

HQ CENT

COY

RNZASC



Newsletter

RNZASC Newsletter

Issue Number Ten

December 1978

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DST's LETTER

As 1978 draws to a close the RNZASC can look back on a year that has more than kept us busy and stretched our resources to the limit. I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks for the long and arduous hours of duty each and every member of the Corps has contributed during the year. From the Directorate we have presented our case to Army General Staff for a reduction of tasks or for an increase in manpower. Whatever the outcome I am confident that more people are now aware of our situation and some respite should be in the offering. In the meantime we have a job to do and we must all continue to give of our best.

1979 will be for the Corps nostalgic and interesting. Nostalgic because we cease to exist as RNZASC, interesting because we will form a new Corps, a Corps of Transport, and reorganize ourselves as regiments within each Task Force Region. We will also see the inclusion of movement units as an integral part of our Corps and rationalization of rank and career prospects across the boards. The change to RNZCT has been approved in principle for 12 May 79, our Corps Day. It has also been approved in principle that my appointment title should become Director of Transport, Movements and Catering (DTMC). There are many other aspects but you will be advised of details in due course.

I would ask those of you who have been considering taking your release prematurely especially among the junior ranks to seriously reconsider. The concept, shape and job satisfaction of our new Corps and new organization will be both challenging and rewarding and I ask you to stay on and try it out - you may yet get to like it.

Finally let me wish you all in NZ, Moscow, The Pacific, Singapore, Antarctica, Campbell Island or wherever a Corps task has taken you, a peaceful and rejuvenating Christmas for yourselves, families and friends and a prosperous and rewarding new year. Please drive carefully - we want you back alive in 1979.

(S.A. DAVIES)

Lieutenant Colonel
Director of Supplies and Transport

THE REORGANIZATION OF RNZASC

To clear up the confusion, and quash all those fantastic rumours, the following is a brief explanation of the proposed Corps Reorganization:

- a. 1 Regt RNZASC is to be formed from Northern Coy, 1 Tpt Coy and 1 AASO. These units will be redesignated 6 Composite Coy, 1 Tpt Coy and 5 Terminal Support Coy respectively.
- b. 2 Regt RNZASC is to be formed from Central Coy and 10 Tpt Coy. Units will be redesignated 2 Composite Coy and 10 Tpt Coy.
- c. 3 Regt RNZASC is to be formed from Southern Coy and 3 Tpt Coy. Unit will be redesignated 9 Composite Coy and 3 Tpt Coy.
- d. Each Regt will have a Movement Control Unit (MCU) responsible for all movements within the Task Force Region. MCUs will be numbered the same as the Regt. ie 2 MCU of 2 Regt etc.
- e. Waiouru Company will be redesignated 4 Composite Coy.
- f. RNZASC School and NZ Tpt Coy will not alter to any great extent at this stage.

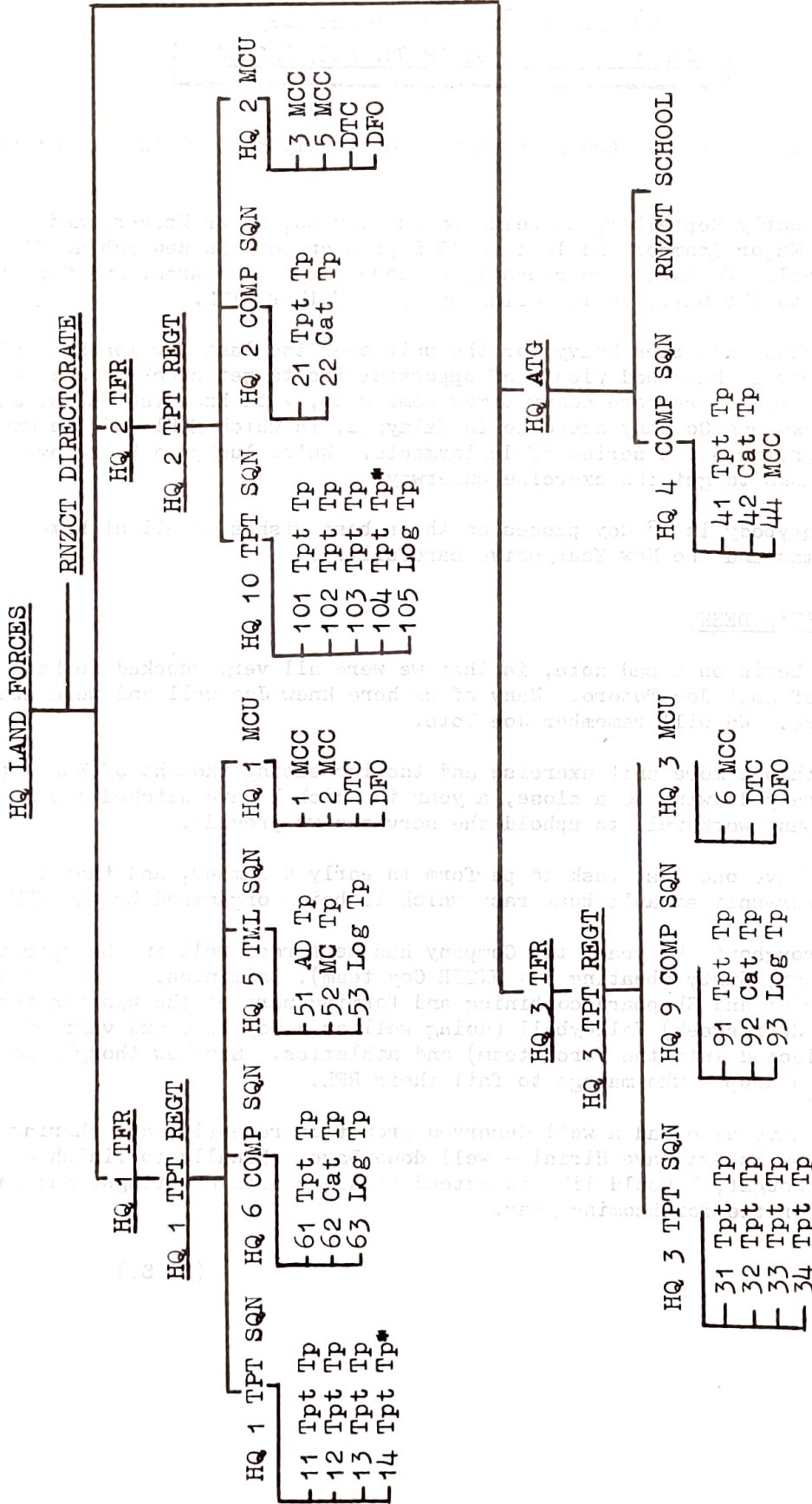
When Royal Assent is given to change our Corps to RNZCT, (and we are hoping this will be 12 May 79), the companies will become squadrons and platoons become troops. RNZASC School will become RNZCT School and NZ Tpt Coy will become 18 Tpt Sqn.

The platoons (tps) will be numbered and named according to parent company (Sqn) and role. eg 2 Comp Coy will have 21 Tpt Pl (GS) 22 Tpt Pl (CL) and 23 Catering Pl. 10 Tpt Coy will have 101-104 Tpt Pls, all GS and 105 Log Pl, which will be a mixture of CL transport and catering, similar to Linton Pl.

There will be no real change to the strength of the Corps. Those supply appointments transferred to Ordnance will be replaced with movement appointments. However the reorganization does allow the opportunity to rationalize rank structures to provide better career progression.

