



The Powder Horn

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Issue 2

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Canada Honours Queen's Own Veteran...

The Regiment is delighted to learn of the admission of LCOL The HON. Barnett J. Danson to the Order of Canada in the grade of Officer.

Barney Danson was born and educated in Toronto and at the age of 18 enlisted as a Rifleman in the Queen's Own. He was commissioned from the ranks and was wounded in Normandy while serving as a platoon commander. He later served as the Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the Regiment and continues to be an active member of the Regimental Senate.

In 1968 he was elected to Parliament as Liberal MP for York North. He was re-elected in 1972 and 1974, serving until 1979. He was Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister Trudeau who made him Minister of State for Urban Affairs with additional responsibilities for housing and the National Capital Commission.

In this portfolio he served as Chairman of the U.N. Conference on Human Settlements.

In 1976 he became Minister of National Defence serving in that portfolio until 1979. It is generally felt by the military that he was one of the most effective and popular Ministers of Defence in decades.

Barney Danson takes

particular pride as the founder of Katimivik, the national youth program considered by many to be the most successful of its kind ever undertaken in Canada.

Since leaving politics, Barney has served on numerous Boards and organizations giving freely of his time to the benefit of mankind.

He is currently active as Chairman of The No Price Too High Foundation which is dedicated to supporting the production of T.V. films and publications relating to Canadian history.

LCOL Danson is married to Isobel Bull, an inspiring concert pianist, whom he met and married in London, England. They have four sons and eight grandchildren.

Grandchildren Galore...

Congratulations to MAJ Bill Mountain and his wife Ev on the addition of their tenth grandchild to the family circle.

Charity Golf Tournament...

The Korean Veterans Association is holding a charity golf tournament in the Circle Pines Golf Course at CFB Borden in 13 September 1996 to raise funds for the Korean Veterans Wall of Remembrance to be built in the military section of Meadowvale Cemetery situated 25 miles west of Toronto and ten

minutes from the Lester B. Pearson International Airport.

For more information call Don Williams at (905) 793-6836.

A Message of Thanks

LCOL J.G.B. Strathy, President of the Regimental Trust Fund, expresses his gratitude to those members of the Regimental family who have supported the Trust Fund so generously. This support has enabled the Trust Fund to finance the Memorial Program, the refurbishing of the Cross of Sacrifice, and the operation of the Museum at Casa Loma.

Special thanks goes to the Queen's Own Rifles Ladies Guild, the Hermant Family Foundation, Paul and Bev Hughes, John and Clara Bender, Deirdre Malone, Dory Dunlop, Charlie Martin and Art Gay and the Regimental Band for their generous support of the Regiment.

In view of the Trust Fund's commitment to the Regiment and to the Memorial Program, donations to the Trust Fund are encouraged. The programs can only be met with your generosity.

THE QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES OF CANADA

Commanding Officer's Report

As I write, the Queen's Own Rifles are preparing to attend the Area Concentration at CFB Petawawa from August 10th to August 22nd. Joining the battalion will be three sections of British regular troops from our allied regiments. The 4th Battalion, Royal Green Jackets; the 10th Battalion of The Parachute Regiment; and the 5th Battalion of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment are each sending a section each of which will be integrated with a different platoon of The Queen's Own Rifles.

Our company, under the command of CAPT John Fotheringham, will be one of the four dismounted light infantry companies under my command as the Commanding Officer of the 1st Toronto Light Infantry Battalion during Exercise Trillium Phoenix. A squadron of Cougars, a reconnaissance platoon and a mortar platoon have also been allocated to the battalion. Other composite battalions are being sent from the Ottawa and London areas. A composite armoured regiment is also being thrown into the fray. A live

enemy for the final exercise is being provided by troops from the Regular Force.

The defensive phase of war is the Concentration's objective this summer and training before the final training exercise will consist of "stands" organized by Regular Force units stationed at CFB Petawawa.

The Queen's Own Rifles have been allocated 66 parachute positions in the re-organized airborne component of the Regular Force. It would appear that we are the only Reserve Force unit with parachute positions having been allocated about 10% of the parachute positions in the Canadian Forces.

Finally I am pleased to report that Toronto District has embarked on a plan to recruit and train a significant number of new soldiers in the coming year. This will require the allocation of quite a number of NCOs to the District Battle School. Although a worthwhile project, this will limit our ability to conduct collective training within the unit.

