



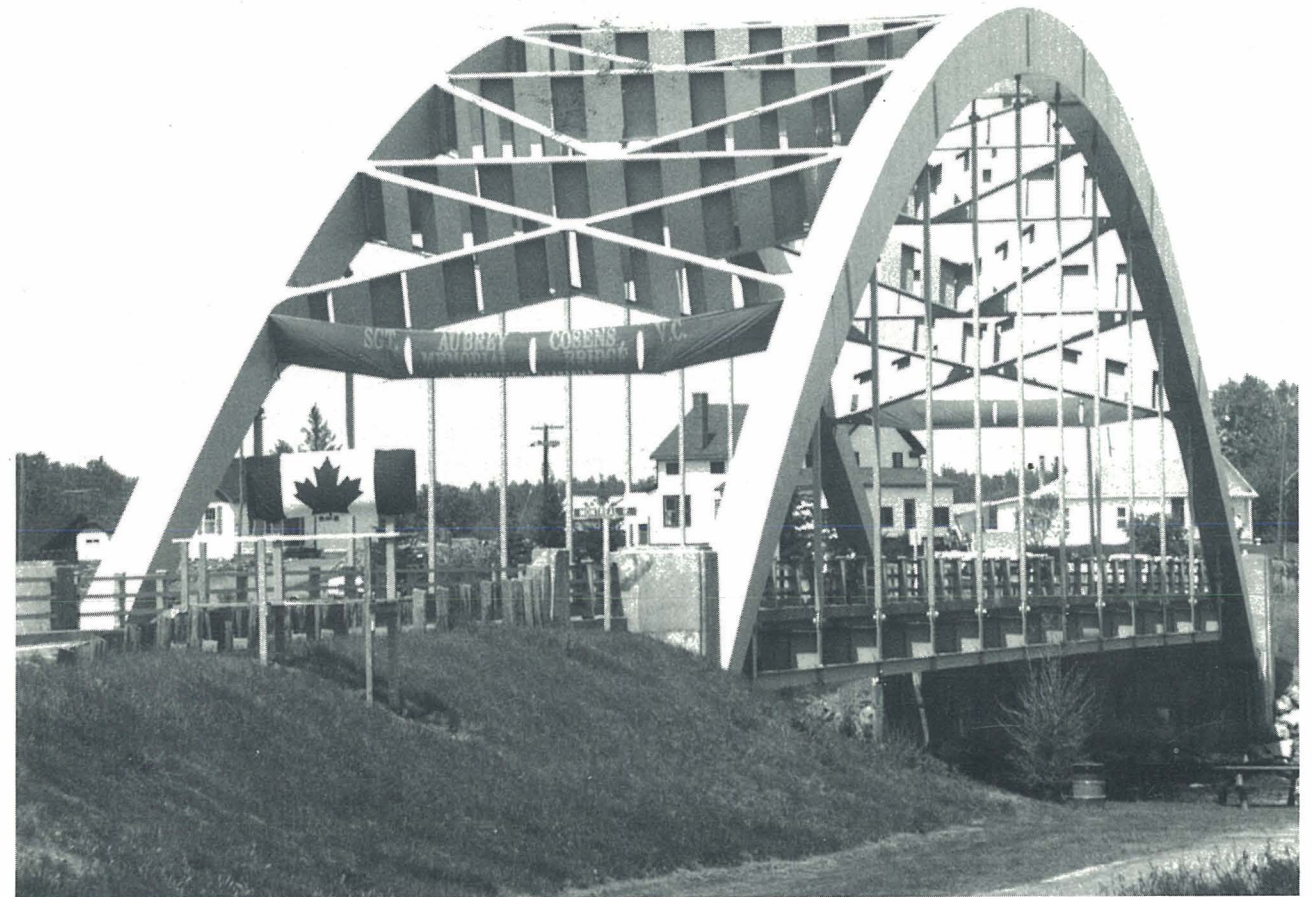
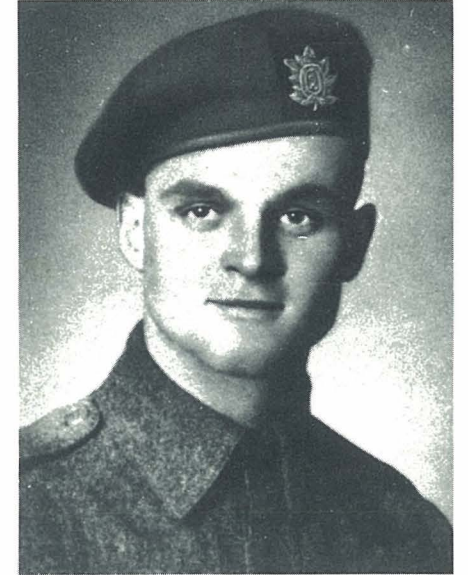
The Rifleman

A Journal of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada

1986 VOL. 3 NO. 3



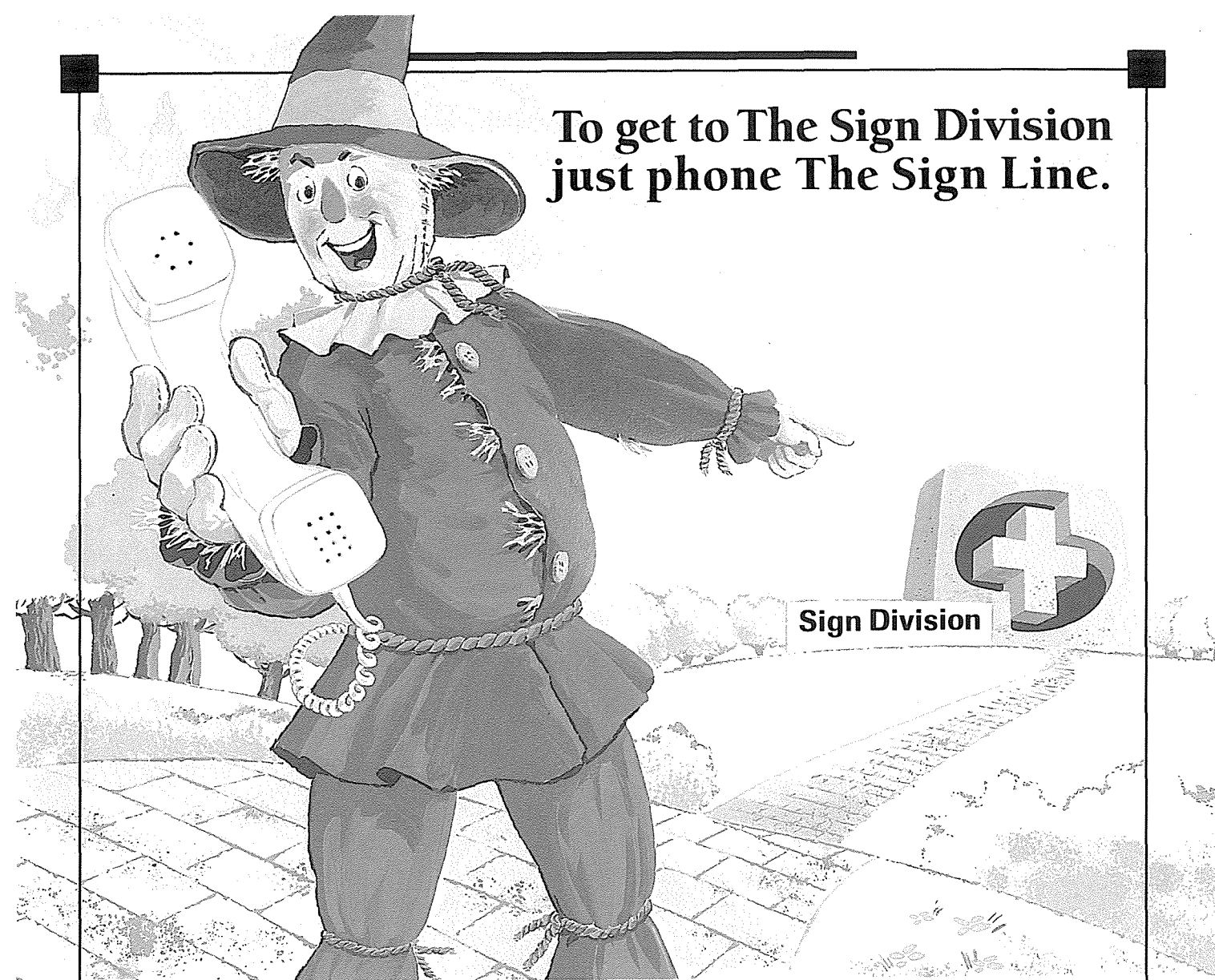
**60th Company
November 1986**



A MAGNIFICENT CANADIAN
SERGEANT AUBREY COSENS, V. C.
1921 - 1945

BORN IN LATCHFORD AND RAISED NEAR PORQUIS JUNCTION, COSENS ENLISTED IN THE ARGYLL AND SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA, CANADIAN ACTIVE SERVICE FORCE, 1940 AND TRANSFERRED TO THE QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES OF CANADA IN 1944. EARLY ON FEBRUARY 26, 1945, HIS UNIT ATTACKED ENEMY FORCES AT MOOSHOT, GERMANY, A STRATEGIC POSITION VITAL TO THE SUCCESS OF FUTURE OPERATIONS. HIS PLATOON SUFFERED HEAVY CASUALTIES AND COSENS ASSUMED COMMAND. SUPPORTED BY A TANK, HE LED ANOTHER ATTACK AGAINST THREE ENEMY STRONGPOINTS, WHICH HE CAPTURED SINGLE-HANDED. HE LATER WAS KILLED BY A SNIPER. FOR HIS "OUTSTANDING GALLANTRY, INITIATIVE, AND DETERMINED LEADERSHIP," HE WAS POSTHUMOUSLY AWARDED THE COMMONWEALTH'S HIGHEST DECLARATION FOR VALOUR, THE VICTORIA CROSS.

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The Rifleman

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EDITORIAL

The past year has, I believe, been just as outstanding and exciting as that of last year when we celebrated our Regiments 125th Anniversary.

As you read through this chronicle of activities and events, you will see that our Regiment was kept constantly busy in all phases of training; that our Regimental Band continues to be in popular demand as well as the numerous activities of our Regimental Family throughout Canada and overseas.

Also, during this past year, we once again had one or two highlights occur which we can all take pride in.

In the last edition of our journal you may recall we introduced a new feature "Were You There?" and encouraged many of you to write and share your memoirs/experiences with us. I am pleased to say that, once again, Lt. Col. Barney Danson has contributed another humorous article, along with our old friend, Lt. Bob Rae and they have now been joined by Carl Lewis. Those of you who did not pick up pen and write, I hope you will accept this challenge for next year.

A free lance writer, Dorothea Vincent, having seen our journal, contributed an article she had written on "The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada" for the Canadian Monarchy Magazine, which we hope you will enjoy reading.

Major Ken Bowles (our Assistant Editor) has accepted a position in Nairobi, Kenya. However, Ken has not forgotten us. While we may have temporarily lost our Assistant Editor, we gained a contributor from afar. We received a letter from Ken outlining his trials and tribulations on his arrival in Nairobi which we just had to share with you. Ken also endeavoured to obtain a report from the Kenya Rifles for inclusion in our journal, but had no luck! He did, however, send a most interesting article concerning the King's African Rifles 1902-1906 which we feel sure you will find of great interest.

Mr. Art Gay, whom I am sure needs no introduction to many of you, has joined the staff at your Regimental Headquarters and has agreed to assist the Editorial Staff with our journal. If you have moved, or contemplate moving in the near future, please be sure to send your new address to Mr. Art Gay, c/o Regimental Headquarters, 100 Adelaide Street West,

Suite 405, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 1M1 to ensure you receive future mailings concerning the activities of your Regimental Family.

In closing we thank each and everyone of you for your continuing support and co-operation which is so vital to the ongoing success of this, your annual journal.

JOYCE F. REDDIN
 EDITOR

THE HONORARY COLONEL'S REPORT

Once again, the regiment has had a very successful year, and all the various parts of the Unit have made progress.

The Association has had a real revival sparked by Bernie Aaron and we are looking forward to a fine reunion at the Regimental Birthday Celebration in April, 1987.

The Museum at Casa Loma has had an excellent year with attendance figures at an all time high. Our thanks go to Lt. Col. W.T. Barnard, Curator, for his devotion and untiring efforts to maintain and improve the exhibits.

The Regimental Headquarters at 100 Adelaide Street West is being well maintained and thanks to Captain Adam Hermant, our rental remains nominal. Joyce Reddin is still providing the secretarial services and Colonel H. Elliot Dalton has taken over as the Regimental Secretary and will be keeping the mailing lists up to date, so if you have moved, or contemplate moving, please let him know.

The Annual Remembrance Day Church Service, held on 9 November, was well attended also the service at the Cross of Sacrifice on 11 November was attended by many more than in past years.

I am looking forward to the support of all Riflemen during the coming year.

BRIG. GEN. J.N. GORDON
HONORARY COLONEL



MESS CALENDAR EVENTS FOR 1987

- 22 Feb. '87 - Change of RSM Parade
- 28 Mar. '87 - Garrison Ball
- 26 Apr. '87 - Regimental Birthday Celebrations
- 9 May '87 - Wine and Cheese Party
- 17 Jun '87 - Dining In
- 18 Jul '87 - Officer's Barbeque
- 7 Sep '87 - Dining In
- 4 Oct '87 - Change of Command Parade
- 8 Nov '87 - Remembrance Parade
- 14 Nov '87 - Mess Dinner
- 19 Dec '87 - Annual Officers' Luncheon

Should you wish further information concerning any of the above events, please telephone the Mess (416) 973-9976 any Monday or Wednesday evening.

REPORT OF THE HONORARY LIEUTENANT-COLONEL

The past year was an eventful period for the Regiment. We were saddened by the retirement of our old friend and fellow Officer, Lieutenant General Charles Belzile, Canada's Army Commander. We had the pleasure of dining out General "Charlie" at a dinner held in the Officers' Mess on November 1st, 1986. Prior to relinquishing command of the Army, General Belzile became the first Canadian to be honoured with the appointment to France's Legion d'Honneur in the rank of Commander since World War II, as a reward for bettering relations between French and Canadian armed forces.

In addition, another fine Queen's Own Officer, B.Gen Don Pryer, relinquished his position as Commander of Central Militia Area on October 19, 1986, and handed over command to another former Queen's Own Officer, BGen. Jack Richardson.

I had the pleasure of visiting the Regiment during the summer concentration at Camp Borden, and was impressed by the enthusiasm and expertise of the troops in the field.

As usual, the Regiment appreciates the support it receives from former members and looks forward to another successful year.

J.F. LAKE
HONORARY
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL



and singing of "The Queen's Own Rifles, they came this way and broke things up in an awful way. You can bet your life, there'll be hell to pay when The Queen's Own Rifles come back this way".

On April 26th, 1960, the regiment celebrated its one hundredth anniversary. Parades were held, members of The Queen's Own Rifle Association met at dinners and other social occasions. However, times had changed, and the celebrations never matched the historical extravaganza of 1910.

The international reputation of The Queen's Own Rifles as a military unit of great quality led to many contacts with other regiments. In 1904, The Queen's Own were guests of the 14th Regiment, National Guard in Buffalo where seven hundred and sixteen riflemen represented the Crown at a parade. The 14th Regiment came for a return visit to

Toronto in 1905. The 12th Regiment of New York was visited by The Queen's Own in 1906. High praise for the soldiers manoeuvrability and marching was given to the Canadians in an article published in the *New York Times*.

A lasting friendship between The Queen's Own and the 1st Kent Regiment, called The Buffs, developed on the occasion of the Aldershot manoeuvres in 1910. Both units had the same regimental quick-step and marching music composed by Handel, which in 1882 had been accorded by The Buffs to The Queen's Own. Later on, with royal approval, The Queen's Own was made an allied regiment of The Buffs. When a detachment of The Buffs visited The Queen's Own in 1926, a wreath was placed by them at the cenotaph at Toronto's City Hall. Other visits to The Buffs were paid by The Queen's Own in 1935 and 1984.

The King's Royal Rifle Corps, Prince Arthur's old regiment, was also allied to its descendant the Queen's Own as is the Royal Green Jackets—the new British regiment formed from all existing rifle regiments.

A company of The Queen's Own Rifles, as part of the regular Canadian Rifle Battalion, was brigaded with the Royal Australian Regiment and The Dorsets during the Korean War in the nineteen-fifties. Another highlight for the regiment was the change of the official designation from The Queen's Own Rifles of Toronto to The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada on January 13th, 1882. At the historical pageant of 1910, a medal was presented to Lady Pellatt. It showed a large ruby and the figure "2", referring to the fact that The Queen's Own descend from the second volunteer regiment formed in Canada. Forty diamonds encircled this figure "2".

COMMANDING OFFICERS REPORT

This is my last report as Commanding Officer as I will be relinquishing command in October, 1987. I can state that the unit has had a great training year in which the concentration has been on individual development and refining our basic skills. The unit has also improved its support and administrative capability. We have recruited and trained additional soldiers as cooks, weapons technicians and administrative clerks. This has been combined with efforts to improve our administrative and staff procedures all with the object of providing better support to our troops in their training. Of course we have not forgotten that these efforts may result in a better placement in the District Commanders Staff Inspection.

In terms of public activities, the year 1986 was quiet compared to the previous 125th Anniversary year. We participated with The Queen's Own Rifles Branch of the Canadian Legion at the commemoration of the Aubrey Cousens Bridge at Latchford, Ontario, which is reported separately in this journal. The Pioneers & Skirmishers paraded at Old Fort York on the occasion of The Queen's Birthday in May (Victoria Day) and carried out other demonstrations during the year in conjunction with the historical associations. The Annual Church Parade took place on 9 November, 1986, the Sunday prior to Remembrance Day, on an unusually mild and sunny day. The unit marched past, following the church service, with the salute being taken by the Honorary Colonel, Brig. General J. Neil Gordon.

As directed by Headquarters, Central Militia Area, our field training this year concentrated on offensive operations. This blended very well with our training for our Airborne Operational Tasking.

Early in the year, the unit carried out its annual winter warfare indoctrination in which the troops were given familiarization/refresher training in the use of winter equipment such as snow shoes, loading and movement of toboggans and the erecting/dismantling of arctic tents. This was followed in February by a combined winter field exercise and tactical airborne drop. 60th Company displayed to CFB Trenton, rigged their parachutes, boarded a Hercules aircraft and then flew to CFB Borden where

they parachuted into the training area. On landing they moved off with their winter equipment into an overnight exercise which consisted of an advance reconnaissance and early morning attack. They learned the difficulties of erecting tents in the dark, moving cross country at night with snowshoes and became aware of the much slower rate of movement in winter conditions.

During the spring and early summer of this year we spent several weekends at CFB Borden and at the Meaford Training Area refining our section and platoon tactical drills in the advance to contact and the attack. The soldiers were also trained in night operations when patrolling exercises were conducted.

This attention to good tactical drills paid off when our soldiers attended summer collective training at Milcon '86. Our officers, NCO's and soldiers who made up the majority part of the C Coy of the campsite training battalion (2 Inf. Bn., Green Bde) were able to progress very quickly and carry out effective exercises. They practiced the advance and attack at Pl/Coy level. They carried out a very good night attack with all the required battle procedure including day light rehearsals, prior to the execution. This training came to its culmination in the final Bn. exercise in which the Coy Commander, Capt. Howard Flood, was commended by Regular Force observers for his excellent use of armoured support in the execution of his attack on a prepared position. I must not forget to mention how well the company operated in the administrative functions. Poison Ivy infection was a severe problem and a serious influenza outbreak caused many sub units to become ineffective due to casualties. Our officers and NCO's who insisted on good hygiene practices and proper decontamination drills prevented any serious illness which resulted in the company having the lowest casualty rate.

In the early fall, before the weather became nasty, the emphasis was placed on field firing. As a follow on to the summer tactical training, all the infantry section commanders were given a chance to exercise their sections in a 'live fire' section attack. The Regular Force Support Staff had laid out the targets and set up the exercise and the sections were then put through the course in succession. This was followed by the pla-

toons setting up and concluding a 'live fire' night ambush. This challenging and realistic training established a sense of confidence amongst the soldiers and junior leaders. During this period we had two very good range weekends in which we managed to upgrade our shooting skills and qualify more people at higher levels in the 'Shoot To Live' program.

In the area of individual development I can report that we conducted General Military Training and TQ2 (Inf) Training for recruits in the spring and summer and a second intake of recruits commencing training in October. During the summer we were able to send more young soldiers to the Airborne School in Edmonton to qualify as basic parachutists.

The most rewarding aspect of this year was the number of junior officers and Senior NCO's who obtained their qualifications and were promoted. Six young officers completed their first summers training and were promoted to 2nd Lieutenant. We also had the same number promoted to sergeant and the Sergeants' Mess has a much more youthful look. Warrant Officer J. Figa qualified as a Master Warrant Officer and he has been appointed CSM of Buffs Coy. Many others completed trade and specialty training and they are all using their new skills to good effect. It is encouraging to see the high level of competence displayed by our part time soldiers.

