which will subsequently mean an increase in Manning to a total of 24 Handlers. The raising of the Battalion will also provide more posting options, and enable the Handlers greater opportunities to participate in operational and exercise roles, alongside their fellow MP's. The present indications are for another challenging year in 2001! The Section wishes you all a Merry Christmas, and a safe and prosperous New Year. ■

An Ode to the Brave

A lonely figure in the land of the free
Another unknown digger with PTSD
We left this land as proud young men
Swelled with pride to wear the digger's uniform again

Our pride turned to sorrow, confusion, despair
We soon began to wonder at why we were there
The land of the confusion that didn't seem to care
We watched as the youth of our Nation were maimed and killed

As our naive young hearts with hatred filled
No worries we thought, our tour will soon end
We'll go home to a Nation that takes pride in their fighting men

But how shocked and how hurt we were
To be home again
To find a Nation divided by hatred and pain
We tried to adjust in this land of the free
But found only hatred, confusion, and me
If only we'd realised we were not alone
For some too late - for now they are gone

And let's not forget our wives, children,
family and friends
They lived with our anger, pain and despair
Unable to help but we know they do care

But let's remember we owe it to ourselves
to get well
And leave behind the memories of the
place we call hell
And please remember the shame is not ours
The shame is Australia's for letting us down

Written by Dietmar Probst



Members of 1 MP Tp during Population Protection and Control training in Darwin



1st Military Police Troop 1 CSU

Supporting the three in Darwin, 1st Armoured Regt, 2 Cav Regt and 5/7 RAR (Mech) can make it busy at the best of times but the year 2000 has seen 1 MP Tp undertake its most industrious year to date in Darwin both in and out of the 1st Brigade.

The year started with the conduct of the pilot Extraction and Recovery Course. The course is designed to train specialist apprehension teams in a PPC environment. The course was highly demanding however all soldiers reached an excellent standard.

This course was closely followed by the conduct of the inaugural junior leadership training exercise which required soldiers within the Troop to lead their peers through a variety of activities over five days whilst getting very little sleep and food. This activity allowed the JNCOs of the Troop to get some command time in a harsh and demanding environment.

After some initial lead up training, Exercise Predators Gallop saw 1 Bde deploy across Australia to the traditional home of the 3rd Brigade, High Range Training Area. The Troop conducted lines of communication support and then used its own mechanised capability to good effect supporting combined arms battle group operations.

A very short break after exercising saw the Military Working Dog Section and nine additional members of the Tp deploy in support of OP GOLD. The MWD Sect provided security to the response force mounting base. The other Troop members conducted training at the direction of the CDF to all those members of Defence involved in the provision of Defence Assistance to the Civil Community or members potentially involved in providing Defence Force Aid to the Civil Power. The training was scheduled at short notice however the members distinguished themselves by the high quality physical skills training and training material provided.

Community policing in Darwin has continued to involve all members of the Troop throughout the year. An average of over 300 man-hours of patrolling is conducted on foot, mountain bike and in vehicles per week. 1 MP Tp members initiate over 350 contacts with soldiers, sailors and airmen each week through radar, breathalyser and general patrol operations. The continued success of these operations is evident in the excellent relations maintained with NT Police and nightclub owners, which result in many calls for service each week.

The Troop looks forward to its transition back to the 11th Military Police Platoon in January 2001. This will mark the closing of the Troop's role in the Restructure of the Army Trial. It is hoped that the new look assumed by the Troop will be celebrated with the launch on a web Site outlining the capabilities of the Army's Top end Military Police. ■





HQ's New Home at Victoria Barracks

Hot off the press comes these pictures of the new Headquarters 1st Military Police Battalion home. Situated in beautiful downtown Victoria Barracks Paddington, the soon to be occupied building No 58 has a history of it's own.



Erected in 1935, it was originally used as a drill hall by various RAAOC elements right up until WWII. They sure don't make drill halls like that any more.

