

9th Battalion The Royal Queensland Regiment



IET Module 1—January 2009

9 RQR conducted an Infantry Initial Employment Training (IET) Module 1 in January 2009. The Senior Instructor, Captain McCarthy, started with 60 soldiers and steered 59 to march out.

The trainees showed a good level of fitness throughout the course. During the first phase, the trainees undertook a Modified Basic Fitness Assessment under the guidance of Combat Fitness Leader Corporal Barry of Charlie Company. There were some outstanding results, including the elevation of the new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Michael Bond, to Spartan status.

During phase two the trainees applied themselves to navigation and RATEL lessons. Under the guidance of Lance Corporal Jones, Advanced Combat Communicator, and their section commanders all trainees passed RATEL while only two became “geographically embarrassed”.

The soldiers consistently displayed high levels of morale; with the members of 1 Section making the most of their self proclaimed callsign—‘Wild Cats’. Members, Private Butt of Charlie Company 9 RQR and Private Abeshouse of SUR, were the natural morale leaders with many performances of song and dance outside of training hours. Needless to say however, they put just as much effort into their course performance as they did with improving the spirits of their section and platoon.

Private Goodwin was awarded Student of Merit for displaying excellent skills and attitude throughout the course. He applied the theory to the practicals to a high standard, and qualified all of his range shoots first time with a second class shot for LF6. The ranges exposed the soldiers to every possible climatic condition less snow; which gave them a better understanding of the Infantry’s role ‘...regardless of season, weather or terrain’. Despite the rain, heat, humidity and winds, all trainees shot well and applied their marksmanship principles to pass the LF6 and LF9.

The course ran smoothly and several trainees went straight onto the IET Module 2 with 25/49 RQR. All the staff provided by 9 RQR provided a high level of instruction that was reflected through the trainee’s good results, strong work effort and high morale.



CO Lieutenant Michael Bond congratulates Student of Merit Private Luke Goodwin



1 Section ‘Wild Cats’ with the CO



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