In December the year concluded with the usual round of pre-Christmas festivities. At the Mens Christmas Dinner on 18 December, I had the privilege of presenting, on behalf of the Commander, Central Militia Area, the CMA Airborne Tie to all those in the unit who, over the past two years, had qualified as a paratrooper and had participated in airborne training with the Militia. This award was instituted by M.Gen. R. Lewis, Chief of Reserves when he was Area Commander. He was instrumental in getting the Militia authorized to take parachute training and to have an airborne role. This tie is distinctive in that it incorporates the airborne wing with that of the Ontario Trillium in the design and can only be worn by militia soldiers or those Regular Force persons who have served with the Militia in CMA and made a direct contribution to this activity.

On the 20 December, 1986, our

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Honorary Lieutenant Colonel J.F. Lake, QC was presented with the Canadian Forces Decoration by the Honorary Colonel. We wish to congratulate him on receipt of this award and to state that we recognize the admirable service he has given to the country and to the regiment whilst in uniform, as well as the many years he served when not in uniform. It is this role of service to our country as a paid, or unpaid volunteer which gets so little recognition yet is so important to maintaining our Reserve Forces. Without the assistance and support of all ranks presently serving and all members of the regimental family who have given of their time and efforts to the many Regimental Institutions and to the Battalion, my period of command would have been extremely difficult. I wish to thank you all for your services.

LT. COL. B.G. BASKERVILLE, CD

BUFFS COMPANY

The past training year has been a period of considerable growth and changing responsibility for this company. Beginning the year with only a single training platoon the Company has acquired the recruiting section, a holding platoon for trained soldiers awaiting airborne training, a musketry section responsible for the shooting plans for the Unit and forming all competition teams, as well as maintaining the training section for recruits and trades training.

The Company is aiming to turn out three classes of recruits a year which should meet the Unit's needs. Of course, this varied activity sometimes resembles Bedlam, which seems to keep the Company Commander amused when he is not conducting Company Meetings (which are reminiscent of the Spanish Inquisition).

To meet these demands there have been many postings of personnel, in and out. Captain Simundson was appointed as OC in February. Captain Mike Holland was posted to district and Captain Bruce McEachern took his place as Company 2ic in September. Lt. Welsh was attached as Chief Instructor, 2Lt Wagner as Platoon Commander Vimy Platoon, 2Lt Donald as Platoon Commander Falaise Platoon,

2Lt Croxall as Musketry Officer. MWO Budden was transferred to HQ and appointed Drill Sergeant Major in November and WO Figa was posted in as the new CSM.

In November WO John Bennett retired having reached compulsory retirement age. This was a very sad occasion and the Regiment will miss this very loyal and dedicated Rifleman. WO Sarossy was appointed recruiting WO and is doing an excellent job casting the same critical eye on all the applicants.

The Company has participated in all the unit activities including the Guard for the dedication of the Aubrey Cosens Bridge at Latchford; Milcon 86; the Live Section Attack Exercise and all range practices. Special note must be made of the Live Section Attack Exercise, this was organized by the RSS and was one of the most realistic and challenging exercises conducted in many years.

Bufs Company is able to look forward to a future full of promise having, for at least the immediate future, a complete staff of officers and NCO's down to Platoon 2ic. The wealth of experienced leaders allows the Company to plan and conduct training with the sure knowledge that the goals are achievable. Anyone who has spent any time with the Militia will know that this is luxury almost past imagining.

VICS COMPANY

1986 for Victoria Company was a year of change. As usual in the Militia, some people came and some old friends left. Some just moved on to bigger and better things.

Despite these changes, the Company has continued to grow and improve its ability to provide the technical support necessary in a highly mobile unit such as The Queen's Own Rifles.

Many members attended trades training this year and did well enough to put the unit on the map where the trades schools are concerned.

As Company Commander I look forward to the challenges that the new year will bring. I am confident that with 'soldiers' such as ours, the support we shall be giving will, indeed, be 'second to none'.

CAPTAIN V. R. PADDON
OFFICER COMMANDING

60th COMPANY (AIRBORNE)

Our 1986 training year in many ways started on February 1st with a rather long and very cold bus ride up to CFB Petawawa, where we had to undergo parachute refresher training. Due to the "unjumpable" weather the previous November during our Colonel in Chief's visit, most of the company was not current. To become current again, one has to go through a refresher, which in this case was run by members of 3 Commando. We had the usual few hours of aircraft drills: "What do six short rings of the bell mean?"; and a rather uncomfortable period in flight, where one invariably wonders why the Regiment now needs 40 odd sopranos? Last but not least, one had to be bounced around one the swings, just to make sure that the weekend would be remembered with the occasional "thud". In all fairness, the Airborne Regiment ran a super refresher and we were able to jump the following weekend with "le Premier Commando" into CFB Borden without any mishaps.

Operation "Maroon Frost" started at CFB Trenton, where we emplaned. This was to be a full equipment jump, hence we were loaded down with all our arctic gear, snow shoes and of course winter whites. We flew in a three aircraft "Map-of-the-Earth" formation to the drop zone at CFB Borden. When the green light went on, OCDT's Hasek and Donald lept (I should say jabbed) out into the arctic air, followed closely by the remainder of the company. The Training Officer, Captain Peter Lomasney, demonstrated how not to land with equipment and twists. Once safely on the ground we were met by Lt. Tony Welsh, who had brought up the non-parachute qualified members of the company and the toboggans containing our arctic stoves and tents. At this stage we also bade farewell to the RSM Chan, and Captain Lomasney, who had declined our invitation to join in on our arctic training. Upon leaving the DZ, the company conducted an advance to contact, harbour drills and set up for the night in the woods. During the night recce patrols were sent out under command of MCpl's Baetz, Parris, Roper and Cpl Volpert. Thanks to these patrols the enemy, a suitable approach route, FUP and fire base position were clearly defined. After a



Queen Mary chats with Sir Henry Pellatt and others of the regiment at Balmoral Castle in 1910. Princess Mary is seen second from left.

(Courtesy of Queen's Own Rifles Museum)

Where and when did The Queen's Own Rifles fight for King and country? The year 1866 saw their first battle. The Queen's Own marched off to fight the Fenians, a republic-oriented Irish immigrant brotherhood formed in the United States. Altogether, seven men were lost and twenty-one wounded.

After the last British troops were withdrawn from Toronto in 1870, The Queen's Own Rifles achieved increasing importance as a loyal defender of the Crown. The regiment took part in riot control, breaking up fights between hotheads, Orangemen and Roman Catholics and other segments of the population. The regiment also participated in the campaign of the North West Rebellion in 1885. A contemporary newspaper refers to "a train of supplies sent by the Toronto ladies for The Queen's Own under charge of Sergeant Hume Blake". In December 1899 the regiment paraded in the Armouries for the unveiling of a memorial erected in memory of all those who had fallen. It can be seen on the south wall of the present Armouries.

The regiment was next involved in the Boer War in South Africa. During

World War One its men fought gallantly in Belgium and also supplied guards for wireless stations and prisoners' camps. Many names of fallen Queen's Own Rifles men were engraved on the walls of the war memorial in Ypres. A hundred and eighty-one officers and 4,592 other ranks fell in the battles of Ypres, Gravenstafel, St. Julien, Amiens and others.

Canada declared war independently on Germany in September 1939. Many Queen's Own Rifles men were trained at Camp Borden. After the departure of regimental detachments for England in July 1941, military training overseas focused on an anti-invasion role because a German invasion of the United Kingdom seemed imminent. Then came preparations for the Allied invasion of the European mainland. The men of The Queen's Own excelled themselves in the Battle of Normandy, the Boulogne Assault and the Battle of the Rhineland. The liberation of northern Holland by the regiment has never been forgotten. When Canadian veterans visit that country, all those who remember the liberation and some who

do not show their gratitude. They come with their children and grandchildren to greet their former liberators, now mostly senior in years.

It has not been nor should be forgotten that The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada was the only Toronto unit to take part in the first wave assault on D-Day. The war was over for the Queen's Own on May 4th, 1945 when an officer of the German Army and the Mayor of the German town of Aurich surrendered. The regiment experienced its last official action during the Korean War. The men fighting there came home in the spring of 1955. After that the regiment served in Europe and Cyprus until the regular battalions were disbanded in 1970.

A Queen's Own Rifles museum has been established on the third floor of Casa Loma. The curator of this museum is the historian of the regiment, Colonel W. T. Barnard, one of Sir Henry Pellatt's successors as commander of The Queen's Own. Standing guard in front of Sir Henry's castle may be seen a Queen's Own Rifles of Canada rifleman.

two-hour extravaganza on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of The Queen's Own Rifles in 1910. Toronto writer Carlie Oreskovich has described Sir Henry's extraordinary life and his connection with The Queen's Own in his interesting book *The King of Casa Loma*.

Sir Henry received a feathered headdress from Six National Indians who participated in the fiftieth anniversary celebration. They named him Taway-unanasara, the Dawn of the Morning. The Indians regarded this as an appropriate name for Sir Henry "because as colonel of the regiment, he had to get up early to look after his soldiers".

Sir Henry also took the regiment to manoeuvres at Aldershot in England in 1910 at his own expense. It was reported that when his offer to do this was discussed at Windsor Castle by a group including King Edward VII and the Prince of Wales, the king "brought his hand down on the table and said 'Cable them to come at once'". Thirty thousand people turned up to greet The Queen's Own Rifles, all visibly moved by this Canadian support for King and Empire. They sang this song:

Has anybody here seen Sir Henry?
H-E-N-R-Y
Has anybody here seen Sir Henry?
Canada is his home.
He is an Indian chief, and dear knows what
And we're following him to Aldershot:
Has anybody seen Sir Henry?
Colonel of the Second Queen's Own?

On January 6th, 1939, Sir Henry Pellatt, then eighty years old, proudly faced the remnant of the six hundred and forty men he had taken to England twenty-nine years earlier. Two hundred and twenty-five old soldiers gathered in the elegant ballroom of the Royal York Hotel in Toronto to honour their former commander and patron.

Sir Henry had always advocated the idea that military service was a noble occupation. His most prized possession was an autographed photograph given to him by Queen Victoria when he, as a major, commanded the Guard of Honour at St. Paul's Cathedral in London at the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 1897. Sir Henry also took contingents of the Queen's Own to London for the Coronations of King Edward VII in 1902 and King George V in 1911. The regiment honoured their celebrated

commander with a full military funeral when he died.

The close link with the Crown has always been cherished by The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada and regimental loyalty has often been tested. In July 1866 a bill was presented to the United States Congress by representative banks for the admission of British North America into the United States. In return for absorbing Canada the United States would assume all debts and buy out the Hudson's Bay Company.

The Canadian public's reaction to this annexation attempt varied considerably. Quite a number of profit-minded business people opted for absorption and some eager firms put pressure on their employees to do the same. Lieutenant-Colonel Gillmor was discharged from the firm he worked for in 1867 because he refused to give up his connection with The Queen's Own Rifles, known for its loyalty to the Crown. The annexation bill failed.

The soldiers of those days must have regarded it as an honour to serve in a regiment such as The Queen's Own because most volunteers did not receive any pay for their devotion and service. The regiment's traditions of social life were introduced with the establishment of the Sergeants' Mess in the Ontario Chambers at the corner of Church and Frost Streets in 1881. Annual Mess dinners are still held at the Toronto Moss Park Armouries.

The Queen's Own Rifles supplied the Guards of Honour during the Toronto visit of Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York in 1901. In 1908 they took part in the great pageant of Canadian History organised to mark the Tercentenary of the founding of Quebec. Led by Sir Henry, they marched past the Prince of Wales, the future King George V, in the military review of Canadian forces on the Plains of Abraham. Queen Mary became the Colonel-in-Chief of the regiment in 1928. The Queen's Own was the only Canadian regiment to be honoured by her in this way.

When King George VI and Queen Elizabeth visited Toronto on their tour in 1939, The Queen's Own again supplied the Guard of Honour. Leading officers of the regiment had lunch with Queen Mary when regimental detachments went to England in July 1941. Queen Mary inspected her regiment in person and this was followed by an

inspection by King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra is now the Colonel-in-Chief and she spent a week in Toronto in November 1985 to celebrate the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of The Queen's Own.



How did The Queen's Own celebrate past anniversaries? At their fiftieth in 1910 they marched along University Avenue, Queen and College Streets and Spadina Avenue. The oldest marcher was seventy-seven years old. Bands played "The Maple Leaf Forever" and a pageant was held in the exhibition Stadium. As if looking at a picture book, the audience witnessed the arrival of the Loyalists, the Fenian Raids and the Riel Rebellion. The band brought all to their feet with the playing



"The good, the bad, the ugly and" Capt. Simundson, Lomasney, Flood, Brand or - "Somebody must be in trouble - they are all smiling."

needless to say successful engagement in which the enemy was routed, "end ex" was called. The buses were to meet us at the "enemy location" but did not show which led to CSM Bamlett's road march back to Borden in full winter kit. Once in camp we went straight to the cook house where we had to wait several hours for our "punctual" transport back to M.P.A. However the members of the company put good use to the extra time by cleaning weapons and indulging in amateur orithology.

The Annual District Inspection had the company busy with updating UER's and conducting TOET's. Due to the fact that we were able to jump in February, all those operationally tasked in the Airborne Coy were current and we were able to fill all the command positions with individuals who were qualified for that position. Unfortunately we were still a bit short numberwise at the rifleman level; we seem to lose the majority of qualified airborne riflemen to the regular force!

Spring started with a range weekend at the end of March and an advance to contact in CFB Meaford in April, followed by another range weekend in May at CFB Borden where our Regular Force Training Assistant, WO Bludd, had setup a superb field kitchen in Blackdown. The weather was on our side, warm and sunny, which encouraged high scores and sun-tans. Captain Brand managed to borrow a

television and VCR Recorder from his office to show the company various training films after training. I gather they were rather educational. In the early part of the summer we all went our various ways across the country on training courses. Members of the Coy participated in the Latchford Parade, commemorating Sgt Aubrey Cosens, VC. Maj Hasek and WO Bamlett free fell from 6000 ft into the baseball field. The Coy also paraded the following day at the Cenotaph, for the Allied Airborne Forces Day.

The company regrouped back at Blackdown Park, CFB Borden for Milcon 86 where we were to spend a fortnight under canvas. The airborne company were to provide the backbone to Charles Company, 2 Inf Bn - Green Brigade. The Coy i/c was Lt Tony Welsh, the CSM was WO Reid (from the Lorne Scots), the Command Post was manned by Sgt Nelligan, Cpls Paton and Ouckama. WO Figa was the CQMS and ran the most efficient "Shop" and due to his close supervision the company seldom lacked anything, nor did we suffer from poison ivy or food poisoning as the other companies did.

The company consisted of a QOR platoon commanded by Lt Quentin Innis, with 2Lt John Fotheringham as his understudy and WO Bamlett as his 2i/c, and 2nd platoon was a Lorne Scots platoon commanded by 2Lt Des

Donovan, the third platoon was commanded by 2Lt Valiente with Sgt Paterson as his 2 i/c. This third platoon was the coy firebase with GPMG's and manned by men of both units.

The first week we concentrated on section and platoon battle drills in which our Regular Support Staff WO Bludd and MCpl Strong proved to be quite an asset by enabling our NCO's and Officers to train with their platoons. During this period we also competed in the CMA Infantry Competition in which we did not do as well as we should have - however we did have the only team to cross the assault course tactically! (In other words properly). We managed to redeem ourselves in the field, where during the final exercise the company did exceptionally well. We were fortunate enough to have a troop from the 8th Canadian Hussars, regular force, under command for two phases of the exercise, which gave us the extra fire power and a rather nasty surprise to the Fantasian forces (members of the R Regt C commanded by Capt Brand and Capt Angelo, our USO). Prior to the final attack MCpl Shering did a close night recce of the Soviet defensive position which we were to attack the next morning, and the Lorne Scots conducted a platoon fighting patrol on an enemy radar station. At first light the company boarded the 6 cougars of 8 CH and drove to the assembly area in a style similar to the retreat from Moscow. Once the company had shaken out into our assault formation we had to wait for the Fighter Ground Attack (yes we even got an aircraft!) and General Fox, the new Commander Mobile Command, to arrive on the enemy location to observe our assault. The Company did not disappoint him and the position of intricate trenches, built in the Soviet style, were rapidly cleared in an effective, aggressive, rifleman-like manner. After the final exercise, WO Figa and his team had organized a bar-b-que and corn roast which was both well appreciated and well deserved. It was after this bar-b-que that the infamous Hawaiian shirt club was founded, to the detriment of the MP's. It was also said the Cpl Galea while conducting a detailed recce had a very close encounter with a doberman!

In September all the non-airborne members of the company were posted to Buffs Company. Lt Tony Welsh, Sgt Wilmot, MCpl Parris, Cameron, Cpl's

Rouxel and Copeland were all attached to Buffs Company as Instructors; Major John Hasek went to the Supplementary List and Captain Peter Lomasney joined the company as 2 i/c. Lt Innis joined the regular force (PPCLI) and 2Lt John Fotheringham took over his platoon, with 2Lt Tim Hannon as his under-study, Sgt Keenan became the platoon WO and Sgt Tenkortaer the CQMS.

The first training weekend in September was the section live firing exercise in Meaford. The section commanders MCpls Nielson, Kominek and Tindall, went through an advance to contact with live ammunition. On this advance the sections came under fire twice and had to react accordingly. That night the platoons conducted a live-fire ambush. On the Sunday the company had an opportunity to fire the 60mm mortar.

October saw 60th company at TMD and CMA change of comd parades in which the company participated. 60th company also had the honour to provide a quarter guard, commanded by Sgt Chambers, for Lt. Gen C. Belzile CMM CD, the former commander of Mobile Command, who was being dined out by the officers of his original regiment. The quarter guard (21 strong) and bugler all wore maroon berets, which a few years ago would have been unthinkable. Additionally 60th company ran the first TMD range weekend, which was a success. Attached to us for the weekend were 7 RCA, GGHG, 401 Sqn and 25 Svc Bn, who were all invited to attend some infantry training on the Saturday night. All but 7 RCA declined our invitation.

Ex Highland Laddie, where all coy Officers were given lollipops by the CSM for doing well in para refresher, ran into foul weather problems - after a long drive to CFB Petawawa, we were fogged in once again, hence back to Toronto for church parade in glorious sunshine.

The company is now starting to gear up for a winter warfare exercise in January 1987 with the 11th Special Forces Group (AGN), 1st SF, to be held at Fort McCoy Wisconsin. The plan is to conduct a night tactical airborne insertion and then 60th company would train the "Green Berets" in Arctic survival, snowshoe techniques, and field fortifications in winter environ-



"Howard, you went to Sandhurst ... you must know how to spell escargot."

a quote by Eric Simundson

ment. However, you will have to wait for the next issue of the Rifleman for that story.

In conclusion, it has been a positive year, the standard in the company has improved and I feel that man for man

we would be able to match the men in 3 Commando, who we are tasked to support.

H. C. FLOOD
CAPTAIN
OC 60th COY (AB)



Rfn. Burrell, Cpl. Copeland and WO Bludd on the mortar range. "There must be an easier way than this to get the DCO's attention!"

The following article, which appeared in the *Monarchy Canada*, Summer 1986, was submitted to us by Dorothea Vincent, a free lance writer, member of The Women's Press Club of Canada and the Institute of Maya Studies - Monarchist League of Canada as well as being an associate of our Mr. Carl Lewis, President of the Over 65 years Club.

The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada For more than a century and a quarter, one of our most famous regiments has been ready to serve Sovereign and country.

The Royal House has been, still is and always will be an integral part of Canadian History Events like the 125th anniversary of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, the senior Canadian rifle regiment, in 1985 clearly emphasise this close relationship and underline the values of tradition and civility deriving from the affiliation.

Rifle regiments began with the 60th (Royal American) Regiment of Foot, later known as The King's Royal Rifle Corps, founded in North America in 1755 and serving here until 1824. This regiment returned on other occasions in the 19th Century and in 1869-70 one of its officers stationed in Montreal was His Royal Highness The Prince Arthur, fourth son of Queen Victoria and later, as Duke of Connaught, Governor-General of Canada. Prince Arthur fought against the Fenians at the battle of Eccles Hill while with the regiment in Canada. In 1871 the KRRC left Quebec for the last time as the British Garrison turned over its duties to Canadian authorities. The memory of this historic regiment created in North America was maintained however in the Canadian Militia that succeeded it.

The term "Rifles" was used in the Canadian Militia Act of 1855 and indicated "Canadian Volunteer Infantry". As a result of the fusion of six existing rifle companies, The Queen's Own Rifles regiment of Toronto was born on

April 26th, 1860 as the Second Battalion, Volunteer Militia Rifles of Canada. The Militia List, issued under the authority of Army Headquarters in Toronto (th 4th Military District of Upper Canada), served as a birth certificate. One of the new unit's first duties, less than a month after its formation was participation in a feu-de-joie (a salute fired by musketry on occasions of public rejoicing) in honour of Queen Victoria's birthday on the 24th May.

