3rd Field Regiment RCA (The Loyal Company) Barrack Green Armoury 60 Broadview Avenue Saint John, NB E2L 5C5

1325-1 (Adjt)

31 March 2016

Distribution List

3rd FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT RCA ANNUAL HISTORICAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2015

Find enclosed the 2015 annual historical report for 3rd Field Artillery Regiment 1. RCA (The Loyal Company). This unit met all of its objectives for 2015, and the enclosed report is a true reflection of the events that have occurred during the reporting period.

T.N. Watters Captain Adjutant

Enclosed:

1

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1325-1 (Adjt)

31 March 2016

3rd FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT RCA (THE LOYAL COMPANY) ANNUAL HISTORICAL REPORT 1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 2015

Unit UIC(s): U5022 Regimental Headquarters

U5022 89th Field Battery U5022 115 Battery

U5022 Headquarters & Services Battery

CFOO - Dated 08 Nov 2012

INTRODUCTION

- 1. The year, 2015 was a busy year for the Regiment. The Regiment conducted individual training courses on the armoury floor throughout the fall period. Apr saw the Major Wayne LeBlanc depart for his second deployment on OP SOPRANO South Sudan, to work in the HQ.
- 2. The Regiment conducted or participated in several exercises during 2015 ranging from gun exercises to winter indoctrination. All exercises were designed to increase the individual and sub-unit skills of our soldiers. 3rd Field Regiment also focused on its social interaction with the communities it belongs to, continuing to add social events to the regular calendar.
- 3. The summer of 2015 saw members of the unit deploy to support training at RCAS and 5 CD DIV TC of note Maj Andreola filled the position of OC of Coy which included all Arty courses, MWO K. McLean was the BSM. The Regimental Band had members asked with the ceremonial guard and 89 Bty sent Bdr Crawford. Regimental personnel took part in MQ, SQ, Artillery Driver Wheel, Primary Leadership Course (PLQ), and they also provided training support and instructor cadre for the various schools.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

4. The Regiment started of the year with the Annual Veterans Dinner hosted by our Honourary Colonel John K.F. Irving. This dinner is to recognize those members of the regiment who have deployed on operations outside of Canada, such as UN Tours, Germany with NATO and Afghanistan to name a few. This venue allows us to gather catch up and check in with each other. This year's dinner's guest of Honour was the Lt-Gov of NB Her Hon Jocelyne Roy Vienneau, Commander 37 CBG Colonel Michel Morin CD, his 37 CBG, RSM CWO Jean-Paul Savoie CD and Mr. Rodney Weston MP Saint John NB.

- 5. The Regiment celebrated its 221th birthday on May 4, 2015 marking 222 years of loyal service to the citizens of Saint John, New Brunswick and Canada. The department of Heritage does not support that the Regiment claim to continuous service since 1763, but there is no doubt that the Regt in its many forms over the years has been serving the City of Saint John and Canada.
- 6. On the 02 May 15 the Honourary Colonel J.K.F Irving, along with the Deputy Commander 37 CBG Lieutenant-Colonel S.I. McPherson, Commanding Officer LCol S.B. Strachan, Honourary Lieutenant-Colonel J. Quinn, Adjutant, Captain T.N. Watters and the Regimental Sergeant Major, Chief Warrant Officer Louvelle attended the unveiling of the MacCrea statue in the National Capital, this was followed by a Gala Dinner where HCol Irving received a miniature replica for his contributions to the project.
- 7. May 9thrd, 2015, the Regiment held an all ranks Regimental Dinning In. Music was provided by the 3rd Field Band accompanying a four course meal and a DJ finishing the evening off with music for dancing
- 8. 3rd Field Regiment took part in its unique tradition of firing the only non-royal 21-gun salute for Loyalist Day on May 18, 2015. Situated at the city waterfront overlooking the Bay of Fundy, the salute was fired at noon to commemmorate the birthday of Saint John. The city is the oldest incorpated city in Canada and the unit has always held close ties it, having been established in 1793 only eight years after the incorporation. Victoria Day happened to fall on the 18th as well so the Regt depoyed a second troopt to Fredericton to proudly conducted the Royal Salute marking the Queens Birthday.
- 9. 3 Fd Regt RCA "The Loyal Company" seized an opportunity to participate in a Canadian New Zealand Exchange (CANZEX). 4 members of the regiment lead by Captain Dave MacCready departed Canada on the 29th of June 2015, while Capt MacCready went down as advance party on 23 June. The members were attached to 163 Battery 16 Field Regiment Royal New Zealand Artillery (RNZA) at Linton Military Camp, New Zealand. The full story is attached as Annex D.
- 10. 01 July 15 the Regt deployed a salute troop to the official saluting base in Fredericton NB to mark Canada's Birthday. The troop was made up of soldiers who were in Gagetown on summer training who voluteered to return to the Regiemntal lines to ensure the salute was able to be conducted. The Troop Commander was the Ops O, Capt D.J.J. Meehan, HQ Bty, and the TSM was WO Mason from 115 Bty.
- 11. Remembrance Day was marked with a 21-Gun Salute in Fredericton with Minute Guns in Saint John, Woodstock and Hartland NB.
- 12. The Regiment's soldier's appreciation dinner was hosted by 89 Bty in Woodstock on 12 Dec 15.

