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**NEW CAM
FOR TROOPS**

**INNOVATION
- WHY IT'S IMPORTANT**

RIMPAC

LONE PINE WINNER

NZ ARMY NEWS

JULY 2012
ISSUE 433
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EDITOR: Judith Martin
Phone: 04-496-0227 or
DTelN: 349-7227
Fax: 04-496-0290
email: armynews@nzdf.mil.nz

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NZ ARMY
NGATI TUMATAUENGA



Cover: The NZDF's new multi terrain camouflage pattern for its combat clothing. (See story page 4)

Darryl Smith and the Governor General, LTGEN the Rt Hon Sir Jerry Mateparae.



NZSAS SOLDIER POSTHUMOUSLY RECOGNISED FOR BRAVERY

The Charles Upham Award for Bravery was posthumously awarded to Lance Corporal (LCPL) Leon Smith at a ceremony at Government House on 3 July.

LCPL Smith has been recognised for his actions as part of a NZSAS Task Force that responded to an insurgent attack on the British Council Office in Kabul on 19 August 2011.

During the response LCPL Smith exposed himself to insurgent fire in order to confirm the location of Corporal (CPL) Doug Grant, who had been wounded. He then ran across open ground to reach CPL Grant, and immediately applied first aid until CPL Grant could be evacuated. Despite his best efforts and those of medics at the scene, CPL Grant died on route to hospital.

Chief of Defence Force Lieutenant General (LTGEN) Rhys Jones said LCPL Smith's family should be extremely proud of his actions that led to the award.

"Tragically LCPL Smith was also killed serving in Afghanistan, however his actions during this particular incident epitomised the values of comradeship, courage and professional integrity.

"His family can take some comfort from knowing that he was a valued member of the NZ Defence Force and that his outstanding bravery has subsequently been recognised," LTGEN Jones said.

LCPL Smith was tragically killed in action Kabul, Afghanistan on 28 September 2011, while securing a compound during a joint Afghan Crisis Response Unit / NZ SAS operation.

LCPL Smith's brother Darryl received the award from the Governor-General, Lt Gen The Rt Hon Sir Jerry Mateparae, on behalf of the Smith family.

PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP UNDERWAY

The health expertise of eight NZ Defence Force personnel will be fully utilised as they embark for the Vietnam phase of Exercise Pacific Partnership 2012 on the USNS MERCY.

The team of Army, Navy and Air Force personnel include a medical and nursing officer, a dental officer, an environmental health officer, health planners and medics.

The NZ Defence Force has an ongoing commitment to humanitarian aid and disaster relief (HADR) in the Pacific, says Major Paul Kendall, Officer Commanding the contingent.

"Our team has integrated well on USNS MERCY and we're looking forward to contributing to the Vietnam phase of Pacific Partnership.

"New Zealand's participation in Ex Pacific Partnership demonstrates our commitment to the Pacific, and helping our Pacific partners to prepare and respond to natural disasters.

"Ex Pacific Partnership is a good opportunity for the Defence Force to enhance co-operation and build relationships. We have a good relationship with our coalition partners and it's important for us to work closely to test interoperability so we can perform tasks together in real life HADR situations."

The NZ Defence Force personnel will work alongside a number of nations including the US, Japan, Canada, Australia, Chile and Malaysia.

A number of activities will be carried out ashore in Vietnam and also onboard USNS MERCY, from medical, nursing and dental tasks, to providing health planning and environmental health support.

The New Zealand team were due to disembark USNS MERCY on 24 July.

NZ Defence Force participation in deployments such as Ex Pacific Partnership and Ex Tropic Twilight are essential for the Defence Force to remain capable and poised to support actual HADR operations, such as the Samoan Tsunami and Christchurch earthquake.

Ex Pacific Partnership is the largest annual humanitarian and civic assistance mission in the Asia-Pacific region, helping to ensure the international community is prepared to respond as a co-ordinated force when disaster strikes.

Ex Pacific Partnership 2012 began in May with the sailing of USNS Mercy from San Diego. To date it has completed missions in Indonesia at the start of June and the Philippines, now moving on to Vietnam. The mission will finish in Cambodia before USNS Mercy returns to the US in mid September.

LIFE SAVING KIWI ARMY DOCTOR RECOGNISED BY US

Army doctor Major Charmaine Tate has been presented with a US Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal for saving the life of a US Marine.

Major Tate was a student at the US Marine Corps Staff College in Quantico, Virginia, USA in June 2009. Due to her involvement in the ongoing NZ/US Blast research project, she was taking the opportunity to observe a Marine Corps night explosive breaching exercise. Major Tate used her medical skills to save the life of a US Marine who was severely injured after an explosive charge meant for blowing a hole in a wall detonated in his webbing during the exercise. Conditions were challenging with three personal injured, limited medical equipment available, and poor weather meaning evacuation was delayed for well over an hour.

US Army Pacific Deputy Commanding General Major-General Mathews presented the medal to Major Tate during a recent visit to New Zealand.

The US General also mentioned her exceptional and diverse career to date in the NZ Army, including multiple tours to Afghanistan, her involvement in Urban Search And Rescue (USAR) operations during both the Christchurch Earthquake and the response to the Great North-Eastern Japanese Earthquake of 2011.

Major Tate said useful lessons were learnt by all involved in the incident. She was just very glad to be "in the right place at the right time to be able to contribute to a good outcome for the young Marine".



HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAURAKIS

By Julian Sewell
Commanding Officer

Tuesday, 10 June marked the Hauraki Battalion's 114th birthday.

It is an important milestone in the Battalion's history and it is important to acknowledge the fact that our unit has been in existence that long. Many, many men and women have served in the various forms the Battalion Group has taken over the

years. We have had our fair share of casualties in times of war and many have passed on over the generations. Let us be mindful of our past so that we ensure we carry the honour of the Battalion and all that it means. We will undergo a configuration change when we amalgamate, but we will always remember where we came from and we will always pass on to our successors all that is good about being a Hauraki.

The Association led some celebrations over the weekend and the HQ marked the occasion on 10 June. For the rest of us I do encourage you to pause for a moment and contemplate the significance of 114 years of military service to New Zealand. We can all be proud of our heritage and we should all look forward with confidence that the Haurakis are as committed and capable as they ever were.

Whakatangata kia kaha! (Quit ye like men, be strong!)

Private Lace Adlam receives her award.



GOLD AND SILVER FOR ARMY TRADES PEOPLE

Private Lace Adlam, a steward from 21 Supply Company won Gold in the WorldSkills NZ National competition held in Christchurch at the weekend.

Five soldiers from RNZALR and RNZE competed in the categories of Cookery, Restaurant Service, Plumbing and Fitting and Machining.

First year apprentice with the School of Military Engineering (SME) Sapper Jacob McCartin won Silver in the plumbing section. His senior plumbing instructor is Sgt Nicholas Peaufi who has been responsible for preparing Jacob for the World Skills Competition.

The Army competitors were also joined by RNZAF

tradespeople competing in the category of AeroEngineering for the first time in WSNZ.

Each competitor was accompanied by a mentor/expert who became a judge at the competition.

As well as benchmarking and showcasing NZDF trade training while gaining valuable professional development, the soldiers and airmen were competing for the national title of best young tradesperson and an opportunity to wear the Silver Fern as a member of the NZ 'Tool Blacks' team to represent NZ at the WorldSkills International Competition in Leipzig, Germany 2013.



NZ ARMY BAND PLAYS TO CAPTIVATED AUDIENCE

The New Zealand Army Band is on the international stage once more, representing both New Zealand and the NZ Defence Force as part of the 4th Annual Basel Tattoo in Switzerland.

This is the second time the NZ Army Band has been asked to perform, and Director of Music Captain Graham Hickman is delighted to be given the opportunity to participate.

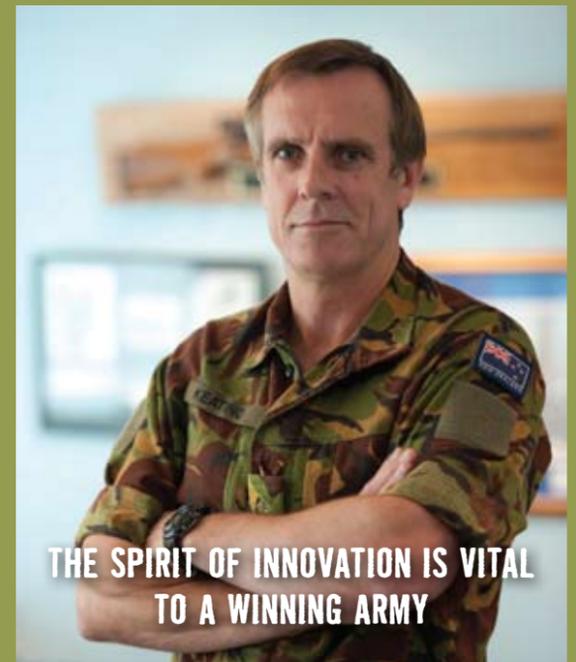
"It is a huge honour for us to be asked to play at the Basel Tattoo," says Captain Hickman. "Being able to go out and help represent both our country and our Defence Force in an event like this really demonstrates just how well thought of New

Zealand is on the international stage."

Considered among the top three military marching bands in the world, the NZ Army Band is taking its place among close to 1,000 performers for 15 shows over nine days, playing to capacity crowds of about 8,000 people.

"This is billed as among Switzerland's top five events to be played in Basel," says Captain Hickman. "The fact that all 120,000 tickets for the shows sold out within one week is testament to this. That's impressive!" he says.

The band's tour is due to finish on 21 July.



THE SPIRIT OF INNOVATION IS VITAL TO A WINNING ARMY

By Chief of Army, Major General Tim Keating

In last month's Army News we celebrated the many successes that Army people achieve as individuals or as part of the many teams that make up the Army organisation.

There are a number of key ingredients that go into making our Army successful and this month we are concentrating on innovation as one of those. In a Kiwi sense we often refer to this as ingenuity, or 'Kiwi ingenuity'. It is something that we in Army have traditionally prided ourselves on and you will see in this issue there are several great examples, and behind every one of those examples are individuals who possess the innovative spirit.

The spirit of innovation is vital to a profession like ours that needs to keep at the leading edge, or better still be a leader in producing new ways to achieve our operational missions. Surprise remains a key principle of war and in our doctrine 'originality' is a key element of surprise.

No adversary has ever been surprised by its opponent's strict adherence to pre-formatted plans and standard operating procedures. In our Army's history innovation is often best demonstrated when we deploy on operations and the imperative exists to achieve the mission with the limited resources we have at hand. In these circumstances the spirit that combines innovation with a can-do attitude becomes the defining element in operational success.

The operational spirit cannot be grown instantly in operational theatres— it must be nurtured when we are in New Zealand training and preparing for operations. Unfortunately this is often where innovation is seriously challenged by organisational norms and behaviours that can at times stifle or kill the innovative spirit. Old attitudes like "the Army does not pay you to think" must be long dead and buried.

I remember when I was new and in training with the SAS, the common response from our instructors when we asked for extra equipment or stores to achieve our tasks was to "make one". The mind-set being conveyed to us was to achieve the task with what we had, positive attitude and a spirit to achieve excellence, as material and equipment were secondary considerations to success.

We need to be an Army of out-of-the-box thinkers, innovators who look at seemingly insurmountable problems and can combine innovation with 'can-do' to produce winning solutions.

The challenge before us is what to do to encourage this spirit, vital for a winning Army, not just in garrison, but more importantly when we deploy?

ARMY NEWS NEEDS YOUR STORIES!

Have you done something recently that really turned out well? Have your troops had successes they are proud of? Maybe they have come up with a truly great idea, received an excellent exam result, or a win on the sportsfield.

Tell us about it. If you need help with putting the story together or illustrating it, just call 04 4960227, or email armynews@nzdf.mil.nz

MULTI TERRAIN CAMOUFLAGE UNIFORM PROJECT UNDERWAY

The NZDF is looking at revamping its combat clothing to provide better protection for its troops.

Capability Branch, Log Command (Land) and The Workwear Group have been working on a project to introduce an Improved Combat Clothing System (ICCS) to the NZDF. The project is addressing the areas of layering, material, material treatment, garment cut and camouflage pattern.

A significant milestone has been reached through the selection of the Multi Terrain Camouflage Uniform (MCU) that will aid the protection through concealment of personnel.

Why are the current DPM patterns being replaced?

The current in-service Disruptive Pattern Material (DPM) pattern and Desert DPM (DDPM) patterns have provided good service for many years. These patterns are being replaced because:

- » The current patterns work well in limited environments only. In the case of DPM it works well in lush green tropical and subtropical environments, however it is sub optimal in arid environments and urban terrain. Operational experience in environments such as Afghanistan has proven that the colour spectrum of the operating environment can change rapidly and personnel can quickly find themselves dressed in camouflage unsuited to the environment.
- » The current DPM pattern used by the NZDF is also used by many other nations around the world. A new pattern uniform provides for a unique New Zealand identity that allows New Zealand service personnel to be clearly identified as New Zealanders.
- » Neither the current DPM nor DDPM uniforms are particularly effective in urban environments.
- » Technology advances in camouflage pattern design and manufacture now make it possible to produce single camouflage patterns that are effective across a wider range of operating environments.

Pattern Selection

During the pattern selection process numerous camouflage designs were submitted for NZDF review. From this review 12 separate camouflage patterns were selected and testing was conducted throughout 2011. Much of this testing occurred in Waiouru as in this one location can be found forest, open country tussock, sandy and urban terrain. This testing saw the 12 patterns narrowed down to five, which were then

manufactured into basic garments for further testing by Capability Branch and Combat School Staff in Waiouru.

