



1981 VOL. 2 NO. 1

# The Rifleman

A Journal of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada







**LIEUTENANT GENERAL CHARLES H. BELZILE**  
**"FROM RIFLEMAN TO GENERAL"**



On 16 April 1981, at CFB Montreal, General Ramsey Withers, Chief of Defense Staff, presided over the Change of Command of Force Mobile Command, (FMC) from LGen J.J. Paradis to LGen Charles H. Belzile. In a simple ceremony, responsibility for command of Canada's fighting troops was rested on a former Rifleman and constant supporter of the Queen's Own Rifles Regimental Family.

Born on March 12, 1933, in Trois-Pistoles, Quebec, LGen Belzile joined the Canadian Officers' Training Corps (COTC) while attending the University of Montreal. He received his commission with the Queen's Own in October 1952 and, following graduation in 1953, was assigned to the 2nd Battalion in Esquimalt.

Following a tour in Korea, he assumed recruiting duties with Western Command HQ, Edmonton, returning to the Battalion in Esquimalt in 1957. He later served with the Battalion in West Germany and Calgary.

In December 1960, LGen Belzile moved to Montreal, serving as a staff officer at Quebec Command until May, 1963. Rejoining the 2nd Battalion in Calgary, he was promoted to Major in January, 1964 and did a tour of Cyprus in 1965.

He attended Canadian Army Staff College, Kingston, in 1965-66 and in November became brigade major at 4 CIBG in Soest, Germany. In August, 1968, he was promoted Lieutenant-Colonel and appointed Commanding Officer, 2 Battalion, Royal 22e Regiment, Valcartier.

In July, 1972, LGen Belzile was promoted Colonel and named Commandant, Combat Arms School, CFB Gagetown. Promoted to Brigadier-General in June, 1974, he assumed command of 4 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group at Lahr, West Germany. In May, 1977, as Major-General, he was given command of Canadian Forces Europe with headquarters in Lahr.

In recognition of conspicuous merit and exceptional military service, he was appointed to the Order of Military Merit in the Grade of Commander in December, 1978 and, in May, 1979, he was admitted as an Officer Brother to the Order of St John.

LGen Belzile returned to Canada in August, 1979, and assumed new duties as Chief, Land Doctrine and Operations at National Defense Headquarters in Ottawa.

All members of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, both present and past serving, join in extending congratulations to the new FMC Commander and pledging continued support to a distinguished member of the Regimental Family.



## Marlies Travel Services, Ltd.

Telephone (416) 868-0845-7

Officially Appointed Travel Agency for the

### **"We Do Remember Trip To Holland"** **May 1980**

We are at your Service:

- For your Business Trips
- To Organize your Group Travel
- To arrange Travel Presentation for Associations
- When you Take a Vacation
- For Students Holidays
- and much much more . . .

*Do not Hesitate — Give us a call!*

**Protect Your Eyes....**  
**with the toughness of Polygard®**  
**Lenses and the durable good**  
**looks of Sportsgard® Frames**

**Sportsgard®**  
**Polygard®**  
**the unbeatable combination**



**Distributed exclusively by**  
**Imperial Optical Canada**

Serving you and your Ophthalmic Professional for over 80 years





**R-W Richards-Wilcox**  
DOOR SYSTEMS (TORONTO) LIMITED

6045 Netherhart Rd., Unit 5 and 6, Mississauga, Ontario L5T 1G5  
Telephone (416) 677-4753 / Telex 06-968760

**Specialists in:**

- Labelled Fire Doors
- Sectional Overhead Doors
- Multiplex Doors
- Rolling Steel Doors
- Rolling Shutters and Grilles
- Aircraft Hangar Doors
- Electric Operators & Controls
- Roof Scuttles & Access Doors
- Builders Hardware for Swinging, Sliding & Folding Doors
- Cranes, Hoists, Monorails & Conveyors

**Walter Beauchamp**  
(TAILORS) LTD.



18 ADELAIDE ST. WEST  
364 4161



IT PAYS TO KEEP CLEAN

R. L. BICKFORD  
MANAGER

**CANADIAN LINEN SUPPLY**  
20 ATOMIC AVE., TORONTO, ONT. M8Z 5L2 251-2251



**JOHN G. B. STRATHY**  
President

**Strathy & Simmons Limited**  
50th Floor  
Toronto Dominion Bank Tower  
Toronto, Ontario M5K 1E9  
(416) 364-9200

We are grateful for the financial support received from:

J. Medhurst; C.N. Bradshaw; H.V. Hearst; C.L. Jones; R.B. Firlott; J.F. Lake; P.C. Osler; W.T. Barnard; T.M.C. Marsaw; J.W. Keenan; R.L. Munson; H.T. Johnston; R.C. Rae; R.A. Harris; D.J. LeQuesne; B. Danson; B. Aaron; J. Martin; R. Descotes; W.J. Barnard; K. Floren; E. Freake; S. Heyes; N.A. Robinson; G. Bradshaw; T. Butler; A.W. McMullen; H.S. Johnson, L. Cornett; S. Hermant; D.W. Atcheson; A. Luxford; J.A.C. Auld, C.H. Belzile; A. De L. Panet, C. Kirby; I. Rooney; E.D. Floyd; J.N. Simpson; R.A. Zeidler; J. Kenn; G. Rogers; J. Arber; P.R. Hampton; L.C. Lockhart; R.D. Seagram; J.N. Gordon; H.J. Raynor; R.C. Cullington; R.I. Matthews; W.C. Thurgarland; M. Hebner; T.J. Howard; W.C. Brewar; L. Feldman; W. Land; N. Selby; R.A. Cottrill; S. Roberts; T. Stout; L.G. Jones; G. Maynard; L.C. Brown; K. Barret; A.F. Telfer; C.M. Lewis; W. MacDonald; G. Moore; J. Hart; R.D. Oatway; W. Houston; N.P. McCracken; F.D. Mauro; G.F.C. Pangman; J.W. Ross; R. Werry; R.C. Freeman; A.J. Cornett; C.R. Douglas; J. Daney; A. Irvine; H. Brasier; W. Wallis; A. Fougire; R.H. Dory; T.C. Heyes; J. Hennessy; R.M. Gallagher; B. Fraser; H. Saudino; J.F. Curtis; B.H. Cook; J. Pelange; J. Mills; B. Dunkelman; K. MacDonald; B. Gunn; Mrs. G. Sampson; G. Pass; W.G. Mountain; F. Tascona; C. O'Brien.

**The Rifleman**



A Journal of the  
Queen's Own Rifles of Canada  
Copyright 1981 — All rights reserved  
Vol 2 No. 1

Published by the  
Queen's Own Rifles of Canada  
Moss Park Armoury  
130 Queen Street, East  
Toronto, Ontario M5A 1R9

**Managing Editor**  
Captain Adam Hermant

**Editor**  
Captain Scott Ferguson

**Associate Editor**  
Lt George McNeillie

**Editorial Assistant**  
Mrs. Joyce Reddin

**Typesetting & Layout**  
Perfect Printing

**Printing**  
Metrospan Printing

\*\*\*\*\*

**Table of Contents**

Cover story .....	IFC
Editorial .....	1
Ball announcement .....	1
Honourary Colonel's Report .....	2
Hon. LCol's Report .....	2
Lord Mayor's Show .....	3
LCol Dunlop .....	4
LCol Wilson .....	5
LCol Jones .....	6
Bishop Wilkinson .....	6
QOR Association:	
President's Report .....	7
Calgary Branch .....	7
Chilliwack Branch .....	7
Regimental Shrine .....	8
Nanisivak .....	8
The Big Two Club .....	9
Branch 344 Legion .....	10
Regimental Museum .....	10
I.O.D.E. ....	10
Regimental Trust Fund .....	11
Lt Rob Rae Reporting .....	12
Centrepiece Story .....	13
Centrepiece .....	14-15
Commanding Officer's Report .....	16-18
Parachute Week .....	18
District Commander .....	19
Officer's Mess .....	20
Officers' Luncheon .....	21
Sergeants' Mess .....	21
Bufs Company .....	22
Victoria Company .....	22
Rifle Team .....	23
2881 Cadet Corps .....	24
Challenge Shoot .....	24
Black Button News .....	25-26
Advertising & Sponsors .....	27-IBC

**EDITORIAL**

As you will note, this issue of the Rifleman is the first in Volume 2. It has been agreed to group the issues according to the tour of Commanding Officers and, with the untimely passing of LCol Bill Wilson, Volume 1 has closed. The Editorial Staff of The Rifleman will certainly miss the constant support and encouragement LCol Wilson provided, which was so vital in nurturing the infant journal. I know that all readers join in mourning his passing.

Volume 2, under the guidance of LCol Bill Barnard, sees The Rifleman gaining acceptance around the world. It is especially encouraging to receive articles not only from members throughout Canada but also the excellent contributions from the Black Button family in Hong Kong, Australia and New Zealand.

It is discouraging, however, to have such superb support from Riflemen around the globe, yet to be let down by some Regimental members much nearer to home. It had been our hope to publish this edition during the summer, but even into the Fall, several vital articles were still outstanding. At the time of publication, there was still nothing heard from: the Junior Ranks

★★★

**REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION  
BIRTHDAY BALL  
24 APRIL, 1982**

Casa Loma in Toronto has been reserved for the annual birthday celebration of the Regiment.

Plans for the evening include a dinner dance, with music supplied by the Regimental Band.

While prices have not been established, at this point in time, we hope you will plan to attend this gala affair.

We sincerely apologise to all those Riflemen who were disappointed with last years plans for the Harbour Castle.

JOE RESNICK

Mess, 60th Company, the Military Band, the Bugle Band, 1860 Cadets, UCC Cadets, and others. Without their input, this cannot truly be a Regimental journal.

If this publication is appreciated by the readers, it will be because, as Sir Winston Churchill so aptly put it, "so much is owed by so many to so few"! Such a volunteer endeavour as this can continue only if contributions are made by all representatives of our Regimental family. The task is too great to be borne by a dedicated few.

On behalf of all who labour in the night to give life to The Rifleman, I express my sincere appreciation to all of you who have taken the time and trouble to contribute to its success, both with articles and with donations and sponsorship. Your continued support will ensure that we all enjoy future Volumes of our journal.

CAPTAIN SCOTT FERGUSON  
Editor

★★★

**EDITORIAL STAFF EXPANSION**

We extend heartiest congratulations to our Managing Editor, Adam Hermant and his wife Jill, on the birth of their second child, Simon Charles Percy, born 14 April, 1981.

Also congratulations to our Editor, Scott Ferguson and his wife Elena on the birth of their son, Ryan Andrew - 23 June, 1981.

Congratulations also to George and Penelope McNeillie on the birth of their daughter, Courtney Rosalind, born 8 June, 1981.

★★★

NB: Please find enclosed in this issue of The Rifleman, a bumper sticker with the Regimental crest.

If you think it is worth a dollar, please mail your cheque to:

The Rifleman,  
Queens Own Rifles of Canada  
Moss Park Armoury  
130 Queen Street East  
Toronto, Ontario M5A 1R9



## REPORT FROM THE HONORARY COLONEL

The past year has been one of the most successful for the Regiment in a good many years, marred only by the tragic death of Lt. Col. W.S. (Bill) Wilson, CD in January. Bill served with distinction in The Queen's Own, both as a regular and with the Militia. His untiring efforts brought a dramatic improvement in our standing amongst infantry units in Canada. Bill will be sorely missed by all ranks.

So that we don't overlap in our comments, I have asked LCol W.J. (Bill) Barnard to make a full report on the activities of the Unit during the past twelve months.

LCol. J.F. (Jack) Lake took over as Honorary Lieutenant Colonel from LCol. Barney Danson in the early fall of 1980. I would like to thank Barney for his five years of hard work and dedication in helping The Queen's Own.

The Regiment started civilian para-troop training in Gananoque which, I believe, is a first for the Militia in Canada. Thirty-one members of the Regiment and four Upper Canada Cadets took the training. A full report on this very successful endeavour appears elsewhere in this copy of 'The Rifleman'.

COLONEL H.E. DALTON

## REPORT FROM THE HONORARY LIEUTENANT COLONEL

As of October 1, 1980, I had the honour of succeeding Barney Danson as Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment. As most of you are aware, I have been closely associated with the unit since W.W.II, but admit that being back in uniform for the first time in 34 years is quite a change.

In November, 1980, HCol H.E. Dalton, Major (now LCol) Bill Barnard, and CWO (now Capt) Eric Simundson and I, at the request of the new Lord Mayor of London, had the pleasure of marching in the Lord Mayor's Parade in London, England. The new Lord Mayor, the Right Honourable Colonel Sir Ronald Gardner-Thorpe, is a former Commanding Officer of the Buffs, with whom we are affiliated. The Lord Mayor further honoured us by arranging to

have Col. Dalton and myself made Freeman of the City of London.

During our London visit we were received by our Colonel-in-Chief, H.R.H. Princess Alexandra, and also had an opportunity of visiting the former Buffs' Headquarters in Canterbury and participated in a Remembrance Service for the Buffs and The Queen's Own in Canterbury Cathedral.

