



# The Powder Horn

Volume 7

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Issue 1

## PEOPLE AND PLACES

### ***On the Road to Parliament Hill.***

Retired Major-General Lewis MacKenzie, Canada's best known peacekeeper, has announced his intention to seek the Progressive Conservative nomination in the Parry Sound-Muskoka riding. A resident of Bracebridge since retirement from the Canadian Forces, General MacKenzie has his eyes set on winning the nomination and a seat in the House of Commons in the upcoming federal election.

### ***Regimental Historian.***

At its meeting on 11 December 1996, the Regimental Senate unanimously approved the appointment of retired Lieutenant Colonel K.J. (Ken) Radley as the Regiment's official historian. A former officer of the Queen's Own Rifles, Lieutenant Colonel

Radley is pursuing doctoral studies on completion of which he will begin work on updating the Regiment's history. Subject to the availability of funds, it is hoped to have this project completed by the turn of the century.

### ***Music Director.***

Congratulations and best wishes to Lieutenant Rita Arendz who has been commissioned from the ranks to become the Regimental Band's Music Director. Lieutenant Arendz has been largely instrumental (no pun intended) in keeping the Band together after it lost its status as an official Militia band.

### ***Senior Corporate Appointment.***

Anthony (Tony) Schultz, a former Major with the Toronto Battalion, has been appointed Vice President of Network Services by AT

& T Canada. In his new appointment, he will be responsible for all aspects of the company's voice and data networks. A licensed professional engineer, Tony has degrees in Business Administration, Electrical Engineering and History.

### ***Peacekeeping Experiences.***

Retired Colonel J.H. (Jim) Allan has written a book under the title of "Peacekeeping: Outspoken Observations by a Field Officer. Published by Praeger in Westport, Connecticut, the book is available through 1-800-225-5800 or by writing to Colonel Allan at the following address: 5066 Hwy 15, R.R.#1, Seeley's Bay, Ontario K0H 2N0.



## **NEWS FROM ASSOCIATION BRANCHES**

### ***European Association Branch Formed.***

Retired Major J.R.L. (Dick) White, who served with the 2nd Battalion in Hemer, Germany as a subaltern, has been elected President of the European Branch of the Queen's Own Association which was formally established on the first of January of this year.

At the time of writing, the Branch has three active members namely, Dick White, Derek Bamford and Ivor D'Ancely but it has hopes of recruiting former members of the Regiment who reside in the United Kingdom and western Europe.

The first planned activity of the Branch is to join the Regimental Band and the members of Toronto Branch at Bernieres-sur-Mer on 6 June 1997 when additional memorials will be unveiled.

For those interested in joining the European Branch, please contact Dick White at 9 Bd Victor Hugo, 92200 Neuilly, France.

### ***Victoria Branch Going Strong.***

Joe Webb, President of Victoria Branch, reports that the Branch continues to grow with an active membership approaching 100.

The Annual General Meeting of the Branch was held in January 1997 with an attendance of 30. The meeting passed a motion allowing spouses to attend future Annual General Meetings thus adding a social atmosphere to the event. The members also agreed to lay a wreath on behalf of the Branch at the Esquimalt cemetery as part of the Remembrance Day ceremonies on November 11th of each year.

The Branch regretted losing two members of its Committee to retirement. Chuck Perry and Gord Hryhoryshen are leaving the Committee after many years of service. Gord

Hryhoryshen who served as the Branch's Treasurer for five years will be particularly missed. Bob Drinkwater and Peter Furlong were elected to serve on the Committee.

Plans are progressing favourably for the Regimental Birthday celebrations which will take place at Work Point Barracks. A record attendance is expected. A special invitation is being extended to the wives of those members who have passed away.

The Branch was represented by Joe Webb at the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge which was hosted by the Canadian Scottish Regiment. The celebration took the form of a ceilidh which was well received by those in attendance. Joe Webb also had the honour of carrying the Canadian Ensign in the Colour Party commanded by Roy Ellesworth.

Anyone looking for lost or missing Regimental comrades is invited to contact Joe Webb by telephone at (250) 655-3901 or by letter to him at 819 Woodcreek Drive, R.R. #4, Sidney, B.C. V8L 5K4.

### ***Chilliwack Branch News.***

Bob Foster writes to say that his health is improving following a stroke. He hosted a small Regimental Birthday Party in Chilliwack after which he and his wife travelled to Calgary to join John Creswell and the Calgary Branch in their celebrations. He reports that Brian Anderson, Paul Mercer, Rollie Phillips and Gerry Kendall are seen about the town while spending the winter in warmer climes are Keith McCarthy and Ed Bogan. Former bandsman Lyle Ryckman keeps active by still trying to score his five hundredth goal in ice hockey. (The last comment is not attributable to Bob Foster but results from the fertile imagination of the Editor).