From this testing the best performing two camouflage patterns were selected for final testing. Both patterns were then tested in sandy terrain at Kaipara Air Weapons Range, in forested close country north of Auckland and in urban terrain at Whenuapai Airbase. Both patterns proved effective in these environments.

Finally, a selection of NZ Army personnel was independently requested to rate aesthetically which pattern they preferred. This proved to be the factor that separated the two designs with an overwhelming 80 percent preferring the finally selected pattern. This pattern was further confirmed by Chief of Army and the Sergeant Major of the Army conducting a road show of a mocked up uniform to selected Army units.

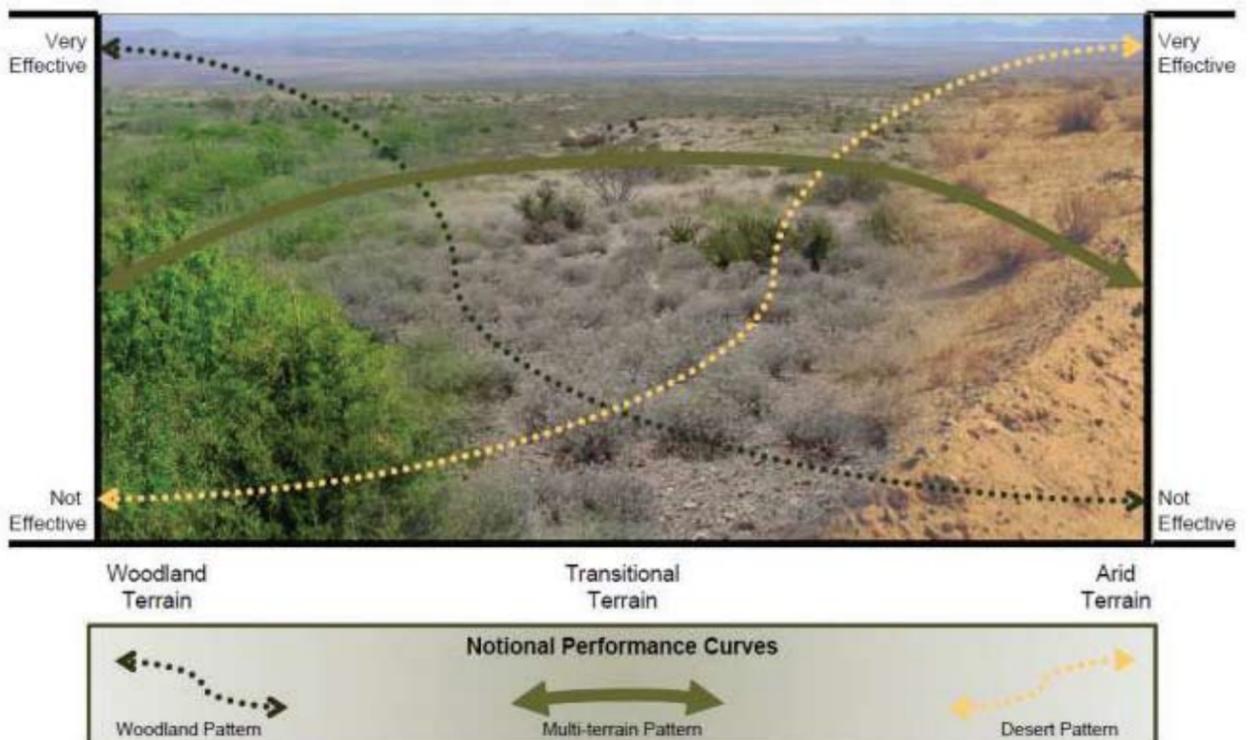
Fabric selection

Throughout Exercise Alam Halfa personnel from 1 RNZIR,

2/1 RNZIR, QAMR and 16 Field Regiment trialled a number of different fabric types and garment cuts to assess fit, functionality, durability and safety. This trial aimed to aid the assessment and selection of the fabric that best meets NZ Army requirements for the new MCU. It is envisioned that a training version and a flame retardant version of the MCU will be made provided.

What happens next?

Logistics Command (L) is currently developing a plan to enable the introduction into service of MCU to replace DPM. This plan will include the requirement to fully utilise the current stocks of DPM. It is intended that the MCU will be used across the NZDF. The date when it will be phased into service has yet to be finalised however it is likely to be around mid 2013. Army News will provide further information as it becomes available.





Innovation is now an imperative for organisations to succeed and the Army is no exception. Defence is going through unparalleled change with a focus on Value for Money, and a requirement to do its work simpler and better.

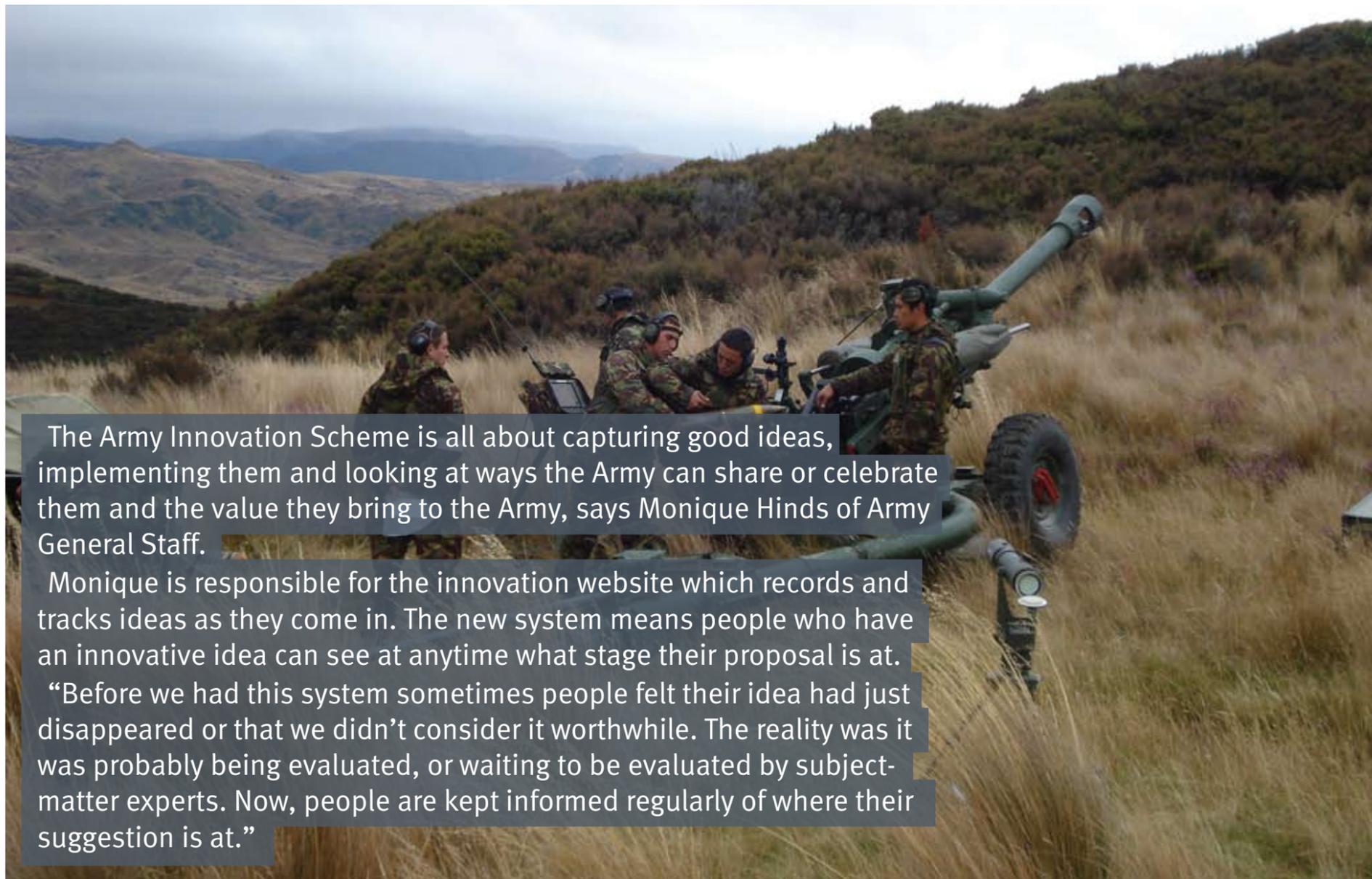
Innovation is part of the Army's culture; and it is part of its long term strategy for continuous improvement. Innovation contributes to and demonstrates its value of Commitment. The Army is innovative already— within its units, formations and staffs there are some great ideas out there – and those ideas need to be captured and shared throughout the Army and across NZDF.

Innovation is not only about looking for an idea that will create a change (that is, a change that makes a significant

difference to processes, outputs or structures) but also about those little efficiencies, and novel approaches to the way things are done that combine to deliver better value for money, and create savings that may be reinvested elsewhere.

Every day at camps around the country Army people at all rank levels are coming up with great ideas: just a few of them are outlined in this issue of Army News, as well as information about how to progress those great ideas you may have.

INNOVATION



The Army Innovation Scheme is all about capturing good ideas, implementing them and looking at ways the Army can share or celebrate them and the value they bring to the Army, says Monique Hinds of Army General Staff.

Monique is responsible for the innovation website which records and tracks ideas as they come in. The new system means people who have an innovative idea can see at anytime what stage their proposal is at.

“Before we had this system sometimes people felt their idea had just disappeared or that we didn’t consider it worthwhile. The reality was it was probably being evaluated, or waiting to be evaluated by subject-matter experts. Now, people are kept informed regularly of where their suggestion is at.”

• **Innovation - what's the process for Army to raise innovative ideas?**

- » The Army Innovation intranet site (<http://org/l-ags/pages/OSM/Innovation/AINnovation%20Home.aspx>) is the tool that allows personnel to post their ideas and then track the actions taken on behalf of their idea.
- » It is linked from the Command Post, and Army General Staff home pages. Army General Staff coordinates and manages the scheme ensuring that good ideas are implemented.
- » The initiator communicates their idea through to the Army Innovation site where Army General Staff will determine initial viability and ensures all information is supplied to help make informed decisions. If viable, the idea is forwarded to an SME who will assess the innovation for feasibility and value using their own/teams subject matters expertise. If not successful, the result (with reasons) is recorded on the innovation site with no further action required. If the idea is successful then an assessment is made to determine how to best action the idea.
- » More information on the process and FAQs are available on the Army Innovation site.

• **There have been changes made recently to the process— what are they?**

- » The most significant change to the process is improved communications with the initiator. The aim of this step in the process is to ascertain enough information to make informed decisions about the progress of each suggestion and provide initial feedback on the following:
 - any thoughts they may have on the idea (rough costings, possible savings, previous experience or work completed in this area etc); and
 - should the idea be feasible, their availability to assist in refining the idea and bringing it to implementation.
- » In addition, Army General Staff has been focused on providing quicker turn-around times, acting as a ‘match-maker’ by pairing ideas to personnel who can make it happen, and providing a knowledge base to communicate to initiators.
- » A refresh of Army’s innovation site has been tailored to make it easier for pers to use, track progress of ideas, who the idea has been assigned to and which function in the organisation.

• **Why were the changes made?**

- » In response to feedback received from personnel, where there was a perception that their ideas were not been followed through to produce savings or efficiencies, and feedback from SME to enhance the system to make it easier for them to track ideas assigned to their function.
- » As a result of these changes and through regular engagement and follow-up with the SME, we are ensuring adequate and timely feedback on the progress or outcome of proposed initiatives are being met.

• **Is innovation always big and meaty and highly visible?**

- » Over the last two years, many of the ideas put forward have been very simple solutions to complex problems. They range from system improvements (such as the LAV Weapons Effect Simulator) to clever ‘widgets’ (like the more durable strap for securing air filters in light operational vehicles that has saved an estimated \$19,000 in maintenance costs).

• **Is every idea submitted viable?**

- » The Army Innovation Scheme is all about capturing good ideas, implementing them and looking at ways we can share or celebrate them and consider the value they bring to the Army.
- » If the idea is considered worthy of further investigation, it is handled in several ways depending on its nature and costs. Those over a certain threshold require a business case to be prepared and must go through the formal A-Gates assessment process. Ideas with implications for NZDF policy are dealt with separately or by a tri-Service committee.

• **Do you in Army GS decide what does and doesn't make the cut for future development?**

- » The majority of ideas generated by Army are being managed by the supporting branches. Ideas are forwarded to the Army POC within the branch, where they as part of the process forward it to an SME to complete an initial assessment.
- » Following this review, regardless of whether the idea appears feasible, non-feasible or was already under consideration, the SME adds their response/ feedback directly onto the Army Innovation site or the idea is progressed through the A-Gates assessment process.



BEHIND THE BATTLELABS

What are Army Battlelabs, and why do we have them?

Army's Experimentation Manager, Hayden Robinson, explains.

Utilising modern military equipment effectively can act as a significant 'force multiplier', especially for smaller armies like ours. The New Zealand Army aims to compensate for its small size by maintaining a qualitative edge in personnel and equipment over our potential adversaries.

Modern military capability is rapidly evolving with some new and innovative systems being developed and introduced into service in very short periods of time, especially in the force protection area. The huge array of equipment that is now available to help counter the threat from IEDs is but one example of this. In order for Army to maintain an edge, it is vital that as an organisation it is future focused regarding emerging threats and systems that can counter those threats, as well as stay abreast of new and emerging technologies that may enhance the operational effectiveness of the Army.

The Army uses 'Battlelabs' as a way of experimenting with new technologies utilising the latest innovations to get a greater understanding of those technologies and what the implications might be if such a system were to be acquired at some time in the future. Battlelabs help ensure that the Army remains a future-focused, relevant and capable force by assessing the viability and utility of new and emerging systems and technologies.

