



1985 VOL. 3 NO. 2

The Rifleman

A Journal of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada





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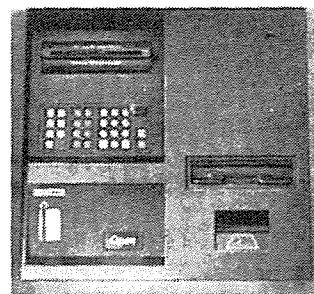
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The Rifleman



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EDITORIAL

We are delighted to present another issue of your journal, 'The Rifleman', which, this year, marks the Regiment's 125th Anniversary. It is also the first time since the inception of 'The Rifleman' in July, 1978, that with a submission from the Junior Ranks Mess, all members of our Regimental Family are now represented.

The Editorial Staff are pleased to announce the appointment of Major Kenneth Bowles, CD as our new Assistant Editor. Ken served in the British Forces during and after WWII, immigrated to Canada in 1949 and served with the Governor Generals Foot Guards from 1953, retiring in 1978 with the rank of Major.

Since retiring from the Department of Veterans Affairs last year, Major Bowles has been appointed to the Board of Governors of the Centennial College and the Arts & Historical Board of East York. He is also a member of the Royal Canadian Military Institute and the Coldstream Guards Association, Canada. His dedication and enthusiasm as our Assistant Editor has been of tremendous help to us all and we are pleased to welcome him aboard.

Over the years we have enjoyed sharing Lt. Bob Rae's memoirs which evidently this year prompted Lt. Col. Barney Danson to write of his early days in the Regiment which he entitled 'Once Upon a Time'.

In this issue we have introduced a new feature 'Were You There?' which we sincerely hope will encourage many of you to write and share your memoirs/experiences with us for publication in our next issue. Remember, this is your journal and only through contributions can we continue to make it a success, so please, let us hear from you and if you have a photograph or two, all the better.

This past year was a very full and exciting year for the Regiment and of course for many members of our Regiment. A few highlights of this were:

— Our Managing Editor, Captain Adam B.T. Hermant, OSTJ, received his Canadian Decoration from our Honorary Lieutenant Colonel, Colonel J.F. Lake, in the presence of his family, friends and the Regiment at Moss Park Armoury.

— The visit of our Colonel-in-Chief, HRH Princess Alexandra.

— The Regimental Dinner held at the

Harbour Castle Hilton Hotel, Saturday, 9 November, 1985, followed by a Civic Luncheon on Sunday, 10 November, 1985.

— The presentation of 'The Rifleman Of The Year Award' by HRH Princess Alexandra to Mr. Gus Goutouski, President QOR Br. 344 Legion and to Joyce Reddin, your Editor.

In closing I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all our Editorial Staff, to thank you for the many letters we received following the last issue of 'The Rifleman'. You were all very kind, most encouraging and believe me, it was greatly appreciated.

I, personally, would like to thank the members of the Q.O.R. Toronto Association for electing me 'Rifleman Of The Year' — a very great honour indeed.

We look forward to hearing from you and to the continuing success of our Regimental Journal.

JOYCE F. REDDIN
 EDITOR

HONORARY COLONEL'S REPORT

The year 1985 was the one hundred and twenty fifth anniversary of our Regiment. The outstanding event of our celebration was the visit in November of our Colonel-in-Chief, HRH Princess Alexandra and her husband, The Honourable Angus Ogilvy.

The excellent 100-man honour guard, under the command of Major C.E. (Ed) Rayment, for the official opening of the Royal Winter Fair by HRH was a credit to the Regiment.

Unfortunately winter moved into Ontario on Saturday, 9 November, and the plans for the parachute jump at Camp Borden had to be scrapped. However, HRH showed great stamina and enthusiasm for her first demonstration of field exercises in the snow. Following this ordeal, The Princess joined her stalwart riflemen for lunch in the Men's Mess.

The Regimental Dinner that evening at the Harbour Castle Hilton Hotel was enjoyed by 600 in attendance. The Black Network, from coast to coast, turned up in force. The 'walk about' following dinner, which had been requested by HRH was highly successful.

Sunday morning dawned cold, wet and miserable but in spite of the weather, HRH placed a wreath on the Cross of Sacrifice before attending the service in the Regimental Church, St. Pauls on Bloor Street. Following the service HRH stepped onto the reviewing stand for the march pass of the Regiment, the cadets of The Queen's Own, Upper Canada College and members of the Legion.

The luncheon, following the Church Parade Service and given by the City of Toronto in honour of HRH was enjoyed by all who attended. Later that afternoon we bid farewell to our charming and delightful Colonel-in-Chief.

So ended our celebration for which many people worked many hours to ensure that it would be the success it most assuredly was.

Serving as the Honorary Colonel is a great honour for me, but to have served during this anniversary celebration leaves me with a special pride in all members of the regiment who showed such loyalty to HRH and to the Regiment.

*BRIG. GEN. J.N. GORDON
HONORARY COLONEL*



REPORT OF THE HONORARY LIEUTENANT-COLONEL

The highlight of the year was the visit of our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, in November. Credit must be given to Lieutenant-Colonel John Strathy, the Association and their hard-working Committees, for their excellent planning, which was evidenced by the success of events which followed. It is encouraging to see all members of the Regiment support such an occasion. The Regimental Band and the Royal Guard who participated in the opening of the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair were a credit to the Battalion.

The Regiment was saddened by the untimely deaths of two of its strongest

supporters, Brigadier General Richard S. Malone, OBE, ED, who passed away on June 24, 1985, and Lieutenant-Colonel R. Douglas Jennings on January 30, 1986.

During August 1985, I had an opportunity of observing the Regiment in combat training at Camp Petawawa, and viewing the Airborne Company in action.

In November 1985, the Honorary Colonel and I attended in Ottawa, for three days, the Conference of Honoraries. This was an excellent opportunity of meeting the Honorary Colonels and Lieutenant-Colonels from across Canada and of setting forth our views in connection with military training.

I would urge all Riflemen to continue their support of the Regiment in the forthcoming year.

*J.F. LAKE,
HONORARY LIEUTENANT-COLONEL*

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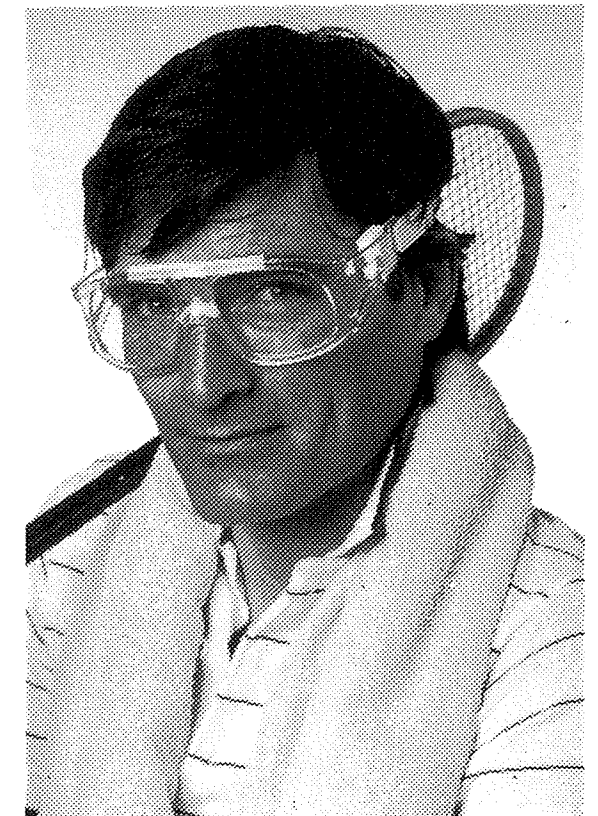
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the Massed Bands of The Queen's Division on Horse Guards Parade in London. The three large regiments involved were each responsible for one performance. The Queen's Regiment night was Tuesday, 11 June when the Prime Minister, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, took the salute. Following the parade the Regiment held a reception for 500 people in the magnificent Banqueting House in Whitehall.

Other Regimental Events

The Regiment was granted the Freedom of the Borough of Tonbridge and Malling on 23 May and has also this year exercised its Freedom of four of the other nineteen boroughs that have accorded it this honour. At the Regimental Grand Reunion on 14 July, nearly 2,000 past and present members of the Regiment enjoyed the now well established programme which started with a Drumhead Service and concluded with a Beating Retreat.

Audiences With Our Allied Colonels-in-Chief

The Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier H.C. Millman OBE, was received in audience by HRH Princess Juliana of the Netherlands in June and in November will be received by our other Allied Colonel-in-Chief, HM Queen Margrethe II of Denmark.

Free Fall Parachute Display Team

This year The Queen's Regiment has formed a Free Fall Parachute Display Team. It gave its first performance at the Regimental Grand Reunion in July and will give regular displays starting next year. The team is headed by the current British Army Free Fall Champion and, if its first public jump is anything to go by, these 'sky divers' will soon be well known throughout the South East of England.

LT. COL. J.J. WHITE

THE BROCKVILLE RIFLES

On the militia side, we saw the return of Maj Paul Boucher from the Supplementary Reserve to command Alpha Company. To give the Unit more continuity, the Adjutant, Capt. Peter Kelly, was granted a further extension of service. The Regiment was fortunate in having Maj. John Selkirk, the former Base Operations officer at CFB Kingston, transfer to the Unit on his retirement from the Regular Force. He will serve as Deputy Commanding Officer. The Unit should benefit greatly from the enrolment of Lt. John Dallas as Transport Officer. He is a former serving officer with the Royal Corps of Transport.

In 1984, our role in the Ottawa Militia District changed from an Armoured Defence Platoon to that of providing a Mortar Platoon. Consequently, many Unit personnel attended a mortar course in Cornwall on weekends.

The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants Mess held its Annual Mess Dinner on 14 April. The speaker was our new Honourary Lieutenant-Colonel BGen (retired) C de L Kirby.

April also saw extensive training in preparation for the Kitching Trophy Competition. The Kitching Trophy is no stranger to the Brockville Armoury. Additionally, the Unit participated in an Ottawa Militia District Field Training Exercise ORPHIC QUEST during the weekend of 27 to 29 April.

Training continued during May with emphasis placed on preparing a team for the Central Militia Area Infantry Competition. The Competition was held from 18-20 May.

The Officers' Mess held its Annual Mess Dinner on 2 June. The Mess was fortunate

in having the United States Ambassador to Canada, Paul Robinson, as guest.

Pre-Militia Concentration Training began on 8 June. The Regimental Church Parade was held on Sunday 10 June and was well-attended. The Bugle Band was also in attendance.

The Band members, under the direction of Bugle-Major Barry Elliott, attended rehearsals in Toronto on weekends to prepare for the Militia Tattoo being held during the Queen's Visit. The tattoo, aptly named "A Royal Salute" was televised. We had the rare opportunity of seeing our Band on screen during the Massed Corps of Drums performance.

October was another month of change for the Regiment. On 7 October the Regiment paraded on the Court House Green to witness command of the Brockville Rifles pass from LCol Doug Campbell, CD. to LCol Winston Rogers, CD. LCol Campbell moved to Ottawa Militia District Headquarters to assume the role of Senior Staff Officer Operations and Training. The parade was well-attended by friends of the Regiment as well as the general public.

The Brockville Rifles Cadet Corps had the distinction, once again, of winning the Strathcona Shield. The Shield is emblematic of the leading Cadet Corps in unit strength, attendance, standard of training and logistic and administrative efficiency. Congratulations are in order for Maj. Roger Hum and his instructional staff and of course the conscientious efforts of the Cadets themselves.

The Remembrance Day Parade, on Sunday 11 November, was well-attended. The Regiment, The Regimental Band, Branch 96 of the Royal Canadian Legion, the Army and Air Cadets formed an impressive parade through the City of Brockville to the Cenotaph on Court House Avenue.

The weekend of 23 to 25 November saw the Regiment on the ranges in Petawawa honing their skills with the Carl Gustav 84 millimeter and the M72. It proved to be a most productive weekend.

Normal training continued to December with personnel attending various trade qualification 2 courses on the 8th and 9th.

Training ceased on 13 December with an inspection of the Regiment by Honourary Colonel W.S. Watson. The inspection was followed by an excellent Christmas dinner culminating in inter-Mess visits, which were thoroughly enjoyed by all members, for the remainder of the evening.

COMMANDING OFFICER'S REPORT

This is my second report as Commanding Officer and it is a unique privilege to do this on the occasion of our 125th anniversary. In this year we had two reasons to celebrate; the outstanding accomplishments of our regiment over the past 125 years and the 25th anniversary of the appointment of our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra.

Our regiment has played an integral part in the History of Canada. Our roots go back prior to Confederation to 1860 when the regiment was formed; to 1866 and our first action fighting against the Fenian raids from the United States; to one hundred years ago when the regiment gained its first battle honour during the rebellion in Canada's Northwest; to the South African war when the regiment supplied troops and officers for the Royal Canadian Regiment battalion; to World War I when the regiment recruited and provided several battalions of volunteers for the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

In 1985, as we mark the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II, we also pay tribute to those who served with the regiment when it distinguished itself as an assault Battalion in Normandy and in the campaigns in France, Holland and Germany. Many of these same men continue to serve as loyal supporters of the regiment who give of their time to the Legion, Association and other organizations.

Lest we be accused of living in the past let me say that the strength of our regiment resides in our continuing ability to respond to the varying demands which our nation has placed upon us. A significant part of the Queen's Own Rifles tradition has been our ability to meet the obligations placed upon us and these experiences of yesteryear have prepared us to move forward and meet the upcoming challenges of the future. Our ability to keep pace with the changing times was amply demonstrated by those battalions from the regiment that carried out their tasks in so professional and competent a manner from 1953 to 1970 as part of the regular forces of Canada. Today we continue to show this same flexibility in the Canadian Forces Militia where our regiment has been tasked with the operational role of providing an airborne company in

support of the Canadian Airborne Regiment.

Our Colonel-in-Chief was appointed in our centennial year and over the past twenty-five years has been able to join with a visit units of the regiment on many occasions. It was therefore a highlight of the year when Princess Alexandra was able to visit us in Toronto from 6th—10th November, 1985 to lead our anniversary celebrations and give to us the opportunity to recognize her 25 years of service to the regiment. I know I speak for all in the regiment when I say that we appreciate her interest in all aspects of regimental activities. Her genuine warmth, charm and concern for the members of the regiment is always evident. Her zest and enthusiasm could not have been better demonstrated than when she braved the first snow storm of the year to visit her troops in the field at CFB Borden on 9 November. The regiment was also privileged to provide the Guard of Honour when HRH officially opened the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. A task of this nature is always a challenge for a militia unit and I am pleased to report we paraded a full guard of 102 officers and men, plus 58 musicians in the combined Military and Bugle Bands.

Prior to all these events other activities had taken place to celebrate our 125th anniversary. On April 24, in honour of our Regimental Birthday, the regiment fired a feu-de-joie — it has been a number of years since this has been done and on this occasion was conducted in the confines of Moss Park Armoury. In addition on 20 May, (Victoria Day), we were honoured by the Toronto Historical Board to participate in their annual celebrations of the Queen's Birthday at Old Fort York. Our Pioneers & Skirmishers, with the Military Band in attendance, once again fired a feu-de-joie with muskets.

During the year the unit continued to recruit and train soldiers as parachutists. At the end of the year, in which we had lost a number of our airborne soldiers to the Regular Force, we were very close to filling the establishment positions of our two operational tasked airborne platoons and company headquarters. During this year emphasis was placed on the individual training and qualification of Snr. NCO's. We had four candidates successfully complete the Infantry Section Commander's Course and two others qualified for promotion to Warrant Officer. We are

steadily qualifying those who in the future will replace those Warrant Officers and Snr. NCO's who have been the strength of the unit for so many years.