Architecturally constructed in the style known as 'Australian Vernacular Tradition' it certainly fits the requirement for being aesthetically pleasing to the eye. For us non aficionado's that was an architectural style dating from the mid 1880's, made famous by the

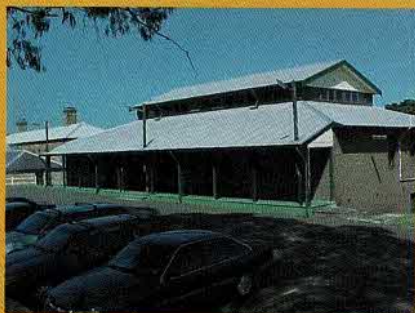
legendary architect Frances Greenway. Take a visit to Greenway's CourtHouse at Windsor, NSW, and you can see a fine example of the origin of the style. The building



has been classified as an excellent example of military architecture from the between the wars period in Sydney. Relatively unaltered since it was first built, you can still see

the original brass fittings on the upstairs doors.

Throughout WWII it housed many and varied units and organisations. Following WWII and well into the 1950's Electrical Inspection



Service personnel occupied the building. From the late 1950's until June 1993 it was used as accommodation for the now defunct Victoria Barracks Guard. While all that was going on the various Army bands used it for practice right up until the late 1980's, with the Bandmaster having his personal accommodation inside as well. From 1993 until recently the tenants were Movement Control Office and finally OPGOLD who have kindly moved out to make way for the Army's newest battalion. If only those walls could speak ... ■



Task Force 'Burry Dutt'

In the month of June 2000
A Task Force was born
When looking for a boss
They chose Captain Richard Thorn

So from Brisbane he came
But before he flew in
They realised they needed
A WO to do Admin

So from far up north
Where the weather is muggy
They lured in the bloke
We all know as Huggy

We now have a CAPT
We now have a WO
It must be time
To give a SSGT a go

So from the bowels of Victoria
Where it's not very sandy
They drag in the Causer
Better known as Mandy

On the way to the airport
Her route took a bend
She went to Watsonia
And collected Les Friend

With the heirarchy covered
The ship would have sank
If they didn't include workers
Of the CPL rank

From Wagga she came
You say CPL who?
They call up CPL Mercer
But please call her Sue

They wanted another
MAJ Reeves made the call
Went across the road
And got the Cowled named Paul

With Sue and Paul
The working diggers
It took little to work out
The job involved figures

A person who could count
Is what they would need
So from Pay Corps they drew
Captain Mark Meads

With a complete team of seven
It should be investigators heaven
But at Greenhills where they were based
Two had to be replaced

So Warren returned
To the place he calls home
But no one came back
To be the Admin clone

Down in Victoria
Two kids were quite sick
They needed their Mum
To come home very quick

So Mandy packed up
Her bags and jobs too
Went straight to the airport
And home she flew

She was almost replaced
The very next day
By the bloke from the Hunter
SSGT Wridgway

Twas only a few weeks
When the stress took it's toll
And the inquiries began
To fall into a hole

To raise up their spirits
Before they're all dead
Good old Capt Thorn
Went and shaved his head

In contrary to baldness
When the stress would not budge
Les came to work
With his hair full of fudge

Three months of inquiries
Have now been done
We're coming real close
To the end of phase one

Statements, labels
And the notebook
The cells full of property
Where no one can look

The rest of the team
Were envious you know
Cause Wes and Sue
Got to go to the snow

Les got real close
But it didn't quite count
Cause they made a snowman
With a carrot with a snout

So now you've been teased
About who's in the team
You're asking yourself
What's it all mean??

A task force to investigate
What?? I hear you ask
There seems to be secrecy
About the whole task

You can ask me and ask me
And ask me even more
You know I'm gunna say
I can tell you bugger all.

Wes Wridgway - Sep 2000

FF FOUR LEGGED LAW ENFORCERS



FOUR LEGGED LAW ENFORCERS