In certain circumstances, Battlelabs may identify solutions that can be rapidly introduced into service. They act as a way by which Army can learn about future capabilities by utilising new systems and capabilities on a small scale. Battlelabs

can help to inform things such as tactics, techniques and procedures (TTPs), equipment user requirements, and operating concepts. They can also reduce some of the risks associated with some of the more sophisticated modern military systems by improving understanding of how those systems work.

As part of the emphasis on innovation and maintaining a future focus, Army has increased its funding for Battlelabs and implemented a new governance and oversight regime to ensure it is getting value for money on its investments in Battlelabs. They are currently managed on behalf of Army by the Experimentation Manager (Army) within Capability Branch. This ensures that the Army has a joined-up approach to its force development activities with the other two Services as well as the Defence Technology Agency (DTA), and that any unnecessary duplication of effort is minimised.

For the new financial year beginning on 1 July, the Deputy Chief of Army has approved the initiation of six new Battlelabs. These Battlelabs are all funded for 12 months initially and have a series of research questions to answer that will help inform future capability developments within Army. In order for the Battlelabs to achieve their objectives, host units are required to provide the personnel to help evaluate the systems. The Battlelabs, their host unit and a brief description of each, are as follows:

Tactical Surveillance & Reconnaissance Battlelab (1RNZIR): The recent Micro UAV Battlelab saw the reconnaissance platoon from 1RNZIR utilise a Vertical Take Off and Landing (VTOL) micro UAV platform. Using the platform on exercises showed that VTOL UAVs were useful; however they were still somewhat cumbersome for use on prolonged dismounted infantry operations and a capable VTOL UAV is probably more a Company-level asset than a Platoon or Section asset. Smaller, lighter, cheaper and more rapidly deployable surveillance and reconnaissance enhancements are required at the section and platoon levels. This Battlelab will investigate some of the latest technologies available that can improve the situational awareness of dismounted troops without increasing the

burden.

Palantir Battlelab (DSO): Palantir intelligence software is in use with a number of our domestic and foreign partners. This Battlelab will review the capabilities of the Palantir software against current systems and assess its viability as an effective analytical tool set.

Soldier Energy Battlelab (1RNZIR): A variety of novel energy generating technologies have reached maturity in recent years and may provide effective generation of power for the dismounted soldier and reduce the reliance on batteries and the number of batteries currently carried by dismounted soldiers. This Battlelab will assess the viability and utility of products such as fuel cells and conformal batteries.

TRAC2ES Battlelab (2HSB): This Battlelab will aim to better understand the requirements for deployable casualty regulation. The Battlelab will utilise the TRAC2ES software to help inform casualty regulation operating concepts, user requirements, command and control interfaces, TTPs and business cases.

Army C4 Battlelab (1RNZSigs): In order to prepare Army for the acquisition and introduction of a sophisticated network enabled capability gaps in knowledge need to be addressed so that robust user requirements for the Network Enabled Army (NEA) programme can be developed. The focus will be on the C4 requirements at the tactical level which includes things such as Blue Force Tracking (BFT) and small form factor computers such as tablets, PDAs and e-readers.

Operational Infrastructure Battlelab (2EngR): This Battlelab will help Army to define its user requirements for operational infrastructure with a focus on new power generation technologies, waste management systems and rapidly emplaced barriers. Some of the technologies scheduled to be explored could potentially be deployed into theatres with associated cost savings and reductions in environmental threat risks.

THE TACTICAL SHOTGUN BREACHING STAND-OFF DEVICE

When firing breaching ammunition, it is essential that there is sufficient clearance between the muzzle and the surface or object being breached to allow for ventilation. If the muzzle of the Benelli M3(NZ) Tactical Shotgun (TS) is completely flat

against a surface and a breaching round (or any round, for that matter) is fired, then the gases released during firing have to go somewhere, and the results wouldn't be pretty – there would likely be heavy damage to the muzzle and a high likelihood that the operator would be injured by the resulting damage. Leaving a small amount of clearance space between the muzzle and the breaching target is therefore essential, both for the safety of the operator and the safe and effective functioning of the breaching round and the Tactical Shotgun alike.

Before the Tactical Shotgun was purchased a number of different devices were considered to ensure that the operator could safely operate the TS in a breaching mission. The

commercial and military off-the-shelf options considered were primarily jagged attachments to the muzzle itself, allowing the muzzle to be jammed against a breaching surface with built-in ventilation segments ensuring safety. However, this type of device would prevent a NZ soldier from firing some less lethal rounds when such an attachment was in place, creating another dilemma. Another identified option used overseas is a folding bayonet-style stick that extended underneath the muzzle, providing the required clearance. This would pose a problem in any confined spaces or room clearing operations, even if the attachment was in the retracted position, as it provided a sharp, long surface that would be easily caught or snagged on clothing, furniture or obstacles.

The identified stand-off device solves these problems by attaching a length of disposable rubber hose to the magazine extension. All TS will come with a length of this black hose, and soldiers will be able to cut off the required length depending on the barrel length they are using with their TS at the time. Standard issue pocket knives or any multi-tool will easily cut through the hose, which in turn will fit (with minimal force) onto the front of the magazine extension. In accordance with the P15, the stand-off device needs to provide a minimum of 25mm clearance forward from the muzzle.

It is essential that the stand-off device is used at all times while breaching. It is also highly recommended that the stand-off device is attached whenever the TS is being used in general, as the attached hose provides very effective and extremely cheap protection for the muzzle whenever the TS is slung. If the TS is being used as a secondary weapon and the soldier is moving into or out of vehicles or buildings, or is taking a knee or lying down, it is likely that the muzzle will be knocked around. This was observed on operations in Timor-Leste and caused some damage to the TS muzzle itself. Fitting the hose onto the muzzle provides an extra degree of protection to the weapon system itself, catching the majority of impacts instead of the vastly more expensive Benelli barrel.

The rubber hose should be treated as a disposable item and replaced as often as required. Supply units can request additional quantities of the hose under NIIN 98 207 6021 HOSE, BREACHING STAND-OFF DEVICE at \$7.04 a metre. The NZ P19 Tactical Shotgun Weapon Training Publication 2012 is the primary reference for the stand-off device and all related TS ancillaries.



LAV WEAPONS EFFECTS SIMULATOR (LWES)

A light armoured vehicle weapons effects simulator developed largely by Simon Hoey from the Army Simulation Centre provides a low-cost, significant capability for the New Zealand Army.

LAV crews have, until recently, not been able to conduct truly realistic training, especially when training with dismounts because blank ammunition for the LAV weapon systems is either unavailable or unaffordable. As a consequence there was no manifest indication of when LAV fire support is being provided to dismounted ops.

Currently training in fire and manoeuvre has been simply training crews in manoeuvre. The initial request for a solution to this problem came from the LAV wing of the Combat School (Major Bill Keelan) during a demonstration of simulation products. Simon Hoey voluntarily undertook to manage the project, which was recently completed with the practical support of George Hare from the Defence Technology Agency.

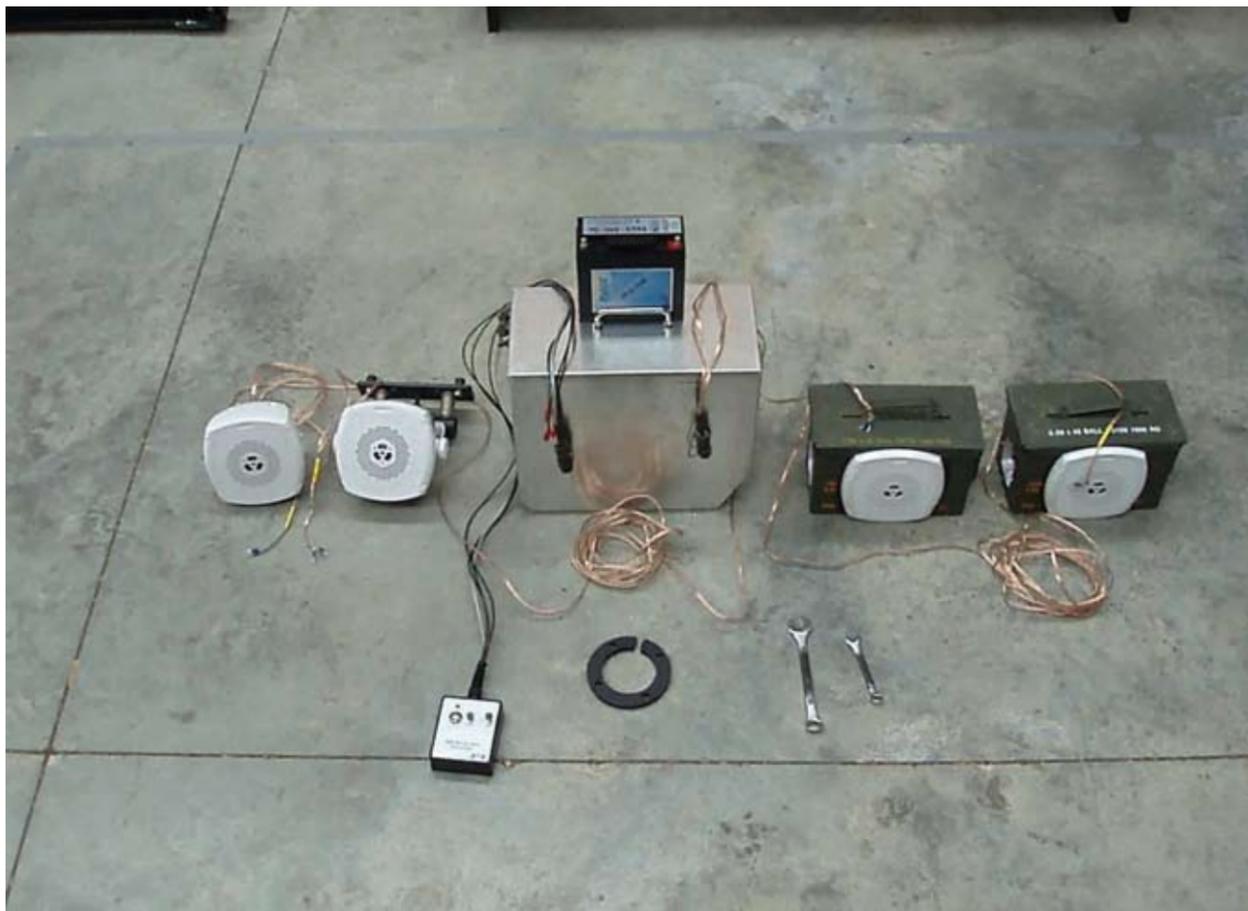
What was needed from Army: \$20k was provided in the 2009/2010 NZASC budget and 12 LWES units have now been built (sufficient for a company activity). It is intended that any repairs will be funded from within the NZASC budget and carried out by NZASC staff.

Benefits

The major design considerations were the need for it the simulator to be cost effective, adaptable for other A vehicles at a later stage, mobile, lightweight, easy to use, durable, mountable using existing LAV storage, protected from damage or interference by either natural phenomena and electrical or electronic transmissions, and mimic gunnery procedures.

Furthermore, the LWES had to provide the LAV with a means of simulating engagement of the enemy that could be heard by dismounted soldiers within a radius of 150-200m. The LWES solution consists of a Small Arms Retaliatory Target (SART) system battery, a maritime amplifier and an IPOD loaded with LAV weapons effects, secured in the LAV main ammunition box between the commander and the gunner seats; weather proof speakers mounted in surplus ball ammunition containers and mounted on the outside of the turret near the bustle bin; and with the system being activated by the gunner using a trigger mechanism attached with velcro to the gunner's joystick. Sound effects are clearly and realistically audible at a distance when weapon systems are fired. The LWES project provides a solution to a training problem and enhances realism in training in a way that was not previously available.

The benefits of this system are multi-layered and not readily quantifiable. In the first instance, there is a significant increase



The components of the LAV weapons effects simulator

in realism in training, leading to better operational outcomes, but it is difficult to accurately quantify this benefit. Then there is the cost of efficiency accrued from using virtual rather than blank ammunition— this can be measured by counting off rounds fired and then multiplying the total by a dollar figure; savings are likely to accrue rapidly and exponentially as training with this system increases.

If WTS statistics are used as a comparison, cost savings are likely to be both significant and on-going. Finally there is a saving in the cost of the equipment. By comparison, The Sound Effect System (SES) that comes as part of the Simulated Automatic Retaliatory System (SART) provides realistic background battlefield noise for soldiers engaged in training using the SART. The SES has significant limitations on it which precluded it from being considered for this project. It requires pre-planning as part of any range set up, it is not designed to be vehicle mounted, it has a limited comms range between it and the laptop computer that controls it, it does not have LAV weapon audio files and can not be operated spontaneously by the gunner or the crew commander. Moreover, only eight SES were procured at a cost of \$13, 579 each; even if the SES

could be adapted to fit the training need, an additional eight would be required to support a LAV Coy activity at a cost of \$108, 632, not including spare SES to provide an operational pool, the procurement of extra SART laptops, or the repair and maintenance costs.

Subject matter expert Major Peter Cowan says the system has been reviewed and accepted by subject matter experts from the Combat School (LAV Wing) and other potential users, with adjustments being made throughout the research and development process. Issue of this equipment will occur as soon as the remaining 11 units are received. Because it is a simple matter of loading audio files onto the LWES, other units might also benefit from the further development/evolution of this product, especially where blank ammunition is unavailable or unaffordable or when weapons or pyrotechnics audio effects would enhance training. The Simulation Centre is considering how this development might be applied to provide battlefield simulation using demolition/explosive/IED audio tracks.

