



# The Powder Horn

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Issue 2

## People, Places and Pleasantries

### Peacekeeper Extraordinary

Canada's best known peacekeeper who became a household name during his four month tour of duty as the United Nations Commander in Sarajevo, Major-General Lewis W. MacKenzie returned to Canada in early August to assume command of Land Force Central Area. The change of command parade will take place at MTSC Meaford at 1100 hours on Friday, 28 August 1992 where units of LFCA are undergoing summer training.

### Exchange Visit

Three instructors and sixteen Army cadets of the Scarborough Army Cadet Corps, sponsored by The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, enjoyed an outstanding and memorable exchange visit to the 1st Battalion of The Queen's Regiment in Minden, Germany under the command of Captain D. A. Wilson. This May visit consisted of an excellent mixture of training and tours of military units and tourist attractions.

### One of A Kind

In a *Globe and Mail* article entitled "Toronto the capital for gem swindlers", Detective Michael Holland of the Metro Toronto Police fraud squad was featured as the only police officer

assigned to investigate complaints about gem stone investments. Detective Holland is none other than the former Regimental Sergeant Major of The Queen's Own Rifles battalion in Toronto. His association with the Regiment continues as he serves as President of the Maple Leaf Rifle Club.

### Words of Appreciation

CWO Fred (Lucky) Rowell writes from Orillia to say how much he appreciates receiving news of the Regiment through "The Powder Horn" and "The Rifleman". Affectionately known as "Mister Small Arms" by those who came to know him at the Royal School of Infantry in Camp Borden where he served as CSMI of the Small Arms Wing, Lucky reports that the veterans group in Orillia is active in many community endeavours.

### Dinner Anyone?

John Creswell wishes all members of our Regimental family to know that Calgary Branch will be holding a Candlelight Dinner on 17 October 1992. Details are available from Calgary Branch.

### The Errington Platoon

Lawrence A. Cornett, son of the

late Sgt Tony Cornett, writes to say that he is engaged in full-time research with the aim of publishing a book on the "Errington Platoon".

This platoon was formed in June 1940 from a group of mostly miners from Geraldton area gold mines who volunteered for military service under command of Sgt I.R.F. Wilson of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada. They travelled to Toronto by special coach provided by the mine owners. Between June 1940 and June 1944 the majority of these men ended up in 7 Platoon, A Company.

Today, surviving members of the platoon live in communities spread from B.C. to Nova Scotia. Any member of the Errington Platoon or any person who may have knowledge of this exceptional group of volunteers are asked to contact Lawrence A. Cornett at 1055 Shawnmarr Road, Suite 205, Port Credit, Ontario L5H 3V2. □

*War, disguise it as you may, is but a dirty, shoddy business, which only a fool would play at.*

## 132nd Birthday Celebrations

### Calgary

Celebrations in "Wild Rose Country" centred on Calgary where a large group of riflemen, their families and friends, and those who wish they were riflemen met in 1 PPCLI Sergeants' Mess at Currie Barracks. Specific activities were not divulged by John Creswell but readers are assured that a good time was had by all.

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### Chilliwack

Twenty-four members of The Queen's Own Rifles Association in Chilliwack and their wives gathered at the Vedder Crossing Legion Branch No. 280 on 24 April 1992 to mark the Regiment's 132nd birthday.

Visitors included Ron and Jean D'Amour from Victoria, Don (Moose) MacDonald from Port Hardy, John E. Jones and his wife from Richmond, Keith and Bob McCarthy from Surrey, Bob Ducharme from Nanaimo, Lou Wiseman from Aggasiz, and Jerry Smith from Abbotsford.

According to Bob Foster, many stories made for a very enjoyable afternoon, with "Do you remember?" being the most common phrase heard during the gathering.

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### Nanaimo

Born out of a determination to make the 125th anniversary of

the birth of Canada a truly memorable occasion while also keeping in mind the Regiment's 132nd birthday, Sgt Bob Ducharme organized a very special day for members of the Nanaimo Association.

Joining with the 61st Korean Veterans Association under Maj Pat Paterson, the two bodies assembled for a commemorative church parade at which the guest speaker was LCol Thorold (Boom) Marsaw, former Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion, and now a Pastor with the Fellowship Baptist Churches. His message was entitled, "There is something about a soldier". It highlighted the biblical record of the response of the soldier to the call of Christ.