COMMAND STRUCTURE

- 13. LCol S.B. Strachan, CD, completed his time year as the Commanding Officer of 3rd Field Artillery Regiment RCA (The Loyal Company) and relinquished Command to Major L. Andreola on the 29th of Aug 15. The parade was well attended by VIP's including the Col Comdt BGen (ret) Selbie and the Dir Arty Col T. Bishop. LCol Strachan was presented with the Col Comdt's commendation. The position of 2IC was was Maj W.B. LeBlanc, CD and while deployed on his second tour filled by Capt T.N. Watters. Capt T.N. Watters, CD, also remained as Adjutant of the Regiment. CWO G.M. Louvelle remained as the RSM.
- 14. Capt J. Linder CD remained BC of 89 Bty with MWO K. McLean CD as the BSM of 89 Bty. Capt Linder also has the duties of the Fd Bty Comd and MWO K. McLean CD as Fd BSM. Capt D. Meehan, MMM, CD relinquished command of 115 Bty to Capt D. MacCready. MWO P. Gillingham, remained as the BSM 115 Bty. Capt T.N. Watters, CD relinquished Command of BC of HQ Bty to Capt Reid-McPherson, with WO Grant appointed BSM HQ in Sep 15. Capt M.J. Molloy, CD remained OIC of the 3 FD Band.
- 15. As of 31 Dec 15 HCol JKF Irving remained our Honourary Colonel and HLCol. J. Quinn, as our Honorary Lieutenant Colonel.

PROMOTIONS

- 16. The following soldiers were promoted:
 - a. 2Lt Gutherie to Lt;
 - b. 2Lt Casey to Lt;
 - c. Ocdt Reid to 2Lt;
 - d. Sgt Deveaux to WO;
 - e. Bdr Smith to MBdr;
 - f. Bdr B. Clark to MBdr;
 - g. Gnr Douglas-Rich to Bdr;
 - h. Gnr Hanrahan to Bdr;
 - i. Gnr O'Dell to Bdr;
 - j. Gnr Gormley to Bdr; and
 - k. Gnr Fraser to Bdr.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

- 17. The following unit members received their Canadian Forces Decoration:
 - a. MWO P. Gillingham CD2
 - b. Sgt C. McCollum CD
 - c. Sgt J. Robichaud CD

- 18. The following unit members received the Colonel Commandant's Coin:
 - a. Captain T.N. Watters, Adjutant
- 19. The following unit members received the Commanding Officer's Coin:
 - a. Lt. Gutherie, 89 Bty;
 - b. Sgt Blinn, 89 Bty;
 - c. Sgt Smith, 89 Bty;
 - d. MBdr Kennedy, HQ Bty;
 - e. MCpl O'Dell, 89 Bty;
 - f. Bdr Daigle, 115 Bty;
 - g. Bdr Sok, 115 Bty;
 - h. Bdr Smith, 89 Bty;
 - i. Gnr Caines, 115 Bty;
 - j. Gnr Hanrahan, 115 Bty;
 - k. Gnr O'Dell, 115 Bty.
- 20. The following unit members received the Honourary Colonel's Coin:
 - a. LCol S.B. Strachan;
 - b. CWO Parker;
 - c. CWO (ret) R. MacFarland;
 - d. Sgt S. Williams;
 - e. Sgt J. Robichaud; and
 - f. Bdr F. Habold.