As we enter the new year of 1986, the regiment looks forward to meeting its priority objective of firmly establishing the Airborne Company, the training of Snr. NCO's and the recruiting and training of junior officers. With the tight budget limitations this will be a demanding challenge, however, based on the excellent manner in which all ranks met the challenge of 1985, I believe we can look forward to another excellent year.

LT. COL. B.G. BASKERVILLE

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER W.R.E. BRUCE, MMM, CD RETIRES

In July, 1985, CWO Roy Bruce, a former member of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, retired after 36 years service with the Canadian Army and the Canadian Forces. His appointment on retirement was Chief Warrant Officer of the Infantry in the office of the Chief of Land Doctrine and Operations at NDHQ, Ottawa.

Born in Montreal in 1930, Mr. Bruce took his first step toward a military career when he joined the army cadets in 1942. In 1947 he enlisted with the Victoria Rifles of Canada, Canadian Army (Reserves). In November, 1951, he was a member of the company of the VRC that was transferred to the Canadian Army Active Service Force. This company became part of the first Canadian Rifle Battalion, 27th Canadian Infantry Brigade located in Hanover, West Germany.

In November, 1953, their battalion was redesignated 1st Bn. Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, returned to Canada, and stationed in Calgary, Alberta. He served with this unit for 17 years, including a further tour in West Germany until it was re-mustered as 3 PPCLI in 1970; subsequently he served with 3 PPCLI, 2 PPCLI and Manitoba Regional Cadet Staff until he was posted to NDHQ in 1979.



The Colour Party of the 6th/7th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, at the Regimental Grand Reunion on 14th July 1985.

Over the years as he progressed through the ranks, Mr. Bruce held the appointments of Section Commander, Platoon Sergeant, Bn. Transport Sergeant, CQMS, Reconnaissance Platoon Warrant Officer and Company Sergeant Major. In 1974 he was promoted to CWO and posted to 2 PPCLI as RSM.

The appointment that Roy Bruce remembers most warmly was as Bugle Major of the 1st Bn. of The Queen's Own, a position he held for many years and under his leadership the bugles of the 1st Bn. received the distinction in 1962 of being the first Canadian Bugle Band to participate in the Edinburgh Tattoo. The buglers were given the additional honour of being selected to play the opening fanfare each evening.

During his career, Mr. Bruce served twice in Germany, three times in Cyprus and once with the U.N. Force in the Middle East. He has been awarded the Canadian Forces Decoration with two bars, the Canadian Medal and the Jubilee Medal and in December, 1984, was appointed a Member of the Order of Military Merit.

For twenty three years of his service, CWO Bruce wore the cap badge of a Rifle Regiment and has always displayed that devotion to duty which is the mark of a good rifleman.

He deserves to be honoured as a credit to the Canadian Forces and the regiment in which he has served. May he enjoy a well deserved retirement.

"ONCE IN THE QUEEN'S OWN, ALWAYS IN THE QUEEN'S OWN."

Lt. Col. B.G. BASKERVILLE
COMMANDING OFFICER

VICS COMPANY

For Vics Company, 1985 can best be described as 'a year of change'. Some old faces have left and new ones have stepped in to take their places. Some old ideas have been put to rest and some innovated ideas have been put into motion. These changes have caused some major disruptions but in true Queen's Own fashion, we have come through it all smiling.

Early in the year we found ourselves saying goodbye to our Quartermaster, 2Lt. Claudia Straker who decided to spend more time in her new role as the wife of Mr. Ken Chong — the Officers' Mess accountant. Soon after that we also lost our RQMS WO Bob Dunk who has

become quite a successful disc jockey.

These two important roles were filled by Capt. Rod Paddon, back from his appointment as a staff instructor at the Regional Cadet Instructors School in CFB Borden and the transfer of WO Stan Dawson from Buffs Company.

Another new acquisition was the newly commissioned 2Lt. Elaine Welsh who undertook the role of Asst. Finance Officer. During her training this past summer, 2Lt. Welsh was top candidate.

Not so much new but a welcome return was that of Sgt. Smith who, as a volunteer NCO has taken on the task of running the Regimental Clothing Stores.

Perhaps the biggest change, and the hardest to accept, has been the rebadging of some Victoria Company personnel to support service branches. This was not our idea, but as our personnel become better trained in these other areas, The Queen's Own Rifles has to benefit in the long run. Regimental officers and other ranks now wear the badges of logistics, administration and weapons techs. These new badges, however, are worn with the black buttons and shoulder titles of the regiment and I defy anyone to accuse them of not being Queen's Own.

The Company has done well in fitting its members for their role and we all look forward to 1986 for a chance to do our thing — support the regiment.

CAPT. M. HOLLAND
OFFICER COMMANDING

BUFFS COY

The year 1984-85 was a very eventful one for Buffs Coy. The year saw several changes in personnel as Capt. Flood moved over to 60th Coy, Capt B. Goutouski became our OC. Capt Goutouski, however, left the Toronto area and we all wish him well in his future endeavours. He was replaced by Maj. Newman. Major Newman brings the 60th Coy many years of military experience, being a QOR in the regular force, then with the PPCLI, then attached with the airborne battalions, as well as serving in Germany and with the NATO Forces.

Ex RSM Mike Holland returned to the unit and, promoted to captain, was posted as 2IC. Platoon officers were 2Lt. Innis commanding the 106mm Armour Defence Course, 2Lt. P. Tremblay who commanded the GMT 85-1 Recruit and Basic Course and 2Lt. B. Kerr running the GMT

85-2 Recruit and Basic Course.

The Snr. NCO's were somewhat more stable as MWO B. Budden continued as Coy. Sgt. Major supported by Warrant Officers Dawson, Eykelhof, Sergeants O'Connor, Patterson, Master Corporals TenKortenaar, Tindall, Cameron, Nielsen, Anglin, Nelligan and Law and Corporals Scott and Filipovich.

The Company had two efficient storemen/drivers in Cpls Blom and Jonn who supported all courses running. The company clerk was Rfn. Santin who has since been transferred to Vics Coy and in April, 2Lt. Innis obtained his jump wings and has since moved to 60th Coy. The company, on behalf of the unit, would like to welcome WO A. Eykelhof who joins us from the Lincoln and Welland Regiment.

Tasking for Buffs Coy changed slightly in 1984/85 as we were designated the training company for the regiment. The need for qualified riflemen in 60th Coy continues unabated and for the most part, Buffs Coy continues to rise to the occasion. In January, 2Lt. Innis and WO Dawson together with MCpl. TenKortenaar, Tindall and Cpl. Scott conducted a 106mm recoilless rifle course for the men of the Toronto Scottish Regiment as the turning over of this weapon was completed in April 85. Despite an initial shortfall in candidates, the GMT Recruit Course got off the ground under the guidance of 2Lt. Tremblay and Sgt. O'Connor. In April a second GMT Recruit Course was started under the direction of 2Lt. Kerr and Sgt. Patterson. This group, plus those who started in January, will attend a common TQI course slated for July and August, 1985, thus making these trained soldiers qualified and prepared for summer concentration. Starting in September, 1985, all TQI Personnel will be transferred to 60th Coy.

In conclusion I would like to thank all members of Buffs Coy for the good training year and congratulate those who made it through their respective courses.

CSM B. BUDDEN
2LT. P. TREMBLAY

with B Coy 2nd Bn 130th Infantry Regiment The Illinois National Guard who did much to enliven our lives. Our Company spent two very enjoyable weeks at Fort McCoy Wisconsin, with no one feeling homesick for Otterburn at all! The exchange was highly regarded by all taking part, with many useful and interesting lessons, military, social and lingual, being learned on both sides!

Despite the American connection, our links with 12th Armoured Brigade were not allowed to grow rusty despite our being unable to train in BAOR as a Battalion in 1984. We were able to send watchkeepers on several formation CPXs. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel PJ Lyddon MBE managed to persuade the Brigade staff to come back from Germany and run a logistics study day on our behalf. Needless to say the attractions of the subject (and the lure of a weekend back in the UK for the presenters) made the occasion a great success!

Success, or near success on the field of sport has come our way. We came second in superior style (but with less goals) in the London District Football and were inexplicably pipped into second place by the same opponents in the six-a-side as well. This year we hope our rivals 269 Commando Battery will be looking less pleased with themselves and our Company Teams will be training hard!

The Battalion Skiing Team, ably led by Captain Tony Marvin, came second overall in the TA Competition at Aviemore. This success was well celebrated on the occasion by the other members of the team who hope to acquit themselves as well, if not better, in the next competition.

Shooting has been a high priority this year. A keenly fought Battalion Rifle Meeting in October 1984 at Pirbright laid the groundwork for better shooting in the future. We have high hopes for that elusive animal, Bisley Success, with a young team who came a promising second in the District TA SAAM this year.

If the year past has been busy and fulfilling, the year ahead contains much to be getting on with! There is 5 RGJ to be raised. We are off to Camp at Soltau in October and a new training to get to grips with. Yet with all these challenges we will be bent on ensuring that life remains fun, for that is what TA soldiering is all about. May we take this opportunity to extending a welcome to any of our affiliated Regiments who have anyone coming to London. We are particularly lucky in having

Lt. Alan Patterson with us at the moment from the 6th Bn (Hauraki) Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment. We wish you all much success in the coming year.

LIGHT DIVISION DEPOT (WINCHESTER) Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel MK O'M Dewar

1984 closed with the Depot going through a particularly busy patch as platoons of between 70 and 80 recruits were forming up regularly. The trend has continued into 1985 but the difference now is that the platoons are even bigger, the largest forming up in June at 115 recruits. At one point Training Company exceeded the figure of 380 ranks and although that total has now subsided somewhat, there appears to be no let up in the fast influxes of recruits from the recruiting offices.

There have been large and significant changes in the faces around the Depot over the last 12 months; Lt. Col Peter Chamberlin handed over command to Lt. Col Mike Dewar during a snowbound Passing Out Parade in January in which winter blizzards forced the parade to be held in the Gymnasium rather than the normal ceremony on the Square. The RSM, WO1 Taylor was towed out of barracks in a speedboat in April after handing over to WO1 Brennan. We have also received a 2 1/c onto the establishment in the form of Major John Wykeham who, on arrival in his office, has set about coordinating the Training Programme for our new barracks at Flowerdown.

Passing Out Parades have seen a variety of guests including General Mostyn; the Divisional Brigadier, Brigadier Lowe; and our recently departed Quartermaster, Lt. Col John Lane, who put on his Greens for perhaps the last time before going into retirement in Kent.

A busy social programme has been in action. In July the Depot stopped everything to put on the final sounding of retreat to be held in Peninsula Barracks. The week was a tremendous success and apart from all the social activities in the messes, the performances were watched by unprecedented crowds. On two of the three nights the gates had to be closed to prevent the barracks from overflowing!

We also held a Depot Sports Day in July at which teams drawn from all corners of the Depot competed in egg and spoon

races, throwing the cricket ball and throwing the welly. Traditional sports involving the conventional forms of running, leaping and throwing were relegated firmly to the imagination! Also entered in the unusual occurrences register is the first ever official photograph of the personnel of the Light Division Depot (Winchester). A Depot Parade was held at the beginning of July and after the Adjutant and RSM had spent half an hour trying to obtain an aesthetic balance to the picture by marching troops hither and thither, the photographer snapped a notable first.

Unlike battalions, which measure their year very often by where they have been, we as a static unit and home of the Regiment, measure our calendar more by people and events. In this sense, 1985 has seen a major event in the process of turning Winchester into the home of the Light Division and not merely the Royal Green Jackets. In April, the Regimental Headquarters of the Light Infantry moved into Peninsula Barracks from Shrewbury so setting in train an ongoing series of events that will eventually end with the total amalgamation of the two Regimental Depots: A process which will continue to gather pace throughout the year.

THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT

Regular Battalions

After having had all three of our Regular Battalions in Northern Ireland together at one time last year, they are now once again well dispersed. The 1st Battalion moved to Gibraltar at the beginning of this year and will return to U.K. in January 1987. The 2nd Battalion, which is now stationed in U.K. and spent July training in Canada, will go to the Falkland Islands from November until March and then move to BAOR in August 1986. The 3rd Battalion will return from BAOR to Canterbury, "The Home of The Queen's Regiment", in January next year and are scheduled for duty in Belize from April to October 1986.

Territorial Army Battalions

A Home Service Company has now been added to each of our volunteer battalions and planning is going ahead for the formation of our new Territorial Army unit, the 8th Battalion The Queen's Fusiliers (City of London), which is to start forming in 1986.

Beating Retreat on Horse Guards

One of the main events for the Regiment this year was the Beating Retreat by

Hill after 6 years in the chair surpassing even his own standards. The winter also saw the skiing team once again winning the Daily Telegraph Cup and, with the help of LCpl Dobson in particular, maintaining their position on the highest placed infantry team in the competition. Sadly, New Year's was the last performance of our own Band. Was it just that because they were going we felt they had never played so well? The members of the Band have gone different ways, the largest number to the Peninsula Band in Celle. Chifton Barracks is a sadder and quieter place without them.

For 1985 the main challenge of the training year was the 2 RGJ Battlegroup's visit to Canada for exercise Medicine Man 2. Early in the year we gathered our team together: armour from 3rd Royal Tank Regiment, guns from 3rd Field Battery and Sappers from Hamlen and any number of individuals to make up the 1000 odd strong Battlegroup. Hard training in trying conditions at Soltau together with meticulous planning by the movers and administrators under Capt (QM) Chad Lacey brought us to Canada in May to take part in this now familiar but non-the-less exciting 6 week exercise. By all accounts, not just our own, it was a resounding success and in particular showed the professionalism of the young Riflemen in the Battalion. Let no one say that standards have fallen!

Canada took away most of the Battalion, though a "rump" of C Company remained behind to make the most of the adventure training at Stiebis, the joint Berlin/Light Division Skiing and Mountaineering Centre in Bavaria run by Capt Eddie Bright.

On the sporting front the Battalion efforts have been curtailed, especially in the team sports, by the heavy training commitment. The boxing team however, hoping to exchange last year's runner up trophy for this year's champion's shield, were the highest hope for a major sporting success. Sadly the championship was denied them on a technical decision but the team made up for it by getting three winners and one runner-up in the BAOR individual competition, being placed third in the Army Championship and providing the coach and half the team members for the BAOR team. LCpl Lee was selected as a member of the Army Team that won the inter services Boxing, while the Judo team came third in the Army championship. With such excellent results the Second

Battalion is well proud of its fighters, both boxers and judoists. In the less well known sports a number of successes must also be recorded, not least, LCpl Leach's time of 2 hrs 45 mins in the Vienna marathon, the fastest British Runner in the race, and Major Pearson's championship of the infantry boardsailing in the novice class.

The Battalion says farewell to Lt Col Beddard and welcomes back Lt Col Hayes as CO. Colonel Jon and his wife Felicity leave for England with the Battalion in very good heart, a wives club in top form and with the best wishes of us all. The future holds the prospect of a winter in Northern Ireland, a return to our old stomping ground in West Belfast together with the build up training under the Northern Ireland Training and Advisory Team (NITAT) BAOR Commanded by Maj Hearn, lately OC C Company. It will be a busy winter, but our last in Germany as the Battalion takes up the role of Demonstration Battalion at the School of Infantry Warminster, in August 1986.

3 ROYAL GREEN JACKETS **Commanding Officer** **Lieutenant Colonel** **CBQ Wallace, OBE**

The 3rd Battalion has now been stationed in Germany for three years with only two years of the tour remaining. The Battalion is based on the outskirts of Celle, one of Northern Germany's most picturesque towns, maintaining a strong historical connection with the British Royal Family. The pace of life in Germany remains hectic and so it was with some relief that the Battalion was warned for an operational tour in Northern Ireland mid-way through our tour here. Some 40% of the Battalion had previously served in the Province but this percentage included few of our Riflemen, who looked forward to the 4½ month tour with some anticipation.