Following a brief reception for those in attendance, the veterans moved to join in the city's annual parade marking the reign of Queen Victoria. Nanaimo, which boasts the longest unbroken string of such celebrations in the Commonwealth, did things up royally.

After reviewing the parade, Mayor Joy Leach proceeded to the cenotaph where the presentation of a commemorative plaque was made to her and the citizens of the city by LCol Marsaw.

In making the presentation, LCol Marsaw gave a brief historical sketch of events leading to the Korean conflict and an insight into the spirit of the men who fought in that United Nations campaign.

### Toronto

Toronto's 132nd birthday celebrations included a parajump by members of the battalion's 60th Company, a parade in Moss Park Armoury to officially welcome the newly appointed Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier General D.A. Pryer, and an all-ranks barbecue. Receptions at the various messes followed the barbecue.

During the parade, Sgt Charles William Smith's military medal which he won on D Day was presented to the Regiment for display in the Regimental Museum. A background story on this particular military medal can be found in this year's edition of "The Rifleman".

An impressive plaque from 194th Infantry Detachment (Long Range Surveillance) (Airborne) of the 34th Infantry Division, Iowa Army National Guard, was also presented to the Regiment in appreciation of the close relationship that exists between the 194th Infantry Detachment and the Toronto battalion.

At a reception in the Officers' Mess, Captain E.R.C. Simundson, PMC, received from Mrs. Audrey Lett a sterling silver cigarette case which had been presented to her late husband, LCol S.M. Lett, by Her Majesty Queen Mary in 1945 soon after the end of World War II. □

## UK Visit an Unqualified Success

Col H.C.F. Elliot, Honorary Colonel, and LCol J.G.B. Strathy, President of the Trust Fund, accompanied by their wives completed a very productive and enjoyable visit to the United Kingdom on 17 May 1992.

The first stop for the two officers was the Canadian Defence Liaison Staff where they met with COLS Commander, BGen D.M. Bean, and one of his senior officers Col Bruce Gilchrist on 11 May. Following discussions on military matters of mutual interest, the officers adjourned to the South Adley Pub for a light lunch.

The following day, Col Elliot and LCol Strathy and their wives travelled by car to Canterbury where they were met at the Cathedral by LCol J. White of The Queen's Regiment and his wife Jill. They proceeded to the Warrior Chapel and given a brief tour of the Chapel and new lectern which now displays the four books of remembrance. At precisely 1100 hours, Col Elliot performed the very dignified ceremony then proceeded to Regimental Headquarters at Howe Barracks for a reception at which Col J. Fraser, Regimental Secretary, and his wife Penny, The Lord Mayor and Mayoress of Canterbury, LCol L. Wilson, Museum cuator, and Maj Martin, President of the Benevolent Fund, were present. After lunch hosted by LCol D. Wake, Commanding

Officer, and his wife Helen, the party visited Dover Castle where the Regimental Museum is located.

On 13 May, Col and Mrs. Elliot and LCol and Mrs. Strathy had lunch in the Officers' Mess of the 4th (Volunteer) Battalion of The Royal Green Jackets which was hosted by LCol Peter Luard, the Commanding Officer.

After lunch, Col and Mrs. Elliot and LCol and Mrs. Strathy proceeded to 22 Friary Court, St. James Place for an audience with HRH Princess Alexandra, Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment. Over afternoon tea, the two officers responded to many questions posed by Her Royal Highness concerning Her Regiment.

The last leg of their visit led the two Colonels and their wives to Regimental Headquarters of The Royal Green Jackets in Winchester. They arrived there on 15 May and were met by Col Ian McCausland, Regimental Secretary. A tour of the Regimental Museum followed by lunch at The Light Division Depot Officers' Mess hosted by LCol R.D.S. Phayre, Commanding Officer, ended the day on a very happy note.

Eskimo carvings were presented to each of HRH Princess Alexandra, The Queen's Regiment, The Royal Green Jackets and the 4th (Volunteer) Battalion of The Royal Green Jackets by Col Elliot on behalf of the Regiment. □

## Toronto Association News

The annual meeting of The Queen's Own Rifles Association in Toronto was held on 26 April 1992 at which time the following slate of officers was elected.