Details of the reorganization will be released progressively between now and Mar 79 with a series of implementation instructions.

PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF RNZCT



* Unit Not Raised In Peace

18 NZ TRANSPORT COMPANY

OC : MAJOR C.E. McIVER, RNZASC

CSM : WOII P.C. SHEPPARD, BEM, RNZASC

Well, there has been a lot happening lately here at the hub of the Orient.

In early September, we welcomed the new OC, Major McIver, and farewelled Major Thomson who left on 12 September for his new job as CI RNZASC School. We have also recently welcomed Ssgt Dave Arps, and Corporal Wayne Read to the unit, while losing Cpl A.J. Walker RTNZ.

Tasking has been heavy for the unit over the last few months, and the new arrivals have had plenty of opportunities to get stuck in and learn the ropes. There are more heavy times coming up, with Exercise PELARI JALAN RAYA, a week-long Company exercise in Malaysia, in which E Pl and the Coy HQ will be carrying out a series of deployments. We're lucky to be allowed a week off tasks to get the exercise underway.

Everybody in 18 Coy passes on their best wishes to all at home for Christmas and the New Year. Drive carefully!!!

FROM THE CSM's DESK,

To begin on a sad note, in that we were all very shocked to hear of the death of Ssgt Joe Totoro. Many of us here knew Joe well and were aware of his value. We will remember Joe Tote.

With one more unit exercise and the increasing thought of Xmas, the year is surely drawing to a close, a year in which I have watched the members of the Company work well to uphold the services we provide.

We have one last task to perform in early December, and that is to win the inter-unit assault boat race which is being organized by the EME.

Throughout the year, the Company has performed well in the sporting arena, Soccer, Rugby (beating a 1 RNZIR Coy team), Badminton, (the unbeaten pair of Hirini and Sheppard combining and forming part of the winning team for Forces Sportsweek) Volleyball (doing well as a Coy team and various members selected into the Force team) and athletics. Somehow though, we still have a couple who manage to fail their RFL.

We have also had a well deserved promotion recently, and sharing my office now is Sgt Dave Hirini - well done Dave. Finally to finish on a happier thought, I would like to extend to all season greetings, and the very best for the forthcoming year.

(P. S.)

THE CONTINUING SAGA OF E PLATOON

In our last newsletter you heard all about our achievements in the world of sports. Just to prove that it is not always a bed of roses over here in this newsletter we will look at the work side of E Platoon. We were actively involved in two exercises this month of October in the year of our Lord 1978.

Before telling you about these exercises I think it would be appropriate to let everyone at home know exactly who is in E Platoon at the moment, as in two years people seem to forget where everybody is.

Pl Comd : Lt RR Stephenson

*Pl Sgt : Ssgt JW Grey

One Section

*Cpl CDM Nelson (Nelly)

*Lcpl DJ Phillips (Zack)

Dvr T Pohatu (Po)

Dvr P White (Whita)

*Dvr LV Barrett (Barli)

Two Section

*Cpl LE Orr (Orgy)

Lcpl T Hall (Tom T)

*Dvr SI McNaughton (McNasty)

Dvr PD Hutchins (Hutch)

Dvr DA John (David)

Three Section

Cpl DJ Nees (Derek)

Lcpl BD Harkess (Fitzu)

Dvr PJ Nichols (P.J)

Dvr AD McCormick (Mac)

Dvr JD McKay (Honky)

Four Section

Cpl LW Trotter (Trotski)

Lcpl MJ Prujean (Pru)

*Dvr IR Hindle (Ralph)

*Dvr JHJ Ward (J.B)

Dvr B.S Nicol (Nick)

*Pers going home December/January.

To continue with the story. On October 10th we provided 10 RL Bedfords and drivers for exercise Golden Fleece, (Jalan Ulu), to enable 1 RNZIR to move into the training area in Malaysia and carry out C.V.A. Drills (counter vehicle ambush drills). The exercise was designed so that every second day we would move a new Rifle Coy. Starting with A Coy who gave us a hand to strip and sandbag our vehicles. Then followed a period of rehearsals for both us and the infantry. A Coy was the first through their drills followed by B Coy and finally C Coy. On the last day - 15th October - an early start was made to enable a speedy return to Singapore that day. By late afternoon the 'Troops' (Truckies) were in the process of empty about 1000 sandbags of dirt which proved to be more fun and dirtier than a stag night with blue movies. Once that was finished it was a simple matter of re-assembling the vehicles and heading for home. The exercise was enjoyed by all who participated, highlighted by a few happenings eg 3 Transport Company Drivers i.e. Tom T and Mac have a tendency to drive into holes that no one else can find, or if you enjoy eating, lit gas cookers don't make the best seats as P.J. found out.

/With a few ...

With a few attachments in the form of a clerk, butcher and 2 detention centre personnel E Platoon complete was away again on the 17th October, to act as enemy for a Malaysian Armed Forces Company Commanders Course. For the first day and a half we set up our base camp and carried out a recce of the area that the Malaysian Company would be occupying. As they deployed in the afternoon of the 18th we started our probing/harassing attacks which continued most of the night. 1030 hrs on the 19th saw a gallant attack by E Platoon (+) onto the feature occupied by some 150 Malaysians. To our surprise ?? we managed to over run and secure the position. We occupied this feature for about 6 hours until after a swift counter attack just on dark by the Malays, we were annihilated. After being revived and to show there were no hard feelings, we again probed during the night. The only reply we got was "Go to bed Kiwi".

On the following morning we packed and after a short debrief by the Chief Instructor of the Malaysian Company Commanders Course, half the platoon headed back for Singapore, whilst the remainder went on into the training area to bring A Company back from Exercise Golden Fleece.

All in all an interesting month, with plenty of variety. Coming up we have a joint exercise with the Singaporeans in early November for several days and a Company exercise in Mid - November, which will include deployments, harbours, recce and standing patrols, and navigation by route card. We also have a few people on the diving course and parachute continuation course. After our RFL testing, we're on into Christmas and 1979.

SUPPLY PL, NZ TPT COY

Well at the time of putting pen to paper it would appear that the supply element of the Corps has not departed as we all previously thought so our objective is to add still a few more lines to the corp newsletter, the last for 1978. The work progresses at the normal rate hindered on occasions by the 'Green Machine' which is nothing really unusual. During the last 5 months we have had various ships either Aust or UK arrive and depart on 16 separate occasions. Unlike NZ Sup depots where a vehicle arrives outside the depot it is an unusual situation to have a ship instead, however a change if nothing else. Our newest arrival is Cpl Wayne Read ex Papakura who replaced Sgt Walker, (Congratulations AJ from the staff, and LECs) Wayne has by now of course been introduced to the "roof top store". There is at the present time a hive of Activity around the cool store area as refurbishing takes place, probably the first since about 1950 so its certainly not before time. The top priority at the moment is financial estimates for 79/80 so we are to remain here for at least that long. Our thanks to Sgt Jim Hotter and the staff of Trentham Sup Depot for services rendered. In closing we at the Supply Platoon would like to wish all members of the Corps a very Happy Xmas and Prosperous 1979 and again stress the need to take care on the roads over the festive season.

Stonewall

1ST TRANSPORT COMPANY

Having been reminded by the 2IC, not to mention Directorate, it seems it is time again to tell of the doings of the Fighting First.