Training commenced in mid June 1984 when our APCs were handed over to the Rear Party. Prior to three weeks block leave, a short period of internal security training took place within barracks after an interesting week of presentations by the Northern Ireland Training and Advisory Team (NITAT). At the same time members of the Battalion attended numerous courses preparing them for the very different tasks ahead of them. Returning

to work at the beginning of August, we launched into an intensive training programme culminating in three weeks training at Sennelager Training Centre which ended with the inter-platoon competition, the Tarleton Trophy.

On 4th October 1984 at 1600 hours 3 RGJ assumed operational control of the West Belfast TAOR after an absence of ten years. Within two hours of arrival we had recovered a weapon. Although the situation has changed considerably from the tours of the early 1970s, the terrorist is still very much in evidence, and just two weeks after our arrival, we suffered one fatal casualty and one severely wounded in a highly professional and well executed IRA ambush. Two weeks before the end of the tour we had an opportunity to redress the balance when the IRA attempted a less professional ambush. The Battalion suffered no casualties and a successful follow up led to the arrest of one of the gunmen and the possible wounding of another. One of the weapons used in the ambush was also recovered.

The tour ended in mid-February 1985 and the Battalion was able to take three weeks well-earned leave before returning to their mechanised role in Germany. Since our return we have been busy reminding ourselves of mechanised training, participating in a Divisional CPX, EX MORNING GLORY, in April, and a period of field firing at Sennelager Training Centre during May which culminated in a Brigade live firing exercise on Hohne ranges. The Battalion looks forward to a busy year ahead with further Battle Group mechanised training and a Brigade FTX.

4 ROYAL GREEN JACKETS **Commanding Officer** **Lieutenant Colonel** **P.J. Lyddon, MBE**

1985 for 4 RGJ has been a year of extremes. We have had a hectic, demanding and enjoyable year in which the conflicting demands for change and stability have given the Battalion much to chew on and much to do. The training has been of necessity geared to the demands of serving an Armoured Brigade in BAOR, coupled with the competing attractions of TA life in London and Oxford.

Annual Camp saw us exercising and field firing at Otterburn. We exchanged a 150 strong Company of Green Jackets

60TH COMPANY

The 60th Company now has the highest number of trained parachutists ever and also the most parachuting experience of any militia unit in Canada. This summer the Company acted as the enemy for the Brigade, fielded by Hamilton Militia District, and the ten days in Petawawa permitted a good shake down, under Major John Hasek, ably assisted by the new airborne members of the Unit Support Staff, Captain Angelo and WO Bludd.

Not only did the Company receive high accolades on its performance, but it also managed to get in some excellent parachute training as a bonus. All ranks jumped from the Chinook helicopter, while the CQMS, WO Figa, managed to get onto a Huey stick. The airborne portion of training ended with a Company attack exercise. The parachute qualified members jumped from a Hercules and married up in the Drop Zone RV with the new platoon of non-jumpers. From there, the whole Company did an approach march and an attack on a small enemy force, under the command of RSM Chan.

The newest platoon is now steadily getting jump qualified and no one is failing

the course. The high morale is also demonstrated by the lowest attrition rate in memory.

In November the Regiment organized a field demonstration for our Colonel-in-Chief, HRH Princess Alexandra, the piece de resistance of which was to be another airborne company attack. Although the weather was so atrocious that even the Hercules could not land in Borden, the attack went on after the troops were dropped off by truck instead of aircraft. The Company had two platoons, Company Headquarters and a forward observation party from 7th Field dressed to jump.

Her Royal Highness enjoyed roughing it and the troops were gratified with her interest in their soldiering abilities and in them as people. She was especially intrigued with our airborne seminarian, MCpl. Nelligan, who had come up from Rochester for the exercise.

There are too many promotions to detail since the last issue of *The Rifleman*, but the latest are those of Lt. Innes and 2Lt. Valienti, WO Sarrosy, Sgts. Wilmot, Kelly, Chambers and TenKortenaar.

MAJOR JOHN HASEK
OC 60TH COY.



Major Hasek, presenting Rfn. Anthony Hasek, also of 60th Company, with his parachute wings during the graduation ceremony at the Canadian Airborne Centre in Edmonton last August. Rfn. Hasek had his father jump behind him on his first jump — it was the Major's 1,235th.



THE QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES OF CANADA TRUST FUND

The Trustees of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust Fund feel that it would be of general interest to all Regimental members to report on the Trust Fund and its activities.

The Trust Fund was established in September 1959 with the primary aim to assist in the 100th Anniversary celebrations of the Regiment in 1960. Following the successful completion of this, the Trust Fund subsequently has continued on and has maintained the original aims and in-

tentions:

"The aims and objectives of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust Fund are as follows:

"The Trustees shall from time to time raise and receive by way of legacy, bequest, gift or otherwise transfers or contributions in trust for the Regimental Fund and administer the same in accordance with the Agreement exclusively for the efficiency, welfare and well-being of the Regiment and its members. PROVIDED ALWAYS that the Regimental Fund shall be administered entirely without remuneration or pecuniary gain to

any of the Trustees or the officers thereof and that any profits or other accretions as to the Regimental Fund shall be used in promoting its object as set out above."

The Trust Fund is authorized by Revenue Canada as a Registered Canadian Charitable Organization. The Trust Fund is administered by a Board of seven Trustees "who must always be members of the Regiment in good standing."

The following shows the activities over a twenty-one year period from 1 January, 1965 to 31 December, 1985 reflecting the receipts and disbursements during that period:

Statement of Revenue and Disbursements For the Twenty-on Year Period 1 January, 1965 to 31 December, 1985

RECEIPTS

Donations	\$152,191
Grants and donations, other "Wintario"	15,489
Regimental grants, other	13,825
Miscellaneous, other	9,920
Proceeds from Museum sales	6,164
Bank interest	5,798
	<hr/>
	203,387

DISBURSEMENTS

Regimental - upkeep and maintenance of serving battalion	24,303
Regimental - uniforms and refurbishing	75,327
Regimental Museum	17,951
Publications - "The Rifleman" including "Powder Horn", "Big Two", regimental booklet	30,527
Insurance - regimental artifacts	14,737
Funding, Regimental Headquarters	2,500
Relighting and repairs, Cross of Sacrifice	3,513
Printing of Book of Remembrance including lectern	1,621
Printing, mailing costs including campaign expenses	5,286
Affiliated cadet corps	2,900
Sundry including bank charges	689
Production of Regimental record	5,232
Grants and donations to affiliated associations and related parties	4,388
	<hr/>
	188,974

EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS \$ 14,413

Moore I. Jackson, Lt. Col.
Treasurer
The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust Fund
/cf

HEADQUARTERS THE BRIGADE OF GURKHAS

It gives us a special pleasure to exercise our alliance with The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada by contributing to *The Rifleman* on the occasion of the Regiment's 125th Anniversary.

So far, 1984 and 1985 have been eventful and interesting years for the Brigade. World attention was focused on Hong Kong in December 1984 when the Draft Agreement was signed in Beijing. This ended much speculation about the future of the Territory and once again there is a 'business as usual' atmosphere. Whilst shuttle diplomacy heralded negotiations on the political front, it would be fair to say that the Hong Kong programme ensured that the Brigade almost kept in step with our political masters.

There has been a campaign in the Brigade to improve the standard of English and this has reaped dividends during the countless exercises at home and overseas. The highlight of the exercise year was 10 GR's participation in Ex Lionheart (the largest NATO re-enforcement exercise since WWII) becoming the first complete Gurkha Battalion to take part in a BAOR exercise. Elsewhere exercises have continued on the usual hectic rate and with soldiers finding themselves as far afield as Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Brunei, Belize, Canada, Korea and UK, it is not surprising that the Brigade has maintained its reputation for being one of the best travel agencies in the British Army.

Soldiers from the Brigade continue to excel at all forms of sports, and recently marathon running has begun to attract a large following. British Officers and Gurkhas alike are now seen pounding grimly round the roads of Hong Kong and even entering marathons in London, New York and Honolulu. In this we have been fortunate in getting the sponsorship of Cathay Pacific and other airlines, and the Brigade is hoping for a repeat performance at the New York Marathon in October of 1985.

This year the Brigade has received the usual amount of visitors and 6 GR who were then in Brunei drew the short straw and had no fewer than four Royal visits, including that of HRH The Prince of Wales. It may be assumed that their ceremonial drill is now better than ever!

Movement of a different sort has taken place in the form of handovers of Battalions: 1/2 GR replaced 6 GR in Brunei and 2/2 GR have relieved 10 GR in the U.K. In May, Maj. Gen. Derek Boorman handed over to Maj. Gen. Tony Boam after 2½ years as Maj. Gen. Brigade of Gurkhas and Commander British Forces, Hong Kong and shortly we will bid farewell to Brig. Chris Pike who has done an even longer stint as Brigadier Brigade of Gurkhas. We look forward to welcoming Brig. John Edward in his place. We have also said goodbye to Capt. (QGO) Rambahadur Limbu 10 GR — the last serving VC holder in the British Army.

As you can see, a great deal has happened since we last wrote to *The Rifleman*. I am sure that by the next time we correspond, an even more eventful and interesting year will have passed. In the meantime we wish you every good wish for your 125th Anniversary and hope that you enjoy the celebrations.

CAPT. I.J.B.A. CORRIGAN WRAC
STAFF CAPTAIN

1 ROYAL GREEN JACKETS Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel CGC Vyvyan, MBE

The 1st Battalion has had another full year with activities ranging from a major exercise in Denmark to an operational tour in the Falkland Islands. Throughout the year we have remained based at Tidworth in Hampshire as part of the United Kingdom Mobile Force (UKMF).

In September the Battalion went to Denmark for three weeks to take part in a NATO Exercise, Ex Bold Gannet. This involved a work-up period in Jutland followed by an exercise on the Island of Zealand. In a truly multinational exercise we were attacked by American Aircraft, German Heliborne Troops, Danish and Dutch Marines and fought alongside a Danish Mechanised Brigade. For many Riflemen this was the first time they had trained over normal countryside outside designated military training areas and the added realism this gave, coupled with the generous hospitality of the Danes, made Ex Bold Gannet a very fitting climax to our first year with the UKMF.

After a short leave we set off, in October, for a five month tour in the Falkland

Islands. The advance party travelled on the Airbridge, involving a 13 hour trip in a Hercules, including in-flight refuelling, while the main body moved on a converted North Sea Ferry from Ascension Island. In the Falklands we were deployed with Battalion Headquarters at Goose Green, three other company bases on West and East Falklands and a detachment in South Georgia, 800 miles away. It was quickly apparent how lucky we were to be on a summer tour; although the wind rarely drops and there is little shelter, it was far warmer than we had anticipated and the hostile weather conditions we had expected only occasionally affected our activities. Apart from the operational commitments of guards and reaction forces, we were able to patrol extensively around the islands, meeting and getting to know many of the locals. We carried out some ambitious training projects which included a 48 hour Platoon Assessment Exercise for each platoon and a live firing exercise for each Company which culminated in a deliberate attack supported by Harriers, Naval Gunfire and the Mortar Platoon.

Our tour finished in March 1985 and we sailed back to Ascension Island on the SS Uganda, an old P and O educational cruise ship. Since our return we have been running a period of individual training and our programme is now geared towards Spearhead duties in October and an exercise in Kenya in January 1986.

2 ROYAL GREEN JACKETS Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel J P O Beddard, MBE

Our last report ended with a preview of Exercise LIONHEART. The event turned out to be a mixed bag for 2 RGJ; after a gallant defence of a certain village and its surrounding woodlands by massed attacks from German, Dutch and American armour the exercise directors considered that a report of Calais has occurred. Instead of going into POW cages, the Battalion motored to the rear — but for us the "war" was over.

The autumn of 1984 was taken up with Cadres — 85 Riflemen started a JNCO's Cadre with 40 receiving their tapes at the end of eight hard weeks. Christmas was celebrated in Minden in the traditional way — with the outgoing QM, Major Brian

6TH QEO GURKHA RIFLES NEWSLETTER

Our last news letter was from Brunei. Since then we have moved to Hong Kong having handed over our responsibilities in Brunei to 1/2 KEO Gurkha Rifles. The Battalion was consolidated in Gallipoli Lines by the end of December 1984. Life in Hong Kong was going to be different to that of Brunei and manning the Sino Hong Kong Border and training for Internal Security would be our main priorities for the immediate future. Training, after a short administrative period, began seriously.

Our first Border Tour was in January/February 1985. Our task, whilst on the border, is firstly to maintain the integrity of the Sino Hong Kong Border and secondly to arrest any illegal immigrants who try to enter British Territory. Companies deployed in their TAOR Cover their area by a series of OPs and maintain Quick Reaction Forces capable of deploying to areas where illegal immigrants have been seen to cross the border. By night the TAOR is covered by again a series of Ops and small strategically sited ambushes along the border. Illegal immigrants now are more sophisticated and are helped by aiders and abettors who make a living out of this profession. One illegal immigrant safely delivered to the destination is rumoured to fetch some HK 10,000:00. The business is dangerous but lucrative! The mobility of the patrols along the Border Road has been enhanced by providing a fleet of BMX bicycle for use by the Border Battalion. The BMXs have proved to be silent, fast and cost effective!

The Battle for Mandalay which ended on 20 March, 1945 was celebrated this year on 20 March, 1985. This year was the 40th anniversary and was celebrated by holding a "Super Sports" competition during the day, followed by a presentation in the evening. We were fortunate to have Major (Retd.) Harry Davis from U.K. to give us some first hand account of what actually happened. The 1st and the 4th Battalions of the 6th Gurkha Rifles as a part of 19 Indian Division took part in the Battle of Mandalay. The fall of Mandalay was a culmination of an advance of 400 miles against ever increasing Japanese opposition which had carried the 19 Indian Division from the banks of Chindwin to the walls of Fort Duffrin. The offensive for



The Commanding Officer presenting the Inter Company Drill Competition Cup to C Coy.

Mandalay having started on 15 January finally ended on 20 March, 1945.

The next major event in which we scored major victory was the Hong Kong Skill At Arms Meeting which took place over the period 20-23 May, 1985. The team started training in earnest after our return from the border and on that day swept the board clean. The nearest rivals were left so far behind that we could have withdrawn from a few matches and still won! We qualified for Bisley together with 1/2 GR. RASAAM results in Bisley were not quite as good as we had hoped and were beaten to third position by the Welsh and Irish Guards respectively. We were however, delighted to hear that LCpl. Khusiman Gurung after a tie and a re-shoot had won the coveted Queen's Med-

al. Cpl. Dharmendra Gurung, also from this unit, came second. We are being reliably informed that this was the first re-shoot after a tie in the history of Bisley! The team also took part in the NRA after having finished RASAAM and won handsomely.

The Commanding Officer, Lt. Col. R.F. Richardson-Aitken is now finishing his tenure of command and goes to the Ministry of Defence in early November. We wish him and his family happiness and success for the future. He is being replaced by Lt. Col. J.A. Anderson who is no stranger to the Regiment.

In ending we send you our good wishes and salaams.

MAJOR GOPALBAHADUR GURUNG
MBE



Cpl. Dharmendra Gurung on the Victor's Chair after being declared the best shot in Hong Kong SAAM.

RSM REPORT

A Change of Regimental Sergeant Major took place on 17 February, 1985, at Moss Park Armoury, Toronto, from CWO H. McCabe, MMM, CD to CWO R. Chan, CD in the presence of our Honorary Colonel, Brigadier General J.N. Gordon, DSO, CD.

Although it was a very enjoyable event for all those who attended, it was, however, sad to see CWO H. McCabe leave the Regiment after twenty four years of loyal and dedicated service, to accept the appointment of the District Sergeant Major. We are all very proud of Harry and wish him well in his new role.

Two major events this winter were the Toronto Militia District and Central Militia Area Inspections. These tasks fell upon Sgt. Maj. Bamlett and Sgt. Sarossy of the 60th Coy. The riflemen had to practise XF Regulation Drills and be inspected for their tasking efficiency. All who took part should be congratulated for the good results we received.