Approximately two and a half years later, the new battalion was ready to demonstrate its marching skills and military discipline. Lord Monck, the Governor-General, inspected them on the Spadina Avenue Common in September of 1862. By 1863, the battalion was completely outfitted in rifle green uniforms, regimental badges and cross-belt ornaments and had been renamed the 2nd Battalion, the Queen's Own Rifles of Toronto. The shako with its red ball and badge became the well-known Queen's Own headdress. The title "The Queen's Own" referred of course to Queen Victoria but would be retained in later years even when there was a king on the Throne.

With the American Civil War came an upgrading of the military presence along the Canada-United States border in order to enforce neutrality. More men were called upon to serve and additional historical affiliations were thereby formed. One such affiliation, between the Upper Canada College Cadets and The Queen's Own Rifles emerged with the formation of an Upper Canada College Rifle Company. It has flourished ever since.

The Queen's Own Rifles' military and orchestral bands of today derive their excellent standards of performance from the early bands. The first regimental band played in Toronto in May of 1866 at a concert sponsored by the city. Three hundred school children and other military bands participated in this event; three thousand people listened to the blaring of trumpets, and beat of drums and the singing of popular tunes. Today the orchestral band of The Queen's Own under its conductor Jim Kerr gives a concert every first Tuesday of the month (except June to September) at The Queen's Own Legion Branch 344, at 1395 Lakeshore Boulevard.

Branch 344 has found a very beautiful home in a building right on Lake

Ontario originally constructed for the Royal Canadian Naval Reserve. During the summer the orchestral band performs in parks and public places. The military band on the other hand concentrates on parades and military marching drills at the Toronto Moss Park Armouries. This band also participates in the annual Warriors' Day Parade in Toronto's Exhibition Stadium. The Regimental Corps of Drums (the bugle band) is also a familiar sight in Toronto.

Participation in church parades has always been a tradition with The Queen's Own Rifles. Its first recorded church parade took place on March 10th, 1876 in Toronto. An outdoor service attended by three thousand was held on the occasion of the regiment's fiftieth anniversary in 1910 at the University of Toronto. Captain the Reverend Dr. J. P. Llwyd, then the chaplain of The Queen's Own Rifles and Vice-Provost of Trinity College, stated in a moving sermon on that occasion that The Queen's Own stood as a safeguard of peace.

When St. Paul's Anglican Church became the garrison church of The Queen's Own, a Cross of Sacrifice was erected there in October 1931. A Book of Remembrance was placed in the chapel containing the names of men who had died in campaigns. Every year on Remembrance Day, members of the regiment march along Bloor Street to St. Paul's for a service and the ritual turning of another page in the Book of Remembrance.

Military men are often viewed as "uniform personalities" who have given up their individuality. This is, of course, an unreal image. The best argument against it is provided by the colourful personalities among The Queen's Own. How else would it have been possible for them to contribute actors and sword fighting squads to stage performances as early as 1877?

The most colourful personality in the history of the regiment was clearly Sir Henry Mill Pellatt, Knight Bachelor, Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, Doctor of Civil Law, Knight of Grace of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem and Honorary Aide-de-Camp to the Governor-General. He commanded The Queen's Own for over ten years and was Honorary Colonel afterwards. He also built the famous Casa Loma and arranged for a

THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT

The Battalions

Many parts of the world have seen our regular battalions during 1986. The 1st Battalion has almost completed its two years in Gibraltar and moves to Tidworth (Hampshire) in January. The 2nd Battalion returned in March from six months in the Falklands Islands and were posted in August from Oakington, near Cambridge, to Minden, West Germany, to join the British Army of the Rhine. The 3rd Battalion were in Belize, Central America, from April to October and have now returned to the "Home of the Regiment", Canterbury, before a four month posting to Northern Ireland in January. Our two Territorial Army battalions have this year been joined by the 8th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Queen's Fusiliers (City of London), a new addition to our Regimental Order of Battle. This unit was established on 1 April and is now recruiting its soldiers in London where it is based.

Anniversaries

Our main event this year was the 325th Anniversary of the raising of the Tangier Regiment of Foot in 1661. This occasion was marked by a ceremony in October at the Regimental Monument on Putney Heath attended by the Chief of Defence Staff, Admiral of the Fleet Sir John Fieldhouse. This was also the 20th year of the present Regiment which, like the 325th Anniversary, was commemorated in October by a recep-



Drum Majors B. Walker (Gibraltar Reut) and De-Warrenne Waller.

tion in the magnificent Banqueting House in Whitehall, London.

Regimental Museum

An appeal launched to raise funds to move the Regimental Museum from Canterbury into Dover Castle has now raised sufficient money to allow the re-siting to be carried out. The official re-opening of the museum by the Lord Lieutenant of Kent is planned for 16 May 1987. We are certain that this new location will prove very much better than Canterbury, as with other improvements planned by English Heritage for Dover Castle, our Museum will attract many more visitors there. The appeal, however, is still less than half way towards its target of £75,000 and further contributions are still most welcome.

Conclusion

With our history through The Buffs dating back to 1572 and our seniority through the Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment based on 1661, The Queen's Regiment is England's oldest and most senior Infantry regiment. If account is also taken of our three Regular and three Volunteer battalions, numerous Cadet units and five Regimental Associations, it is probably the largest Regimental family in the British Infantry. This is demonstrated each year in July at our Grand Reunions at Bassingbourn. All past and present members of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, along with those of our other allied regiments, are always welcome at these popular events. Further details may be obtained from our Regimental Headquarters in Canterbury.



RETIREMENT DINNER FOR LIEUTENANT-GENERAL C.H. BELZILE, CMM, CD

On 1 November, 1986, at The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Officers' Mess, Moss Park Armoury, a Regimental Mess Dinner was held in honour of L/Gen. C.H. Belzile, CMM CD on his retirement from the Canadian Forces. L/Gen. Belzile relinquished command as Commander of Mobile Command on 6 August, 1986 after a distinguished career which began with The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada in 1953 when he was commissioned.

On graduation from the University of Montreal he was assigned to the 2nd Battalion. He served with the regiment in various positions in Canada and overseas and was a Company Commander in Cyprus in 1965. In 1968, after serving as Brigade Major of 4 Canadian Infantry Brigade Group at Soest, West Germany, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and appointed Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion Royal 22 Regiment. In succeeding years he held the appointments of Commandant Combat Arms School; Commander 4 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group; Assistant Chief of Staff, Operations at Central Army Group Headquarters; Commander, Canadian Forces Europe;



Chief Land Doctrine and Operations at NDHQ until promoted Lieutenant General in April 1986 and appointed Commander, Mobile Command.

On his arrival at Moss Park Armoury in the evening of 1 November, 1986, escorted by his Aide-de-Camp for the occasion, Lt. Brian Kerr, he was received by a Quarter-Guard, commanded by Sgt. C. Chambers. He then went to the Officers' Mess where he was greeted by the Commanding Officer and the Honorary Colonel.

The dinner was attended by serving officers of the regiment and many past officers of the regiment, both Regular Force and Militia. Among the distinguished guests were M.Gen. H. Pitts, MC, CD., Colonel Commandant of the Infantry Corp; BGen. Jack Richardson, CD, Commander, Central Militia Area, BGen. S.F. Andrunyk OMM, CD and BGen. D. Pryer, CD, Past Commanders, CMA; the Hon. Colonel B.Gen. J.N. Gordon, DSO, CD; the Hon. Lieutenant Colonel J.F. Lake, CD and many former honorary colonels; commanding officers and officers who had served with L. Gen. Belzile.

Dinner music was provided by the Regimental Band, under the direction of Band WO Watt. Following the loyal toasts, the guest of honour was introduced by the Commanding Officer, Lt. Col. B.G. Baskerville, CD. Lt. Gen. Belzile addressed the mess and recalled many of his fond memories of service in the regiment. He stated what an honour it was to serve one's country, to be associated with our fine regiment and to be able to belong to the Officer Corps of the Canadian Army which was one of the finest clubs in the world and to which membership could not be bought but had to be obtained by service. At the conclusion of the dinner, L. Gen. Belzile was presented with a gift from the regiment, a bronze commemorative statuette of a Pioneer Sergeant.



REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR'S REPORT

1986 was a gratifying year for The Queen's Own as we saw improvements in all areas. Our Airborne Riflemen had more opportunities to jump as part of the operational tasking and the NCOs of Buffs Company not only trained our own recruits, but organized the infantry training for other units as well. The most notable improvement was in the area of support trades. On exercises, we can now be self sufficient in setting up and running our own kitchen. Besides cooks, The Queen's Own now have qualified vehicle, weapons and supply technicians, clerks and casualty aides. In keeping with Queen's Own tradition, our soldiers either topped or did very well on their courses. I have to thank the regular support staff consisting of Captain Angelo, Warrant Officer Bludd, Sergeant Warford and Master Corporal Strong for their tireless efforts in bringing this multiplicity of skills to fruition within the Regiment.

Of central significance this year has been the dedication ceremony and parade in Latchford, Ontario of the Sergeant Aubrey Cosens VC Memorial Bridge. As well as the Ceremonial Guard, the Regimental Bands (both Bugles and Military) lent their tuneful support to the occasion making it memorable indeed for all who took part. The bands were also active in concerts and on parades lending strength and poise to many of the Regiment's activities throughout the year.

Similarly, the Pioneers and Skirmishers participated in historical recreation events and the Central Militia Area change-of-command parade. They bring a certain depth to a parade and permit the Regiment to demonstrate its great wealth of historical tradition. I hope to see more of them in future parades.

The Sergeant's Mess welcomes the newly promoted members and congratulates their achievements. The strength of the Senior NCO ranks in the Regiment is not only evident on parades and special functions, but is more subtly

present on a day-to-day, week-to-week basis by virtue of the fact that our soldiers maintain a typically high standard of service and that training is organized and run during the year and generally the Regiment functions very well.

Congratulations are also due to the junior ranks for their unflagging support of the Regiment despite personal commitments such as school and work. They are the Riflemen in The Queen's Own Rifles and without their service the unit would fade into obscurity.

I look forward to the coming training year with great anticipation and fully expect that each in our own way shall continue to contribute and lend strength to the words "The Queen's Own Rifles".

R. CHAN
CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER

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continue to come across the Border and the average capture figure has hovered around the 20 mark. The Illegal Immigrants are now a different breed altogether. Gone are the days when they came across in their hundreds, gone are the days when they could easily be recognised by their clothes, the mosquito bites, lacerated feet and the desperate look of a fugitive in their faces. We are now faced with well dressed, clean and confident IIs who often cross the Border with the assistance of well organised aiders and abettors. Our soldiers must therefore concentrate hard and they must be able to pick up the faintest signs that give them away and act fast. We are winning! Sadly we had a fatality in June of last year when Rfn Nandabhadur Pun ran across an electrified barbed wire when he was in pursuit of illegal immigrants in the Mai Po marshes. The fisherman had electrified the barbed wire to protect his fish from being stolen. The Border in many ways mundane still has its dangers. The odd illegal immigrant still comes across with a knife or other dangerous weapons. Facilities on the Border have increased. The 22 mile land border fence has been completed and is fitted with sensors which are interpreted by vindicators in Company Operation Rooms. Night viewing devices have increased and better ones have been introduced. A fleet of BMX bicycles has been introduced to the Border. This has increased both speed and mobility for our Patrols and Quick Reaction Forces in checking the fence and in apprehending Illegal Immigrants.

On the sporting field we have had a prosperous year. We won the British Forces Hong Kong Football League, Swimming, Athletics and Basketball. The Cheshires beat us narrowly in the Major Unit Football Knockout. Our Shooting Team very nearly won Bisley but only managed to finish in the third place due to heavy penalties being imposed for having SMG magazines sticking out of their 44 pattern pouches! I might hasten to add that the 44 pattern pouches are not deep enough for the SMG magazines to fit in properly. The end will stick out! We look forward to better luck at Bisley next year!

We have had our share of visitors which happens to be more often than not. We have had the pleasure of being visited by the CGS General Sir Nigel Bagnell KCB DVO MC, Director of

Army Education, Mr. C. Farthing, Head of Secretary (Overseas Commitments), The Trading Director of NAAFI, ACGS, Paymaster-in-Chief, Mr. J. P. Stanley, Minister of ARmed Forces, and the list goes on.

We had the privilege of providing the Guard of Honour when Her Majesty The Queen stepped ashore into Hong Kong on 21 October 1986. The preparations took about a month or so and the event on the actual day went very well. The spectators were blissfully orderly in comparison with the 1975 spectators who made the Guard Commander's life

rather miserable and very difficult indeed. It was perhaps the continual gargling with port that kept the Guard Commander's voice going and made himself heard. One wonders!

Lastly the Regiment will be replacing 2/2nd KEO Goorkhas in Church Crookham in the Spring of next year. We suspect that we will be in place by the end of April 1987 but firm dates have not been received yet. We look forward to meeting many old friends and renewing old acquaintances.

MAJOR GOPALBAHADUR GURING
MBE



Col. of the Regiment, Lt. Gen. Sir Derek Boorman KCB, presenting LS & GC medal to Rfn. Dhanbahadur Thapa.



Inauguration of BMX Bicycle fleet during the Border Tour.

HEADQUARTERS THE BRIGADE OF GURKHAS

1986 has proved to be an exceptionally busy period for the Brigade of Gurkhas for many reasons. We will sadly bid farewell to 2nd Battalion, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, when they disband in January 1987. This will bring the Brigade back to pre 1980 strength, and is a result of a drop in the rate of illegal immigration. Fortunately there have been no enforced redundancies and the soldiers have been distributed amongst the 5 other Battalions (1/2 GR in Brunei, 2/2 GR in England, 6, 1/7, and 10 GR in Hong Kong). Despite the disbandment of 2/7 Gr, the Brigade still has an optimistic view of the future and much effort is being spent in tackling the problems that a change in theatre will bring.

The Brigade has served and exercised in many corners of the World this year, including the usual Far Eastern locations as well as Canada, Hawaii and Germany. Both 69 Gurkha Indep Fd Sqn and 2/2 GR have recently completed very successful tours in the Falklands. The Gurkhas have been well represented in worldwide sporting events such as the Hawaii, Honolulu, Chicago, New York and London Marathons. LCpl Rajkumar Rai 2/7 GR represented Nepal in the ASEAN Games held in Seoul, and returned with a Bronze Medal which he won in the Welter Weight Division of the Taekwondo Section.

There have also been other reasons to celebrate: Her Majesty The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh visited Hong Kong in October, and were greeted by the Pipes and Drums of 6 GR as they berthed. The Duke of Edinburgh took the salute at his own Battalions parade; notably this was the first occasion he had seen both the First and Second Battalions of 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles together for many decades.

69 Gurkha Independant Field Squadron, based at Chatham, Kent, have recently been granted the Freedom of Rochester.

After so much activity it is not surprising that the list of those receiving Honours and Awards is relatively long.

5 NCOs have been awarded the BEM, and 2 Queen's Gurkha Officers have received the MBE.

We look forward to a successful New Year, and wish all members of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada our warmest greetings and best wishes for the year ahead.

CAPT. P. F. WRIGHT, WRAC

6TH QEO GURKHA RIFLES NEWSLETTER

The end of 1985 saw the change of Commanding Officers when Lieutenant Colonel J. A. Anderson assumed command of the Battalion from Lieutenant Colonel R. F. Richardson-Aitken on 4 November 1985. The previous Commanding Officer was ceremoniously towed out of the barracks in a flower bedecked land rover on the same day. The ceremonial Quarter Guard, presented to welcome the new Commanding Officer, refused to fall out after the inspection. Traditionally, and quite rightly, the incoming Commanding Officer promised the guard a case of beer before they fell out.

The Commanding Officer, no stranger to the Battalion and who knows the men better than most, got to grips with

the job in hand quickly and the battalion was soon under way in preparation for our role with 5 Airborne Brigade in the United Kingdom. Training throughout the year has been hard, progressive and realistic. We have concentrated on the Limited War Scenario with special emphasis on heliborne operations since we have been designated the Leader Battalion in heliops within the Gurkha Field Force. Individual training took place in May with Echelon and Company Training following in June and July 1986. We have had battalion exercises practically every month and there are still a few more to come. The culmination of our major training will be the Gurkha Field Force Exercise taking place in early February next year. We start to wind down after that exercise and the Battalion will be in baulk preparing for the move to Church Crookham from February. However, Mini cadres on NBC, AFV and Aircraft recognition, Combat Medics will still continue till the very end. Work, it seems, never stops!

The Border takes up over a 1/3 of the training cycle. We will have completed 4 Border Tours on the Hong Kong Sino Border by the end of the year. Our training continues even on the Border. Army Training Directives, battalion training objectives have to be carried out and completed and there are only 365 days a year! Illegal immigrants



Lt. Col. J.A. Anderson and his team during the Regimental SAAM.

THE REGIMENTAL BAND MARCHES ON

During 1986 The Regimental Band, under the direction of Captain Stephen J. Irwin, Director of Music, has had a very busy and enjoyable time marching and playing for a number of organizations other than the Queen's Own Rifles. A fund-raising parade for Variety Village (a charitable organization) took place in April on a beautiful spring day. This was quite a large and colourful parade with lots of bands, clowns, antique cars, and celebrities from the world of entertainment. The Regimental Bugles paraded with the Band on this occasion and again later in the summer, when the Band was massed with the Band of the 7th Toronto Regiment, R.C.A., for the parade marking the opening of the Canadian National Exhibition. Again this was a "Show Biz" parade with military and civilian bands, floats, celebrities, and platoons of marching majorettes.

Also, during the period of the Canadian National Exhibition, the Band marched in the Warriors' Day Parade and the Labour Day Parade, leading the Metropolitan Toronto Firefighters who looked very smart in their navy blue uniforms. The picture shows the Band at the Canadian National Exhibition on Labour Day. (Two days earlier this roadway had been covered with two feet of water due to a severe summer storm.) The Band also played for "Our Boys in Blue" or "Toronto's Finest" - The Metropolitan Toronto Auxiliary Police Association, at their parade and inspection in May at the Coliseum in Exhibition Place. The Legion Village in the east end of Metro saw the Band marching and playing at a cadet inspection in May.

During the cooler weather of autumn the Band paraded the Ajax Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion to church, played the church service and marched the Legion members back to their Legion Hall, where the Band enjoyed Legion hospitality. November found the Band participating in the Remembrance Day Service at Toronto's City Hall, and the following week appearing in the Metro Toronto Santa Claus Parade which was bigger and better than ever, with gigantic, animated floats, characters from children's books, clowns, and a large number of regimental and civilian bands.

Regimental duties for the Band included the T.M.D. inspection at Moss Park Armoury, the Birthday Parade of the Q.O.R. In April, monthly Regimental parades with the Regiment during the training year, the annual church parade to St. Paul's church in November, as well as the week-end trip to Latchford, Ontario.

The ceremonies at Latchford were held over the week-end of May 30th to June 1st, in honour of Sgt. Aubrey Cosens, V.C. The Royal Canadian Legion (Branch 344 Q.O.R.) had been successful in having the bridge at Latchford named in honour of Sgt. Cosens, and the Band, together with the Bugles, participated in the dedication ceremonies, together with a detachment from the Regiment. It was a proud moment when the Q.O.R. paid tribute to Sgt. Cosens in his own home town. The Band also played a concert, and enjoyed the other festivities arranged by the Legion. The bus trip back to Toronto was very lively and entertaining, thanks to the singing members of the Band, and particular thanks must go to our new Bugle Major Phil. Tenkortenaar, who kept the Band laughing for many miles of the return trip. (The picture shown was taken during the ceremonies on the bridge at Latchford).

Later during the summer the Band marched and played for the Cadet In-

spection at Moss Park Armoury, and also for the C.M.A. Change of Command in "Air Force" territory at Downsview, Ontario.

The Regimental Band continues to be in popular demand for mess dinners at Moss Park Armoury for the Q.O.R. officers and at the Canadian Forces College where we played for the C.M.A. officers in October, as well as for the permanent force and other N.A.T.O. officers on courses at the College on several occasions throughout the year. These officers are from all over the world; and sometimes the Band plays up to forty-five Regimental marches (non-stop) during the ceremonial part of the dinner. The Q.O.R. music library has approximately 300 regimental marches on hand for these occasions covering a range of music from the Regimental March of the Coldstream Guards to that of the Turkish army.