More innovation stories next month:

- Our palletised fire pod - LCPL Adam Harvey's ideas

CDF LAUNCHES DEFENCE EXCELLENCE

Defence Force Chief Lt Gen Rhys Jones urged the NZDF's senior leaders to be the "advocates and champions" of Defence Excellence (Dx) at the launch of the continuous improvement programme on 11 June.

"Defence Excellence will provide commanders and leaders throughout the NZDF with the necessary framework, methodologies and tools in order that they can align themselves and their areas of responsibility with where we need to go, examine their processes and develop better ways of doing things," Lt Gen Jones said.

Dx is championed by CDF and sponsored by Chief Operating Officer Will Peet. Based on the internationally recognised Baldrige criteria for performance excellence and Lean Six Sigma, Dx aims to identify and eliminate activities and processes which don't add value or are not aligned with the delivery of the NZDF mission.

"We're not doing Dx to win awards but rather, to create an NZDF that is able to meet the changing demands of our operational and corporate environment. We need to do this so we can thrive and continue to be an organisation that people want to join and remain a part of," Lt Gen Jones explained.

Although Dx will be led from the top down, he said the input of NZDF's civilian and military personnel will be vital to the programme's success.

"We all need to focus on that continual drive for improvement, that continual drive to become a highly respected and highly effective organisation," he stressed.



RNZN Captain Wayne Mackey, Director of Defence Excellence, said the programme's initial aims were to "identify initiatives and areas of excellence that already exist in the NZDF and share these across the NZDF, and examine some of the larger processes so we can help commanders identify and eliminate activities which do not contribute to our overall NZDF mission."

"We want to enable our commanders and leaders to drive sustainable and effective improvements," he added.

Information about Dx, including a video of CDF's remarks at the launch, will be made available on the programme's Intranet site in July.



EX POSEIDON 12

By LT Paris de Boam – Regimental Dive Officer

The RNZE Dive Team recently completed Exercise Poseidon 12 where sappers from 2 Engineer Regiment were trained and assessed in tactical diving procedures. Over ten days the Team's qualified divers worked through a series of tactical scenarios with a mission to provide subsurface mobility and counter-mobility support within an asymmetric threat environment. Activities ranged from civil search tasks to higher-end subsurface explosive breaching and tested members in a range of conditions and locations throughout the North Island. The overall aim of the exercise was to train RNZE divers in providing combat engineer support to kinetic operations and to challenge members in cold and complex diving conditions.

Following mobilisation at 2 Field Squadron the team deployed to the brisk alpine waters of Lake Moawhango to conduct a day of compliancy and emergency refreshers. The tactical scenario kicked off on Day Two with an underwater obstacle emplacement task.

Scratching ice off windscreens and downing the last of hot brews the team 'eagerly' moved off to establish a concealed forward dive admin point in the frosty approaches to the lake. Using drysuits to offset the temperature two dive detachments positioned spiked timber palisades and concrete hedgehogs to create landing point obstacles designed to fix the enemy within a battlegroup engagement area.

These were then enhanced with underwater wiring and tied onto natural features to further shape and deceive the enemy. With no time to waste the divers returned to the admin location where they received orders for the afternoon task – a landing point reconnaissance. Following a quick re-set they were back in the water. This time the zodiacs inserted the divers into secure drop-off locations from where they took final bearings and left surface to navigate in. Working in pairs they gathered intelligence and obstacle data and returned to the pickup point undetected. Based on this information the JNCOs then worked late into the evening to devise method of attack requirements for the

next day. The task for Day Three was to conduct a subsurface infil and explosive reduction of landing point obstacles to enable an inner cordon to insert and seal off a known threat area. The divers again navigated to their respective areas and attached the specifically designed charges. They then moved to the firing point and eagerly awaited the fruits of their labour. On cue massive jets of water shot up over 100m into the air in both locations. Lance Corporal Jason Bowling enjoyed the activity saying "its definitely beneficial for tradesmen like myself to gain more experience in demolitions, especially as we don't often get opportunities to carry out tasks like this."

Receiving new orders the team moved to Whangaparaoa to conduct tasks in the Hauraki Gulf. First up was a post-blast seabed search and vessel survey at Moturekareka Island. The sunken Rewa, a century old cargo barque, provided a realistic setting for the activity. The site was also favoured by the resident school of sting rays who provided an extra level of excitement during the modified search group swim. This dive turned up important elements of evidence which indicated that the vessel had been used to transport bulk homemade explosives for insurgents in the area. Sapper Marc Stallard was a diver on this task and noted that "the scenery was really different near to the corroding ship. Visibility wasn't the best so extra care was needed to find sharp objects and sting rays. However finding the body, mines and other objects meant the task was a success."

From this information BG HQ identified a wharf on a nearby island which required removal. The team then moved to Devonport Naval Base where detailed planning and preparation for this task commenced. On Day Six the team transited to an isolated cove on Motuora Island and used a cave to conceal one of the zodiacs. Divers then conducted a tactical recon of the wharf to gather structural measurements and demolition data before navigating back to a pickup point for extraction. Based on this information Dive HQ and JNCOs planned the culminating task for the exercise – the explosive removal of the Motuora Island

wharf. With rehearsals complete the team eagerly moved to Army Bay early on Day Seven where they prepared borehole charges, received confirmatory briefs and double checked all specialist equipment. As it had done for the whole exercise to date the weather came to the party with flat conditions enabling a short 20 minute transit out to the forward RV on the island. As planned the divers entered the water at high tide and conducted the navigation into the wharf with the explosives.

Once the wharf was finally rigged the team moved to a floating firing point 300m offshore and watched the wharf disappear in an impressive flash of light and shower of timber. The smoke quickly cleared revealing a nicely flattened wharf and successful demolition much to the satisfaction of all involved. This also marked the completion of tactical diving for the exercise. On the whole, Exercise Poseidon 12 demanded a lot from its divers across a broad range of engineer skills. Pleasingly, the newest members stepped up and achieved good results in what was a novel and challenging training activity. Sergeant Awanui Melbourne noted that the highlight for him was "watching our boys carrying out their tasks without compromising safety for speed, in some freezing conditions."

The RNZE Dive Team has been working hard over the past 12 months to update its work diving capability and increase its utility within an *Army 2015* and *Future 35* context. In essence the RNZE Dive Team's function is to extend engineer operations into the underwater environment which, in a region characterised by coastlines and waterways, is something that holds enduring relevance. As the Regimental Dive SNCO, Staff Sergeant Mick Spicer puts it "I am confident that 1 (NZ) Bde now has its own tactical dive asset that can be deployed as needed within the SW Pacific." The team continues to bring into service new tools and procedures and is growing the skills of its expanding membership. This allows 2 Engineer Regiment to provide both a tactical dive support function as well as heavy construction diving support to HADR and civil tasks within our region.



Do you want to join?

Interested in joining 2 Engineer Regiment Dive Team?

Do you have the aptitude to be part of a highly motivated team that works in arduous conditions?

Can you meet the following pre requirements?

- Member of Royal New Zealand Engineers,
- Required Fitness level:G1
- Medically cleared fit to military dive,
- Pass a dive physical fitness test consisting of the following minimum standard:
- Bleep test standard of 9.6,
- 30 Press ups,
- 30 half sits,
- 8 pull ups, and
- 400m fin in 8 mins 30 secs.
- Have a workplace first aid and oxygen administration certificate, and
- Be recommended by your Officer Commanding

Recruiting Now

Point of Contact: SSGT Mick Spicer, 2 Engineer Regiment, Dive SNCO



SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMUNICATOR

AS A SO COMMUNICATOR YOU CAN EXPECT:

- JOB SATISFACTION
- CAMARADERIE
- THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND SPECIALIST COURSES INCLUDING:
 - PARA COURSE
 - AIR MOBILE COURSE
- ADDITIONAL \$2912.00 PER YEAR ON QUALIFICATION (SUBJECT TO PASSING PROBATION)

WE ARE LOOKING FOR DEFENCE PERSONNEL FROM ANY SERVICE/CORPS/TRADE WITH THE RIGHT:

ATTITUDE
APTITUDE
ADAPTABILITY



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON INZSAS REGT SIGS TP CALL PAKAPURA CAMP ON DTelN: 396 8680 OR 09 296 6800 EXT 8680

DIXS EMAIL: @NZSOF.C4I.RECRUITING

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to operate as a critical enabler to Special Operations? 1 NZSAS Regt Signals Troop is on the lookout for communications minded personnel from any Service, Corps or Trade to join us. You just need to arrive with the right attitude and a good level of physical fitness. Everything else – including training and skills – will be provided as part of the posting induction.

1 NZSAS Regt values its people. In today's operating environment, support elements (better described as 'operational enablers') provide close support to the 'operators'. As a result, the professional and physical demands of the SO Communicator are necessarily higher than a typical NZDF Communicator, so a barrier test is part of the induction process into the Unit.

All support elements are required to pass the ten day Special Operations Forces Induction Course (SOFIC) and three months of probation in order to earn the right to receive the extra pay and wear the coveted regimental beret. (Go to the link at the bottom of this article to learn more about the SOFIC).

As a prospective SO Communicator, once you have passed the SOFIC you would then need to pass a pre-entry theory assessment before undergoing a six week C4I Foundation Course and a six week Special Forces Communicator Course. Upon successful completion of these you would be a fully trained and deployable SO Communicator.

Currently, in addition to the mainstream Signallers, the 1 NZSAS Regt Signals Troop has a Navy Communicator, an Air Force CIS Operator and an Army Artillery Signaller. All took up the challenge at the start of this year to join the regiment. Read on for GNR "H's" account of the SOFIC.

"As I was driving to Papakura the day before SOFIC, all I could think was 'what have I gotten myself into'. I had acted on impulse after a presentation telling me that the Signals Branch of 1 NZSAS Regt

Support Squadron was now open to all Corps. I realised that this was a chance to experience something that not everyone has done.

The morning of day one was nerve racking. I knew the Required Fitness Level was first up, which is straight forward enough, but I didn't want to use all my reserves on the first event because there was a lot more to come. I kept telling myself that I had done plenty of training leading up to this and that I'd be fine.

As the day progressed it became hotter and hotter, so the battle efficiency test was difficult. Next was the Hounds and Hares. This was the event that I was most worried about. It was tough, but the worst part about it was the seemingly never-ending hills. Every time I got to the top of one somehow there was a bigger one behind it. I couldn't help but wonder how far I had come and how much further there was to go. Near the end there was a big downhill section and as I got further down I thought 'yes this is it, the end,' but no chance. There was a stony faced soldier standing there pointing the way to the end. I tell you, that was the longest 400m I've ever run!

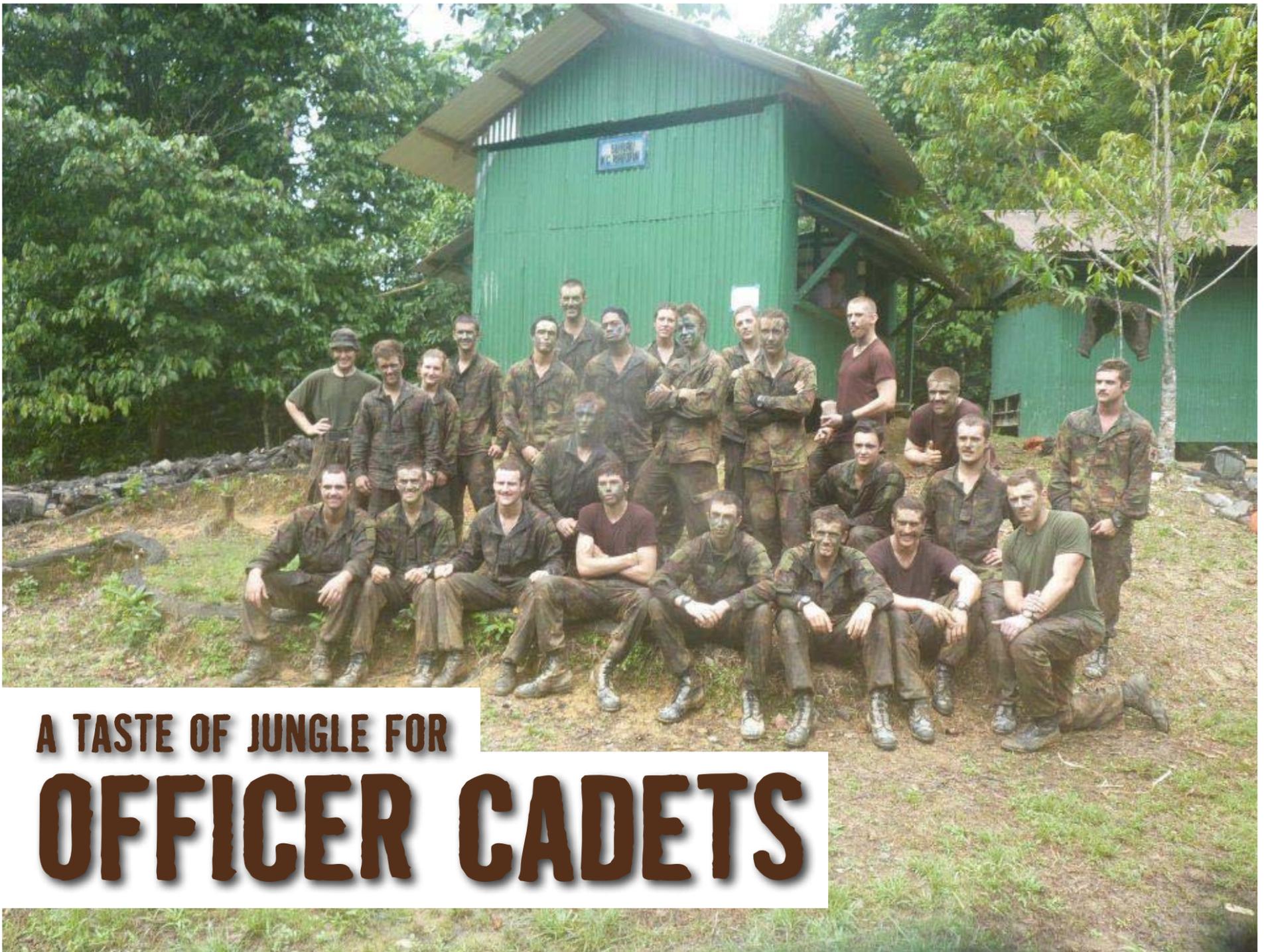
On day two I hobbled out of bed totally perplexed

as to how I was going to complete the pack march. The start was the hardest part. When I got to the first water point I got my map out to check how far I'd come, and found I'd only done about 7.5km. I couldn't believe it. I was frustrated with how far I still had to go, so I told myself I'm getting to the end no matter what happens. I'm just going to put one foot in front of the other. Near the end of the march I was so tired, I just thought that I'm definitely going to finish what I started. Crossing over the finish line and shrugging off that pack was the best feeling, and I felt like I really had achieved something.