We have been suffering of late from what is no doubt a universal disease among ASC units - not enough men, not enough hours in the day, worn out vehicles and a programme of tasking which forever leaves the question "Have we got enough trucks going to do the job?" Somehow we manage to get the work done, but not without many shattered nerves, from the top to the lowest baggy.

It is nice to think that a start has at least - and at last - been made to find a replacement for the old RL. You can only keep a thing going for so long before it gives up, be it a truck or a person and it is high time a replacement came to life. The team who are evaluating the replacement will no doubt come up with umpteen different personal preferences but the final choice will no doubt be a worthy one!

Changes in the Company strength over the last few months have been minimal. After farewelling Saigon Harvey and even giving him a going away present he did the dirty on us and stayed here anyway -and he didn't give the present back either. We lost Major Andrewes, our TF OC to FF Comd and gained Major Haworth in his place. We have seen a lot of him since then - seems the building trade must be doing alright from the amount of time he can spend away from it (but we do appreciate your interest, sir). We also lost the Captain without a Ship, Captain Broadbent, who went to 1 AASO and ceased to be a Captain anyway! Congratulations and I hope 1 AASO appreciate our sacrifice. In the new year we lose our Chief Clerk to civvy street. He hasn't a clue what job he will be doing - some no doubt will say he hasn't a clue, full stop! To replace him we will be getting Ssgt Bernie Parsons ex Singapore. I hope he realises he is coming back to a non-static appointment and prepare accordingly!

Talking of losses, one of our latest has been the civvy Labour Dept typist who had been here doing sterling work for quite a while. We inveigled her into applying for RF with visions of her being posted to us and gaining a Clerk. She was accepted after much pushing (in light of the current veto on female recruiting it went right to the top), but what a letdown - she was enlisted as a Typist and posted as Pte, RNZIR, to WBOP AA. What a swindle!

As Xmas is rapidly approaching, so is Annual Camp. This takes place for us over 13-28 January, and will find us somewhere in the Russell State Forest doing our thing. Plans are afoot to make it a real "warry" effort with deployment, ambushes, and all that jazz, so it could be quite a good camp. Already we have the dates out to our TF and quite a few have indicated they will be attending.

If you are down Hamilton way (or up, depending on your location) over the 9/10 December you could attend the Hamilton Centennial Pageant where you will see a superlative display of skilled driving by the Fighting First as part of the show.

A few records in the past few months. First, we cleaned up the Inter-Brigade unit competition for volleyball without loss. And the second is one that perhaps we shouldn't brag about but we will anyway! One of our troopies (who shall be nameless) recently set a new record for the two mile circuit run at SCE!!

To wind up this epistle, 1st Transport Company wishes all Corps members a very Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year, and leaves you with the thought that evidential breath testing is in, and so is the lower blood alcohol level!

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SITUATIONS VACANT

HEAD CHEF REQUIRED

South Pacific Motel's Quarter Deck Restaurant in Lower Hutt requires a City and Guilds or Cookery and Food Association qualified Head Chef to run their five handed kitchen catering for a select clientele.

Duties will include the on the job training of two trainee chefs attending Wellington Polytech's C&G 706/2 course.

The successful applicant will be required to commence work by March 1979 at the latest.

Salary will be by negotiation, but in the vicinity of \$10 - 12,000 per annum.

Married and single accommodation available.

Interested chefs should contact the General Manager of South Pacific Motels, Mr V.B. Western, telephone Wellington 698064, or write to:

South Pacific Motel
15 Pharazyn St
LOWER HUTT

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3 TRANSPORT COMPANY

OC Maj R.R. Ottaway
CSM WO2 W.F.G. Geddes

It is with some apprehension that we submit this, our third contribution to the newsletter this year, as we have yet to have one published. However, perhaps third time lucky.

I didn't think that people still held a grudge for this long, just because we won the McComb Cup at Taupo.

Enough of that I suppose and on with the report from the confederacy.

As with most units the dreaded 580s descended upon us in September. Lets be prepared this time says the OC, so we spent three weeks in workshops and the veh park preparing for the worst. The day arrived for the inspections with 20 gleaming trucks on parade. Not a towing eye pin was left unchecked. The inspection team arrived. ONE LANCE CORPORAL!! to inspect on a percentage. Only four vehs of your choice was the requirement. I hope the other units were treated with the same misfortune as us. Perhaps EME will get it right next time with four mechanics for one truck.

The year has proved to be a busy one as usual, so we thought it was time for a break. What a better way to spend your spare time, but to do survival training on the West Coast during the rainy season. Although the exercise was a little damp, morale was always high. We now have it on good authority that Lake Brunner is freezing cold, huh! grubs are nice and West Coast pubs didn't close at 1030 hrs.

I suppose the most significant feature of the past few months though was somebodys brain wave to reposition 2 x 818 tractors and trailers down to the mainland where they will no doubt perform a more useful roll. After getting the trailers down here it didn't take too long for us to get them up to our standard, so within a week we could safely put them on the road. Since then however, they haven't stopped making daily runs to Tekapo carrying APCs and Houghs to and from the training area. Perhaps the happiest people are 1 Scots. They now don't have to travel 150 miles to play with their APCs.

Overheard in the transport office the other day:

"The boss said the re-org of the corps has been postponed to the New Year".

"What? again".

"Yeah, probably wait until they have to re-org the re-org before we see the re-org, know what I mean".

"Yeah!!!"

In - Out

The following have seen the light and have come to 3 Coy.
Welcome to:

Sgt Barry Calder	from	TMS
Cpl John Craig	"	South Coy
Dvr Don Harvey	"	10 Coy
Dvr Garth Campbell	"	" "
Dvr Philip Middelplaats	"	16 Fd Regt. Must be something to do with the Defence Review
Dvr Francis Shaw	"	Ex Basic No 151
Dvr John Herewini	"	" "

The unfortunate one to be posted was:

Cpl Ron Hiha	to	HQ Army Schools (sorry Ron we tried)
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With all the annual camps coming up we can look forward to some
busyntimes again until next March. No doubt other units will be no
different.

3 Coy takes this opportunity to wish all you other RNZASC people
a safe and happy holiday period and we hope to meet up again next year
(To take back the Grey Shield).

Overheard in the A Pl office the other day:

"You really think they'll print it this time Sgt Calder".

"Yeah, go on Sir, it's worth a try".

"Yeah well, if Beetham can become Prime Minister, then we
can get this printed".

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Then there was the soldier type (W) who found to her
horror that a circumcision was not the same as a vacectomy!

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10 TRANSPORT COMPANY

OC: MAJOR J.M. YOUNG, RNZASC

CSM: WOII P. DILLON, MM, RNZASC

Recent Activities

1. The September-November period has been extremely busy for the unit, and in addition to a multitude of transport tasks, our time has been devoted to:

- a. Annual Range Shoot. The unit had an enjoyable and successful week at Trentham firing every weapon from the 9mm pistol to the GPMG. The overall winner was Dvr Lambert.
- b. Driving Competition. The Central Region Final of the Driver of the Year Competition resulted in the unit gaining the first four placings. Central Region representatives in the final next year will be:

Lcpl Tamehana, 10 Tpt Coy
Dvr Nuku, 10 Tpt Coy
- c. Hawkes Bay A and P Show. The unit Landrover Display Team did their thing before a capacity crowd at the recent Hawkes Bay A and P Show.
- d. Band Three Drivers Course. On behalf of RNZASC School, the unit conducted a Band Three Drivers Course, interrupted by several major transport tasks, but successfully completed.
- e. M818 Operators Course. Selected Band Three Drivers attended a two-week unit M818 Operators Course.
- f. School Display. The unit provided a military display during the Gala Day at Chanel College, Masterton, to the obvious enjoyment of hundreds of children and their patient parents.
- g. TF Training. There was a good turnout of TF at the unit convoy driving weekend and at the various night parades during the period. The unit also conducted a HT Licence Training weekend on behalf of 5WWCT.
- h. Enemy Party. Twenty RF soldiers from the unit under command of 2Lt(W) Shannon had an interesting weekend acting as enemy for 7 WnHB.