The year was not, however, all marching, as the number of Band concerts has increased. Some of these concerts were at places where the Regimental Band has never appeared before, which gave us the chance to help publicise the Regiment to a much wider audience. For example: in Toronto the Band appeared at Kew Gardens, Allan Gardens, Old Fort York, York University, Ontario Place,

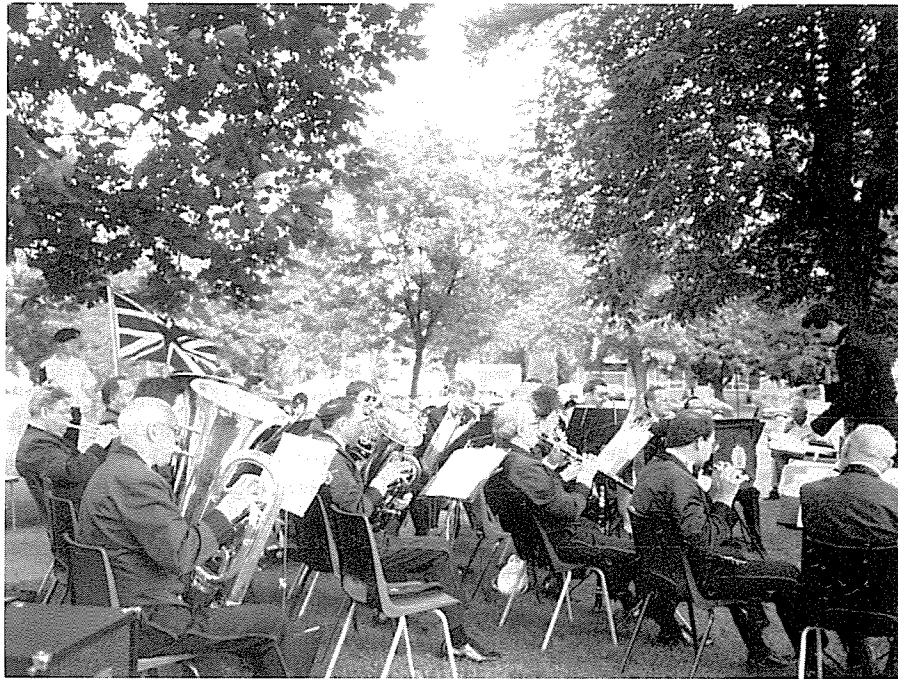


Q.O.R. Band at the Canadian National Exhibition, Labour Day 1986.

The Canadian National Exhibition, and further afield at Whitby and Milton, Ontario. (The picture was taken during the concert at Milton). The variety of music played at these concerts has greatly increased due to the fine training and leadership provided by Capt. Stephen J. Irwin.

One of the Band's most pleasurable days was in February when we returned to "K" wing of Sunnybrook Hospital to play a concert for veteran patients as well as their family and friends. It was at least twenty years since the Band had last been to Sunnybrook Hospital; and the large and enthusiastic audience (including Q.O.R. veterans), made us feel very welcome indeed. Letters sent to the Commanding Officer by patients have encouraged the Band to continue with this work; and as a result two more concerts have been arranged for the winter months of 1987.

With the success of 1986 the Band is looking forward to 1987 with great enthusiasm.



Q.O.R. Band at Milton, Ontario, 29 June 1986.



Q.O.R. Band at Latchford, May 31, 1986.

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY REGIMENT

**Honorary Colonel
Major General
K.R. Murray,
AO, OBE, RFD, ED, QC**

**Commanding Officer
Lieutenant Colonel
M.J. Neil, RFD, QC**

There have been a number of basic changes to the Regiment in 85/86 mainly due to the completion of the review into University Regiments.

The main areas to be effected are a new role for the regiment and also a new establishment. The new role of SUR is to produce officers for the Army Reserve and provide Military Training for undergraduates.

This reversal of emphasis has not caused any major change to the operating procedures within the regiment, however, with the greater emphasis on officer production, our output figures in this regard have increased.

The Annual Field Training took place in January with the venue being Singleton training area and field firing range. The camp was a four phase affair with the first phase being a four day infantry small arms qualification phase. The next phase was Infantry Minor Tactics at Company level running into the third phase which was a Regimental Exercise. The final phase was a special operations phase involving advanced IMT work, familiarization with armoured support and advanced range work culminating in each platoon moving through a live fire attack.

We had 320 soldiers attend this camp which ran for 19 days.

The Regiment has embarked on a new modular system of Reserve Officer production which involves eight consecutive modules or courses to take a recruit through to commission officer. Preliminary planning has indicated an approximate total training time of three years to produce an officer using this system.

During the year we have run our normal promotion courses in May, August and December with May being drastically restricted due to financial restrictions.

Annual Field Training for 1987 is planned, once again, for Singleton. We will be exercising in the defensive phase of war during this period and the basic structure of AFT 87 is to be similar to this years.

The 1985/86 period has seen some personality changes. Early in 1985 Sir Roden Cutler stepped down as our Honorary Colonel and was replaced by Maj. Gen. Murray who was the Chief of the Army Reserve up until his retirement in 1985. The Commanding Officer also changed in 1985 with Lt. Col. Windeyer being replaced by Lt. Col. Maurice Neil. The Adjutant changed with Capt. D.A. Evans being replaced by Capt. M.J. Moon.

The Regiment looks forward to some interesting and demanding training in 1986 and extends every good wish and good soldiering to all members of The QOR of C.

CAPT. MICHAEL J. MOON

7th DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S OWN GURKHA RIFLES REGIMENTAL NEWSLETTER

1986 has, as usual, been a busy year for the Regiment as we come to the end of both Battalions' tours of duty in Hong Kong. As I write this, we are preparing for the move to Brunei, where we will assume the role of the Army's lead Battalion in jungle warfare.

The beginning of the year saw a concentration of cadres and competitions in the 1st Battalion and this led us up to March, which was a month for exercises. The 1st Battalion, having been declared the Gurkha Field Force Lead Battalion in amphibious operations, spent a great deal of time afloat in the waters around Hong Kong practising deployment in a variety of Naval vessels. This culminated in a Brigade exercise in which the 2nd Battalion

enjoyed their task of "enemy forces" enormously.

On the sporting front, notable individual achievements have come from our runners, one of whom took the individual first place in the British Forces Hong Kong Athletics Competition in both the 5000 and 1500 metres events. Also the Regiment was successfully represented in the International Tae Kwon Do Championships, held in Nepal, where we took individual first and third places in the Welterweight division. Our hockey team did very well to come second in the British Forces Hong Kong Hockey League, being runners-up to a Sikh team from the Composite Ordnance Depot. In the shooting stakes, we narrowly failed to qualify for Bisley this year, but the 1st Battalion was congratulated for the efficiency and style with which they organised the massive administration of the Hong Kong SAAM.

This year has seen a large number of visitors, including the Colonel of the Regiment, the Minister for Armed Forces, the Director of Infantry and, of course, HRH Prince Philip. The climax of these visits was undoubtedly the Regimental Parade held at Lye Mun hosted by the 2nd Battalion and at which HRH took the salute. For once the Gods smiled on us and the weather was glorious. It was a great success and enjoyed, not only by all the spectators, but also by all those on Parade, of whom many got the chance to meet HRH.

Straight after the Parade, we began the transfer of personnel from the 2nd Battalion to the various other units in the Brigade. 161 members of the 2nd Battalion will eventually join the 1st Battalion as we become, once again, the 7th Gurkhas. There is no news yet as to where the Commandant of the 2nd Battalion, Lt Col W.J. Dawson will be posted on disbandment, but we said farewell to Lt Col. N.R. St. J. Warren on his departure to a posting in HQKLF, and welcomed Lt Col. R.C. Couldrey who took over command of the 1st Battalion.

We now look forward to a period of consolidation and interesting training in the jungle environment of Brunei, where we will stay for 2 years.

CAPT. S.J. CROWSLEY
ADJUTANT

on me, making as if to strike me with his spear, but was instantly shot by my corporal. I seized the Laibon and dragged him forward, getting scratched by his spear, and an arrow knocked off my helmet. The Laibon wrenched himself free, but by dragging him towards me I had prevented having spears thrown at me, as they would most certainly have hit him. Both I and my party at once opened fire. I am unable to state with certainty what followed. The Laibon was shot simultaneously by myself and my native officer, and several dead were left at the meeting place, including several of the Laibon's near relations. I took 2 stone-headed knobkerries from the Laibon's belt.

Lieut. Butler now joined me with 50 rifles and we soon extricated ourselves and formed up on the Kaidparak Hill. The return journey to Nandi was conducted as rapidly as possible. At 7 miles from Nandi Boma we were compelled to conduct a running fight with small parties of the enemy till we met a patrol from Nandi, whose presence compelled the enemy to withdraw.

So ends my official report.

1905 - Nandi Expedition

I have a corporal in my company who is a Manyema, and this tribe practise cannibalism in so far as they eat their enemies, thereby gaining the enemy's strength. When this man returned from patrol yesterday he shouldered arms with his left hand level with his belt and to my amazement I saw 5 other black hands stuck in his belt. I asked him the reason and he said they were for his supper, explaining that fingers are the tenderest part of a man. I made him burry the hands and told him I would talk to him today. He obviously did not think he had done anything wrong. I searched the Army Act in vain for any offence of that nature.

This morning I had him up and told him he must not in future mutilate his enemies. I then asked him about cannibalism; he tells me that fingers are most succulent, adding: "But the best of all is the buttocks of a young girl."

Just as I was moving out of camp this morning Nelson put in an appearance and told me that General Manning has ordered Walker and Stevens down to Nairobi to check the stores of their battalion. To withdraw two senior officers from active service so that they can count blankets in their battalion store is a most uncalled-for act of interference on

the part of the Inspector General, more especially when the drive is passing through a delicate stage. To allow such side issues to influence military operations stamps the man as small-minded and festooned in red tape.

I have also been considerably annoyed by a message I received today ordering all companies to send a patrol into Muhoroni to draw soap, as the Inspector General wishes to see all men clean when he next inspects. I have no intention of doing so. Either we are on active service or we are not. If we are, I shall not employ troops in carrying soap or in washing their clothes. Cleanliness is a most important part of discipline in peacetime, but I decline to make my men turn out here in Tinderet Forest as they would on parade in Nairobi. The idea is too absurd. I have replied that my men are sufficiently clean and require no soap.

1906 - Muhoroni

The Duke of Connaught, accompanied by Princess Patricia, arrived here today on his way through to Uganda. As the Duke wished to be introduced to all officers on the Nandi Expedition I have been dragged down from Nandi to this fever-stricken spot to meet him. I am rather ashamed of myself, as my only clothes are a pair of ragged shorts and a khaki shirt. However, he seemed rather amused at my kit and even asked me to lunch in his railway carriage. After lunch I found Princess Patricia struggling with her camera, which she was trying to use on some Kavirondo women who were stark naked. So I asked her if I could help her and she was delighted. I took her off to a Kavirondo village, where we took many photos together. I thought her a particularly nice girl, with no frills and full of fun. She thanked me profusely and has promised to send me the result of her photos when she gets home. She took one of me with my camera. when we got back to the carriage I found we had kept the royal train waiting, and poor Princess Pat came in for a scowl from her father, but when I told him what we had been doing he was amused. As the train steamed out of the station I waved my hand to Princess Pat and she waved back.

1906 - Taveta

This evening a native woman was brought in who had just been bitten by a snake. She was on the point of collapse, so we poured whisky down her throat;

lanced the wound and poured ammonia into the fang marks. Meanwhile we set two sturdy policemen to keep her on the move at a brisk trot. She pulled round in about an hour and was then conducted to her hut, roaring drunk but out of danger.

On 28 May 1906 Captain Meinertzhagen left Mombasa for Marseilles having finished his second tour in East Africa. He returned to his Regiment. He retired in the rank of Colonel after a distinguished record on the intelligence staff of the First World War!

MAJOR KENNETH BOWLES, C.D.,
GOVERNOR GENERALS
FOOT GUARDS, (Rtd.)

Note: The excerpts are drawn from;
Kenya Diary
1902-1906

by: Colonel R. Meinertzhagen,
CBE, DSO

published by: Oliver and Boyd
Edinburgh and London



1860 ROYAL CANADIAN ARMY CADET CORPS

The Corps has enjoyed a successful year since the last issue of *The Rifleman*.

1985 / 1986 Training Year

Between 1 January and 8 June 1986 the Corps conducted twelve indoor range sessions, two full bore range weekends, four field exercises, and three citizenship tours.

The Annual Inspection in June, at which the Reviewing Officer was Colonel John G. Wasteneys, a Vice-President of the Army Cadet League and Honorary Colonel of 2 Field Engineer Regiment (M), was very successful. Of particular note, as usual, was the splendid performance in our support of the Regiment's Military Band. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, very much indeed!

During the year Cadet Captain Ian Shing achieved both the Gold Star qual-

ification and his parachute wings. Sixteen cadets attended other summer camps.

At the end of the training year Cadet Captain Shing attained the cadet age limit. He was promptly transformed into Civilian Instructor Shing and is still with us as a member of the training staff.

1986 / 1987 Training Year

The new training year has begun well. So far the Corps has conducted one major field exercise, entered two teams in the Forbes West Combat Shoot, participated in Army Cadet Tag Day, and supported the Regiment on the Remembrance Day Parade. In the immediate future are a range exercise at Niagara-on-the-Lake and a winter training weekend at Greenwood Conservation Area.

During the year Captain Ivor Gould, the Commanding Officer, completed the Commanding Officers' Seminar, and taught the last CIL In-Service Ad-

ministration Course and a Basic Officer Qualification Course - all at Camp Borden. The Administration Officer, Lieutenant Dorry Gould, who had completed the Lieutenant Qualification Course in the Autumn of 1985, followed this by completing her Captain Qualification Course in the Spring of 1986 - thus obtaining both qualifications in a span of nine months.

A new member of the Corps staff is Dale Coyne, a Queen's Own regular for seven years in the 1960's, who has joined us as a volunteer officer while the paperwork to get him out of the Supplementary Reserve and on to the Cadet Instructors List grinds its way through the system. Welcome home, Dale!

It has been an active year and the Corps awaits 1987 with confidence.

CAPTAIN F. I. GOULD
COMMANDING OFFICER

QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES OF CANADA CHAPTER, I.O.D.E.

The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Chapter, I.O.D.E. has enjoyed its past year of service. With no excitement attached to a Royal visit we might appear to be resting on our laurels but surprisingly our commitments to the Order were met along with the support to the 1860 Cadet Corps.

Our funding for these commitments stem from the 14 years of rewarding work in our 2nd Appearance Shop. One of the highlights of this year was the 20th re-union of the 2nd Appearance Shop when our sister Chapter, Forest Hill Village Chapter joined us at the home of Mrs. J. Neil Gordon. A great deal of fun and merriment resulted and the occasion was deemed a huge success.

A Christmas luncheon brought us to the end of a successful year.

The passage of time is ever with us as we record the passing of two of our most faithful members. Their loss will be keenly felt and points up the urgent need of new members to maintain the quality of service to the Regiment enjoyed for 77 years.

JEAN E.M. GORDON
REGENT

TITLES IN PRINT

CAEN by Terry Copp and Robert Vogel (published in 1983 was the first volume in a five volume series on the Canadian Army in Northwest Europe 1944-45.

FALAISE by Terry Copp and Robert Vogel (1984)
ANTWERP by Terry Copp and Robert Vogel (1984)
SCHELDT by Terry Copp and Robert Vogel (1985)

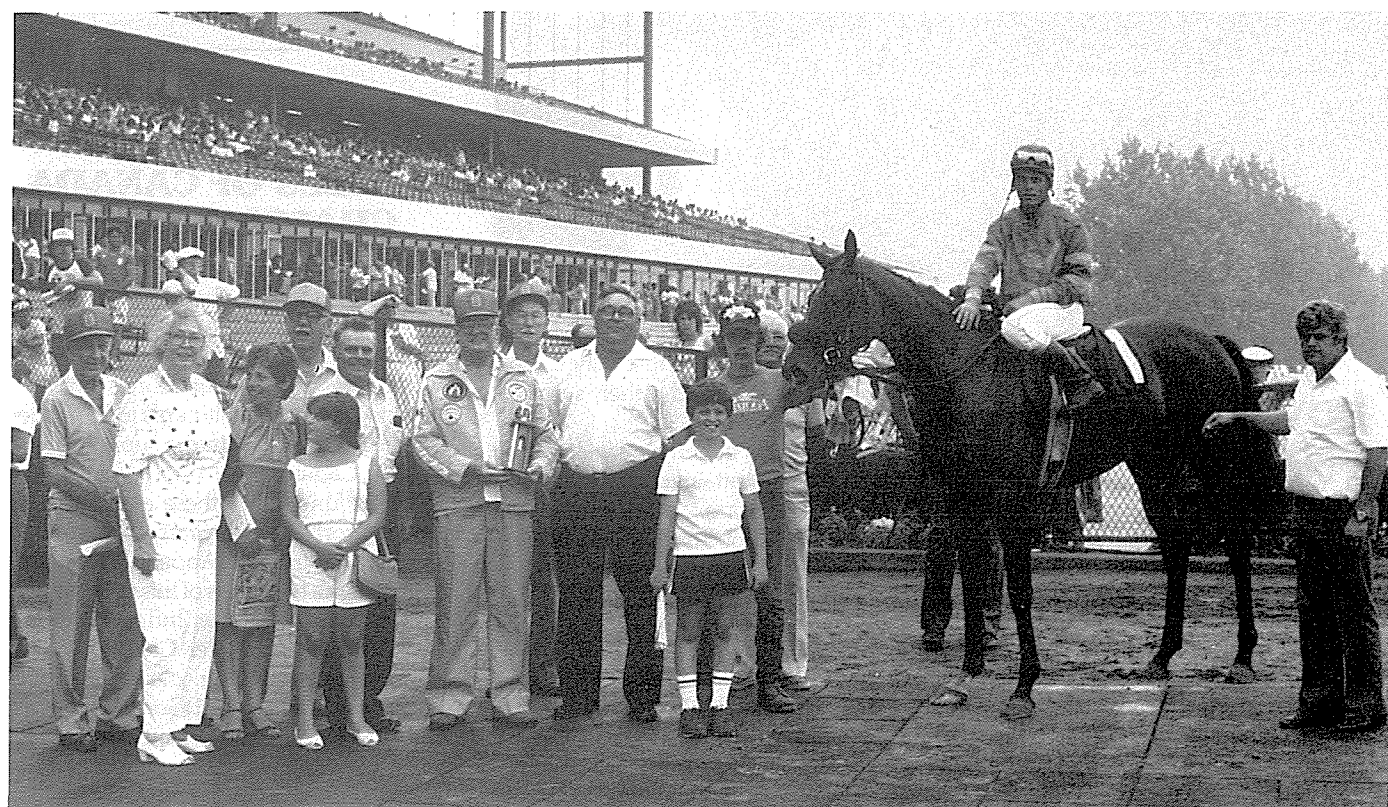
The book, SCHELDT (fourth in a series) follows the Canadian land forces in their continuing campaign against Hitler's Fortress Europe. This particular volume deals with the Battle of the Scheldt River Estuary. The time frame is the last quarter of 1944 and

one highlight is the unexpected recovery of the German army on what was called, the Western Front, despite the fact that in France the Allied Army was headed in an easterly direction. At the beginning of this Maple Leaf series volume, Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery, confident if careful, assigns the First Canadian Army the task of clearing the Scheldt Estuary as a priority operation. The Canadians are promised help from U.S. Airborne and the RAF's Bomber Command. American assistance is not forthcoming and while the RAF co-operates in the early stages, in mid October 1944 there are changes at the top of Bomber Command and from then on support is denied the Canadian Forces. While the authors suggest that the work is directed at academics and veterans, its

very lucidity and careful documentation of Canadians 'going it alone' makes for interesting reading that engrosses even more than the average cliff hanger. As the material is seen from the strategist's viewpoint, there are also military lessons to be learned (or re-learned) and vague historical points are lined into sharp focus, along with corrections of some misconceptions. It may be unfair to suggest that Scheldt is the best of the four books, but this volume surely holds its own, riveting reader interest on every page.

All of the above four books (list \$105.00) are now being offered to you for just \$70.00 (prepaid) and Volume V guaranteed to be delivered to you in 1987 for just \$20.00.

Please order direct from Maple Leaf Route, Alma, Ontario, NOB 1A0.



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

The third running at Woodbine of the Queen's Own Rifles Salute of that now familiar race was held on 25 July, 1986.

The race was for fillies and mares,

three year olds and up and was won by Classic Annie of the Bruno Bros. Farms. The jockey was Jack Lauzon. Weather was clear and the track fast for this 7th race of 6 furlongs.

Members of The Queen's Own 65's Club on hand to make the presentation of the Winner's Mug were Bill Ives; Archie McQuade; Dick Ayton; Alex

Gordon and Jack Casemore.

However, it would appear that the entire Bruno family were there and rushed into the winners enclosure when the photograph was taken, totally obscuring The Queen's Own representatives. One can hardly blame the photographer - better luck next year.

CARL M. LEWIS

was told I could have 10 rounds a man for practice.

1902 - Fort Hall

Today being the Coronation Day of King Edward, we decided to have a general holiday and a military review, and give the local savages a treat. All the local chiefs were invited to come in, and the haartebeeste meat, supplemented by an ox and a goat, was distributed among them. We had a little ceremonial drill in the boma, which consisted of a sort of amateur trooping of the colour. I marched my detachment of 22 men about the station, firing an occasion feu de joie with ball ammunition, and frequently presenting arms to a Union Jack on a pole. I could not help smiling at the rather Gilbertian touch to the whole proceedings, but our hearts were in the right place.

1903 - Nyeri

Today being the King's birthday, I fell the company in and presented them with a small bullock and proclaimed a general holiday after three cheers for the King. I thought such an arrangement was better than a ceremonial parade.