## **ASSOCIATION NEWS-TORONTO BRANCH**

### ***Annual Meeting.***

The annual meeting of Toronto Branch will be held at 1600 hours on Saturday, 26 April 1997 in The Queen's Own Rifles Sergeants' Mess at Moss Park Armoury. All messes will be open on this day to celebrate the Regiment's 137th birthday.

### ***Normandy Tour.***

CWO Brian Budden, President of Toronto Branch, reports that the response to the Normandy pilgrimage has been very good. Thirty-two have registered for the pilgrimage which will take place from 4 to 12 June inclusive. The memorial plaques for installation are in the final stages of production and will be shipped to Normandy prior to the arrival of the Queen's Own group. Three plaques will be installed as follows: one on the existing pillbox at Bernieres-sur-Mer; one on the wall of "Maison de Queen's Own Rifles"; and one at the "Rue de Buck Hawkins" in Giberville.

A D-Day 97 Raffle has been initiated to raise funds to assist in the costs involved in the installation of the plaques and in sending a Regimental Guard to the Normandy celebrations. For tickets, write to Captain H. McCabe, QOR Regimental Association, Moss Park Armoury, 130 Queen Street East, Toronto, Ontario, M5A 1R9

### ***Battle of Vimy Ridge.***

The Association is pleased to announce that Arthur M. Gay has been selected to represent the Regiment in the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge which is taking place from the 4th to the 14th of April.

### ***Condolences.***

The Members of Toronto Branch wish to extend to the Bamlett Family their deep condolences on the passing of MWO Bruce Bamlett. He will be missed by all who knew him.

## **ODDS AND ENDS**

### **CALGARY BRANCH**

Spring has sprung  
The grass has riz  
I wonder where the news  
from Calgary Branch is.

### **Association Dues**

Association Branches wish to remind their members that annual membership dues for 1997 should be paid without delay.

## **REGIMENTAL NEWS FROM NEAR AND FAR**

### ***Cosens Remembered.***

At the annual Aubrey Cosens dinner held in the Sergeants' Mess on 26 February 1997, Commissionaire Robert Connery, a World War II Royal Canadian Navy veteran, presented the Regiment with a framed set of Sergeant Aubrey Cosens' medals including the rare George VI Mother's Cross.

Commissionaire Connery, who served with Robert Hampton Gray, Canada's last recipient of the Victoria Cross, made the gift in honour of his son Wayne who served with the Queen's Own Rifles from 1966 to 1970. Wayne was seriously wounded while serving in Cyprus in an incident that saw the death of another rifleman.

The medals are to hang in Regimental lines beside a photograph of Sergeant Cosens. It will serve as a constant reminder of the sacrifices made by those who served in the Regiment before us.

### ***Promotions.***

Congratulations to the following members of the Battalion who were recently promoted: MWO Patterson, Sgt Fabry, Sgt Hutcheon, Sgt Laloggia, Sgt Wolfe, Cpl Blanco, Cpl Ioanni, Cpl Mendoza, Cpl Udobi, and Cpl White.

### ***Transfers.***

Best wishes to the following members of the Battalion who are transferred to the Regular Force: Sgt Holmes to 1 RCR, Sgt Hutcheon to PPCLI, Cpl Howard to PPCLI and Rfn Kapp to PPCLI.

### ***Ceremonial Guard Commander.***

Retired Lieutenant Colonel B.G. (Grahame) Baskerville, the Powder Horn's roving reporter in the Ottawa area, reports that on

25 August 1996, at a ceremonial parade on the grounds of Rideau Hall in Ottawa, Major C.P. (Pat) Dillon assumed command of the Ceremonial Guard. The Ceremonial Guard is composed of a company from each of The Governor General's Foot Guards (GGFG) and The Canadian Grenadier Guards (CGG). The Trooping of the Colours and Change of Command Parade was held in the presence of His Excellency the Governor General of Canada, the Honorable Romeo Leblanc.

Major Dillon was commissioned in The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada in 1965 and was assigned to the 2nd Battalion in Calgary. On disbandment of the 2nd Battalion in 1968 he was transferred to the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI). Later, from 1982 to 1984, he served as the Commanding Officer of 2 Airborne Commando, The Canadian Airborne Regiment.

Major Dillon is a graduate of the United States Marine Corps Command and Staff College in Quantico, Virginia. He has served in Germany and his tours of duty have included peacekeeping tours in Cyprus, Vietnam, Egypt, Israel and Syria. He currently resides in Oxford Station, Ontario.