- i. Exercise Hunua Pass. The unit's officers and some SNCOs were involved in ST control appointments during Exercise HUNUA PASS.
- j. Vehicle Evaluation. Several junior ranks from the unit are presently evaluating trucks at RNZASC Schools.
- k. Operation Deep Freeze. Unit personnel on Operation Deep Freeze, from all reports, appear to be having an enjoyable and hard-working time on the ice.

2. Presently attached to the unit is Ssgt Pemberthy, RCT, while Ssgt Topia, 10 Tpt Coy, enjoys the German winter, as part of the Exercise Long Look exchange programme. Sgt Abd Majid Bin Agil and Ssgt Masoud Bin Bac Hok from Malaysia are also attached to the unit and have assisted with some training activities.

Annual Camp 1979

3. The unit Annual Camp is to be held at Gisborne during 10-24 Feb. An ideal camp site has been selected, and training activities will include:

- a. Cargo and troop lifts,
- b. navigation and convoy driving,
- c. cross-country driving,
- d. vehicle recovery,
- e. vehicle servicing and maintenance,
- f. range shoot,
- g. helicopter drills, and
- h. a tactical phase designed to practice deployment and protection drills.

4. It is anticipated that the unit strength for camp will be in the vicinity of 300 soldiers, which should make for some viable training and good mess life.

Other Matters

5. Other matters of general interest are:

- a. New Headquarters Building. 2 Fd Sqn, RNZE, fresh from their museum efforts, are presently building a much needed new headquarters for the unit.
- b. Low Bed Trailers. The unit has recently received four low bed trailers for use in conjunction with the M818 tractor for the transporting of APC and light engineering plant.

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AUSTRALIAN MIGRANT'S ENTRANCE TEST

A recent newspaper article originating from across the Tasman advised that, as a means of screening unwanted immigrants, the Australian government plans to introduce a written entrance test for all immigrants, including New Zealanders.

Knowing that several of our range top ballerinas, and a few tarseal trundlers view the fair shores of Aussie as a land of opportunity for amassing huge fortunes, we at the Directorate decided to investigate further.

A discreet phone call to our old mate Blue at the Australian High Commission, a couple of quick tubes of joy at the local boozier, (on the Corps Fund Expense Account, of course,) and we managed to get a decko at the test paper. If you plan to migrate to Australia, you are advised to swot up the answers to the following questions:

AUSTRALIAN DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION
WRITTEN ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

Attempt All Questions

Time Allowed: 6 hours

1. What language is spoken by the French?
2. What religion is Pope John Paul II?
3. What is the time when the big hand is on twelve and the little hand is on two?
4. Six Kings of England were named George, the last one being George the Sixth. Name the other five?
5. Who invented George Stevenson's Rocket? Was it Churchill, Einstein, Stevenson or Brown? (Select one only.)
6. Can you explain Einstein's Theory of Relativity? Answer Yes or No.
7. Where would you find the basement on a ten story building.
8. What are the people who live in the North of Australia called? Are they Easterners, Westerners, Southerners or Northerners? (Select one only.)
9. Spell the following: CRACKER, RIPPER, BONZER, BEAUT, SPORT, DIGGER, BONDI.
10. Who is Prime Minister Fraser? Is he a Bricklayer, a Priest, an unemployed bikie, or the Prime Minister (Select one only.)
11. What is a coat hanger?

12. Can you write your name in full? Answer yes or no. If your answer is yes, prove it by writing your name.

Qualification: A minimum of 50 percent correct.

Editor's Observation: Anyone gullible enough to take this test seriously would probably be better off in Australia; preferably in the middle of the Simpson Desert, selling sand castles to nomadic tribesmen.

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LT GRUNT



"I suppose you realise that your boots have left a dirty great scratch on the front of my new Rover."

THE FIRST TIME I DID IT

I remember the first time I did it,
I was only a lad of thirteen.
And although she was younger than I was,
She was far more relaxed and serene.

I was eager though awkwardly backward,
And my body cried out with the need.
But she seemed not to notice my shyness,
With which I prepared for the deed.

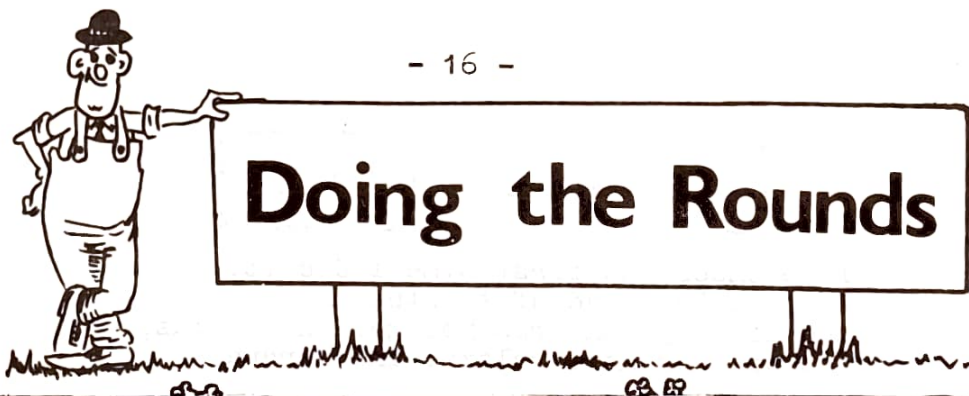
It was out in the barn, I remember,
At the close of a bush summer's day.
The evening was scented with clover,
And the fragrance of fresh mown hay.

I remember she moved a bit closer,
And the touch of her body was warm.
My fingers moved slowly and felt her,
And a quiver ran over my form.

Looking back now I can remember
How I stood while my head seemed to spin
with the thought of the thing I was going to do,
Yet not knowing how to begin.

I remember it seemed hours later,
As I made my way back to the house,
With the joy of a boy grown into a man.
And my heart hammered under my blouse.

Ten years have gone by since that evening.
But I'll never forget it, I vow.
The thrill and the joy that I felt as a boy,
On the day that I milked my first cow.



WHY I FIRED MY SECRETARY

Two weeks ago, it was my forty fifth birthday, and I wasn't feeling too hot that morning. I went down to breakfast, thinking that my wife would be pleasant and say, "Happy Birthday", or words to that effect, and give me a present. But she didn't even say, "Good Morning!"

At least, I thought, the kids will remember. But they came into breakfast and didn't say a word either. So when I left for work, I was feeling pretty lousy.

When I got to the office, my secretary Janet, bless her gorgeous body, said, "Good Morning, Boss. Happy Birthday." My morale improved a bit then.

Came lunch time, and Janet came in and said, "It's such a beautiful day, and it is your birthday, so let me take you to lunch."