Deputy Commanding Officer's Report

A nation-wide review of Militia armouries is underway with a view to reducing overhead costs. Moss Park Armoury is high on the "hit" list. A move would be welcome if the new location and facilities were suitable.

With the reduction of CFB Toronto to nominal status, the unit acquired many financial responsibilities. We have been allocated a budget of \$485,000 for the current fiscal year to cover travel, allowances, reserve pay, full-time

complement to our Regular Force cadre, meals, buses, office supplies, NPF grants, etc. Thus, the amount left for reserve pay will be a great deal less than in the previous year unless Toronto District is able to come up with additional funds.

We were ranked near the top of units in Toronto District in our administrative and equipment inspections this year which is due, to a large extent, to our full-time staff (Regular and Reserve) and a few dedicated volunteers.

CAN YOU HELP?

Listed below are five names which appear on tomb stones in various Canadian cemeteries in Northwest Europe. Each one shows that they were members of The Queen's Own Rifles but they are not listed in The Queen's Own Rifles official history nor are they listed in the new memorial plaques at Wons, Holland and Moss Park Armoury.

RFN Burns, E.J.	C27670	6 June 1944
RFN Garbutt, E.L.	B25719	8 June 1944
RFN Laroche, H.S.	B1670	9 July 1944
RFN Reichelt, A.J.	B166052	19 July 1944
LT Hailey, J.O.T.		27 October 1944

If anyone has any knowledge of these persons, please forward the information to CAPT Craig Cameron, Padre, Queen's Own rifles, Moss Park Armoury, 130 Queen Street East, Toronto, Ontario, M5A 1R9

QUEEN'S OWN ASSOCIATION TORONTO

CWO (RSM) Brian Budden, President of The Queen's Own Association in Toronto has provided *"The Powder Horn"* with the following news.

Members of the Association extend to Charlie Martin their best wishes for a speedy recovery following his recent illness. With his indomitable spirit, we are certain that he will be back to his usual self in double quick time.

Having read the book *"Canadians...A Battalion at War"* I strongly recommend that it be read by every member of our Regiment. An extremely interesting collection of memoirs and experiences by veteran members of the Regiment, the book forms an important part of Regimental history.

The Regimental Birthday celebrations in Toronto were somewhat disappointing in that the attendance was well below expectations. There is greater need for members of the Association and the Militia battalion to work together to ensure that these major events in the Regiment's life are well planned and promoted. Let's see what we can do in 1997.

The commemoration of the 130th anniversary of the Battle of Ridgeway went extremely well. Events included a blackpowder competition, a battle re-enactment and a superb performance by the Regimental Band.

The turnout at the D-Day ceremonial service at Moss Park Armoury in front of the Queen's Own Memorial Plaque was excellent. The gratitude of the Association is extended to the Commanding Officer, LCOL Tony Welsh, for his support and the breakfast arrangements in the Officers' Mess. The Bugles and Drums of the Regimental Band performed in their usual high standard during the service.

The weekend at Fort Henry in Kingston during 20-21 July was thoroughly enjoyed by the 25 members of the Association who attended. The trip included a tour of Kingston and a cruise from Gananoque. Of course, the highlight was the Grand Tattoo at Old Fort Henry where the Regimental Band and the Pioneers and Skirmishers performed a memorable sunset retreat. Thanks go to John Sealy, a former Sergeant from the 50s and 60s, and Mary Keates from RCL Branch 344 for their efforts in making the trip a complete success. It was good to see Cliff O'Brien, Bill and Dorothy Ross and Marj Nico from Montreal, and members of the Airborne Association at the ceremony.

Members of the Association are reminded

that the Warriors' Day Parade at the Canadian National Exhibition will take place on Saturday, 17 August 1996. A bus will leave RCL Branch 344 at 9:30 a.m. for Fort York Armoury where the marchers will form up at 10:00 a.m.. Dress will be blazers, grey trousers, beret and medals. If the weather is hot and humid, shirt sleeve order will be the dress. Marchers will be led by the Regimental Band.