1905 - Nandi Fort

At last the Nandi Expedition, which has been talked about and threatened for the last 10 years—in fact, ever since Europeans first came to this country—has taken definite shape, and I received mobilisation orders today.

Col. Harrison commands and Pope Hennessey is his chief staff officer. Four columns are employed, commanded respectively by Col. Gorges of the 1st K.A.R., Hookey Walker of my regiment and the 2nd K.A.R., and Captain Maycock and Barrett, both of the 3rd K.A.R.

I am with Barrett's column, which is styled No. 4, my appointment being staff officer to the column. No. 1 column operates from Ravine Station, No. 2 from Lumbwa Station, No. 3 from Muhoroni and No. 4 from Nandi Fort.

The whole field force is composed of:
540 men 1st King's African Rifles
780 men 3rd King's African Rifles
260 armed police
10 machine guns
2 armoured trains on the Uganda Railway
1000 Masai levies
100 Somali levies
500 armed porters
3460 unarmed porters

The above does not include some 80 British officers, numerous medical per-

sonnel, and veterinary and various other non-combatant services.

I am now busy filling up the station with food, ammunition and stores of all sorts. I am bringing up some 380 loads a day from Kibigori, these being carefully secreted in my lines. In order not to attract too much attention it is all carried by night, and of course a large escort must be found for every party. So far the Nandi are unsuspecting, but the stack of stuff in my lines is growing to such huge proportions that they are bound to suspect something soon.

The plot rapidly thickens, and preparations for the expedition are being hastened forward. Letters and wires reach me at all hours of the day and night, each marked more urgent than the other. Even the most ordinary routine message is now deeply scored in red ink, with the cryptic words "secret" and "urgent." I believe the telegraph clerks are almost worked off their heads, which is entirely due to the harmful practice of not only sending telegrams of 100 words when 20 would suffice, but of sending a telegram when a letter would have done. The expedition seems to have sent some of our Headquarters officers temporarily off their heads.

As we have not been issued with a cipher or even code, I have been sending my telegrams in French, which seems to be understood. It is as well that a short telegraphic language hides many grammatical errors and lack of accents.

Today I received the "standing orders" of the Nandi Field Force. I am glad to see that in most cases these comprise suggestions. The document is in parts amusing, and whoever compiled it must have a mighty poor opinion of column commanders.

1905 - Nandi Fort

Acting under instructions from the Chief Staff Officer contained in his cipher wire of the 11th instant authorising me to attempt the seizure of the Laibon (Chief of the Nandi) on the 19th instant. I have the honour to report that yesterday a patrol under my command came into collision with a party of the enemy with whom was the Laibon and his family, and both he and his suite were killed.

The following is the detail of the affair. One of my Masai agents informed me that the trap to catch me was complete and that the Laibon had some 300

spearmen secreted in the bush near the meeting place.

On the evening of the 18th Lieut. Butler and 40 men of No. 3 Company arrived at Nandi from Kibigori with an order from Capt. Barrett that I was not to make the attempt on the Laibon unless I thought success assured. In view of my instructions from Headquarters I disregarded this order.

(Really, this shifting of responsibility is shocking. How can I assure success with a very delicate operation? What Barrett means is that if I fail he, at any rate, is not to blame.)

The column as outlined above left Nandi Fort at 5 a.m. on the 19th. We arrived at Kaidparak Hill at 8.47 and I halted on the summit of the hill. I sent the interpreter off to find out whether the Laibon had arrived and then explained to Butler and my men the reason of the march and exactly what was to be done under all eventualities. If we were not attacked, the machine gun was at once to try to cover our retreat, while 50 rifles were to double down to our assistance, the remainder of the column covering our eventual retreat. If we were overwhelmed and killed, no attempt was to be made to remove our bodies, but rifles and ammunition must be recovered and Butler would have to extricate the column as best as he could.

At 11.15 I left the column accompanied by a native officer, Mbaruk Effendi, Corporal Simba Manyema and 3 men. We approached with rifles at full cock and loaded, also with bayonets fixed. I told my men to fire the moment treachery was apparent, but that I hoped to have a peaceful meeting.

On advancing into full view of the Laibon it was clear that he had some 50 armed men around him. One man standing on the Laibon's right even had an arrow placed in his bow. The bush all around bristled with spears and shields. I halted my small party within four paces of the Laibon and asked him to come forward and shake hands. He replied that the sun was too hot, which, of course, was a ridiculous statement from a native. I also considered it wrong that a white man should have to make advanced to a native, so I replied, "Very well, we will conduct our conversation at this distance. Shall we sit down?"

No sooner was this interpreted than the Laibon made a quick sign with his spear and an arrow pierced the sleeve of my shirt. The interpreter wheeled round

we pay the rest and claim (I claimed, but still waiting). I managed to 'con' the bank to allow me \$2,000 on my visa so we are solvent for a while but up to this time we have laid out \$28,000 cash on this project with small financial return, so who is aiding who?

September 13 managed to chase down our appliances. They had been at the airport since 3 September - another round of offices for authority to import, another round of Harambe Receipt Books. In the meantime, where was our air freight? Information from Canada said it was in the air on 11 September but where to? September 22 received a bill from moving company for storage costs, even that's wrong, so telexed movers. They forgot to ship (what, again!) confirmed shipped 23 September.

September 27 advised our freight is in Cairo - why? - who knows! Appliances finally cleared by customs 3 October, joy all around. 7 October air freight arrived but only one carton out of three. Movers consigned shipment to small moving outfit "Freight, Removals and Travel Agency" in spite of written instructions and they would not deliver until shipment complete. Finally, 10 October, air freight arrived and seven helpers wanted to unpack - 'Hapana Bwana' - no sir!!! Believe it or not, the movers billed us \$150 for two days storage costs while they were looking for the other two cartons - 'Hapana Bwana'! incidentally, the water bed sits in its cartons in the cupboard - we had to buy two queen size divan beds. No double beds in Nairobi eh!!!! Gas barbecue sits next to it, no throw away tanks that fit North American units are available in Kenya. The landlord tried to stick me with the previous telephone bill. Telephone company threaten to cut off service if not paid within two days - I threaten landlord - he pays!!

So here we are installed in our apartment. Philips VCR didn't work and Philips Kenya do not have a circuit diagram to fit it. They sent to Holland for one over a month ago - still waiting. The Philips mixer quit after two minutes operation. The Philips stove has no temperature gauge, my wife says cooking is fun. They did not send the washer, so we try again as they have our money, in the meantime, my wife has returned to her younger days and washes the clothes in the bath using a toilet plunger. She said that at least when she did it

before she had a scrub board. The floors of the apartment are oak tile and she ties pieces of sheepskin to each foot and polishes the floor by skating to a Debbie Reynolds exercise record.

Whats it like in Nairobi? Well, we're in the season of the short rains now. It usually rains during the night and a little during the day but for most part the sun shines, its warm and its now spring - summer starts in December. Now that we finally have a car we will drive around the beautiful countryside. The people here are very nice, there's horse racing almost every Sunday. We are getting to know more people outside our project group and we are looking forward to the remainder of our tour.

I have been accepted as a member of the Kenya Regiment Association and were invited to see the 1st Bn. Queen's Own Highlanders (Seaforth's and Camerons) beat retreat. A bravo show.

In case anyone is interested, my project is going well. I enjoy the Kenyans I work with and the management training for which I am responsible is off to a good start. I am really looking forward to the whole programme.

In August I said that in December we would look back and laugh. I also said it was a long time from August to December and wonder will I be right on both counts?

*MAJOR KENNETH BOWLES, CD
GOVERNOR GENERALS
FOOT GUARDS (RTD).*

PS: The movers dented my Coldstream tankard - have they no soul?

Editors note: Major Ken Bowles, CD, our past Assistant Editor now residing in Nairobi, Kenya, was unsuccessful in obtaining an article from the Kenya Rifles. As a substitute, Major Bowles submitted the following excerpts on The King's African Rifles.

KING'S AFRICAN RIFLES 1902-1906 A Kenyan Diary

In a second hand shop in Nairobi I came across an old book entitled 'Kenyan Diary 1902-1906'. It turned out to be the actual diary of Lieutenant (later Colonel, CBE, DSO) R. Meinertzhagen, written during his service with the King's African Rifles. The following are excerpts from this diary.

"I was stationed in Burma with my regiment, the 1st Battalion Royal Fusiliers when a request came in for officers to volunteer for service in Africa with local forces. I applied at once and was accepted. That was in April, 1902 and I was aged 24, a full-fledged Lieutenant. From Rangoon I travelled to Bombay by ship and embarked for Africa".

1902 - Nairobi

I left Mombasa by rail yesterday for Nairobi, arriving this morning. The headquarters of the East African Rifles have been recently transferred from Mombasa to Nairobi; they are henceforth to be called the 3rd Battalion of the King's African Rifles.

I am posted to No. 8 Company. The personnel is mostly Swahili, but there are a good many Sudanese and Masai in the ranks. The recruiting of the two latter has been stopped for political reasons. We are all living under canvas, but barracks are being built for us on the hill south of the railway station.

At orderly room today there were two men up, one for "severely frightening a British officer." The officer was Bailey. Apparently he was on his pony, and coming round a corner met a soldier who saluted so smartly that the pony shied and off came Bailey. The soldier was punished by being awarded ten on the bare bottom with a strip of rhino hide, which I thought most unjust. The other man's crime was "being found in bed with the sergeant-major's wife." He got 25 lashes.

My company is armed with single-loading Martini-Henry .450 rifles with old-fashioned bayonets, and each man has a machete, an excellent weapon for cutting bush and incidentally ideal for close fighting. Every man has two pairs of boots, which they always take off on the slightest excuse. I examined the rifles this morning and found every one rusted up and corroded; in one case the breech mechanism would not work owing to rust and in another case the barrel was completely blocked by rag. All this is going to take some time to get right, but in six months' time I am going to have the best company in the battalion. I have already asked for 24 new rifles but am told there are none and that we shall be re-armed with the .303 service rifle shortly. I enquired about musketry and a rifle range. Apparently we have not yet reached that stage; I

QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES PAY TRIBUTE TO SGT. AUBREY COSENS, VC - LATCHFORD, ONTARIO

One of the major events the regiment participated in was the bridge dedication at the Montreal River in Latchford, Ontario, on the weekend of 31 May/1 June, 1986. This was attended by more than 3,500 people including the Ontario Government Officials in memory of Sgt. Aubrey Cosens, VC.

The forty man honour guard, under the command of Captain Erik Simundson and Sergeant-Major Brian Budden, and both bands under the direction of Captain Steve Irwin and Bugle-Major Phil Tenkortenaar were greeted to an excellent reception and festivities from the Town of Latchford following the ceremony.

Included in the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was the unveiling of a Memorial Cairn, a R.C.A.F. flypast and a paratroop jump by two members of the regiment, Major John Hasek and Warrant Officer Bruce Bamlett. Marked on this occasion was presentations and speeches from the Town of Latchford (home of Sgt. Cosens). The Sergeants' Mess presented a framed photograph of Sgt. Aubrey Cosens VC to the Legion of Latchford.

This memorable occasion has marked another historic event in The Queen's Own Rifles Regimental Family.

*B. W. BUDDEN, CD
DRILL SERGEANT-MAJOR*



REPORT FROM THE JR. RANKS MESS

The Junior Ranks Mess started off the year with their usual annual exchange of 'good cheer' with member of HMCS York.

Shortly after we held our 3rd Annual Beach Party. One had to be there to really appreciate it, words could not do it justice (plus we can't afford the lawsuits).

Not only did the Jr. Ranks show great spirit and warmth in the mess, but also away from the mess. In Latchford it was the JR's that made history, whether it was on the bus trips, or singing with Harvey Kirk (who should be a JR) or singing with an unnamed Warrent Officer (who definitely should be a JR); whether being chased by hordes of northern women or chasing after Last Call, The Queen's Own Junior Ranks can be proud of the example they set in Latchford.

In September we resumed our activities in the mess. There are two honorary mentions here of civilian women - Natasha Harvies and Sarah Brocklehurst who will stay in our memories for a long time.

We say goodbye and offer our thanks to Sgts. Cameron, Martin, Tyndall, Chambers and TenKortenaar, all strong supporters of the mess.

Others worth mentioning are Cpls. Galea, Paton, Vulakovic, MCpls. Scott, Parris and Volpert for their dedication and sense of humour. There are, of course, many others but unfortunately space does not allow to mention them all, however, there is one person who deserves, more than anyone, a place in the mess's legend and that is Cpl. Saunders. His spirit and sense of adventure have motivated this regiment from the bottom up.

This Regiment is 'The Rifleman' and 'The Rifleman' is a J.R.

CPL. QUINN

OFFICERS' MESS REPORT

Over the past year, the Mess, commencing with New Years Levee, held its usual yearly functions. We also welcomed many visiting friends to the Mess and hope that more of our friends will find the time to visit in 1987.

The two main events that were held was a dinner on 1 November, 1986 to honour Lieutenant General C.H. Belzile, CMM. C. on his retirement from the Canadian Forces. The evening was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

The second highlight of the year was, of course, the Officers' Luncheon held this past 20 December, 1986, at which time Brigadier General J. Neil Gordon, DSO, CD. presented Lieutenant Colonel J.F. Lake with his Canadian Forces Decoration. This was a most fitting finale to end the year 1986.

MAJ. JOHN J. WHYTE
PRESIDENT



said, where are they?, they said, look in the phone book. Low and behold, once again, I did and at great personal cost, my telex battle with Volvo, U.K. commenced. They did not reply, I sent another, they did not reply, I sent another and still no reply. I eventually telephoned only to be told my telex had just arrived on their desk and yes, they had three cars available, which one did I want? I chose, they said, send money. I did and phoned the next day to make sure they had received it and everything was in order. I was told, "not to worry, we know what we are doing, we do this for a living."

In the meantime, through a Toronto appliance retailer, I got leads on two European Wholesalers. I wrote to the first in Denmark giving my forthcoming address to determine freight costs. They telexed their reply to Nairobi, but no one in Nairobi told me. With the second, in Holland, after I advised our administrative office, I was told that the air freight cost would be met by his office. Unfortunately, Phillips in Holland did not know this and it cost me an extra 990 Guilders (about \$700) - thats funny!

Back on the home front our movers had been appointed. I was sure they were the same ones I had in 1971 so I protested, to no avail. They got the packing dates wrong, so instead of two packers a day for two days (whom we could watch and ensure separation of storage items from air freight) we got four for one day. When we finally received our air freight and unpacked, we got some surprise - mostly bad. We also found our clothing packed so badly everything had to go to the cleaners - I've seen squirrels do a better packing job.

We arrived in Nairobi on 22 August, three couples of a team of five. Visitors permits were stamped in our passports for one month, 2 months, 3 months according to the Immigration Officer who dealt with us. One couple brought their dog. They got their luggage but the dog went onto Jo'burg. Off to a hotel we went where, unknowingly we were to stay for seven weeks waiting to find a place to live, for our airfreight our appliances, for our car. By the way we arrived on a Friday and had to start work on Monday.

The college we were assigned to was in the 'Boondocks' and our hotel was downtown. Between five officers and four wives we shared a project station

wagon - we took turns riding in the trunk. In between work and looking for a place to live, we tried to find out where all our shipments were and if we were to find them, how to lay hands on them. This is where the fun really starts. Let's bein with my Volvo.

On 28 August I received from Volvo a package containing proof of purchase, proof of ownership, marine insurance and a copy of the ships bill of lading. It had been sent to the correct name and address but the receiver denied my presence and sent it to the local Volvo dealer who sent it to a Canadian he knew who was at the same college. I'm keeping the envelope as a souvenir. Everything was in order except the bill of lading - the car was assigned to my clearing agent. Telexed Volvo, "please change bill of lading" - no reply. Repeat telex to Volvo, no reply. Ship arrives 6 Sept. but customs refuse to allow the car to be landed - clearing agent no authority to import. Telex from Volvo 8 Sept "Bill of lading cannot be changed". Ship leaves for Dar-es-Salaam on route to the Far East - car still on board. Sept. 16, ships orders changed, returns to Mombasa for loading before going to Far East. Assistance of high priced help invoked - car unloaded but impounded by customs. Go with clearing agent to Ministry of Trade to see about clearing car. Show Director of Car & Truck Imports my passport and copy of letter of understanding between Kenya and Canada under which I am working. Director most understanding but says according to my passport I have no right to be in Kenya after 22 October, 1986 and therefore I was not entitled to import a car. In addition, since my name was not on the memo of understanding I had no reason to be in Kenya and therefore had no need of a car. (I should point out here that a car is essential in Kenya).

Over to High Commission. Names on memo could be rectified by formal letter but forms to obtain residence permits and registration numbers in passports had to be completed and processed. I found they should have been completed in Canada before we left and sent to Nairobi to await our arrival. In addition, new import authority forms had been developed and we were to be the first users. So began rounds from Ministry of Finance to Treasury, to Department of Trade to the High Commission day after day after day, either by us or our clearing agent, usually being

met with no progress but with receipt books for various "Harambe" (freedom) Projects. These are self help projects kept up by voluntary donations. On this also depended the fate of our appliance shipment and our air freight. On top of all this we were still expected to work.

In the meantime, no bill of lading naming me as the recipient, no car. The clearing agent gave customs a deposition relinquishing any interest in the car and consigning it to me. No use, telex after telex to Volvo, U.K. few replies, non helpful, weeks pass. Storage cost \$1.50 per cubic metre per day - about \$20) mount. Long distance calls to Managing Director, Volvo so sorry will rectify. New documents sent, authority to import car approved but wait - letter of tax clearance now needed but this only allows negotiation with customs to take place. Clearing Agent - "you'll have it tomorrow - or tomorrow - or tomorrow, but tomorrow eventually came on 7 November, 1986, two months and one day after its first arrival in Mombasa, but the saga isn't over. The car has Kenya delivery plates over U.K. export plates. The Kenyan plates are good only from 0600 to 1800 hrs. Monday to Friday and the export plates good for one week only from date of delivery. Now must get car registered and Kenyan plates but can't do this without insurance certificate. Can't get insurance certificate without car - start running again. Insurance wants \$2,250 a year, less discount for safe driving record. Current status - temporary insurance, export plates and prayer.

Back to the home front. We found an apartment, one year lease. Funny leases here - we have to paint the apartment and again before we leave. Have to pay three months in advance - \$3,000 (lucky for us it has a phone, managed to get it transferred, as phones are in short supply).

After standing in line after line, after line, we managed to get water and electricity accounts transferred - this took two days for each, but where are our appliances and air freight? - Who knows! Went to the bank to open an account, presented letters from Manager of The Royal Bank but was advised these didn't mean anything. We only have \$500 in travellers cheques, in the meantime, we have to pay the rent and, of course, eat. Project Administrator pay for our hotel rooms,

A KENYAN ODYSSEY — OR — THERE ARE NO DOUBLE BEDS IN NAIROBI

I was asked to recount humorous things that have happened during our first three months in Kenya since we left Canada for two years on a Canadian Aid Project. I couldn't think of any. I asked my wife who suggested our first night in Amsterdam on our way over when I went for a walk and found the hotel was in the centre of the 'red light' district and the ladies were not backward in coming forward. I didn't think that was funny at all, fighting off women at my age. I asked my colleagues who suggested the shipping of my car to Dar-es-Salaam when I was in Nairobi or the shipping of my air freight to Cairo - I didn't think they were funny either. However, as I tell of some of the happenings, perhaps someone may notice something funny. I hope so.

My first tour in Kenya on a Canadian Aid Project started in 1971. I remember well the day my late wife and I were interviewed to ascertain our suitability to represent Canada in the Third World. It was in February during the worst winter on record in Ottawa. The snow was up to the eaves of our bungalow, it was 30 degrees below zero (fahrenheit) with a 30 mph wind and the roads and sidewalks were sheer ice. At the conclusion of the interview and our suitability evidently established, we were asked if we would like to go to Kenya. With heartfelt thanks we said we would go anywhere.

Briefing for Aid personnel going overseas was then in its infancy. Ours consisted of one day but we were handed a photostat copy of the 'Post Report' on Kenya, compiled by our High Commission Staff in Nairobi. I will remember some of the gems it contained - "There are no double beds or refrigerators in Nairobi - bring your own. Bring a year or two supply of shoes, they are unobtainable in Nairobi". Similarly, "a two year supply of cosmetics for the ladies and don't forget toilet rolls, they cost a fortune if you can get them."

At the time I was Superintendent of Education for the Arctic and I was preceded to Kenya by one of my school principals who, acting on the same in-

formation, used up most of her air freight allowance (for immediate use items) with four cases of toilet rolls. On arrival in Kenya, customs refused to believe these were for personal use and charged full taxes and duty - an enormous sum. Thereafter, anyone visiting her and using the 'john' was advised in a loud voice that they were about to use the most costly and expensive toilet paper in the world.