I was delighted. Off we went and found a quiet little pub with a beer garden and sat in the sun wining and dining. We were getting on famously.

On the way back to the office, Janet said, "Hey Boss. Seeing it's your birthday, and there's not much to do this afternoon, lets go to my place and have a few more drinks."

I thought that was a great idea, especially since my wife obviously couldn't care less about my birthday, and besides, Janet was much better looking.

When we got to Janet's place, she fixed me a long cool drink and we chatted a bit before she said, "Boss, it's hot. I think I'll go slip into something a little cooler and more comfortable, if you don't mind."

I said, "That's a great idea, Janet," and asked her if she she wanted any help with her zipper and things.

She just laughed in a sexy way and told me not to go away. Hell, I wouldn't have left then for all the money in the world.

About six minutes later Janet came out of the bedroom carrying a big birthday cake, followed by my wife and kids. They were all singing Happy Birthday and there I was wearing nothing but a smile and a pair of socks.

RNZASC SCHOOL

CHIEF INSTRUCTOR - MAJOR R.W. THOMSON

SCHOOL SERGEANT MAJOR - WO1 G.E. WALKFR

Personnel

The year 1978 could be termed 'Mucky' for the RNZASC School. The School has seen some considerable changes both in staffing and its operation.

Major C.E. McIver was behind the wheel (trucking term) until it was decided that he should lead the world renowned 18 Tpt Coy along the straight and narrow. He assumed his appointment as OC, better known as sports co-ordinator, of 18 Tpt Coy in September of this year.

Major R.W. Thomson (note the spelling) having led 18 Tpt Coy along the straight and narrow, was posted to the RNZASC School as the Chief Instructor in October 1978. As yet the full effects of the new regime have not yet been felt, however, time will tell.

Captain C.P. Sinclair vacated the office of the 2IC to assume the responsibilities of a United Nations Observer, so armed with binoculars, deckchair and sunglasses he departed these fair shores in October 1977.

His seat was vacant until the arrival of Lieutenant B.G. McGregor in January 1978 who had spent the previous four months longlooking.

Further changes saw the arrival of the new SSM WO1 Walker, previously employed as 'The training system man' at the Training Methods School.

WO1 Cocker having decided that Waiouru was a much better place to live than Papakura was posted in as the SI MT or better known lately as 'the new trucks man'.

Lt J. Gantley, the first of the departures for 1978, was posted across the river to Wai Coy. in April 1978, and before his seat turned cold, WO1 Hands joined the School as the Catering Instructor.

WO1 Murphy, the Senior Instructor Operations, having given twenty years service, decided to join the civilian community and was farewelled and presented with his scroll by the DST on 3 November of this year.

Courses

The School's courses continued to run under the old star system until the end of this training year. A team made up of School Staff began redesigning all the

courses using the Training Methods System as a basis. By the beginning of the 1979-80 training year all Driver/NCO courses will have been completely revised giving a logical progression of learning from the basic course through to Band 4 course.

GSB Vehicle Evaluation Trial

Perhaps the most interesting event for the Corps this year.

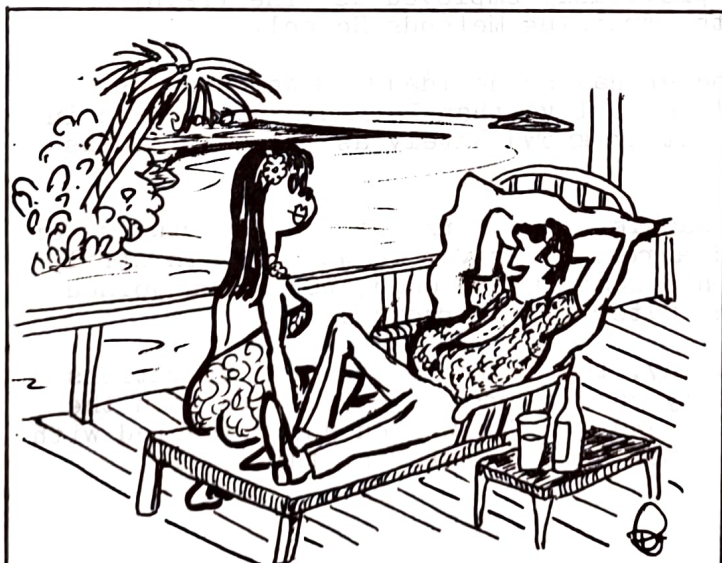
The middle of October saw the arrival of all the contenders; Fiat, Dodge, Toyota, Jeep, Volvo to name a few. Major Rawlings and his team, along with a TV production team arrived at the same time and took over the west wing of the School.

The first week was used to familiarise the drivers with the particular vehicle assigned to them, and then the trials began in earnest.

The .75 and 1.5 tonne vehicles were put through the road test phase whilst the 4 and 8 tonne range were dissected by the RNZEME. Following the mid-trial break the trials recommenced with the 4 and 8 tonne range being put through their paces.

The trials will continue until mid-December when a team headed by Maj Rawlings will prepare detailed specifications for the range of vehicles to be procured by the NZ Army in the early 1980's.

||



"'What!' I said indignantly, 'You expect me, a \$100 a week clerk, married with five children, and living in a very nice Army house in Waiouru, to commit this vile act of treasonable espionage???'"

WAIOURU COMPANY

Having missed contributing to the September edition of the RNZASC Newsletter, some speedy contributions from the Waiouru Company sub-units are presented for the readers' information, amusement and enlightenment.

HEADQUARTERS

The HQ of Waiouru Coy is made up of the following personnel:

Maj	J.M. George	OC
Lt	J.P. Masson	AO
WOII	T.J. Williams	CSM
S sgt	P.J. Wheeler	C/Clk
Sgt	R.K. Gibbons	CQMS
Cpl	A.P. Corse-Scott	Orderly Room Clerk
Dvr (W)	V. Milo	Clerk/Typist
L cpl	A.J. Jacobsen	Storeman

Lt J.P. Masson is at present serving in the Antarctica on Operation Deep Freeze. Before he returns to NZ he will be a T/Capt. This promotion is due 10 Nov 78.

Cpl Corse-Scott leaves the unit in Jan, after he has returned from a holiday in, where else, but Singapore. The good Corporal is posted to RNZASC School and is replaced by, you guessed it, another woman. The CSM and C/Clk are wondering if there are any male clerks left to be posted to this unit.

CATERING

Functions

The past few months have as usual been extremely busy for the Catering Platoon. Some of the major events with which we have been associated are as follows:

Officers Mess Winter Ball catering for 350

WOs and Sgts Mess Winter Ball catering for 450

Thanksgiving Dinner for the Museum Opening

Buffet Lunch for the Museum Opening for 600.

The margarine carvings produced by the apprentice chefs for the Museum Opening Lunch were considered by many visitors to be excellent. The replica of the Museum by Sgt Lloyd, the bust of the Prime Minister by L cpl Jammer, the M41 tank by Cadet James, the soldier in period uniform by Dvr Dean, and the various other carvings were a very essential part of a highly-successful luncheon.

The normal quota of Mess functions were held, with it seems a VIP Lunch every day and a VIP Dinner every other day.

Rowing Championships

Our assistance to the World Rowing Championships, 10 Cooks for seven days, although small, was none the less essential.