The next three days were spent on the range learning and shooting a host of unfamiliar weapon systems, which is a lot of fun and was well worth the previous two days of pain. The SOFIC was an experience that opened my eyes to what I was physically capable of. I can't compare it to the artillery gun line, because it is totally different, but I still feel like I can achieve a lot here and I can't wait for the next challenge."

SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMUNICATOR

If you're interested in challenging yourself both professionally and physically, are highly motivated and have a desire to work within Special Operations Forces, register your interest now by completing an AFNZ 3A found at - <http://org/nzsof/LP/NZSOF-Recruiting.aspx>.



A TASTE OF JUNGLE FOR OFFICER CADETS

The New Zealand Corp of Officer Cadets was in Brunei recently for Exercise Kepimpinan.

It was the Officer Cadets' first chance to operate as platoons and experience platoon command. It was also their first taste of operating in the jungle and their first exercise outside Waiouru. It was their fourth field exercise for the year.

The exercise started with three days in Penanjong Base where the cadets had time to acclimatize and review their platoon training, tactics and procedures. They made an early move to the Tamaura naval base where they boarded a landing craft which took them from the capital Bandar Seri Begawan, in the western part of the country, to Bangar in the east. From there it was a one hour TCV ride and a three hour march to the forward operating base at Camp Miriam.

From there it was three, three day patrols which put close country soldiering skills to the test. The thick jungle vegetation and lack of prominent high features forced the cadets to use compass bearings and paces to navigate. Patrolling was slow going due to the dense vegetation, and water needed to be rationed.

All cadets filled the roles of platoon commander, platoon signaller, platoon sergeant and section commander and section 2IC. The patrols engaged in both quick and deliberate attacks, ambushes by night and day, obstacle crossings and establishing harbours. Cadets were up late writing multiple sets of orders and QBOs were issued when contacted. Assaults up and down steep hills and across rivers were conducted two to three times each day, not only testing soldier skills and command, but also fitness.

Leadership development was the aim of the exercise and after ten days the cadets emerged from the jungle more capable commanding a platoon and more confident operating in close country. Platoon defensive harbours went from taking three hours to put together to one hour and assaults took greater shape as the exercise progressed.

The cadets' time at Penanjong Garrison wasn't dull either. Each day started with a hearty breakfast of fried chicken and noodles. At a cultural evening they were treated to great food, traditional music and dance and martial arts and they responded with a haka for their hosts.

The Bruneian OCS cadets also challenged them to a game of soccer. On the back of some herculean defence they managed to trump their quicker, professionally uniformed opponents 0-3. They also received a presentation from a Ghurka Platoon commander who shared his experiences from Afghanistan and his thoughts on junior leadership. Time was found to visit the

water city and regalia museum.

The Officer Cadets next exercise is Tebaga Gap, back in Waiouru. In this exercise they will continue to develop their leadership and command skills. The emphasis in this exercise is advance to contact.

- The New Zealand Commissioning Course (NZCC) runs from January to December. The course aims to develop leaders for the New Zealand Army. Officer Cadets go on field exercises to develop their leadership and problem solving skills.



Homeward bound



RIMPAC 2012 - THE WORLD'S LARGEST MARITIME EXERCISE



Around 350 NZ Defence Force personnel are in the United States as the world's largest international maritime exercise, Exercise Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC 2012), gets underway.

HMNZS TE KAHA and HMNZS ENDEAVOUR have berthed at Honolulu port, and a Rifle Platoon from 1 Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment has embarked on USS ESSEX with the US Marine Corps at Kaneohe Bay.

The Operational Diving Team will operate out of San Diego, while the Mine Counter Measures Team will be based at Pearl Harbour and will embark on Japanese ship BUNGO for part of the exercise. A Royal New Zealand Air Force P-3K Orion will operate out of Kaneohe Bay, and a number of headquarters staff are working out of Pearl Harbour and Ford Island.

"This is the first time in 28 years that the NZ Defence Force has taken part in RIMPAC. As the largest maritime exercise in the world, RIMPAC offers our people a unique training opportunity. It is also a key opportunity to work alongside a large number of Pacific nations building interoperability and relationships," says Commander Joint Forces New Zealand, Major General Dave Gawn.

"Participation in exercises like RIMPAC also enables the Defence Force to prepare for a variety of contingencies to ensure that New Zealand can play its part effectively in working with other nations to reduce conflict and improve stability in the Pacific and around the world."

RIMPAC 2012 involves 22 countries, a total of 25,000 personnel, 42 ships, six submarines, and over 200 aircraft. Other nations include; the US, Australia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Netherlands, Peru, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, India, Mexico, Norway, Philippines, Russia and Tonga.

Exercise RIMPAC 2012, which finishes on 3 August, is hosted by the United States.





Private Darren Smith fires the LSW C9 in the Riverhead Forest in a pre-Exercise Baupame training day



Pte Darren Smith (mid ground) 3/6 Bn about to go for a swim during section live firing attacks

By Staff Sergeant John van der Zanden

I distinctly remember that Lieutenant Ian Auld said, "The Auckland-Northland and Hauraki 3/6 Battalion will conduct live firing section attacks in close country", after the Auckland-Northland COY training day.

Staff Sergeant Jodi Cole and Corporal Damian Pert, both trainers for Exercise Baupame which was conducted over three days in May had good ideas: live firing section attacks in open country. The "recce" of the Kaipara training area was conducted successfully and the SART target area was selected. This was all completed one nice fine autumn day in April.

However, the SART target area just happened to be at the

far end of ground which becomes a water table after rain. This brought a whole new meaning to the words "fire and manoeuvre". Swim and manoeuvre may have been more appropriate in the circumstances.

This was the first live firing exercise in the new 3/6 Battalion format. The combination of two proud Territorial units: the Auckland-Northland 3 Battalion and the Hauraki 6 Battalion into 3/6 Auckland-Northland and Hauraki Battalion brought with it a number of geographical complications which were solved once all the soldiers had reached the Kaipara training area. They came from as far north as Kaitia and as far south as Turangi.

The competition was evident between the sections as well. The three Auckland-Northland platoons, from Whangarei, Auckland and Manukau city respectively had to contend with some stringent competition from the "Haurakis". It appeared by the end of the exercise that they had all done their best, and that there was no clear "best section". In doing so, the units are cementing their relationship with old comrades whom, until now, they may only have met on the rugby field during the Harding Cup.

The exercise was also an opportunity for "loggies" to train in infantry tactics.



A FINE DAY IN
THE KAIPARA: EX
BAUPAME

A wet section is a happy section: Corporal Darryl Savage, (left, wearing hearing protection) and his "Lads"



Sergeant "M" spent five years as an infantryman, but leapt at the chance of becoming a commando when it became available. The first step, he says, was having the courage to step forward and volunteer for the selection course. Now he is encouraging his former colleagues to give it a go. **This is his story.**

**EVER
THOUGHT OF
BECOMING A**

COMMANDO?



Are you looking for a new challenge?

Are you looking for a change in career? One that will test you physically and mentally without all the military bureaucracy?

These are some of the reasons that our current serving members joined D Squadron (Commando) within 1 NZSAS Regt. D Squadron is the NZDF Counter-Terrorist response force. We are currently looking for bright and resourceful individuals who have the ability to continually self-motivate when working by themselves or within small teams.

There is no doubt that many in the Army have thought about trying out for this role but were lacking sufficient information to allow them to commit themselves, and their family, to a career change.

The first step to being a Commando is having the courage to step forward and volunteer for the selection course. Many people will find excuses why now is not a good time to do selection: "I want to do a course over those dates", "I've got too much on at work", "my mate's wedding is during Selection."

To be honest there will never be a good time to do Selection. What you need to do is seize the moment like the people before you and apply by filling out an AFNZ 3. Once you've committed yourself you'll find that your focus and motivation intensifies. The Special Operations Force intranet site contains a training programme that will

prepare you to pass Selection. Just follow the programme, don't skip any meals and you'll be good to go. If you've read any of the previous articles about Selection in the Army News, the course can sound daunting. However, with the correct mindset, training and diet, you'll be surprised just how far your body can go on little to no fuel.

Much like the SAS, applicants are sought from all three Services. After passing the Commando Selection and Counter Terrorist Course, you'll be awarded the coveted Regimental beret, Commando badge and Corps belt. For most people the induction training is the first time they've touched explosives, ascended or descended urban structures, or jumped from helicopters.

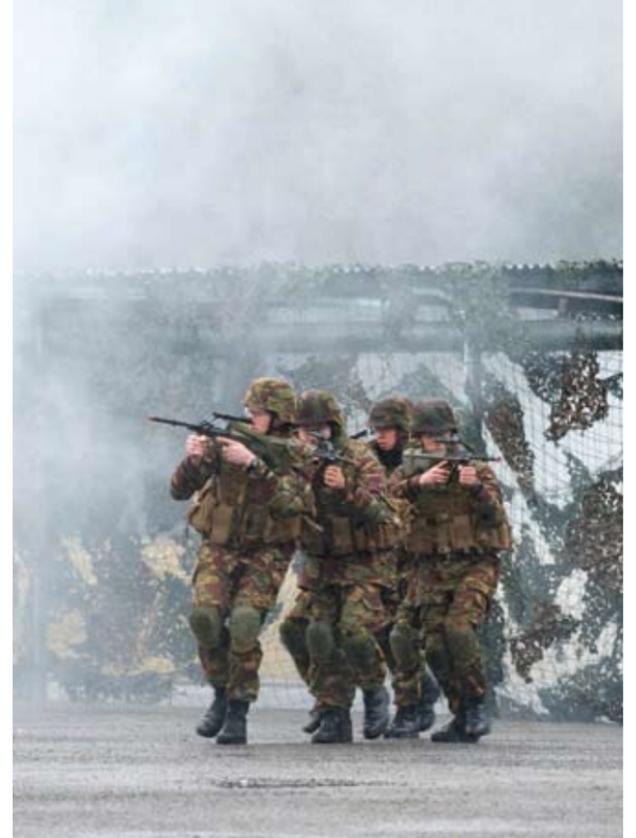
Within the Squadron a Commando will either take the path of Assault Operator or Marksman. Assault Operators continually develop skills such as: insertion techniques via sea, air and land; ascending and descending techniques; manual and explosive methods of entry; room combat and urban fighting techniques. Marksmen provide forward reconnaissance and real time intelligence for the assault group. They are able to provide distractions or neutralise selected targets depending on their stipulated tasks.

As a Commando you are expected to maintain your personal fitness, which is why the Squadron has five scheduled PT sessions a week. We are currently working on a strength and power programme to adequately prepare our people for the demands of their job. What really sets the Unit

apart from other units in the NZDF is the calibre of training. On any given day or night you could be fast roping from a helicopter, rappelling from a high-rise building, boarding a moving vessel, climbing a high-rise building, shooting in the Battle Training Facility, or entering buildings using various methods. If you're not doing that, you're coming up with more efficient and faster ways to do those things in order to increase the operational effectiveness of the Squadron.

Recently the Squadron deployed to a large New Zealand city on an exercise. The exercise was able to familiarise Squadron members with the key infrastructure in the area. It included teams fast-roping onto buildings, conducting room combat training using simunition against live enemy, rappelling from prominent buildings, boating to an undisclosed island to recover a VIP, and employing explosives to blow through walls and doors at an abandoned location. In the final stages of the exercise the Squadron conducted Emergency Close Air Support and Call for Fire training with members of 16 Field Regiment.

Within the Operational Security parameters of this unit I have just given you a glimpse of what it is like to be a member of this Squadron. If you're interested in challenging yourself both professionally and physically, are highly motivated and have a desire to work within 1 NZSAS Regt as a Commando, register your interest now by completing an AFNZ 3 found at - <http://org/nzsof/LP/NZSOF-Recruiting.aspx>



FROM SEA-KAYAKING TO SOLDIERING - THE ARMY'S TOP RECRUIT



Brigadier Mark Wheeler reviews the graduation parade accompanied by Major Billy Vince.



Recruits show the skills they have learned, as well as drill and a haka for those who gathered to watch them graduate.



Private Gwynrydd Rees



A former Abel Tasman National Park sea kayaking guide is the Army's latest Top Soldier.

Private Gwynrydd Rees of Motueka was named Top Recruit when the 103 soldiers graduated in torrential rain at Waiouru Camp on Tuesday, 26 June.