President.....	Jim Green
Immediate Past-President.....	Jack Martin
1st Vice-President.....	Elliot Dalton
2nd Vice-President.....	Andy MacNaughton
Treasurer.....	Harry Rollo
Secretary.....	Art Gay
Auditor.....	Al Mercury
Remembrance Secretary.....	John Missons
Sick & Welfare:.....	Archie McQuade

The Annual Association Shoot will take place at CFB Borden on 19 September 1992. A 40 passenger bus, charted to transport shooters to CFB Borden, will depart Moss Park Armoury at 0800 hours on 19 September and will return to Toronto at 1600 hours on the same day. Lunch will be provided at the ranges and a box lunch will be available for the return trip. Cost will be \$15.00 per person payable to Art Gay at Regimental Headquarters. Booking must be done early since bus seating is limited to 40 persons.

The "D Day PLUS 50" preparations are proceeding according to plan and a hotel located on the outskirts of Caen has already been booked. Details of this special trip will be forthcoming.

1993 will mark the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the Toronto Association. A special committee is working on an exciting programme to celebrate this event. □

## News from Queen's Own Rifles Branch 344 Royal Canadian Legion

At its meeting on 12 May 1992 the following members were elected to officer positions.

President.....	Ellen Billett
Immediate Past-President.....	Paul Trenchard
1st Vice-President.....	Helen Bidlofsky
2nd Vice-President.....	Jim Green
3rd Vice-President.....	John Missons
Secretary.....	Mary Keates
Membership.....	Art Gay
Poppy.....	John Missons

The Branch held its annual "D DAY" dinner on 5 June at which three survivors of the D Day landing were in attendance, namely, Ralph Jackson of Toronto, Doug Hester of Fort Charlotte, Florida, and Bob Nicol of Verdun, Quebec.

Members are reminded that the Branch will be open during the Labour Day weekend. The Branch patio is a perfect place from which to view the Canadian National Exhibition Air Show. A barbecue menu will be available to those in attendance.

The Legion Band, returning to the Branch after an absence of 2 years, will present its first concert at the Branch on 1 September commencing at 2000 hours.

This year's Warriors Day Parade at the Canadian National Exhibition will take place on 22 August 1992. □

## **Militaria Auction**

The Queen's Own Officers' Mess held a successful "Militaria Auction" in May which netted over \$1,200.00. The officers plan to do it again later this year on a date to be decided upon. The officers and their guests, including a strong contingent from the Sergeants' Mess, had a thoroughly enjoyable social evening. The organizers are urging all readers of "The Powder Horn" to consider attending the next one. Even if you are not successful in the bidding, it's always fun to watch other people spend their money.

Meanwhile, any readers who would care to donate items to the auction are advised that all donations would be gratefully received and acknowledged. Preferably, they should have some military connection, however remote, but this is not absolutely necessary. To donate items or to get more information on the auction, please contact the Vice PMC, Capt C.D. McGregor at (416) 595-0366 in Toronto or write to him in care of Regimental Headquarters.

## **Normandy Foundation**

The Canadian Battle of Normandy Foundation has been established to assist Le Memorial, a museum founded in 1988 in Caen, Normandy. Le Memorial is also devoted to the study of World War II in the context of 20th century history and in giving proper recognition to Canada's role in World War II and more particularly in the Battle of Normandy and the liberation of Caen.

Members of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada family who wish to become members of the Foundation may do so by paying an annual fee of \$30.00 which entitles them to ordinary membership. If you do not have a membership application, please write to Regimental Headquarters.

## **Change of Address**

If you are planning to move or you have moved, please let Regimental Headquarters know of your new address.

## **Help Wanted**

Readers are reminded that "The Powder Horn" is intended to keep members of our Regimental family informed of interesting and significant happenings affecting you and others.

Don't hesitate to send items of interest to the Editor at Regimental Headquarters. The next issue of "The Powder Horn" will be printed and distributed by 25 December so don't procrastinate in getting your submission in to the Editor by 15 December.

## IN MEMORIAM

*The Regiment extends its condolences to the families and friends of the following members of the Regiment who have passed away since the last issue of "The Rifleman".*

ATCHESON, D.W.	McMULLEN, Allen W.
BAILEY, Jack	OLLIVIER, G.R.
BRADLEY, Jack	OSBORNE, Gord
BREAU, Arthur	PULLAN, Henry
DOUGLAS, C.R.	RANDALL, Don
FAWCETT, Elgin (Curly)	SIMMS, Arthur
HANLEY, J.R.	SMUSIAK, Mitchell
HORNER, Edward A.	WAINWRIGHT, J.H.
LEDINGHAM, Wilson	WILE, Oscar
McCABE, H. Sr.	WILLSON, John B.
MacDONELL, Ian M.	

*They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.*