Promotions

There have been quite a few promotions in the Platoon of late, some of these are: Sgt "Tubby" Rogers to S sgt, L cpls Moore, Tapara, Challenger, Webb, Hesketh to Cpl, Dvrs Campbell, Ball, Gardiner, Kearns, Maher, O'Loughlin to L cpl.

Events

Cpl Richard Bruce was married in Aug 78 and is now happily settled in Waiouru. Congratulations are extended to Cpl and Mrs Bruce from all Caterers.

WO1 Ken Marchant had a fairly serious attack of "Indigestion" in August, the bout of "Indigestion" stopped him smoking those foul-smelling cigars and also curtailed some other activities. He is now back to work after his extended holiday.

There is no truth in the rumour that the Catering Platoon Commander intends to buy Waiouru Camp from his winnings on the treble.

Round The Mountain Relay

The team entered for the Round the Mountain Relay but catering did extremely well to obtain the following positions:

7th place on Line Honours

9th place on Handicap

3rd place in B grade

Bearing in mind the quality of the Opposition, Police National teams, Navy National team and about 16 other Army and Civilian teams including Super Fit Training Units, makes our effort look good. (We may do some training for next year's relay.)

TRANSPORT

The period from July to October has been especially busy, but our overworked and underpaid drivers and NCOs haven't complained too much - to the Platoon Comd, anyway! Having got this far, we should be able to see it through to the New Year.

Postings and Promotions

The usual turnover of people has occurred.

Postings In

2Lt (W) Bennett ex RTD Burnham (Pl Comd).

Sgt (W) Waititi ex Central Coy (DSTP) (Maintenance NCO)

Sgt Crofts ex RNZASC Schools (Despatcher)

L cpl Milner ex Singapore

Postings Out

Lecpl MacDougall to RTD Burnham (on promotion).

Dvr (W) Simpson to Cautley Pl, North Coy.

Dvr Te Wahiti to Trentham Pl, Central Coy.

Dvr Hutchinson to 21 Supply Coy.

Intended Postings

Dvr Awa to Singapore Dec 78

Dvr Burns to Singapore Jan 79

2Lt Bennett to OCTC RTD Waiouru Dec 78.

Impending Discharge

L cpl Milner, who is returning to Singapore, as a civilian on 1 Jan 79.

Promotions

Cpl Cooper to Sgt (before Long Look).

Dvr Paranihi to L cpl.

(Room for more to come!)

MAJOR EVENTS

Museum Opening

After having added considerably to WOII Hauraki's changing hair colour, the Museum was finally opened on Sunday 15 Oct 78. For the big weekend, we had supplementation from Central Coy and 10 Tpt Coy in the form of six cars and eight drivers - Dvr (W) Thoreson, Dvr (W) Luke, Dvr Raggett, Dvr Biddle, Dvr Alright, Dvr Robinson, Dvr Taylor, Dvr Candish, Dvr Thomas, and Dvr Smith. For once, we had enough vehicles to go round - plus serve.

Thanks to all the drivers involved, especially the Waiouru Coy personnel who had to put up with frequent Museum fast-balls.

Entanglements

Something good came out of the Museum in the form of true love for Dvr (W) Lyn Herniman. She and her Engineer-type fiancé plan to marry just before Christmas and will live in Palmerston North. (Together, if her posting comes through before then, otherwise.....)

Also marrying in November, is Dvr "Strugs" Struginski. The Tpt Park will be moving to Mt Maunganui for the weekend.

Engaged, but not about to take the plunge yet, are Dvr (W) Kahu Nicholls and Dvr "Hutch" Hutchinson, now of 21 Sup Coy.

Courses

We have had a busy time on courses in the last few months, with virtually everyone being away at various times. All have passed with good results:

Passed 3* Ops

Sgt (W) Waititi
L cpl Paranihi
Dvr Tapiata
Dvr Awa
Dvr Burns
Dvr Te Rauna

Passed 2*

Dvr Nicholls
Cpl Middleton
Dvr (W) Reeves

On 2* Course at Time of Writing

Dvr (W) Rice
Dvr (W) Broughton
Dvr Bowen

On Course before December

Dvr Kingi (First Aid)
2Lt Bennett (Pl Comd)

The moral of the story is: Come to Wai Coy and go on Courses!

Vehicle Evaluation Trials

With the trials presently being held at RNZASC School, we are in the right place to see all the vehicles involved. Sgt Crofts, Cpl Frew, L cpl Komene, Dvr Dougherty and Dvr Tapiata were selected from the Park as Dvrs/Assessors.

Sports

Although it may appear, at times, that we have no drivers left to work, let alone play sport, we have a healthy record in this field. Of all the Rugby playing guys, Dvr Tapiata and L cpl Paranihi were selected for the ATG Colts team, and L cpl Paranihi was also selected for the Army Colts Team.

Amongst the girls, Dvr (W) Rice and 2Lt (W) Bennett played for the Army Women's hockey team in their respective games against the Air Force women's team. Virtually all the girls are involved in softball - either spectating or playing - or trying to get a team together to beat Catering's experts!

We also have an Army Champion in our midst, Dvr Kingi, who won the inaugural Martial Arts tournament held in Burnham. Tpt, like Waiouru Coy Catering, has hidden talent in many fields!

Women's Takeover

Last, but certainly not least, is an explanation of why a certain emphasis in this article has been on the female members of the Tpt Platoon. What with a female Platoon Commander, Maintenance NCO and five female drivers, we didn't have to look too far for points of interest. Pity the guys - surrounded by female soldiers all day; they don't know who to turn to. They are so couth now that even the Pl Comd has to watch her language!

MOVEMENTS

For our part we run the Movement within ATG. Our staff establishment is for only two, a TIA and FMO. Fortunately Waiouru Coy have given us two extra to enable us to function. Our Bod's are:

L cpl W. Wheeler. (Loco Dvr) At present trying to reclassify from Butcher to Movements. As his job implies, "He must be Loco".

Cpl G. Plant. (FMO) That's when he's not golfing. Actually he gave up fishing for golf so now all we hear about is not how big that one that got away was, but all about his balls. (Golf that is).

Sgt A. Sandford. Was the FMO but now assisting in TIA Office until his departure for Civvy St on 15 Dec 78. The Carla Milk Bar at Matamata will be his location. If you wish to call in he will be happy to see you all.

S sgt W. Smith. (NCO/IC & TIA). Still the same but infected with Waiouru-itis. (Common complaint after 7 years continuous service in ATG). Recently heard to comment that squatters' rights apply next year. For my part I suppose you could sum up my job as NCO/IC as this:

It's not my place to run the train,
The whistle I can't blow,
It's not my place to say how far,
The train's allowed to go,
It's not my place to shoot off steam,
Nor even clang the bell,
But let the damn thing
Jump the track,
And see who catches HELL!

We are looking forward to the new trade implementation next year (79). It has generated a lot of interest.

CENTRAL COMPANY, RNZASC

OC: MAJ J.S. THORN MVO, RNZASC

CSM: WO2 O.T. HADDON, RNZASC

GENERAL

The last few months have proved to be busy ones for the Company. Involvement in the Army Museum Opening, Op Deep Freeze, the B Vehicle Evaluation Project along with the numerous courses for all ranks, has left a number of sub units short staffed. The Company has continued however, to operate efficiently as ever because we have now adapted to the demands of a unit at the centre of all networks.