All of us were saddened by the sudden death of LCol Bill Wilson, and I am sure that everyone will do his utmost to support LCol Bill Barnard who has undertaken his new command with vigour and enthusiasm.

J.F. LAKE, Q.C.  
Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel.

## \* APPEAL FOR KIT \*

The serving members of the Battalion are facing a real and pressing shortage of Regimental Kit; the kind that makes you proud to be on parade and also the kind that is not available through official channels!

The Officers, Sr NCO's and men all need various items of Regimental Kit, including cross belts, sling belts, belt buckles, swords, black buttons, whistle cords, cap badges and the like.

If you check through your old footlocker, storage closet or kid's toy chest, you'll probably discover some items which you no longer need. Donations will be gratefully accepted.

Thanks to the establishment of our Regimental Kit Shop, we now have the means for caring for such kit and issuing items on a loan basis. This way your donation can be enjoyed by generations to come.

If you wish, we can accept items for sale on consignment and, in some cases, may be able to purchase them outright.

You can send any items directly or drop us a line and advise us of what you have available. All donations and correspondence should be addressed:

The Regimental Kit Shop  
The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada  
Moss Park Armoury  
130 Queen Street, East  
Toronto, M5A 1R9

All serving members thank you for your assistance and generosity!

### HELP WANTED!

The Manager of the Kit Shop is in need of a volunteer to assist with the maintenance of our growing stock of Regimental kit and uniforms.

Sorry, there's no pay, but the company is good and the work important!

If you're interested and can get down to Moss Park Armoury on a regular basis, get in touch. Call the Orderly Room (369-3281) and leave a message. The Kit Shop Manager will return your call.

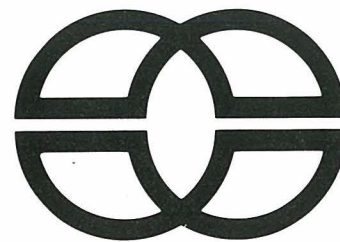
# A tradition of fine banking service.

For over a hundred years, the Commerce has been the sign of the finest in banking services. Either at home, or wherever you travel, let the Commerce take care of your financial problems. There are branches in every major centre in Canada to offer you the finest in convenient, courteous service.



CANADIAN IMPERIAL  
BANK OF COMMERCE

George Brown



The City College

All campuses located in downtown Toronto.

Two and Three-year programs leading to careers in:

**Technology**  
**Business**  
**Hospitality**  
**Fashion**  
**Graphic Arts**  
**Community Services**  
**Health Sciences**  
**Performing Arts**

94% of last year's graduates found jobs related to their programs.

Ask for a career guide at your high school guidance office or phone 967-1212.

Apply now for programs starting September 1980.



George Brown  
The City College

Box 1015, Station B, Toronto,  
Ontario, M5T 2T9  
Telephone (416) 967-1212



**1ST BATTALION  
ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INFANTRY REGIMENT**

May 1980 saw the annual reinforcement to 1 RNZIR from its sister battalion, 2/1 RNZIR based at Burnham Camp, NZ. The training year started with Theatre Indoctrination Course for the new arrivals. This involved a two week testing exercise conducted in the Kota Tinggi Dry Training Area on the east coast of Johore, Malaysia. The aim of the course is to introduce soldiers to the "creepie crawlies" associated with with living in a tropical rain forest environment.

The remainder of 1980 was taken up with section, platoon, company, then

battalion training. The highlights of the year were Exercise Forward Drive and a joint Malaysian/New Zealand exercise in Johore State, Exercise Taiaha Tombak III.

Forward Drive proved entertaining as the Battalion emphasized casualty evacuation procedures. After three days, the Battalion strength was so reduced that it necessitated a spectacular "reincarnation" of the dead by the CO, Lieutenant Colonel E.B. Bestic.

Taiaha Tobak III started with two days of festivities between 13 Royal Malay Regiment and 1 RNZIR. The exercise lasted for seven days, concen-

**6TH BATTALION (HAURAKI)  
ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INFANTRY REGIMENT**

In New Zealand, the nineteenth century closed on a high note of patriotism and imperial sentiment. The refusal of the Boer Republics of South Africa to accept British Sovereignty made South Africa the focus of British, and consequently New Zealand, military interest from the mid 1890's.

In an effort to bring some order to the numerous units left in the wake of the New Zealand land wars and the "Russian Invasion Threat", the New Zealand Government ordered a restructuring of its Volunteer Forces. In the South Auckland/Bay of Plenty region, seven previously independent units were combined with four new companies to form the 2nd Battalion Auckland Regiment, later titled the Hauraki Regiment.

The Regiment was gazetted on 12 September 1898 and comprised seven rifle companies, with a headquarters based in the town of Paeroa. Over 200 men from the Hauraki Regiment successfully volunteered for active service in South Africa, priority being given to those who could provide their own mounts and equipment. Amongst the first contingent of 214 officers and men to leave New Zealand was the Battalion's first RSM, George Rowland Bradford, formerly a Colour Sergeant of the Coldstream Guards. He was to be the

first member of the Colonial Forces to give his life in this war.

On 4 August 1914, New Zealand joined the Great War. The 6th Hauraki Regiment, together with three other regiments of the Auckland Military District, each formed a company in the Auckland Regiment, New Zealand Expeditionary Force. The 6th (Hauraki) Company saw its first action on 3 February 1915 at Suez Canal.

The Company landed at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915 and remained in action in the Dardanelles until August. It then moved to France, taking part in the Battles of: the Somme, Merscourcelotte, Morval, and Le Transoy ridges in 1916; Messines, Ypres, Polygon Wood, Broodseine, and the first Passchendale in 1917; the two Somme battles of 1918 and Arras, Ancre, Albert, Hindenburg Line, Bapaume, Haurincourt, Canal du Nord, Cambrai, Selle, and the Sambre.

The First World War was the costliest ever, in terms of Hauraki lives, but it also brought into the Hauraki's the man who was to command the 2nd New Zealand Expeditionary Force in 1939. Bernard Cyril Freyburg, a dental technician, was gazetted as Second Lieutenant in the Regiment on 18 January 1912. Freyburg attained the rank of Brigadier in 1918, at the age of 29, and, previously having been presented the DSO and three bars, was awarded

trating on limited war operations in a jungle environment. The final brigade attack provided realistic training with quite a few real casualties resulting from heat exhaustion.

The event with occupies the Battalion's attention at the time of this writing is the annual Singapore Armed Forces Shooting Invitation Meet (SAFSIM). The competition includes all infantry small arms and involves Singapore Armed Forces and Police, the Malaysian Navy, Royal Brunei Malay Regiment and 1 RNZIR. The result: Singapore Armed Forces, first; 1 RNZIR, second. Quite pleasing since the competition was very strong.

Warm regards to the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada from the 1st Battalion, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment.

CAPTAIN K.R. ARLIDGE  
Headquarters, 1 RNZIR

the Victoria Cross that year.

During the Second War, the Haurakis were present at the battles of Mount Olympus, Crete, Tobruk 1941, El Alamein, Tebaga Gap, The Sangro, Cassino One, The Senio, and finally the Solomans.

By 1949, compulsory military training had greatly expanded the ranks of the Haurakis and in 1950 a large number volunteered for service with the United Nations Forces in Korea.

During the late 50's and early 60's, the Regiment's officers and men volunteered for active service with the regular force battalions which served in Malaya and Borneo, many returning to the Regiment.

In 1964, the Regiment was renamed the 6th (Hauraki) Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment and, in 1973, received its present Colours, which were purchased through donations made over some fifty years by its own members.

In recognition of the Regiment's tradition of service, the Haurakis were granted the Freedom of the Cities of Rotorua (1963) and Tauranga (1969).

Today, the Hauraki soldier is of a proud breed, who knows that, though his unit is seventh in order of precedence in the New Zealand Infantry Corps, it is unique in retention of its original identity and motto - "Whakatangata Kia Kaha" (Quit Yourselves Like Men - Be Strong).

CAPTAIN G.T. VERCOE  
Headquarters



**THE LORD MAYOR'S SHOW**

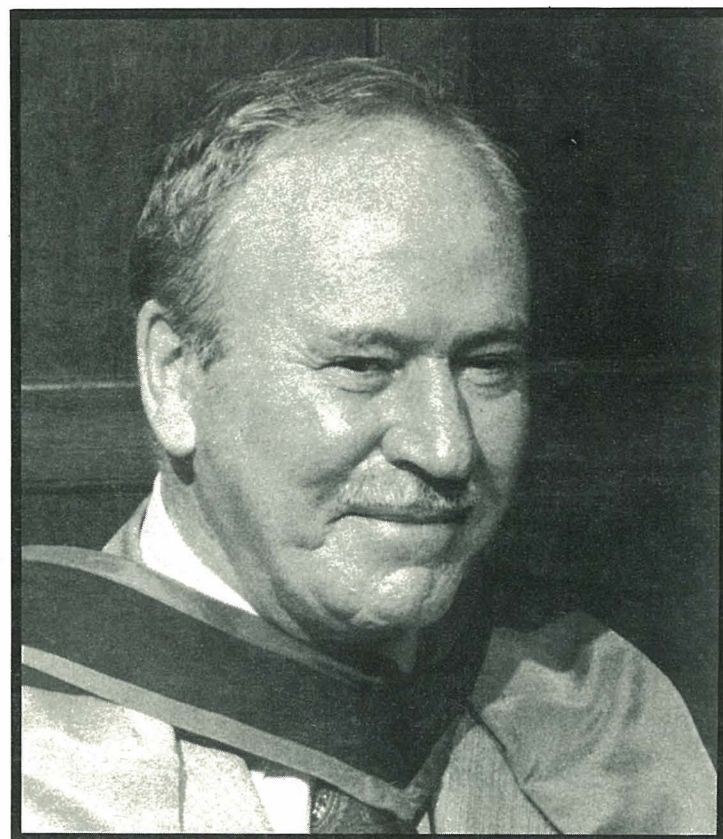
On 8 November, 1980, the streets of London, England, were packed with cheering crowds as the population joined in the annual celebration to honour the new Lord Mayor. By special request, a contingent of the Queen's Own took part in the Lord Mayor's Procession, thereby continuing a relationship which dates back more than 70 years. The new Lord Mayor of London is Colonel Sir Ronald Gardner-Thorpe, GBE, TD, a former Commanding Officer of The Buffs (the Royal East Kent Regiment).

The QOR contingent, which provided escort to the Lord Mayor's coach, consisted of Colonel Elliot Dalton, Lieutenant-Colonel Jack Lake, Major (now LCol) Bill Barnard and Chief Warrant Officer (now Capt) Eric Simundson. The glorious parade was but the highlight of a week of memories for the gentlemen and their ladies.

Prior to the parade, Col Dalton and LCol Lake were installed as Honourary Freeman of the City at a ceremony in the Crypt of the Guild Hall. HRH Princess Alexandra entertained the delegation at St James's Palace. They attended a reception at Ontario House. At a service conducted in Canterbury Cathedral, Col Dalton turned a page in the Book of Remembrance placed in the Warriors' Chapel. The party also enjoyed the hospitality of Colonel and Mrs. Raymond Grace of The Buffs at a luncheon in their honour in the Grace home in Crundale, Kent.







LIEUTENANT COLONEL EDWARD ARUNAH DUNLOP, O.B.E., G.M., LL.D.  
1919 - 1981

On 6 January 1981, Lieutenant Colonel Edward Dunlop succumbed to a lengthy illness at 61 years of age. The former Honourary Lieutenant Colonel of the Regiment had a distinguished career of public service and had been awarded the Order of Canada.

Schooled at Upper Canada College, Edward Dunlop later graduated from the University of Toronto. World War II interrupted his studies, as he was commissioned into the Militia battalion of the Queen's Own in 1937 and mobilized when conflict broke out.

As a Major, supervising training at a camp in Scotland, Edward Dunlop earned a George Medal for an act of bravery which cost him his sight. When a soldier froze on the grenade range, dropping a live grenade, Major Dunlop quickly hurled the man aside and seized the grenade. It exploded as it left his hands, lacerating his face and taking three fingers.

Refusing to concede to this handicap, Edward Dunlop served in Ottawa following the war as Director of the Casualty Rehabilitation Division, Department of Veterans' Affairs. In 1949, he became Managing Director of the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society, a task which would become his life's work.

In 1963, he was elected as Progressive Conservative member for York-Forest Hill in the Ontario Legislature. He served until 1971 as Minister without Portfolio, deciding not to contest the next election.

Among his many appointments are: Board of Broadcast Governors (1958-63); Governing Council, U of T (1972-78); Chairman, Ontario Advisory Council for the Physically Handicapped (1975-77); Chairman, Premier's Advisory Committee on Improving Government Services (1979); Director, United Press Canada; Board of Trustees, Toronto General Hospital; Honourary Member, Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

Amongst his many duties, Edward Dunlop was President of the Toronto Sun Publishing Company. While he read Braille, he relied on his wife, Dorothy, for assistance with the volumes of reports and news his job required.