In my own case I also believed the 'Post Report' and arranged to ship our queen size bed and refrigerator as part of our sea freight (Canada then had a direct sea service to Mombasa). In order to have it in Kenya on our arrival it had to leave six weeks before us, so, for those six weeks we slept on camp cots and used our camping cooler for a frig. and that wasn't funny. On arrival in Kenya we asked constantly about the whereabouts of our sea freight and were given various answers such as "it was off loaded in Tanga, Tanzania", none of which were correct. No one knew where it was. Then a funny thing did happen, we rented a house, fully furnished, and in the house were two double beds and a refrigerator. We also found Bata had a shoe factory in Nairobi and toilet rolls and cosmetics were in plentiful supply.

After three months where we still couldn't trace our air freight, we got in touch with the forwarding agents in Canada. We received a very polite reply informing us they were sorry but had forgotten to send it and would rectify this at once. Four months later it arrived in Mombasa, everything in one crate, the size of a garage. Since the Kenya railway is narrow gauge and freight is carried in closed cars, my crate wouldn't fit. After a great deal of pleading the railway agreed to send a flat car to Mombasa from Nairobi, especially for my crate. When my shipment arrived I was called for customs clearance. After opening the crate and inspecting the contents the customs officer seized on the two years supply of cosmetics and proposed an enormous amount of duty to be paid. However, we worked it out, he took the crate and I took the cosmetics duty free. I left Kenya in 1974 after three happy and successful years.

In 1986 when I was approached by Queen's University to return to Kenya, I was retired but could not resist the offer. The briefing this time was longer, one week, and the 'Post Report' compiled

by the High Commission Staff in Nairobi was properly bound. I should have known but since twelve years had elapsed, I once again believed the briefing and the 'Post Report'. I guess that's the funniest part, for, once again, "there are no double beds in Nairobi - take all appliances (240V) and if you take a barbeque, you need not worry about tanks - throw away types are readily available". Since we only had an air shipment this time (no direct sea route from Canada any more), taking a queen size bed was out so I scurried around and at great expense assembled all the parts of a water bed which took up less space. At the same time, having been told we had to ship a car, I set to and tried to find out how to do this. No one at the Briefing Centre knew how. I did, however, get a letter from Nairobi telling me that all cars had to be re-modified for Kenya (oversized radiators, right hand drive, heavy springs, tube tires) and how to order a Peugeot. I tried, but no cars before December and I was arriving in August. Then I found out about Shipside, a car dealer in Amsterdam. After a flurry of long distance calls, at my expense, I got the same story. Peugots in December, no other right hand drive cars. Then I phoned Toyota Canada. They contacted Japan which replied I could have a Corolla in August for two and a half million yen or a Tercel 4x4 in December for three million yen. I asked how much two and a half million yen was in dollars and was told \$22,650.00. I didn't bother asking about the Tercel price. With that out, I turned to Ford of Canada who referred me to Ford, U.K. Their reply reached me after my arrival in Kenya. I then received a message from Nairobi that Volvo U.K. had cars for immediate delivery. Only a telex address was given so I called our administrative officer in Ottawa and asked him if he would send a telex enquiry since my time for leaving was drawing shorter. He said he could not do this since it would mean getting involved in a commercial transaction. How then, as a private citizen, could I send a telex message - he didn't know. So I started with the Toronto phone book and called every CN/CP Telecommunications number in the book and drew a blank until the last one. They said try TeleGlove Canada, I said, where are they?, they said, try International Telex as the Volvo telex number is valid, try a telex company. I



Courtesy of MWO Figa

SERGEANTS' MESS REPORT

Coincidental with this year's Levee was the inauguration of a new mess committee for 1987. Replacing WO Andrew Sarossy, C.D. as PMC is Sgt. John O'Connor. WO Josh Figa CD as VPMC replacing MWO Brian Budden, CD. WO Sarossy, in conjunction with Sgt. Shawn Kelly, will assume the duties of Mess Treasurer from Sgt. Scott Patterson. Assuming the duties of Mess Secretary, Sgt. Phil Tenkortenaar becomes the messes loyal scribe for 1987. Needless to say, we look forward to your continued support and participation in the upcoming year and welcome suggestions to maintain and improve our mess.

As part of the ongoing process of attrition which plagues the reserves, the mess lost three active members over the past year, WO Bob Dunk, CD; WO Strath Crawford CD; and WO John Bennett, CD. While all departing members will be missed, perhaps WO Bennett will be missed the most. This is either the result of his long service, or more likely due to the continual reminders of his impending retirement. Although the loss of active members is unfortunate, it is also true that this opens vacancies for others. On this note we welcome to the mess, Sgts. Phil Tenkor-

tenaar, Tim Nelligan, Clay Cameron, Fred Martin, Steve Tindall and Sgt. (W) Catrina Wilson. Summa Sedes Non Capit Duos - right Mr. Bennett?

The RSM, CWO Rob Chan, CD will be stepping down in February 22, 1987, to be replaced by MWO Brian Budden, CD. RSM Chan will be moving on to TMD HQ as part of the Training Standards Cadre. We wish RSM Chan well in his new role and offer congratulations to MWO Budden on his impending promotion.

Over the past year the mess hosted a number of social functions, beginning with the traditional New Years Levee. Shortly thereafter, the Ladies Night Dinner was held on 26 January at the Victoria Station Restaurant, followed by a brief reception in the mess parlor. Although not heavily attended, those who did participate have commented favorably. Commemorative of the winning of a Victoria Cross by Sgt. Aubrey Cosens, a Dining In was held on 26 February, 1986. It should be noted that 26 February 1945 is the date on which Sgt. Aubrey Cosens, 16 Platoon, D Company, led a counter attack to recover the lost position; an action that cost him his life and won him a posthumous Victoria Cross. (See Regimental History, p. 249).

In addition to the Cosens Night Dinner there was the bridge dedication

in Sgt. Cosens hometown of Latchford, Ontario. On behalf of the mess, a photograph, complete with the award citation, was presented to the Latchford Legion by WO Gerry Senetchko.

The Annual Dinner, combined with the Regimental Birthday, was held at Moss Park Armoury on 26 April, 1986. It is unfortunate that no church parade was held as most of the mess was still present on the 27th. Need we say more? The Corporals Night, held in the mess on 3 May was yet another successful and enjoyable evening. Perhaps we should look to Sgt. John Wilmot to organize this years Corporals Night as well. Finally, a Dining In was held to commemorate the 41st anniversary of D-Day. Held on June 4, this function also served as the end of our social calendar until after the summer stand-down. Unless, of course, you count the Third Annual Stand-down Barbeque!

Organized on behalf of the mess by Mr. Victor Danylchenko, this all ranks function was held on 14 June at the Belfountain Ball Park. The mess extends its gratitude to the following for their support in this endeavour - Mr. Randy Beatty of Addidas Canada, Mr. George Cattan of Harvey's Restaurants and Mr. Branko Samsa and Ms. Debra Boisvert of the Upper Canada Brewing Company.

Milcon '86 held in CFB Borden and

CFTA Meaford saw members of the Queen's Own in many diverse situations. In the role of Camp RSM, we had CWO Chan, as CSM for A. Coy, MWO Budden with WO Alex Eykelhof as one of his platoon WO's. The bulk of the QOR personnel ran and manned 'C' Coy with WO Figa as CQMS, WO Bruce Bamlett as a platoon WO, Sgts Shawn Kelly, Scott Patterson and John Wilmot as Section Commanders. In addition, Sgt. Tim Nelligan, running the C Coy CP, WO Mike Bludd and his trust RSS MCpl Paul Strong, running interference for us with training problems and Sgt (then MCpl) Martin lurking somewhere in the Milcon QM.

Since the fall stand-to a number of social and training events have occurred. Setting the tone for the 1986/87 training year, EX Sharp Warrior I was a live fire platoon assault held at CFTA Meaford in September organized largely by our RSS contingent, Capt. Bill Angelo, WO

Mike Bludd, CD and MCpl Paul Strong, this exercise marks the first time in several years that we have performed live fire tactics. It no doubt received much attention in post ex and mess discussions at all levels.

On the social side, Sgt. Tenkortenaar organized for the mess a second Ladies Night. Held on 18 October, this dinner/dance was well attended and most favourably received. On 14 December, the Annual Wine and Cheese Party and its junior counterpart, the Children's Christmas Debauch was held. Organized, and largely staffed by WO Gerry Senetchko, WO John Bennett (ret'd) and, of course, Mrs. June Bennett, how could it be anything but successful?

While future events are currently being planned, details are not yet available. However, as of 17 January, 1987, the mess will be opening on the third Saturday of each month. Although every effort will be made to inform all

concerned of upcoming events and details, please feel free to phone the mess (416) 366-5965 and make inquiries. If you wish to attend any function, please notify us either by phone or post, at least one week prior to the event. As always, unexpected members or guests cannot be guaranteed seating.

There is within the mess a shortage of regimental accoutrements such as mess kit, drill canes, leather belts and most critically, cross belts. Any member, active or associate who can assist us in acquiring such items is urged to contact the mess soonest. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Finally, it is with the deepest regrets that the mess reports the passing of WO Rick Dory, CD, WOII Bert Shepherd, Mrs. Catherine Fox, wife of WOI Harry Fox and L.Col. Ivan Patterson, CD, father of Sgt. Scott Patterson. They all will be sadly missed.

WO J.C. FIGA, CD

coffee and chit-chat with Rudy (You probably know him as "BEEF") LeBouef and his wife Alma. Moving on, we drove through Latchford just as the highway crews were installing the huge banners across each entrance to the bridge. We then continued on to New Liskeard to our motel.

The next day was the day for the parade, and as it was being formed up by the Parade Marshal, John Missions, I was approached by one of the Argylls who asked me if their group could fall in with the Queen's Own. Their turnout was not like ours so we had them take up the rear of our platoon.

If I had known that I would be asked to write on behalf of the WWII vets, I would probably have jotted down the names of those who were on the parade or who were there in Latchford. If I miss your name it is purely unintentional but, as close as we can remember, those on parade were; Dick Ayton, Orville Cook, Frank Curtis, Ben Dunkleman, Charlie Edhouse, Frank Gaines, Art Gay, Neil Gordon, Terry Gordon, Gus Goutouski, Alex Greer, Bill Ives, Rolph Jackson, Dave Kingston, Bill Lewin, Rudy LeBouef, Bill MacDonald, Ernie Marsh, Charlie Martin, Bill Martin, Jack Martin, Archie McQuade, Danny McGinnis, J.P. Moore, John Missions, Joe Oggy, Ted O'Halloran, Art Richardson, Bill Ross, Freddie Rowell, Norm Selby, Jerry Sykes, and Jim Wilkins. These were the vets from WWII QOR of C.

In addition, we had Weldon Clark and Al Larose from the Sherbrooke Fusiliers, RSM Dunc Green MM was there and so were my remaining brothers, Gordon, Ernie and Don, all five brothers and our father, at one time or another, served in the Queen's Own.

The parade down to the bridge was a nice quiet pace and it was sunny. The day before had been quite warm but a cold front moved in on the Friday evening and boy! was it cold. Standing on parade for the ceremonies was quite chilly so we elected to join our Military Band for the march-past. That was our big mistake.

With young Phil Tenkortenaar in the lead, the band took off in their usual gallop past the saluting base where the salute was being taken by two WWII VC Winners, Frederick Tilston and David Currie. As we whizzed along I had dreadful thoughts that someone might

drop with a heart attack but we reached the first street corner, went around it and halted and broke off, puffing, wheezing, gasping, etc. Thank God we made it with no casualties. Most of us then moved on down to the waterfront park where they were serving a soldier's favourite refreshment. We also had the chance to watch our present day members of the Regiment jump from aircraft and land in the park. Most of us were thinking that at least one of the parachutists were going to land in the Montreal River but not so.

Later on a meal was made available to one and all, prepared by hundreds of ladies belonging to countless Legion Branches who all pitched in and put on a beautiful spread. We visited the Town's Museum where I was pleased to see that they were using the video tape of the interview by the CBC, back in 1964. Through the courtesy of CTV and Harvey Kirk, I was able to have video tapes reproduced from the 16mm film and I sent one to the Chairman of the Latchford project, Lynn Godden.

All in all, we left Latchford with the feeling that our Comrade, Aubrey Cosens VC, had possibly gained more recognition in this province and his name will live forever, by visitors who

may stop and enquire as to the reason for naming a bridge after a great Canadian.

JACK MARTIN, CQMS



Maj. John Hasek and WO Bruce Bamlett.

Courtesy of MWO Figa

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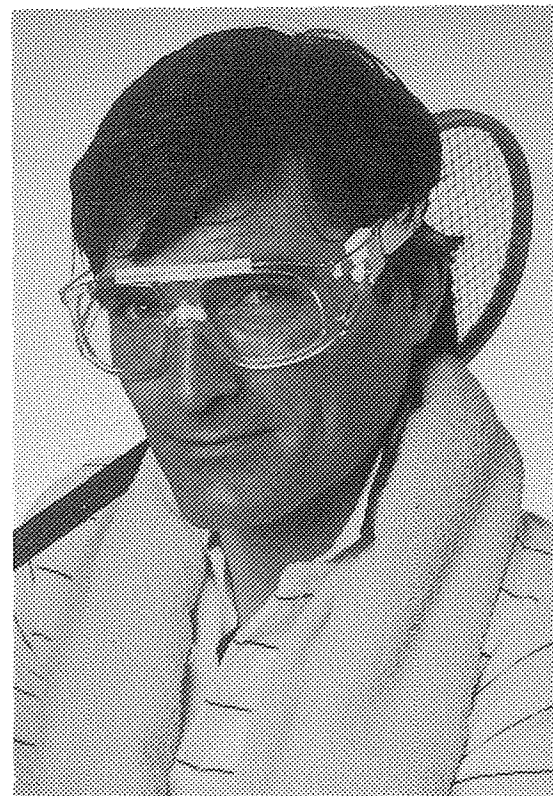
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A WARTIME REMINISCE

With so many good war histories around I have repeatedly been asked to remember just how it was at The Queen's Own Rifles Headquarters during those tense years. Over all, as the Regimental Orderly Room Sergeant, I kept track of our four battalions active at one time or another. I write from my recollections while my memory is still fairly good.

I transferred down from the National Defence Headquarters, Ottawa, in 1943 to work under Lieutenant Colonel Baptist Johnston, CD who was the Commanding Officer at RHQ. He was not a tall man but was solidly built, meticulous in dress and always gave clear, specific orders. A bit of a martinet when agitated, he could be precise and demanding. He was also OC University Avenue Armouries and presided over district officers assemblages from time to time. Among my general duties, it was also my responsibility to keep him posted with details of impending activities.

We had an iron safe in the Orderly Room in which all regimental records were kept going back to the previous century. This actually was the QOR of C Second Reserve Battalion. The First Battalion was overseas under the command of Lt. Col. Steve Lett. It had earlier merged with the Third Battalion in Newfoundland where it had been at Botwood, under the command of Lt. Col. Sankey, shortly after the outbreak of war. Merging with the First, they vacated Newfoundland and convoyed to England. The Fourth Battalion came into being after Armistice with the enemy and was made up of volunteers of the First Battalion. They became the Occupation Unit and returned in 1946.

From June 6, 1944, D-Day to wars end in May, 1945, our office headquarters with its walls covered with battlefield maps; phones ringing and a constant parade of officers and civilian relatives of regimental members, was a busy, frantic place. Worry and anguish were in the constant atmosphere. Every afternoon at two o'clock, a phone call would come in from the Records Department in Ottawa where Colonel Line, of the QOR Black Network would pass the list to Colonel Johnston of our casualties. It was then Colonel Johnston's duty to call the homes of the de-

ceased and inform them of their death in action. I can remember the anguished relatives who phoned or visited the Regimental Headquarters, whom I received and introduced to Colonel Johnston. Church Memoriam services were held at St. Paul's Church on Bloor Street and names of the deceased were printed on programmes. I kept these church programmes which were later bound into a large book containing the Daily Orders of the war years. I understand that all these historical records were removed and taken to Records in Ottawa. This, of course, happened sometime after I left the scene.

On at least two occasions, framed certificates bearing the name of those killed in action were placed on a table and covered with a flag. The arrangement resembled a casket. The ceremony impressed all the relatives who were in attendance at the Armouries and later when the flag was removed, names were called and the memorial certificates were handed out to the families. Those family members who were not able to be present had their certificates delivered to them privately.

Needless to say, Colonel Johnston received numerous letters from relatives seeking information as to how their loved one died. Colonel Johnston kept these letters until wars end waiting for the return of the Field CO to answer them. When Colonel Steve Lett returned from overseas with the battalion he took each letter and dictated to me the replies. Standing in the Orderly Room doorway he spoke with familiar feeling of the action in question, the weather that day, the situation with the enemy, always referring to the man he lost by their first name - a remarkable memory, indeed. I had to recall all my shorthand and a bit more to record the statements and today I judge these letters are revered and prized by family members all over the country, really a piece of Canadiana.

Major General Rennie was almost a daily visitor during the early years and when he died Colonel Johnston had his casket Lying In State on the Armouries floor, prior to interment.

During all this time, Colonel Johnston's Adjutant was a Major Doug Ross, a very efficient and reliable reserve officer, also an attorney. After his death he was succeeded by Major J. Milne, ED, a returned officer.

All in all, of all our soldiers, I personally salute, with respect, the memory of Lieutenant Colonel Baptist Johnston, CD., who faced the brunt of grief of our losses during those battling years.

STAFF SERGEANT
CARL LEWIS



THE BIG TWO CLUB SGT. AUBREY COSENS, VC BRIDGE LATCHFORD, ONTARIO

I'll bet that none of us thought that this special Memorial would bring together such a large number of our Regiment's WWII Veterans. Those who travelled the 300 miles north from Toronto to take part and pay tribute to our VC hero, were more than surprised at the turnout. I haven't seen so many old friends together for many years.

Art Richardson and myself reserved our accommodation months in advance, and, with our wives in tow, we set out for Latchford. With an overnight stay in Bracebridge, we continued north stopping in Callander where we had

THE REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

The Passing Scene:

A bound copy of the 'Graphic' dated 1889 was unearthed. The cover was marked 'Sgts Mess QOR'. The December issue carried a short illustrated article on the KRRC which has been photostated and is now in the museum files.

Late in 1985, on request from "Horizon Canada", material relating to the Fenian Raid, 1889 was forwarded to Montreal. On 7 February, 1986, Volume 49 was received. An article on the Fenian Raid, written by Donald E. Graves, an Ottawa historian, was particularly well illustrated.

The Riel exhibit was lent to the Ottawa War Museum for 1985. Its place was taken by a photographic collection of Canadian arms, flags and emblems. The Riel exhibit is now back and the Canadian flag display is on view beside the D-Day diorama.

Our library was enriched by a column entitled "Legacy of Honour" written and donated by Major A. de L. Panet. It is the history of the Panet family who point with pride to seven generations of military service. The founder of the family was Jean-Claude Panet who came to Canada in 1740. Among other distinctions he wrote a diary (still preserved) of the siege of Quebec 1759. From 1920-1933, Major Antoine de Lotbiniere Panet II, to give him his full title, served with the regiment. Business commitments forced him to leave Toronto for Ottawa where he now resides.

Reader's Digest is preparing a new edition of "Canadians At War" for publication in October, 1986 and permission was granted to include the excerpts from our history that appeared originally in the 1960 edition.

A donation of ten dollars was sent to the building fund of The Church of St. George and Martyr, which was destroyed by fire in 1955, in memory of two riflemen Rfn. Smith and Rfn. Mewburn who were killed at Ridgeway, 2 June, 1866. Both riflemen were members of the church choir.

A WWII battle dress with the ribbon and Maltese Cross of the Victoria Cross and other ribbons awarded Sgt. Aubrey



Cosens, VC was presented to the Latchford Legion. Ralph Jackson delivered this presentation on our behalf.

A letter sent by the Aldershot Museum to all Canadian Regiments who had Aldershot connections requesting photos of memorable occasions in their history. Three photos were sent by the museum commemorating the years 1910, 1941 and 1944.

As usual, several guided tours of the museum were provided on request. Brig. Andrunyk conducted a tour of nine officers from various countries and a party of Upper Canada College Cadets, under Cadet Captains D.F.O. Dwyer, G. Winnington-Ball together with Mr. James H. Lutz, a civilian instructor toured the museum on 27 November, 1986. At the conclusion, a U.C.C. Cadet manniken, dressed in the uniform of the Corps, correct in every detail, was presented to the museum. This is a most welcome addition.

Mrs. Malone donated a trunkful of the late Brig. Malone's army possessions. Also a most valuable donation was received from Maj. Ken Webber, DSO of the 1st Bn. QOR Regulars. The donation is a 6ft. x 9ft. tapestry made from pure wool in Pakistan. It took a family of eleven, ten months to complete. The Queen's Own badge forms the centre medallion. These splendid gifts are being prepared for display.

The usual queries from people wanting information as to their forbearers' service in the regiment were, when possible, answered. An unusual request came from a descendant of Lt. Col. Hamilton, 1889-1896 who borrowed a photo of his ancestor for copying. The library provided material for Colin Richards who is writing a history of Col. Dunn, Canada's first VC and Professor A. Silver who was given a copy of the 1885 diary of Rfn. Forin, later Judge Forin of B.C. The diary is now in the University of Toronto library.

