

26th August 2007

By This Correspondent

After a great result in the Canada match, a near-miss in the Governor General's final and an excellent team dinner the night before, the team were very grateful for a lie-in on Sunday. The Captain, Adj and others went off to do some clay pigeon shooting, but many of the team took the opportunity to catch up on some much deserved sleep in the morning.

Although it was a rest day for the main Palma team, the GB Under 21, GB Under 25 and GB Veterans teams had their World Long Range Championship matches throughout the day. Somewhat oddly, given the name of the matches, they were shot at 300 and 600 yards, 800 and 900 metres. The under 25s were a point down after 300 yards, but came back strongly at 600, whereas the vets started strongly, a point ahead of the Americans and South Africans, but ended up four points down after 600.

After a tense lunch, the teams tramped out for the long range finale. The Under 25's managed a solid score, but the veterans had a harder time of it and dropped behind the South African and American teams. At the final ranges, the scores were close and in both matches it came down to the final few shots; however both teams held their nerve. The Under 25s and Veterans won their World Championship matches by three and two points respectively. Both matches were closely followed by our team, which had come out to the range to watch out teams bring home the gold. Unfortunately the Athelings, shooting as the GB Under 21s, didn't quite manage the same feat, but they were shooting with RG against teams with handloads.