Members of the Regiment join Canadians throughout the country in mourning the loss of such an outstanding soldier, politician and public servant. Our respect and admiration may best be expressed in the words of Rifleman Albert Keller (90857), who composed the following tribute to an officer he saw on the grenade range in Scotland, who saved the life of a fellow recruit.

#### Born to Lead

In far off distant England,  
On a balmy, springlike day,  
The warclouds hovered overhead,  
As we prepared our way.

Gathered from ocean to ocean,  
From sea to mountain high,  
Every part of our country proud,  
Was there beneath that sky.

To sacrifice and die,  
One step and you are dead,  
To sacrifice and live,  
How many steps ahead?

One took this step and lost the sight  
of lovely shades of green,  
And all God's treasures unfolded  
in that place serene.

He would only feel the steps ahead,  
But spirit carried him proud.  
You see, my friends, He was born to lead  
And stand out in a crowd.

We felt this inspiration,  
As later he came and shook our hands,  
And wished us luck  
in the grimmest of life's games.

The years passed by, I saw no more,  
this man that walked so proud,  
But his footsteps in the sands of time  
Were sounding ever loud.

Others looking at him,  
Were given hope to try,  
To overcome their burdens,  
To look into the sky,  
And see the nightbirds flying,  
To see the warming sun,  
To thank God in their inner hearts,  
That they knew such a one.

# BLACK BUTTON NEWS

## SYDNEY UNIVERSITY REGIMENT

The Sydney University Regiment exists especially to give training to people involved in tertiary education; drawing its recruits from the University of Sydney, the New England University in Armidale and the Australian National University in Canberra. As a secondary role, it is to produce officers for the Army Reserve in New South Wales.

The SUR has a history spanning 81 years from its formation in 1900, when it was raised as the University Volunteer Rifle Corps (UVRC). Raised as part of the forces of the Colony of NSW on 17 November 1900, it anteceded the Commonwealth of Australia. With an establishment of 100 under command of Lieutenant R.C. Simpson, VD, the first parade in uniform was held in 1901, when HRH The Duke of York (later HM King George V) visited the University.

In 1948, the Citizen Military Forces (CMF) was reformed on a voluntary basis and SUR was given a battalion establishment. With the reintroduction of National Service in 1952, membership increased rapidly to 1900, including an infantry battalion (with a second in planning); a field engineer troop (raised in 1956); and a field artillery battery (raised in 1958).

"Outstation" companies were established at the University of New England in 1948 and at the Australian National University in 1965. Numbers dropped to 360 following the end of National Service in 1960; but increased to over 600 with "selective" National Service between 1964-73.

As a result of the Regiment's role to provide military training for undergraduates and officers for the Army Reserve, the Regiment will never go to war as a unit. However, individuals who trained in SUR continue to provide leadership throughout the Army Reserve and in civilian life. In this way, the Regiment has made and continues to make an important contribution to society.

## 6TH QUEEN ELIZABETH'S OWN GURKHA RIFLES HONG KONG

This is the first time we have submitted an article for the Black Button News of the Rifleman, but hopefully not the last!

Life in Hong Kong continues much as before with a great deal of time spent on the Border trying to apprehend those illegal immigrants who try to slip into the Colony. Despite the decrease in the numbers trying to cross, our force levels on the border remain high and 283 days of 1981 will be spent lurking behind bushes.

We do, however, manage to do other things and companies have the opportunity to go overseas for training. Support Company went to Malaysia; A Company to Fiji, B Company to New Zealand, and D Company is off to Australia. C Company will go to Brunei and help run our Junior Leaders Cadre which is being held there.

On the sporting field, we continue to dominate and are currently the Major Unit Champions in basketball, field hockey, athletics and swimming. We also won the Colony Skill-at-Arms Meeting convincingly, which bodes well for the Army Championship at Bisely later this year.

The best news we have had recently is that another Gurkha Infantry Battalion is to be formed here in Hong Kong at the end of this year. The man selected to take on this difficult task is Lieutenant Colonel Evan Powell-Jones a 6th Gurkha as were his father and brother. He will have officers and men from all the infantry battalions in the Brigade to help him in this exciting job.

MAJOR P.P.A. GOULDSBURY  
OC Headquarters Company

The strength of the Regiment currently stands at 515 with approximately five percent being servicewomen. Members are required to attend at least 26 days training per annum. This includes 21 continuous days of Annual Field Training. The AFT in January is one of the rare occasions for all members of the Regiment, including the two "outstation" companies, to assemble and train together.

During the term of the present Commanding Officer, training will concentrate on one phase of war for each of the next three years. In 1980, the unit conducted training on offensive operations of a limited war, culminating in January 1981 with AFT '81. The main aspects of training for AFT '81 were the Advance and the Attack. Considerable support from outside the unit was received from: Mirage and Skyhawk jet aircraft; M113 APC's; Utility Helicopters; LOH; troops from the Air Defence Guards of the RAAF base Williamstown who provided the enemy.

Incorporated into the training was specialist revision training in Mortars, Signals, Assault Pioneers and Intelligence, employed in the later stages of AFT '81. Troops also had an opportunity to undergo familiarization in gas warfare training, use of APC's in the advance and attack, and characteristics, safety and use of Utility Helicopters.

February saw the early stages of training for Defence and Withdrawal operations, to be tested at AFT '82. Home Training Weekends therefore will be concentrating on defensive operations, including basic weapon proficiency. During May and August vacations, promotion, recruit and Initial Employment (Corps) Training will be conducted.

As a unit, we are looking forward to training at a higher level at AFT '82 and to increasing strength and professionalism in the future, as a result of a nationwide publicity campaign backed by the Government to attract more recruits.

On a personal note and on behalf of all ranks of the Sydney University Regiment, I would like to thank you most sincerely for the opportunity to be represented in your prestigious magazine. Like yourselves, we too believe in maintaining close affiliation with the "Black Button" family.

LCOL R.S. CUDDY  
Commanding Officer



## 2881 IN NEW ACCOMMODATION



Inspection by LCol McKenzie

(courtesy The Scarborough Mirror)

The 1980-81 training year has been an active and successful one for 2881 (Highland Creek) Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps.

The Corps vacated its former accommodation at the MetroToronto Legion Village, West Hill, on 7 June, 1980. A summer long search for new quarters led by the commanding officer, and involving representatives of all four levels of government and the Provincial Army Cadet League, had produced nothing.

The immediate problem was resolved in two ways. First, arrangements were made with the Principal of Cedarbrae Collegiate Institute to use his grounds as an assembly point; second, arrangements were made to share its training program with the sister Corps, 1860, at Moss Park Armoury. The Corps remained active in this manner through September and October.

In late September, thanks to the efforts of Trustee Joe Turner and Director of Planning and Operations, Ken Goodwin of Scarborough's Board of Education, arrangements were made for the Corps to parade at R.H. King Collegiate Institute. The Corps paraded there for the first time on 20 October, 1980.

The year began with a range weekend at Borden, and included three small bore range evenings at Fort York Armoury, courtesy of 2736 (The Royal Regiment of Canada) Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps. A joint exercise and a first aid course were other cooperative efforts with 2736.

The Corps entered a team in the Regional First Aid Competition, took part in both the Army Cadet League and Remembrance tag days, and ran a series of night and weekend exercises throughout the year.

The Corps paraded with the Regiment for the Change of Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel, and took part in the Scarborough Remembrance Day Parade.

In April the Corps was present when the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, the Honourable John B. Aird, opened the new Highland Creek Legion Branch. This branch are the Corp's sponsors. In the same month the Corps was the only cadet organization participating in a Toronto parade in support of the International Year of the Disabled.

Approximately half the cadets will be at summer camps this year. The cadet commanding officer (Cadet Captain Gordon Cole) will spend the summer training with the Canadian Forces in Europe.

The final parade of the year was a combined Annual Inspection and Change of Command Parade at Cedarbrae Collegiate Institute on 30 May, when the Reviewing Officer was Lieutenant-Colonel L.W. (Lew) MacKenzie. Lieutenant-Colonel MacKenzie is a PPCLI officer serving on the Directing Staff of the Canadian Forces Command and Staff College. Before joining Princess Pat's he served for eleven years with the Queen's Own.

On this parade, Captain Ivor Gould, who had served as commanding officer for three years and five months, handed command over to Captain Gordon Roach. Captain Gould is to remain with the Corps as deputy commanding officer.

At the end of the year the Corps is in new accommodation and under a new commanding officer is poised for a major expansion in 1981-82.

CAPTAIN F.I. GOULD  
Deputy Commanding Officer



### CHALLENGE SHOOT

The 101st Anniversary of the founding of the Royal Canadian Army Cadets, a salute to the QOR of C 1860 Cadets, was observed at Moss Park Armoury, Monday, 24 November, 1980.

The annual challenge by the QOR of C Rifles Association, the QOR Br. 344 Royal Canadian Legion Rifle Team and others competing, resulted as follows:

Sergeants & Rifles Association: 492

W. Durrance	97
K. Gregory	100
A. McNaughton	97
G. Senetchko	100
R. Williams	98

Officers ..... 482

C. Champion	98
P. Fairclough	96
H. Flood	95
Oustimovich	95
Southam	98

Jr. Ranks ..... 481

Butt	95
Cameron	96
Carty	96
O'Connor	95
A. Sarrossy	99

QOR Br. 344 Legion ..... 451

J. Lesage	92
A. Richardson	89
J. Simpson	83
B. White	96
R. White	91

On 12 January 1981, while returning home after an evening with the Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel Bill Wilson died suddenly. His three years as Commanding Officer of the Queen's Own was the culmination of a lifetime of service dedicated to his country, the military and especially his Regiment.

In January 1942, Private Bill Wilson joined the 2nd Field Regiment and was called to active service in July 1944 as a Sargeant. Following service with the Canadian Armed Forces Pacifac, he was recommended for educational upgrading and graduated from the University of Toronto.

In June 1952, he was commissioned into the Queen's Own, serving with the 2nd Battalion from 1952 to 1957, including a tour in Korea from 1954-55.

As Captain, he was posted to Prairie Command HQ as PSO in 1957 and attended Staff College from 1957-61, following which he was posted to Eastern Command in Halifax as G OpsO 3.

As a major, he served in Ghana from 1962 to 1964 before returning to the 2nd Battalion. In 1966, he was appointed temporary Commanding Officer, prior to serving as GSO2 in Cyprus in 1967.

From 1967-70, he was Directing Staff Co-ordinator at the Canadian Forces Staff School, then served for three years on the headquarters staff of the Director of Infantry in Warminster, England.

On retiring from the Regular Force after 31 years, Bill Wilson assumed duties as Director of Administration for the Legislative Assembly of Ontario. He maintained close relations with the reserve Battalion and unselfishly offered his services and vast experience.

Heeding the call of the bugles once again, he was appointed Deputy Commanding Officer in December 1976 and assumed command of the Battalion in April 1978.

Coping with the inherent frustrations of the Militia system through dedicated application of his Regular Force experience, Lieutenant Colonel Bill Wilson accomplished much during his too brief tour of command.

The establishment of a ceremonial guard at Queen's Park was a major feat and a source of pride, not only to LCol Wilson but also to the Regiment. The Legislative Guard came into being in May 1978 after long negotiations with the Provincial Government. The con-



LIEUTENANT COLONEL WILLIAM SIBBALD WILSON, CD

1926 - 1981

tinuance of this public service detachment of QOR personnel is a lasting and fitting tribute to its founder.

Under LCol Wilson, a special Recce Company was formed within the Battalion, whose training concentrated on airborne operations. Through them, a special relationship was formed with the American Special Forces Group, culminating in joint training exercises at Fort Drum, New York.

LCol Wilson took personal pride in leading his troops in the field during the two week training concentrations at Fort Drum. His stamina and enthusiasm were an inspiration to his officers and men, years his junior. A highlight of DRUMCON was the military tattoo, staged over the middle weekend.

LCol Wilson, while dedicated to perpetuating the many traditions of the QOR, also initiated some new customs, including an annual formal dinner of the Regimental Senate.

Among his many accomplishments, the visit of our Colonel-in-Chief, HRH Princess Alexandra, was the highlight. As he stated himself, in the last edition of the Rifleman, "I was never prouder of being Queen's Own than on parade on 26 April 1980, as Her Royal Highness inspected the Regiment."

In his 54 years, Lieutenant Colonel Bill Wilson achieved an exceptional record of distinguished service to the Canadian Forces of 34 years. Due to relinquish command in April 1981, he issued a challenge at the Annual Officers Luncheon held in the Mess in December 1980. "It's up to the young men and women now serving, and to those yet to come, to continue the traditions of this great Regiment and to create her history in the future." Surely those who would honour his memory could do so by accepting his challenge.



LIEUTENANT COLONEL CHARLES LYNDON JONES, CD

1922 - 1981



A former Commanding Officer and staunch supporter of the Regimental Association, LCol "Charlie" Jones died suddenly at Sunnybrook Medical Centre on 30 July 1981.