TRAINING

- 21. The Regiment began 2015 with the completion of the Driver Wheel Crse. The Regiment also began sending our soldiers on the preparation training for EX STALWART GOOSE 15 with members completing the Land over Snow Vehicle crse and the Basic Winter Warfare Crse held in Grandfalls NB.
- 22. The Regiment conducted, Ex STUDIOUS GUNNER 15 in February, followed by Ex THUNDERING RETURN 15 and Ex TURBULANT RAGE 15 in March. These 2 live fire Ex were conducted at CFB Gagetown. The Regiment also participated in Ex STALWORTH GOOSE in Goose Bay, NL. This Ex was part of ARCG (Artic Response Company Group) the Regiment sent a section minus of soldiers to participate on the Ex during March break.
- 23. In April 2015 the Regiment began conducting individual battle task standards training. This was IOT get ready for summer tasking's and the upcoming Top Detachment completion. This competition tested the Dets on, No 1's Open actions, Gun Deployment Drills, First Aid, Navigation and Harassing Fire Tasks which allowed all

Dets to confirm the previous year's training at the Det level. The Regt Pennant was awarded to 35D MBdr Kennedy. The detachment was as follows:

Det Comd – MBdr Kennedy;

Det 2IC - Bdr A. Daigle;

Det Mbr – Bdr B. Sok;

Det Mbr - Gnr Caines;

Det Mbr - Gnr Hanrahan; and

Det Mbr - Gnr O'Dell.

- 24. The Fall of 2015 saw the Regiment successfully complete two gun exercises which were part of the preparations for supporting the RCAS IG Course at the end of Nov. The Regt along with 1 Fd Regt and W Bty combined for the IG course to conduct Regt level Fire Plans for the students on the IG course. This was a great opportunity to show off the Regiments capabilities both on the gun line and in the CP with the Regt wining most of the Regt'l adjustments.
- 25. The year ended with the Regt conducting a Basic Winter Warfare Crse and the start of the Basic Arty Tech course.
- 26. The Year 2015 was a very busy training year for 3rd Field Artillery Regiment. The number and scope of the exercises kept all ranks very busy, and the number of social events was well received by both soldiers and the public. The Regiment continued its legacy of dedication and sacrifice for Canada.

27. UBIQUE!

L. Andreola

Major

Commanding Officer

Annex A – Unit Strength

Annex B – Unit Appointments

Annex C – Unit Nominal Role

Annex D - Canadian New Zealand Exchange (CANZEX)

Annex A To 1325-1(Adjt) 31 Mar 16

UNIT STRENGTH (2015)

OFFICERS

LOCATION	LCOL	MAJ	CAPT	LT	2LT/OCDT	TOTAL
RHQ		2	1	0	0	3
89 BTY	0	0	2	1	1	4
115 BTY	0	0	2	1	1	4
HQ BTY	0	0	3	0	0	3
Band	0	0	1	0	0	1

Sub Total:

15

NCMS

LOCATION	CWO	MWO	WO	SGT	MBDR	BDR	GNR	TOTAL
RHQ	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
89 BTY	0	1	3	3	4	11	12	34
115 BTY	0	1	2	2	3	20	14	42
HQ BTY	0	0	3	3	3	3	19*	31
Band	0	0	0	0	0	11	2	13

Sub Total: 121

Grand Total: 136

^{*}These are all Pte's who are in various stages of training but have yet to complete their DP1 Gun Course.