The Association's Annual Rifle Shoot will take place at CFB Borden on Saturday, 14 September 1996. A bus will depart Moss Park Armoury at 10:00 a.m. sharp. Cost will be \$20.00 per person which includes the cost of the return bus trip and lunch. The shoot will be directed by Rob Grieve who assures all participants of a high calibre meet.

Interested shooters or those who would like to attend as spectators should contact Regimental Headquarters at (416)362-3946 and leave a message as to their wishes regarding the shoot.

Plans for the memorial plaques at the Bernieres-sur-Mer existing pillbox, the "Maison de Queen's Own Rifles" and "Rue de Buck Hawkins" in Giberville are progressing favourably for commissioning in 1997. Donations towards this project are requested from every member of our Regimental family.

The Association has received a letter of gratitude from Frances Nunziata, Mayor of the City of York, for the participation of the Regimental Band and Bugles, the Skirmishers, and members of the Association in the June 9th ceremony honouring the Westlake Brothers who were killed in the Normandy campaign.

THE QOR OF C OFFICERS' CLUB (CALGARY)

Spearheaded by Captain Dave Luxford, an adhoc group of retired officers referred to as The QOR OF C Officers' Club, has been holding monthly luncheon meetings in the CFB Calgary Officers' Mess for many years. Among regular attendees are Doug Williams, Frank Mascara, Charles Park, Ralph Ridley, Frank Moad, Fred Swan, Jack Glenn, Lyle Sales, Rollie Albrecht, Paul Hughes, Jim Taylor, Barry Ashton, Jim Hennessy, Pierre Lalonde, and Brenda Moore, who serves as the Secretary of the group.

Regrettably no mention has been made of the greatest teller of war stories in this group.

QUEEN'S OWN ASSOCIATION CALGARY

"The Powder Horn" editorial staff is grateful to Captain Ralph Ridley for providing this comprehensive report on the Queen's Own Association in Calgary.

The Calgary Association celebrated the Regiment's 136th Birthday at the Currie Barracks Sergeants' Mess on the 20th of April with 130 members and guests in attendance. The guest of honour was Major-General Barry W. Ashton who was accompanied by his wife Carol. Among the out-of-town guests were Bob and Greta Foster, Bill and Irene Calder, Gilbert King and Ron and Betty Wilson.

The celebration provided an opportunity for presentations to be made by the Association President, John Cresswell, to Wayne Hodding who has been the D.J. at all the Association functions over the past ten years. Clay and Louise Hodder, who have served respectively as the Treasurer and Secretary of the Association throughout the same period, were presented with wrist watches. Ken and June Barrett donated a gavel to the Association President which he will undoubtedly put to good use at future meetings.

John Cresswell paid a visit to the Victoria Association where he attended the Regimental Birthday celebrations on the 27th of April. Many former members of the Regular Force battalions were present including such stalwarts as Gerry Venn, Don McDonald, Fred Purchase, Ron Chaplan, Gord Hryhoryshen, Pat Devlin and Chuck Wedemire.

A recent visitor to Calgary was Jim O'Brien who was attending the 40th Anniversary of the QOR OF C/PPCLI Cadet Camps. He appeared sporting a fair amount of facial fuzz, however, he was still recognizable to his friends.

During 23-25 August 1996, the Korean Veterans Association of Calgary is hosting a convention at which a good number of former members of the Regiment who served during the Korean War will be in attendance.

This year the Calgary Association is marking the 10th year of its existence. The Association executive, headed by John Cresswell, deserves much credit for its dedication to the health of the Association.

REGIMENTAL TRUST FUND ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust fund took place on 22 May 1996 under the chairmanship of the President, LCOL J.G.B. Strathy.

The following persons were re-elected Trustees for the 1996-1997 year: Bernie Aaron, Steve Andrunyk, Art Gay, Adam Hermant, Moore Jackson, John Jennings, Larry Jones, Jack Martin, Charlies Martin, Herb Pitts, Peter Simundson, John Strathy and John Whyte. John Sharpe's departure for Cranbrook, B.C. left a vacancy on the Board of Trustees which was filled by the election of Paul Hughes of Calgary.

BGen D.A. Pryer, Honorary Colonel, and CWO Brian Budden, President of The Queen's Own Association Toronto, also sit on the Board of Trustees in an ex-officio capacity.

Elected to the Executive Committee were John Strathy as President; Herb Pitts as Vice-President; Moore Jackson as Treasurer; Steve Andrunyk as Secretary; and Charlie Martin and Art Gay as members.