Charlie joined the Queen's Own in 1940 as a Rifleman and served in France and Northwest Europe, being twice wounded in action. Following his second injury, he was returned to Canada and demobilized as Lieutenant.

He returned to work at Excelsior Life Insurance Company and rose to head the computer department. He then joined Heritage Life where he became Vice-President. For the past two years, he had been General Manager of Information Services for the Canadian Life Insurance Association.

After the Second World War, Charlie rejoined the Militia Battalion as an Officer and assumed command in 1965. Prior to retirement, he led the Battalion on parade during the Centennial celebrations.

He remained active in Regimental affairs up to his death and was a past President of the Association. All members of the Regimental family mourn his early and sudden passing.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP WILKINSON

On December 5, 1980, a memorial portrait of the Rt Rev Fred Wilkinson was unveiled by Lieutenant-Governor John Aird in Sheraton Hall of Wycliffe College. The Rev Ken Maxted, Aide de Campe to the Lieutenant-Governor, assisted in the ceremony. The portrait was painted by Mr. Clark C. Cunningham of Toronto.

In an address given by the Right Honourable Roland Michener, former Governor General of Canada, Bishop Wilkinson was honoured for his outstanding service to God, Queen and Country.

(courtesy of INSIGHT, a publication of Wycliffe College)



THE RIFLE TEAM

The Rifle Team is responsible for representing the Unit at competitive shooting events. Invariably the competitions are not restricted to rifle shooting only, but also include pistol, sub machine gun, automatic rifle and sniper rifle.

Things started off with a 'bang' when five members attended the May CMA/ORA Shoot at CFB Borden. Fine weather, keen competition and the renewal of last seasons friendships were the order of the weekend.

WO Jerry 'Saskquatch' Senetchko, Sgt. John Bennett, Cpl Nad Hassan and Sgt. Ross Williams attended. Capt. Chris Heyes appeared on the range, encouraged to attend by the rifle team of the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa where he is attached.

Although the Team Grand Aggregate Trophy was not to be ours, we sure put the fear of the Regiment into everyone with our off range antics. However, by Sunday afternoon, the team walked away with the Ontario Individual Championship, the Senior 300 m Aggregate and the 'Annapolis', a 200m sitting snap shoot.

As the summer rolled by, along came the August Canadian Forces Small Arms Competition at Connaught Ranges, Ottawa. WO Jerry 'Sasquatch' Senetch-

ko and Sgt. Ross Williams attended as long time senior members of the CMA/ORA team. They were pleasantly surprised to meet Rfn. Clay Cameron, who was attending with the encouragement of LCol. Ivor McLeod. Clay fired sub machine gun and picked up a nice plaque as an individual competing against the best in Canada.

Although Jerry had won the Queen's Medal at Ottawa in 1975, he was plagued with mechanical breakdown throughout the shoot. It can be somewhat nerve racking during a rapid match when your gas cylinder explodes - eh Jerry?

'Lady Luck' was with Sgt. Ross Williams leaving him with three individual match awards and second place for the Queen's Medal, giving him an automatic position on the 1981 Canadian Bisley Team.

The shoot at Ottawa lasts for two weeks and members practice at Borden two weeks prior to this. The last day, however, was a welcome sight. There was Jerry with the wife and two 'ankle biters' off for a holiday to Nova Scotia, while Clay and Ross packed up, cleaned weapons and quarters before returning to Toronto.

The last shoot of the season was a simple one day affair run by the ORA at Winona Ranges, or so we thought!

A cool, wet 4 October morning greeted no less than eighty six competitors forming eighteen teams. The real challenge was a team from the Ontario Rifle Association, all veteran target shoots. The team would like to apologise to all those wet, cold, miserable competitors for having won five of the six trophies, three with unbeatable perfect scores. We offer congratulations to the ORA Veteran Team for winning the Team Trophy. Incidentally, we were only five points behind them placing us in second place, and the third team was eighty three points behind us.

It should be mentioned here that our team consisted of Sgt. Ross Williams and three Riflemen, all first time competitive rifle shooters at the ORA - Rfn. Clay Cameron (Buffs Coy), Rfn. Val Baily (60th Coy), Rfn. Bill Henry (60th Coy).

Thus ended the shooting season for the team, returning with the date of May, 1981, on our minds and the Ontario Team Championship waiting for us.

If you feel you would like to shoot with the team, please do not hesitate to contact either WO Jerry Senetchko or myself, Lt. Ross Williams, we will be only too pleased to give you all the necessary information.

LT. ROSS WILLIAMS



## BUFFS COMPANY REPORT

'Another year ends'.

The Buffs Coy was particularly active in 1980/81 training cycle. With an active training calendar throughout the spring and early summer culminating with a Concentration/Summer Camp at Fort Drum, New York, Toronto Militia District. With the fall training cycle, certain changes and promotions were effected, Capt. Glaysher posted to CMA Headquarters and Capt. Descotes transferred in from Victoria Company. The Company was also pleased to see further promotions, especially Company Sergeant Major H. McCabe's promotion to Regimental Sergeant Major taking over from Regimental Sergeant Major E.R.C. Simundson. Warrant Chan was promoted to Master Warrant Officer and appointed Company Sergeant Major. Also a number of senior leading riflemen were transferred to other positions in the Battalion as instructors section commanders of junior companies reflecting great credit to Buffs Company.

As it may be known, of course, Buffs Company is the senior and the training Company of the Battalion and is sometimes referred to as 'The Battle School Company'. Here is where specialisation takes place; radio operators are trained, specialised weapons, support weapons are trained for the benefit of the Battalion and, of course, keeping with our aim of being the best Militia Company in the country. (Of this there is little doubt!).

The Company also recruit and train new riflemen under the command of Lt. Rolczewski who is a graduate of 'R.E.S.O' programme, with assistance from the Company's CSM Warrant Norman, our new riflemen learn quickly, carefully and correctly how to be 'The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada'.

Now I could 'wax elegant until zero dark 30' thinking it is evident the Buffs Company continues to prosper and perform according to tradition as their motto sums up — 'Their are two categories of people in this world — Queen's Own Riflemen and those who wish they were'.

CAPT R.D. DESCOTES  
OC Buffs Coy



## VICTORIA COMPANY REPORT

The Victoria Company continues to prosper and enjoy success. For the purposes of this report, the training cycle spring, summer and fall 1981.

As you know, Victoria Company while training its own recruit riflemen, is the QM and Support Company of the Battalion. To this end the Company continued to practice diligently supporting Buffs Company and 60th Company while they were training and practicing for the TMD exercise and, of course, a very useful and eventful summer concentration at Fort Drum, New York, Toronto Militia District.

The Company continued its activities early in the fall and, as is common practice, (they always ask the best) the Company acted as the QM support system for the entire CMA Infantry Competition at CFB Borden, 17/19 October, 1980.

28 thru 30 November saw the Company fire as well as support the rest of the Battalion on its annual range weekend.

It is difficult to resist this year, at any rate, to mention our TMD Inspection in early January, 1981. We did everything right, we thought so at least —

Transport — everything was perfect but for one minor remission, a medical exam was outstanding.

Finance — Perfect as usual, thanks to Lt. L. McEachern who not only has a mind for figures, but a figure as well.

QM — once again recognized as a model QM throughout the Garrison.

On the social side, the Company held its first Annual Dinner, Lord Stanley's Feast — a tremendous evening had by all! Also in June we should mention our orienteering field trip to Lake Dalrymple where eighteen attended, the bass were biting.

In closing it would only be fitting to mention some of the successes we had with a rifle in hand — of course we refer to the ORA Shoot in May where our team of Lt. Williams, Warrant Senetchko, Sgts. Bennett and McNaughton — the best in Ontario! In addition, Warrant Senetchko and Lt. Williams both won trophies.

We congratulate Sgt. McNaughton on finally receiving his CD and all who participated for a successful training cycle.

CAPT A. WADSWORTH  
OC Vics Coy

## THE Q.O.R. of C ASSOCIATION

The spring and summer of 1980 following the grand Birthday Weekend 27/28 April, might very well have been anti climatic. Not so! In spite of limited activity during the summer months, the acceptance by the membership of an increase in our annual dues was most gratifying.

What a tremendous and enjoyable Regimental Dinner 26 April, 1980, while small short falls experience (of course a full statement was presented to the executive meeting early in November and the statement adopted showing a short fall of approximately \$200.00), it was a most rewarding and fun evening. Support by the regiment and all who served and who were associated with their families and friends, made the evening a tremendous success.

A memorial service, 11 November, at the Cross of Sacrifice, was much saddened by the absence of Bishop Wilkinson, who had for many many years taken part in this moving remembrance. Despite the inclement weather, regimental members, their families and children, were joined again by members of the public.

Our Birthday Dinner, 25 April 1981 planned for the Harbour Castle Hilton Hotel, unfortunately went adrift — the response was minimal as the established ticket prices combined, of course,

with individual expenses for an evening of this type, did not produce the numbers required to make it an effective evening and as such the Regiment and the Legion agreed that this function should be replanned. As a result a buffet dinner and dance was held at the Legion Quarters on Elm Street. Another good evening spent by all who were in attendance. In fact, the Legion was stressed to the limit. A very memorable evening.

A brand new meeting held in the afternoon of the same day, reviewed the minutes of the last General Meeting and received reports from the officers. The officers agreed to stand for another year (which is a delight as it adds continuity) and, of course, no nominations received from the floor and as such, 1981/82 year is as follows:

President	Ken Evans
Past President	Bill Ives
Vice President	John Power
Vice President	Joe Resnick
Secretary	Hugo Saudino
Treasurer	Harry Rollo
Auditors	Jim Kirkwood Art Gay

KEN EVANS  
President

### CHILLIWACK BRANCH

This year our 121st birthday reunion drew the biggest turnout yet, as each year the attendance increases as we are forever getting the addresses of old comrades.

We had a very enjoyable evening renewing acquaintances, dining and dancing. The toast to the Colonel-in-Chief was proposed by CWO Al McMillan and the toast to the Regiment was by Capt Jack Ryan. We had Branch #4 Legion drums do their "Drummers Call" led by Sgt Mike Foster, Cpl Reg Stennett, & Drummers Frank Froese, and Jamie MacDonald.

The following members were in attendance: John Miller WW 2, Bill Kowalchuk, Keith McCarthy, Lew Wiseman, Ed Bogan, Dave Rickman, Bill Kellett, Garnet Remple, Tim Reid, Ray Demeules, Frank Lacroix, Bob Rollman, Al McMillan, Fred

BOB FOSTER

## CALGARY BRANCH

The first function for 1980-81 was 'STAG NIGHT' held at Cooper Hall on the 18 October with 80 Riflemen and Guests present.

The Annual Birthday Dinner and Dance was held on the 24th April, 1981. This was held at Gloria's Bar-U (Old Lone Pine Club), with 150 members and guests present. The association gave special thanks to 'Freddie' the Chef at the Bar-U. If you'd seen the cake with the Q.O.R. of C hat badge and the way the salads were done as rifle ranges, all the other associations would probably want to come to Calgary for the next Birthday Dinner and Dance. By the way, all association members would be more than welcome to the 1982 Dinner and Dance to be held on the 25th of April, 1982, at the Bar-U.

The door prize was won by Morey Andrews and some new riflemen were seen. Bill Ligget of Calgary and Norm Wilkinson came from Edmonton. Vic Ramsbottom came all the way back from Florida just for the Birthday Ball. The Calgary Branch said good bye to Rocky Merrit who will be moving back to Nova Scotia.

The Calgary Membership also welcomed in the new executive:

President	Bert Pendlebury
1st Secretary	Jim Stoley
2nd Secretary	Bill Major
Treasurer	Ken Barrett
Entertainment	Len Lafont Don Marchand
P.R.	Don Corbett
Hon. Sec.	Paul Hughes

DON CORBETT





## THE REGIMENTAL SHRINE REPORT

Having received the Editorial 'prod' to get my article in this year, here goes -

We were all saddened by the untimely passing of LCol. Bill Wilson in January. Bill was a dedicated officer who put his all into everything he did. He will be missed by all who knew him. Our sincere condolences to the Wilson family.

The West Coast Black Net continues to thrive with two active branches of Association in Victoria and Chilliwack, and the informal group in the Greater Vancouver area who gather regularly at The Shrine. Out of town visitors to The Shrine since the last report have included such notables as Jane Kirby, Thelma Gordon, Don Pryer, Bill (Maj) Barnard, Bill Minnis, Jim MacKendrick, Glen and Eileen Munro, John and Audrey Saunders, Wally and Myrna Ratz, John and Maudie Doerksen, Bob and Doreen Whelan, Art and Jean Vanderford, and Peter Cowling (enroute home to Petawawa).

The following Skirmishers have been seen in passing, but were unfortunately unable to get out to The Shrine; Dick Cowling, Mick Brown, Charlie Belzile, Nick Pope, Ian Munro, Bill Carlton, Shiela Matthews, Jack and Vi Bush, Howard and Lorae McCabe (Zmean!), Pat Rogers, Laurie Johnson (Paymaster First Bn - now lawyer).