Private Rees, 25, was also the top recruit in Crichton VC Platoon. He said he learned a lot about himself on the 16-week course, which he described as "amazing" and the most challenging thing he had done in his life.

The son of a Naval officer, he said he had always been interested in the military, particularly the Army, and enjoyed being in the bush "getting dirty", and working hard. "I'm really stoked to get the Top Recruit Award but I owe a lot to the guys who did the course with me. We all tried to help each other. I have made some great friends on the course"

He has been posted to Burnham Camp to complete his infantry corps training.

During the course the soldiers learned about, among other things, field and battle craft, weapon training and shooting, first aid, physical training, close quarter battle, navigation and drill.

They demonstrated many of the skills to a large group of family and friends who gathered to be part of their graduation.

The Top Shot Award went to Private Evan Clarke of Queenstown, and the Sergeant Major of the Army Award to Private Nicholas Johnson, of Whakatane. Private Johnson was also named as top recruit of Brown VC Platoon.

The top recruit of Freyberg VC Platoon was Private Brody O'Neil of Lumsden Private Nori Lee of Auckland was top recruit of Forsyth VC Platoon.

The Most Improved awards went to Private Cody Mark-Eiao (Freyberg VC Platoon) Private Keelan Smith (Crichton VC Platoon) Private William Edmundson (Brown VC Platoon, and Private Benjamin Mason (Forsyth VC Platoon).

The graduation parade was reviewed by the Land Component Commander, Brigadier Mark Wheeler.

COLONEL CAMPBELL FAREWELLED IN DUNEDIN

Former NZRSA president Colonel (Rtd) Arthur John Campbell, ONZM died in Dunedin on 22 June after a long and debilitating illness. Mourners at his funeral included the Chief of Defence Force, Major General Rhys Jones and a large group of family and friends, as well as a funeral party of senior NCO's from South Island Regular and Territorial Force units.

Soldiers carried Colonel Campbell to the hearse, and the funeral party was led by the 4th Otago Southland Battalion Group CSM Gerry Costello while ATC Cadet Daniel Campbell, Colonel Campbell's grandson carried a floral tribute behind the procession.

Colonel Campbell transferred to Dunedin RSA in 1999. He was an Executive Member, Vice President and President of the Dunedin RSA, and went on to become District President Otago and Southland RSA from 2003 – 2005. He was the first South Island elected National President of the Royal New Zealand RSA

In 2010 he was made a life member of the Dunedin RSA.



COL Campbell was known as a fine soldier, a dedicated champion of veterans' rights and for many, a close, personal friend. During his 32 year service to the RSA he worked for all veterans and service personnel to achieve milestones such as the return of the Unknown Warrior in 2004; the celebration of the RSA's 90th Anniversary and the institution of the Year of the Veteran in 2006; the Tribute 08 parade, the Government

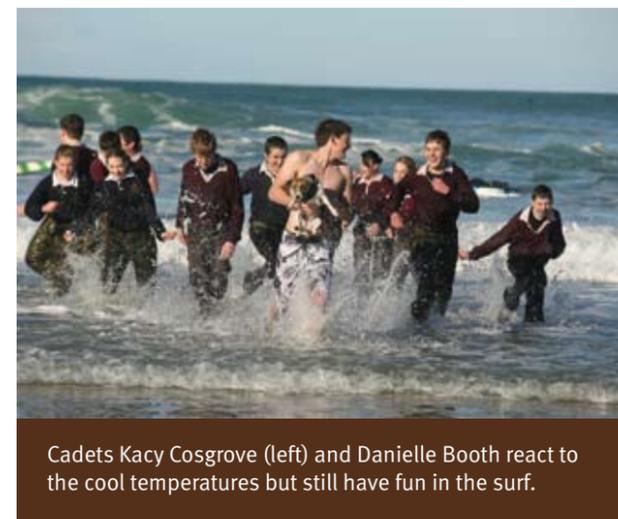
and all party apology to Vietnam Veterans in Parliament and the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with Vietnam Veterans in 2008.

After retirement, he continued his service as the lay member of the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Veterans' Health. In Dunedin he will be remembered especially for the commitment he made to the Monticello Veterans Home.

Cadets from the City of Dunedin Cadet Unit braved cold water temperatures when they took part in the annual mid winter swim (Polar Plunge) held at St Clair Beach in Dunedin recently. The 15 cadets present also won the best turned out group award which earned them \$300 worth of pizza.



Above and right: Cadets from City of Dunedin Cadet Unit splash through the surf at St Clair Beach, Dunedin.



Cadets Kacy Cosgrove (left) and Danielle Booth react to the cool temperatures but still have fun in the surf.

MULTIBOX SAFETY – DO YOU KNOW THE DOS AND DON'TS?

Each year many fires in New Zealand are caused by multibox failure. There are many multiboxes throughout NZDF facilities. DSS Property Group carries out regular checks on the safety of multiboxes in NZDF working areas but not in barrack rooms or service houses as these are personal areas. Multibox failure or incorrect use of a multibox may have been the reason for a couple of relatively recent fires that caused significant damage to a barrack room and the burning down of a service house. NZDF employees need to be more aware of their electrical appliance use.

The photos included show the burnt out barrack room that cost NZDF thousands of dollars to repair and an Ashburton Fire Station officer with a collection of overloaded and faulty multiboxes that have caused fires.

The main causes of multibox failure are overloaded multiboxes or worn pin contacts inside the sockets where the appliance plugs connect. The standard multibox is rated for about 2300 watts and is generally only good for home audio and computing equipment. Appliances that contain heating elements should be plugged directly into the wall outlet as they can overload a multibox.

To Keep Safe

- Choose multiboxes with a cutout.
- Only plug light wattage appliances in to multiboxes.
- Do not use multiboxes near water.
- If the plug does not fit properly throw out the multibox.
- Use multiboxes for appliances that don't need to be plugged in and out.
- If arcing or smoke occurs, unplug and discard the multibox. Get a new one.
- Plug high wattage appliances like irons, heaters, and jugs directly into wall sockets and avoid overloading multiboxes.



New Civilian Volunteer Health Scheme (CVHS) personnel had a taste of military life when the Forward Surgical Team (FST) held a CVHS training weekend at Linton Military Camp recently.

The purpose of the training weekend was to provide an introduction to the FST for new CVHS personnel, a chance for military members to meet some of the CVHS pers, and to provide an insight to the basic military skills that they might encounter and use while deployed with the FST either within New Zealand or overseas exercises like Tropic Twilight or Pacific Partnership.

The weekend began with the CVHS pers, under the guidance of the military staff, erecting the FST tentage (canvas only). This task was completed in the dark and even the weather played the game and it began to rain. Once the tent was erected and the sleeping cots set up, the next task for our enthusiastic CVHS pers was to cook their first meal of their ration pack.

Even with the weather conditions not so friendly it did not deter them from cooking their dinner meal outside with hexamine cookers.

After spending a chilly night out sleeping in the FST, Saturday's training began with an introduction to morning routine before the group was split into two for the morning activities.

One group of theatre nurses was taken by Major Debbie Cromie to complete some training on our sterilisation process, while the rest of the group under the guidance of Lieutenant Sheree Mudford set about completing the task of packing the full FST onto C130 Air Force pallets to develop a packing plan for the up coming exercise Tropic Twilight 12.

Once this load plan was achieved the two groups joined forces mid afternoon for some communication leadership fun activities with Lieutenant Nikki Houlahan. LT Houlahan ran several activities that challenged the CVHS pers to communicate with each other without using standard verbal or visual methods.

Having survived the previous 24 hours on ration packs, dinner on Saturday night was at the Mess followed by a social evening, which included a pub style quiz with Lance Corporal Lynaire Morgan.

Sunday's activity proved to be the highlight of the weekend



HEALTH SPECIALISTS GET A TASTE OF ARMY LIFE

for many, including the staff. After a frosty start to the day we piled into vans and travelled out to RNZAF Ohakea for a tour of the new RNZAF NH90 helicopters, with a focus on their future capability of aeromedical evacuation and its link to the FST.

After a minor issue with the hire van we safely returned everyone back to the airport or Linton for their return home.

The weekend proved to be a great success, providing the chance to observe and assess how the CVHS pers coped and adapted with the basic military skills that they will have to use in future involvement with the FST, and gave them a chance to build those all important interpersonal relationships for a successful team in the future.

KEEPING THE THREAT IN MIND

By Major Mark Bateman, Threat Integration Cell

As the preparation for the final withdrawal of NZDF from Afghanistan gains momentum, much of our effort, energy and dedication begins to focus on what lies ahead for the NZDF.

Of course this has been in the minds of our command at the strategic level for quite some time, demonstrated by the CA vision for Army 2015 and the CDF vision of Force 2035. Now, although we still have personnel preparing to deploy to high threat theatres, the time for welcoming our soldiers home for the final time is just months rather than years away, and the impact is already starting to affect decisions and deliberations at the operational level. Soon, these effects will be noticed

right down at the tactical level, where every soldier, sailor and airman will be affected by what this means to the NZDF.

Naturally, our primary focus remains the safety and well being of all our personnel overseas and our efforts will not diminish regarding force protection. But as we do draw away from our major operational commitments, our individual interests might not be focused on where things are going, rather what does this now mean for me.

Of course we cannot know the answer to what lies ahead, and we need to be ready to meet those demands as they arise. A number of costly and invaluable lessons have been learned through our recent operational commitments and it is the consolidation and institutionalisation of these lessons, across all three services that will enable us to ensure we are ready to face the threats of the future.

At the end of April, with the troubles in Syria becoming ever more problematic, NZ personnel were stood up to support UN in a security monitoring role.

On 8 May an improvised explosive device hit a Syrian military convoy, just seconds after UN observers had passed by, wounding an undetermined number of Syrian soldiers, some critically. Although part of the same convoy, on this occasion none of the UN observers were seriously hurt, but the incident highlights that even in a non-combatant role, we need to be prepared for the worst and ready to face the threat when it

does come.

On Thursday 10 May two suicide car bombers killed 55 people and wounded 372 in Damascus. At the time, state media said that these were the deadliest attacks in the Syrian capital since the uprising against President Bashar al-Assad began 14 months before.

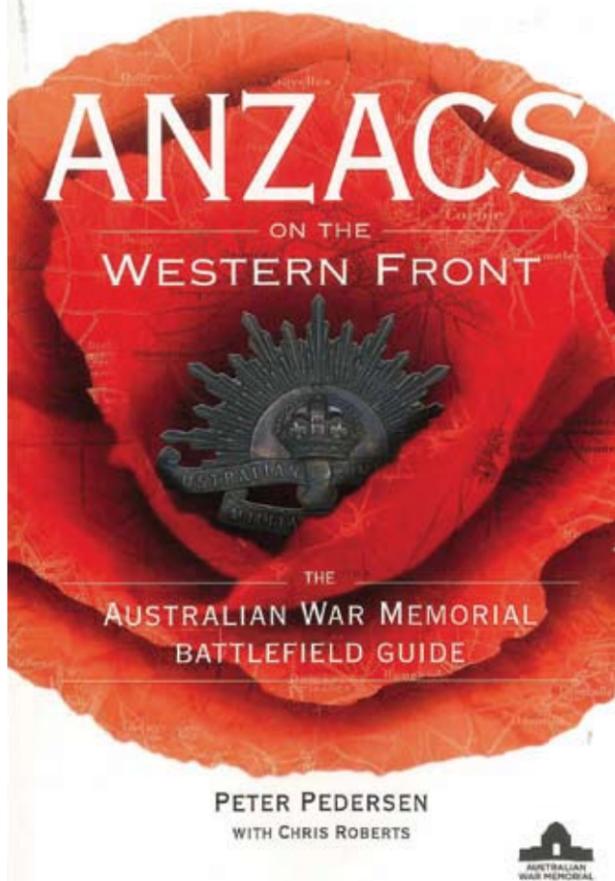
As a direct consequence of the proactive work that has been done by NZDF in the field of C-IED, our personnel were issued with kit and equipment that will provide them with the protection they will need in theatre throughout their time in Syria. They were also provided with extensive briefing packages that ensured that the team were armed with every piece of critical information that was available

Since this deployment, violence in Syria has continued to escalate and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon, speaking on the worrying increase in bomb attacks in the country stated:

"There is no escaping the reality that we see every day with innocent civilians dying, government troops and heavy armour in city streets, growing numbers of arrests and allegations of brutal torture and an alarming upsurge in the use of IEDs and other explosive devices throughout the country."

Afghanistan is simply one example of what our personnel face, wherever they may be, in their NZDF roles.





ANZACS ON THE WESTERN FRONT:

The Australian War Memorial Battlefield Guide by Peter Pedersen with Chris Roberts (Milton Queensland: John Wiley and Sons, 2012),

Some Australians have the irritating habit of overlooking what the NZ in ANZAC stands for, but this certainly does not apply to the authors of this excellent book; ANZACS on the Western Front: the Australian War Memorial Battlefield Guide. Naturally this guide devotes most space to the Australian Imperial Force actions on the Western Front, but the New Zealand Expeditionary Force's service is also given appropriate coverage.

ANZACS on the Western Front is a substantial book of more than 570 pages and it is clear that great care and effort has gone into its research, writing and production. The text is concise, thoughtful and easy to read. Good use is made of extracts from the first-hand accounts to give the reader a better understanding of the experiences of participants. Included in the book are a large number of boxes dealing with special topics or individuals such as the "king of no-man's-land" Sergeant Richard Travis VC. The text is complemented by an outstanding range of illustrations and maps. Contemporary photographs are used extensively and are often juxtaposed with photographs taken by the authors of the same scene on which the positions held by units, lines of advance and other points of interest have been marked. The way in which the author's photographs are used is one of the strong points of this book and is a model for battlefield guides. The clear, well designed maps included in the text are similarly of the highest standard.