Annex B
To 1325-1(Adjt)
3\ Mar 16

UNIT APPOINTMENTS as at 31 Dec 15

RHQ

CO Maj L. Andreola CD
2IC Maj W.B. LeBlanc
ADJT Capt T.N. Watters, CD

OPS O Capt D.J.J. Meehan, MMM, CD

PADRE Capt M.A. Caines

RQ Capt C.S. Reid McPherson, CD
RSM CWO G.M. Louvelle, CD
CC Sgt M. Desrosier, CD

FC Sgt S. Williams

89th Bty

BC Capt J. Linder, CD
BK Capt R. Wynjes
TC Lt. Gutherie

BSM MWO K.D. McLean, CD

115 Bty

BC Capt D. MacCready CD
BK Capt A.V. Melvin
TC Lt. W. Casey

TC

BSM MWO P. Gillingham, CD

HQ & SVCS Bty

BC Capt C.S. Reid McPherson, CD

BK

BSM WO B. Grant, CD

Band

OIC Capt M.J. Molloy, CD

HON COLs

Hon Col

Col J.K.F. Irving

Hon LCol

LCol J. Quinn

Annex C To 1325-1(Adjt) 3/ Mar 16

RHQ

A82 591 012	MAJ	ANDREOLA	L	LUIGI
A23 317 416	MAJ	LEBLANC	WB	WAYNE
F82 161 004	CAPT	WATTERS	TN	TOM
D35 225 811	CWO	LOUVELLE	GM	MICHAEL
D37 277 686	H COL	IRVING JKF	JOHN	
B60 360 896	HLCOL	QUINN	JAMES	

89 BTY NOMINAL ROLL

R11 255 028	CAPT	LINDER	JCG	JOSEPH
F47 994 500	CAPT	WYNJETS	R	RHETT
D77 391 850	LT	GUTHRIE	JA	JOHN
R14 294 767	2LT	REID	NWD	NATHAN
H30 010 872	MWO	McLEAN	KD	KENDALL
F89 761 314	WO	BERGERON	Ε	ERIC
T24 613 227	WO	DEVEAUX	PD	PAUL
A60 611 519	WO	MCLAUGHLIN	DT	DAVID
A21 601 963	SGT	BLINN	BK	BRADLEY
T20 812 392	SGT	GIBSON	RA	ROBERT
H12 861 177	SGT	SMITH	CD	CLARENCE
N17 632 192	MBDR	BURNS	NW	NICHOLAS
A75 664 806	MBDR	DIGGS	AK	ASHLEY
H68 860 184	MCPL	O'DELL	SP	SEAN PATRICK
F82 167 536	MBDR	TOMPKINS	П	LEVI
D58 881 264	BDR	BOWMASTER	NS	NATHAN
D50 936 830	BDR	BROWN	JEM	JEFFREY
F79 470 068	BDR	COSTAIN	BK	BRADLEY
R14 381 712	BDR	CRAWFORD	RG	RONALD
D51 012 825	BDR	CULLINS	PG	PATRICK
T54 810 357	BDR	DOHERTY	RD	ROBERT
C14 482 396	BDR	FRASER	CJE	COLIN
T30 256 408	BDR	GOLDER	GCM	CHRIS
K83 913 922	BDR	GRANT	DJ	DOMINIQUE
K79 843 361	BDR	HABOLD	F	FRANK
D57 962 542	BDR	SMITH	MA	MASON
T16 527 444	GNR	BROOKER	PR	PATRICK
V62 134 283	GNR	CHATTERTON	TC	THOMAS
F57 904 034	GNR	CRONKHITE	BJS	BRANDON
A67 177 587	PTE T	HABOLD	Α	ANNA
V31 996 762	GNR	HOVEY	OR	OLIVIA
A62 695 878	GNR	HOWELL	CD	CADEN
F33 107 119	GNR	MACDOUGALL	AM	AIRICA
B87 948 453	GNR	MURRAY	KRM	KESHIA