Another major parade that followed was in celebration of our Regimental Birthday in April. The regiment fired a feu-de-joie and for the first time, the Queen's Own showed off the new drill modelled from the British Light Division. Many compliments have been received from past serving members of the Queen's Own and guests who thought it was a positive change.

In the summer, 60th Coy joined with the Canadian Airborne Forces Association and together with the Buff's and the Bugle Band paraded with the QOR Br. 34 Legion to commemorate D-Day.

Following stand-to, the units ceremonial efforts went toward the visit of our Colonel-in-Chief, H.R.H. Princess Alexandra. Sgt. Maj. Banlett was in charge of the Quarter Guard at the Harbour Castle Hilton Hotel and MWO Budden was the Guard Sergeant Major for the opening of the Royal Winter Fair. The audience was also very impressed with our Regimental Bands and the 100 man guard.

This has been a busy year with training and parades and we are now anxious to find out the new drill that will come with the new rifle.

CWO R. CHAN
REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR



THE REGIMENTAL BAND

The Regimental Band, under the direction of Captain Stephen J. Irwin, Director of Music, has enjoyed a very successful and stimulating year.

Regimental duties included monthly parades, the Change of RSM Parade, TMD Inspection, annual Church Parade, Cadet Inspection, the 125th Anniversary Parade and the Regimental Christmas Dinner.

The highlight of the Band's year was its participation in the ceremonies for the visit of our Colonel-in-Chief, HRH Princess Alexandra, in November. The Band and Bugles, 50 strong, led the Guard of Honour into the Coliseum at Exhibition Place where Princess Alexandra officially opened the Royal Winter Fair.

The Band played a programme of dinner music for the official regimental dinner which was held at the Harbour Castle Hotel in celebration of our 125th anniversary. When HRH Princess Alexandra entered the ballroom the Band played the fanfare "Royal Visit 1985" which had been composed by the Director of Music especially for the occasion.

The Band was also present for the church service, commemorating the 125th anniversary at St. Paul's Church. Following the church service there was a scramble to get to the Harbour Castle Hotel in order to be ready for the Civic luncheon given by the Mayor, Council, and the Corporation of the City of Toronto, in honour of HRH Princess Alexandra and the 125th anniversary of the Regiment. The Band played light dinner music



which was well received by the luncheon guests.

After the luncheon we were honoured to have a group picture taken of the Band with our Colonel-in-Chief; Princess Alexandra then spent some time discussing music with various members of the Band enquiring as to the sort of music liked best, and telling of her fondness for New Orleans jazz. At the request of the Princess one of the trombone players played some New Orleans music which the Princess obviously enjoyed and proceeded to tell of her piano playing and some of her favourite pieces. We all enjoyed our informal talk with her and with her husband the Hon. Angus Ogilvy.

The Band was also very busy publicising the Regiment when it played at summer park concerts, the Canadian National

Exhibition, civilian parades, and at the graduation dinners at the Canadian Forces Staff College.

Of particular interest during 1985 was the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the Girl Guides of Canada. When they were established in 1915 a garden party was held at Casa Loma, the home of Sir Henry and Lady Pellatt. Lady Pellatt was the first Commissioner of the Girl Guides and the music for the occasion was provided by the Regimental Band of the Queen's Own Rifles. It was fitting therefore that on the 75th anniversary when another garden party was held at Casa Loma, for the Queen's Own Rifles Band to participate in the celebration. Much to our surprise a copy of the musical programme from 1915 was provided and the Band was able to play some of the same music in 1985, much to the delight of the Girl Guides and their guests.

1985 indeed has been a year of anniversaries, with the Allen Gardens in the City of Toronto also celebrating its 125th anniversary this year. This is one of Toronto's finest floral gardens, and one in which the Band had played during the early summer. A special 125th Anniversary Concert was planned for late summer and the Band was invited to play at this unique concert in honour of both the 125th anniversary of Allen Gardens and the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada. The concert was attended by a number of Civic dignitaries and officials.

Captain Irwin and the members of the Regimental Band look forward to an even more challenging and stimulating year in 1986.



THE OTTER BUGLE

The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada received a request from Major Colin Moore of Baker Lovick Ltd., for the loan of our historical silverline bugle known as The "Otter" Bugle for photographic use in the 'Veteran's Memorial' Book.

This bugle was presented to the regiment by Major General Wm. Dillon Otter, KCB, CVO, VD.

Wm. Dillon Otter who served with The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada was appointed Lieutenant on 19 May, 1865, and served as Adjutant during the Fenian Raid in 1866. On 17 May, 1875, he was appointed Commanding Officer of the Regiment and after his term of service was appointed in December, 1883, the first Commanding Officer of the School Corps (Permanent Force) now known as The Royal Canadian Regiment. Major General Otter died on 2 May, 1929.

The bugle was returned to the regiment together with a framed copy of the photograph which was presented to Lieutenant Colonel B.G. Baskerville by the President and the Director of Sales of Kodak Cana-



da Inc. in the presence of the Regiment and WO John Doeg of the Bugle Band. The photograph now hangs in the Bugle Band Mess.

As a memento of the occasion the officers of Kodak Canada Inc. were presented with a Regimental desk top flag and a crested coffee mug.

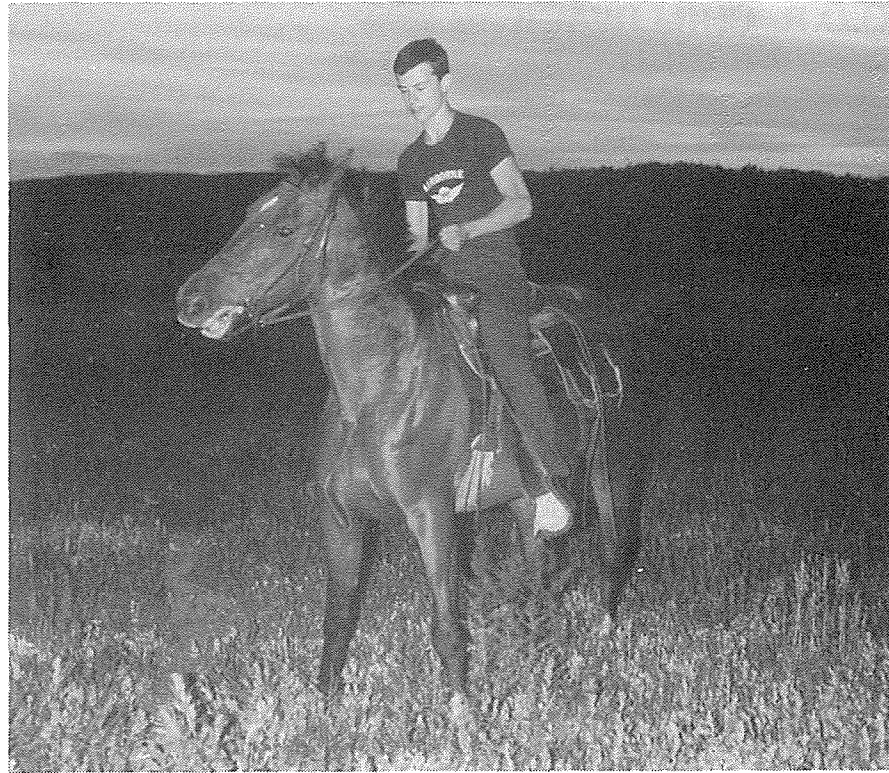


EXERCISE QUEEN'S ROCK

In the late Fall 1985, members of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada participated in Exercise Queen's Rock with the Calgary Highlanders.

The instructor for this exercise which involved rock climbing was MWO Toews.

The photograph shows MWO Toews (extreme right) the Queen's Own group and Colonel Paul F. Hughes (past DCO of The Queen's Own) and Mrs. Hughes.



Regimental Museum The Passing Scene

Charles S. Wright served as a rifleman in The QOR of C enlisting in 1904. He graduated with honours from U of T and after, from Cambridge University, England, with honours in mathematics and physics. From 1910 to 1913 he was the scientist on the Scott Antarctic Expedition. During 1913 the Royal Engineers formed a special research team for scientific investigation especially in wireless. Wright joined the team. His services in the field during WWI won a knighthood and other high honours. After the war he headed a number of scientific societies in England, the U.S.A. and Canada finally retiring to Victoria, B.C.

His daughter, an artist, now lives in Victoria and was anxious to find a safe repository for her father's military papers. Col. Hank Elliot, who met the lady while visiting Victoria suggested our museum. Assent was given and the framed documents are now on display. A "curriculum vitae" was sent to two Ontario organizations whose professed purpose is to perpetuate Ontarions of distinction. To date, the letters have not been acknowledged.

During May, Brig. W.J. Reed, honorary curator of the Aldershot Military and Historical Museum, together with Major Kent-Lemon his Toronto representative, toured the museum. It is the intention to form a Canadian section of the Aldershot Museum. Considering the long association in peace and in war of The QOR with the City we were requested to contribute towards this end. The preliminary arrangements were made by Col. John Strathy. So a full dress uniform circa 1910 with most accessories; eight selected photos and two histories, Chambers and Barnard, were sent. It is noted that from museum resources all donations were replaced. As Major Kent-Lemon is looking after the forwarding, the museum has incurred no expense.

The report re stolen artifacts is, to date, lighter this year. An attempt was made to force the glass top of a floor display case. It failed but it took three hours to repair the damage. During January a cupboard display case was forced; a Piat Anti-Tank Projector and a Sten gun were stolen. Both were inoperable. For added security Wilf Durance installed iron bars across this cupboard and also across the cupboard containing two manikins, one in full dress and one in mess dress. To complete the

story a small Union Jack was ripped from its frame; a message to repatriated POW's WWI from King George V and a small framed photo of the Queen and Prince Philip were stolen. Monarchists increase; the last mentioned was stolen on July 4. Additional security measures have now been put into operation.

The library is being reorganized. Some thirty novels with a military background were delivered to K Wing, Sunnybrook Hospital.

The elevator, first installed by Sir Henry, circa 1912, has been rebuilt. Its primary purpose is to convey people upstairs who can no longer climb the stairs.

Probably the two visitors who came the greatest distance were Dr. and Mrs. John Roberts from Australia. Locally, an old acquaintance, Fred Heather, did the tour. He noted that Ellie Dalton, Steve Lett, Murray Scott and other QOR stalwarts were high school class mates.

It is the intention of Col. Baskerville to have fashioned for the Officers' Mess a montage of the fourteen regular army CO's. To this end the photos were removed from their frames and handed over on 15 June to the photographer.

During this period the museum had artifacts at Queen's Park; the National War Museum at Ottawa; the Royal Canadian Military Institute and the Sigmund Samuel Building (ROM).

The attendance for the last nine months is in the neighbourhood of 300,000.

Accessions

A request to the Secretary of State gave us a photo by Karsh of the Queen and Prince Philip. It has been framed and is now on display.

The Harbour Commissioner through the archivist Michael Moir gave the museum forty glass negatives of photos taken by Brig. Langton, QOR. He was a former Harbour Commissioner. The pictures were of the dedication of the Cross of Sacrifice and other memorials circa 1932.

Steel bars and fittings; four heavy padlocks and a metal shield of the Canadian Coat of Arms donated by Wilf Durance.

Four manikins were fashioned; all are positioned on the roof of the diorama. As well, the cap and jacket of the father of Sgt. T.H. Houghton of the Regimental Band are set up. WWI uniforms in vintage condition are very scarce.

The arms, flags and emblems of Canada-forty-five coloured photos in all-are shown in a wall display case.

A number of old snapshots, badges, newspaper clippings and Association booklets were donated by Peter and Eric Simundson. Two D-Day pictures from Archie McQuade.

Sir Henry Pellatt's regimental saddle is now displayed in a case made especially for it by Wilf. Durance.

Two photos given by Pat Reilly show his great uncle as a rifleman and a battalion parade at the University Avenue Armouries circa 1900.

*LT. COL. W. T. BARNARD
CURATOR*

IODE CHAPTER

The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Chapter, IODE takes pride in having served the regiment for 77 years.

The highlight of 1985 was to all of us the visit of our Colonel-in-Chief, HRH Princess Alexandra. It was a gala time indeed and enjoyed by everyone who had any interest in the IODE. The committee in charge of the visit obviously bent over backwards to ensure that anyone 'Once In The Queen's Own, Always In The Queen's Own' had an opportunity to participate in some way. Her Royal Highness added so much to the occasion with her graciousness, we all felt very proud of our Colonel-in-Chief.

The Chapter participated in the Service of Remembrance on November 10th at the Regimental Cross of Sacrifice when the Regent, Mrs. J. Neil Gordon laid a wreath.

A bit of light-hearted fun was found at the silver cleaning party held in the Mess and nostalgia was very evident as the history of various pieces was reviewed.

The work of the Chapter continues with parcels going to our three handicapped sisters in Austria, our QOR widows in England, our school at Nain, Labrador, the 1860 Cadets, Sunnybrook Hospital Chaplain Services, K. Wing, Nth York IODE Children's Hospital, the Scott Mission, the Salvation Army, Emily Stowe Home for battered women and Communication Association for Riding for the Disabled (CARD).

The Chapter takes this opportunity to welcome the QOR Ladies' Association and we wish them well.

The Chapter hopes that we can give many more years to the Order and to the Regiment.

*MRS. J. NEIL GORDON
REGENT*

1860 ROYAL CANADIAN ARMY CADET CORPS

The Battalion's home Corps has had a successful fifteen months of activity since its last reports in *The Rifleman*.

Training Year 1984/1985

The training year 1984/1985 was a successful one for the Corps. By the end of January a full slate of four military officers had been assembled, supplemented by two Civilian Instructors. Cadet strength hovered around 35 (which is very good for downtown Toronto) for the second half of the training year and attendance averaged 82% in the three weeks prior to the Annual Inspection.

During the training year the Corps conducted three field exercises and a range exercise, conducted eleven indoor range sessions, paraded twice with the Battalion, supported its sponsors by selling poppies on Remembrance Day, and itself by selling tags on Army Cadet Tag Day. The Corps supported the St. John Ambulance Provincial First Aid Competition, parade during the Royal and Papal visits in the autumn, and provided a small detachment at the City of Toronto Remembrance Service.

The Corps was singled out for special praise by higher authority for its work during the Royal and Papal visits. In the words of the Annual Efficiency Report, "This Corps, above others, was most helpful and co-operative in assisting the authorities during the visit of Pope John Paul, and later during the Queen's visit in



1984." The Corps' trophies now include a Certificate of Appreciation from the City of Toronto, and a Provincial Bicentennial Medallion from the Government of Ontario.

The Annual Inspection in June, at which the Reviewing Officer was Brigadier General Forbes B. West, was particularly successful, resulting in an 86.7% assessment. During the year two cadets achieved the Gold Star qualification, and nineteen cadets attended summer camps, with one officer and three senior cadets spending the summer on camp staffs.

At the end of the training year the Corps said farewell to two of its most valuable senior cadets, Cadet Captain I.G. Leitis

and Cadet Lieutenant P. Custodio. Mr. Leitis has since been transformed into Office Cadet Leitis of the Cadet Instructors List and is on the staff of another Toronto Corps.

Training Year 1985/1986

The new training year has begun well; the great feature of the year being, of course, the visit of the Regiment's Colonel-in-Chief, HRH Princess Alexandra. The Corps provided nine members of the Guard of Honour at the airport and again at the Royal Winter Fair, and paraded with the Battalion on Remembrance Sunday.

In addition to all this the Corps has, so far this year, spent a weekend on the range and in the field at Camp Borden, tagged on yet another Army Cadet Tag Day, entered a team in the Forbes West Annual Cadet Shoot, organized six indoor range sessions, and planned a winter field exercise for the immediate future.

Another senior cadet, Cadet Captain W.J. Charles, left us at the end of 1985 having attained the cadet age limit. Like those mentioned earlier, he will be much missed.