### ***Regimental Birthday Celebrations.***

The Regimental Birthday celebrations in Toronto will be limited to functions in each of the Messes in Moss Park Armoury this year. A Committee has been formed to study the feasibility of staging Regimental Birthday celebrations on a cycle that will be more meaningful to serving members and veterans. In the past few years it has been noted that annual Regimental Birthday functions are not well attended for reasons which will be studied by the Committee.



**THE QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES OF CANADA TRUST FUND**  
**1996 REPORT**

Donations from members of the Regimental family, corporations and friends of the Regiment reached a total of \$32,588.

Approved expenditures amounted to \$32,913 for the financial support of the following Regimental activities.

Operation of Regimental Headquarters	\$2,570
Publication of Powder Horn	\$2,545
Maintenance of Regimental Museum	\$3,592
Publication of The Rifleman	\$9,947
Property Insurance Premium	\$3,537
Korean Veterans' Memorial	\$2,400
Regimental Dress Uniforms	\$5,673
Exercise Rambling Rifleman	\$2,500
Administrative Expenses	\$ 149

In addition to the annual recurring expenses in 1997 which are estimated to be \$27,000 the Trust Fund has committed itself to support the completion of the memorial program in Normandy at an estimated cost of \$11,000. Thus, the Trust Fund will need a donation base of \$38,000 in 1997 to balance its budget.

Lieutenant Colonel J.G.B. Strathy, President of the Trust Fund, is confident that the generosity of every member of the Regimental family will prevail and that sufficient funds will be raised to meet the Trust Fund's obligations. It is only through the support of everyone that the Regiment can promote a Regimental camaraderie that is second to none among Militia units in Canada.

A pro-forma is provided below for inclusion with your donation which is tax-deductible.

***The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust Fund***

***Donor's Name.....***

***Street Address.....***

***City..... Province..... Postal Code.....***

***Amount of Donation.....***

***Please make donations payable to: The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust Fund and mail to Regimental Headquarters, QOR of C, Moss Park Armoury, 130 Queen Street East, Toronto, Ontario M5A 1R9***

## **THE REGIMENT THIRTY YEARS AGO**

1967, Canada's Centennial Year, was an exciting, busy and rewarding year for every component of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada.

The Regimental Depot commanded by Major J.L. McCulloch was stationed in Currie Barracks in Calgary. During the year it trained 245 recruits for the 1st and 2nd Battalions and graduated 44 riflemen in advanced infantry skills. A QOR of C display for the Alberta Provincial Centennial Caravan went on tour under the watchful eye of Major Paul Zmean. The display consisted of twelve glass-enclosed display cases highlighting the Regiment's history from its founding in 1860. As part of the Calgary Stampede's Centennial Year theme, the Depot set up "Camp Vimy Ridge" which featured a World War I trench system in minute detail. Captain Joe Schmitz, the Museum Curator, assisted the Depot in developing and executing both displays.

The 1st Battalion under command of Lieutenant Colonel Herb Pitts was stationed in Work Point Barracks, Esquimalt, B.C. The Battalion was tasked to be a component of Allied Command Europe, Mobile Force (Land) which, in addition to its normal training commitments and participation in Canada's Centennial activities, occupied the bulk of its time and energy during the year.

At the beginning of the year, the 2nd Battalion under command of Lieutenant Colonel Neville (Robbie) Robinson was at the Home Station in Calgary but by mid-April it found itself in Cyprus in a peacekeeping role. The Battalion distinguished itself in all phases of its six month tour of duty returning to Calgary in October.

The 3rd Battalion under command of Lieutenant Colonel F.P.J. (Frank) Mulrooney spent its first full year in Moss Park Armoury. The Battalion busied itself in meeting the standards required for its role in National Survival Emergency Operations, in Internal Security Operations and in support of the Regular Force.

The highlight of 1967 undoubtedly was the visit to Canada by the Regiment's Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, accompanied by her husband, the Honourable Angus Ogilvy. During her stay in Canada, Her Royal Highness paid visits to the 3rd Battalion (14-17 May), the 1st Battalion (18-21 May) and the Regimental Depot (24-25 May).

The Colonel of the Regiment, Colonel J.G.K. Strathy, and Mrs. Strathy, were able to accompany the Royal Party on its visits to the units of the Regiment.

In July, Colonel J.G.K. Strathy made a brief visit to the 2nd Battalion in Cyprus where he was warmly greeted by Colonel H.C.F. Elliot, the Canadian Contingent Commander and Lieutenant Colonel N.A. Robinson, the Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion. On return to Canada, Colonel Strathy summed up his visit to Cyprus with the following words, "This Cyprus trip undoubtedly will remain one of the most memorable events of my appointment as Colonel of the Regiment. It demonstrated the high degree of efficiency, the excellent morale and the fine leadership which exists in the Regular units of our Regiment."