

DELTA COMPANY



During the September period of 2018 Delta Company completed their culminating exercise on Predators Run. The purpose of this exercise was to test the offensive and defensive capabilities of the Combat Team (CT) (with engineer, Military Police (MP) and Joint Fire Teams (JFT0 attachments) within the Cultana field environment. This was the first time that Delta Company had operated as an organic motorised establishment. The challenge was eagerly taken up by the Officers and soldiers of the Company under the leadership of Major Redmond Dale, himself an expert in mechanized tactics. The Company performed to an exceptional standard, particularly given the limited experience of all personnel within the motorised environment. The serials ranged from an advance to contact, a CT deliberate attack, an urban clearance and an in stride obstacle breach. Of particular note, the CT proved that dismounted minor tactics are still a war winner within the frigid wastes of Cultana.

Having turned the page to 2019 and the challenges of another year, Delta Company has not been found wanting in taking up the challenge. Under the auspices of a new Company HQ under Major David Evangelidis and CSM WO2 Robert Kelly the Company is continuing to surge forward in a new direction and posture for future ops.

The January to March period has been another extremely busy time for the Company with members completing annual force prep training whilst preparing for an Field Training Exercise (FTX) in Tully. The highlight for the soldiers during this time was the issuing of the EF88 Austeyr rifle and the new Binocular Night Vision Device (BNVD) which has significantly enhanced the combat power and capability of the Company and the Battalion as a whole.

During this time members of 12 Platoon were invited to Casuarina Senior College to participate in a Clontarf activity with indigenous youth from around the NT. This exciting opportunity allowed the soldiers and NCO's of 12 Platoon to mentor these eager potential future soldiers and, during some interactive PT, inculcate in them some of the spirit and proud traditions of 5 RAR and the Regiment.

Amongst this commotion the Officers of the Company still found time to school 7 RAR in the 'Art of War' during Virtual Predator with all Companies inflicting losses on our Mechanized brethren with our lightly armoured and at times unarmed PMV's.

As the Financial New Year approaches, the Company continues to work hard and is looking forward to our live fire training in Kangaroo Flats before deploying to Tully for some of the best dismounted infantry training in the world culminating in Platoon Live Fire.

LT Matthew Pappalia