23. 5 RAR soldiers patrolling through the secondary growth of an unworked rubber plantation.

Source: Neil Ordner.

24. A platoon of C Company filling water bottles from a jungle stream while the surrounding area is secured by the rest of the company. Each platoon would take it in turns to resupply with water while protected by the others.

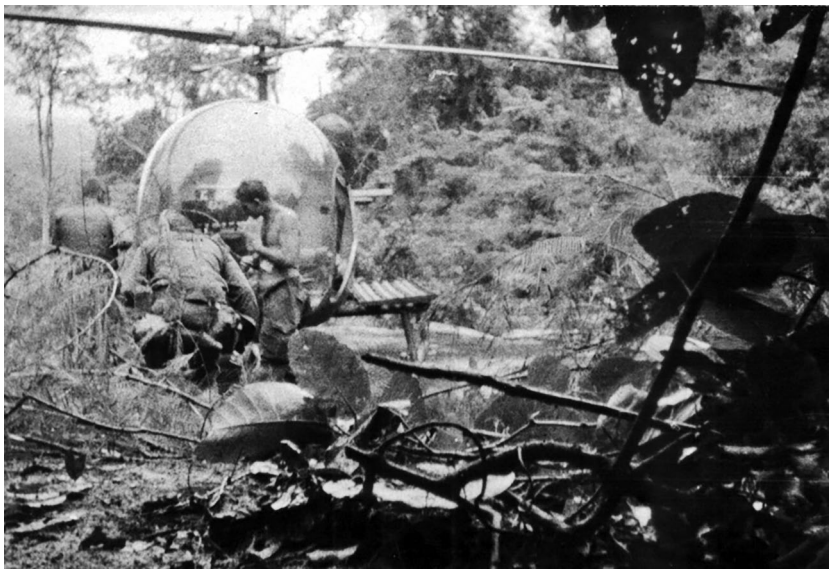
Source: Neil Ordner.

25. November 1966: Helicopter insertion into Long Son Island on Operation Hayman. A US Army UH Iroquois helicopter is carrying 5 RAR soldiers who are not strapped in, some sitting on the floor. This was to effect quick emplaning, maximum passenger loading, and quick exiting at destinations. The rearmost passenger (facing outwards) is one of the aircraft's two door gunners. The altitude of the aircraft indicates that these aircraft were transiting above the range of effective small arms ground fire.

Source: Neil Ordner.

26. Lance Corporal Gordon Meredith leading 9 Platoon in the shake-out after dismounting from Armoured Personnel Carriers into open terrain during the dry season. The battlefield was not all dark, dank and wet. The hills in the distance are the rocky, jungle-clad Nui Thi Vai and Nui Dinh complexes.

Source: Neil Ordner.



27. October 1966: Preparing for the evacuation by Sioux helicopter of Captain Brian Le Dan who was wounded during Operation Queanbeyan (see Chapter 7). The aircraft later returned to the same difficult landing site to recover the body of Corporal Norm Womal. The picture shows (left to right) the pilot Second Lieutenant Bob Askew, Captain Bob Supple and Captain Brian Le Dan holding a fresh wound dressing to his chest.

Source: Unknown.

28. November 1966: Captain Ron Boxall, in command of D Company during Operation Hayman.

Source: Ron Boxall.

29. Second Lieutenant Bob Askew and Captain Jim Campbell DFC. Two of 161 (Independent) Reconnaissance Flight's Sioux pilots who gave outstanding service to 5 RAR throughout 1966–67 (see Chapters 7 and 14).

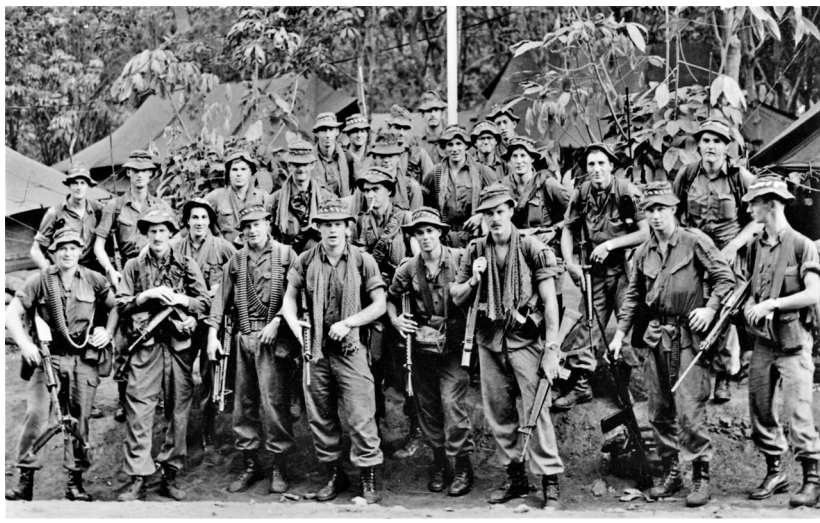
Source: Bob Askew.