I received a very nice note recently from Mrs. Irene M. Kain who advised that her husband Joe passed away on 19 Nov 80 with a sudden heart attack in his sleep. Many of you will remember Joe who was RQMS of First Battalion in Germany 1960-63. Our sincere condolences to the Kain family. Irene is living in Kelowna, B.C.

Have heard from Dick Bamford who has settled in Lahr, Germany, where he has replaced Jeff Costeloe at HQ, CFE. Jeff is supposedly relocating somewhere on Vancouver Island but have heard nothing from him yet. Also haven't heard from Larry and Fran McCulloch who have moved to Fanny Bay on Vancouver Island.

Mike Carmichael continues the good life on Anguilla, West Indies and is forever looking for visitors. Hope to accommodate him someday, in the meantime, if any of you are in that area, look him up. Still nothing heard from



Chester Hendrick. Maybe one day he'll sail to Anguilla and we'll hear of him via Mike!

Must tell of a Christmas present I received from Christine (eldest daughter) in 1979. A hand hooked rug, 5 x 7 feet containing the Regimental Crest in Regimental colours! Naturally, I was delighted with it and it is prominently displayed in the family room.

Noteworthy events in Mountain clan since last report included marriage of youngest daughter Sandra in 1979 and birth of first grandchild in Feb 80! Tony lives with parents in Oromocto NB where we plan to visit this August. Tony is expecting a sister in Oct/Nov. Christine was married in Dec 80 to her long time boy friend, Terry. Linda is still single and planning to go back to school where she hopes to graduate as a chef. Guy got his pilots licence in Dec (yes, I've been up with him) and is currently working for a firm that makes custom made trucks and buses. Ev is still enjoying her accounting career and I have retired from the military for the second and last time, and I am dabbling in interior decorating on a part time basis. The mortgage on The Shrine was payed off last month so everything is looking great.

In closing, don't forget there is always a cool drink waiting for any thirsty Skirmishers who happen to be passing through this area.

Congratulations to the editorial staff of The Rifleman, you are doing a great job. Keep up the good work!

Best wishes to all Skirmishers, wherever you are, and remember -  
**'ONCE IN THE QUEEN'S OWN -  
 ALWAYS IN THE QUEEN'S OWN!!**

MAJOR BILL MOUNTAIN

## T-BONE AND LOBSTER TAILS

Only a Queen's Own could cater like this and that is precisely what WO Harry Finnis, Camp Services Supervisor for Nanisivak Mines Ltd., Baffin Island, N.W.T. offers to a workforce of 200 people as part of their menu in the High Arctic.

Harry, like so many others, chose to venture to Nanisivak (in Inuktitut language, translated means 'The Place Where People Find Things'); - a fast growing Frontier in the North Arctic where living means months of darkness or constant sunlight, surrounded by a desert of pack ice as far as the eye can see, temperatures as low as 40 below. Nanisivak is so far north, that if you want to see the Northern Lights, you look south - and that's a fact!

However, for people like Harry who live in Nanisivak, the Frontier is not forbidding. Despite the depths to which the temperatures can plunge, they have most of the urban comforts: warm clothes for winter and come summer can take the Lobster Boat over to a meadow on the other side of Strathcona Sound, walk among purple saxifrage, mountain avens, arctic willow, diaba bellii and yellow flowers like tiny buttercups and much more.

Would Harry change places with you? - No!, he enjoys it and continues to keep well.

NB: Maybe with a note to Harry he can find us a new winter training ground?

## CONGRATULATIONS!

The Editorial Staff and all members of the Regimental Family extend congratulations and best wishes to Clay Bell and his bride, Margery on their recent marriage, 19 November, 1980.

Clay and Margery left Toronto on 16 April for their new home:

3220 Salt Spring Avenue  
 Coquitlam, British Columbia

and in Clay's words, "a warm welcome is extended to anyone visiting British Columbia, and don't forget to write".



OFFICERS' ANNUAL LUNCHEON 1980



Maj Peter Fairclough, BGen Steve Andrunyk and LCol Bill Wilson.



The Subalterns

## THE SERGEANTS' MESS

It has been a busy year in the Mess, with many dinners, functions and a change of Regimental Sergeant-Major. The following brief report touches some of the highlights.

### Promotions

WO R' Chan to MWO, 8 Dec 80  
 Sgt G Norman to WO, 8 Dec 80  
 M/Cpl J Figa to Sgt, 01 Jun 80

### Change of RSM

A change of RSM parade was held in the Armoury on 16 November 1980 to honour CWO E.R.C. (Eric) Simundson, who took his commission as Captain in the Battalion and to celebrate the appointment of the incoming RSM, CWO H. (Harry) McCabe. The Mess presented Eric Simundson with a set of silver liqueur glasses.

We were especially pleased to see so many Associate Members turn out, including an illustrious gathering of former RSM's: WOI Dunk Green, WOI Fred Burroughs, WOI Rick Dory, WOI Jim Green, CWO Syd Byatt and CWO Mike Holland.

### New Year's Celebrations

The annual New Year's Eve party was well attended with all present welcoming in the new year in grand style. In the sobering light of the next dawn, Levee commenced under the auspices of Joe Resnick and Donny Mitchell who brewed up breakfast. As usual, Joe "blessed" the bacon! The turn out this year was the largest for many years.

### Children's Christmas Party

The Mess again hosted the Children's Christmas Party and Wine and Cheese Party. Santa Claus was on hand and roundly welcomed by all.

### Other Events

Other Mess functions included the Ladies' Night; the 98th Annual Dinner; the Aubrey Cosens, VC Dinner combined with our annual Corporal's Night; and a Lasagna Party.

WO Gerry Senetchko was a member of the first place team at the annual ORA/CMA trophy shoot.

Sgt Strath Crawford qualified Basic Parachutist in November 1980.

MWO R CHAN



## THE OFFICERS' MESS

The Officers' Mess enjoyed a highly successful year indeed!

While enjoying a slower paced fall season with only one Dining In evening, and of course our Annual Officers' Luncheon, as always saw many familiar faces reliving old times and discussing new, while at the same time the memories, and sad to say, some old friends and officers of our regiment were not able to join us — nor shall we see them again. The New Years Levee brought the New Year into life for the 'Red Eye' flowed freely serving brother officers from the Garrison, the R.C.M.I. (some feel the Red Eye is our ultimate secret weapon).

January was saddened by our sudden loss of our Commanding Officer Lt. Col. Bill Wilson — he left us at a 'fast

pace' but that's how we would like to believe he would have wanted it.

The Garrison Ball was our highlight in March with our usual penthouse suite at the Harbour Castle Hotel acting as our home and Mess for the evening. Many enjoyed the evening thoroughly and we saw many visitors.

Lt. Col. Bill Barnard (the junior) was 'Dined In' on the 24 April, 1981 by a full table of QOR officers including our Honorary Colonels, Col. H.E. Dalton and Lt. Col. J. Lake. We also said an official farewell to our USO Capt. Roy Goldick who has given the Battalion sterling advice and help during his tour of duty with us.

We continue to look forward to a full and busy schedule for the remainder of the year, no doubt we shall have it one way or another!

## BATTALION OFFICERS LISTING

Lt. Col. W. Barnard CD  
 Major P. Fairclough, CD  
 Major J. Whyte  
 Capt. R. Descotes  
 Capt. A. Wadsworth  
 Capt. E. Rayment (Adjutant)  
 Capt. H. Flood  
 Capt. G. Gresham  
 Capt. A. Hermant  
 Capt. E. Simundson  
 Lt. A. Champion  
 Lt. L. McEachern  
 Lt. B. McEachern  
 Lt. L. Matthews  
 Lt. R. Williams  
 2Lt. C. Straka  
 2Lt. M. Gagnier  
 2Lt. L. Hicks  
 2Lt. M. Southam  
 OCDT. S. Rolczewski  
 OCDT. W. Oustimovitch  
 Capt. J. Glaysher - Posted CMA  
 Capt. T.C. Heyes - Black Net, Ottawa  
 Major A. Schultz - Black Net, London  
 Lt. E. Gardner - Posted TMD



## THE BIG 2 CLUB

At the Annual Meeting in October, 1980, the following officers were elected for 1980/81:

President Richard Roy  
 V. President John Missons  
 Sec. Treasurer Jack Martin

Immed. Past Pres. Jim Kenn

Sick Committee:

East End Betty Toy  
 West End Tillie McLaughlin

Entertainment Committee:

Cliff McLaughlin  
 Jim Kenn  
 Peggy Gillanders  
 John Oliver

On the last Thursday of August, 1980, members, wives/friends (50 strong), gathered at Greenwood Raceway for a fun-filled evening of watching and playing the Trots. A scrumptious hot and cold buffet was available for at least

three hours. Marg Kingston and Connie Laffradi combined their talents to take the tractor on the last race. At least two couples went home without a barrel.

In October a group of thirty visited Niagara Falls and were hosted by the Chippawa Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. The fellow who put it together for us was a former QOR (WW.II) despatch rider et al, Ab McCrorie. Our short weekend visit included a tour of Bright's Wines in the afternoon, supper at one of Chippawa's most fashionable restaurants followed by a dance at the Legion that evening in our honour. Ab arranged for some ex-QOR's to be there to greet us and a local reporter covered the visit. Although the weekend was cold and wet, everyone enjoyed themselves.

Another function which followed soon after was our annual Christmas Party which is always well attended.

On the last Thursday in January, we once again visited Greenwood Raceway and had a mini-reunion, with people



Chippawa Legion Branch 396 played host over the weekend to members of the Queen's Own Rifles branch in Toronto. Talking over old times and new are, left to right, Jack Martin, past president of the Queen's Own Rifles Branch 344 and Amy Martin; Art Richardson, past president of the War Amputations Branch in Toronto and a member of the Queen's Own Rifles Branch and Ula Richardson; and Marion and Al McCrorie of the Chippawa Legion. Mr. McCrorie is a past president of the branch.

like Dick Ayton, Bill Ives, Frank Gaines, Arnold Norris, Art Richardson, Cliff McLaughlin, John Missons, Jim Hancock, Jack Martin, Dave Kingston, Bill Laffradi. Just to add a note of respectability, we had His Honour, Judge Paul Pickett along too. Of course, all the wives were in attendance also.

JACK MARTIN





## BRANCH 344 QOR OF C LEGION

On February 21, 1981, the branch gathered together for our annual honours and awards dinner; to take time out to remember and pay our respects to three new life members - Jack Finnimore, Bill Haworth and Harold Brazier.

To be accorded life membership in the Royal Canadian Legion is a rare signal honour, it calls for sincere dedication to the principles of the Legion, and is reflected in the time and effort put forward by these stirring members. Our warmest congratulations!

And, of course, for the record, we proudly list the names of all our distinguished life members - Frank Ball, Clay Bell, Dunc Green, James Kenn and Colin Pratt.

We also take the opportunity to recognize and acknowledge the outstanding contribution made by all of our past presidents; Dunc Green, John Missons, Jack Martin, Jim Kenn, Jack Higgins and Rolph Jackson.

According to the Good Book, the opportunity to do good is usually repaid ten fold within the lifetime, plus the Giver, in his giving, can derive personal satisfaction in knowing his contribution is being used for a good and beneficial purpose.

The previous preamble is the introduction to a simple request. Branch 344 has embarked on a renovation programme to improve our building facilities to provide better accommodations for your 'second home' downtown.

We would ask if you would please consider sending a donation, it would be very much appreciated by Branch 344, Queen's Own Rifles, 49 Elm Street, Toronto, 'Renovation Fund'.

GUS GOUTOUSKI

### REMINDER

When in Toronto, drop in to visit with old friends:

Branch 344  
Royal Canadian Legion  
49 Elm Street  
Toronto

See you soon!

## REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

Clayton Bell, a valued member of the museum committee, left on 14 April for permanent residence in Victoria, B.C. He will be greatly missed. For ten years he had donated his photographic expertise to the museum. As a parting gesture he gave several hundred negatives to the library.

A number of tours were given to various people. As well, help was given to those writing on war time topics in which The Queen's Own played some part. For example, Professor Pauwels, of Waterloo University, is preparing a volume on Canadians in Belgium. Marc de Waard is doing a Ph.D thesis on the part Canadians played in Holland, both from the military and the civil affairs standpoint.

Enquiries still come in regarding the service of QOR personnel, particularly in the Fenian Raid and the North West Rebellion. Help is also requested on a wide variety of topics, e.g. a full description of the Silverine Drum.

Mention has been made before of the excellent work done by Major Sampson as recruiting officer during W.W.I. Subsequently he went overseas himself and, later, became a citizen of the U.S.A. His interest in his old regiment never flagged. On his death a Union Jack was used as a pall. The flag was presented to the museum by Mrs. Sampson, a much appreciated gesture. It is now on display.