The Trust Fund received \$47,203 in donations and other receipts in 1995 and it expended \$48,213 leaving a balance of \$26,600 at year's end.

The following allocation of funds was approved by the Trustees during the current year subject to the ability of the Trust Fund to raise sufficient funds to cover these anticipated costs.

Regimental Headquarters	-	\$ 2,600
Regimental Museum	-	\$ 3,600
The Rifleman	-	\$10,000
The Powder Horn	-	\$ 2,400
Insurance Premium	-	\$ 3,600
Memorial Program 1996	-	\$ 5,000
Memorial Program 1997	-	\$ 6,000
Battalion Support	-	\$14,000
Total		<u>\$45,000</u>

The Trustees also approved a one-time grant of \$2,400 to the Korean Veterans Wall of Remembrance in memory of the six members of the Regiment who died while serving in Korea.

The Trustees expressed the hope that every member of our Regimental family will support the Trust Fund by making a generous donation before December 1996 so that the Trust Fund's commitments can be met.

QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES NORMANDY TOUR - 1997

CWO Brian Budden, travel co-ordinator for The Queen's Own Rifles Normandy Tour in 1997, has made tentative arrangements with SEARS TRAVEL SERVICE (Trafalger Tours) for this excursion. Cost will be \$1,800.00 plus insurance. Interested persons should contact Karen Foster, Travel Consultant, at Telephone Number (905) 276-6385 or Fax Number (905) 276-5983.

Tentative itinerary is as follows:

4 June	-	Departure from Toronto
5 June	-	Arrival in Paris and travel to Caen which will serve as the base for the tour.
6 June	-	Bernieres-sur-Mer in the morning Le Mesnil-Patry in the afternoon
7 June	-	Free Day
8 June	-	Anisty and Giberville
9 June	-	Free Day
10 June	-	Auguerny
11 June	-	Free Day
12 June	-	Departure for Toronto

During free days, trips are planned to Caen Museum, Vimy Ridge, Falaise and Montormel.

For answers to your questions contact CWO Brian Budden, Telephone (416) 266-0342.

The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust Fund

Donor's Name _____

Street Address _____

Apt.#, if applicable _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Amount of Donation _____

Please make donations payable to: **The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust Fund and mail to Regimental Headquarters, QOR of C, Moss Park Armoury, 130 Queen Street East, Toronto, Ontario M5A 1R9**

August 1996

Ray J. Whited

Canadians

A BATTALION AT WAR

as told by:

the volunteers who fought
the survivors who returned
the veterans who remember



Canadians in The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, 1940 to 1945

Additional copies to be released in March, 1996, at Coles and other retail bookstores.

CANADIANS

a battalion at war

\$34.95

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350 pages with photos

These are some of the voices of Canadian soldiers in WWII. They were the second generation in our century to volunteer for overseas duty. And they continue as the first and the last - the first to see their continent motorized and then paved, the first to see their world networked, by both wire and wireless, and the last who saw and survived the century's six year convulsive horror of war, holocaust and despair. These are their stories, in unassuming tones and without added colour, personal memoirs of those who did much. Their crusade helped to provide for others the culture and life of Canada today, a prize to be recognized and cherished as the century closes.

Some of the Queen's Own voices recalling the yesterdays of WWII:

Alex Adair
Bill Adams *
David Arksey
Bill Bettridge
Stanley Biggs
Ira Bowman
Wally Brewer
Ed "Corky" Clark**
Bob Cumber

Orville Cook
Aubrey Cossens
Barnett Danson
Ben Dunkleman
Hank Elliot
Dave Fletcher
Harry Fox
Frank Gaines
Alex Groat

Ross Hahn
Doug Hester
George Hyslop
Rolph Jackson
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Allen Nickson

Bob Nicol
Lorne Pettit
Douglas Oatway
Ted O'Halloran
Bill Ross
Kenneth Scott
Norm Selby
Jock Spragge
Jerry Sykes
Jack Yeats***

* First Hussars, ** Black Watch Regiment, *** Royal Canadian Engineers

CANADIANSA BATTALION AT WAR is available from the Regimental Kit Shop at a special price of \$25.00 per copy which includes the GST and mailing cost.

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