R12 257 945	GNR	SHANNON	KA	KYLE
D89 902 555	GNR	THEBERGE	DL	DAMIAN
B33 555 358	GNR	WILLIAMS	W	WYATT

115 BTY NOMINAL ROLL

F58 892 095	CAPT	MACCREADY	DAJ	DAVID
R79 030 102	CAPT	MELVIN	AV	ANDREW
K51 248 327	LT	CASEY	WAW	WAYNE
D64 966 178	MWO	GILLINGHAM	PM	PERRY
T23 913 224	wo	HAYES	KM	KENNETH
N55 734 226	wo	MASON	NR	NORMAN
H75 136 691	SGT	MCCOLLUM	CR	CARRIE
N63 285 380	SGT	ROBICHAUD	JA	JUSTIN
B58 872 151	MBDR	CLARK	BL	BRENDAN
K59 153 342	MBDR	O'NEILL	CE	CLINTON
H13 685 238	MBDR	SMITH	AMF	ALEXANDER
F60 237 121	BDR	BUTLER	PE	PETER
K46 580 833	BDR	CLARK	LWJ	LUKE
T38 148 653	BDR	COGGER	JPH	JONATHAN
B68 637 776	BDR	DAIGLE	AR	AARON
K82 792 282	BDR	DOUGLAS-RICH	JFR	JOSHUA
D73 678 678	BDR	GORMLEY	CC	CHASE
F13 639 372	BDR	HANRAHAN	MS	MATTHEW
K17 740 094	BDR	HOBEN DR	DANIEL	RYAN
V36 692 363	BDR	LAVIGNE	MB	MICHAEL
R85 784 667	BDR	MCSHEFFERY	D	DILLON
H21 369 373	BDR	O'DELL	MAT	MITCHELL
A65 112 948	BDR	PATTERSON	SL	SHAWNA
D56 841 796	BDR	ROWSELL	JL	JOEY
V30 745 631	BDR	RUCKSTUHL	RGR	RYAN
D68 014 901	BDR	SOK	BAT	BENAIAH
V26 842 004	BDR	SPENCER	NC	NATHAN
N59 511 941	BDR	THOMSON	KS	KYLE
A78 954 404	BDR	VAIL	APC	ANDREW
H59 835 082	BDR	WETMORE	CD	CHRISTOPHER
R80 297 917	BDR	WOODHOUSE	MB	MITCHELL
K19 817 841	GNR	BERESFORD	CA	COREY
F27 547 180	GNR	BRYANT	С	CALE
B50 421 297	GNR	CAINES	DC	DARAN
K18 614 161	GNR	DONKIN	CC	COLLIN
N43 029 218	GNR	DUFFY	N	NICHOLAS
A71 402 895	GNR	GODIN	Z	ZACHARIE
C22 918 581	GNR	HODGIN	JHE	JOHN
A84 260 731	GNR	KNOX	JA	JEFFREY

Annex C To 1325-1(Adjt) 31 Mar 16

N58 885 264	PTE R	YANG	СН	CLARA
BAND				
A14 435 703	CAPT	MOLLOY	MJ	MIKE
C26 584 609	BDR	BRITTAIN	JC	JOHN
K43 460 296	BDR	BRITTAIN	SL	STEPHEN
T80 947 959	BDR	COOPER	DJ	DAVID
B27 913 259	BDR	FIRTH	KM	KRISTA
V11 664474	BDR	FLETCHER	MH	MICHAEL
F20 870 996	BDR	HUNTER	E	ERIN
V83 840 254	BDR	ROBINSON	AP	ASHLEY
B59 209 781	BDR	SPRAGUE	CL	CONNIE
N30 630 948	BDR	WHITE	JA	JONATHAN
N73 674 970	BDR	WILLIAMS	AL	ANDREW
R70 842 513	BDR	WILLIAMS	MI	MARILYN
V37 260 299	GNR	KEERY	KA	KATHRYN
C78 515 809	GNR	URDANG	JD	JOANNE
	BAND A14 435 703 C26 584 609 K43 460 296 T80 947 959 B27 913 259 V11 664474 F20 870 996 V83 840 254 B59 209 781 N30 630 948 N73 674 970 R70 842 513 V37 260 299	BAND A14 435 703 CAPT C26 584 609 BDR K43 460 296 BDR T80 947 959 BDR B27 913 259 BDR V11 664474 BDR F20 870 996 BDR V83 840 254 BDR B59 209 781 BDR N30 630 948 BDR N73 674 970 BDR R70 842 513 BDR V37 260 299 GNR	BAND A14 435 703	BAND A14 435 703