The Administration Officer, Lieutenant Dory Gould, completed the Lieutenant Qualification Course in the autumn, and has since been promoted to that rank. Congratulations!

All in all, a most active and successful fifteen months of effort. The Corps looks ahead with confidence.

**CAPTAIN F.I. GOULD
COMMANDING OFFICER**



Q.O.R. CHILLIWACK BRANCH

The annual reunion was held in Branch #4 R.C.L. Chilliwack on Friday, 26 April, 1985. The attendance was small, however a very good time was had by all and a few Little Black Devils were consumed. Attending the reunion were; Sylvia and Tim Reid; Barbara and Keith McCarthy; Brigitte and Ed Bogon; Liz and Bud MacPherson, Deanna and Gerry Smith; Marie and Bill Skubovious; Bob and Gerda Foster, Ralph Ferris; Ken Sabad, Bud McNeil.

Frank and his wife Barbara were on holiday down south, Bill and Rita Kowalchuk travelled to Nanaimo for the reunion over there with his brother-in-law Ken Cotton. Unable to attend, due to shift work, were Rollie Phillips, Roy Deraueles, Fred Dorman, West White, Lou Wiseman, Jerry Kendall, Dave Rickman and, due to illness, Irish Marshall.

The following morning, Tim Reid and myself hopped a ferry to Nanaimo and had our second reunion at the Sergeants' Mess. It was very nice to see President Bob Ducharme, Col. Mathews, Maj. Bill Tiggett, Pop Purchase and many other members we had not seen in years. We missed George Stolzenberg who was on vacation in Mexico.

During the past year I visited ex-MWO Percy Ford and he looks just fine. I also visited Maple Ridge, B.C. and called in to see Doug McLeod, ex pay sgt. and found that he is a little under the weather. However, keep in there Doug. I spoke with Gerry Bowes and Ken Barrett in Calgary and in Victoria I spoke to Cy Arkinstall, Floyd Letteridge, Gord Hryshorshyn and Jim Carrol.

At a Royal Winnipeg Rifles Dinner in Langley, I was pleased to meet Maj. Wally Munro, Maj. Frank Battershall, Moore MacDonald, Bob Ducharme and Bob Geddes, all ex serving members.

I would like to welcome Lyle Rickmor to Chilliwack — glad to see him on the ice, even though it is mid June.

All the very best to all members of the Q.O.R. of C wherever they may be from the Chilliwack Black Net.

BOB FOSTER



QOR VICTORIA ASSOCIATION

I wish to commence this year's report by saying how privileged I was to have served on our executive committee, and to thank all our members for their help and support. This fall we will be having an election of new Officers, and to date the following have volunteered their services:—

President — Ed Titus
First Vice — Roy Waterfield
Treasurer — Bert Graham
Secretary — Russ Kierstead

The highlight of the year was our birthday celebration held in April, and the cake was cut by Betty Purchase from Port Hardy. It was a great success.

We also held our annual Bingo/Dance in the Mess, and I am sure that if the Fire Department did a head count they would have closed it down, because of the great attendance, (keep it up folks).

In closing, many will be saddened to hear that Bill Elliott passed away last spring, and will be greatly missed, but he left behind a lot of good memories.

**R.L. CLARK
PRESIDENT**

Editor's Note:

I am saddened to announce that Bert Graham died on 1 January, 1986, while vacationing in England. A memorial service was held on 2 February, 1986, at the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Cedar Hill Cross Road in Victoria which was attended by the many friends Bert has left behind.



TORONTO ASSOCIATION

It is my pleasure to report on the Association activities since the last General Meeting in April, 1985.

For the year 1985/86, the following executive committee were elected:

President	— Bernie Aaron
Past Pres.	— Hugo Saudino
Vice Pres.	— Joe Resnick
Vice Pres.	— John Strathy
Vice Pres.	— Ferg Reid
Secretary	— Adam Hermant
Membership Sec.	— Art Gay
Treasurer	— Harry Rollo
Auditor	— Moore Jackson

Following the last meeting your Executive Committee and Directors met to set goals and priorities for their term of office. It was decided that no membership fee would be billed for 1985/86 and that at an appropriate time, prior to the April 1986 annual meeting, membership subscriptions would be mailed out. Art Gay agreed to compile and update the mailing list as accurately as possible as this was required to communicate the plans for the visit of HRH Princess Alexandra this past November, 1985. If you have recently changed your address, please notify Art Gay to ensure you receive all future mailings.

The total thrust of your association was directed to HRH's visit and the Regimental Dinner which we hosted. All members of the standing committee for this anniversary were members of your association. The weekend in total was enjoyed by all and served to confirm the strength of our Regimental Family. I would like to comment on the dinner for those who were unable to attend. It was a very successful event and in excess of 600 people attended. A superb meal was enhanced with table servings of our new Regimental wine. The Military Band complemented with our Buglers and Skirmishers, entertained at appropriate times through the evening. The dinner was preceded with a cocktail reception and ended with a coffee and cake reception allowing a great number of our guests the opportunity to chat with Her Royal Highness.

It was a pleasure to see so many old friends, including contingents from British Columbia, Ottawa, Florida and special individuals who travelled from great and varying distances. There were serving and

past members of the regiment, friends from all components of the Regular and Militia Forces, as well as representatives from all levels of governments and friends from the general community.

It was a very special honour for me to join HRH and serving members of the Battalion for the presentation of The Rifleman of the Year Award. We look forward to selecting the 1985 recipient of this great honour.

It is proposed that our next annual meeting be held on 26 April 1986 — the official birthday anniversary of our Regiment, at Moss Park Armoury, commencing at 12 noon followed by a light buffet. The Battalion is preparing a military display which should be most entertaining and educational and following this, an afternoon cocktail reception. We will be mailing you all the necessary details pertaining to this event as soon as they have been finalized.

We are also contemplating a summer activity and your committee would welcome any ideas you may have as well as offers of assistance, so please let us hear from you.

There seems to be a spirit alive within the Association and I close by extending an invitation for all to participate and enjoy 'The Queen's Own'.

Regimentally yours
BERNIE ARRON
PRESIDENT

BILL MOUNTAIN'S "REGIMENTAL SHRINE"

I would like to open this report by wishing all Skirmishers everywhere, the very best during this 125th anniversary year. I understand that birthday bashes held right across the country were well attended and in all cases lived up to Rifle tradition! Needless to say, the 'bash' here at the Shrine was well attended and we had our annual phone call from Al Collingwood in Brandon.

Visitors during the year have included Hank and Bessie Elliot, from Severn Bridge, Ontario, Bob and Joan Munson from Calgary; Ted and Fay Ball from Pen-ticton; Phil and Lena Jacques from Ottawa; Bill and Joan Westfall from Vic-

toria; Phil and Hazel Haagenson from Carstairs and Arizona; Bob and Doreen Whelan from Victoria; John and Maudie Doerksen from Kelowna, and Ron and Michelle Grennan from Langley. (Ron was with 1st Bn. in Normandy).

Many phone calls received during the year have included Lew MacKenzie, Dave Montgomery and Bob Halpen (all from Wainwright) and Dave Luxford of Calgary.

The Mountain Clan are all well; Sandra and Brian are off to Germany for three years with their three children. Yes, three children now, our latest grand daughter, Ashley Paige arrived 06 Sep. '86 — a real cutie.

Chris, Terry and Lara are all well and planning a trip to Europe in the fall. Linda has completed all her training courses and now has her papers. She has just started working at the Wedgewood Restaurant in Vancouver and is very happy. Guy is still at Delta Bus Lines and has found himself a nice apartment in Surrey. Ev and I are still keeping busy and also planning a trip to Europe next fall!

The Birthday Bash at The Shrine next year will be held on Saturday, 26 Apr '86 (How appropriate). We look forward to the usual good turnout and hope to see a few more from out of town. Accommodation can be secured on a first come first served basis, so start your planning now and drop me a line.

Next year, of course, marks the Expo '86 extravaganza being held in Vancouver from 02 May — 13 Oct '86. Naturally, if any of you are coming out to see it, we fully expect to hear from you and a visit to The Shrine. We will probably be away in Europe late July/early August, but will be available for the rest of the year. All indications at this end predict that Expo 86 will be a smashing success. Everything is proceeding on schedule, advance ticket sales have exceeded all expectations and the feedback from participating countries is encouraging. Should be a worthwhile experience! (No, I am not working for the BC Government or Expo 86).

In closing, congratulations, once again, to the editorial staff for the continuing excellence in the production of our annual journal.

"Once In The Queen's Own — Always in The Queen's Own".

W. (BILL) MOUNTAIN

UPPER CANADA COLLEGE CADET RIFLES

The heart of the UCC Rifles is our training programme. Our training goal is clear and simple; to produce confident leaders. We call our programme Adventure Leadership Training. This recognizes that we teach leadership with the demanding environment of a skilled and disciplined unit, with particular emphasis on outdoor activities and we have had a successful year.

This past year, 1985, we held a winter indoctrination, our first in three years. Many obstacles were overcome and many valuable lessons were learnt. One was how to handle a 200 lb. magnesium toboggan with at least 400 lbs. of equipment. We discovered the ease with which one can travel over snow with snowshoes. We also learnt how to make a Quinzee — a snow shelter which resembles an Inuit igloo.

Our Annual Mess Dinner was held, once again, in March. Shortly after last year's dinner, Sgt. Simko completed the national testing and earned his gold star with the highest mark in Central Ontario Area. This earned him a place on the 14 day British cultural exchange which took place in April.

By June we had conducted field exercises at Norval and Meaford.

Our summer stand down saw five cadets attend summer camps, the largest number in many years and all can be quite proud of their achievements. LCpl. Scott Morgan attended camp for the first time and chose athletic leadership at CFB Borden. Cpl. Tim Young is the 17th's first staff cadet training cadets at Ipperwash, Sgt. Tom Simko attended his fourth summer course and Lt. Matt Bryden attended the parachutist course in Edmonton. Each of these cadets has been able to share something from his course with the rest of the Corps.

September heralded the start of a new year. October was very busy with security and other assistance as well as our display at the Annual Association Day, where we distributed our first issue of our newsletter 'The Rifles Report'. This was followed by a day exercise at Norval and a weekend range qualification weekend at CFB Borden. October was also the start of our ongoing service project at Sunnybrook Hospital Veterans Wing, where, under Cpl. Young's co-ordination, we have pro-

vided over 70 hours of service to date.

To mark Remembrance Day, 11 November, the Corps attended a service at Hart House and laid wreaths at the U of T Memorial before joining the Queen's Own Rifles and their affiliated units to parade to St. Paul's Anglican Church to attend, not only the church service, but also to lay wreaths at their Cross of Sacrifice. The day ended with a march back to Moss Park Armouries.

This is my last report as your commanding officer — I will be succeeded by Capt. G.A. Winnington-Ball, but I will, however, continue to serve as an officer with the Corps.

In closing I would like to express my personal appreciation to Lt. Col. Baskerville and the Q.O.R., Capt. Grennon and the Area Cadet Detachment Staff, Colonels Wasteneys and Fairclough of the Army Cadet League and to Mr. Mens our school staff liaison for their support over the years. I have saved one thanks to the

last because it is to me the most important — to the cadets. I have had the opportunity to share with you in countless experiences, both physical and psychological. You have let me share in your achievements, your challenges, your adventures and your ideas as well as your frustrations, your failures and disappointments, some of which I have often been the cause, but all in all, I continue to believe in you, your abilities, in your commitment, in your concern and above all, in our future. Last but not least to Senior Cadets Matt Bryden and Mike Eklund who have shared the leadership of the Corps for much of my term. Thank you for your patience, understanding and encouragement, your examples have set new standards in many areas for those who follow you. You should be justly proud of your contribution to the Rifles.

Good luck to you all.

CAPTAIN JOHN STEPHENS
COMMANDING OFFICER

OVER 65 YEARS CLUB - Q.O.R. LEGION BR. 344

The second running of 'The Queen's Own Rifles Salute' was held on Thursday, 25 July, 1985 at Woodbine Race Track, Toronto.

The winner was May Tune — a two year old maiden filly owned by Mrs. G.

McCullough, ridden by jockey George Hoosang.

Presenting the Mug Trophy from L-R: Al 'Stumpy' Gordon; Tony Cornett; Dick Ayton; and Carl Lewis.



SUMMER CONCENTRATION 1985

Soldiers jumped from the rear of an airborne Hercules and drifted under their parachutes to the sands of DZ ANzip. Summer trainees waited on the DZ and watched. Many were thrilled at the sight and would become jumpers themselves soon after. A full scale company attack followed and the lessons, hopefully, learned. The place was CFB Petawawa and the Queen's Own was acting as enemy at CMA's Summer Concentration, 1985.

We had to provide three realistic training situations, in the form of stands, so area units could practice their various infantry skills.

For the patrolling stand, a mock missile was lovingly constructed by Sgt. Wilmot and other experienced jumpers who thought they had seen it all. A telephone pole became a menacing rocket and cardboard and lots of tape made three fins.

The second stand involved a full frontal assault on dug-in units, which had to coordinate a relief while in the line while under this heavy fire and attack.

The third stand had the QOR attacking a dug-in position, where the defending units had to withdraw half a mile to a new position, but a determined enemy is a persistent enemy and the rifles harassed their every move. When the new position was occupied, WO Eykelhof and his summer course troops kept up the pressure and attacked again.

While being an enemy force can also have other benefits (lots of time off) it also enabled unit jumpers to get a jump from a Chinook when Major Hasek arranged a lift during a regular force jump bivouac. The QM stores and Command Post had to be fully operational at all times. These were run by Sgts. O'Connor and Martin who made the home base tent area on the Matawa a home away from home.

For many of the soldiers the beautiful beaches of the Ottawa River will be remembered just as clearly as the free wheeling manouvers.



1st Bn. The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, Active

The following is taken from the War Diary of the 1st Bn.

COMMANDING OFFICERS

Lt.-Col. H.C. MacKendrick, E.D.,
Lt.-Col. J.G. Spragge, D.S.O., O.B.E.,
E.D.

Lt.-Col. S.M. Lett, D.S.O.

1940 — June 5, 1st Bn. ordered to mobilize. June 29, Bn. moved to Camp Borden for training. July 23, Bn. inspected by Maj.-Gen. R.O. Alexander, D.S.O. August 6, Bn. entrained for Montreal. August 7, Bn. embarked S.S. Duchess of Richmond for Newfoundland. August 10, Bn. disembarked at Botwood, Newfoundland, and stationed at Newfoundland Airport, with a detachment at Botwood, November 25-December 7, left Newfoundland, in two fights, S.S. New Northland, and was stationed at Sussex, N.B. with 8 Bde., 3 Cdn. Div.

1941 — January 1-July 18, Bn. in training, Sussex, N.B. July 19, entrained for Halifax, N.S. July 20, embarked H.M.T. Strathmore. July 21, sailed for overseas, joining convoy 11.30 hours. July 28, H.M.S. Strathmore in the Clyde. July 29, Bn. disembarked at Gourrock, Scotland, and entrained for Aldershot. July 30, arrived at Aldershot, Mandora Barracks. September 10, the Bn. was inspected by our Colonel-in-Chief, H.M. Queen Mary. September 18, H.M. King George VI and H.M. Queen Elizabeth inspect the Bn. and 8 Bde. November 20, Bn. moved to Pippingford Park, Sussex.

1942 — April 30, Bn. moved to Pulborough, Sussex. May 14, Eastbourne. August Hassocks. October 18, Wykehurst Park.

1943 — April 30, Bn. moved to Shoreham. May 29, Moon Hill — Bolney Cross Roads. August 11, Denne Park, near Horsham. September 2-28 Inverary, Scotland. September 24-October 27, Hursley Camp and Barton Stacey. October 28, Boumemouth.

1944 — March 10, Bn. moved to Hornedeane and then to Chilworth. D-Day, June 6, the Bn. landed as assault Bn. at Bemiers Sur Mer, Normandy. June 11, Bretville. July 4-9, Carpiquet. August 4, Columbelles, Giberville. September 5, La Capelle. September 17, Bologne. September 25, Calais.