As new accessions arrived, certain exhibits were modified. Maintenance is an ever present problem. Pictures get off centre; new signs are required and so on. Recently, all framed photos and maps were cleaned and the back dust proofing checked and renewed where necessary. We have some 475 of these items. On several occasions, cigarette butts have been found behind display cases; deliberate or unthinking?

During this period several accessions were received. It is worth noting that every artifact the museum possesses has been donated. The new material covers a wide range; photos, nominal rolls, 1866 billeting records, old pay lists, press clippings, rifles, musical 1910 souvenir, uniforms, a busby, W.W.I issues of British Illustrated Weeklies and so on.

Attendance remains excellent. During the period of this report, 1 January to 15 June, the numbers are far greater than last year.

LCOL. W.T. BARNARD

## QOR CHAPTER IODE

This February, the QOR Chapter IODE marked its seventy-third year of continuous service to both the Regiment and its IODE commitments.

The outgoing Regent, Mrs. J. Neil Gordon, handed the gavel to Mrs. William T. Atkins, who was installed by Mrs. J.G. Spragge.

The closing of the Second Appearance Shop on Avenue Road last August, was a bitter blow to our financial structure, as this was our main source of income. In order to meet the many obligations we have undertaken, over the past years, particularly our sponsorship of the 1860 Cadets, we are hard put to come up with an equally profitable ongoing money raising plan for the future.

Our one successful project took place on 20 May when, together with the Royal Tour Chapter, we held a treasure sale in St. Leonard's Church. Our stock consisted of many items classified as treasures and white elephants which were saved and stored before we closed out the inventory of the shop. This actually turned out to be fairly profitable, rather fun, and quite touching when a great many of our old regular customers from Avenue Road attended the sale.

We have continued our sponsorship of the 1860 Cadets, and donations were made to the IODE Children's Hospital to assist in the purchase of a paediatric gastroscope, to CARD towards the purchase of a horse for the disabled, The Rifleman, the Pauline McGibbon Cultural Centre, IODE Services at Home and Abroad, Homestake House in Kenora, scholarship funds and education. Hospital visits to Sunnybrook were made during the year, and our QOR widow in England was again remembered at Christmas.

The Black Network is still effective! Through the last copy of The Rifleman, Dick Cullington, a QOR veteran now living in England, noticed the mention of our QOR widow in Wales and he has made extensive inquiries as to her need. We are now waiting for copies of enlistment and service records from Ottawa, and when these are forthcoming, the Canadian Veteran's Association in England will be in a position to grant her some assistance.

MARIE DALTON

## DISTRICT COMMANDER'S REPORT



Toronto Militia District, which I have the privilege to command, is the largest in Canada and comprises the many Militia units resident in Toronto, Oshawa, Aurora, Belleville and Peterborough, including: the Governor General's Horse Guards, the Ontario Regiment, the Queen's York Rangers, 7th Toronto Regiment, 2 Field Engineer Regiment, the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment, the Royal Regiment of Canada, the 48th Highlanders, the Toronto Scottish Regiment, 25 Service Battalion and 25 Medical Company.

At present, TMD is commanded by a former QOR CO. The District is under

command of Central Militia Area, commanded by BGen Bill Paterson and formerly commanded by BGen Steve Andrunyk. CMA is under command of Force Mobile Command, whose new commander is LGen Charlie Belzile. All of which proves the Black Net continues to flourish!

I know that all members of the Queen's Own will join me in congratulating Lieutenant-General Charles Belzile on his recent promotion and appointment. His record of service with the QOR is exemplary and he has brought considerable understanding of the Militia's needs and importance to his new tasking.

As Commander, I congratulate the Queen's Own on an outstanding performance over the past year, earning the Major-General George Kitching Trophy as best infantry unit in Central Militia Area and taking top honours in the annual District inspection. The Battalion attained the highest point total not only for overall excellence in its administration and training, but also top scores in the Tests of Elementary Training (TOET's) given to randomly selected soldiers and officers.

Competitive shooting continues to be a high point of Battalion activities. Congratulations go to Lt Ross Williams, WO Gerry Senetchko, MCpl Steele and Rfn Cameron, who beat out 40 other teams to take first place honours at the Spring Ontario Rifle Association matches.

On a sadder note, the District is the poorer for the loss of LCol Bill Wilson, who did so much to strengthen the Battalion. At summer camp, DRUMCON 80, Bill personally commanded a full-strength battalion during the District Commander's final two-day Field Training Exercise. The battalion was made up of individual companies from the Royal Regiment, the 48th, the Toronto Scottish, the H&PER and the Queen's Own. Bill received his orders for this defensive exercise in January, 1980, and carefully planned all phases of the recce, occupation, defensive fire planning, counter-penetration and possible withdrawal of his battalion group. That the exercise was conducted with precision and dispatch was certainly a fitting tribute to Bill's many years of military expertise. Such sterling effort and leadership will be sorely missed throughout the Garrison.

In closing, I would be remiss to omit mention of other honours earned by the District. 7th Toronto Regiment of Artillery won top Militia artillery unit in Canada. The Governor-General's Horse Guards took honours as best Militia armoured unit in Canada. So the Queen's Own are in good company and will continue to be pressured to achieve excellence in the years ahead. All of which makes the task of commanding the District the more rewarding.

COLONEL DON PRYER  
Commander  
Toronto Militia District



the Military Band, our programme of re-equipping them will be complete. As anyone who has seen them will attest, they look great. In addition to Battalion parades, the bands have played at the Garrison Ball, Queen's Park (several times), the Santa Claus Parade, Grey Cup Parade, Ontario Place, Fort York and many other events too numerous (as they say) to mention. What it all boils down to is the bands are very active and as expected, keeping the Regiments name in the public eye.

In this article I've only hit a few of the high spots. Time and space do not permit me to go into detail on all the so called routine soldiering, but that is the meat and potatoes side of things that makes it all possible. In the last year we did three range weekends, two battalion exercises and the rifle companies did between four and five exercises each. Throw in a winter exercise and you have a busy nine month Fall to Spring training cycle.

The summer was also busy with a summer recruit course and Battalion personnel attending courses from Chilliwac, British Columbia to Aldershot,

New Brunswick and points in between. Join the army and see the country is no idle jest. The emphasis this year was on trade and promotion courses, as opposed to summer camp. Many people can only afford two or three weeks off each summer, so we decided this year the time should be spent on individual advancement. Even with the change of emphasis, over 60 unit members attended camp for the last two weeks of August. You remember the two weeks of rain. Actually we ended up with about three or four good days, but even with the bad weather, no ones spirits were dampened. Camp this year was at CFB Borden, and for my money, it was a well run and interesting camp. While there was no large scale exercise at the end, there was a good deal of varied and interesting training at the individual, section and platoon level. Training stands included a counter attack exercise and watermanship training. Our men had a good mix of tough work and off days and ended up with what the whole camp thought was the best stand — watermanship. This involved assault boat training, individual floatation, use

of rope bridges and a commando slide (or 'slide for life' as it was popularly known). It looked like this was an officially sanctioned water fight and immensely enjoyed by all. A unit party closed the camp and I'm still trying to figure out how fifty riflemen disposed of 150 hamburgers, 8 cases of beer, steaks, two hayboxes of potatoes and 4 cases of pop with no apparent side effects and only nominal assistance from the officers and senior NCO's. At any rate, all returned home safe and sound and glad to be back.

That is pretty much the year in review, and all indications are that the coming year holds just as many challenges. I am confident the Battalion will meet those challenges and continue to succeed. An important part of our success is the continuing support we get from the other branches of the Regimental family, and I would just like to say thank you and keep up the good work.

LCOL. W.J. BARNARD  
Commanding Officer



## PARACHUTE WEEK

Major Peter Fairclough took a detachment of Queen's Own plus four Upper Canada Cadets to Gananoque for a weeks jumping at the civilian airport near that city.

The weather was absolutely amazing for March, and for the complete week of March 23rd to March 27th jumping was carried out very successfully.

Nearly all the members, and there were 31 in the detachment, were able to get in 6 jumps, and 3 of the 4 Upper Canada Cadets got their 'wings'.

A great many members of the Queen's Own, to everybody's amazement, got to the free fall class, including Rifleman Schneider, who, at 29 years of age, was the oldest member of the contingent, and he did a 25 second free fall from 7,500 feet.

One of the highlights was a free fall done by Lt. Leigh McEachern who, after opening her chute, hit a thermal updraft and hung over the airport neither going up nor down for approximately 6 minutes. There was some talk that eventually she would have to be shot down. The writer thought this was rather spectacular,

but other members who were waiting to jump thought that this was a delaying tactic on the part of Lt. McEachern. There were approximately 140 jumps made with only one minor injury, to Cpl McAdam who sprained her ankle.

It was also interesting that Sgts. Crawford and Bamlett advised the writer that they found the civilian jumping much more exciting than the military course that they took when they qualified for their military 'wings'.

The enthusiasm of The Queen's Own

members who attended was contagious, and the conduct of all ranks, both at the jumping school and in Kingston, where they were billeted, was outstanding.

The civilian instructors advised the writer that the number of jumps accomplished was amazing, as was the fact that the students progressed so quickly to free falls in a great many cases.

The programme has proved so popular that it will be continued.

COLONEL H.E. DALTON

The Regimental Trust Fund was established under the laws of Canada on September 1st, 1959. The primary objective of the Trust Fund was to establish Regimental Funds exclusively for the efficiency, welfare, and well-being of the Regiment and its members. These Regimental Funds would be donated to the Trust Fund either by way of legacy, bequest, gift, or financial contributions in Trust.

The first official meeting of the Trust Fund was held on the 11th day of November 1959 in the officers mess on University Avenue Armories. The initial order of business was to elect a board of trustees and set-up a bank account for donations. Brig J.G. Spragge, was elected President. The two Vice Presidents were, Colonel Jim Strathy and L/Col Roly Harris. Captain Stan Biggs, who was instrumental in setting-up the Trust Fund, was elected Secretary and Legal Council. Captain H.T. Johnston was elected Treasurer with the power to set-up the bank account.

Under the Trust Agreement, Colonel Baptist Johnston, was elected ex-officio Trustee without entitlement to vote, but by virtue of his office, as Colonel of the Regiment, he was the person to whom all the other Trustees of the Fund were bound to carry out the objectives of the Fund.

Some of the trustees elected at the time were Major General John A. Gunn, Colonel Reginald Pellatt, Lt/Col His Honour Ian M. MacDonnell, Lt/Col Charles Dalton, Lt/Col Charles Lithgow, Lt/Col Bob Bickford, Lt/Col Charles Bradshaw, Major Edward Dunlop, Major Bob Kenly, Lieutenant Jack Crean, WO1 Duncan Green and CQMS Dave Giffen.

In the first instance the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust Fund was established to raise funds (\$15,000.) which were largely spent to defray the cost of the One Hundredth Anniversary of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada which was celebrated on April 26th, 1960. At the termination of the Centennial celebrations, it was deemed appropriate that this was the time for the Trust Fund to commence operations on a continuing basis — to create a living endowment for the Regiment.

During the first three years of the Trust Fund many other projects were approved for the enhancement of the Regiment. They are as follows;

## ORIGIN OF THE QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES OF CANADA TRUST FUND

- A. A set of silverine Drums embellished with the Regimental Crest and battle honours for each of the three battalions. Each Battalion agreed to contribute \$1,000., from its own funds for a total of \$3,000.
- B. New Silver Bugles and Tenor Drums for the Third Battalion.
- C. A portrait in oils of the Colonel-in-Chief HRH Princess Alexandra of Kent.
- D. Reproductions of the portraits of Gen Sir William Otter, Maj-Gen Sir Henry Pellat and Lt/Col William Smith Durie for the barrack block at the home station, Calgary, Alberta.
- D. Assistance to the Third Battalion on furnishings and decorating of the Officers, Sergeants messes as well as the Mens Canteen, in new Moss Park Armories.
- E. Assistance to the Regimental Museum committee in transferring the Regimental Museum from Calgary to Casa Loma in Toronto.

The Regimental Trust Fund has now been established for over twenty-one years and meets approximately twice a year in Toronto to carry out the objectives of the Trust.

The most recent meeting of the Trust Fund was held on the 30th day of June, 1981 in the Officers Mess, Moss Park Armories and the following Trustees were present:

The Trustees estimated that over the next few years the Trust Fund would require an annual budget of from \$3-4,000., to finance numerous projects designed to promote Regimental esprit de Corps. These funds would be over and above that which could be obtained by the three battalions and the Regimental depot. The first Battalion was then stationed at Workpoint Barracks, Victoria B.C. The second Battalion at Currie Barracks, Calgary, Alberta. The Third Battalion at University Avenue Armories Toronto.

From 1961 on funds for the Regimental Trust Fund have been used for various Regimental projects some of which are;

- A. Maintenance of the cross of sacrifice at Saint Pauls Anglican Church Toronto.
- B. Enlargement and maintenance of the Regimental Books of Remembrance.
- C. The establishment of a memorial Cairn at Berniere-Sur-Mer to commemorate the landing on D-Day of Queen's Own Rifles of Canada.