F80 687 683	GNR	PAW	CW	CHASE
H81 747 621	GNR	PETERSON	JFD	JORDAN
B19 881 057	GNR	ROBICHAUD	RJ	RYAN
F57 522 630	GNR	ROBSON	KW	KURTIS
V60 561 865	GNR	THOMSON	AL	ASHTON
H40 643 560	GNR	TOMPKINS	JJ	JORDAN

HQ BTY NOMINAL ROLL

K23 259 403	CAPT	CAINES	MA	MICHAEL
N64 427 988	CAPT	MEEHAN	DII	DONALD
K29 713 207	CAPT	REID-MCPHERS	ON	CS CELESTE
B59 826 800	wo	GRANT	BL	BETHANY LYNN
C19 667 104	WO	SANGSTER	AA	SANDY
A40 412 232	wo	SHORT	BJH	BRENT
F65 113 892	SGT	DESROSIERS	MJ	MARC
K30 983 000	SGT	JONES	GR	GREGORY
R17 207 962	SGT	WILLIAMS	SJ	SUSAN
D13 378 552	MCPL	FLANAGAN	MA	MICHELLE
H36 981 749	MBDR	KENNEDY	RRD	RANDY
R66 793 363	MBDR	STAIRS	DA	DOUG
V89 507 782	BDR	BURNS	MJR	MICHAEL
H68 660 260	BDR	CLARK	MD	MELVIN
F36 767 029	CPL	LOWTHER	SL	SALYNE

REGIMENTAL / TRAINING

PTE R	ALCHORN	SLM	SEAN
PTE R	ARMSTRONG	DM	DEVON
PTE R	BEALE	NR	NICHOLAS
PTE R	BROUGHM	KL	KANDY
PTE B	BROWN	SK	SERENA
PTE R	BUTLER	AC	ADAM
PTE R	DUMAS	D	DEVON
PTE R	GALLANT	TA	THOMAS
PTE R	GOGUEN	DG	DREW
PTE R	LAMING	JBTE	JARED
PTE R	MACKLEY	NA	NATHAN
2Lt	MEAD	JM	JANNAH
2Lt	MILLER	TS	TERRY
PTE R	SEARS	DS	DAMIAN
PTE R	ROBSON	KW	KURTIS
PTE R	SEARS	DS	DAMIAN
PTE R	TOMPKINS	IJ	JORDAN
PTE R	WILLIAMS	W	WYATT
	PTE R PTE R PTE B PTE R	PTE R ARMSTRONG PTE R BEALE PTE R BROUGHM PTE B BROWN PTE R BUTLER PTE R DUMAS PTE R GALLANT PTE R GOGUEN PTE R LAMING PTE R MACKLEY 2Lt MEAD 2Lt MILLER PTE R SEARS PTE R ROBSON PTE R SEARS PTE R TOMPKINS	PTE R ARMSTRONG DM PTE R BEALE NR PTE R BROUGHM KL PTE B BROWN SK PTE R BUTLER AC PTE R DUMAS D PTE R GALLANT TA PTE R GOGUEN DG PTE R LAMING JBTE PTE R MACKLEY NA 2Lt MEAD JM 2Lt MILLER TS PTE R SEARS DS PTE R ROBSON KW PTE R SEARS DS PTE R TOMPKINS JJ

Annex D To 1325-1 (Adjt) Dated 3/ Mar 16

3 FD REGT RCA "THE LOYAL COMPANY" IN NEW ZEALAND

3 Fd Regt RCA "The Loyal Company" seized an opportunity this summer to participate in a Canadian New Zealand Exchange (CANZEX). 4 members of the regiment lead by Captain Dave MacCready departed Canada on the 29th of June 2015, while Capt MacCready went down as advance party on 23 June. The members were attached to 163 Battery 16 Field Regiment Royal New Zealand Artillery (RNZA) at Linton Military Camp, New Zealand.