1945 — January 1, Huise Rhatia. January 17, Jan Kapel. January 25, Jan Nebo. January 30, Jan Ubbergen. February 10, Milligen. February 23, Roland. February 27, Kersel. March 4, Balgerwald. Mrch 6, Bogelkath. March 12, Reichswald Forest. April 1, Hochelton. April 22, Rheiderland Peninsula, River Ems. May 4, Austersander, N.W. Germany, all German troops surrendered unconditionally. May 7, Bn. H.Q. at Phillipsburg. As of October 17, the Bn. was located at Doorn, Holland.

SUMMARY OF PERSONNEL KILLED IN ACTION

Officers	21
Warrant Officer	1
Other Ranks	363
Total	385
Officers attached	2
Officers killed in Italy.....	1

CITATION

The King has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the Victoria Cross (posthumously) to:

B46495 Sergeant Aubrey Cosens, The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada.

In Holland on the night of 25th-26th February, 1945, the 1st Battalion The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada launched an attack on the hamlet of Moosof to capture ground which was considered essential for the successful development of future operations.

Sergeant Cosens' platoon with two ranks in support attacked enemy strongpoints in three farm buildings but were twice beaten back by fanatical enemy resistance and then fiercely counterattacked during which time the platoon suffered heavy casualties and the platoon commander was killed.

Sergeant Cosens at once assumed command of the only four survivors of his platoon whom he placed in a position to give him covering fire while he himself ran across open ground under heavy mortar and shell fire to the one remaining tank where, regardless of danger, he took up an exposed place in front of the turret and directed his fire.

After a further enemy counterattack had been repulsed, Sergeant Cosens ordered the tank to attack the farm buildings while the four survivors of his platoon followed in close support. After the tank had rammed the first building he entered it alone killing several of the defenders and taking the rest prisoners.

Single handed he then entered the

second and third buildings and personally killed or captured all the occupants although under intense machine gun and small arms fire.

Just after the successful reduction of these important enemy strongpoints Sergeant Cosens was shot through the head by an enemy sniper and died almost instantly.

The outstanding gallantry, initiative and determined leadership of this brave N.C.O. who himself killed at least 20 of the enemy and took an equal number of prisoners, resulted in the capture of a position which was vital to the success of the future operations of the brigade.

Aut. (Cdn. Army Routine Order, No. 5718, dated 26 May, 1945).

SUMMARY OF DECORATIONS

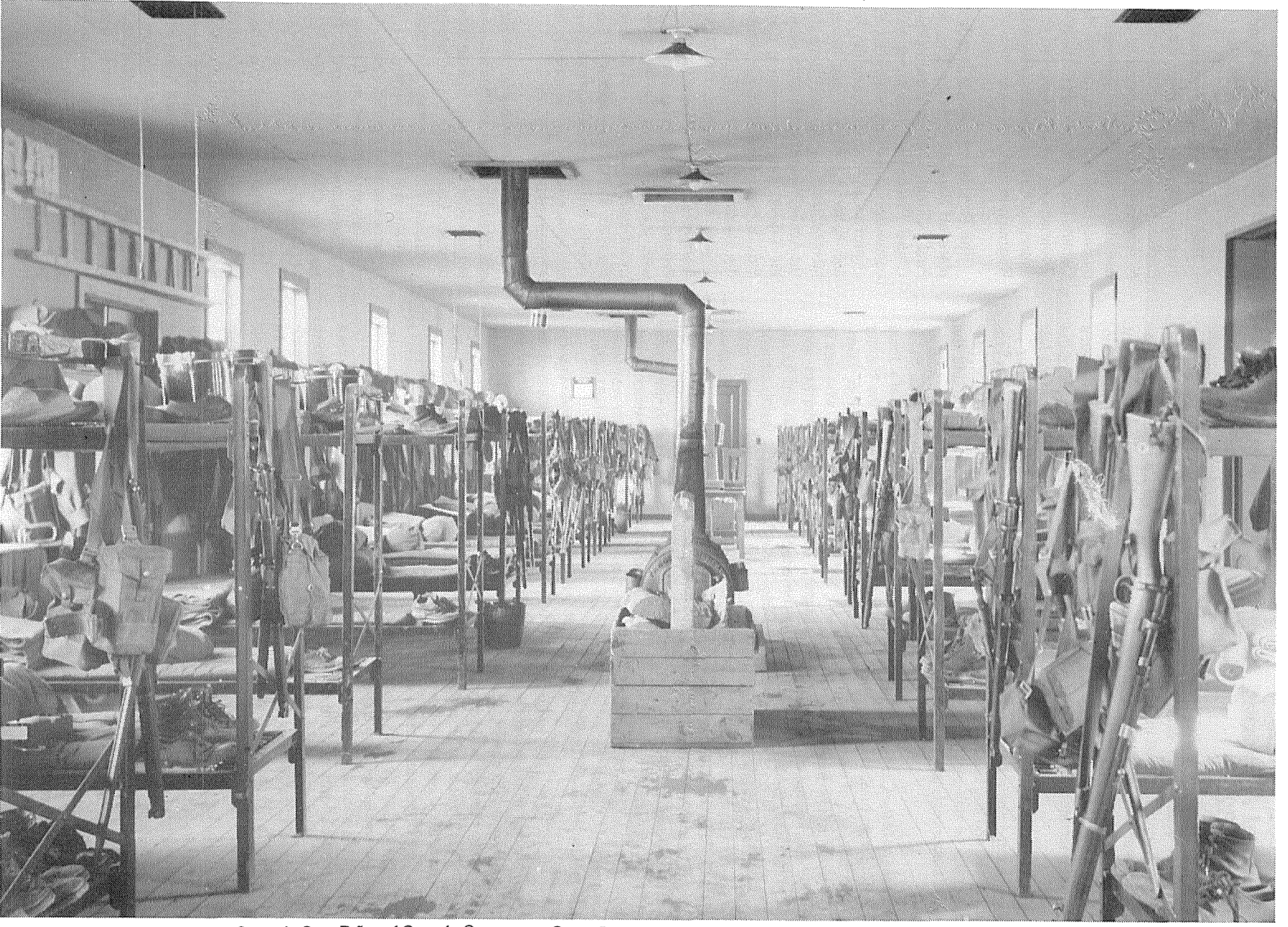
Awarded to Members of the 1st. Bn.

Q.O.R. of C., C.A.

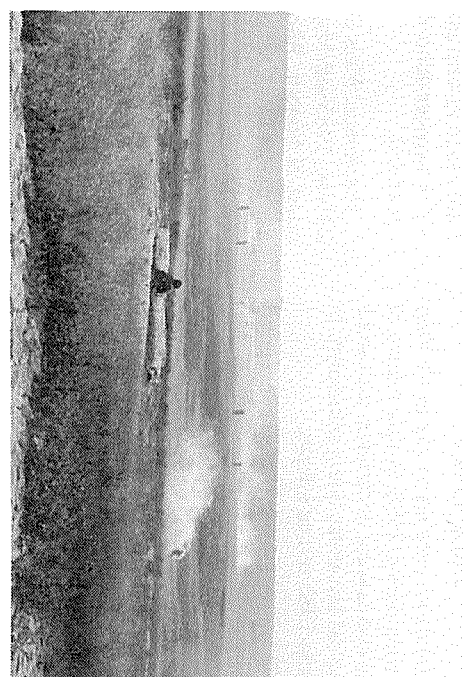
During World War II

V.C.	1	D.C.M.	2
D.S.O.	6	M.M.	10
M.C.	6	B.E.M.	1
O.B.E.	1	C. de G.	3
M.B.E.	2	M. in D.	12

NOTE: The above is the number of Decorations and Mention in Despatches awarded to Officers and Other Ranks of the 1st Bn. Complete records are not at present available, and there are possibly many omissions. The above list does not include members of the Regiment who were decorated while serving with other Units and Formations. Extract from "The Queen's Own Rifles Association of Canada Association 1945."



H-Hut — The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Quarters — Camp Borden during WWII. Photograph came from the estate of M. Blackwell.



OFFICERS' MESS REPORT

Attendance was up to par at all Mess functions during 1985. A new variety of social events were undertaken with some of the old favourites being withdrawn. In capsule 1985 ran as follows:

The Annual Ladies' Dining-In occurred 26 January, 1985. Our new caterer, Mr. Axel Jordan of the Old Viennese Restaurant provided an Austrian gourmet meal, complete with violinist. This exciting evening was a sell out two weeks prior to the event.

On 16 February, the newly formed Ladies' Association provided an interesting wine and cheese night, complete with a raffle for over 25 prizes. These prizes included such items as a weekend for two at the Hilton Harbour Castle Hotel, Binoculars, a Bell Telephone, Trip for Two to The Survival Game, a host of different wines, a Dinner for Two and a grand prize of a personal portrait valued at \$500. The grand prize was arranged by Mrs. Carey Rayment and won by Baron McCormick, friend of the regiment. Profits of the evening were donated by the Ladies' Association to the Pioneers & Skirmishers to assist with their activities.

The Garrison Ball, which was sponsored by the Governor General's Horse Guard and held at the Hilton Harbour Castle Hotel on 23 March, was well attended by all members of the Mess. As usual, the officers mess was temporarily established in the Prime Minister's Suite for that evening. Special thanks to Major John J. Whyte for his cooperation in obtaining this suite on behalf of the Mess.

In April a special 'mugging' out for recently departed officers was held. This event was organized by 2Lt. Brian Kerr and those 'mugged out' were Major Ray Descotes, Captains Arnie Wadsworth, Al Champion and Tony Stasiewicz.

Later that month, Mr. Stan Storms ('Stormy' to most of us) left the employment of the mess to be succeeded by our Assistant Steward, Felix Rodrigues. Felix had originally started with the Mess in November, 1984. During the day he is actively employed by the Royal Bank and has had considerable experience in the Royal Bank's Executive Dining Room. Also, Tanya Cullen of the Hilton Harbour Castle joined us as our Assistant Steward. Both have been well received by members of the Mess and are well liked.

On 1 May, 1985, Major John J. Whyte succeeded myself as PMC. This marks John's second term as PMC. Many of you will remember John during Bill Wilson's command.

The Annual Mess Dinner was held on 24 May, 1985 with Maj. Gen. Herb Pitts as guest of honour. Also acknowledged at this dinner was Captain Adam B.T. Hermant's contribution as PMC — prior to myself. As mentioned, this year marked the end of some of our 'old favourites'. Based on rising prices and other priorities it was decided to cancel the concept of the Lobster Party in favour of a more family oriented event. Unfortunately the correct venue and timings could not be arranged due to summer camp and exercises. Hopefully 1986 will see this new event.

During the Fall, the Mess actively prepared for the visit of Her Royal Highness, Princess Alexandra. However, due to the various events scheduled for the Royal Visit, a decision was made that the Mess would not host HRH.

On 14 December the Annual Officers' Luncheon started sharply at noon and was attended by over 75 associate officers. Displays included not only our current weapons and equipment, but also the new C-7 Rifle and the new L.M.G. Diemaco Ltd., manufacturer of the new service rifle was on hand with samples of the new weapons family.

What will 1986 bring?

With the level of activity in 1985, we are confident 1986 will be even more enjoyable.

MAJ. C.E. RAYMENT

JUNIOR RANKS MESS

The Junior Ranks Mess has had a great year starting with Levee 1985 where the highlight was our visit to HMCS York where we re-established long-lasting friendships and left with fond memories. Following the levee, there was the Beach Party. This was a fantastic success made possible by the monumental efforts of MCpl. Tenkortenaar.

The Mess has been the hub of many social events and concentrated efforts have been made with other institutions and civilian groups. Our visit to the Legion and the Normandy Airborne Parade in Oakville was a fine example of this. The Junior ranks are good ambassadors of the Regiment. Good times were enjoyed by all and MCpl. Tenkortenaar, this time

aided by his choir, proved that not only are we a fine regiment in the reserves, but also fine singers.

September saw elections in the Mess and a new executive committee was elected. MCpl. Tenkortenaar, who was largely responsible for a most successful year, stepped down as PMC. He will be missed in this role but will still be with us, leading the choir.

Our Christmas Dinner function was slightly different this year, but the important thing was that it was a demonstrable display of goodwill and warm feelings that we have toward each other. Many thanks were offered to the Regiment for their generosity toward the men in the form of some live entertainment.

In closing, our 1986 Levee again re-established our long standing friendship with our visit to 'the boat'.

All in all it has been a great year from our point of view and it is going to be very difficult to top it, but as said before, we have already started and hopefully will continue our momentum.

*MCPL. QUINN
PRESIDENT*

SERGEANTS' MESS REPORT

As is tradition, The Mess was readied for our New Year's Day Breakfast and Levee. WO II J. Resnick and his famous band of chefs were on hand to cook the back-bacon and eggs with our steward WO II W. Durance to attend to the bar, when the 'sky fell in'. That is to say, we all awoke to find three to four inches of that slippery white stuff on the ground, New Year's morning. This regrettably hindered some of our members from arriving until later in the morning and somewhat reduced the number of guests and members we are accustomed to have gather in the Mess.

However, as the day wore on, and with the excellent accompaniment of our Drums and Bugles, Mess visits and respects were paid to member Messes and other unit Levees. We are sure that all attending thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

This year a peculiarity arose, as we held our Ladies Night Dinner (normally held late in the year - 1984 that is), on January 12th, 1985. Approximately forty attended the dinner and I must state that the presentation and set-up under the offices of MWO Brian Budden and his volunteers

Were You There? Regimental Activities 1932

The Spring Training of the Regiment commenced on Wednesday evening, March 30th, and continued until the Garrison Church Parade, which was held on May 22nd. During the Spring the Regiment was inspected by Col. Reg. Pellatt, V.D., the Officer Commanding 6th Infantry Brigade.

On Sunday, May 15th, a Tactical Scheme was carried out in the vicinity of Bayview. The 1st and 2nd Battalions were well represented on this occasion and a considerable amount of instructional work was given.

On the occasion of the Garrison Church Parade the Regiment turned out approximately eight hundred of all ranks. The salute was taken by His Excellency the Governor-General in front of the Canadian Military Institute.

It will be of interest to everybody to hear that Major-General Robert Rennie, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., M.V.O., V.D., Honorary Lieut.-Colonel of the 2nd Battalion, was transferred to be Honorary Lieut.-Colonel of the 1st Battalion, and the vacancy thus caused by his transfer has been filled by the appointment of Col. A.E. Kirkpatrick, V.D., as Honorary Lieut.-Colonel of the 2nd Battalion.

Over the week-end of July 1st four hundred of all ranks of the Regiment, combined with strong representations from the 10th Royal Grenadiers and the 48th Highlanders went into Camp at Niagara-on-the-Lake. The Brigade embarked on the S.S. "Chippewa" at 9 o'clock Thursday evening and arrived in Camp at midnight. Although the weather was unfavorable it was possible to carry out considerable training in extended order work, camp duties, guards, picquets, etc. The Brigade returned to Toronto on Sunday afternoon.

On Sunday morning a Church Parade was held which was attended by Major-General E.C. Ashton, C.M.G. and his staff. The Service was taken by Captain the Reverend Stuart Parker, Chaplain of the 48th Highlanders.

