

CHARLIE COMPANY REPORT – DECEMBER 2024

I first wrote to the Tiger tribe in March this year outlining what the Company was looking forward to in 2024. As with every year that was the last time the CSM and myself had a chance to take a breath – it has been flat out the entire year. I have Charlie Company GREEN penned the key activities I reported back in March that we were looking forward to in 2024:



Charlie Company march through Tully's streets on ANZAC Day.

What is Charlie Company up to this year?

The key activities the Jackals are looking forward to this year will include:

A solid eight week Section SOP building period (get the Sections right first and the Platoon /Company will follow)

Training must have been good, with Bravo Section 8 Platoon winning the Battalion 'Kennedy Cup' Section Competition, and further being the Section to represent the Tiger Battalion

at the Duke of Gloucester Cup later in the year.

~~Coy 2IC and 7 Platoon deploying to Timor Leste to support the training of a Timor Leste Company~~

Not completed - Coy 2IC and 7 Platoon did a great job preparing to deploy to Timor Leste, but unfortunately it didn't come off.

Multiple beers with the vets during the Battalion Binh Ba Week Commemoration (03-07 Jun 24). Successful – not quite as many Vets as last year. But looking forward to seeing them and more at next year's 5/7 RAR events!

Embracing the Tiger with a jungle and riverine operations package in the infamous *Jungle Training Wing – Tully*

Highly Successful – Charlie Company had the opportunity to march through Tully township for ANZAC Day, and went through some great training in the Jungle with Bravo Section 8 Platoon also winning the Champion Section during the infamous Tully Ex TRUE GRIT.



Spot the soldiers, Charlie Company deep in Tully Jungle.

~~Building our own and partner riverine capability with a Coy training activity in the Philippines with a Philippine Marine Coy~~

Not quite... But Charlie Company was able to get some of our PHQs and Sect COMDs across with the contingent to support the instruction of infantry skills.

Addition – Army Training Level progression up to Battle Group Live Fire = Read a lot of time out field....

Ex PREDATORS RUN – A Brigade level Full Mission Profile activity which saw Charlie Company, with attachments from Armed Forces of Philippines, deploy via civilian barges and small boats from Darwin to Dundee, before road moving to Bradshaw Field Training Area to support Battlegroup Tiger to clear an



Charlie Company with members of Armed Force of Philippines on Ex PREDATORS RUN in Bradshaw Training Area.

Enemy Company from the area. Highlights including conducting an assault river crossing by night (only saw one small crocodile but helps when you don't look for them) before summiting the Bradshaw Escarpment, which all Intelligence cells said could not be done, and assaulting the enemy from behind. Also conducting a 20km river insertion by night with small boats to attack the final objective (as the OC I was sweating the most of my entire career, having seen more crocodiles during the day than an infantrymen can count!)

Live Fire USMC Battle Group Attack – Post completing Ex PREDATORS RUN, Combat Team Jackal was attached to the United States Marine Corps Battlegroup (along with a Company from the United Kingdom Royal Marines Commandos) to conduct a Live Fire Battlegroup Attack. This was an awesome opportunity to see the amount of pure firepower that can be brought to bear from Attack Aviation, Artillery and Mortars, Armoured Vehicles and dismounted weaponry.

Op RESOLUTE – half of Charlie Company had the opportunity to deploy as a Task Unit out to the Kimberly Marine Park in Western Australia to support the Australian Border Force with protecting our coastline. This was a great opportunity for the soldiers to practice their small boat skills, as they spent every day and night on small boat patrols in thick mangroves searching for illegal fisherman. Highlights include having a private chef aboard our mothership with seemingly an endless supply of ice-cream and cake (safe to say the Company put our post field weight back on pretty quickly) and enjoying the amazing scenery of the WA coastline that few non-millionaires with private yachts get the opportunity to take in.

Winning Champion Company two years in a row... (TBC)

Stay tuned – but looking good!

What's next for Charlie Company?

For the remainder of the year the majority of the Company is away on specialist courses and taking some much earned leave, with those left behind getting back into a good battle rhythm in barracks before Unit Sports Week and the 5/7 RAR Re-linking (Hope to see as many vets there as possible).



Charlie Company.

Next year is still largely unknown – however I look forward to writing to you again in early 2025 to talk through what the new 5/7 RAR Charlie Company is up to for the year.

Duty First!

MAJ JP Rousseau