

derived. This has lead to a decision that in Tasmania with the available resources an Infantry Battalion is required as a higher priority than some of the other units that currently exist.

7. It is a combination of the factors; the need to defend the north of Australia, the need to reallocate scarce infantry resources, and the reduction in the overall size of the Army Reserve, which have lead to the requirement to disband 12 Field Squadron.

Options Available

8. The battalion and the other Army Reserve units left in Tasmania will have a real role in the defence of vital assets in the north of Australia. The restructuring of the reserve to form these units requires you to make a choice. What do you wish to do after 1 Dec 87? Your options are:

- a. Continue to serve at Waterloo Training Depot as part of the Assault Pioneer Platoon of 12/40 RTR performing essentially the same job that you perform now. THIS IS NOT OPEN FOR FEMALES.
- b. Continue to serve at Waterloo Training Depot as part of the Support Company 12/40 RTR performing in an administrative or clerical role. This is open for females.
- c. Serve elsewhere within 12/40 RTR, for example rifle platoon, transport platoon, medical platoon, QM platoon, with a change of parade location. There are some positions for females.
- d. Transfer to another unit for example, 44 Transport Squadron, 16 Field Battery, 10 Field Ambulance.
- e. Take discharge with effect from 1 Dec 87.

9. To enable me to carry out the detailed planning and administration necessary for these changes to occur I need to know your intentions. You are to fill in the attached proforma and return it to your Troop Commander by 7 Jul 87. If you have any further questions see him, and if you wish to read the Dibb Report or the White Paper the Training Officer has copies.

Conclusion

10. The restructuring of the Army Reserve in Tasmania gives you many opportunities as members of the Army Reserve. If your interests lie within the Infantry you will be well catered for, and if they lie elsewhere there are also other options. It is vital to the success of the defence of the nation that you do not view the disbandment of 12 Field Squadron as the end of your career in the Army Reserve. Please ensure that before you decide to seek discharge purely on the basis of the disbandment of 12 Field Squadron you fully consider all the options.



F. J. HARLAND
Major
Officer Commanding

Attachment: Personal Options Proforma