A special chapter must be devoted to the success of the Regiment in rifle shooting during the past year. In the Ontario Rifle Association Marches the Regiment had thirty entries and in team matches

were successful in winning the Tait Cup and the Jubilee Cup. In the individual matches the Lieutenant-Governor's Medal was won by C.Q.M.S. W.C. Morrish, and the City of Toronto and All-Comers Aggregate by C.S.M. Norman J. McLeod. At the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association Matches held at the Connaught Ranges at Ottawa, the Regiment had fourteen entries and individuals and teams upheld the time-honored tradition of the Regiment as riflemen by winning the following trophies: — In team matches — the Aylmer Gard Trophy, the Coates Trophy, the City of Ottawa Trophy, the Donald Trophy, the Gascoigne and the Woods Trophy. We were successful in individual matches by Sergt. E.G. Stock winning the Governor-General's Prize and the Macdougall Trophy, the Helmer Trophy being won by Capt. R.S. Harrison, M.C. Lieut. A.C. Lucas, who was in England during the Bisley Matches, shot as an unattached officer and tied for the Daily Times Match, took twelfth place in the Grand Aggregate, and was the only representative from Toronto who finished in the final one hundred for the King's Prize. A team representing the Regiment shot at the ranges in Guelph during the year and was successful in winning back the John Crowe Cup, which was taken from us in 1931 by the 48th Highlanders.

It was with considerable pride that the Regiment learned of the selection of the following members of the Regiment for the Bisley Team to represent Canada in 1933:

Q.C.M.S. W.C. Morrish
C.S.M. Norman J. McLeod
Sergt. E.G. Stock

The Regimental Rifle Match took place on Saturday afternoon, September 23rd. There was an exceptionally large attendance from the Active Battalions and from the Association. The entire programme for the afternoon was carried out successfully in spite of passing showers.

It was a source of deep regret to all ranks of the Regiment when the genial Officer Commanding the 1st Battalion, Lieut.-Col. F.H. Wood, decided that owing to the demands made upon his time by his profession he found it necessary to make application for transfer to one of the Reserve Battalions. His appointment has been filled by the promotion of Major R.B. Gibson, V.D.

Representatives of the Regiment

attended the Canadian Small Arms School at Ottawa during August and were successful in obtaining certificates.

The Fall Training of the Regiment commenced on Wednesday evening, September 28th, and continued until November 9th, when the Annual Inspection and Muster Parade took place. The inspection was carried out by Major-General E.C. Ashton, C.M.G., the Officer Commanding Military District No. 2, who expressed his entire satisfaction with the Regiment in every respect.

The Regimental Church Parade took place on Sunday, October 23rd, to St. Paul's Church. On this occasion, the first Church Parade of the Regiment since the completion of the Memorials in the Churchyard and inside the Church, the Parade was halted on Bloor Street facing the Memorial and wreaths were deposited by the Active Battalions, the Association and the Associations representing Canadian Expeditionary Force units perpetuated in the Regiment, and the Upper Canada College Cadet Battalion. The Regiment then moved into the Church and a fitting ceremonial was carried out in connection with the removal of the Book of Remembrance from its case on the shrine to the altar. Immediately following the service the Book was returned to its case and the keys returned to the custody of the Churchwardens.

On Sunday, November 6th, the Regiment carried out a Tactical Scheme consisting of a Rear Guard Action from the road between Lansing and Oriole, two and a half miles north of Bayview, to a defended position on Bayview Heights. This Scheme was in connection with the Canadian Infantry Association Competition, the Examining Officer being Col. F.H.H. Hertzber, C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C., G.S.O. M.D. No. 2

These brief remarks would not be complete without reference to the unfailing loyalty of all ranks in their attendance at parades and other functions in which the Regiment takes part, and in no little degree is the success of the Regiment attributable to the efficiency of the Brass and Bugle Bands. The Bands are numerically stronger at the present time than for many years and have reached a high degree of perfection in their playing.

Extracted from "The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Association. 1932"

BOB RAE'S REPORT

The year was 1944. The date was 11 November; twenty-sixth anniversary of the end of World War I. After a leave interlude in Ghent, Belgium, following bitter fighting to clear the Scheldt Estuary, the First Battalion of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada was moving into another flooded area, the Nijmegen perimeter. The advance camp of the 3rd Canadian Press Relations Unit— to which I had been posted — was also moving forward from Antwerp, after a battering from V1 rockets, to Breda, our first bivouac in Holland.

Arriving in Breda early in the afternoon and settling into billets along the canal, I walked toward the centre of the town. While walking alone, viewing the sights, I was bade a "good-day" by a passing Dutchman. The greeting was in the English language; a welcome surprise to be addressed thus on a European street. I fell into step beside my new friend and remarked on his excellent English. I was assured that the language was not "English"; it was "Canadian." This startled me, but the speaker went on rapidly to proudly explain that he had lived in Canada, Admittedly only for a few months. His greatest wish was to return to Canada when the war year had passed.

His name was John Francis, anglicized from Jan Francoise. While in Canada he had worked on tobacco and dairy farms near Brantford, Hamilton and Guelph. Although John had skated a great deal on the frozen canals of Holland in winter, he had never played hockey. As most of his new found Canadian friends were members of the Simcoe intermediate hockey team, John assiduously devoted himself to practice. In a short time he had a great satisfaction in playing on a team with his friends.

There was still beer to be had in Holland, and in the custom that exists the whole world over, John and I bent elbows together over a couple of glasses. He then took me home to meet his family. I was invited to stay for supper, but, knowing of the desperate food shortage, I declined. He insisted that I must come for dinner on another night before we left Breda.

In early 1939, enticed by Canada — "Land of Opportunity", John emigrated to Ontario and, according to regulations, went to work on the land. But the winds of war were stirring over Europe and John was faced with a difficult decision; to bring his fiancée to Canada or to return to Hol-

land. He sailed back to Europe in August, joined the small Dutch army, which despite a brave but futile stand, was quickly over-run. He did get married and, at the time of this story, was the father of two little boys. He was training them, as he put it, in "Canadian customs and speech." On the day our armoured forces liberated Breda, little Pieter, aged four, welcomed the leading troops with an outstretched hand and made stiff but sincere little speech: "How do you do? We are glad to see you."

The dinner, a few days later, was a happy affair. I brought along my 'once-a-month' issue bottle of Scotch and some chocolate, biscuits and other treats which I had received in a parcel. My host produced a flagon of "Jenever" (Dutch gin)". So we had a couple of 'quick ones' and then took our places at the dinner table. It was attractively set with white cloth, napkins and a silver service which had been brought from its hiding place.

At the head of the table sat John's best friend, Doctor Piet Melief; he sparkingly explained that his last name in English meant "my dear." Piet was a medium-build, good-looking captivating Dutchman. He and John were a contrast of two natures; Piet being alert, quick and polished — John the quiet, sturdy, "son of the soil" type. Both were firm, fast friends who would shortly share a two-family house. The two wives were attractive Dutch ladies and completing our party was a lively, little white-haired woman, John's mother-in-law.

The menu was excellent; a visit to a farm had produced a ham and potatoes. Best part of all, of course, was a change from army rations and the opportunity to bask in a home-like atmosphere. We even had a long-treasured bottle of wine with the meal. Over coffee, brought from some secret cache, Piet regaled us with Dutch after-dinner stories.

The dinner table talk turned to the happy days of liberation. On the advance of our troops, Dr. Piet and John had organized the people of their village and farm district for protection. Culverts under the highway were banked up and pumped dry. In each culvert some two hundred people sheltered, not for a few short hours, but for twelve days during which the fire from both sides had raged on and over their homes. Another shelter was in the creamery of the town dairy; a large cellar provided cover, with a layer of sand and dirt, a metre and a half deep, on the floor above. In the butter cellar of the

creamery Dr. Piet had delivered two babies during the bombardment. Five people were killed when they elected to be "spectators" rather than remain in the prepared shelters.

During dinner we were visited by a sad-eyed woman in black and her two timid children. They had dropped in to pay a social call. When they had gone I was told that the woman's husband had been drafted for forced labour in Germany just two days before our forces reached the village. When he refused to go, he was taken into the central square and shot.

Quick to sense the depression that had saddened our party, Dr. Melief went to the piano. First of all for my entertainment he played popular tunes then he turned to Chopin, Bach and other classical composers. He was an accomplished pianist and a fine showman. Changing mood again, he played "Daisy, Daisy, Give Me Your Answer Do" in the usual manner, then as an English folk song, followed by the same tune in the tempo and style of Mozart and Beethoven, as a Hungarian rhapsody and finally as a tango. It was exhilarating entertainment. At my urgent request he played some of the songs and dance music of Holland. He played stirring martial airs derived from sieges of Dutch towns, reflecting the brave and enduring spirit of a patriotic people. He then played some lilting dance tunes to which his wife and John's mother-in-law gaily danced. The older woman was flushed and excited, and as full of life as a young girl.

The musical programme was brought to a close by the notes of Big Ben on the radio signifying that it was nine o'clock and time for the B.B.C. news from London. A voluntary hush fell on our little circle and persisted until the last news item was completed. Just like this, John said, they had listened to the news during the occupation; but then the radio was tuned very low, curtains were drawn and friends took turn on guard outside the house. I felt, for a moment, that I had been in a home in Nazi-occupied Europe, and almost listened for the steps of the Gestapo outside the door.

Following the news our conversation took a more serious note. We were all confident that victory would be accomplished although there would still be severe fighting on the border and in crossing the Rhine.

It was nearing midnight, curfew was at hand, so I reluctantly took leave of my friends after a very happy evening.

LIEUT. BOB RAE

was absolutely beautiful.

It was nice to see Sergeant Ivan Hill and his lady at the dinner and, of course, all the ladies — bless them for their tolerance with the Armed Services.

Cosens Night Dinner in February this year was held in the Mess Parlours, "Buffet Style" without the attendance of our Command Junior NCO's at a formal dining-in, as in the past. It sure was nice to see Big Jim LeSage in attendance along with our full complement of Regular Support Staff for the unit.

In March, of course, was the annual Sergeants' Mess Dinner, held on this occasion in the Artillery Officers' Mess due to lack of facilities elsewhere.

It must be stated here that a debt of gratitude is due to WO G.N. Senetchko, MWO B. Budden and then Sergeant, (now Warrant Officer) — "congratulations" J. Figa. Their time and effort in staging this function ensured its total success.

In the event you are inclined to think (incorrectly we might add), that the Regiment was only involved in dinners etc. let me assure you that all forms of unit training and military requirements continued as laid down in orders — "no peace for the wicked", one might say.

In April, in celebration of our 125th Regimental Birthday, the unit fired a "Feu de Joie" after much practice under the watchful eye of RSM (CWO) R. Chan, C.D. RSM Chan, as you no doubt know, was elevated to the position, on the retirement of CWO H. McCabe, MMM C.D., in February 1985. However, some of our readers may not be aware that Mr. McCabe has accepted the position of District Regimental Sergeant Major; quite an honour and very deserving, we might add.

We are now in the midst of endeavouring to redecorate the Mess in order to prepare for the visit of our Colonel in Chief in November 1985. Activities in the Mess diminish somewhat from the Regimental Birthday onwards and, of course, are at a very low ebb during summer stand down of the Regiment.

However, now that we have returned to duty we will be working up to our Fall and Christmas functions, i.e. Our Colonel in Chief's visit with the attendant celebrations, Royal Winter Fair Opening and Guards of Honour, Harbour Castle Dinner, Church Parade etc. Following "hard on the heels" of the foregoing will be the

Mess Decorating Party in December and, of course, our Famous Wine and Cheese Party in the Mess in conjunction with the Regimental Children's Christmas party, (Hi to S/Sgt. Jack Brown C.D. — our Santa Claus — at a most important occasion). At this point in the Mess Chronicle it is my sad duty to advise of the passing of a number of our Mess Members during the past year. The following are no longer with us, but are certainly not forgotten; Mr. T.J. Howard CWO (RSM) in February, 1985; Mr. A.W. Browning, gentleman member in February, 1985; and the wife of our Mess Steward — Mrs. R. Durance in May, 1985. Our condolences to their families and friends.

On a brighter note, we welcome to the Mess the following personnel: A new Warrant Officer — Mike Bludd C.D. to replace WO Gord Jackson on our unit Regular Support Staff and Sergeant John Wilmot — good to see both of you.

In closing, we wish to emphasize to all our members that we really appreciate your support and would ask that you continue to assist with both your valued attendance and constructive comments or criticism — remember without this, we will not know if we are "on track", or not, to satisfy our membership. Write or phone anytime, better still, visit your Regiment and your Mess any Monday or Wednes-

day night and join us for a chat and some refreshment.

Keep the Regimental Family in touch with one another, always, God Bless.

WO John Bennett CD.
SECRETARY

BRIDGE NAMED AFTER WAR HERO

Residents of Latchford, their Mayor, George Lefebvre, the Town Council, together with the assistance of Gus Goutouski, President, Br. 344 QOR Legion, successfully campaigned to have a bridge in the town of Latchford named after their wartime hero — Sgt. Aubrey Cosens.

Latchford, a small town 120 kilometres northeast of North Bay was the home town of Sgt. Aubrey Cosens, posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross after he was killed in action in Holland during W.W.II while serving with The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada.

On 31 May, 1986, Major Ben Dunkelman, who was Cosens' Company Commander, will have the honour of unveiling the bronze plaque on the cairn (monument) adjacent to the bridge now known as Cosens Bridge which spans the Montreal River on Hwy 11 in Latchford.



Captain Adam B.T. Hermant, OStJ, Managing Editor receives his Canadian Decoration from LCol. J.F. Lake, Hon. Lt. Col.

ONCE (UPON A TIME) IN THE QUEEN'S OWN

It was late May or early June of 1939 when King George VI and Queen Elizabeth visited Canada and the Queen's Own were given the privilege of providing the Guard of Honour for their arrival at Union Station, Toronto. Militia regiments were pretty thin in those days but we obviously made up for our limited numbers and sparse antiquated World War I equipment by our superb quality, dedication and enthusiasm.

Major Bill Bryan, CO of B Coy. was tasked with commanding the Guard and Lieutenants Edward Dunlop and Charles Dalton were the junior officers of the Guard. Some thought that this was because they were the best officers, others alleged it was because they looked the most elegant and others said it was because they were the only ones able to afford the full dress uniforms — or borrow enough parts to make their uniforms complete. Perhaps the truth is a bit of each!

Sgt. Maj. Art Freeman of the RCR, from the 3000 member permanent force which was Canada's total regular Navy, Army and Air Force establishment in 1939, was charged with whipping us into shape. Although I was a relatively green recruit, I was chosen to serve on this 'elite' guard. Sad to say in those days we had a very limited number of full dress rifle green uniforms, bearskin busbies and black leather gaiters. Positions on the Guard thus went to those who could be fitted into what was available in the way of uniforms. Another important qualification was to own a decent pair of black boots as they were not issued in those days and every recruit had to supply his own. Fortunately, I had picked up a pair almost like new from one of the better pawn shops on York Street long before their move to the more fashionable Church and Queen Streets area of today.

One had to see or smell our uniforms to believe them. I think they had been in mothballs since the time Sir Henry took the regiment to England in 1910 (or 1911?). Some hardy moths had already done their dirty work — the thread was bare and many mothers, wives, girlfriends spent hours stitching, darning and darning until they were more or less fit to be worn — and worn to fit.

Proudly, we went on our first 'green'

parade at the old University Avenue Armouries and it was painfully obvious that the years of storage and mildew had caused the uniforms to fade to different shades of green. Fortunately, the regiment was blessed with a distinguished officer, Roger Clarkson whose family happened to own Parkers Dye Works who went to work getting the uniforms all one colour and back to us before the arrival of the King and Queen.

We trained night after night and on weekends. CSM Freeman persisted with incredible patience. Maj. Bill Bryan managed to keep his blood pressure below critical levels and Lieutenants Dalton and Dunlop continued to look elegant.

Normal militia dress was W.W.I khaki uniforms with puttees — the latter designed to test your skill as a contortionist and also to enable you to pinch-hit bandaging casualties or preparing mummies for interment. We were required to wear these to Union Station carrying our carefully cleaned, dyed uniforms so that they would not be endangered as one travelled on foot or by street car, if we had the 7 cent fare in those depression years. (3 cents if you were short enough to qualify for childrens fare).