This is a battlefield guide and any such book will stand or fall on the quality of its directions and advice for battlefield visitors. In this regard ANZACS on the Western Front is not found wanting. Directions for tours by car and on foot are clear and sensibly laid out. It is somewhat surprising, however, that the GPS coordinates for key points are not given as this would certainly assist many of those visiting the battlefields.

New Zealanders wishing to visit the battlefield of the Western front are already well served by Ian McGibbon's fine New Zealand Battlefields and Memorials of the Western Front, but there can be no doubt that ANZACS on the Western Front complements McGibbon's guide and if I were to return to the Western Front I would certainly take both books. The only real drawback with the Australian War Memorial guide is perhaps its substantial size, but given its quality I don't think any person interested in the battlefield would mind carrying this book with them. The Australian War Memorial, Peter Pedersen and Chris Roberts are to be congratulated on producing this fine work. ANZACS on the Western Front will be of great value both to visitors to the battlefields and to all those wishing to better understand the outstanding contribution made by the Australians and New Zealanders on the Western Front between 1916 and 1918.

» **John Crawford is the New Zealand Defence Force historian.**

Reviewed by John Crawford



NZ ARMY CRICKET TOUR

International Defence Cricket Challenge held in Canberra, Australia

5-25 November 2012.

International teams include:

Australian Army, Royal Australian Navy and Airforce, Pakistan Military and the Royal Malaysian Airforce.

Playing both T-20 and 50 over games. Touring squad of 22. 19 Players and 3 Officials (Scorer, Strapper and Manager) will be selected

North Island POC is SSgt Joel Grason, CSS Coy 1 RNZIR, extn 369 7435. South Island POC is Capt Scott MacGibbon, 3 CSSB, extn 337 7310.



Nominations close 24 Aug 2012.



Tregoweth at the start line of his 40km sprint



Members of the Army team with their supporters

ARMY CYCLISTS SHOW THEIR COLOURS IN WEST COAST RACE

The Individual Time Trial is known as the 'race of truth'. One of the simplest cycling races for anyone on a bike to participate in, so they say. Basically it is you and your trusty machine getting from point A to Point B as fast as possible, racing against the clock for a Personal Best (PB) and on a good day you may even push quicker than those on the course attempting the same thing.

The course and distance is the same for everyone in your grade: no attacks to watch for, no risk of being dropped from the bunch and no technical Roadie Team tactics to worry about. Just you and whatever power you can put through those pedals, legs, thighs to make you go fast over the entire distance. If you've timed it right your tank hits empty at the same time you cross that finish line with lungs exploding, heart rate in the red zone and thighs saying 'that's all I have to give'. When a PB is flashing on your bikes speedo, the feeling of accomplishment quickly takes away any self pity and the pain quickly turns to smiles and fist pumps. That's why they call this event the 'race of truth'.

This is exactly the experience a few official NZ Army Cycling Club members stepped up for when we travelled to the Manawatu recently to compete in our first West Coast North Island Centre champs recently as recognized Army Club riders.

Major Rob Te Moana, Staff Sergeant Aaron Tregoweth and I, along with our trusted support team—our sons—travelled north to take on our Grades 25km or 40km challenge. The conditions were perfect (no wind to blame). By the end all three riders, with nothing left at the finish line, completed their individual event producing personal bests (PBs) and gaining not only confidence to participate at this level but valuable experience in the art of setting and holding a consistent effort over the entire distance of the course.

On the day the team were just proud to get our strip onto the local club and regional scene but in the end boasting rights had to go to MAJ Rob Te Moana, who not only smashed his PB but was fast enough for a 3rd place podium finish within his Masters Category. Rob was also in the NZ National Road Championships in Napier in May, competing in the Individual Time Trial. Rob gained a PB and came 18th overall in his age group in a very competitive national field.

Our thanks and acknowledgment go out to Bike Manawatu, the club who hosted our first and well organised Centre/Regional Championships ITT Stage event and we will certainly be aiming to get more NZ Army Cycling Club members to the start line of such events in the future. This is just the beginning.



Rob Te Moana focuses on his 25km sprint.



Private Elliot Brown with his pride and joy.



1 RNZIR SOLDIER WORKING HIS WAY TO DRIFTING NATIONALS

Private Elliot Brown of 1RNZIR has a passion for cars. He returned from his first tour of East Timor and immediately began building his ultimate competition drift car, with the help of his local sponsors Speed Works Palmerston North and Paintworkz Wanganui.

"I am currently racing an r34 skyline with an rb25det engine as a competitive drift car. I first started to compete at show car events which in turn lead me to start drifting as a weekend hobby on and off for the last two years."

PTE Brown is currently competing in D2 (driving class) however his goal is to compete in the professional Drifting class D1 national series by 2014. To do this he has been attending as many events as possible all over the North Island, including Hampton Downs in Auckland, Manfield in Feilding and the Taupo Motor Sport Complex. He has been placed in the top 10 in every weekend drifting competition he has attended. "In the past seven months I have quickly graduated two grades to the D1 pro amateur series. However I will have to wait until the start of the new season in October to compete at this level".

Drifting is unlike most other motor sports as requires both style and character, which needs to be demonstrated to the judges out on the track. PTE Brown has his sights set on achieving his ultimate goal which is to compete in the American formula drift series.

"Thanks to support from 1 RNZIR I have been able to attend all of my events and achieve my goals. Also, thanks should be given to my sponsors for all their continued support whilst preparing for, and at these events. For the rest of the year, I intend to continue competing at these events, hoping to improve my skills, in preparation for the D1 pro am nationals later on this year".

What is Drifting?

Drifting is a driving style in which the driver uses throttle, brakes, clutch, gear shifting and steering input to keep the car in a condition of over-steer while manoeuvring from turn to turn. Drifters emphasize car control by coordinating the amount of counter steer (or opposite lock) with the simultaneous modulation of the throttle and brakes to shift the weight balance of the car back and forth through the turns. Furthermore, they strive to achieve this while adhering to the standard racing lines and maintaining extreme slip angles.



7 Wellington (Wellington's own) Hawkes Bay Battalion Group

Alpha Coy Reunion

ALPHA COY 7 WNH B REUNION
5 – 7 OCTOBER 2012, GISBORNE

Open to all past and current serving Regular and Territorial Force members posted or attached to Alpha Coy. Interest can be registered with SGT Su Gingles on 021 0383835 or email gary.grant@xtra.co.nz for a registration form.

Close off date 7 Sep 2012.



Team NZ arrived in Sibiu, Romania after a long series of flights to get us on the other side of the world. We had several days to pick our bikes and get everything ready to start racing.

Chris Birch had blazed the trail for New Zealand over the past couple of years but this year there would be eight Kiwis racing out of a total of 210 entrants from 35 countries. There were only 29 entrants in the Pro class from all over the world and only the seriously skilled and extremely fit enter. I, along with several other New Zealanders, were in this class, with Mark Delatour and Duncan McLaren in the expert single class, and Jesse Clarke and Mark Newton in the Expert Teams class.

Wednesday's racing was the prologue in the streets of Sibiu. The track designers had set out a great course that would challenge the riders' skills and speed. I was happy how I rode in the time trials but didn't make the semi finals by a matter of seconds. This would mean I would start 10min behind the first rider on day 1 in the mountains. The rest of the Kiwis rode well in their semis and finals, however Sean Clarke was t-boned by an out of control rider and took a heavy hit to his calf. Other than that we were in good shape.

Day One of the off road racing in the Carpathian Mountains meant an early start, with the first riders leaving at 0530. I headed out not really knowing what to expect other than I had 130km of serious riding ahead of me. I caught up to Sean and Kevin who had started a couple of minutes in front of me on the first tricky hill climb. Chris Birch was the first Kiwi into the lunch stop around the 70km mark, and I was the second Kiwi in and wondering what had happened to Sean and Kevin as I had caught them but never passed them. It turned out Sean's leg injury was too painful to ride and he had to withdraw. Kevin had made a navigation error and rode a section of track twice. I headed out after the lunch stop and straight into the hard stuff— it took me over an hour to ride up one of the hills. I arrived at the finish line in good shape and 19th overall in the Pro class. Graham Jarvis from the UK won, and Chris Birch was placed third.

Day Two again saw us ready to go at 0530 to get to the Off Road start for the day. I was feeling good, and confident in the fitness training I had done. We were promised a tougher day and the Pros would be going straight into a section called the Appetizer which consisted of a rocky river full of logs and water falls that we had to ride up. This section was my best section of the race as I caught up with and passed five other Pros in the 2km river section. The rest of the day wasn't too bad and finished with a steep down-hill ride to the finish line. The rider behind me lost control and cart wheeled his bike across the finish line right behind me which just goes to show you can't switch off even for a second until you have crossed the finish line. Graham Jarvis had extended his lead from day one with Chris Birch dropping down the field as he had broken a couple of bones in his foot.

Day Three was promised to be more difficult and the organisers weren't wrong. The uphill were steep and the down hills steeper by now. I knew when I saw a "Pro only" sign it was going to be tough. The last down hill section before the lunch stop called the "Beast" had us riding down rocky sections and over logs right on the point of balance and I almost went over the handle bars several times. Chris was on some quality pain killers and was right back up in the front of the field. Kevin was 20 minutes in front of me and Dougie caught up to me in the lunch stop. Dougie and I rode most of the afternoon together helping each other out and pulling our bikes up the really hard



stuff. We both finished well and were looking forward to a hot shower. Duncan had got a serious cut under his eye from a random stick and was forced to withdraw from the race as he couldn't see.

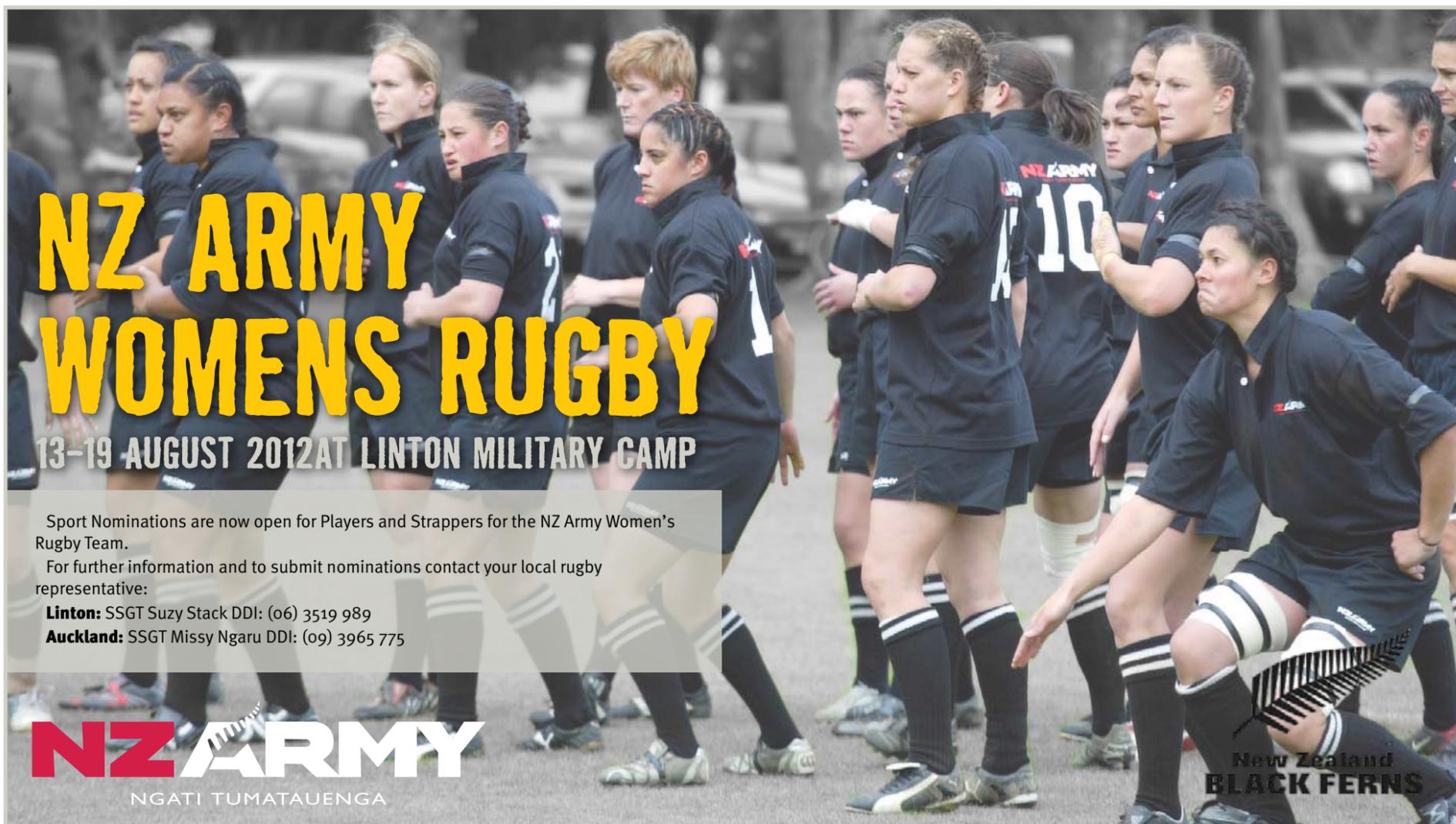
Day Four was the final day, with only 140km to go. I headed out on what was to be the hardest day of them all. By now I had worked out that if you see a lot of people around with cameras there is something gnarly coming up and "Rocky 5" was definitely gnarly. It was called Rocky 5 as it had rocks and was as bad as the movie. It took me over an hour to get to the top. Dougie and I teamed up to pull our bikes up the toughest parts. We were told there would be 7 Pro sections for the day. After I had finished the seventh one I thought that was the last of the hard stuff but the organisers had slipped in one more tough hill climb to test us that little bit more. I arrived at the finish line and rode my final sections in front of the huge crowd. I crossed the finish line in 18th place out of the 29 Pros.