Accessions:

A. St. Auburn d'Arcy - through Eric Simundson:

Press clippings; photos of H.R.H.'s visit; Mobile Command newspaper; Honour Guard photo Byng of Vimy; named photo of D Coy 1st Bn. QOR 1941; battle dress jacket; tropical jacket; serge jacket; Powder Horns 1960/61/62 unit badges; ceremonial booklet; two QOR beer mugs; rank slippers; QOR belt buckle, crest cigarette case, cap with badge.

Bandsman Blackwell - Band photo 1944

Wilf Durance - Temporary badges issued 1939, sheet glass, Bx cable and other electrical supplies, use of special tools with which he installed four 4 ft. fluorescent lights.

Major Ken Webber - a 9 x 6 pure wool hand woven tapestry made in Pakistan of the regiments colours - QOR badge forms centre medallion.

Richard Allen - 2 photographs of the Bugle Band in Cyprus.

3 P.P.C.L.I. - Scabbard for pioneers sword; bound minutes of 1st Bn. QOR Regulars Regimental Executive Committee 1962-1969.

Andrew and Anita Ford, England - through Bill Houston:

High aggregate cup won by Gordon Andrews 1906; photos of Andrews and of regimental shooting awards.

Lt. Col. Grahame Baskerville

- Clippings, re Latchford ceremonies
Ralph Jackson - Times Review, Port Erie, opening of Ridgeway Museum
Mr. Baker - Grandson of E.W. Duggan

1910 photo of Duggan; two shields circ 1910 and 1913; QOR brass shoulder badge; 83rd Bn. cap badge, photo of E. Coy, circ. 1910; Long Service Medal awarded during the reign of King George V.

Ronald Da Silver, U.S.A. - through Fred Ashton

Captains jacket of KRRC with two ribbons - the Royal Niger Company Medal 1886-1892; The Queen's South African Medal.

Ann Merle U.S.A. - Blue wedge cap; buttons; 2 hussifs; 2 Highland jackets and pants; tam; black puttees; one pair of spats (regiment unknown).

Capt. R. Paddon - Bible used by thousands of men swearing allegiance 1941-1985.

Mrs. R.G. Dibble - through Ralph Jackson - 'Sir Henry Pellatt' by Frederick Griffin.

Mrs. F.S. Malone - Some effects of the late Brig. Malone:

14 articles of dress; 7 of equipment; 5 of dress; maps, watch, compass, three weapons, flags and a trunk.



The Regimental Museum. Drama of D-Day, June 6, 1944.

QOR CHILLIWACK BRANCH

Before reporting on our annual reunion we would like to wish all our Black Net friends a Happy New Year for 1987 and continued good health.

Our reunion was held at the Black Forest Restaurant the toasts to our Colonel-in-Chief and the Regiment were made by Gerry Smith and Gerry Kendall. Others in attendance were Ken & Diane Bock, Fred and May Dorman, Stew and Eliz. MacPherson, Frank and Barb Lacrouix, Ed and Brigitte Bogon, Gerry and Elsie Kendall, Keith and Barb McCarthy, Roy and Jean Chaison, Bill and Sandra Thompson, West White, Gerry and Deanna Smith, Ralph Ferris and of course, yours truly and my wife Gerda. Bill and Rita Kowalchuk attended Victoria's reunion so were not with us this year.

In October Gerda and I travelled to Calgary where we were welcomed by Al Crump, Bill Hanburg, John Friedt,

Latchford Legion - through Ralph Jackson

Photo of Sgt. Aubrey Cosens VC Memorial Bridge, Latchford, Ontario. Scissors and ribbon used in the opening ceremonies, colour souvenir cap.

LT. COL. W. BARNARD
CURATOR/DIRECTOR

Ken Barrett, Jerry Bowes, Arnie Battrom, Roy Dunsford, Frank Guntnar and visited Len Lafort. On the way home we stopped in Salmon Arm to see Percy Ford who, I must say, looks marvelous.

Ian Shortz has recently moved to Agassiz from Drumheller and is presently working in one of the local institutes as an upholstery instructor.

Our ranks have been depleted recently due to members still in the service being reposted and members moving away.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Doug Brown and Bill "Irish" Marshall. Both services were well attended by people from Chilliwack and Victoria. I know that they will be missed.

Unfortunately this is all the news for the time being from this part of the country but before signing off would like to say hello to Sid Byatt - an old friend indeed!

BOB FOSTER

NOT BAD FOR A SERGEANT

Like many Canadians in WWII England I became totally captivated by one of the native girls. When wedding plans were announced, I was a proud sergeant in 'B' Company, but was due to be commissioned. They had reached the bottom of the barrel! At this time they were sending officer candidates back to Canada for OCTU (Officer Cadet Training Unit). I was determined to tie the knot before I left, but there was one small hitch. I had to get permission from my Commanding Officer. Jock Spragge, which made it a matter of routine as "Jock" had been my Company Commander and knew what a stable person I was. His adjutant, Hugh McRae, was an old friend and would be certain to support me. In fact, they were determined to save me from my rash action, invoking General Andy MacNaughton's directive that permission to marry had to be followed by a six month "cooling off" period. (This because too many young Canadians awoke one night on the town with their vaguely familiar wives beside them). This was unacceptable, but a sergeant accepts the unacceptable when his C.O. dictates. Deep in despair I said my farewells to Isobel and her family and was shipped off to NETD (Non-Effective Transit Depot at Thursley, Surrey) off strength of the Canadian Army Overseas, and yet not on strength at home. Certainly non-effective — a virile military eunuch.

I told my tale of woe to an old friend "Pat" Blackman who was the NETD adjutant - a Lorne Scot from Oakville, later to die in action. Pat tipped me off to the fact that the six months "cooling off" could be waived by the Brigadier, at that time Kenneth Blackader of the Black Watch and stationed at Hassocks just north of Brighton. I was given 48 hours leave, a very tentative meeting with the brigadier's staff captain, a map reference for Brigade H.Q. but no map. Sgt. Alex Deans of the RCAMC, soon to be Capt. Alex Deans, M.C., Q.O.R., passed the hat and collected enough money to get me to at least part way on my honeymoon. After a precarious journey hitchhiking to the Brighton train and exposing all sorts of military secrets to whom I learned was the District Security Officer who gave me a lift, and the

North Shore (NB) Regt's Provost Sergeant who got me from the Hassocks train station to Brigade HQ., I found myself in the exalted presence of the Brigadier beseeching him for permission to marry - NOW!! For a non-Queen's Own he was a man of great compassion and a superior judge of character. Permission was granted.

Next I found myself in a Hassocks phone booth phoning Isobel in London to tell her to be ready for marriage in the morning. She had assumed that I was dodging U-boats on the high seas to Canada by then. I got to London, arranged for a honeymoon room at the Cumberland Hotel, Marble Arch, and took the underground to Isobel's home in Canons Park. Her parents, who had thought they were well rid of "that crazy Canadian", returned home from the theatre to find themselves almost in-laws.

Determined to give his only daughter a proper send off, Mr. Bull organized family and friends for lunch at Odinos on Picadilly after tomorrow's impressive ceremony. In the morning I left for the Burnt Oak Registry Office to advise the Registrar that he was performing a wedding ceremony at 10:30 a.m. and the entire bridal party would soon be occupying his premises. I produced the Brigadier's Permission to be married, the Colonel's embarkation leave pass, record of our Wasserman Test (negative) and £2.10 marriage license fee. The beady-eyed Registrar explained that 48 hours was required in Britain between the issuance of the license and the ceremony (apparently Brits cooled off faster than Canadians), but I had just over 24 hours left on my pass and I pointed out that this would be waived when on embarkation leave. Old beady eyes not too tolerantly explained that embarkation leave meant going overseas to fight, not going home to Canada.

I was devastated, but after appealing to all of beady eyes better and most romantic instincts he agreed to back date the license just as my bride arrived with her parents, family, neighbours and a couple of Canadians we rounded up at the last minute - one of whom found himself as best man. The wedding proceeded in all its three-minute glory, beady eyes grabbed the £2.10 and sent us on our way. Odinos

served a beautiful lunch, Pate de Spam for starters, and we were briefly joined by three Queen's Own Officers who were testing the bar and spotted me in all my nuptial glory when they thought I was back in Canada. (I would give their names but it would only add a tragic note to this story for those who knew them. Suffice is to say that none of them lived to hear the end of this story).

As soon as it was respectable — and maybe before — Isobel and I left the party to get on with the serious part of our honeymoon which now had less than 24 hours remaining. The morning found two sad newlyweds, barely out of our teens, at Waterloo station. Isobel in her wedding suit and me in mine — called "battle dress". She went home to Canons Park and I went to NETD just in time to find our draft loading on trucks for the train to Scotland and the R.M.S. Andes which was to take us to Canada, and as guards for a large contingent of Wehrmacht prisoners of war.

Mrs. Bull, my new mother-in-law had wanted to announce her only daughter's wedding to Lieutenant B. J. Danson and I had to point out that I was a Sergeant and still had to earn my commission. And, frankly I didn't think that there was anything more prestigious than being a sergeant in the Queen's Own (and still don't, for that matter). It became, however, a bit of a family joke with Mrs. Bull when over the years I continually reminded her that her daughter married a sergeant - instead of an officer and gentleman.

The years went by, I became involved in politics and was a Member of Parliament. We were preparing a barbeque dinner at our home in Toronto in the summer of 1974 and I was having trouble starting the charcoal. Isobel called out to ask how I was doing when the phone rang and I answered to find the Prime Minister on the other end. He was calling to ask if I would join the cabinet. After much thought and hesitation, but not wanting to run up his long distance bill, I said 'yes'. No sooner had I hung up when Isobel asked again how I was doing. "Not bad for a sergeant" was my modest reply.

LT. COL. B. J. DANSON

back through the mud to our jeep. It was 18.00 hours before we reached the Czechoslovakian Brigade H.Q. at Cassel where these attached troops were containing the isolated German garrison in Dunkirk. We had a wild trip back in the dark on "Maple Leaf Up" in torrential rain with fierce wind.

19 October. Al Randle told me of his visit to the Q.O.R. and the capture of Ijzendijke. He received a warm welcome from Support Company and a libation of liberated Schnapps. His fellow war correspondent was presented with a captured suit for night wear and became known as "Pyjama Ike of Ijzendijke."

20 October. The 8th Brigade is running into very strong opposition in the centre but the 9th Brigade is making progress toward Breskens, key jumping off point for an attack on Walcheren Island.

21 October. 4th Canadian Division, which is protecting the flank of the assault of South Beveland, has run into extensive minefields as it presses northward toward the Maas River.

22 October. We were intrigued by a British Sergeant who had escaped from the enemy after becoming a prisoner at Hulst. He was put on a train but got off on the other side and ran for it. He was aided by the Dutch; the underground station at Breda was in the police headquarters. He stayed in the midst of the enemy for six weeks, across the road from a command post in a department store. Esschen, in the north, and Breskens fell into our hands to-day.

23 October. We visit the 9th Brigade area and have a good look at the Scheldt country. It is an appalling place to fight a war. Roads run on high dikes and the fields are water-soaked meadows or flooded ground. Everything, including the villages, is badly smashed. Mines and booby traps in profusion.

24 October. Up to 2nd Canadian Division to-day and received encouraging reports of progress in the advance westward across the peninsula. On the south shore the 7th Brigade has bypassed Fort Frederik Hendrik to the west of Breskens.

25 October. Visited 7th Brigade HQ to-day for a briefing from Brigadier J. G. Spragge. Fort Frederik Hendrik fell this morning; the garrison surrendered and the North Nova Scotia Highlanders have moved in. We have a good look at

Walcheren Island and its major port, Flushing, across the estuary. The enemy also has a good view from there for there has been a lot of well-directed artillery fire from the fearful 88s and other field pieces.

26 October. We had a late afternoon trip across the Scheldt to the South Beveland Peninsula. It was like climbing up the side of an elephant to get into a Buffalo, (Landing Vehicle, Tracked). Inside it resembled an enlarged and reinforced coal dump cart. It looks something like an alligator in the water with its snout-like prow and an arched back. There was a lot of mortar and shell fire on the east side of the beachhead. It was a devastating scene of thick, black mud with slit trenches carved into the reverse slope of the dike. Some of our landing craft had been hit coming in and now lay on the bottom with odds and ends of metal sticking up. It was strange to see the personnel of other LCAs (Landing Craft Assault) swabbing decks about 150 yards from shore. We hitched a ride back and got in with about 20 R.C.E. personnel who had been over since early morning. By the time we shoved off it was dusk and soon it was pitch black. One hour later the craft skipper leaned over and said: "I'm afraid I don't know where we are, are you agreeable if I head in the direction of our gun flashes and follow the shore-line down?" I couldn't think of anything else to do but agree. Another hour or so passed before we saw a beautiful cluster of three lights. On seeing these the skipper turned and waved his hand encouragingly. We made for an opening in the dike and disembarked. It was good to get back to our billets.

27 October. Progress general in the fight for the port of Antwerp. Meanwhile, the V2s continue to come down interspersed with shelling from enemy railway guns.

28 October. The whole front is on the move in south-west Holland. We drive to Bergen op Zoom where the population, flourishing orange banners, are celebrating liberation by the South Alberta and Lincoln and Welland Regiments of 4th Division.

29 October. The 52nd British (Lowland) Division, has broken out of the beachhead and joined up with the 2nd Canadian Division in South Beveland and the enemy has retreated onto Walcheren Island.

30 October. Cadzand has fallen in

the Breskens Pocket and the Q.O.R. prepared for a final drive to the Leopold Canal on the west to end resistance on the south bank of the Scheldt. This area is completely flooded.

31 October. We follow a new route, "Timberwolf Up" to the 104th U.S. Division which was driving north to the Maas River. Detour to see liberated Roosendaal where the collaborating mayor has been jailed and a former burgomeister has come back from hiding with the resistance forces to resume office.

1 November. At 06.30 hours British Commandos crossed the Scheldt to Flushing in the assault of Walcheren Island. At 09.45 hours more Commandos touched down at Westkapelle, the western end of the island. Support was provided by massed artillery and fire from H.M.S. Warspite, Roberts, Erybos and other naval support craft. The Calgary Highlanders of 2nd Canadian Division launched a simultaneous attack across the Causeway from South Beveland to Walcheren. We watch action from Breskens under heavy gun fire as the enemy seeks to disrupt the flow of reinforcements and supplies to Flushing.

2 November. A dash to South Beveland to see the Typhoons blasting Walcheren defenses with rockets. The Glasgow Highlanders, 52nd Division, took heavy punishment in relieving the Regiment de Maisonneuve in the bridgehead at the end of the causeway to the island. Return drive to Breskens to sail across the Scheldt Estuary in an LCA. (I thought I had seen my last LCA on 6 June) We 'lay off' the shore while our guns blasted the environs of Flushing. On the beach we see 200 prisoners waiting for a boat ride. The sands are stacked high with ammunition and supplies. Find Brigade HQ and learn that the two Commando assault forces have linked up and the enemy fortress guns destroyed. The resistance is crumbling and it is now a matter of rounding up stray enemy groups on the few pieces of ground showing above the flooded island. 'A' Company of the Q.O.R. demolished the last enemy stronghold in the Breskens Pocket and the fighting south of the Scheldt was over. The navy could now proceed to clear the waterway for the opening of the port of Antwerp as a major allied supply base.

LIEUT. BOB RAE

THE REGIMENTAL SHRINE

Well, 1986 has come and almost gone in what seems to be the blink of the eye! I suppose that EXPO 86 could be blamed for the rapid passage of time! As predicted in my report of last year, EXPO 86 was a resounding success (as most of you must be aware); and like all good things, it will indeed be missed by all in the greater Vancouver area. Its success can best be summed up by the attendance figures. The projected attendance at the outset was 13,750,000 whereas the actual attendance registered a staggering figure of 22,111,578! Also, as the end drew near, the attendance did not taper off; indeed it increased right through to the end. The highest single day attendance was set on Sun. 12 Oct. (the second last day) at 341,806 (yes, we were there!) A fitting climax to the best world exposition of the century; and my hat is off to the man who made it all happen - Jimmy Pattison!!

We were delighted to see so many of our friends & relatives who made it out for EXPO; and to those who got caught up in the EXPO fever and didn't make it out to see us, we understand (we had the fever too). To those who didn't make it out at all, I can only say that you missed THE show of a lifetime! None of our officially invited guests won the return trip for two, but Joyce and Ron Barker won a pair of three day passes which they used. Well done!

Visitors during the year have included such notables as Marg & Wayne Keebaugh from Nanaimo (Wayne was Paymaster 1st Bn in Germany 60-63); Helga & Dick Dendy from Sunny Tsawwassen (Dick was manager of Bank of Montreal in Hemer, W Germany in same period); Hester & Gord Gallant from Port Coquitlam (Gord was paymaster of 8 Cdn Hussars in Germany, same time frame) and Julia & David Dunn from Surrey, England (David, Durham Light Infantry was mentioned in my 1983 report who, visited on return from Falklands). I now am the proud owner of a beautiful crystal beer mug, suitably engraved with the Regimental Crest on one side, and the caption "The Regimental Shrine" on the other; courtesy of David. Also, Lloyd Cornett & I, had the pleasure of seeing Herb Pitts at the Seaforth

Armoury recently (he was out this way on CIA business). Phone calls received included Al Collingwood, Dave Luxford, Hank Elliot & Vic Ramsbottom.

We were saddened at the news of Charlie Belzile's heart attack in May, but a letter from Charlie in Aug. indicates that all is well, and that, although he may have been down for awhile, he is definitely not out!! At time of writing, he is probably commencing a well earned retirement leave. Best wishes Charlie from all the West Coast Skirmishers!

More recently, we were saddened by the untimely passing of Maj. Jim Waldron from cancer (17 Nov.). He had just retired in Aug. whereupon he & Betty had just settled in Duncan, B.C. Ev & I attended the military funeral (courtesy 3 PPCLI Victoria) held at the Belmont Park Chapel on Fri. 21 Nov. The burial was to be in Ottawa on the following Mon. It was Jim's wish to be buried beside his son Jim, who was killed in a training accident with the Airborne Regiment in Petawawa last May.

We were delighted to hear of the following promotions and appointments during the year;
MGen John Sharpe - Comd Canadian Forces Europe
LCol John Joly - CO 2 PPCLI Germany
CWO Bruce Lloyd - RSM 1 CBG Battle School, Wainwright, Alta.

Congratulations gentlemen, good to see the Black Net is still producing!

The Mountain clan are all well, and we are expecting our fifth grandchild next May (courtesy of Chris & Terry). Guy & Kelly were married last May; and Sandra & the children came home for the wedding, so our trip to Europe is postponed till summer 87. Linda is still cooking up a storm at The Prow Restaurant (at the end of Canada Place, Vancouver) and also hoping to go to Europe next year.

The annual Regimental Birthday Bash will be held here at The Shrine on Sat. 25 Apr. 87. So mark your calendar now, and plan to be here! We will look forward to seeing you.

In closing, congratulations once again to the editorial staff for the continued excellent work, in producing a first rate annual journal. Well done to all concerned!

Ev joins me in sending our warmest regards to all Riflemen and your families, wherever you may be; and remember:

ONCE IN THE QUEEN'S OWN
ALWAYS IN THE QUEEN'S OWN!!
Regimentally yours
BILL MOUNTAIN

Q.O.R. OF C. ASSOCIATION (TORONTO)

Following the fine job done by Bernie Aaron as President of the Association in 1985/86, it has been my pleasure to enjoy the fellowship offered by the fine Executive Committee and the Board of Directors elected at the Annual Meeting in April of 1986.

The informal gathering in the Officer's Mess at the Home Station was made more pleasant by the many friends and their wives that were present throughout the afternoon to renew old acquaintances and to make new friends within the Regiment.

The day would not be complete without the usual conflict provided by the St. John's Ambulance who had made prior arrangements to use the floor of the armouries but the demonstrations and tasks undertaken by them only added to the pleasure of the displays and music provided through the courtesy of the commanding officer.

The afternoon itself saw many familiar faces pass through the mess and at the conclusion, the nominating committee presented a slate of officers who had continued, for the most part from other years, to work diligently and have added some new faces as well.

In May of 1986 a committee was struck under Ferg Reid to plan for a fall event since interest was expressed in having some further commitment by the Association with reference to events of a formal nature.

Joe Resnick in his usual fine style organized the annual Remembrance Day service at the Cross of Sacrifice at 11/11/11:00 which was well attended by members and friends of the Regiment.

A vote of thanks goes to the Rector at St. Paul's who provided coffee in the church after the service and received an autographed copy of our regimental history from the Association.

The preceding church parade saw one of the lessons read by Past President of the Association Bernie Aaron reminding us of the fine job done by Bernie during the visit of the Princess.

Your Executive have been working closely with the active members of the Regiment and with their cooperation have provided the Kiwanis Club of West Toronto with an excellent address concerning the close connection between the Regiment and Sir Henry. After the last post and the rouse Captain E.R.C. Simundson, CD, delivered a thoughtful address tracing the days of Sir Henry and present day uses of the castle by the Regiment including the days when cadets were trained there recently and guards were mounted at the gates.

