



The Powder Horn

Volume 7

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Issue 2

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Promotions. Congratulations are extended to the following officers and senior NCOs on their recent promotions - J.M.Fotheringham and P.Lomasney to the rank of Major and S.C.Kelly, K.M.Kominek and J.S.Wilmot to the rank of Master Warrant Officer.

Posting. Lt W.M.Beardmore has been assigned to the Canadian Forces Parachute Team (The Skyhawks) for a period of one year where he will serve as the Team's Administrative Officer. The Skyhawks are a familiar sight at air shows and will perform at the Canadian National Exhibition Air Show in Toronto during the latter part of August and in early September 1997.

The Tiger of Markham. Captain Frank H. Vanier of Markham, Ontario proved to be the top golfer at the Third Annual Grey & Simcoe Foresters VE Day Commemorative Golf Tournament held at the Simoro Golf Links on 21 June 1997. A close second was Lieutenant Colonel Ivor MacLeod, the organizer of the Tournament and a member of the Grey & Simcoe Foresters Regimental Senate. In hot pursuit were Major-General Herb Pitts, Brigadier-General Steve Andrunyk and Captain Bob Hill.

Former Rifleman Excels in the British Army. Stefan Surette, a former member of the Queen's Own Rifles in Toronto, recently gained the British Army's best recruit and best new infantryman awards. Surette joined the Queen's Own Rifles in 1994 and did a tour of duty with the PPCLI in Croatia before joining the British Army after several attempts to join Canada's Regular Forces proved unsuccessful.

Raffle Winners. Congratulations to Captain H.W.O. Morris of Sidney, B.C. who won the first prize of \$2,000 in the Association's D Day 1997 Lottery. Second prize of a weekend at the Toronto Hilton Hotel was won by Gary Scott of Whitby, Ontario. Third prize of a Lexmark 2050 colour printer went to John Lindsay of Raymore, Ontario and the fourth prize of a Xerox Home Copier was won by I. Khan of Don Mills, Ontario.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

The Regimental Memorial Committee responsible for the "memorial program" which was initiated in the year marking the 50th anniversary of D Day has produced a magnificent Book of Remembrance to coincide with this year's pilgrimage to Normandy by a group of D-Day veterans, the Regimental Band and a guard of honour from the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada serving members. Memorial plaques were unveiled at several locations of historical significance to the Regiment to honour those members of the Regiment who died during the assault landing on D Day and in subsequent battles.

This Book of Remembrance contains a brief regimental history in both official languages and the regimental number, rank, name and in many cases the age of all members of the Regiment who were killed in action or who died from wounds suffered during battles. The names are listed by the cemetery in which they are buried giving the location of each grave and the date on which death occurred. It also lists the names of Queen's Own Rifles members who died while serving with other units.

Only eleven copies of the leather bound Book of Remembrance were printed due to the high cost. Copies of these leather bound Books of Remembrance, suitably inscribed, were presented to the Mayors of Bernieres-sur-Mer, Anguerny, Giberville, Les Mesnil Patry and Anisy in June of this year by the Queen's Own Rifles contingent that travelled to Normandy to take part in the dedication ceremonies.

Readers of "The Powder Horn" will be pleased to note that fifty copies of this Book of Remembrance which are Buckram bound are available in the Regimental Kit Shop at a cost of \$40.00 each plus a handling and mailing charge of \$5.00. It is anticipated that these copies will be sold quickly so if you are interested in acquiring a copy don't hesitate to order yours now.

MILITARY HISTORY BOOKS

Dr. Bill McAndrew, a military historian, who served with the 1st and 2nd Battalions and the Regimental Depot of the Regular Force from 1951 to 1963 in

Calgary, Korea, Germany and Ghana has informed the editor of "The Powder Horn" that he has co-authored two books in recent years in which the Queen's Own Rifles played a significant part. The books are titled *Normandy 1944: The Canadian Summer* and *Liberation: Canadians in Europe, 1944-45*. His most recent book, launched by the Minister of National Defence at the Canadian War Museum, is titled *Canadians and the Italian Campaign, 1943-45*.

These books may be obtained from Vanwell Press, Telephone 800-661-6136.

IN MEMORIAM

The Regiment extends its heartfelt sympathy to the families and friends of the following members of the Regimental family and others who died in recent months.

LCOL Ben Dunkelman, DSO

MAJ Paul Hunter, CD

WOI Fred (Lucky) Rowell, CD

THE KOREAN WAR WALL OF REMEMBRANCE DEDICATION

The Wall of Remembrance to commemorate the sacrifice made by Canadians who participated in the Korean War was unveiled at Meadowvale Cemetery near Brampton, Ontario on 27 July 1997. In attendance were a number of diplomatic, political and government dignitaries, a large group of Korean veterans and their families and friends. Conducting the religious service were Pastor T.M.C. Marsaw, a former Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion, and Reverend W. Mann and Father A.M. Guevremont.

Made of grey Barre granite, the Wall of Remembrance is about 200 feet in length and gently curves in conformance with a driveway. Sloping gently at 50 degrees, the two foot high Wall is built in a retaining wall fashion and consists of six or seven sections on each side of the central portion. Sections hold four rows of plaques arranged in alphabetical order of surnames reading from left to right.

The central feature of the Memorial is a rectangular block flanked by two wings. The block contains the Korean Veterans Association and the United Nations insignias as well as the "patches" of 25th Brigade and 1st Commonwealth Division. There is a list of all Canadian units, corps, ships and air squadrons that participated in the Korean War and during the peacekeeping period. A poem by Jack LaChance of the PPCLI and a verse from Laurence Binyan's "For the Fallen" appear on adjacent wings.

The Wall contains 516 plaques giving the regimental number, rank, name, regiment, date of death and the age of those who died while serving during the Korean War and the peacekeeping period.