BGen Steve Andrunyk; L/Col W.T. Barnard, curator of the Regimental Museum at Casa Loma; Captain H.T. Johnston better known as "Johnny" and the first Treasurer of the Trust Fund; Colonel Don Pryer, Commander, Toronto Militia District and L/Col John Strathy, President of the Trust Fund. Also in attendance was our new Commanding Officer L/Col Bill Barnard who was present by invitation and as ex-officio the Honourary Colonel, Elliot Dalton. During the meeting the Commanding Officer reported the activities of the Regiment to the trustees during 1981 and indicated his Regimental requirements regarding financial contributions from the Trust Fund.

The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust Fund is a registered Federal charity and the Treasurer L/Col Moore Jackson would gladly send a receipt for Income Tax purposes to any of our Regimental family who wish to contribute to the fund.

LCOL JOHN STRATHY



## CANADIANS IN HAND TO HAND FIGHTING NEAR KEPPELN, BRUSSELS

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In the splendid edition of "The Rifleman", 1980, you very kindly used, under the heading: "Dateline: Europe, 1944", an article I wrote for "The Maple Leaf", the Canadian Army newspaper of World War II. Please find enclosed another article directed to the same publication which I think your readers may also find of interest.

"The Central Ontario Regiment" referred to in the article is, of course, the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada. It was in this action that Sgt Aubrey Cosens won a posthumous Victoria Cross. As the citation for this award had just been forwarded to the appropriate office, I was unable to include any reference to the story in my article for fear of prejudicing the recommendation.

The date of the action was 26 February 1945 and the story was filed a few days later. I can not give the exact date of publication since, as I explained last year, my personal copies of the paper were destroyed during the flooding that accompanied Hurricane Hazel in 1954.

Just to set the record straight, in the introduction to last year's article, you referred to me as: "...a former Intelligence Officer attached to the QOR.". Actually, I am a QOR officer who served as Intelligence Officer of the Battalion from January to August, 1944. It was in October, 1944, that I was posted to the #3 Public Relations Group.

All of us in the Regiment should be very grateful to you and the others responsible for publishing The Rifleman. Keep up the good work.

ROBERT C. RAE

Ed note . . .

It gives me pleasure to be able to clarify Lt Rae's Regimental status and to include his excellent article in this year's edition. Such material helps bring our Regimental history to life, especially for the younger members, and I would welcome any future contributions from Rob or any of the other veterans of Regimental action.

Fighting as they had never fought before, in true story book fashion, a famous Central Ontario Regiment broke a key German position to unleash the surge that is now engulfing the Hochwald. Battling for a strip of territory, about two thousand yards north of Keppeln, which encompassed three important roads emanating from that centre, the Canadians, after a day long struggle, finally smashed savage German resistance and firmly held the hard won ground.

The attack jumped off at 0430 hours and ten minutes later 'C' Company, led by Major O.A. Nickson, Montreal, and 'D' Company, commanded by Major B.J. Dunkelman, Toronto, signalled that the initial objective had been reached. Early optimism was soon dispelled though as silence blanketed the wires for the next hour as these sub-units fought savage hand-to-hand encounters along the battalion front. The crafty enemy had lain low as our supporting tanks rolled forward, and then ferociously manned their posts as the infantry approached. This was primeval combat, men locked together in mortal battle with bayonets, swords and knives flashing in artificial moonlight, and where elbow room was scarce, clawing hands and clenched fists became the only weapons usable. It was dirty fighting, too, with Huns raising hands in 'Kamerad' manner and then hurling grenades from their upraised fists at the oncoming Canadians.

Then with the Keppeln-Schwanenhof road in Canadian hands, 'A' and 'B' Companies sprang forward in the second phase of the offense. The man-to-man desperate struggle was renewed. Germans lurking in slit trenches and in the cellars of farm buildings had to be dragged from their lairs, or the Canucks had to go in to despatch them. All the infantry of a Hollywood battle became real, as German and Canadian faced each other across the shattered earth and shot it out until one or the other fell.

'Able' Company, under the command of Major R.D. Medland, Toronto, met savage resistance amongst a group of farm buildings at the right edge of their objective. Before the attack could be pressed home, flame throwers, machine guns and self propelled anti-tank guns

had to swing into action. Then into the crumbling ruins the Canadians charged to batter and best the fierce defenders. When the action had been completed, the Nazi toll read 65 killed, 65 captured and 11 wounded in our hands. 'Baker' Company on the left overcame frenzied opposition as they achieved their goal under the leadership of Capt. D.B. Hamilton.

The original attacking force now 'leap-frogged' over their comrades and the gory battle raged on. From 0430 hours in the morning until the evening shadows lengthened, the grim business of ousting the Nazis from their earth and cellar strong holds continued. When the exhausted Central Ontario Regiment finally had the day won, the battle field with its torn, shattered surface bore mute testimony to the wild storm that had raged throughout the day. More than 300 Germans had paid the price for their unholy war and a like number were prisoners of war. Surveying this wild, unbelievable scene it is small wonder that D-Day veterans state: "this was the toughest scrap of all". "It was real man-to-man combat in a desperate struggle for life."

The goal was achieved. The German grip of this vital point was shattered, and fresh Canadian troops hurtled forward to the edge of the Hochwald.

Every man, whether veteran or reinforcement, played a noble role in the bitter struggle; the deeds of a few serve only to illustrate the fighting pitch achieved by all ranks. Rifleman 'Red' Barber, Toronto, was a 'One-man blitz' in the words of his officers. This staunch Canadian employed weapons and fists in battering his way through the German positions. Rfn. M.J. (Mark) Paradis crossed the lead-swept ground time and again to guide supporting tanks in the darkness to their area of battle. Lieut. Lloyd McKay, Toronto, led three counter attacks which upset and disorganized enemy assaults. Despite wounds, he climbed on a tank to direct fire to disperse the oncoming Huns. The deeds of these few are only selections from the numerous stories of bravery by which this famed regiment again fulfilled its appointed task.

LIEUT. BOB RAE  
3 P.R. Group

and their mounts were all well fed and very regular. It takes a little shine off the honour when you have to trudge through five miles of 'road apples'. We had a grand time, however, met old friends and made many new ones and we were thoroughly worn out and ready to come home at the end of our weeks stay.

The following weekend was our annual Remembrance Day Church Parade, and as usual we marched to St. Pauls and back to the armoury. On our return, a change of Honorary Lieutenant Colonels was held with Barney Danson turning over the sword of office to Jack Lake. As always we go from strength to strength and while its difficult to say farewell to a man of Barney's calibre, I know Jack will carry on in the finest tradition. Our numbers on parade were a bit slim, but this was due to operational requirements. That same weekend Central Militia Area was running the Annual Infantry Competition. In addition to the team, we were also asked to provide administrative support to help run the exercise and also some directing staff to act as judges. The competition is a test of soldiering skills that runs from weapons, radio, first aid, map using and tactics to physical fitness, and involves all 22 infantry units in CMA. Our team, under the leadership of Sgt. Strath Crawford, came first and won the Kitching Trophy as best unit in CMA. The team arrived back in time to march the trophy to the reception in the Officers' Mess and receive several well earned free issues.

All the traditional events of the holiday season were observed beginning with the Men's Christmas Dinner. Over 130 sat down to dinner and as usual the men had to put up with the officers serving the meal (I personally had my thumbs in about 20 peoples mashed potatoes) and the sergeants spilling wine in their laps. The event was judged a rousing success by all parties and ran well on after the usual closing hour. Levee on the first of January was the usual test of fortitude and stamina, but well attended and a tradition is alive and well in the Toronto Garrison.

Not long after we had the terrible shock of the passing of Bill Wilson. The turnout for the funeral was huge, and a real tribute to Bill. As I mentioned earlier, Bill left me with a unit in good shape and I think the successes of the year speak volumes about the ground work he laid.



Sgt Crawford accepts the Kitching Trophy for Top Unit in CMA from the Area Commander BGen Patterson.

In February we had the annual district administrative inspection where every facet of our operation is examined with a fine tooth comb. Transport, QM, Pay, Recruiting, Training, Orderly Room, Finances and Messing are all scrutinized for errors or omissions. This is primarily a test of the efficiency of the BOR staff, Training Office and Vics Company, and once again we stood first in the District over 11 other units.

Shortly after the District Inspection, the Battalion had a visit by the Area Commander, B.Gen. Bill Patterson. The General was visiting each District in CMA, and wanted to time his visit to see a unit on its training night. The training staff laid on a real 'dog and pony' show with indoor range practices, 106 gun drills, section tactics, sword (bayonet) drills and some officer/senior NCO training. It was a successful night and the General enjoyed himself and was suitably impressed.

There was more good news after the Ontario Rifle Association spring matches. Our team stood first overall in a 41 team competition. As always, Lt. Ross Williams, and WO Gerry Senetchko anchored the team, but its particularly encouraging to report men like MCpl

Steele and Rfn. Cameron are pushing hard at their heels. The general level of shooting in the Battalion has risen appreciably and this past year we've qualified more marksmen and first class shots than any year in recent memory. Shooting skill is the cornerstone of a good infanteers training and even more so in a rifle regiment. We are not the best overall now, but we are working in that direction.

A spin off benefit of the improved shooting was a jump in our scores for the Sir Casimir Gzowski Competition. This is the national competition for the best infantry unit and is based on a complicated scoring system that assesses units on strength, retention, support to Regular Force, shooting and qualification of personnel. In the past we have scored 100% on qualifications and support to Regular Force, but have had mixed results in other areas. This year we improved our score by 100 points (the total possible is 1000) and the majority of this was attributable to our improved shooting results.

As always both the Military and Bugle Bands had a busy year. We finally got proper ceremonial uniforms for both bands and once we get busbies for



## COMMANDING OFFICER'S REPORT



In the year since the last Rifleman we've had many high spots, a few disappointments and some sad moments. This is my first opportunity to report to you all as commanding officer, and I must say my feelings of omnipotence or infallibility have been tempered by events of the past few months. Fortunately the quality of personnel in the Battalion is such that they can be depended upon to make up any of the CO's omissions (however trivial).

For those of you who hadn't heard, I assumed command unexpectedly after the tragic death of Bill Wilson in January of this year. Bill was a fine man, a first rate soldier and he left a Battalion that was in all respects, in good shape and improving.

In fact the 80/81 training year was one of our most successful in recent years. We've finally got our hands on the 106 mm anti tank guns that have been promised for some time. This is a good piece of kit, and puts us in a position to offer our Riflemen a different and exciting type of training. We have already run one trade level 2 course and are gearing up for a second course this fall. The men really enjoy working with the guns, and its a great 'hands on' training vehicle. By way of explanation, the 106 is a recoilless gun that uses a 60 cal spotting rifle to range in on targets. Once you get a hit with the spotting rifle, the main armament is fired. A definition of a depressing moment is a tanker sitting in his \$500,000

tank and hearing a 'ping' on the turret, knowing the 'boom' is not far behind it. One draw back with the 106 was the need to go all the way to Meaford to actually fire it, but Cpl. Alexander of the Battalion decided this could be overcome. In the true rifles tradition of 'using your own nut', he designed and produced a 22 cal insert for the spotting rifle that allows us to use the 106 on our indoor range. I think this is just super, and with people like Cpl. Alexander in the unit, you know who's number one.

Another exciting event this past year was the Queen's Own Jump Course for experienced and novice parachutists. For the past year or so, the Regular Force need for jumpers has been such that no openings were available to the Militia. We've a fair number of trained jumpers, but many more were looking for their wings. Col. Elliot Dalton decided this problem could be overcome with the help of the Regiment, and so it was. The Regiment sponsored 24 members of the Battalion and four Upper Canada College Cadets to go to the Gananoque Sport Parachute Centre to take a civilian jump course. The centre is a first rate installation and is run by the chap who coaches the Canadian National Jump Team. The programme lasted a week and the participants were graciously provided accommodation by the PWOR in their armoury. By all reports it was a great success and we hope to repeat it in the spring of '82.

An event that excited me as CO, come DCO, was the addition to our pay budget this year of extra funds. If you recall in last years Rifleman, I wrote about too many people chasing too few dollars. Well the situation reversed and for the first time in my service career we got additional funding. It may have been a one shot deal, but it meant we could continue training unabated, without asking anyone to work for free. I should point out that in all cases, save one, the ceiling on paid days can be extended for personnel who put in more than the 60 days per year allowed. The one exception, of course, is the CO. I assume this means the CO is such a good organizer he doesn't need more than 60 days to run his unit.

I would also like to pass on my compliments to the Regular Force Support Staff posted to the Battalion. The best thing I can say is that except for their cap badges, they are members of the unit, and work that way. We recently bid farewell to Captain Roy Goldik (RCR) who was posted to CFB London after a three year stint. Roy claimed he needed a rest. Taking over from Roy is Captain Tony Staciwicz (PPCLI) and Tony is taking up where Roy left off. The rest of our staff, WO T. Battram, Sgt. W. Frain and Cpl. R. Carty are unchanged and continue to do yeomen service for the unit.

