

6 Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment (6RAR)

PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDY PART 1



Members of A Company, 6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (6RAR), leave an assault craft to search through mangrove swamps, after having been ferried by boat across a deep alligator infested tributary of the Song Rai River by the Battalion's Assault Pioneers during Operation Portsea.



Assault pioneers of 6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (6RAR), wait in their boat with motor running, close into a heavily wooded bank of the Song Rai River while other members of the group search among the mangroves on Operation Portsea. The men are members of the Assault Pioneer Platoon, Support Company 6 RAR.



Members of 11 Platoon, D Company, 6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (6 RAR) on a patrol. Private (Pte) Mathieson was seriously wounded by friendly fire, when 11 and 12 Platoons clashed, by accident, during Operation Portsea. Sadly Pte Mathieson died of his wounds. There is also a D Company resupply of three images. [Pte 37175 Kenneth Frank Mathieson was repatriated to Australia and died of his wounds in the Repatriation General Hospital, Heidelberg on 11 May 1967. He is possibly the soldier near the front of the line who is looking down at something he is holding.]



During a break in Operation Portsea, 12877 Warrant Officer Christian Andrew (Chris) Pope, Company Sergeant Major of D (Delta) Company, 6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (6RAR), takes the opportunity to wash his socks with soap in the South China Sea. Behind him, other company members are refreshing themselves with a swim.



Lance Corporal (L Cpl) Eric Bensley of Ariaiah Park, NSW, lights a cigarette for Lance Corporal Frank Parker of Nimmitabel, NSW (right), during Operation Enoggera. Both soldiers are serving with C Company, the 6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (6RAR), the battalion's first operation against the Viet Cong.



Lance Corporal (L Cpl) Peter Bevan, photo taken while waiting to be medevaced after being wounded by friendly fire. While on a patrol in late February we came across enemy camp, and as was the practice, set up an ambush in case they came back in to the area.



Captured Viet Cong in a clearing in Phuoc Tuy Province, just a few miles east of the 1st Australian Task Force Base. The Viet Cong local guerillas were found hiding in a tunnel by Company Headquarters soldiers of C Company, the 6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (6RAR). Identified on the left is 2781732 Corporal Francis William Charles (Frank) Parker, 6 RAR.



**Cigarette in mouth, 3854
Sergeant William (Bill)
O'Donnell, the sergeant cook
of D (Delta) Company, 6th
Battalion, The Royal Australian
Regiment (6RAR), tickles the
ears of a puppy that company
members found in an
abandoned village. The puppy
was brought back to D
Company lines at Nui Dat and
was adopted as the company's
mascot.**



**SOLDIER
'SKYLARKING'
WITH FLOUR
ON SLEEPING
SOLDIER**

**(SKYLARKING:
PULLING A
PRANK)**














AUSTRALIAN
WAR MEMORIAL



CUN/66/0703/VN























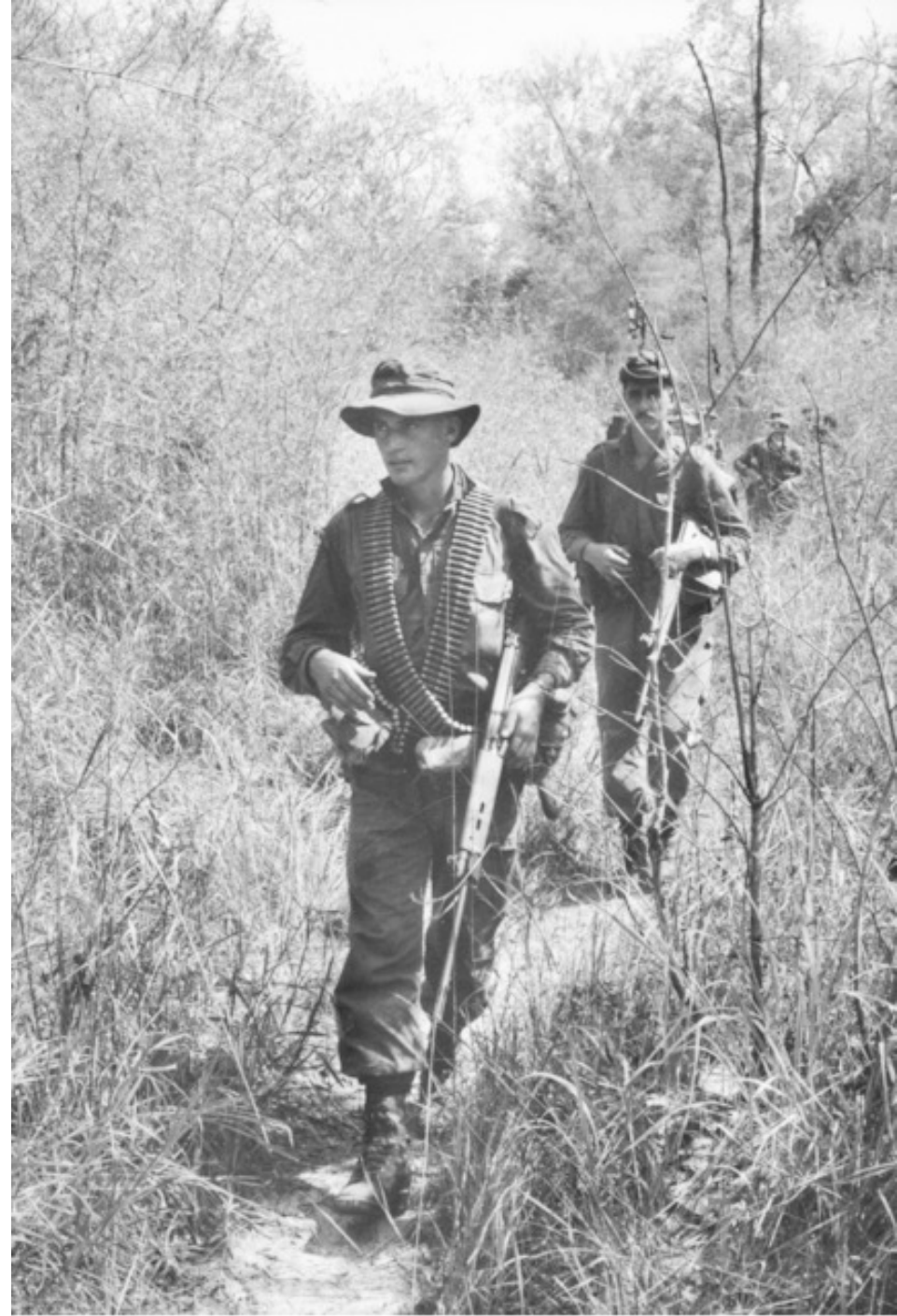




























**DIGGER WITH
VC PRISONER**





Phuoc Tuy Province, Vietnam. 1969-12. Three Australian soldiers carry Viet Cong (VC) small arms from a weapons and explosives cache found in a cave (behind) to a nearby bomb crater for demolition. Left to right: Private Daryl Williams of Temora, NSW; Private John Sigvart of Mount Morgan, Qld and Corporal Gordon Black of Belmont, NSW. The cache, the largest found to date in Phuoc Tuy was discovered by D Company of 6RAR /NZ (ANZAC) (The ANZAC Battalion comprising 6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment and a component from the 1st Battalion, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment), during Operation Marsden in the May Tao mountains, twenty three miles north-east of the 1st Australian Task Force (1ATF) base at Nui Dat.

(IN NEXT PHOTO)