ADMINISTRATION HAPPENINGS

POSTINGS OUT

Ssgt Cavey	NZ Transport Company	November 1978
Sgt Waititi	Waiouru Company	September 1978
Sgt Edwards	HQ NZ Force SEA	December 1978

POSTINGS IN

Capt Madden	ex NZ Transport Company	September 1978
Sgt Maxwell	ex 1 Signal Squadron	November 1978
Sgt McGregor	ex HQ NZ Force SEA	December 1978
Cpl Turanga	ex Linton Platoon	September 1978
Cpl Nelson	ex NZ Transport Company	January 1979
Cpl Jones	ex Shelly Bay	November 1978
Cpl Todd	ex Shelly Bay	August 1978
LAC Mansell	ex Shelly Bay	October 1978
AC Cross	ex Shelly Bay	October 1978
Dvr Barrett	ex NZ Transport Company	December 1978
Dvr(W) Wilcox	ex RTD	November 1978
Dvr Ward	ex NZ Transport Company	January 1979

DISCHARGES

Lcpl(W) Pratt

25 December 1978

PROMOTIONS

Lt Gruber to T/Capt, Cpl Turanga to T/Sgt, Lcpl(W) Clark to A/Cpl and Lcpl Pomare to T/Cpl.

DSTP THROUGH THE EYES OF AN ENGLISH SOLDIER?

DSTP = Defence Services Transport Pool

also

DSTP = Don't Send Transport Properly

DSTP is a tri-service organization run for the purpose of supplying transport support for the Wellington area. This is what I was told on my first day at Buckle Street, however since then I realize that the Wellington area covers the whole of New Zealand. Being a tri-service set up I thought that there may have been some friction between the different cap badges, but, there is no more than you would expect between people from different backgrounds and places. A big help to this is the fact that there is no favouritism shown to any one service by the controlling staff.

The controlling staff are as follows:-

Controller	-	Capt Mike Madden RNZASC
Deputy Controller	-	WO Jim Sushames RNZAF
Transport Supervisor	-	Ssgt Jim Cavey RNZASC
Booking NCO	-	Sgt Sammy Samson RNZASC
Tasking NCO	-	Cpl Yogi Hansen RNZASC
Despatch NCO	-	Sgt Paul Gunfield (vice) Sgt Gay Turanga RNZASC
Maintenance NCO	-	Sgt Roody Rooderkerk RNZASC

The remaining members of DSTP are too numerous to mention by name but in reality they are the most important members of the organization as they carry out all the tasks and details that the controlling staff put to them. Too often people who employ the DSTP fail to appreciate the time and effort involved by the drivers to ensure that they the user get to the right place at the right time. Occasionally as in all things mistakes are made but these are very small percentage of the tasks that are given to DSTP.

The only unit that the British Army have to compare with DSTP is 20 SQN RCT which is in London so it is difficult to make a true comparison between the two. The variation of vehicles that DSTP control and detail goes from Self Drive cars such as Datsuns, Hunters and Cortina's to VIP cars such as Falcons and Holdens to Commer and Fort Transit Mini-buses to Coaches.

A summary of the DSTP is that in my opinion it is a well run efficient organization for the control, despatch and maintenance of a variety of vehicles. They are an example to me as a member of the Royal Corps of Transport of our motto which is:-

"To get the right load to the right place at the right time in a safe and satisfactory condition".

(P.G.M. GUNFIELD)
Sergeant
Royal Corps of Transport

CENTRAL COMPANY TRENTHAM
NEWS FROM THE "PURPLE ONION" - TRENTHAM

Hard to get hold of these transport guys at the moment as they are flat out due to staff shortages, suffice to say that everyone is well and tasks are being handled with their usual efficiency.

CATERING

The catering world out here have been extremely busy of late with formal dinners and conferences happening at once. But everyone came through okay and they seem to be winning at the moment.

The OC and 99 other people donated money to a very worthy cause on 7 Oct 78, the occasion being a Monte Carlo night run by the catering section to boost our funds. From all accounts a good time was had by all and most people left with lighter pockets than they had on arrival.

FMO

WO2 McCrorie rang Sgt McFarland reference uplifting loudspeakers for delivery to QM WEC AA. Sgt McFarland thought he heard QA WAI WEC - so off to Waiouru they went. When the QM WEC AA queried the whereabouts of the speakers, he was not impressed with the answer he received. Suffice to say the Dvr Allwright came to the rescue and had them returned to there rightful destination.

It is recommended that WO2 McCrorie has a speech test and Sgt McFarland a hearing test.

Laughter is the Best Medicine: (Snippets of Catering Humor?)

1. The occasion was a formal dinner held in Officers Mess on Wed 15 Nov 78. Maj Gen Harsett went out to the kitchen to thank Sgt Neves for the meal and addressed him as Cpl Neves - we can only guess what the Sgt's reaction was!!!

2. The date was 16 Oct 78 and Supply Depot had just gone to Ordnance, the occasion was the Ordnance Formal Dinner, - Officers Mess. Our youngest apprentice chef (Capt Gruber) served a fillet of sole (boot sole) in lieu of curried chicken to Lt Col Higgins - CO 1 Base Sup Bn.

How the whitebaiting season going. Our two keenies out here aren't having the best of luck. Rumour has it that WO1 Currie has spent \$50.00 on petrol and caught 1/2 lb of whitebait and Cpl Hansen spent \$60.00 on petrol and only caught 15 whitebait there must be a lesson to be learned there.

LINTON PLATOON

Recent Activities

1. The September - November period has been extremely busy for Linton Pl, and in addition to the usual multitude of transport and catering tasks, our time has been devoted to:

- a. Driving Competition. The Central Region Final of the Driver of the Year Competition was run in Linton Camp. Our rivals from 10 Tpt Coy pre-empted any hopes of success, their representatives gaining the first four places.
- b. RF RNZASC Basic Course. The above course was run over period 2-20 Oct 78. 9 students attended including 6 RFMF pers.

Supply Depot

2. The Linton Camp Supply Depot was placed under command 2 Sup Coy RNZAOC with effect 16 Oct 78. We were sorry to lose nearly 20% of our RF strength but ties are being maintained through the active RNZASC social organisation which exists.

New HQ Building

3. 2 Fd Sqn, RNZE have commenced work on a badly needed new headquarters for Linton Pl/10 Tpt Coy.



SOUTHERN COMPANY RNZASC

OFFICER COMMANDING : MAJOR G.J. CROWLEY

Headquarters Southern Company RNZASC

The last six months have been an extremely busy period for our unit. Work commitments have been heavy in both transport, catering and supplies. Unit personnel have all responded well to the call for extra effort and extended periods of separation from their families. Hopefully the New Year will see the activity note return to a more realistic level. In the meantime we keep soldiering on in the traditions of the Corps.

Postings In

Postings in to the unit over the period since our last contribution are:

Transport:

Dvr Brown	from Linton Platoon
Lcpl Carlsen	from RTD Burnham
Dvr(W) Nash	from North Coy

Coy HQ:

Lcpl Degarnham	from Supply Depot
Lcpl(W) Butters	from RTD Burnham

Catering:

SSgt Milne	from North Coy
Dvr Pullen	from Central Coy
Dvr(W) Van Gelder	from Wajouru Coy
Dvr Carter	from 3 Tpt/2/1 RNZIR

Postings Out

Postings to other units and discharges over the period include:

Coy HQ:

Cpl(W) Carter	to NMWC AA
Cpl(W) Leighton	to Central Coy

Catering:

Cpl Ellis	on discharge
Cpl Shaw	on discharge
Cpl Anderson	on discharge (who has since rejoined us as Sgt Anderson from the Territorial Force - well done Tommy!)