Six members of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada whose names appear on individual plaques are:

Lt N.M. Anderson
Cpl N.P. Ferland
Maj P.E. Gower
Sgt G.W. Koch
Rfn G.P. Reid
Lt M.C. Vipond

KOREAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CONVENTION AND REUNION 1998

The National Convention and Reunion of the Korean Veterans Association will take place at the International Inn in Winnipeg, Manitoba during the period 11 to 13 September 1998. The Convention and Reunion is open to anyone who served in Korea from 1950 to 1955. Spouses, family members, interested friends and members of other veterans' organizations are also welcome.

For information write, telephone or fax Larry Legace, Registration Chairman, Korean Veterans Association of Canada, 283 Aldine Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3J 3A9. Telephone (204) 832-1255. Fax (204) 889-7139.

A REGIMENTAL SNIPPET FROM THE REGIMENTAL HISTORIAN

Things I Wish I Had Never Said

During the stay on Salisbury Plain of the Third Battalion, C.E.F., before it proceeded to France in February 1915, the Commanding Officer made some remarks that forever stuck in the memory of the men of the Third Battalion. Pte. E. Seaman remembered the Commanding Officer - always "the perfect gentleman" - being aghast when he was told that some of the men were "cooty" ridden, i.e. verminous.

Appalled, horrified, and no doubt thinking of the disgrace should the news get out, the Commanding Officer assembled the battalion and issued the ultimate threat: "Boys, very shortly you will be going to France. You will be received... by the nobility... so clean yourselves up. I will not take one lousy man to France."

Ever afterward at post-war reunions and dinners, and whenever the veterans of the Third Battalion assembled, his words were fed back to him, causing uproarious mirth and, probably, a blush as deep in hue as the gorget patches this officer went on to wear as Brigadier-General and General Officer Commanding, 4th Canadian Brigade, as of November 1915.

Who was this Commanding Officer?

He commenced his service as a Rifleman in July 1881, was commissioned in the 2nd Battalion, Queen's Own Rifles of Canada in April 1887, and assumed command of the Third Battalion, C.E.F., on September 22, 1914.

He was Major-General Robert Rennie, CB, CMG, DSO, MVO, VD. General Rennie, ever a strong supporter of the Regiment, attended every regimental function until his death at the age of 87 in 1949.

In Pace Paratus.

Lieutenant Colonel K.J. Radley, CD
Regimental Historian

QOR Branch (Ont 344) Royal Canadian Legion

The Branch will hold its next General Meeting at 1930 hours on Tuesday, 9 September 1997. All members of the Branch are urged to attend this important meeting during which nominations for the Executive of the Branch will take place.

THE QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES OF CANADA TRUST FUND
ANNUAL MEETING OF TRUSTEES

The Annual Meeting of Trustees of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust Fund was held on Wednesday, 11 June 1997 under the chairmanship of LCOL J.G.B. Strathy, President of the Trust Fund.

Re-elected to serve as Trustees for the coming year were: CAPT B.S. Aaron, BGEN S.F. Andrunyk, SGT A.M. Gay, CAPT A.B.T. Hermant, COL P.F. Hughes, LCOL M.I. Jackson, Lt the Hon. Mr. Justice J.R.R. Jennings, MAJ L.A. Jones, CQMS J.A. Martin, WOII C.C. Martin, MGEN H.C. Pitts, CAPT P.A. Simundson, LCOL J.G.B. Strathy and MAJ J.J. Whyte.

The Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 1997 was presented by LCOL M.I. Jackson. The Trustees noted with satisfaction the Trust Fund's net balance of \$33,033 at the end of the year. Donations and other receipts amounted to \$38,243 while expenditures were \$31,805.

The Trustees approved a budget of \$42,107 for 1997. Major expenditures for the year included the production and mounting of memorial plaques in Normandy (\$11,000), printing and distribution of "The Rifleman" (\$10,000) and financial support to the Queen's Own Rifles battalion for Regimental accoutrements not supplied by the Department of National Defence (\$12,000).

The Trustees were grateful for the response to the Trust Fund's appeal for financial support to meet the Trust Fund's financial commitments to various activities of the Regiment. The generosity of a large number of members of the Regimental family and friends of the Regiment was acknowledged, however, it was also noted with disappointment that a considerable number of those who appear on the mailing list have neglected to pay their annual Association dues nor have they made a donation to the Trust Fund for many years.

Forms on the reverse side of this report are provided for those who have yet to pay their 1997 annual Association dues and/or for those who wish to make a donation to the Trust Fund.

ASSOCIATION RIFLE SHOOT

The Annual Association Rifle Shoot is scheduled to take place at CFB Borden on Saturday, 13 September 1997. Cost per participant will be \$20.00. Transportation will leave Moss Park Armoury at 0900 hours on the day of the Shoot. For further details telephone Rob Grieve at telephone number (905) 839-3096.

REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE

Keep Sunday, 9 November 1997 open for the Annual Remembrance Day Parade. Details from the Association will follow.

QOR ASSOCIATION (TORONTO)

WO Fred Haire, CD
Secretary, QOR Association (Toronto)
Moss Park Armoury
130 Queen Street East
Toronto, Ontario M5A 1R9

I am pleased to enclose payment of \$10 to cover my dues for membership in the Toronto Branch of The Queen's Own Rifles Association for 1997.

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, Province, Postal Code _____

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THE QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES OF CANADA TRUST FUND

QOR of C Trust Fund
Regimental Headquarters
Moss Park Armoury
130 Queen Street East
Toronto, ON M5A 1R9

I am pleased to enclose \$_____ as my donation to The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust Fund to assist in support of those Regimental activities that fall outside the responsibility for the Department of National Defence.

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, Province, Postal Code _____

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