Graham Jarvis won overall, Andreas Lettenbichler came second Johnny Walker third and Chris Birch fourth. Kevin was sixteenth, I was eighteenth and Dougie twentieth in the Pro Class. Overall it was a great trip and I was happy with my result. I would like to thank Suze, Off Limits, Motorcyclegear.co.nz, the Singapore Fund, Waiouru SNCOS' mess, Cheater Brothers Drainage, Waiouru Motorcycle Club and the Waiouru community for all of the financial support and good wishes.



ROMANIAN ROCKS, RIVERS, AND A CART-WHEELING BIKE

Enduro motorbike rider Sergeant Phil Cheater has recently returned from competing in the Red Bull Romaniacs, known as the toughest multi day race in the world. It was, he says, a tough race, but a thrill to compete.



Sport Nominations are now open for Players and Strappers for the NZ Army Women's Rugby Team.

For further information and to submit nominations contact your local rugby representative:

Linton: SSGT Suzy Stack DDI: (06) 3519 989

Auckland: SSGT Missy Ngaru DDI: (09) 3965 775

NZ ARMY
NGATI TUMATAUENGA

New Zealand
BLACK FERNS

2012 ARMY RUGBY TOURNAMENT



- » On 14 Aug RNZE play RNZA, and
- » RNZIR play RNZALR
- » On 15 Aug there will be a game between North Masters vs South Masters and the Army Womens Team will play against a yet to be confirmed adversary.
- » On 16 Aug the finals will be played between the Corps Teams for the George Skudder Trophy.

Where: Linton from 13 to 17 Aug

What: An inter corps tournament, between the teams representing RNZE, RNZIR, RNZALR and RNZA/Combined Corps

Fierce determination was the order of the day when 1 and 2/1 RNZIR clashed in the annual inter unit sporting contest Lone Pine.

This year saw five codes contested over two days of competition. To start the proceedings a powhiri was conducted for the 2/1 RNZIR group into Wellington Lines. Their Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Stef Michie threw down the gauntlet with some fiery words and this was followed by a mean haka by our 2/1 brothers. Our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Glenn King followed with some sage comments and then we responded as only we know how. The mood had been set, and with anticipation we all headed off to the gymnasium for the first game, volleyball.

With so much at stake and it being the first game, it was understandable that there would be plenty of early nerves by players in both teams. The 1 RNZIR team had a height advantage, and used this early on to gain an edge in the contest. Both teams were not afraid to spike the ball, and with very few unforced errors there were plenty of good rallies between teams. Some very good all round play from CPL Tyran Poi and offensive play from PTE Mason Hohepa showed through in the end, with 1 RNZIR striking first blood and winning the volleyball 3-0.

The next event was the Cross Country. This required 10 runners from each team to run a course of approximately 15 km over what can only be described as mountain goat country. This event was always going to be close, with both teams sporting very good runners. Lance Corporal Kane Van Lit (approx time of 1 Hr 5 min) and Private Alec Wardle from 1 RNZIR, together with Warrant Officer ClassTwo Marty Hill, 2/1 RNZIR were the first three runners home. Particular mention goes to PTE Justin Moss, 1 RNZIR who finished the race in seventh place while sustaining an ankle injury in the down hill portion of the race and WO2 Hill who showed massive ticker to upstage runners more than half his age. The final result saw 1 RNZIR take out the cross country by a whisker.

That afternoon saw one spectacular game of rugby league. With both teams sporting plenty of firepower up front and pace out wide, this game was always going to go down to the wire. 1 RNZIR scored first with a try to TPR Leon Walker, before 2/1 RNZIR responded. Both teams shared the lead, and at the end of regulation time the score was 25 -25. This meant extra time, golden point. After the first period of extra time the scores remained the same, and it wasn't until the 88th minute that PTE Mac MacLean slotted over a field goal (off the post) for a win to 1 RNZIR. The game had everything, and the players can be proud of the skills and resilience displayed throughout this

hard fought game.

Day Two started off with the basketball, with 1 RNZIR again possessing height advantage, with PTEs Alastair Rogers and Rory Tonkin in particular using their height and reach to dominate the key. 1 RNZIR started with a flurry of three-pointers to PTE Kane Young, putting them on the front foot. SGT Chris Firman and CPL Charlie Togia worked hard to keep 2/1 RNZIR in the game, however the 1 RNZIR defence and transition was too good, allowing plenty of scoring opportunities for the 1 RNZIR team. In the end 1 RNZIR ran out clear winners 57-35.

The last game of the Lone Pine was rugby, and 2/1 RNZIR have been dominant in previous years. Both teams wanted the win, and it was obvious from the kick off that this was going to be a titanic struggle. The 2/1 RNZIR team included a

large forward pack, and soon began to dominate in set pieces. The 1 RNZIR forward pack worked hard, and with TPR TJ Oliver directing them from half back they countered with very good defence around the rucks and mauls. SGT Gareth Manson scored the first try, putting 1 RNZIR ahead. 2/1 RNZIR countered with a penalty to PTE Barney Te Kani before he went in for a try just before half time. The second half saw determined defence from both sides, and although TPR Oliver scored another try for 1 RNZIR, PTE Te Kani's boot was the difference, with 2/1 RNZIR running out eventual winners 17-10.

1 RNZIR won the Lone Pine after a lengthy hiatus. The two days again demonstrated the fellowship and e'spirit de corps between the two units, as well as the desire to win. Roll on 2013.



LONE PINE THE CLASH OF TITANS

SPEEDWAY: IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR

Staff Sergeant Rolly Hay from 1 RNZIR has been a proud and loyal supporter of the Palmerston North speedway scene since he moved to the Manawatu in 1994.

He would turn up and pay his gate fee to watch these crazy men drive one and half tonne steel beasts around a concrete walled quarter mile clay track with the sole aim of carrying the chequered flag on a victory lap. If they were not in a position to win they would do their best to ensure that anyone close to them would not either, by way of forcing them up the concrete wall at 100kph and causing them to roll.

"It turned into a family ritual, with me and my family along with the on average 2000-4000 other paying spectators attending every Saturday night during the summer months to watch these modern day Gladiators do battle. I would always sit there thinking to myself "I wish I could do that". So instead of thinking it we did it. My partner Mel and I purchased our first Ministock in 2007 and have not looked back since".

Ministocks are regarded as an ideal stepping stone into the speedway world, with classic stockcar looks in a compact vehicle that is cheap to build and maintain. Minimal contact is permitted, and the cars are constructed from either a 1200cc Datsun or Toyota "donor car".

"Many of the vehicles are shared between family and friends, because children aged from 12-16 can strap themselves into the Youth Division, while the adult grade consistently provides the biggest fields at the Robertson Holden International Speedway," he says.

Together with his daughter Telani, SSGT Hay is currently contracted to Palmerston North Speedway under the race number 25p so most of their racing is done in Palmerston North. They also travel to Whanganui and Stratford speedway (when the finances allow). His sister Nicole races in the adult class under 73p and with his partner Mel as the Pit Crew Chief, it really is a Hay family affair.

"Because my daughter is racing now it became too hard for both of us to share one car so we purchased a second

Ministock in February this year. It was the old 44p Brenden Sharlen car which was last year's overall points winner and the current Manawatu champs car. So it was time to see if I have been driving a low budget car or if I had been a low budget driver."

Competing on the first night in his new vehicle saw SSGT Hay starting off in the back of a field of 35 cars for all three races. He finished ninth in the first race followed by two thirds, so not too bad for his first time out in the new car. "Since I have been racing the new car I finished fifth overall in the Whanganui Champs and finished sixth over- all in the Manawatu points chase for the season out of 85 registered cars. Not a bad season at all".

"So if soldiers find themselves with nothing to do one summer's Saturday night, they should go on down to the Robertson Holden International Speedway and watch some steel meet steel and maybe have a hotdog or two. Maybe next year I will be driving with the NZ Army on the list of sponsors!"



CCANZ

Cadet Corp Association of New Zealand

To find your nearest unit go to www.cadeforces.mil.nz

Keen to support local youth? - Get involved with the Unit Support Group from your local Cadet Unit.



Growing up with a Dad and brothers who enjoyed motor sport meant Warrant Officer Class One Michael Yorwarth was destined to be a petrol-head at some point in his life, he says.

After playing many sports, I realised a dream by purchasing a Mazda Rx3 coupe back in 2002 as a wedding present. With the help of Cameron Jones, (Jonesy) a good mate and do-it-yourself race car and engine builder (who has helped me keep the costs down significantly), I have experienced the thrill of racing on a number of New Zealand's race tracks. So, when the V8 Supercar Championship headed to Hamilton for the ITM 400 as part of its annual New Zealand round I couldn't resist the one opportunity I would get to experience the challenge and thrill of street circuit racing by being on the grid in the GT1 Support class.

It was an early start Friday morning, which was practice and qualifying day, with the GT1 class first up. There were not too many spectators milling about at that time of the morning, but I didn't care. The adrenalin kicked in full throttle as I headed out onto the track with the smell of race fuel and burning rubber filling the air. As I made my way around the track for the first couple of laps, I realised the financial decision to buy a harder slick that would last longer highlighted an inherent and significant flaw with that logic; harder compound slicks, means less grip; less grip at a street circuit enclosed by hundreds of three-ton concrete blocks could very well spell disaster. So while my speed increased as I gained familiarity with the track, I very quickly realised I had very little grip, so I backed off to ensure I still had a car to qualify and race the next day.

The great thing about motor-sport is all the guys help each other out, despite many being fierce competitors on the track; so there was plenty of discussion amongst the boys around set up and how to fix the problem to ensure I could make the tyre work hard enough to generate sufficient heat, as heat on a racing slick equals grip.

It was still pretty cold at that time of the morning. We all hoped the sun would work its wonders on the bitumen, and, coupled with set up changes, I would gain sufficient grip to push the car harder during qualifying. It worked to some degree. Certainly having got to know the track better and with improved grip I actually enjoyed my second session and didn't worry quite so much about the massive concrete barriers which loomed large at each corner.

Having never raced on a street circuit before (well certainly not at 200 km per hour), the one thing that sticks in my mind about street circuit racing is how bumpy it is, something I had not anticipated after we drove around the circuit in a road car on Thursday evening before they closed the track. Mind you, it is a bit different driving a road car at 50 km/h compared to a race car at 200 km/h. At the end of the allotted 20 minute session I had qualified 33 out of 38 cars; not bad given the company I was in (some of these guys are travelling at 260 km an hour).

Friday finished successfully with a straight car (my ultimate goal for the weekend) and no breakages. The changes to car



set up worked in the main but I still felt pretty vulnerable with limited grip compared to what I am accustomed to or in fact needed to have. My wife and daughter did a mercy dash to Carter's Tyres in East Tamaki Auckland to grab a set of softer compound slicks which meant I could head out for my two races the next day with confidence in how to set the car up and how it would handle.

Lining up on the grid for Race One was pretty cool, the atmosphere, colour and smells got the heart rate up and as the flag dropped and everyone shoved their foot on their accelerators, it was all go for next 15 minutes. Suddenly it was over, the chequered flag waved the end of the race, and we all headed back to the pits to dissect the race and review any damage or breakage – luckily all was well with the Mazda, and I finished a respectable 29th.

Back at the pits, all the crew (brother Kevin and Aussie Pete) had to do was put gas in it and give it a polish. Only a two hour wait and we were up again for the next instalment. The sun was much brighter, the crowds were bigger and the atmosphere was electric as the anticipation of the upcoming V8s surged around the track. All went pretty well during race

two, I found negotiating the chicane a thrill and a challenge, with a quick left and right manoeuvre most cars managed to get at least one wheel airborne. Unfortunately on the last lap my gearbox broke whilst I was exiting the last corner, so I only had fourth gear which managed to get me back to the pits without having to leave the circuit being towed. I had an absolute blast competing at the highest level in some pretty prestigious company and on a street circuit to boot.

Not being involved in the last race gave me an opportunity to watch my good mate Jonesy get his home built rotary powered Camaro past Nick Chester's former V8 supercar to win the round after a fierce battle where the lead changed a couple of times.

Motor sport is an expensive sport, and many of us race on a shoe string, therefore I am extremely grateful for the support and assistance provided by the Singapore Fund. I would also like to thank the crew, my darling wife Tania, number one supporter and daughter Jodie, Chief Mechanic, WO1 Kevin Yorwarth (RSM, Army Command School) No. 2, WO2 Peter Simeon (Field WO, OCS(NZ) our token Aussie) and brother-in-law Peter Kimber.



Soldiers from Alpha Company, New Zealand Army, conduct urban combat training at the Bellows Air Force Station training facility. Personnel from their host unit, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, played the role of enemy party for the simulation. Twenty-two nations, more than 40 ships and submarines, more than 200 aircraft and 25,000 personnel are participating in RIMPAC exercise from 29 June to 3 August in and around the Hawaiian Islands. The world's largest international maritime exercise, RIMPAC provides a unique training opportunity that helps participants foster and sustain the cooperative relationships that are critical to ensuring the safety of sea lanes and security on the world's oceans. RIMPAC 2012 is the 23rd exercise in the series that began in 1971. Photo: LAC Amanda McErlich, NZDF