30. November 1966: D Company's artillery forward observer, Lieutenant Barry Campbell, and 10 Platoon's commander, Second Lieutenant Dennis Rainer MC, who had worked closely together during 10 Platoon's attack on 21 October (see Chapter 7).

Source: Ron Boxall.

31. Second Lieutenant Michael Deak MC at work.

Source: Darryl Henry.



32. This photograph of the Reconnaissance Platoon typifies the fighting soldiers of 5 RAR's first tour of Vietnam in 1966–67. The list of absentee names shows that platoons were usually deployed understrength. *Rearmost man*: Daniel 'Bluey' Riley; *Fourth Row*: Dave Western, Robert 'Bobby' Godfrey, John 'Macca' McLaren, Darryl 'Butch' Moroney; *Third Row*: Walter 'Jock' Brannan, Robert 'Dogs' Kearney, Robert 'Bob' Searl, Barney Gambold, David 'Maxy' Campbell, Glen 'Moose' Benham; *Second Row*: Ken 'Scaisey' Scaysbrook, John 'Scalesy' Scales, Wayne 'Pagey' Page, Denis 'Millsey' Mills, William 'Suave Harve' Harvey, Gary 'BG' Nottage; *Front Row*: John 'Blah' Williams, John 'Blue' Edwards, David 'Blue' Wollner, Mick 'Skip' Deak MC, Raymond 'Ferret' Ferrier, John 'Blue' Mulby, Robert 'Bobby' Egan (Brandt), Bruce 'Jacka' Aitken; *Absent*: John Lea-Smith, Bernie Smith, Peter 'Doc' Fraser MM, Ray 'Skinny' Calvert, Trevor 'Taffy' Cheeseman, Anthony 'Bluey' Twaits, William 'Billy' Evans.

Source: Mick Deak (Michael von Berg).

33. January 1967: The officers of 5 RAR at Nui Dat: *Rear*: 2Lt L O'Dea, 2Lt MJ Roe, Lt DJF Rowe, Capt. RB Milligan, Capt. WJ Molloy, Capt. JE Taske (on exchange with Capt. HAD White), Lt TJ Sheehan, Capt. RW Bade, Capt. RJ O'Neill, Lt GR Wainwright, 2Lt RR Gunning, 2Lt DG Lovell, 2Lt HT Neesham, 2Lt AE Pott; *Standing*: Capt. RT Shambrook, Lt J Carruthers, 2Lt MGJ Deak, Chap JF Williams, Mr J Bentley (Salvation Army), Capt. RW Supple, Lt GN Negus, 2Lt JD Mcaloney, Capt. KG Mallinson, Capt. RG Thompson, Capt. BG Le Dan, 2Lt DC Rainer, Capt. RE Boxall; *Seated*: Maj. PG Cole, Maj. JF Miller, Maj. OM Carroll, Maj. IRJ Hodgkinson, Lt Col. JA Warr, Capt. PJ Isaacs, Maj. MB Mcqualter, Maj. PN Greenhalgh, Maj. RD Hamlyn. *Absent*: Capt. HAD White, Lt JC Hartley, 2Lt JH Deane-Butcher, 2Lt RJ Davis.

Source: The 5 RAR Association website, www.5rar.asn.au.

34. November 1966: Dai Uy (Captain) Nguyen Van Be and Captain Ron Bade at Binh Ba. Private Ron 'Frenchy' Delaurey-Simpson is standing between the two bare-chested soldiers on the left (see Chapter 11).

Source: Ron Bade.

35. Late 1966: Second Lieutenant John Deane-Butcher on patrol with his platoon. They had just located an enemy cache of new shovels which they are retrieving. The men are carrying outdated 1937 pattern backpacks.