As a unit, the Battalion is ticking along nicely with the two rifle companies, Buffs and 60th, training hard and Vics providing all the necessary support on the administrative side. With the arrival of the 106's a few changes have been made to the organization of the rifle companies. Buffs will now provide one trained rifle platoon and conduct all recruit and trade level 1 training. 60th will provide one trained platoon as well, and we are setting up a 'support platoon' with two detachments of 106 (4 guns) and a sniper section. In the future we will be organizing a Recce detachment and perhaps a section of pioneers. Numbers permitting additional rifle platoons will be added to the company structures, but with current manning levels permitted, this is difficult to achieve without robbing Peter to pay Paul.

For what I believe is the first time the Regiment was distinguished by a request to send a contingent to participate in the Lord Mayors Show in London, England. This parade on the first Saturday in November, is the official installation of the Lord Mayor. Colonel Sir Ronald Gardner-Thorpe, GBE, TD, an ex Buff, is this years Lord Mayor and he requested contingents from The Queen's Regiment (perpetuating the Buffs), the Danish Life Guards (allied with the Buffs) and ourselves, to act as an escort to his coach. The parade is an impressive spectacle involving 150 contingents covering a mile and a half and proceeding over a route of five miles. Everyone from the Kelly Girl Service to the Worshipful Company of Fanmakers to the Scots Guards is represented. Serial 119 was the Officers of the QOR of C, Elliot Dalton, Jack Lake, RSM (now Capt) Eric Simundson and myself. Our only problem was that serials 1 - 118 all seemed to be mounted

## REGIMENTAL UNIFORM PLATES

### LAST ISSUE — 1866

In the last issue we began with the year 1866, the year of 'Ridgeway'. Until 1863 the uniforms worn by the Companies are those adopted when they were formed as independent Companies. 1863 saw the adoption of the authorized Rifle Volunteers uniform. The figure of the Rifleman on the left illustrates this in all its simplicity.

British military uniforms had undergone severe changes since the trauma of the Crimean War. Gone were the tight jackets and foppery of the early 19th Century replaced by the more utilitarian tunics and low shako inspired by the French army of Napoleon III.

The Regiment was armed at this time with the 1853 pattern Enfield rifled musket. This weapon was a muzzle loading .577 percussion rifle, perhaps the zenith of military muzzle loaders. The pattern 53 was purchased by the Canadian commission and sent to England in 1856 and was the standard arm of the Canadian Militia until 1867, when the Spencer repeating rifle was adopted for a brief time.

The captain in the centre displays all the traditional features of the Rifles. He is wearing the frog tunic with the rank badges on the collar as worn at this time. The sword belt was still worn over the tunic at this time but was soon placed under it to save wear on the expensive frogging. This uniform shows some of the influences of the Royal Canadian Rifles, a British regiment raised for service in Canada, such as double stripes on the trousers.

The buglers in the Regiment served as signallers in the days before radios. Unlike the line regiments, his uniform differed very little from the ordinary rifleman's. Bugler's pattern cord is sewn to the sleeve seams and wings on the shoulders mark his function.

In addition it seems the buglers and bandsmen wore a hanging horse hair plume on the shako, a not uncommon practice in British regiments of the time. From pictorial evidence, it appears the bandsmen wore a red plume.

The short sword is the 1856 drummer's sword; not the proper Rifle Regiment model, but like the long Enfield Musket issued by the government.

### THIS ISSUE — 1877

During the long threat of the Fenian years, the Department of Militia attempted to blunt the move toward more costly uniforms by introducing a new standard uniform which was more practical and economical. This new tunic was in serge instead of cloth and cut like the popular Norfolk jacket. The Queen's Own adopted this uniform and wore it through the mid 70's.

Officer's uniforms remained as ornate as ever and in fact continued a trend to a more stylish and fancier cut. Some items of uniform remained in vogue after the 60's and the winter patrol jacket was one which slowly died out in the latter years of the decade. (Due to high cost, no doubt). It was fogged and laced as for the tunic but was edged all round with black persian lamb. Obviously a very warm if not fancy jacket.

In this period the round forage cap was discarded in favour for a Glengarry pattern cap complete with ribbons.

The year 1870 saw the introduction of the Rifles busby in seal skin for the men and persian lamb for the officers. This followed the adoption of the busby in the Kings Royal Rifle Corp with whom the regiment was now authorized to wear the same patterns of dress.

The busby was acquired slowly due to cost and the bands were completed first, the whole regiment being completed by 1873.

During this period, the short Snider Enfield Rifle was taken into service replacing the Spencer repeating rifle. This would continue as the issue arm until 1895.

The Colour Sergeant, though a seemingly odd name for Rifles NCO, was the senior non commissioned officer in a Company. He combined roles of CSM, CQMS and Pay Sergeant; a very busy fellow indeed. His badge of rank worn on the right arm was a standard Rifle Regiment badge consisting of; cross sword-bayonets over a stringed bugle surrounded by a crown and then all surrounded by a laurel wreath worked in black silk and highlighted by scarlet silk worn over a single stripe. (Very ornate indeed). Three stripes were worn over the left arm.

To this day, CQMS in the Royal Green Jackets are called 'Colour-Sergeants'.

Also in 1874, officers' and sergeants' cross belts were authorized to have enamelled crosses; black for the officers, scarlet for the sergeants. Previously they had been plain silver on bronze metal. This continues to this day.

The musician wears the same uniform as the regiment with the addition of red cord on the seams, wings and red cord and the bandsmans sword. He also wears a music pouch on a narrow cross belt.

The swords were purchased by the regiment and for the band since the band was supported by the officers of the regiment by subscription. The pattern is identical with the type that was in use by the British army in the 1830's. With its brass lions-headed hilt and slim blade, it is a very elegant side arm indeed, though it does not seem to have been worn for a long period of time. An example can be seen in the Buglers' Mess in Toronto.

The 1870's was a growth period for The Queen's Own and saw the regiment established as one of the leading Militia Units in Canada. Many trips were taken around Ontario by rail to reviews, camps and field days and the relationship with the Victoria Rifles in Montreal was established in this era.

Certainly it was not all parades and band concerts, for the Fenian scare died slowly and the regiment sent volunteers to the Red River Expedition as well as having numerous requests for aid to the Civil Power, such as the wintery confrontation in 1877 at Belleville for the Grand Trunk Railway riots.

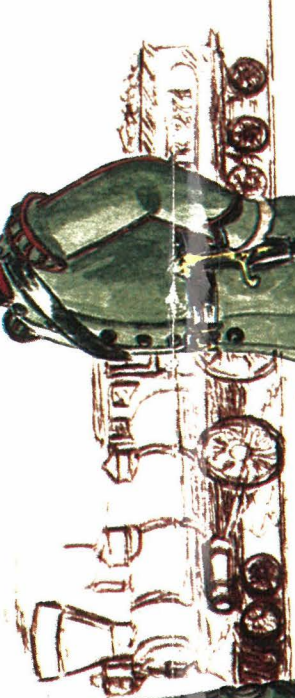
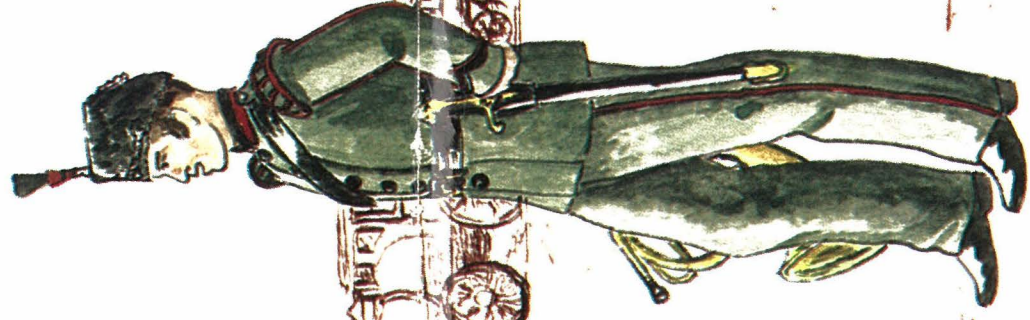
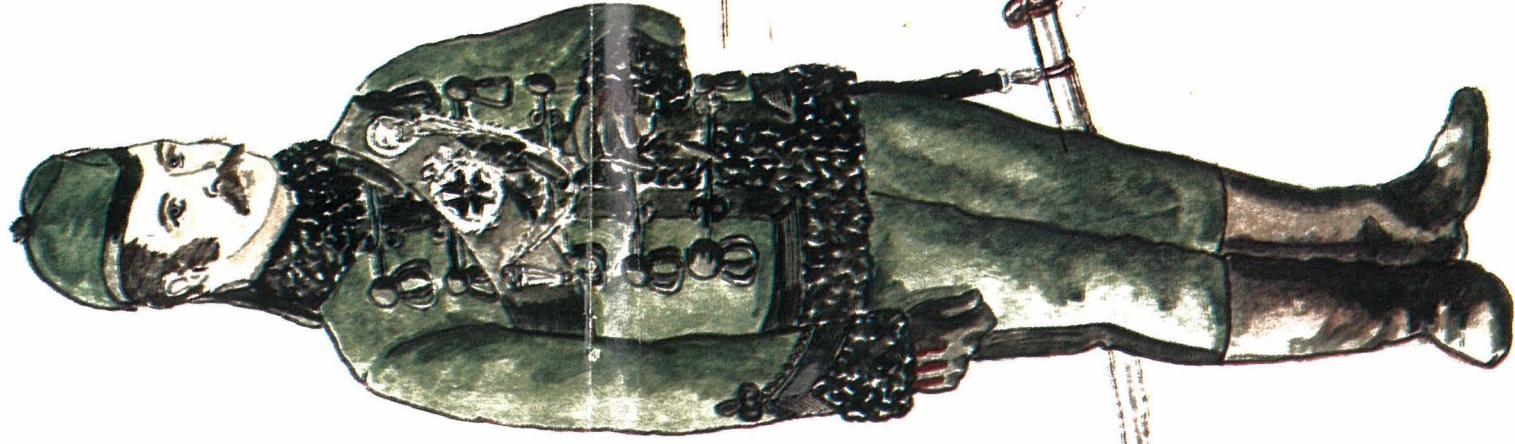
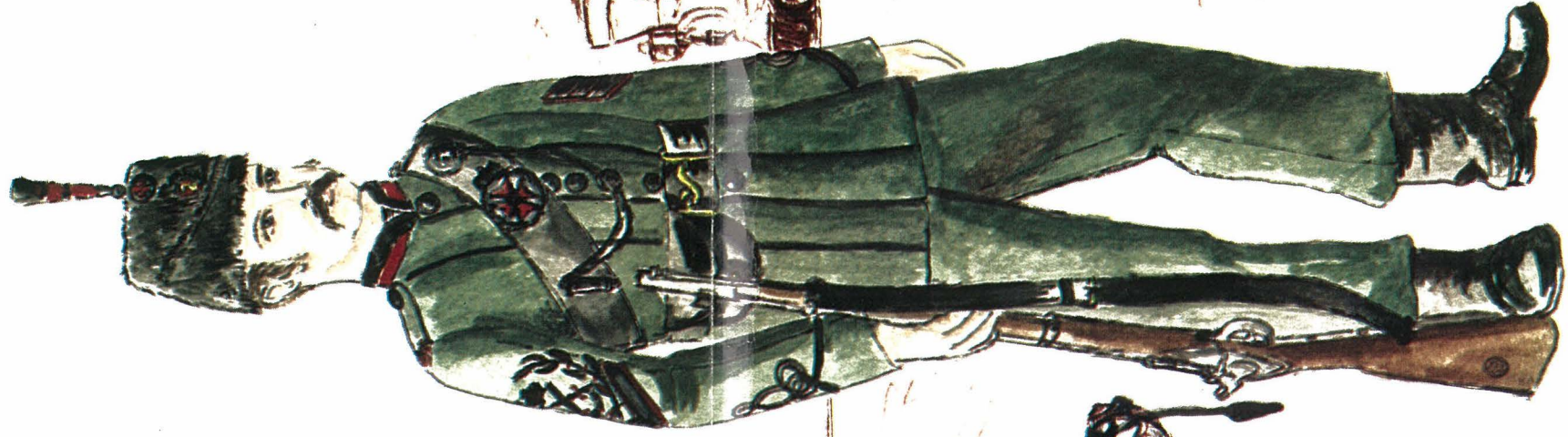


The series of uniform plates that began in the last issue of The Rifleman is intended to illustrate the dress of the Regiment throughout its history, and highlight some of the peculiar items that were taken into use, from time to time.

Other than Colonel W. Barnard's details in his outstanding history, no effort has been made by any in the Regiment to catalogue and publish the uniforms adopted by this Regiment. Even though our history spans one hundred and twenty one years, many questions are unanswered and misconceptions have arisen regarding equipment and uniforms.

CAPT ERIC SIMUNDSON





*Edwin Jones*  
1877

1877