/Transport

Transport:

SSgt	Arps	to Singapore
Cpl	Craig	to 3 Tpt Coy
Dvr	Campbell	to HQ 3 Bde
Dvr	Williams	to 2/1 RNZIR
Dvr	Leng	on discharge

Supply Depot

On the 15th October 1978, the Burnham Supply Depot went under the command of 3 Supply Company on the RNZAOC re-organisation. We are sorry to see our Depot staff leave our wing and wish them well under the new organisation. For a while at least they will remain with the RNZASC as corps members. The close links between the Depot, transport and catering will continue to develop regardless of command and Corps and we look forward to that continued relationship.

Catering

Over the period the unit has been involved in a number of major catering activities. These include catering support to the World Rowing Championships, RSA Golf Tournament in Timaru, the Laura Fergusson Trust Fund, Exercises Hunua Pass, Spring Fever (2/1 RNZIR) and Annual Camps for 2 Cant NMWC. In addition there has been a constant number of formal dinners, functions and sporting tournaments.

Transport

The transport sections at both Addington and Burnham have been extremely busy in domestic services including supporting most of the above activities. The bulk of our experienced drivers are away with the vehicle trials and those that are not at Operation Deep Freeze or on course are valiantly keeping the wheels rolling.

Social Room

The unit social room (ex drivers room) is rapidly nearing completion. This large room will be fully lined, lighted and carpeted throughout. Included is a bar and servery that will be an asset to the whole company. It is planned to set up a number of display cases and for the room to be a permanent record of the units history and activities. Other works developments likely soon include the resealing of the park, showers and upgraded ablutions in the transport park and a refurbishment of the Burnham transport office.

Addington Detachment have recently had all their buildings refurbished and is now operating from much improved quarters.

Sports

Sports have taken a back seat over this period however our inter unit golf team of WO1 McOscar, Capt McIntyre, Cpl Niha, Cpl Gruebner and Sgt Hurst are doing well. WO1 Taylor and WO2 Crouch also made it into the Regional Bowls Tournament and into the Army team. Congratulations to them.

/Meritorious Service Medal

Meritorious Service Medal

Our Senior NCO, WO1 Doug Gargett was presented with his well earned Meritorious Service Medal by the CGS on 26th October 1978. DST was present and read the citation to the assembled units of RNZASC and RNZE in Burnham Camp. This was a particularly proud moment for our unit and the Corps. Mr Gargetts soldierly example is a model for all aspiring members of the Corps.



WO1 Gargett receives the Meritorious Service Medal from Maj Gen R.D.P. Hassett.

Christmas Break

The unit looks forward to the Christmas break and would like to take this opportunity of wishing all sister units the very best for the festive season.



STOP PRESS : STOP PRESS : STOP PRESS
THE FORGOTTEN FEW



"Nothing is permitted to interfere with training." So a small select band of Royal Corps members bury their heads into the sand once again and struggle against the mounting odds. Who are we - why the RNZASC ERE's employed within NZ Force SEA of course! To ensure that we keep the Corps interests spread around, we cover most work avenues within the Force - from a certain ex-controller of the DSTP (who occasionally allows the Force Commander to make a decision) to an ex-member from our seat of learning within ATG (alias Sgt McGeorge) who is currently holding together the administrative affairs of the Force Hospital. Altogether we cover the following areas within the Force:

HQ NZ FORCE SEA

Capt S.G. Stubbs

DTC/DFO

WO2 J. Edwards

Sgt C. McGregor

Sgt L.J. Cameron

Cpl P.W. Baxter

Cpl K.N. Paenga

NZBSU

Sgt A.J. Richardson

Cpl J.P. Snow

Tpt Pl 1 RNZIR

Capt R.D. MacIntyre

SSgt W.R. Williams

Cpl T. Rupuha

LCpl R.M. Winikerei

Dvr K.J. Davis

Dvr I.R. Godtschalk

Dvr H.M. Paenga

Dvr W.J. Scott

Dvr B.L. Torpey

QM Pl 1 RNZIR

Dvr P.H. Fairweather

CAT PL 1 RNZIR

WO2 R.G. Avenell

Sgt D.T. Fitzsimmons

Sgt P.H. Robinson

Sgt R. Thomson

Sgt A.B. Frew

Cpl G.J. Hill

Cpl A. Phillips

Cpl E.C. Procter

LCpl D.J. Barley

LCpl G.J. Franks

LCpl J.A.J. Hay

LCpl C.B. Montgomery

LCpl E.J. Webster

Dvr A.H. Adolph

Dvr S.J. Anderson

Dvr T.P. Craik

Dvr M.J. Gill

Dvr P.G. Moir

Dvr G.S. Russell

Dvr J.D. Wilkinson

NZ HOSP

Sgt M.D. McGeorge

Cpl S.J. Dent

Obviously, the majority of us work in Dieppe Barracks for the battalion (a trying experience for some) where, in addition to practising our professional skills we are required to perfect "things infantry" - skill-at-arms, confidence course, mental telepathy - where will it all end? In fact, on three of the first four occasions that 1 RNZIR performed its "beating retreat" ceremony, it required Royal Corps Orderly Sergeants to show the infanteers just how it should be done - and each of those three were members of Uncle Walter's delicate band!

Along with personnel from the Tpt Coy, most of us took part in Exercise "Golden Fleece" during October. The exercise was designed as a company testing exercise for 1 RNZIR with the Jalan Ulu contingent providing the enemy party. WO2 Avenell and his chefs, after a settling in period, provided particularly good meals from a new, local-pattern frequency of issue chart (of which we may hear more). Fuel and transport were also organised by Royal Corps members who, in addition, controlled much of the helicopter work - Cpl Rupuha was most impressed when the helicopter pilots actually heeded his marshalling instructions (a rare event indeed)! Ten trucks from the 18th Tpt Coy joined us for part of the exercise and worked most professionally - even if Cpl Nelson and his men did have to unload and empty about 1,100 sandbags from their trucks after the MT Ambush drills.

As a group we are keenly awaiting the outcome of the Corps reorganisation to see how it affects both the Corps and our Army as a whole. Our interest has been intensified with the White Paper/Ministerial announcements on the withdrawal of the Force and naturally we take great delight in telling the infanteers that Twizel would be an ideal location for them!!

As those other RNZASC members who have served here before will know, to keep the Corps flag flying here at an intellectual level is a simple matter; but to effect that intellect requires a very much more "sledgehammer" approach. Fortunately, the work performed by most of our little group is of a sufficiently specialist nature that notice has to be taken of our professional skills. It is surprising, nevertheless, how many "other corps" people are both Catering and Transport experts! Speaking of flying the Corps flag, at present we have some difficulty in doing so. Why? NO FLAG!! How about it?

Dvr Torpey, an ex-Gargett driver from Addington is due to return to New Zealand on 5 Dec 78 to Middlemore Hospital. He suffered back and leg injuries while parachuting at Changi and will be hospitalized for quite some time. So please all you sun-seekers from the north, pop in to pay him a visit from time to time.

We 40 members of the Royal Corps, manfully struggling up here in the land of heat and money, wish to take this opportunity to wish the remainder of the Corps all the best of Season's Greetings - even if Boxing Day is not a public holiday in Singapore!

NIL SINE LABORE

