

## **SUPPORT COMPANY**

Support Company was quick to start in 2017. Immediately following the standard induction period soldiers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Officers alike all took part in various courses including Population Protection Control, Helicopter Under Water Escape training, Chemical, Nuclear, Biological and Radiation Defence and vehicle suites of courses. These qualifications further built the foundation skills held within the Ready Battlegroup and Support Company.

Following a brief respite with some in barracks training the specialist platoons of the Company commenced their basic courses in order to develop the Tiger Battalion's soldiers. All courses commenced in Darwin before Mortars and Direct Fire Support Weapons deployed to RAAF Edinburgh followed by Cultana. Reconnaissance and Assault Pioneer basic courses continued in Darwin concurrent to the Specialist Combat Communications Course. Of note, the Reconnaissance course is looking forward to their visit from Mick Von Berg, MC towards the end of course, and Headquarters are preparing for a "quiet" dinner like the last. Mortars and DFSW courses alternatively have had visits from the Brigade Commander and Regimental Sergeant Major who thoroughly enjoyed the physical training line drills conducted in Robertson Barracks and the DFSW live fire components in Cultana. This training has also been thoroughly enjoyed by the soldiers and there is still much to learn.

Whilst I am writing this there is two weeks left before the Tiger Battalion's courses camp is completed for 2017. It is at this time that Mortars and DFSW will farewell their new friends from 7 RAR and return to Robertson Barracks. The highest performers will have the privilege of being selected for service in their respective specialist platoons. This will set the foundation to support the Tiger Battalion's objectives in EX Tiger's Run, Southern Jackaroo and Talisman Sabre later in the year.

With thorough planning and preparation Support Company will cement its status as the senior company delivering timely, accurate and effective capabilities to the Tiger Battalion... before backing up to win Blood Week.

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