With the increased commitments of the active members of the Association, it has been difficult to organize guards at the castle this year, but several occasions were organized with a hope that this will continue in the future.

One of the goals of the Association this year has been to try and provide a higher profile for the Regiment and to this end, plans have been made for the birthday celebration on the 26th of April, 1987 to take on a civic flavour showing the citizens of Metropolitan Toronto that we are alive and well in 1987.

Interesting dialogue continues with the Western branch of the Association with the hope that other than for visits of the Princess, a far closer liaison may be had among the various branches of the Association and the Regiment.

I would be remiss in not thanking all of the members of the Executive Committee and their friends for their strong support of the Association and in particular, the efforts of Art Gay as membership secretary keeping the addresses of members of the Associates current and Harry Rollo for keeping the finances organized.

We look forward to hearing from you through the Regimental Headquarters so that we may be "in peace prepared".

DAVID R. VINE, QC
PRESIDENT

Q.O.R. CALGARY BRANCH

In my opening remarks may I, on behalf of the Calgary Branch, convey the appreciation to all the outgoing executive committee, they did a great job! Thank you, Gil Chenier, Tim Tommons, Al Crump and Paul Hughes who has volunteered his services with the new executive, thank goodness. On the news front, the 126th annual reunion was a huge success. During the evening a new committee was elected with yours truly as President, Roy Dunford as Vice, Clay Hodder, Treasurer, and as mentioned, Paul Hughes as Secretary. Further to the reunion a very enjoyable Barbeque was held in the P.P.C.L.I. Sgt. Mess 6 Sep/86 with 142 association members and their wives attending. A big vote of thanks must go to Roy and Clay, also a pat on the back to the catering staff of the Sgts. Mess who put forth in their usual professional manner. It was good to see so many out of town visitors. Al Haskins and wife Arleen, Edmonton; Ken Tomkins, Winnipeg; Ron Wilson, Regina, and a most welcome old comrade from Hamilton, Jim Bulmer and wife Marsha. It was great to see you all. It really was a most enjoyable evening. During the summer my wife and I had a visitor from Toronto Duke Bellis and wife Isabel, although the weather was not up to par, Duke, as always, made the best of it and enjoyed his visit to the "Foothills City" so much so, he may return for good. Also a visitor from Victoria, Bob Ducharm. I did not see Bob as I was on holidays in Europe, however, he was well taken care of by John Freidt, Roy Dunford and Al Webb who were last seen at "Brunch in the Sgts. Mess, with the usual refreshments".

I am saddened at this time to report on the passing of two comrades. On 29 May 1986, Raymond McCartney passed away, he was only 66 years old.

As all are aware, Raymond served overseas in the war, and later in Korea and Germany. During his tour in Korea he was awarded the United States Distinguished Emblem. Our thoughts go out to his wife Margaret and family. It seems incredible that I must also announce the death of Charlie McGraw in late Sep. 1986. We all knew Charlie not only as a fine soldier but as a fine person. His broad grin and likeable character endeared him to his comrades. Charlie will be sadly missed, not just because of his loyalty to us all, his courage and his friendship, but also because of his contribution through the years of selfless example of "doing" and not just "talking of doing". He was a much loved husband and father.

Our heartfelt sympathies are extended to his wife Mary, sons Bob and Howard also his daughter Koreen.

Should anyone of the "Black Net" be anticipating a visit to the Calgary Area, please let us know so that a welcoming session may be arranged.

May I through the "Rifleman", impress upon current members to put forth a concentrated effort to recruit new blood in the association.

On Remembrance Day a wreath was laid at the Jubilee and Cenotaph in Memorial Park on behalf of the Calgary Branch by John Hearn.

In closing, the members of the Calgary Branch, extend to you all the very best for the year 1987. Take care and stay healthy.

J. E. CRESSWELL
PRESIDENT

of cargo per day. The city of Antwerp was captured by the British Second Army on 4 September 1944 but the enemy held the mouth of the Scheldt Estuary which leads to the port and its north and south banks.

The 3rd Canadian Infantry Division was assigned the task of clearing the south bank, known as the Breskens Pocket, while the 2nd Canadian Infantry Division with other allied forces was to proceed to clear the north side, formed by the South Beveland peninsula and Walcheren Island. The 4th Canadian Armoured Division had been containing the enemy within the Breskens Pocket and had established a bridgehead but had to withdraw in the face of heavy counter-attacks, 13-14 September.

In early October the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, moving up from the liberation of Boulogne and Calais, entered the concentration area of the 8th Brigade, 3rd Division, to prepare the Operation Switchback, the dislodging of the enemy from the Breskens salient. In the early morning of 6 October the 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade launched an assault across the Leopold Canal with cover being provided by 27 flame throwing carriers known as "Wasps." All the flame throwing carriers of the 8th Brigade were involved under command of Major H. E. Dalton, Q.O.R.

On Thursday, 5 October 1944, I had reported to the main camp of the 3rd Canadian Public Relations Group, to take up a posting as a Conducting Officer to escort war correspondents to areas of action. During my tour of duty with 3 CPRG I kept a daily diary. Below are some excerpts from experiences during the Battle of the Scheldt.

9 October. Early morning jeep ride with Al Rundle, Canadian Press, on my first assignment. Up to Terneuzen to see 9th Canadian Brigade launch surprise attack from east flank of "the Pocket." The attack went in at 0200 with the North Nova Scotia Highlanders making fair progress on the right but the Highland Light Infantry of Canada were held back by the low, flooded ground. The reserve battalion moves off in their amphibious armoured vehicles and we see enemy mortar rounds falling around the craft. A volley of machine gun and rifle fire also kicks up the water. We return to Corps HQ to receive briefing

from Major John Delamere (QOR). The 9th Brigade is making good progress after amphibious operation while the 7th Brigade's bridgehead has firmed up over the Leopold Canal.

10 October. The main camp of 3 CPRG moves to Wynemegen, a suburb, of Antwerp to have easier access to action in the Breskens and South Beveland sectors.

11 October. Up to 5 Brigade and find the Royal Regiment of Canada sealing off all approaches to the South Beveland peninsula. At one hot point our men are on one side of a dyke, the enemy on the other bank. Grenades are exchanged frequently.

12 October. We visit marshalling area east of the Braakman inlet to watch the Queen's Own Rifles move off in Water Buffaloes to their assignment in the Breskens Pocket. Dropped into 8 Brigade HQ for visit with Captain Bob Bickford, Q.O.R.

13 October. King George VI inspected his Canadian Army's H.Q. and invested eight of his distinguished soldiers with decorations. Brigadier J. G. Spragge, commander of the 7th Brigade and C.O. of the Queen's Own Rifles through the defense of Britain and the Normandy campaign, received two decorations, the Distinguished Service Order (D.S.O.) and the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.). Q.O.R. officers viewing the proceedings were Lieutenant-Colonels Malone, McLean and Pangman, Major Grout and myself. It was an impressive occasion; even the war correspondents present saluted in unison and wore their gaiters. Three V2 rockets landed in the Antwerp area to-day.

14 October. Returning from our briefing we had our first sight of a V2. Our first glimpse was of a long, white smoke stream - not unlike the Typhoon missile's comet-like tail - with a dark object in front. The sound of the motor stopped, the dark object separated from the vapour banner and plunged to the ground. We heard the initial explosion and, in split-second intervals, a rumbling as other charges were set off. We drove to the scene and found the rocket had fortunately landed in a field of ploughed land. It had fallen too close to our Wynemegen quarters for our comfort. There was a huge crater in the field and the debris from the V2 was widely scattered.

15 October. The Q.O.R. has linked up with the Algonquin Regiment of 4th Division to complete the encirclement of the enemy in "the Breskens Pocket." The regiment is moving further inland toward Ijzendijke. Polder-fighting is like street-fighting; each side of a rectangle has to be cleared. It is slow, tedious work.

16 October. North to 2nd Canadian Division to watch the battle for Woensdrecht to seal the South Beveland peninsula. Attack went in at 03.00 hours and had progressed 700 yards by 05.00 hours. The Royal Hamilton Light Infantry had one company over-run but held off the inevitable counter-attack. From an artillery observation post with the Forward Observation Officer (FOO) we viewed heavy gun fire come down on the outskirts of the town before a sniper began to take an interest in us.

17 October. The Nazis never abandoned their plans to invade England. This morning we saw materials prepared in 1940, 1941 and 1942. Neat, handy green folders - carefully catalogued - filled with maps, pictures and panoramas with defenses clearly marked. Descriptive books on all of Britain's cities and important centres. Stored in thousands of copies and much more elaborate than our literature for the invasion of France.

18 October. Off to Dunkirk with Seaghan Maynes, Reuters Agency. En route we spotted a heavy column of smoke on the horizon. Nearing the site we saw two parachutists floating to earth. We raced over a canal tow-path bridge through mud into a wooded area. After travelling about three miles, partly on foot, we came to the scene of the descent. High in one of the slim, tall trees we saw the billowing silk of a parachute, at least forty feet above the ground. Belgian farmers were already helping one of the flyers down by means of a rope around his shoulders. Reaching the ground, he was taken to a nearby cottage to join his companion. They were American Air Force personnel. One had suffered a broken leg; the other had a broken thigh bone and a deep gash on his leg. George was from Chicago while his companion had been a Texas cowboy, incongruously nicknamed "Scotty." We waited until medical help arrived and then splashed

My name is Gary Westlake and I have a personal project to gather knowledge of my three uncles who gave their lives in World War II.

Uncles Albert and Thomas Westlake served with The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada in 'D' Company and were killed together at Le Mesnil-Patry on June 11, 1944.

Uncle George Westlake was a member of the North Nova Scotia Highlanders and was killed on June 7, 1944 somewhere near Autmie.

My reasons for this undertaking are twofold. Firstly, I have always had a desire to learn as much as possible of the three uncles I never had a chance to know; their personalities, their involvement and their experiences.

I visited the QOR Regimental Headquarters who were most helpful in referring me to Lt. Col. W.T. Barnard, Curator of the Regimental Museum and author of The History Of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, CWO Jack Martin and WOII Sam Scrutton.

I had a recent, and most enjoyable conversation with WOII Sam Scrutton, DCM, who spoke humorously and most respectfully of Thomas and Albert. I look forward to a visit as promised, at his home in Campbellford in the near future. I would certainly appreciate anyone sharing with me, as Sam did, their acquaintances with Thomas and Albert so that I can have their memories of them to remember them by.

My second reason, and of greater importance, is my attempt to have my uncles remembered in some small way. To this end I am pleased to say that at the time of writing, the Council of the City of York are proposing to have a small parkette renamed in honour of their sacrifice. The parkette is located in Ward Seven where they always lived. I will keep the Regimental Headquarters aware of my progress.

In closing I sincerely thank the Regiment for their support and encouragement with my endeavour and, as mentioned previously, would appreciate contact from anyone who can assist me further and who wish to share their memories.

Thank you,
Sincerely,
G.W. Westlake
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Bolton, Ontario L7E 1Z9
Telephone: (416) 857-3364

BOB RAE REPORTS

Notes From a Diary, 1944-45
The Battle of the Scheldt

"The story of the opening of the Scheldt is long and unpleasant. It begins in mid September (1944) when the task was allotted to General Crerar (Commander-in-Chief, First Canadian Army). It ends, so far as the First Canadian Army was concerned, only on 8 November (1944) when organized resistance ended on Walcheren Island.

There was much difficult, nasty and costly fighting in the interim." **The Victory Campaign** by Colonel C. P. Stacey.

Following the breakout from Normandy the Allied armies fanned out north, north-east and east across France into Belgium and Holland toward the border of Germany. Supply lines from the Normandy beaches were stretched to the limit and it was essential to clear the Scheldt Estuary to make use of the great port of Antwerp which was capable of receiving some 40,000 tons

FALLEN COMRADES

The following toast was made by Capt. Stan Biggs, QC at the First Black Net Dinner held on 15 May, 1982.

I was honoured to be asked to propose the toast to our Fallen Comrades. This responsibility is as serious as the privilege is great. I trust my inadequacy of expression will be lost sight of in the nobleness of such a theme.

For me service with The Queen's Own in N.W. Europe was by far the most exciting, most dangerous, most stimulating and most memorable period of my life.

The pathos, the constant unexpected, the human courage, the great team work, the comradeship, the individual unselfishness, above all the supreme sacrifice by many cannot be anything but very memorable.

The banking together of men in finest rifle tradition dedicated to replacing might by a rule acceptable in christianity was truly inspirational.

Napoleon had said that morale is to numbers as 3 is to 1. With the Q.O.R. Esprit de Corps in action it could have been 50 or more to 1. In many individual cases such as Sergeant Aubrey Cousins, VC, the number of the enemy was quite irrelevant.

In this toast and the two minutes of silence to follow the opportunity to recall the comradeship we had with other Queen's Own not now with us is a solemn and cherished duty which all of us readily accept.

Man may have many religions but there is only one mortality. When we think of fallen comrades we should think of members of The Queen's Own

of all ranks serving in each and every year since 1863 but who in the master order of things are not now alive.

The two principles of Q.O.R. operation "In Pace Paratus" and "Once In The Queen's Own" make it abundantly clear that a war doesn't have to be in progress for a member of The Queen's Own to be a comrade, nor does he have to die in battle to be a fallen comrade.

The Honour Roll of Members of The Queen's Own which appears in Col. Bill Barnard's magnificent history of the regiment has some 40 pages of names of fallen comrades of all ranks whose service covers from The Fenian Raids of 1866 to The Korean War of 1954/55. Such Honour Roll appears to be complete to 1955. Since then many more Queen's Own comrades have passed on and today's Honour Roll would tell an outstanding, indeed a unique, record of over almost a century and a quarter of continuous devoted service to the protection of freedom and the safety of the nation.

The true measure of a man's life is its donation, not its duration. For all that has been given in service by our fallen comrades we acknowledge our gratitude. We express our highest respect for their courage and dedication. We are proud, as they were, of the manner in which they served. Comradeship with them was a privilege. For members of The Queen's Own who are still alive as well as members as yet to join and serve the glorious record of our fallen comrades will be an inspiration.

Gentlemen will you kindly rise for the toast to our fallen comrades.

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, (BR. 344)

During 1986, the Royal Canadian Legion (Br. 344) had a major function which was held in May, 1986, in Latchford, Ontario, for the dedication of a memorial bridge to Sergeant Aubrey Cosens, VC. In attendance were members from both regiments that he served with, The Argyles and Southern Highlanders (Hamilton), Ontario, and The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada (Toronto) Ontario, along with representatives from Legions across Ontario, Air Cadets, Army Cadets from Northern Area as well as representatives of the Provincial Government.

Special thanks to Gus Goutouski for all the hard work and time spent in organizing this memorable occasion, also Mrs. Bailey for the large coverage of public relations.

I would like to take this time to thank all members of the regimental families for their support in making the dedication to Sergeant Aubrey Cosens VC a huge success.

Our warmest congratulations to one of our past presidents, Dunc Green on his 90th Birthday which was celebrated on 7 December, 1986 at the Legion.

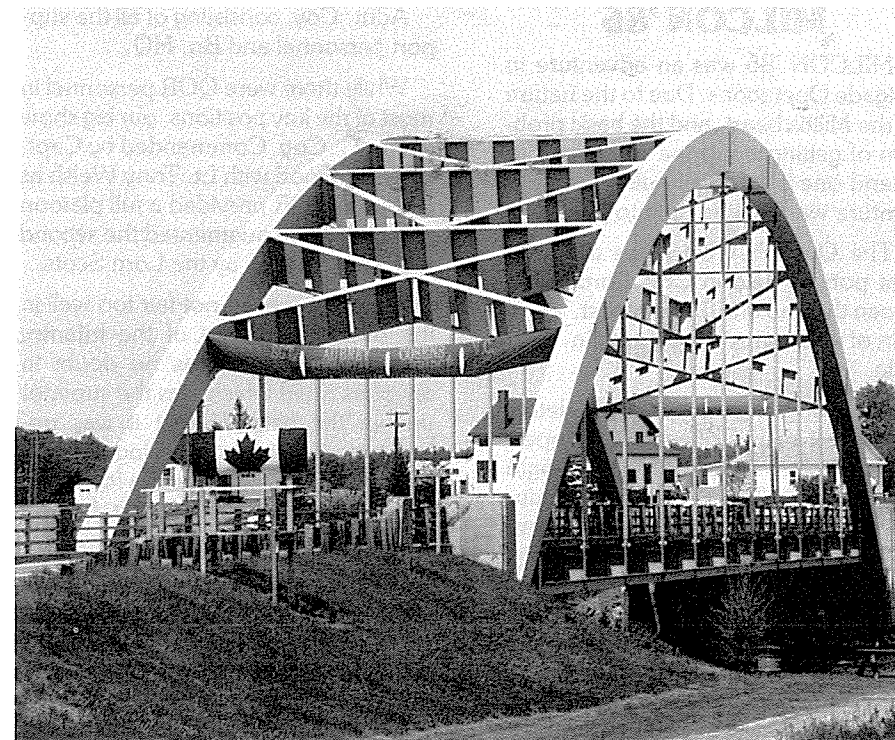
According to the Poppy Chairman, our branch again turned in a substantial amount to the Poppy Fund, which was held in November. Special thanks to John Missons and his committee - well done!

I also take this opportunity to thank the outgoing Executive Committee for an excellent job and wish the new Executive Committee 1986/7 the best in the new year.

The following are forthcoming events which will be held in the Legion, organized by our ladies:

- 13 Mar '87 St. Patrick Dance
- 10 Apr '87 Bunny Hop
- 11 Apr '87 'Old Sweats' Night
- 08 May '87 V.E. Day
- 09 May '87 Barbeque
- 10 May '87 Battle of Atlantic
- 06 Jun '87 Caravan
- 13 or 20 June, 87 Lake Cruise
- 25 Jun '87 Korean Hostilities
- 10 Jul '87 Sicily & Italy Landings
- 15 Aug '87 VJ Day

WELDON CLARK
PRESIDENT



MILCON '86

MILCON '86 was an adventure in Brigade Operations. Due to the nature of the Militia beast, and the basic problem of getting everyone concerned to attend one place at one time, the adventure was divided up into phases.

The Queen's Own Rifles attended that portion held in CFB Borden between the 2nd and 17th August, '86 as part of what came to be 2 Inf. Bn. Grn. Bde.

Without going into the daily detail, the object of this phase of the operations were to have company strength patrols advance to and engage a simulated Warsaw Pact defensive position.

To do this the 2nd Inf. Bn, under the command of LCol. P. Garic, (CO of RHLI) was divided up into four infantry companies and one support company.

- A Coy - H.E.Ps
- A.S.H.
- B Coy - Tor Scots
- Lincs + WE
- C Coy - QOR
- Lorn Scots
- D Coy - Alg. R.
- R. Irish R.



Adm. Coy, consisting of all the support personnel and Bn. HQ.

While there were QOR personnel in most of the key positions, our big show was in C. Coy. Commanded by Capt. Howard Flood with Lt. Tony Welsh as 2 IC, the QOR provided a full platoon of infantry and augmented the second platoon provided by the Lorn Scots.

Although we did not fair too well in the overall standings of the Infantry competition, there was no doubt in anyone's mind which was the superior unit in the field. In fact it was unfortunate that when speaking about C Company, people tended to forget the excellent contribution made by the Lorn Scots.

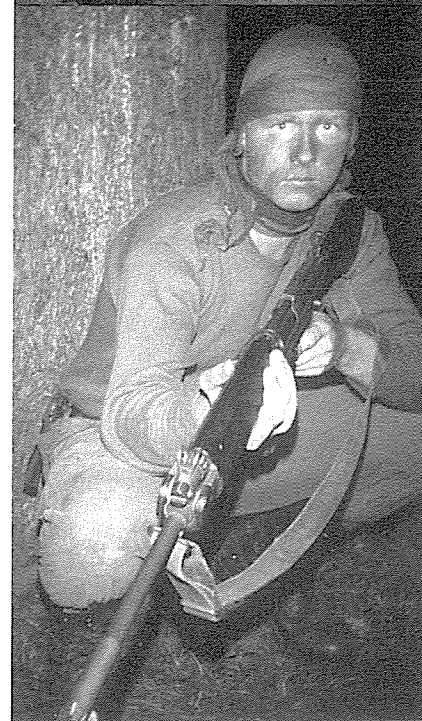
The final analysis came out in the last advance to contact. The observers made numerous comments regarding the skill demonstrated by the QOR personnel. Perhaps the most rewarding being made by the Chief Judge who said "I've never seen it done better by professionals".

The only down beat of the exercise was the weather. It could never seem to make up its mind what to do, however, it did spur OCdt Hasek into de-

signing a Bn. motto "Inicite Lacernas - Lacernas Deponite" which loosely translated means "Great Coats On - Great Coats Off".

All in all the adventure was a positive one, with new friends made and old ones renewed for another year. Alas the beast is now dead and MILCON, as we knew it, is no more. Our commanders have new ideas and new methods to test on skills in the future. One thing is for sure that whatever the test, the QOR is ready to lead the way.

CAPT. V.R. PADDON
QM, 2 INF. BN. GRN. BDE



AND THE TRAINING GOES ON!