During the first week on ground Capt MacCready travelled with another officer to Wiaurou training base which is about 1.5 hours from Linton Camp. While at Wiaourou Camp we were teaching at the Officer Cadet School (OCS). Officer Cadets in New Zealand train for 12 months in no specific trade, however part of their training involves an introduction to certain aspects of all available trades so that when they come out of training, they can make a decision on what trade to take up. As part of our mandate here, we were teaching All Arms Calls for Fire to the students. This training included a classroom portion, a day in the Indirect Fire Trainer (IFT), and another afternoon live firing in the training area with 163 Battery who was already deployed on the week long Exercise Phoenix Rising.

MBdr Randy Kennedy, Bdr's Beniah Sok, and Arron Daigle arrive in country on 1 July 15 after a grueling travel itinerary which was close to 48 hrs long including layovers and flight times, and crossing an international date line. Once on ground and after sorting out their kit, the next day the team deployed to the training area to join 163 Battery already in the field. The members were shown to a gun and fit in immediately, the members of 163 Battery made the team feel right at home.

The next day, which was the last day of the exercise found the battery conducting a number of very special fire missions. Not often do you find cameras and microphones strewn about the impact area, but for Director Peter Jackson, this was the case today. Mr Jackson (famous for Lord of the Rings), who is also very supportive of the New Zealand Defence Forces, and the RNZA in particular, was recording pictures and sounds effects for upcoming films. We had 120 rounds to fire in support of his recordings, which also included some danger close missions. Although spending most of his time in the OP, Mr Jackson and his entourage also found themselves on the gun line for a visit with the troops during firing, and some promotions and presentations in the field afterwards. After firing ceased, troops redeployed back to Linton Camp.

Monday of the second week found us involved in a grueling 2 hour PT session with the Kiwis which included a fairly competitive game of touch rugby among other things. Afterwards, just as they normally would, the troops carried on with a regime of week-long gun and equipment maintenance after the exercise. Near the end of the week we were granted leave for a bit of cultural immersion, for 4 days we travelled around while staying at a very accommodating army leave center in Taupo, NZ. Leave centers are placed throughout the country for the benefit and morale of the troops, they are frequently all booked up, so it's very popular with the troops for vacations with their families.

Annex D To 1325-1 (Adjt) Dated 30 Mar 16

The final week on ground started with the troops involved in helo air transport rigging training for the guns. Wednesday the 15th found the regiment in a day of parade and ceremonies. With the number of veterans of the war out numbering the current regiment on parade, the day marked the first day that 161 Battery first reported ready on the gun line in Vietnam. I witnessed the normal parade and speeches but also a lot of Maori culture with Hakas and songs. There is a massive history to the Maori culture and the story around the Haka, but basically a Haka is a challenge in the Maori culture, similar to a war cry, it is meant to challenge and intimidate an opposing force. The regiment also invited our members to practice the Haka with them, which is a great honor. While Wednesday was spent celebrating the day, the rest of the week found us doing live training with helicopters confirming what was taught for rigging the guns for air transport.

For the last few days in New Zealand, they took us to Wellington for a chance to see the countries capital before our flights out. The whole experience was found to be very rewarding, and certainly something to be proud of for members of 3 Fd Regt, as a reserve unit. We were able to come away with new ideas, new skills, an appreciation of allied forces, and most of all new friends and comrades within the family of Artillerymen.

Dave MacCready Captain 3 Fd Regt RCA, The Loyal Company



MBdr Kennedy, and Bdrs Daigle and Sok learning to rig the L119 for Helicopter transport.

Annex D To 1325-1 (Adjt) Dated 3/ Mar 16



Bdr Sok learning the 161 Battery 16 Fd Regt Haka.



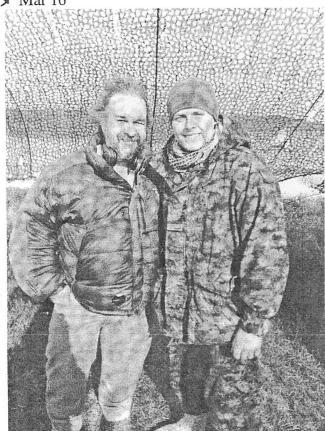
3 Fd Regt members learning to mount



and dismount an NH 90 Helicopter from the

New Zealand Air Force.

Annex D
To 1325-1 (Adjt)
Dated > Mar 16



MBdr Kennedy with Mr Peter Jackson

who visited the battery on the gun line.