Source: Terry Tomassi.

36. October 1966: Battalion Headquarters on operations on Nui Thi Vai. Major Max Carroll is on the radio in the front trench (right) with the battalion's senior command post signaller, Corporal Dave Western, recording his conversation. Assisting in the rear trench are Captain Bob Supple (left) and a 1 ATF signaller.
Source: Bob O'Neill.

37. February 1967: Major Ivor 'Blue' Hodgkinson (5 RAR's second in command from December 1966), Captain Bob O'Neill (intelligence officer), Captain Peter Isaacs (adjutant) and Major Ron Hamlyn (officer commanding Administration Company) after a conference with the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel John Warr.

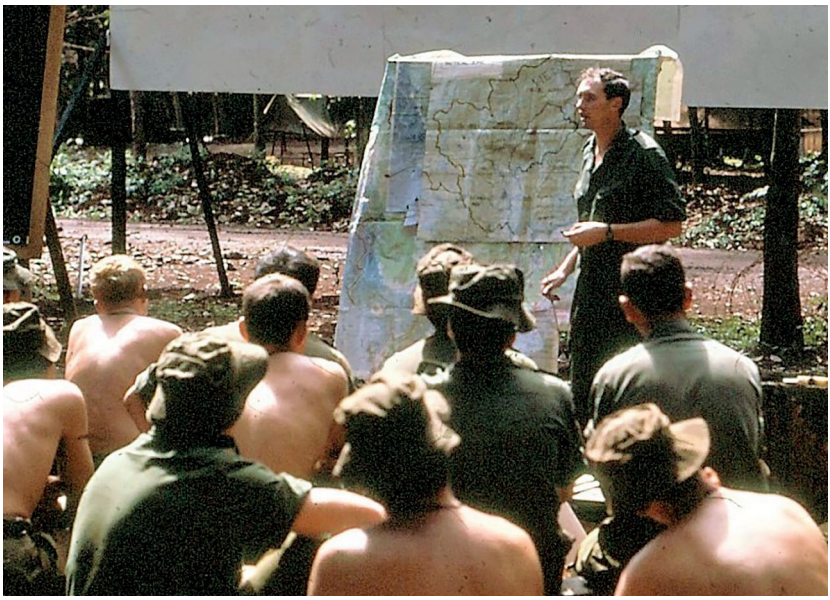
Source: Bob O'Neill.

38. 5 RAR's Operations Officer, Major Max Carroll, and the commander of 103 Field Battery, Major Neville Gair, at a time when that battery was allocated in direct support of the battalion.

Source: Bob O'Neill.

39. July 1966: Wet season conditions were experienced for several weeks during construction of 5 RAR's base at Nui Dat.

Source: Terry Tomassi.



40. Intelligence Officer Captain Bob O'Neill briefing soldiers in 5 RAR's open-air theatre, 'The Mayfair'.

Source: Terry Tomassi.

41. October 1966: Pilot Second Lieutenant Bill Davies, being stretchered to a waiting aeromedical evacuation helicopter for transportation to a US neurosurgical facility in Saigon after being shot down in his Sioux Helicopter, the wreckage of which is strewn along Route 15 (see Chapter 14).

Source: Terry Tomassi.

42. 'The Rat Pack', a group of 9 Platoon members: (left to right) Private John Reynolds, Private Neil Selleck, Private Bob Antonio, Private Roger Sinclair, Lance Corporal Gordon Meredith, Private Danny Cross and Lance Corporal Peter Blanch.

Source: Terry Tomassi.

43. Late 1966: Corporal Bob 'Dogs' Kearney, reflecting while on a break from patrolling in the jungle.

Source: Unknown.

44. December 1966: The Commanding Officer serving Christmas dinner to men of C Company. Lieutenant Colonel John Warr is discussing the menu (designed by Lance Corporal Brian Budden) with Lance Corporal Warren Burns. Sitting directly opposite is Private Danny Cross, and at bottom right is Private Barry Delsar. At left of Burns is Corporal Terry Tueno. On his left, with glasses, is Private John Buhagiar. Standing behind the Commanding Officer is Private Tom Brand. The men at the left foreground are Privates Roger Sinclair and John Fitzgerald.

Source: Australian War Memorial, COL/66/1023/VN.

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