On arrival at Union Station we changed into our 'greens' in the Oak Room and formed up outside the station. Through an unforgettable series of precise manoeuvres, which we proceeded to forget, we ended up into a properly sized guard — 7 cent fares on either end tapering to 3 cent fares in the centre. We stood then for what seemed like hours, just in case the Royal Train arrived early, but we stood manfully and proudly, even if a bit self consciously, basking in the glory of the occasion with thousands of curious and loyal citizens crowding the area, and every window of the Royal York examining us with great awe. St. Maj. Freeman observed us with apprehension.

Finally, the great moment came. A hush came over the crowds, Maj. Bryan brought us to attention and their Majesties emerged from the station — the command — 'Queen's Own Rifles Honour Guard — Royal Salute — Present Arms!'. The band played the Royal Anthem and the King inspected our two ranks while the Queen and MacKenzie King looked on. We were nervous kids, but very proud Canadian kids.

The Royal Couple and Prime Minister, drove off to other ceremonies which

crammed their schedule. We were marched back into the Oak Room, changed into our khakis and rushed up to the Parliament Buildings at Queen's Park to be ready for the arrival of their Majesties. Rigidly at attention, anticipating another glimpse of the Royal Couple, we were astonished to find that a mounted escort placed themselves in front of us — (backside facing us). Loyally and obediently we presented arms and the horses proceeded to rudely respond to the excitement of the moment.

Once the King and Queen were safely in the Legislature, we were marched down University Avenue where we lined the streets outside the Toronto General Hospital. Their Majesties, after leaving Queen's Park, drove past the adoring throngs crowding the then tree lined boulevard and slowly the Royal cavalcade drove past us as we presented arms for the third time that day. The mounted cavalry guard, fortunately, passed at right angles to us and we were spared any further indignity.

The next day we went to St. Catharines and Niagara Falls by train — lined more streets, presented arms time and again as the King travelled from place to place. Perhaps the most moving moment was lining the Rainbow Bridge or Peace Bridge crossing the Niagara River to the United States. We were the last Canadians to present arms as their Majesties left our country on the Royal Train. Amongst others, I placed a quarter on the track to be impressed by the weight of that train.

What a few days! We formed guards, lined streets, presented arms at numerous locations. The King, who would not have noted the same faces everywhere he went, was so encouraged by the size of his forces in Canada, that he declared war three months later.

LT. COL. B.J. DANSON

(Author's Note: The sequence and details may differ from the memories of others and from the facts. The story, in essence is a reasonably accurate reflection of that visit and of a Monarch we remember with respect and affection, and a gracious Queen who we are blessed to have to this day as our beloved Queen Mother. The quarter flattened by the Royal Train spent the war years in my money belt as a lucky charm. Tragically, those carried by many others did not prove so lucky.)

BOOK REVIEW 'IN WATER AND FIRE; THE WAR IN THE NIJMEGEN SALIENT'

World War II veterans of the 8th Canadian Infantry Brigade, together with their support troops who served in the initial stages of Operation Veritable will be pleased to know that their efforts have been recognized in a recently published book in the Netherlands.

Margot Van Boldrik of the village of Beek by Nijmegen in her book "In Water and Fire — The War in the Nijmegen Salient" cites certain operations carried out by the three battalions of the brigade, together with their support artillery, the 13th Field Regiment, RCA. The liberation of the villages Erlicom, Kekeerdom, Leuth, Zandpol and Millingen by the North Shore New Brunswick Regiment, Le Regiment de la Chaudiere and The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada are graphically described. Mention is made of the water borne operation which occurred at the time. Individuals such as Leo Larose and Laurent Lazuire, officers with the Chaudieres and Ben Dunkelman, Company Commander with The Queen's Own, together with others are quoted in the book.

Miss Van Boldrik makes excellent use of pictures and information provided by the Canadian War Museum and the Department of Veterans Affairs to relate her story. The book was published in 1984 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Beek-Ubbergen area liberation.

Price — In Dutch Funds
English Edition f49.75
Postage Sea Mail f6.25
Air Mail f13.50
Order: Miss Margo Van Boldrik
Rijkstraatweg 81
6573 CK Beek-Ubbergen
Netherlands.

1984 BELGIUM PILGRIMAGE

On October 26, 1984, the Honourable Allan McKinnon, along with an official Canadian delegation of 13 veterans, four youth representatives and several veterans association and government officials, left Canada for ceremonies commemorating the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Belgium. I was honoured and fortunate to have been selected to represent our Regiment.

The 10 day pilgrimage was organized by DVA at the request of many Belgium cities and towns liberated by the Canadians in 1944. It was an emotional pilgrimage for the veterans as we returned to the cemeteries, memorials and other sites marking the sacrifice of our friends and comrades.

The first stop on the pilgrimage was a visit to the Bergen-Op-Zoom Canadian War Cemetery in Holland. Nine hundred and sixty Canadians lie buried there, most of whom died while fighting to open the sea approaches to Antwerp — the strategic Belgian port for vital allied supplies during the Second World War.

The following day was a full one as we travelled to the Dutch border town of Eede near the Leopold Canal, an area which saw some of the fiercest and deadliest fighting during the Battle of the Scheldt. In a brief but moving ceremony at the town memorial, we unveiled a plaque to commemorate the units which helped liberate the region. After the ceremony we attended a war exhibition in nearby Aardenburg before returning to the City of Ghent for a concert presented by the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Band. This was followed by a reception at City Hall in the historic Salle de Pacification where we unveiled a bronze plaque marking the arrival of Canadian troops in 1944.

Throughout the pilgrimage we were greeted with respect and admiration from local officials and residents. In Knokke-Heist, hundreds of Canadian flags dotted the downtown area as 2,000 marchers turned out for the annual Canadian Liberation March on November 1, 1984.

In 1944, in the face of bitter resistance, it took the Canadian Forces nearly four months to cover the 33 km route between Hoofdplatt, Holland and Knokke-Heist, Belgium. Forty years later, Max Yalden, Canadian Ambassador to Belgium, and a contingent of Canadian soldiers from

Lahr, Germany, were among the local marchers who completed the distance in under six hours. This was the eleventh annual re-enactment of the Canadian Liberation March and the first time an official delegation of Canadian veterans was present to witness the tribute. Spirited applause followed the veterans as we joined the marchers to the War Monument for the wreathlaying ceremony.

From Knokke-Heist we journeyed south to the Adegem Canadian War Cemetery. Here there are 1121 headstones, 844 of them marking the resting place of Canadian soldiers, airmen and sailors who were casualties of the Battle of the Scheldt.

After an emotional placing of wreaths, we walked slowly among the rows of headstones, usually alone, occasionally stopping before the grave of a friend and offer private respects.

Shelly Burnham, 18, was among the four Canadians chosen by the Terry Fox Centre to accompany the delegation. Moved by the evidence of sacrifice at Adegem, Shelly quietly put into words the thoughts she shared with the other youth representatives: "I see the young ages of the soldiers buried here and realize that I and my friends are the same age. To be here seeing this makes me understand what these men have gone through and I feel close to them . . ."

During the course of this pilgrimage we were amazed by the changes in the countryside we helped liberate 40 years ago. Beautiful, well-kept homes and orderly rows of harvested fields now belie the wet miserable wartorn land we knew in 1944. Occasionally though, a veteran would point to a familiar structure or landmark and recall the memory of a narrow escape or fallen comrade.

On Sunday, 4 November, we attended the annual Remembrance Day ceremony at Vimy, France to honour more than 66,000 Canadians who lost their lives in the First World War. During the hour long ceremony held in a chilling wind, members of the delegation bowed reverently as each of us laid a wreath at the base of the Vimy memorial in tribute to those who went before.

Before departing from Brussels on 7 November, we gathered to exchange heartfelt thoughts on the pilgrimage.

For us it was an unforgettable return. For all members of the delegation it was a true honour to pay tribute to the memory of those Canadians who died to protect the freedom we enjoy today.

LT. COL. MOORE I. JACKSON

1945 - WE DO REMEMBER - 1985

The newly formed committee for the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the Netherlands asked our compatriots, the 48th Highlanders to join with us in this commemoration. The National Committee was headed by our Colonel Elliot Dalton as Chairman, myself (Jack Martin) as Vice-Chairman, John Missons as a Member and Joe Resnick as our Public Relations Officer. Our Honorary Chairman, Maj-Gen. Chris Vokes sad to say, passed away just two months before we were to leave for Holland.

To properly organize such a venture takes at least two years and we were very fortunate to have had the close cooperation of the Burgomeister of Appeldoorn, who, quite enamoured with the 48th, went to bat for all Canadian Veterans. To begin with, one must realize that nearly every European country is bankrupt, or close to it therefore the Dutch government were reluctant to relinquish any funds until sufficient pressure was brought to bear by the seven municipalities who agreed to take part in the celebrations/commemorations. These seven were — Appeldoorn, Barneveld, Arnhem, Deventer, Groningen Holten and Nijmegen.

There seems to be quite a controversy as to what regiment actually liberated the City of Appeldoorn. The City and the 48th both say that the 48th were the ones, while the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment and the Royal Canadian Regiment claim the same honour. Colonel Stacey's History of WWII says that the RCR were the ones with the Hasty P's and the 48th in support. After receiving several letters from former RCR members we agreed that the RCR Permanent Force Band would lead the parade and not the 48th as the people of Appeldoorn wanted.

In a meeting shortly after our arrival, Colonel Dalton conceded that we had not arrived to start WW III and so the 48th were left to start the parade instead of the RCR. A parade of some 6000-7000 Canadian Veterans was being formed up within the palace grounds, when, with no instructions, the 48th band took off leaving their own Old Comrades Association, the Colour Parties and the rest of the parade without a band. The parade, as it turned out, was a huge success. There was absolutely no crowd control, parts of the

parade were forced to march single file through the dense crowds. Colonel Dalton was in the lead jeep, I was in the second jeep and John Missons was leading the Colour Party.

At the saluting base, Colonel Dalton's jeep stopped and he dismounted and approached the stand and saluted Princess Margriet who was taking the salute. My jeep continued through the crowds and bouquet after bouquet descended upon us until there was at least a three foot stack of flowers in the back of the jeep. Little children handed us tulips with the familiar orange ribbons tied to them, women reached out and kissed us, while older residents waved from the crowds with tears streaming down their faces — a sight I shall never forget. This parade was the highlight of the whole trip. The Dutch people came from miles around and they were not disappointed.

Some of the prominent Queen's Own who also participated with us were Padre Jack Clough, Col. Glen McIver, CSM Charlie Martin, Jim Tran, Archie McQuade, Chas Cadieux, Ira Bowman, Danny MacInnis, Bill MacDonald, Bob Gordon, George Goodale, Bob Nicol, Lloyd Turner, Joe Oggy, Art Gay, Hank Killham, Francis Tascona, Larry Desjardins, Bill Adair, Freddie Crompton and Ernie Hughson.

Most of the veterans were billeted in private homes and new friends were made. Two veterans, sad to say, passed



away while over there, probably from the excitement.

Our visit came to an end with a large farewell party which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The hospitality of the Dutch people remains unequalled (particularly to Canadian Veterans) and this trip will live in our memories for a long time to come. There are, of course, many stories to tell and someday I will tell you how I was recognized and made it to that far off rank of 'General'.

JACK MARTIN, CQMS



THE VISIT OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS ALEXANDRA AND THE HONOURABLE ANGUS OGILVY NOVEMBER 6 TO 10, 1985

The Colonel-in-Chief and Mr. Angus Ogilvy arrived in Ottawa on Wednesday, November 6. From that moment until Sunday November 10 at the Hilton Harbour Castle Hotel in Toronto the royal visit to the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada was an overwhelming success.

Her Royal Highness was accompanied by Miss Mona Mitchell, private secretary and who like her employer is tall, elegant and calm.

Our first glimpse of the Royal Couple was at the Toronto International Airport where Her Royal Highness was presented with a bouquet of flowers by Alisa Louise Budden (age 6) a regimental daughter. The Royal Couple were then introduced to regimental dignitaries and the Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Ontario and Mrs. Lincoln Alexander.

Our next glimpse of the Royal Couple, was at a luncheon at the Sutton Place Hotel given by the Premier of Ontario the Honourable David Peterson and Mrs. Shelley Peterson. Before the luncheon,

Princess Alexandra held one of her familiar "walkabouts" with the guests. This familiar royal custom was started by Princess Alexandra many years ago and has since become an established and successful part of royal visits.

The following day Her Royal Highness and the Honourable Angus Ogilvy were guests for dinner at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John Craig Eaton. After dinner the Royal Couple were honoured at the Canadian National Exhibition Coliseum to receive the traditional guard of honour from the regiment. The ceremonies were in honour of the official opening of the 57th Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. Before opening the Winter Fair Her Royal Highness and Mr. Ogilvy rode around the 'ring' in an open landau to the applause of the red and black coated opening night audience.

The following day Saturday turned out to be the coldest day of this November month and consequently the regiment had to scramble to adjust to the inclement weather for a parachute drop at CFB Borden.

The Princess arrived back at the hotel by 1600 hrs. for a much needed free time and shopping at Eaton Centre.

The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada 125th anniversary dinner was held on Saturday night in the hotel for all ranks. The highlight of the visit was RSM Duncan Green toasting the Queen on behalf of the regiment. Head table guests included Capt. Bernie Aaron, President of the Queen's Own Rifles Association. LCol Bill Barnard, curator of the regimental museum, the Honorary Colonel Brigadier General J. Neil Gordon and the Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Jack Lake and all their ladies. The head table was completed when LCol Grahame Baskerville, Connie Baskerville and Her Royal Highness with the Honourable Mr. Angus Ogilvy proceeded to the Metropolitan Dining Room to officially welcome all 600 ranks to the magnificent dinner.

Captain Bernie Aaron, the dinner chairman, then announced that Lieutenant Colonel Jack Lake would say grace. Later on in the evening the loyal toast was proposed by Warrant Officer Duncan Green. Her Royal Highness replied to her toast by responding with a toast to the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada.

Many cuttings of birthday cake and presentation of gifts to Her Royal Highness officially ended the dinner. The Royal Couple then mingled with the guests for a half hour and retired to the royal suite to hopefully chat about the highlights of their visit.

On Sunday Her Royal Highness dressed in bright red arrived at St. Paul's

Church where she and Mr. Ogilvy were met by the commanding officer. The regiment was formed up in front of the Cross of Sacrifice. After the laying of wreaths presentations were made by the rector, the venerable Canon Dann; of the Preacher the reverend Dr. Leonard Griffith and the wardens and church administrator Mr. Rex King.

The regimental church service in all its splendour finished with the bugles playing the last post and God Save the Queen from the Altar chancel.

The Mayor of the City of Toronto, His Worship Arthur Eggleton and Mrs. Eggleton presented the City of Toronto executive aldermen and their spouses at a reception prior to a luncheon hosted by the City of Toronto.

The luncheon in honour of the regiment was for 500 guests in the Frontenac Ballroom of the hotel. Her Royal Highness and Mr. Ogilvy met practically everyone who was associated with the regiment as all the guests were from all ranks past and present.

Photographs of Officer's, Senior NCO's and bands of the regiment were taken followed by a most moving ceremony.

Her Royal Highness presented the rifleman of the year awards to the President, Royal Canadian Legion, Mr. Gus Goutouski and to Mrs. Joyce Reddin, General Manager — Regimental Headquarters.

Farewells, as all wonderful things have to come to an end.

The Commanding Officer, Honorary Colonel and Honorary Lieutenant Colonel with their wives and Miss Joyce Brocklehurst were presented with a framed photograph of Her Royal Highness and Mr. Angus Ogilvy in honour of the visit, and as a gift to indicate a lasting memento of the 125th anniversary of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada.

There wasn't a great deal of free time for the Princess during her visit as almost every minute of her time was spoken for. Those of us who came in contact with her throughout the week-end can realize how charming and popular she is. Princess Alexandra has been our Colonel-in-Chief for twenty five years and her enthusiasm for the regiment is as ardent today as it was in 1960.

LCOL JGB STRATHY
CHAIRMAN
125TH ANNIVERSARY

